October 27, 2019

Luke 18:9-14

"Searching Souls"

Psalm 67:1-2 Let God grant us grace and bless us; let God make his face shine on us, *Selah* so that God's way becomes known on earth, so that God's salvation becomes known among all the nations. ⁹ Jesus told this parable to certain people who had convinced themselves that they were righteous and who looked on everyone else with disgust:
¹⁰ "<u>Two people</u> went up to the temple to pray. One was a Pharisee and the other a tax collector.

A Community of Faith

Greets one another with an exuberant tone. Worship begins with a glad "look who's here". Moments of raucous laughter create the deep breath of God's presence.

Imagine the community as they feel this as they use our space. Picture the soul breathing deep in the presence of God. God is at the very center of "welcoming the stranger".





The indispensable church lives forever!

The Hippie Program **Middle School Honor Society** Middle School Beta Club **The Delta Gems** Miss. Firecracker Pageant **Police Dept. Swat Team** The Chamber Job Fair **Deputy Dailey's Funeral** Missoula Children's Theater **Alcoholics Anonymous Mockingbird Players**

First United Methodist is leaving it's tracks all over the community. Let's give Monroeville an experience that is unforgettable.

Every kindness offered, Expecting nothing in return, Reveals the personality of God. **Community Theater** New Stage Curtains New Sound Equipment New Projector New Paint

Community Projects Beautiful Median on the Square Middle School Sign or Project 4 Community Scholarships Tutoring Program Refresh a home of a citizen Huntingdon Leadership Academy Scholarships



On November 17th I will be asking you to pledge to our 2020 Ministry Plan.

It will include these exciting New Community Ministry Plans.

You will enjoy the ever increasing positive and grateful conversations taking place because First United Methodist is making a God sized footprint in Monroeville.

You will make a welcome asset to our Community through your Ministry Gifts.

The indispensable church lives forever!



A Well-Meaning Comparison

We are not perfect, yet we are all welcome. We are a small part of a larger whole.

The Temple:

The place where the imperfect are welcome by God and Grace is received.

¹¹ The Pharisee stood and prayed about himself with these words, 'God, I thank you that I'm not like everyone else crooks, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week. I give a tenth of everything I receive.'

The very word Temple/Church has always suggested a place of safety, peace, and beauty. A place where all sorts take a deep breath and rest in God's presence and enjoy moments of acceptance. The worth of a soul is precious regardless of the size of our gifts.

- As your Pastor, I have no need to know who gives how much.
- I am determined to create an atmosphere where each soul is valued by everyone here.
- You are valued not by the size of Your gifts, but by your willingnessand presence.



¹³ But the tax collector stood at a distance.
He wouldn't even lift his eyes to look toward heaven.
Rather, he struck his chest and said, 'God, show mercy to me, a sinner.'

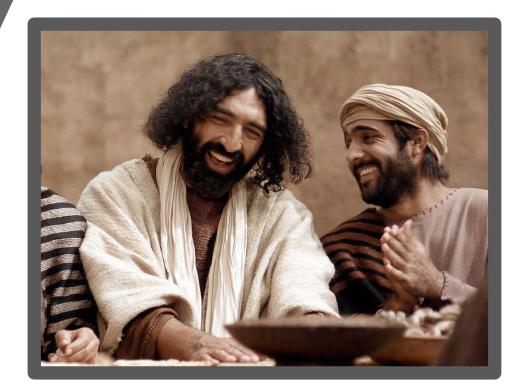
People were drawn to the freshness of the teaching of Jesus.

<u>**People</u>** wanted to be near the warm, welcoming attitude of Jesus.</u>

People sought to breath in the experience of the Christ among them simply to be in the moment with Jesus.

People today search for the same, A place where an experience touches their senses.

People will come to see what is taking place as we freshen our God Space. Create an Atmosphere of "look what's happening now"



This is where people meet God! Let's keep it fresh and Refreshing!

A Newly Paved Parking Lot A bit of Roof Repair A routine refreshing with new paint A reserve for Air-conditioner Replacement

Taking care is never limiting use and protecting, Rather it is using, gifting, and refreshing God's House again and again.

We will be the place of the Deep Breath where each soul that enters will say <u>*Wow God lives here.*</u>

The indispensable church lives forever!



On November 17th I will be asking you to pledge to our 2020 Ministry Plan.

It will include these exciting New Refreshing Ministry Plans.

You will enjoy the ever increasing positive and grateful conversations taking place because First United Methodist Ever changing.

 Your Ministry Gifts
 will make this Temple a place of beauty and refreshment. **Expanding Small Group opportunities**

Fun:

Tennis, Bowling, Coffee, Online Book Discussion,

Youth:

Double Digit, Prayer Breakfast, Cooking w//Preacher Bill, Mission Methodist in D.C., Drama

Children:

Camps, Drama, Worship,

Adults:

Travel, tutoring, School help,

Facebook Live!

Everyone can see us!





Create Fresh Expressions of Ministry

Psalm 67:1-2

Let God grant us grace and bless us; let God make his face shine on us,

Selah

so that God's way becomes

known on earth, so that God's salvation becomes known among all the nations.

On November 17th I will ask you to make pledges toward our 2020 **Ministry Plan**.

I will ask you to pledge the entire 2020 Ministry Plan.

125,000.00 divided by 140 people = \$18.00 a week.