

Today in the fellowship hall join us as we conclude our sermon series, *Why? Making Sense of God's Will*. Our sermon this morning is *Why Do My Prayers Go Unanswered?*

Matthew 21:21-22 from the New Living Translation (NLT):

²¹ Then Jesus told them, "I tell you the truth, if you have faith and don't doubt, you can do things like this and much more. You can even say to this mountain, 'May you be lifted up and thrown into the sea,' and it will happen. ²² You can pray for anything, and if you have faith, you will receive it."


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You will find the words and responses on the screens during the Contemporary worship service. The general order we follow each Sunday is:

- Gathering:** Praise Songs and Greeting
- Gratitude:** Offering and Prayer
- God's Word:** Scripture and Sermon
- Going:** Praise Song and Sending

The prayer shawl represents the sharing of God's love and grace and is for you to take for yourself or give to someone who is suffering with despair, loss, or illness.

This morning our own local Christian band, Rise, provides an energetic atmosphere during the contemporary service. We are dedicating a song to Art Washburn as he was a beloved member of the contemporary praise team.

-  **Songs in Today's Service:**
- How Great Thou Art* by Carl Gustav Boberg
 - This Is Amazing Grace* by Paul Wickman
 - I Believe* by Rise
 - All Because of Jesus* by Fee
 - Start Today* by Rise (Dedication to Art)
 - Blessed Be Your Name* by Matt Redman

These and other praise songs can be found on PER 90.5 FM. Listening will improve your week.

Sunday 2/26

- Regular Worship Schedule
- Confirmation Class (DOG House) 9:00-10:30 am
- Praise Team Rehearsal (FH) 9:30-10:30 am
- Town Hall Meeting (Sanctuary) 12:15-1:15 pm
- Agape Ringers (EB 204) 3:30-4:15 pm
- Girl Scout Troop 5107 (EB 202/203) 4:00-5:45 pm
- Praise Kids (Sanctuary) 4:15-5:00 pm
- G-3 (Chapel Bldg.) 5:00-6:00 pm
- Rowdy MOMs (EB 201) 5:00-6:00 pm
- Middle School Large Group (DOG House) 6:00-7:00 pm
- Beth Moore Women's Bible Study (EB 203) 6:30-8:00 pm
- High School Large Group (DOG House) 7:30-8:30 pm

Monday 2/27

- Girl Scout Troop 5355 (EB 106) 4:00-5:30 pm
- Shrove Tuesday Set Up (FH) 4:00-6:00 pm
- Town Hall Meeting (Sanctuary) 6:30-8:00 pm

Tuesday 2/28

- CCC Managers Meeting (DOG House) 8:30 am-12:30 pm
- Staff Meeting (Church Office) 10:00-11:30 am
- Richmond Babywearers Meeting (EB 111/112) 4:30-6:00 pm
- Pancake Supper (FH) 5:00-7:00 pm
- Ruritans Meeting (EB 201) 6:00-8:00 pm

Wednesday 3/1

- Mary, Martha, Mom (Library) 9:15-10:15 am
- Unselfie Drama Rehearsal (Sanctuary) 4:30-5:45 pm
- Pizza Dinner (FH) 5:15-6:15 pm
- Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary) 6:00 pm
- Ash Wednesday Service (Sanctuary) 6:30-7:30 pm
- Faith Care Infant/Toddler Nursery (EB 111) 6:15-7:15 pm
- Little Hands – Twos (EB 105) 6:15-7:15 pm
- Meditation with Kate (Library) 7:30-8:15 pm
- Praise Team Rehearsal (FH) 7:30-8:30 pm

Thursday 3/2

- UMM Bible Study (DOG House) 6:45-7:45 am
- UMM Dinner and Meeting (FH) 6:00-9:00 pm
- Disciple IV (EB 207) 6:15-7:30 pm
- Boy Scouts - Troop 735 (EB 202/203) 7:00-9:00 pm

Friday 3/3

- Middle School Breakfast (Chick-fil-A) 7:20 am
- NO Women's Bible Study (Chapel Bldg.) 9:45 am-11:00 am

Sunday 3/5

- Regular Worship Schedule
- Confirmation Class (DOG House) 9:00-10:30 am
- Praise Team Rehearsal (FH) 9:30-10:30 am
- Church Conference (Sanctuary) 12:15-1:15 pm
- Agape Ringers (EB 204) 3:30-4:15 pm
- Children's Council (Library) 3:30-4:45 pm
- Girl Scout Troop 5107 (EB 202/203) 4:00-5:45 pm
- Praise Kids (Sanctuary) 4:15-5:00 pm
- G-3 (Chapel Bldg.) 5:00-6:00 pm
- Rowdy MOMs (EB 201) 5:00-6:00 pm
- Girl Scout Troop 3007 (EB 209) 5:00-6:30 pm
- Middle School Large Group (DOG House) 6:00-7:00 pm
- Cub Scout Pack 735 Committee Meeting (EB 207) 6:00-7:30 pm
- Beth Moore Women's Bible Study (EB 203) 6:30-8:00 pm
- High School Large Group (DOG House) 7:30-8:30 pm



Sunday, February 26, 2017

THIS WEEK AT SHADY GROVE

**Shady Grove
United Methodist Church
Short Pump**

4825 Pouncey Tract Road
Glen Allen VA 23059

(804)360-2600

www.shadygroveumc.net

Regular Sunday Schedule

- 8:15 am
Traditional Worship Sanctuary
- 9:00-11:00 am
HeBrews Coffee Fellowship Hall
- 9:30 am
Informal Traditional Worship Sanctuary
- Nursery Faith Care (infants-age 2) Education Building
- 3 Years-5th Grade Sunday School Education Building
- Youth Sunday School Chapel Building
- Adult Sunday School Chapel Building
- 11:00 am
Informal Traditional Worship Sanctuary
- Contemporary Worship Fellowship Hall
- Nursery Faith Care (infants-age 2) Education Building
- Children's Own Worship** Chapel

**Last Sunday's Stewardship Report on 2/19/2017
(47 weeks)**

2016 Fiscal Year is April 1, 2016 – March 31, 2017

Will you be loyal to Shady Grove United Methodist Church and uphold your church by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness?

ATTENDANCE

8:15	9:30	11:00	Cont.	Total	SS	COW
49	168	141	144	502	97	19

OPERATING FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Amount received to date in 2016-17 Fiscal Year	\$ 855,513
Expenses to date for 2016 Fiscal Year	\$ 882,162
Pledge amount for 2017-18 Fiscal Year Operating Fund	\$ 520,632
Pledge cards received	147

BUILDING FUND – (Mortgage Payments)

Amount received to date in 2016-17 Fiscal Year	\$ 85,895
Principal & Interest paid in 2016 Fiscal Year	\$ 129,048
Pledge amount for 2016-17 Fiscal Year Building Fund	\$ 87,405
Pledge cards received	104

The Building Fund is used to serve our \$ 814,272 debt obligation from 2002-2004 construction of the sanctuary, fellowship hall, and education building, as well as the 2007 acquisition of the adjacent properties on Shady Grove Road. This loan is currently being paid down at a 20-year amortization rate.

GROUNDING IN FAITH, GROWING TO SERVE CAMPAIGN

Amount received to date	\$ 446,286
Pledge amount for 3 years Capital Campaign	\$1,613,937
Pledge cards received	145



SERMON NOTES

Matthew 21:21-22

- Prayer is a _____ communion with God.
- God is the _____ of prayer.
- It's important to note here that a mature meaningful _____ takes time and patience to really have an impact on how we live.
- Jesus, by using hyperbole, is trying to get the attention of his _____ so they can hear God's message.
- Prayer is communicating with God and because God is _____ than we are, there is _____ involved in a mature prayer life.



Announcements for February 26, 2017

We are glad you are here. It is our hope that you will find our worship meaningful and life-giving. If you are searching for a church home or are interested in learning more about Shady Grove UMC, we invite you to attend our next "Lunch with the Pastors" on Sunday, May 7, at 12:00 noon. To RSVP for lunch, please call the church office at 360-2600 or email plugin@shadygroveumc.net.

TODAY

Thank you to all those who made their commitments on Stewardship Sunday. For those who have not yet, it's not too late to make your commitment to support the 2017 fiscal year (April 1, 2017 - March 31, 2018) operating fund. Please bring or mail your commitment card to the church office or drop in the offering plate on Sunday. We also offer the option of creating an online pledge, available through the webpage, www.shadygroveumc.net/changinglives2017. Thank you for your support.

Confirmation 2017 – Confirmation classes **begin today** when our youth (grade 7 and older) will be given the opportunity to affirm their faith in God and become full members of Shady Grove UMC. Families are asked to contribute \$75 towards the cost of confirmation supplies and expenses. Questions? Contact Frank Basil at youth@shadygroveumc.net.

Today we observe Scout Sunday during the 11:00 service in the sanctuary. SGUMC is proud to charter Troop and Pack 735.

SGUMC 2017 Lenten Devotionals available today! Look for this gift for you in the narthex today between services. They will also be available at the Ash Wednesday service, in the church office, and in the Welcome Center while quantities last. Thank you to all those who shared in order to make this devotional a success.

Gift Cards to Benefit Youth Ministry – Be sure to check out the gift card table on Sunday mornings in the sanctuary foyer or download an order form from www.shadygroveumc.net/youth-documents to see many other cards you can purchase. Questions? Contact Frank Basil at youth@shadygroveumc.net.

Town Hall Meetings and Called Church Conference – We invite the congregation to attend one of two town hall meetings today at 12:15 pm in the sanctuary and Monday, February 27, at 6:30 pm in the sanctuary when the Building Committee will share information about Church Council's recommendation for Phase I of the building plan. On Sunday, March 5, at 12:15 pm in the sanctuary, a called church conference will be held for all members present to vote on moving forward with the plan. During church conference on March 5 childcare will be provided for children 0-2 in the education building and age 3-grade 5 in Chapel Hall. Cheese pizza will be served to children in both locations. Questions about the building plan? Contact Bob Payne, rpayne60@comcast.net or 305-8763.

Rev. David Adkins Retirement – On February 5, from the pulpit, Rev. David Adkins announced his retirement from full-time ministry, with his last Sunday serving at Shady Grove on June 11. We thank Rev. Adkins for his twelve years of service to our church. The United Methodist church has a process for appointing pastors to serve churches that our Bishop Sharma Lewis describes in a video, available at <http://tinyurl.com/VAUMCappointment>. Please be in prayer for our church during this time of transition as well as the cabinet of District Superintendents of the Virginia United Methodist Conference as they discern the best leadership for Shady Grove going forward.

Pictures – We are actively working to have more photos of people and activities to use on our webpage, eblasts, and social media (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter). Some members of our congregation may be taking pictures at events. If you do not wish your picture to be included, please email Gregg Butler at gbutler@shadygroveumc.net to let her know.

THIS WEEK

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper February 28 from 5:00 to 7:00 pm in the fellowship hall. We will be serving original, blueberry, and chocolate chip pancakes along with sausage and apples. There will be crafts for kids. Invite family, friends, and neighbors. Donations accepted to benefit Rise Against Hunger (formerly Stop Hunger Now) meal packaging and VBS.

Art Inspired by Psalms – Join Terry Chancellor in an adult Wednesday morning class creating art inspired by the Psalms. No experience necessary, all supplies included. Six week class, Wednesdays March 1 – April 5, 10:00 – 11:30 am. Tuition is \$99; Seniors 65+ \$75. All supplies included. See other classes and lessons on our website at www.center4creativearts.org or call 360-CNTR to register.

Youth join children to present spring musical drama, *Unselfie*, to be presented Saturday, April 22, at 5:00 pm and Sunday, April 23, at 11:00 am as part of the contemporary service. Practices continue Wednesdays 4:30 to 5:45 pm for drama and **NEXT week** 6:15 to 7:15 pm for music/choreography in the education building. All children, age three through grade 5, are welcome to participate in the singing and choreography. Contact: Beanie Kelly, bkelly@shadygroveumc.net.

Join us for a meaningful Ash Wednesday worship service on March 1 at 6:30 pm. We will have the opportunity to experience the traditional act of repentance and imposition of ashes that begins the Lenten season. Note: Pizza dinner will be offered in the fellowship hall at 5:15 to 6:15 pm. The cost will be \$3 per person or \$10 per family. RSVP at www.shadygroveumc.net/shady-grove-bistro so that we have an accurate count. Childcare for children age 0-3 is available. Regularly scheduled classes and programming do not meet.

Adult Church Wide Bible Study for Lent – Next week we will start our Lenten sermon series based upon Adam Hamilton's book, **24 Hours That Changed the World**, in Sunday Worship between Ash Wednesday and Easter Sunday. Instead of "giving-up" something for Lent this year, we are challenging you to pick-up a **SHORT TERM Bible Study!** Stop by the table under the tapestry in the narthex to look at materials today. We are providing FIVE meeting times: twice on Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. All classes start meeting after Ash Wednesday. Can't make any of those times? Traveling? Get the book and read along for as little as \$2! Contact Lauren Adkins, ladkins@shadygroveumc.net with questions. Order materials TODAY at tinyurl.com/j5229t and/or sign-up for a class now at www.shadygroveumc.net/24hours.

Tickets for CASTING CROWNS available! Keith and Jackie Larkin have purchased 50 tickets to see Casting Crowns with special guests Danny Gokey and Unspoken at the Richmond Coliseum on Thursday, March 30, at 7:00 pm. The ticket cost is \$21.50 and they are going fast! The Larkins only have about 10 left. If you are interested, email Keith at antler0816@yahoo.com.

Geranium Sale – United Methodist Urban Ministries of Richmond is selling geraniums at \$4.50 each (4 ½" pot) in red, salmon, coral, hot pink, and white. (We will take orders for specific colors but cannot guarantee.) To order, contact Sandi Shriner at 405-3351 or sds210s@verizon.net. Last day to order is Monday, April 3. Geraniums will arrive Friday, April 7. Folks rave about these geraniums – "Absolutely beautiful", "Best geraniums EVER".

COMING UP

Senior Brunch and Speaker on March 8 – All seniors are invited to a covered dish brunch at 10:30 am on Wednesday, March 8, in Chapel Hall. After brunch, Bob Layton will give a program on Landscapes in America. Please let Betsy Katko know by Sunday, March 5, if you plan to participate, bjkatko@comcast.net or 360-5057.

SGUMC's Book Club meets Thursday, March 16, to discuss *Sidney Chambers and the Shadow of Death* by James Runcie. We will gather for a MEATLESS POTLUCK MEAL during Lent. Dishes should be NUT-FREE! Join us around the table in the kitchen of the church office from 6:00-7:30 pm for food, fellowship, and great discussion. Questions? Contact Lauren Adkins, ladkins@shadygroveumc.net. On April 20 we will discuss *I Am Malala* by Malala Yousafzai.

High School Students and Adults – Join the sanctuary choir in being a part of the **EASTER CELEBRATION CHOIR!** There are four rehearsals, and we hope you can commit to 3 out of the 4, as well as sing in 2 or all 3 sanctuary services on Easter Sunday, April 16, at 8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 am in the sanctuary. Rehearsals begin March 22 and continue each Wednesday through April 12 from 7:15 to 8:15 pm. Our April 12 rehearsal is from 7:15 to 9:00 pm with a Brass Quartet. Childcare is available upon request. Contact Sylvia Cooper at scooper@shadygroveumc.net so a packet of music can be made ready for you!

Adult Mission Opportunity – Adults are invited to be part of the mission opportunity May 14-19 — Appalachia Service Project in Guyan Valley, WV, \$425. Questions or for more information contact Bob Payne at rpayne60@comcast.net or 305-8763.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Tori Anderson, Caralie Brown (mother of Beanie Kelly), Amy Carroll (sister of Sara Fender), Kim Dodson (mother of Shana Miller), Hugh Elwood, Betty Finley, Cheryl Fitzgerald (sister of Donna Noble), Jim Fitzgerald, Ann Gooch (mother of Anita Schrunk), Karen Gothard, Kathy Graeber, Ray Gudum, Ann Gussett (mother of Laura Ann Kump), Laura Harkonen-missionary in Congo, Tommy Harris, Ryan Hartsook (son-in-law of Mike and Ruth Powell), Don Herrick (father of Anne Hurst and Sarah Metzgar), Peggy Hill, Terry Hoover (father of Haylee Douglas), Preston Hudak, Betsy Katko, Susie Kottcamp, Jane Mackey (mother of Roger Mackey), Phoebe Mackey (mother of Elizabeth Compton), Charlotte Manning (granddaughter of Barry Green), Wallace Martin, Willis McCauley, Pam Melton (daughter of Sylvia Chartier), Diane Morrison, Ginger Perkin (daughter of Dave and Diane Bennett), Caiden Purkey (grandson of Bob and Lisa Jones), Mike Purkey (son-in-law of Bob and Lisa Jones), Amira Safwat, Jim Schmidt, Lois Ann Sessoms (mother of Rachel Smith), Margaret Shaw, Marie Thurman, Sara Walker

Homebound

Aleida Bultman, Mike Powell-Our Lady of Hope, Beverly Robertson (mother of Martha Anne Martin)-Our Lady of Hope, Shirley Ronquest-Crump Manor, Linda Stone-Our Lady of Hope

Global Missionaries

Heather and James-location undisclosed, Nico Chantel-Europe, Fishers 4 Him-Dominican Republic, Eva and Lindsay Gilliam-US, Laura and Timo Harkonen-Democratic Republic of the Congo, Liz Jackson-Philippines, Quynh-Hoa Nguyen-Vietnam

Connection Group Discussion Questions

For the week of February 26, 2017 **Matthew 21:21-22**

These questions are to be used as a spring board for discussion. Answers may or may not be found in the sermons.

1. What is prayer? What does prayer mean to you in your life?
2. Who is the initiator of prayer? If you say God, what are the implications? If you say people, what are the implications?
3. At first glance at our text, Jesus seems to be implying that if we are sincere in our prayers, God will give us whatever we ask for. What are the dangers of interpreting this text literally in this manner?
4. Hyperbole is the exaggeration or overstatement of an idea in trying to get your point across. Jesus often used hyperbole as a teaching tool. Can you give some examples of Jesus using this teaching method? Why do you think Jesus often used hyperbole as teaching points?
5. Read our text aloud. What point was Jesus trying to make with hyperbole in this specific text?
6. There is a tendency to use prayer as a means to manipulate God into what we like God to be. Discuss ways people use prayer in a manipulative way. How can we guard against this tendency?
7. A mature prayer life takes time, reflection, and perseverance to have real value in the life choices we make. Discuss how you think we can grow in our prayer life.
8. Paul prayed for a thorn in his side to be removed from him three times but seemingly the thorn remained. Jesus cried once, "My God, why have you forsaken me?" What might these responses teach us about prayer?
9. Because God is bigger than we are, and more complex than we can imagine, there is mystery involved in a mature prayer life. How does this impact our understanding of prayer?

