

Traditional Service

April 8, 2018
11:10 AM

I WOULD LIKE MORE INFO ABOUT:

- Sunday School
- Wednesday Night Activities
- Children's Ministry
- Youth Ministry
- Music Ministry
- What UM Christians believe
- Committing My Life To Christ
- Being Baptized
- Becoming A Member
- Joining a Connexion Group

**NAMETAG
ORDER FORM:**

Please PRINT your name exactly
how you would like it to be
written on your nametag:

- Clip Tag (Free) Magnetic (\$5)

(please place this card in the offering plate)

Comments or Questions

Any comments or questions about FUMCSS?

You can share them here:

CALENDAR

	9:00 am	Celebration Service
	10:00 am	Communion in the Sanctuary
	10:00 am	Fellowship Time in Fellowship Hall
SUNDAY	10:15 am	Sunday School
8	11:10 am	Traditional Service
	5:00 pm	Connexion Group (Gorszczyk)
	5:00 pm	Connexion Group (Stephens)
	6:00 pm	Connexion Group (Reisbeck)
	6:00 pm	Connexion Group (Taylor)

MONDAY	6:30 pm	Connexion Group (Atkins)
9	7:00 pm	Connexion Group (Anchondo)

TUESDAY	6:00 pm	Spiritual Formation Meeting (Wesley Room)
10		

	10:00 am	Connexion Group (Lowerre)
	5:30 pm	Timothy Team Kids
WEDNESDAY	6:00 pm	Handbell Rehearsal
11	6:30 pm	Men's Group (Fellowship Hall)
	6:45 pm	Basement Student Worship
	6:45 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
	7:45 pm	Celebration Team Rehearsal

THURSDAY	9:30 am	Circle One Ladies Meeting (Wesley Room)
12		

SATURDAY	9:30 am	Basement Students Paint-Out!
14		

	9:00 am	Celebration Service
	10:00 am	Communion in the Sanctuary
	10:00 am	Fellowship Time in Fellowship Hall
SUNDAY	10:15 am	Sunday School
15	11:10 am	Traditional Service
		Connexion Groups Meeting

GREETERS:

Date	Sanctuary West 8:45 AM	Sanctuary East 8:45 AM	Sanctuary West 10:50 AM	Sanctuary East 10:50 AM
April 8	Cheryl Comfort		Peggy Dorsey	Katie Rennard
April 15	Cheryl Comfort		Peggy Dorsey	Katie Rennard
April 22	Cheryl Comfort		Peggy Dorsey	Katie Rennard

SERMON

I Can Only Imagine: Imagine a Loving Father
Matthew 3:13-17 & Galatians 3:26-29

Question: Bart Millard grew up with an abusive parent and often used his imagination as a means of escape. What are some ways you have looked to your imagination in the past to escape the painful realities of your life?

Question: How has your faith been an anchor during those difficult moments?

I Can Only Imagine shares a story of f_____, r_____, and t_____.

Read: Matthew 3:13-17

In verse 17, we see the first glimpse of how Jesus' o_____ to God revealed what God imagined for Jesus.

It is in this moment, as Jesus is o_____ to baptism, that we hear three things about the Father's heart for Jesus.

The **first** thing we learn is: God I_____ with Jesus.

It was out of Jesus' understanding of w_____ He was that He could live confidently out of w_____. He was.

Not only does God identify with Jesus, God identifies with _____ through Jesus.

Read: Galatians 3:26-29

When you commit to following Jesus with your life, God calls you his _____. He identifies with you, and calls you His.

Question: What are some of the reasons we often struggle living out our identity as a child of God?

If we are going to identify with the Father, we must _____ to Him. We must be willing to give up our old ways of living, thinking, and doing and be _____ to the things that God's heart values. But the good news is, God doesn't just call each of us a child out of our obedience, He also calls us a child out of His _____ for us.

The **second** thing we learn about the Father's heart for Jesus is this: God L_____ Jesus.

The identity that God has given you as a child of His is made strong in His great _____.

When we let this love shape our lives, it does more than we could ever imagine.

Question: What does the story of the missionary and his wife reveal about the power of love to transform us from inside out?

The **third** thing we see about the Father's heart for Jesus is this: God is P_____ with Jesus

The last words God chooses to say is, "with him I am well _____." Jesus has not even begun his ministry and yet God says that He is well pleased with him.

It should not be read as though Jesus had to earn God's love or favor, rather it was out of the fact that Jesus took the step of baptism in obedience that delighted the Father's heart—He was overjoyed by his _____.

Our I_____ as God's C_____ will P_____ us into His P_____.

IMAGINE
a loving father



WELCOME

Message from the Pastor

I Can Only Imagine in just three weeks has already become one of the highest grossing faith based movies of all time possessing the #3 or #4 spot three weeks in a row. The movie has been so successful because it shares struggles that so many of us can relate to. *I Can Only Imagine* shares a story of forgiveness, redemption, and transformation.

Bart Millard spent much of his childhood with anything but a loving father. What began as emotional abuse later turned to physical abuse. Bart, a creative person at heart, was constantly told not to dream but to face reality. The inspiration for the song whose title the movie borrows from shares how imagination literally and figuratively got him through some of the darkest moments of his life.

Over the next few weeks we are going to explore some of the themes of this movie and discover how we might apply them to our own lives.

We are glad you have chosen to join us this Sunday in worship as we begin this series and we begin to Imagine.



Rev. Clark

WHO WE ARE

Our Vision

We believe that God has put us here at this time to faithfully seek Him and make Him known through our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.

Our Values*

Prayer, Love, Worship

Bible-Based Preaching & Teaching
Children & Youth Ministry
Discovering God's vision for our church

What We Believe

Many people believe they are Christian because they were born into a religious home or they go to church, tried their best, or are a moral person. However, the Bible teaches that these things do not make you a Christian. You become a Christian simply by:

1. Acknowledging that you, like all people have sinned and fallen short of God's standards. The Bible calls sin a desire to live independently of God. (Romans 3:23)
2. Personally believing that Jesus Christ died for your sins on the cross and rose again. (Romans 6:23)
3. Repenting (turning away from your sins), confessing, and accepting Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior. (Romans 10:9)

You may express your desire and belief in prayer, asking Jesus to come into your life, and receiving grace as God's gift to you. The Bible is clear that we all enter into a relationship with God through His mercy and grace.

*Bold = Focus of Today's Message

ORDER OF WORSHIP

April 8, 2018 | Second Sunday of Easter

Pastoral Welcome & Announcements

Inviting God's Presence and Action: Blessed are You, O God, full of faithfulness and steadfast love. How awesome are Your deeds! How glorious is Your name in all the earth. We celebrate who You are, and what You have done for us. You hold our lives in Your hands and keep our feet from stumbling. We've come together, led by Your Holy Spirit, to sing Your praise, to confess our failings, and to receive Your forgiveness and love, made possible through the sacrifice of Your Son, Jesus Christ. To You be all glory, Father, Son, Holy Spirit, One God forever and ever. Amen.

Prelude "What A Friend" — arr. Job Smoot

Call to Worship Liturgist — Elisha Comfort

Leader: Come, let us sing!
Congregation: Praise be to God!

Leader: Who dared to take on human flesh and dwell among us.

Congregation: Praise be to God!

Leader: Who did not turn back in the face of evil and death.

Congregation: Praise be to God!

Leader: Who continues to dance through our lives even now.

Congregation: Let all that have breath sing praise to God!

(adapted from Katherine Hawker. Posted on Liturgies Outside. <http://liturgyoutside.net/> Written for the Union Church UCC of Tekonsha, 1994)

***Hymn of Praise** "Lift High the Cross" #159 vs. 1, 3, 4

***Affirmation of Faith** *Apostle's Creed*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of Heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried: the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

***Gloria Patri**
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

Children's Time Lynn Stephens
(Please greet one another as the children come forward.)

Anthem "Blessed Assurance" — Chancel Choir

Joys & Concerns

Personal & Pastoral Prayer

Congregational Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who have trespassed against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Missions Moment

Giving of God's Tithes, Our Offerings and Our "Extra Dollars" ☩

Offertory "I Can Only Imagine" — arr. Job Smoot

***Doxology**
*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost! Amen.*

***April Memory Verse** **Ephesians 1:7**
"In Christ we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with God's grace."

***Hymn of Preparation** "O Love, How Deep" #267 vs. 1, 5, 6

Sermon "Imagine a Loving Father" Rev. Clark Atkins
Matthew 3:13-17 & Galatians 3:26-29

***Hymn of Commitment** "O Love That Will Not Let Me Go" #480 all verses

***Benediction:** The Lord bless you, and keep you; The Lord make His face shine on you, And be gracious to you; The Lord lift up His countenance on you, And give you peace. *(Numbers 6:24-26)*

***Benediction Response** **Victory in Jesus #370 Refrain**
**O victory in Jesus, My Savior, forever!
He sought me and bought me with His redeeming blood;
He loved me ere I knew Him, and all my love is due Him,
He plunged me to victory, Beneath the cleansing flood!**

Postlude "Take the Name of Jesus With You"— arr. Job Smoot

** Please stand if able*

NURSERY

Childcare for infant, toddler, and preschool aged children is provided during both services. There is also a nursing mothers room located just off the Fellowship Hall. While the nursery is available for our youngest members, parents with school-aged students are encouraged to bring their children to the worship services. Kids activity packs are available on the table in the Narthex.

☩ EXTRA DOLLARS

There is a brochure with the story of the "Extra Dollar" in the Information Rack in the Welcome Center.

CONNECT CARD

Traditional - 4/8/2018

We are so glad that you are here and hope you feel at home as you join us in worship. Whether you are a guest, or a member, please fill out and return this card so we can know you were here!

Please Check Appropriate Box:

- First Time Guest*
- Repeat Guest
- Member
- My address has changed

Name: _____

Names of children ages 0-18 in attendance today: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

- Check here if you would like to be added to our weekly email list.

Email: _____

Joys, Concerns, God Sightings: _____

- Check box if you do not wish to have your prayer requests published.

**If you are a first time guest today, we have a gift for you! Please go to the welcome table outside the chapel where your completed "Connect Card" may be traded for a gift certificate to Barnett's Dairyette.*