

# grow. pray. serve.

Reveille UMC Weekly Guide

June 8-14, 2020

# **Farewell Sermon by Lead Pastor Doug Forrester**

**Graduate Recognition Sunday** 

Sermon Title: "Transitions: Because of the Wonderful Things He Does"

Notes from sermon on 6/7:	Things to Pray For This Week:

# **Household Question:**

Do you consider yourselves "disciples"?

#### **Questions for Small Groups**

- 1. How can we make disciples of all people in our world today?
- 2. What would you like to see Reveille do to help bring an end to injustice and racism?
- 3. How can we more greatly come together as a church in this era of social distancing, social discord, and new Reveille leadership?

#### Monday, June 8: Read Matthew 28:16-20

This week, we prepare for our Lead Pastor Doug Forrester's final sermon at Reveille. While losing a beloved pastor is never easy, during this time of incredible turmoil and fear, it can seem especially difficult and disorienting. We feel helpless as we turn on the news. We feel pulled in two directions: stay home to stop the spread of the disease; go outside to march against injustice. We cannot gather together in person to hug, console, or bid farewell.

These are the times when it could be tempting to retreat; scale back. The early disciples certainly had these thoughts when their leader, Jesus, was crucified, and then again when they learned he would be leaving them after his resurrection. Jesus had very different ideas. "Go and make disciples of all nations" Jesus commissioned, "And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." The rest is history-our history.

How is Reveille going to make history going forward? How will we fulfill the Great Commission in a world that so desperately needs the message of Jesus's love, inclusion, forgiveness, social justice, and peace? **Tuesday, June 9: Read Genesis 1:1-19** 

We look at our world through the eyes of newscasters and see nothing but disease, division, and hate. We read of God's creation of the world and we see order, harmony, and goodness. Which eyes will we use to approach the world as a church? Which world is more real and sustainable? Our job as a church is to help restore and transform the world back to God's original intention. We are all created from the same loving God, so all interconnected and meant to live in harmony. What can Reveille do to show our city and our world an image of Christianity that is inclusive, loving, and healing.

# Wednesday, June 10: Read Genesis 1:20-2:4

Not only is the world good; we were created good. We were created to be together- with one another and with God. We were created to be stewards of the earth...and it was very good. How can we work to create a city, a country, and a world where people are stewards of the earth, at peace with one another, and more fully connected to their Creator? How will Reveille become a symbol of this?

# Thursday, June 11: Read 2 Corinthians 13:11-13

"Strive for full restoration." What an amazing statement for our world right now. Let us strive for full restoration of our global health during this pandemic. Let us strive for full restoration of our economy, leaving no person behind in job security, wage equality, and health care. Let us strive for full restoration of human dignity and oneness, eradicating racism in our legal and law enforcement systems, our neighborhoods, our churches, and our selves. Let us strive for full restoration of our own mental health during this time of crisis, eliminating all anxiety and depression. Let us strive for full restoration of our own church, bringing us closer together than ever before. Let us strive for full restoration of God's children to their God.

### Friday, June 12: Read Psalm 8

Doug Forrester personally picked this psalm for this week – a psalm of hope, beauty, joy, restoration, and praise. Through this psalm, we see the wonder and perfection of our world, not the pain and division. We see a vision of harmony as we all work together to praise God and honor everything God created. Let us sing this psalm together going forward, in joy and thanksgiving, for everything God has given us through our beloved pastors- past, present, and future- and the blessings God has in store for us as a church.

# Saturday, June 13: Scripture Memorization: 2 Corinthians 13:11

"Finally, brothers and sisters, rejoice! Strive for full restoration, encourage one another, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you." (NIV)

Sunday, June 14: Let us prepare our hearts and minds for worship in praying our Prayer of Common Confession: God who is Three in One, we confess that we have turned away from you. We gaze upon ourselves as if we are worthy of worship. We take your creation into our hands, not to love, but to use and then to discard. We do not deserve that you would even notice us, but we pray for mercy because you are merciful. Flame of Love, purify us from sin; Eternal God, lead us to your truth; Risen One, baptize us into union with you. Transform us into faithful disciples who worship you alone, and send us into all the world to baptize and teach in your name. Amen.