S ΟΝ 2020 WRIGHT SVILLEUMC ΙΤ Η Α Ρ Ρ Ε Ν S HERE VISION 20 20 WRIGHTSVILLEUMC



Name: ____

But when the Holy Spirit controls our lives, he will produce this kind of fruit in us: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

- Galatians 5:22-23

I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will bear much fruit...

-John 15:5

Welcome to Vision 2020. This booklet is designed to help you draw closer to God through a series of time-honored spiritual disciplines. Each month we will explore one aspect of the Christian life and try to practice it with increased regularity. Some will be easy for you. Others might be slightly harder. Some will be familiar. While there may be others that you haven't considered for a while. But each one is meant to help us live out our faith and grow spiritually in the process.

Please note that this is not a checklist toward salvation. As United Methodists, I feel I shouldn't have to say this, but just in case there's any confusion, I want to be clear: we are saved by faith, not by our works. However, the booklet is designed to help us live out our faith. It puts our faith into practice.
Our church staff is excited to bring you this tool for those who like direction, guidance, and accountability in their spiritual life. And, if you prefer to do your own thing, that's fine, too. But I hope everyone will try it for at least a couple of months.

We will be placing an emphasis on each month's practice from the pulpit, in the newsletter, and even in some of your small groups. We hope that by putting down deep roots that all of us will bear bountiful fruit for God in 2020. God bless you on your journey!

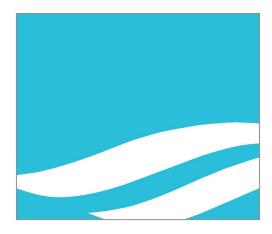
- Pastor Doug



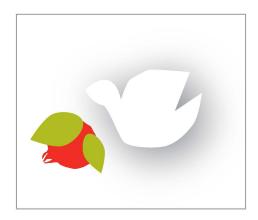
The human figure, which is the body of the tree, represents each of us who are deeply rooted in Christ. Each person bears fruit of the Spirit and reaches out to all in love, joy and peace.



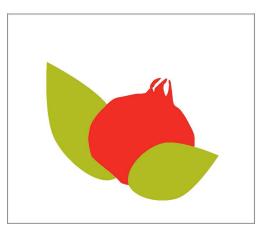
The green sky represents growth in the fruit of the Spirit.



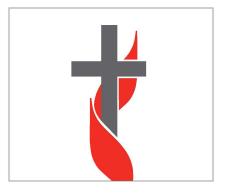
The blue sea speaks to our identity in a coastal community.



The white dove is the Holy Spirit who goes forth into the world in each of us. The Holy Spirit uses our bountiful fruit for the transformation of our community and world.



Red represents the bountiful fruit which we each bear, marking our transformation into the image of Christ.



The 't' in the midst of our name 'Wrightsville' is the Christian symbol of the cross. A red flame embraces the cross reflecting our deep-rooted United Methodist Church heritage and tradition.

JANUARY

The practice for this month is **Daily Prayer**.

Prayer is any communication that we have with God.

We invite you to pray at least three times a day.

Prayer can be as simple as saying: Help. Thank you. Sorry. Wow.

Reflection:

Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

Philippians 4:6



FEBRUARY

Prayer
Prayer
Wrightsville UMC
Service

The practice for this month is *Service at Wrightsville UMC*.

Service at Wrightsville UMC is faithful participation in the ministries of our church.

We invite you to serve one time at Wrightsville UMC in a ministry area that is new to you.

Interested in knowing what your spiritual gifts are? Take the assessment here: http://bit.ly/2goA4Qy

For example, you might assist with Communion, sing in the choir, teach a Sunday School class for any age, join the Welcome to Wrightsville Hospitality Team, deliver flowers to shut-ins, etc.

Reflection:

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit: and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord:

1 Corinthians 12:4-5



Want to connect with one of these ministries or have questions? Please call the church office: 910-256-4471.





The practice for this month is *Self-control*.

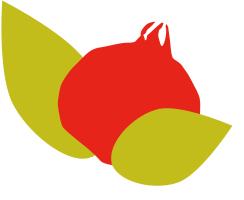
One of the Biblical practices of self-control is fasting. You don't only have to fast from food but can also fast from gossip, television, anger, etc.

In the Christian tradition of "giving something up for Lent," we invite you to practice self-control in an appropriate area of your life.

Reflection:

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God-what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Romans 12:2





Self-Control Outreach

Prayer

Service

Wrightsville UMC

The practice for this month is **Outreach**.

Outreach is service outside the walls of the church.

We invite you to serve three times this month in our community. For example, participate in our Wrightsville UMC Day of Service, volunteer at Mother Hubbard's Cupboard, be a mentor at Snipes Academy, or support Mission of Hope: Rotifunk Hospital.

Reflection:

So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

James 2:17



Please contact Pastor Christina Turner with ways to connect in these ministries. 910-256-4471 Ext: 1130 or christinat@wrightsvilleumc.org



Prayer
Wrightsville UMC Service
Self-Control
Outreach
Worship
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The practice for this month is *Worship*.

Worship is coming together as a church family and offering our love to the God who loved us first. As individual Christians we experience a deeper faith by uniting with people of different ages and backgrounds for the purpose of shared praise.

We invite you to attend at least three worship services this month at Wrightsville UMC: Sundays at 8:15 am, 9:45 am, 11:15 am, and 6 pm.

Reflection:

Praise the Lord! Praise God in his sanctuary: praise him in his mighty firmament!

Praise him for his mighty deeds: praise him according to his surpassing greatness!

Psalm 150:1-2



	Prayer
JUNE	Wrightsville UMC Service
	Self-Control
The practice for this month is Bible Study .	Outreach
	Worship
Daily reading of Scripture is fundamental to our faith as Christians. The Bible is God's Word to us.	Bible Study

We invite you to read the book of Luke, one chapter a day, six days a week this month.

Reflection:

All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 3:16-17



		Prayer
JULY		Wrightsville UMC Service
		Self-Control
The practice for this month is Sabbath .		Outreach
The practice for this month is Subburn .		Worship
Sabbath is the deliberate stopping of our routines to worship		Bible Study
and enjoy the presence of God.		Sabbath

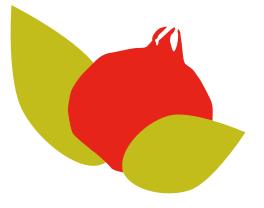
We invite you to make an intentional effort to set aside one day a week to rest and observe personal time with your Creator.

For example, unplug, attend worship, spend time with your family, or don't work.

Reflection:

Remember the sabbath day. and keep it holy.

Exodus 20:8





The practice for this month is *Invitation*.

Invitation is asking another to come and experience the grace of God.

We invite you to bring someone new to worship. Services are held Sundays at 8:15 am, 9:45 am, 11:15 am, and 6 pm.

Reflection:

 Prayer
 Wrightsville UMC Service
 Self-Control
 Outreach
 Worship
 Bible Study
 Sabbath
 Invitation

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."



Matthew 28:19-20

SEPTEMBER		Wrightsville UMC Service
		Self-Control
The practice for this month is to Join a Group .		Outreach
The practice for this month is to Join a Group .		Worship
Joining a group is where growth and change take place.		Bible Study
Community is built, faith is strengthened, and love is deepened.		Sabbath
		Invitation
We invite you to participate in an ongoing group that promotes		Join Group

For example, join a Sunday School class, 4:12 youth group, weekly Bible study, handbells, etc.

Reflection:

Christian discipleship.

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Matthew 28:19-20



Prayer

		Prayer
OCTOBER		Wrightsville UMC Service
		Self-Control
The practice for this month is <i>Giving</i> .		Outreach
The practice for this month is Groug .		Worship
Financial giving is returning to God a portion of his blessings to us.		Bible Study
		Sabbath
We invite you to increase your giving to Wrightsville UMC.		Invitation
Did you know that there are several ways to give at Wrightsville UMC?		Join Group
For example, offering plate, website or app, estate planning, etc.		Increase Giving

Text 'WRIGHTSVILLEUMCAPP' to 77977 to download our app. Or go to www.wrightsvilleumc.org to access our website.

Reflection:

Honor the Lord with your substance and with the first fruits of all your produce.



Proverbs 3:9

Contact Carla Whitlow, Director of Operations, for more information on how to give. 910-256-4471 Ext: 1122

		Prayer
NOVEMBER		Wrightsville UMC Service
NOVEMOEN		Self-Control
The practice for this month is writing down and sharing your <i>Faith Story</i> .		Outreach
		Worship
		Bible Study
Your faith story is telling how God has been at work in your life.		Sabbath
We invite you to reflect on and record your journey as a Christian.		Invitation
		Join Group
		Increase Giving
Reflection:		Faith Story

For I am not ashamed of the gospel; it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who has faith, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

Romans 1:16



DECEMBER

The practice for this month is *Kindness*.

Random acts of kindness are selfless acts extended to others.

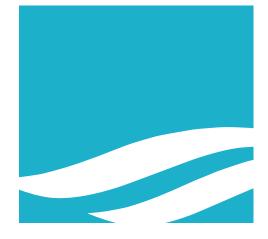
This month we invite you to initiate three random acts of kindness. For example, send someone a handwritten note, leave a generous tip, provide a meal, hold the elevator or door for someone, etc.

Reflection:

Prayer
Wrightsville UMC Service
Self-Control
Outreach
Worship
Bible Study
Sabbath
Invitation
join Group
Increase Giving
Faith Story
Kindness

In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

Matthew 5:16



ADDITIONAL RESOURCE PAGE

Listed below are additional resources available each month. These resources will be available for purchase or loan in the Narthex.

January – Prayer

Cards detailing simple prayer practices are available in the Narthex this month. Please pick them up and consider adding a new prayer practice to your prayer life.

- Praying in Color, MacBeth
- Praying Like Jesus, Mulholland
- A Layman's Guide to the Liturgy of the Hours: How the Prayers of the Church Can Change Your Life, Gallagher
- Scouting the Divine, Feinberg
- The Furious Longing of God, Manning

February - Wrightsville UMC Service

A list of the current places requiring additional servants is available online and in the Narthex this month. Please pick up a list and consider serving in one of these important ministries of Wrightsville UMC.

- Spiritual Gifts Discovery tool: http://bit.ly/2goA4Qy
- *Disciple's Path*, Harnish
- Disciple's Heart, Harnish

March - Self-Control

Fasting is a common Lenten practice. A card with a list of common areas of fasting is available online and in the Narthex this month for your consideration.

- Your Future Self Will Thank You Secrets of Self-Control from the Bible and Brain Science (a Guide for Sinners, Quitters, and Procrastinators), Dyck
- The Rule of St. Benedict, Benedict

April – Outreach

A list of current opportunities is available online and in the Narthex this month. Please pick up a list and consider serving outside the church walls in one of these important ministries.

- Spiritual Gifts Discovery tool: http://bit.ly/2goA4Qy
- Cultivating Fruitfulness, Schnase

May – Worship

Want to go a little deeper into the study of the practice of worship?

- Worshiping with United Methodists, Hickman
- How Shall We Worship?, Dawn
- An Introduction to Christian Symbolism, Boyter

June – Bible Study

The only additional resource necessary for this month's focus is a Bible. Want to go a little deeper? Maybe consider reading it aloud as a new practice? Maybe reading the assigned Scripture in multiple translations? Or perhaps you'd like to go deeper with one of these resources:

- Luke for Everyone (The New Testament for Everyone), Wright
- Life Lessons from Luke: Jesus, the Son of Man, Lucado
- Making Sense of the Bible, Hamilton

ADDITIONAL RESOURCE PAGE

July - Sabbath

This month we invite you to go deeper by creating your own Sabbath box. Directions for this project may be found online and in the Narthex.

- Sabbath as Resistance, Saying No to the Culture of Now, Brueggemann
- The Musician's Soul, Jordan
- 24/6, Sleeth

August - Invitation

- Surprise the World, Frost
- Walk Across the Room, Hybels
- www.churchleadership.com/leading-ideas/friendship-as-a-means-of-discipleship/

September – Join Group

September is traditional "back to school" month, and you'll find that theme permeates the Church atmosphere as well. There are lots of new classes, groups, and fellowship opportunities for you to check out. For the latest information, please check out the deep roots bulletin board in the office hallway and the September newsletter available online and in the Narthex.

October - Increase Giving

This month we invite you to pick up a pledge card in the Narthex and prayerfully consider making a financial commitment to the ministries of Wrightsville UMC.

• Enough, Hamilton

November - Faith Story

- Remembering Your Story, Morgan
- Spiritual Autobiography: Discovering and Sharing Your Spiritual Story (Spiritual Formation Series), Peace
- *Girl Meets God*, Winner
- The Sacred Journey: A Memoir of Early Days, Buechner

December – Kindness

This month we invite you to pick up a card in the Narthex with some suggested acts of kindness.

- Praying for Strangers, Jordan
- https://mommymoment.ca/99-acts-of-kindness/
- Love Does, Goff

Contact Donna Pinckney, Director of Spiritual Formation, to find out more resources: 910-256-4471 Ext: 1120 donna@wrightsvilleumc.org

Be a part of the buzz! Look for photos and videos of Wrightsville UMC at work in the world.



Wrightsville United **Methodist Church**

WUMCWB



Wrightsville UMC



deep roots, bountiful fruit...it happens here a vision guided by John 15:5 & Galatians 5:22-23

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