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S V I L L E U M C**

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**IT HAPPENS  
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



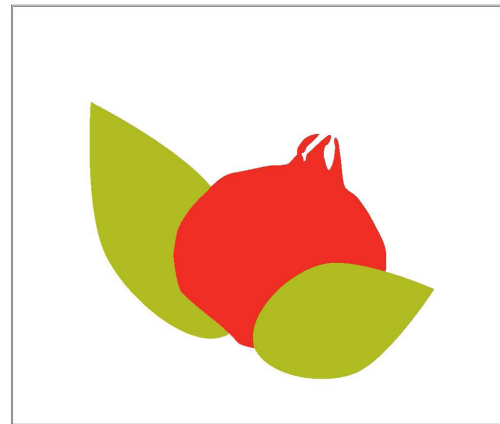
The human figure, which is the body of the tree, represents each of us who are deeply rooted in Christ. Each person bears fruit of the Spirit and reaches out to all in love, joy and peace.



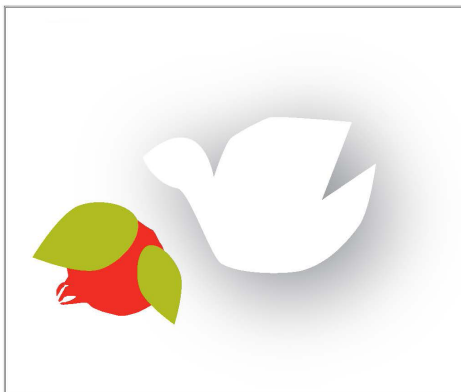
The green sky represents growth in the fruit of the Spirit.



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



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



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.



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:

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*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

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:

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*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.

# MARCH

- Prayer
- Wrightsville UMC Service
- Self-Control

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:

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*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**



# APRIL

- Prayer
- Wrightsville UMC Service
- Self-Control
- Outreach

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:

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*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](mailto:christinat@wrightsvilleumc.org)



# MAY

- Prayer
- Wrightsville UMC Service
- Self-Control
- Outreach
- Worship

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:

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*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**











# OCTOBER

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

Financial giving is returning to God a portion of his blessings to us.

We invite you to increase your giving to Wrightsville UMC.  
Did you know that there are several ways to give at Wrightsville UMC?  
For example, offering plate, website or app, estate planning, etc.

- Prayer
- Wrightsville UMC Service
- Self-Control
- Outreach
- Worship
- Bible Study
- Sabbath
- Invitation
- Join Group
- Increase Giving

Text 'WRIGHTSVILLEUMCAPP' to 77977 to download our app. Or go to [www.wrightsvilleumc.org](http://www.wrightsvilleumc.org) to access our website.

Reflection:

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*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







# 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/](http://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](mailto: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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