

# Gray Weekly News



**Week Leading to Sunday, January 30, 2022**

## **Join us for a fun night at “Matilda!”**

We still have a couple of tickets left to the performance of “Matilda” by the Quincy Music Theatre on February 11. We will be carpooling from the church, so if you want to ride along, please let Pastor Beth or Anita Durham know. The tickets are \$17/each.

If you haven’t seen one of the productions at the Quincy Music Theatre, you are in for a treat! The Quincy Music Theater features top quality performances from musicians, actors, artists, choreographers, dancers, technical theater professionals, and directors throughout the Quincy /Gadsden and Tallahassee / Leon County Communities.

Built in 1949, The Leaf Theater was one of Quincy’s two movie theatres. In the 1960’s, single-screen theatres gave way to multiplex cinemas and in 1980 the Leaf closed its doors and sat neglected downtown. In 1983, an enthusiastic theatre group in need of a permanent home began performing in churches and schools. That same year, a small group of local private citizens purchased the Leaf. Grants and private donations for restoration were secured and the neglected building was transformed into a grand entertainment facility once more!

*Continued on page 2*



## **Fourth Sunday After Epiphany**

Jeremiah 1:4-10

Psalm 71:1-6

1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 13:1-13

Luke 4:21-30

**“Is Love Too Good To Be True?”**

## News and Notes

### THIS WEEK

**Sunday, January 30**

Please join us on Sundays at 11 am. If you don't feel comfortable coming in person, you can watch our livestream at [graymemorialumc.org/facebook.com](http://graymemorialumc.org/facebook.com) or [graymemorialumc.org/youtube](http://graymemorialumc.org/youtube), at 11 am or any time after that at [graymemorialumc.org/](http://graymemorialumc.org/)



If you have prayer requests, please contact Norma Adams, Jennifer Skinner or Gail Teems.

You may also call the church office at 850/385-6441 or send a text to 850/933-8469.

### Prayer Requests

**Family of Doris Yon**, our member who passed away earlier this week  
Lewis Powell, friend of the Skinner's with stage 4 cancer  
Patsy, Betty and Sam  
George, John and Patty  
Brenna, Bella and Joyce  
Kyla on death of her mother  
Kurt who was in car accident  
Lisa Boatwright - injury from a fall  
Corey Wilhoit in hospice care  
Glen Hartsfield - give him strength  
All those who are suffering from accidents, illnesses and surgery

Praises For: All of our health and wellness

### *Continued* **“Matilda”**

The musical Matilda is about a little girl with astonishing wit, intelligence and psychokinetic powers. She's unloved by her cruel parents but impresses her schoolteacher, the highly loveable Miss Honey. Over the course of her first term at school, Matilda and Miss Honey have a profound effect on each other's lives, as Miss Honey begins not only to recognize but also appreciate Matilda's extraordinary personality.

Matilda's school life isn't completely smooth sailing, however – the school's mean headmistress, Miss Trunchbull, hates children and just loves thinking up new punishments for those who don't abide by her rules. But Matilda has courage and cleverness in equal amounts, and could be the school pupils' saving grace!

# Loving One Another

*Thoughts on 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians Chapter 13 by By John Wesley*

## **The Danger of Pride**

The first advice I would give to those who have been saved from sin by grace is to watch and pray continually against pride. For it is pride not only to ascribe what we have to ourselves, but also to think we have what we do not. One man, for instance, ascribed his knowledge to God and was therefore humble. But then he thought he had more than everyone else which is dangerous pride.

We often think that we have no need of anyone else's advice or reproof. Always remember, much grace does not imply much enlightenment. We may be wise but have little love, or we may have love with little wisdom. God has wisely joined us all together as the parts of a body so that we cannot say to another, "I have no need of you."

Even to imagine that those who are not saved cannot teach you is a very great and serious mistake. Dominion is not found in grace. Not observing this has led some into many mistakes and certainly into pride. Beware even the appearance of pride! Let there be in you that lowly mind which was in Christ Jesus. Be clothed with humility. Let modesty appear in all your words and actions.

One way we do this is to own any fault we have. If you have at any time thought, spoken, or acted wrong, do not refrain from acknowledging it. Never dream that this will hurt the cause of God — in fact, it will further it. Be open and honest when you are rebuked and do not seek to evade it or disguise it. Rather, let it appear just as it is and you will thereby not hinder but adorn the gospel.

## **The Danger of Enthusiasm**

Also, beware of the daughter of pride: enthusiasm. By enthusiasm I mean the tendency to hastily ascribe everything to God, supposing dreams and voices and visions to be special revelations that God has given to you. While they may be from God, they may also be from the devil. Therefore, "believe not every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they be of God." Test all things by the written word of God, and let all bow down before it.

You are in danger of enthusiasm every time you depart even a little from the Scriptures. We must never depart from the plain meaning of Scripture, and we must always take it in the context in which it was written. But keep in mind that we must not despise reason, knowledge, or human learning, every one of which is a gift of God and was given to serve a purpose.

One general inlet to enthusiasm is expecting the end without the means: expecting knowledge, for instance, without searching the Scriptures and consulting with the people of God, or expecting spiritual strength without constant prayer and steady watchfulness, or expecting God to bless you without hearing the word of God at every opportunity.

Another inlet to enthusiasm may be the very desire to “grow in grace.” For some people this will continually lead them to seek “new” grace and thereby lead us to seek something other than new degrees of loving God and our neighbor. Some will think they have come upon a new grace when they have discovered what it means to be “one with Christ” or to “die with Christ.” When we take a fresh teaching from the Scriptures to heart, we must not conclude that it is a “new” gift. We have all of these things when we are justified; all that remains is that we experience them in higher degrees.

We should always remember that love is the highest gift of God. All of our revelations and gifts are little things compared to love. There is nothing higher in religion. If you are looking for anything else, you are looking wide of the mark. Settle in your heart that from this moment on you will aim at nothing more than that love described in the thirteenth chapter of 1 Corinthians. You can go no higher than this.

### Basketball and Bible Ministry



**Thanks to everyone who helped with the installation of the new professional-quality basketball goal. Gray Memorial UMC has provided a basketball goal and benches to the community for many years. The new basketball goal is a tremendous improvement over the current portable one.**

**Plans are to have a “dedication” event sometime in February to which everyone will be invited. See Pastor Beth if you have ideas or want to help plan a function to**

**let the community know that it’s available and open for use.**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, Jan. 25	5:30 pm 7 pm	Yoga Class Board of Trustees meets via Zoom
Wednesday, Jan. 26	7 pm	Zoom Bible Study led by Todd Clark- Book of Acts
Thursday, Jan. 27	10 am 5:30 pm	Bible Study Choir Practice
Sunday, Jan. 30	11 am 1:30-4:30	Worship Service St. Luke's Anglican Church meets at Gray Memorial
Tuesday, February 1	5:30 pm 7 pm	Yoga Class Finance Committee Meets via Zoom
Wednesday, Feb. 2	12 noon 7 pm	Wonderful Weds. Brown Bag Lunch Zoom Bible Study led by Todd Clark- Book of Acts
Thursday, Feb. 3	10 am 5:30 pm	Bible Study Choir Practice