



UMM Fish Fry

The third time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" He said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my sheep."

—JOHN 21:17, NIV

On Sunday, November 18, 2018, the United Methodist Men (UMM) sponsored a Thanksgiving Fish Fry for all the members of the church after worship. They cooked and served catfish, chicken legs, spaghetti, hush puppies, potato salad, cole slaw, rolls and deserts. It was a great time of faith, fellowship, and fun. The UMM just



reorganized the Men's Ministry and plan to sponsor an event at the church or in the community at least once per quarter. For more information on how to be part of the UMM please contact Keith Searcy,

President; Dwight Johnson, Vice-President; or Pastor Thomas.

The following is a pictorial review of the event.





By Clarence H. Franklin

It seems that one way or another, we are always talking about relationships, our relationship with our Heavenly Father, our relationship with our church, our relationship with our community, and our relationship with each other. But what exactly does relationship mean here? What are we talking about?

First and foremost, relationship is about love. Jesus said in JOHN 13: 34-35 “I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. As I have loved you, you should also love one another. By this all shall know that you are My disciples, if you have love toward one another.” It is not enough to be a “Christian” as we learned in Sunday School recently. Jesus wants us to be His *disciples*, His followers, to follow His teachings and the example He set for us.

Relationship is also about trust. Trust is a choice. We choose to put our trust in God, in our husband or wife, our church, etc. It is about “taking a leap faith” when dealing with others. It is most of all, and most importantly, about love as the scripture above demonstrates. I am not sure there can be true

love without trust. No love, no trust, and ultimately, no relationship. No where should love be more prevalent than in the church, the body of Christ. EPHESIANS 5:30 says: “For we are members of His body, of His flesh, and of His bones.” That is what “open minds, open hearts, and open doors” are all about: *love*. JOHN 3:16 says: “For God so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” Love opens us up to opportunities to establish relationships with others. Of course, opening our hearts to others, opens up the possibility of us getting hurt, of our hearts being broken. But a life without love is hardly worth living. That is why it is so important that we make sure we have established the first and most important relationship of all. MATTHEW 6:33 says: “But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added to you.” It begins with our relationship with our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Give Him your heart and your trust and you will have the assurance that no matter what you are confronted with, you already have the victory.

Finally, as the church, the body of Christ, what should our relationship with each other look like? EPHESIANS 2:19-22 sums it up: “Now therefore you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God, and are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being *the* chief cornerstone, in whom every building having been fitly framed together, grows into a holy sanctuary in the Lord; in whom you also are built together for a dwelling place of God through *the* Spirit.” This is the relationship we should all aspire to.



Soup for Seniors
is taking off for the month of
December. It will return on
Wednesday, January 9, 2019.

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