

**Covenant United Methodist Church
6824 Tuckaseegee Road
Charlotte, NC 28214-2734**

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"I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, AND TO THE REPUBLIC FOR WHICH IT STANDS, ONE NATION UNDER GOD, INDIVISIBLE, WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL."



"I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE CHRISTIAN FLAG, AND TO THE SAVIOR FOR WHOSE KINGDOM IT STANDS, ONE SAVIOR, CRUCIFIED, RISEN, AND COMING AGAIN, WITH LIFE AND LIBERTY TO ALL WHO BELIEVE."



COVENANT COVERAGE

CHURCH NEWSLETTER, VOLUME 49, NUMBER 3, MARCH, 2019

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The United Methodist Church: www.umc.org
The Western NC Conference: <http://wnccumc.org>

COVENANT PRAYER CONCERNS

Our Church & Our leaders, The Lost, America, USA Leaders, World Leaders, The World

Gayle Mull
Winnie Elliott
Gloria Navy
Katheryn Goodman
Pat Hatley

Jo Ann Murphy (Sister-in-law of Gayle Mull)
Luis Osuna (Son-in-law of John Helms)
Nancy Blanton
Houston Crane, Jr.
Judy Goble

Ray & Pansy DeViney
Barbara Hurley
Jim Wallace
Louise Mingus

Judy Dotson
Christine Sexton
Katheryn Goodman

Glenn Monteith, Aldersgate Ret. Community
Polly Wright, Brookdale Sr. Living
Billy Hathcock (Associate Member), Ranson Ridge Assisted Living

Virginia Townsend, The Haven
Buford Nance, Williams Place

PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE TO ADD OR REMOVE A NAME ON THE PRAYER LIST.

From the Pastor's Desk!

Brothers and Sisters,
I hope you are all doing well. This month I'd like to share with you some words from my brother James Howell, senior minister at Myers Park UMC. May these words give us all pause to stop and think. Love to you all,
Pastor Elise

From: "James Howell" <james@mpumc.org>

Mon Feb 18, 2019
Church Matters: Denominations



Why so many churches? And so many divisive labels on churches? You'd think we could get our act together and be one church.

But how good would that be? I drive by a little church in the country and see an older gentleman out mowing the yard. He's big, in a little church. Every congregation has its leaders, visions, griefs, dreams, memories. Such a wonder.

Denominations must puzzle or grieve God - or maybe God chuckles, especially over the ones who think We're right and everybody else is wrong. We all apprehend God partially, truly in some aspects, and yet darkly confused in other ways. To me, that's the humbling beauty of so many churches.

Paul taught us to think of the Church as a Body, not all fingers or elbows or knees, but differing parts, together making up the whole. Are denominations like this? Pentecostals are not like the Presbyterians, and AMEs are not like the Lutherans - and yet, they are very much alike, and they certainly need each other. Catholics and Baptists seem light years apart - but then are strangely similar. All denominations strive with resolute energy to follow Christ. Each one has a different angle on the multi-faceted orb that is the kingdom of God. The Baptists know the centrality of the Bible. The Quakers embrace the need for silence. Methodists try to engage societal challenges. The Catholics embody the rich tradition of the faith and the need for saints. The non-denominational denominations creatively reach people wary of the encrustations of churchiness. Mennonites are humble, Presbyterians use

their brains, and the AME Zions can out-sing us all.

As soon as I've said this, I shudder. Methodists want to be Bible people; we need saints; we have brains; we sing pretty well. Maybe as we watch one another, we stretch and grow. We mainliners who are stiffly fixed in our pews need a little liberation from the Pentecostals so we too can show a little emotion and move, if only a little bit. The evangelicals want to save souls, while some of the more "liberal" groups want to administer medicine and food. Surely both are needed. Independent congregations can teach us all to take initiative, while connectional churches with bishops and even a pope can expand our vision and help us realize we are part of something bigger, that we in fact have in common the only thing that really matters.

Way better than passing judgment on one another, trumpeting our superiority, suspiciously eyeing those who think differently. The "competition" is never the church across the street, but that many-headed monster of cynicism, hollowness, violence, greed, hedonism, selfishness, disbelief.

Yes, it's embarrassing that we have black churches and white churches, wealthy churches and poor churches. God, I'm sure, would prefer we mix it up a bit. But our dream is that in our crazed variations we will be able to counter the discomfort of those who are a little hesitant by saying, "There is a place for you." Because, after all, church matters. All the churches matter.
James

james@mpumc.org

My sermon yesterday on Luke 6:17-26, "Blessed are the Humiliated," is on [YouTube](#) - or you can download a [podcast](#)!

Brothers & Sisters,

As soon as we have information on how the called general conference will affect Covenant and our annual conference we will share that information. Look to the April & May newsletters for information. Continue to keep our church in your prayers.

With His Love,
Pastor Elise

OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY
TO
MICHAEL & JUDY LOWE
IN THE DEATH OF MICHAEL'S MOTHER,
LOLA B. MARSHALL
2/18/26 – 2/23/2019
PLEASE REMEMBER THIS FAMILY IN PRAYER



MARCH 6 @ 5:30 PM

COME and join us for a fellowship meal at 5:30 PM. The cost is \$5.00 for adults and children and youth eat free. At 6:15 we will join together for an

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

IN THE Fellowship Hall. After the service, everyone dismisses to home.

NO GROUPS WILL MEET

**NO Kidz, NO Youth NO Adult Bible Study
(NO morning Bible Study)**

**START COLLECTING CANDY
FOR OUR EASTER
EGGSTRAVAGANZA
Saturday, April 13
from 1:00 – 2:00pm
Covenant Fellowship Hall**

**ALL CHILDREN AGES 4 TO 10 YEARS OLD
ARE INVITED TO BRING THEIR EASTER BASKETS
FOR OUR ANNUAL EGG HUNT, GAMES AND
TREATS.**

**We do need help from everyone to make this activity
successful for the children. We need prizes such as
small toys and games. We also need individually
wrapped candy that will fit in plastic eggs and for
treat bags.**

**We will gladly accept monetary donations as well.
See Linda Smeltzer or Sherry Smith.**

THANKS!!

Thank you to everyone who stayed after church on Sunday, January 13 and ate lunch. The Young Adult Sunday School Class was able to raise \$838.00. Those funds will go toward providing the meat for the Annual Appreciation BBQ for the Westside Police, Fire, & Medics; and also will go toward providing paint for the Young Adult SS Class. Thank you for your love & support.

**SEE NEW ADDRESS FOR BILLE HATHCOCK UNDER THE LONG
TERM RESIDENTS (PRAYER SECTION)**

**NEW ADDRESS: Richard & Alice Greene
1154 Crestmont Dr., SE
Concord, NC 28025**

LENTEN LUNCH SERIES

Everyone is invited to join with us this year as we gather together at our sister church,

THRIFT UMC,

for our Lenten Lunches series.
**WORSHIP 12 NOON
LIGHT LUNCH 12:30 pm**

(We will still have 11:00 AM Adult Bible Study @ Covenant UMC)

The order for this year is as follows:

- March 13 Jim Humphries from Christ UMC
- March 20 Charles Dirico from Thrift UMC
- March 27 Elise Kennedy from Covenant UMC
- April 3 Rob Chambers from Garden Memorial Presb.
- April 10 Holly Evensen from Moores Chapel UMC

We will gather for worship together at Noon and then we will share a meal together at 12:30. In the April newsletter there will be more information about our joint activities during Holy Week. Please pray about this opportunity to join together for worship, fellowship and a meal.

**May these sessions join us together
and bring us peace as we head to
the hope of EASTER.**



MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE

April 18 - 6:30 pm

@ Garden Mem. Presbyterian Church

EASTER SUNDAY

April 21 @ Covenant UMC

8:30 AM BREAKFAST

10:00 AM - WORSHIP SERVICE

No Sunday School on Easter Sunday


<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> Office Hours Monday- Thursday 9-2 PM </div>	BULLETIN INFO IS DUE BY TUESDAY EACH WEEK		<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> Body & Soul Exercise Class Mon, Wed & Fri: 9:30 AM – 10:30 AM </div>
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MARCH CHILDREN'S TIME SERVANTS March 3 Communion March 10 Jim Smeltzer March 17 Kathy Joy March 24 Linda Smeltzer March 31 Elaine Snipes	MARCH WORSHIP SERVANTS Welcome: Tim Cox Head Usher: Tim Cox Church Sign: Ralph Percival Media: Roger Smartt Security: Ray Stevanus Communion Steward: Grace Hrisak	MARCH NURSERY SERVANTS March 3 Glenda & Dwight Jackson March 10 Kathy Joy March 17 Sandy & Joe Moss March 24 Nancy Roland & Cornelia Watson March 31 Linda & Jim Smeltzer
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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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NEXT MONTH'S NEWSLETTER INFORMATION DUE BY MARCH 10	LENTEN SERVICES & LUNCH (March 13 thru April 10) <u>ALL LENTEN SERVICES & LUNCHESES WILL BE HELD AT THRIFT UMC</u> SERVICE AT 12 NOON LUNCH AT 12:30 PM	1 9:30 AM Exercise
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3 9:30 AM Prayer Rm Open 9:30 AM Montagnard Svc 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship/Communion	4 9:30 AM Exercise	5	6 9:30 AM Exercise 5:30 PM - Wom. Wed, Meal (No 11 AM Bible Study) 6:15 PM ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE In Fellowship Hall	7 1:00 PM BBQ PREP 7:00 PM CHOIR	8 9:30 AM Exercise 5 - 8 PM ANNUAL WESTSIDE APPRECIATION BBQ DINNER	9
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 APRIL NEWS DUE 9:30 AM Prayer Rm Open 9:30 AM Montagnard Svc 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS	10	11 9:30 AM Exercise	12 11:30 AM WOMEN'S LUNCH @ SHOWMARS	13 9:30 AM Exercise 11:00 AM Adult Bible Study 12:00 Noon LENTEN SVC./LUNCH ★ 5:30 PM - Meal WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY 6:15 PM Kidz, Youth & Adult Bible Study	14 7:00 PM CHOIR	15 9:30 AM Exercise	16
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9:30 AM Prayer Rm Open 9:30 AM Montagnard Svc 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship KAIROS COOKIES DUE TODAY  St. Patrick's Day	17	18 9:30 AM Exercise	19	20 9:30 AM Exercise 11:00 AM Adult Bible Study 12:00 Noon LENTEN SVC./LUNCH ★ 5:30 PM - Meal WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY 6:15 PM Kidz, Youth & Adult Bible Study	21 7:00 PM CHOIR	22 9:30 AM Exercise	23
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9:30 AM Prayer Rm Open 9:30 AM Montagnard Svc 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship	24	25 9:30 AM Exercise 7:00 PM FINANCE COMMITTEE	26	27 9:30 AM Exercise 11:00 AM Adult Bible Study 12:00 Noon LENTEN SVC./LUNCH ★ 5:30 PM - Meal WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY 6:15 PM Kidz, Youth & Adult Bible Study	28 11:00 AM MOUNTAIN TOPPERS - 7:00 PM CHOIR	29 9:30 AM Exercise	30
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9:30 AM Prayer Rm Open 9:30 AM Montagnard Svc 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship UMCOR OFFERING SUNDAY	31	MARCH BIRTHDAYS 4 Morgan Rhom 5 Bailey Smith Rick Taft 7 Chole Ann Zike 11 Ray Stevanus 13 Pansy DeViney	14 Johnny Hrisak 15 Judy Dotson 16 Brenda Taft 19 Kimberly Bennett 20 Cynthia Toles 23 Y-Duen Buondap	26 Wayne Murphy Brad Roland ANNIVERSARIES 29 John & Misty Koehler
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MARCH, 2019 SCRIPTURE READING PLAN

Brothers and Sisters,
May we join together during the month of March and read through the scriptures to prepare us all for the Season of Easter. May each reading bring us closer together and closer to God.

March 1 Hebrews 12:1-14
March 2 Luke 18:9-14
March 3 Deuteronomy 7:6-11
March 4 Titus 1:1-16
March 5 John 1:29-34
March 6 Titus 2:1-15
March 7 John 1:35-42
March 8 Titus 3:1-15
March 9 John 1:43-51
March 10 1 Corinthians 1:17-31
March 11 Mark 2:18-22
March 12 Hebrews 2:11-18
March 13 John 2:1-12
March 14 Hebrews 3:1-11
March 15 John 2:13-22
March 16 Hebrews 3:12-19
March 17 John 2:23-3:15
March 18 Hebrews 4:1-10
March 19 John 3:16-21
March 20 Hebrews 5:1-10
March 21 John 4:1-26
March 22 1 Corinthians 3:11-23
March 23 Mark 3:31-4:9
March 24 Romans 1:1-15
March 25 John 4:27-42
March 26 Romans 1:16-25
March 27 John 4:43:54
March 28 Romans 1:28-2:11
March 29 John 5:1-18
March 30 Romans 2:12-24

**REGISTER NOW FOR THE METRO DISTRICT
LAY SERVANT TRAINING.
March 30 & 31 or April 6 & 7
DEADLINE TO REGISTER:
MARCH 4, 2019**

*See information on bulletin board near
office or call Pastor or Office.*

**FLOOD BUCKETS
FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH WE WILL BE
COLLECTING THE FOLLOWING FOR FLOOD
BUCKETS:
100 FT. COTTON CLOTHESLINES
100 CLOTHESPINS
16 TO 34 OZ. LIQUID DISH SOAP
PLACE ITEMS IN F. HALL NEAR PIANO.**



Body & Soul Senior Fitness

Exercise Classes meet:

**Monday, Wednesday & Friday
9:30 AM to 10:30 AM.**

**MONTHLY FEES ARE \$25.00.
NO CHARGE IF YOU HAVE SILVER SNEAKERS
IN YOUR INSURANCE.**

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS,
CALL KATHY JOY: 704-277-3267**



KAIROS COOKIES NEEDED



**We will be at Kershaw Prison March 21-
24 and will need lots & lots of cookies.**

Please bring cookies by March 17TH.

**Thanks in advance!
John & Grace Hrisak**



WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY!



FEBRUARY 20 TO APRIL 10

(EXCEPT FOR MARCH 6)

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE WILL REPLACE WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY ON MARCH 6)



5:30 PM MEAL
Adults \$5.00
Children eat free



6:15 PM
Kidz
Youth
Adult Bible Study



MORNING ADULT BIBLE STUDY

11:00 AM each Wednesday

A morning bible study group began in February

**IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND ON WEDNESDAY NIGHTS,
COME AT 11:00 A.M. ON WEDNESDAYS FOR ADULT BIBLE STUDY.**

Hope to see you! (Except for March 6 – Ash Wednesday.)

UMCOR - DO YOU KNOW UMCOR?

UMCOR stands for: UNITED METHODIST COMMITTEE ON RELIEF



COMPASSION

#UMCORSunday



UMCOR will be the focal point of a Special Sunday Offering on March 31. When watching disaster unfold around the globe, many of us feel the call to help but are at a loss as to what we can actually do to help.

UMCOR Sunday is the day for congregations around the globe to help.

UMCOR offers aid in Jesus' name to those who suffer:

- WHEN TORNADOES RIPPED THROUGH OKLAHOMA, WE RESPONDED.
- WHEN CHILDREN IN ZIMBABWE LOST PARENTS TO AIDS, WE RESPONDED.
- WHEN A MASSIVE TSUNAMI DEVASTATED LIVES IN JAPAN, WE RESPONDED.

And when the next crisis occurs, we will be prepared to respond. On this Special Sunday on March 31, 2019, our generosity as a church covers the operating budget of UMCOR. This allows them to funnel 100% of other donations received throughout the year directly to relief efforts. UMCOR Sunday is where we come together to help. If you want to learn more about UMCOR visit: www.umcsgiving.org/UMCOR

TOGETHER, WE DO MORE. TOGETHER, WE CAN DO
WHAT NO ONE CONGREGATION
OR INDIVIDUAL CAN.