

THE CHAPEL CHATTER

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VOLUME 2 ISSUE 8

Pastor's Corner

This summer as we have been traveling through the story of Kingdom Leadership with David, there arose an issue around the permanency of a house for God. I truly understood David's longing to make a permanent home for God.

Leo and I have moved on a very regular basis for most of our married life. Each move normally meant extensive travel. We pitched tents because tents were cheaper, and pets were allowed. As much as I love to camp and live in a tent, I too, had a longing to have a permanent home. I longed for a place where I could unpack the boxes and never move again.

Yet, God's response was to remind David of the tabernacle, the tent that had been God's

home. God spoke of the many opportunities he had to ask for a permanent home of His people, yet did not. As I heard God's response to David I thought of all the places I have traveled and was grateful for God's presence along the way.

I am traveling north with Leo in just a few weeks to visit family and take a motorcycle ride in Acadia National Park, Maine. We plan to pitch our tent outside of Bar Harbor and



live a nomad's life. It is comforting for me to realize that no matter where I travel to or travel from, God travels with me, yet it is also very comforting to walk into the same church each Sunday and know who is sitting on which pews, what the order of worship will be, and what will happen this week, next week, next month, or next year.

Yet even here in this place we know that our pews once held other people, what happened this year is different from what happened many years ago. We are never the same from one day to the next. Even this mortar

and wood is as temporary as my tent. What is permanent is God's Kingdom. The physical plant may change, the people in the pews may change, but the foundation on which this church was built is Jesus Christ our Lord and that will never change. God's Kingdom on earth is under construction. Here in this place, God dwells and continues to build His dwelling place. We can have faith that God knows what God is doing and not fear our future.

We have entered the season of call. We are calling upon people to take on Kingdom leadership positions to serve the master builder in the construction of His Kingdom on earth. Come serve with us. I look forward to being shaped by God through each of you as we serve the Lord year after year after year after year after...with God building us into His dwelling place. I wonder if it will be a tent?

In closing, I offer this prayer from an anonymous person in Taiwan, "Gracious God, let your will for us all be known. Let all be partners in shaping the future with a faith that quarrels with the present for the sake of what yet might be. Amen."



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Did You Know?

25% of married women regularly attend church without their husbands.

Total USA population is split fairly evenly between Men & Women while USA church population is split 61% Women—39% Men.

When a Mother comes to church—her family follows 17% of the time.

When a Father comes to church—his family follows 93% of the time.

Mothers tithe off the grocery money—Mothers and Fathers tithe off the paycheck.

Women outnumber Men over 2 to 1 in volunteering and showing up for church events.

99% of Christian worship in the USA takes place indoors—men like the outdoors.

Barna Survey reveals a majority of “first time” decision makers for Christ were no longer connected to a Christian church within eight weeks.

Other than the role of pastor—women are 56% more likely than men to hold a leadership position.

Pastor on Vacation – after the luncheon on August 19th Leo and Pastor Carolyn will be heading north for two weeks. She can be reached through her cell phone (252) 430-4333. Also the Rev. Dennis Peay of Cokesbury UMC has offered to provide pastoral support in her absence. He can be reached through his cell phone (252) 425-5434. She will be back in the pulpit on September 2nd as we celebrate the laborers of our church.

Beginnings

Starting in September, the Beginnings study will take place during the Sunday School hour. Beginnings is a spiritual journey for new believers and longtime Christians who want to explore the basics of Christianity amongst friends and family at Plank Chapel. Participants can bring questions, gain knowledge, and deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ. Beginnings: The Spiritual Life, explores spiritual “habits of the heart,” including centering, loving, serving, questioning, and engaging. If you are interested in exploring new spiritual disciplines, we hope you will prayerfully consider joining this study.

Back Pack Blessing

As school fast approaches us, we will start collecting school supplies for the youth at Zeb Vance Elementary School. What we will be collecting are: Notebook paper, folders, pencils, crayons, erasers, scissors, computer paper, highlighters, binders, tissues, sanitizer, watercolor paints, rulers, dry erase and wet erase markers, index cards, etc. See Debra Newman for an updated list of school supplies or as you shop for them, check out the posted lists in the stores. Please bring the supplies on August 19th. Also, we will be blessing the back packs of our students and cover the teachers in our midst with prayer on the 19th so we encourage the children and you to bring their back packs.



B. A. S. I. C. Information.....

Ignite runs September 28-30, 2012 at Camp Rockfish! Our Mission for is to: Ignite youth to live passionately and share the light of Christ while kindling youth workers’ ability to train up the next generation of leaders! Our arc of study will be:

- Show
- Share
- Shape
- Shine



There will be small groups for middle schoolers, senior highs, and youth leaders!

The event costs \$25 and is open to youth in 6th-12th grades! If you have further questions, please contact Pastor Carolyn. Early registration runs through August 15th! (\$50.00 after the 15th)

August 5th—UMYF at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall— games, fellowship, study, pizza and snacks. Come and join in on the fun and prepare for future events at our meeting. Be prepared to discuss: lock in, fund raisers and upcoming events and let us not forget.....**Pilgrimage is coming..... Yay.....** Lots to plan for!





Opportunities to Serve

- A.C.T.S.
- Volunteer at the YMCA
- Rebuilding Hope
- Volunteer at a Long Term Care Facility
- Volunteer at school
- Volunteer at church
- District or Conference Ministry
- Volunteer at the Library
- Help at a pet shelter
- Habitat for Humanity
- Volunteering with the Cancer Society
- Lifeline

Community In Prayer

For... Sue Rogers Smith, Sally Coghill, David Driver, James Deans,, Kay Deans, Teresa Hock, Faye Young, Sumner Smith, Charles Parsons Smith, Gerald Woodlief, Bo Fitts, Jane Owen, Henry Brown, Janet Bobbitt

For...those facing medical procedures this month,

For...those leaving home for college

For...the lost and afraid,

For...those without food, jobs and shelter,

For...healing and reconciliation.

For...our leaders, our teachers, our volunteers



**Welcome, Bishop
Hope Morgan Ward!**

We are excited to introduce the new Bishop of the North Carolina Conference, Bishop Hope Morgan Ward.

Bishop Ward comes to us after serving the Mississippi Conference for the last eight years. She is a North Carolina native and served as District Superintendent of the Raleigh District before her election to Bishop. She attended Duke University for her undergraduate degree and Duke Divinity School for her Masters of Divinity. She and her husband, Mike, have two children, Jason and Brooke.

Please keep the Wards in your prayers as they make the transition back to the North Carolina Conference and be looking forward to the faithful work she will do amongst us!

Our ministry here at the Roberson County Church and Community Center is focused on those who are downtrodden and marginalized by society's standards, regardless of race. This past year it is estimated that we touched about 30,000 lives with food and emergency program services such as rent, utility bills, medicine, building ramps for the elderly, homeless toiletry kits, and clothing. Yet, the numbers are climbing.

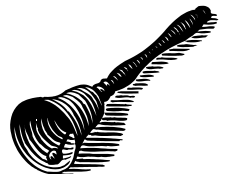
Please remember Robeson County Church and Community Center in your prayers. Please support us with a financial gift. We greatly need mission teams.

With your contribution today, we can continue the much needed and vital programs for those who are in crisis.

Contributions may be made through your local church Make check payable to: NC Conference UMC Advance #791742 - RCC&CC

BELLS - September 5th - 6:30 p.m. -

Bell practice begins - hope to hear our bells ringing 6 times this fall and winter season - come ring - all you need to do is count



See Donald Rose McGhee or Christine Spencer

Birthdays:

- 4—Michelle Denton, Randy Rowland, Leo Roy
- 6— Daryl Spencer, Nicole Koons
- 8—Linda Bobbitt-Rowland
- 10—Pam Young
- 15—Laurie Wilson Miller
- 19— Ann VanZandt
- 20—Laura Young
- 23—Nancy Sears, Sherry Lloyd
- 27—Makayla Beckham
- 29—Donald Rose McGhee
- 30—Martha Rowland

Anniversaries:

- ★11— Richard and Sally Coghill
- 15—Scott & Jennifer Finch
- 18—Don & Tracy Eatmon

**Senior Circle
August 15**

CHOIR - September 5th - 7:00 p.m. - Choir practice resumes - come join us as we prepare for worship and our Christmas season

**Change for
Mission
Red Bird Missionary
Conference**





Sarah Jo

K O R N E R

A R I N' S



After Paul and Silas had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews. And Paul went in, as was his custom, and on three Sabbath days argued with them from the scriptures, explaining and proving that it was necessary for the Messiah to suffer and to rise from the dead, and saying, "This is the Messiah, Jesus who I am proclaiming to you." Some of them were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a great many of the devout Greeks and not a few of the leading women. But the Jews became jealous, and with the help of some ruffians in the marketplaces they formed a mob and set the city in an uproar. While they were searching for Paul and Silas to bring them out to the assembly, they attacked Jason's house. When they could not find them, they dragged Jason and some believers before the city authorities, shouting, "These people who have been turning the world upside down have come here also."

Over the past few weeks, I have had the joy of participating in various committee meetings here at Plank Chapel. Now obviously, committee meetings are not always "fun" in the conventional sense of the word, but they have

been occasions of joy for me because I have watched as the people in these meetings have had meaningful and honest conversations about Plank Chapel's relationship with the surrounding community. They have also been hard conversations, fraught with anxiety about the future of the church and the most faithful ways of engaging our friends outside of Plank Chapel UMC.

In the above story, Paul and Silas are doing exactly what Plank Chapel is trying to do – sharing the good news of Jesus with those who may not really know it – and they too are facing huge obstacles! Being missionaries and evangelists is no easy job and this story reveals that from the very beginning of the Christian Church, people have resisted even the most earnest efforts at spreading the Good News. And yet, even amidst the rejection and persecution, Paul and the other disciples continued to try and reach people for the sake of God's Kingdom. So, take heart! Making disciples is *supposed* to be hard! It was hard for Paul and it is still hard for us in 2012. Just like raising children or learning a new musical instrument, it takes time and endurance, and lots and

lots of love. If figuring out how to grow the church and make disciples is really weighing hard on us, it means we are doing it right.

Indeed, we must love even those who are unwelcoming to our message of new life and resurrection. In fact, the persecutors in this story have great insight for us. They call Paul and the other disciples "these people who have been turning the world upside down." Turning the world upside down! What a wonderful description of the type of life we as disciples of Jesus Christ are supposed to embody! But as you all know and have been discussing in these meetings, turning the world upside down is no easy calling. As it turns out, there are a lot of people who do not want their world turned upside down. It also turns out that sometimes even those of us inside of the church are not so keen on having our world turned upside down. And yet, being a new creation in Christ requires that the world as we used to know it be left behind so that it might be "on earth as it is in heaven." So may we turn to God our helper as we seek to "turn the world upside down" right here in Bobbitt.

Come one.... Come all.... Pilgrimage is fast approaching us! Ok.... Youth..... Are you ready for Pilgrimage? Do I hear an "Oh yeah!"? I am so excited about this event! I am especially excited about hearing the guest speaker-Mike Lambert. He has spoken in churches, conferences as well as comedy clubs all over sharing the Gospel with those who need to know the Lord. He uses his wonderful sense of humor to bring folks to Christ and encourage those who already know Him in a very special way. His passion is speaking to the Youth and has been with Pilgrimage for a long time. Adults, we need you too! Please pray for us as we prepare to go on this wonderful event. Prayerfully consider joining us as a mentor at this event as well. You will be blessed, as I was, to share this time in getting to know our Youth as well as being blessed in a wonderful event! We have a great time camping at a local campground, Leo does a great job cooking and this year we are especially praying we won't need to sleep in our parkas!



AUGUST 2012

WORSHIP—11:00 A.M.

CHURCH SCHOOL—10:00 A.M.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	31	1 7:00 pm Choir Practice	2 Keeping Holy time Bible Study 1:30 pm	3	4
5 Administrative Council meeting 3pm UMYF 5:30 pm	6	7 7 pm Change the World Small Group Study followed by Prayer Group	8 Grow, Proclaim, Serve —6:30—8:30 pm Children's Program Orientation—Light Supper @ Oxford UMC	9 Keeping Holy time Bible Study 1:30pm	10	11
12	13	14 7 pm Change the World Small Group Study	15 10 a.m. Senior Circle	16 Keeping Holy time Bible Study 1:30pm	17	18
19 Blessing of the backpacks—11 am worship 12:30 p.m. Farewell Luncheon	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



Plank Chapel United Methodist Church

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**CHECK US OUT
ON THE WEB:**

**www.plankcha
pel.org**

OPEN HEARTS.
OPEN MINDS.
OPEN DOORS.

Special Luncheon

- August 19th after church
- Celebrating Sarah Jo Adams-Wilson's Field Education Placement with us -
 - covered dish

In His Service this Month



Flowers:

5—Beth Heaton
8—Faye Woodlief
19—Beverly Newman
26—Beverly Thompson

Ushers:

Freddie McGhee
Joe Sears, Sr
Ben Brown
Jamie Abbott

Nursery:

5—Nancy and Callie Jo Sears
8— Beth and John Heaton
19— Frances Roberts and Midge Smith
26— Roxie Kearney and Jessica Lassiter

Lay Readers:

Gwen Ritchey
Mike Ranes
Amy Smith
Janet Bobbitt

Altar Guild:

Pat Edwards
Donald Rose McGhee

Outreach:

5— Darlene Ranes & Joyce Edwards

Greeters:

5— Olivia Williams & Arianna Fuller-Bell
8— Mike & Darleen Ranes
19— Bob & Olivia Kemp
26— Freddie & Kim Oettinger

12— Faye Woodlief & John Wilson

19— John Rogers & Patricia Fuller

26— Joe Weaver & Joe Sears

Grow, Proclaim, Serve

Tips, Suggestions, and Ideas to be in ministry with children—including Sunday School

August 8th—6:30—8:30

Oxford United Methodist Church

Light supper served