

CHAPEL CHATTER

Open Hearts | Open Minds | Wide Open Doors

BASIC UMYF

BASIC UMYF meets the first and third Sunday of most months. Youth from four sister churches gather for fellowship, fun, food, and to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ. We are taking August off - see you in September.

UMM

The United Methodist Men of Plank Chapel meet on the third Sunday of each month at 8:00 a.m. After sharing a breakfast together, this group of men focus on ways they can serve the community through their time, talent, and treasure. Join in on this opportunity for fellowship and service.

UMW

The United Methodist Women of Plank Chapel will resume meeting at 3:00 pm on the third Sunday of the month in September. These mission minded women share a program and discuss where they are needed to serve. All women are welcome. Please join us.

Back to School

It is amazing to me that August is the month our students go back to school. I can remember when Labor Day Weekend was the last weekend of the summer before we donned school clothes and began learning again. Now we find students returning to school as early as July, but mostly in August.

We have made a commitment each year to bring school supplies for the students at Zeb Vance. Consider buying pens, pencils, notebook paper, tissues, hand sanitizer, back packs, crayons, erasers, and other items on the back to school lists in the stores. On August 14 we will offer a prayer over our students and supplies.

August 14 is also a day when we will hear of an opportunity for us to learn something new. Steve Taylor is the director of the conference connectional table of the North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church. This year he was commissioned as a Lay Missioner by the United Methodist Women. He has a heart for Jesus and a love for all God's people. He will be teaching Sunday School and preaching at the 11:00 a.m. worship service. He will join us at Awakenings as well. After a light lunch prepared for you by a small group of volunteers he will present to us the coaching program SHIFT. We are not too young to go back to school and learn.

Proverbs 9:9 reminds us: "Give instruction to the wise and they will become wiser still."

My prayer is for us to accept the invitation and shift our focus

Praying with you,

Pastor Carolyn



PlankChapel.org – So What?

You probably know there is a Plank Chapel web site but perhaps you don't care. That's OK. But we try to provide useful information there. Here are few possibilities.

- ◆ Online Calendar – Pastor Carolyn maintains this current schedule of church events.
- ◆ Chapel Chatter – The online newsletter is the same as the paper version except without birth and anniversary dates (for privacy reasons).
- ◆ Policies – The latest approved Safe Sanctuary and Facilities policies are available here.
- ◆ Rev. Carolyn's Blog – Insight into our Pastor's life and thoughts.
- ◆ Conference and District – Links to these web sites.
- ◆ History – Plank Chapel history including previous pastors and cemetery plots.
- ◆ Worship Service Audio – Play or download sermons or complete services, including Pastor Carolyn's announcements at the very beginning of each service.

Scott Ritchey tries to maintain this web site so email him your suggestions or corrections at RitcheyVS@aol.com



Summer Gatherings of Community

Senior Circle's July meeting was a great hit. Conrad Hock and Patricia Rogers played and Donald Rose McGhee led the singing. After the program, members went to celebrate Jane Kittrell's life at the graveside service. All joined together for hot dogs and fixings.

This month 4 Season Cafe and Gift Shop will be open on August 3rd and Senior Circle back together on August 17.



Vacation Bible School

Recently I had the opportunity to volunteer at the joint Vacation Bible School held at Saddle Rock Farm. Six Methodist

churches came together and shared the word of God with about 45 children, 1st UMC Henderson, Plank Chapel UMC, Mount Carmel UMC, Rehoboth UMC, Spring Valley UMC and City Road UMC. Our theme this year was "Surf Shack, catch the wave of God's amazing love". I can assure you the wave was caught. Each of the six churches had a specific day of which they were in charge. The children had different stations to visit each day.

Saddle Rock Farm looks like a place you might see in a magazine, somewhere time forgot to change. The beauty of this farm far exceeded my expectations and it was easy for me to imagine God's love in such a place. I knew the children would feel the same way. I saw first hand how God's

love spread through this magical place through the hearts of each child, the volunteers with such patience and passion for Christ and who couldn't wait to share God's word with the most precious of us all....his children. I witnessed a multi-cultural coming together, and I was reminded of how very innocent and precious a child is. At VBS I saw children quick to make friends and bond while listening to great songs, scripture and puppet shows.

As I recollect on my time at VBS this year a few moments stand out. On Wednesday the weather was not ideal and we all made our way to a large open stable where the children sat on blankets to listen to Pastor Carolyn speak. I don't think her lesson could have come at a better time. After a few minutes of being under the shelter a storm began to develop. The wind began to get stronger and the clouds turned dark. Pastor Carolyn rallied all the children together and taught them about Jesus and how he calmed the storm. I'm not sure if it was a sign from God or maybe even a small miracle but just a few minutes after she finished teaching the storm subsided and went away. These children heard about how Jesus calmed the storm and then they witnessed it for themselves!



Another part of VBS that stood out for me was the music. The children had a wonderful music teacher that taught them catchy songs as well as choreography. One of the songs reminded the children to "Remember that the Lord is great and awesome" (Nehemiah 4:14b). I saw children engaged and learning while having a great time singing and dancing for God. Along with the music the children were treated to a puppet show. Snappy the crab and Skipper entertained us all and made us laugh while teaching us about the love of God. The time and energy spent on decorations and props was definitely noted. Every detail of the puppet show from the music to the skit was planned out to the glory of God. I saw the wave of God's love in the energy spent to glorify him.



I could not write this article without mentioning the delicious food! Every church had a specific day to provide a meal. The children enjoyed everything from chicken nuggets to grilled chicken and macaroni and favorites, Mexican Millan was kind enough to eat the tostada as well. and a prayer was said of God's continuous



cheese to one of my personal tostadas! Pastor Edgar Vergara demonstrate the correct way to The food was really delicious before every meal to remind us blessings.

Another blessing the children were able to visit with the animals that live on the farm. As one of the volunteers I saw how the love of God could be shared through animals. The children were able to use a small corn mill to shuck corn and then feed the corn kernels to different animals. The children were especially amused by the goats that could take the small plastic cups in their mouths, tip them up and eat the corn out all by themselves. The

awe and wonder I saw on their faces more then assured me that God was indeed at work in this place.

In closing my experience at VBS this year was amazing! I know that VBS is supposed to be about teaching and sharing the word of God with our children but I'm convinced that this year the children were not the only ones who learned. I witnessed people of different races and backgrounds come together and bond as one large teaching body. I know the example shown to our youth over our days together will stay with them for years to come. The blessings poured out and into our children will have a ripple effect, touching not only the lives present at our joint VBS but those of friends and family also.



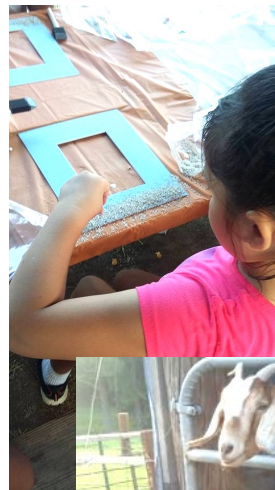
1 John 4:7-8 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.

-Peggy Hernandez



Community in Prayer

- For... Mark Litton, Hattie Ranes, Freddie McGhee, Tilly Hughes, Amy Beers, Brandi Dickerson, Alice Finch, George Heaton, Hilma Smith, David Driver, Faye Young, Frances Fuller, Bryson Jackson, Jane Owen, Gerald Woodlief
- For...healing and reconciliation
- For...those facing medical procedures
- For...those grieving
- For...those without food, jobs, shelter
- For...the lost and afraid
- For...Our local cities and counties
- For...Plank Chapel
- For...Our military, families, and veterans
- For...all in harms way
- For...peace in our nation
- For...peace in the world



Shift - Congregational Coaching for Effective Ministry – beginning in September!

We extend an invitation for twelve courageous congregational ministry teams to participate in training toward vital and relevant ministry. This exciting and relevant training will provide concrete steps and an immediately useful process that local churches can take, apply them to their context and Spirit-led creativity, then move to implementation.

The Shift process empowers us to move:

- From Membership to Discipleship
- From Fellowship to Hospitality
- From Worship as Event to Worship as Lifestyle
- From Self to Others – Service & Generosity



GO be the hands and feet of Jesus!
Shift to Discipleship!
Shift your focus to worship as life!
Shift to Hospitality!
Shift for others!

Congregational leadership teams, consisting of the pastor and 5 key lay persons, will meet one Saturday each month in a community setting over nine months for training. Coaches will then work pastors and leadership teams to begin the implication of learned skills and disciple-making processes in ways that are relevant in the local church’s setting. Coaches will also gather periodically with pastors for further tools specific training.

Discipleship, Hospitality, Worship as Life, Serving and Generosity – these actions flow from communion with Jesus and form us more deeply as the Body of Christ where we can indeed engage in vital ministry that transforms the world. Come and be part of this incredible journey.



Heritage District Youth Event

Camp Kerr Lake
 3111 Flemington Road
 Middleburg, NC 27556
 September 10th 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
 Hamburgers, chips and drinks will be provided for lunch

We will be collecting school supplies for middle and high school students for the Robeson County Community Center. The items we will be collecting are:
 Number 2 pencils
 Notebook paper
 Spiral notebooks
 Protractors
 Rulers
 Texas Instruments TI84 Calculator (One per church if possible- they cost a little over \$100)

IN HIS SERVICE

August Ushers

Henry Finch, Bruce Newman,
John Rogers, Ryan Rowland

August Altar Guild

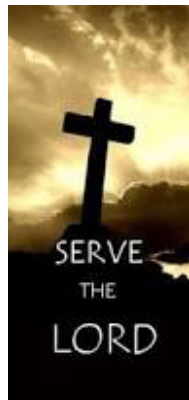
Pat Edwards and Donald Rose McGhee

August Greeter

John Rogers

Flowers

- 7 - Communion
- 14 - Faye Woodlief
- 21 - Lora Young
- 28 - Donald Rose McGhee



Acolytes

- 7 - Laci Oettinger
- 14 - Jasper Denton
- 21 - Arianna Fuller-Bell
- 28 - Austyn Abbott

Lay Readers

- 7 - Darlene Ranes - Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16
- 14 - Tim Smith - Hebrews 11:29-12:2
- 21 - Karin Driver - Hebrews 12:18-29
- 28 - Lorraine Abbott - Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

Nursery Workers

- 7 - Joyce Edwards and Laci Oettinger
- 14 - Lora Young and Midge Smith
- 21 - Kim and Laci Oettinger
- 28 - Roxie Kearney and Lizzie Driver



As your gardens grow - remember those in need of fresh produce - share the bounty of God's good earth with your neighbor or a stranger!

SHIFT

So, here's the question: What are we willing to do to share the love of Jesus?



BASIC UMYF LEADERS
SALT Training - August 14 - 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm
White Plains UMC
August 21 - Leadership Planning
4:00 p.m. - Plank Chapel

**School Supply Sunday
August 14**



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 AM Early Worship 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 	1	2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:00 PM National Night Out 	3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 AM 4 Seasons Cafe and Gift Shop 5:30 PM Faith and Fitness 	4	5	6
7 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 AM Early Worship 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 	8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00 PM Nominations and Leadership 	9	10 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:30 PM Faith and Fitness 6:30 PM Choir Practice 	11	12	13
14 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 AM Early Worship 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 12:00 PM Shift Luncheon and Presentation 3:00 PM Salt Training 	15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00 PM PPRC Meeting 	16	17 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 AM Senior Circle 5:30 PM Faith and Fitness 	18	19	20
21 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 AM UMM 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 12:15 PM Inward Formation Team 4:30 PM BASIC UMYF 	22	23	24 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:30 PM Faith and Fitness 6:30 PM Choir Practice 7:00 PM Trustees Meeting 	25	26	27
28 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 AM Early Worship 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 	29	30	31 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:30 PM Faith and Fitness 	1	2	3

**Food Pantry Sundays
Jul 31, August 14, 28**