

Chapel Chatter

Wide Open Hearts! Wide Open Doors



Christmastide - Season of Love and Light

In him there is no darkness at all; the night and the day are both alike. The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

The refrain of the Hymn, "I want to walk as a Child of the Light" reminds us that Christ's light is in the world no matter how dark it becomes. The hymn is a song of our journey of faith as we strive to move closer to unity with God. The first stanza challenges us to follow Jesus, the second to look at



UMM

Meet on third Sunday of the month at 8:00 a.m. for breakfast.



UMW

Meet on the third Sunday of the month at 3:00 p.m.



BASIC UMYF

Our youth have a flexible schedule - check the news section for this month's activities

Jan
4

4 SEASONS CAFE

Meeting at 10:00 a.m. for food, fun, and fellowship - all ages

Jan
12

THURSDAY NIGHT CRAFTERS

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Bring your craft ideas

Jan
18

SENIOR CIRCLE

Join us at 10:00 a.m. for a light lunch and an informative program.

Jesus, and the third to be with Jesus. It is often sung on Epiphany Sunday as we celebrate the coming of the Wise Men who followed the star to find Jesus.

For me it shares our longing as followers of Jesus Christ, our longing to be with God. It is not just our longings this song speaks to, it also challenges us to a life of piety and mercy. For us to follow Jesus we have to step onto the path of discipleship which means we engage in study and prayer and worship so that we know how to follow. For us to look at Jesus we have to turn our eyes away from the distractions of the world and seek Jesus' face. This often means we then see the world as Jesus sees it. We see a broken world in need of redemption. The final challenge to be with Jesus speaks of hope, our hope for the coming of Christ and the promised redemption.

We often make resolutions for the coming year. My prayer for us this year is we will resolve to be people of light and love and challenge ourselves to follow Jesus wherever He leads us, look to see Jesus in the face of a stranger, and work together for the coming of Jesus and the redemption of the world. On New Year's Eve we have a Watch Night Service which gives space for each of us to leave behind what we do not want to carry into 2017 and make covenant to God what we desire to bring into the New Year.



Praying with you that each of us allows joy, allows love, allows God,

Pastor Carolyn



HEAD USHER - BEN (BW) BROWN

Ben Brown has been serving as Head Usher at Plank Chapel for 30 years (maybe more). Even in the midst of his battle with cancer Ben kept an eye on his ushers and they filled in until he could return to the place where we find him most Sunday mornings, standing at the door greeting you and providing you with the morning's bulletin. His smile warm and friendly. Ben provides us with ushers each month and teaches them how to serve the church. Ben will continue to be a loving presence in worship, but in 2017 Ben is retiring from his position as Head Usher. Well Done Good and Faithful Servant. Thank you for your service. We know you will continue to train those who follow.



SHIFTing our Focus

Disunity in Christ: Uncovering the Hidden Forces that Keep Us Apart

by Christena Cleveland

A small group study will begin on Sunday, January 8 at 4:30 p.m. Our focus will be unity and community. Our conversation starter is the book by Christena Cleveland. All are welcome to join us. The rhythm of prayer and study and action are part of the makeup of this small group. This past Advent season we found ways to be active in mission and study and fellowship. We served as tutors at City Road, and volunteered at the shelter. Our fellowship dinner in December provided a meal and great conversations. Look to see what more we may do and join in the fun!

Worship Design

On January 17 at 7:00 p.m. there will be a worship design meeting for those who want to be part of the planning of our worship at Plank Chapel for Lent and Easter. This includes visual art, music, and drama.

Mission Opportunities

Food Pantry Sundays are: January 1, 15 and 29. The nonperishable food we bring goes to Cokesbury UMC for their Food Pantry.

Shelter Meal: January 24. Contact Susan Sears if you would like to help provide dinner for the men at the temporary homeless shelter. We provide a meal on the 4th Tuesday through March.



BASIC UMYF

It is time for a lock-in. Bring your painting clothes and your sleeping bags. January 13 at 7:00 p.m. we will gather. The night will include food, fun, fellowship, and plans for the coming year.

Coming in February: Soup-er Bowl Sunday fundraiser for Stop Hunger Now, Heritage District Stop Hunger Now Fundraising Event at NC Wesleyan

Conference Events: Global Vision - March 7-12, Kaleidoscope - March 31-April 2, Breakaway - June 26-July 1, Trail Hike - July 10-16, ACS - July 24-29

Places to Serve

We are always looking for other places to serve and people to serve beside us.

How can you serve? We are looking for lay readers, choir members, musicians, Sunday School teachers, children's ministry coordinators, tutors, cooks, nursery workers, greeters, and ushers.

Serving in Mission? We are looking to send a mission team to Princeville this winter. Contact Susan Sears if you would like to go.

Plank Chapel United Methodist Church 2017 Lay Leadership Roster Church Council – 2017

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Carolyn Roy
 Lay Leaders: Tim Smith (17), Debra Newman (19)
 Chairperson, Church Council: Mac Wilson (2017)
 Chair, Finance Committee: Patricia Rogers (2019)
 Chairperson, Trustees: D.J. Pegram (2017)
 Chair, Pastor-Parish Relations: Tim Smith (2017)
 Chair, Inward Formation: Kim Oettinger (2019)
 Chair, Outward Witness: Susan Sears (2018)
 Superintendent, Sunday School: Debra Newman
 Lay Member of Annual Conference
 Patricia Rogers (2018)
 Alternate Lay Member of Annual Conference
 Susan Sears (2018)
 Recording Secretary: Lorraine Abbott
 Finance Secretary: Judy Wilson
 Membership Secretary: Darlene Ranes
 Treasurer: Scott Ritchey
 President, UMM: Thomas Beckham
 President, UMW: Darlene Ranes
 United Methodist Youth Fellowship
 Arianna Fuller Bell (2019)
 Senior Circle Representative: Faye Woodlief
 Communications Coordinator: Gwen Ritchey
 Honorary Members: Faye Young, Jane Owen, James
 Young, Frances Fuller

COMMITTEES and WORK AREAS for 2017

Lay Leadership: Rev. Dr. Carolyn Roy, Chr., Tim Smith (LL-17), Pat Edwards (17), Gwen Ritchey (17), Kim Oettinger (18), John Rogers (18), Debra Newman (LL-19), Jasper Denton (19), Thomas Beckham (19)

Trustees: D. J. Pegram, Chr., (17), Michelle Denton (17), Bruce Newman (17), Norman Manning (18), Kim Oettinger (18), Gwen Ritchey (18), Peggy Hernandez (19), Todd Wilson (19), John Abbott (19) Laurie Miller (Building Fund Treasurer)

Pastor-Parish Relations: Tim Smith, (Chair 17), Patricia Rogers (LM-18), Daryl Spencer (17), Ryan Rowland (17), Olivia Kemp (18), Jeanette McGhee (18), Matthew Denton (19), Bryant Bobbitt (19), Debra Newman (LL-19)

Finance: Patricia Rogers, Chr. (19, LM), Rev. Dr. Carolyn Roy (Pastor), Scott Ritchey (Treasurer), Judy Wilson (Financial Sec.), Donald Rose McGhee (Memorial Fund Treasurer), Darlene Ranes (Cemetery Fund Treasurer), Tim Smith (PPRC, 17), Debra Newman (LL, 19), Mac Wilson (Council Chr, 17), Freddie Oettinger (17), Jamie Abbott (17), D.J. Pegram (Trustees, 17), Bruce Newman (18), Daryl Spencer (18), Jeannette Weaver (19)

Counting Committee: Darlene Ranes, Judy Wilson, Jeannette Weaver, Gwen Ritchey

Inward Formation Team: (3 years)
 Kim Oettinger (chair), Karin Driver, Bruce Newman, D. J. Pegram, Matthew Denton, Judy Wilson, Sally Coghill, Frances Roberts, Sara Tipton, Joyce Edwards, Christine Spencer, Sarah Cruz, John and Faye Abbott

Outward Witness Team: (3 years): Susan Sears (chair). Kasey Pegram, Jasper Denton, John Rogers, Patricia Rogers, Mac Wilson, Tim Smith, Arianna Fuller Bell, Roxie Kearney, Daryl Spencer, Peggy Hernandez

Volunteer Positions Held

Historian (Archives and History) - Lorraine Abbott
 Asst SS Superintendent - Donald Rose McGhee
 Sunday School Secretary - Laurie Miller
 Communion Steward - Judy Wilson
 Worship Tech Support - Scott Ritchey
 Coordinator of Ushers - Bruce Newman
 Coordinator of Acolytes - Michelle Denton
 Coordinator of Greeters - Sally Coghill
 Nursery Coordinator - Roxie Kearney
 Safe Sanctuaries Coordinator - Debra Newman
 Bereavement Hospitality - Donald Rose McGhee
 Disaster Response Coordinator - Scott Ritchey
 Cemetery Administrator - John Abbott
 BASIC UMYF Coordinator - Michelle Denton

IN HIS SERVICE

January Ushers

Freddie McGhee, Bruce Newman
Matthew Denton, Taylor Abbott

January Altar Guild

Mike and Darlene Raney

January Greeters

Richard Coghill

Flowers

- 1 - Communion
- 8 - Patricia Rogers
- 15 - Gwen Ritchey
- 22 - Kim Oettinger
- 29 - Darlene Raney

Acolytes

- 1 - Arianna Fuller Bell
- 8 - Avery Thomas
- 15 - Jasper Denton
- 22 - Makayla Beckham
- 29 - Chase Thompson

Lay Readers

- 1 - Gwen Ritchey - Isaiah 60:1-6
- 8 - Mike Raney - Act 10:34-43
- 15 - Jeanette McGhee - Isaiah 49:1-7
- 22 - Lorraine Abbott - Isaiah 9:1-4
- 29 - United Methodist Women

Nursery Workers

- 1 - Kim and Laci Oettinger
- 8 - Lora Young and Midge Smith
- 15 - Karin Driver & Roxie Kearney
- 22 - Joyce Edwards and Laci Oettinger
- 29 - Roxie Kearney and Lizzie Driver



Community in Prayer

For... Jonathan Dickerson, Stanley Wilson, Jr., Skeeter Pearce, Tilly Hughes, Jamie Kearney, Kay House, Faye Young, Brandi Dickerson, Alice Finch, David Driver, Frances Fuller, Jane Owen, George Heaton
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



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 New Year's Day ■ 8:30 AM Early Worship ■ 10:00 AM Sunday School ■ 11:00 AM Worship	2 New Year's Day observed	3	4 ■ 10:00 AM 4 Seasons Cafe and Gift Shop ■ 5:30 PM Faith and Fitness ■ 6:30 PM Choir Practice	5 ■ 1:30 PM Keeping Holy Time Bible Study	6	7
8 ■ 8:30 AM Early Worship ■ 10:00 AM Sunday School ■ 11:00 AM Worship ■ 4:30 PM Shift Study Group	9	10	11 ■ 5:30 PM Faith and Fitness	12 ■ 6:00 PM Thursday Night Crafters	13 ■ 7:00 PM Lock-In	14 ■ ... Lock-In
15 ■ 8:00 AM UMM ■ 8:30 AM Early Worship ■ 10:00 AM Sunday School ■ 11:00 AM Worship ■ 3:00 PM UMW ■ 4:30 PM BASIC UMYF	16 Martin Luther King Day	17 7:00 p.m. - Worship Design	18 ■ 10:00 AM Senior Circle ■ 5:30 PM Faith and Fitness	19 ■ 1:30 PM Keeping Holy Time Bible Study ■ 7:00 PM Kittrell Community Watch	20	21
22 ■ 8:30 AM Early Worship ■ 10:00 AM Sunday School ■ 11:00 AM Worship	23	24 ■ 6:00 PM Men's Shelter Meals	25 ■ 5:30 PM Faith and Fitness ■ 6:30 PM Choir Practice	26 ■ 1:30 PM Keeping Holy Time Bible Study	27	28
29 ■ 8:30 AM Early Worship ■ 10:00 AM Sunday School ■ 11:00 AM Worship	30	31	1 ■ 10:00 AM 4 Seasons Cafe and Gift Shop ■ 5:30 PM Faith and Fitness ■ 6:30 PM Choir Practice	2 ■ 1:30 PM Keeping Holy Time Bible Study	3	4