

Chapel Chatter

Wide Open Hearts! Wide Open Doors!



Entering His Gates with Thanksgiving

“But if you listen to me, says the Lord, and bring in no burden by the gates of this city on the sabbath day, but keep the sabbath day holy and do no work on it, then there shall enter by the gates of this city kings who sit on the throne of David, riding in chariots and on horses, they and their officials, the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and this city shall be inhabited forever.” Jeremiah 17:24-25

This year at the Blessing of the Animals, the four legged congregation tripled. It felt like Pentecost as dogs and cats and horses arrived to be blessed. One might think that these creatures would pick fights with one another, but they did not. We had a great canine choir along with our frightened felines one of which found



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

May
3

THE GATHERING PLACE

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

May
11

THURSDAY NIGHT CRAFTERS

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

May
17

SENIOR CIRCLE

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

sanctuary in the sanctuary. Trigger and Cowboy towered over the crowd with quiet dignity. Under Carolina blue skies we gave thanks for the gift of creation and specific gifts of animal companions. One could venture to say that our animals were experiencing sabbath and worship.



This past week I have been sitting at the feet of some amazing preachers and hearing their challenging words to us who proclaim the Gospel. I am still unearthing all this time apart means for me and then for us as the body of Christ. One thing was clear throughout and that was the importance of the body of Christ to be in worship and to engage in sabbath keeping. I know that my sabbath keeping is a poor offering to the Lord. Turning to the scriptures I found this interesting passage about sabbath keeping. If we read carefully we hear that sabbath and salvation are intricately linked.

Take a moment with me to consider why this is so. Sabbath is a time where we stop our earthly work to focus on the work of the creator. It is a time to play, to rest, to be still with God. When we fail to have extended time wading in the waters of our baptism we will find ourselves being pulled by the currents of the world into dangerous life threatening waters. We will seek lifesaving measures from the world rather than swim against the current to the still waters of our shepherd Lord.

Worship is one place to step into the living water offered by Jesus. A regular pattern of attending worship provides us with a holy habit that allows us to be close to God through our gathered community. There may be times when we do not feel God's presence in worship, that does not mean God is not there, more than likely it means we are focusing on earthly distractions and not eternal matters.

Worship in the midst of sabbath allows for both private and public moments of grace and connection to our creator. We were created for worship. We were also created for sabbath. Immersing ourselves in stillness is a discipline that takes time. It brings great reward as we grow into extended stillness and solitude that allows us to hear God.



Summer is coming...vacations scheduled...adventures planned. Consider opening space in plans and schedules to spend some sabbath time with God. Who knows who will show up at our church doors when we faithfully keep sabbath!.

Praying with you,
Pastor Carolyn

Field Education Student

Our summer intern this year is Janice Hodges. Janice is completing her second year of Divinity

School education this May. She comes from a Baptist tradition and is seeking ordination through her tradition. Janice's first Field Education assignment was with a counseling center. Janice will be joining us May 28 and

WOMEN WITH A PURPOSE



United Methodist Women
FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

The United Methodist Women of Plank Chapel have a long history of service. It began when this group was known as the Missionaries Society. Each month they meet to share a program of current issues and discuss the possible outreach opportunities before them. Through this group we support the teachers at Zeb Vance Elementary School and respond to family needs within the community. These women also provide opportunities for all of us to enhance worship by organizing the Altar Guild and the Flower List. Each year they participate in leadership role with World Day of Prayer. They are looking for younger women to join their ranks. Thank a UMW for what she does for the cause of Christ!

work with us for 10 weeks. She is married and will commute from her home which lies between here and Durham. This ministry of place allows us to serve the larger church by offering training and encouragement for men and women entering into ministry. If you would like to be part of her ministry team, let Tim Smith know.

Trustees

The work of stewardship of Plank Chapel is continuous. When the Trustees meet in May they will be going over the UMM's proposal for a covered shelter, continuing kitchen discussions, approving the TV placement in the youth room, and finalizing some plans around the accumulation of furniture in our church. If you are interested in taking home old hymnals. There are boxes in the choir robing room with various editions. When the Trustees meet in May they will remove what hymnals are left.

Lay
Leadership Team meets
May 7
@ 3 pm

Thank You

Heartfelt gratitude for all who worked on our lenten journey and Holy Week events. This year it seemed as if we were overwhelmed by Holy Spirit Power. The team efforts brought forth an overabundance of blessings.

The April clean up crew washed tables and chairs, straightened out libraries, removed mildew from worship books, and one family worked to clean our walkway. Bulletin boards were redesigned and updated. Thank you for your hard work.



Shift Small Group

As this group meets we talk about the ways we can help focus the light that shines out of our community into the places of the most need. Our next meeting is Monday, May 8 at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome to join us.

Mission Opportunities

Food Pantry Sundays are: **April 30 and May 14.**
The nonperishable food we bring goes to Cokesbury UMC for their Food Pantry.

Want to work on a disaster recovery team? Speak with Lori Litton. We are working on a possible date in May.

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.

ACTS seeks the willing hands of volunteers to help with their food ministry.

Community Partners of Hope is seeking willing volunteers to serve on our Board of Directors and as a mentor for the men entering Hope House.

Zeb Vance Elementary School could use proctors for testing. Serve our children by volunteering at Zeb Vance this spring, testing dates are May 30 and June 1. There will be training the week before. Ask Debra Newman for more information.



**Change Bucket
for May -
Community
Partners of Hope**

Kerr Lake Ministries - Missional work in the local community!

Currently KLM is working on raising funds for Summer Camp. This one week day camp at Camp Kerr Lake will be on July 17-21. Youth Counselors will be trained on the weekend July 14-16. KLM is always seeking adult volunteers to partner with this ministry.

Two years ago they made a decision to make day camp free to all the children. This means they need your participation in two fundraisers coming up.

May 5 at 6:00 p.m. they are having a KLM Camp Sponsorship Party at Spring Valley UMC. Please, come out and help support a great cause, while also buying some amazing products! Thirty-one bags, Rada knives, and coupon cards for Pizza Inn. The online sales begin May 1. www.mythirtyone.com/1763681/shop/Party/EventDetail/9845541

On May 19 at Plank Chapel UMC from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. KLM will be hosting breakfast for dinner. The menu includes: ham, sausage, bacon, grits, eggs, biscuits, coffee, juice, and tea. Come fellowship over breakfast after a hard day's work and support a free day camp for children.

Remember they are always in need of volunteers. Consider serving this growing ministry.



Welcome our newest member: Susan White. She attends early worship known as Awakenings, married to Chip White, lives off of Chavis Road, and works at UNC's vet clinic in Raleigh. At Plank Chapel you will find her in the kitchen or serving in the community.

BASIC UMYF

May BASIC UMYF travels to Cokesbury UMC. We will gather at 4:00 p.m. at 2440 S Cokesbury Rd, Henderson on May 7 and a 4:30 p.m. on May 21.

Last lock-in of the year is June 2-3 at Plank Chapel. Planning on having S'Mores, movies on the lawn, midnight vespers, and board games. Arrive around 7:30 p.m. and we will need to be "out" by 9:00 a.m. so that the Young Family may come in and set up.

Youth Sunday is June 4. If you are graduating this year, please let PC know. There will be a planning session for our worship on May 28 at 4:00 p.m. Consider where you want to serve in worship that day. On June 4 at 4:00 p.m. we will be celebrating our youth with an end of the year party at Sara and Norman Manning's farm.

Kerr Lake Ministries Day Camp needs youth volunteers - join in the fun in leading children and sharing Jesus with them. Camp Kerr Lake has paddle boards, paint ball, canoes, and more. Let Peggy Hernandez or Susan Sears know if you want to serve in this capacity.

Conference Events: Breakaway - June 26-July 1, Trail Hike - July 10-16, ACS - July 24-29. Sign up TODAY! Let PC know when you have signed up so she can get funds for your summer camp.

Scholarships are available for all conference youth events through YSF funds and BASIC UMYF participation. If you are planning to attend the website for registration is: <https://nccumc.org/youth/events/register/>



The Gathering Place

On Wednesday's Plank Chapel's fellowship hall has become a gathering place. Senior Circle meets there on 3rd Wednesday's for a program and a light meal.

This first Wednesday those gathering are going on a road trip to Cedar Creek Gallery. Join us at 10:00 a.m. and experience the artistry of blown glass. We will stop for lunch along the way! On exhibit this month is: **Lucy Dierks: Avian Tablescapes - April 29th - May 31st**



Functional porcelain pieces intended to reflect and compliment the natural environment through harmony of form, surface, and purpose.



IN HIS SERVICE

May Ushers

Freddie McGhee, Bruce Newman,
David Miller, James Medlin

May Altar Guild

Susan Sears

May Greeter

Jamie Abbott

Flowers

- 7 - Jeannette Weaver and Ann Finch
- 14 - United Methodist Men
- 21 - Communion
- 28 - Angie Rowland



Acolytes

- 7 - Arianna Fuller-Bell
- 14 - Makayla Beckham
- 21 - Laci Oettinger
- 28 - Avery Thomas

Lay Readers

- 7 - Mike Ranes - *Psalms 23*
- 14 - Makayla Beckham - *1 Peter 2:2-10*
- 21 - Darlene Ranes - *John 14:15-21*
- 28 - Lorraine Abbott - *Ephesians 1:15-23*

Nursery Workers

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



The grandson of James and Marilove Spencer, Wil Slanton will soon be a father. His mother is James and Marilove's daughter, Diane. We are invited to the baby shower.


Community in Prayer

For... Jeanette McGhee, Charles Thompson, Sr., Becky Tackett, Dave Driver, 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

Confirmation Weekend Retreat
 at Plank Chapel
 Live Your Commitment
 May 12-13
 Pray for our confirmands

Food Pantry Sundays
April 30, May 14



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 AM Early Worship 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 	1	2	3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 AM The Gathering Place 5:30 PM Faith and Fitness 6:30 PM Choir Practice 	4  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:30 PM Keeping Holy Time Bible Study 	5	6
7 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 AM Early Worship 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 3:00 PM Lay leadership 4:00 PM Youth Council 4:30 PM BASIC YOUTH 	8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:30 PM KLM Meeting 7:00 PM Shift Study Group 	9	10 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:30 PM Faith and Fitness 6:30 PM Choir Practice 	11 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:30 PM Keeping Holy Time Bible Study 6:00 PM Thursday Night Crafters 	12 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00 PM Confirmation Retreat 	13 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ... Confirmation Retreat
14 <p>Mother's Day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 AM Early Worship 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 	15	16	17 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 AM Senior Circle 5:30 PM Faith and Fitness 6:30 PM Choir Practice 7:00 PM Trustees 	18 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:30 PM Keeping Holy Time Bible Study 7:00 PM Kittrell Community Watch 	19 <p>KLM BREAKFAST FOR DINNER 4-8 p.m.</p>	20
21 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 AM UMM 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 3:00 PM UMW 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 	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 <p>Memorial Day</p>	30	31 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:30 PM Faith and Fitness 6:30 PM Choir Practice 	1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:30 PM Keeping Holy Time Bible Study 	2	3