

Chapel Chatter

Wide Open Hearts! Wide Open Doors!

Wondering

Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. (Acts 2:43)

Wonder is a powerful word. It holds a multitude of emotions and expectations. There is wonder when we behold the beauty of God’s creation in a sunrise or sunset or the tenderness of new birth in puppies, kittens, foals, or chicks. There is wonder of a different sort when we are about to begin a new phase in life and we wonder what is in store. Wonder is curious. Wonder is awe. Wonder takes us out of ourselves into the creative work of God.

This summer we will spend time in wonder. Each day seek out those places where your curiosity is engaged. Each day look around and see God’s magnificent creation. Do not be afraid to be awestruck by a butterfly dance or a cool sip of tea with a new friend. There will be a space in worship each Sunday to share the wonder you encountered.

Are you curious where God is leading us? Do you wonder what our future will look like? Starting July 9 we will live into that curiosity as we explore the history of our faith. The family stories of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph may leave us wondering how God can love such as us and continue to use us

so that the world will know God’s love.

Stepping into wonder with you,

Pastor Carolyn

**July
5**

THE GATHERING PLACE

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

**July
19**

SENIOR CIRCLE

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



UMM

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



UMW

Meetings resume in September - 3rd Sunday at 3:00 p.m.



BASIC UMYF

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



Annual Conference 2107

On June 16th at about 6:30 am I found myself in Pastor Carolyn Roy's car heading toward the 2017 United Methodist annual conference. I was very excited to be able to attend such an event and looked forward to all I would learn. Arriving at the Greenville convention center, I was amazed. I was reminded of a bee hive each bee having it's own specific job to do for the betterment of the hive and queen. Looking around I saw people hard at work preparing for the days event to start. Pastor Carolyn and I collected our Teller lanyards hers being red for clergy and mine being blue for laity. I remember thinking "Ok Peggy it's official you are a teller - don't screw this up" and I was nervous. I wanted very much to make Pastor Carolyn proud and also Plank Chapel. Being a teller turned out to be quite easy and not at all scary. God blessed me to meet

many kind people while counting votes and the process went smoothly.

Throughout the three days I spent at annual conference many topics were discussed and honestly if you want the intricate details of each motion or amendment then I would direct you to the Latest Updates - Annual Conference 2017 - NC Conference page <https://nccumc.org/ac2017/updates/> where you can read about the fine details. While at the conference I witnessed passionate Christians sharing opinions and ideas and coming together as one body in unity with each other. I was very excited to attend two plays the first named "What's up Zak" which spoke of Jesus' arrival in Jericho and his interactions with Zacchaeus the tax collector and how his love and mercy is shown to all. The second play we attended was named "Blood Done Sign My Name" that spoke of the murder of Henry Marrow in 1970 in the town of Oxford N.C. I especially enjoyed this play because it opened a dialogue about racism. 1970's racism was a lot different from 2017 racism but racism nonetheless. After the play was over we were invited to ask questions and were allowed to speak to the cast and author of the book. My heart was touched especially by the music from this play and by the passion in the singer's voice, I almost felt like I'd stepped back in time for a moment and could witness with my own eyes the pain so many African American people felt.

When I listen to someone give a speech I often look for the uplifting or inspirational message it might carry. Throughout the conference there were many people that spoke and I was able to take away these inspirational quotes, poems and stories.

- We **make a living** by what we **get**, but we **make** a life by what we give. - Churchill

I would rather be ashes than dust! I would rather that my spark should burn out in a brilliant blaze than it should be stifled by dry-rot. I would rather be a superb meteor, every atom of me in magnificent glow, than a sleepy and permanent planet. The proper function of man is to live, not to exist. I shall not waste my days in trying to prolong them. I shall use my time. - Jack London

Greg Jones former dean of Duke Divinity School shared a story about a friend named Maggie he made in Burundi that suffered greatly at the hands of terrorists. Maggie had a friend that was killed but before her death she asked Maggie to care for her children and Maggie agreed. Everyday Maggie prays the same prayer, it is her mantra- "Lord, let your miracles break forth every day! Let me not be an obstacle in any way!

Bishop Monroe encouraged us with a poem "Only what you do for Christ" by Ron Roper. The words ring true and I encourage you to read it. My time at the Annual Conference was a great learning experience and I am grateful and humbled to have attended. In keeping with the theme of this years conference I will close with one of my favorite scriptures Matthew 25:35-40: ³⁵ *For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me,* ³⁶ *I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.* ³⁷ *Then the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink?'³⁸ And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? ³⁹ And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you? ⁴⁰ And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'*

I thank you my brothers and sisters in Christ for allowing me to attend this years annual conference. The things I have seen and learned encourage me in my walk with Christ.

Your Sister In Christ,
Peggy Hernandez

HOSPITALITY TEAM

"Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it." (Hebrews 13:2)

Hospitality is a gift that flows out of the body of Christ at Plank Chapel through a team that is gathered together by Mrs. Donald Rose McGhee. This team prepares food for families in times of crisis and offers them space and sustenance to greet friends and relatives as they celebrate the life of their loved one who has gone before them to their heavenly home. When we gather in the Fellowship Hall after funerals we see this team greeting, serving, replenishing, and sharing God's generous love and hospitality to the grieving family. Long after we leave they are cleaning up the Fellowship Hall and restoring it for the next event in the life of the church. Donald Rose springs her team into action when the call is made even when her heart is breaking with the family's heart. There are not enough words to express the gratitude we feel for this team and their coordinator! Thank you for all you do for the families of Plank Chapel UMC.

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 Sunday, July 9 @ 5:30 p.m. All are welcome to join us.

Mission Opportunity

Food Pantry Sundays are: **July 2 and 16.** The nonperishable food we bring goes to Cokesbury UMC for their Food Pantry.

CHARLES BARROW, (#S-00274) Home Missioner Eastern NC

Charles' ministry is with "Food For Hungry Neighbors" which supplies surplus fresh produce to the local church food pantries, soup kitchens, and the food



bank of eastern North Carolina. Some of the food is gleaned by different church groups. This ministry also addresses the importance of eating fresh vegetables for a healthy diet. Charles plans to visit us late summer and early fall to share his story.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN - MISSION U

Mission U is a transformative education program of United Methodist Women that is implemented every year at Methodist University, Fayetteville, NC. **Everyone is welcome to come and spend a day learning together.** Participants are not required to be United Methodists! We welcome learners from all areas.

The North Carolina Conference UMW Mission U offers three study topics each year. The areas of study are Spiritual Growth—Living in Covenant Community, Geographical—The Missionary Conferences of the United Methodist Church in the US, and Social Issue—Climate Justice. A single class can be taken all in one day or split between two days. All studies are eight hours of class time led by a certified study leader. Mission U is a unique learning experience where attendees gain insight into local and global issues through engaging study, community building and dynamic worship. **Mission U - July 27-29.** Registrar: Debbie Jackson, 1480 Alex Benton Road, Newton Grove, NC 28366, Phone (cell): 910-385-8520, email: debbiejackson49@hotmail.com

Keeping Holy Time Bible Study

Thursday afternoons at 1:30 p.m. Bible Study begins with prayer concerns and then we go verse by verse into a study of the Book we have selected. Starting July 6 we will begin with 1st Corinthians. Bring your Bible and a friend. The hour and a half goes quickly as we look at the text and how it looks back at us.

*Thank
you* 

Thank you so much for your thoughtful expression of sympathy. To the United Methodist Men of Plank Chapel I want to thank you so much for the money you gave to us after Jeanette's death. It is so amazing to me the love and support you have showed us during this time and is greatly appreciated.

Love,

Fred and Jennifer McGhee

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. Consider serving this growing ministry. <http://www.kerrlakeministries.org>

Living for Jesus

Each year Kerr Lake Ministries provides a Day Camp for those who are in grades K-Early College. Our theme for Day Camp 2017 is Living for Jesus. Each day attendees will be in a grade level Bible Class learning about the Life of Jesus, from His Birth in Bethlehem to His second coming. Each grade level will have a different area of study. Attendees will also have opportunities to canoe on Kerr Lake's beautiful shoreline, swim in a designated roped off area with a certified life guard keeping watch, make wonderful crafts that reinforce each day's Bible lesson, learn and sing songs that are themed with each grade level's area of study, walk a scripture trail while discovering God's beauty, have fun trying to hit the target with paint ball activities, and prepare for a closing program that will be based on the Life of Jesus and show that we are all capable of Living for Jesus. **It is time to register children for camp!!!!**



BASIC UMYF

A mission opportunity for youth 12-18 is in Enfield North Carolina. **The week is July 31-Aug 4**. It is a week of serving others through construction projects. This mission week costs \$50.00 per student. See PC as soon as possible because space is limited.

Kerr Lake Ministries Day Camp needs youth volunteers - join in the fun in leading children and sharing Jesus with them. Youth Counselors will be trained on the weekend **July 14-16**. 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.

FISH FRY - August 5 - we need volunteers to cook, to serve, to clean up. We also need guests. Begin today inviting people. The UMM have agreed to sponsor this event now we need to step up and into the work before us!

Conference Events: **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/>



IN HIS SERVICE

July Ushers

DJ Pegram, Scott Ritchey
 Jamie Abbott, LC Medlin

July Altar Guild

Patricia Rogers

July Greeters

Todd Wilson

Flowers

- 2 - Communion
- 9 - Joyce Edwards
- 16 - Faye Abbott
- 23 - Kay Deans
- 30 - Sara Tipton

Acolytes

- 2 - Hannah Pegram
- 9 - Makayla Beckham
- 16 - CT Thompson
- 23 - Matthew Denton
- 30 - Arianna Fuller-Bell

Lay Readers

- 2 - Pat Edwards - *Psalm 13*
- 9 - Avery Thomas - *Psalm 45:10-17*
- 16 - Sally Coghill - *Psalm 119:105-112*
- 23 - Karin Driver - *Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24*
- 30 - *Various*

Nursery Workers

- 2 - Lora Young and Midge Smith
- 9 - Kim and Laci Oettinger
- 16 - Roxie Kearney and Karin & Lizzie Driver
- 23 - Joyce Edwards and Laci Oettinger
- 30 - Roxie Kearney and Karin & Lizzie Driver



Our Newest Members: Makayla Beckham, Laci Oettinger, Avery Thomas



It was a road trip for the "Gathering Place" crew! Join us on 1st Wednesday and see what we are up to!

Community in Prayer




For... Kim Yates, Ruth Hailey, Hattie Ranes, Charles Thompson, Sr., Dave Driver, 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

VBS
 August 11
 Cave Quest
 Join in the spelunking!

Quarterly Meetings to be scheduled:
 Finance, Nominations, Church Council

Food Pantry Sundays
July 2 and 16



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25 8:30 AM Early Worship 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship	26	27	28 5:30 PM Faith and Fitness 6:30 PM Choir Practice 7:00 PM Trustees	29 1:30 PM Keeping Holy Time Bible Study	30	1
2 8:30 AM Early Worship 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship	3	4 Independence Day Happy 4th of July	5 10:00 AM The Gathering Place 5:30 PM Faith and Fitness 6:30 PM Choir Practice	6 1:30 PM Keeping Holy Time Bible Study	7	8
9 8:30 AM Early Worship 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 2:00 PM Baby shower 5:30 PM Shift Study Group	10	11	12 5:30 PM Faith and Fitness 6:30 PM Choir Practice	13 1:30 PM Keeping Holy Time Bible Study	14	15
16 8:00 AM UMM 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship	17 8:00 AM KLM Day Camp 	18 ... KLM Day Camp	19 ... KLM Day Camp 10:00 AM Senior Circle 5:30 PM Faith and Fitness 6:30 PM Choir Practice	20 ... KLM Day Camp 1:30 PM Keeping Holy Time Bible Study 6:00 PM Kittrell Community Watch	21 ... KLM Day Camp 	22
23 8:30 AM Early Worship 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship	24	25 5:30 PM Faith and Fitness 6:30 PM Choir Practice	26	27 1:30 PM Keeping Holy Time Bible Study	28	29
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Coming in August
 Fish Fry Fundraiser - August 5
 Cave Quest VBS - August 11
 School Supply Drive for Zeb Vance