

# CHAPEL CHATTER

Open Hearts | Open Minds | Wide Open Doors!

## April/May/June Events Rescheduled

### Church Council Meeting

Currently scheduled for May 31st  
at 3:00 p.m.

### Spring Cleaning

We set the date of May 26 to  
have a cleaning party at Plank  
Chapel. Our goal is to clean out  
cupboards and shelves as well as  
wash down doors and windows  
for our 240 year celebration!

### Annual Conference 2020

Changed to a one day - 2 hour  
on-line for matters that need to  
be voted on for the next year.  
The clergy executive session is  
scheduled for September 19 with  
the Ordination Service following.

### Memory Walk moved to September 26

The donation and registration  
page is still active at: [https://  
www.classy.org/event/2020-plank-  
chapel-umc-church-walk/e272731](https://www.classy.org/event/2020-plank-chapel-umc-church-walk/e272731)

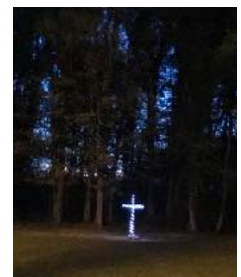
**Parsonage Open House -**  
hopefully before winter snow

## May Flowers

One of my lingering memories of childhood is the May pole. I was in kindergarten in Columbia, CT. We walked the circle around the pole weaving a rainbow pattern of color. I cannot remember if I knew why we did it, I do remember it was fun. Parents and teachers and neighbors all gathered for a large in person celebration. The girls wearing white dresses and crowns of flowers. The boys in white shirts and dress pants. The ribbons flowing with the rhythm of the music that caused us to skip and dance around the pole.

This year it seems we are to bring large in person outward expressions of joy into small virtual or private celebrations. Weddings are reimaged or postponed. Burials private with the memorials postponed. Parents and schools finding unique ways to honor graduating Seniors. On Mother's Day some of us will struggle with how to celebrate when we cannot be with our mother physically. Separation distilling out of our busy lives the sacredness of life itself.

Easter was like that this year. The sanctuary was filled with aromatic lilies, their tall trumpets announcing "Christ is risen!" Yet our view was through the screen of our TV, computer, tablet, or phone. I remember sunrise. Arriving early to change out the crown of thorns for the white cloth I noticed the lightening of the sky. I felt the peace of this sacred place. Easter sunrise still held the hope and promise it has given me every year. The gift of love God gave the world rose from the dead and gifted us with life eternal.



Easter was the first Sunday in April and Pentecost is the last Sunday in May. Sandwich between these two is the season we call Eastertide. The time between the resurrection and ascension

when Jesus walked and talked with His disciples. We have few stories about what he taught them. It is left to us to imagine how during that time he prepared them for their coming work. We are being prepared in this time for our coming work. What will we do with the lessons we are learning in these times of fear, frustration and financial insecurity?



The church is flesh and blood and the church is brick and mortar. The church is virtual, viral, and live and in person. Its message of the saving grace of God continues to spread. In 1 Peter 1:22-25, Eugene Peterson translates the word of God in *The Message* to read, “Now that you’ve cleaned up your lives by following the truth, love one another as if your lives depended on it. Your new life is not like your old life. Your old birth came from mortal sperm; your new birth comes from God’s living Word. Just think: a life conceived by God himself! That’s why the prophet said, The old life is a grass life, its beauty as short-lived as wildflowers; Grass dries up, flowers droop, God’s Word goes on and on forever. This is the Word that conceived the new life in you.”

We are not just May flowers that grace the countryside with their beauty for a season, we are the children of God. “Love one another as if your lives depend on it.” Maybe what Peter meant was love one another as if their life depends on it. When Pentecost comes, we may still be in our upper rooms listening for the roar of the wind and waiting for the feel of the fire of the Holy Spirit, but it will come. My prayer is that we, the church of Jesus Christ planted on Bobbitt Road, emerge from our upper room on fire to love one another so that healing in our community is Holy Spirit filled.

Praying with you,

Pastor Carolyn

One final word - We will be entering into 11 years of service to the Lord together in June 2020. Praise be to God!

### Worship News

All worship will be Facebook Live until we get the “all clear”  
Watch emails/letters



## Field Education Students

It is with great joy that I am able to say that my time at Plank Chapel has not quite come to a close. I am grateful that I will have the opportunity to continue worshipping with you all throughout the summer and I cannot thank you all enough for the ways in which you have welcomed me into your community and into your lives over the past eight months. I have seen the hands and feet of God through the ways in which you have reached out to care for me, care for one another, and care

for your neighbors in your community.

While nobody is quite sure what the future holds or when our worship will once again be somewhat “normal”, I trust that the Spirit of God is with us and within us. I am grateful that our time together is not quite yet finished and know that while we may not physically be together yet, you all are deeply ingrained in the fabric of my heart and for that I am eternally grateful.

Blessings always,  
Morgan

Morgan will not be the only student we have this summer, joining her is Jacob Dye.

Hi Plank Chapel!

I'm Jacob Dye, and I am so excited to serve alongside of Morgan this summer as your ministerial interns from Duke. I wanted to take this opportunity to tell you a little about myself. I am from Swords Creek, a small town in the Appalachian Mountains of southwest Virginia. There, I grew up on a farm surrounded by a very close family. I went to college about an hour from where I grew up, at Emory & Henry, a small Methodist college. It was at Emory & Henry that I joined the United Methodist Church, became a candidate for ordained ministry, and met my wife, Grayson. Grayson is from Rocky Mount, North Carolina, and we are both members of the North Carolina Conference. She just graduated from Duke Divinity (as in most things, she's running ahead of me!) and is about to begin her first appointment as the Associate Pastor of Millbrook UMC in Raleigh.

At Duke, I have felt myself called specifically to rural ministry, which I guess should come as no surprise given where I grew up. I am a fellow in Duke's Thriving Rural Communities program, and I am earning a certificate in Food, Faith, and Environmental Justice. I am very interested in farming and food and how those things relate to the church.

Related to that, my wife and I have begun growing some vegetables in pots on our back patio, which I like to think of as "urban farming." Beyond that, some of my hobbies are reading, hiking, camping, hunting, fishing, and cooking. I'm also a huge baseball fan, and I root for the Atlanta Braves.

I'm so excited to meet and get to know all of you when that day comes! Until then, I look forward to learning from and serving with Pastor Carolyn and Morgan as we all navigate this new world of ministry.

Peace and blessings,  
Jacob Dye



May has always been a favorite month for many including me. It is a month of happy celebrations - mother's day, graduations, and often times weddings and special birthdays. We also remember the ones who have died for our freedom on Memorial Day. This year if your mother is living give her extra special attention. Wear a red rose in her honor. If she is not think on all the lessons she taught you and practice them. Wear a white rose in her memory. Pray for our graduates who face a more uncertain future than ever. Appreciate the freedoms you have through the sacrifices of many. The UMW extends congratulations to our graduates, honor to our mothers and gratitude to our veterans.

Darlene Raney  
President UMW

Small Group Study: 9:30 a.m.  
Study of Matthew  
Zoom Gathering  
Contact Pastor Carolyn if you would like to join



**Our June issue to highlight our  
graduating Seniors - send pictures  
to Pastor Carolyn and stories**



### Church School

Last month our lessons were focused on salvation. In the Month of May we will focus on Christian faith, the grace given to us by the love of God.

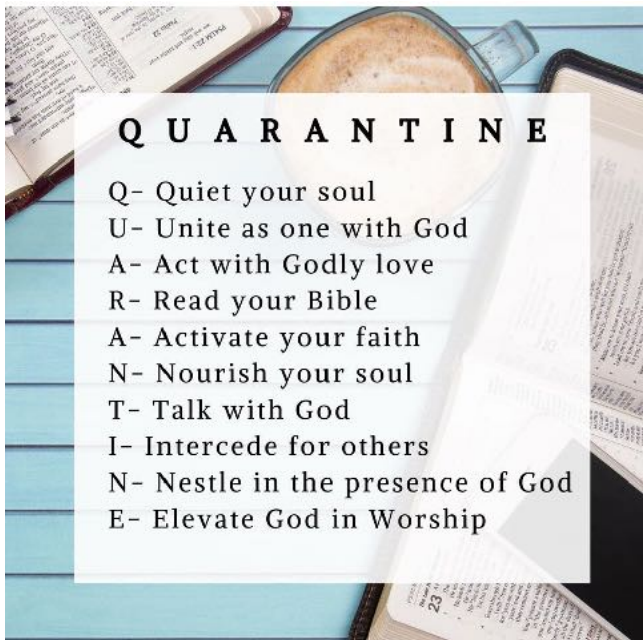
John Wesley believed, preached, and taught grace as a foundation of the Christian faith. God’s grace comes to us before we are aware of it. Wesley also spoke of sanctifying grace, the ongoing experience of God’s presence in our lives that transforms us into the people God intends for us to be.

God’s grace welcomes us home when we are separated from Him by our sins.

Prayers and love,  
Donald Rose

*Grace*  
*Spiritual Practice - Service*

Scripture - Revelation 22:1-5 |  
Genesis 3:21; 4:10-16 |  
Exodus 16:2-15 | Luke  
23:32-33, 39-43 | Acts 2:1-21



The first unit in this quarter began with the expulsion from the garden of Eden, the loss of paradise. With this unit, in Lesson 10, we see the Bible's prophecy of the return to paradise, the kingdom of God, made possible by God's grace. The other four lessons of this unit identify points in Scripture at which God's grace was also operative, reminding us that grace is an ongoing force in life for the faithful today as well.

### CONFERENCE YOUTH NEWS

We have made the decision to recreate Breakaway and ACS (Annual Conference Session for students) as virtual gatherings. Our Design Teams are working towards creating things we have never done before.

**Please register for these two events and pay the deposit in order to reserve your spot.**  
<https://nccumc.org/youth/events/register/>

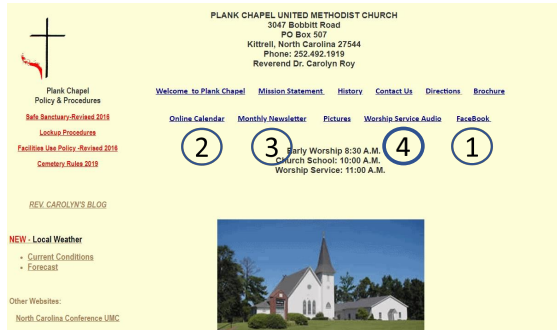


**Soup Kitchen - May 31st - serving at 1st UMC in Henderson - volunteers will prepare and serve the meal to those who are in need. Contact Pastor Carolyn if you would like to help.**

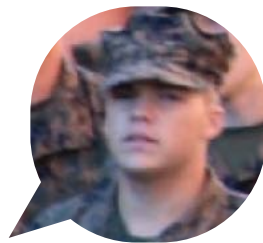
### United Methodist

**Men are in a holding pattern. Phone calls will be made if we meet in May. Until then, stay safe. We are a phone call away if you are in need.**





1. Click here to open Plank Chapel’s Facebook page. Here you will find live-stream services, among MANY other things.
2. This opens the current church calendar that the Pastor maintains.
3. This opens the current issue of Chapel Chatter
4. This opens a web page where you can play the audio from the 11:00 Sunday services and sermons.



Charles Thompson  
 The UPS Store  
 143 Replacement Ave.  
 Fort Leonard Wood, MO 65473



Joe Weaver  
 Room 122  
 NC State VA Home  
 214 Cochran Avenue  
 Fayetteville, NC 28301  
 This picture of Joe was taken in 2016 at our ALZ Walk.

## From our Finance Chairperson: Mac Wilson



Thank you for answering the call and giving as God led you to give. We do not know how long we will be out of the sanctuary. Your generosity in giving is greatly appreciated. It allows us to continue being the church. You are more than welcome to drop your offering at the house or mail it to Plank Chapel, c/o Financial Secretary, Mrs. Judy Wilson, 3969 Bobbitt Road, Kittrell, NC 27544.

Again, thank you for what you have done and as you are able may continue to do!

**ACTS, Cokesbury Food Pantry, The Help Center all are doing what they can to feed those in need this restricted time. If you are able help where you can. Reach out to neighbors - they too may need food, paper goods, a friendly voice, or a kind word. Thank you for all that you are doing already!**

*O Great Spirit, whose breath gives life to the world, and whose voice is heard in the soft breeze; We need your strength and wisdom. Cause us to walk in beauty. Give us eyes ever to behold the red and purple sunset. Make us wise so that we may understand what you have taught us. Help us learn the lessons you have hidden in every leaf and rock. Make us always ready to come to you with clean hands and steady eyes, so when life fades, like the fading sunset, our hearts come to you without shame. Amen.*

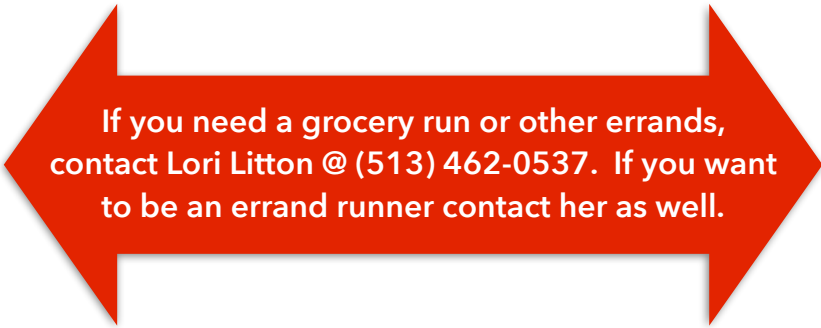
– TRADITIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN PRAYER, #329,  
 THE UNITED METHODIST HYMNAL

## Native American Ministries Sunday – April 26, 2020

*“The generous will prosper; those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed.” – Proverbs 11:25, NLT*

*Thank you for your generous gifts to the Native American Ministries Sunday offering. When we give, God prospers both the giver and the recipient. Your gifts empower Native American congregations and outreach, and supports Native American pastors. Thank you!*

Blessings,  
**The Rev. Glen Chebon Kernell**  
 Executive Secretary of Native American and Indigenous Ministries  
 General Board of Global Ministries



## Community Prayers

For... Charlotte Lalas, Ruben Sanchez, Elizabeth Moss Wilson, William "Peanut" Hendley, Sue Beal, Evie Odom, Brandi Dickerson, Tommy Fowler, Martha Rowland, James Deans, David Driver, Joe Weaver, Ruth Hailey, Tilly Hughes, Faye Young

- For... healing and reconciliation
- For... those facing medical procedures
- For... those grieving
- For... those without food, jobs, shelter
- For... the lost and afraid
- For... Plank Chapel
- For... God's church
- For... Our local cities and counties
- For... Our state
- For... Medical Staff, Truck Drivers, Store workers
- For... Small Business owners, Big Business owners
- For... those whose jobs are in jeopardy or lost
- For... Our military, families, and veterans
- For... all in harms way
- For... Our nation
- For... God's world



**Cokesbury Food  
Pantry Sundays**

**May 3 and 17**

**Nonperishable Goods**

**Feeding the  
Community**

## In His Service

### Flowers

Each week we make offerings of flowers to the glory of God and in honor or memory of loved ones. Consider if this is your month to make a financial offering to the glory of God in memory or in honor of your loved one. Maybe to our change fund bucket or your loved one's favorite nonprofit.

### Altar Guild

Susan Sears

### Ushers & Greeters

There are ways to greet each other in this time - phone calls, cards, letters, text messages, emails.

### Acolyte - May

Pastor Carolyn

### Lay Readers

Pastor Carolyn (but maybe...)

### Nursery Coordinator

Roxie Kearney

### Children's Church Coordinator

Danielle Nugent



**Easter 2020**  
**Moments of Grace and Beauty**