

CHAPEL CHATTER

Open Hearts | Open Minds | Wide Open Doors!

New every morning...

begins a prayer that can be found in our hymnals. This prayer continues, ... is your love, great God of light, and all day long you are working for good in the world. Stir up in us desire to serve you, to live peacefully with our neighbors, and to devote each day to your Son, Our Savior, Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

It is going to be my morning prayer every morning for 2021. There are many prayer disciplines that bring us closer to God. One is contemplative prayer. The first sunrise of the year, my plan is to be in our sanctuary in contemplative prayer. You are invited to join me, either in person or in your home.

We do not know what 2021 holds, it will be revealed in God's time. What we do know is that God is with us no matter how the new year unfolds. Knowing this and living like we know this can be challenging. My friend, Dr. Marty Cauley, who came and preached at Plank Chapel UMC has been sharing his journey on [Caringbridge](#). His daughter Lydia, writes, "Pastor Dad would like to remind you what Bob Cratchit says in A Christmas Carol, 'Life is about meetings and partings, that is the way of it.' I have been thinking a lot about Matthew 1:23... 'and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means, God with us.' Mary gave birth to Jesus in a stable, it was messy. Jesus died on a cross, it was messy. Birth is messy. Death is messy. But he is named Emmanuel, which means God with us. 2021 has a lot of ambiguity for the Cauley family, it is going to be messy." His family teaching us how to live like we know God is with us. May we encourage one another in our prayer disciplines so that we live into 2021 with peace, with hope, with love, and with joy.

I returned to one of my devotional books written by Henri Nouwen. In his daybook, "Bread for the Journey" he offers us this bit of wisdom for January 1, may it guide us throughout 2021, "Each day holds a surprise. But only if we expect it can. We see, hear, or feel it when it comes to us. Let's not be afraid to receive each day's surprise, whether it comes to us as sorrow or as joy. It will open a new place in our hearts, a place where we can welcome new friends and celebrate more fully our shared humanity."

Praying with you,

Pastor Carolyn

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (NRSV): "16 Rejoice always, 17 pray without ceasing, 18 give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."



The Prayer Cross

Originally these prayers were to be removed for the January 3rd, Epiphany worship. The need remains for us to have a physical place to put our prayers. Writing them out and tying them to the cross is an embodied act of prayer. You are invited to pray at the cross or leave prayers at the cross. It may be you with to hold the ends of another's prayer ribbon and pray with them.

On Palm Sunday those prayers will become the palms in our sanctuary. They will be our offering of prayer and praise to the One who will make all things new. The crown of thorns will take their place on the cross until Easter morning when our flowers and palms proclaim victory over death!

You are invited ...

to join in prayer on January 1 from 7:15 a.m. - 7:45 a.m. Welcoming the first sunrise of 2021 in contemplative prayer in the sanctuary is open to all. Masks are required. Safer at home is always an option. How to pray contemplatively... it is 20 minutes of silence with God. Begin with scripture. In the sanctuary we will be reading Matthew 25:31-46 and offering the Wesley Covenant Prayer.



SUNDAY SCHOOL



Hope everyone had a good and safe Christmas but didn't forget the real reason for the season.

Our Sunday School lessons for the new year focuses on hope. The Scripture is solid and strong with hope. Where can we spread seeds of hope today?
Donald Rose McGhee

Lessons for January: Jan 3 - John Calls for Repentance (Luke 3:1-18), Jan 10 - Jesus Announces Good News (Luke 7:18-28), Jan 17 - Hope Because of Christ (1 These 1:2-10), Jan 24 - Nothing Can Separate Us from God's Love in Christ (Romans 8:31-39), Jan 31 - The Outcome of It All (Rev 21:1-8, 22:12-15)

This month's spiritual practice is Mercy

Check with Donald Rose for in person classes - meeting in the Fellowship Hall at 10:00 a.m. on Sundays

Outward Witness

The next Men's Shelter meal is **January 26**. If you would like to participate in meal preparation, contact Susan Sears at (252) 213-0150 or email at cj7review@gmail.com

Thank You Plank Chapel

Each year "Santee Claus" comes to visit and I am overwhelmed with gratitude. Your generous gift has allowed my to give to others in abundance. Thank you. As we continue to persevere as a community through this pandemic I look forward to the day when we can open wide our doors, take down the pew barriers and sing hymns while we worship. That day will come...in the meantime continue to stay safe and know you are loved and prayed for daily. Thank you again for your generous gift at Christmas.

Pastor Carolyn

2021 Lay Leadership Roster

Church Council – 2021

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Carolyn Roy
 Lay Leaders: Tim Smith (22), Mike Ranes (21)
 Chairperson, Church Council: Mike Ranes (21)
 Chairperson, Finance Committee: Mac Wilson (21)
 Chairperson, Trustees: Todd Wilson (21)
 Chairperson, Pastor-Parish Relations: Susan Sears (21)
 Chairperson, Inward Formation: Sally Coghill (21)
 Chairperson, Outward Witness: Lori Litton (21)
 Lay Member of Annual Conference: Lori Litton
 Alt Lay Member of AC: Peggy Hernandez
 Recording Secretary: Lorraine Abbott
 Finance Secretary: Judy Wilson
 Membership Secretary: Darlene Ranes
 Treasurer: Scott Ritchey
 President, United Methodist Men: Thomas Beckham
 President, United Methodist Women: Darlene Ranes
 Bereavement Hospitality: Donald Rose McGhee
 United Methodist Youth Fellowship: Avery Thomas (21)
 Communications: Scott Ritchey, Darlene Ranes
 Honorary Members: Faye Young

COMMITTEES and WORK AREAS for 2021

Lay Leadership (5-9): Rev. Dr. Carolyn Roy, Chr., Mike Ranes/Tim Smith (LL)

2021: Sally Coghill, Pat Edwards, Mike Ranes (LL)
 2022: Tim Smith (LL), Mac Wilson

Trustees (9): Todd Wilson (Chair), Laurie Miller (Building Fund Treasurer)

2021: John Rogers, JJ Jones Lorraine Abbott
 2022: Donald Rose McGhee, Bob Kemp, Thomas Beckham
 2023: Bryant Bobbitt, Martha Sears

Pastor-Parish Relations (5-9): Susan Sears (Chr), Tim Smith/Mike Ranes (LL), Lori Litton (LM)

2021: Daryl Spencer, Avery Thomas, Mike Ranes
 2022: Lori Litton, Tim Smith, Michelle Denton

Finance: Mac Wilson (Chr), Darlene Ranes (Cemetery Fund Treasurer), Rev. Dr. Carolyn Roy (Pastor), Tim Smith (LL), Scott Ritchey (Treasurer), Judy Wilson (Financial Sec.), Mike Ranes (Council Chair), Todd Wilson (Trustees), Susan Sears (PPRC)

2021: Karin Driver, Mike Hicks, Jamie Abbott
 2022: Lori Litton, Olivia Kemp, Daryl Spencer
 2023: Darlene Ranes, Sally Coghill

Counting Committee: Darlene Ranes, Judy Wilson, Midge Smith, Lorraine Abbott, Judy Eaves

Inward Formation Team: (3 years)

Kim Oettinger, Karin Driver, Bruce Newman, Sally Coghill (Chair), Joyce Edwards, Danielle Nugent

Outward Witness Team: (3 years)

Susan Sears, John Rogers, Patricia Rogers, Tim Smith, Peggy Hernandez, Susan White, Lori Litton (chair)

Worship Committee: (3 years)

Rev. Dr. Carolyn Roy (chair), Sally Coghill, Judy Wilson, Patricia Rogers, Donald Rose McGhee, Susan White, Bruce Newman, Karin Driver

Volunteer Positions Held

Historian (Archives and History) - Lorraine Abbott

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 - Danielle Nugent

Disaster Response Coordinator - Lori Litton

Cemetery Administrator - John Abbott

Cemetery Committee: John and Patricia Rogers, Mike Ranes, Lorraine Abbott, Judy Wilson

BASIC UMYF Coordinator - Danielle Nugent

From our Finance

Chairperson: Mac Wilson

Your continued support of the ministries of Plank Chapel United Methodist Church are greatly appreciated. Thank you for what you have done and as you are able may continue to do. 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.

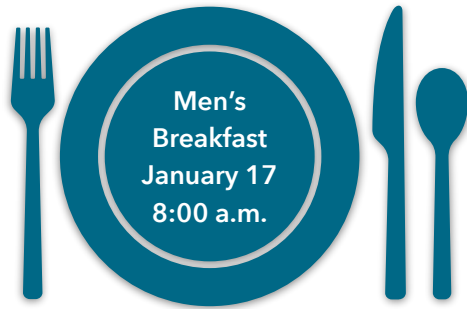
Memory Walk 2020/2021



The Memory Walk Team met and rescheduled our walk for April 17, 2021. The site on Dementia Alliance is still active. To date we have raised \$80.00 towards our \$3,000.00 goal.

We will still walk ... we still will remember.
 Begin now to form your team.

<https://www.classy.org/event/2020-plank-chapel-umc-church-walk/e272731>



Join us under the Pavilion.
 Breakfast biscuits will be provided.
 It is a "bring your own morning beverage." Contact Thomas Beckham if you plan on attending.
 (Bad weather - we will meet in the Fellowship Hall with masks)

Virtual Plank Chapel
 Worship without COVID-19 danger

Live audio during the 11:00 service is on 107.3 FM in our parking lot
 Video of the 11:00 Sunday service is live on Facebook
 Go online to: [facebook.com/plankchapelUMC](https://www.facebook.com/plankchapelUMC) about 10:55
 Our website: <http://www.plankchapel.org> is one of the easiest ways to connect. If you are still having trouble contact Scott Ritchey or Pastor Carolyn for assistance.

Addresses

- Brien, Linda and Christine Rowland
- 1932 West B Street
- Butner, NC 27509
- Charles Thompson (CT)
- PSC 562 Box 7463
- FPO Ap 96311-0075
- Mrs. Faye Young
- % Senior Citizens Home
- 2275 Ruin Creek Rd
- Henderson, NC 27537

Gathering Restrictions

- As we begin to gather for in-person meetings and classes there are restrictions
- No more than 10 people
 - Masks worn
 - Keep appropriate distance apart
 - Respect people's need for more distance
 - Wash hands often/hand sanitizer

Call to Service and Self Denial - United Methodist Women

In 2021, United Methodist Women will come together around the theme "She Leads: Empowering Women to Make a Difference." We welcome you to come pray, learn and offer your gifts that will make a real change in the lives of women, children and youth around the world. PRAY - As we unite in prayer, we prepare ourselves to listen. LEARN - As we learn about the impact of the Call to Prayer and Self-Denial, we also learn about the impact our giving has on the world. GIVE - As we generously give, we remember with confidence all that God has already done in and through us and all that God has yet for us to do. Join together to bring justice and inspire change, living into United Methodist Women's faith and action. Our circle can always use more women - contact Darlene Raney for more information on United Methodist Women and what we do in the community and beyond.

Guess Who!



Some may be easier than others - the February Chapel Chatter will reveal their identities.

Hold your guesses close to your heart

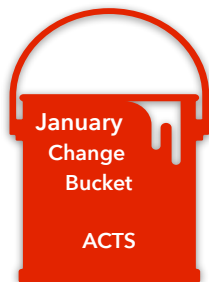
Happy hunting...



Community Prayers

For...Richard Beers, Ricky Gleason, Kelcie Hardee, Faye Woodlief, Frances Woodlief, Alice and Ted Finch, Martha Rowland, Lysa Mackey, Thomas Fowler, Frank and Susan Babicz, Judy Hanson, Charlotte Lalas, Tilly Hughes, Evie Odom, James Deans, David Driver, Ruth Hailey, Freddie McGhee, 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, First Responders
- 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
January 3 and 17
Nonperishable Goods**

Places to Serve

ACTS - always looking for volunteers and for nonperishable food items

CPOH - 8 meals to go - Pastor Carolyn can check the calendar for dates when the shelter needs meals or you can at - <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904of4aabad2da6fe3-mens> - our next date is January 26

Cokesbury UMC - 1st and 3rd Wednesdays to distribute food - contact Susan Sears and she can share when and where volunteers most needed

We are the hands and feet of Christ



Something new in our education wing. We recently purchased the AED through a wellness

grant. Training on how to use our AED will happen this spring.