

CHAPEL CHATTER

Open Hearts | Open Minds | Wide Open Doors

Change Bucket

The April Change Bucket is for a missionary — Nara Melkonyan (#S- 00004)

Nara is the director of Project AGAPE. She coordinates ministry and relief efforts at Project AGAPE in Armenia. *Contact – Email: nmelkonyan@yahoo.com Web: nccumc.org/outreach/project-agape/*

Project AGAPE – ministry to Armenia and to some of our most desperate Christian brothers and sisters – is a collaborative effort of the North Carolina and the Western North Carolina Conferences of The United Methodist Church in a joint effort with the Armenian Apostolic Church.

All of our work in Armenia is totally funded by your financial support. Please prayerfully consider giving to this wonderful mission! 100% of your gift goes to the ministry.



Easter Sunrise

Holy week is both exhilarating and exhausting. It begins with palms waving and “Hosanna, loud hosanna, the little children sang.” Soon the mood switches from parades to the way of the cross to the hill called Golgotha.

Friday night we remember those last moments of Jesus’ earthly

journey.

Saturday is to be a day of silence as the earth holds its breath. And then the sun comes up on resurrection morning and new songs ring out, “Christ the Lord is risen today.. “

It is my favorite time in the Christian calendar, especially sunrise. There is something special about telling the resurrection story of women going to the tomb as the day was beginning while our day is beginning. It tells of the faithful witness of God’s people — not only remembering but going and telling the world that Christ is risen, He is risen, indeed!

I remember sunrise during COVID. We were outdoors and the drought of worshipping in person had this one short respite. The next year we gathered around a fire pit because it was cold. Sunrise worship has us tired and cold and in blankets or PJ’s celebrating the victory over the finality of death! It doesn’t matter if we have music to sing to, we sing!

Sunrises are often considered thin spaces between heaven and earth. Easter Sunrise is like that for me — the rising sun a reminder of the one who said, “let there be light, and there was light.” God is with us in that rising sun. The empty cross with its

FLOWERS
- 2023



If you would like a note in the bulletin about the flowers contact Pastor Carolyn's email: cnbroy@nccumc.org.

Contact Judy Wilson at judith9563@gmail.com, or 252-492-0624 to set your date!



Senior Circle — April 19
10:00 a.m.

Alan Rowland will be sharing his trip to the Holy Land.

Revival is coming...

June 5-9

Kittrell churches are planning a revival. Rev. Radford Frazier of Union Chapel Methodist Church and Markeith Daye of White Rock Missionary Baptist Church are leading the way. They are seeking our participation in this multi day event! A preparation meeting on Monday, April 10th at 7pm at the Kittrell Fire Department.

white sash the proof that death's victory was swallowed up by Christ's rising from the dead. The beams of light through the trees and the breeze that caresses our faces reminders of the pentecostal presence of the Holy Spirit, fire and wind.

In our world today we can forget the powerful work of God and God's promise that the world will be redeemed. Easter sunrise tells us a different story. Christ's church has had some rough years, but Christ does not abandon his bride. He loves us into new creations. We can rest in that truth and know that whatever the futures holds, God is with us, Immanuel, our risen Savior. Join me this Easter sunrise and let's shout together, "Christ is risen, he is risen, indeed! And it's okay if you are in your pjs.

Praying with you,
Pastor Carolyn



Lenten Candles of Diminishing Light

Week 6 — Palm Sunday — "when our **expectations** meet *rejections*"
Easter — Victory

Holy Week and Easter Events

April 2nd — Palm Sunday — including a lunch and Easter Egg Hunt

April 7th — Good Friday — Tenebrae — 7:00 p.m.

April 8th — Blessing of the Animals — 10:00 a.m.

April 9th — **Easter Sunrise 6:30 a.m. followed by pancake breakfast and flowering the cross**

11:00 a.m. — Worship with Holy Communion

The Flowering of the Cross



The flowering of the cross represents the transition from Good Friday to Easter, from meditation on Jesus' death to joyful celebration of his resurrection. The ceremony transforms a barren cross, a reminder of Jesus' death, into an Easter symbol.

Sunday School

Spring Theme: The Life of Faith

This spring, our lessons center around the theme “The Life of Faith.” The language of journey and pilgrimage is commonly used to describe the Christian life. This spring our lessons encourage us to walk alongside Jesus and his disciples on Jesus’ final journey to Jerusalem and explore the nature of faith that calls us to follow Jesus despite our uncertainty and doubts. The last unit this quarter looks at the concept of sabbath, the foreshadowing of the rest that God promises at the end of our journey. The writer of the student book is Michelle Morris.

Unit 2 — From Doubt to Trust

We often treat doubt and wisdom as belonging in opposite categories; but often, questioning our wisdom, knowledge, and certitude is a sign of wisdom. As humans, we should struggle to understand. The path forward from doubt is one of trust in God. We are invited to imitate Jesus and let go of our doubt and our competition with God and to trust in God’s love and intentions.

Scriptures: Matthew 26:36-46 | Matthew 28:1-15 | John 20:11-29 | 1 Corinthians 15:12-28 | 1 Peter 1:3-16

Spiritual Practice: Meditation

Sunday School lessons can be found on our YouTube channel each week. You are able to access old and new lessons. Normally posted by Wednesday of the following week.

PPRC News

Dates for your calendar: June 11 — A farewell dinner for Rev. Carolyn and Leo Roy. Reach out to Wayne Young for details. Leo, Indy, Areana, and Knox will be moving south on the 12th.

June 18 — Pastor Carolyn’s last Sunday preaching.

Moving day is June 27.

Welcoming new pastor gathering date is not yet set.

If you are willing to serve as a volunteer — we will have training for the sound board, the MEVO, and our social media accounts. Reach out to Pastor Carolyn if you are interested or have questions about some of the areas you could use your gifts. With a new pastor coming into the community, he or she will be grateful for your help.

**Special
Palm Sunday
Invitation
Join us for
lunch
and
an
Easter Egg Hunt**

**Menu
Hot Dogs
Potato Chips
Cookies
Tea
Lemonade
and
who knows what else!**

**April 16
3:00 p.m.
Conversations and
Questions**

**This is time set aside for
anyone who might have
questions about
disaffiliation – nothing
formal – just
conversations**

**Are you looking for
a way to volunteer at
Plank Chapel?
We need sound board
operators, MEVO camera
operators and social
media coordinators**



Community Prayers

For... Family of Rev. Bud Budzinski, Bill Smith and extended family, Michelle and Greg Rathbun, Jim Morgan, Dave Driver, Lanette Daye, Janet Bobbitt, Bennie Hoots, Tilly Hughes, Natasha Aiken, Ian Massengill, Tim Smith, Colleen Tyburski, John Rogers, Patricia Rogers, Russell Fuller, Nancy Nieto, David Driver, Freddie McGhee, Faye Young

For... healing, reconciliation
 For... those facing medical procedures
 For... medical professionals and first responders
 For... those grieving
 For ... those with addictions
 For... those without food, jobs, shelter
 For... the lost and afraid
 For... Plank Chapel
 For... Sister Churches
 For... NCC UMC
 For... God's church
 For... Our local cities and counties
 For... Our state
 For... Our military, families, and veterans
 For... all in harms way
 For... Our nation
 For... God's world

A Matter of Balance



“A Matter of Balance” an 8 week class that began on Wednesday, **March 1st** will complete its work in April. It is being taught by Susan Tucker of Kerr Tar Area Agency on Aging — Free! 60+ in age.

Session 6: Recognizing Fall-ty Behavior

Session 7: Recognizing Fall Hazards in the Home and Community

Session 8: Practicing No Fall-ty Habits and Fall Prevention: Putting It All Together

Coming in May

Powerful Tools for Caregivers

May 16-June 20

1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Missional Opportunities

Rise Against Hunger

Event date: Saturday, 4/22/23

Time: 10:00 am until

Location: South Henderson Pentecostal Holiness Church - Family Life Center

Food packaging Goal — 40,000 meals

Funds needed — \$16,000

Volunteers needed to pack food — 150

Also collecting nonperishable goods for ACTS

Contact Brian Daniel of 1st United Methodist Church of Henderson if you wish to volunteer or donate
 Brian Daniel —hendersonhawk96@gmail.com

Blessing Box Update

Our Blessing Box has been visited often, thank you for your support of this mission. We could use children's books, adult books, as well as any nonperishables you can share. A generous thank you to all who contribute. There are many silent contributors and your offerings do not go unnoticed.



4th Saturdays are Back!!!!!! Free Market Opens

April 22nd — 8:00 a.m. — 12:00 p.m.

May 27th August 26th

June 24th September 23rd

July 22nd October 28th

Bring clothing, books, household items, furniture, groceries — bring them the week of April 16th and place them in the youth room. Friday, April 21st volunteers will work to set up the Fellowship Hall — come out and help!!!! Volunteers also wanted for Saturday and to help bring to the Salvation Army on Monday following the Free Market

This poem was shared with me and I thought about the importance of singing in worship and how we sometimes hold back because we “cannot sing” and it is my prayer that this poem may inspire you to sing with joy in your hearts.



I Go to Sing

Posted on [January 4, 2019](#) by [lindythompsonblog](#)

I might be exhausted and the children might be cranky, but I will be going to church on Sunday. Don't know who is preaching, doesn't matter – the sermon may be helpful or not, holds my attention or doesn't – it's the singing.
I go to sing.

I get up,
get clean,
get dressed,
possibly get mad (at not-ready kids, at empty coffee pot, at traffic)
get going,
get there,
get seated,

get comfortable,
get focused
and when the music starts,
get saved.
It's the singing.
I go to sing.

It's the willingness to *stand if you are able*,
the common agreement on page number,
the voluntary sharing of songbooks with people on your row,
even ones you rode there with –

but most of all,
it's the collective in-breath before the first sound is made,
the collective drawing upon the grace of God,
the collective, if inadvertent, admission that we are all human,
all fragile,
all in need of the sustaining air, freely dispensed,
all in need of each other to get the key right and not sound discordant --

it's the hidden life-celebration
in the act of making a joyful noise,
all together.

We don't even have to sound that good. Singing together still brings home the we-ness of worship,
the *not-alone*-ness of life in God,
the best of all we have to offer each other.

When we are singing, I think that I might actually be able to forgive you
for being so terribly human,
and you might be able to forgive me
for being so terribly not there yet,
and we might be able to find peace *now*,
not postpone it for some heavenly hereafter
but live and breathe it today,
drawing in the grace of God,
voicing out our need and hope and gratitude and longing.

When we are singing, I can feel the better world coming, and if I get to be a part of it, you do too . . .

so sing with me,
and we'll make our way down that blessed road together, collectively better than we ever thought possible



Thank you, Plank Chapel

My dear Plank Chapel UMC, I want to thank you dearly for your love, encouragement, and the way you've welcomed me into your home. As your intern, I've been able to learn and see firsthand the power of laity in a church community, and I've felt the grace and patience that you've offered towards me as I continue to learn and grow in my

own call for ministry. I appreciate and love each of you and am so thankful for the time I've spent with you this year. As I look ahead towards another transition, I am comforted that I am not alone in this because I know that you all have a transition ahead as well.

Transitions can be difficult. They can pull at comfort; they can stretch your patience thin; they can prune away your expectations and understand. Transitions can bring a lot of change, but they can also bring transformation. My beloved siblings in Christ, let us remember: "the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth." (John 1:14, NRSV). Let us remember that just as God became flesh through Jesus, God's Holy Spirit is also capable of bringing a blessed transformation in us.

My encouragement for you in this season of Lent is to invite the work of Christ into your life and invite the Holy Spirit into your heart. Today is a great day to experience the love of God, and tomorrow is a great day to share that love with everyone. So, I invite us to look towards scripture again. Paul writes in his letter to the church of Philippi, "Don't worry about anything, but pray about everything. With thankful hearts offer up your prayers and requests to God" (Philippians 4:6, CEV). Let us pray about everything!

Paul continues writing, "And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you" (Philippians 4:7-9, NRSV).

May the Lord be with you, and may the peace of God be in your hearts.

With love,
Katherine Varnson



UWIF – April 2 – 3:00 p.m.

April 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 AM Awakenings 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 4:30 PM Lenten Study 	27	28 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:20 PM Shelter Meal 	29 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12:30 PM A Matter of Balance 	30	31	1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30 AM Blessing of the Animals
2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 AM Awakenings 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship – 12:30 PM Egg Hunt 3:00 PM United 4:30 PM Lenten Study 	3	4	5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12:30 PM A Matter of Balance 	6	7 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00 PM Tenebrae Service 	8
9 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Easter Sunday 6:30 AM Sunrise Worship 7:00 AM Pancake 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship – 	10 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Easter Monday 	11	12 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12:30 PM A Matter of Balance 	13	14	15
16 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 AM Awakening 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 3:00 PM Conversations and Questions 	17	18 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tax Day 	19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 AM Senior Circle 12:30 PM A Matter of Balance 	20	21	22 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 AM Free Market Saturdays
23 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 AM Awakenings 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 3:00 PM Church Council 	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 AM Awakenings 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 	1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> First Day of ... age Month 	2	3	4	5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cinco de Mayo 	6