

CHAPEL CHATTER

Open Hearts/Open Minds/Wide Open Doors

Change Bucket

The July Change Bucket is for Project Agape School Project.....#S-002
60 Gifts to this project enable Project Agape to hire teachers and operate a school for children to learn English and computer skills.

NC Conference Contact –
Jaye White Phone:
919-779-6115 Email:
jayewhite@nccumc

Rev. Carolyn & Leo Roy

Dear Plank Chapel UMC.

Thank you for your generous gifts and support. Your notes are filled with love and your gifts and financial support a true blessing. You will always hold a place in our hearts. Praying with you,

Carolyn and Leo...



FIRST SUNDAY IN WORSHIP





CONVERSATION WITH PASTOR EDGAR

One of Pastor Edgar’s main priorities for the next twelve months is to visit people, get to know them and build relationships. We can set up lunch dates, individual or small group conversation which gives Pastor Edgar the opportunity to meet people a few at a time. You can also invite Pastor Edgar for family gatherings or with groups that already meet together like Senior Circle or United Women in Faith. Please sign-up for “Conversation with Pastor Edgar by filling up the sign-up list or email him at edejesus@nccumc.org.



Warm greetings in the Mighty Name of our Lord & Savior Jesus Christ!

I cannot thank you enough for your radical hospitality and extravagant generosity that we received from the wonderful people of Plank Chapel UMC since we arrived at our new mission field, new parsonage and new community.

We are truly blessed to experience God's overflowing love, kindness and generosity from y'all. You worked hard in renovating and preparing the beautiful parsonage. You sent plenty of volunteers who helped us unload a truck load of furnitures and stuff during the moving day. Even now, you are sending volunteers who are assisting us to mow the parsonage yard and you are generously offering us with vegetables, fruits, friends and other produce.

Thanks be to God!

As we begin our ministry and shared life together, let me share with you my four ministry goals for the next twelve months:

1. Champion God's mission (What is God calling us to do?) and vision (What is God's preferred future?) for Bethel & Plank Chapel and their place in the life of the people
2. Learn about the church and the community
3. Led the church in worship and preaching
4. Spend time with the people and build relationships

There is another important thing that I want to share with y'all. My family and I will be way from July 31st-August 10th to attend the NAFAUM 17th Convocation & Young Leaders Summit in Hawaii. We've planned this event almost three years ago. And we shared this information to both the District Superintendent and the PPRC during the introductory visit and we received their blessings.

While we are away, my fellow colleague and friend Rev. Dora Dorsey (a retired UM Pastor residing in Henderson) will provide pastoral care for emergency situations. Awakenings will be cancelled for the August 6th service, but will return on August 13th. Mike Raney will preach during the 11am Sunday worship service.

In closing, as we journey together on this exciting new beginnings, I invite y'all to join with me in praying this prayer: "Lord, let Your miracles break forth everyday and let me not be an obstacle in any way!"

Pastor Edgar



Broken and Loved

The Senior Circle had the honor of meeting Reverend Edgar de Jesus, his wife, Judy, and his daughter Christina at our July meeting. He graciously accepted and invitation to talk with us about life in Philippines, his ministry, his family and other inspiring topics. He even played a beautiful song on the piano. The program was informative. We also learned a few new words such as Bayanihan and Mabuhay. He kindly asked if we could share the devotion at the beginning of the program in the Chapel Chatter. So the following is a version of it.

From the Upper Room Devotion, July 19,2023 by Monica Andermann.

There is a story in the Upper Room titled Broken and Loved. It is about a daughter in law who noticed her mother in law was drinking coffee from an a old, faded, chipped cup worn with age and use. The daughter in law hastily ran out and bought the the elderly woman a shiny, brightly colored new cup which the women received with gratitude. She then carefully placed it in a special place on a shelf and proceeded to pour a fresh cup of hot coffee into the old cup in which she loved. After that she explained all the reasons why she loved her old cup and why it had a special meaning to her and gave her comfort. The author reminds us, like the cup, God loves us with and everlasting love even if we are worn by any number of life's circumstances. She reminds us that we are each precious to God and "Loved with a love that lasts forever: and so with an unfailing love, I have drawn you to myself." Jeremiah 31:3

And that brings us to another story. The Senior Circle Birthday Celebration

How do seniors party? First they decorate. Our June meeting had to be special. We were honoring Joyce Roberts on her 90th birthday and wanted this celebration of life to give tribute to the lady who said her purpose in life is "to Glorify God". So many years of Christian service could not go by unnoticed.

First we decided to blow up the fancy gold metallic balloons, the gigantic 9 and the big 0. Easy, Right? But they required a teeny, tiny straw properly inserted into a small pocket on the shiny flat surface in order to provide an airway. It took us ten, fifteen, or maybe more tries to realize this wasn't as easy as it looked. Finally, Sally jiggled it in just the right spot. What a relief! Fifteen minutes later we had the balloons ceremoniously hung instead of our worst fears - dumped into the trash can.

Now for the easy job!!!! Right? Just blow up some plain old, multi colored balloons. What could go wrong? Can you guess? Some of us did not have enough air to blow out a candle let alone a balloon. Eventually we found the seniors who could blow up balloons but their hands and wrists could not handle the critical knot tying job. Luckily there were those who could tie knots. So some blew and some tied. Our assembly line was working! We worked together, each using her ability to help create an atmosphere of celebration.

Some cut ribbons. others tied the ribbons to the balls floating around everywhere. A few taped the strings of colorful balloons to the wall and doors.

We worked together, helping each other, smiling and laughing, sharing abilities for a common goal. It took each one of us working together to make the celebration a success. We may be worn but we each have talents, gifts, to make our gathering special, to encourage each other along the way. One friend's laugh, another speaks encouraging words. Some listen, other's sing, cook, clean up. Someone shares a story with us. And Faye is always there to give us a call if we forget.

There are so many opportunities to serve god, to give and receive His love and His light. We may be a little worn, a little broken in different ways, like the cup. But we are together, brought here by God's loving hand. We remember as we gather together that God loves us unconditionally and His love touches each of us in so many different ways.



Prayer:

Dear Father, we give thanks for providing us with the spirit of fellowship and the health to be able to come together. Strengthen us. Light our path so we may see the true beauty of your life in each of us here today. Give us grace to glorify you with lives full of praise and gratitude even if we are not perfect. Open our events to all the love you pour on us today and throughout the world. Let us remember all those who are no longer able to come. May we keep them in our hearts and prayers.

Father, thank you for sending Reverend Edgar de Jesus and his family to us. May they feel your love and presence among us.

Finally, in this month of July, may we pray for our country. May God bless America. May He stand beside her and guide her with the light from above. And may we pray for the people of the Philippines who achieved Independence on July 4, 1946. Guide us so we use our freedoms for your glory and for your people.



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Prayer Requests

For David Lee, Johnny McGhee, Bennie Hoots, Tilley Hughes, Colleen Tyburski, Patricia Rogers, Nancy Nieto, David Driver, Charlie Brown

Shut-ins: Kay Deans, Ben and Jackie Brown, Virgie Eaves, Faye Young, Frances Roberts, Freddie McGhee

Senior Circle

Senior Circle meets every third Wednesday of the month with a program and light lunch. Come Join us!!

Empowering Lay Volunteers to Serve

We are recruiting volunteers to help us with the following church ministries:

Sound Board Operator during 11 am Service

Church Newsletter Editor - Monthly Publication

4th Saturday Free Market

August 26th, September 23rd, October 28th. Bring clothing, books, household items, furniture, and groceries. Please bring them the week of August 20th and place them in the Youth room. On Friday, August 26th, volunteers will work to set-up the Fellowship Hall. Please come out and help! We also need volunteers for August 26th Saturday Free Market and to help bring to the Salvation Army on Monday, August 28th.

Pastor Edgar greeted the community outside 10 minutes before opening the doors. He talked to them about Jesus, prayed the Lords Prayer with them and got to know each of their names.



United Women of Faith

The United women of Faith are taking our summer break. We will return to our regular meeting time on the third Sunday September at 3 p.m. Our next project is to get ready for our Zeb Vance Elementary School Teachers

Blessing Box Update

The Blessing box is an outreach ministry of Plank Chapel UMC and a blessing to our community. Thank you for your continuing generous gifts and contribution.

Awakenings

Awakenings is an alternative worship experience at Plank Chapel UMC. Which includes prayer, praise and Worship, coffee, scripture reading and conversation. If you want to experience a different way to worship God, come join us every Sunday (except the third Sunday of the month) from 8 am- 9 am in the fellowship Hall.



FROM YOUR TREASURER

There are several ways to make offerings at Plank Chapel. A collection plate is available during church by the back pew until we resume traditional collection by the ushers. Also, you can deliver or mail offerings to Judy Wilson at [3969 Bobbitt Rd.](mailto:jwilson@plankchapel.org), as many members do now. Finally, you can make credit/debit card offerings online via PayPal; see <http://PlankChapel.org> for the link. Plank Chapel finances are (literally) an open book for all members; attend a Finance Committee meeting or contact Scott Ritchey for the link and password if you want to know more about our finances.

Willing Workers Sunday School

Come join our Willing Workers Sunday School every Sunday morning at 10:00 AM led by Donald Rose McGhee. Our Summer study is based from the theme: "Inspired by God" written by Stan Purdue and Betsy Haas

All are welcome"

Give Flowers in Honor or in Memory of Loved Ones

You are invited to generously give flowers for God's glory and in honor or in memory of your loved ones. Please contact Judy Wilson@ Judith9563@gmail.com or (252)492-0624 to set your date

☰ August



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30 Birthday: Rudy Rowland Awakenings Sunday School Worship	31	1	2	3	4 Birthdays: Michelle Dento	5
6 Birthdays: Daryl Spencer Awakenings Sunday School Worship	7	8 Birthday: Linda Rowland	9	10 Anniversary: Sally and Ric Birthday: Isabella Hernan	11	12
13 Awakenings Sunday School Worship	14	15 Anniversary: Scott and Je Birthday: Laurie Wilson M	16 Senior Circle	17	18	19 Birthday: Ann VanZandt
20 Birthday: Lora Young UMM Sunday School Worship	21	22	23	24	25 Birthday: Charli Marie Rov	26 Birthdays: Patrick Medlin Free Market Saturdays
27 Birthday: Makayla Beckh Awakenings Sunday School Worship	28	29 Birthday: Donald Rose Mc	30 Birthday: Martha Rowland	31	1	2 Birthdays: John Kemp
3 Awakenings Sunday School Worship	4 Birthdays: Dade Oettinger Labor Day	5 Anniversary: Mac and Jud	6 Birthdays: Laci-Leigh Oet	7	8 Birthday: Peggy Hernand	9 Birthday: Kay Deans

