

Wrightsboro Connection



Thoughts from Pastor David...

It's hard to believe that Lent and Easter 2018 are almost over! It has been a busy time, and I hope and pray that you have been blessed by this special time of year and the many special events and activities that were offered. Let's remember that even though Easter Day may have passed, we will still celebrate the Easter Season for another fifty (50) days or so, until Pentecost. Let's also remember that for Christians, every day, especially every Sunday, is Easter as we remember and celebrate the resurrection of our Lord!

I am confident that when we count the Lenten offering designated for the renovations to our Fellowship Hall, together with the special offering received during communion on Easter Sunday, we will have passed our goal of \$50,000. That means we will begin the work very soon! We are counting on volunteers to provide much of the needed labor, so be looking for opportunities to come out and help.

But in the midst of our excitement over the repairs and remodeling, let's be aware that there will also be a disruption in the life of our church. Currently, we use the Fellowship Hall for so many purposes - Sunday School, Bible study, Wednesday breakfast and dinner, Scouts and a variety of meetings. People have asked me what we are going to do while the Fellowship Hall is unavailable; my response has been, we'll adjust and do the best we can. We

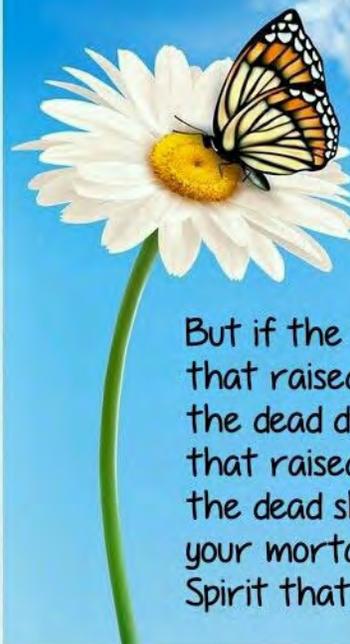
are blessed that the Optimist Club has offered to let us use their facilities for some purposes, and we also have the new shelter that can be utilized some. Still, there will be times when we will be inconvenienced, perhaps even frustrated. Let's remember to draw on God's grace to provide us with peace, patience and a spirit of cooperation.

Watch and listen for announcements of work schedules and needs, and do what you can to help out with the work when needed. The more we all pitch in and work together, the sooner we'll be finished!

Grace & peace,

Pastor David

Romans 8:11 KJV



But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

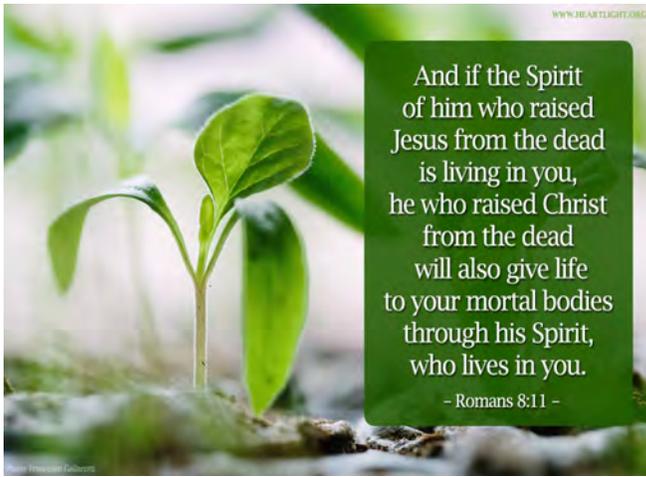
April Birthdays

1 Joe Hodges
9 Joan Skaggs
11 Joseph Crowder
12 Barbara Hodges
14 Joey Hodges
16 Olivia Province
17 Tyler Stephenson
17 Terri Hollowell
20 Joyce Wardrip
21 Emily Mullinax
22 Daniel Steagall
29 Eva Czepiel

Prayer Chain

Have a prayer concern?
Who do you contact?

Email the church office and we will email it out to the prayer chain. If you would like to receive the prayer chain email, contact the church office. Just remember that you are committing to pray for the members of our church and their family and friends.



Brad Shoaf, President of the UMM, thanks those who helped with the Oyster Roast and Shrimp Boil.

James Hamm for CUE (Center for Missing Persons) thanks those who baked for their annual conference. I would like to add my thanks for supporting the church with your time and for sharing Culinary Expertise. (Eva Czepiel)

Linda Watkins sends a thank you for the cards, food and love felt during the passing of David. It is very much appreciated.

Facebook



Yes, Wrightsboro United Methodist Church has a facebook page! Some of you have already liked our page and we thank you. If you have not already done so, please take time to go and "like" our page. Also, you can really help us get the word out about what we are doing here at Wrightsboro UMC by not only liking the posts but also by sharing the posts. This will increase the number of people exponentially who see our posts. Another way you can help is when a question is posted, answer the question. This will help open up the communication. Lastly, if you have some time on your hands and would like to help keep our social media current, please contact the church office.



The 2018 Altar Flowers chart is posted in the hallway across from the restrooms. Please sign up if you would like to provide flowers in the Sanctuary on a Sunday during 2018.

Available Dates:

June 24

Aug 5, 26

The cost of flowers is \$49.00. You can mark your check or envelope "flowers" and place it in the offering plate or drop it by the church office. If you have any questions or special requests, please contact the church office.

Family Night

Thank you again to everybody who helped me in January. I do appreciate that a lot. I am still in need of volunteers for cooks and cleaner. Please come see me.

April Menus:

4th German Dish
11th Pizza
18th Chicken Cacciatore
25th Hamburgers

COFFEE CORNER

I love preparing the coffee each week and watching the many conversations that happen as you gather to have a cup of coffee, and perhaps a donut hole or two.



I do, occasionally, need help when I have to be out of town. If there are a few of you who could help out at those times, please speak to me or let Stacy know. Your help would be most appreciated. Thanks.....Pat Everett

DVD Ministry

Each week, John Fuller records our 10:50am Worship Service. If you missed worship or would like to share the service with a friend or family member, copies are available. A sign-up sheet is in the lobby; put your name and date of the service and we will get a copy to you. A donation of \$5.00 is appreciated to cover the cost of supplies

Boxtops 4 education



The UMW encourages everyone to save Boxtops4Education. Schools earn cash for the Boxtops they submit. The current program runs from March 2 to Nov 1. Some popular products include most General Mills cereals (Cheerios, Chex Mix), Nature Valley bars, Pillsbury cake mixes, Green Giant vegetables, Scott's paper products, and hundreds more. You can download a complete list at boxtops4education.com. If you are already saving your Boxtops, the schools thank you for your support. But if you are not currently participating, then there is a small container in the Welcome Center near the UMW book collection where you can leave your Boxtops.



LADIES LIBRARY:

Many of you have been enjoying the Christian Fiction Books, found just inside the Welcome Center, on the white book shelves. There are always new books being added so continue to check.

There is no "sign out" of a book, we are on the honor system. So....that said I would encourage those who are using the Library to check about you home and make sure you haven't overlooked a book or two! A couple of the books that are a part of the top shelf series have been out for some time now.

Thanks in advance for helping to keep the Library going. If you have a book that you think would be good to add to our shelves please leave on the back counter, in the Welcome Center, with a note on it and I will take a look at it.

Happy reading!

Come to me,
all you who are
weary and burdened,
and I will give you
Rest.

Jesus
Matthew 11:28

Youth Attend Global Vision

On March 5th, my fellow youth, Braeden Kivett and I traveled with thirty other United Methodist youth to Washington, D.C for Global Vision. For one night we stayed at the First Trinity Lutheran Church Hostel and proceeded into the city in the morning to the United Methodist Building. At the UM Building we attended a seminar on women's roles in the church. Due to a winter storm coming in, we left early from there and traveled to New York City. New York is where we spent the next few days attending workshops at the Church Center at the United Nations. As a group we were educated on worldwide inequality and taught how we could prevent discrimination around us. We traveled to Brooklyn on one occasion and explored the Museum of Women's Resistance. We were guided through the building, which is setup similar to a home, and shown artifacts and art pertaining to the majesty and marvel that is women, and in particular, women of color. This trip gave us a new outlook on our places in society and opened our mind to worldwide heartache which prevails due to injustice. Braeden and I have been so deeply humbled by this experience. We know that to ensure our future is closer to being free of ignorance and prejudice we must start with ourselves. We are so grateful for this opportunity and for the United Methodist Church for giving youth, like ourselves, a chance to explore change.

By Lilly Crowder



WRIGHTSBORO WALKERS

It is a beautiful time of year to enjoy outdoor fellowship and get in a little exercise. We have a group that walks at

Smith Creek Park each Tuesday and Thursday starting at 10 a.m.. If you would like to join us, please sign up on the sheet in the lobby. We need your contact information so we can look for you to join us. We also need it in case there is inclement weather cancelling a walk.

Classic Club

The Classic club invites you to a luncheon and entertainment on April 24th at 11:30am at the church. This month you will be blessed by the fabulous Sylvia Ritchie, who will play some of your favorite songs on the piano. Lunch will be provided. In May, date to be determined, we will have the pleasure of having Ramona Barr and friends returning to share their gifts with us. Please sign up in the lobby.

Widows of Wrightsboro

WOW'S April luncheon: April 5, 2018
11:30 Long Horn Steakhouse at Mayfair.
Hope to see many of you there to enjoy lunch and fellowship.



(Romans 5:8 nlt)

But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.



Meeting: There will not be a meeting in April. Next meeting will be Tuesday, May 8th at 6:30pm.

Mother's Day Candle burning: Again this year, the UMW fundraiser will be the burning of a candle on Mother's Day in

memory and/or honor of our Mothers and those have been like Mothers to us and others. We will need volunteers to put up posters and to accept donations before and after both services on April 29 and May 6. Please let Eva Czepiel know when and how you will be able to assist with this project.

UMW Reading Program Update: All titles that were requested have been received and have been placed in the UMW book collection in the Welcome Center. Also a copy of the list of titles owned by Wrightsboro UMW is available in the Welcome Center. Remember that you need to read a title from each of the 5 categories.

Books for Wrightsboro Elementary School Summer Reading 2018: Please keep looking for and purchasing titles for this very important mission. It would be great if we could have enough books so that each student could take home 2 books this summer.

NCCUMW Spiritual Day: April 21 at Centenary UMC, 140 Market St., Smithfield, NC. This year's Spiritual Enrichment Retreat will be held in Smithfield and is hosted by the Conference. Every other year the Spiritual Day Retreat is hosted by the Conference and the other year it is hosted by the District. Registration begins at 9:30am and the Retreat should end by 4:00am. Reverend Gypsie Murdock will be the main speaker, and a mini concert will be given during lunch. Cost \$20 before April 14 and \$25 after the 14th. Registration forms can be downloaded @ nccumw.org

Spring Tea: Please note that the UMW Spring Tea has been postponed until fall.



**Sunday Breakfast
April 8 at 7:30am
All men are invited.
Bring a friend!**

Greetings Friends ,

The Wrightsboro United Methodist Men continue to meet on the second Sunday of every month in the fellowship hall for breakfast. And, as usual, women are also welcomed. We eat at 7:30am, have a short devotional, and then conduct the business portion. We are finished in time for those who want to attend our early service. We had 15 in attendance at our March meeting. That's great attendance considering that it followed the time change! We had a short devotion and enjoyed the food and fellowship, as usual!

It was announced that our Shrimp/Oyster Gathering on Saturday, March 10th was a fantastic success! We were able to contribute \$740.00 towards our graduate fund! Thank you to all who contributed, especially the WUMW group! Without their valuable help, it would not have been the success that it was! Everyone said that it was scrumptious!!

On March 22nd our Annual Widow/Widowers Dinner at the K & W Restaurant also went well. We had 15 in attendance and enjoyed a really great meal! They deserve our love and the men always look forward to this event.

We always encourage anyone to come and be a part of the WUMM Group! What better way to give back to the church and most of all to GOD!!

God is GOOD All the Time!! Keep Looking Up!!

* Also, a reminder to the men of our annual men's dues-see me or Stacy.*

Brad Shoaf
President WUMM

Finance Committee Update:

Greetings Church Family - Thank you for allowing us to serve the church in this way each month. We consider it a privilege to be charged with such responsibility, and we make every effort to be good stewards. At all times, financial information is available in the church office or by request.

For the month of February 2018:

Total funds taken in:	\$ 31,839.81
Of note, this figure includes the following amounts collected:	
Food Pantry	\$ 505.00
Methodist Men	\$ 220.00
Family Night	\$ 699.00
Total funds spent paying bills:	\$35,254.03
Deficit for end of month, February 2018	(\$ 3414.22)

Due to existing funds in bank account, we had the money to cover the deficit this month.

Our current mortgage payout is \$740,411.73. Total received on Fellowship Hall Renovations thru February was \$43,353.75 and the total spent has been \$21,168.22 for the same period. Apportionments are paid on schedule.

Please remember to bring your Lenten offering container on Easter Sunday to help us reach our goal. As we will have communion on Easter Sunday, this month's special offering will also go towards the Fellowship Hall renovations. We very much look forward to obtaining our goal so that we can continue to enjoy fellowship together for years to come as a church family in our new home.

Your gifts of love to Rise Against Hunger that we packaged on 1/20/2018 were in a shipment containing 285,120 meals, that was sent to the Dominican Republic for Rise Against Hunger's partner CitiHope International. This is just one of many fantastic ministries in our church that demonstrates God's love to all his children.

As always, thank you for your faithful tithes, your donations, your gifts, and your prayers.

Jim Timmons
Finance Chair

GIVING MADE EASY

Do you find yourself wanting to praise the Lord by giving back to Him a portion of the many blessings He has so generously showered upon you? Have you been sitting in the pew when the collection plate is being passed and you realize you have little or no cash and you don't carry a checkbook? Have you been out of town or sick on Sunday and not sure how to handle your weekly tithe in those instances? We have all been there.

The church office will provide you a self-addressed envelope upon request, if you wish to mail a check. But why not utilize the online giving option? Online giving is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. It can be accessed by going to the church website, www.wrightsboroumc.org, and choosing the red Give button in the upper right corner, or by clicking the link, "click here to give online", in the weekly announcement email.

Simply pick the amount of your tithe or offering and where you wish the funds to be applied, check out and you are done. You can even elect to set it up as a recurring payment to ensure the funds are sent each week without any extra work on your part.

What an easy way to ensure the missions of WUMC are able to continue and grow. I am proud that we offer multiple options for our congregation, and I encourage you to at least check it out to see if it would be a good fit for you.

Jim Timmons
Finance Committee Chair



**April 14, 2018
10:00 to 11:00 AM
Fellowship Hall**

Prayer Shawls are found in Old Testament references and were used during worship and private prayer times. Today, our Prayer Shawls are symbolic of God's presence in our lives and the prayers of our church family that surround you.

*For you formed my inmost being; you knit me
in my mother's womb."
Psalm 139:13*

DO YOU LOVE TO KNIT OR CROCHET, OR WOULD YOU LIKE TO LEARN? USE YOUR TALENT TO PROVIDE COMFORT TO THOSE IN NEED! PRAYER IS WORKED INTO EVERY SHAWL, SO THE RECIPIENT IS LITERALLY WRAPPED IN PRAYER. PLEASE JOIN US FOR THIS MINISTRY!

Yarn: Provided
Knitting needles: Provided
Crochet hooks: Provided
Looms: Provided
Instructions/Patterns: Provided

Wrightsboro's Prayer Shawl Ministry is open to all who knit or crochet regardless of any limitations. You probably know that the ministry provides shawls of comfort for those going through a difficult time. I plan to include other "needs" items to knit or crochet as an additional gift of this ministry of hats and scarves, prayer bears, and twiddle or sensory muffs.

When we gather each month, we light a candle and offer our prayers for those we know and for those we shall never meet. Our hour together is mostly prayer, inspiration, and fellowship. Our ministry is a simple and silent ministry where most of our work is done in the comfort of our homes and at our own pace. We knit, crochet, and pray for those in need of God's love. We create the projects of our ministry with love, prayer, and the talents given to us by God.

Also, if you have a yarn stash that needs to find a home, we would be happy to take it off your hands. Yarn donations are always needed. For more information contact: Debbie Grigsby @ 910-685-4494

Missions at Wrightsboro

CRAFTY FRIDAY

The Crafty Friday ladies have been busy making and delivering Easter treats to our shut-ins. The yellow crocheted chicks filled with chocolate were a big hit. We also made 80+ treats for our teachers at Wrightsboro Elementary to support our Hand in Hand ministry. Approximately 1,000 Easter eggs were filled on Friday mornings by the ladies for our annual egg hunt. Crafty Friday is open to all; we meet at 9:30 every Friday. Join us!

MERCI

A group from WUMC recently went to the MERCI Warehouse to volunteer for the day. We worked until we ran out of supplies. There is a great need for donations of supplies for various kits. Some of the most needed items are: insect repellent, heavy duty trash bags, and re-usable cleaning wipes for flood buckets; hand towels and nail clippers for health kits; crayons (24 pack), paper (loose leaf or spiral notebooks) and rulers with metric measurement for school kits; and hand sewing needles and 3 yd fabric pieces for sewing kits. The Missions Team will deliver all donated items to MERCI. We also welcome anyone to go for a day; it is a great way to be in mission without having to pack a bag.

TRIP FOR MATTHEW REPAIR

A trip is being planned to do flood repair from Hurricane Matthew. The project will be in Lumberton or Washington, probably in May. It has been two years since the devastating floods and there is still much work to be done. If you're interested in being a part of the team, see a member of the Missions Team.

SUNDRESSES FOR HAITI

Some ladies from WUMC continue to make sundresses and boxer shorts for the children of Haiti. Most of these children are orphaned. We have been sending these clothes to Liberia but due to a shipping problem in Liberia we thought this ministry might be over. But God has opened another door for us in the form of a missionary to Haiti who is as thrilled to get the clothes as we are to provide them.



Friday Night Fellowship

Friday Night Fellowship is a dinner group that meets the 3rd Friday of the month at a different restaurant.

This month you are invited to join us at Elizabeth's Pizza, April 20 at 6:30pm. Elizabeth's is located at 4304 Market St., Wilmington. Sign up in the lobby.

April Anniversaries

2 Frank & Claudia Campese
6 James & Donna Fisk
17 Stan & Marla Wardrip
18 Doug & Sandi Bardwell
20 Eddie & Marsha Hayes
24 Chad & Kristine Chandler

Early Response Team (ERT) Training

There will be a certification class held on Saturday, April 28 from 8:30am to 5:00pm here at Wrightsboro UMC. The cost of the training is \$30 and registration is required.

If you are interested and are not able to make the training, there will be another class offered on May 19 at Camp UMC in Shallotte.

In Case of Emergency

The defibrillator is now located in the cabinet marked AED on the wall in the hallway beside the sanctuary.

Also, we have consolidated all our first aid supplies - first aid kit, blood pressure cuff, stethoscope, glucose meter, glucose tablets and Propel or something similar for sudden blood sugar drops. All these items are now located in the cabinet in the Welcome Center, behind the door with the "First Aid" sign.

FLOWER MINISTRY

First many thanks to those of you that sign up on the Flower Chart; those arrangements look so beautiful in our Chancel area. The Flower Ministry happens when you then donate your arrangement. It is divided up into several Bud

Vases and taken to shut ins and Nursing Homes. There is a need for Bud Vases!! If you have any....bring them to church, please. This Ministry would be most appreciative. To donate your arrangement let Pat Everett know.



Wrightsboro United Methodist Church
3300 N Kerr Ave
Wilmington NC 28405
www.wrightsboroumc.org

Mission Statement

To reach out and to serve all people with
Christ's love and acceptance through
faith, study, and action

Run for the Son



Greetings!

2018 will be 31 years that the Christian Motorcyclists Association (CMA) has sponsored the Run for the Son ride to raise money for evangelism. Of the money raised, 60% is given to our three world-reaching ministry partners for work in foreign missions, and 40% is used for home missions through CMA.

Through our involvement with Missionary Ventures, CMA has placed 5,769 motorcycles, 6,593 bicycles, 28 boats, 31 horses, 1 camel, 2 snowmobiles and 3 horse and buggies in the care of native pastors in 105 countries.

Through Open Doors, we have provided for the purchase and distribution of 2,616,852 Bibles in restricted access countries around the world.

Although the JESUS film has been shown to over 6 billion people, our contributions, through Run for the Son, are directly responsible for the JESUS film being shown to over 119 million people in more than 200 countries. The JESUS film has been translated into 1,420 languages, and over 12 million have accepted Christ. This ministry reports that traditionally at least 10 people see the film for every dollar contributed and, of those ten, at least one person accepts Christ.

On Sunday, April 29th, 2018 we will again be presenting this motorcycle ministry to the church. Will you help us? Any amount you can invest will make a difference as we change our world for Jesus - which is our only goal.

I have witnessed the integrity with which this project has been handled, and I guarantee you that none of this money goes to the day-to-day operating funds for CMA, or the ministry partners. All of the money raised is used to spread the Gospel message of Jesus Christ. I encourage you to check out CMA, www.cmausa.org, Run for the Son, and what we do with the money. Will you please consider a donation? No matter how small or how large, it will make a difference.

Please make checks payable to the Christian Motorcyclists Association (or CMA), and note "Run for the Son" on the memo line. Any donation is tax deductible.

Thanks and God Bless you,
Jerry Lipka