



## Thoughts from Pastor David...

Greetings, friends,

It's hard to believe that the season of Lent is almost over and we find ourselves in the midst of Holy Week. It began with Palm/Passion Sunday, which we celebrated this past Sunday. Later this week, we will celebrate Maundy Thursday and then observe what is called the Great Three Days. These days begin at sunset on Maundy Thursday and end with sunset on Easter Sunday. These days proclaim the paschal mystery of Jesus Christ's passion, death and resurrection, and we are encouraged to journey with Jesus from the upper room, to the garden, to the cross, and to the tomb. In the past, we have had several special services to help guide us through that journey. With the restrictions currently in place, we will not be able to gather and worship here at the church, but we will worship nonetheless in perhaps new and different ways.

We will begin with a special service for Maundy Thursday at 7:00pm. This service will be streamed live on our Facebook page, and later uploaded to YouTube. We will celebrate Holy Communion, using prepackaged sealed communion packs that contain grape juice and a wafer. If you wish to participate, you will need to stop by the church and pick up the communion packs; or, if you prefer, we can drop them off at your home. Just let me know.

On Easter Sunday, we will celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior! Unfortunately, we will not have our usual Sunrise Service outside, but we will stream our worship service at 10:00am, followed by posting a video of it on YouTube.

In addition to our own services, our Conference has created some wonderful resources for at-home worship, including resources for Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and an Easter Vigil. You will find these resources by clicking on this link:

**[Holy Week & Easter Resources](#)**

In the link above, you will also see that our Conference will be streaming a live worship service on Easter Sunday, at 9:00am and again at 11:00am. You are invited to join our Methodist brothers and sisters all around the NC Conference for this worship service, either before or after our own service.

Let's keep in mind that our usual church events for Easter have been cancelled, but Easter has not! I think nothing would please Satan more than if we just sat back and did not celebrate the resurrection of our Lord as best we can. I urge each and every one of you to make every effort to take advantage of these special opportunities for worship. Watch for announcements of any changes in the above schedule and, as always, please contact me if you have any questions.

Grace & peace,  
Pastor David

## April Birthdays

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

## April Anniversaries

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

## MISSIONS

Sadly our missions are on hold during this difficult time; however, we will resume when given the go-ahead and come back strong. **Rise Against Hunger** has been tentatively postponed until May. At this time there is a possibility that it will have to be postponed again, but it will happen. Your generosity in supporting this mission will make it possible. Because of the world-wide pandemic, the need for pre-packaged meals will be even greater.

**Meals on Wheels** has been suspended indefinitely, but our local shut-ins are being furnished meals every day from the Senior Citizen Centers. Frozen meals were prepared as soon as the crisis became evident and no one has missed a meal. We look forward to resuming this amazing ministry as soon as possible. In the meantime we are thankful for the wonderful volunteers who have kept it going.

While we are sheltering in place, there are things we can do at home to further our missions and be ready when we are back together. If you sew, baby blankets will be needed for birthing kits and Agape boxes. They should be flannel and standard size. Sundresses and shorts can be made for Liberia and other countries whose children don't have clothes. Stuffed animals can be made for Agape boxes for the children of Armenia. If you need patterns from UMCOR for these items, call Joyce Parker or the church and they will be mailed to you. Remember that when this crisis is over, there will be a greater need than ever for these items

## WRIGHTSBORO UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

**Meeting Information:** WUMW meeting, Thursday May 7 at 10 AM. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall. Meeting agenda will include discussion of Brunch and Bowls event and other projects for 2020. All women are invited to attend. You do not need to be a Member of the Church or even attend Wrightsboro UMC.

### **Ongoing WUMW Projects:**

**Boxtops4education:** We continue to support Wrightsboro Elementary School by clipping BoxTops. Please send them to your school of choice or place them in the small container in the Welcome Center near the UMW book collection. The UMW encourages everyone to save Boxtops4Education.

**Books for Wrightsboro Elementary School Summer Reading 2020 :** We are collecting books for the 2020 summer reading project. Please bring age appropriate books and place in the basket provided.

### **Eyeglasses:**

The UMW is collecting eyeglasses to take to the Merci Center in Goldsboro. If you have old eyeglasses that you never wear, consider donating them and place them in the basket provided in the Welcome Center.

Questions about UMW items in the newsletter or about WUMW can be sent to Eva Czepiel at [Lefty1210@atmc.net](mailto:Lefty1210@atmc.net)

## Prayer Chain

Have a prayer concern?  
Who do you contact?

Email the church office and we will email it out to the Prayer Chain. Note that the Prayer Chain is a different list from those receiving this Newsletter. If you would like to be on the Prayer Chain email list, contact the church office. Just remember that you are committing to pray for the members of our church and their family and friends.



## 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.

## Thoughts For A Spring Garden

In our garden we will first plant five rows of peas: preparedness, promptness, perseverance, politeness and prayer. Next to them we will plant three rows of squash: squash gossip, squash criticism, and squash indifference. Then we will plant six rows of lettuce: lettuce be faithful, lettuce be thankful, lettuce be unselfish, lettuce be loyal, lettuce love one another, lettuce be truthful. No garden is complete without turnip and our will have turnip for church, turnip with a smile, turnip with a new idea and turnip with determination.



Submitted by Pat Everett

## Finance Committee Update

### Feature Heading

April 3, 2020

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 2020:

(Not including Hurricane related expenses)

Total funds taken in: **\$24,157.63**

Of note, this figure includes the following amounts collected:

Food Pantry	\$ 325.00
Methodist Home for Children	\$ 487.05
Rise Against Hunger	\$ 770.00

Total funds spent paying bills: **\$26,921.07**

Deficit for end of month, February 2020 **(\$ 2,763.44)**

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

Our current mortgage payout is **\$414,491.95**

Apportionments are paid on schedule.

For those who prefer, please remember you can always make your tithes and offerings online through the church website. Due to not being able to meet as a church family, you may also mail your tithes and offerings to the church as well.

Thank you for your faithful tithes, your donations, your gifts, and your prayers during this difficult time apart.

Jim Timmons  
Finance Chair