

Reaching and Stretching
Our Arms Around
Our Christian Conscience



Centenary United Methodist Church

2300 W. Friendly Avenue Greensboro, NC 27403

September 13, 2020

Reverend Kelley Groce, Pastor

Anita Trumpler-Rich, Director of Music

Announcements for Missions and Ministry

Choral Call to Worship *Spirit of God, Descend Upon my Heart*

Call to Worship

Leader: "Come to me," Jesus invites.

People: We come to you.

Leader: "Come to me, if you are tired."

People: We come to you.

Leader: "Come to me, if you carry burdens."

People: We come to you.

Leader: "Come, and discover rest for your souls."

Opening Prayer (Genesis 24, Romans 7)

Like an oasis in the desert, worship satisfies our sin-besieged souls.

**Today, help us find the good in this life by delighting in your presence,
and help us find the hope you have placed in our innermost selves.**

Amen.

Hymn *Dwelling in Beulah Land* 95 Cokesbury, verses 1 & 4

*Far away the noise of strife upon my ear is falling,
Then I know the sins of earth beset on ev'ry hand:
Doubt and fear and things of earth in vain to me are calling,
None of these shall move me from Beulah Land*

*(chorus) I'm living on the mountain, underneath a cloudless sky,
I'm drinking at the fountain that never shall run dry;
O yes! I'm feasting on the manna from a bountiful supply,
For I am dwelling in Beulah Land.*

*Viewing here the works of God, I sink in contemplation,
Hearing now His blessed voice, I see the way He planned:
Dwelling in the Spirit, here I learn of full salvation,
Gladly will I tarry in Beulah Land.*

(chorus)

Joys and Concerns of the Congregation

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever Amen.

We Worship with God's Tithes and our Offering

Offertory *Thy Word is a Lamp Unto my Feet* .. Amy Grant/M.W. Smith

Scripture Romans 7:18-25

Sermon "Reaching and Stretching Our Arms

Around Our Christian Conscience" Rev. Kelley Groce

Affirmation of Faith The Apostle's Creed (Traditional)

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;*
the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic** church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

Hymn *Wonderful Words of Life*

600 UMH, verses 1 & 3

*Sing them over again to me, wonderful words of life;
Let me more of their beauty see, wonderful words of life;
Words of life and beauty teach me faith and duty.*

(refrain) Beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life.

Beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life.

*Sweetly echo the gospel call, wonderful words of life;
Offer pardon and peace to all, wonderful words of life;
Jesus, only Savior, sanctify forever.*

(refrain)

Benediction

Choral Benediction *Into My Heart*..... Harry Clarke

If you would like to sign up for altar flowers, to be given in honor, in memory, or in celebration, please contact the church office at 336-299-9643.

The Prayer Chain has received requests to pray for the following people:

Please pray for Judy Milligan, Noah Demmitt, Amy Coffee, and many others dealing with the challenges of our COVID times. Prayers for Don & Clara Ellis, Frank York, Chuck Farabee (still in the hospital), and Trudy Sillmon. Rachel Sheppard and Pat Stevenson are recovering from surgeries. Pray for Anita Trumpler-Rich's neighbor, Jennifer Gregory, who has cancer. Susan Shuping asks for prayers for her voice. Harold & Linda Billings ask for prayers for their neighbor, Peter Rode, who has been hospitalized. And Mandy Durham asks for prayers for her neighbor.

If you have a prayer concern, please contact the church office at 336-299-9643 or call Kelley at the parsonage. Let us know if the concern may be shared with the congregation or only with the pastoral staff.

Sermon By Phone – Centenary UMC is now recording the audio of the sermon only for playback by phone call. So, for those in our congregation that do not have the capability to watch our YouTube videos of the entire worship service, they may now call 336-270-2202 and listen to the sermon.

**A Simple
Gesture**



Giving Above and Beyond! - We are a church dedicated to making an impact on food insecurity in our community. During the month of September, Centenary will collect monetary donations for A Simple Gesture in honor or in memory of a loved one, and recognitions will be in the October *Centenarian*. Make your check payable to Centenary UMC and put “ASG” in the memo line.

Ad Council Meeting – Sunday, September 13 at 4:00 PM via Zoom. Please let Kelley know if you plan to attend and she will send you the invitation for computer login or the phone number.

Zoom Sunday School - Harold Billings and Dave Blackman are offering Sunday School lessons via Zoom on Sunday mornings at 10:00 AM. They are using the International Lesson. No book is required. Email Kelley at kgroce@wnccumc.net or call her at the parsonage, if you would like a Zoom invitation or the phone number to call in for Sunday School.

Centenary Starlight Book Club - Thursday, September 17 at 7:00 PM via Zoom to discuss **The Giver of Stars** by Jojo Moyes. Contact Kelley for the Zoom invitation.

Book Discussion – So You Want to Talk About Race

The Churches which comprise the **Central Missional Network of the Northern Piedmont** want to unite in our fight against racism. Each year

the network has a unifying event in the Fall to bring all the congregations together for education, worship, and service. This year we would like to invite the churches to come together on ***Sunday, September 27 from 2:00-4:00 PM to discuss the book: [So You Want to Talk About Race](#) by Ijeoma Oluo.*** The churches will evaluate closer to the date of the event if this will be an in-person event, with social distancing and masks at Centenary UMC, or via Zoom. We are asking that you read the book before this date. You may purchase it from Amazon, Barnes and Noble, or any online bookseller. We will be joined by Rev. Bev Copley, our Northern Piedmont District Superintendent. *Please let Kelley Groce know by Wednesday, September 24, if you plan to attend.* This will be an important discussion.



2020 marks the 40th Anniversary of the **Greater Greensboro CROP Hunger Walk** and CUMC will be participating again this year with a socially distant walk around the church on Sunday, October 11 at 2:00 PM. Please mark your calendar to walk with us, walk in your neighborhood, or sponsor someone to walk! The need is greater than ever this year. This year's theme is

“Believe There is Good in the World.” Betty Durham will be taking orders for the t-shirts. They are \$6 each and she will collect the money at the church on October 11. If you would like to order a t-shirt, be a walker on the team, be a cheerleader, or man the water station contact Betty Durham at 336-542-8077 or Betty.Durham50@yahoo.com