

The Centenarian

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Centenary United Methodist Church family,

Isaiah 58:11

"The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your soul in drought, and strengthen your bones; you shall be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail."

We are in the 5th month of Covid-19 and it is hard to believe that this has gone on for so long. I also know the reality that it will occur for a lot longer. As I go about my day, talking to members of the congregation, the one comment which most people state is that they have a difficult time remembering what day it is. We all were so accustomed to having our routines, with Sunday School and Church on Sunday being one of them. I so miss our time together. I realize that we are all eager to gather again. We are still following the regulations of the Western North Carolina Conference, and the State mandated guidelines. The Ad Council of CUMC is meeting via Zoom monthly to discuss the missions and ministries of the church, looking forward and discussing the procedures and means which will have to occur when we can have in person worship again. It is not an easy feat. We continue to have our service available through our church webpage at www.CentenaryUMCGreensboro.org or from www.YouTube – look up Centenary UMC Greensboro, NC. The Ad Council approved the investigation and implementation of a dial-a-sermon service. This will enable persons, who do not have the computer capability, to dial a certain number on the phone and listen to the scripture and sermon over their phone – both landline and cell phone. Our designated phone number for this service is 336-270-2202. My sermon for August 2 is now available, just call the number. We hope to improve the audio volume and quality for August 9.

The Church is continuing to offer Bible studies, Prayer Gatherings, and Book Clubs, via Zoom. This is the means which the WNC is still encouraging at present time. The WNC Annual Conference for all clergy and lay delegates will be via the computer on Saturday, August 8. Please be in prayer as we have many policies and procedures which must be voted on. This will be a very different Conference, not at the lake, not surrounded by colleagues and friends, not sweating because of the hot June heat. This time I will be in front of my computer, sitting in my air-conditioned home, at the dining room table. I believe that God works in many ways and the Holy Spirit will be over all the Conference, leading and directing our actions for the greater good of building the Kingdom of God on earth.

I feel that all people are trying to stay positive, to do the right thing to exemplify loving neighbor during this strange time, and yet, it is strange. I feel as if we are in exile. I identify more and more with the journey of the Israelites in the stories of Old Testament antiquity. I truly feel that we are wandering in the wilderness – except we are social distancing, wearing masks, and not being able to gather in community as they did. I am an extravert and not being able to gather with friends, to hug one another is difficult. Each day we must pray and have our hope in God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit who will give us strength and lead us.

CUMC is indebted to many members for their tireless efforts to maintain the ministry of



"Rest is not idleness, and to lie sometimes on the grass under trees on a summer's day, listening to the murmur of the water, or watching the clouds float across the sky, is by no means a waste of time."

– John Lubbock

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which we are afforded. Betty, Lisa, Anita, Faye, and Lori are so faithful and devoted in helping the worship service occur. The Ad Council is leading in ways of administering missions – gifting monies to community partnerships of Backpack Beginnings (August) and A Simple Gesture (September). We also are going to have a Drive Thru Ice Cream Social on Sunday, August 23 from 2:00-4:00 PM. You may drive through and get your wrapped ice cream. We also will have a mission opportunity where you may bring non-perishable food for Greensboro Urban Ministry, and men's athletic socks to be donated to the Urban Ministry as well. See the details in this newsletter.

Please know that each of you are missed and prayed for daily. We are here for you. Should you have a need with which we can assist you, please do not hesitate to call. We thank the CUMC Care Team for continuing to be in contact with members and alerting us to prayer requests and needs.

I am beginning to arrange some driveway – patio visits. I will wear a mask, social distance, and just try to say hello and see faces of the congregation for no more than 15 minutes. I will certainly call beforehand.

We finished our sermon series on hope at the end of July. In August we are beginning a series on the things which we want to wrap our arms around. Sunday, August 2 will be a Communion Sunday where we wrap our arms around Trusting God.

Again, please know that you are loved and missed greatly. Do not hesitate to call the parsonage at 336-285-5081 or the church at 336-299-9643 to get in touch with me.

Psalm 9:10 'And those who know your name put their trust in you, for you, O Lord, have not forsaken those who seek you'

Grace and Peace of God be with you always, Kelley

Ad Council Meeting

All Administrative Council members should attend the August 9 meeting at 4:00 PM, via Zoom on your computer or by phone. Contact Kelley Groce kgroce@wnccumc.net for details.

Watch Annual Conference

The Western North Carolina Annual Conference will be held livestreaming on August 8 and anyone may watch it. Go to www.wnccumc.org and search for Annual Conference 2020. There you will find the instructions for how to watch it on August 8 beginning at 1:00 PM.

United Methodist Women

The Northern Piedmont District Annual Celebration will be held via Zoom on Saturday, August 29 at 3:00 PM.

The WNCC UMW Annual Celebration will be a two day Zoom webinar on September 26 and 27 at 2:00 PM. This year's theme is *Walk in God's Light*. Special Guest Speaker is Cindy Johnson, Deaconess, Rio Texas Conference and Special Guest is Bishop Paul Leeland.

United Methodist Men

The Methodist Men have had the best peanut sales for the first six months in their fourteen year history with Harris Teeter!

Bible Study

Romans: Interpretation Bible Studies - The letter to the Romans is the pinnacle of Paul's writing and thinking. Paul instructs his readers, both then and now, to be transformed from this world into living sacrifices, holy and acceptable to God, following the example of Jesus Christ. Our study group will meet on Tuesdays at 10:00 AM and 6:30 PM (note evening time change) beginning August 4. You may order your book from [Amazon](https://www.amazon.com), [Christianbook.com](https://www.Christianbook.com) or [Cokesbury](https://www.Cokesbury.com). Please have the first chapter read by our first meeting day. Call the church, or e-mail Kelley kgroce@wnccumc.net to let her know if you are going to participate.



Drive-Thru Ice Cream Social

Join us on Sunday, August 23 for a Drive-Thru Ice Cream Social in the church parking lot from 2:00-4:00 PM. All participants are asked to remain in their vehicles and wear their masks when being served wrapped ice cream treats at the church portico. All servers will be wearing masks and gloves, and maintain as much social distance as possible. If you have donations of canned food or men's athletic socks for Greensboro Urban Ministry, please put them in your trunk and volunteers will retrieve them for you as you go through the line.

Centenary Starlight Book Club

The Centenary UMC Starlight Book Club will meet on August 20 at 7:00 PM via Zoom. You can participate via phone or computer. Email Kelley to receive your Zoom invitation kgroce@wnccumc.net. Our book discussion for August will be *Where the Light Enters* by Sarah Donati (sequel to *The Gilded Hour*)

From the international bestselling author of *The Gilded Hour* comes Sara Donati's enthralling epic about two trail-blazing female doctors in nineteenth-century New York. Obstetrician Dr. Sophie Savard returns home to the achingly familiar rhythms of Manhattan in the early spring of 1884 to rebuild her life after the death of her husband. With the help of Dr. Anna Savard, her dearest friend, cousin, and fellow physician she plans to continue her work aiding the disadvantaged women society would rather forget.

As Sophie sets out to construct a new life for herself, Anna's husband, Detective-Sergeant Jack Mezzanotte calls on them both to consult on two new cases: the wife of a prominent banker has disappeared into thin air, and the corpse of a young woman is found with baffling wounds that suggest a killer is on the loose. In New York it seems that the advancement of women has brought out the worst in some men. Unable to ignore the plight of New York's less fortunate, these intrepid cousins draw on all resources to protect their patients.

All book club participants, please e-mail Kelley at kgroce@wnccumc.net by August 10, the list of recommended books to consider for the months of September, October, November, and December. Kelley will compile the list, send it out to all participants, and ask you to then choose your top four, which will then be shared on August 20.

End Racism Now – Yard Signs

The signs are available for purchase at the church for \$8 each. We have a limited number available, but we can order more.

If you would like one, please contact the church office at 336-299-9643 to arrange pick-up or delivery.



BackPack

BEGINNINGS

Missions & Outreach

- ◆ **Backpack Beginnings**—Centenary will continue to collect monetary donations in honor or in memory of a loved one during the month of August with proceeds going to Backpack Beginnings and recognitions in the September *Centenarian*. Make your check payable to Centenary UMC and put "BPB" in the memo line. Backpack Beginnings feeds and clothes 9,000 students and families a year.
- ◆ **Greensboro Urban Ministry** Please continue to support Greensboro Urban Ministry with your donations of non-perishable food items, because they have increased the number of times a year a family can receive assistance. You will need to take donations to their Food Pantry Loading dock (drop off location) is 1002 S. Eugene Street, Greensboro, NC, 27406. Donations may be dropped off Monday-Friday from 8:00 AM—5:00 PM .

August Birthdays



1st	Charlie Frye & Elizabeth Hartsock
2nd	Joanna Sharp
4th	Paul Long
5th	Becky Ensign, Chris Whitaker, Trey Stowe, & Steve Whitakar
8th	Bonnie Travis
11th	Nancy May
12th	Beth Euforbia
16th	Abbie Samuel
17th	Sarah Pickett & Meredith Groce
19th	Jackie Thompson & Nancy Pruitt
22nd	Hugh Holman & Rob Skenes
24th	August Marvin
26th	Blanche Morgan
27th	Bob Jones
28th	Eric Lucas

If you, or a loved one, have been left off the birthday list, please contact Lisa Bunch at 336-299-9643.

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WORSHIP with us online!

<https://www.CentenaryUMCGreensboro.org/>

Sermon By Phone 336-270-2202



Our Mission:

To experience God's life changing love and take God's love into the world.

Our Vision:

To be a church where everyone is involved in ministry.

Bible Names

U	U	B	O	E	Y	M	D	J	S	O	N	M	O
H	K	E	W	L	S	H	D	B	T	V	O	H	U
A	A	L	O	V	O	A	T	A	C	H	A	E	H
R	S	A	L	D	N	B	P	A	V	A	H	A	J
E	O	C	A	A	J	R	L	A	I	I	I	L	S
H	L	I	Y	S	O	A	T	C	J	L	D	N	H
T	O	W	S	S	S	H	E	A	D	S	O	O	T
S	M	E	M	L	H	A	L	A	B	D	H	G	I
E	O	H	E	U	U	M	U	M	O	E	U	A	M
E	N	T	A	K	A	L	A	J	O	E	L	A	O
U	E	T	M	E	O	M	P	W	U	S	E	A	T
E	A	A	E	J	E	S	U	S	E	V	E	A	H
A	R	M	N	H	O	J	E	M	C	S	S	S	Y
Y	A	N	O	S	J	A	O	L	U	A	S	E	L

- TIMOTHY
- JESUS
- ABRAHAM
- MATTHEW
- DAVID
- CAIN
- PAUL
- NOAH
- ABEL
- LUKE
- JOSHUA
- MARY
- CALEB
- SOLOMON
- EVE
- ESTHER
- GOLIATH
- SAUL
- MOSES
- JOHN

Play this puzzle online at : <http://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/2921/>

Two Plots Available

A church member would like to sell two plots at Westminster Garden Cemetery. If you are interested, please contact the church office or call Kelley Groce at the parsonage.

Gifts for the Budget: June 30-July 29

In Celebration of 65 Years of Marriage
Bill and Celia Eller

Financial Update

Year-to-Date Giving/Expenses—Ending 7/29/2020

Revenues \$ 184,199

Expenses \$ 204,527

Profit or (Loss) for 7 months (\$ 20,328)

Unrestricted cash available for operations: \$111,149

SBA PPP Loan \$38,700

We will apply for forgiveness of the loan.