



On the cover: Ann's New Ramp

We're so thankful for the team who came together and made it possible for this ramp to be built. Read the update about Ann's new ramp on Page 7.

Page 8: Returning to In-Person Worship

As we come back to the church building to worship, you may have some questions. Page 8 of this newsletter has the answers to some questions we anticipate people might have.

Page 11 & 15: Camp Discovery 2021

We are making plans for Camp Discovery to go ahead this summer with some covid precautions in place. There are several ways to get involved - volunteer at camp, become a sponsor (at any dollar amount), and register to run/walk/bike in the virtual 5K! Sponsorship forms can be cut from the bottom of Page 15 and returned to the office by May 31.

CONTACT INFORMATION

The Reverend Doctor Mark Conforti, Senior Pastor

The Reverend Stacey Lundy, Associate Pastor

Mrs. Becca Blackmon, Business Administrator

Mr. Mike Fansler, Building Superintendent

Ms. Jen Fogt, Director of Youth Ministry

Mr. Joshua Starnes, Director of Music Ministry & Organist

Mrs. Bailee Weisensel, Director of Children's Ministry

Rev. Garry Cook M.Div. LCSW,

Pastoral Counseling, Sanctuary Counseling Group

Mrs. Donna Frederick.

Lead Teacher of After-School Child Care Program

Mrs. Kelly Austin,

Director of Preschool

Lead Teacher of Summer Day Camp

Mrs. Courtney Bost

Lead Teacher/Director of Child Development Center

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Summercamp@fumcsalisbury.org

CDC@fumcsalisbury.org

Sermon Podcast: Salisbury Sermons (available on Apple Podcasts)

Sermon by Phone: Call 1(704)378-8581 to hear our latest sermon

Facebook: First United Methodist Church Salisbury

Instagram: fumcsalisbury



REMARKS

Our clothing not only makes a statement about ourselves, but also invites others to form an opinion about us. In fact, it's been demonstrated through scientific research that our clothes impact us more than we realize. Adam Galinsky, professor at Columbia Business School in New York City, is a social psychologist who has studied such things. Galinsky's research shows that when a person dresses more professionally, then he or she will be more attentive and detail-oriented. More tasks will get finished. What's more: people will perceive that person with a higher regard. If a person wears a respected physician's white lab coat, says Galinsky, even temporarily as "dress up," that person will act more focused. Perhaps it's true: "clothes make the man." And woman!

As you read the Bible, notice the role clothes play in the story. For example, in Exodus 28 & Leviticus 8, we read about the priestly garments. The tunic, the robe, and the undergarments are all important for differentiating the priests in their identity and role. Tradition claims that the outer garments were re-used by multiple priests as much as possible; even the undergarments were considered too holy to throw away. So, what happened with them? Those undergarments were washed and then cut into smaller pieces. The smaller pieces were then repurposed: some as swaddling clothes, and others as burial linens.

Imagine with me: the garments formerly worn by a faithful Hebrew priest being repurposed for our Lord Jesus, either in His manger (Luke 2:7) or in His tomb (Luke 23:53).

We know what it means for clothes to take on a new life. Do you have any garments previously worn by a family member? I have one of my Granddad's sweaters. He wore it, and it fits me now. When I put it on, naturally I think about him and our family. The best kinds of "hand-me-downs" have a story and plenty of wear.

You and I have a "hand-me-down" faith. We neither designed it, nor did we sew it together. Instead, our Creator God established a loving covenant with us through Jesus Christ, giving us the fabric of Christian discipleship. The Church has sought to pass along this wardrobe from one generation to the next. In Colossians 3:12, the Apostle Paul's encouragement is clear: "to clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience." In the same way that you choose what to wear every day, put that some sort of intentionality into wearing these virtues.

Since 1985, Men's Wearhouse television commercials have ended, "You're going to like the way you look. I guarantee it." That's a strong statement! But here's an even better one: clothe yourself

with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, and you will sense God's work of transformation happening deep within your life.

This will not only make a statement about yourself, but also the opinion others form about you. After all, it's not just about how we look on the outside, but who we are on the inside.

May God continue to bless you,

Pastor Mark



APRIL

Week of March 28-April 3

13

NUMBERS 16-17 I CORINTHIANS 8 NUMBERS 18-20 I CORINTHIANS 9

NUMBERS 21-22 I CORINTHIANS 10 NUMBERS 23-24 I CORINTHIANS 11-12 NUMBERS 25-26 I CORINTHIANS 13-14

Week of April 4-10

(14)

NUMBERS 27 PSALM 8 I CORINTHIANS

NUMBERS 28-30 I CORINTHIANS 16 NUMBERS 31-33 EPHESIANS 1-2 NUMBERS 34-36 EPHESIANS 3 1-3 EPHESIANS 4 PSALM 112

Week of April 11-17



DEUTERONOMY 4-5 EPHESIANS 5 DEUTERONOMY 6-8 EPHESIANS 6 PSALM 106 9-11 PSALM 110 PHILIPPIANS 1 DEUTERONOMY 12-14 PHILIPPIANS 2 PSALM 63

DEUTERONOMY 15-17 PHILIPPIANS 3

Week of April 18-24

(16)

DEUTERONOMY 18-20 PHILIPPIANS 4 PSALM 7

DEUTERONOMY 21-23 GALATIANS 1 DEUTERONOMY 24-26 GALATIANS 2 DEUTERONOMY 27-29 PSALM 94 GALATIANS 3 DEUTERONOMY 30-32 PSALM 144 GALATIANS 4

Week of April 25-May 1



DEUTERONOMY 33-34 PSALM 147 GALATIANS 5 PSALM 119 PSALM 109 GALATIANS 6 PSALM 1 PSALM 81 PSALM 107 ACTS 1

JOEL 1-3 ACTS 2 JOSHUA 1-3 ACTS 3

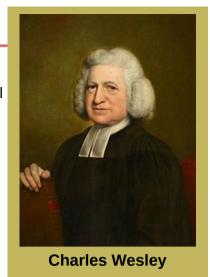
DON'T FORGET! You can download a free app to your smartphone or device called 'Bible' by YouVersion- you can read or LISTEN to scripture from anywhere!

CHURCH HISTORY

"Looking back, moving forward"

Methodists love to sing. It is in our spiritual DNA. Music formed a foundational pillar of the 18th century Methodist revival. Thanks to the creative talents of Charles Wesley, John Wesley's younger brother, Methodists enjoyed a steady supply of new spiritual songs. Through Charles Wesley's hymns, Methodists still sing our theology.

In the spring of 1738, both Wesley brothers had strong religious awakenings. The anniversary of Charles Wesley's experience produced one of our greatest Christmas hymns "Hark the Herald Angels Sing." This productive period also saw his composition of the favorite Easter hymn "Christ the Lord is Risen today."



In 1739, John Wesley purchased the lease on a London Foundry, a former brass cannon producer. After renovations, the building accommodated 1500 worshipers. It became Methodism's first London chapel. To mark the occasion, Wesley prepared a 1739 hymnbook called Hymns and Sacred Poems. It published for the first time Charles Wesley's new hymn "Christ the Lord is Risen Today."

Originally it had eleven stanzas that have been edited to six in most hymnals. The repeating "Alleluia" was a 19th century addition and captures the exhilaration of Easter. A more recent alteration changed "Sons of men and angels say" to "Earth and heaven in chorus say" making the language inclusive. Other changes to the text have been minor.

The hymn originally followed the English custom of being sung to different tunes. In 1905 the Methodist Hymnal permanently matched it to "Easter Tune" which we sing today. This tune first appeared in an early 18th Century German collection called Lyra Davidica, but sadly the composer's name has been lost.

There is much to love about this Wesley hymn. For one it is written in the present tense. It does not say that Christ rose or has risen. It boldly asserts that Christ is risen today. Easter is proclaimed not an ancient event but a present reality. This hymn includes modern worshipers within the company of resurrection witnesses.

The phrase "made like him like him we rise" is also present tense. It conveys a hope for God's transforming power in the present hour. The hymn lifts us from whatever troubles we face, even death, to everlasting life.

I can't help hearing a sermon in this text. Wesley calls us to action. The skies are exciting, but we must first be willing to follow Christ to the cross and the grave. Only then can we share our Lord's final triumphant victory. With echoes of Paul's first epistle to the Corinthians (15:55) the text taunts, "Where's thy victory, boasting grave?"

The final stanza promises that if we are made like Christ and follow his example we can know everlasting life. That is the Easter hope. To know Christ died for us enables us to endure and overcome suffering and death. Thanks to Jesus' resurrection we are empowered, "Thus to sing and thus to love, Alleluia, Alleluia"

Fred Jordan, Church Historian

Spring Care Packages for Seniors

Spring gift bags were delivered to 44 of our senior church members in March! These fun and useful gifts were put together with donated items like lip balm, lotion, snacks, candy, and other small items. The youth packed each bag, and church members delivered these care packages as a reminder of how much they are loved by the church.



Dear Church Family,
The bag of "goodies"
arrived yesterday and
certainly brightened my day.
My thanks to everyone who
had a part in it... Thanks so
much. Ours is a caring
church.

I love you all! And miss you!
- Anne Wilson



Dear Church Family, You are so kind and generous to remember me with a spring package filled up to the brim.

Thank you for all you do for me and especially for your love and prayers.

With Love, Barbara Safley

Dear Methodist Youth Fellowship, It was delightful getting the lovely bag of goodies from our church. Each item it contained was so special the Easter egg novelty, tissues, note paper, Upper Room devotional book. word search book (which is my favorite pastime). chapstick, candy and cookies - all just right for me! They will help me through these covid virus days when I'm staying in a lot.

It was so kind and thoughtful of you remember me as you did.

Blessings to each of you, Joyce Ingram

A Church-Wide Expression of Love

1

Thoughtful items donated by church members

2

Youth pack items into personalized gift bags

3

Gifts delivered by a team of volunteers 4

The recipients are reminded of our love for them!

THANK YOU FOR THE CARE PACKAGES



Dear Sweethearts to Old People.

You are amazing, and what you put together in a bag for us is truly amazing too.

Thank you sincerely for everything! For all the treats, and especially for the cards. They are beautiful! And I needed some.

Love to you all! Betsy Rich



I received a gift bag full of treats yesterday from First UMC and want to thank the persons responsible. I will appreciate your passing on my appreciation. It was fun to receive and explore!

Many thanks, Frankie Ritch

Dear Evan and Members of Salisbury Youth, What a delightful and most delicious surprise it was to receive your gift bag filled with all sorts of goodies which brought with them your love and wishes for a wonderful spring!

We appreciate the gifts given, and you taking the time to put them together made them so special. Thank you for loving your church family & showing God's love through your kindness. As newer members here we look forward to meeting some of you before long.

God bless all of you, Missy & Henry Brown

CARING FOR FRIENDS

Ramp Construction is Complete

The ramp for Ann Coggins that was in progress last month has been completed! We're grateful for the team who came together on this building project, making Ann's home more accessible for many years to come! The team included: Mel & Donna Smith, Gary Cox, Steve Sherriff, John Carnes, Fred & Taffy Jordan, and Tyler Conforti.

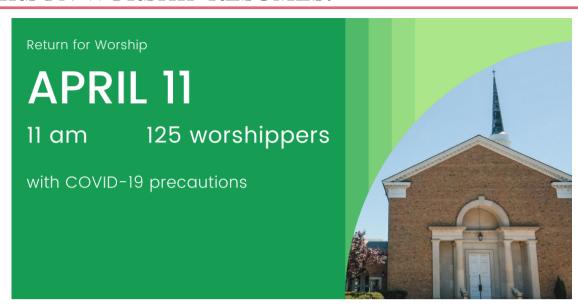


BIBLE PRESENTATION

Dudley's Bible

On Palm Sunday this year we had the very special opportunity to present Dudley Johnsen with his 3rd grade Bible! He unwrapped layers of colored paper that reminded us the stories of our faith contained in this book are more precious than gold, ancient, and inspired by God. We praise God for the opportunity to pass on God's Word to our children.





HOW DO I SIGN UP FOR IN-PERSON WORSHIP?

Worship sign-ups on Sign Up Genius will go live on Monday mornings at 9am for the following Sunday-you can find the link at fumcsalisbury.org or via social media. You can also sign up by calling the church office at (704)636-3121. [For April 11, Sign Up Genius is already, and you can call the church to register.

WHAT COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS WILL THERE BE?

When you arrive, you'll complete a quick health screening, including a temperature check. Please continue to follow the 3 W's: wash your hands frequently, wear a face mask, wait: keep 6 feet apart. For now, we need to refrain from shaking hands and hugging one another. Offering plates are available in the narthex rather than passing offering plates during the service. People who are not from the same household are encouraged to keep physical distance in the pews, and capacity (for now!) is limited to 125 worshippers (plus the people leading & serving)- about 1/3 of our capacity.

WHAT WILL THE IN-PERSON WORSHIP SERVICE BE LIKE?

The worship liturgy will still follow the traditional four-fold pattern: gathering, proclamation of the Word, response to the Word, and departure to serve. The elements of the service will shift around a little bit for two reasons. First, we need to adapt for the livestream worshippers, including those we are hoping to reach who do not have a church home (see more below). Second, we still need to take seriously the research about how germs are spread in the air. This has 2 impacts: reducing the call-and-response portions of the liturgy, and singing will come just before the end of the service.

WILL THERE BE A NURSERY FOR CHILDREN FOR INFANTS AND TODDLERS? YES, and we look forward to welcoming families.

WHAT WILL THE LIVESTREAM WORSHIP BE LIKE?

The livestream service on the church's YouTube page will begin at 11:15 am with an online-friendly greeting, and then catch up with what's happening in the Sanctuary. A recording will then be posted on YouTube to watch anytime. Like most other congregations, we have learned a tremendous amount over the past year regarding online worship. As we continue to experiment and adapt, we look forward to the online platform being both a way to nurture current disciples and also make new disciples.

ROWAN HELPING MINISTRIES

Caring for our Community

We continue to send a team from FUMC to Rowan Helping Ministries each week to pack food. If you would like to volunteer, contact Nancy Schoch for details (704)798-0528.

We also provide a monthly meal for RHM's shelter guests. Contact Taffy Jordan (336)467-0793 for info!







GOODMAN SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

High School Seniors:

Please continue to work on your applications for our Roy and Lula Goodman College Scholarship. You should have received a mailing from the committee; the necessary information is also on the church's website.

Deadline for all information to be turned in is <u>April 16th</u> but any time before that is acceptable.

- FUMC Scholarship Committee

JENNA'S SENIOR PROJECT

Increasing Awareness of Recovery Center

Our very own Jenna Robinson is a senior at Gray Stone Day School this year. For her senior project she chose to volunteer with Capstone Recovery Center. Capstone Recovery provides a safe environment for women whose lives have been devastated by substance abuse and mental health struggles. The women in both their residential and non-residential programs receive support, counseling, life skills training, healthy living classes, and pre-employment training. All services are free for residential clients.

Jenna had several opportunities to talk with the women in the residential program and get to know them. Her senior project included helping the community become more aware of the work Capstone Recovery is doing, including creating and distributing the flyer pictured here for their current fundraiser. For more information you can visit *capstonerecoverycenter.org*.

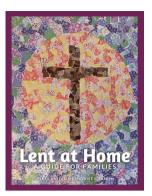


Lent at Home: A Guide for Families

Our families have enjoyed following along during the season of Lent with the Lent at Home guides! Children and youth were invited to participate in Bible reading, reflections, and creative prayers. Some of their favorite activities were making meditation jars with glitter, and making pretzels (a traditional Lenten food)!















Stations of the Cross

Salisbury Youth created a prayer station event for the church centered around Jesus' journey to the cross. Eight stations were set up on the lawn, each station having some tactile way to engage with the story. Youth helped create a video inviting the church to the event, artwork for the stations, recorded an audio guide, and helped set up/tear down. This was the 4th annual Stations of the Cross event at FUMC.







CAMP DISCOVERY 2021



JUNE 13-18

CAMP DISCOVERY WAS ESTABLISHED IN 2003 AS AN EXPERIENCE FOR RISING 4TH AND 5TH GRADERS THROUGHOUT THE ROWAN-SALISBURY SCHOOL SYSTEM WHO MAY NOT OTHERWISE HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO GO TO SUMMER CAMP.

Looking to get involved?

We need:
volunteers,
sponsors,
and mentors
Reach out to bailee@fumcsalisbury.org
for more information

DID YOU KNOW, IT COSTS \$250 TO SEND EACH CAMPER AND MENTOR TO CAMP?

YOUR SPONSORSHIP WILL PROVIDE CAMPER EXPERIENCES SUCH AS...

- Swimming in a lake for the first time
- Working as a team through the high ropes course
- Overcoming challenges at the climbing wall
- Listening to stories of faith during devotions
- Singing camp songs
- Meals around the table with new friends
- Building relationships with Mentors



SPONSORSHIP FORM ON PAGE 15!



Now Enrolling for 2021-2022!

Our classes have been very busy having fun and learning! We celebrated Dr. Seuss's birthday. Some even dressed up as their favorite Dr. Seuss character. Our 4's class is learning sight words and have gotten good at reading sentences. In the 3's class they are working on their fine motor skills by cutting with scissors, and learning the letters of the alphabet. The 2's are learning colors and really enjoy their time together.

We are looking forward to our class Easter parties and Easter egg hunts!

We are currently enrolling for our 2021-2022 school year! Registration forms can be found on the church's website. For more information call or text Kelly Austin, FUMC Preschool Director, at (336)722-9260.





AFTER-SCHOOL CHILD CARE

Now Enrolling for 2021-2022!

We have been enjoying playing outside as much as possible and doing free play and organized games inside when it rained. We've read books, made crafts, colored, did word search puzzles and more!

It's time to begin registering children for our program for the 2021-2022 school year. If you are interested in a faith-based program with devotions, character building activities, snacks, crafts and much more, we will be glad to get a registration form to you. We provide transportation from: Granite Quarry, Hurley, Isenberg, and Koontz elementary schools, as well as North Hill Christian School. A bus drops off students from Overton. We are open each afternoon until 6:00 PM. We would love to tell you more about our program! Please call us at the church if you have any questions (704)636-3121.

Wishing everyone a happy, safe spring season! "Kids go where there is excitement, they stay where there is LOVE." - Zig Ziglar







HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- Kelsie Crider
 Isabelle Goodwin
 Reid Leonard
 Bob Myers
 Steve Mueller
 Nancy Rudd
- 2 David Austin Joseph Clark
- Jill Duggan
 Bob Johnsen
- Walter Maxwell Barbara Safley
- Thomas Allen Mark Beymer Kelly Fisher
- 6 Casey Gouge Jeff Schoch
- 7 Will Douglas
- Sarah Hensley Kerry Kribbs Jeff Lineberry Katherine Miller
- 9 Linda Bowman Don Carter Shelley Cross John Ellis II
- 10 Jarrett Bradshaw Alex Warren

- 11
- $12_{\text{ Taffy Jordan}}$
- 13 Julia Baker
 Ed Lutz
 Robin Safrit
 Kate Zimmerman
- 14 Nettie Noble
- 15 JoAnn Smith
 Susan Whitaker
- $16_{
 m Annie}$ Jo Ragsdale
- Norman Clark
 Gary Price
 Camille Robinson
 Jamie Webb
- $18_{\,\text{Van Kelly}}$
- Robbie Ladd
 Jessica Watson
- $\mathbf{20}_{\mathsf{Linda\ Brown}}$
- 21 Dudley Johnsen
- 22 Robert Egloff
 Jim Gilland
 Jake Goodnight
 Phil Maness
 Martha Miller
- **23**

- 24 Alex Grenoble Carolyn Peck
- 25 Lacey Mastro
 Billie Moore
 Shulley Storey
- 26 Debbie Carter
 Katie Menees
 William Ragsdale
 Charleigh Weisensel
- 27 Brooke Busby
 Glenn Moore
 Allison Robinson
 Meredith Smith
- 28_{Howard Douglas} Kay McCartney Boyd Watts
- **29** Holland Bradshaw Adrienne Howe
- ${f 30}_{
 m Barbara\ Senter}$
- 31 Kate Goodman



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- Deneen Jones
 Jean Watts
- 2 Mary Roakes
- Bruce Kolkebeck
 Patty Meyers
- 4 Marlene Spencer Jeff Whittington
- **5** Angie Basinger
- 6 Terri Carnes
 Parks Watson
 Leah Wyrick
- 7 Mike Faggart Angie Pipes
- 8 Benjamin Baker Larry Cordts Matthew Gouge Katie Howard Chloe McGee
- Alex Basinger
 Peggy Feezor
 Bill Noell
- $\mathbf{10}_{\mathsf{Mark}\;\mathsf{Conforti}}$
- Steven Heard Ben Mastro

- 12 Tamara Murphy
- 13
- $14_{\,\text{Tim Howard}}$
- 15 Coleman Emerson Chris Foote
- 16
- 17 Sara Banish Gregory Smith
- $18_{\,\text{Stella Smeltzer}}$
- 19 Don Champion Melissa Conrad
- **20**
- 21 Tonda Coutu Jay Duke
- Spencer Basinger
 Evelyn Dymond
 Elizabeth Edgeworth
 Anne Ellis
 Ben Dunkin
- 23 Rita Reynolds Ryan Disseler
- 24 Jenny Kribbs Michael Leonard

- 25 Sherry Dillard Riley Peltz
- 26_{Rick Eldridge} Lisa Vaughn
- 27 Henry Buck
 Ron Gobble
 Betsy Kimball
 Susan Shumaker
- 28_{Corydon Johnson} Emily Mueller
- 29 Marie Leonard-Hampton Barry Stokes Anne Wilson
- **30**Harry Cooke Sam Nash



FUMC FAMILY AND EXTENDED FAMILY TRANSITIONS

In Remembrance

Please keep these families in your prayers,

KENNETH KOLKEBECK

July 13, 1925- March 11, 2021

wife of Mary Ann Kolkebeck, father of Bruce Kolkebeck

NELSON WHITE

January 18, 1938- March 25, 2021

father of Adam White

"God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble." - Psalm 46:1

A NOTE FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

We are happy to report that even with pledges running behind in February we have been able to pay our apportionments for both January and February of 2021. We have kept our expenses under budget as well and we ended the month with 2.9 months in reserve.

Many churches including ours benefited from a PPP loan which helped carry salaries for several months in 2020. We have just received word that this loan has been forgiven 100%. We have applied for the second round of this program for 2021.

All in all we feel confident that we can maintain our budget for 2021 and are trusting God for many blessings in the year to come.

- Andy Storey, Finance Chair

DIRECTORY UPDATES

Please note the following changes in your directory:

Carmen Shepler 1207 Briar Cliff Road Burlington, NC 27215 (704)433-0098

Jean Corpening

The Kempton at Brightmore 2298 S. 41st Street Wilmington, NC 28403

CAMP DISCOVERY SPONSORSHIP	DEADLINE: MAY 31 PLEASE RETURN TO CHURCH OFFICE.
Amount Given:	
In Memory of:	
In Honor of:	
Given By:	

ECCLESIA

NEWSLETTER OF FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

