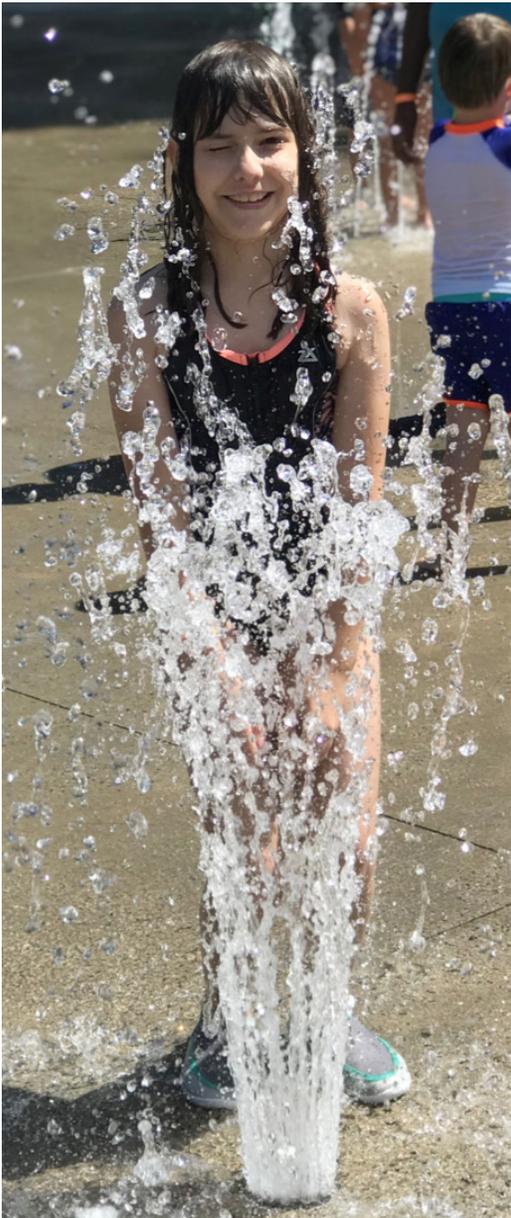


August 2019

# FESTIVAL



  
**FIRST  
UNITED  
METHODIST  
CHURCH**  
SALISBURY, NC  
EST. 1783

# REMARKS



The word “provenance” pops up in the television show Antiques Roadshow. Have you ever watched? On the show, people bring their special possessions to antique experts who are skilled at offering a valuation on the items. The experts offer varying levels of certainty about a possession’s authenticity. Typically these experts give an overview of an item’s history, artistic appeal, and cultural relevance. All of these factors contribute to the item’s value. So does the item’s *provenance*. What’s this?

Consider your great-grandmother’s handmade pottery. It’s a somewhat simple vase, without any distinguishable colors or markings. However, you remember seeing it sit on a shelf in your grandmother’s home and eventually your mother’s home. Through the years, they would pick wildflowers and carefully arrange them in the vase. Through different seasons, on special occasions, and even on ordinary days, you could count on those wildflowers in your great-grandmother’s vase. And now this vase sits proudly in your home! At a yard sale, that vase might fetch \$8. But to you, it’s priceless. That’s *provenance*. The story makes the vase worth so much more, because you would never dream of selling it for a mere \$8.

But suppose there’s more to the story! After some digging around in your family’s ancestry, you discover that your great-grandmother lived in Fort Myers, Florida and worked as a nurse during the turn of the century. One of her patients was a kind gentleman named Thomas, who could never sit still. As the story goes, your great-grandmother calmed Thomas down, convinced him to rest, and skillfully nursed him back to health following a bout with pneumonia. Thomas recuperated well, was discharged from the hospital, and thanked his caring nurse with a gift... a simple pottery vase with wildflowers. The note attached read, “For your kindness, care, and patience with an unruly patient like me, I will always be thankful. Sincerely, Thomas Edison.”

That’s *provenance*, too. Now that vase is worth much more than \$8.

The story of God’s faithfulness makes the value of the Church priceless. Think of this in three ways:

1. The **people** who show up – members and guests alike – are worth more than face value. We are created in God’s holy image, with a tremendous capacity to love, welcome, heal, and build up the community. The better we know one another’s story, the more we appreciate what God has done in each other’s lives.
2. The **ministry programs** we offer are worth more than the time it occupies on your calendar. When we welcome the Holy Spirit to inspire our moments together, we experience deeper levels of growth. To engage with one another in authentic relationships is to participate more fully in God’s ongoing work.
3. The **building** is worth more than the retail cost of bricks, concrete, wood, nails, paint, and glass. Because in the church’s building, people faithfully gather to worship God, celebrate life, study the Scriptures, pray earnestly, and conduct church business. In the church’s building, the outcast is welcomed. Children play. And we all grow in the Christian faith.

That’s *provenance*. The better you know the story of God’s faithfulness, the more you will appreciate the Church’s value. And the more you are lovingly engaged in the Church’s life together, the more you will contribute to its increasing value!

Blessings, Pastor Mark

# DISCIPLESHIP DIARY

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**Worship:** *(8:30 or 11:00 service; serve as an usher, greeter, choir member, altar guild, or acolyte)*

**Education:** *(Sunday School class, Covenant Group, Salisbury Youth, UMW Circle, Bible Study, book group)*

**Fellowship:** *(Midweek@First, Men's Prayer Breakfast, Sunday mornings)*

**Outreach:** *(Rowan Helping Ministries, tutoring at Isenberg, Habitat for Humanity, Rowan One Church One Child)*

**Caring:** *(writing a note, visiting in the hospital or nursing home, delivering a meal)*

# SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

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We're collecting school supplies throughout August for community partners, H.D. Isenberg Elementary School and Rowan One Church One Child. Place them in the plastic tubs in the Carter Lobby or in the Missions/Media Room.

Most requested school supplies:

- 12" rulers
- Kids' scissors
- #2 pencils
- Crayola Markers, Colored Pencils,  
or Crayons
- Pink Erasers
- Tissues
- Pencil Cases
- Wide-Rule Notebook Paper
- 3-ring Binders
- Pocket Folders
- Blue or Black Pens
- Spiral-bound Notebooks
- Highlighters
- Ruled Notecards
- Bookbags



The Basic Lay Servant Course is coming to First UMC! We will host 6 weeks of classes, open to Methodists across the Rowan County Missional Network of churches after the Midweek@First meal beginning Wednesday, September 11.

This is a wonderful opportunity for lay persons to discern how God is uniquely calling them to use their gifts in serving within and beyond our churches. Any person in leadership is encouraged to attend. Topics covered include: Communication, Leadership, Caring Ministries, Faith Sharing, and what it means to faithfully serve as a lay person in our churches.

Register at [fumcsalisbury.org](http://fumcsalisbury.org)

Testimony by  
FUMC Membership

# stewardship



*We have seen so many wonderful ways that God has been working through our church and making new Christians for many years. Our hearts have always been with the youth. We have seen through the youth program lives changed for the Lord! Camps, missions, weekly meetings, and other activities are important and require funds. God is working here; let us join Him!*

– Cindy & Bill Noell

## ISENBERG ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

We have a special partnership with Isenberg Elementary School: collecting school supplies, sponsoring Christmas gifts for families in need, and a Turkey dinner for families receiving weekend food backpacks from FoodForThought. During 2018-2019, we also participated in the Reading Gator Club. Reading mentors are trained by Communities in Schools [one day training and background check good for multiple years], and provided materials at Isenberg for deepening vocabulary and reading skills. You do not have to be an educator to make a big impact! Mentors meet with their assigned student once or twice per week, as you have availability.

The percentage of child poverty in Rowan County is 26.5%, above both the state and national averages. Third grade reading proficiency is at 50.1%. These are troubling statistics for God's people, but particularly as K-3 literacy is directly related to school success. Seventy-five percent of prison inmates are high school dropouts and 80% are illiterate. Private prisons scan K-3 literacy scores as a predictor of where to build private prisons.

These are devastating statistics. However, it has been demonstrated consistently that the presence of a reading mentor can change the trajectory of students' lives and learning!

Will you answer God's call to impact a student's life? You do not need formal training in education, simply the willingness to do the work. Communities in Schools will train volunteers, so that you know exactly what is expected of you. Invite friends and family from the community to be mentors as well! Contact Pastor Stacey for more information (704.636.3121 | [stacey@fumcsalisbury.org](mailto:stacey@fumcsalisbury.org)).

### A Word from Mark Beymer:

*"I didn't know what to expect when I volunteered a year ago to tutor at the Isenberg Elementary School. The Communities in Schools Orientation was helpful in focusing on what the school needed me to do and in preparing me to work with the administrators and teachers at the school, and an orientation at the school oriented me to the materials we would use with students. By the time I met my student I was excited and my second grader did not disappoint me. My second grader was all boy and while he was behind his class in reading ability, by the end of the year he had climbed back on grade level which was what the school wanted for their students. Most weeks we worked twice a week at a time mutually agreeable to the school and to me. While my second grader never wavered in his desire to learn, it became clear that he also wanted simple "life" questions answered so sometimes I had to answer those questions in order to get him back on our reading task at hand. Together we made tutoring a fun experience and I'm planning on tutoring a second or third grader again next year. If you want to make a real community contribution, consider tutoring a student."*





HOLDEN BEACH

# Women's Beach Retreat

SEPTEMBER 6-SEPTEMBER 8

RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY!

CONTACT PASTOR STACEY ([STACEY@FUMCSALISBURY.ORG](mailto:STACEY@FUMCSALISBURY.ORG) / 704.636.3121)

OR SIGN UP AT [FUMCSALISBURY.ORG](http://FUMCSALISBURY.ORG)





# CHILDREN'S CHOIR

*Starting* Wednesday, September 4 | 5:15pm—5:45pm | Music Suite

A Choir for Children Kindergarten thru 5<sup>th</sup> grades!

All choir parents are invited to an informal social gathering down the street at the Utzman-Chamber House after dropping your child(ren) off for rehearsal! 114 South Jackson Street. Come back at 5:45pm, and join us for a fun-filled BLIZZARD PARTY with THE CHILL TRUCK!



In preparation for World Communion Sunday on October 7, we're starting our year off with exciting sessions using AFRICAN DRUMMING!

## Parents:

Please make plans to stay for a brief **BLIZZARD PARTY** following our first rehearsal under the Fisher Street entrance!

The Chill Truck will be here.



For more information on music opportunities for children, please contact Director of Music, Matthew Brown, at 704.636.3121, ext. 104 | [matthew@fumcsalisbury.org](mailto:matthew@fumcsalisbury.org).



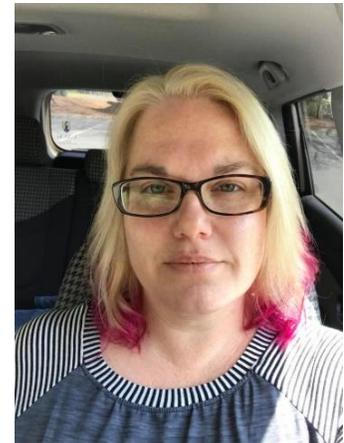
INTRODUCING

*Music*

and *Movement*

for Children  
Ages 3, 4, and 5

Starting Wednesday  
September 4  
at 5:15pm-5:45pm



*JOIN US* FOR THIS  
EXCITING *NEW*  
OPPORTUNITY IN OUR MUSIC MINISTRY  
AT FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH!

These great classes will use movement to learn music taught by renowned music educators, MARTHA SMITH and BETH YELVINGTON. Children will grow in their love for music *and* their Church with these exceptionally gifted teachers and faithful members of FUMC. PARENTS: You are cordially invited to also attend the choir parent social and Blizzard Party as listed on the Children's Choir opportunities page on Wednesday, September 4, at 5:15pm, at the Utzman-Chamber House, 114 South Jackson Street.

For more information on music opportunities for children, please contact Director of Music, Matthew Brown, at 704.636.3121, ext. 104 | [matthew@fumcsalisbury.org](mailto:matthew@fumcsalisbury.org)

# SUMMER DAY CAMP 2019

What a summer...even though it was shorter, it was just as full and busy as any other summer!

This was the SUMMER OF HEROES!

We visited the library, swam at Franklin Pool, watched movies at Tinseltown, and went on various field trips every week. We worked on crafts, played games, sang songs, and completed mission projects. We also spent time learning that any of us can be a hero through the many stories of heroes found in the Bible. And we know that all of God's Heroes need their full armor...

"Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God."  
Ephesians 6:15-17

Each week, we studied each piece of armor and how we can use it to fight against evil and to help others see God's Love through us. We discovered that our biggest and best superpower is PRAYER! We know how to pray...praising God, confessing our sins, thanking God for our blessings, lifting others in prayer, and then praying for ourselves.

"And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people." Ephesians 6:18

We are ready to move into a new school year because we know that God will be with us every step of every day.



Beth Yelvington, Summer Camp Leader  
First United Methodist Church Summer Camp  
summercamp@fumcsalisbury.org

# LOOKING BACK



# MOVING FORWARD

Church histories often record heroic stories of bigger than life saintly personalities. These inspiring tales challenge believers to strive for greater heights of godly service, but they often overlook the contradictory character of human nature. We all share a troubling mixture of divine grace and human sinfulness. We can see that combination in Salisbury's founding Methodist preacher, Beverly Allen.

He called Bladen County, NC, home and first emerged as a promising young preacher under the tutelage of James O'Kelly. That was the same O'Kelly who precipitated Methodism's first major schism and later founded the Christian Church. There was a little of the rebel in Allen and even Francis Asbury called him a bit of a "Dissenter." Yet Beverly Allen also had a charismatic charm that drew people to him.

In a world where most clergy had college degrees and fancy clerical clothes, Allen was a common man for common people. In 1783, he was assigned to start a new church in Salisbury, NC. He showed up to preach his first sermon at a school house dressed in home-spun cotton jeans. It was the 18th century equivalent of a preacher today wearing blue jeans and a sweat shirt to church. One worshiper described him as a slender, delicate young man who brought with him a word from God that was still remembered decades later. He soon organized a thriving Methodist society that continues today as the First United Methodist Church. The following year at the 1784 Christmas Conference where the Methodist societies voted to become a church, Beverly Allen was one of the first elders ordained by Francis Asbury.

Sadly, there was a dark cloud hanging over his future. In 1791 he committed a "flagrant crime" that led to his expulsion from the ministry. He has the distinction of being the first Methodist preacher expelled from the new denomination. He next operated a general store in Georgia with his brother Billy. In 1795, while buying goods in Augusta, a warrant was issued against him by a creditor for failing to pay for his original stock. A distraught Allen

barricaded himself in a hotel room and assured the U.S. Marshall assigned to serve the warrant that he would kill anyone who attempted to arrest him. When the officer forced the door open, Allen, as good as his word, shot him dead. Allen was immediately arrested and charged with murder, but he escaped and fled to his home. Sheriff William Barnett tracked him down and set his house on fire when he refused to surrender peacefully.

In a strange twist, the community rallied around this popular preacher. A mob gathered at the jail and demanded Allen's release. He escaped again thanks to whoever removed the powder from the guns of the fifteen jail guards. This time Allen headed to a rough corner of Kentucky known as "Rogue's Harbor" for men like himself at odds with the law. There he found sanctuary, practiced medicine, and taught school even though a former student said he "was not well-qualified to teach correctly."

Allen continued to preach and flirted with Universalism\* until he died at the age of ninety. Peter Cartwright, the famous frontier Methodist preacher, records being with Beverly Allen on his death bed. The old preacher agonized over his youthful indiscretions. In spite of his later community service as a doctor, teacher, and preacher he felt his sins too great for God's mercy. A guilty conscience led him to believe he deserved the tortures of damnation. We cannot know his eternal disposition, but Beverly Allen's life remains a poignant reminder that every saint has a past and every sinner by the grace of God has a future.

Fred Jordan, Church Historian

\*The belief that everyone will ultimately be saved is now known as Universalism.



## COVENANT GROUPS

Grow deeper.

What is your typical answer to the question, “How are you?” For many of us, the automatic reply is, “Fine, How are you?”, no matter how tough the week has been. Sometimes, our physical health is good, but the answer to the question, “How is it with your soul?” would receive a drastically different answer. We need time, space, and trust to reflect and truly answer that question.

To grow as disciples, we need to go deeper. Covenant groups are a great way to go deeper. They do not replace Sunday Schools, Bible Studies, or other groups in the Church, but they do provide a different format for discipleship formation. These groups of 5-8 people will meet weekly to ask each other the question, “How is it with your soul?” These groups “watch over one another with love” (Wesley’s phrase), and allow you the rare and beautiful space to share God’s work in your life, support one another in your need, and work together for God’s kingdom.

Groups will meet for ‘semesters’ over the Fall and Spring. In the Fall, this will be from September through November. We will offer new opportunities for groups each September and January. Be on the lookout for group offerings and sign-ups.



Covenant group testimony:

***“The Covenant Group that I was a part of challenged me to slow down during the week and reflect where I saw God at work in my everyday life and where I had some challenges. The group was an intimate group that provided support and we prayed for each other.”***

-Pam Leonard

thank you!

Dearest Church Family,

Awesome, kind, caring are only a few words to describe how wonderful you all have been during my journey through breast cancer. The meals and cards were overwhelming. Thank you.

God is good, ALL the time.

Cindy Noell

To my beloved church family –

I can’t thank you enough for all this church has done for me, for the entire 92 years of my life. To know that you still love and support me is a blessing that cannot be measured. I have so many wonderful memories of friends and special times as I grew up here, continuing all the way through to my special angels that I have now.

Thank you and God bless,

Ann Coggin

# FUMC AFTER-SCHOOL CARE

“Learning is not a race for information, it’s a walk of discovery.”

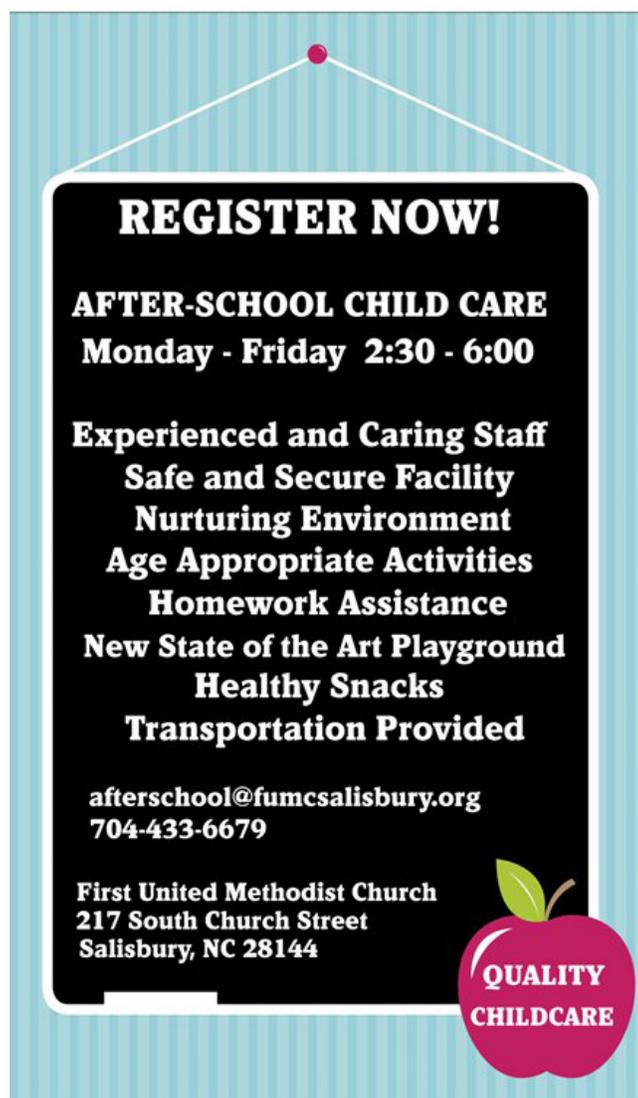
The staff and children from the After-School Child Care Program are still on summer break, but will be returning on August 7, 2019 for the new school year. We are making plans for an exciting year for our children and looking forward to seeing the children again and welcoming several new ones.

We are still taking applications and would like to share a little information about our program. We are open 2 PM – 6 PM Monday through Friday. Daily, we offer healthy snacks, indoor/outdoor play, devotions, homework assistance/tutoring, crafts and more.

Our program is Christian-based and students focus on mission projects during the year and are always working on character building skills. We offer transportation from the following schools: Granite Quarry, Hurley, Isenberg, Koontz, and North Hills Christian Schools. Overton students are transported to First United Methodist Church by the Rowan-Salisbury School System.

If you are interested in enrolling your child, you can find an application and other information on the church website: [www.fumcsalisbury.org](http://www.fumcsalisbury.org). Choose, LEARN, CHILDREN, YOUTH, AFTERSCHOOL. If you have any questions or concerns or would like a tour, please call us at (704) 433-6679.

Donna Frederick, Lead Teacher,  
First United Methodist Church  
After School Care  
[afterschool@fumcsalisbury.org](mailto:afterschool@fumcsalisbury.org)  
(704) 433-6679



**REGISTER NOW!**

**AFTER-SCHOOL CHILD CARE**  
**Monday - Friday 2:30 - 6:00**

**Experienced and Caring Staff**  
**Safe and Secure Facility**  
**Nurturing Environment**  
**Age Appropriate Activities**  
**Homework Assistance**  
**New State of the Art Playground**  
**Healthy Snacks**  
**Transportation Provided**

[afterschool@fumcsalisbury.org](mailto:afterschool@fumcsalisbury.org)  
**704-433-6679**

**First United Methodist Church**  
**217 South Church Street**  
**Salisbury, NC 28144**

**QUALITY CHILDCARE**

# MUMS FOR MISSION



The United Methodist Women will sell mums as our fall fund raiser to benefit local charities and mission projects. You may order mums between Sunday, August 25th to Sunday, September 15th.

As a treat, order an extra one for a friend or neighbor. Order forms will be in envelopes in the attendance registry. You may also order from UMW members. Orders must be prepaid. Pickup is Saturday, September 21st between 8am to Noon on the front church lawn - Church Street.

# THE NATURE & FUNCTION OF MINISTRY

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One of the duties of the Staff-Parish Relations Committee, as detailed in the Discipline, is to “communicate and interpret to the congregation the nature and function of ministry in The United Methodist Church.”

Certainly one way in which Methodists differ from other denominations is “open itinerancy,” or in the assignment of pastors to local congregations by the Conference. Pastors are assigned by the Conference Bishop and the Cabinet (District Superintendents) year-to-year coinciding with Annual Conference in June. Contrary to what some may believe, pastors are not moved every four years, or on the basis of how many years they have served a congregation. Assignment is discretionary based on the needs of the Conference, the congregation, and the pastor. The Staff-Parish Relations Committee can express an opinion regarding how it feels about retaining or moving its pastor; however, this only represents part of the information considered when the Bishop & Cabinet make their decision.

Methodist pastors are committed to serve where they are sent, just as the apostles were sent into the world to various locations to spread the Gospel. Congregations are expected to receive pastors in good faith, and work with them in ministry as long as they are assigned, just as the apostles were received and made successful in their efforts by local followers.

The Discipline outlines the role of the pastor as being responsible for a fourfold ministry of “Word, Sacrament, Order, and Service.” Pastors are sent to preach and teach the Word, to provide pastoral care and counsel, to administer the sacraments, and to order the life of the church for service in mission and ministry. We all have high expectations of our pastors. Pastors are pulled in many different directions, and congregants express varied opinions on how the pastor(s) should spend his/her time. In recognition of this, it is the responsibility of the Staff-Parish Relations Committee to meet with and counsel the pastor(s), help set priorities, and support them as they carry out their responsibilities.

The SPRC has asked that our current Senior Pastor strive to prioritize his time in this way: 1) planning & leading worship; 2) providing pastoral care; 3) working with staff and lay leadership on the administration of church business; 4) visiting with congregants and potential new members; and 5) teaching.

The Associate Pastor’s priorities are to serve as supervisor and staff liaison for the Church’s care ministries; coordinate visits in homes, nursing homes, hospitals, and all other locales where pastoral care is needed and/or requested; serve as liturgist, and assist in Communion during Sunday worship; and preach & teach the Word.

Both pastors also have Conference responsibilities which call upon their time, and may require them to be away regularly.

The Senior Pastor provides a written report to SPRC detailing his work each month. The Associate Pastor and other staff are asked to provide quarterly reports of their work which are reviewed and evaluated by the Committee.

We are fortunate at FUMC-Salisbury to have two pastors and a full staff to work in many areas of ministry. Let’s not forget, however, about the important role of the laity (us) in our church. We are responsible for providing the leadership, funding, involvement, and support that makes us a successful instrument in Christ’s plan for bringing His message to the world. Some persons want to assign accountability to the pastor(s) for any shortfalls or challenges we face, when we are the ones responsible for stepping up and addressing our needs.

I sincerely hope that our congregation will continue to value the many gifts of ministry that our pastors bring to us over the years, and will continue to support them in their endeavors, as they endeavor to support us in being better Disciples for Christ.

Rick Eldridge, Chair  
Staff-Parish Relations Committee

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## THANK YOU!

This was Camp Discovery’s 17th year! We took 22 campers to Mt. Shepherd and had a blast, thanks to your prayers and support. Campers and mentors alike saw the face and love of God. First UMC has shown God’s grace for 17 years to each set of campers, and we give God thanks for all God has done through this ministry!





## A PARENT'S SURVIVAL GUIDE TO MIDDLE SCHOOL

Dan Scott from Parent Cue Blog at [theparentcue.org](http://theparentcue.org) (edited for length)

"As a first time middle-school parent, I started thinking to myself, "How will we ever get through this?" During our parent orientation at our kid's school, the counselor assured us that it is possible to survive the middle school years if you will do 3 things:

1. Remember that you are the parent. Act like it. Many parents want to be their kids' BFF—doing whatever it takes not to disrupt the magic that happens when everyone is happy. But at this stage in the game, our role is more like that of coach than friend... They need a parent, and that's a function only you can fulfill. And yes, while they won't always be happy with you—or happy in general during their tween/teen years—it doesn't mean they don't love you.

2. Don't take anything personally. Because of their hormones, they can and will showcase the full range of emotions in a matter of hours—sometimes minutes! During those moments... they will say things that might hurt you...The chances are that they don't really mean it. Pushing boundaries is now one of the primary activities on the middle school child job description. And it's not that we shouldn't enforce those boundaries, it's just that we need to do so with grace and truth. Grace. Lots and lots of grace.

3. Get and STAY Connected. Be intentional about getting your middle schooler connected to the right people. They can't navigate this time on their own. They love you, but they will not tell you everything. Connect your kid to a trusted adult such as a coach, play director, dance teacher, or church leader. Because they won't ask you every question that pops into their head, widen the circle and find other adults who would say what you say.

Most of all, we can simply offer our kids safe places to land. Sometimes they just need space to clear their heads. They need us constantly reminding them they have value and that we love them in spite of the crazy. With a little planning, preparation, and parenting you will help your children thrive throughout these important years."

## BACK 2 SCHOOL BASH – 90S NIGHT

Our back to school party this year is a 90's theme! Come celebrate new beginnings with us the Sunday before RSS goes back to school – August 4th at 5:00pm. Club 45 and Youth, along with their families are invited to attend. Salisbury Youth will begin gathering again on Sunday nights later in August.

We know Summer gets crazy – we're looking forward to hearing all about everyone's camps, vacations, and lazy days – and gearing up for a great school year ahead! Let us help your family get back into a routine by making Salisbury Youth a top priority this year! If you aren't already receiving our newsletter, email me to be added: [jenni@fumcsalisbury.org](mailto:jenni@fumcsalisbury.org)

## GENERATIONS SERVING TOGETHER: WILMINGTON 2019

One of the most unique and exciting things about our recent mission trips to Cuba (2018) and Wilmington, NC (2019) has been our wide array of ages on our team. In both cases we had parents and students serving together, as well as people old enough to be grandparents serving alongside those young enough to be their grandchildren. This year, we really did have a grandmother and granddaughter with us!

Bailee Weisensel, our director of Children's Ministry joined the team, and with her she brought her 8-month-old baby Millie! Millie isn't old enough to serve on the team by herself, so she brought grandma (Bailee's mom Lydia) along too! Three generations on one mission team! That record will be hard to beat.

Along with these three we also had a mother/daughter duo in Alisha and Lacey Mastro, as well as cousins serving together when Alfreda Chea invited her cousin Irene Seah to come to Wilmington too. Rounding out the team were Michael Leonard and Jenni Fogt, director of Youth Ministry.

Together we were able to serve alongside several ministries who are reaching those in need in Wilmington. By partnering with Mt. Tabor UMC (Winston-Salem) and experienced amazing hospitality while staying at Pine

Valley UMC (Wilmington), we used our combined resources to help at:

- First Fruits Ministries – an outreach providing housing and food, many of their clients were displaced after last year’s hurricanes.
- Clean up at Kure Beach (several locals stopped us to thank us, we were happy to look after God’s creation!)
- Do yardwork for a homebound couple who have needed help clearing brush and doing small repairs since the hurricanes
- Celebrate recovery – serving a meal for those fighting to recover from addiction
- Walking Tall Wilmington – sharing a meal, and making connections with some new friends who are experiencing homelessness

And of course we had to enjoy the beach for a couple of hours before heading home. All in 4 days time! We hope to see more intergenerational connections made on next year’s trip.



# JOURNEY TO CITIZENSHIP: ALFRED'S STORY

## PART 1

Recently, several staff members and FUMC members had the opportunity to join the Chea family for a monumental day – Alfred Chea became an American Citizen! Alfred shared more about his story of becoming a citizen:

Alfred came to the United States to further his education on a scholarship through the United Methodist Church. He first came to Winchester, VA to attend Shenandoah University, then moved to Salisbury where his wife's parents were living.

Completing his doctorate in 2011 after moving to Salisbury, he returned to Liberia to serve as the Vice-President of Development and Research at the university where he had previously been employed. After serving in this role for 18 months, he missed his family, so he returned to Salisbury. Both Alfreda and Christie were born since Alfred and his wife arrived in the United States. Alfred did not want to be parted from them any longer.

His Permanent Residency status was set to expire in January 2020, and the process of citizenship became delayed because of his return trip to Liberia. Rather than employing an immigration lawyer (expense of \$5,000 or more) Alfred studied the required forms and materials on his own. He submitted his application, along with required support documents and \$725 fee during October, 2018.

Several months later, following the 20-page application, an interviewer may ask several questions on a long list related to the policies and government of the United States. A criminal background check follows the interview; then a person is required to answer another round of written questions. There are many points where a person can be delayed or rejected up until the day of the ceremony. The whole family was anxious for the process to be completed.

Having not had interaction with police before this, Alfred was a little intimidated by the process of the background check, but ultimately said he did not mind the tediousness of the process knowing there has to be a process to keep the country safe. During our interview Alfred said, "I read American books as a child, and dreamed of coming here. I decided that if I ever got a chance to come to America, I would stay [there] and be of help to my family back home. I am really, really happy that I am an American citizen; and I can't be parted from my little girls."



On the day of his naturalization as an American citizen, the joy and relief Alfred felt was evident on his face. Alfred Chea became a naturalized American Citizen on May 9, 2019! Look for Part 2 of Alfred's Story in the September Ecclesia.

# SIMPLY SUMMER

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## THE GREAT OUTDOORS

We had an awesome time during Simply Summer, which was held July 8-10! We learned about how God shapes and molds us, how important it is to stay rooted in Christ, and how God revives us through our relationship with him. Each night we participated in dinner, music, crafts, games and a mission project.



## MISSION PROJECT

We took an intergenerational approach to our mission project this year. Flowers were planted and cards were made for our shut-in members. We spent the first evening painting flower pots, the second evening planting flowers, and the third evening decorating cards to send with the flowers.

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## THANK YOU

A BIG heartfelt THANK YOU to all those who donated meals, resources and time to help make our Simply Summer a great success! We could not have done this without you, and we appreciate you!

# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES RESUMING SEPTEMBER 4TH

Children ages: 2yrs. - 5 yrs.  
3rd Saturday of  
each month.  
10 AM - 11 AM  
Join us for a craft, play  
and snack!



Children's Choir  
Kindergarten - 5th Grade  
EVERY WEDNESDAY  
5:15PM - 5:45PM  
Join us after Choir for dinner  
and Kids Connection!

Kindergarten - 3rd Grade  
EVERY WEDNESDAY  
6:15 PM - 7:00PM  
Join us for Dinner at 5:45  
Program starts at 6:15



Calling all 4th and 5th  
Graders  
2nd & 4th Sunday  
5:30PM - 7:00PM  
Dinner, Fellowship  
& Lesson

# JOURNEY TOWARD ORDINATION

## PART 1

If you've been around First UMC Salisbury for long, you've probably heard Pastor Mark introduce a newly baptized infant to you as "our church's newest minister!" It's true! In baptism, we are marked as God's own, and receive a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit. God calls each baptized person to ministry: to pray, to witness to the good news of salvation in Jesus Christ, by working for reconciliation, and caring for and serving others.

*There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.*  
*Ephesians 4:4-6*

Ephesians 4 reminds us that we are all called and gifted for work in our baptisms. While all are called to common ministry, others are called apart for a vocation of servant leadership within the church as an ordained minister. (There are many ways to live into God's calling on your life within The United Methodist Church- more about these next month!)

The road to ordination in The United Methodist Church is a process that typically takes seven years or more from hearing and affirming God's call as a 'candidate for ministry' to ordination.

Have you noticed that Pastor Stacey does not wear a

stole? Clergy wear a stole to mark being 'yoked' to the servant leadership of Christ in the church, also calling to mind the simple towel wrapped around Jesus as he washes his disciples' feet. A stole is received during the rite of ordination.

Pastor Stacey is in the final stage of this road to ordination. In 2017, she was commissioned for ministry, that is, her calling, gifts, and training were recognized and affirmed by the Western North Carolina Conference. She enters her third year of Residency in Ordained Ministry [RIOM] this year, time to do the final work for ordination! Much like a medical resident has training and authority to do his or her work while receiving additional support, RIOM pairs clergy with mentors, a cohort, and additional resources. All clergy under appointment have authority for administering the sacraments (baptism and communion), and authority to perform weddings and funerals, and to otherwise lead the life of the church. Ordination expands this authority beyond the local church.

This Fall, Pastor Stacey will be leading and filming a bible study of her own design, filming a worship service, and writing many pages of theological reflection to submit to the conference Board of Ordained Ministry for review and follow-up interviews in early 2020. In this season, Pastor Stacey appreciates your prayers, support, and understanding for some additional writing days away from the office. Learn more in next month's Ecclesia!

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Children's Choir, Club 45 and Kids Connection resume Wednesday, September 4 at 5:15pm. Choir and Kids Connection will be held EVERY Wednesday and Club 45 will continue to meet the 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month.



Sunday School Teachers for 2019-2020: I want YOU to consider teaching Sunday school for the 2019-2020 school year! Please prayerfully consider if you can be a part of the teaching team for Sunday School. For more information, or to sign up, please reach out to Bailee at [bailee@fumcsalisbury.org](mailto:bailee@fumcsalisbury.org).

# CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

The Child Development center has been very busy finishing up its summer curriculum. Children are learning about the Five Senses, along with our Fruits and Vegetables unit. We have enjoyed the Summer Reading Program at the Rowan Public Library, "A Universe of Stories". Children completed a project My Five Senses Book, learning about hearing, sight, taste, smell, and touch. Some books we are reading include: "The Foods We Eat", and "We Eat Food That's Fresh", as we learn to make healthy food choices. We continue our Bibles stories daily along with Chapel once a week! Now accepting registrations for Enrollment 2019 at First United Methodist Child Development Center! Full time care, Monday-Friday 6:30am- 6:00pm serving ages 3-5 years of age. For more information please contact Carey Swanner at [cdc@fumcsalisbury.org](mailto:cdc@fumcsalisbury.org) 704-636-3121 ext. 110.

"But the fruit of the Spirit is  
love, joy, peace,  
patience, kindness,  
goodness, faithfulness,  
gentleness &  
self-control."  
Galatians 5:22-23



Mr. Robert at the library.

## Child Development Center



### Five Star Facility

### Three, Four, and Five Year Olds

Hours 6:30am to 6:00pm - Monday - Friday

- Safe and Secure Licensed Facility
- Nurturing Environment
- Low Child/Teacher Ratios
- Experienced and Certified Caring Staff
- Creative Curriculum for Preschool
- Age Appropriate Activities/Materials
- Nutritional Breakfast and Lunch Daily
- Healthy Snacks

Quality Childcare Everyday

Email - [cdc@fumcsalisbury.org](mailto:cdc@fumcsalisbury.org)  
704-636-3121 Extension 110

## PRESCHOOL

We hope our preschool students, old and new, have had a great summer. Our teachers are looking forward to the upcoming 2019-2020 school year. Our classrooms have been freshened up, and we are excited getting prepared for our students to arrive.

Over the summer, we had some personnel changes. We will introduce our new teachers in the two-year-old class in our next Ecclesia.

We have very limited openings in the two and four-year-old classes. If you know of anyone that would be interested, please have them contact Patsy Langlais at 704-754-0443.

Regards,  
Patsy Langlais

Patsy Langlais  
Director of Preschool & Lead Teacher  
First United Methodist Church  
217 Church Street, Salisbury, NC 28144  
(704) 754-0443 [Cplang94@fibrant.com](mailto:Cplang94@fibrant.com)

# AUGUST CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				<b>1</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> Organ Maintenance-Sanctuary <b>8:00 AM</b> Organ Maintenance-Sanctuary <b>7:00 PM</b> AA-B112 (Golden Rule Room) <b>7:00 PM</b> Alanon-B110 (Conference Room)	<b>2</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> Organ Maintenance-Sanctuary <b>8:00 AM</b> Organ Maintenance-Sanctuary <b>12:00 PM</b> Deadline for Ecclesia articles <b>7:00 PM</b> AA-B112 (Golden Rule Room)	<b>3</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> AA-B112 (Golden Rule Room)
<b>4</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Worship Service <b>9:45 AM</b> Sunday School <b>10:00 AM</b> Summer Choir-Music Suite <b>11:00 AM</b> Worship Service <b>12:15 PM</b> Open Arms Ministry-offsite <b>5:30 PM</b> Back to School Bash - Youth & Club 45-Fellowship	<b>5</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> Organ Maintenance-Sanctuary <b>10:00 AM</b> Naomi Circle - B107 (Parlor) & Fellowship Hall <b>6:00 PM</b> Hannah Circle-B104 (Seekers Room) <b>6:30 PM</b> Susanne Circle-offsite <b>7:00 PM</b> Boy Scouts - Scout Room	<b>6</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> Organ Maintenance-Sanctuary <b>10:00 AM</b> Staff Meeting-Harter Office Suite <b>2:00 PM</b> Chrismon Class-B104 (Christian Forum)	<b>7</b> <b>7:00 AM</b> Men's Prayer Breakfast <b>8:00 AM</b> Organ Maintenance-Sanctuary <b>6:30 PM</b> RHM Supper - Discovery Class <b>7:00 PM</b> AA-B112 (Golden Rule Room) <b>7:00 PM</b> Alanon-B110 (Conference Room) <b>7:00 PM</b> Mission Committee-B105	<b>8</b> <b>7:00 AM</b> Men's Prayer Breakfast <b>8:00 AM</b> Organ Maintenance-Sanctuary <b>6:30 PM</b> RHM Supper - Discovery Class <b>7:00 PM</b> AA-B112 (Golden Rule Room) <b>7:00 PM</b> Alanon-B110 (Conference Room) <b>7:00 PM</b> Mission Committee-B105	<b>9</b> <b>6:00 AM</b> RHM Breakfast - Discovery Class <b>8:00 AM</b> Organ Maintenance-Sanctuary <b>7:00 PM</b> AA-B112 (Golden Rule Room)	<b>10</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> AA-B112 (Golden Rule Room)
<b>11</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Worship Service <b>9:45 AM</b> Sunday School <b>10:00 AM</b> Summer Choir-Music Suite <b>11:00 AM</b> Worship Service <b>5:30 PM</b> Club 45 & Salisbury Youth-Fellowship Hall	<b>12</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> Organ Maintenance-Sanctuary <b>7:00 PM</b> Boy Scouts - Scout Room	<b>13</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> Organ Maintenance-Sanctuary <b>10:00 AM</b> Staff Meeting-Harter Office Suite <b>2:00 PM</b> Chrismon Class-B104 (Christian Forum) <b>6:00 PM</b> Stewardship Meeting-Harter Office Suite	<b>14</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> Organ Maintenance-Sanctuary <b>2:00 PM</b> Deadline for Bulletin announcements <b>6:15 PM</b> The Casting Queens-B110 (Conference Room) <b>6:30 pm</b> Vitality Meting-Fellowship Hall	<b>15</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> Organ Maintenance-Sanctuary <b>11:00 AM</b> Permanent Endowment Committee-B110 (Conference Room) <b>7:00 PM</b> AA-B112 (Golden Rule Room) <b>7:00 PM</b> Alanon-B110 (Conference Room)	<b>16</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> Organ Maintenance-Sanctuary <b>7:00 PM</b> AA-B112 (Golden Rule Room) <b>7:00 PM</b> Mission Bridge Club-B107 (Parlor)	<b>17</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> Boy Scouts-old bus <b>8:00 AM</b> Leadership Seminar for NC District Directors Civitan Club-Fellowship Hall
<b>18</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> Boy Scouts-old bus <b>8:30 AM</b> Worship Service <b>9:45 AM</b> Sunday School <b>10:00 AM</b> Summer Choir-Music Suite <b>11:00 AM</b> Worship Service <b>5:30 PM</b> Salisbury Youth-Fellowship Hall	<b>19</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> Organ Maintenance-Sanctuary <b>7:00 PM</b> Boy Scouts - Scout Room	<b>20</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> Organ Maintenance-Sanctuary <b>10:00 AM</b> Staff Meeting-Harter	<b>21</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> Organ Maintenance-Sanctuary <b>2:00 PM</b> Deadline for Bulletin announcements <b>6:15 PM</b> The Casting Queens-B110 (Conference Room)	<b>22</b> <b>7:00 AM</b> Men's Prayer Breakfast <b>8:00 AM</b> Organ Maintenance-Sanctuary <b>7:00 PM</b> AA-B112 (Golden Rule Room) <b>7:00 PM</b> Alanon-B110 (Conference Room)	<b>23</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> Organ Maintenance-Sanctuary <b>7:00 PM</b> AA-B112 (Golden Rule Room)	<b>24</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> AA-B112 (Golden Rule Room)
<b>25</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Worship Service <b>9:45 AM</b> Sunday School <b>10:00 AM</b> Summer Choir-Music Suite <b>11:00 AM</b> Worship Service <b>5:30 PM</b> Club 45 & Salisbury Youth-Fellowship Hall	<b>26</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> Organ Maintenance-Sanctuary <b>6:00 PM</b> ASCC, CDC, SDC Board meeting-B110 <b>7:00 PM</b> Boy Scouts - Scout Room	<b>27</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> Organ Maintenance-Sanctuary <b>10:00 AM</b> Staff Meeting-Harter Office Suite <b>11:30 AM</b> UMW Board Meeting-B110 (Conf. Room) <b>2:00 PM</b> Chrismon Class-B104 (Christian Forum)	<b>28</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> Organ Maintenance-Sanctuary <b>2:00 PM</b> Deadline for Bulletin announcements <b>6:15 PM</b> The Casting Queens-B110 (Conference Room)	<b>29</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> Organ Maintenance-Sanctuary <b>6:00 PM</b> Preschool Parent Orientation-Chapel <b>7:00 PM</b> AA-B112 (Golden Rule Room) <b>7:00 PM</b> Alanon-B110 (Conference Room)	<b>30</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> Organ Maintenance-Sanctuary <b>7:00 PM</b> AA-B112 (Golden Rule Room)	<b>31</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> AA-B112 (Golden Rule Room)

# AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

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- 
- 1
- 
- 2 Elizabeth Warren
- 
- 3 Joy Braun-Bernhardt  
Mary Allen Conforti  
Mike Hensley
- 
- 4 Shakira Basinger
- 
- 5 Sue Lewis  
Raleigh Shaffer
- 
- 6 Sarah Busby  
Carlton Doby  
Stacey Lundy  
Traci Williams
- 
- 7 Mary Heather Steinman
- 
- 8 Gwen Webb
- 
- 9 Bobby Lee Jones
- 
- 10
- 
- 11 Steven Huffman
- 
- 12 Brink Brinkley  
Mary Katherine Clark  
Sara Hill  
Virginia Krotchko  
Betty Mickle  
Jackson Price  
Nancy Schoch
- 
- 13 Tyler Conforti
- 

- 
- 14 Kayla Fowler  
Colin Gainer  
Hailey Huffman  
Ronnie Rinehart
- 
- 15 Gloria Matthews  
Mimi Webb
- 
- 16 John Hoppe  
Lanie Humble
- 
- 17 Jared Rowland  
Ola Rutledge
- 
- 18 Julie Gainer  
Martha Smith  
Ian Walser
- 
- 19 David Buchanan  
Luke Lundy  
Jane Osborne
- 
- 20 Samantha Allen  
Connor Johnson  
Thomas Langford  
William McGee  
Carolyn Robinson
- 
- 21 Betsy Rich  
Leslie Rollins
- 
- 22 Rick Doby  
Betsy Fazia  
Dixie Scott
- 

- 
- 23 Emily Busby  
George Hill  
Amanda Lippard  
Noah Robinson  
Jennifer Seifert  
John Webb
- 
- 24 Ginny Champion  
Richard Paschall
- 
- 25 Kevin Lundy
- 
- 26 Grace Marlatt  
Wayne Saleeby  
Andrew Smith
- 
- 27 Karen Floyd  
Bettie Jordan  
Glenn Langford  
Helen Rusher  
Griffin Smith
- 
- 28 John Holshouser
- 
- 29 Heather Carmichael  
Larry Fain  
Genevieve Martin  
Paula Poorman  
Kate Smith  
Kathy Walters
- 
- 30 "CC" Crofton  
Mary Elizabeth Davis  
David McCoy  
Katie Menees  
Tracy Walser
- 
- 31
- 



# CHANGES TO YOUR DIRECTORY

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*New Member:*

**Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Stout (Beth)**

1694 Amberlight Circle  
Salisbury 28144  
910-443-0050  
wakcolinagirl@gmail.com

**Bob Harkrader** new address:

Trinity Oaks  
728 Klumac Rd. #274D  
Salisbury, NC 28144

**Jarrett & Kelsey Bradshaw**

Phone: 704-267-6646

**Robbie Ladd**

Sunrise at East Cobb  
1551 Johnson Ferry Rd., Unit 102  
Marietta, GA 30062  
770-509-4357

**Jeanne Maynard** new email:

jeannegmaynard@gmail.com

If you know of any changes or you have changed your information, please let Christine know. (christine@fumcsalisbury.org). Thank you.

## FUMC FAMILY AND EXTENDED FAMILY TRANSITIONS

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*"God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble."*

*~ Psalm 46:1*

### ***In Remembrance:***

Please keep these families in your prayers.

Jo Cantrell	June 15, 2019
Ann Koontz <i>Wife of Wayne Koontz</i>	July 2, 2019
Jean Hoffner Smith	July 6, 2019
Joe Rutledge <i>Husband of Ola Rutledge</i>	July 13, 2019
Barbara Riggs	July 20, 2019

## CHURCH STAFF

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The Reverend Doctor Mark Conforti.....	Senior Pastor
The Reverend Stacey Lundy.....	Associate Pastor
Mrs. Becca Blackmon.....	Business Administrator
Mr. Matthew Brown.....	Director of Music and Organist
Mrs. Christine Maloney.....	Administrative Assistant
Ms. Jenni Fogt.....	Youth Director
Mr. Mike Fansler.....	Building Superintendent
Mrs. Bailee Weisensel.....	Director of Children's Ministries
Mrs. Donna Frederick.....	Lead Teacher of After-School Child Care Program
Mrs. Patsy Langlais.....	Director of Preschool
Ms. Beth Yelvington.....	Lead Teacher of Summer Day Camp
Mrs. Carey Swanner.....	Lead Teacher/Director of Child Development Center

# ECCLESIA

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SALISBURY, NORTH CAROLINA 28144

