



The Circuit Rider

August 2020

You are cordially invited to join us in all of our events and activities each and every week. Activities are open to all, not just members. Come on in, be with us, there's God's work to be done with your help.



A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR STEVE

Dear Saints of God of Camp UMC,

For the last month I have held on to four prayer and meditation phrases that have grounded me as I have gone through this transition and have been welcomed as your new pastor.

See The Good
Hold The Joy
Pass The Peace
Live In Grace

I have used these phrases as breath prayers, let them inspire my writing in my prayer journal, and just tried to meditate on these phrases throughout the day. In the middle of a pandemic, in the midst of trying to listen to your stories while being socially distanced, and just trying to learn your names while our faces are covered with masks I have been feeling the challenge of this moment. What has been beautiful is how God has used this prayer practice to awaken me to the working of the Holy Spirit all around us. This has helped me stay rooted in the midst of all this change.

Recently, I had the opportunity to meet Vergie Poulos. Despite not being able to hug or shake hands I witnessed her loving passion for Christ, a sense of an instant connection of being bound by the Holy Spirit, and her precious desire to tell the world the story of Christ's invitation to abundant life. This brief meeting was a source of true joy. As I pulled out of her driveway my prayer phrase, **hold the joy**, came to mind. This moment with Vergie was a gift of joy from Christ that I can hold on to. When things get busy, when there are challenges, when I ache because I miss being able to get together in large gatherings of people to worship, when there are difficult times... God has given me this gift, and I can choose to remember the delight of this moment. I can choose to hold the joy. I invite you to join me in holding the joy. This is Christ's hope for us "that my [Christ's] joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete." (John 15:11)

Peace in Christ,
 Pastor Steve

Camp United Methodist Church is a community of faith whose mission is to seek and to serve God by praying, preaching and teaching the Gospel, making disciples and serving others.

Camp United Methodist Church

4807 Main Street
 Shallotte, NC 28459
 (910) 754-4840
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Sunday Services

8:30 AM Praise & Worship
 9:45 AM Sunday School
 11:00 AM Traditional Worship

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MEET THE MURPHYS



Steve

I am a native of Louisiana. I graduated from LA Tech University, and then taught math for several years before going to work as a media director at Trinity United Methodist Church. In 2010, I felt the call to ministry. This led me to Duke University and I've been in NC since that time. I was ordained as an elder in 2017.

I enjoy riding my bicycle, growing cayenne peppers, making hot sauce and baking challah bread. I'm looking forward to my journey with you and look forward to the time we can be together in church.



Jill

The beginning of a new appointment season always brings a lot of energy and enthusiasm to Methodist pastors and their families. It's a time for new beginnings and introductions. Hi Camp UMC; I am Jill Murphy, Pastor Steve's wife. A quick way to get to know me is - I love to bake (and eat) oatmeal chocolate chip cookies and challah bread. I enjoy going hiking, walking around the neighborhood, and I have a knack for finding four-leaf clovers. (See next page.)

For the first 15 years of my career, I was a Special Education teacher, but now I work at the North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church in the office of New Faith Communities. We start new Methodist Churches. Please know that I look forward to getting to know each of you as we meet around town and when we begin to gather again. Until then, you are in my prayers.



Caleb

Hi my name is Caleb Murphy. I am 21 years and have completed 2 years at Wake Tech earning associate degrees in Science and engineering. I will be continuing my education in the fall at NC State. Currently, I am working for John Harris Engineering in Raleigh., NC.

In my spare time, I like to go camping and kayaking with my girlfriend, Maddy. I also like to cook. I can't wait to see all of you



Ethan

My name is Ethan Murphy, I am 16 years old. I will be starting 11th grade at West Brunswick High School.

When I lived in Raleigh, I liked to skateboard and long-board with my friends. I am still looking for a place to skateboard near Shallotte. It's going to be fun meeting everyone when I get the chance.

ODD HOLIDAYS IN AUGUST

There aren't any national holidays in August. However, there are many "made-up" holidays. Here are a few of them in case you need a reason to celebrate:

1ST National Mustard Day



5th Work Like a Dog Day

6TH Wiggle Your Toes Day



8th National Clown Day



10th Lazy Day

16th National Tell a Joke Day

17th National Thrift shop Day

20th World Mosquito Day



27th Just Because Day

Hopefully, one of these holidays will be fun for you.

Sunday Morning Prayer

When: **7:00 AM** on **August 2 & August 16**

Where: In the parking lot.

In an effort to create a corporate experience of encountering God through communion and within the framework of our Covid-19 safety protocols, we will be offering two opportunities in August to gather for prayer and communion.

We will be using a beautiful liturgy adapted from the ancient Christian church that will lead us into a moment of sharing of holy communion. We will use individually wrapped communion elements. We are working on a process that will be safe as possible to share in this means of encountering God's grace.

More details to come.



One of Jill's 4-leaf clovers.



THE LORD'S FOOD PANTRY

Camp staffed the pantry on August 1.
Thank you to those who assisted.

SBIC (*South Brunswick Interchurch Council*) needs someone to fill its treasurer position. Contact Mike Clayton, SBIC President (MikeClaxton50@gmail.com) for more information. Thank you to Kim Holmes for her service!

If you would like to be involved with The Lord's Food Pantry, or even find out about service opportunities, send an email to Carol Kendall kendcarol@gmail.com. She can add you to the Pantry email distribution list.

“SCHOOL DAYS, SCHOOL DAYS, DEAR OLD GOLDEN RULE DAYS”

August is the month when parents and children begin to prepare for the new school year: buying new clothes, new book bags, school supplies and other items. Since the Coronavirus arrived, we are doing things differently and are never quite sure what new procedures or rules will be forthcoming. And so it is with our schools. NC Schools are set to open August 17th (at least that's the plan now) with continued on-line learning. Sometime afterwards, one of 2 or 3 plans will be implemented but, no one knows which plan.

We thought it might be interesting to compare the development of American schools.

AMERICAN SCHOOLS – THEN & NOW

1700-1800	1900-1950	1950-2019	March 2020-
Children taught at home or in 1-room schoolhouses. 1 teacher for 8 grades.	Children taught in schools in classes divided by age.	Separate schools for elementary, middle & high school grades	Children learn at home..
Children walked to school.	Most children walked to school though some were bussed	Bussing to school became the “norm”	Children stay at home.
Children brought their lunches to school.	Some children brought lunches. Some schools provided lunches.	Lunches generally provided.	Children eat at home.
Wood canes used to enforce discipline	Wooden paddles were used as well as detention and suspension.	Corporeal punishment rarely used.	Parents discipline.
Cursive writing taught.	Cursive writing taught	Cursive writing faded out in many schools	Not being taught at home, though it is. making a comeback
Formal education ended for most after 8 years There were some high schools and colleges as well as apprenticeships.	High school education became common & more students went on for additional study (college, apprenticeships)	College and other forms of higher education became common.	Post-high school education the “norm”.



UPDATE FROM THE REOPENING TASK FORCE



There is a lot that goes into re-opening Camp UMC and the COVID 19 Safety Task Force is hard at work to see that all CDC, State and public health guidelines and mandates are in place for when we do reopen for in-person Sunday services. That date, however, is still yet to be determined because of the ever-increasing number of COVID 19 cases in our community and our state. After all, the health and safety of the congregation is the Task Force's number one priority.

In the meantime, hand sanitizer stations have been installed throughout the church. Task force members have measured pews and measured distances to determine how many people can be seated for each service in order to meet the requirement to be socially distanced. Signage, indicating which doors can be used for entering and exiting the building, and displays that reinforce the three "W"s (facial coverings, social distancing, hand washing) have been placed throughout the church. Cleaning contracts have been negotiated and logistics have been worked out on how people will enter and leave the building on Sunday mornings, what procedure they will need to follow upon entering the church and how the ushers will help to keep everything running smoothly. The task force is also evaluating a registration system that the congregation may possibly use to make Sunday reservations for attendance at each service and many other initiatives.

In the interim, Task Force members are working closely with Pastor Steve and Pastor Alex to determine what ministries we can continue to operate or newly reopen now in this Modified Phase Two, such as Mothers Morning Out and others. All will be required to meet the requirements for facial coverings, social distancing and hand washing/sanitizing, and are limited to 15 people inside and 25 outside an enclosed area. These ministries may be in-person, virtual or combination of both. More on this will be forthcoming in the next few days from Pastor Steve/Alex or the Task Force.

Also be on the lookout for special and exciting services, activities and video announcements by Pastor Steve/Alex that are intended to show our flexibility and resilience to our current situation and bring us all together as a church family in this trying time.

Larry May, Task Force Chair

LOOKING AHEAD . . .



On the Marquee at Concord
United Methodist Church
in Supply, NC

***Faith not Fear
Wisdom not Worry
Prayer over Panic***

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Hey church family! July has been another busy month full of preparation for our Children's Ministry. Our young disciples were visited this month with a sweet and salty treat! Check out how much they continue to grow. It is such a joy to see their smiling faces.

Young Disciples Time will now be pre-recorded and sent out with the weekly devotional material to our families. You can also view the video on the Camp UMC YouTube channel.

Brunswick County Schools have announced their reopening plans for the 2020-2021 school year. The first 4.5 weeks of school will be 100% online learning. After that, they will be assessing an A/B type schedule. Please pray for the teachers, parents, students, administrators, board members as they continue to navigate this pandemic by making the best decisions for our students. Whether you agree or disagree with the Board's decision, please remember that your children are listening to the things going on around them. Make the best out of our current situation. As parents, you have the opportunity to make this the best school year yet for your children.

With that being said, I want to encourage you to pray for our ministries at church. We are assessing our opportunities with in-person gatherings. I will be sending out a survey to parents soon to get your input. More details will be forthcoming in the Camp Happenings each week. Thank you for your continued encouragement and support.

In Christ,

Allison Hunter, Director of Children's Ministry



Healthy sweet-and-sour treats were delivered to Camp's children. Check out their smiling faces.



YOUTH MINISTRY

The youth have been trying hard to stay connected and see each other. In July we had fun in Myrtle Beach riding Go Carts, playing Mini Golf and going out for ice cream. Then we had a Youth Girls Board Game Day where we enjoyed having lunch, looking at the WBHS yearbook together and relished sweet fellowship!



On July 25th Cherie and Keith Compton were gracious enough to open their home to the youth. While there we had squirt gun fights, went kayaking, swam (*against the current*) much longer than intended, played corn hole, indulged in a delicious cookout, and ended with Cherie's homemade ice cream! Praise for their generosity, and thanks to Derrice and Jay Combs and Pastor Alex and Mallory for attending and making the day even more festive!



Youth Continued

Change of Plans!!

We have decided to forego our plans to go to an Escape Room in August and have a new EVENT and DATE. Please check your calendar and plan to attend our trip on Tuesday, August 4th to Shark Wake Park. We will meet at the church at 3pm and take the bus to Little River. We will enjoy the Obstacle Island from 4:00-7:00pm for \$30/person. After that we will grab supper out (*bring money for that as well*) and then return to the church about 8:30pm. This will be our last outing of the summer and I am hoping to see you ALL!!! (This is a water park so wear your bathing suit, grab a towel, and pack dry clothes for the bus ride home!) Please RSVP to Kelly (910) 712-4565.

Time of Transition

Kevin and I would personally like to extend loving thoughts and prayers to all of our graduates who will be moving on to their varied college campuses in the coming weeks. They will leave a big hole here for all of us, so please join me in praying for their safety, connections, academics, and discernment.

Youth Benediction - *"May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. May the Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace. Amen."* Numbers 6:24-26

THANK YOU NOTES

- Camp frequently receives thank you notes which are tacked onto the bulletin board across from Robin's office. Many members do not have an opportunity to see the notes so we periodically like to put them in the newsletter.

From Union Elementary School

Dear Camp Church,
Thank you for our wonderful lunch and the prayers you cover us with. We are so blessed to have you in our lives.

Vickie Smith, principal

Camp Methodist,
Thank you **so** much for the yummy meal @ Union. You all are a blessing to us! Keep praying!

Allison Hunter, Holly Needham
Jada Fimbel, Jill Carter, Mr. Rodney

From Camp Members

Thanks so much Camp Church (*for the cookies*).
That was very sweet & yummy!

Kurt & Kathy Meissner

Dear Camp Family,
There are not enough words to express my gratitude for your love and support after Tom's passing. All the food, cards, texts, emails and prayers have surely been a blessing to me. I am so very grateful for the beautiful prayer shawl as well; it helps to feel the love when I'm needing it most. I look forward to when we can all gather again, but until then, know that I cherish my Camp family and love you all dearly!

Beth Elliott

**WE ARE STEWARDS, NOT MASTERS OF OUR EARTH.
EACH OF US HAS A PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY TO
CARE FOR THE PRECIOUS GIFT OF GOD'S CREATION.**

POPE FRANCIS

Plastic plant containers are **NOT** recyclable in curbside pick up. **HOWEVER**, instead of throwing away your plastic plant containers, please consider participating in Home Depot's Plant Pot Recycle Program.



In 2009, Home Depot started a recycling program for plastic plant containers that reuses and recycles the plastic pots and trays that hold flowers, plants, bushes and trees. When the pots are no longer reusable, Home Depot's partner, East Jordan Plastics Inc., turns them into new pots, trays and hanging baskets. The Home Depot in Shallotte participates in the program.



"The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, but the mess is ours." "God has created a world that is designed to be self-replicating," Simon-Peter said. "God replicated himself in us and we act on his behalf when we treat Creation with benevolence and creativity."

Rev. Pat Watkins

(Rev. Watkins teaches the theology of caring for creation as a missionary with UMC Global Ministries.)

Social Distancing Getting You Down?

Here are some things you can do:

Make a video date Your friends probably feel as cooped up as you do. Even if a real-life coffee meetup can't happen, video conferencing apps such as FaceTime, Skype, and Zoom let you connect virtually and see everyone's faces.

Crank up the music Great tunes can spark positive shifts in **mindset, motivation and mood**. Use a streaming service such as Spotify or Apple Music to craft a feel-good playlist of your personal hits, . **Extra points for singing along.**

Change your TV viewing Get away from watching the news. Instead, try watching nature shows, music programs and/or family friendly shows. It will reduce your stress and you will feel relaxed.

If you have someone living with you Turn off the electronic gadgets and dig out one of the board games that are stashed in the hall closet. See if you can beat your family at Trivial Pursuit, or how about an epic game of Monopoly or Risk. There's no need to play the short versions since we all have hours to kill.

*This too shall pass.
Have faith.*

PRESCRIPTIONS DURING THE PANDEMIC

A friend of Tamy's who is an Elder Care attorney send along these tips which may be helpful for our members.

Ask for a 90-day prescription – Your doctor can prescribe this to be filled at a mail order or local pharmacy, and some may offer a discounted copay for these larger orders.

Fill your prescription online – Ask if your pharmacy has the option to order online and see if they have pill pack options in your area where your daily prescriptions are put together into convenient packs.

Consider telehealth – Instead of going to your doctor's office just to get your routine medications refilled, many doctors are offering their patients remote visits through telehealth. Your insurance will likely cover this service, and Medicare pays fully for patients covered by them. These visits can be completed by phone if you don't have computer access.

Ask your pharmacy about home delivery, drive-thru pick up or delivery from one of our church members– Many pharmacies already offer home delivery or have drive-through pick up options, and most have waived their fees for these services. **If you have prescriptions that you need picked up and delivered please call me at the church and we will make arrangements to get them to you. (910) 274-2506.**

Fill your prescription early or ask for a larger quantity – This isn't an option for some insurance companies, and it can be tricky. However, during the COVID-19 crisis, many plans, like Blue Cross Blue Shield and Aetna have waived early refill limits on routine medications. Some insurance companies are also allowing you to fill your prescription with greater quantities so you can stock up and avoid an extra trip to the pharmacy.

Takeaway-If you have additional questions about how to get your prescriptions refilled safely, don't be afraid to reach out to your pharmacist. They know that right now is an uncertain time and they are likely prepared to help you during this crisis and ensure you stay safe and healthy.

A MESSAGE RE: FLEDGLING OSPREYS



You all know how I love watching the Ospreys; they're impressive on so many levels. I've included a photo of a fledgling. They're born (hatched) in a nest that may be up to 100' off the ground.

It has often occurred to me that there's only one way, a single technique, to escape this setting. Sure, it's comfortable, and the parents are responsible for everything, but there's only one way out. The youngsters have to fly out of that warm protected environment. They practice flapping their wings, and even hovering over the nest preparing for the big moment. I'm sure it's frightening, but they fly anyway. My photo is proof positive. This youngster is not on the nest, but on a nearby tree. Flight was necessary.

Osprey fledglings are an example of courage . . . going forward in spite of fear. It's never been easy, but Deuteronomy 31:6 teaches: *"Be strong, take courage; have no fear or dread of them, because it is the Lord your God who goes with you; He will not fail you or forsake you."*

Again, 2020 has been a frightening year and there appears to be no end in sight. But life can't stop. The world can't stop turning. Jesus says to *"fear not..."*. I encourage you to take courage, to love each day, to bask in God's promises.

Bobby Williamson



1 Jane Evans	7 Bob Pennington	13 Cliff Engle	21 Doris Pigott
2 Gary Matthews	8 Angela Adams	14 Shirley Groff	22 Barbara Bartholomew
3 Mary Bergere	9 Kay Alderson	15 Jeff Ritz	22 Paul Carson
3 Randy Pate	9 Ronald Austin	15 Wes Ward	23 Albert Parker
3 Charlotte Pringle	9 Liz Priester	16 Dennis Leggett	24 Ricky Byrd
4 Lou Byrd	10 Doug Burrows	16 Jean Miller	25 Tamy Munns-Crecelius
4 Linda Callender	10 Alan Inions	16 Terry Still	25 Mike Tusai
4 Frank Williamson	11 Darene Dove	17 Mary Elen Bery	27 Tammy Lane
5 Catherine Mainous	11 Chris Isenhour	17 Odell Hurst	29 Don Eagle
6 Wiley Ballard	11 Hannah Isenhour	17 Jacob Lolly	30 Franz Bryant
6 Jack Donoghue	11 Darlene Love	17 Hugh McCullough	30 Lauren Nelson
6 W.A. Myatt	11 Adrianna Sidelinger	17 Madison Yoder	30 Scott Zielinski
7 Dean Dull	11 Declan Thompson	19 Keith Dycus	31 Kay Cox
7 Kim Galloway	12 Matthew Steve	20 Dick Erickson	31 Olivia Dowdy



Gloria & Harold Bland	21 (52)	Tammie & Alan Lewis	11 (41)
Cherie & Keith Compton	4 (52)	Darlene & Randy Love	6 (37)
Darlene & Randy Dove	11 (34)	Sibyl & W.J. McLamb	30 (68)
Cyndi & Cliff Engle	30 (34)	Wendy & Cray Milligan	31 (46)
Kim & Keith Fillman	31 (24)	Pat & William Parker	8 (13)
Cam & Chris Frazier	24 (46)	Liz & Jay Priester	1 (28)
Shirley & Hollen Groff	8 (68)	Rhonda & Wayne Smith	8 (11)
Beryl & Perry Hall	20 (42)	Kim & Matt Spencer	26 (20)
Ginny & Kenneth Harrell	11 (41)	Barbara & Howard Varnam	6 (48)
Lottie & Jimmy Howard	6 (71)	Betsy & Wes Ward	18 (52)
Monnie & Greg Johnson	9 (34)	Donna & Bobby Williamson	8 (44)
Carolyn & John Jones	19 (64)	Laura & Bob Winship	29 (50)
Sybil & Ernie Kesterson	21 (55)		



DATES TO REMEMBER IN AUGUST

August 2	Sunday Morning Prayer & Communion	7:00AM
August 4	Youth to Shark Wake Park	3:00PM-7:00PM
August 13	Red Cross Blood Drive	2:30PM-7:00PM
August 16	Sunday Morning Prayer & Communion	7:00AM

September 16th: Youth Fall Kick Off with youth & parents. More information will be coming soon.

AUGUST

8:30-10:30 Drive Thru Prayer 8:30 Praise & Worship 11:00 Traditional Service 2:00 Zoom Small Group Book Study	REGULARLY SCHEDULED EVENTS					10:00 Food Pantry
		Bulletin Deadline				

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 7:00 AM Prayer & Communion	3 10:00 Staff Meeting / FYC 6:00 Zoom Meeting Communication	4 3:00 Youth-Shark Wake Park 5:00 Zoom Laity Meeting	5	6	7	8 Don Gardiner Celebration of Life
9	10	11	12	13  2:30PM-7:00PM Blood Drive /YFC	14	15
16 7:00 AM Prayer & Communion Lena Mintz Celebration of Life	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					