



The Circuit Rider



February 2021

UNCOMFORTABLE

In the middle of the lesson in a crowded room the roof starts to come apart and a man is lowered from the roof interrupting the holy time of teaching. People felt uncomfortable and started asking questions especially when Jesus extended forgiveness followed by healing. On a Sabbath day people were uncomfortable with Jesus doing a work of healing for the man with a withered hand. The crowd felt uncomfortable and asked the man to be quiet who shouted to Jesus, "Son of David have mercy on me." Jesus read from the scriptures about the Spirit of the Lord anointing to bring good news to the poor, release the captives, giving sight to the blind and declaring God's favor. The crowd grew so uncomfortable they tried to lead Jesus to a cliff to throw him down. Many felt uncomfortable with Jesus sitting down to eat with certain people, or having conversations with a woman with "that" background, from "that" place, or with a "certain" religious heritage. Many felt uncomfortable when he talked about his body being bread.

Sometimes when the kingdom of God is breaking in; when Christ is showing up at work in the power of the Spirit, people get uncomfortable. When we feel this way sometimes we just want to turn away, sometimes we suppress it, and sometimes we actively resist, but maybe when we feel uncomfortable we should take a deep breath, slow down and ask some questions. When the discomfort arises let's take the Lord's hand, follow the Holy Spirit, and lean in because maybe God might be doing something right in our midst. Ask, why am I reacting this way? Why does this make me feel this way? Where is God in this? Maybe our being uncomfortable is revealing something about Christ and ourselves. There are plenty of stories in the scriptures that have been passed down of people feeling uncomfortable in the midst of the divine work of Christ. Instead of turning away, resisting or suppressing, let's learn from these stories, lean into our discomfort and discover where the kingdom of God is breaking in all around us.

Lord Jesus, take our hand and guide us in our discomfort that we may see you changing our lives and the world. Amen

Peace of Christ,
Pastor Steve

Camp United Methodist Church

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Sunday Services

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

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.

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LOVE IN THE BIBLE

In the New American Standard Version, love is mentioned 348 times — 133 times in the Old Testament and 215 times in the New Testament. In the New International Version, it is mentioned 551 times - 319 times in the Old Testament and 232 times in the New Testament. There are 538 instances of the word "love" in the New Revised Standard Version, 317 in the Old Testament and 221 in the New Testament.

Reference.com

HEBREW WORDS FOR LOVE

Hesed – lovingkindness or tender and benevolent affection..

Ahab – to love. No special significance.

Dod – romantic love. Used throughout Song of Solomon.

GREEK WORDS FOR LOVE

Eros – sexual or romantic love. .

Phileo – fraternal or friendly love. The love that you would show a brother or a friend who is closer than a brother.

Agape – self-sacrificial love. This word connotes a conscious action rather than an emotional feeling.

Storge – familial love.

<https://ratiochristi.org/blog>

SCRIPTURES ABOUT LOVE

1 John 4:7-8 Dear friends, let us continue to love one another, for love comes from God. Anyone who loves is born of God and knows God. But anyone who does not love does not know God-for God is love.

John 3:16 For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.

John 15: 12-13 I command you to love each other in the same way that I love you. And here is how to measure it- the greatest love is shown when people lay down their lives for their friends.

Ephesians 2:4-5 But God is so rich in mercy, and he loved us to very much, that even while we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead.

Psalms 86:15 But you, O Lord, are a merciful and gracious God, slow to get angry, full of unfailing love and truth.

1 John 4:19 We love each other as a result of his loving us first.

1 Corinthians 13:13 There are three things that will endure- faith, hope, and love- and the greatest of these is love.

1 Corinthians 16:14 And everything you do must be done in love.

Mark 12:31 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'

Ephesians 5:25-26 No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.



ZOOM BIBLE STUDIES TO START IN FEBRUARY



Thursdays - 6:00PM-7:30PM
February 4th - March 25th

Who is Jesus Christ? What is a disciple? We don't have to look very far to see the damage that can be done when followers of Christ get this wrong and lose sight of the answers to these questions. We often forget how radical the gospel of Christ is and how radical the ways of discipleship demand our lives to be.

You are invited to join Pastor Steve in an 8-week course exploring questions like these because the answers are foundational in shaping who we are and how we live as followers of Christ. Knowing who Jesus Christ is and what it means to follow Christ can awaken us to a new reality of how good the gospel really is. Let's join together and explore: what is the Gospel According to Luke.

Register [here](#) or Contact Pastor Steve at cumc.pastorsteve@gmail.com



Thursdays - 2:30PM-4:30 PM
February 11th - May 13th

The prophets spoke God's Word for God's people in their historical setting and that word endures today. Old Testament Scripture, often overlooked in American Christianity, is incredibly important for Christians. Let us remember that when Jesus referred to Scripture, He was referring to the Old Testament.

Pastor Alex invites you to a 14-week study on the book of Jeremiah. Please contact him at alex.parker@nccumc.org to sign up. Course expectations and goals will be discussed in week one. The book *Run With Horses* by Eugene Peterson is a secondary text that is not required, but it is an accompanying tool to help deepen our encounter with Jeremiah.

• The coronavirus is making it difficult but not impossible to stay connected at Camp! Although Youth Group is no longer meeting at the church on Wednesday nights, Kevin and I are thinking "outside of the box" and creating other opportunities to stay connected! We are planning small group meetings of 1-3 people over lunch, supper, dessert, or over Zoom if that is what works best for our participants.

• I do miss the group games and program discussions from Wednesday nights, but I have LOVED the opportunities to talk and get to know all of our youth in a more personal way even more! I have held 3 get-togethers so far and have been incredibly blessed by the honesty, depth and open conversation shared.

• Please continue to pray for all our young people trying to have safe social gathering opportunities in their lives.

• Kelly Littlejohn

February is



American Heart Month is observed to raise awareness on the importance of a healthy heart and to encourage healthy habits that help reduce the risk of heart disease.

This February tradition is over a half a century strong. The first proclamation that February be American Heart Month was issued by President Lyndon B. Johnson in February 1964, nine years after he had a heart attack.

Cardiovascular disease (heart disease and stroke combined) kills about 2,300 a day according to the American Heart Association. Consider the following:

- *Heart disease kills more people than all forms of cancer combined.
- *Heart attacks affect more people every year than the population of Dallas, Texas.
- *83% of Americans believe that heart attacks can be prevented, but aren't motivated to do anything.
- *72% of Americans don't consider themselves at risk for heart disease.
- *And 58% put no effort into improving their heart health.

Source: American Heart Association

While science is advancing medicine in exciting new ways, unhealthy lifestyle choices, combined with rising obesity rates in both kids and adults have hindered progress in fighting the disease.

Uplifting news is that there is a lot you can do to protect your heart from cardiovascular diseases.



Ask your doctor about your blood pressure, cholesterol and A1C.



Reduce the sodium. Increase the fruits, vegetables and whole grains in your diet.

"Eat a Rainbow."



Be physically active. Aim for 2 1/2 hours of moderate aerobic activity per week.



Maintain a healthy weight. The higher your Body Mass Index, the higher your risk for heart disease, especially at BMI >30.



Don't Smoke. Smokers are up to 6 times more likely to suffer heart attacks.



Manage stress.



Keep your diabetes under control.

The First Friday of February



February 5th

Is Wear Red Day!



Don't forget to "wear your favorite red outfit" It's your chance to help raise awareness for heart disease.

FIVE INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT HEART HEALTH

1. Heart attacks can be silent.

One in five heart attacks occur without the person even knowing they had one.

2. Heart attacks affect women differently.

Women's symptoms may include pain in the back/arm/neck/shoulder, nausea, fatigue, shortness of breath and vomiting.

3. Young women are at higher risk than men.

Women under the age of 50 are twice as likely to die of a heart attack as men in the same age group.

4. Another reason to hate Mondays.

Heart attacks are more likely to occur on Monday morning than other days.

Scientists attribute this to the disruption in our circadian rhythm over the weekend which leads to increased blood pressure and other changes to the nervous system.

5. Diet soda raises heart attack risk.

If you drink one or more diet sodas a day, your chances of having a heart attack are 43% higher than those of you who drink regular soda or none at all.

National Today

Recycle Tip of the Month

Valentine's cards and gift boxes can be recycled.

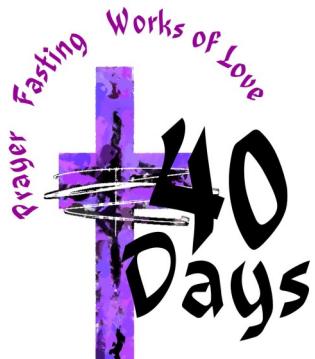


Cards and envelopes made of paper material can be recycled. Cards made of photo paper or made with glitter, metallic accents or plastic should be placed in the trash.

Cardboard chocolate and gift boxes can be recycled but remember to remove any plastic inserts and "window" first.



Giving your tithes and offerings has just gotten easier. Responding to the grace of God through our financial giving changes us and participates in Christ changing the world. We have updated our online and text-to-give options so that you can give from anywhere using a computer, phone or tablet. You can use your checking/savings account or your debit/credit card. You can give one time or schedule your gifts to occur automatically. You can give to one or more funds at a time. Thank you for your continued support of Camp UMC through your tithes and offerings given to the glory of God. <https://campumc.org/give/>



ASH WEDNESDAY- 2/17/21 - START OF LENT

Ash Wednesday begins the Christian season of spiritual preparation (Lent) before Easter. In Western churches, it begins on Ash Wednesday. During Lent, many Christians observe a period of fasting, repentance, moderation, self-denial, and spiritual discipline. The purpose of the Lenten season is to set aside time for reflection on Jesus Christ—to consider his suffering and his sacrifice, his life, death, burial, and resurrection.

During the six weeks of self-examination and reflection, Christians who observe Lent typically make a commitment to fast, or to give up some thing - a habit, like smoking, watching TV, swearing, or a food or drink, such as sweets, chocolate, or coffee. Some Christians also take on a Lenten discipline, like reading the Bible and spending more time in prayer to draw nearer to God.

-Mary Fairchild in *Learn Religious*

february

| | |
|--------------------------|---------|
| Bobby & Debbie Kirby | 2 (36) |
| Morris & Hilda Hall | 4 (65) |
| Jack & Rosie Scarborough | 6 (56) |
| Jim & Chicky Wallace | 17 (31) |
| Ted & Sue Lide | 25 (8) |
| Junior & Kitty Reedy | 29 (65) |



| | | | | | |
|---|-----------------|----|------------------|----|------------------|
| 1 | Michael Nelson | 11 | Glenn Humbert | 19 | H.L. Holmes |
| 2 | Diane Sowder | 12 | Carolyn Jones | 19 | Birianna Mintz |
| 3 | Calvin Chandler | 13 | John Adams | 19 | Lisa Carr |
| 3 | Bill Clegg | 15 | Amelia Harrelson | 20 | Barbara Varnam |
| 3 | Joey Galloway | 15 | Tom Jessee | 20 | Aubrey Anderson |
| 3 | Bill Martin | 15 | Matt Williamson | 21 | Lynda Eagle |
| 4 | Candy Minor | 16 | Chris Lane | 21 | Angela Lawrence |
| 4 | Susan Merriam | 16 | Beth Michelakis | 21 | Jill Murphy |
| 5 | Brighton Mintz | 16 | Drew Mintz | 24 | Cindy Williams |
| 6 | Tina Teipel | 16 | David Coates | 25 | Jim Antunes |
| 6 | Jeanne Horton | 17 | Bernie Babcock | 28 | Frank Williamson |
| 8 | Regan Chappell | 17 | Joe Walker | 28 | Jimmy Register |
| 9 | Allison Hunter | 17 | Geri Walker | 28 | John Braddy |



DATES TO REMEMBER IN FEBRUARY

| | |
|---------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| February 2nd | Groundhog's Day |
| February 7th | Drive-in Prayer and Communion 12:30 PM |
| February 4th | Luke ZOOM study starts 6:00 PM-7:30 PM |
| February 11th | Jeremiah ZOOM study starts 2:30 PM-4:30 PM |
| February 14th | Valentine's Day |
| February 15th | Presidents' Day |
| February 17th | Ash Wednesday Drive-in Burning of Ashes 6:30 PM |

February

REGULARLY SCHEDULED EVENTS

| Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|-------------------|-----|-----|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| | Bulletin Deadline | | | 4:30-6:30 Soup Kitchen/FH | 10:00 Food Pantry/FH/BA |

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 6:00 Luke Zoom Study | 5 | 6 |
| 7 Drive-thru Prayer and Communion 12:30 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 2:30 Jeremiah Zoom Study 6:00 Luke Zoom Study | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 Drive-in Burning of the Ashes 6:30  | 18 2:30 Jeremiah Zoom Study 6:00 Luke Zoom Study | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 2:30 Jeremiah Zoom Study 6:00 Luke Zoom Study | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | | | | | | |