



The Circuit Rider



July 2021



Does God give us a chance to reset?

I don't know how you mark time, but as a United Methodist Pastor one of the ways time is marked in my life is by Annual Conference and the new appointment year. I am excited to say that I have been appointed by the bishop and the cabinet for another year of serving, loving and leading Camp UMC. I have come into a relationship with you in the very strange circumstances of a global pandemic. As I enter into this new appointment year I found myself looking back, and it has left me with a desire to reset. During the 10+ years of training associated with becoming an Ordained Elder in the United Methodist Church from candidacy, seminary and going before the Board of Ordained Elders, there wasn't a single class on how to lead a church during a pandemic. I have ached with you being separated from family and the worries about the impact on your businesses. Together we faced the challenges of adjusting to wearing masks and social distancing. We all wrestled with fear to some extent as we watched the pandemic infection rate and death rate rise and come close to home as loved ones were being touched by Covid 19. Navigating this last year has been a challenge for everyone, and if you are like me you are ready for a reset.

Has anyone in Scripture been given a chance to reset? I think of Moses, how after murdering an Egyptian restarted as a shepherd, and then again as a leader of God's people. How many times in Old Testament stories were God's people as a whole given a chance to have a reset? The woman trapped in adultery was forgiven and freed. Peter who denied Christ three times was reinstated. Saul would become Paul. There are many other stories that give witness that the way of God is an opportunity to reset. Do you desire a chance to reset? I invite you to join me in looking back over the last year to learn from all that has happened trusting God to redeem it all. God in love can transform the challenges and our mistakes to make something new. God in love can bring about healing and reconciliation where the challenges have kept people apart. God in love will lift the beautiful ways

Camp United Methodist Church

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Sunday Services

8:30 AM Praise & Worship
9:45 AM Sunday School

Disciple.....	2	Youth.....	7
7-Up/Church Attendance ...	3	Litter.....	8
4th of July/Conference.....	4	Mission-Union School.....	9
Osprey/Emmaus.....	5	New Members.....	10
Children.....	6	Milestones.....	11
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that love and grace were shared during the difficulties of this past year. May we truly learn how God's grace and mercy is leading us into God's good future. Let's lean into the good news of Christ that grace gives us an opportunity to reset and move together into God's good future.

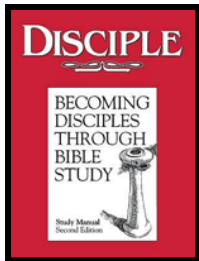
I love you and Christ loves you.

Peace in Christ,

Pastor Steve M.

DISCIPLE 1: Becoming Disciples through Bible Study

A survey of both Old and New Testament books (34 weeks)

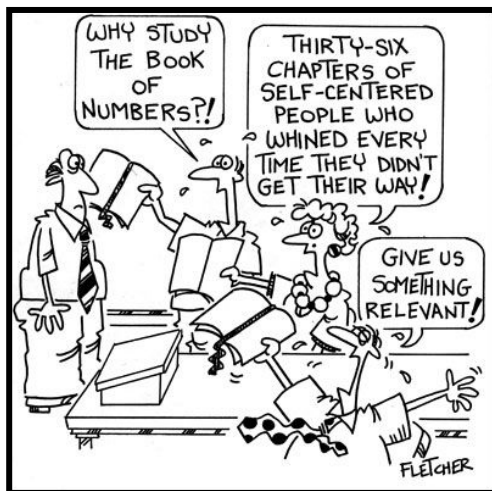


"...Underlying the development of DISCIPLE is the assumption that people are hungry for the word of God, for fellowship in prayer and study, and for a sense of appropriate ministry as committed Christians. DISCIPLE gives Old and New Testaments equal time, emphasizing the wholeness of the Bible as the revelation of God. DISCIPLE invites people to bring their experiences and struggles to Scripture, uses biblical language and biblical images, and draws upon the work of scholars to aid in understanding of the Bible. It also features group discussion of Scripture based on careful study and preparation..."

Pastor Steve, Aaron Black, and I have been praying about a holistic study that will continue to ground us, Camp UMC, in the Holy Scriptures. In the midst of so much noise and disunity in the world, Scripture always offers the solid rock on which we stand, and the Bible is our cornerstone. The work of unity begins by returning to the basics of our faith and taking a deep dive into Scripture. Pastor Steve and I will each be teaching a class (limited to 12 people), but we are looking for other teachers too.

Please contact Pastor Steve or me if you are interested in facilitating a class. We promise to give you the tools to facilitate well and DISCIPLE lends itself to a facilitation style. Please consider partnering with us as we seek to get this class to as many people as possible?

In Christ, Pastor Alex



BIBLE STUDY IS IMPORTANT

"It is important to study [the Bible] because God has taken great pains to reveal Himself to His people. He gave us a book, one that is not meant to sit on a shelf pressing dried flowers, but to be read, searched, digested, studied, and chiefly to be understood."

<https://www.ligonier.org>

BIBICAL-7UPS

1. **Wake up.** Decide to have a blessed day. "This is the day the Lord has made let us rejoice and be glad in it." *Ps. 118:24*
2. **Dress up.** The best way to dress up is to put on a smile. "The Lord does not look at things as man looks at things. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart." *1 Samuel 16:7*
3. **Hush up.** Say nice things, and learn to listen. After all, God gave us two ears and only one mouth. "He who guards his lips guards his soul." *Prov. 13:3*
4. **Stand up** ... for what we believe in. Stand up for something or we will fall for anything. "Let us not be weary in doing good; for at the proper time, we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." *Galatians 6:9-10*
5. **Look up** ... to the Lord. "I can do everything through Christ who strengthens me." (Phil. 4:13)
6. **Reach up** ... for something higher. "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your understanding. In all thy ways, acknowledge Him and He will direct your path." (Prov 3:5-6)
7. **Lift up** ... our prayers. "Do not worry about anything; but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." Phil.4:6

WHY GO TO CHURCH?

As church attendance numbers fade across the nation and online services become very popular, it's important to remember why church attendance for you and your family matters so much.

1. You can't serve from your sofa.
2. You can't have a community of faith on your sofa.
3. You can't experience the power of a room full of believers in worship together on your sofa.

Christians aren't consumers. We are contributors.

We don't watch.

We engage.

We give.

We sacrifice.

We encourage.

We do life together.

The church needs you, and you need the church.

*A message from Concordia Lutheran
Church and Christian School*

Church attendance is as vital to a disciple as a transfusion of rich, healthy blood is to a sick man.

Dwight L. Moody

"Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts."

Col.3:16

The church is God's idea and the church is His plan for this age. The most important reason for God's people to attend church is that the church is God's idea, "I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it." Plus, the church is how God is accomplishing His work on earth today.

Matt.16:18



A PRAYER FOR THE 4TH OF JULY

Dear Lord,

We remember today how blessed we are. We remember with gratitude all who sacrificed and gave their lives so we could have the freedoms we enjoy today. We pray for our country and our leaders. We pray for revival, repentance, renewal, healing and restoration for our country. May the changes we wish to see begin with each of us. May we humble ourselves before you. May we live with the same faith, courage and conviction as those who founded and fought for our nation. We pray for all who wish to harm our country and we humbly ask for your blessing to be on the USA.

In the name of Jesus we ask these things, Amen

- Debby Kay

FREEDOM, RIGHTEOUSNESS AND THE 4TH OF JULY

"The life of the nation is secure only while the nation is honest, truthful and virtuous." Frederick Douglass

"May we think of freedom, not as the right to do as we please, but as the opportunity to do what is right."

Peter Marshall

"For you have been called to live in freedom. Use your freedom to serve one another in love."

Galatians 5:13

ANNUAL CONFERENCE – 2021

Like a "Well-Watered Garden" was the theme for the virtual UMC Annual Conference for Eastern, NC. "The Lord will guide you always; He will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land and will strengthen your frame. You will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail." (*Isa. 58:11*)

The Conference celebrated through word, song and hearing stories of the life of the well-watered gardens in churches that have created and flourished during the pandemic. New ways of pouring out God's love included such ministries like Zoom, to-go-meals for those in need and other ministries throughout the church. This information will be shared with Camp's church leaders. (*Camp already has some of these in place.*)

Perhaps the most significant story was about the Christian unity between a white church and a black church to have a covenant partnership. Amana AME Zion Church in Knightdale and the Greater Heights Church (*both near Raleigh*) will become Union UMC. One could say that it is a changing history for the Kingdom Come.

Bettye Wolney

Want to know more? There will be a General Conference Information Session presented by Rev. Belton Joyner at 6:30PM on July 12th in the Youth and Family Center.

AN OSPREY UPDATE THEY'RE BACK



This is the original pair "Bravo" and "Halo". I have not seen them since 2019, but they arrived this week! Their timing is unexplainable. They're nest-building in the same old dilapidated tree from 2018. I'm so happy to have them back! I can only watch what happens.

Bobby Williamson

WALK TO EMMAUS UPDATE

Due to Covid restrictions, Sandhills Emmaus Community Gatherings and Walks were postponed. Gatherings are now starting back, and we are planning to take a group to the Sandhills Emmaus Gathering in Dillon, SC on Friday, August 13, 2021. We will meet at Camp UMC parking lot at 4:30PM. A meal will be served at 6:30 at the Gathering.

Anyone who has been on a Walk to Emmaus or who is interested in finding out more is welcome to attend. If you are interested in attending or would like more information, please contact Bob (843-632-2726) or Susan Newton (843-841-2726).

Upcoming Fall Walk Dates to be held at Camp Rockfish, Parkton, NC

Please pray that we will be able to host walks this year.

Men's Walk #96: September 30-October 3

Women's Walk #97: October 21-24



INTERESTING CUCUMBER FACTS - PART ONE



Cucumbers contain most of the vitamins you need every day, just one cucumber contains Vitamin B1, Vitamin B2, Vitamin B3, Vitamin B5, Vitamin B6, Folic Acid, Vitamin C, Calcium, Iron, Magnesium, Phosphorus, Potassium and Zinc.

Feeling tired in the afternoon, put down the caffeinated soda and pick up a cucumber. Cucumbers are a good source of B vitamins and Carbohydrates that can provide that quick pick-me-up that can last for hours.

Tired of your bathroom mirror fogging up after a shower? Try rubbing a cucumber slice along the mirror, it will eliminate the fog and provide a soothing, spa-like fragrance.

Are grubs and slugs ruining your planting beds? Place a few slices in a small pie tin and your garden will be free of pests all season long. The chemicals in the cucumber react with the aluminum to give off a scent undetectable to humans but drive garden pests crazy and make them flee the area.

Have an important meeting or job interview and you realize that you don't have enough time to polish your shoes? Rub a freshly cut cucumber over the shoe, its chemicals will provide a quick and durable shine that not only looks great but also repels water.

posted on Facebook



Vacation Bible School ran from 6/20-6/24. It was such a joy to see 66 smiling faces from age 3-5th grade come to life on the Rocky Railroad. Our mission project for the week was Brunswick Family Assistance. We collected over 600 items to be donated!

Thank you to all of our leaders, volunteers, parents, staff, and children for participating in this fun event. You truly are amazing, and I'm so blessed to have you on my team as we make disciples of Jesus Christ. God was present all along our journey this week, and showed up in many different forms.



We finished out the month of June with Tennis Camp @ OIB. Thank you Pastor Alex for supporting and teaching our children a sport that you love!

Upcoming July Events:

Splash Pad Day: July 14 from 5-7pm @ OIB park. (on the island).

Parents Night Out: July 17, 2021 from 4-7 pm in the YFC

Cost: \$20 for one child, \$30 for family.

Proceeds will be utilized for technology in the toddler/ nursery room.

Tie Dye T-shirts, games, movies, and more. We hope to see everyone there.

Art Camp w/ Pastor Steve: July 19 from 4-6 pm.

Science Camp w/ Pastor Steve: July 21 from 4-6pm.

Meet at the Beach Family Night: July 28 from 5-8 pm at OIB.

Acolyte Training is available for any children going into first grade-eighth grade that would like to serve our church. Reach out to Allison to set up a time to be trained. It is a two day training session.

Peace and Love to all,
Allison Hunter, Youth Director



Summer is time for fun activities with family and friends. Although we are also busy with jobs, vacations and travel, we are grateful for the times we can gather together.

In June, the youth had an opportunity to go to the beach and then to an Escape Room. Always wicked fun!

Upcoming July Events:

Mini Golf and Ice Cream: July 14th

Obstacle Island Water Park: July 28th. We will make a trip to Obstacle Island Water Park in Myrtle

Guys Only Gathering: July 21st from 4:00PM-8:00PM at Kelly and Kevin's home in Calabash. It will be a time to enjoy a spaghetti supper and Virtual Reality game night.

The details are on the church website or feel free to contact me.

Kelly Littlejohn, Youth Director
910-712-4565
krlittlejohn@gmail.com



THINGS FOR WHICH TO BE GRATEFUL

If you have food in the refrigerator, clothes on your back, a roof over head and a place to sleep, be grateful. You are richer than 75% of the world.

If you have money in the bank, in your wallet and spare change in a dish, be grateful. You are among the top 8% of the world's wealthy.

If you can attend a church meeting without fear of harassment, arrest, torture or death, be grateful. You are more blessed than 3 billion people in the world.

If you have never experienced the danger of battle, the loneliness of imprisonment, the agony of torture or the pangs of starvation, be grateful. There are 50 million people in the world in experiencing this.

- unknown



LITTER

As you've been driving around, does it seem as though there is more litter than usual? Not only is it unsightly, it can cause serious consequences for the environment.

Keep America Beautiful conducted a national litter study in 2020. The study examined the scope, scale, characteristics, trends and solutions of litter. Some of the key findings from the study are:

Nearly 50 billion pieces of litter along US roadways and waterways
90% of people surveyed believe litter is a problem in their state
152 items for each U.S. resident
6 billion pieces of litter are more than 4 inches in size.

kab-2020-survey

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THE DANGERS OF LITTER

Litter Causes Pollution As litter degrades, chemicals and microparticles are released. These chemicals aren't natural to the environment and can, therefore, cause a number of problems. For example, cigarette butts can contain chemicals such as arsenic and formaldehyde. These poisons can make their way into the soil and freshwater sources, impacting both humans and animals. In fact, 60% of water pollution is attributed to litter. In addition to water and soil pollution, litter can also pollute the air. Researchers estimate that more than 40% of the world's litter is burned in the open air, which can release toxic emissions. These emissions can cause respiratory issues, other health problems and even be a starting base for acid rain.

Litter Kills Wildlife Animals are innocent victims affected by litter every day. Researchers estimate that over one million animals die each year after ingesting or becoming entrapped in improperly discarded trash. Plastic litter is the most common killer of animals, and marine animals are the most notably affected. Each year over 100,000 dolphins, fish, whales, turtles, and more drown after becoming entangled in or digesting plastic litter.

Litter Facilitates the Spread of Disease Improperly discarded trash is a breeding ground for bacteria and diseases. Litter can spread diseases, viruses, and parasites through two methods, direct and indirect contact. Germs can be transmitted directly by physically coming into contact with litter. This can happen by picking up, touching, or by accidentally injuring themselves on improperly disposed of trash. Bacteria and parasites can also be transmitted to humans indirectly through an affected vector. Vectors are animals or insects that come in contact with contaminated litter and then transmit those contaminants to humans.

<https://www.texasdisposal.com/blog>

LOCAL MISSIONS UNION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Our church and the Outreach committee provided an end-of-the-year breakfast for Union School staff on Friday, May 28th. They were entertained by our own Praise band in the sanctuary with a short talk and prayer given by Becky Hewett and Pastor Steve. They were then ushered down to the decorated fellowship hall for a wonderful breakfast and some meaningful social time. A great time was had by all. A big thank you to Becky Hewett and Sue Wells for heading this up, our Praise band for sweet music and Pastor Steve for his words of encouragement.



A huge thank you to all Prayer Partners. This past year was a tough one on staff and students. Your prayers and cards were uplifting and encouraged all the staff at Union Elementary School.

Joan Henderson

QUOTES ABOUT TEACHERS

"A teacher affects eternity: he can never tell where his influence stops."

Henry Adams

"I cannot teach anybody anything, I can only make them think." *Socrates*

"Education is not the filling of a pot but the lighting of a fire." *W.B. Yeats*

CELEBRATING OUR STAFF

In July we celebrate the anniversaries of two of our staff members.

Happy 5th year anniversary.

Robin Farmer joined our staff as our office manager on July 21, 2016. Robin keeps the church calendar of events, makes the Sunday bulletins and does many other jobs that support Camp. Thank you Robin for all that you do to help Camp to fulfill its mission in our community.

Happy 14th year anniversary.

Kim Isenhour joined our staff on July 15 2007 as the director of Mother's Morning Out. Kim does an outstanding job with this important mission of Camp. Due to her hard work and dedication, Mother's Morning Out was able to reopen in September and remain open during this school year. Thank you Kim for all that you do for Camp.

Jill Bryant, Chair, SPPR

NEW MEMBERS IN MAY



Kenny and Jessica Lewis
Tyler and Mason
1775 Duck Pond Rd.
OIB, NC 28469
516-690-4924 (J)
516-521-3950 (K)
jklewis603@gmail.com (J)
Ken98svt@yahoo.com (K)



Ray and Becky McKinnon
496 Shell Ct.
Bolivia, NC 28432
240-334-0111 (R)
240-334-0178 (B)
mckfamily@hughes.net (R)



Steve and Corki Jarvis
87 Plantation Passage SE
Bolivia, NC 28422
240-447-3599 (S)
240-446-3190 ©
spj1974@aol.com
caj1974@aol.com



Mel and Shawn O'Daniels
& Aiden McBride
902 Wyndfall Dr.
Sunset Beach, NC 28468
(910) 279-3760 (S)
910-279-3760 (M)
spazod1973@gmail.com
mel@specialdaysevents.com



Pat Vonatski
940 Copas Rd. SW
Shallotte, NC
631-766-0631
vonaskow@gmail.com

JULY MILESTONES



Bobbie Steve	1	Denise Concelmo	11	DeWayne Oakes	19
Larry Boyer	2	James Hendricks	11	Judy Deaver	20
Betsy Tusai	3	Glenda Morton	11	Dean Anderson	21
Diana Green	4	Madeline Chandler	12	Nita Campbell	21
Robert Morris	4	Wendy Scharen	12	Betty Arnette	22
Morris Hall	5	Don Bartholomew	13	Jill Greene	22
Elijah Steve	5	Suzannah Harrelson	13	Jerry Campbell	23
Mike Alderson	6	R.J. McCord	13	Nancy Greiner	23
Ron Markum	6	Maggie Steve	13	Ramie Cushman	25
A.J. McCullough	7	Carol McCreedy	14	Samuel Steve	25
Zachariah Black	8	Jeff Mintz	15	Meredith Anderson	27
Lisa May	8	Steve Taylor	15	Alice Bryan	27
Becky McKinnon	8	Kyle White	16	Ken Clugston	27
Jimmie Cox	9	Lynne Carr-Wiggins	16	Joyce Erickson	30
Keith Fillman	9	Cray Milligan	17	Jessie Martin	30
Wendy Milligan	10	Jim Miller	18	Patrick Smithson	30



Kimberly & James Williamson	1 (43)	Mike & Betsy Tusai	10 (39)	Meredith & Wesley Anderson	17 (17)
Albert & Kathleen Parker	3 (66)	Marc & Wendy Scharen	12 (35)	Jim & Peggy Antunes	19 (7)
Ray & Lou Bell	3 (66)	Tom & Betty Arnette	14 (58)	Calvin & Julie Chandler	20 (25)
Steve & Nancy Greiner	6 (35)	Bill & Jessie Martin	15 (54)	Gene & Mary Jo Craft	20 (47)
Taylor & Derrick Thompson	7 (9)	Don & Susie Green	17 (50)	Mat & Marlene Mellis	30 (49)
Poli & Kelly Barefoot	8 (31)	Gary & Rae Matthews	17 (39)	TJ & Claire Yoder	31 (11)




DATES TO REMEMBER IN JULY

July 4th	Cookout	12:00PM
July 13th	Conference Information Session	6:30PM-PM YFC
July 22nd	Ada Hagler Celebration of Life	2:00PM-4:00PM
July 24th	Pat Brown Celebration of Life	10:AM-12:00PM



REGULARLY SCHEDULED EVENTS

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
	6:30AM Morning Prayer 9:30AM Prayer Shaw	Bulletin Deadline 2:00PM Basket Weavers			4:30PM-6:30PM Soup Kitchen	10:00AM Food Pantry

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
 12:00 Cookout	5 4:30PM SALT Planning	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 10:30 Staff 6:00PM-Trustees	13 10:00AM Susanna Wesley 6:30 Conference Info. Session	14 5:00 Children Splash Day 6:00 Youth Mini Golf & Creamery	15	16	17 4:00 Parents Night Out
18 New Member Dinner at Parsonage	19 3:0 Art Camp 5:00PM Salt Activity 6:00PM-Finance	20 7:30PM-SSPR 8:30PM-Safety	21 3:00 Science Camp	22 4:00PM Ada Hagler Service 6:30PM-Church Council	23	24 11:00AM Pat Brown Service
25	26 10:30 Staff	27	28 3:00 Youth Obstacle Island 5:00 Meet at the Beach Family Night (OIB)	29	30	31