

October, 2017

Courier

1 Peter 1 NIV

23 For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God. 24 For “All people are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall, 25 but the word of the Lord endures forever.”[c] And this is the word that was preached to you.

Seeds planted bring a harvest. October is filled with a smorgasbord of colors: rustic reds, fainting yellows, pungent oranges, burnt browns, among the paradox of evergreens. It’s a blaze of colors. Reminders of the fall symbols: pumpkins patches, leaning corn stalks, yellowing soybean fields, browning grasses, and cooler temperatures. It’s a happy time of reflective celebration. Fall introduces the final quarters of the seasons that announces the eventual trumpet of winter.



For many, it might feel like the declaration of gloom and doom. Winter can come un-expectedly, and no amount of preparation can prevent its sting. Realizing that grass, flowers, leaves, even us, will eventually fall back upon the ground makes us mindful that our days are numbered, so the only time we have been given is today.

The good news is that through the living and enduring word of God, giving insures a harvest. It’s harvest time! It’s giving time. Seeds never die. They wait to be planted. Yes, nature reminds us that fall colors will return again. Seeds of hope planted will come to full fruition in due season. Living in paradox of seasonal pushes and pulls moves us onward to plant seeds of blessings, wisely investing in the time we have been given.



This moment reminds us to wisely choose our words, actions, our giving, and reflect upon what we wish to leave behind.

What you leave behind is not what is engraved in stone monuments, but what is woven into the lives of others. Pericles

Our next M&M program will be Thursday, October 19th, at noon in the fellowship center. Our guest chef will be Nate Penland who will be serving baked chicken, sweet potato wedges and a very special salad. Our guest speaker will be our own Hank Jackson who will present " A Moravian Love-feast". Cost as always is \$5. Be sure to sign up at mandmlunch@frontier.com or call the Fours at [828-484-8680](tel:828-484-8680)."



UMW: Ubuntu Day of Service will be October 14 from 9:00am-2:00pm at Brooks-Howell. This is a day when the UMW and friends work on the grounds or in the buildings on various jobs. Bring a bag lunch, meet at the Activities Building and there will be drinks and snacks provided. Gift cards from Target, AC Moore and Michael's are welcomed to help fund the many activities at Brooks-Howell. We will carpool from the fellowship center at 8:15 am. Register online or give me a call at 828-649-1156.

Room In The Inn: We will be hosting Room In The Inn October 22-29 with 3 other churches participating. We need people who will set up mattresses on Sunday, Oct. 22, innkeepers for Monday, October 23, meals for Sunday and Monday evenings, Oct. 22 and 23, van drivers for Sunday evening, Monday morning and evening and Tuesday morning, Oct. 22, 23, 24, lunches for at least 2 days and meet the truck who picks up the mattresses Sunday, October 29. Sign up at church or give me a call, 828-649-1156.



Our KAIROS WEEKEND is next month, November 16-19! Volunteers are stepping forward to help in this local ministry. Thank you UMW and UMM for taking on the important task of feeding the team members. There are still support needs out there. Several folks have volunteered to host team members coming from out of town but we still need more. We need someone, or a Sunday School class, to organize the 24 hour prayer wheel. There are still mission needs. If you would like to get involved, please call Don Mallicoat at 828.279.1763. *Serving God by Serving Others*



Grace Waugh Circle will meet Thursday, October 19th, at 10:30 a.m. Newcomers and visitors are welcome. Please call Mary Shaw at 828/645-4473 if you have any questions.

The Minevia Brittain Circle will meet at the home of Dedi Dillingham on Wednesday, October 11th, at 7:15pm. Meet at the church parking lot at 7pm to carpool.

Concert members meal and place to stay: The Weaver-ville United Methodist Women and Men will be serving a meal for Emory & Henry College choirs who will perform November 2 at the Baptist Church. If you can help with the meal, let Ken Lovelace or Joanie Strohm know. We need a place for 2 members to spend the night.

World Thank Offering: Is your jar labeled World Thank Offering filled and ready to provide funds for many people and projects all over the world? There will be a special time in the November 5 church services for you to bring your offering.

October Birthdays

10/1 Heidi Shields	10/8 Kelly Hoots	10/17 Gordy Ramsey
10/1 Tripp Switzer	10/8 Zach Stowe	10/17 Wyatt Stone
10/1 Miller Switzer	10/11 Leanne Mull	10/19 Steve McBride
10/3 Nancy Ramsey	10/12 Tom Kelly	10/21 Frances Alcorn
10/5 Doug Leavitt	10/12 Alex Tensi	10/21 Greg Cheek
10/5 Jeremy Stowe	10/13 Lena Brooker	10/21 Maureen Maigret
10/7 Tracy Campbell	10/14 Alison Childress	10/24 Alex Destino
10/7 Mary Beth Horrell	10/14 Hinton Hilliard	10/29 Ardell Forehand
10/7 Max Mull	10/14 Richard Rzeszotarski	10/29 Jeff Switzer
10/8 Linda Cooke	10/15 Linda Briggs	10/30 Brian Witcher
	10/16 Winikay Caffrey	10/31 Travis Broadhurst
	10/17 Kim Morelock	



Sept 25, 2017

Fellow members of WUMC,

As many of you have heard, we will be losing Jeremy Morris, our Associate Pastor and Director of Youth and Children's ministries, at the end of September. We'd like to explain why this is happening and inform you about our plans going forward.

When Jeremy first came to us as our youth minister, he made it clear that he was working towards his credentials to become a Pastor with his own congregation one day. If you have heard Jeremy preach or worked with him in ministry, you undoubtedly have recognized that being a Pastor is his calling. Although we knew about this *eventual* career change, we didn't know that the timeframe would be so fast. And neither did Jeremy. Earlier this Spring he told us that he had re-attained the certification necessary to serve as clergy within The United Methodist Church; this meant his position would be appointed by the District Superintendent. However, it was his intention - as well as ours - that he stay with WUMC until the summer of 2018.

Recently a Pastor position opened up elsewhere in our district. Our District Superintendent, Beth Crissman, decided to place Jeremy in that open position beginning October 1st. She afterwards explained to us that a shortage of available Pastors, as well as WUMC's financial concerns, were factors in her decision to offer the position to Jeremy. And, although it wasn't on the timeframe that Jeremy had anticipated, this was an opportunity for him to serve in ministry as a lead Pastor - something he had been working towards. After prayerful deliberation, Jeremy agreed to take the new position. This was announced at our church during both services on Sunday September 3rd.

Candidly, we on the SPRC didn't like the style and speed with which Rev. Crissman made and communicated her decision. We have since met with her and voiced our concerns. She was receptive to our complaints. We identified opportunities for better communication between our congregation and her office, which we have already put into place. We believe that because of the unexpected announcement of Jeremy's departure, and the consequent heartfelt words that were shared in our meeting with her, our relationship with the DS is actually better now than ever before. We are encouraged for the future.

As a congregation, our commitment to our youth and children remains strong. We want to continue the trajectory of positive growth that we began when Jeremy started with us. The Children's Council and Youth Council, while maintaining their respective focus audiences, will join to form a new Family Ministries Council. This Council will be led by members of the Congregation - *not* a staff person. The intention is that our programs for Children and Youth Ministries will remain consistent, even if the employee does not.

Of course, the Youth Director will play a large role in the success of these programs. We will begin the search for a new Youth Director in the coming weeks. Please join us in prayer for this process. It is certainly not an easy one!

We hope you will join us in wishing Jeremy and Laura all the best as they prepare for a bold new chapter in their career of service. Perhaps one day Jeremy will be assigned to a church located at 85 North Main Street in Weaverville!

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to any of us.

Your brothers and sisters in Christ,

The Members of the Staff-Parish Relations Committee

Scott Jones, Chair

Paula Withrow,

Jennifer Banks,

Janice Garland,

Don Mallicoat,

Ken Lovelace,

Dave Penland,

Grant Parsons,

Frank Meadows

Joanie Strohm, Lay Leader

John Dankel, Lay Delegate,

Rick Tipton, Chair of Church Council

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As you know, I have been appointed to serve two congregations in Hendersonville, NC. With this news, I do not want anyone to think my time among you was insignificant or without meaning. The youth and children of this congregation have been such a blessing in my life as they have helped give shape and voice to my ministry.

There were several factors which led to the Conference's decision to appoint me to another congregation. Currently, there is a shortage of clergy within our Western North Carolina conference as well as churches across the conference that are without pastors. In order to address the pastoral needs of these congregations, the Bishop often has to turn to associate pastors, such as myself, to fill these roles when the gifts and graces of the clergy match the needs of a particular local church. Candidly, this is not an easy transition for me and my wife. However, as a clergy person in the United Methodist Church, I have made the commitment to serve where appointed, trusting that God's hand is at work through this process, however difficult it may be.

I came to you just under a year ago. I was questioning my call to ministry and unsure about my place among the wider church. My time working with the children and youth of this congregation helped to reaffirm my emerging call and helped me to rediscover my own voice in ministry. I will be forever grateful for the lessons you all have taught me by your support, encouragement, and witness. God certainly is at work through you all.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Morris

CHURCH PICNIC! The chicken will be provided and the Minevia Brittain Circle will provide paper goods and beverages.

What to bring, you ask? People/families with last name initials beginning with A-J—side dishes; K-R—salads; S-Z—desserts/fruit. There will be games and activities for the youth and children.



UMMen's breakfast will be October 8th at 7:55a.m. We will spend the entire time talking and sharing about the power of this church/our church and the opportunities we have recently been given. Please join us - it is so important now more than ever that the men of our church stand up and let it be known that we want to learn from the past and now we also want to move on to the great things in store for our church. Thanks, ken 275-4878



We are currently planning our Stewardship campaign for this fall, which will energize our fellow members about our WUMC family, and our many missions to the community. If you would like to be involved in the committee, please contact me. If you have some photos of our mission work (youth, seniors, N. Buncombe Samaritan Ministries, and many others), which you would be willing to share for our campaign, or would be willing to take some photos for us, please contact me. Rick Broadhurst

YOGA—Fellowship Center—October 11 and 18—5:30. Bring a mat, towel or blanket and any other props you may need!



The 24th Annual Mission Craft Bazaar is scheduled for Friday 11/10/17 noon-7 and Saturday 11/11/17 8-7. We still have a few booths available so let your crafty friends know!!!! Janet is also looking for donations for the "Silent Auction" table (gift baskets, homemade baked goods, hand crafts, gift certificates to local businesses) as well as volunteers to help with putting out signs, setting up tables, taking down tables, and helping in the kitchen. Please contact Janet Cress at grante@charter.net.





Thank you to our children's Sunday School teachers during September—Mary Lou Wittmer taught the K-1 class; Ruth Ann Tensi taught the 2nd-4th grade class; Zach & Jennifer Banks taught the 5th-6th grade class; and Emily Clark led the children's music! Thank you in advance to our teachers for October—Mary Lou Wittmer will continue with the K-1 class; Julie Williamson, Shannon McBride and Joanie Strohm will be teaching the 2-4th grade class; Jen Corbin and Scott & Karen Jones will teach the 5th-6th graders; and Emily Clark will again lead the music. They love it! There are few open slots for Sunday School teachers next semester. You can sign up at <http://www.weavervilleumc.org/sign-up/>. Also, if you are able to serve as a one-time Substitute teacher (in the event that a teacher is out-of-town or sick), please contact Jennifer Banks. 828-215-4606. Thank you!

BTW, don't forget to mark your calendars for TRUNK OR TREAT on Sunday, October 29th, at 5pm in the lower parking lot! More details to come!

WEAVERVILLE UMC

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Memorials

In memory of ***Cecil Williams***

Given by:

Jeff & Carole Pennell

In memory of ***Gordon Ramsey***

Given by:

Jeff & Carole Pennell

