



TWIZZLER: March 23, 2020

FROM REV. DEVAL MASON

Dear Church Family,

I love the church season of Lent. It is an amazing feeling to give up something you love for Lent. It is really hard to accomplish, but then you realize you can do things that you thought you couldn't do. During Lent you also add activities that you normally would not do, and then you realize that life can be even more full than it was. But the main reason why I love Lent, is because Easter comes right after it. The tremendous joy of Easter morning of remembering that Jesus Christ died and rose again in order to forgive us our sins because God loves us unconditionally. Also, the tremendous joy of Easter morning when you realize you can start doing what you gave up for Lent. Wow! What a wonderful feeling!

I have given up a whole lot more this Lent than I ever intended to do or would ever plan to do. I have given up so many things that I love, such as handshakes, high fives, hugs, being close with you in church, seeing many smiling faces in one place, going to people's homes and sharing love and fellowship together. I have truly given up something for Lent this year, as have you!

But know this, EASTER IS COMING!! The calendar day of Easter will be in early April. But there will be a day before too very long when we can once again start doing what we have given up for Lent this year, and that day will be a day like EASTER for all of us. Look forward with great anticipation for that wonderful day! Because, GOD IS GOOD. ALL THE TIME.

Praying for you,
Rev. Deval

CHURCH LIFE GOES ON!

We may not be meeting in person but there's still a lot going on in WUMC life! **Remember church is the people, not the buildings we meet in.**

Many conference calls are being organized so the **Church Council** & various **committees** can continue with their important work.

Renee Weaver has been working hard to lead the church's COVID-19 response team, along with **Angela Moser** & **Bob Cipriano**.

Steve VanReenen continues to be at WUMC in the mornings and has been working hard to keep things clean & sanitized, manage visitors, keep up with church finances, and clean out his office.

Charlie Harnish recorded a beautiful hour-long piano performance for us to watch on Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/charnish>



Emily Clark's got the WUMC kids doing all kinds of fun and meaningful activities online, and was able to safely distribute Sunday School packets so the kids may continue with their religious education:



Martha Seddon is mostly working from home now but still able to do all of her regular tasks so don't hesitate to reach out if you need something:



BE ON GUARD

Be alert for scams. Always confirm requests you receive for money or gift cards.

Please remember that no person on the WUMC staff, including Deval, should EVER directly ask you to give money in any way. If you receive any text messages from someone claiming to be Deval or others from the church asking for money or gift cards, please do not respond to them and notify Deval as quickly as possible.

CHURCH COUNCIL

A conference call for the Church Council has been scheduled for **Tuesday, 3/24 (today) at 7:00pm**. To join, please call 978-990-5000 access code # 922370

CHURCH CALENDAR

All conference calls and online activities will be posted on the WUMC online calendar, just like our in-person gatherings: <https://www.weavervilleumc.org/google-calendar/>

CHURCH FINANCES

With the recent events with COVID-19 and WUMC not having services the last two Sundays, we appreciate everyone who has mailed in their offering. The future of services is unclear and therefore The Finance Team is working on an online giving button to be added on our website (still ongoing) to help in this crisis. The Finance Team would also like to offer an idea: If you have online banking, there should be an option for you to add an automated bill through your bank, just as your other auto-drafted bills are done. Please check your bank's online options or give your bank a call and see if this is an option for you. The church's information is:

Weaverville United Methodist Church

PO Box 37

85 N. Main Street

Weaverville, NC 28787

You can enter an amount to be mailed to the church for a one-time donation, give every two weeks, or once a month. This would keep our finances going for the upcoming months. Thank you for continuing to support WUMC, and we look forward to continuing to communicate information to you as soon as it's made available to us.

WUMC KIDS ARE ONLINE!

Families, check your email for details about these upcoming opportunities for ZOOM online fellowship. If you're not on the mailing list and would like to be added, just email Emily Clark at: youth@weavervilleumc.org

Tues. 3/24 at 11:30am - Children's Sermon

Wed. 3/25 at 3:00pm - Youth Meeting

Thurs. 3/26 at 11:30am – 5th Children's Sermon

Fri. 3/27 at 11:30am – 5th Grade Meeting

Sun. 3/29 at 11:30am – Children's Sermon

Sun. 3/29 at 5:00pm – Youth Group

Attention Parents: Thanks to those of you who have already sent your kid's videos to Emily. Please send her your child(ren)'s part for the Children's Virtual Sunday Service promptly. Check your email if you have questions. We want to have this ready to send to the congregation this weekend.

Stay connected with each other and continue to spread the (virtual) love to one another.

Here's a link to a brief part of the Children's Sermon from this morning's message with some of WUMC's families. Thanks to Maggie Clark for being the videographer. We will also be posting the Virtual Children's Sermon to this channel this weekend. Bookmark it so you can continue to access it and see some familiar faces: [WUMC YouTube Channel](#)

Please also be in prayer for the families of school aged children. While our kids are very tech savvy, there are still frustrations regarding accessing the school work, the daily grind of homeschool, internet connections, and the overall stress level of children, teens and families. Pray for patience and guidance for parents and kids as we press on through this major adjustment time of homeschooling.

FACEBOOK FELLOWSHIP

WUMC now has a new Facebook group where we can all chat with each other, offer moral support, ask questions, share inspiration, etc. We also hope to share videos from church leaders (like Deval) there, so it's definitely worth joining Facebook if you're not already on there. **The group is private so only members of the group can see what you post.** Please join the group and invite anyone else who is a part of church life:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/WUMCCongregation/>

CONFERENCE CALLS

Church committee meetings may now be held via free conference calls. The phone number to use is **978-990-5000** access code # 922370

This can be used by any committee chair but please register a time of use with Martha so we don't have two committees using the number at the same time. She will also be able to give the special "host pin number" to the meeting organizers. Email: office@weavervilleumc.org

KEEP INFORMED

Buncombe County's latest information about the COVID-19 outbreak may be found here:

<https://www.buncombecounty.org/covid-19/default.aspx>

More information from the **CDC** may be found here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

If you believe you have been approached by a criminal, please get yourself safely away from them and contact the Weaverville police department immediately: (828) 645-5700.

Currently there are no U.S. FDA-approved vaccines or drugs to prevent or treat COVID-19. No approved vaccines, drugs, or products specifically for COVID-19 may be purchased online or in stores, so do not be conned into buying anything that promises a cure.

BR DISTRICT CONNECT CONFERENCE

The annual UMC Blue Ridge District Connect Conference was not able to be held this past Sunday as scheduled because of the COVID-19 outbreak. Instead the district has placed all related information on this web site:

<https://www.blueridgedistrictumc.org/connectconference>

PRAYER LIST

This list is reset at the beginning of each month.

Brad Allen, Jim & Lena Brooker, Bill Coxe, Carolyn Dotts, Dave Edwards, Marilyn Evans, Emma Hughey, Paul Hunt, Fran Jordan, Don Mallicoat, Cindy Mayo, Cheryl Nick, Elaine Robinson, Jackson Stafford (Hughey's son), Mac White, Bob Whiting, Tammy

CONGREGATIONAL NOTES

- Jim & Lena Brooker are back from Hilton Head and living in Weaverville again. They made this decision so they may self-quarantine and be close to their oncology team & cancer center in Asheville.
- Julian Palien has gone to live in Florida with family for the time being.

Have a blessed week!



Weaverville United Methodist Church

Serving God by Serving Others Since 1805

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(828) 645-6721

www.weavervilleumc.org

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