

THE CORNERSTONE CONNECTION



*Reaching Up To Christ and Out To Each Other
February, 2025*

From the Pastor:

I recently watched a podcast on the future of the United Methodist Church. Church consultants Doug Powe and Lovett Weems discussed the challenges and also the opportunities facing the UMC going forward. A lot of what they shared had to do with our need to remember our United Methodist identity. Following were some of their key points:

- The Methodist Church is an evangelical Church in a liberal tradition. John Wesley was a tremendous evangelist with a fervent desire for all people to come to know the love of God and God's saving Grace through Jesus Christ. Wesley had a famous saying with regard to how we share our beliefs and doctrine in response to God's Grace: "in essentials, unity, in non-essentials liberty, in all things, charity." While we may disagree on certain aspects of doctrine, we should still be charitable toward those with different opinions on doctrine and social remedies. The United Methodist Church has always afforded a big tent for discussions on matters of conscience.
- For Wesley and our Methodist tradition, simply having strong values is not enough. Holding to strong beliefs and morals without taking action on them reveals a weak faith. There must be evidence, we must bear fruit by reaching out with concern on matters of salvation, health, welfare and education. In addition to small group devotional meetings, Wesley organized missional and evangelistic outreach programs providing for schools, hospitals, care for the poor, children and even prisoners.
- With so much concern about Church decline today, we should regularly ask ourselves, "who is missing among the people God has given us in the community in which we live and serve. Who are the underserved??" At the same time, we should also remember that while many churches share a concern about reaching more young families with children, the fastest growing segment of our population is mature adults. We need to ensure our programs and outreach are tailored to the needs of those God has given to us in our community.
- We need to imagine all the ways our Church property and buildings could be utilized to meet the needs of our community. A few years ago, Epworth UMC partnered with the Rock Hill Dream Center to utilize our Fellowship Hall for afternoon programs for the youth of the Stonewall neighborhood. Both Cornerstone and Epworth have provided Church facilities for scouting and housing homeless men in the past. *(cont'd on next page)*

- Each Church is unique with its own “personality”, strengths and weaknesses. In reaching new people, It is easier to utilize church strengths than to shore up weaknesses. Yet weaknesses should not be overlooked and are often revealed by asking the familiar question, “who is missing in our fellowship, among the people God has given us in the community in which we live and serve.” To go along with this is a need to think like an outsider would think upon entering our fellowship. Who might they notice are missing among us?

As we approach a time of transition in pastoral leadership, let us continue to strive together to reach more people for Jesus with the resources, gifts and talents God has given us. Let us remember to do so as United Methodists with open hearts, open minds and open doors.

Peace, Irvin

Lectionary Study for February:



Sunday, Feb. 2nd:

Jeremiah 1:4-10
Psalm 71:1-6 (UMH 794)
1 Corinthians 13:1-13
Luke 4:21-30

Sunday, Feb. 16th:

Jeremiah 17:5-10
Psalm 1 (UMH 738)
1 Corinthians 15:12-20
Luke 6:17-26

Sunday, Feb. 9th:

Isaiah 6:1-8, 9-13
Psalm 138 (UMH 853)
1 Corinthians 15:1-11
Luke 5:1-11

Sunday, Feb. 23rd:

Genesis 45:3-11, 15
Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40 (UMH 772)
1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50
Luke 6:27-38

February Birthdays:

2nd Diana Deyton
7th Linda Rossey
13th Edwina Jonas

22nd Maxine Smith
24th Pastor Irvin
27th Steve Pilecki

Coming up Next Month:

March Birthdays:

2nd JoAnn Till
7th Linda Grant
15th Tanner Stovall
25th Mike Painter
28th Dale Williams

March Anniversaries:

30th Jim & Maxine Smith

Please contact Church office if there are any additions or corrections to the birthday & anniversary list.

For prayer e-mail and/or bulletin prayer list requests please notify the church office, 328-1496 or crnrstone@comporium.net (office hours are Mon-Thurs 9-2 p.m.). When the church office is closed, leave a voice mail on office phone or you may also email, call or text church secretary, Cary Bartelmo, cbartelmo@comporium.net; 803-372-7923.

Debbie Jackson has a Card Ministry—please contact her if you would like someone to receive a greeting card. 803-417-3510

To view the worship service each Sunday on Cornerstone's Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/CornerstoneUMCRockHill/>

Scripture Reader For February:

Feb. 2nd: Steph Pilecki
Feb. 9th: Ken Jones
Feb. 16th: Randy Hayes
Feb. 23rd: Diane Brewer

If you are interested in being a scripture reader for worship services, contact church office.

Acolyte Schedule For February:

Feb. 2nd: Elijah Henke
Feb. 9th: Gavin Sliva
Feb. 16th: Emery Sliva
Feb. 23rd: Teresa Boehme

Schedule for offering counters (Sunday mornings):

Feb. 2nd: Linda McCallum; Dan Sliva
Feb. 9th: Debbie Jackson; Diana Deyton
Feb. 16th: Vicky Castro; Randy Hayes
Feb. 23rd: Debbie Jackson; Howard McCallum

Schedule for Youth Sunday School Teachers:

Feb. 2nd: Kathy Hurley
Feb. 9th: Angela Constantine
Feb. 16th: Randy Hayes
Feb. 23rd: Dale Williams

Youth Group will meet the 3rd Sunday of each month from 5-7 p.m.

Individual snack items and k-cups are collected and taken to the hospice house each month by JoAnn Till and Marlene Dial. The collection basket is in the Wesley fellowship room.

There is leftover barbeque for sale from the UMM sale. \$15.00/lb.; \$2.00/cup slaw; \$2.00/cup beans.

Marlene Dial's new address: 1100 Ebinport Rd., Apt. D8, Rock Hill, SC 29732

Ty & Sherry Oxley's new address: 2341 Nuthatch Dr., Rock Hill, SC 29732. New email: sherryoxley@gmail.com

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 9:30 am Healthcare info gathering at Cornerstone
2 Communion -9:30 am Good Eats fellowship -9:45 am Sunday School -11 am Worship -12:15 pm Trustee meeting	3 10:30 am Devotional study at CUMC	4	5 6:00 pm Choir practice	6 6:00 pm Addie McClintock Circle at Cornerstone	7	8
9 -9:30 Good Eats -9:45 Sunday School -11 am Worship Souper Bowl lunch after worship	10 10:30 am Devotional study at CUMC	11 2:00 pm Wings of Faith Circle meeting at Cornerstone	12 6:00 pm Choir practice	13	14 Valentine's Day	15 -9-4:30 pm Lay Servant training at Woodland UMC -1-4 pm Senior Group (GPS) Valentine's Day party at Cornerstone
16 -9:30 am Good Eats fellowship -9:45 am S.S. -11 am Worship -5-7 pm Youth Group -1:30 Lay servant training conclude	17 President's Day No Devotional study 6:30 pm UMM meeting	18	19 6:00 pm Choir practice	20	21	22 1-3 pm Maxine Smith's birthday drop-in at her house
23 -9:30 am Good Eats fellowship -9:45 am Sunday School -11 am Worship	24 No Devotional study 6:30 pm UMM meeting Pastor on vacation	25 Pastor on vacation	26 6:00 pm Choir practice Pastor on vacation	27 Pastor on vacation	28 Pastor on vacation	
	<u>Youth S.S. Teachers:</u> 2nd: Kathy Hurley 9th: Angela Constantine 16th: Randy Hayes 23rd: Dale Williams	<u>Offering Counters</u> 2nd: L. McCallum Dan Sliva 9th: Debbie J.; Diana Deyton 16th: Vicky Castro; Randy Hayes 23rd: Debbie J.; H. McCallum	<u>Scripture Readers</u> 2nd: Steph Pilecki 9th: Ken Jones 16th: Randy Hayes 23rd: Diane Brewer	<u>Acolytes:</u> 2nd: Elijah Henke 9th: Gavin Sliva 16th: Emery Sliva 23rd: Teresa Boehme	<u>Opening & Closing:</u> Johnny Starnes <u>Altar Guild</u> Maxine Smith	<u>Sunday Worship Schedule:</u> 9:30 am Good Eats fellowship 9:45 am Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship Service

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 <i>Pastor on vacation</i>
2 Transfiguration Sunday -9:30 am Good Eats fellowship -9:45 am Sunday School -11 am Worship -12:15 pm Trustee meeting -Pastor on vacation	3 10:30 am Devotional study at CUMC	4	5 Ash Wednesday 5:30 pm Ash Wednesday service at CUMC	6 6:00 pm Addie McClintock Circle at Cornerstone	7	8
9 1st Sunday in Lent Communion -9:30 Good Eats -9:45 Sunday School -11 am Worship Daylight Saving Time begins	10 10:30 am Devotional study at CUMC	11 2:00 pm Wings of Faith Circle meeting at Cornerstone	12 6:00 pm Choir practice	13	14	15
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