

WUMC Weekly Update: April 3, 2024

1. Joyful, Joyful we adore thee!!

Joy was the word of the day for our Easter services last Sunday. We had about 80 join us for Sunrise Service that morning and about 120 for our 10 a.m. worship service. Jim Brooks, Dennis Mayer, a String Quartet, and the Chancel Choir made the day extra joyful with beautiful music to go along with the story of our risen Lord. The sermon of the day is attached but you will be far better served to watch the video of the service and experience the joy of the story told through music. Click [here to watch on Facebook](#) or [here to watch on YouTube](#).

If you didn't get a chance to watch the Tenebrae Service you can do that by clicking here [for Facebook](#) or [here for YouTube](#).

In April - our worship focus will be Living as Easter People - how does Easter change how we live today? We will also be speaking some on the upcoming General Conference and how we remain united, diverse, compassionate, and holy in the midst of conflict and challenges.

2. Bishop Carter is our guest preacher on April 28, 2024

We are excited to announce that in the midst of General Conference, Bishop Ken Carter will be our guest preacher at our 10 a.m. Sunday worship service. We would love for Bishop Carter to experience our joy, excitement, and growing spirit while he is with us so please plan to attend and bring those guests you have been inviting to come. Bishop Carter is the Bishop of the Western North Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church and has also served as the Bishop of the Florida Conference for many years. His ministry, up until his appointment as a Bishop, was lived out in the Western North Carolina Conference and we are blessed to have a Bishop that knows "us" so well.

3. General Conference 2024

Many of you have been following our General Conference plans for some time due to the disaffiliations and splintering of our denomination in recent years. This month our General Conference, which has been postponed since 2020, will finally meet in Charlotte, NC April 23 - May 3, 2024.

If you would like to know more about General Conference you can [click here to visit our WNCC page](#).

On that page you will see there is also a link to follow if you would like to volunteer at General Conference in the hospitality sector, helping our global brothers and sisters navigate hotels, airports, and the conference center.

We are also asking folks to be in prayer for those who are making decisions this year. Our theme is Be Still and Know God and our prayers are that the chaos of division will quiet into the peace and wisdom of God's path forward for our denomination. A prayer guide has been created and we ask that you join us in praying for GC2024. Here is a link to the guide. We will also have a few hardcopies available in the church if needed. [Prayer Guide for General Conference](#)

4. Bible Study

Wednesday, April 17th, Bible study will take church outside the doors. We will take supper to the homeless shelter and break bread with residents. Meet at church and carpool because parking is limited. We welcome anyone who would like to be involved in local missions.

Wednesday Night Bible Study will return on April 24 at 5:30 p.m. Bring you dinner with you if you wish. A more detailed plan will be provided later but our theme will be the Book of Revelation. We will explore how Revelation is more political commentary and spiritual hope than it is about end of times and tribulation. Join us for a deep look at a book many have feared and let's find the good news of Jesus that truly lies within.

5. Coffee with Karen will meet next week on Tuesday; April 9th at 10 at Talia's.

6. Relay for Life: *We have a few more opportunities to help in the fight against Cancer.*

Relay for Life BINGO Fundraiser – Friday; April 12th at 5pm

WUMC Fellowship Hall. (Suggested donation to play is \$20; extra cards will be \$10 each and \$5 Hotdog plates will also be available for purchase). Invite your friends and family out for a fun night out while supporting our local Relay for Life efforts. Prizes and door prizes are still needed. For more info, please see Christine Gambill.

Luminaries: The WUMC Sharing the Flame Relay for Life Team has luminaries for sale for a \$10 donation. Luminaries can be purchased in honor or in memory of anyone. They will be displayed at the May 10th Relay for Life event at the Rotary Fair Grounds in N. Wilkesboro. Forms can be picked at the church office. Forms and money should be turned into to Dottie no later than April 9th.

7. Make plans now to join the Friday Night Foodies this Friday at 5pm at Cagney's.

8. Some important dates:

Join us Sunday for worship at 10am & Sunday school in the Ecclesia Room at 11am.

TONIGHT – Bible Study tonight at 6pm but no Bible Study next week.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

UMM Annual Golf Tournament; Thursday; June 13th at Oakwoods Country Club.

(For more info or to sign up to play and/or to be a sponsor; please see Robert Rizoti or another member of the UMM)

American Red Cross Blood Drive will be in the fellowship hall on Monday; June 17th. For more info or to register, please see Margaret Cooper.

9. Prayer List (names in **BOLD** are our most recent prayer requests)

Dean Carroll (married to Dottie's best friend/first cousin will be having open heart surgery Friday or Monday depending on his labs).

Belinda Linville (Very close, longtime family friend to Tom Kinlaw and his sister) has been diagnosed with Cancer.

Chuck Byers, Susan Conway, Jim Day, **Charles Drum**, Kyson Farley, Billy & Kay Hayes, Françoise Hughes **Kent & Brenda Lunsford**, **John Mabry**, Sherry Mabry, **Joy Miller**, **Glenda Pierce**, Ann Snyder, Mary Summerford, Bob Taylor, Herb Taylor, **Tom Walters**, Sarah Webster, **T.A. Welborn**, Tempa Welborn, Ricky Wiles, Seth Wilson, Darlene Winslow, Ukraine, our planet in crisis, the US, Israel, Gaza and Middle East, and for God to bring Peace to all World Leaders.

NURSING FACILITIES: Betty Beshears (Rose Glen Manor), Mary Lou Brooks (Pruitt Health), Brenda Dale (Wilkes Health and Rehab), Bobbi Blake (Rose Glen Village), Wanda Garwood (Rose Glen Village), Barbara Groce (Villages of Wilkes), Jenny Miller (Westwood Hills Nursing and Rehab Facility), Caroline Randolph (The Pines in Davidson), Rosie Shephard (Rose Glen Manor)

Blessings,
Dottie