



The Circuit Rider



February 2023

JOHN

17:20-26

“I’m not praying only for but also for those who believe in me because of their word. I pray they will be one, Father, just as you are in me, and I am in you. I pray that they also will be in us, so that the world will believe that you sent me. I’ve given them the glory that you gave me so that they can be one just as we are one. I’m in them and you are in me so that they will be made perfectly one. Then the world will know that you sent me and that you have loved them just as you loved me.

“Father, I want those you gave me to be with me where I am. Then they can see my glory, which you gave me because you loved me before the creation of the world.

“Righteous Father, even the world didn’t know you, but I’ve known you, and these believers know that you sent me. I’ve made your name known to them and will continue to make it known so that your love for me will be in them, and I myself will be in them.” - Jesus

We expect that sometime in the not-so-distant future Camp United Methodist Church will gather as the Body of Christ to cast a vote on whether we remain connected as a United Methodist congregation or divorce from the denomination that has long been our denominational link for many years.

At this point, it doesn’t matter who said what or who did what. There were lines drawn in the sand and it’s time to gather around the “conference” table and decide who gets what. That’s the hard reality of divorce.

Divorce can be a difficult time for a family, and make no mistake, Camp United Methodist Church is family. The family of God. We are God’s children.

Soon, if not already, we begin to see and relate to each other in new ways, but the fracture of a family brings a challenge of learning new ways of doing things.

Like married couples that are divorcing, when members in a church divorce, the effects of divorce on the people can vary. Some react in a natural and understanding way, while others struggle with the transition.

Camp United Methodist Church

4807 Main Street
Shallotte, NC 28459
(910) 754-4840
cumc.office@atmc.net

Sunday Services

8:30 AM Praise & Worship
9:45 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM Traditional

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Some will lose interest in their journeys of faith and never regain their spiritual footing. Others will find it difficult to adapt to the changes. People will become emotionally sensitive while others will react in anger and feelings of guilt. That's only a few of the things we'll experience.

I wish I could take away the emotional rollercoaster Camp United Methodist Church is about to ride. The bumps, curves, the ups and downs are going to be frightening. But, be assured, I will be praying for you and with you, regardless of how the ending is scripted. ALL of you.

But more important than my praying for you, Jesus has made it abundantly clear that he is praying for us, too. Not only is Jesus praying for those who believe in Him, but also praying that Camp UMC and her people might in some miraculous way, be *one in Him* that we might *see His glory*.

Please, read the John passage again. Allow the words to take root as you prepare to face tomorrow and the upcoming days. But be assured, that when the sun rises on the future, Christ will be there to gather up the remnants.

A final story...

There was a man who, at the hour of his death, gathered his sons around him. He gave them a bunch of sticks, tied into a bundle, and asked the oldest son to try and break them. The son struggled to break the sticks in half but could not. One by one the brothers tried but failed in breaking the sticks. Then the father untied the bundle and handed each brother one stick and asked them each to break it. Easily, they snapped the limbs in half.

The moral of this lesson?
In unity is strength.

Pastor Terry

PRAYER FOR FEBRUARY

Lord God Almighty, your eyes watch over the whole world. We come before You with the evils that surround us still clinging to us. Shelter our lives in your hands. Give us Your strength to win through, even in suffering and need. For we are Yours, O Lord our God. You have chosen your people to fortify them and to free them from all evil. We beseech You to help us. May we feel Your presence among us. May Your word bear fruit in us to the everlasting honor of Your name.
Amen



I can see why they made February
the shortest month of the year?



Welcoming Service for Bishop Shelton

A worship service to celebrate the assignment of Bishop Connie Mitchell Shelton as resident bishop of the North Carolina Conference will be held on Sunday, Feb. 5th, beginning at 5:00PM. The service will be livestreamed at nccumc.org and on the **North Carolina Conference app**.

Bishop Shelton was elected to the episcopacy at the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference in November 2022 and comes to North Carolina from the Mississippi Conference. She has experience in a variety of ministry positions, including small-membership churches, director of Field Education at Duke Divinity School, Communications and Connectional Ministries Director for the Mississippi Conference and as a District Superintendent. Bishop Shelton also served as the Executive Director of the United Methodist Radio Hour broadcast for seven years as the weekly preacher.

She is married to the Rev. Dr. Joey Shelton, Dean of the Chapel and Director of Church Relations at Millsaps College. They have two daughters, Bailey and Jessica.

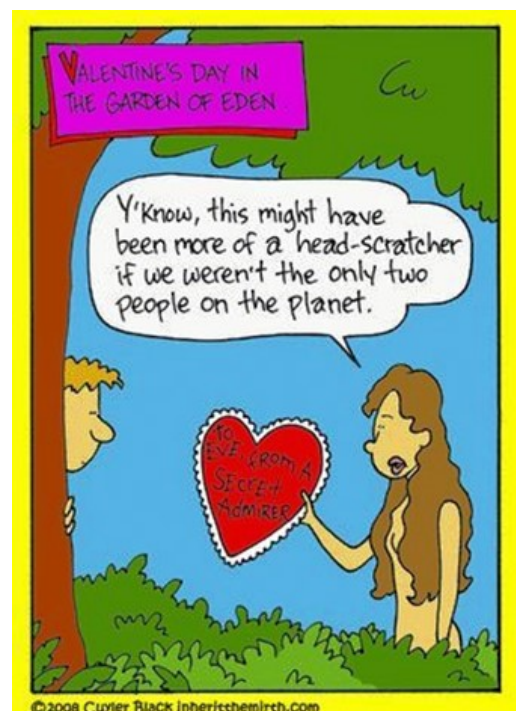


The Women in Faith (*formerly known as United Methodist Women*) will be holding a Valentine's Flower Sale. We will be in the Narthex with order forms on Sunday 1/29 and 2/5. You can place your order then and pick up your flowers for that special someone on Sunday, 2/12. The bouquet is only \$20 (*you will pay when you place your order*). The proceeds will benefit our mission projects for women and children in the local community. Any questions, please contact Laura Beaty at Laurazbeaty@gmail.com or 336-403-5311.

We will be having a Church Wide Yard Sale on April 29, 2023. As you are doing any cleaning out, please save things for the yard sale. We take everything but clothing. Look for more information in coming weeks.

Laura Beaty, President
Women in Faith

Did the person
who put the first
r in February
also decide
how to spell
Wednesday?



FIRST ANNUAL MARTIN LUTHER KING INTERFAITH PRAYER LUNCHEON

Camp's Agape Group held our first annual Interfaith Prayer Luncheon celebrating the life and legacy of the late Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on Monday, January 16th at noon. Local residents, government officials and church officials gathered to celebrate the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The Reverend Regina Henderson Moore shared a message of who God is and how he loves us all. A light luncheon immediately followed the service and several people gathered to break bread, share conversations, and get to know each other.

We are thankful for our corporate sponsors: Clean Laundry Wilmington, Eddy Jones Realtor, First Bank, Joe and Moe's Auto Service, Lewis Brothers Advertising and Sidelinger & Sidelinger.

It was truly an incredible day! Thank you to all who showed up to support the first of many Interfaith Prayer Luncheons!

Camp's Agape Group is a small group who gathers once a month who abides by this mission statement: "Our mission is to be like Jesus; love God and love our neighbors. We will build relationships with all people through joint activities, including worship, fellowship, community service, education, and conversations."



MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. QUOTES



"Agape does not begin by discriminating between worthy and unworthy people, or any qualities people possess. It begins by loving others for their sakes. It is an entirely 'neighbor-regarding concern for others,' which discovers the neighbor in every man it meets. Therefore, agape makes no distinction between friend and enemy; it is directed toward both.

"...it is not enough for us to talk about love. Love is one of the pivotal points of the Christian faith. There is another side called justice. And justice is really love in calculation. Justice is love in calculation. And justice correcting that which revolts against love."

"I have decided to stick with love. Hate is too great a burden to bear."

"Forgiveness is not an occasional act. It is a permanent attitude."

"Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase."

"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter."

LENT STARTS ON FEBRUARY 22nd

Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on **Ash Wednesday** and ends on **Holy Saturday**. The word "Lent" comes from the Anglo Saxon word *lencten*, meaning "lengthen" and refers to the lengthening days of spring. The forty days represents the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, enduring the temptation of Satan and preparing to begin his ministry.

Lent is a time of repentance, fasting and preparation for the coming of Easter. It is a time of self-examination and reflection. In the early church, Lent began as a period of fasting and preparation for baptism by new converts and then became a time of penance by all Christians. Today, Christians focus on relationship with God, growing as disciples and extending ourselves, often choosing to give up something or to volunteer and give of ourselves for others.

Sundays in Lent are not counted in the forty days because each Sunday represents a "mini-Easter." This is why you will see the designation "Sunday in Lent" rather than "Sunday of Lent" in the naming of these Sundays. On each Lord's Day in Lent, while Lenten fasts continue, the reverent spirit of Lent is tempered with joyful anticipation of the Resurrection.

LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES

Sponsored by the Greater Shallotte Ministerial Association
Wednesdays @12:00PM

February 22nd
Ash Wednesday

Saint Brendan Catholic
Speaker: Terry Williams

March 15th

Camp UMC
Speaker:
Fran Salon-Pelletier

March 1st
Seaside UMC
Speaker: TBA

March 22nd
Calvary Baptist
Speaker: TBA

March 8th
Saint Luke Lutheran
Speaker: George Chapman

March 29th
Shallotte Presbyterian
Speaker: Matt Farabow



Our young families went Christmas caroling to a few of our church members last month. It was a true treat!

Camp Kids resumed on January 11th. Our children and their parents continue to meet weekly on Wednesday evenings (5:00-7:00PM in the YFC) for a time of fellowship. We have been studying who John the Baptist is and the significant role he played in Jesus' life. All children ages birth-fifth grade are invited to participate in our Camp Kids ministry.

In the very near future, you will see a couple of new faces serving our church as Acolytes. We welcome **Mason Anderson & Hallie Albertson** to our acolyte program!

We will host a **Parents Night Out** on February 4th from 4:00-7:00PM in the toddler/nursery room. Children ages birth-12 years old are invited to attend!

Be on the lookout for more information about our next **children's fundraiser** in the near future! **Safe Sanctuary recertification classes** will take place throughout the month of February. I will send an email to those who need to be recertified!

I pray that you all have a wonderful February full of love and laughter! Remember to show peace and love to all of those around you!

In Christ,
Allison Hunter
Director of Children's Ministry



We are thrilled to be back meeting again after the holidays. We kicked off 2023 with a Glow in the Dark 9 Square game that was wicked fun! (See the photo before the game began.) Then you can see the photo of the group that gathered in front of the bus that headed to Lake Junaluska for the Youth Winter Retreat January 13-16th, twelve youth and three adults. We had perfect weather; some freshly fallen snow for sledding and Snow Tubing and then some warmer weather for being out walking and shopping, and more. The Speaker and band in Lake Junaluska were awesome, and we saw the youth just continue to grow and bond over the weekend. Opportunities like this are so important for our youth to experience.



Updates: The Soup-er Bowl fundraiser for February 12th has been cancelled, but we hope to host a Youth Car Wash and Bake Sale in the spring to continue to raise funds for our ministry. More details to follow. Youth group on the 12th has also been cancelled so our youth can enjoy the Super Bowl game with their friends and family.

Lastly, I want to say that we have been blessed with so many meal providers in the fall for our Sunday Night Snack Suppers for the youth. Thank you to each one! If you have been wanting to support our ministry in this way, we have a lot of open spaces to fill between March and May. The food does not have to be homemade. Usually we have pizza, sandwiches, tacos, and such. We ask that you prayerfully consider helping us individually, with a friend or family member, or as a Sunday school class like the Salmon class did. Thank you so very much! I hope to hear from you soon. You can reach me at: krlittlejohn@gmail.com, or 910-712-4565.

Kelly Littlejohn,
Youth Director

Local Missions

SBIC 2022 Food Pantry Highlights

Served: 4,142 Families (+ 10.4% over 2021)
13,701 individuals (+ 9.3% over 2021)
259 new families

Distributed: 297 holiday boxes
154 Thanksgiving boxes
143 Christmas boxes
833 Senior boxes
292 Hispanic bags.

Received from PORCH: 18,772 lbs. of food *

Moved Pantry: Now at 3610 Express Drive

Volunteers Hours: almost 4800 hours

*What is PORCH?

Neighbors helping neighbors. As **25.6%** of children in Brunswick County, NC, live in food insecure homes. A year-round problem of hunger affects our community. To help ensure our community, school and care resources can meet these needs **PORCH – South Brunswick** coordinates monthly neighborhood food drives in **25+** neighborhoods across southern Brunswick County. There is also a **PORCH – North Brunswick**, that coordinates a monthly food drive.

The Outreach committee provided breakfast for the staff of Union Elementary on January 23rd. The teachers were involved in training sessions on this day. We hope the biscuits provided started each day on a positive note for the staff!



Since 2008, with your help and generosity we have been serving the homeless and hurting in Brunswick County.

There are NO permanent shelters, NO community Kitchens and NO public transit system in Brunswick County. Streetreach advocates, mobilizes and provides temporary shelter, meals and linkage to other resources for those that are unsheltered.

We appreciate the support you have given us as we work to accomplish our goals.

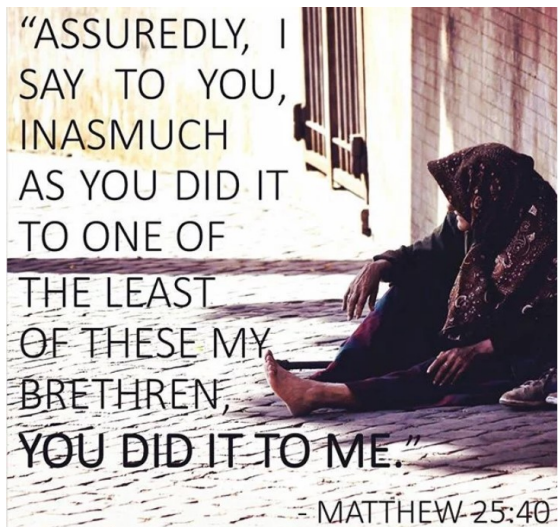
Donna & Garry Phelps
Streetreach



Twenty five (25) pints of blood were collected at the drive on January 5th.

EMERGENCY FUND CHRISTMAS DONATION

\$4,673 was raised for the Emergency fund. Many people will be served from this gift,





SALT is a group of seasoned believers that meet together, sharing the Word of God and caring for one another.



The mission of Camp's SALT ministry is to build and strengthen our relationship with Christ and with each other and to offer programs of fellowship and knowledge to help us navigate the ever-changing terrain that we call life.

Our February meeting will be held in the fellowship hall at 5:00 PM. WE will have chili, crackers and dessert.



Our next meeting will be February 20th. We will have Chili, crackers and desserts. Our program will be Valentine trivia games.

Our March meeting will be held on March 20th. We will have a St. Patrick Day celebration.

In April we will meet on the 17th of April. We are planning this event at this time. If there is some thing you would like to hear about or have more knowledge of please let me know. We would love to have you join us on the 3rd Monday night of each month.



FEBRUARY MILESTONES



1	Michael Nelson	9	Kimberly Williamson	20	Gail Williams
2	Beverley Hooks	10	Sadie Belle Floyd	21	Lynda Eagle
2	Craig Morris	11	Glenn Humbert	21	Angela Lawrence
2	Chris Simmons	11	Lissa Pait	21	Jill Murphy
2	Diane Sowder	12	Carolyn Jones	21	Elliott Page
3	Calvin Chandler	15	Amelia Harrelson	22	Taylor McEntarffer
3	Bill Clegg	15	Olivia Miller	22	Sean Naber
3	Joey Galloway	16	Beth Michelakis	24	Chris Mintz
3	Alyssa Meyer	16	Debbie Rupp	24	Cindy Williams
4	Susan Merriam	17	Bernie Babcock	25	Jim Antunes
4	Candy Minor	17	Geri Walker	26	Walker Whiteside
5	Ruthie Albertson	17	Joe Walker	27	Susan Pennock
5	Stephanie Page	19	Lisa Carr	28	John Braddy
5	Mary Richardson	19	Reilly McDonald	28	Jason McEntarffer
6	Jeanne Horton	20	Aubrey Anderson	28	Jimmy Register
9	Allison Hunter	20	Barbara Varnam	28	Frank Williamson



Morris & Hilda Hall	4 (67)
Jack & Rosie Scarborough	6 (58)
Tony & Cindy Howell	10 (44)
Jim & Chicky Wallace	17 (33)
Junior & kitty Reedy	29 (66)



DATES TO REMEMBER IN FEBRUARY

Feb. 4th	Parents Night Out	4:00-7:00PM
Feb. 5th	Welcoming Service-Bishop Shelton	5:00PM (live-stream)
Feb. 9th	Church Council	6:30PM
Feb. 14th	Valentines Day	
Feb. 20th	SALT Activity	5:00PM
Feb. 22nd	Ash Wednesday Service	7:-00PM



REGULARLY SCHEDULED EVENTS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3:00 Jail Ministry 5:30 Youth		9:30 Prayer Shawl 2:00 Basket Weavers	5:00 WW 5:30 Adult Study 5:30 Camp Kids 5:30 Kid Singers 5:55 Adult Choir 7:30 Bells	5:30 Praise Band	4:30 Community Meal	

Additional Events Listed Below

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 5:30 Safe Sanctuary Training	2 	3	4 4:00-7:00 Parents Night Out
5 Communion 9:30 Safe Sanctuary Training	6 4:00 SALT Planning	7	8	9 6:30 Church Council Meeting	10	11
12	13 4:00 Staff Meeting 6:00 Joy Circle 6:00 Trustees	14 10:00 Susanna Wesley 	15	16 6:30 Finance	17	18
19 12:15 Agape Meeting	20  5:00 SALT Activity	21 Shrove Tuesday 6:30 SPRC	22  7:00 Ash Wednesday Service	23	24	25
26	27 4:00 Staff Meeting 6:00 UMM	28				