



Stokesdale United Methodist Church

Where we are reflecting God's love in the heart of the community

January 17, 2021

Human Relations Day

"THOUGH WE CANNOT THINK ALIKE, MAY WE NOT LOVE ALIKE?"

JOHN WESLEY

WELCOME

LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING - UMH #519

Lift every voice and sing, till earth and heaven ring, ring with the harmonies of liberty; let our rejoicing rise high as the listening skies, let it resound loud as the rolling sea.

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us; sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us; facing the rising sun of our new day begun, let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod, felt in the days when hope unborn had died; yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet come to the place for which our fathers signed?

We have come over a way that with tears has been watered; we have come, treading our path thru the blood of the slaughtered, out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, thou who hast brought us thus far on the way; thou who hast by thy might led us into the light, keep us forever in the path, we pray.

Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee; lest our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee; shadowed beneath thy hand, may we forever stand, true to our God, true to our native land.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Prayers for our Shut-Ins

Betty Shelton

Judy York

Mike Hall

Carole Pegram

Leola Vaughn

Phyllis Warren

Diane Preddy

Lucille Friddle

Ruth Thomas

Prayers for our Servicemen

Brandon Estrada – Army

Christopher Quesenberry – Air Force

Jay Christopher – Navy

Roger Rich – Army

Chris Seagraves – Air Force

Craig Rush II – Army

Mike Tumlin – Army

Will Quesenberry – Marines

Prayers for others

Ann Grose

Becky Westmoreland

Betty Hawkins

Billy Hanks
Brian Landreth
Dee Mullins
Elise Jones
Grace Reed
Lucia Lane
Pat Elder
Sandra H. Leach
Silas Mitchell
The Tucker family

Bonnie & David Stratton
Carmen Wilmer
Dennis Finnk
Gene Tiesler
Jillian Jalovec
Matt Wray
Randi Smith
Sharon Ozment
Steve Joyce
Vartkes Ajemian

Boone family
Chris Griffin
Evon & Mitchael Lawson
Gosnell family
Lori Tuttle
Norma & Dock Coleman
Rylie Cole
Shay Black
Ted Southern
Yorkie York

Bessie Orell Cummings & family
Bruce Willard
Libby & Mark Walker
Edward Daniel Rose family (Denise, Robert, Catherine)

Bill Darnell
Harry Webster
Lori McKenzie

Family members of those who have died from COVID
Local & Small Businesses
Those residing in hospitals and nursing homes
Essential employees
All healthcare workers and First responders

PRAYER

We remember the conviction of Martin Luther King, Jr., that “freedom is never voluntarily given by the oppressor; it must be demanded by the oppressed.” Therefore, let us pray for courage and determination by those who are oppressed....

We remember Martin’s warning that “a negative peace which is the absence of tension” is less than “a positive peace which is the presence of justice.” Therefore, let us pray that those who work for peace in our world may cry out first for justice....

We remember Martin’s insight that “injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly affects all indirectly.” Therefore, let us pray that we may see nothing in isolation, but may know ourselves bound to one another and to all people under heaven...

We remember Martin’s lament that “the contemporary church is often a weak, ineffectual voice with an uncertain sound. It is so often the arch-supporter of the status quo. Far from being disturbed by the presence of the Church, the power structure of the average community is consoled by the Church’s silent and often vocal sanction of things as they are.” Therefore, let us pray that neither this congregation nor any congregation of Christ’s people may be silent in the face of wrong, but that we may be disturbers of the status quo when that is God’s call to us...

We remember Martin’s “hope that dark clouds of racial prejudice will soon pass away and the deep fog of misunderstanding will be lifted from our fear-drenched communities and in some not too distant tomorrow the radiant stars of love and brotherhood will shine over our great nation with all their scintillating beauty.” Therefore, in faith, let us commend ourselves and our work for justice to the goodness of almighty God.

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

WE SHALL OVERCOME – UMH #533, v. 1 &2

We shall overcome, we shall overcome, we shall overcome someday! Oh deep, in my heart I do believe we shall overcome some day!

We'll walk hand in hand, we'll walk hand in hand, we'll walk hand in hand some day! Oh, deep in my heart I do believe we'll walk hand in hand some day!

HUMAN RELATIONS DAY

Why do United Methodists observe Human Relations Day?

“Love each other like the members of your family. Be the best at showing honor to each other.”

— Romans 12:10, CEB

Human Relations Day is one way United Methodists participate in Dr. King's vision of “the beloved community.” That vision is for all people, leaders and institutions around the world to collaborate with such love in every community that hunger, poverty and homelessness are no longer allowed to exist. Work toward the bold vision of the beloved community requires persistent, sustained and sustainable on-the-ground leadership. It calls for participation by people and communities around the world. Our collective gifts on this day help build beloved community by supporting life-changing programs that reach out to neighborhoods and teens in crisis and share the love and hope of Jesus Christ.

WAYS TO GIVE

We offer FOUR ways you can give to the church:

1. Give on-line by clicking the on-line giving tab on our web-site, www.stokesdaleumc.org and click on the “GIVE” tab. If you would like to learn more contact the church office.
2. Bring your check to the church office on Monday or Thursday from 9am to 2pm.
3. Mail your check to Stokesdale United Methodist Church, P O Box 38, Stokesdale, NC 27357.
4. Set up bill pay through your bank, making check payable to Stokesdale United Methodist Church.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

GALATIANS 1:11-23

¹¹For I would have you know, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man.

¹²For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ.

¹³For you have heard of my former manner of life in Judaism, how I used to persecute the church of God beyond measure and tried to destroy it; ¹⁴and I was advancing in Judaism beyond many of my contemporaries among my countrymen, being more extremely zealous for my ancestral traditions. ¹⁵But when God, who had set me apart even from my mother's womb and called me through His grace, was pleased ¹⁶to reveal His Son in me so that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately consult with flesh and blood, ¹⁷nor

did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me; but I went away to Arabia, and returned once more to Damascus. ¹⁸Then three years later I went up to Jerusalem to become acquainted with Cephas, and stayed with him fifteen days. ¹⁹But I did not see any other of the apostles except James, the Lord's brother. ²⁰(Now in what I am writing to you, I assure you before God that I am not lying.) ²¹Then I went into the regions of Syria and Cilicia. ²²I was still unknown by sight to the churches of Judea which were in Christ; ²³but only, they kept hearing, "He who once persecuted us is now preaching the faith which he once tried to destroy."

ANTHEM

"I Believe"

SERMON

"Opening Ourselves to God"

Galatians' Good News for an Anxious Church: Part 2 of 6

Rev. Dr. Ed McKinney

WE'VE A STORY TO TELL THE NATIONS - UMH #569

We've a story to tell to the nations, that shall turn their hearts to the right, a story of truth and mercy, a story of peace and light, a story of peace and light.

For the darkness shall turn to dawning, and the dawning to noon day bright; and Christ's great kingdom shall come on earth, the kingdom of love and light.

We've a song to be sung to the nations, that shall lift their hearts to the Lord, a song that shall conquer evil and shatter the spear and sword, and shatter the spear and sword.

For the darkness shall turn to dawning, and the dawning to noon day bright; and Christ's great kingdom shall come on earth, the kingdom of love and light.

We've a message to give to the nations, that the Lord who reigneth above hath sent us his Son to save us, and show us that God is love, and show us that God is love.

For the darkness shall turn to dawning, and the dawning to noon day bright; and Christ's great kingdom shall come on earth, the kingdom of love and light.

We've a Savior to show to the nations, who the path of sorrow hath trod, that all of the world's great peoples might come to the truth of God, might come to the truth of God.

For the darkness shall turn to dawning, and the dawning to noon day bright; and Christ's great kingdom shall come on earth, the kingdom of love and light.

BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Ed McKinney, Pastor
Jeff Fink, Music Director
Beth Kasai, Music Assistant
Robin Howerton, Handbell Director
Linda Curtis, Office Manager

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 17

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General Budget as of January 11, 2021

CONTRIBUTIONS	\$9,467
ACTUAL EXPENSES \$487	
Amount Needed Year-to-Date	\$10,385

Land as of January 11, 2021

CONTRIBUTIONS \$228	
ACTUAL EXPENSES	\$1,466

We reflect God's love through our giving... Thank you for your extravagant generosity.

Fall Sunday School for children ages 5-11



Go on Facebook to Stokesdale UMC-Childrens Sunday School.
Craft supplies can be picked up in the church office.

Monday – Office Closed for Martin Luther King Day

6:30 PM - Girl Scouts

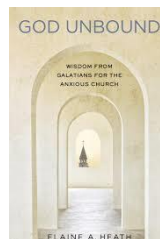
Tuesday evening @ 6:45 PM – Finance Meeting

7 PM – Admin Council

Wednesday evening @ 5:45 PM – Handbell Practice in the Fellowship Hall

7PM – Choir Practice in the Fellowship Hall and on ZOOM

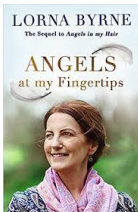
Thursday evening @ 6:15 PM – Word and Table in the Sanctuary and on Facebook Live.
Going through the Study "God Unbound" Wisdom from Galatians for the Anxious Church, by Elaine A. Heath



Thursday evening @ 7PM – Goshen Book Club



Reading “Next Year in Havana” by Chanel Cleeton



Also discussing “Angels At My Fingertips” by Lorna Byrne

Reading ahead for February: “Just Mercy” by Bryan Stevenson



Blood Drive **Stokesdale United Methodist Church**

Fellowship Hall
8305 Loyola Dr
Stokesdale, NC 27357

Tuesday, January 26, 2021
2:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

January 30th @ 9AM – Food Pantry Distribution *Bethel UMC hosting*

We continue to receive monetary donations for food for the Food Pantry.



Souper Soup Sale

The Missions Committee will be holding a Souper Soup Sale fundraiser to benefit Backpack Ministries. They will be offering homemade Potato, Chicken Noodle, or Chili soups by the quart container for the suggested donation of \$7.00 per quart on **February 6th** by drive-through pickup at the entrance of the church from 11am-2pm. ***Soup must be pre-ordered*** by contacting Rachel Reid at mrn1989@bellsouth.net, or by calling / texting Rachel at 336-508-0455 no later than Jan. 31st.



EVERYONE HAS A STORY. . .

The upcoming Lenten Season will mark one year since the beginning of the pandemic. Throughout this darkness and despair, we may have forgotten that we are a part of a community of faith where others have the same thoughts, feelings, and struggles. Also, we may have forgotten that we have a future filled with hope through Jesus Christ who has conquered death so we may have life.

The Missions Committee is giving us an opportunity to share our stories of faith through the struggle by providing a Lenten devotional booklet. From now through February 1, the church office will take your stories and publish them on-line and in print so they can inspire our community. Use the Upper Room devotionals as a model for your own testimony. Go to the following link to see their guidelines: <https://submissions.upperroom.org/guidelines>. Send your submissions to the church office via email to LindaCurtis@StokesdaleUMC.org or bring them to the church office by Monday, February 1st.

OPERATION EXCEL The Operation Excel Program through Oak Springs Baptist Church will begin using our Fellowship Hall the end of this month. If you are able to volunteer Monday – Friday from 3 to 6PM please let Elaine Christopher know.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

18th Mitchael Lawson
19th Mike Turner
21st Diane Preddy
22nd Nancy & Ted Southern
24th Alexandria Baxter
John Wray
26th Allison Harris
Steve Howerton
27th Mike Williams
28th Phyllis Green
Jamie Harte
Kevin Landreth
Suzanne Turner
29th Olivia Gannon
Louise Grotzinger
30th Scott Wilson

IN MEMORY OF . . .

of Peggy Joyce donations have been received from:

Bonnie Mills

Kathryn & Mark Richardson

The Greensboro Shrine Nascarts	Bobby Willard
Donna McCall	Nancy & Ted Southern
Robin & Steve Howerton	Fisher Caudle
Jeanne Hardin-Richardson	Linda & Douglas Wyrick

of Pat Thacker donations have been received from:

Kathryn & Mark Richardson	Linda & Grady Hubbard
The Class of Andrew	Donna McCall
Beverly & David Tucker	Rachel & Mike Reid
Robin & Charles Southard	

of Faye Case donations have been received from:

Donna McCall	Nancy & Ted Southern
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of Ruth & Charles Garrett donations have been received from:

Susan & John Stewart

o Ruby Matthews donations have been received from:

Jeanne Hardin-Richardson