



Shiloh United Methodist Church

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OUR MISSION

Shiloh United Methodist Church exists to glorify God by making disciples of Jesus Christ who delight in His worship, who nurture His people and who advance His kingdom.



From Dave's Desk...

My, how the world has changed! Just a few weeks ago we were busy at church planning meals & an auction & getting ready for Holy Week & Easter. And then, because of a virus & government restrictions, everything came to a screeching halt.

I don't have to tell you how life has changed. I know each of us has our own story. My primary prayer through all of this has been that all of us have remained healthy & avoided COVID-19. And God has been gracious in answering those prayers thus far.

Unfortunately, it seems we won't be celebrating Easter together, at least not in our traditional way. We won't get up early to worship at sunrise, then share a good breakfast prepared by our UM Men. We won't have a flower cross in the Sanctuary to worship under. A lot of things will be different this Easter. (At press time, we are working on a new way to worship on Easter – and every other Sunday.)

Yet I know of one thing that won't change: **THE TOMB WILL STILL BE EMPTY!!** We worship & serve a **RISEN Savior!** He is alive & working in the world today! His Spirit lives within each one of us! You ask me how I know he lives? He lives within my heart (and yours)! Let us live like resurrection people! I don't know when we will be allowed to gather once again as a congregation, but our Christian witness goes on. In every smile, every prayer, every act of service, the Spirit of Christ is alive & working. We all have been blessed so that we can be a blessing to others. Let's show others how people of faith respond to adversity!

I'll see you at the "resurrection" place – soon!

Dave

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4,5

April Ministry

Financial Counter: Cathy Berrier

At press time, all April activities have been cancelled due to the corona virus outbreak . If this situation changes, we will do our best to notify everyone.



Birthdays & Anniversaries**April**

1: Mark & Wanda Sink
 3: Ashley Johnson
 4: Anthony Everhart
 5: Noel Leatherman
 7: Austin Bishop; Clyde & Mae Houck; David & Jaime Swicegood
 9: Will Swicegood
 15: Bob & Brenda Bruton
 16: Wanda Sink

17: Andrew Sink; Bill & Libby Adams
 18 : Eli Bruff; Amelia Bruff
 19: Charity Williams
 20: Noel & Jean Leatherman
 24: Evan Michael
 26: Collin Potts
 27: Katherine York; Dwayne & Jessica Chapmon

STEWARDSHIP REPORT**General Fund – 2020 Operating**

Budget: \$211,146.16
 Needed Weekly - \$4,061.00

March (thru 2/22):

Receipts: \$12,687.00

Family Life Center – Loan Balance

(2/29) \$330,621.33
 Needed Weekly - \$1,044.00

March (thru 2/22):

Receipts: \$3,510.00

In Memory Of (thru 3/22)....**Family Life Center:**

Luther Davis by Bill & Libby Adams, by Jerry & Carmel Ritchie, by Noel & Jean Leatherman, by Tony & Cheryl Shoaf, by Virginia Weisner, by Wayne & Diane Sink, by Shiloh UMW, by Bob & Brenda Bruton, by Pattie Everhart, by Roy & Treva Cope, by Janet Miller & John Jones, by Billing's Retiree Club
Betty Barney by Gary & Cynthia Michael, by Ricky & Penny Canady, by the Willing Workers class, by Wayne & Diane Sink, by Roy & Treva Cope, by Jerry & Carmel Ritchie, by Bill & Libby Adams, by Odell & Linda Miller, by Shiloh UMW, by Jane Elmore, by Bob & Brenda Bruton, by Mary Berrier, by Gary & Debbie Leonard, by Clyde & Evelyn Hunt,
(continued next column)

In Memory of (thru 3/22)....**Family Life Center:**

Betty Barney by Noel & Jean Leatherman, by Virginia Weisner, by the Adult Bible Studies class, by Janet Miller & John Jones
Ruby Bayliff by Mary Berrier, by Tom & Fran Copley, by Tony & Cheryl Shoaf, by Martha Hege, by Clyde & Evelyn Hunt
Donald Fern by Bill & Libby Adams
Dorcas Mock by Bill & Libby Adams, by Tony & Cheryl Shoaf, by Jeanette L. Regan
Lula Michael by Franklin Michael

In Honor Of (thru 3/22)....**Family Life Center**

Myrtle Hege by Jerry & Carmel Ritchie, by Janet Miller & John Jones, by Gerald & Judy Sink, by Levi & Virginia Barney, by Wayne & Diane Sink
Janet Miller & John Jones by Darrell & Becky Koonts, by Odell & Linda Miller
George Barney by the Adult Bible Studies class



Members in Nursing Homes

Grayson Creek

Old US Hwy 52
Lexington, NC 27295

*Doris Leonard

Alston Brook

4748 Old Salisbury Road
Lexington, NC 27295

*Donese Sink

Mallard Ridge

9420 N. NC Hwy 150
Clemmons, NC 27012

*Jeanette Hege

*Myrtle Hege

Members & Friends in the Military(Active & Reserves)

LTJG Morgan Cope

Members: George Barney and family; Peggy, Scott , and Christopher Davis; Betsy Butts and family; Linda Miller and family; Mark Sink, Martha Hege, Betsy Butts; Bob Bruton; Judy Michael; Tyler Hege; Ronnie Hanes

Family & Friends: Bayne Koonts; Luella Ketner; Charles Dickens; Donald Spry: Steve Kelley; the family of Nelson McMahan; Randy Gobble; Connie McMahan; Gail Apruzzi; Fred Mock; Jack & Sylvia Smith; Kenneth Whitaker; Roxanne Brooks Wall; the family of Frank Greene; Melvin Clark; Jason, Tracy, & Trent Heitman; all doctors & nurses – especially those treating COVID-19 patients; all suffering from COVID-19 & all whose jobs are affected; General Conference 2020 – it will likely be rescheduled

Praises: March birthdays & anniversaries – we especially celebrate Myrtle Hege’s 101st; the life of Betty Barney; the life of Luther Davis; our Comfort Committee; our Outreach Committee & the life-changing work that they do/support; our community of believers; technology that allows us to worship remotely

*The Outreach Committee has had to postpone the Missions Auction due to the corona virus outbreak. We spoke about re-scheduling this event for September, but have not determined a date at press time. For April, we will be sending money to Jeremy Sink to support his mission work in Japan. We also talked about supporting the Pastors Pantry, here in Lexington, with canned meat products (such as tuna, ham, & chicken. They would also benefit from saltine crackers & canned pasta.

*49 2# bags of corn meal have been brought in for Crisis Ministry thru 3/15/20. Thanks!

*The Disaster Rebuild Team built a handicapped ramp on March 23rd off John Lookabill Road. Upon completion of this installation, it was decided to head on over to the Reeds area to recover a previously installed ramp and then unload it at Odell Miller’s house for future use in building another ramp. As always, the Lord provided plenty of willing workers for these projects!



A Story of Faith

The Hot Water Bottle by Dr. Helen Roseveare

One night I had worked hard to help a mother in the labor ward, but in spite of all we could do, she died, leaving us with a tiny, premature baby and a crying two-year old daughter. We would have difficulty keeping the baby alive as we had no special feeding facilities.

Although we lived on the equator, nights were often chilly with treacherous drafts. One student midwife went for the box we had for such babies and the cotton wool that the baby would be wrapped in. Another went to stoke up the fire and fill a hot water bottle. She came back shortly in distress to tell me that in filling the hot water bottle, it had burst (rubber perishes easily in tropical climates). “And it is our last hot water bottle!” she exclaimed. As in the West, it is no good crying over spilled milk, so in Central Africa it might be considered no good crying over burst water bottles. They do not grow on trees, and there are no drugstores down forest pathways. “All right,” I said, “put the baby as near the fire as you safely can, and sleep between the baby and the door to keep it free from drafts. Your job is to keep the baby warm.”

The following noon, as I did most days, I went to have prayers with any of the orphanage children who chose to gather with me. I gave the youngsters various suggestions of things to pray about and told them of the tiny baby. I explained our problem about keeping the baby warm enough, mentioning the hot water bottle, and that the baby could easily die if it got chills. I also told them of the two-year sister, crying because her mother had died.

During prayer time, one ten-year old girl, Ruth, prayed with the usual blunt conciseness of our African children. “Please, God,” she prayed, “Send us a hot water bottle today. It’ll be no good tomorrow, God, as the baby will be dead, so please send it this afternoon.” While I gasped inwardly at the audacity of the prayer, she added, “And while you are at it, would you please send a doll for the little girl so she’ll know You really love her?”

As often with children’s prayers, I was put on the spot. Could I honestly say “Amen?” I just did not believe that God could do this. Oh, yes, I know that he can do everything, the Bible says so. But there are limits, aren’t there? The only way God could answer this prayer would be by sending me a parcel from the homeland. I had been in Africa for almost four years at that time, and I had never ever received a parcel from home. Anyway, if anyone did send me a parcel, who would put in a hot water bottle? I lived on the equator!

Halfway through the afternoon, while I was teaching in the nurses’ training school, a message was sent that there was a car at my front door. By the time I reached home, the car had gone, but there on the verandah was a large 22-pound parcel. I felt tears filling my eyes. I could not open the parcel alone, so I sent for the orphanage children. Together we pulled off the string, carefully undoing each knot. We folded the paper, taking care not to tear it unduly. Excitement was mounting. Some thirty or forty pairs of eyes were focused on the large cardboard box. From the top, I lifted out brightly colored, knitted jerseys. Eyes sparkled as I gave them out. Then there were the knitted bandages for the leprosy patients and the children looked a little bored. Then came a box of mixed raisins and sultanas—that would make a batch of buns for the weekend. Then I put my hand in again, I felt the...could it really be?

I grasped and pulled it out. Yes, a brand new, hot water bottle. I cried. I had not asked God to send it, I had not truly believed that He could. Ruth was in the front row of the children. She rushed forward, crying out, “If God has sent the bottle, He must have sent the doll, too.” Rummaging down to the bottom of the box, she pulled out the small, beautifully dressed doll. Her eyes shone! She had never doubted! Looking up at me, she asked, “Can I go over with you and give this doll to that little girl, so she’ll know that Jesus really loves her?” “Of course,” I replied!

That parcel had been on the way for five whole months, packed up by my Sunday school class, whose leader had heard and obeyed God’s prompting to send a hot water bottle, even to the equator. And one of the girls had put in a doll for an African child-five months before, in answer to the believing prayer of a ten-year old to bring it that afternoon.

Isaiah 65:24 – Before they call, I will answer. – Submitted by Roy Cope

Food Pantry News

West Davidson Food Pantry served **556** people in February. The number of food insecure people around us is growing each day because of COVID-19 restrictions & closings.

By giving financially or donating food to WDFP, you are helping your neighbors. It is needed now more than ever.

Bible Study in April

At press time, gathering in groups in April was still not allowed. Watch the Sunday bulletin – if there is one – or my weekly emails for details on our next study.

The study, when possible, is on Wednesdays at 6:30 PM in the Family Life Center. Ice cream & toppings are served at 6:00. Youth meet in the Youth Center 6:30 to 8:00.

Shiloh Seniors

The April outing has been cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions. On Thursday, May 12, the plan is to travel to Gold Hill. The group will stroll along the wooden sidewalks of this restored 19th century gold-mining town. The village has quaint shops in which you may wish to browse. Lunch will be at Mama T's. The annual Grandparent/Grandchild Day is planned for Thursday, June 11. This year the group will meet at Stanley Koonts' off Andrew Sink Road. Hot dogs & hamburgers will be grilled for a Noon lunch. Bring your grandchildren, fishing gear, yard chairs, and a dessert, & enjoy the day.

Offerings

You may give your offering to Shiloh by mailing it to Shiloh or by dropping a check off at the church (call first if you don't have keys)

Online Offerings

Dr. Mark King, WNCC Conference Treasurer, has arranged for our churches to have an easy, online giving method without monthly service fees (which most of the online donation firms charge). You may make your donation to Shiloh at: www.wnccumc.org/online-donations-to-churches

Our district is Yadkin Valley. Once you fill in the top section, you have the choice to use a debit/credit card or bank account. The credit card companies charge 2.9% of the donation as a convenience charge; this doesn't go to the conference and there is no way around this if cards are used. The conference will forward all gifts (minus the convenience fee for cards) received to Shiloh. You may want to pay the "convenience fee" if you would like for your full tithe to be given to the church. Note that use of a bank account does not engender a fee.

April Events Calendar

Since all April church events have been cancelled due to corona virus restrictions, no calendar is included in this month's newsletter.

