

# *The Methodist Messenger*

AUGUST 2020

Whiteville United Methodist Church

Sunday School - 9:00 a.m.

Sunday Worship Service - 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday Communion Service - 6:00 p.m.

## **Transformed Experiences**

As we are created in the image of God – the imago dei – each one of us bears evidence of the divine within us. Who we are, in some way, is formed by that image of God within us. However, there has been the longstanding debate over which is more important in determining who a person will become – nature or nurture. Are we born with certain tendencies, or are we formed by our environment and our experiences? Personally, I think it is both. Obviously, Jesus had more than just a reflection of the divine in him – as he walked the earth, he was indeed God. Yet, as he grew, he was surely formed by the people he met and the places he went. You and I are the same way. We, too, are formed by the people we meet and the places we experience. As you look in the mirror, while your external visage may be the same, you are not the same person you were 10 days ago or 10 years ago. On this pilgrimage through life you have walked in many places, you have met many people, and you have had many experiences. I invite you to sit for a moment and listen to your spirit. What experience, person, place has affected you the most? How are you different? What insights or transformations have you experienced? How have you been reminded of the graceful majesty that is the love of God for you?

This world is not a complicated place. There is dirt, there are plants, there is water, and there are people. Yet, as you have journeyed from day to day, in the midst of the ordinary I hope that you have sensed the Divine. And that the Holy Spirit of God has cultivated a new heart in you full of insight and longing. You are created in the image of God. I pray that as you make this earthly pilgrimage your formation enables you to see the world and its people through the Lord's eyes and with the Lord's heart.

Grace and peace,  
Pastor Terry

### WORSHIP COMMITTEE

The Worship Committee met on June 14, 2020. We are most grateful to all who have helped to make our Worship Services meaningful, while also adhering to safety precautions for our church family. Our committee will be working closely with the COVID-19 Advisory Team and will follow their recommendations and guidelines as we prepare to use our church's facilities and re-gather in the weeks to come.

Once again, on behalf of the Worship Committee, I want to thank those of you who have placed flowers in the sanctuary this summer. There's nothing like the vibrant colors radiating from the front of the church. Sunday after Sunday, we have also been blessed with beautiful music. Recently, Gus Cothorn and Nan Leggett played a duet, while Chalmers Waddell, Dr. Hunt and his wife, Gloria, shared beautiful choral selections with us during our Worship Services. Thank you for sharing your talents with us. Gus tells me there will be more special music in August!

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, September 15, 2020, at 5:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.  
– Betty Gray, Chair

### ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS QUARTERLY

The current Adult Sunday School Class quarterly is available on the table outside the Church Office. You may pick up your copy from there. Thank you!

### AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

August 13, 2020

2:00 pm - 6:30 pm

WUMC Fellowship Hall

Added safety steps will be taken by all Red Cross staff to ensure COVID-19 precautions are followed.

Face masks are required. Please remember to bring a picture ID and come well hydrated. Donors are encouraged to visit

[www.redcrossblood.org/rapidpass](http://www.redcrossblood.org/rapidpass) the day of the drive to answer the online health history questions to decrease wait time.

We need all eligible donors!

For an appointment call:  
Peggy Huffman at 910-356-0099 or  
Pat Ray at 910-770-1078.

## A GREAT, BIG THANK YOU

Whiteville United Methodist Church, thank you for the memorable June 21 Service of Worship. We were grateful to see, and speak with, so many of you. You blessed us with much encouragement for the days ahead. Also, thank you for the many, many delicious cookies. The entire Stallworth family enjoyed them over what could be called the retirement weekend. Also, we will find that the various treats in the gift basket hitting the spot, and giving us a little more energy, especially when the move gets seriously underway. In addition, we are grateful for the cards, notes and phone calls to wish us well in retirement. Every one of them has been deeply appreciated. Finally, thank you for the sacrificial love shown in the very generous financial gift. It will help us to get settled in our home in the near future. Know that we thank God, and you, for our years at Whiteville United Methodist Church. Also, we are profoundly grateful for Dr. Terry Hunt and for the faithful ministry he is bringing to the Whiteville Church. As usual: continue faithful, to Christ and His Church, for the sake of the world.

With love and in Christ,  
Marsha and Paul Stallworth

## WUMC FOOD PANTRY

We have continued to provide Food Pantry bags throughout the COVID-19 pandemic by placing the cart of packed food bags on the sidewalk in front of the Church Office. This allows for safe distancing. Anne Williamson or myself are on hand to monitor the cart and replenish the bags as needed. Thank you for your generous donations to this wonderful and important outreach ministry in our church. May God always be with you.

– Beth Bullard

## OUTREACH

We all are part of personal giving with our prayers, words of encouragement and hope, and joyous actions at this difficult time. On behalf of this church community, financial support has been given this year to:

Families First - \$500 of \$2000 budget

Missionary salary support - \$1800 for Vickie Sigmon, Community Service in Winston-Salem and \$1800 for Mozart Adevu for his work on Sustainable Agriculture with local communities in western Africa.

Rise Against Hunger - \$1000 budgeted for meal packaging event (postponed indefinitely) was sent to be used toward transportation of medical supplies where needed around the world

When it is possible for Selma Adevu to resume her medical school training, the clinical studies are on hold, we will contribute \$1000 toward her tuition.

We support other local groups and will do so with Pridgen Endowment funds designated for local missions but not shown as part of the church budget.

Our congregation continues to “pay it forward” by supporting local, national and global efforts to show the light and love of Jesus.

Thank you for your interest and support.

– Carolyn Hankins, Outreach team leader

## FINANCE REPORT

Good news, we received the SBA forgivable Payroll Protection Program loan proceeds of \$25,690 on July 15<sup>th</sup>. The loan will be forgiven after eight weeks if we meet the terms and conditions.

For the first half of this unusual pandemic shutdown year we have done relatively well financially. As of June 30<sup>th</sup>, our general fund offerings were \$131,848 and our expenses were \$138,086. The \$6,238 shortage was funded from our reserves. We have maintained a \$23,000 reserve balance for several years as a rainy day balance. Expenses included our annual insurance premiums of \$15,974. We did however stop paying apportionments and outreach donations at the end of March. Our offerings to-date are \$8,911 less than last June 30<sup>th</sup>. Many thanks to our committees for limiting expenses during these trying times.

At mid-year we are \$22,756 behind our budget. The SBA loan will catch us up. The committee will begin working on next year’s budget in August. We will also discuss resuming apportionment payments and outreach mission donations.

We are blessed to have two volunteers, Olive Shuping and Dick Simms, who are handling our treasurer’s duties during Tammie Anderson’s emergency family medical leave.

Worship service attendance has not been taken during the pandemic shutdown.

Thank you for your continuing financial support during these trying times.

Please stay safe and trust that God will meet all our needs if we are faithful.

– Tom Leggett, Finance Chair

## August 2020

**This calendar is in flux, due to the virus.**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship	3	4	5  6:00 p.m. Holy Communion	6	7	8
9 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship	10 6:30 p.m. C. T. High Preaching Mission Committee Meeting/Parlor	11	12 12 to 4:00 p.m. Preschool Parent Info Mtg./Fellowship Hall  6:00 p.m. Holy Communion	13 2:00 - 6:30 p.m. Red Cross Blood Drive/Fellowship Hall	14	15
16 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship	17 WUMC Preschool begins 2020/2021 school year	18	19  6:00 p.m. Holy Communion	20	21	22 Disaster Recovery Team Mtg./Fellowship Hall
23 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship	24	25	26  6:00 p.m. Holy Communion	27	28	29
30 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship	31					

BIRTHDAYS IN AUGUST

2 <sup>nd</sup> Thomas McLam	25 <sup>th</sup> Layton Dowless
6 <sup>th</sup> Phil Stoll	28 <sup>th</sup> Marty Sellers
17 <sup>th</sup> Ben Sauls	30 <sup>th</sup> Rob Conway
18 <sup>th</sup> Nicolas Bell	31 <sup>st</sup> Margie Rabon
19 <sup>th</sup> John Duncan	Olivia Jane Dowdy

Kathy Graham, Administrative Assistant  
Monday-Thursday/9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Layton Dowless, Custodian  
Monday-Friday/7:30-11:30 a.m.

Tammie Anderson, Treasurer  
Friday/4:00-6:00 p.m. (or later)

Dr. Terry Hunt, Pastor  
910-374-0706

Whiteville United Methodist Church  
902 Pinckney Street/Whiteville, NC 28472  
(910) 642-3376  
website: [www.whitevilleumc.org](http://www.whitevilleumc.org)

Our Service of Worship is broadcast on WTXY 1540 AM and 103.9 FM from 10:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. on Sundays. Also it is available online at [www.Kool1039radio.com](http://www.Kool1039radio.com). Click on the “Web Audio Player” applet. To listen to the entire service, go to: <https://lynx.prostreaming.net:2199/start/unitedmethodist/> and click on the Web Audio Player applet. For either choice, you may need to enable Adobe Flash. There is now a link to the radio station on our church web page at [www.whitevilleumc.org](http://www.whitevilleumc.org). Click on “Stream Live Service Sundays at 10:00 a.m.”

Mission Statement of Whiteville United Methodist Church

As people of the body of Christ, we will gather for and be strengthened by Word and Sacraments, participate in loving fellowship, grow in discipleship, and serve our community and the world in Christ’s name.