

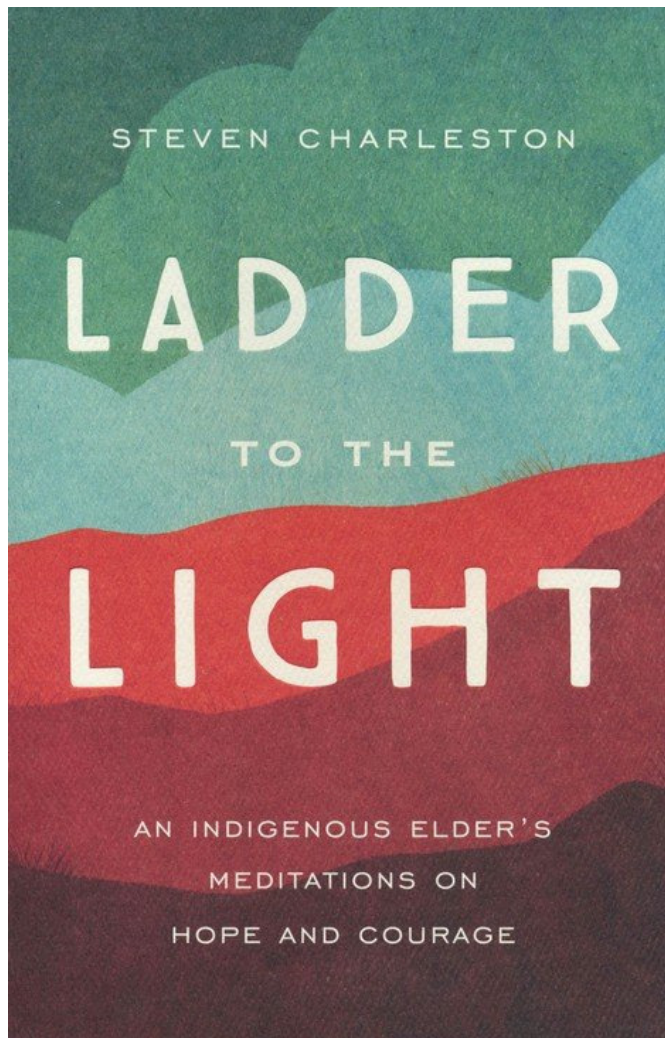
From Pastor Molly

"Darkness will not last forever. We can climb toward the light."

Beginning this week, we will be reading the book *Ladder to the Light: An Indigenous Elder's Meditations on Hope and Courage* by Choctaw elder, Episcopal Bishop, and divinity professor Steven Charleston. I picked up this book before in early December at the beginning of Advent. The world has been in such turmoil for the past few years. I had no idea how important Bishop Charleston's words would be for me now as the turmoil in my personal world reaches a crescendo. He writes, *"The ascent to the light begins within each of us. It is an ability to trust what we cannot see."* Trusting what I cannot see is how I get out of

bed and put one foot in front of the other.

Over the past year I have been learning a great deal from Indigenous Christian theologians and practitioners of faith. Looking at faith through the lens of a different cultural perspective than my own has provided an opportunity for my spirit to grow and to understand in new ways. Bishop Charleston continues to face the challenges of the world with hope and courage. Raised by a long line of indigenous elders and Christian preachers, Charleston has learned to cultivate resiliency in his spirit and in his community. He has learned to trust what he cannot see – even when the darkness tries to snuff out the light.



Ladder to the Light is only one of the small groups that we will offer at Hayes Barton United Methodist Church this spring. (See more details on page 4.) If you've never been part of a small group study before, I encourage you to join one of our groups. My own faith has been shaped and formed by various types of small groups over the years. For me, small group faith formation has been (and continues to be) the place where I develop deeper appreciation for the mysteries and miracles of God – how one small light can illuminate the darkness. Find the complete list of groups on our HBUMC Spiritual Formation page:

www.hbumc.org/formation

Please feel free to email me with questions.

To close, a prayer from Bishop Charleston:

"Give me one more day, Spirit I pray, to do what I do not want to leave unfinished. I have forgiveness to offer, compassion to share, an important message to deliver. I have acts of love to fulfill and stories to tell. I have someone's hand I need to hold and more thanks-yous to say than I can number. Give me one more day, please Spirit, that I may strive for justice and embody faith among all those with whom I live this day."

Your sister in Christ,
Pastor Molly



Habitat for Humanity Methodist Build and Race & Housing Dialogue

Hayes Barton UMC is partnering with several other Methodist churches in the area to build a house for a family originally from Morocco with two elementary age children. Learn more and sign up for one of two dates (Saturdays, Feb. 18 and Mar. 25) at hbumc.org/signups.

Members are also invited to be in dialogue about housing issues in our community as we work to build a home. On **Thursday, February 2 from 7-8:30pm**, Millbrook UMC, Amanah AMEZ, and Union Bethel AME are hosting a Race & Housing Dialogue at Millbrook UMC (1712 E. Millbrook Rd, Raleigh). We will watch *Segregated By Design*, a 17-minute documentary based on the book *The Color of Law*. This documentary examines the often-forgotten history of how our federal, state and local governments unconstitutionally segregated every metropolitan area in America through law and policy and the lasting impact it has today. We will watch the film together, and then break out in smaller groups to discuss. Then we will talk about how to advocate for changed policies, especially after the last election season. Please join us for this important conversation. We are intentionally inviting Black and white congregations to participate because our experience has been that this leads to the most compelling dialogue. We are asking everyone to register using the link:

habitatwakeorg.sharepoint.com/:x/s/faithrelationsteam/ES-UthMa4U5Ks7ybGJYdC6oBRRsDmphi_4IKnX3tAR5ngQ?rtime=e9DmVbH32kg

Next New Member Class

The new member class is separated into two parts, so please plan to attend both days. Lunch will be provided on Jan. 22. Childcare is provided upon request.

Jan. 22 - Exploring Membership Class 1
12:15-2:15 pm in the Fellowship Hall

Jan. 29 - Exploring Membership Class 2
10:00-11:00 am

Feb. 12 - New members join at any service:
8:30 Traditional, 9:00 Contemporary or 11:00 Traditional

Questions: Amy H. Piland
Director of Membership & Lay Involvement
919.832.6435 x1127, apiland@hbumc.org

The Commissioner



Will You Be a Lookout for Jesus?

January is Stephen Ministry Month at Hayes Barton United Methodist Church. Stephen Ministers are lay caregivers who provide, confidential, one-to-one care to members of our congregation and community who are experiencing difficulties in their lives.

Many friends in our congregation and in our community are facing tough times. Our Stephen Ministry Program can help these friends. Will you help us by being on the lookout for members of our congregation who are facing challenges such as these:

- Loss of a spouse, parent or child
- Loss of a job
- Divorce
- Health challenges
- Crisis of faith
- Significant life transition

Challenges like these are only compounded by the isolation and loneliness brought by the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Stephen Ministers can help people work through these challenges. Stephen Ministry is confidential and Christ-centered. It is a non-judgmental walk alongside a hurting person for as long as needed. Members of our congregation trained as Stephen Ministers can help people who are hurting from life challenges. The 30 Stephen Ministers in our congregation have received 50 hours of training over a 3-month period learning caregiving skills.

Stephen Ministers meet with one care receiver at a time once a week for about an hour. One of the key points about this ministry is that it is COMPLETELY CONFIDENTIAL. The only people who know the identity of a care receiver are the care receiver him or herself, his or her Stephen Minister and the pastor who linked the two together.

Everyone at Hayes Barton can help care for each other by recognizing someone's need for care and helping them find it through the Stephen Ministry. You know what your friends, covenant group and Sunday School members are facing. We need you - as the eyes and ears of Jesus - to tell a friend, coworker or relative who is hurting about Stephen Ministry. Ask permission to confidentially give their name and phone number to one of our referral coordinators:

Becky Balentine, bbalentine1025@gmail.com,
or Pastor Matt Ashburn, mashburn@hbumc.org.

One of them can contact the person and talk to them more about the details of Stephen Ministry and whether Stephen Ministry is appropriate for their situation.

STEPHEN MINISTRY by the NUMBERS

Hayes Barton United Methodist Church

Offering Christ, community, and confidential compassion to people experiencing difficulties.

“Bear one another’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.” Galatians 6:2

31

Stephen Ministry has thrived at Hayes Barton for 31 years. Becky Balentine started the ministry here in January 1992.

216

Since 1992, our Stephen Leaders have trained 216 Stephen Ministers, including 34 from other area churches.

21,903

Hayes Barton UMC Stephen Ministers have provided 21,903 hours of care since 1992. They gave care for 968 hours in 2022.

Since beginning Stephen Ministry, 509 hurting people have received Christ-centered care from Hayes Barton UMC’s Stephen Ministers.

509

Hayes Barton UMC has sent 35 people, ten of whom were pastors or associate pastors, to be trained as Stephen Leaders, people who coordinate and lead Stephen Ministry.

35

21

We have trained 21 groups of lay Stephen Ministers.



Contact Becky Balentine at 919-601-8682, bbalentine1025@gmail.com or Matt Ashburn at 919-832-6435, mashburn@hbumc.org for more information. All inquiries are confidential. hbumc.org/support

January 1, 2023

Winter/Spring Book and Bible Studies

Sign up for studies at hbumc.org/formation except where indicated.

***Don't Look Back: Methodist Hope for What Comes Next* by Will Willimon**

Wednesdays, beginning on **January 18**, at 6:30pm in person with Pastor Molly and Pastor David. Are you new to The United Methodist Church? Are you a lifelong Methodist? Let's talk about what's next for The UMC as our denomination is experiencing change. Join us for a discussion of practical, scriptural, and theological avenues of hope for our United Methodist denomination — and for our Hayes Barton UMC.

Baby Steps: Navigating Parenthood

Wednesdays, beginning on **January 18**, at 6:30pm in person with Pastor Matt and Meagan Knowles. A weekly conversation for parents of young children seeking community and collective wisdom. The guide for these sessions will be the Guideposts in The Gifts of Imperfection by Brené Brown. The book is optional. All are welcome!

***Everybody, Always* by Bob Goff**

Wednesdays, beginning on **January 18**, at 6:30pm in person with Kat Moncol. In this study we will learn to love people right where we are through serving and helping our neighbors. Life is messy, but God leads us one step at a time. Join us for lively discussion as we explore this book through video and structured discussion activities.

***Ladder to the Light: An Indigenous Elder's Meditations on Hope & Courage* by Steven Charleston**

Wednesdays, beginning on **January 18**, at 10:00am in person

with Pastor Molly. Member of the Choctaw Nation and Episcopalian Bishop Charleston shares wisdom formed from the combination of his symbiotic identities. We'll discuss this beautiful and practical meditation on searching for hope in our current cultural context, and we'll explore new ways of imagining Scripture with the First Nations Version of the New Testament.

Back to Basics Bible Study: The New Testament

Sundays, beginning on **February 12**, at 5:00pm in person or via Zoom with Pastor Molly. Spend time this spring with Jesus and his disciples in the New Testament. Each week we'll go over basics from different books from the Gospels, Letters, and Revelation.

So That Living or Dying, Our Life May Be In You: An End of Life Lenten Series

Sundays, **March 5, 12, 19** from 3:00-5:00pm in person with Pastor Laura and Rev. Cameron Merrill (Hillsborough UMC). Preparing for death is rarely a favorite topic of conversation, and most of us go our whole lives not thinking about or planning for our own. And yet it will come all the same—often leaving loved ones to scramble to make decisions while grieving themselves. Join us for a series of conversations on what a good death can be, how we can plan now with our family and friends, and how to look toward our end with hope and grace.

Lectionary Group

Every Thursday morning at 10:00am

Join our pastors for a spirited discussion of the upcoming preaching text for the week. In person or via Zoom. No sign up required. Email Cheryl at cfortuneau@hbumc.org for a Zoom link.

HBUMP Teachers of the Month

November Teacher of the Month: Congratulations to Susan Johnson, our lead My Morning Out Teacher. Susan has worked with HBUMP's youngest students for 23 years! Susan is often the first person to shape our preschoolers' worldview of school. She immediately instills a deep love of the learning in the classroom. Life in the toddler room is often unpredictable, but Susan has the most incredible reserve of patience that many of us have ever witnessed. She takes initiative when meeting her students' needs and is proactive rather than reactive. Susan approaches every challenge with thoughtfulness and flexibility.

Susan is a native of Williamston, NC, a graduate of Meredith College, and a member of Christ Church. She and husband, Dick Johnson, are proud parents of Sarah and Richard. Susan loves spending time at the beach, singing in the Junior League Chorus, and reading.

December Teacher of the Month: Congratulations to Mor-

gen Bengel, one of our 4s assistant teachers. Morgen's nomination read, "She is so much more than an assistant teacher. Instead of an assistant, she is a phenomenal, intuitive, and proactive co-teacher. Morgen anticipates what I need, and what the children need, before I can even ask for it. She is delightful to work with, and always in a good mood. Our preschool is incredibly lucky to have her with us."

Originally from the Midwest, she has her Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from Indiana University with an additional certification specializing in reading instruction. Morgen has a passion for encouraging early literacy skills in the classroom. Morgen has taught Kindergarten, First grade, and Reading Intervention, most recently at Hunter Elementary School. She and her husband Nick have two little girls, Charlie and Emmie, who both attend the preschool. In her free time Morgen enjoys taking her girls on adventures around downtown Raleigh, spending time as a family at the beach, reading, and walking around Fallon Park with her Saint Bernard dog, Baloo.

Sympathy and Love to

- ✝ Suzzette Acree and family on the death of her mother, Doris Jennings, on January 3. Her service was held on January 7 at Pleasant Union Christian Church, Newton Grove.
- ✝ the family and friends of Bill Marley, Jr., who died on January 4. His service was held on January 15 at Hayes Barton.
- ✝ David Moncol and family on the death of his sister, Lauren King, on January 10.
- ✝ Liz Queen and family on the death of her grandmother, Ruby Boll, on December 30. Her service was held on January 13 at St. Mary's Church, Ironton, Ohio.

Births

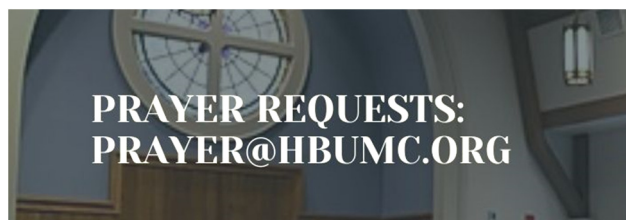
- ✝ Everett George Leese, son of Robert & Kayla Leese, grandson of Craig & Kristin Leese, was born on December 24.
- ✝ Marigold McMillan Troxler, daughter of Isabelle & James Troxler, granddaughter of Alexandra & Sam Mordecai, was born on December 28.

Baptism

Ann Bishop Alligood, daughter of Olivia and Thomas Alligood, was baptized at the 11 am service on January 8.

Memorial Gifts Processed by January 12

- In Memory of **Kent Burns** by William & Ann Collins.
- In Memory of **Katie Lee Ward Geddie** by Sheila D. Woods.
- In Honor of my Granddaughter **Ann Safrit Grew's** 5th Birthday by Ann Benson.
- In Memory of **Wilson Hayman** to the Special Music Fund by Mary M. Massey.
- In Honor of **Jane Holding & the JOY Class** to the Pastors' Discretionary Fund by Mr. & Mrs. Elvey Thomas, Jr.
- In Memory of **Patrick White**:
 - to the Pastors' Discretionary Fund by Lyn Flammia and Susan Mills.
 - to the Methodist Children's Home by Lynn Eury and Lori Nelson.
- In Memory of my brother, **Ed Zschau**, by Dianne Z. Beattie.



Prayer Bookmarks: 01-08-23 & 01-15-23

Births

Everett George Leese, son of Robert & Kayla Leese, grandson of Craig & Kristin Leese
Marigold McMillan Troxler, daughter of Isabelle & James Troxler, granddaughter of Alexandra & Sam Mordecai

Deaths

Ruby Boll, grandmother of Liz Queen
Doris Jennings, mother of Suzzette Acree
Lauren King, sister of David Moncol
Bill Marley, Jr.

Health Concerns

Barbara Dickey	Michelle Eudy
Todd Holder	Dottie Honeycutt
Reid Horton	Ginger Ivey
Tom Lindley	Candace Moody
Jane Walz	

Ongoing Concerns

Betty Angell	Jane Preiss
Dianne Beattie	Jim Riggins
Dorothy Caldwell	Gladys Rose
Jerry Carter,	Rhumell Ross
father of Rebecca Phillips	Barbara Smith
Mary Lou Goodrich	Nancy Stamey
Pat Gore	Mark Stamper
Finlay Carter Green	Elvey Thomas
Diane Jarman	Bill Ulmer
Sheila Lee-Carr	Eleanor Underwood
Martha Lowrance	Peggy Underwood
John & Shirley Phillips	Molly, Zeke & Phoebe White
Hunter Potter	

Deployed

William Stephenson, Jr.,
grandson of Susanne Stephenson

Our Church Leaders

Pastors David, Molly, Matt, and Laura
D.S. Brady; Bishop Shelton

Our In-Crowd Members

Those grieving the over 6.71M
who have died from COVID worldwide
and the over 1099K in the US

Our Leaders at All Levels of the Government

Pray for peace/a Russian withdrawal from Ukraine

Those Affected by Natural Disasters

The Commissioner





PLAY
PICKLEBALL

Thursdays
6-9pm
Holroyd Hall

Questions?
Janice:
jfwaterrm@gmail.com



Tuesday, January 17
6:30-8pm
Dinner & Program

Hear from
Dr. Joseph Simon,
Historian

RSVP:
rwhite@hbumc.org

WORSHIP · GROW · SERVE



HAYES BARTON HBUMC.ORG/CONNECT



Winter Book & Bible Studies

see details on p. 4
4 start on Jan. 18

Studies for every age and interest!
hbumc.org/formation



REGISTER AT HBUMC.ORG/SIGNUPS

Wednesday Nights at Hayes Barton

Dinner & fellowship
Children's and Adult Choirs
Activities for 4s - 5th grade
Book & Bible Studies

Nursery care for birth through age four is available from 5:30-7:30.

Questions? Anna Sledge, asledge@hbumc.org.

5-6:00 Dinner in the Fellowship Hall - **reservations required!** We cannot accommodate walk-ups. **RSVP at hbumc.org/signups by Monday.** Pay online or at the door.

5:30-6 Children's choirs ages 4 - 5th grade; register at hbumc.org/signups.

6-6:30 Kids' Gym Time (Preschool students should have a parent or guardian stay with them, please).

6:30-7:30 Confirmation classes for our confirmands and mentors.

6:30-7:30 Children's Bible Study and Activity Time exploring characters of the Bible! For K-5th grade; 4s will have a similar program just for them. Questions? Jami Britt Noble: jbrittnoble@hbumc.org

6:30-8 Adult Choir in the Choir Room. Questions? Mike Trexler: mtrexler@hbumc.org

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Hayes Barton United Methodist Church
2209 Fairview Road
Raleigh, NC 27608-2240

PERIODICALS
POSTAGE
PAID
AT
RALEIGH, NC

In Person Worship

8:30/11 am Traditional

9 am LightHouse

(9 & 11 am services live-streamed)

Nursery care for children from birth to age 4 available.

Sunday School at 10 am

JANUARY 22

3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Pastor Laura

Isaiah 9:1-4

Psalm 27:1, 4-9

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Matthew 4:12-23

JANUARY 29

4th Sunday after Epiphany

Pastor David

Micah 6:1-8

Psalm 15

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Matthew 5:1-12

FEBRUARY 5

5th Sunday after Epiphany

Pastor David