



Welcome Courtney! We are excited to welcome Courtney Sanford as our new Director of Children's Ministry. She begins on a part-time basis the week of October 16th and will move into a full time position in the new year.

Courtney is originally from Boone, North Carolina. She graduated with a Spanish degree from Clemson University and a Master of Divinity from Duke. She has worked in foster care, campus ministry, and higher education at Duke and Guilford College. She is married to Bailey Sanford who is a family medicine resident at Cone Health. She has a 2-year-old named Iva and a 7 month old named Ezra. Courtney loves art, creativity, hiking, mountain biking, trying new restaurants, and traveling. Courtney is so excited to explore the ways in which art can be used to help children imagine who God is. She also brings a passion for community service and hopes to continue to teach the children how to be the hands and feet of Christ.



# Fall Festival

Food | Games | Bounce Houses | Candy



**29**  
**October**  
11am-1pm

Trunk or Treat  
Kona Ice  
Obstacle Course

**FREE EVENT**

INVITE YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY!

**COMING SOON!**

## LINK SUNDAY

October 30th at 10 am

We're going shopping for Backpack Beginnings! Their food donations have been down 40% over the past several months. Join us for LINK Sunday to make a difference. Here are the details ...

What: Every family who participates will be given a \$25 Walmart gift card. Each family will drive to the Walmart and buy items listed on the handout Backpack Beginnings has given us. We'll drop the food back off at the church and it will be delivered to BB offices during the week.

FAQ:

- Can you invest your own money to buy more than \$25 worth of food? Yes, if you'd like.
- Where do we drop the food off? The fellowship hall. There will be tables marked for the groceries.
- Where do I pick up the shopping list? Brian will pass them out at the church following The Bridge Service



**C**onnections at Muir's Chapel was chosen by Torres Landscaping and Lawn Care as part of the Volunteer Center of Greensboro's Corporate Caring Challenge. They spent Friday weeding, pruning, planting, and power washing at the Abernethy House. They planted over 200 bulbs and various other plants. It will be exciting to see the fruits of their labor in the coming months. We are greatly appreciative of all their hard work.

### What is Connections at Muir's Chapel?

It is a half-day adult memory day care program for adults with Alzheimer's, dementia or other memory loss run by [Well Spring Solutions](#). We partner with them by providing a space to meet in our Abernethy House. Connections provides group respite care for part of the day, allowing individuals who are caring for family members an opportunity to have a break from care giving responsibilities.



### A NOTE FROM SPPRC

Rev. Bev Coppley, our District Superintendent, notes that "October has become widely known as Clergy Appreciation Month. Perhaps this year it has never been harder (in our lifetimes) to minister to a church...churches have high expectations of their pastors...while they're strongly fortified by their faith; while they appear to be quite strong, it's important to remember they are all human beings...that pastors have feelings too and, like most of us, try to do their best each day."

October is designated as Pastor Appreciation Month. The Staff/Pastor Parish Relations Committee (S/PPRC) would once again like to thank Pastor Brenda for her continued commitment and dedication to her calling and to Muir's Chapel. The last two years have been exhausting for many who have been working night and day to keep us safe; to keep us well; to keep us inspired. Pastor Brenda is certainly among that group. All of us need and welcome sincere gestures of affirmation, support and appreciation. Pastors are not any different; like the DS noted, they're human beings. On behalf of our S/PPRC, I encourage you to find ways to express your thanks for Pastor Brenda and her ministry.

And as Pastor Brenda has continually noted, she's blessed to work with our church staff. As a church, I'm not sure we can thank them enough for their dedication to the mission and ministries of our church; for their willingness to "do whatever is necessary" to address the spiritual and physical needs of our congregation and surrounding community. We truly appreciate our full and part time staff: Alison, Sandy, Kim, Laurin, Brian, Blake, Kenny, Jaiilen and John.

And while October is recognized as Clergy Appreciation Month, this year at Muir's Chapel, we've once again decided to also make it Staff Appreciation Month. As I noted earlier, we all need sincere gestures of affirmation, support and appreciation and the members of S/PPRC ask you to join us in showing our appreciation and affection for Pastor Brenda and our Muir's Chapel Staff.

It would be wonderful if all of us could send a note, email and/or a token of appreciation to Pastor Brenda and our church staff in thanks for their service and devotion to Muir's Chapel. It's well deserved and we know they would appreciate it.



The sounds of Christmas are fast approaching! Join the Chancel Choir for the Christmas season. All are welcome! Rehearsals for our Cantata and Love Feast have begun but it's not too late to join in! We reserve 6:40-7:15 pm each week for Christmas music. Join us in the Choir Room! For more information, contact [Laurin Allred](#).

### SIGN UP FOR OUR RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

The drive will be held on November 21st from 2-5:30 pm in the gym. Call the church office to sign up or visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) and search for our drive to sign up online.

### 2023 ALTAR FLOWERS

The 2023 Altar Flower Calendar is now open. Please contact [Alison](#) in the church office to reserve a date. The cost is \$40. Please pre-pay for flowers to reserve your date!



Altar Flowers

### WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!

Our annual Fall Festival will be held on Saturday, October 29th, from 11-1 pm.

#### We need you to make this happen!

Please consider:

- Donating candy
- Decorating your car for Trunk or Treat (Will your car win best in show?)
- Volunteering to run a game
- Helping cook lunch
- Building or buying a new game to add to our festival
- Set up and/or Clean up

If you are interested in helping, please contact [Alison](#) in the church office!

### DRIVER NEEDED

Did you know our new church bus is a smaller model that doesn't require drivers to have their CDL? We are looking for some extra drivers for Sunday mornings! Would you be willing to help? NO CDL REQUIRED! If so, contact the [church office](#)!

## IMPORTANT MEETING NOTICE

Information Meeting with the District Superintendent...Sunday, October 16th, at 3:00 pm in the Sanctuary.

Thank you to those who have submitted questions for the information session with Rev. Bev Coppley, the Northern Piedmont District Superintendent. The meeting is expected to last approximately an hour. Rev. Coppley will have a PowerPoint presentation. She will offer responses to questions submitted, and then, take any additional questions from the floor. It will be held in the Sanctuary. A link to the PowerPoint slides will be available after the presentation.

See below for Part 5 of the "Is the UMC Really?" Series.



## DEADLINE EXTENDED TO OCTOBER 16TH

The United Women of Faith have offered ornaments of the stained-glass windows behind the choir loft. This year is the final window and has been marked to celebrate our 200 years of being a United Methodist church! We are also offering the other ornaments. The cost for each ornament is \$30. Pick up a form on Sunday morning or from the church office! These will make great Christmas presents.

### *Is The UMC really...?*

**17. Asking all local churches to vote on whether to remain in The United Methodist Church or join the Global Methodist Church?**

No.

No leaders in The United Methodist Church are asking or expecting any United Methodist congregation to take any vote on this question. Congregations may choose to do so. But nothing compels any United Methodist congregation to hold such a vote.

Some local churches have taken the initiative to seek disaffiliation themselves. Many local churches are also being urged to disaffiliate by other organizations, such as the Wesleyan Covenant Association, that are not part of the structure of The United Methodist Church.

If a congregation wants to consider disaffiliation and follows the conference's process to request a called church conference for a vote, the only question at that called church conference will be whether that local church approves a motion to disaffiliate from The United Methodist Church.

The called church conference will not consider the question of whether to join any other denomination.

Ask The UMC has received many questions from individuals who tell us they are being told they *must* choose between The UMC and the GMC. This is simply false.

A successful vote for disaffiliation is just that. It is a vote to request disaffiliation from The United Methodist Church. That is all.

That vote does not complete the process of disaffiliation. The local church still has to complete the preliminary terms in a disaffiliation agreement it signs with the conference, be approved by the conference for disaffiliation, and fulfill any remaining terms in the disaffiliation agreement that can only be addressed after annual conference approval, all by the effective date of disaffiliation specified by the conference.

But once a congregation has completed this process, it is, from the standpoint of The United Methodist Church, an independent congregation. It may choose to remain independent. Or it may choose join any other network, association, or denomination that is willing to receive it under the terms that network, association, or denomination may set. The choices are many, not limited solely to the Global Methodist Church.

The Wesleyan Covenant Association created the Global Methodist Church. It is not surprising that it would urge United Methodist congregations to disaffiliate and join their new denomination. But this is far from the only choice a disaffiliating congregation may make. No vote on disaffiliation should be understood as a forced choice

between The United Methodist Church and the Global Methodist Church.

**18. Allowing clergy and laypersons elected as delegates to General or Jurisdictional Conference to serve if they have disaffiliated?**

No.

The General Conference is the ultimate legislative body of The United Methodist Church. The Jurisdictional Conferences are the bodies that elect the executive branch of the denomination, the bishops. One must be a clergy or lay member of The United Methodist Church to serve as a delegate to the General or Jurisdictional conferences. The only exception to this is that the four Methodist denominations with whom The United Methodist Church has a concordat relationship may send delegates to our General Conference, and we to theirs. See Paragraph 13 of the 2016 Book of Discipline (Section II, Article I of the Constitution of The United Methodist Church).

When United Methodist clergy disaffiliate, they are no longer clergy members of their conferences. When local churches disaffiliate, all of their members are removed from the professing membership of The United Methodist Church as of the effective date of disaffiliation set by the annual conference. If persons in these congregations wish to remain part of The United Methodist Church, they must transfer their membership to a United Methodist Church that is not disaffiliating. Disaffiliated persons, lay or clergy, cannot serve as delegates to General or Jurisdictional Conference.

General Conference has provided a means to replace persons who, subsequent to election, can no longer serve as delegates. Those next in order of election take their place, and others move up to take the place of those until all jurisdictional reserve delegates are used. See Paragraphs 34-36 of the 2016 Book of Discipline (Section VI, Articles III-V of the Constitution).

**19. Failing to punish those who violate the Discipline?**

We have received this question, in roughly this form, many times.

The wording of the question reflects a lack of understanding of the purpose and the process of the complaint process of The United Methodist Church.

The purpose of the complaint process is to stop harms, if they have happened, and bring as much restoration as possible to the persons and situations involved in an alleged violation. The purpose is not to punish offenders.

The complaint process begins with someone filing a written complaint alleging one or more chargeable offenses (Paragraph 2702) with the proper persons (depending on whether the one alleged in the complaint is a layperson, a clergyperson who is not a bishop, or a bishop). Next, the complaint is investigated to determine

whether it merits moving to adjudication or dismissal. If the case moves to adjudication, the matter may be addressed through a just resolution agreement (at any time) or proceed to a trial. At a trial, the presiding officer is a district superintendent for laity, and a bishop for clergy or other bishops. The jury is made up of peers. The jury determines whether the charges apply in the case, and, if so, what action to take in response. With one exception, there are and never have been mandatory penalties. The one exception is clergy who are found guilty of having presided at a same-sex marriage or union ceremony. Otherwise, the jury determines the most appropriate remedy to stop harms and bring about as much restoration as possible.

Complaint processes, by design, are confidential. The intention is to protect the integrity and dignity of all parties involved from the beginning of a case to its conclusion. You may not hear that there was a complaint filed, how a particular case is proceeding, or even, necessarily, how it was resolved. That does not mean that nothing was done. It means that if a complaint was filed, the case is proceeding with the confidentiality all parties deserve.

**20. Forcing or going to force congregations that do not want a self-avowed practicing homosexual as a pastor or deacon to accept one?**

No.

First of all, it remains a chargeable offense in The United Methodist Church to be a clergyperson or candidate for the clergy who is a self-avowed, practicing homosexual. Bishops are forbidden to appoint those found through the complaint process to be self-avowed, practicing homosexuals. This has been the case since 1984.

To be sure, as we noted in [Part 2, Question 10](#) of this series, some of these rules are unevenly enforced in some places. But in most U.S. conferences, these policies have been consistently enforced from their beginning. The result has been either no self-avowed, practicing homosexual clergy remaining in the conference, or, if there are any, once charges are brought and a finding of guilt determined, their ability to be appointed is at an end. In short, these policies have been very effective at keeping self-avowed, practicing homosexuals out of the clergy pool of The UMC or removing them from it.

Thus, the likelihood that any congregation in most conferences could receive a self-avowed, practicing homosexual person as its pastor or deacon is close to zero. And in the conferences from whom we have received this question most frequently, it is zero.

Finally, bishops already work to appoint clergy to congregations for a match that is likely to work for years to come. Should the Discipline at some point in the future permit self-avowed, practicing homosexuals to serve as clergy, bishops are most likely to appoint them to congregations where they would be welcomed and avoid appointing them where they would not.

Rev. Brenda Newman, *Senior Pastor*  
pastorbrenda@muirschapelumc.com

Brian Edwards, *Director of Youth & Discipleship*  
bedwards@muirschapelumc.com

Kim Hastings, *Director of Muir's Chapel Christian Playschool*  
khastings@muirschapelumc.com

Laurin Daniels Allred, *Director of Music & Creative Arts*  
ldallred@muirschapelumc.com

Courtney Sanford, *Director of Children's Ministries*

Blake Cummings, *Facilities Manager*  
bcummings@muirschapelumc.com

Sandy Cantliffe, *Office & Financial Manager*  
scantliffe@muirschapelumc.com

Alison Ludemann, *Church Secretary*  
aludemann@muirschapelumc.com

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## THANK YOU

Many thanks to those who helped me move recently! It was greatly appreciated.

Leigh Green

I wanted to say congratulations especially (I think) Ellen Smoak and the team who planned the celebration. Beside being in the choir, which was the highlight of the weekend, the food, the coordination all of it was wonderful. I wanted especially to note that I was on my walker in the food line on Sunday with Ivan, Sheila and Jane. A very young man came back and said "follow me with all your family". So off we went to the front of the line and went right through to get our food. Then he asked if he could carry my plate? When we got seated a young lady came over and asked if she could get our drinks or dessert. I was astonished. The food delicious. The whole weekend was wonderful and took me back to 1974 when we came and 1997 when I left.

Thank you  
Sue Norris Siler Mitchell



United Methodist Churches in the Western NC Conference are encouraged to participate in a **Special Sunday Offering on October 16, 2022**, to support relief efforts following the destruction caused by Hurricane Ian in southwest Florida and beyond. If you would like to contribute to relief efforts, please make your check out to MCUMC and mark "UMCOR-Ian" in the memo.

## OCTOBER Birthdays

15	25
Jo Ann Bondurant	Adrienne Rogers
Boniface Magodo	26
17	Julie Amerson
Clarence Slaughter	27
18	Ed LeBlanc
Bonnie Kristoff	Eli Robarge
19	28
Kim Hastings	Penny Phillips
Lisa Jackson	Michael Savovic
Luke Kennedy	29
20	Tammy Bason
Steven Hall	Dianne Elliott
21	30
Amy Seals	Ray Seals
23	31
Nancy Elkins	Hollyce Kirkland
Charles Hinerman	Paul Weaver

## OFFERING

### October 2

Budget Giving	\$10,940.00
Other Income	\$0.00
Total Budget	<b>\$10,940.00</b>
Designated Funds	\$1,305.00

### October 9

Budget Giving	\$6,275.47
Other Income	\$0.00
Total Budget	<b>\$6,275.47</b>
Designated Funds	\$588.82

## FALL PRAYER PLANNER

Don't forget to pick up your Fall Prayer Planner at church this Sunday or

check it out online. There is also a kids version! It is our hope that you may use this planner to grow closer to God and the church family!

