

# Soapstone Notes

To receive our e-news, contact the church office at 919-846-2212/office@soapstoneumc.org.

**Palm Sunday Cantata** — Join us next Sunday, during both worship services as our cantata choir & orchestra present “*From Silence to Song*” a cantata of remembrance, reflection, and resurrection.

**Special Offering: UMCOR** — Next Sunday we will collect an offering supporting UMCOR’s work of alleviating human suffering around the world. You can also give online at soapstoneumc.org/give.

**Strawberry Festival Vendors Needed** — We need local vendors to come and show off their creations with our community at our 2024 Strawberry Festival, May 4, 11 am—2 pm. Please share and sign up at soapstoneumc.org/signups.

**Costa Rica Summer Mission Trip** — Adults and youth come and serve as a volunteer in Los Chiles, Costa Rica to help those in need of access to clean water, June 29– July 6, 2024. Register at soapstoneumc.org/signups by May 17.

**Family Night at the Movies** — Families are invited to see *Kung Fu Panda 4*, March 24. Meet Mr. Danny at 5 pm in the lobby at Six Forks Cinemas, 9500 Forum Drive, to purchase your 5:15 pm movie ticket.

**Kids Rock & UMYF** — We will not have Kids Rock or UMYF March 24 or 31.

**College Exam Packs** — Sign up at soapstoneumc.org/signups to donate items to fill exam pack for our College Students. Donations can be dropped off in the bin outside the church office through March 31.

**Produce Boxes** — Beginning May 21, we will become a distribution site for produce boxes from Spring Forest CSA, a UMC farm that supports missional causes. To subscribe, go to soapstoneumc.org/signups.

**Two Easter Egg Hunts for Children** — Children ages pre k – grade 5 are invited to one of two egg hunts in the backfield. March 23, 10 am a sensory friendly egg hunt. March 31, 9:45am during the Sunday School hour, our annual egg hunt.

**Dismantling Racism Discussion in March** — Read and join us Wednesday, March 27, 7:30 pm, on Zoom, discussing “*Becoming Human: The Holy Spirit and the Rhetoric of Race*” by Luke A. Powery. Sign up at soapstoneumc.org/signups.

**UMM Breakfast in April** — Men of Soapstone, you and the kids are invited to a breakfast on Saturday, April 6 at 8 am. Sign up at soapstoneumc.org/signups.

**Connection Class** — This three-session class provides information on the United Methodist Church, the mission and ministries of Soapstone UMC, and the membership process. April 7, 14, & 21 9:45 am, Room 114. Register at soapstoneumc.org/signups.

**Spring BBQ Sale** — Friday, April 12. Lunch tubs of BBQ from 11 am—1 pm, and dinner plates & tubs from 4 – 7 pm. Volunteers are needed with setup, cooking, meal prep, and clean up. Sign up at soapstoneumc.org/signups.



## Holy Week Schedule

**Maundy Thursday** — March 28, 7 pm, Room 200, Jesus issues a new commandment, a *mandatum novum*): Love one another.” This service commemorates the Last Supper with preaching, hymns, Holy Communion, and prayer stations.

**Good Friday** — March 29, 7 pm, Sanctuary In this Service of Tenebrae, “Darkness,” we remember Jesus’ suffering and death.

**Easter Sunday** — March 31, Three services with Holy Communion. We celebrate the resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ. He is risen, indeed! 6:30 am Sunrise Service, amphitheater near Old Creedmoor Road entrance 8:30 am and 11 am, Sanctuary Services



## Opportunities for Worship and Ministry

All Zoom & Microsoft Teams links can be found at soapstoneumc.org/calendar

### Sunday, March 17

- 8:30 & 11:00 am Worship Services
- 9:45 am Sunday School for all ages
- 12:15 pm Preschool Advisory Committee in 108/110
- 2:30 pm Disciple 4 on Zoom
- 4:00 pm Set In Stone in the Sanctuary
- 5:00 pm Kids Rock and UMYF

### Monday, March 18

- 9:30 am Lectionary Study in 202
- 4:30 pm Disciple 4 in 101/103
- 6:15 pm Youth Handbells in 117
- 6:30 pm Boy Scouts at the Chapel
- 7:00 pm Soul Tenders online

### Tuesday, March 19

- 9:00 am Intercessory Prayer Group in 114
- 9:30 am MOPs in 108/110
- 1:15 pm Pilates in 200
- 6:15 pm Cub Scouts Pack Meeting in the Sanctuary
- 7:15 pm Church Council in 108/110
- 7:30 pm MOPs Spring Craft Night at the Hyder House, Pleasant Grove UMC

### Wednesday, March 20

- 9:45 am Wednesday Morning Ladies Bible Study in 200
- 10:00 am MOPs Playdate, Pleasant Grove UMC Playground
- 6:00 pm Lenten Prayer Series in 108/110
- 7:00 pm WOW Book Club on Zoom
- 7:00 pm Choir Practice in 119

### Thursday, March 21

- 9:45 am Pilates
- 6:30 pm Adult Handbells in 117
- 7:00 pm Thursday Night Ladies Bible Study in 101/103
- 7:30 pm Praise Team Practice in the Sanctuary

### Friday, March 22

- 12:00 pm WOW Book Club at Manchester’s

### Saturday, March 23

- 9:00 am Cantata Practice
- 10:00 am Easter Egg Hunt, Sensory Friendly in backfield
- 2:00 pm Intrepid Hikers

## Pastors, Staff, and those serving today

- Lead Pastor: Rev. Mitzi Johnson, mjohnson@soapstoneumc.org
- Pastor of Visitation: Rev. George Freeman, gfreeman@soapstoneumc.org
- Pastor of Discipleship & Missions: Rev. Dr. Jon Tschanz, jtschanz@soapstoneumc.org
- Director of Family Ministries: Danny Peck, dpeck@soapstoneumc.org
- Director of Music: Andrea Turner, aturner@soapstoneumc.org
- Director of Preschool: Jessica Slessman, jslessman@soapstoneumc.org
- Nursery Coordinator: Rebecca Mitchell, nursery@soapstoneumc.org
- Communications Coordinator/ Financial Secretary: Katie Cable, kcable@soapstoneumc.org
- Administrative Assistant: Deana Castagna, dcastagna@soapstoneumc.org
- Scripture Readers: Danny Wever at 8:30 am and Donna Mayo at 11:00 am



March 17, 2024

5th Sunday in Lent

Lent is a time of preparation and focus for the coming of Easter. As we lay our lives alongside the life of Jesus and journey with him to the cross, we come to understand the depths of his love for us.

The invitation is there year after year:  
Will you commit to love like Christ loves?



## Worship - Learn - Fellowship - Serve

We are a “Lighthouse Congregation” committed to living fully into our identity as a United Methodist Christian community that practices habits of hospitality and encircles all whom we encounter with Christ’s love.

www.soapstoneumc.org

Chiming the Trinity		Andrea Turner
Welcome		Rev. Dr. Jon Tschanz
* Opening Praise Songs	Great Things Lead Me to the Cross	Praise Team
* Opening Prayer		Don Warsing
* Passing of the Peace		
The peace of Christ be with you. <b>And also with you.</b> <i>As a forgiven and reconciled people, we exchange peace with others in the congregation.</i>		
First Scripture Reading		Jeremiah 31:31-34
Children’s Moment		Danny Peck
<i>Childcare is available for ages 5 and under. Meet a nursery worker at the Sanctuary doors.</i>		
Second Scripture Reading		John 12:20-33
The word of the Lord. <b>Thanks be to God.</b>		
Sermon	“A Sacrificial and Reckless Love that Leads to Life”	Rev. Dr. Jon Tschanz
Prayer		
* Response Praise Song	Reckless Love	Praise Team
Reception of New Members		UMH, 38
<i>We welcome Mark &amp; Tami Reeves as new members.</i>		
Commendation and Welcome, <i>See congregational responses on screen.</i>		
Prayers of the People		Rev. Mitzi Johnson
Lord’s Prayer		
Presentation of God’s Tithes and Our Offerings		
<i>Please sign the Fellowship Pad and pass it down the row and back again.</i>		
	Offertory	Paula Scicluna
	* Doxology	
	* Prayer	
* Closing Praise Song	Days of Elijah	Praise Team
* Dismissal with Blessing		

<b>Gathering</b>		
<b>Anthem: Hymning the Trinity</b>		Andrea Turner
<b>Welcome</b>		Rev. Dr. Jon Tschanz
<b>Prayer: Prelude</b>	Ah Holy Jesus	Kid's Bell Choir
<b>Call to Worship</b> , from Psalm 51		
You desire truth in the inward being;		
<b>therefore teach me wisdom in the secret heart.</b>		
Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;		
<b>wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.</b>		
Create in me a clean heart, O God,		
<b>and put a new and right spirit within me.</b>		
Have mercy upon us O God,		
<b>and let your Spirit lead us in truth and righteousness.</b>		
<b>Opening Hymn</b>	Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (vs. 1, 2, 5)	UMH, 139
<b>Opening Prayer</b>		Rev. Mitzi Johnson
<b>Engraver of the human heart, work within us this day, that your love may shine</b>		
<b>through us in all that we say and do. Put a new and right spirit within us, that we</b>		
<b>may leave our failings behind and embrace the glory of our salvation. Amen.</b>		
<b>Confession and Words of Assurance</b>		
<i>The leader ends with " ... In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven."</i>		
<b>In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God. Amen.</b>		
<b>Passing of the Peace</b>		
The peace of Christ be with you. <b>And also with you.</b>		
<i>As a forgiven and reconciled people, we exchange peace with others in the congregation.</i>		
<b>Proclamation</b>		
<b>Prayer for Illumination</b>		Donna Mayo
<b>First Scripture Reading</b>		Jeremiah 31:31-34
<b>Special Music</b>	Sweet Hour of Prayer	Kids Chimes
	All Creatures of Our God and King	Melody Bells
<b>Children's Moment</b>		Danny Peck
<i>Childcare is available for ages 5 and under. Meet a nursery worker at the Sanctuary doors.</i>		
<b>Proclamation Song</b>	Let Us Gather in the Shadow of the Cross	Chancel Choir
<b>Second Scripture Reading</b>		John 12:20-33
the word of the Lord. <b>Thanks be to God.</b>		
<b>Sermon</b>	"A Sacrificial and Reckless Love that Leads to Life"	Rev. Dr. Jon Tschanz
<b>Response and Thanksgiving</b>		
<b>Responsive Hymn</b>	Make Me a Servant (twice)	TFWS, 2176
<b>Sacrament of Baptism</b>		UMH, 33
<i>Jared Larsen, child of Janet &amp; Corey Larsen is presented for baptism.</i>		
<b>Renunciation of Sin and Profession of Faith</b> , See congregational responses on screen.		
<b>Thanksgiving Over the Water</b> , See congregational responses on screen.		
<b>Baptism with Laying on of Hands</b>		UMH, 37

**Priming the Trinity** Andrea Turner

**Welcome** Rev. Dr. Jon Tschanz

**Refrain** Kid's Bell Choir

Ah Holy Jesus

**Call to Worship**, from Psalm 51

You desire truth in the inward being;  
**therefore teach me wisdom in the secret heart.**  
Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;  
**wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.**  
Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
**and put a new and right spirit within me.**  
Have mercy upon us O God,  
**and let your Spirit lead us in truth and righteousness.**

**Opening Hymn** UMH, 139  
Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (vs. 1, 2, 5)

**Opening Prayer** Rev. Mitzi Johnson

Engraver of the human heart, work within us this day, that your love may shine  
through us in all that we say and do. Put a new and right spirit within us, that we  
may leave our failings behind and embrace the glory of our salvation. Amen.

**Confession and Words of Assurance**

*The leader ends with " ... In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven."*  
**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God. Amen.**

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Special Music	Sweet Hour of Prayer All Creatures of Our God and King Kids Chimes Melody Bells
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**Prayers of the People**

**Lord's Prayer**

**Presentation of God's Tithes and Our Offerings**

*Please sign the Fellowship Pad and pass it down the row and back again.*

**Offertory**    O Sacred Head Now Wounded    Cornerstone Ringers

**\* Doxology** UMH, 94

**\* Prayer**

* <b>Closing Hymn</b>	O Jesus I Have Promised ( <i>vs 1, 4</i> )	UMH, 396
* <b>Dismissal with Blessing</b>		
* <b>Postlude</b>		Paula Scicluna
	+ + +	
	*Please stand as you are able.	

**Our prayer circle for the week:** Tara Deans, Karen Lancaster, Helen McIntyre, Dick Chase, Judy Fletcher, Salyer Family, Wenhart Family, Bowen Family, General Conference, Chip & Lori Hendrickson.

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**Guests:** Thank you for joining us. If you are visiting with us today for the first time text the word **“Welcome”** to 919-689-4300, scan the QR Code, or fill out the attendance pad with your name and phone #'s so that we may welcome you by text and email. Please stop by the welcome cart for a gift and information.

**We love children:** All children are welcome in Sanctuary worship no matter how wiggly. Please uphold our Safe Sanctuary policy by accompanying your child any time they are in the building. Our staffed nursery is available in Room 116 for children 5 and under.

**Sensory Friendly:** Children's activity notebooks, sensory bags, & listening devices are available in the rear of the Sanctuary. Our Sensory Room (109) provides a soothing place to sit with an overwhelmed child and to access the service via livestream.

**Listening Devices:** Devices for the hearing impaired are available in the rear of the Sanctuary.

**After-Hours Pastoral Care Line:** If you have an urgent need for pastoral care when the church office is closed, please call 919-256-8336 and leave a message for the pastor or staff person on call.