

# Soapstone Notes

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

**Costa Rica Summer Mission Trip** — Adults and youth serve as a volunteer in Los Chiles, Costa Rica to help those in need of access to clean water, June 29– July 6. Cost per person \$900 plus the flight, at soapstoneumc.org/signups by May 17.

**Upward: Wesleyan Formation in Three Movements Study** — Join Pastor Jon for a three-week study Wednesday nights 6 pm, beginning May 1, on the book Upward: Wesleyan Formation in Three Movements by Paul Chilcote and Steve Harper. Sign up at soapstoneumc.org/signups.

**Extra Musicians Needed** — Do you play the drums or guitar? Praise Team is in search of instrumentalists who can fill in when our regular folks are out. Contact Andrea if you are interested.

**Volunteers needed for Soapstone adult library** — Two skill sets needed; one group to set guidelines and select books, another to manage operations and maintain our library app. Sign up at soapstoneumc.org/signups to become part of the library team. Questions, contact Bill Poston at poston844@gmail.com.

**Youth Mission Week, Summer 2024** — Youth who have completed grades 6 –12, join our Carolina Rebuilding team in Plymouth August 12 –16, making low-income homes dry, safe and secure. Sign up at soapstoneumc.org/signups.

**MOPs at Soapstone UMC** — All moms are invited to join for a time of fellowship, support, and prayer this Tuesday at 9:30 am, Room 108/110.

**Strawberry Festival** — Our Strawberry Festival is May 4, 11 am—2 pm. Can't make it that day? Consider donating a gift card to our gift card tree or baked goods. Sign up to volunteer or donate items at soapstoneumc.org/signups.

**Register for Youth Breakaway** — This is for youth grades 6-12 grade sponsored by our Conference Youth Ministry at NC Wesleyan College June 24– 29. Register at soapstoneumc.org/signups.

**Car Wash Fundraiser** — Support Cub Scout Pack 399 and swing by their carwash fundraiser in the Norwood parking lot. May 11, 11 am—3 pm. (Rain date May 18)

**Children's Musical** — Join us Sunday, May 12, at 9 am for a special Mother's Day breakfast. Following breakfast, we will have **one** worship service at 10 am to hear "The Greatest Hymn on Earth". Our children have worked hard this spring and are looking forward to sharing this message with you!

**Carolina Rebuilding** — Volunteer with our Carolina Rebuilding Ministry Team in Eastern NC any or all of May 13-17. Email Greg Cain, gcain3190@gmail.com to sign up.

**Dementia Workshop** — Speaker Lisa Levine, a director at Dementia Alliance of NC's, will provide information and answer questions May 23, 2-4 pm, Room 200. Register online at soapstoneumc.org/signups for this free workshop.

**Calling all performers to Soapstone's Got Talent Show** — Do you have a hidden talent waiting to shine? This is your chance to dazzle the congregation and share your passion in a fun and supportive environment. Let Andrea know by July 1 if you plan to participate. The stage awaits you on August 25, 4 pm! Read more at soapstoneumc.org/soapstones-got-talent.

## Soapstone Stewardship Update

*Thank you for supporting Soapstone with your prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.*

- Total income to date is \$232,600; our total expenses are \$209,700.
- Giving from pledging church members is on pace with 26% of 2024 pledges and \$35,606 non-pledged received to date.

Read more about the fruits of God's missions at SUMC, in the April 16 Celebrations email (or at soapstoneumc.org/about us/ Member Resources click "Church-wide emails.") Questions? Contact Financial Secretary, Katie Cable.

## Opportunities for Worship and Ministry

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

### Sunday, April 21

- 8:30 & 11:00 am Worship Services
- 9:45 am Sunday School for all ages
- 9:45 am Connections Class in 114
- 2:30 pm Disciple 4 on Zoom
- 4:00 pm Set In Stone in the Sanctuary
- 5:00 pm Kids Rock & UMYF

### Monday, April 22

- 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

### Tuesday, April 23

- 9:00 am Intercessory Prayer Group in 114
- 6:15 pm Cub Scout Den Meetings downstairs

### Wednesday, April 24

- 9:45 am Wednesday Morning Ladies Bible Study in 200
- 7:00 pm Choir Practice in 117
- 7:00 pm Hospitality Team Meeting in 108/110

### Thursday, April 25

- 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

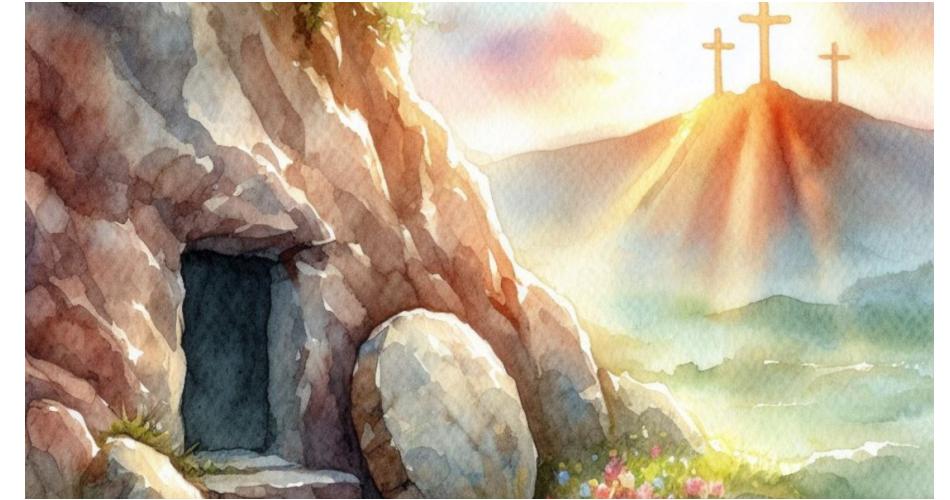
### Friday, April 26, No Church Events

### Saturday, April 27

- 9:00 am Troop 399 Merit Badge Classes in 108/110, 101/103, 111

## Pastors & Staff

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



**April 21, 2024**  
**4th Sunday of Easter**

Easter is more than a day.

It's a season of 50 days, a "week of weeks," ending with Pentecost, the day we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the Church (Acts 2). In this season, we lean into what it means to say, "Christ is risen" and how we, the Church, are his body.

We are easter people. Alleluia!



**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](http://www.soapstoneumc.org)

## 8:30 am Worship

<b>Chiming the Trinity</b>	Andrea Turner	
<b>Welcome</b>	Rev. Mitzi Johnson	
<b>* Opening Praise Songs</b>	Praise the Lord Firm Foundation (He Won't)	Praise Team
<b>* Opening Prayer</b>	Don Warsing	
<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>First Scripture Reading</b>	Psalm 23, UMH 754	
<i>The first reading is the 23rd Psalm read responsively. Please read the bolded verses.</i>		
<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>Second Scripture Reading</b>	John 10:11-18	
<b>Sermon</b>	"The Shepherd's Voice"	Rev. Mitzi Johnson
<b>Prayer</b>		
<b>* Response Praise Song</b>	Good Good Father	Praise Team
<b>Prayers of the People</b>	Rev. Dr. Jon Tschanz	
<b>Lord's Prayer</b>		
<b>Celebration of Ministry:</b>	Mission Trip to Costa Rica	
<b>Presentation of God's Tithes and Our Offerings</b>	<i>Please sign the Fellowship Pad and pass it down the row and back again.</i>	
<b>Offertory</b>	Hunter Browning	
<b>* Doxology</b>		
<b>* Prayer</b>		
<b>* Closing Praise Song</b>	How Great Thou Art	Praise Team
<b>* Dismissal with Blessing</b>		

## 11:00 am Worship

### Gathering

<b>Chiming the Trinity</b>	Andrea Turner	
<b>Welcome</b>	Rev. Mitzi Johnson	
<b>Prelude</b>	I Know My Redeemer Lives	Youth Handbells
<b>* Call to Worship</b>	The Lord is my shepherd, I will fear no darkness. <b>We will love one another, as Christ loves us.</b> Christ, the Good Shepherd, has compassion for all. <b>We will love one another, as Christ loves us.</b> Open your hearts to goodness and mercy today. <b>We will love one another, as Christ loves us.</b> Love, not merely in thought and word, but in truth and action. <b>We will love one another, as Christ loves us.</b>	
<b>* Opening Hymn</b>	O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing (vs 1-4)	UMH, 57
<b>* Opening Prayer</b>	Rev. Dr. Jon Tschanz	
<b>Shepherding God, guardian of our souls, you offer us rest in the safety of green pastures. Shower us with your love, and offer us fullness of life in your name. When our spirits are parched, you lead us beside still waters and quench our thirst for righteousness; you restore our souls and heal our battered spirits. Touch our hearts and minds, that your goodness and mercy may follow us every day of our lives. May we abide in your love and grace for all eternity. 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>	

### Proclamation

<b>Proclamation Song</b>	Psalm 23	Chancel Choir
<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>Scripture Reading</b>	John 10:11-18	
The word of the Lord. <b>Thanks be to God.</b>		
<b>Sermon</b>	"The Shepherd's Voice"	Rev. Mitzi Johnson
<b>* Responsive Hymn</b>	Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us	UMH, 381
<b>* Affirmation of Faith</b>		UMH, 883

### Response and Thanksgiving

<b>* Gloria Patri</b>	UMH, 71	
<b>Prayers of the People</b>		
<b>Lord's Prayer</b>		
<b>Celebration of Ministry:</b>	Mission Trip to Costa Rica	
<b>Presentation of God's Tithes and Our Offerings</b>	<i>Please sign the Fellowship Pad and pass it down the row and back again.</i>	
<b>Offertory</b>		
<b>* Doxology</b>	UMH, 94	
<b>* Prayer</b>		
<b>Sending Forth</b>		
<b>* Closing Hymn</b>	He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought	UMH, 128
<b>* Dismissal with Blessing</b>		
<b>* Postlude</b>	Hunter Browning	
+ + +		
*Please stand as you are able.		
The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God in honor of our United Methodist Men.		
<b>Our prayer circle for the week:</b>	McIntyre Family, Dick Chase, Gary & Karen Shell, Becky Arrington, David Bowen, Pat Humphrey-Kloes, Joe Booth, Dennis Dallin, General Conference.	
<b>Guests:</b>	Thank you for joining us. If you are visiting with us today for the first time text the word <b>"Welcome"</b> 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.	
<b>We love children:</b>	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.	
<b>Sensory Friendly:</b>	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.	
<b>Listening Devices:</b>	Devices for the hearing impaired are available in the rear of the Sanctuary.	
<b>After-Hours Pastoral Care Line:</b>	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.	