

# Soapstone Notes

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

**Generosity Campaign** — On October 27, Commitment Sunday, we invite you to say thank you to God by placing your pledge card in the offering plate. Your pledge helps us formulate our 2025 budget for living thankful lives through our missions and ministries. Online pledges may be made at [soapstoneumc.org/pledge](http://soapstoneumc.org/pledge). Printed pledge cards can be found in the attendance pads.

**Special Offering: UMCOR** — Through Oct. 20 We will collect an offering for the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) assisting persons in need who suffer from natural or human-caused disasters – famine, hurricane, war, flood, fire or other events—to alleviate suffering and serve as a source of help and hope for the vulnerable. You can give online at [soapstoneumc.org/give](http://soapstoneumc.org/give).

**Join "Team Kim" in finding a living kidney donor** — To know Kim Harward is to love her. She is searching for a living kidney donor. As her church family, we want to do everything we can to help find someone to take this life-giving step for her. Read more at [soapstoneumc.org/join-team-kim](http://soapstoneumc.org/join-team-kim), and share her story on social media.

**MOMCo Playdate** — All moms and children are invited to join a playdate Thursday, 10 am at Pleasant Grove UMC playground.

**Gleaning with the Family** — Join us on Oct. 19 for a family activity gleaning a nearby farm through the Society of St Andrews. We will meet at church at 8:30 am and then head over to our assigned farm. Sign up at [soapstoneumc.org/signups](http://soapstoneumc.org/signups).

**Happiness Ministry Halloween Party** — Saturday, Oct. 19, 5 pm, Room 200 Happiness Ministry invites all uniquely abled youth and adults to a Halloween themed party. Register to participate or volunteer at [soapstoneumc.org/signups](http://soapstoneumc.org/signups).

**Submit Names In Advance for All Saints' Day** — If you would like to remember someone who has died in the last 12 months, please complete the "All Saints' Names" form on [soapstoneumc.org/signups](http://soapstoneumc.org/signups) or contact Katie Cable by October 28. The pastors will read their names and ring a bell. We will also place a votive candle on the altar for you to light.

**Poinsettias for the Sanctuary** — Purchase a poinsettia, \$10, in honor or in memory of a loved one, to be displayed during Advent. Orders and payments will be taken through Friday, Oct. 25. Order online at [soapstoneumc.org/give](http://soapstoneumc.org/give) or drop off payment and dedication to the office.

**Trunk or Treat** — Sunday, Oct. 27, display your kid-friendly, decorated trunk full of treats, or just bring the kids in costume to enjoy the fun, 5-6:30 pm in the front parking lot.

**Dismantling Racism Discussion** — Join us Wednesday, October 30, 7:30 pm, on Zoom, to discuss *"This Here Flesh: Spirituality, Liberation, and the Stories That Make Us"* by Cole Arthur Riley. Sign up at [soapstoneumc.org/signups](http://soapstoneumc.org/signups).

**Wesley's Gait Study** — Join a four-week study Wednesdays in Nov., 6-7 pm, Room 108/110 with Pastor Damion exploring the spiritual struggles John Wesley had and the lessons we might learn from them. Register at [soapstoneumc.org/signups](http://soapstoneumc.org/signups).

**Hosting Family Promise** — We will be hosting the families by providing Food Lion gift cards and dinner Nov. 3-9. Please sign up to provide a meal or deliver meals to families, [soapstoneumc.org/signups](http://soapstoneumc.org/signups).

**Artistic Expressions** — Mondays, 2-4 pm in Room 202 join others in reflecting on Scripture through drawing, watercolors, acrylic paint, collage, poetry or prose. Sign up at [soapstoneumc.org/signups](http://soapstoneumc.org/signups).

**Grief Share, Surviving the Holidays** — Soapstone will offer a 2-hour session that will help you navigate the holidays during your grief on November 16, 2-4 pm. Register at [soapstoneumc.org/signups](http://soapstoneumc.org/signups).

**Support Our Mothers** — Our MOMCo group is a group open to all moms in the community. Help show them love by providing a snack or to pray with them. Sign up to help with either of these at [soapstoneumc.org/signups](http://soapstoneumc.org/signups).

## Opportunities for Worship and Ministry

All Zoom & Microsoft Teams links can be found at [soapstoneumc.org/calendar](http://soapstoneumc.org/calendar)

### Sunday, October 13

- 8:30 & 11:00 am Worship Services
- 9:45 am Sunday School for all ages & Connections Class (114)
- 12:15 pm Children's Council in 108/110
- 2:30 pm Jesus in the Gospels on Zoom
- 4:00 pm Set In Stone in the Sanctuary
- 5:00 pm Kids Rock and Youth Group
- 7:00 pm Finance Committee in 108/110

### Monday, October 14

- 9:30 am Lectionary Study in 202
- 2:00 pm Artistic Expressions in 202
- 4:30 pm Jesus in the Gospels in 101/103
- 6:15 pm Youth Handbells in 117
- 6:30 pm Boy Scouts at the Chapel
- 7:00 pm Disciple 1 in 101/103
- 7:00 pm Soul Tenders in 200

### Tuesday, October 15

- 9:00 am Intercessory Prayer Group in 114
- 1:15 pm Pilates in 200
- 3:45 pm Produce Box Pick-up in the Norwood Foyer
- 6:00 pm Grief Share in 202
- 7:00 pm Adult Council in 200
- 7:15 pm Church Council in 108/110

### Wednesday, October 16

- 9:45 am Wednesday Morning Ladies Bible Study in 200
- 7:00 pm Women's Book Club in 111
- 7:00 pm Choir Practice in 119

### Thursday, October 17

- 9:45 am Pilates in 108/110
- 10:00 am MOMCo Playdate at Pleasant Grove UMC playground
- 6:30 pm Adult Handbells in 117
- 7:00 pm Thursday Night Ladies Bible Study in 101/103

### Friday, October 18

- 12:00 pm Women's Book Club at Manchester's

### Saturday, October 19

- 10:00 am Gleaning (meet at SUMC at 8:30 am)
- 5:00 pm Happiness Ministry Halloween Party in 200
- 6:00 pm Middle School and High School Hangouts

## Church Office Hours:

Monday- Thursday 9-3:30, Closed on Fridays

## Pastors, Staff, and those serving today:

Lead Pastor: Rev. Mitzi Johnson, [mjohnson@soapstoneumc.org](mailto:mjohnson@soapstoneumc.org)  
Associate Pastor: Rev. Dr. Damion Quaye, [dquaye@soapstoneumc.org](mailto:dquaye@soapstoneumc.org)  
Pastor of Visitation: Rev. George Freeman, [gfreeman@soapstoneumc.org](mailto:gfreeman@soapstoneumc.org)  
Director of Family Ministries: Danny Peck, [dpeck@soapstoneumc.org](mailto:dpeck@soapstoneumc.org)  
Director of Music: Andrea Turner, [aturner@soapstoneumc.org](mailto:aturner@soapstoneumc.org)  
Director of Preschool: Jessica Slessman, [jslessman@soapstoneumc.org](mailto:jslessman@soapstoneumc.org)  
Nursery Coordinator: Ashley Taris, [nursery@soapstoneumc.org](mailto:nursery@soapstoneumc.org)  
Communications Coordinator/ Financial Secretary:  
Katie Cable, [kcable@soapstoneumc.org](mailto:kcable@soapstoneumc.org)  
Administrative Assistant: Rebecca Mitchell, [rmitchell@soapstoneumc.org](mailto:rmitchell@soapstoneumc.org)  
Scripture Readers: Joan Catena at 8:30 and Rhonda Fullam at 11:00



## October 13, 2024 21st Sunday after Pentecost

Esther, a queen who saved her people.  
Job, who found comfort in God, even among  
the ash heap. Ruth, a loyal daughter-in-law  
who faced an unpredictable future with  
courage. And Hannah, whose cries to God  
turn to shouts of joy. What do these  
characters with character have to teach us  
about walking by faith?



## 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

Chiming the Trinity	Andrea Turner
Welcome	Rev. Mitzi Johnson
* Opening Praise Songs	Praise Team Praise Sinking Deep
* 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	Hebrews 4:12-16
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	Job 23:1-9, 16-17 The Word of the Lord. <b>Thanks be to God.</b>
Sermon	"Walking in the Dark" Rev. Mitzi Johnson
Prayer	
* Response Praise Song	Oceans (Where Feet May Fail) Praise Team
Prayers of the People	Rev. Kay Boone
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	Hunter Browning
* Doxology	
* Prayer	
* Closing Praise Song	God So Loved Praise Team
* Dismissal with Blessing	

## 11:00 am Worship

### Gathering

Chiming the Trinity	Andrea Turner
Welcome	Rev. Mitzi Johnson
Prelude	Hunter Browning
* Call to Worship	Where do we turn when our cries go unanswered? <b>Where do we turn when we feel forsaken and alone?</b> When we search for God before and behind us, but God is not there? <b>When we search for God above and beneath us, but come away empty?</b> Even then, we will commit ourselves to You, O Lord. <b>Even now, we will put our trust in You. Come! Let us worship.</b>
* Opening Praise Song	Praise Set In Stone
* Opening Prayer	Rev. Kay Boone
LEFT: When nothing is right, when we are weary and lost, when clouds dull the sky, help us to be still.	
RIGHT: When we think our cries are unheeded, when no effort seems to bear fruit, when the sun sets, help us to be still.	
ALL: For in being still, in refusing to panic or despair, we shall come to know that You are there, suffering alongside and with us, waiting to show us stepping-stones through the swirling waters, and to help us sing a new song.	
* Confession and Words of Assurance	<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>
* 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>

### Proclamation

Prayer For Illumination	Rhonda Fullam
First Scripture Reading	Hebrews 4:12-16
Children's Moment	Danny Peck <i>Childcare is available for ages 5 and under. Meet a nursery worker at the Sanctuary doors.</i>
Proclamation Song	One Step He Leads Chancel Choir
Second Scripture Reading	Job 23:1-9, 16-17 The Word of the Lord. <b>Thanks be to God.</b>
Sermon	"Walking in the Dark" Rev. Mitzi Johnson

### Response and Thanksgiving

* Responsive Praise Song	Holy Forever Set In Stone
Reception of New Members	<i>We welcome Chris Bowley and Kim Blair as new members.</i>
Renunciation of Sin and Profession of Faith	<i>See congregational responses on screen.</i>

Reception into the UMC and Soapstone	UMC, 38
Commendation and Welcome	
Prayers of the People	
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	Take My Life and Let It Be Cornerstone Ringers
* Doxology	UMH, 94
* Prayer	
Sending Forth	
* Closing Praise Song	Fierce Set In Stone
* Dismissal with Blessing	
* Postlude	Hunter Browning



*Guests, greeters at the Welcome Center would love to answer any questions you may have. Stop by and receive a gift on us!*


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\* Please stand as you are able.


The flowers on the altar are given by Debbie & Mike Serra in praise of our Lord.

✦ **Our prayer circle for the week:** Bill & Sharon Foster, Kim Miller, John Suydam, Dick & Beth Chase, Donna Dillingham, Karen Lancaster, Patsy Booth & family, Joan Cavin, Jeanne & Jackson Moore family.

 **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. 

 **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.

 **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.