

# Soapstone Notes

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

**A Soapstone Thanksgiving Community Potluck: One Combined Service, 10 am**  
Sunday, Nov. 24 we will join as one family to worship at 10 am, followed by a community potluck meal. Please bring a dish to share as we give thanks to God.  
**Help us plan ahead, register at [soapstoneumc.org/signups](https://soapstoneumc.org/signups).**



**Generosity Campaign** — Thank you to all who have pledged to financially support the life of Soapstone UMC in the upcoming 2025 year. It is not too late to pledge. Pledge online at [soapstoneumc.org/pledge](https://soapstoneumc.org/pledge).

**Advent Devotional Writers Needed** — Adult Council invites you to submit a devotional for our Advent Devotional book. Instructions can be found online. Submit your devotion by Friday. Sign up at [soapstoneumc.org/signups](https://soapstoneumc.org/signups).

**Fall Craft Project Open to All** — Join the Crafting Ministry Wednesday at 4 pm, Room 200, to help create centerpieces for SUMC's upcoming Thanksgiving meal. Sign up at [soapstoneumc.org/signups](https://soapstoneumc.org/signups).

**Fall Charge Conference** — At this annual meeting led by DS Rev. Chris Brady, we affirm the State of the Church, Finance, Trustees, Anti-Racism, Lay Leadership and SPRC reports, including reports of the pastors' compensation and housing exclusions. Anyone may attend; only Church Council members may vote. Sunday, Nov. 10, 3 pm in Room 200.

**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](https://soapstoneumc.org/signups).

**Intrepid Hikers** — Join a walking group on Saturday mornings, 9 am, exploring local trails around Raleigh. Sign up at [soapstoneumc.org/signups](https://soapstoneumc.org/signups).

**Women's Bible Study, Thursday Nights** — Join other women in a 4-week study, beginning Nov. 14, 7 pm in Room 101/103, "Grateful: Giving Thanks to God in All Things" by Lifeway Women.

**Support Group for Dementia Caregivers** — Connect with fellow caregivers to share ideas and support each other through the stages of dementia caregiving, 2nd Wednesdays, 2-3:30 pm in Room 108/110. Register at [soapstoneumc.org/signups](https://soapstoneumc.org/signups).

**Live Nativity Roles** — Be apart of our annual Live Nativity on December 16 & 17, 6:30– 7:30 pm. Sign up to volunteer in a scene at [soapstoneumc.org/signups](https://soapstoneumc.org/signups).

**The Music of Christmas** — This annual concert, held on Sunday, Dec. 8, 4 pm, includes almost all of Soapstone's voice and instrumental ensembles as well as the choir. They are excited to share this wonderful presentation of some of our favorite music of the Christmas season.

**Taizé Services** — Our Pastors invite you to enjoy the peace and beauty of candlelit Taizé-style services of meditation, prayer, and silence, Wednesdays, Dec. 4 & 11, 6:30 -7 pm at our Chapel.

**Longest Night: Light in Our Darkness** — This service of lament and hope on the longest night of the year is for those who experience grief and sadness during a season of "good cheer." Please invite and accompany those who you know can benefit. Wednesday, Dec. 18, 6:30 pm, at our Chapel.

## 3rd Quarter Soapstone Stewardship Update

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

•Total income to date is \$613,598; our total expenses are \$660,000.

•Giving from pledging church members is on pace with 71% of 2024 pledges and \$147,367.74 non-pledged received to date.

Read more about the fruits of God's missions at SUMC in the Celebration emails at [soapstoneumc.org/member-resources](https://soapstoneumc.org/member-resources); click "Read past emails."

Questions about giving? Contact Financial Secretary, Katie Cable.

## Opportunities for Worship and Ministry

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

### Sunday, November 3

8:30 & 11:00 am Worship Services  
9:45 am Sunday School for all ages  
12:15 pm Children's Council in 108/110  
2:30 pm Jesus in the Gospels on Zoom  
3:30 pm Safe Sanctuary Training in 108/110  
4:00 pm Set In Stone in the Sanctuary  
5:00 pm Kids Rock and Youth Group

### Monday, November 4

9:30 am Lectionary Study in 202  
2:00 pm Artistic Expressions in 202  
4:30 pm Jesus in the Gospels in 101/103  
6:00 pm Worship Committee in 111  
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, November 5, Election Polling Site

9:00 am Intercessory Prayer Group in 114  
1:15 pm Pilates in 200  
6:00 pm Grief Share in 202  
7:00 pm OTG Rehearsal in 119

### Wednesday, November 6

9:45 am Wednesday Morning Ladies Bible Study in 200  
4:00 pm Crafting Ministry in 200  
6:00 pm Wesley's Gait Study in 108/110  
7:00 pm Choir Practice in 119

### Thursday, November 7

9:45 am Pilates in 200  
6:30 pm Adult Handbells in 117  
7:00 pm Thursday Night Ladies Cooking for Family Promise in Kitchen  
7:30 pm Praise Team Rehearsal in the Sanctuary

### Friday, November 8

Pilgrimage, Youth Trip

### Saturday, November 9

Pilgrimage, Youth Trip  
9:00 am Intrepid Hikers at Blue Jay Point

## 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: Darleen Tibbs at 8:30 and Dona Mayo at 11:00



**November 3, 2024**  
**24th Sunday after Pentecost**

All Saints' Sunday is an annual day of remembrance for the saints, with the New Testament meaning of all Christian people of every time and place. We celebrate the communion of saints as we remember the dead, both of the Church universal and of Soapstone UMC.



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

## 8:30 am Worship

Chiming the Trinity	Andrea Turner
Welcome	Rev. Mitzi Johnson
Prelude	Peter McArthur, bagpipes
* Opening Praise Song	Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone) Praise Team <i>If your loved one's name is listed in the insert, please come forward and light a votive candle in their honor.</i>
* Opening Prayer	Rev. George Freeman
* Naming of the Saints	<i>We light a pillar candle in remembrance of Soapstone UMC members who have died since the last All Saints Day.</i> <i>Andrew Wilson Hayes, Helen McIntyre, Shirley Johnson, Joe Booth</i>
Scripture Reading	Ruth 1:1-18 The Word of the Lord. <b>Thanks be to God.</b>
Children's Moment	Danny Peck <i>Childcare is available for ages 5 and under. Meet a nursery worker at the Sanctuary doors.</i>
Homily	"Steady Love" Rev. Mitzi Johnson
Prayer	
* Response Praise Song	Hymn of Heaven Praise Team
Prayers of the People	Rev. Dr. Damion Quaye
Invitation to the Table	
Prayer of Confession	
Words of Assurance	The leader ends with " ... In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven." <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>
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	
Thanksgiving and Communion	<i>Follow 11 am order of worship.</i>
* Closing Praise Song	This We Know Praise Team
* Dismissal with Blessing	
* Postlude	Peter McArthur, bagpipes <i>The bagpiper will exit, followed by the congregation.</i>

## 11:00 am Worship

### Gathering

Chiming the Trinity	Andrea Turner
Welcome	Rev. Mitzi Johnson
Prelude	Peter McArthur, bagpipes
* Call to Worship †	On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples <b>a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines.</b> And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, <b>the covering that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever.</b> Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, <b>and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken.</b> It will be said on that day, <b>"See, this is our God; This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."</b>
* Opening Hymns	For All the Saints UMH, 711 I Sing a Song of the Saints of God UMH, 712 <i>If your loved one's name is listed in the insert, please come forward and light a votive candle in their honor after the pastors process to the front.</i>
* Naming of the Saints	<i>We light a pillar candle in remembrance of Soapstone UMC members who have died since the last All Saints Day.</i> <i>Andrew Wilson Hayes, Helen McIntyre, Shirley Johnson, Joe Booth</i>
* Opening Prayer	Rev. George Freeman <b>We give you thanks, O God, for all those who have died in the faith of Christ—for the memory of their words and deeds and all they accomplished in their time, for the joyful hope of reunion with them in the world to come, and for our communion with them now in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.</b>

### Proclamation and Response

Prayer For Illumination	Donna Mayo
Scripture Reading	Ruth 1:1-18 The Word of the Lord. <b>Thanks be to God.</b>
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	Faithful Servant Chancel Choir
Homily	"Steady Love" Rev. Mitzi Johnson
Response	My Shepherd's Amazing Grace Youth Handbells
Prayers of the People	Rev. Dr. Damion Quaye
Invitation to the Table	
Confession	Eternal God, in every age you've raised up your children to live and die in faith. <b>Forgive our indifference to your will. Have mercy on us. Keep before us faithful people for us to follow so that, by the power of your Holy Spirit, we may grow in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ, to the praise of your holy name. Amen</b>

Words of Assurance	The leader ends with " ... In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven." <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>
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	How Great Thou Art Cornerstone Ringers
* Doxology	Be Present at Our Table, Lord UMH, 621
* Prayer	

### Thanksgiving and Communion

The Great Thanksgiving	UMH, 15
Lord's Prayer	UMH, 895
Breaking of the Bread	
Giving of the Bread and Cup	
Songs During Communion	In The Garden UMH, 314 Come, Let Us Join Our Friends Above UMH, 709
Prayer After Communion	
Sending Forth	
* Closing Hymn	My Faith Looks Up to Thee UMH, 452
* Dismissal with Blessing	
* Postlude	Peter McArthur, bagpipes <i>The bagpiper will exit, followed by the congregation.</i> <i>Guests, greeters at the Welcome Center would love to answer any questions you may have. Stop by and receive a gift on us!</i> + + + * Please stand as you are able. † Isaiah 25:6-9

**Our prayer circle for the week:** Carla McIntyre, Bill & Sharon Foster, † Kim Harward, Jeanne Moore & family, Cindy Stone, Tom Cox, Gail Campbell, Dennis Dallin.

**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.

