

Soapstone Notes

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

Charge Conference — The Church Council will meet today at 12:30 pm in Room 108/110 and on Zoom, to approve the Interim Pastor's salary. Any are welcome to attend, but only members of Church Council may vote.

Kids Rock Starts Back Tonight — Children ages 4 through grade 5 gather Sunday evenings, 5-6:30, to have fun, fellowship, and enjoy activities.

Re:Fresh Tonight — Youth, join us tonight, 5-7 pm to kick off our winter Youth Group. This event includes worship, music, games, fellowship, and pizza (\$5) with other North Raleigh UMC youth.

Crafting Ministry in January — Our crafting ministry is hosting an event on January 8 at 4 pm in the kitchen, where we'll create spa recipes to help us welcome 2025 with peace and tranquility. Sign up at soapstoneumc.org/signups.

Women's Potluck Breakfast — Ladies, join us on January 11, 9 am Room 200 for food, fun, and fellowship. Bring a breakfast item (*with a copy of the recipe if you make it*) and we will enjoy our potluck breakfast before breaking into puzzles and fellowship. Nursery provided. Sign up at soapstoneumc.org/signups.

Men's Breakfast in January — Soapstone men, kick off the year with good food and great company! Join us for breakfast on January 11 at 8:30 am in Room 101/103. Sign up at soapstoneumc.org/signups.

Volunteer to Run the Cameras in Worship — The AV team is looking for youth and adults to join the fun at the AV Booth and run the cameras! It's super easy, important, and a blast. Reach out to Andrea Turner to learn how! Sign up at soapstoneumc.org/signups.

Soapstone UMC Spring Women's Retreat — At this retreat, we'll enjoy worship, workshops, play, prayer, fellowship, rest, and reflection at the Trinity Center in Pine Knoll Shores, March 21-23 with Pastor Laura Hamrick. Registration is open, at soapstoneumc.org/signups.

Carolina Rebuilding Team in January — Join our team traveling to Carolina Rebuilding Ministries from January 13-17 to assist with home repair projects for those in need. Contact Greg Cain, gcain3190@gmail.com if interested.

Volunteer at Warmth For Wake — The Soapstone United Methodist Men will be hosting a Warmth for Wake event on Saturday morning January 18. Read more and sign up at soapstoneumc.org/signups by January 15.

Preschool Registration — Registration for the 2025-26 preschool year will open to Soapstone UMC members on January 16 and the general public on January 23. Classes are available for children ages 15 months through 5. Please visit soapstoneumc.org/preschool for more information. Contact Jessica Slessman.

Pilates Fusion Class — Everyone is welcome, at no cost, on Tuesdays, 1:15 pm or Thursdays at 9:45 am in Room 200 with fitness expert Angie Browning! Bring a mat & a water bottle. Sign up soapstoneumc.org/signups.

Support Group for Dementia Caregivers — Join us on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, 2-3:30 pm in Room 108/110, to connect with fellow caregivers, share ideas, and support each other through the dementia caregiving journey. Register at soapstoneumc.org/signups.

Free Estate Planning & Legal Matters Workshop — Want to learn more about Estate Planning and related legal matters? Join us Thursday, January 16 at 6:30 pm in room 200. Register at soapstoneumc.org/signups.

Opportunities for Worship and Ministry

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

Sunday, January 5

- 8:30 & 11:00 am Worship Services
- 9:45 am Epiphany Service for all Children in 200
- 9:45 am Sunday School for all ages
- 12:30 pm Charge Conference in 108/110 & Zoom
- 2:30 pm Jesus in the Gospels on Zoom
- 4:00 pm Set In Stone in the Sanctuary
- 5:00 pm Kids Rock
- 5:00 pm Youth Group/ Re:Fresh in the Sanctuary

Monday, January 6

- 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 Bible Study in 101/103
- 7:00 pm Soul Tenders in 200

Tuesday, January 7

- 1:15 pm Pilates in 200
- 6:30 pm Cub Scout Committee Meeting in 101/103
- 7:00 pm Missions Committee in 108/110

Wednesday, January 8

- 9:45 am Wednesday Morning Ladies Bible Study in 200
- 2:00 pm Dementia Support Group in 108/110
- 4:00 pm Crafting Ministry in 101/103 & the Kitchen
- 7:00 pm Choir Practice in 119

Thursday, January 9

- 9:45 am Pilates in 200
- 11:30 am MOMCo at Flying Biscuit
- 6:30 pm Adult Handbells in 117
- 7:00 pm Thursday Night Ladies Bible Study in 101/103
- 7:00 pm Trustees in 108/110
- 7:15 pm Praise Team in the Sanctuary

Friday, January 10, No Church Events

Saturday, January 11

- 8:30 am Men's Breakfast in 101/103
- 9:00 am Women's Breakfast in 200
- 10:00 am Intrepid Hikers
- 6:00 pm High School & Middle School Hangout offsite

Pastors, Staff, and those serving today

Interim Lead Pastor: Rev. Dr. Suzanne Cobb, scobb@soapstoneumc.org
Associate Pastor: Rev. Dr. Damion Quaye, dquaye@soapstoneumc.org
Pastor of Visitation: Rev. George Freeman, gfreeman@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: Ashley Taris, nursery@soapstoneumc.org
Office Administrator: Rebecca Mitchell, rmitchell@soapstoneumc.org
Communications Coordinator/ Financial Secretary:
Katie Cable, kcable@soapstoneumc.org
Scripture Readers: Darleen Tibbs at 8:30 and Rev. Kay Boone at 11:00



January 5, 2025
Epiphany



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

8:30 am Worship

Chiming the Trinity Andrea Turner

Welcome Rev. Dr. Damion Quaye
We welcome Bishop Hope Morgan Ward, who will lead us in worship and Holy Communion. Additionally, we extend a warm welcome to Rev. Dr. Suzanne Cobb as she begins her six month Interim Lead Pastor appointment at Soapstone UMC.

*** Opening Praise Song** We Three Kings Praise Team

*** Opening Prayer** Don Warsing

First Scripture Reading Matthew 2:1-12

Children's Moment Danny Peck
Childcare is available for ages 5 and under. Meet a nursery worker at the Sanctuary doors.

Second Scripture Reading Isaiah 60:1-6
The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon "Arise! Shine" Bishop Hope Morgan Ward

Prayer

*** Response Praise Song** Manger Throne Praise Team

Prayers of the People

Invitation to the Table Rev. Dr. Suzanne Cobb

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.

*** Passing the Peace**
The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**
As a forgiven and reconciled people, we exchange peace with others in the congregation.

Presentation of God's Tithes and Our Offerings
Please sign the Fellowship Pad and pass it down the row and back again.

Offertory

*** Offering Praise Song** What Child is This Mark McMillan, piano
Emma Gostling, violin

* Prayer

The Great Thanksgiving *Follow the 11 am order of worship.*

*** Closing Praise Song** Shine Jesus Shine Praise Team

*** Dismissal with Blessing**

11:00 Worship

Gathering

Chiming the Trinity Andrea Turner

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Prelude Hunter Browning

*** Call to Worship**
Arise, shine, for your light has come!
The glory of the Lord has risen upon us!
Like sages from afar, come and behold your Christ!
Let us fall on our knees in his honor! Let us lift our voices in praise of his name!

*** Opening Hymn** Shine Jesus Shine TFWS, 2173

*** Opening Prayer**
God, who walks with each one of us, help us to place our trust in your guiding care for us as we gather to learn the great lessons of living in peaceful community with each other. Prepare us to be witnesses of your love and forgiveness. Make us ready to work for you in your creation; for we ask this in the name of Jesus, your beloved Son. Amen.

Proclamation & Response

Prayer for Illumination Rev. Kay Boone

First Scripture Reading Matthew 2:1-12

Children's Moment Danny Peck
Childcare is available for ages 5 and under. Meet a nursery worker at the Sanctuary doors.

Proclamation Song The First Noel Chancel Choir

Second Scripture Reading Isaiah 60:1-6
The Word God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon "Arise! Shine" Bishop Hope Morgan Ward

*** Responsive Hymn** We Three Kings UMH, 254

Prayers of the People

Invitation to the Table Rev. Dr. Suzanne Cobb

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Presentation of God's Tithes and Our Offerings
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Offertory

*** Doxology** 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 Angels We Have Heard on High UMH, 238
O Little Town of Bethlehem UMH, 230

Prayer After Communion

Sending Forth

*** Closing Hymn** I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light UMH, 206

*** Dismissal with Blessing**


*** Postlude**

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** Please stand as you are able.*

The flowers on the altar are given by Mike & Debbie Serra in celebration of a Happy New Year to all.

Our prayer circle for the week: Troy & Sandra Canady, Gonzales family, Harry & Kathy Klauda, Tim Sauls, Gary & Karen Shell and family, Kim Harward Bill & Sharon Foster, Betty Dunlap, Nancy Murray, McMurry family, John Suydam.

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.