

8:30 am Worship with Praise Music		
Assisted Listening Devices are available at the A/V booth.		
Chiming of the Trinity	Andrea Turner	
Welcome	Rev. Laura Fine Ledford	
* Opening Praise Songs	House Of The Lord Trust In God	Praise Team
* Opening Prayer		
* Passing of the Peace	The peace of Christ be with you. And also with you. <i>As a forgiven and reconciled people, we exchange peace with others in the congregation.</i>	
First Scripture Reading	Esther 7:1-6	Joan Catena
Children’s Moment	LilliCate and Blair Roberts <i>Nursery (ages 5 & under) is available (116). A calming room (109), sensory room (115), and nursing room (114) are available.</i> <i>The Sanctuary offers rocking chairs and a PrayGround. Activity bags are available in the Narthex. Children must be accompanied by an adult.</i>	
Second Scripture Reading	Philippians 4:4-13 This is the Word of God for us, the people of God. Thanks be to God.	
Sermon	Rev. Laura Fine Ledford	
Prayer		
* Response Praise Song	The Way	Praise Team
Prayers of the People	Rev. Dr. Damion Quaye	
The 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	VBS Recap Video
	* Offering Praise Song	
	* Prayer	
* Closing Praise Song	Unstoppable God	Praise Team
* Dismissal with Blessing		

11:00 am Traditional Worship		
Assisted Listening Devices are available at the A/V booth.		
Gathering		
Chiming of the Trinity	Andrea Turner	
Welcome	Rev. Laura Fine Ledford	
* Prelude	Paula Scicluna	
* Call to Worship		
We do not find courage alone.		
We find it in God, our place of belonging, and with one another.		
Whatever we face, whatever feels too big for us,		
we do not carry it by ourselves.		
Rejoice in God always, again we say, rejoice!		
Together, we can do all things through you. Amen!		
* Opening Hymn	To God be the Glory	UMH, 98
* Opening Prayer		
Rev. Dr. Damion Quaye		
God of every generation, you have never asked your people to be brave alone. You call us into community, to lend our strength to one another when our own feels thin. Today we bring our fears and our hopes, and we set them down together in this place. Where we are anxious, meet us with your peace. Where we feel unequal to what's ahead, remind us that we do not walk alone. Give us hearts ready to receive whatever courage you have for us today. In the name of the One who strengthens us, we pray. Amen.		
* Confession and Words of Assurance		
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God. Amen.		
* Passing of 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.		
Proclamation		
Prayer for Illumination		
The Lord be with you. And also with you. Let us pray:		
First Scripture Reading		
Esther 7:1-6		
Special Music		
Snowball Mountain Challenge		
Philippians 4:13		
VBS Kids		

Children’s Moment	LilliCate and Blair Roberts	
<i>Nursery (ages 5 & under) is available (116). A calming room (109), sensory room (115), and nursing room (114) are available.</i>		
<i>The Sanctuary offers rocking chairs and a PrayGround.</i>		
<i>Activity bags are available in the Narthex.</i>		
<i>Children must be accompanied by an adult.</i>		
Proclamation Song	I Can Do All Things	Chancel Choir
Second Scripture Reading	Philippians 4:4-13	Emerson Gentry
This is the Word of God for us, the people of God. Thanks be to God.		
Sermon	Rev. Laura Fine Ledford	
<i>Response and Thanksgiving</i>		
* Affirmation of Faith	UMH, 883	
* Gloria Patri		
Prayers of the People		
The Lord’s Prayer		
Presentation of God’s Tithes and Our Offerings	<i>Please sign the Fellowship Pad, pass it down the row, and back again.</i>	
	Offertory	VBS Recap Video
	* Doxology	UMH, 94
	* Prayer	
<i>Sending Forth</i>		
* Closing Hymn	Blessed Assurance	UMH, 369
* Dismissal with Blessing		
* Postlude	<i>* Please stand as you are able.</i>	
The flowers on the altar are given by Blair Roberts in honor of our AMAZING VBS volunteers		
 Brenda Geraghty, Viv Jones, Men’s Retreat participants		

Visiting for the first time? We're glad you're here!

Please text "Welcome" to 919-689-4300, scan the QR code, or write your name and phone number in the attendance pad. We'd love to greet you by text and email. Stop by the Welcome Center to receive a gift and learn more about us!



Upcoming News & Events

Sign up for events and learn more by visiting our website.



Let's Have Some Carnival Fun!

Saturday, August 15, 10 am - 12 pm

A FREE carnival designed especially for children who are uniquely abled!

Children in Pre-K through 5th grade who have sensory needs or would enjoy a more supportive, inclusive environment are invited to join us for a fun-filled morning of carnival games, activities, prizes, and smiles.



Backpack Blessing – Sunday, August 23

Bring your backpack to either worship service as we pray a blessing over students, teachers, school staff, and families as they begin a new school year.

3rd Grade Bible Presentation

Sunday, September 13, all 3rd graders are invited to worship as they receive their very own Bible during the service.

College Secret Pal Adoptions – It's almost that time of year to

secretly adopt a college student for the school year! You'll have the chance to send notes, care packages, and most importantly, keep them in your prayers. Stop by the Narthex on Sunday, August 2, after both services to choose a student to support.

Fall Kick-Off – Sunday, September 13

Join us from 4–5 pm (*NEW TIME!*) for a free family dinner, games, and fellowship before our Sunday evening programming begins. At 5 pm, children and youth will head to Kids' Rock, Chimes, Handbells, and Youth Group while parents gather for important ministry updates, upcoming dates, and information for the year ahead. Whether you're returning, new to Soapstone, or just checking things out, everyone is welcome! Hot dogs, chips, and water will be provided.



Looking Ahead at Future Dates

8/1: Sponges & Sisterhood Event, 10 am

8/5: Women's Dinner Out, Carolina Ale House, 6 pm

8/6: Fighting Words: The Art of Disagreeing Well Lecture, 6 pm

8/11: Tuesday Lunch Crew, Salt and Lime, 4800 Grove Barton Rd

8/14: Family Night @ the Durham Bulls Ball field, 6:45 pm

8/22: Uniquely Fun Outing, Bowling & Pizza, 1-3 pm

8/23: Leadership Lunch, 12:30 - 2:30 pm

Opportunities for Worship and Ministry

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

Sunday, July 26

8:30 & 11:00 am Worship Services

9:45 am Sunday School for all ages

Monday, July 27, No Church Events

Tuesday, July 28

9:00 am Intercessory Prayer Group, 114

10:00 am MOMCo Pool Party, offsite

1:15 pm Pilates, 200

Wednesday, July 29

6:00 pm Eagle Boards of Review, 111 & 114

7:00 pm Choir Practice, 119

Thursday, July 30

9:45 am Pilates, 200

7:30 pm Praise Team Practice, Sanctuary

Friday, July 31, Men's Retreat

12:00 pm Women's Book Club Movie, 108/110

Saturday, August 1, Men's Retreat

10:00 am Women's Event: Sponges and Sisters, kitchens

soapstone



UNITED METHODIST

July 26, 2026

9th Sunday after Pentecost

We're so glad you've joined us today.

Whether you come from a place of peace

and wholeness or from the fringe with

a heart of despair and confusion,

know that you are loved and accepted

by God and his son Jesus Christ.

Receive Weekly Emails & Stay Engaged in the Life of the Church

Scan the QR Code for
General Church Emails



Scan the QR Code for
Family Ministries Emails



Pastors and Directors serving today:

Lead Pastor: Rev. Laura Fine Ledford, lfineledford@soapstoneumc.org

Associate Pastor: Rev. Dr. Damion Quaye, dquaye@soapstoneumc.org

Director of Music Ministries: Andrea Turner, aturner@soapstoneumc.org

Office hours: Monday – Thursday, 9 am – 3:30 pm, 919-846-2212

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