8:30 am Worship with Praise Music

Assisted Listening Devices are available at the A/V booth.

Chiming of the Trinity Laura Smith

Welcome Rev. Laura Fine Ledford

*** Opening Praise Song** Open Up The Heavens Praise Team

*** Opening Prayer** Don Warsing

*** 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.

First Scripture Reading 1 John 3:16-18 Jo Foard

Children's Moment Blair Roberts
Nursery (ages 5 & under) is available (116). A calming room (111), movement room (115), and nursing room (114) are available. Activity items are available in the Narthex. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

*** Second Scripture Reading** John 15:12-17
This is the Word of God for us, the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon "Love Lived Out" Rev. Laura Fine Ledford

Prayer

Reception of New Members: *We welcome our newest members, Gretchen & Chris Lopez (children, Zach, Owen, & Scarlett), Kaitlin & Michael Hileman (children, Claire & Mac), and Cinthya & Andrew White (son, James).*

Prayers of the People Chaplain Erin Shiflett

The Lord's Prayer

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

Offertory Send Me Praise Team

*** Offering Praise Song**

*** Prayer**

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

*** Dismissal with Blessing**
As you leave the Sanctuary, place your pledge card in the baptismal font. Additional cards are available in the attendance pad or on the table under the name tags.

11:00 am Traditional Worship

Assisted Listening Devices are available at the A/V booth.

Gathering

Chiming of the Trinity Kelly Hodges

Welcome Rev. Laura Fine Ledford

*** Prelude** How Can I Keep from Singing Kids' Bell Choir

*** Call to Worship**
Here in this place, God's love welcomes us just as we are.
We belong to Jesus and to one another.
And the grace that gathers us **was never meant to stay here.**
So let us worship, **and then live God's love in the world.**

*** Opening Hymn** To God Be the Glory UMH, 98

*** Opening Prayer** Chaplain Erin Shiflett
Ever faithful God, in Jesus you gave your very self for us. He walked with us and called us friends. Teach us again to love as he has shown us, offering ourselves for the good of our neighbors. We pray this through Jesus Christ, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and forever. Amen.

*** 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 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 Cindy Stone
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

First Scripture Reading 1 John 3:16-18

Special Music Count Your Blessings Kid's Chime Choir
Down in My Heart Melody Bell Choir

Children's Moment Blair Roberts
Nursery (ages 5 & under) is available (116). A calming room (111), movement room (115), and nursing room (114) are available. Activity items are available in the Narthex. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Proclamation Song To Be Your Song Chancel Choir

*** Second Scripture Reading** John 15:12-17
This is the Word of God for us, the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon "Love Lived Out" Rev. Laura Fine Ledford

Response and Thanksgiving

Reception of New Members: *We welcome our newest members, Connie Wrba, Blanche Matthews, Gary & Bill Preston, Lindsey Schreckengost (daughter, Caroline), Gineve & Steve Taylor (children, Eva & Heidi), Mike Daloni (daughter, Winifred).*

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

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

Offertory

*** Doxology** UMH, 94

*** Prayer**

Sending Forth

*** Closing Hymn** Here I Am Lord UMH, 593

*** Dismissal with Blessing**

*** Postlude** Hunter Browning

As you leave the Sanctuary, place your pledge card in the baptismal font. Additional cards are available in the attendance pad or on the table under the name tags.

** Please stand as you are able.*

The altar flowers are given in celebration of Stewardship Sunday, with gratitude for the many ways our congregation lives out God's love.

Prayer Circle for the week

Bev Backus at the death of her brother;
Roger Snyder at the death of his sister, Eleanor;
Carolina Rebuilding Ministries Volunteers;
Darrel Johnson

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.

New Logo Name Tags!
Would you like a name tag with our new logo?
Drop your current name tag in the basket under the name tag cabinet, or scan the QR code to request one!

Trunk or Treat | TONIGHT, 5- 6:30 pm
Get ready for candy, costumes, games, and creatively decorated trunks!
Join us from 5–6:30 pm for an evening of fall fun. Bring a canned food donation and receive a s'mores kit to enjoy around the fire pits. You won't want to miss it!

LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER FOR PILGRIMAGE!
Youth in Grades 6–12 | November 13–15
Don't miss out! Get ready for an unforgettable weekend in Rocky Mount filled with worship, music, friendship, and fun alongside youth from across the NC Conference! This year's theme, "Serve Joyfully," will inspire you to live out your faith in new ways, with guest speaker Charlie Conder. *Register now before it's too late!*

Remember our Saints
On All Saints' Day, November 1, we remember and give thanks for loved ones who have died since last year's All Saints' Sunday.
Please use the QR code or contact the church office to share a name you would like us to lift up and remember.
Names must be submitted by Wednesday, October 28.

Navigating Kindergarten
Have a child starting kindergarten next fall? Soapstone Preschool invites our church family to a SchoolUp NC info and Q&A session on November 2 at 9:30 am in Room 200. Get helpful tips on school choices, enrollment, and kindergarten readiness! Use the QR code to RSVP.

SchoolUp NC
Kindergarten info session

Give Online *— Every gift helps us serve and grow together.*

Opportunities for Worship and Ministry

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

Sunday, October 25
8:30 & 11:00 am Worship Services
9:45 am Sunday School for all ages
12:15 pm Confirmation Class, 200
5:00 pm Trunk or Treat (ends at 6:30 pm)

Monday, October 26
5:45 pm Girl Scout Troop #1387, 101/103
6:30 pm Boy Scouts, Chapel
7:00 pm Soul Tenders, 200
7:00 pm Invitation to the New Testament, 108/110

Tuesday, October 27
9:00 am Intercessory Prayer Group, 114
9:30 am MOMCo Meeting, 108/110
1:15 pm Pilates, 200
6:30 pm Cub Scout Den Meetings, downstairs
7:00 pm SPRC, 202

Wednesday, October 28
9:45 am Wednesday Morning Ladies Bible Study, 200
6:00 pm Charge Conference, Sanctuary
6:00 pm Youth Handbells, 117
6:00 pm Grief Share, 101/103
6:00 pm Eagle Boards of Review, 111 & 114
7:00 pm Boulder Creek HOA, 202
7:00 pm Choir Practice, 119
7:30 pm Dismantling Racism Book Discussions, Zoom

Thursday, October 29
9:45 am Pilates, 200
6:00 pm OTG Singers, 200
6:30 pm Adult Handbells, 119
7:00 pm Thursday Night Ladies Bible Study, 101/103
7:30 pm Praise Team Practice, Sanctuary

Friday, October 30 *No Scheduled Church Events*
Saturday, October 31 *No Scheduled Church Events*

Looking Ahead at Future Dates

11/10: Tuesday Lunch Crew, 11:30 am, Carolina Ale House
11/13-15: Pilgrimage, Youth Trip, Rocky Mount
11/14: Women's Event, 10 am
11/15: Newcomers' Lunch, 12:15 pm
11/15: One & Done Book Study with Pastor Laura, 5 pm
More details & dates coming soon!

Pastors and Directors serving today:
Lead Pastor: Rev. Laura Fine Ledford, lfineledford@soapstoneumc.org
Director of Youth Ministries: Chaplain Erin Shiflett, eshiflett@soapstoneumc.org
Director of Children & Family Ministries: Blair Roberts, broberts@soapstoneumc.org
Office hours: Monday — Thursday, 9 am — 3:30 pm, 919-846-2212

Soapstone
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

October 25, 2026
22nd Sunday after Pentecost

At Soapstone,
God's love welcomes us as we are.
We belong to Jesus and to one another.
We live God's love in the world.

soapstoneumc.org