



## OFFERINGS & REFLECTIONS THROUGH THE EYES OF THANKFULNESS



Dear Church Family,

Toni and I would like to thank you for welcoming us to Philadelphia UMC. Your kind, generous and caring ways have made our transition one of the best we have ever experienced.

The past month during worship I have witnessed an anointing of God's Holy Spirit in many of you during worship. I hope you have felt it too. The presence of the Spirit is alive and well, and we are excited about what God is doing and how with His help we will move Philadelphia UMC into the future.

This past Sunday I asked everyone in worship to write down their fears and their hopes and dreams for Philadelphia UMC. Already I have prayed over your fears and your hopes and dreams. There is so much for us to be thankful and experience hope for our church growth, mission and ministries.

From Psalms 46:1-3 "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in times of trouble, therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though it's water roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swells."

The Prophet Isaiah reminds us: "I the Lord, your God, hold your right hand, it is I who says to you, 'Fear not, I am the one who helps you.'"

2 Timothy 1:7 reminds us that "God gave us a spirit not of fear, but of power, love, and self-control."

Hebrew 13:6 "So we can confidently say, 'The Lord is my helper; I will not fear...'"

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## THE PUMC TRAIN ROLLS INTO THE VBS STATION



For four adventurous days, PUMC was transformed into the Colorado Rockies where 130 children learned of Jesus' power through Rocky Railway Vacation Bible School. Kids learned Jesus' power helps them do hard things, gives them hope, and helps them be bold. \$521 was raised for Ecuadorian families, soap was donated for the Historic Paradise Community of Fort Mill, and 45 children made first-time commitments to Jesus Christ.

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Worshipping in Love



Growing in Love



Serving in Love

# OFFERINGS & REFLECTIONS

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It is important for us to remember, to be thankful for all we have, and not only focus on the fear in our life or in our church. When we are in love with God, we look through eyes of thankfulness and our perspective changes from scarcity to abundance. You are enough, I am enough, we are enough. In these scripture passages, and many others, we discover hope. Let us discover, as Christians, followers of Jesus Christ, we have nothing to fear, and everything we need.

Regardless of your fears, remember that we have a Savior who proclaims, "do not let your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. Believe in God, believe also in me." The word 'believe' is important for us to live out. Moving forward, may we view everything we do in the light of our Lord, "who is our strength and salvation, the stronghold in our life, of whom or what shall we be afraid." Psalms 27:1. Moving forward I pray that we will worship in love, serve in love and grow in love. Believe.

See you in the pews, meet you at the altar,

Pastor David

## WELCOME PASTOR DAVID AND TONI

Southern hospitality and Methodist's love of food were combined to welcome Pastor David and Toni. In July, the congregation enjoyed BBQ prepared by our United Methodist Men with a potluck spread full of delicious side dishes and desserts. Some women of the congregation hosted a luncheon for Toni Taylor to get to know her. We are grateful for these fellowship opportunities.



## WORSHIP COMMITTEE

As you all know, this past year has been a year of transition. As we are re-opening our church to the community, we have a unique opportunity to look to the future of PUMC, our outreach, and our spiritual development. Part of the review has been to revisit the discussion for Sunday morning service options. This is not a new topic, as it was most recently reviewed in 2017 as part of the Long-Range Planning committee.

In May, your Church Council began prayerfully considering our options and the decision that follows was based on numerous conversations, emails, and interviews with staff and volunteers. However, the most important deciding factor was looking into the life of PUMC—how do we support growth physically but more importantly spiritually, which led us to offering dedicated Sunday School time for both youth and adults to come together and study God's word.

The defined services offer distinct ways to worship, whether it be through a praise-based service at 8:30 or a more traditional service at 11:00. Both services are key to serving our growing community

## MUSIC AND WORSHIP ARTS

The Chancel Choir has enjoyed a summer break and will resume rehearsing on Wednesdays at 7pm beginning August 11<sup>th</sup>.

Handbells will begin in September with our adult 'Jubilate Ringers' and our new 'Youth Chimes.' Children's choirs will also begin in September. Stay tuned for rehearsal times!

Right now is the perfect time to join our growing music program. Please contact Jim Lowder, [jim@pumcfortmill.org](mailto:jim@pumcfortmill.org) if you have any questions. Even if you don't have prior music experience, but you have a passion to "make a joyful noise to the Lord", we have a place for you!

As we transition from one worship service to two, let's thank everyone, CORE, the Chancel Choir, soloists, Denise Harding and the 'tech' guys for making our services a warm and inviting space to worship and praise our God as one people!

## A TIME OF GRATITUDE

Following months of moving, exhaustion, apprehension and the unknown, David and I pulled up to 5734 Morris Hunt Dr., Fort Mill, SC on June 29<sup>th</sup> at about 10:00pm. What a surprise to find the lights on, the door unlocked, food, water and soft drinks were in the refrigerator, the pantry was stocked with essentials, flowers in a vase along with notes of welcome on the counter, and towels and soap in the bathroom. We were weary to the bone and your gift of hospitality and welcome exceeded anything we expected. We were surprised! Your thoughtfulness gave us the energy to make the beds, enjoy a snack and get a good night's sleep to be ready for the movers to arrive the next morning.

There was a coffee pot with coffee and banana nut bread for

and bringing people together to Worship, Grow, and Serve in Love.

8:30 – 9:30 Contemporary Service, Nursery  
*Social / Transition time*  
9:45 – 10:45 Sunday School for all ages  
*Social / Transition time*  
11:00 – 12:00 Traditional Service, Nursery



Worshipping  
in Love

Starting Sept 12<sup>th</sup> (the weekend after Labor Day), we will move to this two-service format. While we realize this may not satisfy everyone's preference, we do ask that you give it a try and show up in whatever capacity you are able. As I mentioned last month.... Show up for worship, either in person or online, as we seek to connect you to God and each other. Show up to Bible studies or ministry teams. Show up to volunteer. If you have an interest in serving or leading, say "Yes". While we will continuously evaluate this format through end of year, it is only through the support of the congregation that we can be successful in enhancing the life of PUMC. Thank you for your continued prayers and support during this exciting time!



*Worshipping In Love: Thank you Dawn Matchinske for working to bring new life to our choir room complete with a fresh coat of paint!*

**HOMECOMING**  
**SEPTEMBER 19<sup>TH</sup>**  
**BE SURE TO JOIN US FOR THIS**  
**SPECIAL DAY OF WORSHIP**

breakfast. Marie brought us a hot lunch on moving day that was a spread, I am telling you! Gail lined my cabinets in the kitchen with paper and Fran helped unpack my fiesta dishes. (I learned from her a great method of unpacking that made so much sense.) The outpouring of hospitality continued as meals and gift cards to restaurants were dropped by the parsonage.

Susan Vreeland once said, "No matter where life takes you, the place you stand at any moment is holy ground." I was on holy ground. When we take the time, no matter how exhausted, overwhelmed or troubled we may feel, (and I did feel it sometimes) we can find something to be grateful for, every day. I am so very grateful for the outpouring of hospitality and love you

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# MISSIONS COMMITTEE

## HISTORIC PARADISE COMMUNITY

Your missions committee and PUMC members continue working with Danielle Redmond, the “boots on the ground” president of Historic Paradise Foundation assisting families in need. At this time, Deborah’s home is clean of debris, exterior painting and interior wall repair and painting, along with new window trim is complete.



The family has continued painting their bedrooms and adjacent living room, as PUMC has given this family hope and a positive outlook. A sub-committee is discussing how we can support the



family and others with needs that require professional services. HVAC and windows: estimates have been gathered and we are deciding our best course of action forward.

At another Joe Louis home, a homeowner recovering from a stroke requested assistance replacing the porch ceiling and headers on his porch. Once again PUMC volunteers supported this project and we were joined by Otis, another Paradise resident, for work laughs.



By the end of July, 26 volunteers had donated over 130 hours of their time, enjoying fellowship with one another, supporting families in need within our town. Words shared by the Historic Paradise president, “not only are we doing God’s work, but changing lives, futures and giving hope as we build relationships reducing the trust deficit.”



PUMC is committed to HPF, so opportunities to help continue, contact Dawn Edwards, [lendyloo@gmail.com](mailto:lendyloo@gmail.com), for information on how you can assist or donate funds. Also, check out HPF on Facebook for ways to assist.



### Gift Bag Collections - until August 29<sup>th</sup>

We are collecting everyday items to make gift bags for families in Historical Paradise. Please donate as you can the following items:

- |                   |                                |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| tooth paste       | dental floss                   |
| tooth brush       | deodorant                      |
| shampoo           | dish soap (small bottles)      |
| wash cloths       | comb and brush                 |
| hand soap         | dish cloths or cleaning sponge |
| cleaning products | Band-aides                     |

### CLASSROOM READY

PUMC donated 1,800 plastic 3-ring 2 pocket folders last year and since we did such a fabulous job, we have been requested to fulfill this need. Please place your folders in the coffee room on the Classroom Ready table.



As a part of the Foundation for Fort Mill Schools, Classroom Ready, serves the Fort Mill student community. Last year, donors provided over \$40,000 in school supplies to students in all 17 FM schools. These supplies support disadvantaged students so that they are equipped for academic success.



### SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE

Save the Date! We are excited to bring this church-wide mission project back to PUMC. On October 23<sup>rd</sup> we will be building beds for children without beds. Please pray about your ability to help provide children in our area with this basic need. All ages are welcome. More information to follow.

# COVID-19 AND OUR CHURCH

You can't turn on the news without hearing about the Delta variant and a rise in Covid-19 cases across the country. Rest assured that your Pastor and Church leaders are monitoring and discussing these changes as they relate to our services and ministries. It is with the CDC recommendations and that of our SC Conference and Bishop in mind that we are requesting that all worshippers wear masks during service. We thank you for your patience and understanding as we navigate these changes together.

You are encouraged to continue to monitor your health and stay at home if you don't feel well, have a fever, cough or other symptoms. If you are sick, please let us know so that we can pray for you and help in any way you need. Please consult your doctor if you think you have Covid-19 or have questions about the vaccines available.

"Ever since the outbreak of the pandemic early last year," Bishop Holston said, "we have encouraged our local churches and their members to follow the guidance of local, state and federal health officials. This week, we once again take to heart warnings from the CDC and DHEC, which are based on the latest developments in the pandemic and ongoing research.

"As a people of faith, we know that our foremost call is to love the Lord with all our heart, soul, mind and strength, and to love our neighbor as Jesus has loved us.

"Our hope is that South Carolina United Methodists consider the ongoing threat of this still-deadly pandemic through this scriptural lens, and take action by using the tools God has placed in our lives to protect ourselves, our families and our neighbors."

## NURTURE COMMITTEE



### SINGLE LADIES LUNCH BUNCH

If you are a single lady and would like to meet and have lunch with other single ladies, you are invited to join us on the second Saturday of each month. We meet at different restaurants to enjoy good food and fellowship.

Our next luncheon will be on Saturday, August 14<sup>th</sup>, at Friendly Billiards, 1037 Camden Avenue, Rock Hill. To be included on our email list, please contact Donna Schaefer at [nordon50@aol.com](mailto:nordon50@aol.com) or 704-604-2210.

### SENIOR FRIENDS

Senior Friends were thrilled to meet in person for the first time in over a year. In the Fellowship Hall, they enjoyed a short meeting, sandwiches, desserts, singing and most of all - being with each other.. What a blessing to see one another smile and laugh. There is no meeting in September, but be on the lookout for the October Apple Picking date!

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# CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRIES

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VBS is always a massive undertaking involving many people. There are the 50+ who show up each day, those who helped prep materials weeks prior, those who help bring our theme to life through decorations, those who make valuable donations and those who have prayed that children may be lifted up through our efforts. You are all responsible for the smiles on these children's faces. You were all used by God for the great Kingdom task. To God be the Glory! Please save the date for next year's Monumental VBS - June 20<sup>th</sup> thru 23<sup>rd</sup>.



## PHILLY YOUTH GROUP (PYG)



The youth have been enjoying the summer months spending time with friends and family! During July we focused on our Sunday School series from Right Now Media on Psalm 23. We love the videos and group discussions that help us learn more and grow more in our faith individually and with our peers!

We are excited to head into August and get ready to kick off another wonderful school year! Several youth volunteered with Vacation Bible School and shared their gifts and talents while helping the younger children. Some of these volunteers are pictured here.

We have some very exciting events going on in August! If you've been waiting to get involved with youth ministries, now is the time! After the excitement of VBS August 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> we will have a pool party hosted by the Lackey Family on August 8<sup>th</sup>! On August 15<sup>th</sup>, we will be taking a kayaking trip down the Catawba river with Camp Canaan in Rock Hill from 3-6 pm. Spots are filling up quickly for this summer adventure! Sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0849A5AB22A3F85-youth1> You don't want to miss this!

Are you a youth, or do you know a youth, that's a rising 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grader? Philly Youth Group will kick off for the year starting on August 22<sup>nd</sup>! This is a great time to get involved with youth ministries! There is a place for everyone- youth, parents, and volunteers! For more information about upcoming events, to sign-up, be added to the email list or get involved with Youth Ministries, email our Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries, Maggie Justus at [maggie@pumcfortmill.org](mailto:maggie@pumcfortmill.org).

## EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

### BLOOD DRIVE – September 12<sup>th</sup>, 8:30am - 12:30pm

Sign up times now available at [https://donor.oneblood.org/donor/schedules/drive\\_schedule/1119494](https://donor.oneblood.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/1119494) or log on [oneblood.org](http://oneblood.org).



We understand that not everyone is able to give blood, but if you can, it only takes 30-45 minutes to make a lifesaving contribution. Contact Amanda Burns, [amandalpburns@gmail.com](mailto:amandalpburns@gmail.com) if you have any questions or need a registration time.

## A TIME OF GRATITUDE

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showed us over the past month. It was beyond my expectations, and the power of these gifts you so freely shared lifted me up and placed me down firmly on holy ground. Gratitude connects us to each other. When we give thanks and receive thanks, we feel the power of connection and belonging. Gratitude empowers us in a way that makes all things new. We feel God's love. Each Sunday, I am filled with the Holy Spirit as I walk on my faith journey with you at Philadelphia United Methodist Church, Fort Mill.

Thank you, members, and leaders, of PUMC for all you do. I am deeply grateful. - Toni Taylor

## ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL



**SAVE THE DATE!** PUMC Fall Festival "A Taste of the South" is Saturday, October 9<sup>th</sup> from 10am-2pm. We're excited to offer over 30 vendors, a live band, children's bounce activities, first responder vehicles and of course UMM BBQ and UMW baked goods. We need **YOU** to help make this our best festival yet. It's a unique opportunity to show God's love to families in the community. Contact Jan Manning, [jmanring.jm@gmail.com](mailto:jmanring.jm@gmail.com) to get involved.

## NURTURE COMMITTEE

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### FAITH, ACTIVITY, AND NUTRITION

#### Zucchini, Yellow Squash, Tomatoes. & Onions

1 medium Onion: sliced thin cut into fourths

1 large tomato: sliced thin cut into fourths

1 medium zucchini: sliced thin cut in half

1 medium yellow squash: sliced thin cut in half

Alternate in rows in a small baking pan.

Drizzle the top with olive oil. Sprinkle over top with

Italian seasoning, Lemon pepper, salt, garlic powder. Top with mozzarella or Italian blend cheese.

Preheat oven to 375 degrees and bake for 40 minutes.

\*\*\*\* Add smoked sausage slices into the layers to make a hearty meal. FYI... don't forget the garlic bread!

# UNITED METHODIST MEN (UMM)

PUMC MEN'S RETREAT - SEPTEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup> - 12<sup>TH</sup>



Are you, like many men, up to your elbows in debt and duties but unsure if you are really prepared for the responsibilities and opportunities ahead? During this fun and encouraging event, you will explore both the hidden dangers and possibilities for personal growth in the various seasons of your life: success, building, reflection, crisis, suffering, rebuilding and renewal.

Pastor David Taylor will be among the session leaders.

- Depart Friday at 5pm
- Return Sunday by 3pm
- Asbury Hills Retreat Center, Cleveland, SC
- \$150 includes all meals, lodging, program materials and transportation on Christian Tours Charter Bus.

Talk to one of the UMM members in the Narthex after church, or contact Jim Price [theprices@comporium.net](mailto:theprices@comporium.net) or 803-371-0157.

## Fellowship Dinner - Tuesday, August 10<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm

Join us in the Fellowship Hall where Ben Himes will prepare a wonderful dinner, and we will have a great topic of discussion.

## Men In The Mirror - Saturday, August 21<sup>st</sup>, 7:30am

*Fill My Cup Lord* - Join us at the home of Jim Price in a special outdoor setting. Jim's address is 401 Lakeview Drive, Fort Mill SC - about a 10 minute drive from PUMC - Bring a chair.



*Top: Growing In Love: The Schaeffer family along with other UMM families enjoyed a Knights' baseball game in uptown Charlotte.*

*Bottom: Serving In Love: The UMM cooked BBQ pork and chicken for Pastor David and Toni's Welcome Luncheon where about 100 people enjoyed good food and warm fellowship.*



# UNITED METHODIST WOMEN (UMW)

All 3 of our circles are back to meeting in person! If you want to become a part of our fellowship, service and ministry, contact Pam, [pambrenwald@gmail.com](mailto:pambrenwald@gmail.com) to learn more about meeting times.

## Upcoming Activities:

- Fall Festival Bake Sale
- Pancake Packing Party for Operation Christmas Child
- Harvest Dinner



*Serving In Love: We recently collected back packs and school supplies for the children of Bennettsville, SC and we collected sheets and towels for the House of Hope Women's Shelter. Thank you to all those who donated.*

### Mailing Address

2764 Pleasant Road  
Suite A, PMB 11804  
Fort Mill, SC 29708

1691 Hwy. 160 West  
Fort Mill, SC 29708

### Contact

803-548-0102  
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9am - 12:30pm  
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### Staff

Senior Pastor - Rev. David Taylor  
Director of Worship Art - Jim Lowder  
Contemporary Worship Leader - Kayton Bassier  
Director of Children & Family Ministries - Nic Gland  
Director of Youth Ministries - Maggie Justus  
Office Manager - Denise Watson  
Financial Associate - Colleen Demmy