



OFFERINGS & REFLECTIONS

UNCONDITIONAL LOVE



Dear Church Family,

They say that love is the universal force that binds us all. Global Love Day is just that occasion. This annual celebration is carried out on May 1st, to remind humanity that anything can be achieved when we attune our minds to the frequency of unconditional love.

John 15:9-12 (NLT) *"I have loved you even as the Father has loved me. Remain in my love. When you obey my commandments, you remain in my love, just as I obey my Father's commandments and remain in his love. I have told you these things so that you will be filled with my joy. Yes, your joy will overflow! This is my commandment: Love each other in the same way I have loved you.*

Love is a force so powerful that it inspires the spirit of healing and transformation. It's God's love. Unconditional love can be described as showing love without boundaries. No matter how others may hurt us, unconditional love approaches every situation with forgiveness and understanding. Have you experienced unconditional love of God or others in your life?

1 Corinthians 13:4-8 (NLT) *Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance. Prophecy and speaking in unknown languages[a] and special knowledge will become useless. But love will last forever!*

This is the expectation we seek as followers of Christ. Where are we in this journey of love? Can we love others even though they are not like us? Do not give up. Do not lose faith. We are God's people and we are able to love because he loved us first and continues to love each of us in spite of our sins and shortcomings. May we prayerfully be examples of this love to others.

See you in the pews. Meet you at the altar.

CHURCH COUNCIL by Terry Dolch, Council Chair

In 10-months the United Methodist Church's General Conference meets in Charlotte, NC. The General Conference includes representatives from all the UMC's worldwide conferences and meets every four years for a time of prayer, celebration and to address the business of the church. The 2024 agenda will include the issue of homosexuality and disaffiliation of member congregations.

The SC Conference offered a process in December 2022 by which local congregations might disaffiliate from the Methodist Church. The Local Church Discernment Process requires a 30-day discernment period initiated by Church Council, payment of certain obligations to the conference and a congregational vote to request disaffiliation at SC Annual Conference. Congregational votes must occur before March 1st for consideration at the current year's Annual Conference. The Annual Conference must then approve disaffiliations for the separation process to begin. During the week of June 4th, 113 SC Congregations were approved for disaffiliation.

During February, Pastor David and I hosted three information sessions for the congregation to share information, discuss openly and solicit feedback around the issues of homosexuality and the disaffiliation process. About thirty members of the congregation attended. Conversation ranged from doctrinal to practical. In general, those in attendance verbalized a desire to preserve church doctrine and

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Worshipping in Love



Growing in Love



Serving in Love

WORSHIP CELEBRATION



Aaron, Jenna, Jeremy and Zoe Thrasher

The Thrasher family was all smiles at Zoe's baptism in March. There is always such a joy to be in the presence of parents and the congregation promising to raise children as followers of Christ. We love you Zoe and Jeremy!

CHURCH COUNCIL

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that PUMC remain open to all seeking God's grace, inclusive and accepting of all membership and visitors. No attendee of the information sessions expressed a desire to explore disaffiliation at this time. Thank you for your participation and feedback.

In late March, PUMC's Church Council agreed to not engage in the discernment process at this time. Council will continue to listen to the concerns of the congregation, review the latest information shared by SC Conference as well as consider any outcomes from the General Conference in 2024. The consensus was that time and energy should remain focused on encouraging and supporting PUMCs worship, ministries, mission, and outreach to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the World through Worshipping, Serving and Growing in Love. By doing so, PUMC remains strong, spiritually healthy and prepared to make tough decisions in the future from foundation of purpose, strength, and love.

SMALL GROUPS

Senior Friends

In April, the senior friends enjoyed delicious food and a beautiful spring day at their annual picnic at Caroline Helms' house.

June 13th at 11:30am - All those 65+ are invited to attend a covered dish lunch in the Fellowship Hall. There will be a guest speaker from Fort Mill History Museum.



Single Ladies Lunch Bunch - Saturday, June 17th, 11:30am

Are you a single lady (of any age)? Do you like to eat lunch? Then join us at Margarita's (3071 US-21, ste. 100, Fort Mill) to enjoy each other's company. Contact Donna Schaefer at nordon50@aol.com or 704-604-2210.

Call to Service on Sunday Mornings

The joys of summer: vacations, family reunions, family picnics, baseball/softball, hot dogs, apple pie, the beach, the lakes, sunshine, and fresh air outdoors. Children are attending summer camps, visiting grandparents and going on mission trips. Even when schedules are erratic, hectic, and spontaneous, you still have the option to be able to worship in person on Sunday mornings and online when traveling.

Of course, it takes many volunteers to offer both online and in person worship. There are several opportunities to use your God given gifts to serve Him at PUMC: greeters, acolytes, ushers, lay readers, communion assistants, live stream, video display, to name a few.

Please prayerfully consider where you might serve at PUMC during worship. Use this Worship Volunteer Google Doc to choose the Sunday(s) that fit best with your schedule. https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1rkAIMdpab6AdIx4YI6C-Le_bh4qOvHbNJZn7RFTJwak/edit?usp=sharing

Please contact Pam Brenwald at 803.493.0980 or pambrenwald@gmail.com if you have any questions or aren't familiar with Google Docs. Training is available with Greg to operate the soundboard, live streaming, and video display. Thank you and have a blessed summer!

1 Corinthians 12:4-7 There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit is the source of them all. There are different kinds of service, but we serve the same Lord. God works in different ways, but it is the same God who does the work in all of us. A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other.

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH (UWF)

Around 65 women and young ladies enjoyed fellowship, dinner and a craft to guide our prayers at the Summer Soiree. We also honored Marie Thompson as our current president. Marie has been faithfully dedicated to this group of United Women In Faith for decades. She is planning to move back home to Alabama to help her daughter later this summer. There is no doubt that Marie will continue to be a faithful servant in her new home. We will miss you Marie!

In May, we collected children's pajamas and underwear to help Defend the Fatherless be more prepared to help local foster families.



CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRIES

Stellar VBS - June 19th-22nd from 9:30-11:45am

Please pray for VBS. Thank God for all those who have and will play a part in making it a reality. Pray that through all the fun, the children will feel the love of Jesus and get to know Him better. Pray that the volunteers and leaders will have enough energy to get through the week and that they are open to how God is going to work through them.

And if you are able, you are welcome to come for even just one day and help be the hands and feet of Jesus!



Shawn's Summer

You can take Shawn the Sheep on vacation with you this summer! Shawn is taking time off for Summer 2023 and wants to take it with YOU! Invite Shawn on your trip, snap a pic of you and Shawn having fun, and then submit that pic and a favorite Bible verse when you return. Contact

nicolas@pumcfortmill.org to schedule a week or weekend trip.

Philadelphia
United Methodist Church

PUMC is seeking a Part-Time (-15 hours a week) Youth Director to provide focused ministry to Youth.

Candidates should have a passionate desire to nurture youth in Christian faith.

Please contact sprt@pumcfortmill.org for further information.

TRUSTEES COMMITTEE

The Trustees have been busy making improvements to our church. Here are some examples: 1) Evan Lackey and Steve Walters have installed two electrical ovens in our kitchen. 2) Bobby Burgess and John McDade have installed new wooden room signs in the Sunday School annex. 3) Ron Jacoby has replaced a broken board in the Gaga ball pit. 4) A water faucet and a sink drainage pipe have been installed in the K-2 Sunday School classroom. 5) The doorbell outside the west wing door has been replaced. We are blessed to have capable members who take time to work on the maintenance of God's house. We also appreciate your patience as we work through our "to do" list. If something at the church needs to be fixed or replaced, please contact Gary Brocious, garybrocious2@gmail.com or call the church office.

MISSIONS COMMITTEE



Serving in Love

Bethel Men's Shelter Dinner

We served a delicious meal at the Men's Night Shelter on Friday, May 12th. Although the numbers of men were lower than normal (30ish) they devoured the food we had prepared to serve 45+ individuals! Thanks to all who donated food, breakfast bag items, clothing / personal items and

took time to deliver and serve the dinner. Our next opportunity will be in the July timeframe. If you are not on the Sign-up Genius Distribution list and would like to help with food prep or serving; please see Eugenia Taylor or sign up in the Coffee Connections Room.

Thanks to the United Methodist Men for donating the left-over buns from the Strawberry Festival to the shelter. They were used for the next weekend's meals as Bethel did not have any signups for those evenings. It was such a blessing to receive the buns at that critical time of need!

Bethel Van Thanks to Bobby Burgess and Jack Smith for providing and installing new headlamps on one of the Bethel Vans to improve safety for drivers and passengers!



Bethel Building Repairs

The exterior building repairs to the building used for sleeping are complete. You may remember we collected a special offering on Christmas Eve which went to those building repairs. The men have not yet moved into the building and are still sleeping in the Bethel Fellowship Hall as interior improvements including flooring replacement and painting will be performed. Those improvements are expected to be completed this summer - please pray that they will be completed sooner rather than later so the men don't have to break down tables and set up their cots every evening. It was such a blessing to receive your offering to complete these critical building repairs!



MISSIONS COMMITTEE

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY 2023 FAITH

Eleven individuals enjoyed a great weather day working on the 2023 Faith Build in Rock Hill. It was an extra special day as we were able to participate in the House Blessing Ceremony! We worked with the home owner, Danesha Willis, and a future homeowner. We put sheathing on the exterior of the home and installed the top-plates. Many of us stayed later than planned as we wanted to complete top-plates for installation of trusses on the following Monday. Special thanks to Linda Honeycutt for picking up and serving the lunch and to those to donated waters, sport drinks and other items.

Habitat has additional opportunities for service by individuals and small groups - if you interested please review the information below:

- Habitat is looking for individuals to assist in various projects at the two locations below on Friday, June 16, 2023, from 9:00am to 3:00pm. The meeting place will be at St. Mary's Catholic Church located at 902 Crawford Rd, Rock Hill, SC. If you are interested please email Eugenia Taylor (taylorj@comporium.net) to obtain details.
- Farmacy - Volunteer Positions: Landscaping, and gate repair work. To learn more about Farmacy, please visit <https://www.growwithvictory.org/farmacy>
- Dorothy Day Soup Kitchen - Volunteer Positions: Landscaping, pressure washing, gate, signage repair, blessing box repairs. To learn more about Soup Kitchen, please visit <https://dorothydaysoupkitchen.org/>



CONFIRMATION CLASS 2023

The Holy Spirit was truly at work in the life of our youth on May 21st! Fifteen young persons confirmed the vows their parents had made for them at their baptisms. These youth had attended several weeks of classes, lead by Pastor David and Jonathan Johnson, learning what it means to be a member of Christ's church and specifically Philadelphia United Methodist Church. The youth also had strong Christian mentors that met with them in small groups to further discuss the importance of their decision. A full sanctuary witnessed their profession of love for Jesus Christ and vow of prayers, presence, gifts, and service to this local congregation.



Front Row (L-R) Confirmands Matthew Connell, Cort Dolch, Matthew Graver, Charlotte Burns, Anna Kmiec, Lucas Kmiec, Adriana Lackey, Victoria Miller, Juliana Moon, Grayson Schaeffer, Middle Row (L-R) Claire Pollack, Lucy Pollack, Cambell Cahaly, David Lackey, Evan Sageser with Mentors Phil Brigman, Last Row (L-R) Jessica Inman, Pastor David Taylor, Jonathan Johnson, Gary Smith and Cindy Smith.



CONGRATULATIONS

YOUTH SERVICE

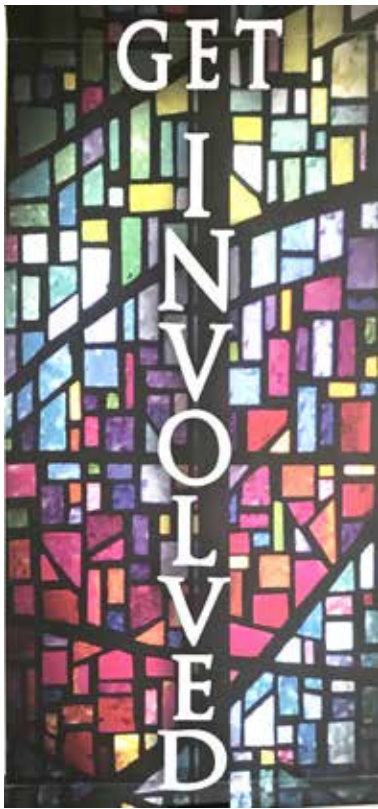


Growing In Love: Congratulations to Camden Caulder on graduating from Nation Ford High School. He will be attending Clemson in the fall. Pictured with his proud parents, Lee and Linda.



2023 PUMC CONFIRMANDS

JUNE - MONTH AT A GLANCE



Date	Event	Time
Sun, Jun 4	Children's Clang Buckets	9:00am & 11:00am
Sun, Jun 4	Philly Youth Group	5:30 - 7:00pm
Sun, Jun 11	Philly Youth Group	5:30 - 7:00pm
Tue, Jun 13	Senior Friends	11:30am
Sat, Jun 17	Men In the Mirror	7:30am
Sat, Jun 17	Single Ladies Lunch (Margarita's)	11:30am
Mon - Thur, Jun 19-22	Vacation Bible School	9:30 - 11:45am
Sun, Jun 25	Philly Youth Group	5:30 - 7:00pm
Every Wednesday	CORE - praise band (Sanctuary)	5:30pm
Every Wednesday	Handbells (Fellowship Hall)	6:00pm
Every Wednesday	Chancel Choir (Choir Room)	7:15pm
Every Sunday	Renew Contemporary Worship	9:00am
Every Sunday	Sunday School for all ages	10:00am
Every Sunday	Traditional Worship	11:00am

FINANCE COMMITTEE

We received some good financial news. We've been waiting for checks from the South Carolina Department of Transportation for the sale of a strip of the church's property and right-of-way use of a portion of our parking lot for the upcoming Hwy 160 construction. In April, we received checks for the full amount of \$187,991. We're required to use the proceeds toward our mortgages and the church building, so roughly \$88k was used to pay off the parsonage and the remainder will be available to pay the church mortgage and/or building expenses. As mentioned in previous newsletters, cash was getting tight, so this came at a perfect time!

We appreciate your efforts to continue regular giving during the summer months. As you can see in this newsletter and in the weekly bulletin, our cash on hand remains low, so it's critical to keep giving as consistent as possible.

Our new Financial Associate Mayra Leon is doing a great job learning the ropes. She is visiting with her grandparents in Peru, but is available through email. The new email for questions on your giving is accounting@pumcfortmill.org.

STEWARDSHIP & FINANCIAL REPORT

\$14,110 is needed each week to meet our annual budget of \$733,741

As of 6/4/23, \$250,016 has been received and \$254,111 has been spent in the General Budget and Building Funds.

\$34,003 cash available to support ministries and missions.

\$821,765 Loan balance for Building and Parsonage.

WAYS TO GIVE TO PUMC

Online Giving:

Visit pumcfortmill.org to set up and manage your one-time and recurring gifts.

GivePlus Text:


Text 844-281-2004, with the amount you want to donate, to make one-time or recurring contributions.

Mobile App Giving:

Search your app store for "GivePlus Church" and download the GivePlus app to make one-time or recurring contributions.

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
Office Hrs: Mon - Thurs
9am - 12:30pm
info@pumcfortmill.org
www.pumcfortmill.org

Staff

Senior Pastor - Rev. David Taylor
Director of Music Ministries - David Hodges
Contemporary Worship Leader - Mark Gannon
Director of Children & Family Ministries - Nic Gold
Office Manager - Denise Watson
Financial Associate - Mayra Leon
Media/Audio Visual Specialist - Greg Millett