

# WMPC MONTHLY

WHITE MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH | APRIL 2020

## Friday to Sunday

As I write these words there is not a preponderance of good news to be found. There are pockets here and there, but we are in the first weeks of what is sure to be a long period of isolation. A time of pandemic and challenge that we are not soon to forget.

As I have said before, to the ancient Greeks Chronos was a titan (think: chronology. Time was one of the fundamental forces which held the universe together. Meaning it couldn't be stopped. Not even a virus, a really bad pandemic-level virus, can stop the turning of the hands of the clock or the pages of the calendar. Pandemic or not, Holy Week is coming. Virus or not, April 12 will still be Easter. Even the pathogens must bow down to the power of time.

This confronts us with a question: how does one witness to Easter in the midst of a "stay at home" order? How do you do Easter in a pandemic? Well, to be direct no one has had to ask the question for more than 100 years since the last really big pandemic in 1918. But, remember the lesson of time: know what to do or have no idea what to do, the clock is ticking. Easter is coming.

Perhaps the most famous sermon in American History not preached by Martin Luther King, Jr. or Billy Graham but was preached by the Californian S.M. Lockridge (at least we think it was Rev. Lockridge as so many have repeated his words, he is our best candidate for the original author). The sermon he preached had the amazing and often repeated refrain, "It's Friday now, but Sunday's coming."

On Good Friday, all seemed lost. Jesus died. The Roman cross won. It was finished. Friday was a bad day, a symbol for tough times, hardship, mourning, and sorrow.

On Sunday everything changes. Three days later, lament has given way to a miracle. The sun breaks the eastern horizon, and Friday's from the past have given way to Sunday's of the future. God's power is made known in the wonder and grace of Easter, and it shall be made known on every Sunday as far as we might see. Jesus' triumph over death has changed all things.

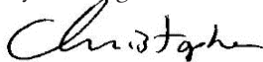
"It's Friday now, but Sunday's coming."

One can see why it is a famous sermon. It captures the grief-tinged cliffhanger of Good Friday, the wonder of God's power on Easter Sunday, and the call to hopeful expectation which every soul requires in a handful of words. It portrays the truth and strength of our faith with a phrase that is both easy to remember and profound in its possibility.

If you are doing what you can to endure long days of limited freedom, you are a "Sunday person." If you are doing what you can to help a neighbor who cannot get out, checking on an elderly relative, looking in on a cousin who has had many health care problems, then you are a "Sunday person." If you are praying for the world, praying for our health care teams, praying for researchers and virologists, reading your Bible, or doing online devotions then you are a "Sunday person." And if you are, because of fear or circumstance, stuck on Friday as you read these words, then please close your eyes and clench your fists and say out loud, "Sunday's coming."

Easter comes on God's time. And while Easter 2020 will look and feel different, and while we will still be "together, apart," it will still be Easter. Wherever there is Easter, there is yet cause for hope. Thanks be to God for that.

May Easter grace abound,



Christopher Edmonston



### SUNDAY WORSHIP TIMES

9:30 a.m.  
11:00 a.m.

Live Stream and  
FB Live

### MAUNDY THURSDAY 7:00 p.m.

Live Stream and  
FB Live

### GOOD FRIDAY 7:00 p.m.

Live Stream and  
FB Live

#### Church Office

Telephone Number:  
919-834-3424

#### Pastor-On-Call

Telephone Number:  
919-605-4593



text: wmpc app to 77977  
to download app

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WORSHIP | EMBRACE | SERVE  
in the manner of Christ

# Jays & CONCERNS

## IN THE CHURCH TRIUMPHANT

**Billie Frances Lassiter Marrow** – March 10, 2020

**Robert Frank (Bob) Dean** – March 11, 2020

WMPC family member: wife, Liz Dean

**Charlotte Celeste Herring Swart** – March 17, 2020

WMPC family members: husband, Cornelius Swart; daughter and son-in-law Karen and Taz Marshall and granddaughter Cassie

## PRAYERS AND CHRISTIAN CONCERNS TO

**Dee and Tom Davis, Hill, Eleanor Scott, Avery, Julia and Derby Davis, Alex, Kelsey and Pfeiffer Gray Davis;**

**and Julia and Carlyle Cromer**, on the death of Dee and Tom's nephew, Jared Lloyd Weicht, February 17, Huntersville, NC.

**Joe, Kelli, Alyssa, Ryan and Sarah Sullivan, and Daniel LaRoche**, on the death of Joe's brother, James "Jimmy" Sullivan, February 28, Pompano Beach, FL.

**Colon and Tricia Willoughby, Liz, Cliff, Birdie and Mac Harrell, and Mary Willoughby and Joe, Inez and Libby Morahan**, on the death of Colon's father, Clarence Colon Willoughby Sr., March 2, Tabor City NC.

**Lisa Cunningham**, on the death of her brother, Edward Moore Cunningham, March 4, Richmond, VA.

**Jackie and Alexander Baah**, on the death of Jackie's mother, Hattie B. Smith March 12, Dunn, NC.

**Jeff, Martha, Nicole, Olivia and Annelise Thorn**, on the death of Jeff's mother, Carrie Emeline Beaty Thorn, March 15, Raleigh, NC.

**Spencer, Kenny, Storey and Will Menzel**, on the death of Spencer's grandfather, William Royall Martin Jr., March 16, Cary, NC.

**Chris and Kristy Blake, and Kelly, Hunter, Gard and Max Hobson**, on the death of Chris' mother, Mary Lou Blake, March 18, Raleigh, NC.

**Tricia and David Parker**, on the death of Tricia's mother, Ellen Skinner Rogers, March 21, Raleigh, NC.

**Nancy, Gregg, Grey, Reid and Molly Thompson**, on the death of Nancy's father, John Ivey Bradley, Jr., March 21, Tarboro, NC.

## NEW PRESBYTERIANS

**Elliott Sackett Thomas**, born March 2, child of Leila and Sterling Thomas, grandchild of Sally and Bill White.

**Mary Turner Rose Everett**, born March 9, child of Ashlyn and Bob Everett, Birmingham, AL, grandchild of Becky and Justus Everett.

## BAPTIZED

**March 1 – Eleanor Morrow Day**, child of Ellery and Wes Day, grandchild of Mollie and Jim Day.

**March 1 – James Miller Day**, child of Randall and Matt Day, grandchild of Mollie and Jim Day.

**March 1 – Luke Sherrod Iverson**, child of Emily and Eric Iverson, grandchild of Mollie and Jim Day.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO

**Debbie and John Day**, on the birth of grandchild Campbell William Scott, born to Ashley and Austin Scott, Charlotte, NC.

## MARRIAGES

**Shirley Riggs Robertson and Stanley Gerald Arnold**, March 7, WMPC.

**Jacqueline Bailey Stocks and Jon Steven Ruffy**, March 14, Davidson Chapel.

If you have experienced a birth, marriage or death you want to share with the church, email Rebecca Turner at [rturner@whitememorial.org](mailto:rturner@whitememorial.org). If you have a relative or church friend who is hospitalized, call the church office or email Amy Clapood at [aclapood@whitememorial.org](mailto:aclapood@whitememorial.org) so our pastoral staff can reach out. If you have a pastoral care need outside of regular business hours, call our after hours pastor on call at 919-605-4593.

noteworthy

WMPC CAMPUS CLOSED UNTIL APRIL 30, 2020

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE OFTEN:  
[WWW.WHITEMEMORIAL.ORG](http://WWW.WHITEMEMORIAL.ORG)

For updates, videos, devotionals, studies, activities and innovative ways to practice faith at home and to share faith with one another.

WORSHIP AT HOME

Sunday Mornings  
Live stream or FB Live  
9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Holy Week  
Live stream or FB Live

Maunder Thursday  
Thursday, April 9, 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday  
Friday, April 10, 7:00 p.m.

## ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

### Easter Special Offering

*You Shall Be Called Repairers of the Breach*

- Isaiah 58

On April 12, Easter, is the first of our four Special Offering Collections. We invite you to join God's call to share our bread with the hungry, to aid and shelter people overcoming catastrophe and conflict, and to resource communities working to cast off the bonds of poverty and oppression.

## ADMINISTRATIVE HOUSEKEEPING

During this time of campus closure only a skeleton crew is allowed by law to come into the office. They field phone calls in the morning and handle any internal business for staff and members that needs addressing. However, all staff can be reached during normal office hours of 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. by calling 919-834-3425 and putting in the extension number of the staff member. (a directory is available).



Playgrounds are near completion. By the time our Weekday School comes back into session the playgrounds should be functional. Demolition on Geneva Hall and Pickard Hall continue while renovations to those spaces steadily comes along. We are still on schedule for completion in June and work has not ceased since construction is deemed "essential function." I want to express my thanks to the Building Committee for the many impromptu called meetings to discuss the ongoing renovations and giving direction on the many unforeseen conditions in Geneva Hall.

Andrew Amodei  
Executive Director



## A THANK YOU FROM TRACEY DANIEL

3-24-20

Dear White Memorial Friends,

Thank you so much for the generous gift that you gave me to celebrate our 15 years in ministry together. I plan to purchase a beach cruiser bike, a new set of stoles and many books for my book shelf!

It was such a wonderful experience for me to serve you as my first call to ordained ministry. I learned so much from you. I will always be grateful for your passion for living as Christ's disciples. Thank you again for the awesome gift!

Keeping you all in my prayers as we live in this new day of social distancing.

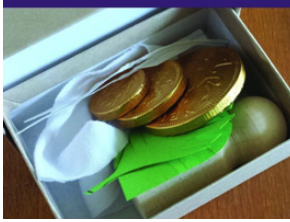
May God bless you and keep you!

Love, Tracey Daniel

## PALM SUNDAY PALMS

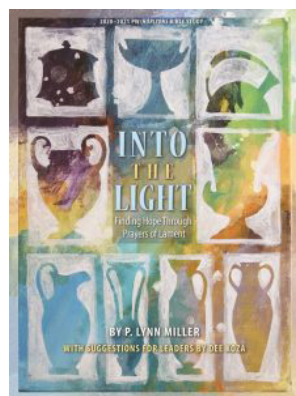
We will have vases with palm strips in front of the Witherspoon Building and on the sidewalk of McDonald Lane near the Jane Bell Gathering Space beginning at noon Thursday, April 2. We invite WMPC members and friends to take a palm. We also encourage you to take photos to share. Please send photos to Kathy Howell at [khowell@whitememorial.org](mailto:khowell@whitememorial.org) By submitting a photo you are agreeing to allow WMPC to use within church communication channels.

## Holy Week in a Box



## HOLY WEEK IN A BOX

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday on April 5. Experiencing the stories of Holy Week at home is a powerful way to share and reinforce stories. With a few simple items that you have at home, your family can journey through Holy Week together, too. Visit: Building Faith at <https://buildfaith.org/holy-week/> for a list of supplies and directions.



## PW STUDY GUIDES FOR 2020-21

We are looking ahead to fall when we will gather and study together again. For 2020-2021 PW will study Into the Light, Finding Hope through Prayers of Lament by P. Lynn Miller. Study guides are available to pre-order! Go to our website under reservations to order by credit card.

The first order deadline is May 3, 2020. Another order will be

placed in late August. If you have any questions, please contact Tonya Higgins, [thiggins@whitememorial.org](mailto:thiggins@whitememorial.org).



## WEDNESDAY'S IN THE KITCHEN WITH MACY@4

Facebook Live

Join Macy Aguirre, Director of Food Services on Wednesday, April 8, 4:00 p.m. on Facebook Live as she shares a classic WMPC recipe and helpful tips in the kitchen. Bon Appetit!

# We Belong.... Together

It is amazing to see how our church family has come together. In many ways the bonds that held us have grown even stronger and a deeper sense of community and belonging has emerged. From over-arching live stream worship to individual ministry outreach and groups the ways we are connecting and responding to our new (albeit temporary) normal are amazing. Check them out >>

## CONGREGATIONAL CARE

- **Contemplative Practices with Cate**

Cate Church Norman, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care will begin her series *Contemplative Practice with Cate* on Monday, April 6. Each week she will introduce contemplative and meditative practices that can help us stay centered and grounded during this time. Cate will share ways to meditate, pray and will offer short contemplative Bible studies. Cate's videos can be found on our website: [www.whitememorial.org](http://www.whitememorial.org).

- **Caring for One Another**

The Congregational Care Team is making dozens and dozens of phone calls every week to check on people, especially seniors, in our congregation. If you know a member or if you would like a call from a pastor, please contact Amy Claprod at [aclaprod@whitememorial.org](mailto:aclaprod@whitememorial.org).

## DISCIPLESHIP

- Zoom gatherings have been happening for GodTalk and 20's @wmpc
- Care Connections are linking children and youth (and their families) with older adults who are isolated
- Grier's Favorite Things are offered each week as suggestions for how to continue to grow in mind, body and spirit during this time of slowing down
- 9@9 Facebook Live devotions

## ADULT FAITH FORMATION

- **Connected when Apart**

Several adult Sunday School, midweek classes and small groups have started meeting via Zoom (virtual meeting app) including:

- Faith Foundations
- Theological Forum
- Knox
- Cover to Cover
- GodTalk

This has offered a way to stay connected even while apart from one another. Other groups are encouraged to try this as well as communicate through Church Community Builder (CCB). Contact Jennifer Eastman at [jeastman@whitememorial.org](mailto:jeastman@whitememorial.org) to learn more, even if you are new to groups at WMPC.

## CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION

- **Children's Devotional Resources**

The Children's Ministry team is sending targeted resources through email and the WMPC website such as:

- Spend Time with God
- Taking Faith Home
- Children's Lenten Calendar
- Rotation Station "at home"

Family resources will continue to be sent weekly in our *Faith Formation: Fuel for Families* emails starting Friday and will also be available on the WMPC website!

## YOUTH DAY-BY-DAY

- **Mondays:** Youth Zoom Hangout
- **Tuesdays:** Family Devotional Video and Email
- **Wednesdays:** Youth Zoom Hangout and a Wednesday Night Special Event ex: Netflix Party or Virtual Impact Groups
- **Thursdays:** Youth Email Newsletter and Family Devotional Email
- **Fridays:** Social Media Engagement
- **Sundays:** Sunday Night Virtual Gathering via Zoom

To stay up to date on all the youth have to offer make sure you're receiving the weekly youth newsletter, following along on social media, and are signed up to receive the Remind text updates

## MUSIC

- Karl Zinsmeister, Director of Music; Kirsten Homdrom, Assistant Director of Music and several members of the Adult Choirs and OnPoint House Band are participating in the live stream worship services on Sunday mornings.
- In addition, they are also recording videos that are being shared on the WMPC website as well as Facebook and Instagram.

## CHILDREN'S CHOIRS

- Children's choirs have been receiving weekly "at-home" singing and music resources including solfege exercises, links to anthems and hymns for singing along at home, as well as an invitation to send videos of themselves in a virtual show and tell of singing, playing instruments, or spoken well wishes to their choir friends.
- **Joyful Noise choir** had a Zoom check-in last Wednesday. They will plan to do this every other week for those who wish to join.
- Lee Baker, volunteer Carol Choir director, is planning a zoom check-in for the **Carol Choir**.
- **Youth Choir** has been receiving weekly music resources for singing at home including recordings/videos of anthems we've sung this year and in years past. They had a Zoom check-in two Sundays ago and will plan to do one every other week. This past Friday, youth singers were invited to watch a Facebook Live of composer Mark Miller's page where he shared music (some of which we've sung at WMPC) and words of hope and encouragement.
- Kirsten Homdrom, Associate Music Director, has been reaching out to individual families in the **Joyful Noise Choir** via email, and Kelly Gold, Director of Children's and Youth Music, is currently working on sending **Youth Choir** members hand written notes to let them know they are thinking of them.

## OUTREACH IS IN TOUCH

We have received great words of personal encouragement from our mission partners in Poland and Russia. They are experiencing the same health issues that we are, but we have communicated with one another and share our thoughts.

Locally, most of our community partners have had to close their facilities in the last several weeks. It has been interesting to see the ways they have been able to keep in touch with their program participants. Those that house individuals and families have a lock down policy, so they are dealing with new challenges. Our agencies that work with the food insecure have done all they can safely do to make meals and food available. Since many who normally get meals from the soup kitchen are having to stay in place, they have seen a decrease in the total number of meals served, but the meal demand is strong among restaurant workers who have lost jobs.

The main focus of outreach over the last several weeks has been to provide basic necessities such as food and the cleaning supplies we have been able to secure. We will continue to work with the larger organizations that

are maintaining operations to provide food, but we have also been focusing effort in our local Mayview/Oberlin Road Community. We are doing what we can to restock the food pantry at Wilson Temple UMC and working with churches along Oberlin Road to be a weekend meal drop off site for the government children's school lunch program. We help facilitate the distribution of 150 meals between 12:00 and 1:00 pm on Saturday and Sunday.

Our Outreach team communicates constantly to see what needs there are and tries to meet them as safely as we can. With the wonderful financial response by the congregation we are able to quickly distribute funds where needed. The food donations in the bins in front of Witherspoon have been steady and have been delivered to several sites in the community. We are currently asking only for food and cleaning supplies. Other donations will resume when our facility reopens. Many places are unable to receive other donations because of closing or lack of staff, and we are trying to keep our members safe by not being out any more than is necessary.

We are proud to announce our slate of elders and deacons for this year.  
As soon as we are able to meet in person we will have a congregational meeting to elect them.

## Class of 2023 Elder Nominees



**Diane Britt:** PW Moderator; PW Treasurer; PW Honorary Life; Circle C Rep; Women's Retreat Committee; Sunday school teacher; Children in Worship; Youth Ministry volunteer; Angel Tree originator; Young Family Committee; Library Committee



**Harry Montgomery:** Elder; Diaconate Moderator; Stephen Ministry Leader; Youth Mission Trip Advisor; Outreach; Mission Trips; Property Care; Faith Formation; Inquirer and Candidates; Communications; Caring for Older Loved Ones; Youth Committee Chair; Sunday School Greeters, Chair; Habitat for Humanity, Chair; Nominating Committee



**Jean Carter:** Elder; Presbyterian Women; Circle G, speaker for PW on health issues; Communion Guild co-chair; Disciple Bible study; Seasonal Choir; Stephen Ministry Training speaker; Russia Knitting and Crocheting Group; Agape Care Team member



**Linda Nunnallee:** Elder; Deacon; Generosity Committee, Co-Chair; Community Outreach Committee; Officer Nominating Committee; Endowment Committee; Summer Forum; Executive Director, StepUp Ministry; Finance Committee; Committee of Chairs; Pastor Mentoring Team; Sunday School Teacher



**Matthew Cooke:** High School Sunday school teacher; Generosity Committee



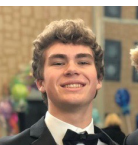
**Linda Robinson:** Elder; Mayview Community Committee Chair; TNT Sunday School Leader; Poland Committee and Trip Leader; Adult Faith Formation Committee; Circle O Member; PW Honorary Life Membership, Greeter



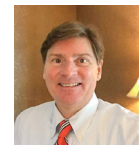
**Wynn Dorsett:** Elder; Deacon; VBS; Sunday school teacher; Sanctuary choir member; PW Circle Moderator; Prayer Ministry; Advent Wreath; GodTalk; Sounds on Oberlin Committee; Worship Committee; Women's Retreat Leader



**Kevin Thompson:** Seasonal Choir member; Generosity Committee; Young Adult Small Group and 20s Small Group; StepUp Co-Partner; Community Grants Committee



**Gabe Edmonston (youth class of 2022):** Sunday school; Youth Group, Youth retreats and conferences; Youth Choir and Band, ASP



**John Towles:** Elder; Deacon; Sunday school teacher; Youth Mission Trip Leader, Haiti; WMPC Foundation; Generosity Committee; Shuttle Driver; Usher



**Jennings Glenn:** Elder; Deacon; StepUp Board of Directors; Finance Committee; Weekday School Committee; Youth Advisor; Confirmation Partner; Worship Committee; Sunday school teacher



**Bill White:** Elder; Deacon; Disciple Bible Study; Men's Bible Study and Men's Breakfast Study; ASP Leader; mission trips



**Glenn Matteson:** Deacon; Stephen Minister; Sunday school teacher; Usher Guild, chair; Music & Worship Planning Committee; Service Committee, Worship Committee



**Trica Willoughby:** Deacon; Baptismal Guild; Advent Wreath; GodTalk; WTR Usher Guild; Grief support; Senior High Sunday school leader; Wedding Guild; Nursery Volunteer



**Amelia Mehr (youth class of 2022):** Youth Choir; Youth Band; Montreat Music & Worship Conference; Montreat Youth Conference; VBS music leader; Associate Director of Music Search Committee; Youth Sunday school.



**Carolyn Younger:** Elder; Generosity Committee; Infant Nursery Volunteer; Flower Guild; PW Retreat Co-chair; PW Moderator, PW Treasurer, Projects chair for Circle F, PW Finance Committee; Volunteer Receptionist; Daniels Food Pantry Volunteer; Martha Ministry Volunteer; Outreach Committee; Community Service Committee chair

# Class of 2023 Deacon Nominees



**Susan Allen:** Children's Sunday school teacher; VBS teacher; Mid-Summer Celebration planning committee; Acts of Faith Theater planning committee; Puppet ministry; Bell Choir; WTR Choir; Christian Fellowship Class; Presbyterian Women Ministry, Finance committee, Stephen Ministry; Show Up and Serve



**Bill Fairfax:** Deacon; Christian Fellowship Class member and leadership team; Men's Breakfast Bible Study; Men's Retreat; Officer Nominating Committee; Keenagers; Agape Care Team; Usher



**Laura Lillian Baggett (youth class of 2022):** Youth group; Sunday school; Youth Choir; mission trips, ASP; retreats, conferences participant



**Julie Leon:** PW Moderator; PW Spiritual Nurturer Communicator; PW Circle leader; Bereavement Care Committee; PW Retreat Co-Chair; Stephen Minister, VBS Teacher; mission trip participant



**Melanie Biddell:** Elementary and Middle School Sunday School Teacher; Confirmation Class Mentor; PW Circle Member; Usher; Small Group Leader on Women's Retreat; Co-Coordinator of a Small group Bible study; Youth Ministry committee member; Children's Program Leader during worship service; Impact Group host; Co-leader of the Parents of Teens class



**Brendan Shore (youth class of 2022):** Youth Choir; Youth Sunday school; Youth group



**Holly Blanton:** Stephen Minister; Music & Worship Committee; VBS; PW retreat small group leader; Allocations Committee; OnPoint Planning Committee; GodTalk; WTR Choir; Mental Health Ministry



**Thomas Sigmon:** Youth Advisor; Youth Mission Trips; ASP; Church camp counselor



**Wendy Burkard:** Elder; Wedding Guild; Usher; Shuttle Driver; Sunday school teacher; Circle C; past PW Retreat Co-Chair; Lilies of the Field Bible Study; Community Service Committee; Weekday School Committee



**Rahm Sutton:** Deacon; TNT Sunday school class coordinator; Sunday school teacher; Usher; Officer Nominating Committee; Youth Mission Trip Chaperone; PYC Kick-off Coordinator; PYC Program Provider; OnPoint Greeter, OnPoint AV team member; ADMWA Search Committee



**Penny Carlo:** PW member; Health Ministry, Mental Health Taskforce, Agape Care Team Leader; Bible study; Russia Knitting Group; Christmas Share, vice chair and chair; Community Service Committee



**William White, Jr.:** Co-Chair of Haiti Committee; Youth Mission Trip leader; Outreach Committee; High School Impact Group Leader



**Lou Anne Crumpler:** Deacon; support for OnPoint Service and OnPoint House Band; Youth Advisor; Youth Ministry Committee; Family Ministry Committee



**Winn Williams:** ASP; 20s fellowship group



**Haley Durgin:** Young Adults; Oak City Outreach; Pastoral Resident Search Committee; Nominating Committee; Massanetta Youth Conference; Youth Advisor; 20s small group fellowship; mission trips



**Scott Wilson:** Sunday school superintendent; Children's Sunday school teacher; Youth Ministry volunteer; 8th Grade Confirmation Advisor