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January 24th, 2021

3rd Sunday after the Epiphany

Kathey Hollifield, Music Director
Bruce Ikard, Worship Technician

Kathy Miller, Organist
Rick Schilling, Pastor

ONLINE WORSHIP EDITION

Prelude

“Offertory on Restoration”

Kathy Miller - Organ

Greeting / Call to Worship (Adapted from Psalm 62)

Jack Riley

From God alone comes our salvation.
Let our souls wait in silence for the Lord.
God alone is our rock and redemption.
God is our fortress; we shall never be shaken.

Opening Hymn

“He Has Made Me Glad”

TFWS 2270

Opening Prayer / Blessing of Peace

Jack Riley

Trusting in the One who leads us, let us pray...

Almighty God, sometimes the difficulties and burdens of our lives cause us to doubt your goodness. We get anxious and worried, and sometimes fail to trust in your promise to work all things for good. Increase our faith and grant us your peace, that our lives will demonstrate our trust in you. Amen.

Children's Message

Beverly Greene

Scripture Reading

Jonah 3:1-10

CEB 1126

Proclamation of the Word

“The Unexpected”

Rev. Rick Schilling

Special Music

“Jacob's Ladder”

Choral Ensemble

Pastoral Prayer

Closing Hymn

“Trust and Obey”

UMH 467

Benediction / Benediction Music

“He is Lord, He is Lord”

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

IF YOU'RE NEW HERE . . . WELCOME!

We're glad you could join us, whether you're new to the community, new to our church, or if you might be new to this whole "church" thing altogether. We hope you won't be nervous: it doesn't matter who you are, what you've done, what you're wearing, what you believe, or what you don't believe – you are welcome here. You are among friends, and we hope you feel at home in this place of grace.

JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2021 ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY MORNING DEVOTION

- The pandemic has been such a trying time for all of us, and not gathering for in-person worship is necessary, but painful. In an effort to help keep us connected with each other, we are starting a Sunday morning Zoom devotion, which begins Sunday, January 31. Time is 10:00 – 10:30 am. This will be a time of (re)connection, Scripture, conversational devotion, and prayer. Here is the link to join the devotion each week:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87074258676?pwd=N1UvR3J5SS9PNEJsTodwSlpoSzFHUTog>

A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR SPRUCE PINE UMC

- SPUMC has been invited to participate in Transformation Journey – a three-year process that helps healthy churches plan for future ministry. This could be a wonderful opportunity for us to pray, dream, and ponder what we believe God is calling us to do. In light of the pandemic, this is an amazing chance for us to build upon our strengths so that we can continue to reach our community in effective manners.

Around February 20, the church will participate in a Discovery Weekend, which will give church members the opportunity to find out more about the Transformation Journey process.

Prior to this Discovery Weekend, the church is asked to participate in a church-wide Bible study, which will take place via Zoom. There are 4 weekly sessions, and each session is only one hour. We are offering the Bible study on Tuesday afternoons at 2:00 (Jan 19 – Feb 9) and Monday evenings at 7:00 (Jan 25 – Feb 15). Feel free to join either one (or both).

Here is the link for all the Tuesday afternoon Bible studies, which start Tuesday, Jan 19 at 2:00 pm:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87093481220?pwd=TXJzaVFOMzg1K1N4K1N6SHNHV2Rndzo9>

Here is the link for all the Monday evening Bible studies, which start Monday, Jan 25 at 7:00 pm:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88012825159?pwd=REl2eVNpSFMoRGlyZDh2aXRyWUhlvUTog>

We encourage all of you to participate in the Bible study and look forward to potentially engaging the Transformation Journey process as we seek God's will and direction for SPUMC and our community.

I'm missing all of you and praying for you...Pastor Rick

FIFTH ANNUAL COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE FUND ARTISAN'S SALE

– This event has been postponed. We will let you know when it can be held.

COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE FUND

Our Church has been most generous to our fund for helping needy people with energy bills, food and housing. The needs are increasing just now, please consider supporting this fund, people are in crisis. Our church is known as a Congregation who cares, we know you will do your part.

SPUMC BOOK CLUB

– is currently on hiatus due to the health situation. An announcement will be made when they are going to meet again.

ONGOING ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONTACT PERSON

–Danna Gibson is the contact person for the 1st quarter of 2021 and may be called when someone needs food, transportation, etc. Her contact number is (828) 467-5544.

SONS OF THE SON & BRIDGE OF HOPE HOMELESS MINISTRY

- Needs: coats, gloves, hats, socks, blankets, sleeping bags, tarps, food, toiletries and your prayers. Thank you & God Bless, Phil White

WE INVITE EACH FAMILY TO BRING AT LEAST ONE CAN OF FOOD EACH WEEK for the Shepherd's Staff food assistance ministry. There is a box in the Welcome Center...let's fill it each week! Please check the "Best Used Before" date on the items you donate and make sure it is more than 30 days before expiration. Thank you.

CHANGE OFFERING – Until the children can return safely, the change offering container will be at the entrance of the church. Change can be brought by the church during office hours. This month your change offerings go to Mitchell County SafePlace.

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP SCHEDULE: (for when we fully return)

(If you are unable to serve on the date scheduled, please exchange dates with someone and let the church office know.)

DATE	LECTOR	CHILDREN'S TIME	GREETERS	NURSERY	PRESCHOOL
1/31/21	Sharon Drum	Melanie Murphy	<i>Pending In Person Return</i>	<i>Pending In Person Return</i>	<i>Pending In Person Return</i>
2/7/21	Jane DeVos	Tracy Carroll	<i>Pending In Person Return</i>	<i>Pending In Person Return</i>	<i>Pending In Person Return</i>
2/14/21	Kathay Hollifield	Bruce Ikard	<i>Pending In Person Return</i>	<i>Pending In Person Return</i>	<i>Pending In Person Return</i>
2/21/21	Beverly Greene	Troy Hoilman	<i>Pending In Person Return</i>	<i>Pending In Person Return</i>	<i>Pending In Person Return</i>
2/28/21	Janet Ouzts	Chelsea Thayer	<i>Pending In Person Return</i>	<i>Pending In Person Return</i>	<i>Pending In Person Return</i>

REGULAR MEETINGS ** denotes currently meeting – others on hiatus

GROUP	DAYS	ROOM	CONTACT
Blue Ridge Bridge Club	Mondays, 10 am	Fellowship Hall	Nancy Ball
SPUMC Book Club	1 st Tuesday, 10 am	Rose Garden Outside	Margarett McGraw
Weight Watchers	Tuesdays, 5 pm	Fellowship Hall	
UMW Nightingale Circle	2 nd Monday - 7 pm	Welcome Center	Sharon Drum
Choir Practice	Wednesdays - 7:00 pm	Sanctuary	Kathay Hollifield
** RAPP **	Last Tuesday - Noon	Fellowship Hall	

OUR COMMUNITY COVENANT

When a person becomes a professing member of the body of Christ at Spruce Pine United Methodist Church, he or she covenants to participate faithfully in the ministries of the congregation and in life in the world by their prayers, their presence, their gifts, their service, and their witness.

GENERAL PRAYERS: For all who do not know the love of God in Christ Jesus the Lord; for the well-being of our community; for local, state, national, and world leaders

SUSTAINING PRAYERS: Our homebound members (*Shirley McManus*); Brian Center & Mitchell House Residents; Staff, and Families; June Wilson; David Hoepfner; for those in addiction: for recovery and sobriety in 2020; *Sandra Woodard*; *Tim Hollifield*; Muffy Dayton; Wayne Lemzoni; Jacquelyn Taylor; Rick Aldridge; Faye Vickers family; Marcus Wood; Susan Hoeg, Virginia, Charlie & William; those with mental health issues; Hannah Blanton; Mike Lewis; Ron & Linda Cromarty; Dori Ann; Lynda Briggs; Bob & Glenn (*Glenna's cousins*); Myra Haberneck Strube; Jessie Wray; Ann Butler & family; Sam & Jenell Young; for DSS; Andy Grindstaff; Art Hoover & family; Bob Cook, Aticus Grindstaff; Jaden Pernell (friend of the Sparks'); Kenneth Huskins; Doris Deyton (*Sam's mother – health*); Robert Kissel (stress); Shane Heath (isolated & lonely); Anonymous DSS employee (stress); Hal Harrison; James Thomas; *Lucy Murphy*; Saylor family; John Stafford (safety) & Ashley Stafford (John's wife - expecting); *Lisa & Stan Cook*; *Amanda Ikard* – (New baby Asher)

FOR THOSE WHO MOURN: the family of Satyra Askeland; the family of Jack Lail (*Eva Jobin's Uncle*); The family of Jean Johnson, the family of Gary Locklear and his brother both passed with COVID-19, the family of Louvella Arrowood, the family of John Johnson; *the family of Beth Wyatt*; the family of Jo Thomas (*Jan Hamilton's mother*); the family of Bruce Trivett; the family of Hilda Robinson; the family of Carol Woodard; the family of Doris Hardin (*Eva Jobin's Aunt*); the family of Phillip Dahlgreen; *the family of Barbara Day*; the family of Janice Young (Sam's sister in law); the family of Tommy Norman; the family of Jesse Baker; the family of Charles Lee Gunter; the family of Louie Smith (*Lila Baskin's brother*); the family of David Wilson; the family of Harry McCall; the family of John Lacey (Susan Curtis' friend); the family of Chris Calloway (*Jessica Hoyle's cousin*, Susie Calloway Stout's Son); the family of Vernon Payne (relative of *Eva Jobin*); the family of Cathie Vance Beam; the family of Ray Garland (Niki Jones' father); the family of Thomas Bell; the family of Chris Fontanez; the family of Jean Owensby

FOR THOSE PREPARING FOR/RECOVERING FROM TESTS OR SURGERY: Wayne Hoilman; Ozzie Hernandez; Mary Woodfrey (hip); Patti Morgan; Dean (Judy's cousin, heart & kidney transplant); Heather Walker (back in hospital); Heather's Mom (hospital); Bud Myers (hospital); Mary Ruth Webb (waiting on kidney

transplant); Catherine Andre (hip replacement); Carolyn Sproles; Paul Long (Margaret Troxler's dad – hospital); Jerry Douglass (*Maria's* dad); *Diane Sheeley (recovery)*; Jeff (Diane Truesdell's son-in-law, surgery); Larry (transplant list); Carter Hoyle (hospital in Asheville); Ernest Canipe (Richard's Father); *Barbara Henline (recovery)*; Linda Seaman - Becky Dainotto's sister (surgery); Nelson Hall (Melanie's brother – knee replacement); Shelby Sparks (friend of Mary Robinson, awaiting test results); *Jack Riley (knee replacement)*; *Ron Allen (health)*; *Norma Smith (scheduled neck surgery)*; Ed Saunders (Amputation below the knee) *Starli McDowell's* dad Tommy Phillips (upcoming surgery); Carolyn Sproles (fall/surgery); *Martha Long (upcoming procedure)*

FOR THOSE WITH CANCER: Judy Rinard; Joyce Woody; Holly (brain tumor); Chase Ambrose; Ava Hollifield; Janet Ward Slaughter; Gloria Smith (lung); Eliza Bray (4 yr. old) and family; Marcia Murphy; Danny Gortney; Gary Graham; Erin (brain cancer); Todd Fleenor; Gloria (*Susan Curtis'* friend – chemo/kidney failure); Lawrence Glenn; Raymond Mayberry; Randall McKinney (prostate); Carolyn Dotts; Jeff Kaplan (leukemia); Shirl Phillips (melanoma); Diane Meatyard; Kenneth Huskins (cancer has returned); Lee - Susan Davis' brother (prostate); Patch Hailey, age 2; Keziah Nance's birthday buddy (neuroblastoma); Wayne Ledford & Billy Ledford; Caleb Watson (8 year old with cancer); *Norma Smith's sister in law*; Mike (friend of *Bruce Ikard* – chemotherapy); Tessie Miller - Leukemia

FOR THOSE LIVING WITH PAIN, ILLNESS OR INJURY: Wanda McClellan (lupus); Mary Kay Thompkins (MS); Sandra Glenn; *Danna Gibson; Dwight Willet's father (meniscus)*; Doris (*Eva's* aunt); Jeanette Dellinger; Benny (health); Louise Weeks (rehab); Mr. Long – (nearing end of life); Keith Renfro (accident); Ann Butler; Josh (Melanie's friend – muscular dystrophy); Barbara (heart attack); Bruce Hobson (Vertigo); Brooke (kidney infection); Mary (Jane Greenwood's sister in Missouri) health concerns; Erin Haberneck Halpaine (health); Don Johnson (Ann Marie) (Don is in ICU w/pneumonia-covid); Helen & Joey Brooks (fall); Frances Lail (*Eva Jobin's Aunt*, COVID); Everette & Sena Gouge (Rhonda's parents); *Gary Baskin* (health); *John Campbell (heart)*; Sam Cook and family (critical illness for each of his two daughters); *Frank Baskin (Kidney stones)*; *Tim & Kathey Hollifield (recovery)*; *Jim Sockwell (beginning dialysis)*

FOR SURVIVORS OF INJUSTICE, DISASTER, OR TRAGEDY: Survivors of sexual abuse/harassment; Survivors of child abuse; Separated children & families; Victims of human trafficking; people of Venezuela; solutions to gun violence; for those suffering due to the coronavirus health crisis; for workers and business owners who are hurting now; Hurricane Delta victims; Hurricane Zeta victims

FOR AREA CHURCHES & MINISTRIES: Toe Valley UMC Charge (Mt. Zion - Pine Grove); Bakersville UMC, Red Hill-Deyton Bend UMC; The Newdale UMC Charge (Celo-Martin's Chapel-Windham); SPUMC (Pastor, Staff & Members); M-Y Parish Food Bank; Lamplighters Children, Families and Staff; Shepherd's Staff; Peter Constantian

FOR THOSE TRAVELING, ON MISSION, OR IN THE MILITARY: Tucker McElrath; Lindsey Potter (Army National Guard); Josh Swindler (Navy); Karen (Istanbul); Ben Potter (Army); Jason House – Marine deployed (*Barbara Henline's Grandson*); Jeff Kaplan (*Tim Hollifield's* brother in law, Budapest Hungary with leukemia)

We want to join with you in prayer for your concerns and needs. Simply contact Pastor Rick or the church office and tell us about your prayer concern. Please submit names to the church office by Thursday morning to be included on the weekly list.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK					ANNIVERSARY THIS WEEK
24 – Jacob Struble	25 – Ed Banta	25 – Melanie Jirka	25 – Katie Willett	27 – John Campbell	28 th – Chris Nash & Sara Snyder
PRESENCE:		Week of January 17, 2021			Online Services Only
GIFTS	Week of 1/17/21	General Fund - \$4,850.00			Weekly budget need - \$5,292.00
		Year to Date - \$14,658.53			YTD Budget Need – \$15,876.00
		Community Assistance - \$150.00			Shepherd's Staff Food Donations - 52

WITNESS: NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS IN THIS WORLD, GOD FULFILLS THE PROMISES OF NEW LIFE, FULL LIFE, AND RESURRECTED LIFE. IN THIS TROUBLING TIME, HOLD ON TO GOD'S PROMISES. LET THEM GUARD YOUR HEARTS AND MINDS. AND, IN CREATIVE AND UNEXPECTED WAYS, LET US SHARE THE GOOD NEWS WITH THIS TROUBLED WORLD – THAT NO MATTER WHAT, DEATH DOES NOT HAVE THE FINAL WORD! CHRIST IS RISEN! AND WE ARE STILL EASTER PEOPLE!

****Next Week's Scriptures – January 31, 2021****

Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Psalm 111; 1 Corinthians 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28