



Sunday School 9:00 am  
Worship 10:00 am

## March 2025

*"The church is called to be a distinctive community, marked by preaching of the Gospel, studying of Scripture, breaking of bread, and witnessing to the power of redemption in the midst of a broken world. We respond to God's call in the world by giving witness to the transformative power of the Gospel, engaging in acts of mercy, and striving toward the attainment of justice and peace as hallmarks of God's coming reign. In all of these efforts, Christians are reminded that diverse as we may be, we are all a part of the same body under the sovereignty of Christ (1 Cor. 12:12–31)." – United Methodist Social Principles, The Social Community, Preface*

In today's deeply polarized society, where divisions seem to grow wider with each passing day, the call of the United Methodist Social Principles is more urgent than ever. We find ourselves living in an "in-between" space — between a broken world and God's coming reign, between division and unity, between injustice and peace.

As Christians, how do we navigate this space faithfully? The answer lies in the core practices that have always defined the Church: preaching the Gospel, studying Scripture, breaking bread together, and witnessing to the power of redemption.

The Apostle Paul's words in 1 Corinthians remind us that despite our differences — be they political, social, or ideological — we are all part of the same body of Christ. This truth is especially challenging in a time when it's easier to retreat into echo chambers, to label others as "them" instead of "us." Yet, the Gospel calls us to something higher: to live out radical love and unity, even when it's difficult.

Living in the in-between means embracing the tension. It means standing as a witness to the transformative power of the Gospel by engaging in acts of mercy, advocating for justice, and being peacemakers in a world rife with conflict. It calls us to listen more deeply, love more fully, and extend grace more freely.

As we look to Lent and Easter, we will be exploring this in-between space. We will journey through the Narrative Lectionary as it follows the Gospel of Luke, beginning with Jesus setting his face toward Jerusalem. We will move through Lent with familiar stories: The Good Samaritan, Mary and Martha, the fruitless fig tree, the Lost Sheep, Zacchaeus, and more. We will explore how these stories invite us to Jesus invites us into the spaces in-between. We will lean into the ways in which the weekly themes have often been opposites. We will engage in artwork and poetry. We will spend time in daily prayer. We are invited and encouraged to be open to the discomfort, the urging of the Holy Spirit, and the diversity of the body of Christ.

Grace & Peace, Pastor Corrie

# About the artists



## Steve Prince

Steve Prince (*he/him*) is a native of New Orleans, Louisiana, and currently resides in Williamsburg, Virginia. He received his BFA from Xavier University of Louisiana and his MFA in Printmaking and Sculpture from Michigan State University. He is the Director of Engagement and Distinguished Artist in Residence at the Muscarelle Museum of Art at William and Mary University. Prince has shown his art internationally in various solo, group, and juried exhibitions.



## Rev. Lisle Gwynn Garrity

Lisle Gwynn Garrity (*she/her*) is a Pastorist (pastor + artist) and creative entrepreneur seeking to fill the church with more color, paint, mystery, and creativity. Her faith is rooted in creative practices that help her break free from perfectionism and control and participate in creating a more whole, just world.



## Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman

Lauren (*she/her*) is an artist, graphic designer, and theologian. She uses paint, metallic inks, linoleum carving tools, and her trusty Apple pencil to image the layered complexity she experiences in scripture texts. Visual exploration offers her a holy space to ask questions, find her voice, take risks, and make bold statements.



## Hannah Garrity

Hannah (*she/her*) is the Director of Christian Faith, Life, and Arts at the wonderful Second Presbyterian Church in Richmond, VA. She also serves as liturgical artist for the Summer Worship Series at Montreat Conference Center (Montreat, NC). Hannah is currently pursuing a Master's of Divinity and Master's of Christian Education at Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, VA.

## *Prayer Requests*

Randy Boyer  
Rose Breeden  
Tammye Green  
Alexis Greenstreet

Ann Irwin  
Margaret King  
Nell Kirkpatrick  
Mary Meilcarek-Clark

Mary Neitzke  
Jim Page  
Virginia Page  
Kathi Parker

Harriett Silvey  
Lucille Thompson  
Kathy Winn

## *Birthdays*

3<sup>rd</sup> Jim Langley  
15<sup>th</sup> Ann Irwin

15<sup>th</sup> Glenn Robertson  
16<sup>th</sup> Kristi Robertson

24<sup>th</sup> Kandice Byrd  
28<sup>th</sup> Nita Heilman

30<sup>th</sup> Christi Jones

## *Liturgists & Acolytes*

Doyle Clark  
Sarah Clark  
Josh Waterhouse

Michael Bellamy  
Andrew Clark  
Rosie Clark

Adalyn Waterhouse  
Annalea Waterhouse

## *From Our Leadership*

### **From our Music Department:**

Easter is a celebration of hope! God's great love for us was displayed on the Cross, and his power was demonstrated by the empty tomb. The Easter season provides an opportunity to reflect on the great hope we have because of Christ's death, burial, and resurrection.

Choir and handbell music are a very important part of our Lenten season and is a very important part of our worship experience. I want to say how proud I am of those who volunteer to be a part of our church music and how it helps convey the themes of the seasons. It is difficult to do a complete Cantata during Sunday worship, however, we can present music leading up to Easter Sunday each week of the Lenten season.

One of our challenges is finding a time when everyone can practice as we have choir members representing several different families and children involved in the many different important activities such as school activities, scouts, sports, competitions, karate, military, other church activities, etc. We are so thankful to have willing souls be a part of our worship experience and

hope the congregation realizes the time and effort our participants put forth and thank them for sharing their talents.

Margaret Fisher, Music Leader

## *Notes & Thoughts*

### **From United Women in Faith (UWF)**

We had 33 members on January 1, 2024 - two died, six members moved (two from a disaffiliated church), two attending different church, nine inactive as are in their 90's or in rehab facilities, and 16 actives. We had two new members join in November leaving us with a total of 27 members at the beginning of January, 2025.

Money we took in for the year was \$585 for a pancake supper in March, and our big project in 2024 was to gather recipes for a new cookbook and we did have to pay \$275 for everything up front and sent the recipes off in July to be put into the cookbook. We ordered the minimum of 100 books and received 110 books in September to start selling. We did sell around 55 or 60 books at \$10 each and still have more at the church to sell.

- The following was paid out:
  - Pledges \$600 -this is sent to National for Mission work
  - Call to Prayer and Self Denial \$97
  - World Thank Offering - \$30 - Birthday \$ Scholarship for Bethlehem Centers of Nashville
  - In memory of \$35
  - Baby blankets and diapers to Hope Pregnancy Center- also baby blankets for newborns and other family members of ladies in the church
  - Provided food for Ann's Closet rather than money
  - Money for following - Loaves and Fishes, Urban Ministries, Manna Cafe, Helping Hand Fund, FUEL Program, and Camp Rainbow
  - Christmas goody bags given to 10 of our elderly ladies, homebound, and those in nursing and rehab facilities filled with fruits, candies, crackers, cookies, homemade soups furnished by the ladies and lap blankets, and warm fuzzy socks which were purchased.
- The total paid out for local missions was \$1,532.

Margaret Fisher, President of the local unit of United Women in Faith of St. Bethlehem

### **Also from our UWF...**

The St. Bethlehem UWF will have the Call to Prayer and Self Denial Unit meeting on Sunday, March 16 at 2:00 pm in Heritage Hall. Each year, the Call to Prayer and Self-Denial offering supports a United Women in Faith program. United Women in Faith is a **hand to hold** as we venture into the world—making an impact through our beloved community. For this Call to Prayer Service, we will hold hands with our sisters in Peru, learning about their history and work.

The program is based on scripture Isaiah 6:8: "Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?' and I said, 'Here am I. Send me!'" The songs are "Here I Am, Lord" UMH 593, and "On Eagle's Wings" UMH 143. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Red River District UWF meeting on March 29 at Mt. Carmel UMC. It will be our Spiritual Day Apart and the speaker is our Conference Spiritual Growth Coordinator, Holly Neal. Rev. Newberry will be serving communion. The registration starts at 9.

## **Planned Fundraising Events for UWF and St. Bethlehem UMC – 2025**

**Pancake Dinner** - Shrove Tuesday - **March 4 - 4pm-7pm** - asking day group to come around 3pm to help set up and go ahead and be ready to eat at 4pm - need donation of fruit or fruit juice.

**Spaghetti Dinner - March 28 -Friday - 5pm-7pm** - Need donation of garlic bread, spaghetti and sauce, dessert, or drink. We are going to ask for people to put together silent auction baskets.

**Craft fair/flea market - May 3 - 10am-4pm** - UWF will purchase a 10 x 10 space for \$25 or double space for \$50 and will sell cookbooks, baked goods(cookies, cupcakes, cakes, etc.) - Tiffany handling the church flea market which can include many items (more to follow on that) - we will have concessions under the bus port for sale such as popcorn, cold drinks, hot dogs, chips, etc.)

**Craft fair/flea market - September 20 - 10am-4pm** - everything else will be like May 3 event except should be able to adjust for things that didn't go well or other ways to improve on the May 3 event.

## **Easter Lilys**

We will order Easter Lilys for Easter Sunday again this year. Slips will be located at both entrances to the Sanctuary on March 23<sup>rd</sup> and will need to be turned in no later than April 13<sup>th</sup>, Palm Sunday.

## **Our February 9<sup>th</sup> Chili Cook Off was a success!**

What a great response we had with eight crockpots full of delicious chilis and soups. Congratulations to our winners...first place went to Doyle Clark and second place to Heather Waterhouse. There were many wonderful desserts as well including Dawn Siders's chocolate éclair, Sue Goodrich's banana pudding, a chocolate chess pie, coconut cake, chocolate chip cookies, and other desserts to go along with different kinds of sandwiches and drinks. A big thanks to all who brought food, stayed to enjoy the fellowship, and helped clean up.

## **Attention All Graduates!!**

If you know someone who graduated in December or who's getting ready to graduate in May, please contact the office via email with their name at [stbumc@gmail.com](mailto:stbumc@gmail.com). We would like to recognize those individuals for their achievement.

# Special Events

## SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE DINNER

When: Tuesday, **March 4th**

What Time: **4-7 pm**

What better way to kick off the Lenten season than with our traditional Pancake Dinner and this year we will invite the community to join us. Our All-You-Can-Eat plates will be \$7 for ages 13 and up, \$5 for ages 4-12, and kids 3 and under eat for free. If you think pancakes will be the only thing available, though, you'd be mistaken; you can also expect to find a variety of different syrups as well as peanut butter, bacon, sausage links, fruit, coffee, and juices. We're super excited about this event and can't wait to see you there.



## SPAGHETTI DINNER & SILENT AUCTION

When: Saturday, **March 28th**

What Time: **5-7 pm**

Please join us for a Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction on March 28<sup>th</sup>; this will be a community event so invite and encourage your friends and neighbors to join you. Our All-You-Can-Eat plates will be \$7 for ages 13 and up, \$5 for ages 4-12, and kids 3 and under eat for free. In addition to traditional spaghetti and sauce we will also have spaghetti bake, garlic bread, salad and dressing, desserts, and beverages. The food should be fantastic and the fellowship even better. We hope to see you there!



# Upcoming Events

The St. B **Sewing Circle** meets on the second Saturday of each month at 1:00 pm at rotating attendee locations. If you have any questions or wish to join the Sewing Circle, please contact Nita Heilman. This month we'll meet on March 8<sup>th</sup> at Belinda Riggins's home.



**Ann's Closet** would like to thank everyone who found it in their hearts to donate food items in February. Your kindness and generosity not only provide food for those that aren't able to afford it but also allow us to demonstrate Christ's love at work in our community and introduce those that don't know Him to His grace and abundant love. And for that we sincerely thank you. Ann's Closet will operate this month on: March 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>.

**FUEL** provides 51 under-privileged children at Burt Elementary with food staples for weekends and school breaks during the school year. We usually meet each Wednesday at 10:00 am during the school year. If you'd like to participate, please contact Nita Heilman.



United  
Women  
in Faith

**Ann Doris Circle Meeting:** March 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am

**Night Circle Meeting:** March 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm

Join us for **BINGO** on March 20<sup>th</sup> from 10:30-11:30 am.

Our January BINGO event was cancelled due to the threat of snow and frigid temperatures however, we usually meet on the third Thursday morning of each month and afterwards continue our fellowship and fun with a group lunch. Come join us for BINGO this month for a fun time and white elephant gift exchange.



**Join us Friday, March 21<sup>st</sup> for Game Night:**

Game Night has been a fantastic outlet during these cold winter nights. For anyone that hasn't yet, please join us for our next event. We play games, some of us sing Disney songs while others are happy to sit around and talk. Regardless of your preference, we'd love to have you join in on the fun!

Mark your calendars for upcoming Game Nights:

April 11<sup>th</sup>

July 18<sup>th</sup>

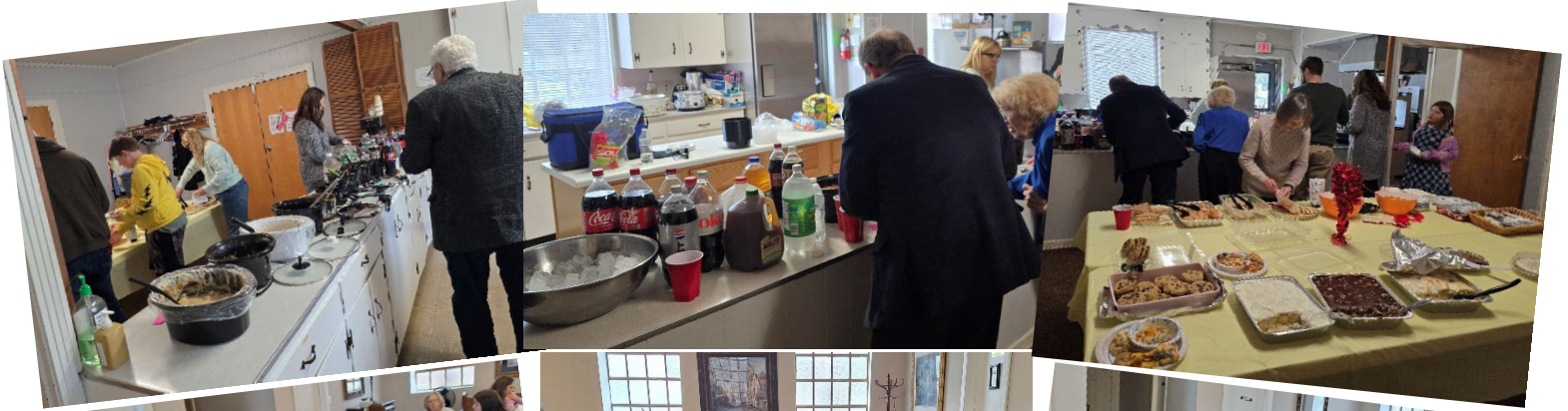
May 16<sup>th</sup>

August 15<sup>th</sup>

June 20<sup>th</sup>

September 19<sup>th</sup>

*And this is what we've been doing...*





# Saint Patrick's Word Scramble

1. Ginger McNugget mixed up his favorite words. Can you help the leprechaun unscramble the words, then put the numbered letters in order to answer the riddle?



- AWAKENING
- BASKETBALL
- BLOSSOM
- DAFFODIL
- DAYLIGHT SAVING
- EASTER.
- EQUINOX
- FLOWER
- FRESH
- GREEN
- GROWTH
- HOLI
- KITE
- LEPRECHAUN
- LUCK
- MADNESS
- MARCH
- PARADE
- POT OF GOLD
- RAIN
- REBIRTH
- RENEWAL
- SHAMROCK
- SHOWERS
- SPRING
- WINDY

1. \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ 7
2. \_ 12 \_ 3 \_ 5 \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
3. \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ 13
4. \_ 6 \_ \_ \_ 8 \_ 2 \_ \_
5. \_ \_ \_ 9 \_ \_ 4
6. \_ 1 \_ \_ \_ \_ 11 \_ 10 \_ \_

*Where can you always find gold?*

1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13.



WORD SEARCH DIRECTIONS: Find and circle the vocabulary words in the grid. Look for them in all directions including backwards and diagonally.

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Y | T | A | S | D | V | R | I | J | B | Y | L | Z | P | V | B | Y | O | F |   |
| M | S | J | C | A | F | E | T | R | H | T | K | O | G | P | N | D | E | V |   |
| D | M | H | C | D | Y | T | Y | E | G | I | C | A | A | H | U | N | Q | Z |   |
| Z | Y | G | A | K | N | S | Q | N | N | H | U | P | C | Z | A | I | U | B |   |
| F | A | X | A | M | I | A | N | E | I | O | L | R | R | W | H | W | I | M |   |
| R | D | S | F | A | R | E | Q | W | N | L | A | A | P | Y | C | Q | N | O |   |
| E | S | S | L | K | V | O | Q | A | E | M | I | M | F | G | E | N | O | B |   |
| S | K | E | G | K | D | B | C | L | K | N | H | T | W | O | R | G | X | D |   |
| H | C | N | E | H | Y | E | I | K | A | B | D | G | Q | H | P | F | V | Z |   |
| B | I | D | O | B | D | Y | I | Y | W | N | V | A | N | U | E | Y | R | J |   |
| M | R | A | L | A | G | N | I | V | A | S | T | H | G | I | L | Y | A | D |   |
| E | T | M | R | S | H | N | Y | R | U | A | T | G | H | T | R | A | Q | L |   |
| H | A | A | S | K | F | E | M | O | S | S | O | L | B | D | E | P | S | O |   |
| X | P | B | E | E | T | E | E | O | T | J | K | I | T | E | W | E | S | G |   |
| W | T | V | Y | T | W | R | J | N | Y | M | Z | K | X | Q | O | G | U | F |   |
| G | S | F | H | B | A | G | M | S | R | E | W | O | H | S | L | L | H | O |   |
| R | P | C | O | A | U | M | L | R | E | B | I | R | T | H | F | H | E | T |   |
| B | J | X | L | L | E | D | A | F | F | O | D | I | L | S | O | Z | E | O |   |
| J | A | B | I | L | L | I | V | P | T | K | T | V | U | O | N | G | I | Z | P |

# March 2025

| Sun   | Mon | Tue   | Wed  | Thu                                    | Fri                          | Sat  |
|---|-----|---|--|--|------------------------------|--|
| 10am - Worship<br>11am - New Member<br>23                     | 24  | 6:30pm - Cub Scout  | 10am - FUEL<br>7:30pm - N.A.   | 7:30pm - N.A.                          |                              | St David's Day<br>6pm - N.A.<br>1          |
| 10am - Worship<br>2   | 3   | Shrove Tuesday/Mardi<br>4pm - Pancake Dinner<br>6:30pm - Cub Scout<br>4 | Ash Wednesday<br>10am - FUEL<br>11am - Ann's Closet<br>6pm - Service for Ash<br>7:30pm - N.A.<br>5 | 7:30pm - N.A.<br>6                     |                              | 6pm - N.A.<br>7                            |
| Day/night Savings Time<br>UMCOR Sunday<br>10am - Worship<br>9 | 10  | 10:30am - UWF Anne<br>6:30pm - Cub Scout<br>11                          | 10am - FUEL<br>7:30pm - N.A.<br>12   | 7:30pm - N.A.<br>13                    | 6:30pm - UWF Night<br>14     | 4pm - NA Special Event<br>6pm - N.A.<br>15 |
| 10am - Worship<br>16  | 17  | 6:30pm - Cub Scout<br>St. Patrick's Day<br>18                           | 10am - FUEL<br>11am - Ann's Closet<br>7:30pm - N.A.<br>19  | 10:30am - BINGO<br>7:30pm - N.A.<br>20 | 6pm - Game Night<br>21       | 4pm - N.A. Business<br>6pm - N.A.<br>22    |
| 10am - Worship<br>23  | 24  | 6:30pm - Cub Scout<br>25  | 10am - FUEL<br>7:30pm - N.A.<br>26   | 7:30pm - N.A.<br>27                    | 5pm - Spaghetti Dinner<br>28 | 6pm - N.A.<br>29                           |
| 10am - Worship<br>30  | 31  | 6:30pm - Cub Scout<br>1   | 10am - FUEL<br>11am - Ann's Closet<br>7:30pm - N.A.<br>2   | 7:30pm - N.A.<br>3                     | 6:30pm - UWF Night<br>4      | 6pm - N.A.<br>5                            |

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