

A NOTE FROM OUR PASTOR



This month features an article by Dr. Tim Roberts to remind us of the importance of the upcoming Lenten season to renew Christ's call to repent (turn around) from our sins.

Roundabout

Read Haggai 1:3-11

I saw a sign that struck me odd the other day - it was a sign showing the traffic circle that was quickly approaching. It was showing how many different directions exit off of the traffic circle or, if the driver so chooses, one can just drive endlessly around the circle. I believe in other parts of the world, traffic circles are referred to as roundabouts. That name seems apt to describe them as well.

But it also seems apt about how we live life. We are traveling along on life's highway and we realize that we need to make a decision, change course, go off in a different direction. Some of us do just that, we start off in a direction that is a little different than the direction we are going, others do a 180, while others just seem to wander around and around without any guidance whatsoever.

In the passage above, God, through the prophet Haggai, was telling them that they needed to change their course because they were headed for destruction. The course they were on was one where they were concerned only about themselves and were failing to remember God. God was calling them to turn around before it was too late.

I wonder how many of us is God calling on to turn around. I am sure that some of us need to only deviate a slight bit to be back on the course that God created for us, while others need to make a big U-Turn, that 180, to bring us back to a fellowship with God. Still others need to get out of the roundabout, stop wandering aimlessly around, enjoying the same old sights.

By God's grace, we have free-will. By God's mercy, we have the ability to change our course and follow God.

Godspeed,
Tim



LOVE TREE

2018 marks the 30th year of the UMW Love Tree! Rev. Alec Alvord, our minister at the time, welcomed Rev. Greg Howard, director of Camp Elk Shoals, to share his dreams for the camp with the Wilkesboro United Methodist congregation on Sunday, February 14, 1988, the very first Love Tree Sunday. He and his wife, Jane, died in a car accident February 29, 1988. The UMW and Home Missions Committee are pleased to remember them with this mission of helping others.

A few years ago, due to the financial needs of the Wilkesboro United Methodist family and within our community, the committee decided to share donations received through the church's Home Missions fund, the Wilkes Ministry of h.o.p.e. and the St. Paul's Episcopal Crisis Ministry.

"Hearts" will be displayed on the Love Tree during the month of February in the Sanctuary and may be purchased in honor or memory of a loved one for \$1 each from any UMW or Home Missions Committee member.



VALENTINE BANQUET

Celebrating God's Love

Saturday, February 3rd at 6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. Childcare is available.

Cost = \$10/adult; \$5/child. Parmesan

Chicken or Lasagna served with Mixed Grilled Vegetables & Salad and a choice of Hot Fudge Cake or Strawberry Shortcake [pizza + ice cream for children]. Contact the church office by Thursday, February 1st to make a reservation. Profits benefit Youth Missions.



RISE AGAINST HUNGER

The Missions Outreach Committee invites church family to participate in the annual **Meal Packaging Event** on **Sunday, February 18th at 2:00pm** in the Fellowship Hall. Your help packaging meals and financial gift to WUMC, with memo: RAH, are welcomed. See insert for more information.



PANCAKE DAY

The *51st Annual Pancake Day* is Friday, February 23rd 7:00am—7:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. 2018 marks the first year for the Genesis Sunday School Class to sponsor. Spread the word by inviting everyone you know with the flyers available in the sanctuary narthex, Educational building, and on the church website.

If you would like to help serve during the event, contact Misty Smithey misty.smithey@wilkescounty.net or 336-984-1158.



ASH WEDNESDAY

Service of Worship

February 14 * 7:00pm

Sanctuary

CHURCH BUSINESS

ALL FUNDS GIVING REPORT

12/24 \$ 5,601.00
12/31 \$ 15,822.00
01/07 \$ 13,152.00
01/14 \$ 5,459.40
01/21 \$ 3,620.00

Administrative Council meeting minutes and Treasurer Reports are available in the Sanctuary narthex and on our website (via the *Newsletter* link).

General Budget - YTD 1-20-2018

Tithes and Offerings \$18,746

Expenses \$14,680

CHURCH STAFF

Senior Pastor: Karen Roberts
karenroberts@wilkes.net

Choir/Handbells: Jim Brooks
jbrooks@wilkes.net

Music Ministry Accompanist:
Cathy Freeman

Church Secretary: Regina Koons
wumcadmin@wilkes.net

Church Treasurer: Glenda Pierce
treasurer@wilkes.net

SEE ENCLOSED FOR:

- ◇ Rise Against Hunger, 2/18
- ◇ Pancake Day, 2/23

MISSION: GUATEMALA



Late January, Wanda Sapp and Kay Hayes returned home from Guatemala. They will share about their mission experience with the congregation during a Sunday service in February. Thank you for your prayers and financial support.



WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY Jan. 31 & Feb. 7

Let's explore what the Bible and United Methodist say about social justice at 6:45pm in the Ecclesia classroom. It will be a time to examine our own feelings and attitudes to prepare us for reaching out into the community to address some of our social issues. Interest and response to these first 2 sessions will determine whether we extend to more Wednesday nights.

MISSION PROJECT: SEWING BEE



You are invited to participate in this "local" but international mission. The next Sewing Bee is Saturday, February 3, from 8:30am until noon. In addition to making dresses and shorts this year, we are also making book bags. If you can cut, count, iron, pack, or even sew, come join us! RSVP: Tanya Shire, tanyashire@aol.com or 336-927-0911.

For a brief demonstration, visit "Just For You" of wilkesboroumc.com. Donations of new/gently used pillowcases, King-size sheets, bias tape, lace, + ric rac ...etc. welcomed and may be placed in the "KRAFT" bin in the Educ. bldg.

OLDER ADULTS MINISTRY



The Keenagers (older adults ministry), get together monthly for lunch & a daytrip. Plus they participate in mission projects such as sending Love Packages to church family serving in the military and Birthday/Bingo Party with residents of Westwood Hills. All are welcome to join the Keenagers for the journey!

⇒ February 6th - 11:30am. Cagney's Kitchen, Wilkesboro

⇒ February 20th - Meet at the church at 9:30am. Travel together to Mast General Store in either Boone or Valle Crucis. The group will choose which one to visit this month. Then it will be announced through the Sunday bulletin and phonetree message. If you plan to participate, contact Jenny Miller, virginiamis@aol.com or 336-667-9495 (so no one gets left behind).

WOMEN'S MINISTRY—UMW



United
Methodist
Women
FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

In our January meeting, the United Methodist Women prepared for the year of 2018 by adopting a budget and beginning plans for 2018 programs.

Our Women will once again work with the Home Missions Committee to raise money to help with needs within our church and community by participating in the Love Tree project, see page 1. Hearts may be purchased from either the Home Mission Committee or any of the Women.

Our unit will also participate in a District project of making tote bags to hold school kits by working with the Sewing Bee group to make the bags.

All ladies are welcome to join us for our next regular meeting, February 6th at 6:30 in our new room, E-4 (turn left when walk into the main entrance of the Educational building and 1st room on right). Plus, come early and enjoy a meal with the men at 6:00pm in the fellowship hall.

MEN'S MINISTRY—UMM



If you are a man in the church that hasn't attend a United Methodist Men's meeting, please check them out on Tuesday, February 6th in the fellowship hall at 6:00pm. The evening will begin with fellowship, a good meal, and a program presented by Samaritan Kitchen of Wilkes. During the program, a monetary donation will be presented to the director of Samaritan Kitchen as UMM's commitment to match gifts by church members to the organization during the November and December Food Drive. This is one contribution out of the nearly \$15,000.00 given by the group to church and community projects in 2017.

Come, be a part of the fellowship as they strive to be the feet and hands to help others. And remember: Bring food items, bottled water, paper products, etc. for the Catherine H. Barber Memorial Homeless Shelter in North Wilkesboro.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY [K—5th Grade]

The Children's Ministry invites Pre-K through 5th grade aged children to be involved: "Children's Church" during Sunday morning services, Sunday School at 10am, and on Wednesdays the J.A.M. (Jesus And Me) group meets at 6:30pm for mission projects & fun activities.

Spring project: Growing a garden of fresh vegetables to give to the local homeless shelter and His Light Ministries.

THANK YOU & CONGRATULATIONS

The Worship Committee would like to thank everyone who helped with the Christmas decorations. Your efforts made the entire process go quickly and smoothly. The result was a beautiful atmosphere for the Advent and Christmastime season.

Dear Wilkesboro UMC, Thank you very much for allowing us to use the church facility for our cookie delivery and distribution (and for our monthly troop meetings). We truly appreciate your support of the Girl Scouts.
~ Sincerely, Wilkesboro Girl Scouts

Many thanks to the person who returned my coat to the Fellowship Hall!
~ Marie Lenderman

Congratulations to Ray & Betty Beshears on their 60th Wedding Anniversary February 16th!

Congratulations to Pattie Eich, proud grandmother of grandson, Dietrich Fox Roberts, born December 27, 2017 to her daughter and son-in-law, Damon & Amy Roberts, who reside in North Wilkesboro.

FEBRUARY CELEBRATIONS

Happy Birthday!

1 TAMI OSBORNE; **2** EVA SCOTT; **3** KAREN ROBINSON; **6** MARIA BARELSKI REID; **7** KARLA GIBSON, ANTHA REID; **9** KENNETH FOSTER; **11** JULIE HAYES, JOSIAH SMITHEY; **12** GILBERT COX, ROBERT PLESS; **15** MAX GROCE; **16** ALICE KILBY; **17** HEATHER MCGROARTY; **18** DUSTIN COX MULLINS; **19** FRANCES HENDERSON, JOSH LENTZ; **20** APRIL ROUSSEAU, JOANN VESTAL; **21** TERRY TRIPLETT; **22** LOIS DILLS; **24** LAEL CARLTON; **25** TORI COMBS; **27** JEAN BROWN, PATTIE EICH; **28** SCOTT GROCE, LINDA HORTON

Happy Anniversary!

6 GREG & REBECCA COTHREN; **13** DERICK & MISTY SMITHEY; **15** BILLY & KAY HAYES; **16** RAY & BETTY BESHEARS; **17** GEORGE & MADGE SNYDER



YOUTH MINISTRY

Sunday School Youth meetings at 10am with Donnie Thornton.

Sunday Night Youth "Confirm" class at 4pm with Pastor Karen.

Wednesday Night Youth meetings (after Fellowship Supper \$5/meal) 6:30pm

with Cary Rousseau, caryrousseau@gmail.com.

Valentine Banquet February 3rd

Youth sponsored event on page 1.

Rise Against Hunger February 18th

See page 1 for RAH information.


Bo's Family Entertainment in Lenoir scheduled tentatively for February 21st

Youth Inclement Weather Policy:
If school is canceled or there is a huge chance of inclement weather... Youth will NOT meet.



GIRL SCOUT COOKIES

Orders are being taken to support the Girl Scout troops that WUMC sponsors. Cookie lists are in the narthex, Educ. bldg., & church office. Place order by writing cookie selection with quantity, your phone #, & pay appropriate amount [payable to Girl Scouts]. Then leave it in mailbox #29 by the church office.

	FEBRUARY 4	11	18	25	Monday, FEBRUARY 12
Communion	9a Tbd 11a Tbd				UPPER ROOM PRAYER CENTER MINISTRY 8:00—10:00pm Jim Davenport
Acolyte & Crucifer	9a Angela Chavez 11a Luke Shepard	Kaleb Thornton Caitlyn Summers	Seth Wilson Jenny Smithey	Hannah Thornton Sailym Kilby	 The Prayer Center is a 7-day-a-week (7am-11pm CST) intercessory prayer ministry staffed by Christian volunteers. To learn more visit www.upperroom.org . Contact the church office if interested in becoming involved.
Children's Church & Nursery	9a Heather McGroarty Kaleb Thornton 11a Josiah Smithey Misty Smithey	Tracey Harkless Hannah Thornton Vanya Greene Angela Summers	Suzanna Chavez Mady McGroarty Caitlyn Summers Susie Triplett	Tracey Harkless Kaleb Thornton Kim Hayes Luna Hayes	
SS K-5	10a Angila Thornton	Angila Thornton	Misty Smithey	Heather McGroarty	
CC & SS Topic	Deep Blue Kids	Deep Blue Kids	Deep Blue Kids	Deep Blue Kids	
Ushers	9a Tbd 11a Jim Day, John Henry Groce, Herb Taylor, Barton Waddell				
Media	9a Jerry Kilby, Caleb Thornton, Seth Wilson 11a Spencer Hayes, Tom Kinlaw				

WILKESBORO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*exists to share the good news of Jesus Christ,
comfort the troubled and embrace God's love.*



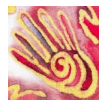
Sundays

9:00am & 11:00am Worship
10:00am Sunday School

FEBRUARY 2018

3 Sat	8:30a Mission—Sewing Bee, p. 2
4 Sun	9:00a+ Worship + Sunday School, p. 4 4:00p Youth—"Confirm" Class, p. 3
6 Tue	10:00a Krafters 11:30a Keenagers—Luncheon, p. 2 5:30p UMW Executive Committee 6:00p UMM, p. 2 6:30p UMM Member Meeting, p. 2 7:30p Jubilate Ringers
7 Wed	6:00p Fellowship Supper & Programs, p. 4
11 Sun	9:00a+ Worship + Sunday School, p. 4 4:00p Youth—"Confirm" Class, p. 3
12 Mon	8—10p The Upper Room Living Prayer Center Ministry
13 Tue	10:00a Krafters 7:30p Jubilate Ringers
14 Wed	6:00p Fellowship Supper & Programs, p. 4 7:00p Ash Wednesday Service of Worship, p. 1
18 Sun	9:00a+ Worship + Sunday School, p. 4 2:00p Rise Against Hunger, p. 1
20 Tue	9:30a Keenagers—Daytrip, p. 1 10:00a Krafters 7:30p Jubilate Ringers
21 Wed	3:30p Youth—Bo's Family Entertainment, p. 3 6:00p Fellowship Supper & Programs, p. 4
23 Fri	7a—7p Pancake Day, p.1
25 Sun	9:00a+ Worship + Sunday School, p. 4 4:00p Youth—"Confirm" Class, p. 3
27 Tue	10:00a Krafters 7:30p Jubilate Ringers
28 Wed	6:00p Fellowship Supper & Programs, p. 4

HAND IN HAND MINISTRY



Hand In Hand Ministry is sponsoring an Egg Hunt with the United Methodist Women on Saturday, March 24th from 1:00—3:00pm at the church. Children from our church and Moravian Falls Elementary are invited to attend! church! This is a wonderful outreach event to be a part of. If you would like to help with this event please contact Jane Joines. Items needed are: solid color plastic eggs—bright and pastel colors (with candy or toy inside would be helpful) and nice game prizes. The theme will focus the colors of Easter as related to Christians.



February 5 ~ Card Party 11am—3pm, Fellowship Hall



Hosted by the WUMC Sharing the Flame Relay for Life Team. Enjoy delicious soups, a grilled cheese sandwich and home-made desserts with a donation of \$10/person while playing a card game of your choice (i.e. Bridge, Dominoes, Rook, etc.).



THE UPPER ROOM LIVING PRAYER CENTER

Would you like to become an active part of a worldwide prayer ministry right here at Wilkesboro UMC as part of The Upper Room Living Prayer Center? The Upper Room Living Prayer Center is a 7-day-a-week (7am-11pm CST) intercessory prayer ministry staffed by Christian volunteers. To learn more visit www.upperroom.org. Contact the church office if you are interested.

Wilkesboro United Methodist Church

309 W. Main Street / PO Box 197, Wilkesboro, NC 28697

Office: (336)818-0552 * Mon.-Fri. 9am—3pm

www.wilkesboroumc.com

The Witness Monthly Newsletter—February 2018

RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED



ASH WEDNESDAY

Service of Worship

February 14 * 7:00pm
Sanctuary

Wednesday Nights

6:00pm Fellowship Supper	6:45pm Adult Bible Study
6:30pm J.A.M. Children, p. 3	6:45pm Carilloners
6:30pm Youth, p. 3	7:45pm Chancel Choir



Interested in preparing Wednesday's Fellowship Supper? Simply reserve the night by writing the menu items and name of class, group, or family on the board in the kitchen. As of 1/30/18, all Wednesdays in February are available.



INCLEMENT WEATHER

If a decision is made to cancel or alter meeting times, it will be posted via the following: TV-WXII; Radio-WIFM, WKBC, WWWC; Facebook; and via email/phonetree when possible.

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