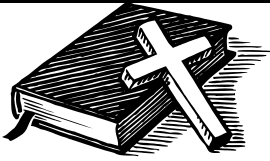


THE CORNERSTONE CONNECTION



Reaching Up To Christ and Out To Each Other
January, 2023

From the Pastor:

Well, I can now say I've had my COVID experience. What a way to start the New Year, missing Church the very first Sunday. Like many of you, COVID was humbling for me. While I really didn't have a bad case with little fever, sore throat or congestion, I did have plenty of fatigue. Whenever I set out to do any kind of mental or physical work, brain fog and tiredness would set in. COVID rendered me useless at the beginning a new year. I accomplished almost nothing for 10 days, and even though I couldn't help it, I felt terribly guilty. Much like my previous bout with cancer, COVID forced me to reevaluate my faith in the context of illness.

For many people, illness, whether it be physical, emotional or mental, can be very debilitating, forcing us to change our regular routines in order to rest and recover. Consequently, we might feel guilty for not being able to do our normal routines. Some may also experience loneliness and even depression due to the isolation that comes with being sick.

As people of faith, it is precisely then when we need to remember to rest in God's grace even more. Sure, grace is for the forgiveness of our sin. But we are all human, all fallible and subject to weakness, illness and sometimes depression. God's healing love and grace is there for us to lean into anytime we are brought low or stifled by the world. I certainly was thankful when I remembered to relieve my guilt and rest in God's healing grace for a week or so. I needed God to work in me because I certainly couldn't.

We should learn to rest in God's grace every day as needed. We might be performing a routine task and suddenly hit a brick wall. We might start out having a good or great day and suddenly have our world flipped upside down through emotional trauma. We may be having a terribly sluggish day with our minds overly cluttered or just plain foggy. It is then we should remember to pray, "Lord Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me. Lord Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me." Remember the power and compassion Jesus had to heal broken bodies and minds and comfort those who were left isolated. "What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!" (from the hymn, "What a Friend We Have in Jesus") *(continued on next page)*

(Pastor's letter, continued)

Jesus said, "Come to me all you who are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest". That rest is extended anytime it is needed for the bodies, minds and emotions of the children of God. The ministrations of Jesus on the Cross is the cure for weakened bodies, minds and souls. As we start this new year, in all your busyness, don't forget to take the necessary time to be thankful and rest in God's cleansing, healing, life-changing love and grace.

Peace in a New Year, Irvin

Lectionary Study for January:**Sunday, Jan. 1st:**

Isaiah 60:1-6
 Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14 (UMH 795)
 Ephesians 3:1-12
 Matthew 2:1-12

Sunday, Jan. 15th:

Isaiah 49:1-7
 Psalm 40:1-11 (UMH 774)
 1 Corinthians 1:1-9
 John 1:29-42

Sunday, Jan. 29th:

Micah 6:1-8
 Psalm 15 (UMH 747)
 1 Corinthians 1:18-31
 Matthew 5:1-12

Sunday, Jan. 8th:

Isaiah 42:1-9
 Psalm 29 (UMH 761)
 Acts 10:34-43
 Matthew 3:13-17

Sunday, Jan. 22nd:

Isaiah 9:1-4
 Psalm 27:1, 4-9 (UMH 758)
 1 Corinthians 1:10-18
 Matthew 4:12-23

January Birthdays:

10 th Olivia Henke	20 th Judy Pernie
14 th Judy Prather	20 th Zin Bronola
18 th Sarah Stovall	24 th Georgia Hurley
	29 th Kathy Hurley

Coming Up Next Month:

2 nd Diana Deyton	19 th Billie Smith
7 th Linda Rossey	20 th Mark Bateman
13 th Edwina Jonas	22 nd Maxine Smith
15 th Susan Vinson	24 th Pastor Irvin
	27 th Steve Pilecki

Please contact Church office if there are any additions or corrections to the birthday & anniversary list.

For prayer e-mail and/or bulletin prayer list requests please notify the church office, 328-1496 or crnrstone@comporium.net (office hours are Mon-Thurs 9-2 p.m.). When the church office is closed, leave a voice mail on office phone or you may also email, call or text church secretary, Cary Bartelmo, cbartelmo@comporium.net; 803-372-7923.

To view the worship service each Sunday on Cornerstone's Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/CornerstoneUMCRockHill/>

A devotional study class meets every Monday at 10:30 a.m. (online using Zoom). If you would like to be a part of this class, please contact Pastor Irvin.

Youth will be attending "Revolution" in Columbia the weekend of Jan. 27-29th. Please Keep them and also the chaperones in your prayers as they participate in this inspiring event!

Due to the ongoing pandemic and its variants, our in-person worship services use social distancing and request masks. We continue to post the videos of each service on the church's Facebook page for those of you who are not ready to return for safety reasons. It is **especially important** that if you have attended a service or have been in the church building at all, that you let us know immediately if you test positive for COVID-19.

Scripture reader schedule for January:

Jan. 1st: Steph Pilecki

Jan. 8th: Dale Williams

Jan. 15th: Randy Hayes

Jan. 22nd: Diane Brewer

Jan. 29th: Steph Pilecki

(Substitute readers: Ken Jones; Anne Price)

If you are interested in being a scripture reader for worship services, contact church office.

Acolyte Schedule for January:

Jan. 1st: Elijah Henke

Jan. 8th: Gavin Sliva

Jan. 15th: Emery Sliva

Jan. 22nd: Teresa Boehme

Jan. 29th: DeDe Anthony

Schedule for offering counters (Sunday mornings): (Counters are needed! Please contact the church office or Sharron Jones if you are interested!)

Jan. 1st: Linda McCallum; Daniel Sliva

Jan. 8th: Debbie Jackson; Diana Deyton

Jan. 15th: Dale Williams; Don Mobley

Jan. 22nd: Debbie Jackson; Howard McCallum

Jan. 29th: Floyd Myers; Debbie Jackson

Rock Hill District Lay Servant Training – Winter Sessions

The Rock Hill District is offering multiple sites and courses to allow more opportunities for involvement in ministry. The two-day courses at Sharon UMC will be held on **January 14th and 15th**. Adnah UMC and Grace - Lynnwood UMC will be in session simultaneously on **January 21st and 22nd**. The four-day course held at Philadelphia UMC is scheduled for consecutive Sundays (**1/22, 1/29, 2/5, 2/12**). **Deadline to register is January 7th**. Below is the link to more information and registration: <https://www.umcsc.org/event/lsm-school-rock-hill-district-7/>

“Men-n-Ministry” event will be held Saturday, Feb. 25th at Mt. Horeb UMC in Lexington SC. The theme is “The Good Life”—that is, what Jesus teaches about finding true happiness. The speaker will be Dr. Derwin L. Gray, former NFL football player, and now a pastor of Transformation Church in Indian Land. Early registration deadline is Sunday, Jan. 15 for \$50.00. After Jan. 16th it will be \$65. For more information and registration, please follow the link below. This will be a one-day event, but there will be a Friday morning golf tournament and Friday evening oyster roast for those interested.

https://mennministrysc.org/?page_id=587

2022 Financial Recap:

Receipts: \$160,159.08

Grants: \$20,000

Total: 180,159.08

Budget Expenses: \$159,973.72

AC Replacement: \$8,985.00

Sign Deposit: \$15,820.50

Total: \$184,779.22

Net for 2022: \$(3,881.32)

Sharron Jones, Finance Chair

Johnny Starnes, Treasurer

Memorials

In Memory Of:

*Jane Starnes
Jane Starnes
Jane Starnes
Jane Starnes
Jane Starnes
Jane Starnes
Jane Starnes
Barbara McGarity*

Given By:

*Lynn Hayes
Ben & Jennifer Moreland
Faye Lucas
W. Reid Smith
Judy Pernie
John & Brenda Cabrey
James & Linda Jackson
Debbie Jackson*

**Memorials and honorariums received after January 8th will be in the February newsletter.*



I would like to thank Pastor Irvin and the members of the congregation for their calls, cards, support and prayers during the very difficult times before, during and after my surgeries and my current difficulties. I miss my church very much and I wish I could be there to thank you in person.

Yours in Christ,
Judy Penn

To all of our friends at Cornerstone UMC:

Thank you so much for your continued love and support for our residents during the Holiday season. Your gifts brought so many smiles to our residents!

Love,
Your friends at White Oak of Rock Hill

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1 New Year's Day</p> <p>-9:30 am Good Eats fellowship -9:45 S.S. -11 am Worship service</p>	<p>2</p> <p>No online devotional study</p> <p>Church office closed</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>6:00 pm Addie McClintock Circle</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Lay Servant training registration due</p>
<p>8</p> <p>-9:30 am Good Eats fellowship -9:45 S.S. -11 am Worship service -12:15 Trustee -5:30 Finance -6:30 Church</p>	<p>9</p> <p>10:30 am online devotional study</p>	<p>10</p> <p>6:00 pm Children's Ministry</p>	<p>11</p> <p>6:00 pm Choir practice</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14 2-4 pm UWF New Year's party at Maxine Smith's --Lay Servant training at Sharon UMC, Sharon (Concludes tomorrow)</p>
<p>15</p> <p>-9:30 fellowship -9:45 Sunday School -11 am Worship</p> <p>4:00-5:30 pm Girl Scout mtg</p>	<p>16 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</p> <p>10:30 am online devotional study</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>6:00 pm Choir practice</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Lay Servant training at Adnah UMC (Rock Hill) and Grace-Lynnwood UMC (Lancaster) Concludes tomorrow</p>
<p>22 -9:30 am Good Eats -9:45 am S.S. -11 am Worship -4:00-5:30 Girl Scout meeting -Lay Servant training Philadelphia UMC, York</p>	<p>23</p> <p>10:30 am online devotional study</p> <p>6:30 pm UMM meeting</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>6:00 pm Choir practice</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>--Youth "Revolution" begins in Columbia (through Sunday)</p>	<p>28</p> <p>"Revolution" continues in Columbia (ends tomorrow)</p>
<p>29</p> <p>-9:30 am Good Eats fellowship -9:45 am Sunday School -11 am Worship -4:00-5:30 pm Girl Scout mtg -Lay Servant at Philadelphia UM</p>	<p>30</p> <p>10:30 am online devotional study</p>	<p>31</p>				
		<p>Offering Counters 1st: L. McCallum; D Sliva 8th: Debbie J.; Diana Deyton 15th: D Williams; D. Mobley 22nd: Debbie J.; H. McCallum 29th: Floyd Myers; D. Jackson</p>	<p>Scripture Readers 1st: Steph Pilecki 8th: Dale Williams 15th: Randy Hayes 22nd: Diane Brewer 29th: Steph P.</p>	<p>Acolytes: 1st: Elijah Henke 8th: Emery Sliva 15th: Gavin Sliva 22nd: Teresa B. 29th: DeeDee A.</p>	<p>Opening & Closing: Johnny Starnes</p> <p>Altar Guild Maxine Smith</p>	<p>Sunday Worship Schedule: 9:30 am Good Eats fellowship 9:45 am Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship Service</p>

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 6:00 p.m. Choir practice	2	3	4
5 -9:30 am Good Eats fellowship -9:45 S.S. -11 am Worship service -12:15 Trustee	6 10:30 am online devotional study	7	8 6:00 pm Choir practice	9 6:00 pm Addie McClintock Circle	10	11
12 -9:30 fellowship -9:45 Sunday School -11 am Worship "Souper" Bowl Sunday luncheon after worship	13 10:30 am online devotional study	14 Valentine's Day 6:00 pm Wings of Faith meeting	15 6:00 pm Choir practice	16	17	18
19 Transfiguration Sunday -9:30 am Good Eats -9:45 am S.S. -11 am Worship	20 President's Day 10:30 am online devotional study 6:30 pm UMM meeting	21	22 Ash Wednesday 5:30 pm Ash Wednesday Service at Cornerstone	23	24	25 8-3 pm Men-n-Ministry event at Mt. Horeb in Lexington, SC
26 1st Sunday in Lent -9:30 am Good Eats fellowship -9:45 am Sunday School -11 am Worship	27 10:30 am online devotional study	28				
		<u>Offering Counters</u> 5 th : L. McCallum; D Sliva 12 th : Debbie J.; Diana Deyton 19 th : D Williams; D. Mobley 26 th : Debbie J.; H. McCallum	<u>Scripture Readers</u> 5 th : Steph Pilecki 12 th : Dale Williams 19 th : Randy Hayes 26 th : Diane Brewer	<u>Acolytes:</u> 5 th : Elijah Henke 12 th : Gavin Sliva 19 th : Emery Sliva 26 th : Teresa Boehme	<u>Opening & Closing:</u> Johnny Starnes <u>Altar Guild</u> Maxine Smith	<u>Sunday Worship Schedule:</u> 9:30 am Good Eats fellowship 9:45 am Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship Service