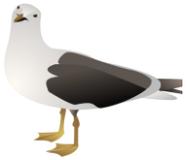




The Lamplighter

“The Lord is my Light and my Salvation.”



Are You a Seagull? Pastor Kevin Dalton

Right outside the office windows in both corners of the front porch, I believe, swallows have made their nests. Both nests are nothing but a muddy mess. There is mud and muck splattered on the posts where they were built. This got me to thinking, has anyone ever paid attention to Seagulls? I know many of us have sat on the shore at one time or another and watched this creature called a Seagull. Bigger than many other birds, maybe even as big as duck and sometimes even as funny.

They have this outside appearance of beautiful white head and neck feathers, with greys and blacks contrasting with the yellow of their beaks and feet. Thinking about them I don't believe I have yet to observe a seagull that is dirty looking. They always look so pristine not like a blue jay or maybe buzzard, all ruffled looking like one who has been plucked revealing the nakedness of their bodies.

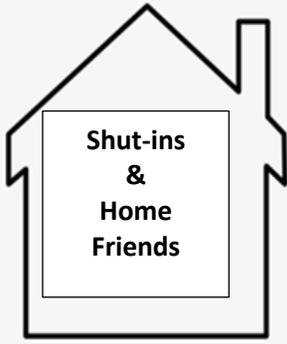
If a person was to judge a sea gull by just it's appearance, we might say it is a beautiful and mighty bird, kind of like the eagle. Also, if we add in the creativity of the seagull, they become even better. Think about this, a seagull catches a crab or grabs a hapless clam and takes it into the air and then drops it on the rocks, all to get to the tender delicious bits. Yes, they are indeed clever. If we were to judge a seagull from its creativity, we would say they are a smart bird.

Unfortunately, from my observation, the creativity of a Seagull is from a purely selfish motivation. They think nothing of their fellow gulls. They even go as far as to steal food from the mouth of another seagull. Dodging and wheeling performing aerobatics of great display all for their own gain. Seagulls are the Ferengi of the bird community. The Ferengi were a race from Star Trek that were concerned with personal gain ONLY! Seagulls are not concerned with any other seagull or bird for that matter.

If we were to judge the seagull from its actions, we would label it nuisance, a pest, self-seeking, and crude, all things that sin relishes in. I have heard of rats that behave with more dignity than seagulls. No, the seagull is the perfect picture of a sinner who looks good on the outside but is rotten within. And what comes from a seagull, nothing but smelly nastiness.

Though one should be offended by the actions of seagulls there is something to be said. God created them and He loves them. And He provides for them. And as all creation groans under the sin that has corrupted it perhaps, they too groan in their calls. What is the potential of the seagull? Can I judge or better said should I judge? Perhaps my own white feathers hide a heart of darkness that yearns to be made wholly clean. If I were to look at my actions, do I see the selfishness, do I see the dirt located on the inside? I can only cry out with the call of repentance, and trust that the Lord Jesus Christ loves even a seagull such as I. Maybe, the seagull I see and judge today, will turn out to be tomorrow's eagle.

Pastor Kevin



Joe Brown
109 Edgewood Ave
Landrum, SC 29356

Dan Donovan
210 Camelia Circle
Landrum, SC 29356

Mary Williamson
Greer Rehabilitation & Healthcare Center
401 Chandler Rd
Greer, SC 29651

June Rhymer
810 E Rutherford St
Landrum, SC 29356

Madge Holley
1385 Green Creek Dr
Columbus, NC 28722

Edith Masson (Patricia Dalton's
Mother)
300 Asbury Dr
Landrum, SC 29356

Betty Zeluff (Mary Hager's
Mother)
Sunnybrook Assisted Living
306 Spring St
Hendersonville, NC 28739

Betty Little
508 E Prince Rd
Landrum, SC 29356

Maxine Finch
209 N Cassidy Way
Campobello, SC 29322

Edith Himmel
c/o Manning Place
10 Companion Ct. Apt 104
Greer, SC 29651

Nancy McGarra
41 Red Bird Road
Tryon NC 28782



The LUMC Minister and Congregation
prays for those who need special prayer or
have medical concerns.

We express our heartfelt Christian
sympathy to those who have had loved
ones pass away.

Please inform the church office of any
names that need to be added or removed
from the prayer list.

Remember these people in your prayers as
well as our church, Pastor, Outreach,
Missions, community, and our nation.

Dennis Gunter Recovering from back surgery
Donna Potruski Rehabbing from Covid
Fran Page Rehabbing from hip surgery
Laura Reeves Cancer
Jimmy Ashmore Stage 4 Cancer
Pat Parker Cancer ... Cheryl Barto's sister
Rev. Tommy Bailey..Cancer ... Pastor Kevin's friend
Mark Masson Health issues ...Patricia
Dalton's brother
Jabo Brown..... Stage 4 Cancer
BarbJoyce Himmel's daughter-in-law's grandmother
Unspoken requests

A note from Nancy McGarra:

To Dear Friends at LUMC,

Many times in the long days I find myself wishing I could drive down to Landrum and just sit in the beautiful sanctuary that welcomes its members to feel the presence that passes all understanding.

The days and nights run together swiftly, and the pandemic seems to diminish most contacts that had been previously enjoyed. Hospice along with additional neighbors and friends offer help for which I am very grateful.

I especially want to thank each and every person who has taken the time to send me cards and messages which fill my heart and mind with thoughts of God's love and caring.

With heartfelt appreciation,

Nancy McGarra
41 Red Bird Road
Tryon NC 287820

Lay Member to the Annual Conference Ted Andrus

The Lay Member to Annual Conference is a key to linking the vision and plan of the congregation with the ministry of the Annual conference and in nurturing cooperation and coordination of the pastor and congregation in leadership. The lay member to annual conference has a primary focus in linking the local church to the connectional United Methodist Church and God's worldwide church.

This year's Annual Conference for the South Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church will be held June 6, 2021 through June 9, 2021 in Florence, SC. Pastor Kevin Dalton and I plan to attend and represent Landrum United Methodist Church. As the Lay Member to Annual Conference, I will be representing you, the laity, the people of religious faith and members of the Landrum United Methodist Church.

To that end, I would like to hear what is on your minds related to the church, our local fellowship, our South Carolina Conference, or the General (worldwide) Conference of the United Methodist Church. I may not know the answers to your questions, but I assure you I will do my best to seek out the appropriate answers and position of the conferences.

Please feel free to contact me. God Bless Us All.

Ted Andrus - Lay Member to the Annual Conference

PO Box 155
Landrum, SC 29356
864-354-3313
cavist@rocketmail.com

The Trustees will be installing two AEDs (Automated External Defibrillators) at the church. We would like to know who in the congregation is certified in AED, CPR/ First Aid. If you are certified or would like to become certified, please contact Ted Andrus 864-354-3313



Staff Parish Relations

Pete Block

Time of Transition

Each spring, the South Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church reviews ministerial assignments and realigns positions as they deem necessary. This is a normal part of the United Methodist Church structure driven in large part by personnel needs such as minister retirements and attrition and consider needs of respective local churches.

Recently our District Superintendent, Cathy Mitchell, informed the Landrum SPRC of the intention to move Pastor Dalton to Trinity U.M.C. in Bamberg.

Landrum U.M.C. will be welcoming Pastor Nancy Reed to assume duties here. Nancy is currently the Pastor at Lewis Chapel U.M.C. in Sumter. Previously she was the Associate Pastor at St. John's U.M.C. in Aiken. You may view recent services at LewisChapelUMC.com.

The decision for both reassignments was wholly initiated by the S.C. Conference based on statewide needs and opportunities. The universal moving day for Pastors relocating is June 30. More details will be forthcoming as they become available.

Please be in prayerful reflection for Kevin and Patricia as they transition to these new spiritual phases and for churches and staff everywhere.

STAFF PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE

One of our most important duties is being a communication conduit among the congregation, Pastor, and U.M.C. District and Conference. Especially in this time of Pastoral transition, please don't hesitate to direct any questions or concerns to any of the members listed below.

Pete Block, Chair; Rita Plumley; Stephanie Quinn; Lisa Wofford; Jerry Azzara; Bill Every; Ted Andrus, Lay Leader to Annual Conference; Wayne Hager, Lay Leader; Kevin Dalton, Pastor



Virus Update

Wayne Hager

This week marked the one-year anniversary of the World Health Organization declaring the Covid-19 virus a pandemic. It has been a challenging year for everyone to say the least. During this time, we had to close in person services for several weeks. Once we restarted, we followed the guidelines from the Conference for reopening and have modified them as appropriate as we learned more and as circumstances changed.

We want to provide an update on the current guidelines we are following as well as an update on the things we can and cannot do at this point.

Below is a list of our current practices.

We ask everyone to practice social distancing. Sitting together by family or households is ok and encouraged.

We have installed hand sanitizers in the Narthex and other locations in the facility.

We have masks available for anyone who would like one for worship service. It is an individual choice for wearing masks in worship.

We have installed advanced air purifiers in the heating and cooling system. These purifiers use ultraviolet light to sanitize the air and surfaces in the facility. We have a total of 7 of the units.

We use single serving cups for Communion.

We have been taking temps as you enter the Sanctuary. We are going to discontinue this activity. No one has tested with a high temperature since we started this activity, and it is not included in the Conference guidelines.

We ask anyone with any cold or Flu like symptoms to not attend that day and join us for worship on-line.

With these things in place, today we are able to;

Meet for Sunday School.

Gather in the sanctuary for worship.

Have music in worship including piano, organ, handbells.

Recite the Lord's Prayer together.

Receive Communion together.

Sit together as families or households.

Hold committee meetings.

Complete the Community Meal, Food Distribution and Backpacks ministries with takeout and delivery.

Send cards, make phone calls, use the Lamplighter and the online sermons to communicate and reach out to the congregation and our community.

There is much we can and are doing safely but there are still some things aren't able to do yet;

We aren't able to sing indoors including the choir or as a congregation. We can sing outdoors and are planning an outdoor service for Easter. Joy and the Choir are providing beautiful music for our services with the piano, organ, hand bells and guitar.

We aren't able to shake hands or hug each other. We still need to maintain the 6-foot distances with each other outside of our family or household.

We aren't able to have visitation at homes or in the hospital.

Most of us have never faced anything like this. Our church leadership has met on a regular basis from the beginning of the pandemic, and we continue to meet on a regular basis. We have adjusted practices and activities as we learned more over the year and will continue to do so until we are back to normal.

I am the current Lay Leader and Ted Andrus is the current Lay Leader to Annual conference. Our responsibilities include sharing your voice at the Administrative Council, with the Pastor and with the Conference so please let us know if you have questions, suggestions, or concerns about any of the current practices.

In Christ,

Wayne Hager 828 691 9898

BIRTHDAYS

4 Vickie Killough
6 Gladys Harris
8 Betty Little
9 Lou Nespeca
12 Sarah Sprouse
Rittina Robinson
13 Eli Quinn
Skyler Wofford
15 Livie Fagan
17 Gettis Solesbee
19 Donny Surface II (son)
23 Deanna Sprouse
26 Evan Plumley
28 Beth Spring



ANNIVERSARIES

3 Tommy & Joy Gardner
6 Charlie and Deb Croft
19 Buddy & Wanda Manson
24 Rusty & Trudy Van Voorhis
27 Robert & Pamela Hilsman



MUSIC NOTES

Joy Gardner

Exciting news! Our hand bells have arrived! “The Belles of Landrum United Methodist Church” are looking forward to sharing them with you! Many thanks to ALL who helped make this happen!

Sign-ups are going on now for our secondhand bell group! We need just a few others to sign up in order to complete our secondhand bell choir!

Remember --- This is available for all who are interested!! YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE ABLE TO READ MUSIC TO RING BELLS! Plan to learn as we go.

As requested by some who have already signed up for the second group, plans for this group are to meet during the day rather than the evening hours.

Please let me know if you're interested and we will begin our secondhand bell choir just as soon as signups have been completed. Then we will move on to the third group.....

Joy





From the Altar Guild

Pastor Kevin's Lenten series, Broken Vessels, has been so meaningful and thought provoking, and we hope the altar and sanctuary displays have been complimentary additions. Hopefully, you are as excited as we are about the upcoming outdoor Easter service, and thank all volunteers in advance for their help in making this possible.

The outdoor service (weather permitting) will allow for singing and social distancing. Please remember to bring flowers for the living cross (though extra flowers will be available if needed), and plan to remain after the service for traditional family pictures we've come to enjoy!

We are excited to let you know all the Easter lilies are generously donated by Phil & Harriet Goodrich so there is no cost to those who have placed orders; however, a contribution to the music department would be greatly appreciated! We will also take a few moments during the announcement period to read the names of those for whom the Easter lilies were purchased as well as the givers.

We also have open dates on the flower sign-up chart in the Narthex for those wishing to place altar flowers.

Thank you for your kind words and support!

Cheryl Barto and Deb Croft



Palm Sunday

Passion Week Continues...

Maundy Thursday April, 1, 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Good Friday April 2, 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Easter Sunday 11:00 Service Gathering in the parking lot.
Remember to bring flowers for the living cross.



Members Present: Rita Plumley, Pete Block, Lou Nespeca, Mark Hartsell, Wayne Hager, Glenn Downey, Joy Gardner, Jaime Wofford, Kevin Dalton, Jody McPherson Finance: Cheryl Every

Finance: Mark

Payroll: Staff pay was to remain at 2020 level until authorized by PPRC and council. (2021 budget was a 3% line item increase.) We are now going to reinstate the 3% increase to staff salaries and make it retroactive to January.

Cheryl brought up the need for a fund to assist individuals who have no family or friends available to help with home care after a hospitalization or accident. Cost for CNAs for a specific amount of time could be provided. After discussion council agreed that this was a good idea. She will research this and report at the next meeting.

Administrative Council

Glenn opened with a question: What do we do when we are hit with a test? Don's panic. God uses it to make us stronger.

Finance: Mark

Scholarship: Two graduating seniors: James Wofford and Patrick Clark. Bibles for presentation are here. Update on church bus purchase: Having a bus would be a major plus for the church. Example is choir as Joy has received requests for the choir to sing at different venues. Discussion on logistics of usage. A suggestion was to lease a bus for a year or two to determine need. No decision.

Missions: Jody

Jody checked with Susan Henderson at OP Earle to identify any students who may wish to play baseball, but families can't afford the fees and equipment. In her contacts with families, she found there were children who wanted to take karate, gymnastics, and other ongoing activities. Discussion concluded that it was not feasible to pay for activities that require ongoing monthly fees. But to limit payment for seasonal enrollment fees.

Motion by Lou for a \$500 discretionary spending fund to assist families with the purchase of outfits, equipment etc. for participation in ongoing activities. Second Jaime. Approved.

We are sponsoring a youth baseball team this season. This will include fees and equipment for children on the team. Motion by Mark to sponsor a Landrum youth girls softball team. Second Jaime. Approved.

Worship: Cheryl Barto (by letter)

Deb and I are excited with the Lenten series "Broken Vessels" which Pastor Kevin has chosen, and hope that our efforts on the altar and in the Narthex have been complimentary to his theme.

Palms have been ordered for the Palm Sunday service and should arrive by March 23.

After Maundy Thursday service, we will need a few helping hands to place the black window covers for Good Friday eve service as well as dismantling afterwards.

Easter lilies have been ordered for Easter Sunday outdoor altar. There are sign-up sheets in the Narthex for those wishing to reserve a lily in honor or memory of someone. These may be picked up after the service. If a shut-in is to receive the flower, we will see that they are delivered. Names of those who ordered flowers and for whom they are ordered will be read during announcements.

There will be a need for helping hands Easter morning as the "outdoor sanctuary" is set up with chairs etc. Thanks to Mark for the use of a flatbed as an altar.

We will be using the flower cross again this year and encourage those attending the service to bring flowers to place on it. Flowers will be available for those who don't have blossoms.

This is a perfect service to hold outdoors, and we are very hopeful that the weather cooperates. A lot of work goes into an event such as this, and we offer a heartfelt thank you to all who help make it possible.

Administrative Council continued

Lay Leader: Wayne

The conference Covid update presented by Wayne this morning came from PPRC. One noted change is that we are no longer taking temperatures as people enter the sanctuary.

A list of committee chairmen and phone numbers will be published in the Lamplighter to assist those with questions in those areas.

Trustees: Jaime

Two AEDs (defibrillators) have been purchased. \$1200 each with a four-year battery life. One placed in the sanctuary and one in the FLC. Some people are trained on usage. Open for others to learn.

WiFi thermostats have been installed enabling settings to be monitored remotely.

Looking for better lighting for the parking lot. Perhaps more decorative.

Some of the classrooms upstairs in the FLC will now be used for the choir. There will be a designated room for the hand bells which can be secured. A handicap chairlift will be installed on the stairs. Cost \$7000.

Jacob Boatwright has been named Music Trustee for bells. He will report to Trustees every quarter.

Lou mentioned that Men's club can no longer handle spreading mulch around the property. Jaime will give the responsibility to the landscaping company who takes care of the property.

Music: Joy

Bells will be delivered tomorrow. There will be a dedication next Sunday. The group have named themselves "Belles of Landrum United Methodist Church". Another group is forming who will practice during the day. The choir and bells will both perform on Easter Sunday.

PPRC: Pete

PPRC voted to reinstate salary increase for Kevin and Joy. (See Finance committee notes above.)

The Covid guidelines that Wayne presented this morning will go in the Lamplighter.

Men's Ministry: Lou

Lou spoke with the owner of the local laundromat and found it is not feasible for us to do vouchers to pay for individual's laundry.

Last year the ministry paid the lunchroom balances for several families at OP Earle. Lou would like to expand the program this year to include Campobello-Gramling, Tryon Elementary, Sunny View and Polk Central. Joy said Sunny View is already sponsored by a church in Polk County.

Motion by Lou to pay (up to \$1500 per school) lunchroom balances for OPE, Campobello-Gramling, TE, and Polk Central. Second by Pete. Approved. Lou will contact school principals to determine need. Jody will call Tryon Elementary.

Pastor's Report: Kevin

After seeing the item in last month's Lamplighter regarding construction of laundry/shower facility, a member of the congregation approached Kevin regarding funding the project.

Discussion on construction, logistics of usage. (Some not in favor of showers.) Discussion on a remodel of 223 next door to accommodate a laundry facility and perhaps also use for music. A committee has been formed to explore use of 223. (Jaime, Mark, Lou, Kevin).

No further business. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Jody McPherson, Secretary



Is there a Doctor in the House?!

Trudy Van Voorhis

I was surprised when I first learned that Luke (of Luke's gospel) was a physician. Before Jesus healed one person, Luke had a hand in healing many, especially Paul. He knew the satisfaction of diagnosing people's ailments and prescribing treatments restoring them to health. Doctor Luke also knew failure. Sometimes all his knowledge and skill made no difference.

As a physician Luke had to deal with both these realities. But in Jesus, he saw something which would change how he dealt with people. It changed his view about life all together...so much so that he would be remembered not as Luke the physician, but Luke the evangelist. I knew nothing about his medical practice and knew him from the stories he recorded about shepherds keeping watch over their flocks by night, the Good Samaritan, and the prodigal son.

Under the influence of Jesus, the doctor became a disciple and recorded what he heard, saw, and experienced with the greatest clarity he could, not because people love good stories, but because these stories had the power to change, to heal, and to save lives. The irony may be that Luke healed more lives as an evangelist than as a doctor. As his stories were passed along more lives were healed and new stories were created.

Think for a moment about how many of us came to our faith because of a little something someone said. "I know things are tough for you right now and I will include you in my prayers", or "There's no way I could ever keep my crazy life together without my Christian friends."

You may not be a medical doctor, but you have a license to practice evangelism! An evangelist is simply someone with a good word about something that makes a difference; something that helps and heals. Being an evangelist is living because of that good news, letting others get little glimpses of the life of Christ in our own lives. Great work comes in little doses and deeds...sitting by the bed of a sick friend, offering a single mom childcare so she can do something for herself for a change, telling someone who hurts that you will pray for them. We need people to open their mouths and hearts and give witness to what is inside of you.

The next time you're asked what you do for a living, get into the habit of telling yourself, "I am licensed to practiced medicine," because you are...gospel medicine. Luke the doctor changed his profession to an evangelist, and as a result played a part in curing more ills than he could ever have imagined. We can too. As the good news has been passed to us, it is up to us to pass it to others. It's in our Hippocratic oath. It's part of the promise we made to Christ when we were baptized and turned from teachers and preachers, and firemen and foremen, and nurses and doctors into His disciples. So...is there a doctor in the house?

LUMC Lay Leadership 2021

Spartanburg District Superintendent: Rev. Cathy D. Mitchell

Pastor: Kevin F. Dalton

Administrative Council

Wayne Hager Lay Leader
Ted Andrus Lay Member to AC
Glenn Downey..... Admin Council Chr
Jaime Wofford Trustees Chair
Pete Block PPRC Chair
Mark Hartsell..... Finance Committee
Rita Plumley Church Treasurer
Jody McPherson Mission-Board Sec
Cheryl Bartow/Deb Croft - Altar Team
Bonnie Inman Sunday School Sup
Cheryl Barto Senior Adult Team
Lou Nespeca UMM President
Carla Downey College/Epworth
Church Historian Paul Forster/Colleen
Carey
Music Director..... Joy Gardner

Lay Leadership Nominations Committee

Ted Andrus Lay Member to AC
Wayne Hager Lay Leader
Martha Castro
Carla Downey
Cheryl Barto
Debbie Croft
Bill Robinson.....
Wanda Manson
Winn Holley
Colleen Carey

Finance Committee

Ted Andrus Lay Member to AC
Wayne Hager Lay Leader
Mark Hartsell..... Finance Chair
Rita Plumley Treasurer
Glenn Downey..... Admin Chair
Jaime Wofford Chair of Trustees
Pete Block Chair of PPRC
Jody McPherson Chair of Missions .
Cheryl Every
Darrell Bustle

Music Trustee

Jacob Boatwright

Pastor/Parish Relations

Ted Andrus Lay Member to AC
Wayne Hager Lay Leader
Pete Block PPRC Chair
Bill Every
Rita Plumley
Mark Hartsell
Jerry Azzara
Stephanie Quinn
Lisa Wofford

Trustees

Jaime Wofford Chairperson
Carmen Krebs
Ed Aiken
Bonnie Inman
Dan McFerrin
Stephanie Quinn
Lee Nicholson

Sanctuary Team

Cheryl Every
Deb Croft
Trudy Van Voorhis
Joy Gardner
Jaime Wofford
Ted Andrus Lay Member to AC
Pastor Kevin Dalton/LUMC

Members at Large

Wanda Starling
Michael Clark
Martha Castro
Patrick Clark
James Wofford IV ...

Missions Committee

Jody McPherson Chairperson
Patricia Hartsell
Nancy Surface

Church HistorianPaul Forster

Church Community Meals

Nancy Surface 4th Saturday
Community Meals