



Landrum United Methodist Church

April 2023

# The Lamplighter

“The Lord is my Light and my Salvation.”

## Pastor's Message

Dear Landrum UMC,

I hope that this Lenten Season has been one of reflection and growth in your relationship with God. Holy Week is upon us and it receives attention as it should with Palm Sunday celebrating with the people as Jesus enters Jerusalem. We can hear the loud “Hosannas” from all who have gathered and who throw their cloaks down on the road. Just a few days later, this same mob of people will have different shouts, this time it will be “Crucify Him!”

Each gospel has slightly different versions but what is most important is this: “He is Risen! Risen Indeed!” This is what we are to share with the world! Sometimes in all the preparation and excitement, we forget that we are to go and share this Good News! Go and Tell! This is how we as United Methodist make disciples for the transformation of the world!

Invite your family, your friends, your neighbors, and all you encounter to come and worship at Landrum UMC!

Make a note of all of the Holy Week Services!

**Palm Sunday**, April 2, 2023, Children and Chancel Choirs will lead us in worship at 10am.

**Maundy Thursday**, April 6, 2023, at 7pm, with communion.

**Good Friday**, April 7, 2023. We will worship with the Foothills Cluster of Sister UMC's at New Beginnings UMC, 210 Rainbow Lake Road, Boiling Springs, for a Tenebrae Service at 7pm.

**Easter Sunday**, April 9, 2023, join us for worship at 10am as we celebrate the Risen Christ!  
Bring flowers for the Living Cross!

Blessings,

Pastor Nancy

# Altar Guild

Grief.....disbelief.....sadness leading to beauty.....amazement....then - absolute JOY! These words describe the feelings of Christians during the next couple of weeks leading up to Easter morning! We know the beauty of Easter cannot be reached without traveling the painful path Christ endured the days before His death! Thank you, Jesus, for giving your life to save each of us!

## Easter Sunday - Please remember to bring flowers to place on our living floral cross.

Spring flowers appearing in our yards would provide such a lovely sight on the altar. Please let Debby or me know if we can help arrange your flowers for you. There is now a florist open in Linn, NC, or we would be happy to provide a bouquet for you at a cost of \$25, if you'd like to place flowers on the altar for all to enjoy, the flower sign-up chart is in the Narthex and thank you for considering!

Blessings, Debby & Cheryl

## Munch & Mingle

We all agree that our gatherings on the 1st and 3rd Sundays after church service have become a huge success and enjoyed by all! Because of its popularity, we would like to have a least three individuals to sign up on those Sundays. We greatly appreciate those who have already volunteered and to those who have signed up for the future. One does not need to be a gourmet cook to join on a Sunday, as a variety of goodies are available at local stores & bakeries! Thank you also for those contributing to the donation basket to cover the cost of coffee, juice, & paper products. There will be another 'thank you' coming in the near future!! The sign-up chart for future dates is on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.



Photos: Pete Block

## Silver Spirits

Our gathering in March was a wonderful event, with all bringing delicious appetizers to share with others. We even had some leprechauns join us! A huge 'thank you' to our Spirits for supporting our church food mission, by bringing canned goods to restock our pantry shelves in the ORM building! We love getting together in friendship and fellowship and hope you can join us in May (date to be determined) and why not bring a friend!

In Christ, Trudy & Cheryl

# The Face of Jesus

Debby Croft

A few weeks ago, I was upstairs looking for a different banner to hang in the sanctuary for Lent. I found a lavender satin banner hanging among others in the closet. I pulled it out, laying it on a table and saw the pattern of a crown of thorns in gold but couldn't get the rest. The satin was faded, and water stained but the gold was very dramatic. As I moved away and stood to the side, I saw Jesus' face! It was amazing - it just popped! I decided I had to repurpose this piece! But it got me thinking also. Are there times we don't put in the effort to find Jesus and just move along people or discard things along our day?

When we lived in Florida, we went to a Catholic church near us that had a rectory that had offices and meeting rooms on the lower level and living areas on the second floor. One of the priests was retelling us this experience. He had gone to bed and late in the night he heard someone ringing the door buzzer. So, amongst grumbling, he got dressed and went to answer the door. He found no one there and made a mental note to include a comment in his address to the church to not let your children play pranks on ringing doorbells in the middle of the night and bothering people! He had settled back down, getting back to sleep for a few hours when the door buzzer rang again! This time he hurried on his way to the door to give the person a piece of his mind. Again, he found no one at the door and stomped back upstairs, not caring if he disturbed others at this point. This had to stop! He tossed and turned and finally returned to sleep. Upon waking and the nights events still swirling in his mind he came to a thought. Was this Jesus coming to visit him? Was this the way he, a priest, should be reacting? Did he blow his opportunity???

Do we often have people placed in our lives where we could see Jesus but instead find an annoyance? Jesus is not going to show his face to us in the renderings of the great masters or sculptures so perhaps we might miss him. Remember the little lady who was walking slowly in front of you on a busy sidewalk? She was smiling at people, admiring the flowers planted along the way and slowing you down on your way to an important meeting. Or the older gentleman who was fumbling with the thin plastic bag to hold his produce in the grocery store, in your way? Maybe we have to squint to see Jesus in the "regular" people in our lives!

And by the way, did you see Jesus' face in the banner? Squint!!!

## April Celebrations



### BIRTHDAYS

4	Vickie Killough
6	Gladys Harris
8	Betty Little
12	Sarah Sprouse Rittina Robinson
13	Eli Quinn Skyler Wofford
15	Livie Fagan
19	Donny Surface II (son)
23	Deanna Sprouse
26	Evan Plumley

### ANNIVERSARIES

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

# He is risen, indeed!



We celebrate Easter this month. I hope that we continue to ponder the faith lesson it leaves with us. It is easy to see Jesus among the lilies on Easter Sunday but most often He is in the weed patches of our lives. In our daily struggles in this troubled fragile world is where you will see Him.

Despite the differences in details in each of the gospel accounts of what happened early that Sunday, two messages are consistent. "HE IS RISEN!" and "HE IS NOT HERE." "Tell my disciples that I go ahead of them into Galilee (meaning into the world), there you will see me."

The resurrection of Jesus calls for a stretch of the imagination and requires us to alter our expectations. That is what our faith and church is all about. We make every effort to impress that His resurrection happened, but we often forget that this claim isn't believable to most people. Christian's familiarity with the Easter story makes it appear that belief in the resurrection is no problem at all. We reduce the resurrection to analogies - the blooming spring flowers after a long winter's nap or a caterpillar emerging from the cocoon as a beautiful butterfly. These things are wondrous and precious in and of themselves. All around us are signs that rebirth has been written into God's creation –but they always pale in comparison to the real thing.

Death has a terrible finality to it. To behold a death is an emotionally wrenching experience and we have yet to see anyone showing signs of resurrection. Hundreds of people watched Jesus die that Friday afternoon. They watched Jesus die just as they had watched others die before Him. But no one witnessed his resurrection. No one. Only God knows what happened.

The disciples Jesus picked were not the sharpest men around. We read about the dullness of their perception skills. When Jesus told them he would be killed and on the third day be raised, they didn't get it. On Easter morning when the women ran to tell the disciples Jesus was alive, they didn't believe.

Jesus lives where we live. He lives in the thick of the good and bad days of our lives. His presence transforms the monotony of life into something special. Usually, life doesn't unfold in a neat, orderly fashion. It's chaotic and doesn't follow the script we write. So, what does it take to live hopeful, coherent lives in a chaotic, superficial world? Having all the answers? No. Faith is living without answers. In Hebrews it says, "Faith is the substance of things hoped for; the conviction of things not seen." Faith will not let us stay put. Faith moves us toward something.

He rose. A few saw Him briefly and talked to Him. If it is true, there is nothing left to say. If it is not true, there is nothing left to say. For believers and unbelievers, life has never been the same again. For some, neither has death.



Photos:  
Paul Forster

# Views from the Pews



Soloists Stephanie Quinn and Wendy Donovan



Joy and Tommy Gardner welcome Nancy Surface "back home".



Girl Scouts from the Troop Landrum United Methodist Hosts attend the service on Girl Scout Sunday March 12.



## Landrum United Methodist Church Administrative Council February 13, 2023

Members Present: Trudy Van Voorhis, Jaime Wofford, Rita Plumley, Martha Castro, Cheryl Every, Bill Every, George Ashmore, Pete Block, Wanda Manson, Bonnie Inman, Nancy Reed, Jody McPherson

### Finance Committee

Pete reported that by making congregation aware of designated funds versus general funds the cash flow has now improved. General fund cash at end of January was \$51,189.95.

We have resumed \$2000 transfer to property maintenance fund.

The EZRA report (state of church at year end) is due to the conference. An audit is due in March.

### Administrative Council

Prayers for Glenn and family upon the death of his brother. Also prayers for Nancy, Don, Tommy, and Joy.

January minutes. Motion to approve Cheryl. Second Pete. Approved.

#### Committee reports:

**Silver Spirits:** Trudy Luncheon has been postponed until March due to several illnesses.

**Trustees:** Jaime

Work has begun in the children's choir room.

Discussion on church security. Currently there is no formal security plan for the church campus in case of any incident. (The FLC building is locked during worship. A key is available in the tech booth in case the nursery is needed.) Security camera are on the property. Plans are to contact SLED or the sheriff's department for program of protocol.

Cheryl Every reported that the church directory is coming together.

**SPRC:** Bill Committee will be participating in training per zoom.

**Sunday school:** Bonnie Looking for a Sunday school teacher for 10-12 year old group.

**Missions:** Jody

Packing of food boxes is going smoothly. Jacksons Grove is doing backpacks in March. We will resume in April.

**Men's Ministry:** Shrove Tuesday pancake supper is February 21.

**No reports from: Youth (Martha) Members at large (Wanda, George)**

#### Pastor Nancy

Pastoral conference was very good. Thanks to Wayne for being on call.

There are still some questions among other churches in our area on the process through which a local church can discern whether to continue in ministry within the United Methodist Church or separate from the denomination.

Discussion and consensus that a simple fact sheet with the answers to frequently asked questions and other information such as links to the conference website be inserted in the bulletin or placed in the narthex.

No further business. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Jody McPherson, Secretary

---

## **Landrum United Methodist Church Administrative Council    March 12, 2023**

Members present: Trudy VanVoorhis, Rita Plumley, Martha Castro, Glenn Downey, Wanda Manson, Cheryl Barto, George Ashmore, Pete Block, Jaime Wofford, Ted Andres, Nancy Reed, Joy Gardner, Jody McPherson

**Finance:** Tommy Gardner

**Finance:** Pete

General fund cash balance \$48,027.91. \$2000 transferred to property maintenance.

Suggestion to have quarterly finance meeting (not in conjunction with administrative council) to have more in depth discussion on church finances. Date and time to be announced. Discussion on presentation of financial information in the bulletin. Example: Show weekly giving and weekly needs. Also devising a spread sheet with monetary categories with percentage of amount given in each amount. Tabled until quarterly finance meeting.

### **Administrative Council**

Glenn opened with devotion. He also thanked Pastor Nancy for her care of the family upon the death of his brother.

Minutes - One correction. Silver Spirits luncheon is in March not May. Motion by Jaime to approve corrected minutes. Second Cheryl. Approved.

**Pastor Report:** Pastor Nancy

Maundy Thursday service here. Cluster group Good Friday service at New Beginnings in Boiling Springs.

Regarding further discussion of the process of leaving or continuing in ministry with the United Methodist Church, Pastor Nancy wants us to have good information. It will be up to laity to share good information. Question is do we want to have laity led information sessions. No decision made. Will know more after annual conference.

Discussion on doing an audit of church membership. One has not been done in years. No decision.

Easter egg hunt: Last year choir took the lead in organizing. Pastor Nancy will contact congregation via email to see if a group or individuals will step up to organize. The date will be Palm Sunday, April 2 in the afternoon.

**Choir:** Joy

Working on music for Easter. Thank you to Ted for painting the wall in the children's choir room so the children can place their handprints on the wall. There was an issue with parking near the FLC on Thursday evenings with several groups (including the choir) choosing the spaces near the building. Ted was able to work the issue out for the safety of the choir members.

**Lay member to Conference:** Ted

Annual Conference will be held first week of June. Not hearing any issues from congregation. Grateful for the return of munch and mingle.

## Admin Council Minutes continued:

### **Worship:** Cheryl

Silver Spirits will resume this Thursday. Thank you to Ted for kind words on Munch and Mingle.

A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall for volunteers to provide food for the event. A basket is available at the event to collect money to cover cost of drinks.

The Altar Guild is looking forward to providing Lenten décor.

### **Missions:** Jody

Food box packing is running smoothly. We will resume packing backpacks in April.

**Member at large** Trudy: Always looking for articles for newsletter. Will send email when items are due.

**Trustees:** Jaime Continue to work on management of the facility.

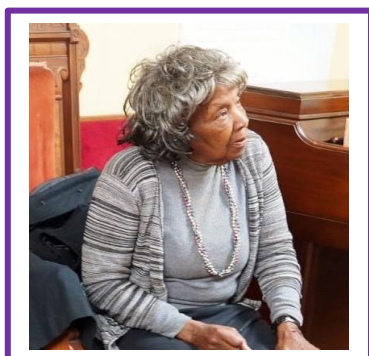
**No reports:** Martha, Wanda, George

No further business. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Jody McPherson, Secretary



Jacob and  
Nancy  
Boatwright



Lois Foster





# “A Special Music Lesson”

By: Wendy J. Donovan



Back in “B.C.”, before computer, I was a member of the Sacred Music Program at a local Episcopal Church in Southport, Connecticut. The Music Department consisted of a Junior Girls’ Choir, Senior Girls’ Choir, Men and Boys Choir and Mixed Student College Choir.

I had put my years in as a Junior Chorister and was in my third year of being a Senior Girls’ Choir Member. Each June one member of the Boys Choir and one member of the Senior Girls’ Choir was recognized for their outstanding contribution to the music program. I was sure I would win, and my name would be engraved forever on the large girls’ trophy (a miniature duplicate of the actual trophy was given to the winner to keep). The time for the announcement arrived! However, instead of my name being called out as the winner, I heard “Barbara Hart has been selected as the Girls’ Choir Member of the Year”! Well!!! I was certainly not happy about this situation.

When the autumn season arrived and the Senior Girls’ Choir started up again, I was more determined than ever to win that trophy! In addition to attending the regular rehearsals, I sang extra music, did library work, filing, repairing, etc., and volunteered for everything and anything that came up in our church music area. I was determined to win that trophy the coming Spring Awards Day!!!

The big day arrived and finally, I heard my name announced as the winner. I had won! I was named the “Outstanding Senior Girls’ Choir Member”! I had won the trophy and following the congratulatory words from my beloved minister, The Rev. Eschorole, I happily accepted the much sought-after award.

Was I happy? Was I overjoyed? Absolutely delighted that all my extra hard work had paid off with my win? “NO!” During those months spent being so busy doing all the extra work, I had lost the real meaning of what being a member of a church choir truly means; that of making a joyful noise unto the Lord in harmony with the other choir members. A year was lost to me and a valuable lesson was learned.

I still have the small duplicate of the large trophy which bears my name on it with the inscription “Chorister of the Year, Wendy June Nichols”. It sits on a shelf behind insect repellent. It does serve to remind me though of the selfish person I was. I spent so much time working so hard to earn that “title” and in the process I forgot that God had given me the opportunity to experience His word through beautiful music and be a part of sharing His word with others through church music.

This “not for self” lesson has been carried on by me throughout my life’s musical journey, both sacred and secular. I have had the wonderful joy of singing praises unto the Lord and sharing the joy of music with many people during my lifetime. The trophy is just a bauble. The music is what has helped inspire me along this journey of life. “Sing ye faithful, sing with gladness.....” (Hymn: Jesus Christ Our Lord”, words by John Ellerton (1826-1893).



**Homebound and  
Shut-ins**

Maxine Finch  
102 Corolla Court  
Moore SC 29369

Madge Holley  
805 E. Brookwood  
Landrum SC 29356

June Rhymer  
810 E. Rutherford St  
Landrum SC 29356

Joe Brown  
109 Edgewood Avenue  
Landrum SC 29356

Betty Zeuluff  
(Mary Hagar's Mother)  
Sunny Brook Assisted Living  
306 Spring Street  
Hendersonville NC 28739

Mike McAllister  
Peggy's husband  
White Oak

Edit Masson  
4308 Faust Street  
Bamberg, SC 29003

Mrs Wofford (Jaime's  
Grandmother)

Mary Williamson



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.

Our prayers for:

Covenant School in Tennessee

Bill Robinson

Don and Nancy Surface

Farrell Atkins

Ted Andrus

Lois Foster

Josh Owens

Fran Page

Linda Cox, Rita Plumley's mother

Jim, Rita Plumley's husband

John Himmel

Larry Long

Allison Corley

Family of Carey Armstrong

Gary, Brother-in-Law and Julie, Sister in Law of Carmen Krebs

Gloria Wells' family and friend, Connie

Jan, Sister of Wanda Manson

Family of Bryan Buchanon

Joseph, Ted's relative

Eugene Starling, father of Sarah Morgan and Matthew Starling

Pastor Nancy Reed

Laura Jackson (Friend of Bill Robinson Family)

Lizzy (Friend of Joyce Himmel)

Baby Liam Christopher Tapp

Maria Hanley

Keith Haynes

Ed Kern, Charlotte Stow's brother

Keren Clay (14 yo) granddaughter of John and Mary Kylin

Everett and Eveleigh (twin great nephew and niece of Mary and

Wayne Hager)