



The Carillon

April/May 2022

PREPARING FOR EASTER

Because the season of Lent begins 46 days before Easter, the date varies. So, Lent tends to sneak up on us. March 2 marked the beginning of Lent this year. This year Lent comes amid a vicious and violent war in Ukraine and continual unrest within the United Methodist Church.



The heart-breaking imagines of helpless children and families running for safety as Russia invades their country shows man's inhumanity to man and the need for man to return to God and pray more than ever. The invasion reminds us that life is fragile and life itself hangs in the balance. And the Church's continual struggle over the issue of inclusion is a strong indication of the urgency of repenting and believing in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Ash Wednesday, we begin the 40-day journey looking inward and examining our hearts. A time to reflect and assess our walk with God. A time to identify the need to practice spiritual disciplines that result in spiritual growth. A time to acknowledge our sins and repent.

Also, a time to remember when we confess our sins to God, God is faithful and just to forgive us. God is a forgiving and gracious God. We wear ashes to remind of us where we come from and the call to turn away from sin and turn back to God.

Joel 2: 12-13, "Yet even now, says the Lord return to me with your whole heart, with fasting, and weeping, and morning; Rend your hearts, not your garments, and return to the Lord, your God. For gracious and merciful is he, slow to anger, rich in kindness and relenting in punishment."



Preparing our hearts for Easter begins with acknowledging our sinful state and the need of a Savior.

I imagine that first Easter when John, and the other disciples learn of an empty tomb they were reluctant but hopeful of a new day and a new beginning.

Preparing for Easter amid a world that is

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Conway United Methodist Church

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The Carillon is published and mailed monthly on the third Friday. The next deadline to submit articles is Monday, May 16, for the next issue. Articles should be submitted to or Sarah@conwayumc.org, fax articles to the number above, or drop them off to the office.

Church website:

www.conwayumc.org
More information about our church can be found on our church website.

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divisive and contemptuous is most challenging, but we know Easter is coming! Easter is our hope for the Church and the world. Our Risen Lord is the hope for a new day and a new beginning.

We do our best to prepare our hearts for the one who hanged on an old, rugged tree for us! We remember that Christ demonstrates his own love for us; "While we yet sinners, Christ died for us".



Let us continue our journey toward Easter fasting and praying to overcome the evils of this world.

Pastor Dianne



EASTER LILIES ORDER FORM

You may now order lilies to decorate the sanctuary for Easter at a cost of \$8.00 each. Please enclose your payment and form, and place them in the offering plate or bring them to the church office by Monday, April 11. Make your check payable to Conway United Methodist Church and designate for "Easter Lilies."

(Please Print)
Your Name _____

Phone Number _____

In Memory of... _____ **Number** _____

In Honor of... _____ **Number** _____

Total _____

Amount Enclosed @8.00 \$ _____

Cash _____ **Check #** _____

[] I will pick up my lily (lilies) Easter Sunday, April 17, after the 10:00 a.m. service.

[] Please deliver to a shut-in.



Palm Sunday

April 10
Come enjoy a "Mini Concert"
from our Choir
10 a.m.



Maundy Thursday

April 14
6 p.m. Service

Good Friday

April 15
Prayers beginning
noon-3



Easter Sunday Service

April 17
10 a.m.



Worshiping and Giving at Conway United Methodist Church



As a member of our Church, you have several ways to participate:

1. Worship with us in the Sanctuary at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings.
2. You can watch our service at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings using Live Stream.
3. View the Church service using YouTube by searching under Conway United Methodist Church.
4. You can listen via LIVE Stream Service on the phone by calling 844-764-3401.
5. Using the link provided on the church website: www.Conwayumc.org.
6. **Giving** can be in-person on Sundays at worship, on the Website, or bringing to the church office Monday through Thursday.

2022 General Conference Postponement

Dear Conway UMC,

We are disappointed at the news of the postponement of the much-anticipated 2022 General Conference. This had been a rescheduled event stemming from the cancellations in 2020 and 2021 due to the COVID pandemic. The official reason given, in the context of loosening travel restrictions, is that it takes too long for many of the international attendees to obtain their visas. There is no date for the rescheduled event, but 2024 looks most likely. The next General Conference promises to be an historic one, with so much on the line for the worldwide United Methodist Church. The long pole in the tent would have been the issues surrounding the LGBTQ+ community and their treatment in the Church's central governing document, the Book of Discipline. The Book of Discipline is required to be updated quadrennially, and was last updated at the 2016 General Conference, the last one convened. Currently, members of the LGBTQ+ community cannot serve as Pastors, and the Discipline proscribes LGTBQ+ weddings.

The current situation leaves an important decision in limbo as to which direction the

broader UMC will go. Some local churches have decided not to wait for the General Conference to convene, and to split from the UMC and start their own denomination now. That decision can be a costly one, because there is no protection of the local church's assets when they split away; the General Conference was



supposed to address that aspect with a special Protocol, which would have allowed local churches to retain their assets when disaffiliating. So, we will have to wait and see what the future brings. For now, the best way forward for Conway UMC appears to be to stay the course and retain close affiliation with the broader United Methodist Church, as suggested by Florida Bishop Ken Carter in his press response to the postponement. We earnestly anticipate the rescheduled General Conference, most likely in 2024. Please pray on this, as we need updated guidance that is long overdue.

Be safe, and be well!

Yours in Christ's Service,

Bob Jex, Council Chair

CONWAY UMW UPDATE

Faith, Hope and Love are the words the UMW Cherish. During the month of February we focused on LOVE . Love for God, love for self, love for others, love for our loved ones here on earth and in Heaven. Our devotion was shared by Hazel Ford with love being the focus.

Our guest speaker, Mr. Randy Givens shared the History of the Conway Cemetery where many Conway Loved ones are buried.

Also in February, some UMW Ladies and Pastor Diane participated in a “TIE ONE ON” quilting project hosted by the BLANKET MINISTRY. It was fun to help others Bless others.



March is WOMEN’s HISTORY MONTH and St. Patrick’s Day. We will focus on the Past and Present Female Saints at Conway.

JOIN US. All ladies in the church and community are invited to join us on the second Tuesday of each Month in the Parlor at 10 am.

Let us ALL continue to have FAITH, HOPE AND PUT LOVE IN ACTION.

FAITHFULLY YOURS,
Frankie Edwards, President UMW

CUMC Scholarships

High School Seniors & College Students,

To request a Conway UMC Scholarship application, please email the Scholarship Committee at



Conwayumcscholarship@gmail.com.

The purpose of our church scholarship is to promote and to aid higher education among the membership and regular attendees of our church. Recipients must be an active participant of Conway United Methodist Church, must have an equivalent accumulated GPA of 2.5 out of a 4.0 and a SAT or ACT score meeting admission requirements of their chosen fully accredited College, University or Technical Institute and provide proof of acceptance. Completed applications and supporting document are due by midnight on Monday, April 18. Scholarships will be announced in May for the 2022-23 academic year.

Blessings,
The Scholarship Committee

From Our Preschool

The preschool is a busy, busy place as we prepare to finish the school year strong. We are excited to announce our first fundraising event. We will be raising money for the 2 and 3-year-old classrooms by selling Butter Braid Pastries. They are absolutely delicious! If you would like to order please see me or Judy Turner. Judy will be representing the preschool during the church services. Butter Braid orders must be received by March 30 and will be ready for pick up on April 13, just in time for Easter.



We are excited to celebrate Easter in April, Mother's Day in May and close out the school year with VPK Graduation on May 17. It has been an amazing school year! Thank you for your continued prayers and support of our precious preschool



Casey Wilson, Director
DCF License #C090R0205

Youth News

- April 9 Rummage Sale **POSTPONED**
 April 17 No Youth...Happy Easter!
 April 21 Scholarship Applications are Due
 (HS Seniors)
 May 1 Sunday Serve 6-8pm
 May 8 No Youth...
 Happy Mother's Day to our Moms,
 Grandmothers, Aunts & Mentors!
 May 29 School's Out Celebration! 6-8pm.

We are meeting weekly face-to-face from 6:30-8:00 p.m. ...see you there!

Children's News

Families, we are not drinking from the water fountains at this time, so please send your child with a water bottle. Thank you!

- March 24 Saul Escapes
 (Acts 9:19-28)
 March 31 The Praise Experiment
 (Mark 11:1-10)
 April 6 The Trust Experiment
 (Mark 14:66-72)
 April 13 The Forgiveness Experiment
 (Luke 23:35-47)
 April 20 The Last are First
 (Mark 9:33-37)
 April 27 One More Mile
 (Matthew 5:38-44)
 May 4 Famous Moms of the Bible
 (Matthew 5:38-44)
 May 11 The Least Give the Most
 (Luke 21:1-4)
 May 18 Lose to Save
 (Mark 8:34-38)
 May 25 School's Out Celebration!!

Children's Ministry Needs: Individually wrapped snacks; juice boxes & dry erase markers

Come join us in room 20 in the Education Building from 6:00-7:30 p.m. on Wednesdays as we learn about how to grow in God with *Easter Experiments* and Jesus' *Upside Down messages* through stories, crafts and games. Children ages 3 years through 5th grade are welcome!



More dates to add to your calendar — the church offices will be closed on the following dates:

The Church Office will be closed **May 30** in observance of Memorial Day.

Mark your calendars in preparation of our **Blood Drive of 2022**

March 13

June 12

September 11

December 11



OFFICE HOURS AND CONTACT INFO

Office Hours

Monday — Thursday

10:00 a.m. — 2:00 p.m.

Friday Closed

Contact Information

If you would like to set an appointment with Pastor Dianne, please contact her directly at 410-726-6017 or ddavis@conwayumc.org.

From Bishop Carter

We learned today of the postponement of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church until 2024. The decision was made with deliberation by the Commission on the General Conference, which is a global body composed of laity and clergy. I note here that bishops do not serve as voting members of the commission.

This postponement, a response to the global pandemic and consequent complexities related to global health and the supply chain of visas allowing for travel, was particularly shaped by the presence of delegates to the General Conference who live in forty nations. For this reason it is not comparable to a large cultural or sporting event that might happen in the United States. We are a global church.

There are understandable disappointments related to the postponement of the General Conference. While some will choose to blame or disparage others for this decision, I urge us to take a higher ground. I write pastorally, with genuine respect and love for all of our people, and with a focus on a particular question:

How will we live and serve together in the interim?

I can minister in a church that is divided with a spirit of grace and reconciliation. I can minimize the caustic tone of the conversation. I refer you to the Protocol, which is a destination, but also a resource for the journey.

I lift up the Narrative for the Continuing United Methodist Church, overwhelmingly endorsed by the Council of Bishops, and the invitation to [#BeUMC](#). I affirm the foundational statement of the #BeUMC initiative:

“The United Methodist Church is founded on a Wesleyan theology of grace, anchored in Scripture, and based in the life and teachings of Jesus Christ and the continuing movement of the Holy Spirit.”

The recent Judicial Council decisions have reaffirmed paragraph 2553 of the Book of Discipline as a clear and fair process for churches who wish to depart from the denomination. Paragraph 2553 is rooted in the deep value of our connectionalism. My calling and hope is that you will remain. In the two conferences I serve, a small number of churches will disaffiliate this year. I lament this. We are better together.

I reaffirm the abeyance that I signed with the Protocol, to cease the legal complaint processes related to LGBTQ persons in our church. For me this is a fulfillment of our General Rule to do no harm.

And in our local churches, I am committed to resourcing pastors and laity in emerging from a two year pandemic, finding new energies and new ways to share the gospel, to make disciples and to love our neighbors, as a people on a journey to personal and social holiness.

I am serving in my tenth year in Florida, and in my first year in Western North Carolina. I feel called to this work, and to a church that does extraordinary mission on behalf of God's kingdom across this planet.

I plan to meet with both delegations to the General Conference over the next few days. I lift all of the people of our church in prayer today, and ask that you pray for me. Through it all, God is with us, and God is using us in an extraordinary way, “to serve the present age, our callings to fulfill.”

+Ken Carter, Resident Bishop
Florida and Western North Carolina Conferences
The United Methodist Church





Most of all remember to extend Christian Love and sympathy to

To the family and friends of Majorie LaBelle on her recent death



Continue to pray for those who are in Assisted Living facilities, Nursing Homes, and Rehab Centers.

Carl and Carolyn Barrett—Westminister at Winter Park

Betty Douglas—Superior Residence of Clermont

Audre Game — The Gardens at DePugh

THANK YOU!

Dear Dr. Davis

Please accept the gratitude of the Florida Conference C.F. & A. committee for your church's support in giving 100% of 2022.

We appreciate your leadership and the support of the Conway family in difficult times and pray that you and your congregation continue to thrive.

As a member of C.F. & A. and as the Florida Director of Connectional and Justice Ministries please accept the heartfelt expression of thanks.

May God continue to lead you and bless you.

Sharon Austin

Metal 4 Missions

Metal 4 Missions is alive and well! The youth are beyond blessed to have an amazing crew of adults who support us through their collection and recycling of metal. I am often asked “Is it really worth the effort for the little money you get Mrecycling metal?” The answer is a resounding “YES!!!!” This ministry has fully funded **THREE** high-school and college-aged mission trips to help with hurricane relief and clean-up. Metal 4 Mission monies are also used by all of our youth to support their outreach activities, such as making gleanng bags and creating food & hygiene bags for the Orlando’s homeless. We welcome your support of this ministry too! Please bring recyclable metals to church on Sundays or to the office throughout the week. If a metal pick up is needed, please contact Linda Wright or Stephanie Parkkila. Thank you for your support of our youth!



Food Pantry Continues to Serve Community

The Food Pantry is still serving over 70 families each week. With rising prices, we may begin seeing more. We **do not** turn anyone away. Donations of non-perishable food can be brought to church on Sundays, or the church office during regular office hours (10-2 M-Th).

We always give out of rice, beans, cereal, soup, vegetables and canned meats and more!

Your generosity in giving is always appreciated! If you have any questions about the Food Pantry, call Alison Whitney at 407-615-1080.



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1
Doug Cope
Jon Payne

2

3
Kathy Davidson
Cindy Gill
Tommy West

4

5
Gabriella Gallaway
Daniel Dawson
Edith Shirley

6
Michael Dunham
Margaret Smith

7
Mary Linn Brown

8
Melinda Van Wye
Luzdelia Warner

9

10

11

12

13
Tammy Ellis
Olayemi Oiseh
Phil Ziglar

14

15
Randy Givens
Nestor Olijnyk

16
Larry Smith

17
Liselotte Riddick

18

19
Andrew Hulcher

20
William Rose

21
Linda Bardeen
Jacqueline DuPuis

22
Robert Rueff
Winifred Suarez

23
Carl Barrett
Jack Bayer
Debra Lorenz

24

25

26

27

28
Betty Douglas
Carol Fennell
Samuel Morris

29
Zane Franz
Sharon May
Donovan Morgan
Kelsea Peacick

30
Terrie Crandall
Hazel Ford

*May this Birthday be just the beginning
of a year filled with Happiness.*

1

2
Rick Deese

3

4
John Bolinger
Tacey Jeremiah

5

6

7

8
Robert Lang

9
Marilynn Rose

10
Theresa Miles

11
Ruth Sutphin

12

13
Mackenzie Lynn

14

15
Paula Graf

16
Medaline Cooksey

17
Kathy Frank
Carol Franz
Nadine Peacock

18

19
Michael Callaway

20

21
William McDonald
Jr.

22
Laurence DeLoach
III

23
Debbie Obermeyer

24
Jane Downey

25

26
Linda Del Rocco
Roland Patterson

27
Renee Gillette



28

29

30
Julie Rogers

31

If your name or that of a friend or family member at Conway UMC does not appear on the birthday calendar, please contact the church office so that we may add them.