the Joy of the Resurrection

It seems like no time at all, and we were observing Transfiguration Sunday. We noted how Peter, James, and John could not remain on the mountain top surrounded by the glories of God. Work still awaited Jesus in the valley below, even if the apostles had no real understanding of what lay before. And three days later, Ash Wednesday, we remembered the ancient words, “Ashes to ashes and dust to dust.” We marked our mortality, but we also remembered how we, on this side of Easter, know the rest of the story, as Paul Harvey used to say.

The following Sunday was the first Sunday of Lent and for the next six weeks we meditated on how Christ came into our world to heal a broken relationship. We heard the words that reverberated in the desert two millennia ago spoken by John the Baptist, “Repent and believe in the good news.” We continued our journey through preparing the way for Christ to reign in our hearts. We gathered on Palm Sunday, waving the palm branches, remembering that day from so long ago. New Testament theologians instruct us that there were two parades that day. Pontius Pilate and 3000 Roman soldiers entering Jerusalem from the west to ensure that when the population of the city more than doubles during the Passover no troubles break out in the streets. Pilate came to guarantee that the Pax Romana remains and Judea, a vassal state, continues to make its payments to Rome. On that Palm Sunday, another parade entered the city. This time from the east. It was a counterdemonstration, a parade protesting the status quo, the foreign military occupation of Judea. This Ruler came riding on a donkey, a symbol of peace, directing us to another Kingdom, an eternal rule where God will make all things right.

On Easter Sunday, the Gospel lesson was from the twentieth chapter of John. It was early Sunday morning and the last three days had been heart wrenching. Mary Magdalene’s life and the life of all the apostles and disciples had been on an emotional roller coaster ride from the shock, grief, despair, and disillusionment of crucifixion Friday—to the long agonizing hours of Silent Saturday, wondering how they now go and rebuild their shattered lives—to the absolute wonder and joy of the Resurrection.

Now we are in Eastertide which spans from Easter Sunday until the birthday of the church, Pentecost. May the Joy of the Resurrection be yours now and forever.

Pastor Mike
Help us Celebrate our High School Graduates

This year we would like to invite you to help us honor and celebrate our High School Graduates with a new MSUMC tradition. This year we will be collecting Graduation Cards for the High School Graduates that will be given to them on Sunday, June 6. The next time you are at the store pick up a card for the High School Seniors below and place it in the collection box that will be located in the Narthex until Friday, May 21.

- Levi Antieau
- Charles Hall
- Ava Howard
- Luke Johnson
- Blake Lawson
- Peyton O’Brien
- Dalton Pike
- Cambell Robertson
- Walter Sellers
- Matthew Thompson

Attention College Graduates

On June 6, Graduate Sunday, we would like to honor our new college graduates and those who have earned new postgraduate degrees by having those in attendance stand at their pew for recognition during the 11:00am service. Church members who have recently graduated from college are invited to submit their name, college, major, and degree earned (B.S., B.A., Master’s, etc) to Betsy (betsy.tang@mainstreetumc.org) in the church office by Tuesday, June 1 to be included in the June newsletter and shown during worship on Graduation Sunday.

ARCA Update — Main Street is the BEST! !!
Our collection for ARCA (Addiction Recovery Care Association) has been phenomenal. Here is a tally: Pants 54, Shirts 76, Socks 100 pairs, Undies 153, Shoes 2. The toiletries would fill a very large wheelbarrow. The staff at ARCA has been so appreciative of your donations and wanted us to let you know that your thoughtfulness will make such a difference for their clients. THANK YOU!

—The Genesis Sunday School Class

Join us on Thurs., April 29 at 7pm in the Fellowship Hall for a new and exciting opportunity—NOW—Night of Worship.

Nursery will be provided for those with children.
Scholarship Applications are now open

**JC Grose Scholarship**

The JC Grose Class announces that applications are open to award the tenth annual JC Grose Class Memorial Scholarship.

The application is available on the church website www.mainstreetumc.org under Ministries/Youth.

The scholarship provides financial support to Main Street United Methodist members and children of members who are pursuing college degrees at an accredited 2 or 4 year institution of higher learning. The scholarship provides up to $1,000 dollars for a student who has completed his or her freshman, sophomore, or junior years. Prior award recipients may also apply for additional years of support by reapplying each summer and maintaining an acceptable grade point average. The **deadline for scholarship applications is Friday, June 11, 2021 at 5:00 PM**. Main Street UMC parents and guardians, please make your students aware of this opportunity for financial help.

If you have questions about the application, contact Wade Hampton at 336-996-1560 or at wjhampton57@gmail.com. Members of the JC Grose Class serve as the scholarship selection committee and will choose from applications submitted. The scholarship is funded through memorial gifts in memory of class members and other funds raised by the JC Grose Sunday School Class.

**Linville Scholarship for High School Seniors**

Applications are now available at the church office or on the church website, www.mainstreetumc.org, for the **Linville Scholarship**. Applicants should be a member of Main Street UMC and actively participate in church programs. Preference will be given to those applicants who exhibit a strong desire for teaching or a science related career. For more information, please contact the church office for an application.

**All applications must be returned to the church office by Sunday, May 23, 2021.**
Our Nursery Needs YOUR Help

We are currently in need of substitutes in Nursery who will take the place of a regular nursery worker should they need a Sunday off.

They are responsible for caring for children 6 weeks- 2 years old, and 3 years to 5th grade during the Kids Connect Worship time. Nursery subs must be at least 16 years old. Subs must be available to work Sundays during all services. Usually at least one Sunday a month. Must be able to play with children, lift children, and assist with light cleaning.

For more information please email Becca Torres at beccarae96@yahoo.com.

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We had a big turnout for the cemetery clean up day on Saturday, March 27 by both Cemetery Committee members and non committee members. We got everything done we had scheduled, and the cemetery looked great. The rain had really greened it up so it looked great for Easter. Thanks again for those who came out and worked in the cemetery.

—Marvin Bare
Cemetery Chairperson

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LIFT YOUR VOICE AND SING IN 2021

Some of us are finding that our voices have gotten a bit “rusty” over the last year and are in need of some vocal “TLC.” The Music Ministry of MSUMC is encouraging you to “Lift Your Voice and Sing” in 2021. Now through the end of June, the music ministry is offering a hybrid Choral experience on Wednesdays at 7:30 pm—this combination of in-person choir or virtual choir rehearsal will focus on voice building techniques as well as music for worship. For those who haven’t sung in a while—or who have never sung—now is your chance to connect or reconnect with the joy of singing! For those choosing to sing in person we will spread out around our beautiful Sanctuary, or you can join us online via Zoom from the privacy of your own home for these virtual singing lessons and choir rehearsal. For more information contact Nancy Blakemore at nancy@mainstreetumc.org and start singing in 2021!
Visiting our Home Friends

Our friends who live at Arbor Ridge and Kerner Ridge can now have visitors! Responsible indoor visitation policies have been announced for the residents of Arbor Ridge and Kerner Ridge after being closed to visitors during the pandemic. It is now possible for you to visit our church members and friends who live at Arbor Ridge and Kerner Ridge if you wear a mask at all times while in the facility and maintain physical distancing; keep in mind that the exterior doors are locked and you will have to be screened before entering the facility. Please call the office before visiting.

First Quarter Contribution Statements were sent out via email on Thursday, April 8. If you didn’t receive your statement and would like a copy, please email Tina at tina.crew@mainstreetumc.org or call the church office to request a copy.

Recognizing the Retirement of Susan Furmage

On behalf of your Staff Parish Relations Committee, we are looking towards celebrating Susan Furmage’s upcoming retirement after 20 plus years of service as MSUMC’s Business Manager. On April 25, Susan will be recognized at both church services.

As many members will want to participate in a love offering and sharing personal “Thank You” cards, etc. with Susan, please find the below guidance to facilitate the efforts in collecting and distributing the love offerings to Susan.

- Offerings and Thank You cards can be dropped off to the church office until 9am on Friday, April 23.
- Please be sure to notate your gifts and notes that they are for Susan.
- Most importantly, your prayers, thoughts, and support of Susan and her family during this transition period will be appreciated.

- Please try to have your love offerings in advance of the April 25 recognition date.
Kids Connect Lessons for the month of May

**REMEmBER THIS:**
“Training the body has some value. But being godly has value in every way. It promises help for the life you are now living and the life to come.”
—1 Timothy 4:8 NIrV

**Our Theme:**
Commitment is making a plan and putting it into practice.

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**Week One**
1 Corinthians 9:24-25
Training to Win the Prize

**SAY THIS:**
Keep practicing what matters most.

**Week Two**
Matthew 7:24-29
The Wise and Foolish Builders

**SAY THIS:**
Practice hearing from God.

**Week Three**
Luke 11:1-4
Model Prayer

**SAY THIS:**
Practice praying to God.

**Week Four**
Matthew 16:13-20
Peter Says That Jesus Is the Messiah

**SAY THIS:**
Practice talking about God.

**Week Five**
Mark 12:41-44
Widow’s Mite

**SAY THIS:**
Practice living for God.

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**At Home Activities for the month of May:**

**Morning Time:** Write something each family member would like to commit to for the of June. Place it where everyone will see it daily. It could be taking a walk as a family over often or no technology days. Whatever it may be, make a plan and write the verse of the month next to your goals.

**Drive Time:** Talking about the things we love can be easy but it can take practice. While you’re commuting, practice talking about God. Tell each other stories you’ve read or heard about Him, talk about the question you would ask, or talk about the things you are grateful for about Him. Whatever it may be, start talking.

**Meal Time:**
Q&A for kids: What is your favorite thing to practice?
Q&A for parents: Are you more of a planner or do you deal with things as they come? Share a story from your life that illustrated this.

**Bed Time:** Love God and love others. What are some practical ways that you can show love to God and to others? It doesn’t mean that you won’t face stormy situations—but it does mean that God will equip you to weather them with falling apart. Pray that you will make choices this week that build a strong foundation by showing love to God and to others.
a Record of our Faithfulness

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OUR PRESENCE:</th>
<th>3-21-2021</th>
<th>3-28-2021</th>
<th>4-4-2021</th>
<th>4-11-2021</th>
<th>4-18-2021</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In-Person Worship</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>218</td>
<td>330</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Live Streaming (unique views)</td>
<td>265</td>
<td>218</td>
<td>296</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>165</td>
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<tr>
<td>Live Streaming (unique views x 1.8)</td>
<td>477</td>
<td>392</td>
<td>533</td>
<td>324</td>
<td>297</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attendance Totals</td>
<td>672</td>
<td>610</td>
<td>863</td>
<td>501</td>
<td>513</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>OUR GIFTS as of:</th>
<th>3-21-2021</th>
<th>3-28-2021</th>
<th>4-4-2021</th>
<th>4-11-2021</th>
<th>4-18-2021</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Connection Campaign YTD (Building Fund)</td>
<td>$305,052</td>
<td>$307,981</td>
<td>$311,126</td>
<td>$313,547</td>
<td>$316,015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weekly Contributions to Budget</td>
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<td>$20,311</td>
<td>$29,264</td>
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<td>$29,563</td>
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<td>Budget Contributions YTD</td>
<td>$208,554</td>
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<td>Estimated Budget Needs YTD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Difference</td>
<td>($47,829)</td>
<td>($48,883)</td>
<td>($40,985)</td>
<td>($44,516)</td>
<td>($36,868)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We share our joys with:

- Eric & Betsy Tang upon the marriage of their daughter, Ashley
- Cheryl McKinney & Willis Craven on receiving service pins from the UMW
- Parker & Anna Finch upon the birth of their son, James Tyson Finch
- Dale & Margie Hilton upon the birth of their great granddaughter, Opal Clark Hilton and upon the birth of their great grandson, Arne Robert Larson
- Matthew & Mariam Johnson upon the birth of their son, Isaac Thomas Johnson

We extend our Sympathies to:

- Connie Trainer & Gretchen Pizzino upon the death of their grandson and nephew, Connor Tiffany
- Jane Staples upon the death of her husband, John
- Joan Pegg upon the death of her husband, Bob Pegg
- Scott Felts upon the death of his grandfather, Jay Felts
- Bob Austin upon the death of his mother, Joan Austin
- Sally Johnson upon the death of her mother, Lolly Johnson
- Celia Leal upon the death of her brother in law, CB Lewallen

One Item More, Each Time at the Store!

Sponsored by the Cornerstone Sunday School Class, this ministry invites you help our neighbors in need by supporting Crisis Control and to pick up One Item More, Each Time at the Store! Crisis Control item for April is: Instant Oatmeal.

Donation boxes can be found in the Narthex and in the Chapel.
Main Street
United Methodist Church

306 South Main Street
Kernersville, NC 27284

Visit www.msumckidsconnect.org for more information on our Children’s Ministry and upcoming events.

Vacation Bible School
June 28 - July 1
Preschool (ages 3-4)
9am-NOON
All ages (3-12)
6-8:15pm

Rocky Railway
Jesus' Power Pulls Us Together

Kids in action Day Camp
For rising 3rd-5th graders
July 19-22—9:00am-3:00pm

Church Staff

Our Ministers: the congregation of Main Street

Mike Gehring, Senior Pastor
Rick Carter, Pastor of Congregational Care
Al Ward, Min. of Visitation
Wayne Purdy, Dir. of Youth/College Ministries
Katie Eddie, Dir. of Children’s Ministries
Nancy Baxendale, Dir. of Music Ministries
Charity Coll, Admin, Asst.
Betty Tang, Admin. Asst.
Tina Crew, Business Manager
Clay Howard, Jubilee Music Director
Robin Cooper, Weds Dinner Hostess
Ruth Beeson, Preschool Director
Rebecca Torres, Nursery Supervisor
Keith Macey, Organist
Jenny Lai, Pianist & Youth Choir Director
Anthony Simmons, Custodian
Willie Croson, Custodian

The Main Stream is published monthly by Main Street United Methodist Church located at 306 South Main Street, Kernersville, NC 27284. All information herein is expressly for the use of our friends and members. Articles and comments may be directed to the editor at charity.goff@mainstreetumc.org.