

Holy Week at FSUMC



Periodical
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Burlington NC
27216-2597

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Maundy Thursday ❖ March 29

Service at 7 PM in the Sanctuary including Holy Communion and the stripping of the altar

Good Friday ❖ March 30

Service at 7 PM in the Sanctuary

Easter Sunday ❖ April 1

Services at 8:45, 9:00, and 11:00 AM

A nursery will be provided for all services.

YOU WILL UNDERSTAND LATER CONTINUED FROM FRONT COVER

Jesus washes the disciples to show the depths of God's mercy and love, to tell the story of redemption that in a few short hours would reach its climax. He stoops low and touches their feet as if to say, where your feet have been does not matter as much as where they will now take you. Nothing can separate you from the Father's love, a love that is also mine; a love that will take me all the way down to the depths of this world's suffering and into death itself — for all, even Peter who denies him, even Judas who betrays him, even me, even you dear sisters and brothers.

Through the table fellowship of Jesus we become the body of the crucified and resurrected Christ. At the table, we remember—we bring the past to bear on the present—and we anticipate what will be, a reality made possible by the towel-girded Christ who laid down his life and took it up again by the power of God. As we live again through the rhythms of Holy Week, let us dwell on Jesus's words: "Just as I have loved you, so you also must love one another. This is how everyone will know that you are my disciples..."

Pastor Patrick

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FRONTLINE

Focusing on the life and ministry
of Front Street UMC



March 29, 2018 Volume MMXVIII No. 7

YOU WILL UNDERSTAND LATER

Read John 13:1–20, 31b–35

The movie *Hotel Rwanda* tells the story of Paul Rusesabagina, whose courage saved the lives of over 1,200 Hutu and Tutsi refugees during the Rwandan genocide in 1994. As the story unfolds, terrorism, political corruption, death threats, and the horror of genocide play out as Paul's family struggles with his decision to shelter refugees while appearing to continue the normal operations of his hotel. The words of Jesus to his disciples in this reading from John echo throughout the story: "You don't understand what I'm doing now, but you will understand later."

The genocidal massacre of so many people caused a deep fracture in the heart of Rwandans for many years after the crisis was stilled. However, at the 2004 Forum on World Evangelization a dramatic foot-washing ceremony brought together members of formerly divided communities of Hutu and Tutsi, on the ground, washing one another in the love of Jesus. The same thing happened in 2006 when a former official of the South African government washed the feet of antiapartheid activists in an act of repentance and reconciliation. Pope Francis, too, just two years ago, became the first pope to ever stoop and wash the feet of women and inmates in a dramatic break with papal protocol. When people can tell a story together it can be beautiful even if it isn't happy. Genocide, apartheid, mass incarceration, betraying and denying Jesus in our own ways: none of these stories are happy in themselves. Yet, reconciliation wouldn't be possible without the Lord Jesus drawing fractured people to himself and to a table where God's love is communicated by us serving one another. This is our story.

(CONTINUED)

A LOOK AHEAD:

GROWING IN CHRIST

PROJECT AGAPE EVENT ON APRIL 8 CANCELED

We are very sorry to announce that the Project AGAPE event: *An Evening with Nara Melkonyan* has been canceled. Nara was unable to secure a visa to enter the United States. Below is a statement issued on March 22 by the AGAPE Board which met in Asheboro:

Many of us were looking forward to being with our Project Agape Director, Nara Melkonyan and her niece, Ani. Sadly they were both denied a visa to come visit with us, despite 20 years of ministry partnership and nine previous trips to the North Carolina and Western North Carolina Conferences. We are looking forward to finding other options to learn more about our ministry and mission in Armenia, the oldest Christian nation in the world.

A special thank you to all those who volunteered to provide food or help serve the meal. We appreciate your willingness to serve.



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Circles 1, 2, and 4 will meet in the Heritage Center for fellowship and beverages at 10:00 a.m. on **Monday, April 9**

(note the change in date). The general meeting will convene in the Chapel at 10:30 a.m. Our speaker will be Judy Springer, President of Church Women United, Burlington/Alamance Co. Circle

5 will meet on **Tuesday, April 10** at 7:00 p.m. in the Heritage Center. All women are invited to join us. For more information, please contact Doris Jefferson at 336-228-0130.

The NC Conference United Methodist Women SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT RETREAT will be held, Saturday, April 21, 2018 at Centenary UMC, Smithfield. Reverend Gypsy Murdaugh will speak as UMW continues to learn how God desires that we GO in 2018. All women are invited to attend. Contact Doris Jefferson at 336-228-0130 for additional information.

SHARING CHRIST

CEREAL SUNDAY

Cereal Sunday is **April 1**. Please deposit cereal or other dry/

canned goods in the tubs in the cabinet in the Welcome Center. This month's collection will go to the Salvation Army. Thank you for your support!



CHRISTIAN SERVICE SCHOLARSHIP SUNDAY

On **April 29** we will celebrate the sixteenth year of our Christian Service Scholarship program. During this period we have raised well over \$100,000, and we have supported thirteen students pursuing a degree in fulltime Christian service. Rev. Meredith Hoxie Schol, Ph.D., a former recipient of this scholarship, and daughter of David and Carol Hoxie, will be preaching at the 9 and 11 a.m. services. We hope you will prayerfully consider joining other members of the congregation in support of this program. One way is to become a member of the "Halo Club" by pledging \$10 per month (\$120 per year). However, any amount will be appreciated.



FLOWER CROSS

On **Easter Sunday (April 1)**, you are invited to bring fresh flowers to place on the cross. This reminds us that through the cross and Christ's resurrection, we can have new life. The flower cross will be located in the Welcome Center.

FRONTLINE DEADLINES

The following are the deadlines to submit articles for inclusion in *Frontline*:

- April 5 ♦ April 19 ♦ May 3 ♦ May 17**
- June 7 ♦ July 5 ♦ August 2 ♦ August 30**
- September 13 ♦ September 27**
- October 11 ♦ October 25**
- November 8 ♦ November 21 ♦ December 6**

In the months of June, July, August, and December we will publish ONE edition of *Frontline* monthly. Our online newsletter, the *Weekly Word*, will continue on its regular schedule.

Please email information to pamela@frontstreetumc.org or drop the articles by the church office. Thank you for your cooperation.

Prayers

- **Leonard and Ann Butler**
- **Nancy Freeman and family** upon the death of her husband, Tom, on 3/14
- **Web Jones** who had surgery on his foot on 3/23
- **John Lewis and family** upon the death of his wife, Nancy, on 3/13
- **Eva Ray** who is now under Hospice care and has been moved to Hospice Home Room 9



HAPPY BELATED BIRTHDAY to Polly Vaughn who turned 100 on March 25.

UMCOR COLLECTION

The total amount received to support the work of the United Methodist Committee on Relief was \$1,155.00. Thank you for your generosity.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The following dates are available to



place flowers in the Sanctuary in honor or memory of a loved one: **May 6, 13, 20, and 27.** For more information, please

contact Linda Paul at 336-543-5081 (cell) or kpaul5@triad.rr.com (email).

OFFICE CLOSED

The church office will be closed **Easter Monday, April 2**. We will reopen on Tuesday, April 3 at 9 a.m. Happy Easter from all of the staff at Front Street UMC!



STAFF

- Senior Pastor**
Ross Carter
- Pastor of Discipleship**
Patrick Murphy
- Director of Children's Ministry**
Marcy Z. McAdams
- Coordinator of Congregational Care**
Carol W. Sineath
- Associate Pastor of Student Ministries**
Dave Bollen
- Organist/Director of Music**
Matt Brittain
- Director of Aldersgate Music**
Clay Stevenson
- Choirmaster**
Laura J. Sam
- Finance Manager**
Tammy T. Page
- Administrative Assistant**
Pamela P. Shields
- Communications Coordinator**
Joanna E. C. Strelow
- Building Superintendent**
Jackie N. Long
- Maintenance**
Joe L. Peloquin
- Playschool Director**
Barbara K. Long
- Afterschool Director**
Catherine H. Mills
- Babies Morning Out Director**
Rebecca H. Hurdle

ON CALL EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER: 336-380-4136