

The Lamplighter

"Let Your Light Shine Before Others" Mathew 5:16

July 2022 Volume 26 Issue 7

A publication of New Salem United Methodist Church • Randleman, North Carolina

New Salem Family,

I am excited to say hello to you all for the first time. I write *the first time* when in all likelihood, I have seen some of you already at Walmart, at a connectional church service, or events. As this is my first official greeting to the New Salem Church congregation, I want to convey my honor and joy at being called to this Body of Christ. As some may know, I'm not new to the area as I have been appointed and still serve the congregation at Old Union United Methodist Church in Sophie. I am blessed to be assigned to this church while attending seminary at Duke Divinity for the past four years. Before *Saying Yes to God's Call*, I was on a different path, working as a Park Ranger and Parks Superintendent in California and Florida for about three decades.

God's Providence is an influential part of my testimony and calling. *I believe God has called me to this place, people, and time.* I thank the New Salem and Old Union congregations as you have faithfully assessed what place your church is at and prayerfully anticipate what God is doing next in this part of Randolph County. Some of you can remember a time of being on a charge, and for others, this may be your first experience. I am in the latter group and will be looking to those who have walked this path for advice and guidance as we move forward. I know that we are all on the same page as we reflect on what it means to be the church and to identify as a follower of Jesus as we strive to make disciples of Christ for the transformation of the world today.

I am mindful that this reflection for July is at the time of year when we collectively celebrate our freedom as Americans. This freedom allows us to pray, worship, and gather without fear of reprisal. So, as we start this new journey, I hope and pray that we approach this transition without fear. Further, I ask for your patience as I transition into full-time ministry and the life of the two churches I will be serving. Finally, I eagerly anticipate getting to know you and participating in your community's faith journeys. In the words of Paul to the Galatians, "*May the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers, and sisters. Amen.*"

Pastor Steve

Important Announcements

BEGINNING JULY 10TH, our new worship time will begin at 9:30 AM and Sunday School will begin at 10:45 AM.

Pastor Steve Bergkamp's first Sunday will be on July 10th. His first day in the office will be July 5th.

If you need Pastoral Care between June 27 – July 5, please call Pastor Steve at (561) 512-0199.

Have a prayer request for the Neil Goslen Phone-tree? Contact Aubree Smith at the office, (336) 498-3936 or on the [New Salem Cell Phone \(743\) 241-1355](tel:7432411355). Please leave a message if she is unable to answer.



7th Van & Carol Slagle
25th Mike & Sandy Whitehead



2nd Robert Williams
13th Jeanette King
13th Jennifer Strickland
15th Jaxton Strickland
15th Katie Lord
23rd Gary Taylor
25th Audrey Wood
26th Khristian Martinez
26th Daphne Routh
29th Shirley Williams



Liberty through surrender

To non-believers, talk of finding freedom through complete dependence on Jesus must sound foolish. How can surrendering your desires, time, heart — indeed, your entire life — lead to anything but bondage?

The answer is evident in Jesus' own life and ministry, writes Michael Card in *Immanuel: Reflections on the Life of Christ*. In a twist on Julius Caesar's motto "Veni, vidi, vici" ("I came, I saw, I conquered"), "Jesus lived by the motto, 'I came, I saw, I surrendered,'" Card notes. "By living out this unorthodox pronouncement, Jesus demonstrated that what the world regards as power is really impotence. True victory is only through surrender."

During the 16th century, St. Ignatius of Loyola wrote this prayer of surrender that's still relevant today: "Take, O Lord, and receive my entire liberty, my memory, my understanding and my whole will. All that I am and all that I possess, Thou hast given me: I surrender it all to Thee to be disposed of according to Thy will. Give me only Thy love and Thy grace; with these I will be rich enough and will desire nothing more. Amen."

Dear Friends in Mission,

Thank you!

The dear people you just helped with your gift to UMCOR may never have the opportunity to meet you, but if they did, I am certain their responses would be - Thank you!

UMCOR International Disaster Response and Recovery Gift Amount: \$1,480.00

Grace and Peace,
Roland Fernandes, General Secretary



***New Salem UMC
Retired Men's Breakfasts***

**We meet, 7:30am
On the Last Friday, each
month
Olympia Restaurant
Randleman, NC**



Concerns: People involved in the Ukraine/Russian war. Tommy Garner, Elaine Wilkinson, Jim South, Audrey Wood, Sue Hayes, Evelyn Ellis, Ted Goslen (Ben's brother), Patsy Russell (Angie Garner's Aunt), Stephanie Smith (Aubree Smith's Mother-in-law), Tammy Overman, Donna Holder, Heath Loveland, Bob Shackelford, Pastor Johnny & Angie Lord, Pastor Steve & Jill Bergkamp, Brent Hanner, Lucy Robbins, Tim Routh, Terri Henderson, The Family of Joyce Campbell.

Praises: The birth of Cora Jane Underwood, new granddaughter of Anne & David Cruthis.

WORSHIP *with us*

SUNDAY SCHOOL

We meet each Sunday at 9:00 AM, in the Fellowship Hall, and at 11:15 AM in the Susanna Wesley Classroom for Sunday Bible Study Groups.

GIVING & CONTACT INFORMATION

New Salem UMC

P. O. Box 303

Randleman, NC 27317

Phone: 336-498-3936

(Physical Address—623 New Salem Road)

E-mail: newsalemumc@northstate.net

On the web: umcnewsalem.org

Pastor Steve Bergkamp

Cell phone: 561-512-0199

Email: sbergkamp@wnccumc.net

10:00 A.M.

Our Worship Services are live each Sunday Morning in our sanctuary and on our YouTube Channel. You are also invited to view the recorded service at a later time at the link found below.

NEW SALEM YouTube CHANNEL

LINK:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCHWYqOsR5oLamk6gMUWW5yQ>

Deadline for information for the July 2022 edition of "The Lamplighter" is Thursday, July 21st.

