



# The Lamplighter

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

August 2022 Volume 26 Issue 8

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

## First Impressions:

We have been created by God to size each other up quickly. Research conducted over two decades by Harvard Business School, which focused on first Impressions, found that our initial assessments generally revolve around the question: Can I trust and respect this person or organization? Surprisingly, this assessment can take place in a matter of seconds, but generally, it is an ongoing process as each conversation or interaction adds layers to our overall perception. I am happy that my first impression of New Salem is of trust and respect within this congregation. I hope and pray your assessment of me is positive as well. I trust our collective experiences and value of church history and tradition will draw us closer in the coming weeks.

The journey we have embarked on corresponds with one of the main themes of Pentecost in the liturgical year. During this time in the life of the Church, which is from roughly the 4th of July to Halloween, we will be following Jesus' Journey to Jerusalem. The Gospel of Luke will help us along the way with a few side trips into the letters of Paul. Luke's writing pulls us into the narrative in incredible ways, allowing us to walk along with Jesus and the disciples on the path leading to Jerusalem; Passion and Resurrection. I pray we proceed with a spirit of adventure as God reveals to us.

A congregation's Mission Statement is one of the most important and meaningful ways to articulate how they can participate with the Holy Spirit in "*Making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World.*" My heart was strangely warmed when the administrative body adopted the following as our 2022 Mission Statement:

***"As our ever-growing faith calls upon us to heed our neighbors in need,  
it is our mission to REACH UP, REACH OUT, and REACH IN  
within our community to help fill those needs."***

*Romans 12:13 - Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.*

This powerful statement can potentially tangibly transform the world as first impressions go.

Grace & Peace,  
Rev. Steve Bergkamp



**BREAKFAST AT 7:30 A.M ON THE LAST  
FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT OLYMPIA  
RESTAURANT IN RANDLEMAN, NC**

## *RETIRED MEN OF NEW SALEM UMC*



1st Robert & Shirley Williams  
5th Ben & Julie Goslen  
25th Jim & Sheri Small  
28th Mike & Debbie Beeson



3rd Angie Garner  
4th Elaine Wilkinson  
8th Lyssa Nelson  
8th Aubree Smith  
16th Terri Henderson  
25th Dan Nelson  
26th Cindy Scotton  
28th Gwen Hayes  
28th Sheri Small

## Ever outward

Poet Rainer Maria Rilke said, "I live my life in widening circles that reach out across the world." Indeed, we all do. As newborns, we focus only on ourselves. But as we grow, little by little we learn that the people and things around us are separate from us. Soon we can attend to others' actions, needs and feelings. Like ripples from a stone dropped in water, our circles of care widen from family (biological or otherwise) to friends (playmates, classmates, colleagues), church family, community, country and finally even people across the globe.

The ministries of Jesus and his disciples also were widening circles: first "to the lost sheep of Israel" (Matthew 10:6; 15:24, NIV) but soon to "all nations" (Matthew 28:19). Early church leaders took the gospel message ever outward, as Jesus had directed them: first to Jerusalem, then Judea and Samaria, and finally even "to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8, NIV).

As our faith matures, our impact spreads outward too. Some people move geographically farther from home, while others use prayer, communication and technology to widen their reach of spiritual, emotional and financial support. How exciting that God's love encircles us all and that we can share it far and wide!

—Heidi Hyland Mann

---

## Ways to walk

If you think walking is boring or repetitive, read *52 Ways to Walk*. Author Annabel Streets shares dozens of variations on this healthy pastime. From walking in the cold or at altitude to walking along a river or barefoot (or even backward!), each technique offers different benefits and new perspectives. Other ideas include a sensory walk, a silent walk, a foraging walk and singing while strolling. As Christians know, walking can be a great time to connect with God in prayer too.

Scripture speaks often about our spiritual walk: We are to walk "faithfully" with God (Genesis 5:24, NIV), walk "in all his ways" (Joshua 22:5, NRSV), walk "humbly" with God (Micah 6:8), walk "while you have the light" (John 12:35), walk while praising God (Acts 3:8), walk "by faith, not by sight" (2 Corinthians 5:7), walk "by the Spirit" (Galatians 5:16) and walk "in the same way" as Jesus walked (1 John 2:6, NRSV).

As we walk — even through dark valleys — we're never alone. God promises, "I will walk among you and be your God" (Leviticus 26:12, NIV).

—Stephanie Martin Roland Fernandes, General Secretary

---

## **Important Announcements**

**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.

Safe Sanctuaries Training will be held at First UMC in Randleman on August 28th at 2:00 P.M.

Charge Conference will be held at First UMC in Randleman on November 6th at 2:00 P.M.





**Concerns:** People involved in the Ukraine/Russian war. Tommy Garner, Jim South, Ted Goslen (Ben’s brother), Patsy Russell (Angie Garner’s Aunt), Stephanie Smith (Aubree Smith’s Mother-in-law), Tammy Overman, Marty Russel, Ricky Barker, Betty Barker, Betty Owen, Becky Reese, Bonita Campbell

# WORSHIP *with us*

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

We meet each Sunday at 9:30 AM, in the Fellowship Hall, and at 10:45 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](mailto:newsalemumc@northstate.net)  
On the web: [umcnewsalem.org](http://umcnewsalem.org)  
Pastor Steve Bergkamp  
Cell phone: 561-512-0199  
Email: [sbergkamp@wnccumc.net](mailto:sbergkamp@wnccumc.net)

## 9:30 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 August 2022 edition of "The Lamplighter" is Thursday, August, 25th.**

