

Calendar for the Week

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|--|-----|----|---------|--|
| Sunday | Oct | 13 | 9:00am | Chapel Prayer |
| Our nursery is staffed from 9:00am – 12:30pm | | | | |
| | | | 9:30am | Courtyard Fellowship |
| | | | 9:45am | Sunday School |
| | | | 11:00am | Worship – Children’s Sabbath |
| | | | 1:00pm | Handbells Rehearsal |
| | | | 3:30pm | Safe Sanctuary Training |
| | | | 5:00pm | Youth Fellowship |
| Monday | Oct | 14 | 5:30pm | Knit Wits |
| | | | 6:30pm | UMW |
| Tuesday | Oct | 15 | 5:00pm | Girl Scouts Troop Meeting |
| | | | 7:00pm | Young Adult Bible Study at the Parsonage |
| Wednesday | Oct | 16 | 6:00pm | Wednesday Night LIVE! Worship |
| Our nursery is staffed from 6:00pm – 8:00pm | | | | |
| | | | 6:00pm | Youth Bible Study |
| | | | 6:00pm | Children’s Choir |
| | | | 6:30pm | Children’s Bible Study |
| | | | 7:00pm | Chancel Choir Rehearsal |
| | | | 7:15pm | Safe Sanctuary Training |
| Sunday | Oct | 20 | 9:00am | Chapel Prayer |
| | | | 9:30am | Courtyard Fellowship |
| | | | 9:45am | Sunday School |
| | | | 11:00am | Worship |
| | | | 1:00pm | Handbells Rehearsal |
| | | | 5:00pm | Youth Fellowship |
| | | | 6:00pm | Trustees Meeting (Change in date) |
| | | | 7:15pm | Finance Meeting (Change in date) |

Upcoming Birthdays

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|---------|------------------|----|----------------|----------|--------------------|
| October | | | | | |
| 14 | Wilma Byrd | 27 | Patrick Parker | 29 | Steve Parker |
| 14 | Virginia Smith | 27 | Casey Parker | 30 | Damian Williams |
| 15 | Lou Allred | 27 | Payton Parker | | |
| 17 | Robert Jernigan | 27 | Caitlin Parker | November | |
| 19 | Jacinda Williams | 28 | Anne Marsh | 1 | Cameron Johnson |
| 20 | Peggy Warren | 28 | Roy Queipo | 2 | Nina Hollingsworth |

Is your birthday missing? Contact the church office to add.

October is Pastor Appreciation Month!

While Divine Street has one lead pastor, others certainly serve in ministry roles around the church. Be sure to thank someone today for their leadership and faithfulness!

First Offering of Safe Sanctuary Training is Today

Sunday, October 13 **3:30 – 4:30pm**

Wednesday, October 16 **7:15 – 8:15pm**

Calling all volunteers, parents and church members! Join our information session in the Visioning Center to learn best practices and guidelines of the United Methodist Church for providing a safe learning experience for our children, youth and vulnerable adults. Training is required within six (6) months of becoming a volunteer.

Two dates offered for training. You only need to attend one. Contact Julie Malcolm, Director of Children and Youth, at 704-881-311 for more details.

October is “Order Your Pecans” Month

Divine Street UMW are taking orders for pecans that will arrive just in time for your holiday baking and gift needs. Orders are Pre-Sale Only. The cost is \$13.00 per pound bag and are available in chopped and halves. The deadline to order is October 31. Call the church office at 910-892-2339 to place your order. Please leave a good contact number when placing an order on the church office voicemail.



Little Free Libraries

Remember that the Girl Scouts have an ongoing project in our neighborhood. Donated books are placed in covered shelters at three different spots around town and are free to anyone. One library is located in your parsonage prayer garden, and your book donations may be left in our church history room. Look for the green donation box.

Better Life Group (BLG) Visits NC State Farmer’s Market in October

Join the Divine Street BLG as they head out on their annual trip to the NC State Farmer’s Market on Thursday, October 24. Plans are to leave the church parking lot at 10:30am. A country home cooked lunch will be enjoyed at the Farmer’s Market Restaurant before walking next door to the market for shopping.

The BLG is open to all seniors (this age begins at 55 at some very popular establishments) and friends of all ages. We have interesting adventures and fun activities all through the year, and we would love for you to come along! If you would like to be on a calling list, just call the church office so we may add you.

CHILDREN'S SABBATH

“Uniting Hearts and Voices to End Child Poverty”

On October 13, many United Methodist congregations will honor the 28th Annual National Observance of Children's Sabbaths® Celebration.

Not to be confused with Children's Sunday or Youth Sunday (when young people lead the worship service), Children's Sabbath focuses on children, justice, and the moral, spiritual, and ethical imperative to nurture, protect, and seek justice for children. Our worship service today will provide time to reflect on God's gift of children, and ways congregations and individuals can renew their commitment to care for, protect and advocate for all children.

“United Methodists have historically been strong supporters of the Children's Sabbath. Children's Sabbath allows us the opportunity to take a fresh look each year at the needs of children in the neighborhoods where we worship, work, and live; and then discover ways to address or meet those needs as people of God.”

*Melanie C. Gordon, Director of Ministry
with Children at Discipleship Ministries*

“The focus for Children's Sabbath is to look deeply at the needs of children, those local and worldwide, and pray for them. The goal is to recognize the needs of children and pray; and during the prayer time, to discern where God might be calling us as the church and as individuals to act. People want to think of childhood as a carefree time of joy and happiness, but the reality for kids today is very different. They have needs. They suffer. They worry. They need their emotions to be noticed and prayed for. That is what the Children's Sabbath is all about. Works of mercy are part of our history as Methodists and continue to be a central part of how we address justice issues in our world. This aligns with the purpose of the Children Sabbath – advocating for the quality care of all children.”

*Rev. Leanne Hadley, founder of
A Time for Children*

Additional information about Children's Sabbath may be found at:

<https://www.childrensdefense.org/programs/faith-based/childrens-sabbath-celebration/>

*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

One: Lord Jesus, if we have died with you, we will live with you; if we endure, we will reign with you; we pray to you for all the needs and concerns on our minds and hearts, knowing that you always remain faithful.

All: Lord, we pray for the church, that we might do our best to present ourselves to you as one approved by you.

One: We pray for church leaders and all the people of God. Jesus, Master...

All: Have mercy on us.

One: O God, in your might you rule forever, and your eyes keep watch over the nations. We pray for our nation, our community, and all in authority. Jesus, Master...

All: Have mercy on us.

One: Gracious God, all the earth bows down before you, and sings out your name. We pray for the nations of the earth, that your peace may protect us all. Jesus, Master...

All: Have mercy on us.

One: Lord Jesus, as you healed the ten lepers between Galilee and Samaria, we pray that you would heal those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. Jesus, Master...

All: Have mercy on us.

One: You hold our souls in life, O God, and you will not allow our feet to slip. We pray for those we love and ask that you give them your grace. Jesus, Master...

All: Have mercy on us.

One: O God, we remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David; and we remember before you those who have died that they may rest with Christ in eternal glory. Jesus, Master...

All: Have mercy on us.

One: Lord Jesus, in your faithfulness to us, you shower us with grace, mercy, love, and all we need.

All: We pray that you would shape our hearts that they would be filled with gratitude, that we might always return to you and give you thanks.

One: And especially on this Children's Sabbath, we pray that you would bless each child in your perfect way, and move our hearts to seek justice for all children.

All: Help us to be mindful of their needs, watchful for their health and safety, and helpful to their faithfulness. Amen.