

The Centenarian

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Centenary UMC,

There have been two groups in the church which have taken six weeks to study, Christianity and World Religions by Adam Hamilton. We explored Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Muslim, and Christianity. It was a fascinating study. Adam Hamilton encouraged us to learn the differences and similarities of the differing religions, but to focus on the similarities. The last religion which we studied was our own, Christianity. Adam Hamilton took the Bible Verse, John 3: 16, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.", and broke it down to explain the key components of the Faith. The Great Reformer, Martin Luther, once called this verse, "the gospel in miniature" (Christianity and World Religions, Hamilton, pg. 128).

Hamilton suggests that this tells us that we are loved, our purpose in life, that we can be forgiven, and that we always have hope.

God created us to love God and others as God loves them. We simply must receive the gift of God's love and share God's love with others. In the class, we discussed how simple this is, and yet we make it very difficult. Our human condition places conditions, where God is unconditional love, grace, faith, mercy, and hope.

I see the church living out God's love and mercy in many ways. I feel that the best compliment we recently received as a church was from one of our guests at the Community Breakfast who stated, "I truly feel that I am received here without judgement but only love."

As we go into the month of November focusing on Gratitude, let us give thanks for our attitude of being loved as children of God and offering that to all.

God is very good all the time – a priceless gift.

May we never forget.

Please know that my door is always open.

Grace and Peace of Christ –

Kelley



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Thank you from Reverend Kelley Groce

Dear Members of Centenary UMC,

I would like to take this opportunity to say how humbled and overwhelmed I was by the gift of the congregation for Pastor Appreciation Month. Your words of kindness are etched on my heart, and the gifts were so very generous. I will certainly enjoy the Barnes and Noble gift card as well as the trip to Beverly Hills, and the monetary gift was very gracious.

I thank you for your encouragement and support. Christ is leading us in many ways and means of ministry.

I am ever grateful to be appointed as the minister at Centenary UMC, and to be in the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ with each of you.

Thank you all so very much. There are truly no words to express my feelings of love and gratitude.

Sincerely,

Kelley

Pumpkin Patch Thank You!

Thank you to Alex Hurin and the Boy Scouts for their Pumpkin Patch persistence. It was a wonderful witness to our community, as well as helping the Boy Scouts fund their camping endeavors. Financially, this was the best pumpkin patch ever!



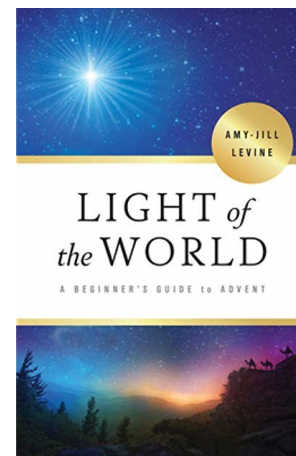
Many thanks to the Grimsley Army JROTC, the Boy Scouts, and The Covenant School students & families for unloading the pumpkins.

The Story

Congregation of Centenary UMC, please remember that through the month of November we are continuing our reading of Max Lucado and Randy Frazee, The Story. We will read through Chapter 11: From Shepherd to King. We will then take the Advent/Christmas season off and begin reading Chapter 12: Trials of a King on January 12, 2020.

Advent Study in December

Beginning December 1, the 9:00 AM worship service will be using the book Light of the World by Amy Jill Levine as their Advent study. Everyone is welcome to come explore the biblical texts surrounding Jesus' birth—and illuminate your own experience of Advent! Levine traces the events of the Christmas narrative, highlighting the accounts of Zechariah and Elizabeth; Mary and Magnificat; the holy family's journey to Bethlehem; and the flight to Egypt. **You may purchase your book in the church office during regular business hours, or on Sunday morning in the Narthex. The book is \$12. Make checks payable to CUMC and write "Light of the World" on the memo line.**



Brunswick Stew

The Boy Scouts have Brunswick Stew for sale. Contact Alex Hurin at 336-457-0130, or stop by the church office during regular business hours. \$8 a quart or \$4 a pint.

United Methodist Women

The UMW have two Fellowships that all Centenary women are invited to join! Contact Debra Schlueter for more information 336-707-4213

The UMW Christmas Luncheon will be held on Monday, December 2 at 11:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall.

United Methodist Men

The UMM will host a breakfast and Teen Challenge Program on Saturday, December 7 at 8:00 AM.

November Meetings & Events

Community Breakfast/Clothes Closet—Nov 9 at 8:00 AM

Blood Drive—November 9 at 8:00 AM

Community Concert Series—November 10 at 4:00 PM

UMW Stanley Fellowship—November 11 at 6:30 PM

Friendship Club—November 12 at 12:00 PM

UMAR/Churchwide Dinner—November 13 at 6:00 PM

Book Club—November 14 at 6:30 PM (Lucky 32)

Ad Council Meeting—November 17 at Noon

Daiber-Pruitt-Albright Fellowship—Nov. 18 at 10:00 AM

LIFT Luncheon—November 21 at 11:15 AM

Covered Dish & Pie Luncheon—November 24 at Noon

Friendship Club

Friendship Club will meet Tuesday, November 12 at Noon. Call the church office to make your reservation 336-299-9643. Lunch is \$8 and payable at the door. Checks made payable to Friendship Club.

We received a lovely thank you note from Sylvia Eaglin, the storyteller from our October meeting.

November — We welcome James Shields, current Guilford College Director of Community Learning. He is a talented singer and actor who is the lead guide for campus Underground Railroad tours at Guilford College and also performs as Frederick Douglass on stage. He will be teaching us about the Guilford College Underground Railroad.

December—We will enjoy the music of the season.

January—Vivian Kent, a registered nurse with the Geriatric Adult Mental Health Team (GAST) of Senior Resources of Guilford will be speaking about aging forgetfulness vs Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia.

Covered Dish & Pie Luncheon

The congregation is invited to attend our Covered Dish and Pie Luncheon on Sunday, November 24 immediately following the 11:00 AM service of worship. Please bring a savory or sweet pie, or a covered dish to share with everyone.



Centenary Starlight Book Club

The Starlight Book Club will meet Thursday, November 14 (note date change from usual 3rd Thursday) at 6:30 PM at Lucky 32 to discuss Lost Roses: A Novel by Martha Hall Kelly.

The runaway bestseller *Lilac Girls* introduced the real-life heroine Caroline Ferriday. This sweeping new novel, set a generation earlier and also inspired by true events, features Caroline's mother, Eliza, and follows three equally indomitable women from St. Petersburg to Paris under the shadow of World War I.

It is 1914 and the world has been on the brink of war so many times, many New Yorkers treat the subject with only passing interest. Eliza Ferriday is thrilled to be traveling to St. Petersburg with Sofya Streshnayva, a cousin of the Romanovs. The two met years ago one summer in Paris and became close confidantes. Now Eliza embarks on the trip of a lifetime, home with Sofya to see the splendors of Russia. But when Austria declares war on Serbia and Russia's Imperial dynasty begins to fall, Eliza escapes back to America, while Sofya and her family flee to their country estate. In need of domestic help, they hire the local fortuneteller's daughter, Varinka, unknowingly bringing intense danger into their household. On the other side of the Atlantic, Eliza is doing her part to help the White Russian families find safety as they escape the revolution. But when Sofya's letters suddenly stop coming she fears the worst for her best friend.

From the turbulent streets of St. Petersburg to the avenues of Paris and the society of fallen Russian emigre's who live there, the lives of Eliza, Sofya, and Varinka will intersect in profound ways, taking readers on a breathtaking ride through a momentous time in history.

The next book which we will discuss will be on January 16, 2020 – The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek by Kim Michele Richardson.

The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek is a powerful message about how the written word affects people--a story of hope and heartbreak, raw courage and strength splintered with poverty and oppression, and one woman's chances beyond the darkly hollows. Inspired by the true and historical blue-skinned people of Kentucky and the brave and dedicated Kentucky Pack Horse library service, The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek showcases a bold and unique tale of the Pack horse Librarians in literary novels.

Mission & Outreach Opportunities

- ♦ **Community Breakfast** Volunteers are needed to cook, set-up, clean-up, and fellowship with our guests on Saturday, November 9 from 8:00-10:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Contact Robin Garner at (336) 964-2474 or robinsongbird057@yahoo.com



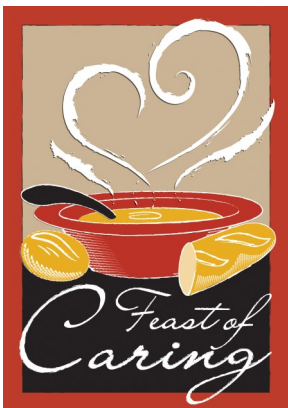
- ♦ **Clothing Closet** from 8:00-10:00 AM on Saturday, November 9. Help is needed the day of distribution of clothing and a few days prior to help organize. Contact Adele Singletary for more information at 336-272-3919
- ♦ **Greensboro Urban Ministry** Please continue to support Greensboro Urban Ministry with your donations of non-perishable food items. Collection bins are located throughout the church. Our total in October was 70 lbs!
- ♦ **Support the Pastor's Discretionary Fund** Your generous donations have helped numerous members of our city and church community pay utility bills, rent support, temporary housing, food insecurity, bus passes, and much more. If you would like to make a contribution, please make your check payable to CUMC and put "Pastor's Discretionary Fund" in the memo line.

CROP Hunger Walk

Sunday, October 6, Centenary UMC members and friends joined with hundreds of others for the annual CROP Hunger Walk. The Centenary Team raised \$874! Thank you to everyone who supported their efforts. Twenty-five percent of the funds raised goes to Potter's House Community Kitchen at Greensboro Urban Ministry, with the other 75% going to Church World Service to meet human needs and foster self-reliance in countries world-wide. It's not too late to donate! Our team would love to hit the \$1,000 mark by the end of the year! Go to www.crophungerwalk.org/GreensboroNC/CentenaryUMC or by writing a check. **Make checks payable to "Greensboro CROP Walk"** and drop it in the Secure Correspondence box by the church office, or mail it to Centenary UMC, 2300 W. Friendly Ave., Greensboro, NC 27403.



(Pictured Left to Right) Caryn Hull, Nina Stowe, Kelley Groce, Juli Hurin, Lori Johnson, Lisa Bunch, and Emily Lawing



The 28th Annual Feast of Caring is Thursday, November 21, 2019

Lunch 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Dinner 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

First Baptist Church
1000 W. Friendly Ave, Greensboro

"A simple meal of soup and bread the week before the feast of Thanksgiving reminds us that there is no holiday from poverty," says Executive Director Myron Wilkins. "Many of our neighbors will be going without, falling into crisis, and enduring alone during a time when we celebrate the joys of home, friends and family."

When you make a minimum **\$25** donation to Greensboro Urban Ministry, you help to provide food, shelter and rehousing assistance to men, women and families. Your donation allows you to choose to receive a pottery bowl, crafted by an N.C. potter, OR five Honor Cards, created by N.C. artist Bill Mangum.

RSVP online at <https://greensborourbanministry.org/events/feast-of-caring/>

Medical Mission Trip

Once again we are planning to do a medical mission trip to the Dominican Republic on January 17, 2020. As always we try to help supply medicine, medical equipment, rice & beans for the hungry, plus other projects that benefit the beautiful Dominican people.

All of us pay our own way and what we need donations for go directly to help those in the Dominican Republic.



Although medical help, service, and feeding the hungry are so important in our mission, the main purpose is to bring God's love to these beautiful people. (We always receive more love than we can possibly give.)

This year the Greensboro/Centenary UMC team include Abbie Samuel, David Sillmon, Pastor Kelley (our spiritual guide), Sandy Sillmon Cook, Terri Green (pharmacist from Wesley Long hospital), Dr. Stan Tennant (retired cardiologist from Morehead UMC), Michelle Lenze PA, and many others.

Your support, including donations and especially your prayers are needed.

- David Sillmon

P.S. We are planning a **Pinto Bean Luncheon** to help spur donations! It will be held on **Sunday, December 15**, following the 11:00 AM Christmas Cantata

Ring the Bell for the Salvation Army

Centenary UMC has been asked to provide bell ringers at Harris Teeter at the Shops at Friendly on the following dates and times for a one or two hour time slot:

Thursday, December 5 from 10:00 AM—4:00 PM

Friday, December 6 from 10:00 AM—4:00 PM

Saturday, December 7 from 3:00—8:00 PM

Please sign-up as soon as possible for a one or two hour time slot! We need to let the Salvation Army know by Nov. 20th

The sign-up sheet is in the Narthex, or you may call the church office 336-299-9643 during regular business hours: Monday-Thursday 8:30 AM—4:30 PM.



Thank You from Triad Ladder of Hope

Reverend Groce, Thank you for the gracious opportunity for us to speak on behalf of Triad Ladder of Hope. We are grateful to be included in your Mission Awareness Retreat. I'll be happy to pick up prayer beads as your group completes them. Also, thank you for the gift cards which have been used to bless our clients! May our Lord bless and strengthen your ministry.

Believing Him,
Susan Smith

November Birthdays

- | | |
|------|--|
| 1st | Ella Sillmon, Dean Saunders, and Amy Coffee |
| 2nd | Vanessa Skenes |
| 4th | Jack Cole and Margaret Turnage |
| 7th | Chloe Horn |
| 8th | Nancy Gordon |
| 9th | Bob White |
| 10th | Gretchen Crabtree |
| 11th | Mary Claire Chesson |
| 12th | Betty Lowdermilk |
| 13th | David Lucas and Caroline Howerton |
| 14th | Jessica Peake, Alexis Marvin, and Sharon Shumate |
| 15th | Jim Adams, James Esterline, and Gary Bowman |
| 16th | Steve Puckett |
| 17th | Caroline Townsend |
| 20th | Issac Smith and Kristy Stout |
| 21st | Imgard Daiber |
| 22nd | Mike Crabtree |
| 25th | Albert Esterline and Alexandria Strickland |
| 26th | Teresa John |
| 27th | David Hull and Kay Scott |



On Sunday, November 10, Centenary UMC will serve communion during both worship services and also recognize our Centenary UMC Veteran's. We are so grateful for their service to our country.

Communion and Devotion

Rev. Kelley will be at Friends Homes Guilford and West on Wednesday afternoon **November 13 for Communion and Devotion**. Please note that this is the second Wednesday of the month, a change from her usual schedule.

UMAR & Church Wide Supper

Wednesday, November 13 at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall everyone is welcome to come share a meal with our UMAR guests. Please note the change in date from our regular third Wednesday meals.

Ad Council Meeting

The Administrative Council of Centenary UMC will meet on Sunday, November 17 in the Conference Room, immediately following the 11:00 AM worship service. The 2020 budget will need to be approved at this meeting.

Leadership Conference

Monday, November 18-22, Rev. Kelley Groce will be attending the SEJ Clergywomen's Leadership Conference in Jacksonville, Florida. This Conference is held every four years and is sponsored through the UMC General Board of Higher Education and Ministry. Clergywomen gather from the Conferences in the Southeastern Jurisdiction for inspiring worship, fellowship, and learning through plenary speakers, workshops, and networking.



Betty Durham and the Worship Committee would love your help to decorate the church for the Advent Season. If you are available on Tuesday, November 26 from 9:00 AM-12:00 PM or 6:00-8:00 PM, please give Betty a call. Wednesday, November 27 from 9:00 AM-12:00 PM is our "if needed" time slot. Betty Durham's phone number is 336-542-8077.

Community Concert Series

Sunday, November 10 at 4:00 PM—*Music for a Great Cause: Harmony Music School Benefit Concert* featuring the teachers and students of Harmony Music School.

The Christmas Store at Summerfield Peace UMC

For the past several years, our congregation has partnered with Summerfield Peace UMC and other area churches to create the Christmas Store. This one day event, Saturday, December 14, is an opportunity for families in need, who have been pre-screened and selected, to shop for their family's Christmas presents. Centenary has been assigned some specific items to be donated to the Christmas Store, but we don't have the sizes yet. When we have the information, we will put tags on a Christmas Store Giving Tree in the Narthex. Take a tag with the information, purchase the item, and then bring the item to Centenary for collection.

There are also multiple ways to volunteer for the Christmas Store, from Set-Up and Clean-Up, to Gift Wrapping and Childcare. Contact Summerfield Peace UMC at 336-643-5126 or register online at <https://www.summerfieldchristmasstore.com/>

Summerfield Peace UMC is located at 2334 Scalesville Rd, Summerfield, NC near the intersection of Hwy. 220 and Scalesville Rd.

Thank You from Senior Guilford County

Thank you for sharing Centenary with Senior Guilford County. The many programs you have show God's work in His place.

- Senior Guilford County (Sarah Daffron)

(Centenary UMC will once again be hosting the Ms. Senior Guilford County Pageant in 2020)

Thank You

Dear Pastor Kelley and Centenary UM Church,

Thanks so much for your help in making a contribution towards paying down my Duke Energy bill for our family. Your kindness is greatly appreciated.

- Renee

NOVEMBER 2019

Sunday Morning Worship

9:00 AM Modern Worship Service
10:00 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM Traditional Worship Service

AA—Alcoholics Anonymous
DA—Debtors Anonymous
Al-Anon—Support for family & friends of AA
Compassionate Friends—Supporting families after a child dies
LIFT Luncheon—fellowship for individuals who have lost a spouse
TCS—The Covenant School
ACES—Guilford County Schools

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Al-Anon 8 PM	2
3 Concert Series @ 4 PM	4 UMW Board Mtg 10 AM Compassionate Friends 7 PM	5 Bells Practice 7:30 AA 8 PM	6	7 DA 7:30 PM	8 Al-Anon 8 PM	9 8-10 AM Community Breakfast & Clothes Closet Blood Drive 8:00-12:00
10 Concert Series @ 4 PM	11 UMW Fellowship 6:30 PM	12 Friendship Club 12 Noon Bells Practice 7:30 AA 8 PM	13 UMAR Dinner 6:00 PM Choir Practice 6:30 PM	14 Book Club @ 6:30 PM Lucky 32 DA 7:30 PM	15 Al-Anon 8 PM	16 Eagle Scout Ceremony
17 Ad Council 12:00	18 UMW Fellowship 10 AM Rev. Kelley Groce will be in Jacksonville, FL for the SEJ Clergywomen's Leadership Conference	19 NO Bells AA 8 PM	20 Choir Practice 6:30 PM	21 Lift Lunch @ 11:30 AM DA 7:30 PM	22 Al-Anon 8 PM	23
24 Covered Dish & Pie Lunch 12:00	25	26 Decorate Church 9-12 & 6-8 Choir 6:30 PM Bells Practice 7:40 AA 8 PM	27 Decorate Church (if needed) 9-12	28 Happy Thanksgiving! 	29 Office Closed	30

USPS 934-960

Published monthly by

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Visit us online!

<https://www.CentenaryUMCGreensboro.org/>



Our Mission:

To experience God's life changing love and take God's love into the world.

Our Vision:

To be a church where everyone is involved in ministry.

Gifts for the Budget: September 25—October 31

In Memory of Tom Hutchison:

Donna Lane
Harold & Kay Scott
David & Trudy Sillmon

In Memory of Wilma Kay Johnson

The Medlin Class
Duilla Harkins

In Memory of Wanda Thies

The Pittard Class
Jean Brincefield
Daiber/Pruitt/Albright UMW Fellowship
Duilla Harkins
SAS Institute
Smith Partners— Anne & Jonathan Smith, Justin Smith and Stephen Boatman
Paul & Dawn Long
Joann Martin
Marlene Pratto
Martha Proffitt
David & Trudy Sillmon
Stuart & Cheryl Smith
Jimmy & Diane Stanley
Paul Stiles, Jr.
United Methodist Men
Barbara Wolfe
Harold & Kay Scott

In Memory of Esther Drinkard

Clayton & Rebecca Gregson

In Memory of Hilda Layton

Barbara Wolfe

In Honor of Coak May

Herbert Hussey

Thank You

To My Centenary Family,
I don't have enough words to express my gratitude for all the prayers I continue to receive from you.
My journey back to good health is still going and I continue to covet your prayers. I feel each and every one of them.
I'm so glad to be a part of such a loving family.
With much love,
Betty Durham

Financial Update

Year-to-Date Giving/Expenses—Ending 10/31/2019

Revenues	\$ 256,791.66
Expenses	\$ 312,944.96
(Loss) for 10 months	(\$ 56,153.30)
Unrestricted cash available for operations:	\$109,243