

“I thank my God upon every remembrance of you.” Philippians 1:3

I wish to express my deepest gratitude to you for allowing me to serve as your pastor over the past four years. We’ve come a long way—from recovery from the Wildfires, through times of good health and peace, to the trials of a pandemic, to a new era of offering worship and meetings and other services virtually. The Lord has been with us each step of the way. We celebrate the accomplishments of continued ministries and outreach, of new members, of expanding our virtual presence to reach more souls, etc. The farewell picnic was enjoyable and a great opportunity for our church family to gather in person again. Thank you for all of the thoughtful cards, calls, gifts, and expressions of kindness! I’m so grateful to know you, and you will always remain in my heart.

I commend Rev. Rusty Glasgow and his mother to your care as he begins his ministry among you July 1. I know you will continue to grow in faith and in service to the Lord! Trinity UMC, in Northwest Knoxville, is my next appointment, and I covet your prayers in serving this congregation. All of us are connected forever within the Body of Christ.

Blessings and Love,

Barbara+

Welcome, New Members!

~ We are delighted to welcome Jett Johnson and Landon Wohlfahrt, who were baptized and confirmed on Pentecost Sunday, 6/5/22.

~ Aleister VanOosting received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism on Trinity Sunday, 6/12/22. Aleister’s grandparents, Linda and Jeff VanOosting, joined our church by transfer of letter from their former church home in St. Petersburg, FL. Welcome, all!

Annual Conference: Penny Embry served as our Lay Member of AC, and I served as the Clergy Member for First UMC/HGUMC. We also were proud to have the following District At-Large Lay Members with us this year: Jordan Ewell, Jerri Ewell, and Laura Wellington. Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett presided over her first AC with Holston. The theme for the Conference was “Pray Together.”

Missions Month Report: We were so blessed to have the opportunity to support several UMC mission projects in May/June: Native Ministries, South Sudan/Uganda children’s home, Holston U.M. Home for Children, and the Annual Conference’s “Change for Children” offering (= grant money to worthy projects). The “Hands-on Mission Project” for Annual Conference was, again this year, the collection of food for our children’s home in Old Mutare, Zimbabwe. With our friends at Huskey’s Grove UMC, we surpassed our goal for a total of 22 buckets! The Conference’s total was 5,111 buckets! THANKS!

We appreciate your contributions towards our ministries! You may mail checks to our locked mailbox at the church: 742 Parkway; Gatlinburg, TN; 37738. “The Lord loves a cheerful giver” (II Cor. 9:7b). Each gift is blessed by God’s grace.

Prayer Concerns: Harold Thompson, Doris Clayton, Don Muskett, Dot Colvard, Herb Reagan, J.R. Phildius, Jane Eisaman, Judy Sakalosky, Ann Bush, Brad Spradlen, Mary Alice Cox, Alexis Kellogg, Joyce King, Opal Gott, Margery Helms, Anne Ogle, Roger Jeffers, Susie Parrish, Sherri Valentine, Joe Bates; 8 silent requests; all affected by COVID-19; for peace in Ukraine; for an end to racism; for an end to gun violence; for victims of recent massacres in NY, TX, AL; for our homeless community; persons in prison; for all suffering from the opioid epidemic; for UMC missionaries in Alaska & Zimbabwe & South Sudan/Uganda; for an end to suffering and famine in Yemen & Myanmar & Ethiopia; for our Outreach ministry to the Boys & Girls Club; all pastors and congregations in transition/Pastor Barbara & Pastor Rusty; 8 silent requests.

CPR/AED Class: Our church now has twelve members who are certified in CPR. Judie & Currie Boswell, Dr. Bob & Gerry Valosik, B.Z. Lane, Dennis Walters, Penny Embry, Jerri Ewell, Jordan Ewell, Susie Parrish, and Jayne & Scott Young. Our class coordinator, Judie Boswell, will provide an update after the automated external defibrillator (AED) has arrived and has been installed. The church is grateful to our local EMTs for the training session.

Thanks, UMM! We appreciate the generosity of our United Methodist Men's group for providing the buckets for our food ministry in Zimbabwe! We also thank this group for providing the funding for Holston's "Camp in the Community" virtual summer camp kits for our children in the church and on the food delivery route. Learn about Camp in the Community on Facebook.

Gift in Honor: A gift has been made in honor of Dennis Walters for his coordination of the Zimbabwe Mission food bucket project. Thank you, Dennis!

Food Collection for June for our Bread of Life Ministry is Power Ade (12-ounce size). Clothes Closet & GSMNP Collection for June: toiletry items (travel-size). Thank you!

Scripture Selections for the Sundays in June: June 5/Pentecost – Acts 2:1-21; June 12/Trinity Sunday – Romans 5:1-5; June 19/Father's Day/Juneteenth – Luke 8:28-39; June 26 – Luke 18:18-23. We are grateful to Jodie Lamon and Rev. Arne Walker for preaching on June 19, and to Andy Bush for preaching on June 26. We appreciate B.Z. Lane, Connie Walker, and Dennis Walters for serving as worship leaders!

Creation Care – Be a good steward of God's beautiful Creation. Here are some ways we can take better care of our natural world. 1. Allow grass to grow taller so pollinators can thrive. 2. Do not use a weed-eater; instead, rake leaves and grass. 3. Set your thermostat on 76 degrees when possible, and use ceiling or box fans to save energy. 4. Use a cloth bag when shopping. 5. Avoid using styrofoam products for picnics, etc.

Our Website address is www.gatlinburgumc.com. Subscribe to our YouTube channel!