



# WESTOVER UMC

January 2020



### **From the Pastor**

Dear Westover UMC Friends and Family,

It's hard to believe that we have closed out 2019, and 2020 is here. It's not just a brand new year, but it's a brand new decade. God willing, this new decade will bring some positive changes in our world. 2020 will certainly bring positive changes to the church. We will meet on January 18<sup>th</sup> for a Vision Retreat. All will be welcomed to come and join together to envision what God has in store for the church this year, and to give your input on what you think the church's priorities should be. More information will follow on that.

God is leading the church on a journey of spiritual growth that I hope also expresses in physical growth. Much of that will be determined by our faithful discernment of God's will for us and our willingness to grow in the ways that God is leading. All change, even good change, is stressful, but good change leads to greater health and joy. I share the words from John 12:24: *Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds.* As we discern where God is leading us, it might mean doing some things differently and not doing some things to do other things. Refining our focus and receiving God's vision is no simple thing, but it leads us to the path of greatest health and joy, so I hope that you will come along for the journey and be astounded at the amazing things God has in store for us. And finally I leave you with these words from 1 Corinthians 2:9b-10a: *"What no eye has seen, what no ear has heard, and what no human mind has conceived"<sup>[a]</sup>—the things God has prepared for those who love him—these are the things God has revealed to us by his Spirit.*

Peace,  
Pastor Sung 1-845-206-3914



### **Visioning and Planning Retreat**

There will be a Visioning and Planning Retreat on **Saturday, Jan. 18** from **10-2pm**. Everyone is invited to participate, and leaders and organizers are especially encouraged to come to the retreat. We will discern God's plans for the church together, and set the calendar of events for 2020. Lunch will be provided by the church. Please RSVP to Pastor Sung, and if you have a dietary restriction, please let her know.

### **LIVE STREAMING:**

We are **live streaming** the Westover UMC 11am church worship service through Facebook Live on the Westover UMC Facebook page. Join us at 11am or watch the video of the service during the week at your convenience.

Westover UMC is now using **GoogleGroups** to send out email announcements about the church. If you wish to be on the distribution list, please email Becky at the church office at [WestoverUMC@gmail.com](mailto:WestoverUMC@gmail.com) to get added.



**Outreach Coordinator needed:** With Margie and Kim moving to Dunn, the church is in need of an Outreach Coordinator. This position coordinates outreach and mission events such as the Angel Tree and Supply Drive with AB Combs Elementary School. You will be the liaison between the church and the school so that we can coordinate efforts to help the students and staff. You will work closely with Pastor Sung to organize these events as needed. You will also be a part of the Church Council. Please speak to Pastor Sung if you are interested.

## United Methodist Women

Due to change in some officers, the next meeting of the UMW will be announced at a later date. I hope everyone had a wonderful **Holiday Season**. Thank you to everyone who was helpful while I was President of UMW. I will miss being involved with such wonderful women. Thank you!!!!

**Margie Liggins**

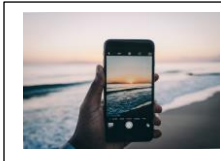
[mesha314@msn.com](mailto:mesha314@msn.com)

## Looking for Pictures

Do you have any recent pictures of a church event, activity or worship? Please send them to Bruce Smith at [smithjazz@nc.rr.com](mailto:smithjazz@nc.rr.com).

We are also looking for people to take pictures of future events, worship, etc. to update our website and Facebook page.

Pictures of children will not be posted without a signed release form.



The church is looking for **volunteers** to count the offering after the 11am Service on Sundays. If you are able to count, keep information confidential, and are available, please speak to Ted Cashion or Jona Medlin.

## Administrative Council

Happy New Year! May 2020 be full of blessings for each of you as we strive to do the Lord's work together at Westover. I'm new at this assignment as Administrative Council chair so I have a lot to learn and do. Following Phyllis Danskin who has served the Lord and Westover in awesome ways is quite an undertaking, and, along with all of you, I thank her for her service to her Lord and church.

The date and time for the January Administrative Council will be announced soon. We will be discussing the 2020 budget so any budget requests were to have been sent to Verna Wentz by December 31.

We have new faces on Administrative Council – and “returning faces” as well – and I'm excited to be working with these servants of God. The **training meeting** for the roles of the committee will be **January 26, 2:30 p.m. at Ebenezer UMC, 6020 Rock Quarry Road**. We'll work out transportation as the time gets closer.

It takes a congregation to do the Lord's work – so I know you'll be with me as we start 2020 with high hopes, big plans, and praise that our God is with us in all we do!

**Clara Worsley**

[claraworsl@aol.com](mailto:claraworsl@aol.com)

**Administrative Council Chair**

## **JANUARY BIRTHDAYS!**

- 2 MARY ANN BROOKS
- 3 WALTER HIGHSMITH
- 5 ANNE BALLENGER
- 6 DRE-CHAN MICKENS  
FRAN MCDONALD
- 7 DER KSOR
- 9 ADAM HOLT
- 12 AMY SAWYER
- 14 AARON JONES  
JONI MEDLIN
- 17 ANDREW MITCHELL
- 18 FRED BURKE  
CLAIRE GUILBAUD
- 25 MELINDA FAY  
TERRY DUPREE
- 26 KIMLA MICKENS
- 27 MAX DANSKIN
- 28 BRAEDEN CORREGAN
- 30 DOUG NOWELL  
HAYLEIGH DENNY
- 31 ALLEN DEAN



## **IT'S FINALLY HERE!!!**

The report we have all been waiting for on the outcome of our 2019 Fair Booth is now here. Our sales were down a little over **\$10,000.00** due to low attendance and bad weather, which means our profit is down. We did, however, make a profit of **\$16,545.67**, which isn't bad considering the circumstances. This is about \$5,000.00 less than 2018.

I would once again like to thank all those who helped make this possible and let's do it again in 2020!

**Tommy Highsmith**

**Fair Booth Treasurer**

## **Methodist Men**

The Methodist Men will resume their regular meetings on **Saturday, January 11th at 8:30 a.m.** in the Wesley Hall. Let's start the New Year off with a "bang" and a good attendance. Bring your ideas for 2020 and join us for a light breakfast and some great Christian fellowship. See you there!!

**Tommy Highsmith**

**President UMM**

If you have had a **change of address**, phone number, and/or email address, please be sure to inform the church office. Thank you.



### **Calling All Singers!!**

You are all needed to help build and grow our wonderful Choir and Praise Team! We need female singers mostly, but all who can sing, even a little bit - you will be a blessing to our congregation and to the Lord! We're a fun group, and we love what we do - you will too!

Here's an offer for you... dip your toes in the musical waters this season through Christmas, and see how much you'll enjoy it. The choir meets every Wednesday night at 7PM in the choir room upstairs, and the Praise Team has a more flexible rehearsal schedule. Please help us build a bold and beautiful Choir and Praise Team at Westover. Don't you want to be a part of that?

If you have any questions, please contact Bruce Smith, our Director of Music Ministries at (919) 244-0459 or email him at [smithjazz@nc.rr.com](mailto:smithjazz@nc.rr.com).

### **Installing Church Leaders**

We will be installing the new and returning **church leaders** on **Jan. 12** in each of the worship services. If you are a church leader, we ask you to be present in one or **both services** that Sunday.

### **Outreach**

Thanks to everyone who helped make the Angel Tree a success! Every child will have a wonderful Christmas because of your generous giving.

Thank you so much for all your help with all the Missions we had at Westover. All were a success because of you!!!



Blessings,  
**Margie Liggins**  
**Chair of Outreach**  
[mesh314@msn.com](mailto:mesh314@msn.com)

### **Prayer Concerns**

#### **Acute Care Needs:**

**Nellie Heath, Ashley Fisher, Bill Jones, Nettie Shafer, Walter Highsmith, Carl Ray,** Greg & Kim Miller & Family



#### **Long-term Concerns:**

**Mag Highsmith, Doris Ray, Dot Avery, Mary Alice Black,** Dawn Miller, Wayne Allen, Edward Thompson, Hanna Markham, Marie Powell, Helen Wyble

#### **Homebound/Assisted Living/Nursing Care**

**Viola Ward, Jean Massengill, Nancy Tew, Helen Sloan, Everett Jones, Bob Gue, Faye Batts,** Bob & Polly Hendrix

#### **Death:**

**Jo Williams** (12-9-2019)

### **Childcare for Sundays:**

Our church has a **Safe Sanctuary policy** that requires 2 non-related adults to be present in a room when children are present. If you can help with the early service as a **volunteer**, please speak to Pastor Sung. Kelly will be providing nursery care from the early service to Sunday School and through the end of the 11am service.

We need **volunteers** in the 11am Service to lead Children's Church. If you can play CD's, read Children's Bible Stories and help children to color, we would love for you to please sign up. Please speak to Phyllis Danskin ([phyllisdanskin@gmail.com](mailto:phyllisdanskin@gmail.com)).

**Nursery care** is provided for infants and toddlers from the 8:45am Service to the end of the 11am Service.

### **Bag Lunch Mission**

As we start a new year, I thought that you might be interested in some statistics for the Bag Lunches of 2019. Since right now is December 10, the numbers cover January through November of this year. We make 120 sandwiches each month, but not every guest takes a sandwich, and not every person takes one of each item that we have. In the past 11 months we have served approximately 1,430 people, an average of 130 per month (it's usually more than that), we've spent \$1,682.53, which averages out to \$1.14 or less, per person. In turn, I personally have received hundreds of hugs, thank yous and God Bless yous. I also am reminded of how blessed I have been all of my life; so often we take for granted the things that we have, the ordinary, such as a roof over our heads, heat/air conditioning, bathrooms, kitchens, food, a comfortable bed, a loving family, good health, friends, and a wonderful church.

Thank you everyone for supporting the Bag Lunch. May God bless you all with a Happy and Healthy New Year!

**Janet Giannattasio** [scandia1963@gmail.com](mailto:scandia1963@gmail.com)



**Zach Tree** will not meet in January.  
**Happy New Year!**

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**WESTOVER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

300 Powell Drive  
RALEIGH NC 27606-1317

**NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION**

**U.S. POSTAGE P A I D**

**PERMIT NO. 903**

**RALEIGH, N.C.**

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

Church Office: 919-851-4431

Email: [WestoverUMC@gmail.com](mailto:WestoverUMC@gmail.com)

Web Site: [www.westoverumc.org](http://www.westoverumc.org)

Capital District Email: [www.capitaldistrictnc.org](http://www.capitaldistrictnc.org)

Conference Website: [www.nccumc.org](http://www.nccumc.org)

Rev. Sung Moy, Senior Pastor

[revsungmoy@gmail.com](mailto:revsungmoy@gmail.com)

Bruce Smith, Director of Music

Becky Rogers, Office Secretary

Robert Simmons, Custodian

**SENT WITH A PRAYER FOR:**

Westover United Methodist Church

Sunday Service times:

8:45am in the Fellowship Hall

9:45am Sunday School in the  
Education Building

11:00am in the Sanctuary

**YOU ARE INVITED!**



# First Fruits of Worship!

by **Bruce Smith**

Director of Music Ministries

## Why “Flow” Is So Important In Worship

*Have you ever been in the middle of reading a great book when a phone call from a family member or friend who wants to gossip interrupts? Then when you go back to that great book you find your mind wandering between the book and the details of that phone call. If you're like me, you end up reading pages that you can't recall. It drives me crazy!*

*That's how it can be when we are in the midst of worship. We can easily be so distracted by the world around us, that we lose our connection with God. Whether it's what's for lunch, what's on our “to do” list for today, or where we're taking our children this afternoon – we're like God's little ADHD sheep, distracted by those “bright shiny objects” in our mind. Why do you think churches have crafted calls to worship, gathering songs, and reflective moments at the beginning of worship services? The intent is to remove from your attention all those distractions and focus on this experience called “worship”.*

*Yes, I called it an “experience” – because it is just that – a moment with you and God together - sometimes enjoying the family of God gathered, and sometimes just you and God in a moment of love, adoration, and receptivity.*

### **“Worship is an ‘it-is-well-with-my-soul’ experience”**

Robert Webber, Founder of The Institute for Worship Studies

*It is a relational moment between you and God, and as such, we do not want that moment to be broken up by distractions and lost attention to our Lord and Savior. It's like when you are engaging your spouse in a deep and intimate conversation and you see your spouse checking his/her phone or the TV. It breaks the connection.*

*That connection in worship is called “the flow”, and it is vital to maintaining a meaningful worship experience. This is why it is so important to craft worship services that keep the flow moving throughout the service. It is why “announcements” and “church business” are flow killers – because they take the attention off of worshipping God and onto everyday housekeeping matters of the church.*

*More deeply, the flow needs to be preserved in the midst of worship. Music serves as a wonderful “connective tissue” in keeping that flow. Having a piano or guitar playing over prayers help keep the focus on God and what we're doing to honor Him. Moving quickly and purposefully between songs in a service is also important. Using introductions to songs to connect the themes of song/hymn 1 and song/hymn 2 also keeps the worshippers following the thread of worship. Awkward pauses give the impression of a concert rather than worship and lead the congregation to lose their focus on the object of their worship – Jesus.*

**“As John 4:23 says, It's time, as worshipers of God, to give him all we have. For when he is exalted, everything about me is decreased. So many times we stand in the way of really stepping into the secret place of worship with God.”**

Jessica Leah Springer, Writer

*The God of **all** the universe deserves **all** of our attention and focus. We do this thing called “worship” for Him. We were made to do this, and we receive amazing benefits and blessings from it. But, it is all for Him. So, let's put our smart phones away, set our “to do” lists aside, forget about what's for lunch – and let's give ourselves completely to honoring, exalting, and worshipping the God with whom we want to be in relationship. Let's enter the “flow” and remain there as long as we can!*

**“No man gives anything acceptable to God until he has first given himself in love and sacrifice.”** A.W. Tozer

# Church Leaders In Ministry for the Year 2020

## Modified Single Board

Position	Name
Chair	<u>CLARA WORSLEY</u>
Treasurer	Verna Wentz
Financial Secretary	Alice Batts/Jona Medlin
Finance Rep	<u>ASHLEY FISHER</u>
Lay Leader	Scott Gordon
Chair, Staff Parish Relations	Jennifer Proffitt
Chair, Trustees	TBD, presently Phil Epley
Worship Rep	<u>JANET GIANNATTASIO</u>
Nurture and Education Rep	Jennifer Proffitt
Missions/Outreach Rep	Margie Liggins
Lay Member to Annual Conference	Jane Brown
President, UMM	Tommy Highsmith
President, UMW	Margie Liggins
Secretary	John Mitchell
Members at Large	Lou Giannattasio, Ted Cashion

## Trustees:

Class of 2020	Class of 2021	Class of 2022
Adam Holt	Kent Gibson	<u>PHIL EPLEY</u>
Les Watkins	Wayne Miller	<u>JESSE GILSTRAP</u>
Sue Nowell	Lou Giannattasio	<u>JENNIFER PROFITT</u>

## Staff Parish Relations:

Class of 2020	Class of 2021	Class of 2022
Doug Nowell	Jennifer Proffitt	<u>CLARA WORSLEY</u>
Rick Gradle	Sharron Gibson	<u>RUTH MILLER</u>
Susan Denny	Wayne Dillard	<u>LES WATKINS</u>

Ex-Oficio: Pastor, Lay leader, Lay Member to Conference

## Volunteers in non-elected positions

Altar Guild: Janet Giannattasio, Lou Giannattasio

Memorial Gift Coordinator: Joy Driver

## Paid Staff

Church Secretary: Becky Rogers

Director of Music Ministries: Bruce Smith