



The Lake Gaston Charge

Calvary UMC - Corinth UMC - Littleton UMC - Weaver's Chapel UMC

November / December 2019

The Pastor's Portion - Stan Lewis

Pastor: Stan Lewis
email: salewis@nccumc.org

Associate Pastor: Jason DuVall
jason.duvall@nccumc.org

Calvary UMC
136 Calvary Church Rd.
Littleton, NC 27850
252-586-7058
Sunday Worship: 11 am

Corinth UMC
21847 Justice Branch Rd.
Littleton, NC 27850
252-586-7058
Sunday Worship: 9:30 am
(2nd & 4th Sundays)

Littleton UMC
105 East South Main St.
PO Box 26
Littleton, NC 27850
252-586-5385
www.littleton-umc.org
Sunday Worship: 9:30 am

Weaver's Chapel UMC
2209 Weaver's Chapel Rd.
Littleton, NC 27850
252-586-7058
Sunday Worship: 11 am

Several years ago, Teresa and I bought my childhood home from my Dad. The intent was to assume oversight of the property as he lived out his life there. As expected, we moved in with him as his health declined. As we begin to do projects to "freshen up" the house, we noticed that some of the projects were beyond our capacity to "do it yourself." And so this week began! It began with a roof on an out-building (shop) that needed to be replaced.

The project began to sprout legs and run! Or if you want a different metaphor, it sprouted wings and began to fly! It turned out that a simple shingle job became more complex and expensive. I began to think about the parallels to our spiritual life.

In what scholars believe to be the "oldest" written scripture (frankly I don't know how they came to that conclusion as they were not there) in Deuteronomy 6, we find God telling us what are the structures of faith such as One God; no idols; loving God with all your heart, soul, and might. But there is another key issue here: teach them to succeeding generations! This section talks about the underlying structure of our faith. It talks about making sure our children have good spiritual structures. It is a core reminder to focus on what holds our faith up.

While some Jewish sects (think denominations) actually put scripture in little boxes and tie them to their foreheads and arms, the idea is clear: keep your eyes on the faith structure. While we may not use this discipline in our daily life, we still must keep focus on the key structural points. It should be obvious, but in case it is not. I'm not talking about things like church committee structure or ecclesial organizations. I'm talking about the basics of our faith handed to us

from the preceding generations of faithful sisters and brothers.

Back to my shop for a few moments. In other words, over the years the structure of my shop deteriorated because of many things becoming "more necessary." What started as a small leak in the roof patched with black goo from Lowe's turned into something much bigger. We knew that at some point, it was going to have to be addressed. Now since this was a shop and not the house, there was good logic to focus on house first. Unless we wanted to live in the shop, not!

Then came the day when the roofing contractors arrived and the party started (actually they are still here six days later)! As they began their work, the real damage appeared. Whole sections of roof needed more than a sheet of plywood. One entire section was completely rebuilt. I thought several times about moving. But we are in it now.

Our spiritual lives are the same way! Whether it is our lives as individuals, communities, or nations! If we do not take care of the structural (meaning what holds it all together and up), there will be a day when we reach a "go or no go" place. At that point, we will have prioritized everything that was deemed more important and the time comes to really work on the important structures.

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Cont'd from page 1

So now here is the difficult question! Have we just been patching things without serious attention to the issues? Have we been treating symptoms and not the underlying problem? Have we been holding onto the foundations and structures before us years ago in the Biblical witness?

There are many verses and sections that could be considered core or foundational in the Bible, but Deuteronomy 6 finds its way into many of those. So it is a good place to focus. I cannot help but see the striking similarities between my shop roof and Deuteronomy 6. I guess the old saying is true yet again. Pay me now or pay me later. It applies to our spiritual life as well.

If we do not focus on the key, foundational, and structural components of faith such as proper theology, attitudes, and other life patterns, there will be costly issues later. Deuteronomy 6 puts the general structure out to help us make sure our lives are strongly built on good foundations not sand (see Matthew 7).

If we do not take care of our core faith structures and values, then we will end up with a life that is very expensive, maybe not in terms of money, but how will future generations spiritually thrive? Are we leaving a structure for them that is going to be way too costly to repair?

Coming up December 7th



Santa's Helpers needed!

**Breakfast with Santa
LUMC Fellowship Hall
Saturday, December 1 at 8:30 am**

To find out how you can help,
please contact Marie Fields at
mariefields@centurylink.net



**Littleton Christmas Parade
Saturday, December 7 at 11 am**

LUMC CHURCH COUNCIL

Dick O'Sullivan

The Season of Advent starts on December 1st. Marie has made a list of things for us to get involved in. Poinsettia's may now be ordered, they are \$15.00 per plant. You may mail it to the office, give it to Marie, or place it in the offering plate in church. The list goes on. Try to find a spot where you would like to help. On November 7th, Lewis would like to have help at the Parsonage at 10am to work on the yard area. Call Lewis and tell him you want to help. (586- 4757)

I apologize for this being so short. We haven't been in church since I had surgery. We would like to thank our Christian Family for all the cards, prayers, the deliveries of food that were brought to the house while I was recuperating. We appreciate it very much.

Irene and I would like to wish you and your family a very Happy Thanksgiving and a Blessed Christmas.

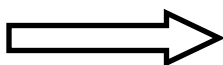
Respectfully Submitted,
Dick O'Sullivan, Chair

UMW Marie Fields

All (*even men*) are welcome at our November 11th UMW lunch and meeting in the LUMC Fellowship Hall. There will be a presentation by Rhonda Rigsby, from Hannah's Closet/Hannah's Place. Rhonda will speak on the purposes and functions of Hannah's Closet which supports the Hannah's Place women's abuse center. We hope to have a good turnout for this program especially since she will be taking time away from her vacation day from Hannah's Closet on that particular day.

Please let me know you are coming so that I can prepare enough food for this day. Thank You! Marie Fields

We are hoping to fill her car with donations -
Please see the list of needs -



LUMC Mission Zone

Early November, we are collecting for
Hannah's Place.

Hannah's Place is dedicated in providing non-judgmental, education, and advocacy to individuals, groups, and the general public in preventing and eliminating domestic violence and sexual assault.

Furthermore, we promote peaceful homes, and the building of safe communities, and empowering individuals and families to heal from domestic violence.

Needs list:

Office supplies

Postage stamps
Masking tape
Scotch Tape Dividers for Binders
Staplers & Staples
Card Stock Paper
Display Board
Markers
Paper Clips
Copy paper
Envelopes
Ink pens
Binders
Batteries

Household items

Paper plates
Toilet paper, paper towels
Washing powder
Storage bags
Water bottles
Bathroom cleaner
Dryer sheets
Lysol spray or wipes
Fabric softener
Disinfectant
Bleach
Degreaser spray
Ironing board
Iron or fabric steamer
Liquid hand soap
Furniture polish
Bathroom tissues
Hand sanitizer

Personal items

Bedroom slippers/socks
Bras (all sizes)
Gown/pajamas

** monetary donations are always welcome!*

The John 3:16 Center

Wanted: Santa's Helpers
No experience necessary – on the job training!
Positions available: Personal Shoppers, Social Butterflies,
Wrappers, and Party People

Once again, the John 3:16 Center will help local families provide Christmas gifts to their children. Below is more information about each need and the time frames. If you would like to help in any of these areas, please contact Brittany Sinka at the John 3:16 Center at 586-1220.

The **UMW will be helping as personal shoppers and wrappers from 9 AM - Noon on Monday, Dec. 18.** If you would like to join that group, please let Jodie Dowhan know so she can tell Brittany many to expect from our church. We will all go out to lunch afterwards.

Social Butterflies

Social Butterflies will interview parents who apply to participate in the Christmas Outreach Program. Volunteers need to come to The John 3:16 Center for orientation. Interviews will begin November 12th and could go as late as November 22nd but will end once we have 125 children signed up. The number is less this year as we are committing to another 50 children in Northampton county in partnership with another organization. Volunteers would need to sign up for at least a two hour period one of these days.

Shoppers

In Store- Shopping will begin once the interviews are complete and have been vetted. Everything will need to be purchased prior to December 6th. Shoppers would assist Brittany in buying mostly clothing and shoes for specific children.

Personal Shoppers

Assist parents in choosing the presents for their children. This added step lets us get to know the families even more as a volunteer "shops" with them in our store set up in the Littleton UMC Fellowship Hall from December 12-19th. Volunteers would need to sign up for at least a two-hour period one of these days.

Wrappers

Wrappers will assist the parents in wrapping their children's gifts after their shopping appointments, December 12-19th between 9am and 5pm until all of the presents have been wrapped. All supplies including tape, paper, scissors, boxes, etc. will be provided. We will be wrapping in the Littleton UMC Fellowship Hall.

Party People

The Christmas parties will be held December 21st at 11am, 12pm, and 1pm at The Center. Volunteers would need to arrive at 10am. Of course, volunteers are welcome to help later in the day if they cannot make it at 10am. Volunteers help in many areas including serving food, as Santa's elves, helping with parking and taking gifts to the car.

CONVERSATION DINNERS - 2019
Peg Fowler

On November 2nd all 2019 Conversation Dinner participants will meet at the LUMC Fellowship Hall for our 4th quarter dinner. Arrive around 5 PM and plan to have dinner at 5:30. Please call Peg Fowler with any questions (586-2602).

WANTED - NEW PARTICIPANTS FOR CONVERSATION DINNER 2020 SEASON

We are getting ready to put together the 2020 schedule for the Conversation Dinners. They are a lot of fun and a great way to get to meet and to know your fellow church family outside of the church walls as well as in a much more casual atmosphere. We are hoping that those that participated in 2019 will want to continue to do so, and we welcome anyone new that might want to join us! You are encouraged to host in your own home, or if that is not possible, you can host in the LUMC fellowship hall. Please contact Jodie Dowhan at 252-586-1220(home) or 804-512-2554 (mobile) or Susan Powell at 252-586-5340 (home) or 757-620-9144 (mobile) by December 1, 2019. We look forward to planning another fun year of great food, great conversation, and plenty of great fellowship!

LUMC POINSETTIA ORDERS

Poinsettia orders for the LUMC alter rail are **due November 15th**. The cost is \$15 each. Please make checks out to LUMC and designate "Poinsettias" in the memo.

Your order forms and checks may be given to Marie Fields or placed in the offering plates.



Littleton ACTS Food Pantry

Nov 22nd- Staffed by LUMC
Dec 27th - Staffed by Littleton Baptist

Remember
Operation Christmas Child!
Please bring shoeboxes to LUMC by
November 24th



Shoebox gift suggestions:

Toys: Include items that children will immediately embrace such as toy cars, yo-yos, jump ropes, balls, toys that light up and make noise (with extra batteries), etc.

School Supplies: pens, pencils and sharpeners, crayons, markers, notebooks, paper, solar calculators, coloring and picture books, etc.

Non-liquid Hygiene Items: toothbrushes, bar soap, combs, washcloths, etc.

Accessories: T-shirts, socks, hats, sunglasses, hair clips, jewelry, watches, flashlights (with extra batteries), etc.

Crafts: Make your own items such as hair bows, finger puppets, and friendship bracelets.

LUMC WORSHIP COMMITTEE
Susan Powell, chairman

There will be a Worship Committee meeting to be on Wednesday, November 6, 2019 @ 1:30 pm, in the Church Board room.

Please make plans to attend this very important meeting. Please contact me if you are unable to attend at 252-586-5340 (home phone), or 757-620-9144 (mobile).

If you have a report and are unable to attend, please email me your report by Monday, November 4, 2019 at susanppowell@gmail.com.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you on the 6th .

Thank you Richard & Susannah for sharing these photos of sweet Martha. She will forever be missed.



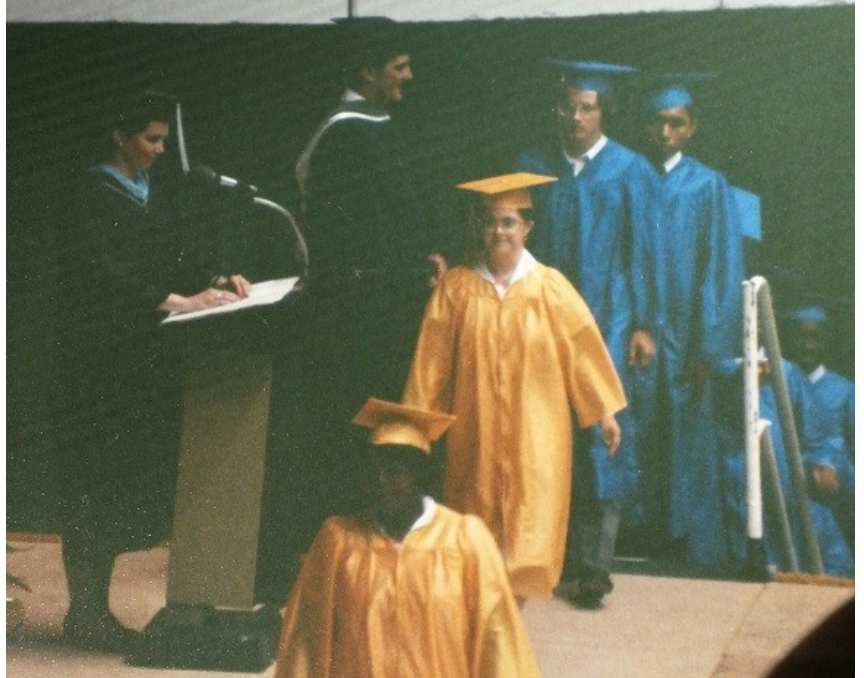
1991 International Special Olympics Gold Medalist!!!!



The Smile



Formal dance glam



High School graduation



Life is Good



Snowman & friend



AM daddy do



Sound of music



Family Water Rat

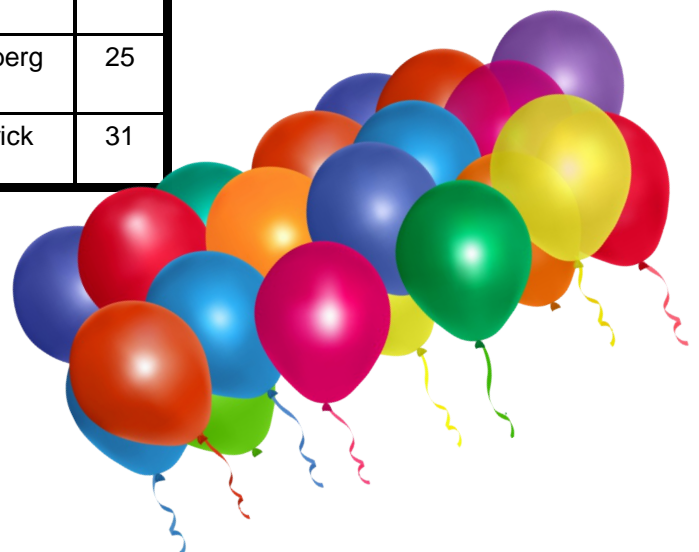


November Birthdays	Date
Tucker Inscoe	1
Carol Townsend	2
Linda Wilson	2
Richard Jenkins	2
Jimmy Watson	5
Peg Fowler	5
Horace Aycock	6
Diana Bobbitt	6
Bill Hand	8
Margie Drescher	10
John Stelmack	12
Amy Inscoe Smith	12
David Leon Inscoe	13
Susan Powell	15
Paul Underwood	19
Joyce McBride	20
Ethel Draper	22
Grayson Walker	26
Morgan Lamberson	27
George Houston	29
Glenwood Rose	29
Mary E. Simmons	30

November Anniversaries	Date
Marj & Al Prescott	1
Martha & Bob Hayes	8
Shawn & Nathaniel Walker	18
Darla & Ed Angel	19
Amy & Cameron Smith	28

December Anniversaries	Date
Rose & Winford Dickens	11
Christa & Paul Underwood	20
Debbie & Ron Wilder	20
Wanda & John Osberg	25
Kay & Carlton Myrick	31

December Birthdays	Date
Lois Weaver	1
Frances Morris	1
Mary Coates	1
Betsy Medlin	2
Marvin Newsom	3
Dale Medlin	3
Pat Tayman	4
Marjorie Gardner	6
Susannah Sherman	7
Wayne Aycock	7
Christopher Aycock	9
Teresa Lewis	12
Grace Gvarra	15
Carol Lindley	18
Robert Gibson	19
Sandra Jenkins	22
Ashley Smith	23
Debbie Keeter	23
George Childers	28
Ray Jenkins	28
Bill Kuhns	31



LUMC Greeters & Ushers Schedule

Date	Greeters	Ushers	Coffee time Host	Communion Stewards
Nov 3	Loretta Woodburn	George Alston Richard Sherman	Susan Powell	Les & Susan Powell
Nov 10	Pat Chance	George Alston Richard Sherman	Pat Chance	
Nov 17	Jean Houston	George Alston Richard Sherman	Jean Houston	
Nov 24	Carol Lindley	George Alston Richard Sherman	Carol Lindley	
Dec 1	Charlotte Wright	Richard Odom Matt Johnston	Jodie Dowhan	
Dec 8	Ann & Gary Herbert	Richard Odom Matt Johnston	Ann Herbert	Neil & Mary Davis
Dec 15	Jean Houston	Richard Odom Matt Johnston	Mary Davis	
Dec 22	Loretta Woodburn	Richard Odom Matt Johnston	Charlotte Wright	
Dec 29	Need someone	Richard Odom Matt Johnston	Jodie Dowhan	

HELP WANTED - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!! Susan Powell

LUMC is in need of volunteers to serve in the following areas of the Worship area:

Coffee hour Host/Hostess – Contact Carol Lindley – 252-676-9173

Communion Stewards – Contact Kaye Herman – 252-586-2985 (home) or mobile (363-339-0856)

Lay Readers – Contact Kaye Herman

Ushers/Greeters/Acolytes – Contact Jean Houston – 252-257-1807 (home) or 434-774-4587 (mobile)

Sound System operators – Contact Bill Kuhns – 252-308-1887 (home)

If you have any questions or might be interested in helping out in any of the above areas, training will be available! Please contact Susan Powell at 252-586-5340 (home) or 757-620-9144 (mobile).

LUMC Scripture Reading & Counter Schedule

DATE	COUNTERS	READER	SCRIPTURE
November 3, 2019	Peg Fowler George Houston	Jason Duvall	Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4 Psalm 119: 137-144 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12 Luke 19: 1-10
November 10, 2019	Jeff Dowhan Kaye Herman	Marie Fields	Haggai 1: 15b-2:9 Psalm 145: 1-5, 17-21 2 Thessalonians 2: 1-5, 13-17 Luke 20: 27-38
November 17, 2019	Kaye Herman Susan Doughtie	Jason Duvall	Isaiah 65: 17-25 Isaiah 12 2 Thessalonians 3: 6-13 Luke 21: 5-19
November 24, 2019	Jimmy King Richard Sherman	Jodie Dowhan	Jeremiah 23: 1-6 Luke 1: 68-79 Colossians 1: 11-20 Luke 23: 33-43
December 1, 2019	Kaye Herman Susan Merchant	Jason Duvall	Isaiah 2: 1-5 Psalm 122 Romans 13: 11-14 Matthew 24: 36-44
December 8, 2019	Peg Fowler Don Theune	Marti Theune	Isaiah 1: 1-10 Psalm 72: 1-7, 18-19 Romans 15: 4-13 Matthew 3: 1-12
December 15, 2019	Nancy Wehrman Mike Doughtie	Jason Duvall	Isaiah 35: 1-10 Luke 1: 47-55 James 5: 7-10 Matthew 11: 2-11
December 22, 2019	George Houston Don Theune	Kaye Herman	Isaiah 7: 10-16 Psalm 80: 1-7, 17-19 Romans 1: 1-7 Matthew 1: 18-25
December 29, 2019	Richard Sherman Jeff Dowhan	Matt Johnston	Isaiah 63: 7-9 Psalm 148 Hebrews 2: 10-18 Matthew 2: 13-23



Saturday, November 2

5 pm 4th Quarter Conversation Dinner -
LUMC Fellowship Hall

Sunday, November 3

4 pm Charge Conference at Rosemary UMC

Tuesday, November 5

6:30 am Men's Breakfast at Oscar's

Wednesday, November 6

11:30 am Romans Bible Study at LUMC
1:30 pm LUMC Worship Committee

Thursday, November 7

10 am Work day at Parsonage
7 pm Calvary Choir Practice

Saturday, November 9

9 - 2 Country Christmas at Calvary UMC

Sunday, November 10

8 am Men's Breakfast at Calvary UMC

Monday, November 11

11:30 am UMW Lunch & meeting
6 - 8 pm SHIFT Discernment meeting

Tuesday, November 12

6:30 am Men's Breakfast at Oscar's
4-6:30 pm Game Night & Supper at LUMC
Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, November 13

11:30 am Romans Bible Study at LUMC

Thursday, November 14

10 am Work day at LUMC
12 pm LUMC Trustees at Casa Mia's
7 pm Calvary Choir Practice

Friday, November 15

LUMC Poinsettia order deadline

Sunday, November 17

3 pm SPRC meeting at LUMC

Tuesday, November 19

6:30 am Men's Breakfast at Oscar's

Wednesday, November 20

11:30 am Romans Bible Study at LUMC

Thursday, November 21

7 pm Calvary Choir Practice

Friday, November 22

10 am Littleton ACTS Food Pantry

Sunday, November 24

9 am Fellowship Breakfast Weaver's Chapel
9 am Deadline for Operation Christmas Child
shoe boxes at LUMC
7 pm Community Thanksgiving Service at
LUMC

Tuesday, November 26

6:30 am Men's Breakfast at Oscar's

Thursday, November 28

7 pm Calvary Choir Practice



Monday, December 2

9 - noon Decorate LUMC fellowship hall

Tuesday, December 3

6:30 am Men's Breakfast at Oscar's

Thursday, December 5

7 pm Calvary Choir Practice

Saturday, December 7

8:30 - 10:30 am Breakfast with Santa

11 am Littleton Christmas parade

Sunday, December 8

8 am Men's Breakfast at Calvary UMC

7 pm Christmas Cantata at Calvary UMC

Monday, December 9

9 - noon Decorate Church -LUMC

Tuesday, December 10

6:30 am Men's Breakfast at Oscar's

4-6:30 pm Game Night & Supper at LUMC Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, December 11

12 pm Women in Christian Fellowship at LUMC

Thursday, December 12

12 pm LUMC Trustees at Casa Mia's

7 pm Calvary Choir Practice

Sunday, December 15

3 pm SPRC meeting at LUMC

Monday, December 16

9 - noon UMW help with John 3:16

Tuesday, December 17

6:30 am Men's Breakfast at Oscar's

Thursday, December 19

7 pm Calvary Choir Practice

Sunday, December 22

9 am Fellowship Breakfast Weaver's Chapel

11 am Church Council meeting at Corinth

Tuesday, December 24

6:30 am Men's Breakfast at Oscar's

4 pm Christmas Eve service at LUMC

Thursday, December 26

7 pm Calvary Choir Practice

Friday, December 27

10 am Littleton ACTS Food Pantry

5 pm Newsletter deadline

Tuesday, December 31

6:30 am Men's Breakfast at Oscar's

*Littleton United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 26
Littleton, NC 27850*



*You two quit it or I'm turning
this caravan right around!*



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