

(*) denotes those who are able to stand		
Prelude	<i>Old Church Choir</i> <i>House of the Lord</i>	
Welcome		
*Call to Worship		
*Opening Song	<i>There Is Joy In the Lord</i>	
Scripture Lesson	Matthew 21:23-32 (NRSV)	page 22 (NT)
Children’s Sermon	Nancy Libertini	
Children (3 yrs. - 5th grade) are invited to go with Caroline Carlson to Kids Own Worship (KOW). Nursery is also available for children up to 4 years old.		
Sermon Scripture	Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32 (NRSV)	page 737 (OT)
Sermon	“No More Sour Grapes: Changed Hearts & Minds”	Pastor Tommy Sweeley
Invitation to the Offering		
Anthem	<i>Place for Me</i>	Praise Band
Offertory Prayer		
Prayer Concerns		
Invitation to Communion		
Prayer of Confession		
Words of Assurance		
*Great Thanksgiving		
Giving Bread/Cup		
Anthem	<i>Come to the Table</i>	Praise Band
Prayer after Communion		
*Song of Response	<i>The Way</i>	Praise Band
Altar Moments Alter Lives		
*Benediction		
*Postlude	Praise Band	
Fellowship Time		
Welcome to God’s house! “It’s a joy to have every worshiper here to glorify God and to share in fellowship with one another. <u>After the 9:00 worship service, everyone is invited to gather in the Fellowship Hall or Memorial Garden for refreshments and fellowship.</u> ”		

(*) denotes those who are able to stand		
Prelude		
Welcome		
Introit	<i>Come to the Table</i>	Chancel Choir
*Call to Worship		Responsively
*Opening Hymn	<i>When Morning Gilds the Sky</i>	UMH #185
Scripture Reading	Matthew 21:23-32 (NRSV)	page 22 (NT)
Invitation to the Offering		
Offertory		
*Doxology	<i>Be Present at Our Table, Lord</i> (tune of Doxology)	
*Offertory Prayer		
Anthem	<i>Let Us Break Bread Together</i>	Chancel Choir
Prayer of Illumination		
Sermon Scripture	Ezekial 18:1-4, 25-32 (NRSV)	page 737 (OT)
Sermon	“No More Sour Grapes: Changed Hearts & Minds”	Pastor Tommy Sweeley
Prayer Concerns		
Call to Prayer	<i>Take Time to Be Holy</i>	Chancel Choir #395
Invitation to Communion		
Prayer of Confession		
Words of Assurance		
*Great Thanksgiving		
Giving Bread/Cup		
Prayer after Communion		
*Hymn of Response	<i>Trust and Obey</i>	UMH #467
Altar Moments Alter Lives		
*Benediction		
*Benediction Response	<i>Trust and Obey (Refrain)</i>	UMH #467
*Postlude		
Children ages birth-4 are invited to go to the nursery during the 11:00 worship service.		
If you would like to know more about Southern Pines UMC or are searching for a church home, we warmly invite you to contact us by placing the completed “Connect with Us” card in the offering plate or by calling the church office (910-692-3518).		

The Flowers Today are Given To The Glory of God...

...in honor of Rudd Sutton for his birthday. Thigpen/Landry/Sutton Family

Our Christian Love and Sympathy to...

...George and Barbara Braddock in the death of George's brother, Bill Braddock.

GriefShare's "Surviving the Holidays"

Southern Pines United Methodist Church will hold a one time, two hour program called, "Surviving the Holidays" on Saturday, October 28th at 9:30-11:30 a.m. This two hour program includes a brand new updated participants' guide, DVD, and a discussion after the video.

The participants will, no doubt, be flooded with memories of happier holiday celebrations that were held, prior to the loved one's death.

The participants' guide articles and video include real-life stories to help participants learn how to reduce stress, minimize loneliness, and navigate the holiday season. There is no charge for this event.

Southern Pines United Methodist Church is located at 175 Midland Road. We will meet in the Reeves Hall Building, Room RH-5.

For questions or to preregister, please call 910-690-5234 or 910-690-1511 and ask for Bill or Doris Russell, who are two of the facilitators for the program.

Spiritual Nourishment

The Food Pantry's *Spiritual Nourishment* is returning to our Monday Food Distribution! This ministry is offered by the Body of Christ known as SPUMC and that involves all of us, be it through prayers or participation or BOTH! We need a team of folks to help us on this journey, feeding the hearts of our guests who ***Come to the Table!*** If you would like to be a part of this ministry or just learn more, please text Nancy Libertini @ 410-474-4665 or email her at tidewaterhome@comcast.net. Thank you!

September Memorials

In memory of David Bruton by Alton and Phyllis Arnold and Frank and Lynne Thigpen

Cantata Choir Rehearsals—Wednesdays, 7:15-7:45PM

Cantata Choir rehearsals will be each Wednesday, 7:15-7:45 in the Sanctuary. The name of this year's cantata is "Ceremony of Candles."

Community Men's Group/Every Man A Warrior—Our Community Men's Group starts Wednesday, September 6, from 6:00 to 7:30 a.m., at Pinehurst UMC on Airport Road. The study this fall is called Every Man A Warrior (www.everymanawarrior.com). We'll have coffee, watch a short video about the program and hear some testimony from men who have been through EMAW before. The following Wednesday, we'll break into small groups and start EMAW Book 1 "Walking With God." Don't miss this opportunity to experience what some have called the most practical and impactful Christian discipleship training program available for men today.

For more information: contact: Pastor Elias Ballew eballew@nccumc.org or Aaron Landry alawlandry@gmail.com.

Pastor's Discretionary Assistance—We provide service to the community each Wednesday from the church office. By assisting with rent, utilities, K-1 vouchers and sometimes the purchase of non-narcotic medication (insulin, for example), the Pastor's Discretionary Fund is used to assist those who may be experiencing a financial emergency. Funds to support this ministry are collected through the year and specifically collected on Communion Sundays. Thank you for your generosity for those in need.

The 2023 Pastor Discretionary August figures are as follows: Utility Assistance - \$575; Rent Assistance - \$200; Total Spent YTD - \$7,351

Baby Cap Ministry—If you would like to help make baby caps for newborns/preemies at FirstHealth, please let me know. To date, approximately *4,427 baby caps* have been distributed through FirstHealth. No time or experience to crochet—baby yarn donations are accepted. have also made 198 pillows. For more information about this ministry contact Cassie Lehr at 910-693-2602.

Prayer Shawls—Prayer Shawls can bring a great deal of comfort for those who are recuperating from serious health issues. As a member of the church Nurture Committee, I get to deliver the shawls to members of our church family. If you know of anyone that would be in need of a beautiful prayer shawl or lap robe, please contact me with his or her name. I will see that one is received. Ellen Stewart, elstewart2@gmail.com.

Women's Life Group

The Wednesday morning Life Group had many interruptions this summer due to working on Summer Bags and Books for Kids and also vacations! FALL is here, and we will be meeting regularly at 10:30-12:30 on Wednesday mornings in the Ezra Room. New folks and visitors are welcome. Bring your Bible or Study Bible. We are studying First Corinthians. We began Chapter 7 on Sept 20th. Come to explore, share, learn, and pray together. If you have questions, call Mary Ellen Bender 252-802-0525. There are a few spaces available in the Women's Life Group that meets at my house in Pinehurst Trace on Tuesdays at 6. We enjoy a light supper and then share our concerns and study together. As above, call with questions. We would love to have you in either group! Mary Ellen

Family Promise

Family Promise: Final Service Opportunity of the year. Dinner and Overnight Hosts needed for Wednesday October 18th and Thursday, October 19th. Please contact Brenda Sharpe if you would like to help: brendabsharpe@gmail.com; 910-690-4024. Thank you!

Stephen Ministry

People all around you, in all areas of life, may be hurting and in need of care. It's just a matter of recognizing those needs when they arise. Many hurting people are receptive to Stephen Ministry when it's offered to them. People are unlikely to reach out and ask for help on their own—so lookouts need to actively seek and talk with potential care receivers. The Stephen Ministers of SPUMC need the congregation's help. We are ready to serve and would like to ask you to serve as "lookouts". Our Stephen Ministers are: Gloria Moore, Molly Wilson, PJ Van Laningham, and Robert Rich; Stephen Leader: Amy Cooper, coopa713@gmail.com.

Prayer List

If you or others you know have an upcoming medical procedure, are sick, or are experiencing a significant life event, please let our pastoral staff know by contacting the church directly at spumc@nc.rr.com or calling 910-692-3518. You may also fill out the Pastoral Visit or Prayer Request card located on the back of each pew and place it in the collection plate.

Please use this link <http://bit.ly/SPUMCUConnectForm> when submitting information for the uConnect. All information must be submitted by Monday, 11:59:59 am. Hard copies of the uConnect may be picked up in the narthex or the church office.

Worship Attendance Sunday, September 24, 2023

(9:00 am) 143 (Sunday School) 68 (11:00 am) 64
(Virtually) 294 (Tues. Communion) 6

"Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in my house, and thus put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts; see if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing." **Malachi 3:10-12**

Contributions for the week of 24 Sept 2023

Operating.....	\$ 8,148.00
Pastors Disc.....	\$ 43.00
Church Preservation Fund.....	\$ 165.00
General In & Out.....	\$ 575.00
Zoe Ministry.....	\$ 650.00
Elec. Processing Donation.....	\$ 3.28

Total \$ 9,584.28

Operating Contrib. YTD.....	\$ 413,151
Preservation Contrib. YTD.....	\$ 9,696
Operating Expenses	\$ 472,697

Thank you for your support of Southern Pines United Methodist Church and its missions! Contact Michelle Aubrey at Shelliesnc@gmail.com with questions.

Giving Made Easy: Electronic gifts are fast and secure. Give anytime, anywhere to your favorite funds. Schedule donations or set up an account and make donations whenever you'd like throughout the year. Go to the Southern Pines UMC website: www.southernpinesumc.org and click "Give" at the top of the page to get started. If you have any questions, please contact Michelle Aubrey: Shelliesnc@gmail.com. TEXT YOUR OFFERING: 910-390-1703 (These donations will go to the operating budget.)

Stock Donations: If you are planning or need procedural information regarding stock donations, we ask that you contact Laura Parker 910-246-0835, (lparker@fbwealthmanagement.com), at First Bank Wealth Management.

Home: Juanita Boros, Jim Borrell, Dottie Boothe, Frieda Bruton, Kitzzy Bundy, Wyatt Glenn & family, Candice Fairbanks, Dianne Greene, Mary C. Harris, Emily Hunter, Hal Leak, Ken Libertini, Mary Majors, Susan McNeill, Beth Maness, Shannon Masneri, Tim McConnell, Betty McKnight, David Miller, Janet Parks, Joe Rasmus, Alvin Ratliff, Jennie Rose, Marcia Rowbottom, Gail Scott, Gale Smith, John Southerland, Libby Staples, Ginny Sutton, Carolyn West, Larry White, Treis Williams, Rachael Wirtz & David Young.

Donna Dickson, 1777 Cawdor Dr., Fayetteville, NC 28304
Brenda Geist, 7046 W. Pleasant Oak Court, Florence, AZ 85132-6942
Don & Joyce Batson, 255 Courtyard Boulevard, Rm. 205, Sun City Center, FL 33573
Helge Grill, 6100 W. Friendly Ave., Greensboro, NC 27410
Pat Hitchings, Walton Wood Lake Boone Road, 3550 Horton Street, Apt. 203, Raleigh, NC 27607
Charles E. Kersey, 15 W. Franklin Ave., Collingswood, NJ 08108-1117
Fox Hollow: 190 Fox Hollow Road, Pinehurst, 28374
Nancy Scaggs; Doug Burns #236; Jim Juett
Penick Village: 500 E. Rhode Island Ave., So. Pines
Myron & Barb Dice, Betty Dorsett, Marion Evans, Nancy Peterson #235, Don & Joyce Tickle and Decatur & Betty Richardson
Rehab: Kay Rhoades; Kaye McConnell
Memory Care: Jane MacDougall
Skilled Care: Gerald Peterson
Quail Haven: 155 Blake Blvd., Pinehurst, 28374 :
Jean Hicks; Louise Laningham, #205-E (910) 690-9115
TerraBella: 101 Brucewood Rd., So. Pines, 28387
Nancy Smith
Active/Deployed:
W. Troie Barker, 1st Lt. Benjamin Harvey, CPT Brian Harvey, COL Mark Ochoa, Gold Star & Military Families
Missionary: ZOE Empowerment UMCOR: Ukraine

Ukraine Israel Students Wildfires: WA, Canada Lahaina Those affected by Violence/Missing Tornadoes: Nash & Edgecombe Counties/Weather Issues Flooding /Libya Earthquake/ Morocco

Extended Family & Friends:

Theodore Harold Bonham
Sonny Crabbs (brother of Shirley Shank)
Shelia Criswell (Hugh Bingham)
Steven Diggs (Matt Mihacsi)
Teresa Dione (sister of Debra Daubenspeck)
Myra Doggett (mother of Michelle Aubrey)
David, Carolyn & Carrie Earehart (Scaggs Family)
Ewell Family
Peggy Freniere (Barbara Ricardson)
Donnie Funderburk (B-I-L of Gwen Funderburk)
Gwendalyn (Keith & Rhonda McKinney)
Barbara Harris (S-I-L Betty Richardson)
Telena Irwin (Donna Wondergem)
Holly Jeffries (sister of Connie Wondergem)
Joel (cousin-in-law of Kathy Powitchko)
Jesse Joyce (cousin of Cassie Lehr)
Penny Locklear (David Young)
Judy Malecki (S-I-L of Bob Rich)
David McClore (Scaggs/Bonecutter)
Tim McConnell (son of Kaye McConnell)
John McCurdy (Matt Grafenberg)
Mae McGougan
Tom McVey (cousin of Nicki Pribich)
Joy Mitchener (niece of Sue Harris)
Ruth & Bob Phillips (Nancy Scaggs)
Jackson Powitchko (grandson, Jack & Kathy Powit.)
Ella Rich (granddaughter, Larry & Lynda Newsome)
Tommy Riggins (brother of Katherine Stafford)
Don Scaggs (Scaggs/Bonecutter)
Miranda Shepherd (Katie Humber)
Lynn Soles (Barbara Richardson)
Susan Stabile
Renee Stoppelbein (Marshall & Bertha Taylor-Miller)
Tessie Troutman Hall (Juanita Boros)
Judy Turnage (Barbara Richardson)
Bill Wakefield (Donna Wondergem)
Susan Whitt (David Young)
Jean Williams (aunt of Katie Humber)

Sunday, October 1, 2023 - Worship Schedule

9:00 am Praise & Worship Service/Live Stream (childcare available infant 4-yrs)
10:00 am Sunday School (all ages)
11:00 am Traditional Worship Service/IP/LS (childcare available , infant 4-yrs)
4:00 pm UMYF (United Methodist Youth Fellowship)

Mon - Oct 2 Overeaters Anonymous, Ezra Room, 12pm
Trustee Committee, 7pm

Tues - Oct 3 Exercise Class, narthex, 9³⁰am
Noon Day Communion, Chapel, 12pm
Staff Meeting, 2¹⁵pm
Evergreen (AA) Group, 7pm

Wed - Oct 4 *Women’s Life Group, Ezra Room, 10³⁰-12³⁰pm
Pastors @ Penick, 12 noon
*Cantata Rehearsal, 7¹⁵pm
Praise Band, 8pm

Thu - Oct 5 LPLL Children’s Church, sanctuary, 10¹⁵am

(*see bulletin announcement)

Committee Meetings, 7pm

(Trustee, Oct 2) (SPRC, Oct 9) (Finance, Oct 16) (Church Council, Oct 23)

Save the Date: October 15 @ 3PM—Pumpkin Carving/Hayride/Nature Walk

Pastor Tommy Sweeley: tlsweeley@nccumc.org
Pastor Elias Ballew: eballew@nccumc.org
Director of Instrumental Music: Alan Daubenspeck, daubenspeck.alan@gmail.com
Director of Choirs: Taylor Hickey, taylormhickey@gmail.com
Director of Children’s Ministries: Claire Butler, claire.spumc@gmail.com
Church Office/Nanette Martin: (910) 692-3518, spumc@nc.rr.com
Social Media/Communications: Laura Southerland, sopinesumc@gmail.com
Website: <http://www.southernpinesumc.org>

Mission Statement: "Our Mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ by connecting people to God, to others, and to the world."