



WORSHIP UPDATE

This week begins our Lenten journey. During this season, we will be spending an extended time in the passion narratives found in the Gospels, and you are encouraged, as a Lenten discipline, to read through one gospel account each week. The stories are found as follows: **Matthew 26-27, Mark 14-15; Luke 22-23 and John 18-19.** On Sundays, we will also be using a resource from **Amy Jill-Levine**, a Jewish scholar and theologian, entitled *“Witness at the Cross: A Beginner's Guide to Holy Friday.”* We'll spend the season of Lent with the witnesses to the crucifixion and spend time with them at the foot of the cross. As Levine shares, in the words of the old spiritual we are asked, *“were you there when they crucified my Lord?”* This begs the question of us, *“what would you have thought, or done, had you been there? And as she offers in summary, “nobody said this was going to be easy. As always, getting to Easter means time at the cross and time at the tomb.”* I'm looking forward to the series, and spending time at the foot of the cross. You also have an option, individually and/or collectively,

with Bishop Carter this season too. Click following link: [5 Spiritual Practices for the 2024 Lenten Seaso\(wncumc.org\)](#) So, we'll see you this Sunday. We begin with intercessory prayer at 9:15 a.m., followed by worship and small groups. See you here.

~Pastor Sherri

GENERAL CONFERENCE.

This year, we welcome our denomination's General Conference to Charlotte, and your help is needed. Volunteers will be needed to extend hospitality to our brothers and sisters from across the globe. And here's where you start. Go to: <https://welcometogc.org/> and create an account. From there, you can sign up to volunteer as you're able. **Help is needed starting Thursday, April 18th.** More information to come.

CARD-MAKING CLASSES HAVE BEEN POSTPONED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

89+ BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION.

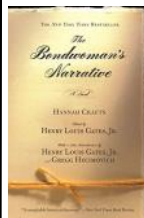
Please shower **David Thornton (Saturday, February 24th)** with cards on his special day. **Cards may be sent to:**

David Thornton
2126 Wensley Drive
Charlotte, NC 28210

MARK YOUR CALENDARS.

THE BOOK CLUB will meet on **Friday, March 8th, at 6:30 p.m.** to discuss the book **“The Bondwoman's Narrative”** by **Hannah Crafts.** Nicole Campbell

will be hosting this event at her home at 1617 Lyndale Place, Charlotte, NC. Everyone's welcome. See you there.



REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN for the 2024 Metro District Lay Servant Ministry training!

We are offering basic and advanced classes at Central UMC, Charlotte April 13th-14th as well as an advanced course via Zoom. Class size is limited so register early. **Deadline to register is March 31st.**

The Basic Lay Servant class will be offered. Advanced classes include: The Method of Our Mission by Lacey C. Warner; The Caring Congregation Ministry by Karen Lampe & Melissa Gepford; and Sharing the Prayers of the People: The Art of Intercession by Samuel Wells and Abigail Kocher.

The ministry of the laity is vital to our churches, district, communities, conference and the world! Lay Servant Ministry is a way ay persons, can grow spiritually, become equipped to serve, discover their spiritual gifts and ways to use them, and experience connection and fellowship with other Lay Servants. The training is open to all. Interested? Reach out to Pastor David Ortigoza or Pastor Sherri Barnes for the needed recommendation. **Registration fee for in person courses is \$15 and the fee for the Zoom course is \$10, plus the cost of books.**

PLEASE EXCUSE OUR ERROR in the birthday list from last weeks Chatter. It should have been: **February 12th - Pam Barnes** not **Pam Bame.**

FEBRUARY Birthdays

- 18 Grayson Dowless
- 20 Benito Acosta
- 21 Sam Hege
- 21 Jean Hunter
- 21 Debra Lentz
- 24 Phyllis Lazenby
- 24 David Thornton

WORSHIP SERVICE FEBRUARY 18, 2024

9:15 a.m. Intercessory Prayer Service #30

10:00 a.m.

Worship in the Sanctuary.

“Simon of Cyrene”
Mark 15:21-24.

11:11 a.m.

Small Group Gathering

11:30 a.m.

Youth Ministry

REGULAR CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Closed on Fridays.

ADMINISTRATIVE MEETING

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18TH

TRUSTEES 11:30 a.m.
Room #30 in person.

FINANCE 2:30 p.m.
Commons Room #1
in person and online.

NO SPRC OR COUNCIL MEETINGS

GIVE ONLINE/OFRENDAR EN LÍNEA.



Our QR code will take you to **SECURE GIVING/ Nuestro código QR** lo llevará a **DONACIONES SEGURAS.**