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June 22, 2020

"Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the road is easy that leads to destruction, and there are many who take it.

For the gate is narrow and the road is hard that leads to life, and there are few who find it."

Matthew 7:13-14 (NRSV)

Grace and peace to you, beloved Friends in Christ,

For the last two thousand years, the Church has gathered to baptize as Christ was baptized. This sacramental rite and ritual binds us in love to God and to one another: those whom we fellowship with today, those saints of the past, and those people yet to be born. We are connected to one another. Membership in The United Methodist Church is linked to baptism. A disappointment of the quarantine and stay-at-home orders is not gathering as the church to baptize people into Christ's holy church.

During these trials and tribulations that our world is enduring, celebrating the sacrament of baptism could help remind us of the bonds of love that tie us to one another. We would gather in our sanctuary and feel the liturgy work in our spirits, reminding us that we, too, have been baptized into Christ's holy Church, that our spirits have been sparked by the Holy Spirit to live as disciples of Jesus Christ. The promises that we made or that were made on our behalf at our baptisms are vital to the work of the Church in God's kingdom today.

In particular there are three questions – a renunciation of sin and a profession of faith – that baptismal candidates or their adult sponsors must affirm before baptism by the Holy Spirit through water and the laying on of hands may be accomplished. Please read these three questions aloud and affirm your responses to them again.

Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of your sin? **I do.**Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves? **I do.**

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as your Lord, in union with the Church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations, and races? **I do.**

Your pastors at Hayes Barton United Methodist Church have heard from many of you over the past several weeks as our community and our country come to grips with the vestiges of four hundred years of our country's enslavement of African Americans. Our community is groaning for reconciliation and justice. It is clear that fighting racism and white supremacy is important to all of you as you live and serve as disciples of Jesus Christ. Unequivocally, we say that racism and white supremacy are sinful.

We put our trust in God's grace to lead us along the narrow and difficult way that leads to life and to reject the sometimes wider and easier way that leads to destruction. Our God is a God of justice who is active in every corner of the earth and in the heart of every believer. There is no part of our lives where God is not present and leading us to champion the cause of those who are marginalized by society: the poor, the imprisoned, the sick, the refugee, the widows and orphans, and, yes, the black and brown people in our community. If we shunned God's commands to speak and act on behalf of those marginalized, then we would be relinquishing our God-given directive to seek justice in the world. We cannot do that. We are called to act by our baptismal vows and by our God.

We ask that you, our brothers and sisters in Christ, join us as we work for God's justice in the world. Take up the mission that Christ sets before us: reject the evils of this world in whatever forms they present themselves. People are looking to the Church to be the moral authority. People are waiting to see if the Church will lead in the fight for justice for our black and brown neighbors. People are waiting to join us in carrying the cross of justice. At Hayes Barton United Methodist Church, we will be providing educational opportunities, times for discussion, and ways to act for mercy and justice in our community.

We follow the teachings of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We humbly ask that you continue to pray for us and continue to discern God's call for disciples to do the work of justice. Our consciences and our prayerful discernment have dictated that we, as your pastors, publicly acknowledge this evil of racism and white supremacy that we see before us. Our role is to lead this community of faith.

May God give us the grace to live our baptismal vows.

Yours in Christ.

Pastor Rick, Pastor Adam, and Pastor Molly

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Hayes Barton UMC College Graduates

Elizabeth Bunn Wake Forest University
Rachel Byrd
Kimberly Colgan North Carolina State University Master of Education in College Counseling and Student Development
Kiley Coster University of Tennessee
Nathaniel Culpepper East Carolina University Bachelor of Science in Construction Management
Anne Drescher Harvard University Master of Education
Blair Hines
Della Huffines
John HunterVanderbilt UniversityMaster of Business Administration
Elizabeth Koscieniak Wake Forest University Bachelor of Science in Biology
William Lowe University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill Bachelor of Arts in Management and Society
Elizabeth Motter North Carolina State University Bachelor of Science in Textile Design
Markie Nickens University of Georgia Master of Social Work
Parker Perry University of North Carolina - Greensboro Bachelor of Arts in Drama
Kendall Stephenson University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill Bachelor of Arts in Political Science
Julia Stevens Wake Forest University Bachelor of Arts in English
Garris Stokes Hampden-Sydney College Bachelor of Arts in Economics
Sam Walter Western Carolina University Master of Science
Britt Warner North Carolina State University Bachelor of Science in Textile Design
Katie Watson
Allie Wilson University of South Carolina Bachelor of Arts in Public Health
Joseph Winstead North Carolina State University Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration

George Floyd Memorial Drive



Scenes from Annual Conference at Hayes Barton UMC - June 18, 2020



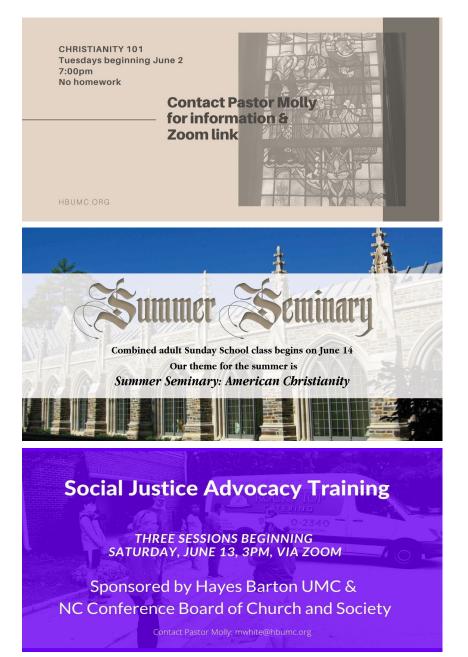
The NCC Annual Conference was held remotely this year due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Our delegates gathered at HBUMC for a communion service on the patio. You can learn more about what happened at Annual Conference at **nccumc.org**.

HB Board of Church and Society

The Covid-19 pandemic has pulled the curtain open and exposed many things. We see how many families depend on free and reduced breakfast and lunch at school. We see data with the number of African and Native Americans contracting and dying from the virus, way surpassing that of Caucasians. We have seen how overpopulation and poor conditions of prisons has caused them to be overwhelmed with cases of COVID-19. And not related, but we have watched the peaceful protests of George Floyd's death turn destructive out of anger that cries for change have landed on deaf ears. It is now clear that we have so many systemic problems that need change. But how? It seems so daunting and large. What can one person do?

A good start is to join the newly created Board of Church and Society at HBUMC. We have so many groups at church that are mercy-based. They help heal, feed, clothe, and care for the immediate needs of the community. The Board of Church and Society is focused on justice. It is getting to the *root* of the problem and trying to solve it. It is speaking for those who are not heard. Our BCS will take issues that the conference is already addressing and address them on a local level. We will consciously make the effort that our actions are Biblically motivated, versus politically. We will become trained in writing letters to local and state officials and protesting. We will educate the congregation on how they might get involved. Many of us are registered for the Social Action Advocacy Training (Zoom meetings) sponsored by our church. This training session is full, but if there is enough interest, we can perhaps schedule more trainings. If you are interested in joining the HBBCS, please contact:

Beth Baker at bethbaker1018@yahoo.com or 919-995-1812, or Pastor Molly at mwhite@hbumc.org



ZOOM Bible and Book Study Offerings

Pastor Rick's Lectionary Group Thursdays @ 10:00am

Email Melanie Iversen for ZOOM meeting registration or for help getting set up on Zoom. miversen@hbumc.org

Christianity 101 Tuesdays at 7:00pm - began June 4

No homework. We'll learn and discuss topics such as Baptism, discipleship, and holiness. Email Pastor Molly for more information. white@hbumc.org

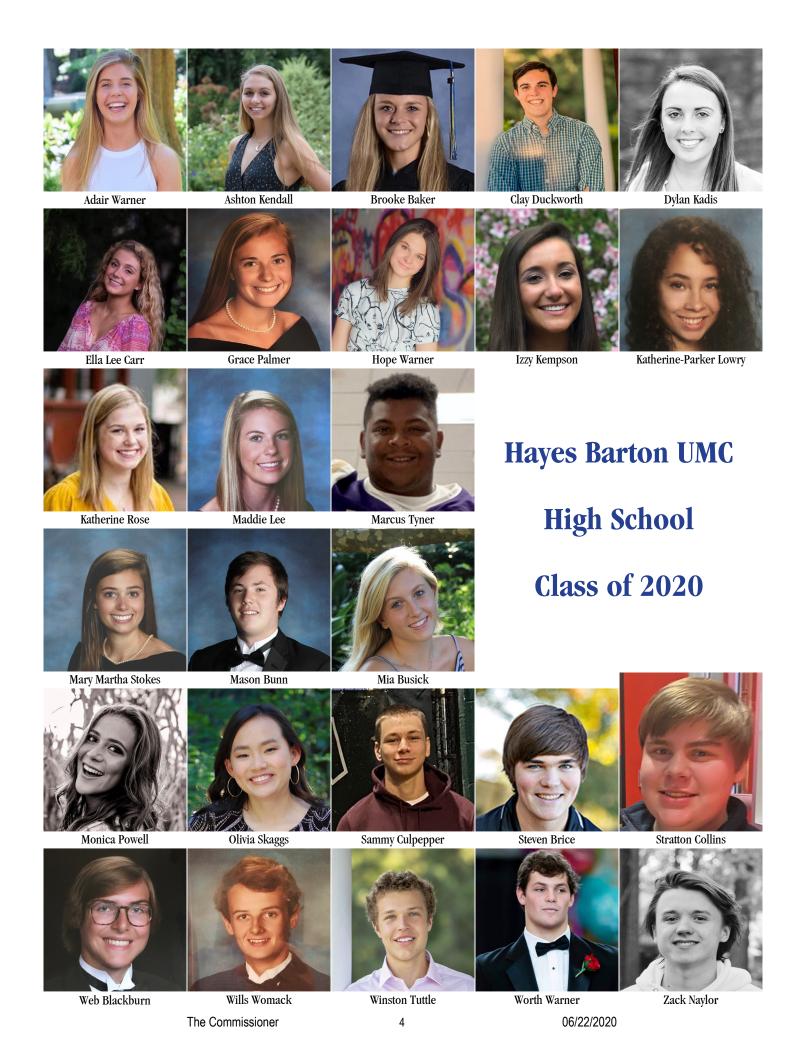
Summer Seminary: American Christianity Started Sunday, June 14

Our combined adult summer Sunday School began on Sunday, June 14. Our topic this summer is **Summer Seminary: American Christianity.**

Social Justice Advocacy Training Starts Saturday, June 13

The current pandemic has shone a light on the inequities in our community. It may seem overwhelming, but we can work together for justice for the poor and marginalized. We're offering **Social Justice Advocacy Training** from the NC Conference Board of Church and Society via Zoom! The three meetings began on Saturday, June 13, at 3:00pm. Contact Pastor Molly for more information or to register.

mwhite@hbumc.org



July/August Upper Room Devotions

These are available to the Stone Street doors beginning this week.

Sympathy and Love to

Teresa Hart and family on the death of her mother, Elly Cherry, on June 18.

Birth

Harper Claire Sponyoe, daughter of Grace & Nick Sponyoe, was born on June 1. Paul Satterfield is a proud grandfather.

Memorial Gifts through June 18

In Memory of Eddie Bagwell:

- to the Pastors' Discretionary Fund by Donna and Marty Fork.
- by Lanier Murr.

In Memory of James Ball:

- to the Pastors' Discretionary Fund by Louise Dail.
- by Rev. Henry & Betty Lenoir, Lanier Murr, Robert &

Charlotte Patterson, and Cathy Wigmore.

In Memory of **Kristin Byrd**:

- to the Pastors' Discretionary Fund by Louise Dail.
- to the Starnes Class by Lynda & Anderson Covington.

In Memory of **Billie Catington**, stepmother of Chelle Porter and Trish Bynum, by Lanier Murr.

In Honor of **Savanna Hollar** on the occasion of her 90th birthday for Columbarium stained glass window lighting by her son, Dale Hollar.

In Memory of **Richard Kane** by John T. Lindley.

In Memory of J. C. Smith:

- to the Pastors' Discretionary Fund by Louise Dail.
- by Leanne D. Broyhill, Clara Carter, Lynda & Anderson

Covington, Jean Edwards, Lee H. Edwards, Mary E. Gallagher, Jean & David Haas, E. John Piaski, CPA, PA, and Harold Lester Turlington.

In Memory of **Marguerite Thompson**:

- to the Pastors' Discretionary Fund by Louise Dail.
- by Tom & Sallie Cozart.

Prayer Bookmarks

06-14-20 & 06-21-20

Death

Elly Cherry

Birth

Harper Claire Sponyoe, daughter of Grace & Nick Sponyoe

Ongoing Concerns

Mark Angelo

Dale Benson

Richard Birtch

Kent Burns

Anissa Ferris

Mary Lou Goodrich

Ongoing Concerns

David Hesmer

Freddy Johnson

Finlay Carter Judy

Margaret Lucas

Jo Ann Moore

Robert Earl Phyllian

Jane Preiss

David Robertson

Rhumell Ross

Ongoing Concerns

Carol Smith

Nancy Stamey

Phil Templeton

Elvey Thomas

Georgia Webb

Vickie Youngblood

Deployed

James Hemphill

Our Church Leaders

Pastors Rick, Adam and Molly D.S. Southern; Bishop Ward

Our In-Crowd Members

All Those Affected by the COVID-19 Pandemic

HBUMC Youth: ASP, SLAM Nashville and SLAM Raleigh - Cancelled

We know many of you have asked questions about our summer mission trips and many others have speculated what might happen. Unfortunately, we have decided to cancel this year's SLAM Nashville mission trip. We are disappointed to have to make this call but believe it is the right choice under the circumstances. Every student and leader who paid is offered a full refund of the funds you have turned in to this point. Please let us know how you would like your refund to be credited. You have the following options:

- You may choose for your refund to be returned directly to you.
- You may choose to forgo a refund and your money will be used as a donation directly to SLAM.
- You may choose that your refund be transferred to the church's operating fund as part of your pledge.
- You may choose to designate your refund to the church's general outreach budget or to aid one of our specific local partners. Please let us know how to direct your refund as soon as possible so we may begin to process them.

Rachel Carter, rcarter@hbumc.org Davis Coster, dcoster@hbumc.org

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This newsletter is also available by email as a pdf, and can be found on the web at www.hbumc.org/newsletters

God's Big Backyard in your own backyard:

Register by 6/30 for Hayes Barton VBS **August 10-14**

Do you want to help your kids learn more about God, teach them how to serve others, and have fun with them in your own backyard? If yes, then you need to register for Hayes Barton's family-style VBS! You will receive one box full of learning and fun (with live-streamed music and skits) for the week of August 10th-14th. Click on the link below to register. We only need one registration per family, and the cost is only \$15. We hope you will explore "God's Big Backyard" with us!

Registration runs through June 30th. Register at: hbumc.org/children



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Hayes Barton United Methodist Church 2209 Fairview Road Raleigh, NC 27608-2240

PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID ΑT RALEIGH, NC



June

17 Picnic in the Park 28 JOY Class Zoom at Fletcher Park 21 JOY Class Zoom

28 Movie Night at TBD

July

Picnic in the Park at North Hills Park JOY Class Zoom 8 Picnic in the Park at Pullen Park 12 JOY Class Zoom 12 Movie Night at TBD

15 Picnic in the Park at Shelley Lake Park 19 JOY Class Zoom 22 Lake Day at Falls Lake 26 JOY Class Zoom 26 Movie Night at TBD

For more information, email dcoster@hbumc.org or rcarter@hbumc.org.

JUNE 28:

4th Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 22:1-14 Psalm 13 Romans 6:12-23 Matthew 10:40-42

JULY 5:

5th Sunday after Pentecost

Gen. 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67 Psalm 45:10-17 or Psalm 72

Romans 7:15-25a

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

WEEKEND WORSHIP **ON VIMEO**

Each weekend, the service will be available at noon on Saturday so that you can worship at a convenient time for you and your family.

Go to vimeo.com/hbumc to view the service, or previous archived services. For questions, contact Susan at:

919-832-6435 x1135 or sbaldwin@hbumc.org.