



the heart♥beat

WESLEY MEMORIAL

A UNITED METHODIST CONGREGATION
High Point, North Carolina

Volume 26 No. 3

March 2018



From Our Pastor



My Lenten Wish

Our Lenten Journey began on Ash Wednesday. Know that my prayers for you will

increase as we make our Lenten journey. I invite you to pray for your pastor and staff. I hope that we all experience a fresh work of God's Spirit in our lives and ministries. I trust that you will join me in being very intentional about the planning of our Lenten journeys. I hope that we will be a different people when we reach Easter. Together, let us seek a greater conversion of our attitudes, our motivation and our wills to the desires of Jesus Christ. I have great dreams for what God will do in our lives this Lent.

(Continued on page 3)



The Church Council is excited!

At their February meeting they:

- 1) ... learned about a six figure SURPLUS in our 2017 budget;
- 2) ... approved a 2018 operating budget with a 3% INCREASE that will facilitate Christ centered ministry at Wesley Memorial, in High Point and beyond (thanks to our very generous donors);
- 3) ... heard about the amazing ministry of our new Small Group initiative entitled **Journey Groups**;

www.wesley memorial.org/journey

- 4) learned about the double digit % growth of our endowments, honoring the legacy of those who gave for the next generation of the church.



WORSHIP
THAT DRAWS YOU

DEEPER

Simple • Casual • Sacred

Mondays 5:30 - 6:00pm • February 19, 26, March 5, 12, 19
Chapel @ Wesley Memorial UMC • wesleymemorial.org

WALTER BRUEGGEMANN
DEVOTIONS FOR LENT
A WAY OTHER THAN OUR OWN

Lent Devotional Book & Discussion Group

Wednesday nights 6:30-7:30 pm
at **DeBeen Coffee Shop**
(709 W Lexington)
Books available at the Front Desk

Blood Drive
Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church
Dining Hall
1225 Chestnut Drive
High Point, NC 27262
Sunday, March 18, 2018
8:30 AM to 1:30 PM

For your lifesaving appointment, please contact Mary Dixon at 336-906-4913 or you can also go online to www.redcrossblood.org and enter the sponsor code: Wesley.
Remember to hydrate prior to your donation and eat iron rich foods.
Bring a picture ID.
Appointments are strongly encouraged, but walk-ins are more than welcome.

Weekly Bible Study led by
The Reverend Dr. Jeff Patterson
12:00 noon in the Dining Hall AND
6:30 pm in the Circle View Room
on Wednesdays thru May 9
(except Holy Week, March 28)

Holy Week Worship Schedule

 Palm Sunday March 25 Regular Sunday Worship Schedule	 Maundy Thursday March 29 7:00 pm Sanctuary	 Good Friday March 30 7:00 pm Sanctuary	 Holy Saturday March 31 7:00 pm Sanctuary	 Easter Sunday April 1 Regular Sunday Worship Schedule
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Our Prayer Shawl Ministry has made and delivered over 2000 shawls, blankets, sweaters and other items.

You are invited to join this wonderful group on Wednesdays at 1:30 pm in the Arts & Crafts Room. Contact

Lee Huff
336.887.9165

Karen Sumner
336.883.8721

Linda Dale
336.884.5121



Tuesday, March 20
11:45 am, Dining Hall

Please make your reservation by
Friday, March 16
(336.884.2204)

Lunch Menu

Meatloaf • Scalloped Potatoes
Green Beans • Bread • Dessert

A Special Anniversary

50 Years of Worship in Our Sanctuary



On **Sunday, March 11**, we will be celebrating 50 years of worship in our sanctuary. We will be singing some of the same songs that were sung at the inaugural service in 1968 and there will be some special photos on display in the narthex. Come, and help us celebrate this milestone!

Easter Candy Donations Needed



We need candy donations for our **Easter Egg-stravaganza** event March 25. We need candy (individually wrapped), small prizes and stickers. Please place your donations in labeled baskets outside each worship space and in the front lobby area.

(Continued from page 1)

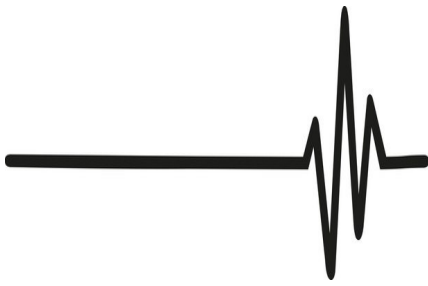
May we examine our lives as Christians and role-models. May we model Christian discipleship for our world. May God reveal to us the ways that we have allowed the evil ways of the world to seduce us. May the Spirit show us how we have accepted the evil ways of the world and even baptized them at times with religious language. I pray that all of us will experience some holy discontent. May God deny us peace if necessary to grant us glory. May we spend more time bringing light to the world than cursing the darkness. May our sacrificial, self-emptying, cruciform-shaped lives startle the world. May God renew our lives, the life of the Body of Christ in mission, and the life of our tired and broken world. I pray that we will spend significant time in spiritual reading and reflection. The grace of repentance can lead us to think differently and live differently. As we are reminded of our mortality, may we be encouraged to make a fuller offering of our lives to the cause of our Lord. May we not just talk about prayer but may we truly become prayerful people. May our lives reap a greater harvest of the fruit of the Spirit. May we hear the voice of God through the Scriptures in a way that convicts us and changes us. May we live in such a way that helps make gentle and just the ways of this world. May the fragrance of worship emanate from our lives.

With Confidence in Christ,

Pastor Jeff

**"You've all been to the stadium and
seen the athletes race.
Everyone runs; one wins.
Run to win.
All good athletes train hard.
They do it for a gold medal
that tarnishes and fades.
You're after one
that's gold eternally"**

(1 Corinthians 9:24, 25, The Message)



Stories From Our Hearts

Wesley Memorial's purpose is to create and sustain spiritually healthy followers who live in ways that transform the world. **Stories From Our Hearts** is a way for members and friends of Wesley Memorial to share faith stories of transformation in the world.



About 7 years ago, David Adams called me and asked me to join the Wesley Memorial (WMUMC) Jail Ministry to teach Bible study to men in the High Point jail. I spent the next

3 months trying to decide how best to say, "No". During those 3 months, however, my conscience bothered me, I was given an unsolicited testimonial on the rewards of being involved with the Jail Ministry by a lady who had served for 10 years (but did not know I was thinking about participating) and one of our ministers preached a sermon on Matthew 25:34-40 (the verses about, "...when did I visit you when you were sick or in prison?"). **I gave up and said, "Yes".**

At the beginning, I thought I would be trying to be a blessing to the men in jail. Instead, I have received abundant blessings. Shortly after I began, my younger brother died suddenly and completely unexpectedly. My family and I were devastated. One of the sweetest sympathy cards I received was a plain sheet of paper with two-dozen expressions of sympathy and support written by the men in jail. One night soon after, one of the men presented each of us with a rose made of paper he had skillfully roll into a budding flower.

Many of the men have been raised in a church family and are familiar with scripture, are skilled at praying aloud and are gifted in drawing or singing, which they share as forms of worship. I have been startled that during prayer time, despite being in jail, the men often mention their gratitude to God for another day of life, three square meals, getting them off the streets where they had come close to death and so forth. It is often only after being thankful that they mention their needs and

concerns. They remind me that prayer should begin with worship, praise and gratitude. The men are generally grateful for our visits, say, "Thank you" frequently and pray for our families and us at the closing prayer. This has become for us not as much a mission to the "needy" as an opportunity to share in worship and fellowship with other Christians.

WMUMC's ministry is currently a weekly Bible study on Wednesday nights. A maximum of 20 men meet with between 1 to 4 leaders for discussions intended to blend life skills with Biblical truths. We feel safe and have all received an orientation session. The jail houses 5 floors of all men and 1 floor of all women. Volunteer programs are overseen by Chaplain Gene Williams. In addition to Bible study, volunteers from our church and others have provided classes in computer skills, job skills, parenting classes, anger management, Alcoholics Anonymous and music worship ministry. There are administrative volunteer opportunities that help in the Chaplain's office and don't interact with the jail population.

If you feel called to this outreach, have a skill that could help inmates succeed outside the jail when released or would like to support the ministry financially, please feel free to contact me (**Mary Sansing**), **David Adams**, **Stan Grobes** or **David Caudle** for more information.

Mary Sansing msansing55@gmail.com

David Adams dadams1@northstate.net

Stan Grobes thelma50@northstate.net

David Caudle dcaudle@northstate.net

We Remember and Honor our Loved Ones

Gifts received January 2018

In Memory of:

Joseph Michael Albany, Jr.: Mary Lyles

Pat Anderson: Tammy Wright

Rachel Leonard Garner: Joe Gamble

Leo Jackson Hill: Joe Gamble, Green Hides LLC,
Mr. & Mrs. Chase Lassiter, Jeannette Lewis,
Royal Manor HOA, Keith & Louise Smith, Nancy
Smith, Nancy Smith & family

Ray Herman Keever (Father of Nancy Ilderton): Mary
Lyles

Chris Kiziah (Brother of Lisa Hawley): Mr. & Mrs.
Raymond Nickens, Sami Price, Lois Powers

Warren Strupe Lackey: Jean & Dwight Bumgarner,
Mary Lyles, Laney & George Morris

Barbara Lee Burton Levina: O.B. Levina

Max L. Meeks: Bootsy Tucker

Virginia Berry Rives: Tammy Wright

Helen Weavil Starnes: Anne & Norman Andrews,
Jerry Bain, Viola Bentley, David & Beth Breece,
Mr. & Mrs. Dwight Bumgarner, Elizabeth Fisher,
Jean Gooding, John Peeler, Betty Safriet & fami-
ly, Pat Sloan, Jupy & Tom Stout, Charles &
Vanessa Surles, Patsy & Charlie Surles, Mr. &
Mrs. Glenn Swaim, Jr., Bootsy Tucker, Abigail
Weaver

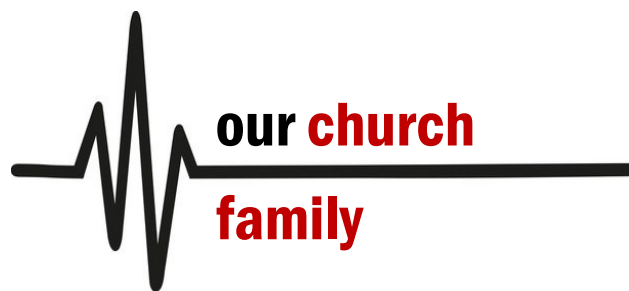
Jean Weaver Stevens Stockton: Midweek Study
Club, Bootsy Tucker



*The following memorial was omitted from the
December memorials in the last HeartBeat:*

In memory of **Wanna McAnally** by Jack
Holbrook, III.

We apologize for this omission.



In Honor of:

Dr. Bill Anderson: Susanna Wesley Sunday School
Class, Tammy Wright

Vivian Penry: James & Janie Penry

Student Ministries: Susanna Wesley Sunday
School Class

Bill Wheeler: Susanna Wesley Sunday School
Class

In Memoriam

Deborah "Debbie" Lorena Pederson January 29, 2018

Marsha B. Slane January 31, 2018

William "Bill" Hough Colonna Jr. February 6, 2018

Sympathies

Brian Bunch, Laura and Emily upon the death of his
father and their grandfather; Charles Bunch on
January 19, 2018

Steven Nelson, Avery and Sullivan upon the death of his
grandmother and their great grandmother; Annie
Laura "Ann" Barbour Nelson on January 21, 2018

Charlie Surles and family upon the death of his sister;
Ruby Surles Wood on January 25, 2018

The family of Ellen Rives Millis upon her death on
January 29, 2018

The family of Deborah "Debbie" Lorena Pederson upon
her death on January 29, 2018

The family of Marsha B. Slane upon her death on
January 31, 2018

Kim Kennett, JP and Katie upon the death of her father
and their grandfather; Robert "Bob" Benson on
February 3, 2018

Larry Connor and family upon the death of his mother;
Earlene Padgett on February 5, 2018

Pat Colonna and family upon the death of her hus-
band; William "Bill" Hough Colonna Jr. on February
6, 2018

student ministries



Steven Nelson

Director of Student Ministries

336-812-4812

snelson@wesleymemorial.org



Summer Mission Trip Registration Now Open

Deadline is Friday, March 9

We are excited to travel down to South Carolina for our First Annual Student Ministry Mission Trip. This will be an opportunity for our students to help serve another community in Christ's name. We are driving down to Lexington County, SC (next to Columbia, SC) to serve on **Sunday, July 22- Saturday, July 28**. We are pumped to partner with Next Step Ministries, Mt. Horeb UMC and other various local organizations in SC. Please contact Steven Nelson if you would like to help scholarship a student for a week of serving in SC! For more information and to register go to:

www.wesleymemorial.org/students



Winter Retreat 2018



Edge Of Adventure Eskew's House

Sunday, March 18
6:00-8:00 pm

Confirmation Class "The Underground"

Sundays
March 4 & 18
4:00-5:30 pm

Sunday Night Live (SNL)

"The Underground"

Sunday, March 25
5:30-7:30 pm

Life Groups WMUMC

Wednesdays in
March
(off March 28)
6:30-8:00 pm



Please pray for our students and leaders
during this special weekend!

Spring Workshop 2018 Valle Crucis Conference Center March 9-11

Church Camp Registration Opens in March

Church Camp 2018

**Sunday, June 17 thru
Friday, June 22**

**Valle Crucis
Conference Center**

Contact Steven Nelson if
you would like to help
sponsor a student for a
week of life-changing camp!

Debbie Foust

Director of Children's Ministries
336-812-4804
dfoust@wesleymemorial.org



for 3rd-5th Graders

Friday, March 23, 6:00-8:00 pm

What could be better than a Scavenger Hunt, looking for clues, pizza and candy all in the same night? **NOTHING!!**

Bring your flashlights and join in the fun!! Cost will be \$5 for Pizza Dinner and prizes.

Reservations due by **March 21** by contacting Kim Suda at:

ksuda@wesleymemorial.org

Palm Sunday Processional

Sunday, March 25



All Children are invited to come and be a part of the Palm Sunday Processional at the 11 :00 am worship service Sunday, March 25. We will meet in the church Narthex at 10:50 am and process in. Children will then sit with their parents.



Sunday, March 25, 3:00-5:00 pm

Join in the Easter fun! Easter eggs, candy and prizes! Games, music, crafts, snacks, and activities that center on the fact that Jesus has risen. This is an Easter egg hunt and so much more.

Save the Dates

March 23

3rd-5th Grade
Easter Scavenger Hunt

March 25

Easter Community Event

June 18-21

Music Camp

July 16-19

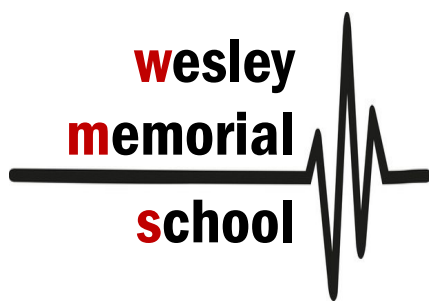
Vacation Bible School



Family Swim Night



Children's Ministry Volunteer Appreciation



JoAnn Clifton, Director

336-884-4232

jclifton@wesleymemorial.org



Susan Kelley, Associate Director

336-884-4232

skelley@wesleymemorial.org

Thank you to all who supported our Chick Fil A School Spirit Night in February! It was our biggest turnout yet and the school earned **\$143.00** for this event. Mark your calendars for our final Chick Fil A School Spirit Night on **Monday, March 26 from 5:00- 8:00pm.**

Be sure to tell them you are with

Wesley Memorial School!

Making Disciples Of Our Littlest Ones...

Wesley Memorial School is committed to sharing our Faith with our children and families. One of many ways we do this is through various mission minded and hands on service projects in our community. February was all about love; sharing our love and doing for others. Our children made care cards for those in hospitals, nursing facilities, and to be shared by our clergy and members of the church. Some of these cards went to the Cottage Care Program at Spring Arbor in Rocky Mount.

March 23 is our "Super Hero's Dash", a special outreach project to support "Kisses4Kate", a nonprofit that helps children with cancer and their families. It is a support organization that was started for the sake of keeping one promise to a little girl named Kate Thornton. Kate Thornton and her family were one of our WMS families. At the age of three, Kate was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (ALL). Little Kate lost her battle with Leukemia; however, the work of her organization continues to help other children and families with Cancer.

Our WMS children, babies through kindergarteners, will have the opportunity to dress up as a super hero and march in a super hero parade around outside, like our CROP Walk. The children will collect funds for this special organization. We

encourage the children to "earn" these donations through doing special things around the house or special projects with grandparents or friends. We welcome church members to come out and parade with us on **Friday, March 23, 2018**. Together, let's raise awareness for the important work of Kisses4Kate. Call JoAnn Clifton or Susan Kelley for more information.

Jesus said, "Let the children come to me"

This is something we truly follow and believe at WMS. Our scholarship program is designed to make this Bible verse come to life. Did you know that WMS granted \$30,000 in scholarship for our current 2017/2018 school year? In so doing, we are reaching and serving the breadth and depth of the community of High Point and beyond. This is one way that we are fulfilling the Wesley Memorial's purpose of *"Creating and sustaining spiritually healthy followers of Jesus Christ..."*

Will you help us? Giving to our scholarship program is the best way to ensure that we can continue to serve families by giving their children a wonderful Christian early childhood education. We teach our children to pray, to sing songs of praise and thanksgiving, our children worship in Chapel time, and are learning to be active in Mission work. In turn, our children bring this home to their families

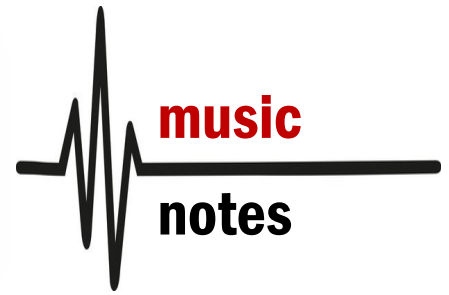
Our Mission committee has committed to helping our scholarship efforts by truly making WMS a mission project. **Our Easter mission offering this year will go to the WMS scholarship funding for the remainder of this school year, summer programming, and hopefully get us started for Fall 2018/2019 scholarship awards.**

Please prayerfully consider being a part of this great gift! In addition, if you know previous staff or families of WMS, please encourage them to come to participate in this special mission offering that has such a great impact in our community. Reach out to previous alumni of our school and let them know about this offer. And, invite them to one of our Easter Worship Services!



Anne Carroll

Director of Traditional Music Ministries
336-812-4816
acarroll@wesley memorial.org



Experiencing a “God moment” in the music of Wesley Memorial



In the summer of 2001, I was a newly retired clergywoman, searching for a church home in my new circumstances. I had bought a house in southwest Greensboro, so I had the entire Triad area from which to choose, and I visited many of

the churches in this area. As a United Methodist, and especially as a clergy person, I was well aware that no matter how much I might appreciate the pastor of a church, that pastor would change before too long, so I knew to look for other factors in choosing my church home. One of the factors that was of particular importance to me was the music program of the churches I was visiting.

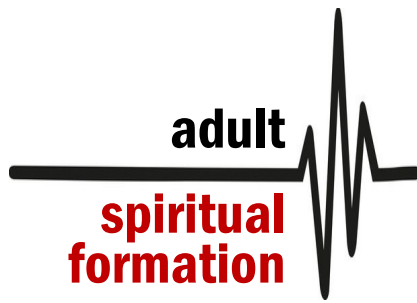
I had, over the years, attended several clergy gatherings at Wesley Memorial, but I had never attended a worship service there. That summer I had visited churches in Greensboro and in Winston-Salem, but on one particular Sunday morning, I decided to drive to High Point and visit Wesley Memorial.

I walked into the sanctuary a few minutes before the traditional service began, and I was struck with the sound of a magnificent pipe organ, being played with skill and passion. A moving service followed, including TWO anthems (each a quality selection, appropriate to the theme of the service and beautifully sung) and then at closing, following the benediction, came a splendid postlude. In that service, I had experienced the music at Wesley Memorial as a beautiful offering of praise to God, an offering of the highest quality. I stood in that beautiful sanctuary and felt the peace of coming home—a God Moment—a sense that I had found what I had been searching for.

Transcendent moments are found in only a few experiences. Two of those experiences are music and religion. When they are joined, they bless the participants and the listeners. And I believe that such an offering pleases God.

Betty Jeanne Day





The Reverend **Erin** Beall

Associate Pastor for Adult Spiritual Formation & Contemporary Worship

336-812-4815; ebeall@wesleymemorial.org

Have You Checked Out **Journey Groups** Yet?

- Jesus had a small group (it was 12 guys who liked to fish).
- David and Naomi had close spiritual friends (Jonathan and Ruth, respectively).
- Theologians tell us that God is Three-In-One (the Trinity) because even God wants to be in relationship!

So what are you doing, trying to make it on your own?



If you're not in a small group, consider starting a Journey Group. Call or text two friends and ask them to get coffee. Spend the time asking each other a deep spiritual question like, "How's your soul doing?" or "Where have you seen God lately?" Then pull up the sermon from last Sunday and ask each other about what the message meant to you, and how you're applying it to your life. There are questions available at wesleymemorial.org/journey, updated weekly.

The whole point of a Journey Group—probably unlike any other group you've ever been a part of at WMUMC—is NOT education (we think you're smart enough already)... NOT information (in this "Information Age" you don't need anything else crammed in your brain!)... But TRANSFORMATION. We want our church members to be spiritually vital, like Jesus and David and Ruth were. The way to do that, the Bible and our church fathers and mothers clearly tell us, is through being in intentional relationships together.

So what are you waiting for? Put down this Heartbeat and call a friend. This could be the first step on your *Journey* toward a transformed life.

For more information, or for help starting or finding a Journey Group, go to wesleymemorial.org/journey or contact the Reverend Erin Beall.

Seeking Submissions: **Prayer, Out There**

The Adult Spiritual Formation Team is looking forward to presenting a Guide to Prayer. WMUMC's Strategic Plan has advised us to create such a document, and we're going to spend this summer putting it together. So **we're looking for feedback from YOU!**

What's your favorite way to pray (with beads or using pre-written prayers, maybe)?

What's a way to pray you've experimented with (keeping your eyes open, perhaps, or going into your literal closet)?

Do you have friends who pray in ways that seem "out there" to you (using icons, drawing, or something else entirely)?

If you have any suggestions, we'd love to hear them! And if you'd like to be a part of the team that puts together this Prayer Guidebook, we welcome your involvement! Contact us by sending an email to the Reverend Erin Beall.

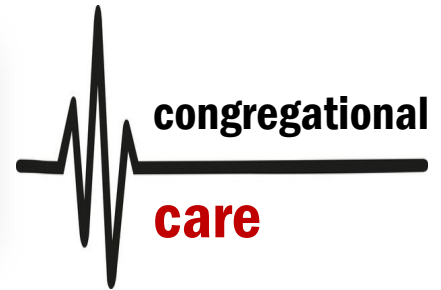


The Reverend **Jared** Stine

Associate Pastor for Congregational Care

336-812-4813

jstine@wesleymemorial.org



DEEPER: A Lenten Worship Series **Continues in March**

We've had a great response to our first two worship services in February. Deeper is a worship service meant to help you grow deeper in your faith during the season of Lent. Worship includes hymns, modern contemporary music, Psalm liturgy, poetry, Scripture, silence, and Holy Communion. We've got three more opportunities coming up this month: March 5, 12, and 19 - all at 5:30 pm in the Chapel. Come with

your small group and then head out to dinner afterward. Come if you missed Sunday morning worship. Come with your family and grow in faith together. Childcare is available for children 4 and under. Contact Susan Kelley at 336.884.4232 for information.



A Valentine's Day Surprise



How was your Valentine's Day? For months, Mike Flack, one of our Stephen Ministers, has been helping 98 year old Leo Skidmore travel to her doctor's appointments. In the month of February, Leo will be moving from High Point to be closer to family. Change and transition is hard, especially when you leave your own home. So on Valentine's Day, Mike showed up at Leo's door and surprised her with a Valentine's card and a big red balloon! Mike wanted Leo to know she was

special to our congregation and would be missed.

Over the years, many people have helped Leo with groceries, transportation, and medical appointments – all in an effort to help keep her in her home. Our Transportation ministry is always looking for drivers to help with needs in our church and community. Interested in learning more? Contact Rev. Jared Stine, or Brenda Bradner, chair of the Congregational Care Team.



Stephen Ministers are trained to provide confidential and thoughtful care without judgment. If you are grieving a loss or struggling with any other life transition, contact Stephen Minister Mike Flack at 336.812.3559 or speak to a pastor.



United
Methodist
Women

UMW Board will meet
**Monday, March 5, 10:30
am** in the Small Dining
Room

The 2018 UMW
Handbooks are available
from your Circle Leaders

Thank you to the
members of Circle 8 and Twisted Sister Unity Group for
preparing and serving the Community Meal at Ward
Street Mission on **Thursday, March 1.**

Northern Piedmont District Prayer Breakfast,
Saturday, April 7, Centenary UMC, Greensboro.
Registration opens at 9:00 am, program 10:00 - 11:00
am.

The UMW has provided the following books in the
Media Center:

Sum It Up by Pat Summit, explores 1,098
Victories, a couple of Irrelevant Losses and a Life in
Perspective.

I am Malala by Malala Yousafzai. The girl who stood
up for education and was shot by the Taliban.

*These books are in the Leadership Development
portion of the UMW Reading Program.*

Circle Meetings in March:

FAITH - Blood Drive, Sunday, March 18th, Dining Hall.

Friendship - Monday, March 12, 11:30 am, Dining Hall, Dr.
Jeff Patterson discusses "Saint Patrick"

Circle #6 - Monday, March 12, 7:00 pm in the Social
Room, Market Square Tower. Speaker Tammy Patterson
"Hospice"

Circle #8 - Monday, March 12, 11:00 am Dining Hall, joint
meeting with Friendship Circle, Dr. Jeff Patterson, "Saint
Patrick".

Circle #9 - Tuesday, March 20, 10:30 am in the Dining Hall

Circle #11 - Monday, March 19, 11:30 am in the Small
Dining Room

Angel Tree will not meet

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April heart♥beat Deadline
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showell@wesleymemorial.org

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