



Cokesbury United Methodist Church

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Our Mission

To be a transformed and transforming community in Christ.

Our Vision

Change lives, ours and others'.

Vol. DLVI 556

Through Cokesbury Windows

February 25, 2019

Pray for the General Conference

By the time you read this, I will be at the special session of the General Conference in St. Louis, MO. Please pray for the General Conference, so that we can make a faithful decision for our denomination. Along with the prayer request, I am introducing to you a speech made by a fellow United Methodist on Jan. 6, at First UMC, Salisbury, during the conference-wide A Way Forward listening session. Rebecca Wright is an African American lay woman and member of Jackson United Methodist Church in Northern Piedmont District. Hers was one of about 15 three-minute speeches that evening and was definitely the most powerful one. She gave me permission to share it with others. I hope it will inspire you, as it inspired me that evening, and help you to pray for the GC.

In-Yong

Rejection is a hurting experience for those that are the focus of the action. When I was 16, my church choir stopped in Goldston, NC wanting to purchase food. I went to purchase the food, and was greeted by the owner with the statement, "I cannot serve you in here, you will have to go around to the back". I looked at him, "I am not that hungry". I know that I could not sit down because North Carolina had not recognized my people as whole persons.

Is the United Methodist Church going backward on the issue of wholeness for all God's people? We have a history of rejection based on other criteria. When will we stop? When will the Church take a firm stand against any type of discrimination? We profess our giant welcome statement on our signs, in our bulletins and on social media, proclaiming "Open Minds, Open Hearts, Open Doors, The people of the United Methodist Church". This statement tells those outside of the church that they are welcome here because this type of truth exists here, come on in! But is it so? There are those inside that experience differences based on sexual orientation, ethnicity and gender.

Most people when rejected in other venues will say I won't go back there again, but what do you do when it is your church? When a person surrenders their life to Jesus Christ and becomes a convert, working on discipleship, being baptized, and asked, "Will you support the church as members of the congregation, and will you faithfully participate in its ministries by your prayers, your presence, your gifts and your service"?

Every member of the United Methodist Church should possess the character traits of the church, and each one of us knows what they are. (The Fruits of the Spirit) Each member of the United Methodist Church is the same in the sight of Jesus Christ, guided by the Holy Spirit, there are no separations according to degrees, titles or church size. When are we going to see this?

Rejection is painful and heavy. See All the People. Let the wheat and the tare grow together, Jesus Christ (God) will do the separating.

*Rebecca Wright
January 6, 2019*



- Mitchell & Judy Hagler, Tom & Mickey Helms, Deanna Reed, and Martha Simpson gave gifts to the Budget Fund in memory of **Steve Hailey**.
- Judy Sims gave a gift to the Memorial Fund in memory of **Steve Hailey**.



To Dot Hailey and LeAnne Craig as they mourn the death of Steve Hailey.



Attic Sale

**Saturday, March 16
7:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon
Fellowship Hall**

By Kay Dumas

- Mark your calendar for the UMW Attic Sale! What can you do NOW?
- ✓ Clean out your attic, basement, garage, and closets.
 - ✓ Pick up a flyer from the table in the Narthex and share with friends and family or post on a bulletin board where you work, or on Facebook or email.
 - ✓ Tell all your friends, neighbors, and family about our GIGANTIC Attic Sale!

Prime Timers

By Kay Dumas

Join the Prime Timers on **Thursday, February 28 at 11:00 a.m.** You can also bring your baked item for the BBQ.



If you would like to order a geranium or Easter lily in honor or in memory of a loved one, please fill-out an order form that can be found in your weekly bulletin or on the table in the Narthex. Orders are due by March 6. The cost is \$8.50 for the geraniums and \$10.25 for the lilies.



Friday, March 1

11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Fellowship Hall

\$9 a plate or 3 sandwiches

**Proceeds benefit Maintenance Reserve
& Missions**

A Reminder from the Trustees

By Phil Cox

The BBQ goes on all day from 11:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. People are needed before and after this time to help set up and prepare take-outs and after for cleaning and putting the Fellowship Hall and kitchen back in order. Please help out anyway you can!

The UMW Attic Sale is Saturday, March 16 and donations are needed NOW. Workers are also needed the week prior to the sale to help set up and price the goodies. The ladies need all the help you can give. Please contact Nicky Moran or Linda Horne, if you have questions.