
PATHFINDER

A WORD FROM THE PASTOR:

The refrigerator in the parsonage is covered with magnets, pictures, cards—countless mementos of that remind me of friends, loved ones, and travel every time I open the door. As I was reaching for my coffee creamer the other day, I noticed a little laminated piece of white paper that usually gets lost in the collage of color. Printed on it is a familiar prayer that I've heard many times throughout my life. It's a prayer that John Wesley wrote many years ago. As I stood in the kitchen sipping my coffee and reading the familiar words, I had to dig into my memory a little bit to remember where that piece of paper came from. It was a simple gift given to a group of fellow pastors 3 years ago when we were in the last months of preparing for our ordination. Our group mentor, a pastor with decades of experience, printed that prayer for each of us and invited us to place it somewhere we would see it every day. At one time in my life, it was a prayer I read every day. Recently, it's just part of my refrigerator collage. Rediscovering a few days ago seemed well-timed for the beginning of a new year, because it's a humbling prayer that asks for God to use us, for God's will to be our will, for our life to be filled with the fullness of God. So here it is, from my refrigerator to you: a prayer for new beginnings in this new year. May it be a blessing to you as it has been to me.

John Wesley's Covenant Prayer

*I am no longer my own, but yours.
Put me to what you will, place me with whom you will.
Put me to doing, put me to suffering.
Let me be put to work for you or set aside for you,
Praised for you or criticized for you.
Let me be full, let me be empty.
Let me have all things, let me have nothing.
I freely and fully surrender all things to your glory and service.
And now, O wonderful and holy God,
Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer,
you are mine, and I am yours.
So be it.
And the covenant which I have made on earth,
Let it also be made in heaven. Amen.*

Blessings,
Pastor Sara Beth

Coffee Talk with Pastor Sara Beth

Sunday, February 3
Pastor's Study at 10am

Are you interested in joining PUMC?

Come have coffee with Pastor Sara Beth and learn more
about being a member and PUMC!

YOUTH CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION!

Our church is blessed to have so many outstanding middle- and high-schoolers who work hard in growing their faith. They each had a jolly time at the December 16th PUMC Youth Christmas Party. Paul & Marci Stout opened their beautifully decorated home to over 50 youth and parents for a fine meal, awesome fellowship and a little bit of fun. The night was a



reminder that good food, fun & fellowship is a great way to experience the joy of the season and a fitting end to the semester. The youth group will launch 2019 with a new series,

"What On Earth Am I Here For?"



Children's Christmas Ministry

One Starry Night was an incredible event thanks to our 50+ volunteers that truly made the city of Bethlehem come to life for everyone in attendance.

We welcomed over 80+ families, including 150+ children of all ages into PUMC that night. The excitement and anticipation as the children moved from station to station was truly a joyful noise.



Children visited a very full INN and met the Inn Keeper, heard about the long journey to Bethlehem from Mary and Joseph in the stable, and

experienced the hustle and bustle of a full marketplace. The candle shop allowed children to make their own candle to use for Advent season, the Bakery drew everyone in with the delicious smells filling the marketplace, the wood shop let children craft their own nativity set, decorate their own piece of pottery at the pottery shop, and help weave a basket with Bethlehem's official basket weaver. The census station required an official count of each family member who visited the city that night. A favorite for almost every child was visiting the shepherds and helping tend to and care for the baby goats and miniature donkey.

My hopes is that this will become a loved tradition we can offer to our children each year, along with the Pittsboro community as their family starts the advent season. Until next year...

A Merry Christmas Eve it was at our **Family Nativity Service** this year. The pews were filled with families and children eager to re-tell and celebrate the Christmas story. The service was filled with lots of Christmas music as each child dressed the part to take their place in the stable by the manger as the story was read that evening. Children left here with preparations to make a birthday cake for Jesus.



Happy Birthday Jesus!!!

Here is how some of our families celebrated Jesus over Christmas!



Pittsboro United Methodist Church
71 West St.-PO Box 716
Pittsboro, NC 27312
Return Service Requested

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8am-12pm
pittsborounitedmethodist.org-follow us on Instagram
pittsboroumc@gmail.com-(919) 542-2330
Traditional Worship: 8:45 & 11:00 am Contemporary Worship: 5:00 pm

Christmas at PUMC!



PUMC STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Sara Beth Pannell, pannelsarabeth@gmail.com
Ministerial Intern, Denny Freeland, dfreeland83@gmail.com
Director of Administration: Kelly Perry, kaperry13@gmail.com
Youth Director: Paul Winston, pwinston9876@gmail.com
Children's Ministry Director: Kelly Boyd, pumckidsministry@gmail.com
Nursery Attendants: Becky Loflin & Ingram McCall
Music Ministry Director: Rodney Oldham, roidham@nccob.gov
Contemporary Worship Arts Coordinator: Joe Sanchez, jeosep@pittsborounitedmethodist.org
Business Manager: Dawn Walker, pumcbusiness@gmail.com