



# March

5125 Mt. Olive Church  
Road  
Charlotte, NC 28278

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## Mt. Olive Presbyterian Church Monthly Newsletter from the Session

### A Message from the Session

#### *Be At Peace with Your Scars*

Saints, we welcome you to another edition of our monthly newsletter. In today's newsletter we will focus on being at peace with our scars. In a recent article this well-known author says, we all carry invisible scars that come from inner wounds and perhaps it is from a break up of a relationship, death or from what someone has done. So often we try to hide our scars because they remind us of that pain and hurt. But you can be at peace with your scars. Those scars are your testimony. In John 20:20, it says, "As he spoke, he showed them the wounds in his hands and his side. They were filled with joy when they saw the Lord!" This scripture is saying that Jesus did not hide His scars from the disciples. He showed them the piercing of his hands, sides and feet. Jesus is not just a spirit but that He had been raised from the dead and is alive and well! Hallelujah! Rev. Keaton reminds us during his powerful sermons that God will use the ordinary and make them extraordinary therefore we encourage you to use what is lacking in your life and God will turn around and lift you up from it.

Mt. Olive family and friends, we, the Session encourage you today to be at peace with your scars so you might be a blessing to this hurting nation.

May the Lord Bless each of you~



In order to change what's  
around us we have to first  
change our hearts.

Dee Eichelberger.

### Make Room For Change & Love

- Every season comes with change, which it is up to us to either embrace it, or get left behind finding ourselves in a regretful state.

But in order to change you have to first make room for the change. Allow the change to enter your heart. A Loving heart is more accepting than a heart full of bitterness.

It's time to spring forward into a new season of discipleship...

Saving souls and changing lives through our ministry is our mission.

## FOOTPRINTS IN THE SAND

One night I dreamed I was walking along the beach with the Lord. Many scenes from my life flashed across the sky.

In each scene I noticed footprints in the sand. Sometimes there were two sets of footprints, other times there was one only.

This bothered me because I noticed that during the low periods of my life, when I was suffering from anguish, sorrow or defeat, I could see only one set of footprints, so I said to the Lord,

“You promised me Lord, that if I followed you, you would walk with me always. But I have noticed that during the most trying periods of my life there has only been one set of footprints in the sand. Why, when I needed you most, have you not been there for me?”

The Lord replied,  
**“The years when you have seen only one set of footprints, my child, is when I carried you.”**

Mary Stevenson (1936)

## Presbytery News and Events

### PANDEMIC PREPAREDNESS

In light of the global outbreak of the COVID-19 virus, more commonly known as the Coronavirus, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) has released a "Preparedness for Pandemics" guide for congregations. The guide contains valuable, common-sense tips on what congregations and individuals can do to keep themselves safe in the midst of a "severe infectious disease outbreak. Please see bulletin board.

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### PRESBYTERY READING GROUP

Resource Center at Union Presbyterian Seminary  
5141 Sharon Road, Charlotte, NC in Room C203

SULA, by Toni Morrison is our selected reading for the Presbytery Reading Group, which will meet to discuss it on Thursday, March 26th at 10:30 am. We read this book as we remember Toni Morrison and the impact she made with her writings that will be read by generations to come.

Two girls who grow up to become women. Two friends who become something worse than enemies. In this brilliantly imagined novel, Toni Morrison tells the story of Nel Wright and Sula Peace, who meet as children in the small town of Medallion, Ohio. Their devotion is fierce enough to withstand bullies and the burden of a dreadful secret. It endures even after Nel has grown up to be a pillar of the black community and Sula has become a pariah. But their friendship ends in an unforgivable betrayal-or does it end? Terrifying, comic, ribald and tragic, Sula is a work that overflows with life.

In April, the group will be reading *The Moment of Lift: Empowering Women Changes the World* by Melinda Gates (April 23); in May, our book will be *Rules of Civility* by Amor Towles (May 28). Come join us for lively discussion and sharing.

## Mt. Olive News

Join us each Sunday for breakfast at 9am and Sunday school at 9:30am and Wednesday night bible study at 6:30pm.

Reminder of our 43<sup>rd</sup> annual Anniversary march on April 5<sup>th</sup>

2020 Stated Presbytery of Charlotte meetings and elected representatives:

May 19 – elders, Andrea Graham & Renita Spears

August 15 – elders, Wanda Belk & Marlon McCullough

October 27 – elders, Veronica Young & Jerry Grier

Reminder of monthly building fund assessment is now \$35; Anniversary (April) and Homecoming (September) are \$150 unless otherwise stated and annual Per Capita is \$35. Your contributions are needed for the continuous work of our many ministries.

Lent Noon Day Services:

March 18 @ Steele Creek PCHP

March 25<sup>th</sup> @ McClintock

April 1<sup>st</sup> @ Steele Creek PCHP

April 9<sup>th</sup> - Maundy Thursday Location TBD

## Who are The Session

*Moderator, Rev. Dr. Willie Keaton, Andrea Graham, Brenda Witherspoon, Ellen Young, Gregg White, Jerry Grier, Leonard J. Mauney, Marlon McCullough, Renita Spears, Robbie Garriett, Veronica Young, Wanda Belk and Quinten Montgomery*