



**"Once when he was eating with them,
he commanded them,
'Do not leave Jerusalem
until the Father sends you the gift he promised,
as I told you before.'"**

– Acts 1:4, New Living Translation

From the crucifixion to Easter, it had to be jolting. Seeing Jesus fully alive, even being able to touch Jesus, and having what we call Communion with him again. Then to stand there, and be in awe and amazement, as Jesus ascends into heaven. This had to be one emotional roller coaster ride.

After all the emotion of realizing they were just left alone, I can imagine the shock as they were received the instructions to go and do even greater things than Jesus did. But before they could do those things, Jesus had told them to go to Jerusalem and wait.

What a roller coaster ride, between the waiting and the blessing God has promised to give them. However, the blessing never comes unless we are obedient in the doing. The amazing thing is that everything God was asking the disciples to do were things they had never done before – even with Jesus!

As I have said many times, God never asks us to do anything just to fail at it. I must admit, though, that there is that "roller coaster" time frame when we ask, "What do we/I do now?" before the blessing actually comes. We prepare for the doing in obedience – realizing that in doing Jesus things, we are never actually doing them by ourselves or with our own power. In fact, once we are actually pushed beyond our doubts and fears to act in obedience, we end up doing things that we thought of as being impossible.

The Holy Spirit always moves us toward the blessings that God wants to give us. I believe that is where we are right now at Sedge Garden. Lately, I have had so many of you approach me or one of the staff and say, "I want to do this" or "I feel like I am supposed to help with this." Not only is this an exciting time for us all at Sedge Garden, but the desire to want to be obedient is affirmation of the Holy Spirit moving among us. It is a sign that many of the "What now, God?" questions are being answered by God through His people.

And I do not know about you, but I am strapped in – excited and ready to enjoy the ride!

*Love you all,
Pastor Keith*

Pastoral Care Notes

We extend ongoing prayers of petition for comfort and healing to the following:
Congregational Care Circle of Concerns

Shirley Ayers
Hope McClure

Peggy Conaway
Vince Murphy

Landon Graham
Bryan Staley

Vicki Jarman
Robin Weavil

...and prayers unspoken.

Homebound Friends, Nursing Home, Assisted Living & Independent Living Residents

Dare Burge

Nancy Ellison

Dot Sides

Pat Vogler

Zane Chandler (Arbor Ridge, Room 209)

Pratt Dunlap (River Landing, Colfax, Room HT107)

Hugh & Willie Hill (River Landing, Colfax, Room P301)

Becky Hines (Bermuda Commons, Advance, Rm 505B)

Jenny Linville (Arbor Ridge, Room 110)

Bub & Karen Manning (Salem towne)

Josephine Mathis (Arbor Ridge, Room 211)

Mary Lea Shreve (Kerner Ridge, Room A-1)

Ruth Tucker (Arbor Ridge, Room 202)

Sadie Weavil (Trinity-Elms, Clemmons, Room 402)

Evangeline Davis (Cadence, Huntersville, Room B9)

Linda Heath (Cadence, Wake Forest Senior Living,
Wake Forest)

Denny Holder (Trinity Glen, Winston Salem)

Carrie Lowe (Kerner Ridge, Room A-11)

Patsy Rowell (Arbor Ridge, Room 218)

Peggy Smith (Arbor Ridge, Room 111)

Robin Weavil (Davie Nursing & Rehab Center)

Jerry Young (Chesapeake VA, 23322)

March Feature Member

Bryan Staley
5091 Oak Garden Drive
Kernersville, NC 27284

(DOB: 1.8.1949) Age: 76
Member since 1986 (39 years)

"A Scout's Honor to the Fight against ALS"

By Gregory Hall in honor of Bryan Staley

Bryan was diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's Disease
In December 2019.



The leaves and dirt crunched underneath the footsteps of the Scout Troop. The trees towered above them as a group of young boys made their way through the Appalachian Trail. Following their trusted leader, although he always took the last position while hiking to make sure everyone was accounted for, the journey ahead of them was tiring but worth it. When phones still had a cord and video had yet to kill the radio star, their leader, Bryan Staley, used only a map, the trail guide, and his intuition as his guide through the wilderness. Gregory Hall, a member of the troop, went to the same church as Bryan and looked up to him as a father figure in his life.

Gregory and Bryan's bond grew over the years as they hiked five hundred miles over several expeditions and spent time in the wilderness together. Gregory grew up without a dad, so Bryan became the strong and wise father figure Gregory had always wanted. On one specific camping trip, the Scout Troop, on a cold winter night, had settled into their tents with snow and ice on the hard ground. Bryan noticed that Gregory was getting hypothermia while asleep in his sleeping bag.

Gregory recalls that, "Bryan helped wake me up, and he had made a fire for me. He had already put the fire out and everything for the night, so he remade the fire at around 2 or 3 AM. He warmed me by the fire, so I kind of came to, and I was kind of halfway in a dream state, hallucinating from hypothermia. He saved my life on that camping trip."

Years went by, and Gregory grew up and moved from his North Carolina birthplace to Houston. In June of 2022, Gregory was invited by a friend from his church to join a running club of his. For Gregory, it was an instant love for the running community and the sport, bringing back memories of both running and his early hiking experiences with his Scoutmaster. Around the same time, Gregory learned that Bryan had been diagnosed with ALS. After visiting Bryan in August, Gregory knew that he was going to support Bryan by raising money and participating in the Houston Marathon Run for a Reason. Gregory has currently raised over \$2,600 to support ALS research in Bryan's honor.

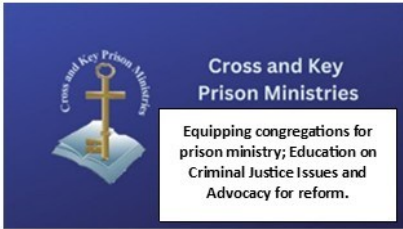
Bryan has touched the lives of many men, such as Gregory. Bryan has won multiple awards for his leadership and time that he has spent with the Boy Scouts, even dedicating a Scout Hut in his honor. Because of how many lives he has touched, Gregory's fellow Scouts from the past have been supportive of Bryan, his wife Margaret, and his family while he is living with ALS.

"I didn't think about it at the time, but I really credit him for a lot of things that have helped me in my life," Gregory said. "It's not just me; he's been a powerful example and leader in his church and in the Scouting community. So, I want to recognize that." Join Gregory in support of ALS research.

OUTREACH

Sedge Garden United Women of Faith hosted a Cross and Key Prison Ministries workshop for the Piedmont and Yadkin Valley Districts on March 27, 2025.

The Cross and Key Prison Ministry workshop's goal was to help local churches learn about the need for prison ministry, including our Methodist history of prison ministry, the Biblical and theological foundations for prison ministry, and the current societal needs. Pastor Keith and Anne White attended the workshop and received their comprehensive prison ministry toolkit, to aid in the discovery of ways to begin a new prison ministry initiative or re-energize an existing ministry. Sedge Garden is not looking to establish a prison ministry but if anyone within the church is interested in how to become involved with an existing prison ministry let Keith or Anne know. The UMF plan to explore supporting the birthday gift closet for children of incarcerated mothers at Women's Prison in Raleigh.



Employee Spotlight – Anne White

SPRC would like to spotlight employee Anne White this month. Anne is the Director of the Congregational Care Team.

Anne was born in Winston-Salem. She and her twin sister and brother grew up in King. She graduated from South Stokes High School. Her mother was a social worker, and her father owned a farm and a garbage service. On the farm, they had over 8,000 chickens. They had several other animals, but the most notable was lamb. The reason this is notable is her family was able to have lamb every Sunday. Anne didn't realize how blessed she was to have lamb until she became older. As Anne grew up, she showed a desire to serve her community and church. She organized blood drives at her church, worked at a summer camp for children with special needs, and was considered the town baby sister.

Anne went to UNCG where she received an undergraduate degree in Political Science and Sociology. She received her Master's in Counseling and Family Systems. On September 16, 1978, Anne met Bob White at a Dean's meeting. Bob went home and told his mother that he met the woman he planned to marry. They didn't immediately start dating. Anne said that several years after meeting Bob, she realized she wanted to go out on a date with him. She called his mother, and his mother helped her get a date with Bob. Anne and Bob were married on November 19, 1988, in the SGUMC Chapel. In 1988, Bob and Anne bought the house next to the church where they have fostered five children over the years.

Prior to working for SGUMC, Anne worked for the State of North Carolina at the School of Arts High School and the University. Anne began her career at the School of the Arts as the Director of the High School. While at the University, Anne was the Director of Judicial Affairs and Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs. When you talk to Anne, you can tell how much she enjoyed helping students and watching them grow personally and professionally. Anne retired from the School of the Arts January 1, 2011.

Anne did not immediately begin attending SGUMC after her marriage to Bob. She started by helping Rachel Hester by painting items for the Church Bazaar when she was not at work. While she was helping paint these items, one Christmas she met Kathy Grady. She painted with Kathy every week for 5 years. These two ladies got her in the church and Anne never looked back. She joined the Church in 1991. Since Anne began attending SGUMC, she has been instrumental in the implementation of Stitches of Love and the Stephen's Ministry.

She has helped all the ministers with Congregational Care since Dave Cash. As the Congregational Care Team Leader and now the Director of the Congregational Care Team, Anne has set up different teams to help with making phone calls to the homebound, sending cards, and teams for the preacher's pop-in porch parade during Covid. Anne and Bob have been teaching Sunday School for 10 years. They started with kindergarten to 3rd grade and then moved to 3rd grade to 5th grade. They love the variety of the classes, and they love the children. Anne said that this Confirmant Class is their first class where they have taught most of them in Sunday School. They love watching them all grow in Christ.

There are so many more things that Anne does that she does not take credit for. When you see her around the Church thank her for all she does and ask her how to grade a Chicken Egg (She learned to do this at 5 years old.)

SPRC also asks that you pray for our Staff daily as they perform their jobs around the Church.





Garden Kids Ministry

"Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old, he shall not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6

The Garden Kids know how to celebrate! On Saturday, April 19th, around 80 children and their families came out for the annual Easter Egg Hunt! We packed the Fellowship Hall and heard the story of Easter told through eggs, and then they were off! Over 3,000 eggs, filled with candy and Easter prizes covered the church yard and the kids found them all! Thank you to the Golden Agers and other volunteers who helped to stuff all those eggs, as well as hosting on Saturday morning as we welcomed many children and families from the preschool and community!



Amanda Better, Director of Garden Kids Ministry
336-624-1423 amanda@sedgegardenumc.org



Someone recently asked:
"How can I tell if God is speaking to me or if it is just what I want?" Sometimes, it is hard to determine if the noise we hear is God speaking or is it just ringing in our ears again. Other times, we are not sure if God really wants us to go there or do something and we want to be absolutely sure it is from God because doing so is such a huge sacrifice of our lives and even those around us. So, come to Worship as we discuss...

The Voice: Hearing God In A Noisy World.

May 4th – **"What Did You Say, God?"**
Psalm 119: 67, 71-72

May 11th – **Mother's Day: "Not the Perfect Mom"**
Proverbs 31: 10-31

May 18th – **"God, Is That You or Is It Me?"**
1 John 4: 1

May 25th – **"God, What Is Taking You So Long?"**
Psalm 37: 7

June 1st – **"God, Did You Just Say No?"**
Judges 6: 33-40

grounded

YOUTH MINISTRY



UMYF Schedule

- May 4th -
 - 9:45-10:45am - Small Groups
 - 2-3pm - HS Confirmation
 - 3-4pm - Love Notes Concert
 - 4-6pm - GYM (*Note the time change!*)
- May 11th - Mother's Day
 - 9:45-10:45am - Small Groups (MS & HS Confirmation Classes Combined)
 - No GYM
- May 18th - Graduation Sunday
 - 9:45-10:45am - Small Groups
 - 12-2pm - Graduation Banquet
 - 2-3pm - HS Confirmation
- May 25th - End of Year Celebration!
 - 9:45-10:45am - Small Groups
 - 2-3pm - HS Confirmation
 - 3-5pm - GYM
- May 30th, 5-8pm - Community Vacation Bible School
- June 1st -
 - 9:45-10:45am - Summer Sprouts!
 - 12-1pm - Lunch Devo
 - 1-3pm - Combined Confirmation Class

Confirmation Spotlights

Carma Waggoner - 14

Carma's favorite Confirmation memory is going on the trip and getting closer with everyone. One thing she has learned about God from her time in Confirmation is that He can handle all of her questions.



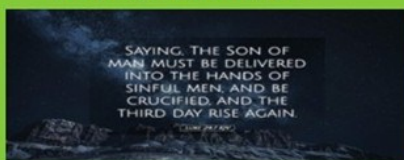
Chloe Waggoner - 14

Chloe's favorite memory from Confirmation is having meals with everyone and getting to know them better. Really, just bonding over food and good conversation. She says that something she has learned about God is that it doesn't matter if something happens in your life and you stray away from Him, He will still be there when you come back with the same love He had for you before.



Lucas Kearns - 11

Lucas's favorite memory is the Lake Junaluska trip, the speakers, and learning about John Wesley. When asked what he has learned in Confirmation Class, Lucas said, "Although I have attended this church my whole life, I have learned a lot more about God and his forgiveness and grace."



Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; ²⁶and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"
John 11:25-26

Chad & Amanda Better, Co-Directors of Youth Ministry
chad@sedgegardenumc.org amanda@sedgegardenumc.org
 336-682-6899 & 336-624-1423 youth@sedgegardenumc.org



CAPTAIN TOM'S
SEAFOOD GRILL & BAR

Widows & Widowers
Wednesday, May 28th
11:45am



UWF Tulips

May 28th

1:30pm-
2:30pm

Gifts have been given to the following ministries...

In Memory Of

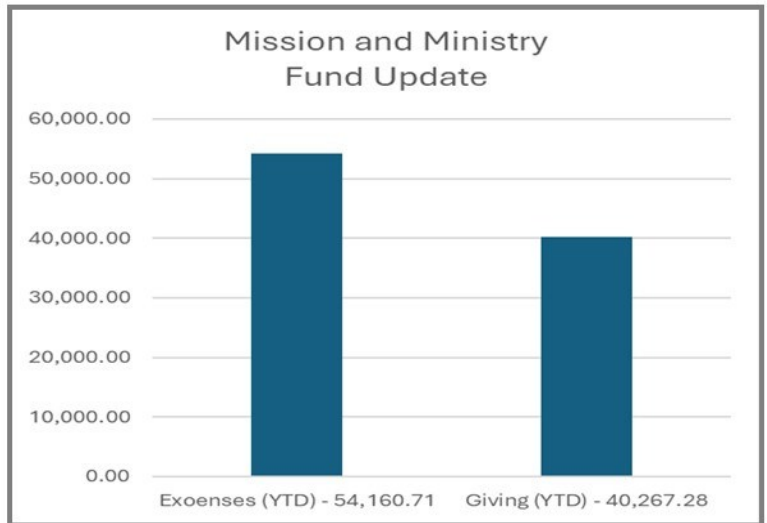
<u>Harold Sapp</u> Choir Fund	Andrew Veach
<u>Harold Sapp</u> Choir Fund	Janet Gamble
<u>Harold Sapp</u> General Fund	James & Patricia Calloway
<u>Harold Sapp</u> Choir Fund	Rob & Debby Alexander
<u>Harold Sapp</u> General Fund	Vance & Kathleen O'Brien
<u>Harold Sapp</u> Choir Fund	Hunter Atkins
<u>Richard & Gladys Paschal</u> General Fund	Anthony Paschal Adam Paschal Leslie Paschal Kirkman

In Honor Of

<u>Denny & Nina Holder</u> UMCOR	Joey & Yvonne Coffey
<u>Karen Smith</u> Roof Fund	Lynette Hampton
<u>Jenny Linville</u> Choir Fund	Peggy Conaway

From the finance committee...

Needed to meet weekly budgeted expenses: \$11,137
Giving in March: \$40,267.28



Ways to Give

Cash or check using an envelope.
Online at sedgegardenumc.org/give or
by scanning the QR code!

Thank you for your generosity!



Alzheimer's and Dementia Informational Workshop

Presented by the:



Come to one or come to all three!

Each presentation will be on different aspects of Dementia.

Programs will be from 12:30 – 1:30pm in the Fellowship Hall

Questions? Contact Anne White. All sessions open to the community. Invite friends, family, and neighbors.

Church Family invited to come at noon for a FREE lunch!!!

May 1: Understanding Alzheimer's & Dementia

Learn about the difference between Alzheimer's and dementia, causes, risk factors, stages, and treatments.

May 15: Communicating Effectively

Teaches how dementia affects communication, including tips for communicating well with family, friends, and health care professionals.

May 29: Responding to Dementia – Related Behaviors

Details common behavior changes & how they're a form of communication, non-medical approaches to Behaviors, and recognizing when help is needed.

Love Notes Presents:

Carolina Brass

with Percussion:

Big Band, Dixieland, Broadway,
Classical, and Contemporary



Free and open to the
public.

Sunday, May 4, 2025

3:00pm

A Love Offering for Open Arms Ministries
will be received at the concert



Stitches of Love

May 5th

10:00am - 12:00pm

Rachel's Roses
May 8th
6:30pm-8pm
A.S.K. Classroom

MENU:
HAMBURGERS WITH
ALL THE TRIMMINGS
POTATO CHIPS
SLAW
CAKE AND ICE CREAM

**GOLDEN AGERS
LUNCHEON**



MAY 12, 2025

1:00 PM

GRADUATION SUNDAY MAY 18TH



**Church
Council
Meeting**

May 18th
3:00pm
In the
Fellowship
Hall

Daisies Circle

May 19th
3:00pm



Fellowship
Hall

**United Methodist Men's
Breakfast**

May 25th @ 7am





May Celebrations



Birthdays			Anniversaries		
5/1	Chad Betters	5/19	David Amburgey	5/2	Wes & LuAnn Baker
5/2	Caroline Gray Carla Marshall		Candace Cox Betsy Daley	5/5	Chris & Casey Conner Mike & Sharon Hennis
5/3	Tracie McClure		Dawn Houseknecht	5/15	Kevin & Cindy Leonard
5/4	Heath Craver	5/20	Will Edwards	5/17	Tony & Laura Tice
5/7	Audrey Dillow Madelyn Hobbs Nolan Manuel	5/21	Taylor Hunter Susan Piotrowski Wanda Miller	5/18	Ronnie & Rhonda Stack
5/9	Peggy Mumaw Sharon Binkley Wesley Cole Danny Miller	5/22	Nick Tice Lyndsey Lipford (Staples) Addison Locklear Mac McFarland	5/19	Bill & Amber Perrin
5/10	Niki Peters	5/24	Tim Henderson	5/20	Ben & Janet Truitt
5/11	Sheila Driskill Alexander Bradley Angie Brown		Ashley Locklear Sadie Drew Smith Margaret Staley	5/21	Kevin & Candace Cox
5/12	Dalton Ray Lefevre Michelle Monday Barbara Clapp	5/25	Herb Swaim Jr. Burt Yokley Melissa Hale	5/22	Colby & Cyndi Miller
5/13	Jordan Nichols Iris Applegate Suzanne Williams	5/26	Mary Keeter Nichols Hadley Brooke Heath David Marshall	5/27	David & Jan Marshall
5/14	Emily Piotrowski Sarah Piotrowski	5/28	Stan Swaim Todd Braun		Alex & Kathleen Collette
5/15	Darren Eubanks Wayne Meeks Annie Olcott	5/29	Lily Giles Lindsay Slate		
	Carsyn Queen Krystal Swicegood	5/31	Andrew Woodward		
5/16	Barbara Goodman				
5/17	Devin Tice				
5/18	Diana Ross				

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY



SGUMC Contact Information

Mailing Address

794 Sedge Garden Road, Kernersville, NC 27284

Office Phone

(336) 788-2297

Preschool Office Phone

(336) 788-2230

Pastor

Pastor Keith Edwards

keith@sedgegardenumc.org

Office Coordinator

Brandi Waggoner

brandi@sedgegardenumc.org

Director of Traditional Music

Cindy Darden

cindyd@sedgegardenumc.org

Director of Contemporary Music

Tommy Holder

tommy@sedgegardenumc.org

Director of Children & Youth Ministries

Amanda Betters

amanda@sedgegardenumc.org

Co-Director of Youth Ministries

Dr. Chad Betters

chad@sedgegardenumc.org

Congregational Care Team Leader

Anne White

anne@sedgegardenumc.org

Director of Preschool Ministry

Judy Hoyle

judy@sedgegardenumc.org

Sexton/Security

Marshal Faircloth

marshalmusicman4@aol.com

Book Keeper

Heather Norris

heathernorris@suntercpa.com