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NORTHMINSTER *Life*

NORTHMINSTER NEIGHBORHOOD MISSIONS



As Steve Olk says, "Like a good neighbor, Northminster is there." Your Neighborhood Committee members, Barbara Fatkin, Helene Olk, Suzann Smith, and Lynn Denny, are excited to continue our ministries with Rosa Taylor Elementary School and Macon Recovers this year. For Rosa Taylor, one of our members has generously donated a utility closet that will



house clothing and hygiene items for Rosa Taylor children that need them. Also, Macon Recovers, our neighbors who help people with addiction recovery, is seeing an increased demand for hygiene kits. In the near future, you will see a bulletin board in the church narthex with a list of items we are asking church members to donate. We will also have a blue "Neighborhood Nook" box provided to drop off your donated items. If you would rather donate cash, we will happily accept that, too. You can make a check out to Northminster and write Neighborhood Committee on the memo line or donate on-line.

We are grateful to be in ministry with you and look forward to being "good neighbors."

Opportunity to volunteer—St. Francis Episcopal

On February 5th, 2021, St. Francis Episcopal Church and Society of St. Andrew (SoSA) will partner to make food boxes available to those in need of nutritional assistance. From 10 am until 1 pm, food boxes containing meat, dairy, and vegetable(s) will be available at St. Francis (432 Forest Hill Road, Macon, Georgia 31210) until all are distributed.

If you are interested in learning more about this opportunity to serve our local community through assisting our neighbor church, please contact Lynn Denny at ltdenny@yahoo.com or 478-731-4849.



The scripture tells us to "love your neighbor as yourself." What better way could you love your neighbor than helping them in times of need. The Good Samaritan Offering does this for the needs in our community and for the needs of our congregation. **In the month of January, Centenary used some of our contributions to assist a family get off of the street and furnish their home. Centenary Church now has a place to store in-kind donations for other people in need of beds, tables, etc. We were also able to assist with another family's power bill.** Thank you for your generous support of the needy people in our community!

IN THIS ISSUE

MUSIC NOTES

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them. Acts 16:25

Through difficult times of persecution and intolerance, Paul and Silas were thrown into jail because of the greed in someone else's heart. They responded, though, with song - through which, God showed his power and mercy. In times when our lives are filled with unknown and feelings of unmerited judgement, we take joy and have hope in knowing that we can come together to worship through word and song. Through music, we can be healed and empowered.

As we continue taking health precautions, we also work fervently to make sure opportunity to worship through music is made possible every Sunday morning. If you know someone gifted in musical talent who would be willing to share their talents with Northminster, please contact music director, Sandy Smith at music@northminstermacon.org.



YOUR 2021 ELDER LEADERSHIP

Northminster's Session is smoothly transitioning to our new leadership, as new (or returning) elders are installed Sunday, January 31st. Those who have served us so graciously and are rotating off of the Session, include Ricky Smith, Ann Weaver, Boyd Ellison, Sam Alderman, and Judy Hill. We thank each of these elders for their dedication and service. Although elder's area of leadership may change, we currently have the following information to let you know where our 2021 elders will be serving. If you have any questions or would like to assist with any of our areas of ministry, please contact the appropriate elder listed below.

NEIGHBORHOOD – Lynn Denny

[addedenny@yahoo.com](mailto: addedenny@yahoo.com)

- discerning ministry needs
- developing a presence
- fostering hospitality
- enhancing connections

OUTREACH & MISSION – Kari Alderman

kalderman@mountdesales.net

- directing budget giving
- providing ministry opportunities
- planning special mission offerings
- fostering international connections

ADULT DISCIPLESHIP – Charlotte Nolan

nolancd@bellsouth.net

- directing adult Sunday School
- planning adult Bible studies
- planning special speakers & events

YOUTH DISCIPLESHIP – Melissa McDougald

juragal@gmail.com

- providing for youth group
- directing children and youth Sunday School
- fostering generational fellowship

CONGREGATIONAL CARE – Sandra Ridgeway

sway502@bellsouth.net

- supporting persons and families in times of distress, need or grief

MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT - Emily Brown

ebrown@mountdesales.net

- integrating new members
- utilizing time and talents
- directing stewardship emphasis
- fostering communication

WORSHIP – Jan Hirsh

jhirsh1020@gmail.com

- providing for worship, music, preaching, and sacraments

FINANCE – Minor Vernon

doctorv123@aol.com

- directing annual budget
- planning special capital offerings

PROPERTY – Beau Kitchens

beau@mingledorffs.com

- planning for short and long-term needs
- overseeing buildings, property & furnishings

PERSONNEL – Roland Hill

jrhfinstrat@hotmail.com

- directing & supporting paid staff
- facilitating Teaching Elder partnership

PLANNED GIVING – Sam McDuffie

duff661@bellsouth.net

- overseeing endowment fund
- encouraging future giving



Thank you for your support of, and interest in, UKirk Campus Ministry at Mercer University. "U" for University and "Kirk," the Scots word for Church, UKirk is the national name of campus ministries of the PC(USA).



This academic year, despite the pandemic, Mercer University has been in-person. As a result, UKirk

made safety accommodations and meets in-person, on campus, each week. In accordance with Mercer University's rules for student organizations, our weekly dinners are prepared and individually packaged for each student by local restaurants. While this has increased our costs and kept our local congregations from getting to be with UKirk in person when bringing a meal, it has allowed us to support a local industry hard-hit by the economic hardship of the pandemic.

We eat picnic style outside, and anyone who wishes may take their meal to-go. We then mask for our study time. Last Fall we used the study, "Into the Light: Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament" (from *Horizons/PCUSA*). This Spring we are using the study, "Unraveled: Seeking God When Our Plans Fall Apart" (from *A Sanctified Art Inc.*). We also have occasional worship services during which we celebrate the sacrament of Communion.

Mercer
UKirk

A CAMPUS MINISTRY OF
FLINT RIVER PRESBYTERY

Students fill the table at the Dec. 2019 Exam Week study break lunch.



WEEKLY
MONDAY
MEETINGS HELD
ON CAMPUS
INCLUDE DINNER
AND BIBLE
STUDY.

UKirk offers:
a judgement free zone;
a safe space for students
to discern what *they*
believe;
pastoral support;
a way to be Christ's
Church at college.

Students and alumni participate in a Zoom Bible study, Spring 2020.



Students gather to celebrate the graduating seniors of the group.



Along with the weekly Bible study we discuss issues important to the students:

- politics;
- racism;
- relationships with parents and other students;
- mental health struggles; and
- anxiety around post-graduation plans.

You can support UKirk directly by:

- Praying for the students;
- Sponsoring a dinner (\$120/week);
- Donating to the Campus Ministry Fund

please make checks payable to "UKirk - The Table" and mailed to: 661 Walton Way, Macon, GA 31204;

- Hosting a "UKirk Sunday" in your congregation;
- Sharing about UKirk with others in your congregation and community; and
- Consulting with your session about the possibility of serving on the UKirk campus ministry board of directors.

Each year UKirk transforms the lives of the students who participate, providing a vital community on campus and supporting them as they grow as disciples, adults, and members of Christ's Church. Thank you for all the ways you make this campus possible. If you have more questions please contact Campus Minister Rev. Marilyn Tucker-Marek, (334-202-2004; MercerUKirk@gmail.com).