



# SharingSpace

Weekly Newsletter of New Beginnings UMC

June 21, 2020

## This Week's Activities

### Sunday 6/21

#### Happy Father's Day

8:30a Traditional Worship  
11:00a Contemporary Worship

### Monday 6/22

8:00a Church office open until 4pm

### Tuesday 6/23

8:00a Church office open until 4pm  
10:00a Staff Meeting

### Wednesday 6/24

8:00a Church Office open until 4pm  
6:30p Servant Stitchers

### Thursday 6/25

8:00a Church Office open until 4pm  
8:00a Morning Prayer Group  
6:30 Spirit Walkers Emmaus Reunion Grp.

### Friday 6/26

8:00a Church Office closed

### Sunday 6/28

8:30a Traditional Worship  
11:00a Contemporary Worship

## Covid-19 Chaos: Your Chance for Change

By Austin Wofford for Seedbed.com

I'm a sucker for training montages in movies. The clip from Rocky hits me in the heart every time. How are you not inspired by watching it? He runs the streets of Philly, spars with slabs of meat, does one armed pushups, and climbs the iconic stairs at the end of the scene. Watching it leaves you on a high. Wait—Rocky is a little too old school for you? Pitch Perfect is another great example. The Bellas come together to train for glee club glory. They run the auditorium stairs, hone their pitch and tone, learn how-to walk-in heels, and swear off dating – all in the pursuit of perfection. A competition is upcoming for both Rocky and the Bellas. A new status and a new glory is within reach, but is not guaranteed. The question lingers over their training, "Will they become champions and legends, or will they settle into something less?"

We are in the middle of a massive cultural shift. COVID-19 has created a lot of questions for us. The world is changing. It's not what it was. And it is not yet what it will be. This chaos gives us a sense of disorder and unease. Our lives before the pandemic have been completely disrupted, and it's still hard to imagine what they will look like beyond this season of upheaval.

Anthropologists have given a name to these transitional moments of our lives: liminal space. It originates from the Latin word *limina* which means threshold and is used to describe the in-between times that extend between two identities. This title was first attributed to coming of age rituals such as a bar/bat mitzvah, where one is not a boy and also not yet a man; not a girl and not yet a woman. These young people are on the threshold of a new identity but are not yet there.

Liminal seasons are common in a person's life and are often caused by moments of hardship: the loss of a job, the loss of a loved one, or the rapid spread of a pandemic. These disasters make it impossible for us to continue living normally. For example, COVID-19 dissolved many of the boundaries that once helped to define our daily routine. Working or learning from home blurs the lines between work life and home life, responsibility and freedom. Our time and habits demand to be rethought. The lack of structure brings into question how we see ourselves and how we should live. We find ourselves not who we were, and not yet who we will be. This is liminality, the wavering or lingering between two set identities.

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God used liminal space throughout the story of scripture to shape the people he loves. Take the Israelites in the desert for example. They were freed from slavery but wandered without a new identity. They were no longer slaves, but not yet family. This fluid in-between time provided God the opportunity to establish a new way of life for them. At Sinai, he inaugurated his law and his rule in their community. The Israelites restructured their shared routines around God's practices/presence, which brought them into a new standing, as the nation and family of God.

COVID-19 is a tragedy. Many lives have been lost and the disruptions facing individuals, families, communities, and institutions are real. But it's also an invitation, and the Christian tradition has always viewed adversity this way. Each of us finds ourselves in a liminal season and— as was the case for the Israelites in Exodus —it was brought on by crisis. We can learn how to handle this time well from our movie montage heroes, Rocky and Beca (the lead Bella). Hardship brought them into liminality; Rocky was broke and Beca was helplessly alone. They treated these crises as opportunities to train for a new position. In a similar way, the liminal space in which we find ourselves today gives God an unprecedented chance to reshape our patterns, and to mold us into something new.

Here are three steps we can take to establish new rhythms, and a new identity, in liminal space:

1. Resist anxiety and embrace silence: The pace of our lives have slowed to a standstill. Throughout the years we have used busyness to mask our fears and anxieties. Let your feelings rise to the surface and give them to God in prayer (Yes! That means turning off the tv and putting down your phone). Allow God to speak direct words, affirmations, and new identity over you. Let a fresh vision for the future arise out of stillness.

2. Make a list of your values: God may speak to you about the person he is calling you to be. What are the traits needed to become that person? If God is urging you to get your finances in order, then write that down as a value. If he is asking you to become a leader in your family, then take note of that. The important thing is to recognize God's direction, and to translate that into concrete values which you can prioritize.

3. Set your schedule around your values: The flexibility of quarantine gives you the chance to build your schedule around your convictions. Take the list of values, and on Sunday night, schedule your whole week around them. This transforms a haphazard time of life into a kairos moment.

Liminal space is an invitation to establish your habits around your convictions. Social distancing, if handed over to God, may set your life trajectory in a new divine direction.



## Welcome back to church!

Please take a moment to review guidelines in place for your comfort and safety.

**As you arrive:** Three entrance doors will be open. The front, back and office hallway doors. You will be guided to sit in a section based on where you enter the building. It may be different than what you're used to. Hand sanitizer is available.

Please maintain 6 feet of separation from anyone other than household members.

**Masks/Face coverings:** Masks or coverings are REQUIRED at the 8:30 service and OPTIONAL but requested at the 11:00 service. Please bring your own if you have one. There will be a small supply at available at each entrance.

**Bulletins:** To avoid contact, paper bulletins will not be handed out. For upcoming activities, please check this newsletter, the church calendar on the website and social media.

**Coffee:** The coffee bar will not be available at this time, But please feel free to bring your own. Remember to take your cups and belongings when you leave.

**Singing:** Because of the distance germs can spread during singing, neither service will include singing. Hymnals have been removed for the time being.

**Offering:** To avoid contact, we will not be passing the offering plates. Baskets and envelopes will be available at each exit to place your offering.

**Communion:** Until it is deemed safe, we will not be sharing communion the first Sunday of the month.

**Prayer Requests:** Since the communication cards will not be available, please submit your prayer requests to [prayerlist.nbumc@gmail.com](mailto:prayerlist.nbumc@gmail.com) or call the church office.

**Sunday School:** Because of the room capacities and inability to social distance, ALL Sunday School classes are suspended until further notice.

**KidLink AM / Nursery:** Children's/Student ministries will continue with online platforms and will not meet on campus at this time. Both services are "family friendly" and children of all ages are encouraged to attend worship.

**Playground:** The playground is open under parental supervision only.

**Small Groups under 10:** You ARE allowed to meet in Room 6/7, KidLink Main, Sanctuary or Picnic shelter. You must reserve your space with Lisa Diestler in the church office - [communications@newbeginningumc.org](mailto:communications@newbeginningumc.org).

Cleaning of common touch surfaces will take place before, between and after services by our cleaning company.

## “Pound” the Preacher!

The transition team wants to welcome Pastor Greene and “pound” him with a variety of staples he may need for his new home and make him feel welcome to the area. These items could include gift cards, toilet paper, paper towels, cleaning supplies, windex, soap, dish detergent, laundry detergent, paper plates, napkins, plastic utensils, flashlight, batteries, light bulbs, drinks, canned goods or other non perishables. Drop off at the church office on Sunday or M-Th from 8am-4pm by Monday, June 22nd.

## Advocate: Call for Racial Narratives

Dear friends,

We must talk about racial issues and racial awakening in the name of Jesus and His call to love ALL people as ourselves. In that vein, the South Carolina Advocate is seeking submissions for another racial narrative project, which we hope to turn into a book. (If you haven't seen the first book, visit <https://advocatesc.org/stories-of-racial-awakening/>—it includes a forward by Bishop Holston.) Anyone with any tie to South Carolina United Methodism is welcome to submit. Submissions should be 500-1,000 words and include your name, church name, etc. and be a personal reflection about how your eyes were opened and you experienced a racial awakening in your life.

Email your narrative to [jbrodie@umcsc.org](mailto:jbrodie@umcsc.org) by Aug. 31.

Jessica Brodie, editor  
South Carolina United Methodist Advocate newspaper  
Winner of 115 journalism excellence awards  
4908 Colonial Dr., Columbia, SC 29203  
803-735-8772 (O)  
803-807-0018 (C)  
[AdvocateSC.org](http://AdvocateSC.org)

## NBUMC ERT Tornado Rebuild Mission

July 10-18th Estill, SC

Phil Griswold, our Spartanburg District Assistant Disaster Coordinator will be leading a team from the Spartanburg District to Estill, S.C. for the purpose of repairing five homes from storm damage during the last round of tornadoes. Stephen Turner, Disaster Coordinator from the Anderson District will be the overall Mission Coordinator and will have at least three teams there to assist, including the Spartanburg team.

At Phil's request we are asking anyone, 18 years or older, ERT certified or not, if they would consider attending the rebuild mission to assist our brothers and sisters in need. The teams will be housed and fed at “Camp Christian” in the Estill area. The team will leave on Friday, July 10<sup>th</sup> and return on Saturday, July 18<sup>th</sup>.

COVID 19 protocols will be adhered to during this call-out. If you can attend this rebuild mission in July please contact Phil Griswold at the number below. If you cannot attend this mission we ask for your prayers and support for those going.

Chuck Marshall, Spartanburg District Disaster Coordinator  
864-216-1876

Phil Griswold, Spartanburg District Assistant Disaster Coordinator  
864-814-4444

## Upcoming Worship Schedule

### June 21

**8:30am Traditional 11:00 Contemporary Sanctuary**  
Praise Team leader Richey Blackwood will be leading both services.

### June 28

**8:30am Traditional 11:00 Contemporary Sanctuary**  
UMCSC Congregational Specialist Chris Lynch will be leading both services.

### July 5

**8:30am Traditional 11:00 Contemporary Sanctuary**  
This will be the first Sunday with our new pastor Rev. Dr. Christopher Greene.

**We apologize, but at this time we will not be broadcasting live through Facebook. However, we will be taping the sermons during worship and they will be posted on YouTube, our website and Facebook early in the week, for those who are not able to attend on Sunday.**

## Servants

**Ushers/Greeters 6/21/20**

**8:30**  
No Ushers Needed  
at this time

**11:00**  
No Ushers Needed  
at this time

**Offering Steward**

**8:30** Steve Byerly

**11:00** Melissa Lawson

**Security/Medical Team**

**8:00-Noon**

George Troncoso

Adrian Kostiuik

Doug Chivers

## One can CAN make a difference.

As you are grocery shopping this week, pick up an extra can of food for the food pantry and drop it off in the cart in the back of the sanctuary. Your donation will make a difference!

**All donations for June go to  
Greater Spartanburg Ministries**

# KidLink

3K– 4th Grade



## Sunday School / KidLink AM

Sunday at 8:00am

While we can't meet in person, Mrs. Sarah provides Sunday School / KidLink AM Worship materials each week by email. You can use these at home or on your tablet during Sunday Worship. If you are not on her mail list, please contact her at the address below.

## Daily Devotions for Families

Each week Monday—Friday

Mrs. Sarah provides a daily devotion for our KidLink friends! This video series provides a brief devotion delivered via email for viewing when it works best for your family. If you want to join in, just contact Sarah at the address below.

## KidLink Newsletter

Mrs. Sarah puts out a weekly newsletter to connect parents with Sunday school lessons and ways to stay involved. It is also full of ideas and resources for parents, grandparents and caregivers to do with the kids. If you would like to be included, please email her at the address below.

## Virtual Vacation Bible School

July 13-17th See information on next page.

## KidLink has a Facebook Page!

Take a minute to visit and "like" their page [New Beginnings UMC KidLink](#).

\*Just a reminder that the KidLink Facebook page is a public page and if you would like to participate with out posting to Facebook you can email your video to Sarah Pruitt at [childrens@newbeginningsumc.org](mailto:childrens@newbeginningsumc.org).

For more information on any Children's Events, Contact Sarah Pruitt at [childrens@newbeginningsumc.org](mailto:childrens@newbeginningsumc.org)



## Did You Miss a Sermon?

We are posting the sermons online in video and podcast format.

**Video:** Visit our website: [www.newbeginningsumc.org](http://www.newbeginningsumc.org)

Click on the "Resource" tab and then "Sermons".

**Podcast:** Visit [Buzzsprout.com](http://www.buzzsprout.com)  
<https://www.buzzsprout.com/194909>

# NB YOUTH

5-12th Grade

## Daily Devotions for Youth

Our team recently started a daily devotion and encouragement thread for NBUMC students using the app GroupME. If your NBUMC student would like to participate but did not receive the invitation to join GroupME, please email Sarah Pruitt at [childrens@newbeginningsumc.org](mailto:childrens@newbeginningsumc.org) and we will add them to the list.

For more information on any Youth events, Contact Sarah Pruitt at [childrens@newbeginningsumc.org](mailto:childrens@newbeginningsumc.org)



# Ways to Give



- Place and offering in the collection plate on Sunday morning. This can be a check, money order, cash or loose change.
- Send a check or money order in the mail.
- Online through the church website: [www.newbeginningsumc.org](http://www.newbeginningsumc.org). Click on the "Give" tab and register to donate online through your checking or savings account.
- Set up "New Beginnings UMC as a Bill Pay at your local bank.
- Give by Text on your cell phone. Funds can be donated from your saving or checking account charged to your MasterCard, Visa, Discover or American Express card. Simply send a text to **864-952-0918** and follow the prompts to send your donation.

If you have any questions please contact the church office or e-mail [finance@newbeginningsumc.org](mailto:finance@newbeginningsumc.org).

June 14, 2020

### Our Presence

Traditional	34
Contemporary	107
Sunday Total	141

### Our Gifts

### YTD Actual

Income	\$234,824.29
Expense	\$208,244.59
Last week's giving	\$7,142.20

# LITTLE BUGS BIG IMPACT

BIG AND SMALL  GOD USES US ALL



## Virtual VBS July 13-17, 2020

VBS this summer was going to be a little "BUGGY"... so we're teaming up with other churches for the

### **BIGGEST VBS IN HISTORY!!**

We are partnering with our sister conference in Northern Alabama to bring the first ever

**VIRTUAL VBS** experience to KIDLINK families this summer.

We're taking VBS into thousands of backyards and we hope you'll join the fun!

Participants will receive a "Virtual VBS" daily email during the week of VBS, filled with the same content your children know and love from VBS, including access to **LIVE PRAISE AND WORSHIP** online each evening.

Access this content at home together as a family to host your very own backyard VBS!  
We've also created a VBS SPIRIT KIT to jump start the fun!

*The first **12 registrations** will receive a special VBS box that can be picked up from the Church between July 1 and July 13.*

**Simply let us know you've registered for VBS**

(email Sarah Pruitt at [childrens@newbeginningsumc.org](mailto:childrens@newbeginningsumc.org) or call the church office ).

**Register your family today via link below.**

<https://na-reg.brtapp.com/2020VirtualVBS>

Be encouraged to share with your neighbors and friends, all ages are welcome!

\*Access to our Virtual VBS is provided free for all participants, but will require a few supplies. If this presents a road block to participation for your family, please let our church know so we may assist you.

# Sunday School

During this first phase of reopening, all Sunday School classes have been suspended until it has been deemed safe to resume.

## Scheduled Meetings

None at this time.

[www.newbeginningsumc.org](http://www.newbeginningsumc.org)



210 Rainbow Lake Road  
Boiling Springs, SC 29316  
Phone: 864-599-1303

Office Hours 8:00am- 4:00pm  
Monday – Thursday Closed Friday



facebook.com/  
newbeginningsumc



twitter.com/NBUMC



@nbumcsc  
@nbumcstudentministry  
@nbumcscckidlink



youtube.com/user/  
newbeginningsumcsc

## Prayer Requests

To submit a prayer request:

- Email to [prayerlist.nbumc@gmail.com](mailto:prayerlist.nbumc@gmail.com)
- Write them on the Sunday Bulletin Communication Card.
- Visit the Prayer tab on our website.

If want to pray for concerns please send an e-mail to: [prayerlist.nbumc@gmail.com](mailto:prayerlist.nbumc@gmail.com) to be added to the list.

## Congregational Care

- **Congregational Care Information:**  
Sue Miller [jimmysue81@hotmail.com](mailto:jimmysue81@hotmail.com) 864-590-2651
- **For a phone call or visit:**  
Sue Miller [jimmysue81@hotmail.com](mailto:jimmysue81@hotmail.com) 864-590-2651
- **For cards or mail:**  
Nancy Hallgren [nhall39@bellsouth.net](mailto:nhall39@bellsouth.net) 864-578-9761  
For congratulatory, illness or death.
- **For Meals:** due to illness, surgery or accident or funeral services.  
Sue Miller [jimmysue81@hotmail.com](mailto:jimmysue81@hotmail.com) 864-590-2651
- **Prayer Shawl Ministry:** Prayer shawls for anyone who is seriously ill or going through a serious life challenge.  
Jane Wofford [woffordjane@gmail.com](mailto:woffordjane@gmail.com) 864-494-1176
- **Stephen Ministry:** Christian care for those experiencing a life challenge or crisis.  
Rev. Ross Chellis [pastor@newbeginningsumc.org](mailto:pastor@newbeginningsumc.org)  
864-599-1303

## Registration for Child Care

Child care is available free of charge for all church ministry meetings and church -sponsored events (unless indicated). No reservations are needed for worship services.

**Reservations required 48 hours in advance.**

- Complete the Child Care request on the Sunday Bulletin Communication Card.
- Visit the Nursery tab and register on the church website.

## Church Calendar

The official church event calendar is on our website.

Contact Lisa Diestler at [communications@newbeginningsumc.org](mailto:communications@newbeginningsumc.org).

## Text to Give

Simply send a text to **864-952-0918** with the amount you wish to contribute. Once you register, future giving is easy. Just send a text with the amount you wish to give and it will process automatically. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

**Reverend Ross Chellis**  
**Sarah Pruitt**  
**Lisa Diestler**  
**Richey Blackwood**  
**Tonya Miller**  
**Ryan Hyatt**

**Pastor**  
Children's Ministry Director  
Communications Lead  
Director of Contemporary Music Ministries  
Financial Administrator  
Worship Tech Coordinator

[pastor@newbeginningsumc.org](mailto:pastor@newbeginningsumc.org)  
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