

Union United Methodist Church

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Rev. Randy Perdue, Pastor

Norma Jean Harbin, Organist

Rev. Dr. Mark D. Conforti, Yadkin Valley District Superintendent

Bulletin – October 4, 2026

The Heavenly Call

Pressing On Worship Series – Week 3

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship

**** P – Pastor Bold – C: Congregation responds ****

P: We live in a world that entices us with influence, power, and accolades.

C: We choose to press on toward the prize of the heavenly call.

P: Sometimes we find ourselves wishing for heaven without working to bring heaven to earth.

C: We choose to press on toward the prize of the heavenly call to live righteously here and now.

P: Other times, we find ourselves exhausted by working for the gospel, wondering if anything we do is making a difference.

C: We remind one another to press on toward the prize of the heavenly call, leaning on Christ as the source of our perseverance and hope.

P: Beloved, God calls us not to escape this world but to build the kingdom of God in this place and in this time.

C: We choose to press on toward the prize of the heavenly call to embody God's mercy and justice as we build God's kingdom on earth as it is in heaven.

Our Statement of Faith – The Apostles Creed

p. 881 UMH

**** All to recite in unison ****

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the
Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the
dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God
the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick
and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of
the body, and the life everlasting. Amen!

The Gloria Patri

p. 70 UMH

*Glory be to the Father
and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, Amen!*

Opening Hymn – The Church’s One Foundation

p. 545 UMH

Sharing Our Praises & Prayers

Pastoral Prayer

Offering – Ushers come forward

Children’s Time

Doxology

p. 95 UMH

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav’nly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen!*

Psalm Lesson – Psalm 19:1-6 (ESV)

**** L – Leader Bold – C: Congregation responds ****

L:¹ The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.

C:² Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge.

L:³ There is no speech, nor are there words, whose voice is not heard.

C:⁴ Their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them he has set a tent for the sun,

L:⁵ which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber, and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy.

C:⁶ Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them, and there is nothing hidden from its heat.

Hymn: Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty p. 64 UMH

Epistle Lesson – Philippians 3:4b-14 (ESV)

⁴ Though I myself have reason for confidence in the flesh also. If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. ⁷ But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸ Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness

from God that depends on faith — ¹⁰ that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.¹² Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³ Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead,¹⁴ I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Sermon – The Heavenly Call

Holy Communion – Service of Word & Table II

**** Please refer to your handout or the screen ****

Closing Hymn: My Hope Is Built On Nothing Less p. 368 UMH

Benediction & Commission

Disciples of Christ, may God bless you with perseverance, that together we may persist in following the way of Christ toward the heavenly call by embodying God's mercy and justice here now. Amen.

Readings for the week beginning October 5, 2026

Exodus 32:1-14 | Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23 | Philippians 4:1-9 | Matthew 22:1-14

Announcements

- The Union UMC Charge Conference meeting will be held October 13, 2026 at 5:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall.

Prayer List

Church Family

Wayne Bumgardner
Frank Dalton
Johnny Disher
Sherry Doub

Wanda Needham
Barbara Perryman
Frances Sisk
Peggy Willard

Church Friend / Extended Family

Tommy Bost
Tammy Seats Boyd
Jimmy & Deborah Branch
Jane Bullin
Leisha Carpenter
Mack Edwards
Garry Harbin
Kathy Harbin
Lynda Harper
Ronald Howell
David Joyner
Wrintley Koble
Charles Kurfees
Kevin McBride
Mary Ann McBride

Kevin McDaniel
Mark Megela
Ronnie Mudd
Jay D. Prevette
Vivian Royal
Hal Seats
Phillip Seats
Mary Ellen Smith
Kim Triplette
Ann Wallace
Robert and Susan Warren
Tracy Webb
Jeremy Wilson
Savannah Wooten

October Birthdays

Shane Potts	1	Mark Bumgardner	25
Cindy Ball Toshie	5	Cary Leigh Disher	28
Carlin Burton	7	Brittany Pitts Mote	28
Debbie Wall Cooke	14	Makenzie Jane Mote	28
Serena Manning	16		

Wesley Covenant Prayer

(Adapted from Rev. Jeremy Smith on HackingChristianity.net.)

I am not my own self-made, self-reliant human being. In truth, O God, I am Yours. Make me into what You will. Make me a neighbor with those whom You will. Guide me on the easy path for You. Guide me on the rocky road for You. Whether I am to step up for You or step aside for You; Whether I am to be lifted high for You or brought low for You; Whether I become full or empty, with all things or with nothing; I give all that I have and all that I am for You. So be it. And may I always remember that you, O God, and I belong to each other. Amen.

SERMON NOTES

- Where did you hear God speaking to you in today's message?
- What main thought(s) can you use this coming week?
- Did you hear anything new and/or different from the scripture or the message today?
- What reaffirmed or challenged you?
- Additional thoughts and/or ideas?