



Photo by James Gardner

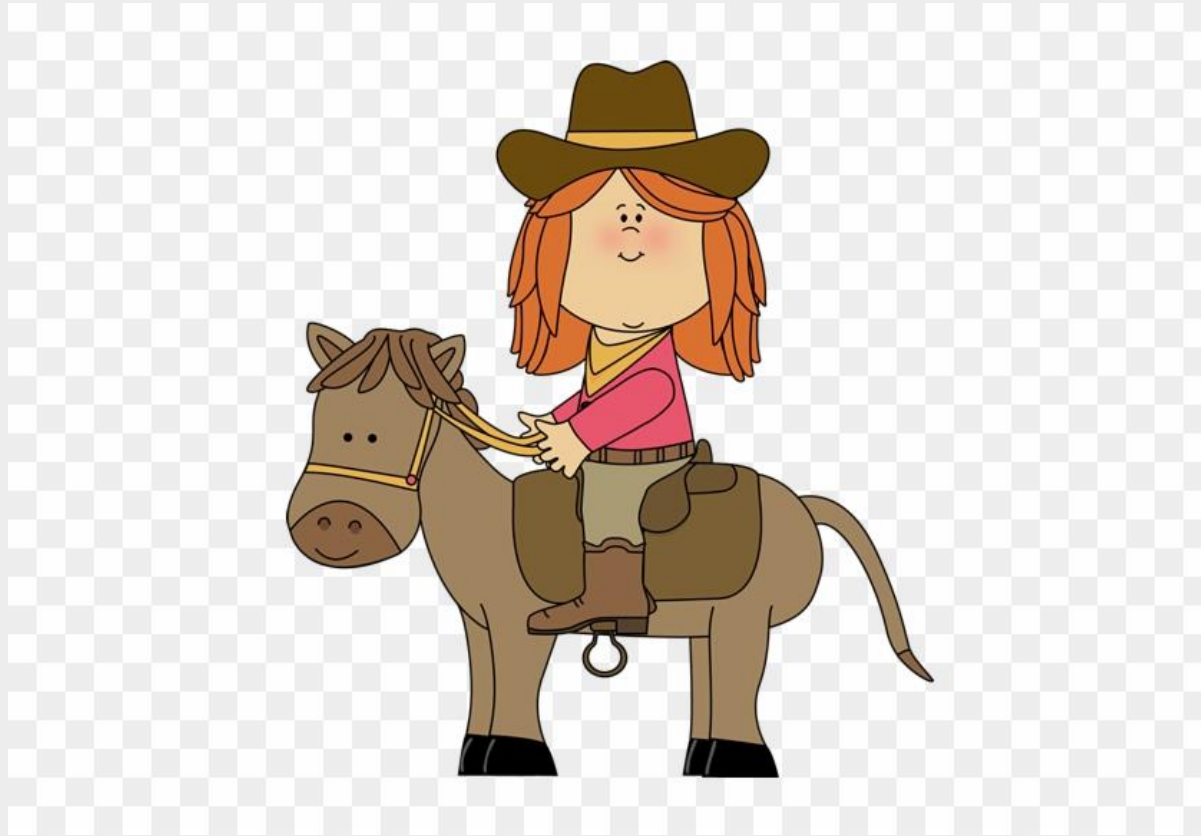
Sunday, June 4, 2023

Culmore
United Methodist Church

Welcome and
Good Morning!



Back in the Saddle Again!





**Congratulations,
Daniel Rodriguez!**

Class of
2023

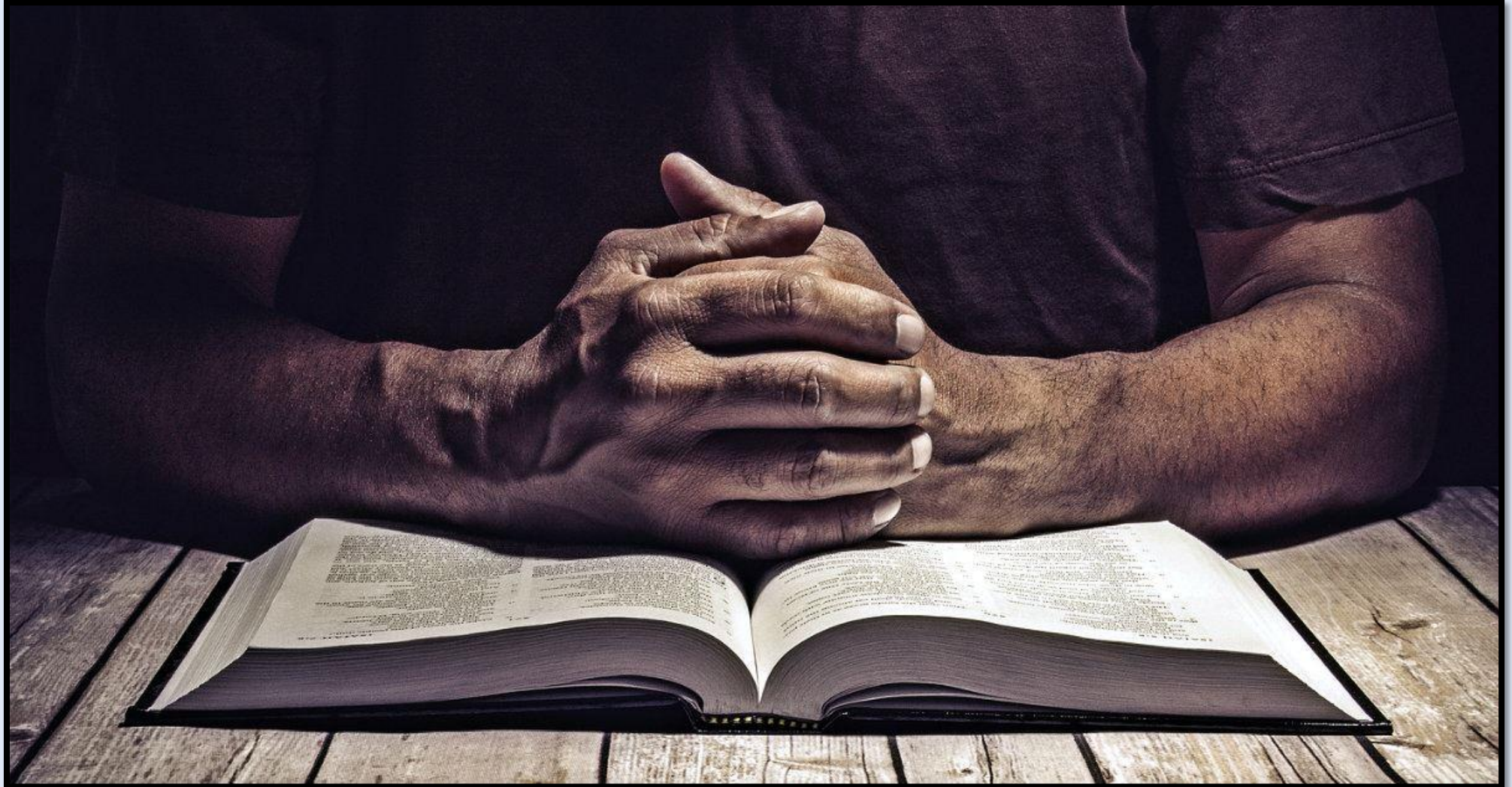
Once again it is your birthday. Once again the time is here.
What a loving gift from Jesus, He has given you one more year.
Happy time is your birthday, happy time this year.
What a loving gift from Jesus, He has given you one more year.
Oh happy birthday to you, oh happy birthday to you.
For you have Jesus Christ everyday of your life.
Oh happy birthday to you, oh happy birthday to you.
The Lord bless and keep you.
Happy birthday to you. And to Jesus with you.
God bless you and keep you. Happy birthday to you.



Congratulations, Rose (a.k.a. *Lola*)!



Discernment





It's me, God.
Listen up!!

1 Kings 19: 11-13

The LORD said, "Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence

of the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by.

of the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by."

Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind.

Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered

the rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind.

the rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind.

After the earthquake came a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire.

Then a gentle whisper. When Elijah heard it, he

came a gentle whisper. When Elijah heard it, he

he cave. Then a voice said to him,

"What are you doing here, Elijah?"





“What are you doing here, Elijah?”
After the wind there was an earthquake,
but the LORD was not in the earthquake.



After the wind earthquake came a fire,
but the LORD was not in the fire.

And after the fire came a gentle whisper.

When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face

and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave.

Then a voice said to him,

“What are you doing here, Elijah?”





Days of Elijah



These are the days of Elijah declaring the Word of the Lord,
and these are the days of Your servant Moses, righteousness being restored.
And though these are days of great trials, of famine and darkness and sword--
Still we are the voice in the desert crying, *Prepare ye the way of the Lord.*

Behold He comes, riding on the clouds, shining like the sun at the trumpet call.
So lift your voice; it's the year of Jubilee, and out of Zion's hill,
salvation comes.

Photo by Rose Lucas

Where is this taking me?





Opening Prayer

Dear God,

Keep me on the right track. If I begin to wander off, point me back to You. If I get the directions wrong, straighten me out. If I am lost, please come find me. Keep me on the right track, Lord.

Keep me open to Your course correction. If I'm not listening, turn my attention to You. Keep me on the right track, Lord. **Amen**

COURSE CORRECTION



Responsive Reading: Psalm 37 (selected verses)

You have searched me, O LORD, and you know me.

You know when I sit and when I rise;

You perceive my thoughts from afar.

You discern my going out and my lying down;

You are familiar with all my ways.

Before a word is on my tongue,

You know it completely.

You hem me in behind and before, and you lay your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty
for me to attain.

Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your
presence?

If I go up to the heavens, you are there;
If I make my bed in the depths, you are there.

If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.

If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me," even the darkness will not be dark to you. The night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you.

Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts.

See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me
in the way everlasting.

Photo by Rose Lucas

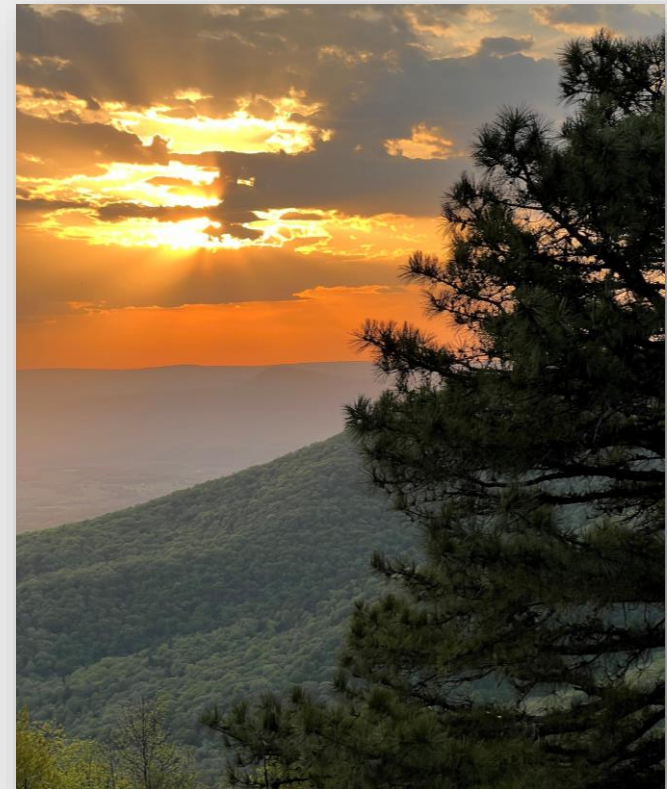
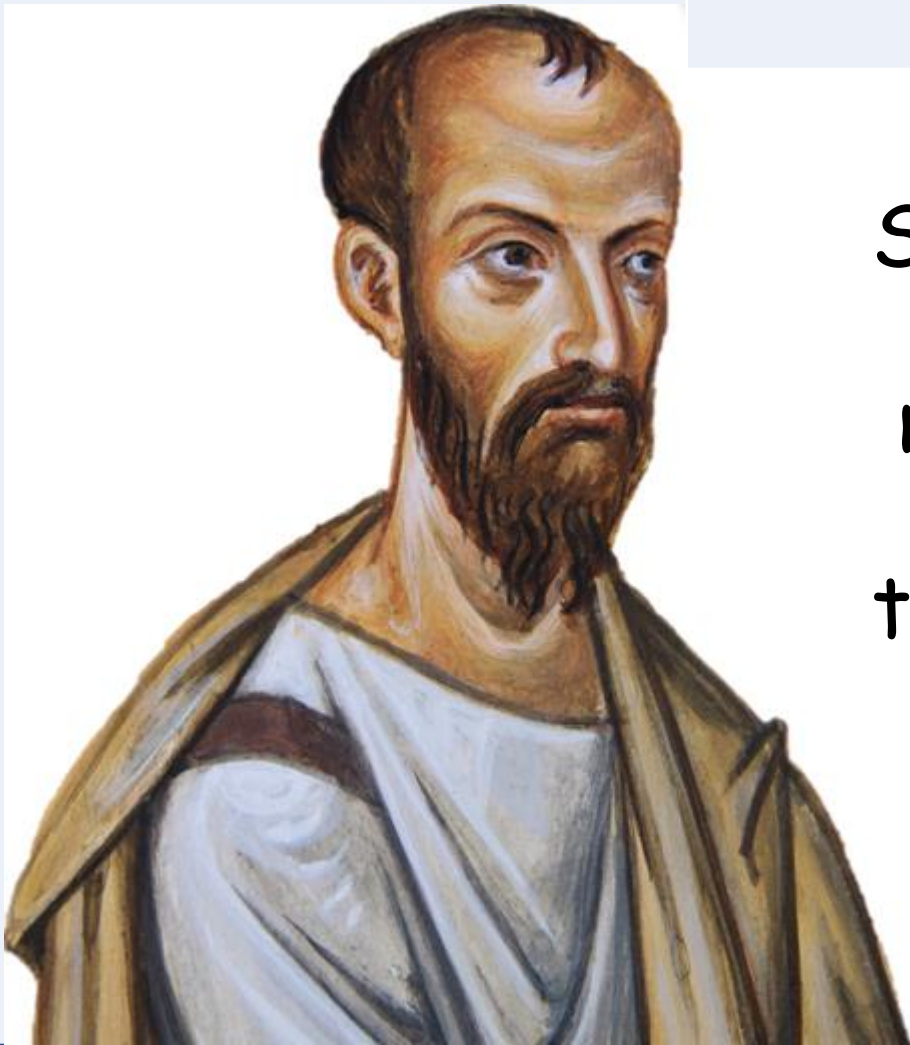


Photo by James Gardner

If God changes your heart,
be ready to change your plans.

Acts 9: 1



Saul was still breathing out
murderous threats against
the Lord's disciples.



Where *the Nations Meet*

The Church in a
Multicultural World

Stephen A. Rhodes



For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor are your ways my ways .

Isaiah 55: 8

Community Prayer

Gracious Father,

We know we can sometimes charge ahead, once we think we know what You have called us to do. That can lead to failure if we are not in constant contact with You, each step of the way.

Give us the ability to hear Your instructions, sometimes in a still, small voice, sometimes more overtly. We want to be willing to put aside what we want in favor of what You want us to do.

Keep us listening only to You, and not the other voices that might lead us in different directions, Father. We want to serve You. *Amen*

Offering and Doxology

UM Hymnal 95



We give thanks for this wonderful,
generous community of faith.

Holy Communion



My sisters and brothers, Christ invites us all to His table. He asks that we love him, confess our sins, and grow close to him in faith.

In this holy space, let us prepare our hearts and minds to receive his holy sacrament.

Prayer of Confession & Declaration of Forgiveness

Our heavenly Father, You know how often we stumble. We don't come to this table trusting in ourselves; but instead, trusting in You and Your unfailing mercy.

Christ died for us while we were yet sinners, which proves His love and grace. We are a forgiven people. ***Amen***

The Great Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you;

Congregation: and also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

Congregation: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: It is a good and joyful thing to always give thanks to you.
Even when we turned away and our love failed, your love
remained steadfast. And so we praise Your Holy name.



Leader: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,
Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,

Leader: God of power and might,
God of power and might,

Leader: Heaven and earth are full of your glory
Heaven and earth are full of your glory

Leader: Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.

Leader: Blessed is the one who comes
Blessed is the one who comes

Leader: in the name of the Lord.
in the name of the Lord.

Leader: Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.



On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took the bread,
gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:

“Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me.”



When the supper was over, he took the cup, he gave thanks to You, gave it to his disciples, and said, *“Drink from this all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”*

... And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.





Leader: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again

Leader: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.



All honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever.

Amen, amen, amen.

Amen, amen, amen.



Blessing of the Elements

Loving and eternal God, pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to the entire world, until Christ comes in final victory. ***Amen***

Breaking of the Bread



Lifting of the Cup



Just as there is one loaf, we who are many are one body.
Just as we all partake of one loaf, the bread which we share
is also a sharing in the body of Christ.

The cup over which we give thanks is a sharing of the Blood of Christ.

Partaking of the Elements





Benediction

Art by Sue Carroll