



*Photo by James Gardner*

Sunday, May 7, 2023

Culmore  
United Methodist Church

Welcome and  
Good Morning!



New Safety Door!

HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY





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.





Photo by Rose Lucas



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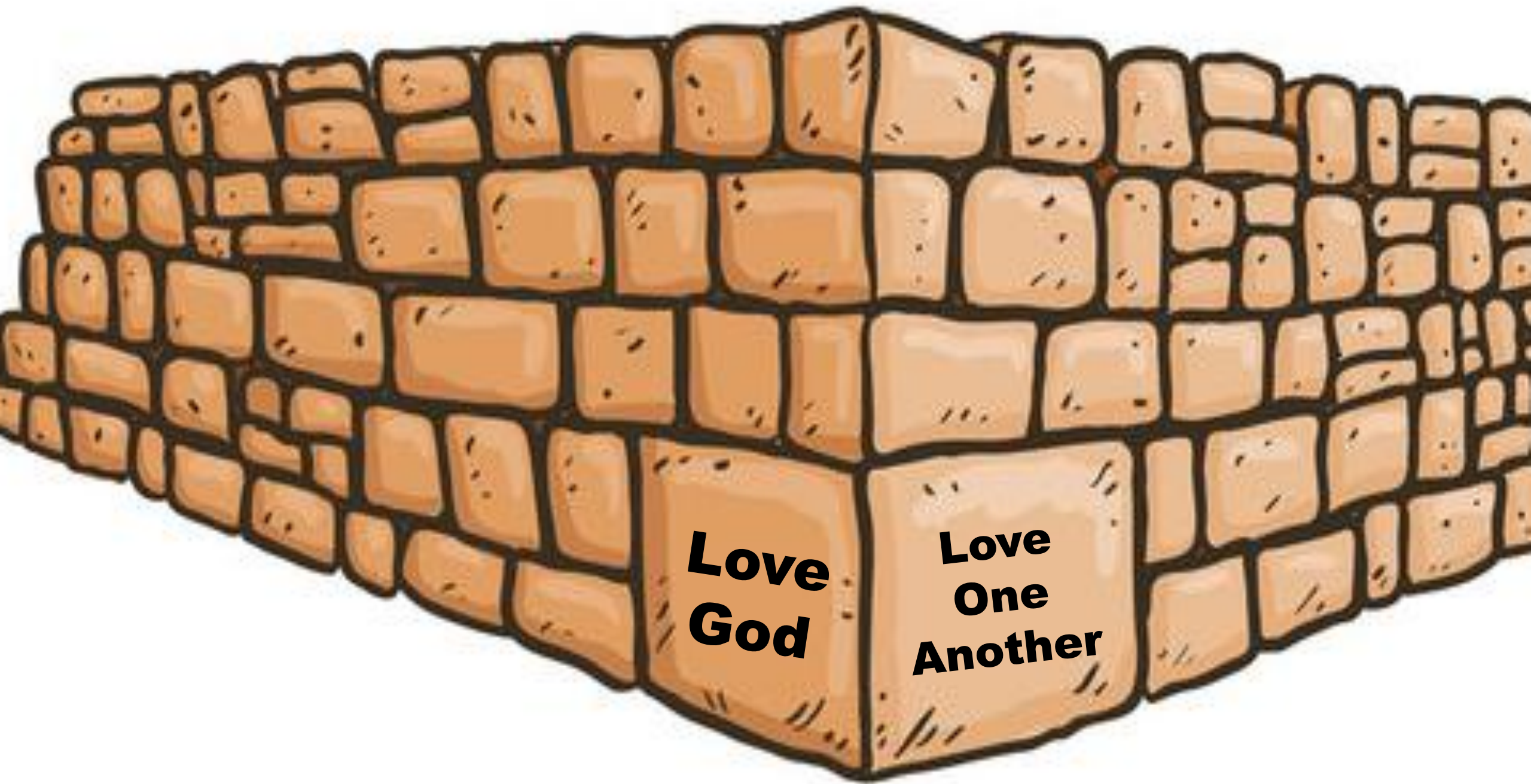


Photo by Rose Lucas









**Love  
God**

**Love  
One  
Another**

# Opening Prayer

Loving God, sometimes we struggle with loving kindness. We know you called us to love others as we love ourselves, but that can be hard to do. Sometimes we just plain don't want to do it. Help us to be loving and kind anyway.

Compassionate Lord, we know that you called us to love others **just as we love ourselves**. Sometimes we forget to love ourselves in the process of reaching out in kindness to someone else. Help us to know healthy boundaries of giving.

Let our lives be filled with loving kindness. **Amen**



## **Matthew 22:39**

You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

## Matthew 22: 39

Amarás a tu prójimo como a ti mismo.

你应该像爱自己一样爱你的邻居

Iibigin mo ang iyong kapwa gaya ng pagmamahal  
mo sa iyong sarili

自分を愛するように隣人を愛さなければならない

네 이웃을 네 몸과 같이 사랑하라

Kasihilah sesamamu seperti engkau mengasihi dirimu sendiri.

You shall love your neighbor as you love yourself.



*Hesed* is love that can be counted on,  
decade after decade.

It's not about the thrill of romance,  
but the security of faithfulness.

—*Lois Tverberg*

# Responsive Reading: 1 Corinthians 13: 4-7

Love is patient, love is kind.

Love is not envious or boastful or arrogant.

It does not insist on its own way.

It is not irritable or resentful.



Love does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth.

Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things,  
endures all things.



## 1 Corinthians 13: 4-7

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails.



## Galatians 5:22

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy,  
peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness,  
faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

## Matthew 22:39

You shall love your neighbor **as yourself.**



STOP





# Questions to Ask Myself:

- Do I have the energy, ability, resources to meet the need in front of me?
- Have I reached my personal limit of giving?
- Do I need to recharge and rest?
- Is what I'm doing genuinely helpful to the other person, or am I **enabling** behavior that is harmful to them?



Dear Dad,

No mon,

No fun,

--Your son



Dear Son,

Too bad,

So Sad,

--Your Dad

In our communities we value people not for what they earn or what they buy or how they vote but for what they are, every one of them a fragment of the Divine presence.

**We hold life holy.**

And each of us...are part of something greater than all of us:  
God created us in forgiveness and love.

**—Jonathan Sacks**

*Photo by Rose Lucas*





When we give cheerfully  
and accept gratefully, everyone is blessed.

—*Maya Angelou*

Happiness is not made by what we own.

It is what we share.—*Jonathan Sacks.*



Kindness is the language that the deaf can hear  
and the blind can see.

—*Mark Twain*



When we seek to discover the best in others,  
we somehow bring out the best in ourselves.

—*William Arthur Ward*

# Community Prayer

Our loving and gracious Lord, you have taught us to love our neighbors as we love ourselves. As simple as this sounds, sometimes it can be more complicated than it seems.

Help us to discern what *loving others as ourselves* means in different circumstances and different ways. Help us to discern when loving is helping and when seeming to love may, in fact, be enabling damaging actions or behaviors.

God, keep us mindful of your words in their entirety.  
When you tell us to love others as ourselves, help us  
remember that there this is a dual commandment.  
Keep us mindful of the need to love and care for ourselves  
so that our hearts do not become so embittered that  
there is no loving-kindness left to share.

Father, help us keep this second royal commandment  
with both compassion and discernment. *Amen.*



# Offering and Doxology

## UM Hymnal 95

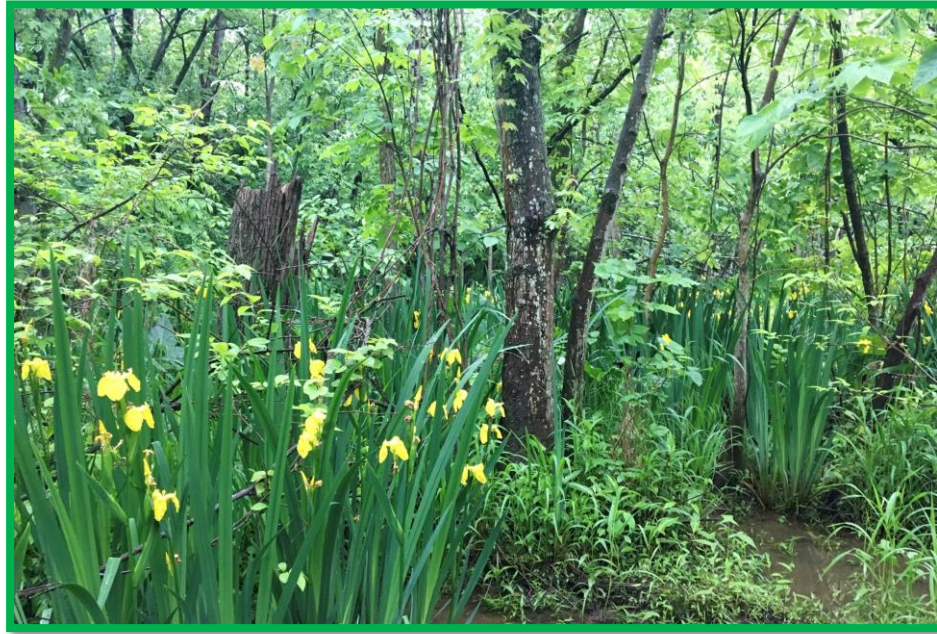


We give thanks for this wonderful,  
generous community of faith.

# Fairest Lord Jesus - UMH 187

Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature,  
O Thou of God and man the Son,  
Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor,  
Thou, my soul's glory, joy and crown.

Photo by James Gardner



Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands,  
Robed in the blooming garb of spring;  
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,  
Who makes the woeful heart to sing.





Art by Sue Carroll

Fair is the sunshine,  
Fairer still the moonlight,  
And all the twinkling starry host;  
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer  
Than all the angels heaven can boast.



Beautiful Savior, Lord of the Nations,  
Son of God and Son of Man.  
Glory, honor, praise, adoration  
Now and forevermore be thine.

# 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

*Photo by James Gardner*