

*Photo by James Gardner*

Sunday, April 30, 2023

Culmore  
United Methodist Church

Welcome and  
Good Morning!

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.







## Leviticus 19: 18

Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge  
against anyone among your people,  
but **love your neighbor as yourself**.

I am the LORD.

# Mark 12:30-31

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart  
and with all your soul and with all your mind  
and with all your strength."

The second commandment is this:

**"Love your neighbor as yourself."**

There is no commandment greater than these.



# John 13: 34

A new command I give you: **Love one another.**

As I have loved you, so you must love one another.







# Opening Prayer

**Lord of Loving-kindness**, teach us how to be kind. Show us how to give in a way that gives dignity to the one we are seeking to help. Don't let our attempts to help undermine someone's self-respect in the process. Teach us how to be kind with love and discernment.

**Compassionate Father**, give us lessons in loving-kindness. **Amen**

# Responsive Reading – Isaiah 58: 6-11

Here is the sort of fasting I want:

To loosen the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke  
—to set the oppressed free and to break every yoke.

Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor  
wanderer with shelter?

When you see the naked, to clothe them and not to turn away  
from your own flesh and blood?

Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and your healing will quickly appear.

Then your righteousness will go before you,  
and the glory of the LORD will be your rear guard.

Then you will call, and the LORD will answer.

You will cry for help, and he will say: Here am I.



If you do away with the yoke of oppression, with the pointing finger and malicious talk...

and if you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry  
and satisfy the needs of the oppressed,

Then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night  
will become like the noonday.

The LORD will guide you always.



*hesed*

*the astonishing kindness of God*

## Exodus 25: 1-8

The LORD said to Moses, "Tell the Israelites to bring me an offering. You are to receive the offering for me from everyone whose heart prompts them to give."





## These are the offerings you are to receive from them:

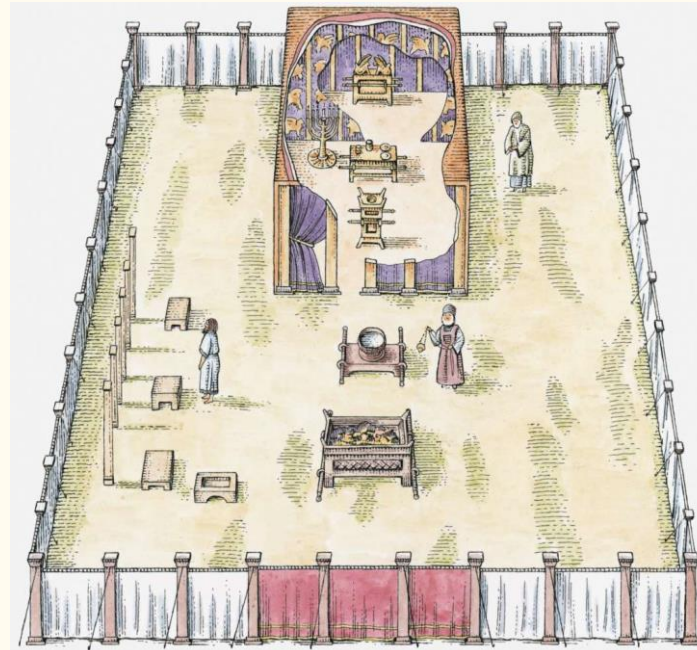
- gold, silver and bronze;
- blue, purple and scarlet yarn and fine linen;
- goat hair;
- ram skins dyed red;
- acacia wood;





- olive oil for the light;
- spices for the anointing oil;
- onyx stones and other gems to be mounted on the ephod...

Have them make a sanctuary for me, and I will dwell among them.  
Make this tabernacle and all its furnishings exactly like the pattern  
I will show you.





## Exodus 25: 8

Y hacerme han un santuario, y yo habitaré entre ellos.

叫他们为我建造圣所，我就住在他们中间。

At kanilang igawa ako ng isang santuario;  
upang ako'y makatahan sa gitna nila.

내가 그들 중에 거할 성소를 그들을 시켜 나를 위하여 짓되

Mintalah mereka membuat tempat perlindungan bagi saya,  
dan saya akan tinggal di antara mereka.

Ils me feront un sanctuaire, et j'habiterai au milieu d'eux.

Have them make a sanctuary for me, and I will dwell among them.

# Sanctuary - The Faith We Sing 2164

to the deprived.

Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary

Pure and holy, tried and true

With thanksgiving, I'll be a living

Sanctuary for You.

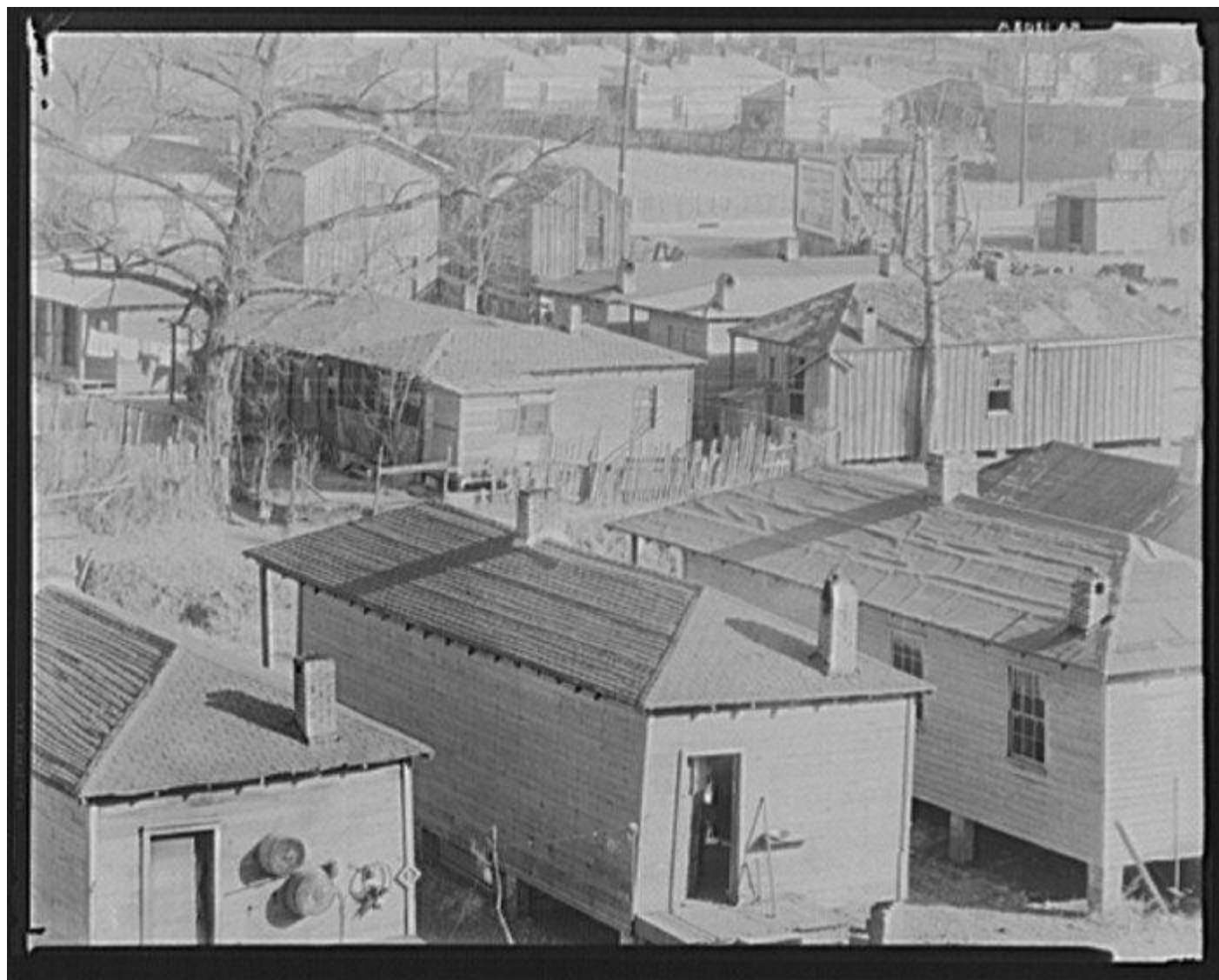


# Do It Yourself Car\*



\* Instructions included





# Difference between charity and loving-kindness

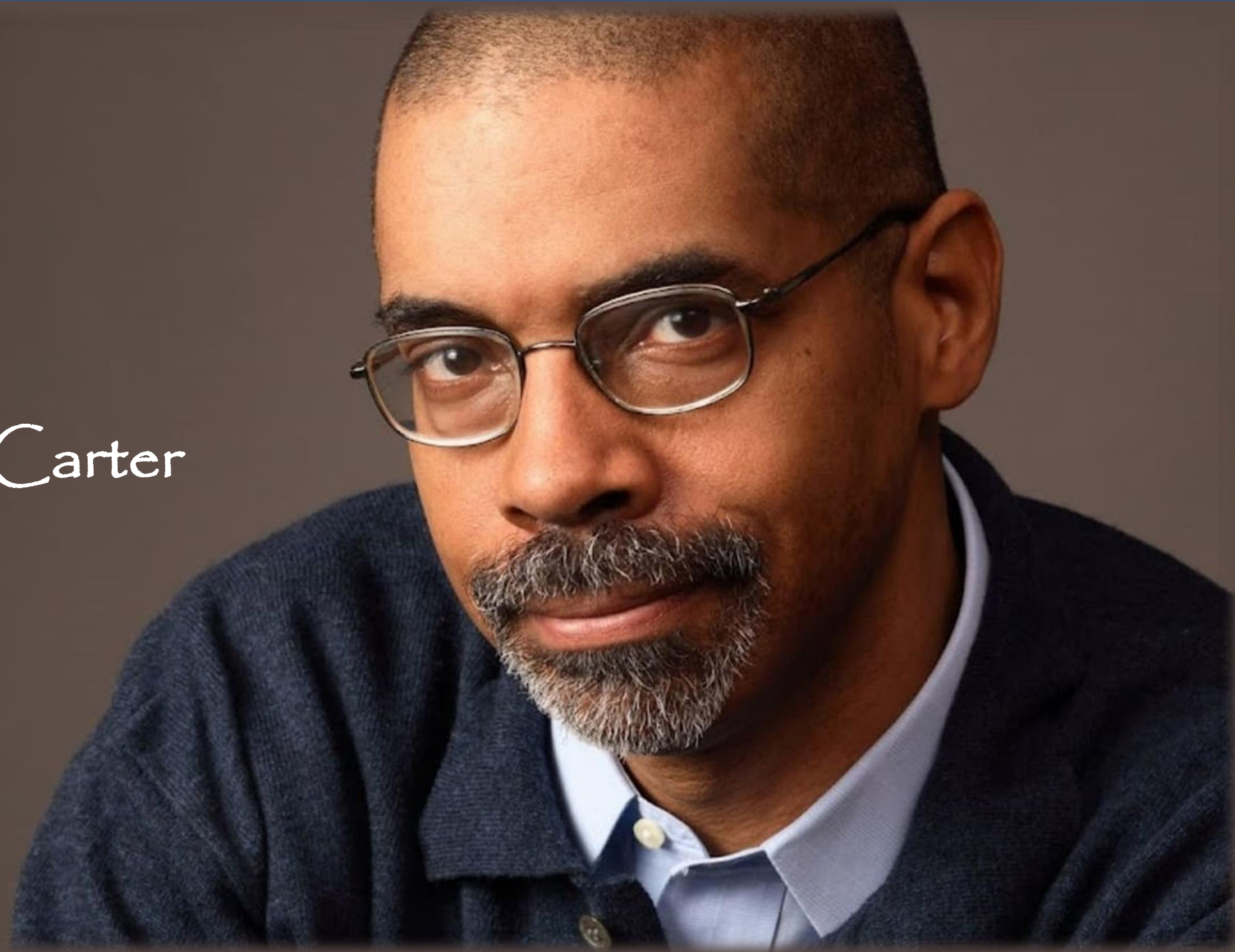
Where charity is a gift or loan of money,  
*loving-kindness* is a gift of the person.

Loving-kindness costs less and more:

- less because its gestures often cost little or nothing;
- more because it takes time and attention,  
the gift of self to self.

.—Jonathan Sacks

Dr. Stephen Carter



# Your Love, O God - UMH 120



Your love O God, is broad like beach and meadow  
Wide as the wind, and our eternal home.  
You leave us free to seek you or reject you,  
You give us room to answer yes or no.

We long for freedom where our truest being  
Is given hope and courage to unfold.  
We seek in freedom space and scope for dreaming  
And look for ground where trees and plants can grow.

But there are walls that keep us all divided,  
We fence each other in with hate and war.  
Fear is the bricks and mortar of our prison,  
Our pride of self, the prison coat we wear.

O judge us, Lord, and in your judgment free us,  
and set our feet in freedom's open space,  
take us as far as your compassion wanders  
among the children of the human race.

**Your love O God, is broad like beach and meadow  
Wide as the wind, and our eternal home.**



When people only receive, without being able to work or give back in some form, human dignity can be compromised. Being able to work alongside the giver helps affirm one's dignity.

# Community Prayer

Loving God,

You created us as unique individuals, with our own talents and abilities. How grateful we are for the opportunities You give us to work with you, as we put these gifts to use.

As we reach out in loving-kindness, help us treat each person with dignity, compassion, and generosity. Send all of us forth in Your service, with loving kindness in our hearts. ***Amen***

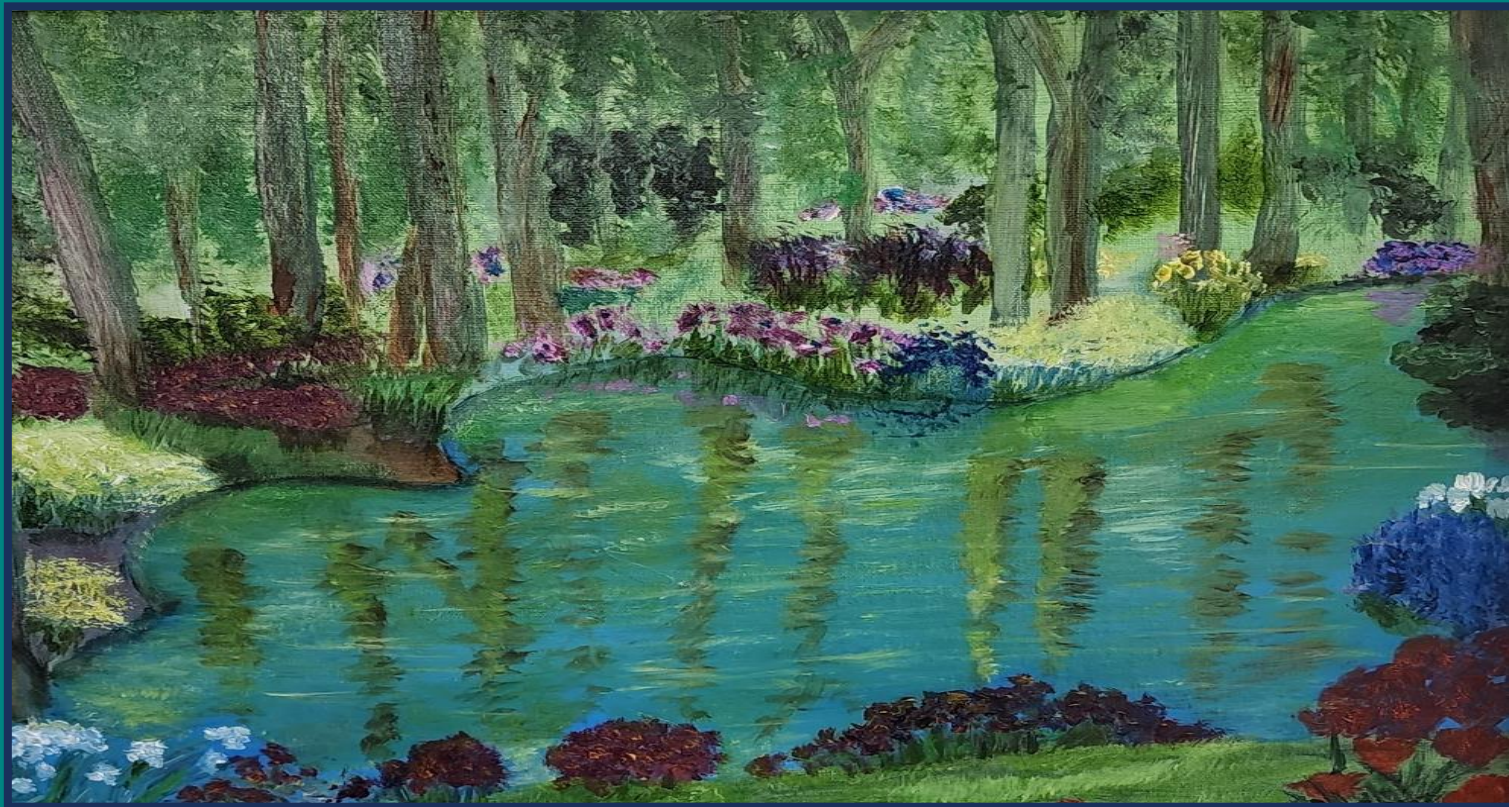
# Offering and Doxology

## UM Hymnal 95



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

# Benediction



Art by Kim DeGroat