



JULY 2020

The Little Chapel with the Big Heart



Dear Little Chapel on the Boardwalk family,

It is impossible for me to think about the month of July without thinking about the word "freedom."

Those two have always seemed to go hand in hand for me. It takes a certain bold courage to receive freedom, to live free. When you think about it, the free life is a strenuous life. Living in freedom is demanding and sometimes even painful.

When we are free there are so many choices to make. It would seem that life might be easier if we weren't as free. If there was someone around who would tell us what to do every minute of our lives. Most people probably feel more secure when there is someone around to tell them what to do, how to live.

In every generation great crowds of people mindlessly shuffle along with the herd and do nothing beyond providing statistics for sociological surveys. But also, in every generation a few persons live intelligently and courageously in freedom.

For these persons, Paul's letter to the Galatians has often been the catalyst to the free life.

At several critical times in history, Paul's letter, listened to by small groups of Christians, has shifted the direction of the age just enough to make the difference between a surge of new life and a drifting into decline.

When people have felt victimized by fear and oppression, it has been a means of setting them free. When many have been paralyzed by anxiety and apprehension, it has stimulated them to an energetic hope.

When there has been widespread confusion and bickering and uncertainty about what life was, it has clarified and convinced people of exactly what it means to live openly and well, convinced them to the point of participation in the rescue by which God sets us free to live.

Paul's greeting anticipates what we can expect:

*"Grace...and Peace."*

*Grace! Life is a gift. Peace! Life is whole.*

The two words declare that we are, fundamentally and finally, free to live.

Life is what we are given, not what we salvage out of the ruins of home and culture. Life is an entirety into which we grow, not a fragment that we snatch on the run.

Hear Paul's words again from Galatians 1: 3-4

*"So I greet you with great words, grace and peace!"*

We know the meaning of those words because Jesus Christ rescued us from this evil world we're in by offering himself as a sacrifice for our sins.

God's plan is that we all experience that rescue.

Live your life appreciating that you are free!

Happy July,

*Pastor Pat*





Little Chapel on the Boardwalk  
circa 1910

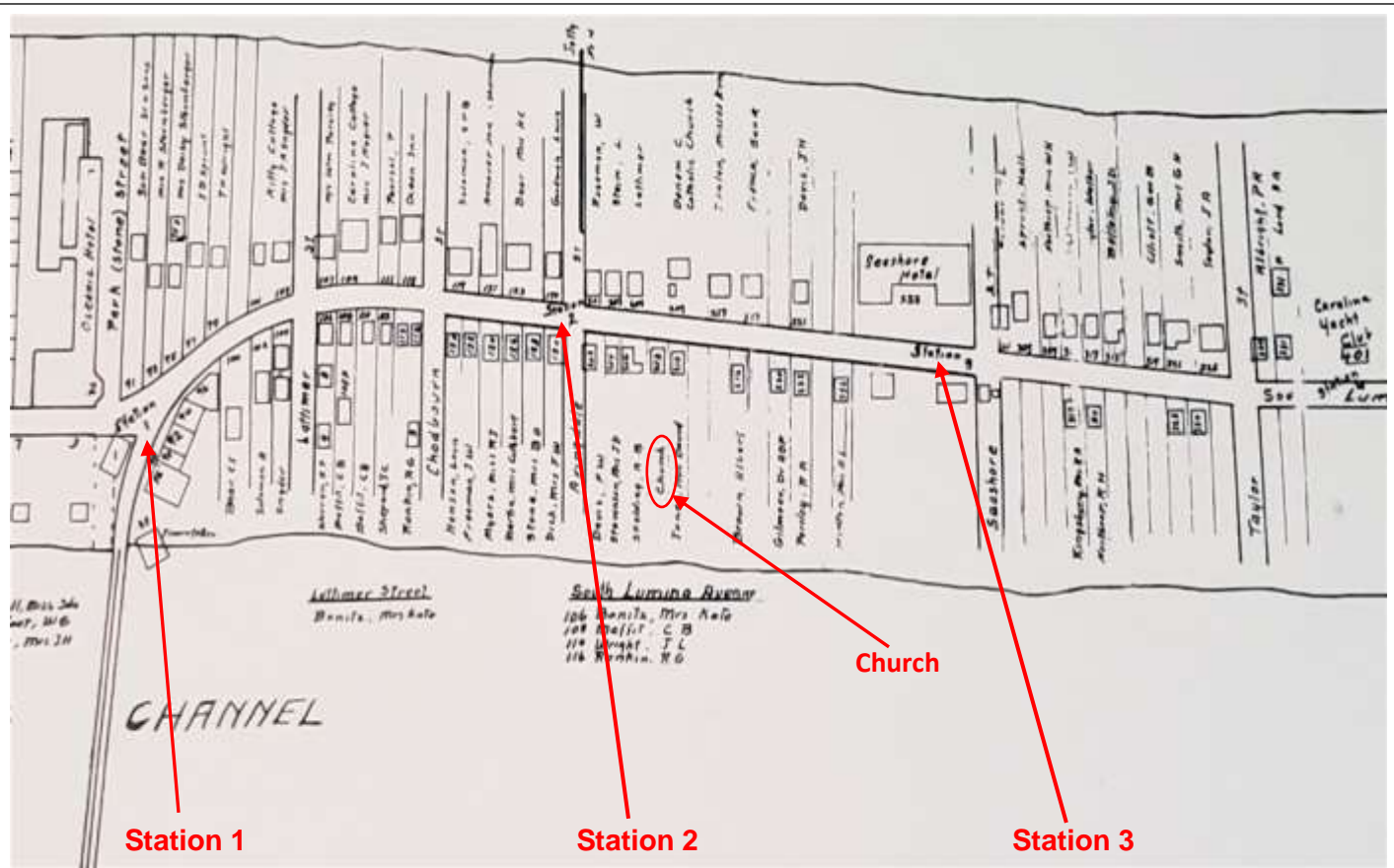


## 130 YEARS AND COUNTING

By Leita McCormick

Did you know that LCOB is almost half as old as our nation? That's right. Two hundred forty-four years ago, our founding fathers signed the Declaration of Independence; 130 years ago, the pastors of First Presbyterian Church and St. James Episcopal Church declared that the residents of Wrightsville Beach needed more than just a neighborhood Sunday School during the summer months.

Since the majority of the full-time residents were from the those two congregations, the churches contributed the necessary funds to construct a small building on the sound side about midway on the island between Trolley Station 2 and 3 at 208 South Lumina Avenue, approximately where the parking lot of St. Therese Catholic Church is today.



The building was a one-room clapboard sanctuary with a small porch on the front and a cupola on the roof.

The bell which was used to call people to worship was placed on a stand on the porch. It was supposed to go in the cupola, but it was too heavy to lift to the roof.



It is reported that Mr. Thomas Wright, Sr. suggested the name "Little Chapel on the Boardwalk."

Church services were conducted every Sunday evening for two months during the summers: in July, the Presbyterian minister would come and preach; in August, the minister from St. James would preach.

This continued until the summer of 1942, when evening services were discontinued, and morning worship was established with the Post Chaplain from Camp Davis preaching every week.

As the population of Wilmington and the beach grew, the congregation requested that services continue through the winter.

With the help of retired ministers, ministers from the Presbyterian and Lutheran churches, elders and other laymen, services were able to be held every week throughout the winter.

In 1943, the first Sunrise Easter Service was held by the ocean and continued to be an annual celebration, until this year, when the pandemic prevented us from gathering on the

beach on Easter Sunday, as well as every other Sunday so far this summer.

By 1947, Wrightsville Beach had become a year-round colony, and larger worshipping facilities were needed in addition to the few rooms that had been added between 1913 and 1944.

A gift of \$10,000 from the First Presbyterian Church challenged the summer residents to raise \$20,000 more for a new building on the site.

However, it was determined that the old lot could not be used for a new building since it wasn't much larger than the size of the little building.

Therefore Rev. Dr. William Whitsitt, pastor at the time working closely with the Building Committee, recommended that lots be purchased on Oxford Street.

Later, the corner lot on Lumina Avenue was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Holmes Davis and given to the Little Chapel in memory of their son.

Work began in February and the first service was held in the sanctuary in August.



*"The Chapel under construction" in 1951*

*(continued on next page)*



*1951 Completed Little Chapel Sanctuary and Chancel Wall.*

Two classrooms were added as well as the Manse.



*Manse 1951-1959*

On Sunday afternoon, December 7, 1952, a Commission appointed by the Presbytery of Wilmington came to the Little Chapel to organize it as a Presbyterian Church.

Three Elders and three Deacons were installed. The names of the 47 Charter Members are inscribed on a plaque located in the narthex.

As the number of members grew, the first renovation to ease overcrowding took place in 1955.



*1955 Little Chapel's new Fellowship Hall and Sunday School space needed to accommodate an attendance of 200 to 300 persons.*

Subsequently an extensive building program from 1983 – 1985 changed the whole orientation of the church facilities with the main entrance coming from the parking lot on West Fayetteville Street, as it is today.

More expansion and renovation took place, beginning in December, 1994 and ending in October, 1999.

Included were an expanded fellowship hall, a new kitchen, a renovated sanctuary and expanded narthex, a new choir room, seven new classrooms, a second-floor meeting area, expanded office and work areas and a new church manse.



**Manse**

*(continued on next page)*

Over the years, many gifts have been received from dedicated members: among those are an electric organ, the pulpit furniture, pews, the Communion Service, brass offering plates, an Italian marble cross, a Baptismal bowl and brass cross, brass candlesticks and vases, choir robes, compact sink, electric stove and refrigerator. "The Miraculous Draft of the Fishes" mural was painted and given to LCOB by Claude Howell.

In 2007, eight LCOB artists were invited by the then pastor, Rev. Todd Wright, to help reflect on the scriptures. Their works were in a variety of mediums – pottery, painting, collage, quilting, metal sculpture, photography, print-making and stained glass.

In 2018, Janice Allen gave a talk on the research she did on the art and more than a dozen stained glass windows at the Little Chapel. In her presentation, she quoted Henry Lee Willet, who designed the beautiful stained glass at the front of the sanctuary as saying, "No church building is complete without God's sunlight coming through glass and giving color."

The members and visitors of LCOB are blessed to be able to take in the beauty that is all around us.



Stained glass photos courtesy of Lori Holcomb

*(continued on next page)*

To date, fourteen senior pastors have led the Little Chapel since 1952, and have contributed in their own ways to the growth of LCOB. Others that have led to the growth of LCOB include the McCarl, Andrew, Karp, and Blizzard families, who have had at one time four generations of members attending the Little Chapel.

Many thanks to those and others who have contributed to the contents of this article, namely Mrs. Helen McCarl who preserved much of what we know about the early days from 1907 to 1977, and to Linda Shahaltough, who recorded the ensuing history in 2007.

Thanks also to the Wrightsville Beach Museum of History for the loan of their collection of documents on the Little Chapel on the Boardwalk.



## Little Chapel on the Boardwalk Financial Report As of May 2020

May Income	\$44,234
May Expenses	\$39,785
Year-to-date Income	\$217,075
Year-to-date Expenses	\$170,264



**CIRCLE #2**

**SATURDAY, JULY 25**



# Property Committee



*We commit to being generous stewards of our gifts - time, talents, resources and, indeed our lives.*

*By Barry Lindholm*

Well, June had its thrills and spills as we continued with a number of key initiatives and also fixed a drainage pipe that has continued to cause a problem over the years. We think we finally got it! It gets to be a little trickier with the staff and facility safety protocols we have in place with masks, shoe coverings, distancing, etc.

I have been very pleased with our service providers wearing masks and distancing as we work together to investigate or solve problems. As a Property Committee, it is important that we carry on with our work BUT not at the risk of our staff, members, and preferred service providers!

Following are the key messages:

## **Highland Roofing Company Roof Guard cleaning service**



We just initiated a semi-annual maintenance service agreement (MSA) with Roof Guard, which is a service provided by Highland Roofing Co. This service is currently being done only on our main church roof and canopy due to the degree of water intrusion risk with a large expanse of flat roofs.



Our twice a year time frames are targeted for the Spring hopefully before storms, May or June, and Fall after storms, in either November or December. These timeframes depend on the weather which impacts safety considerations. The following are the key aspects to the service:

- ☐ Inspection of the roof
- ☐ Cleaning of the roof, canopy, and gutters
- ☐ Immediate repair of minor problem areas
- ☐ Pictures of before and after the service

The inspection focuses on the condition of the drains AND that they are properly draining. Also, a post service review will be done to determine what additional repair work and/or improvements should be considered. The potential inclusion of additional gutters and metal flashing replacements

*(continued on next page)*

will be discussed. Once we are able to assess the short term vs. longer term needs, we will provide an update.

### **Computer Warriors Technology Fixes & Tweaking**

We had some key technology issues that needed to be resolved quickly as they had a definite impact on our staff's efficiency and productivity. As such, we decided to go with a new service provider, Computer Warriors (CW), to help resolve some of the following pending issues. We were very pleased with their skills and the results!

☐ Thanks to the guidance of Delores Dyer, Office Administrator, we were able to resolve a perplexing problem with the scanner function on our copier – DONE!

☐ The CW on-site resource also finished the setup and connectivity we desperately needed with Pastor Pat's new laptop. He seems to smile more now and will readily state that he no longer has to go home in the evening and come back the next morning to see if one of his programs has finally completed!

☐ Once again, we had our Property Committee consultant, Hugh Armstrong, in to get things setup and do the necessary "tweaking" in the systems in advance of the tech resources.

### **Matkins Glass Company Inspection tour**

We had a great tour of 40 plus damaged windows with Scott Long, President of Matkins Glass of Wilmington. The insurance company, Guide One, has extended our Florence storm claim and Matkins is one of their choices to estimate what it will take to remedy the window damage. We also had our Little Chapel Property Committee team of Jim Herren, John Moore, Jim Martz, and myself supporting Scott in the identification of the damaged windows.

This included the entire church facility, Matthew House, and Manse.

In addition to the damaged windows identified for potential insurance relief, we also addressed any additional window repairs and improvements that we may want to include from a Little Chapel perspective to address any potential problems.

Our team was able to learn more about the different types of damages and potential solutions or approaches that can be taken from Scott's expertise. This work is not a window replacement but rather a re-glazing as opposed to what Ryan Norris will be providing, as discussed below. We were very pleased with Scott's knowledge level and the level of service we believe we could obtain if they are chosen to perform this work.

We will update y'all as we move through this process.

### **Upcoming Projects**

Kitchen window, rooms 117 & 113 – Ryan Norris will provide these window replacements that will be covered by our insurance.

Fellowship Hall door replacement. Push bars installed on the two Oxford doors which will address the effective safety exit from our Church facility.

Additional work on front entrance door and security enhancements.

Potential needed roof work. The front entrance sign repair (it was ready to break in two) and touch up painting. This short-term effort was led by John Moore, who performed the repair work, and Pete Patterson who will be providing the touch up painting. Thanks Guys!

The Property Committee, within the Operational Controls sub-Committee with Gary Gischel as lead, continues to address the policy, guidelines, and agreements required for our facilities and property. We have just completed the update to our storm plan, a preliminary policy for the access to our roof, and further clarification of our parking lot guidelines. These will be communicated at the appropriate time in future Property Committee newsletter articles as we work our way thru the committee and session approval processes.

I would like to address the parking lot changes that have been mentioned by Pastor Pat in his daily emails. With the increased challenge of the virus and limited parking space within Wrightsville Beach, we will continue to "chain" the first two entrances but will now put cones up on the third entrance as a way to hopefully discourage non-Little Chapel members from parking in our parking

*(continued on next page)*

lot to access the beach. We will also be placing one of the bigger signs at this entrance to emphasis that this is for *Little Chapel Members Only!*

We will continue to evaluate this approach and also perform periodic “policing” of the parking lot – but this needs to be done with personal safety as a priority. Jim Herren has mentioned that if you need member stickers, he would be glad to provide those before or after the Sunday services. You can also request a sticker from Delores in our church office, but please call ahead if you intend to pick these up in person.

The Property Committee also has responsibility for the safety and security needs of our facilities and property. For example, earlier in the year we installed a new front entrance camera, large administration office monitor, camera access to Pastor Pat’s office, and also mobile remote access.

We are trying to do our best to make sure that our staff and members are provided with the necessary security so that we all can remain **SAFE!**

As mentioned by Pastor Pat, we will not have our parking lot open to the public over the Fourth of July weekend – but I wish the best for everyone to be safe no matter where you are as we celebrate the 244th year of our Declaration of Independence.

**Be Safe while you’re having fun!**

### *Speaking of the PARKING LOT...*

On May 31, Pentecost Sunday, Little Chapel held an outdoor worship service in our church parking lot. Those attending brought their own chairs, wore masks, and distanced themselves safely to worship together as a church family.

The following pictures were taken during the 2 Sunday parking lot worship services.





## Birthdays in

*July* ★★

2 Britt MacDaniel  
 5 Judy Gibson  
 7 Rebecca Beachy  
 7 Jack Homestead  
 7 Bryan McIntyre  
 8 Steven Miller  
 9 Sybel Booth  
 9 Bob Nelson  
 9 Dorothy Bridger  
 10 Leita McCormick  
 10 Linda Shahaltough  
 12 Sharon Minor  
 14 Sherman Criner  
 16 Margaret McIntyre  
 16 Bill Schild  
 16 Matthew Skiba  
 17 Michael O'Neil  
 21 Beth Price  
 23 Carole Mabe  
 25 Joan Page  
 26 Hank Metzger  
 26 Marcia Rabun  
 27 David Blanton  
 27 Cam Dudley  
 28 Bill Barker  
 28 Ashton Hines  
 28 Bonnie Warwick  
 30 Carolyn Bancroft  
 30 Paul Hill  
 31 Janice Allen  
 31 Al Lassiter



**Reminder: The Sister Isaac Center remains closed until further notice and no donations can be dropped off at this time. Thank you for waiting to bring your donations to the Little Chapel.**

## *In Loving Memory*

CHARLES NORTH

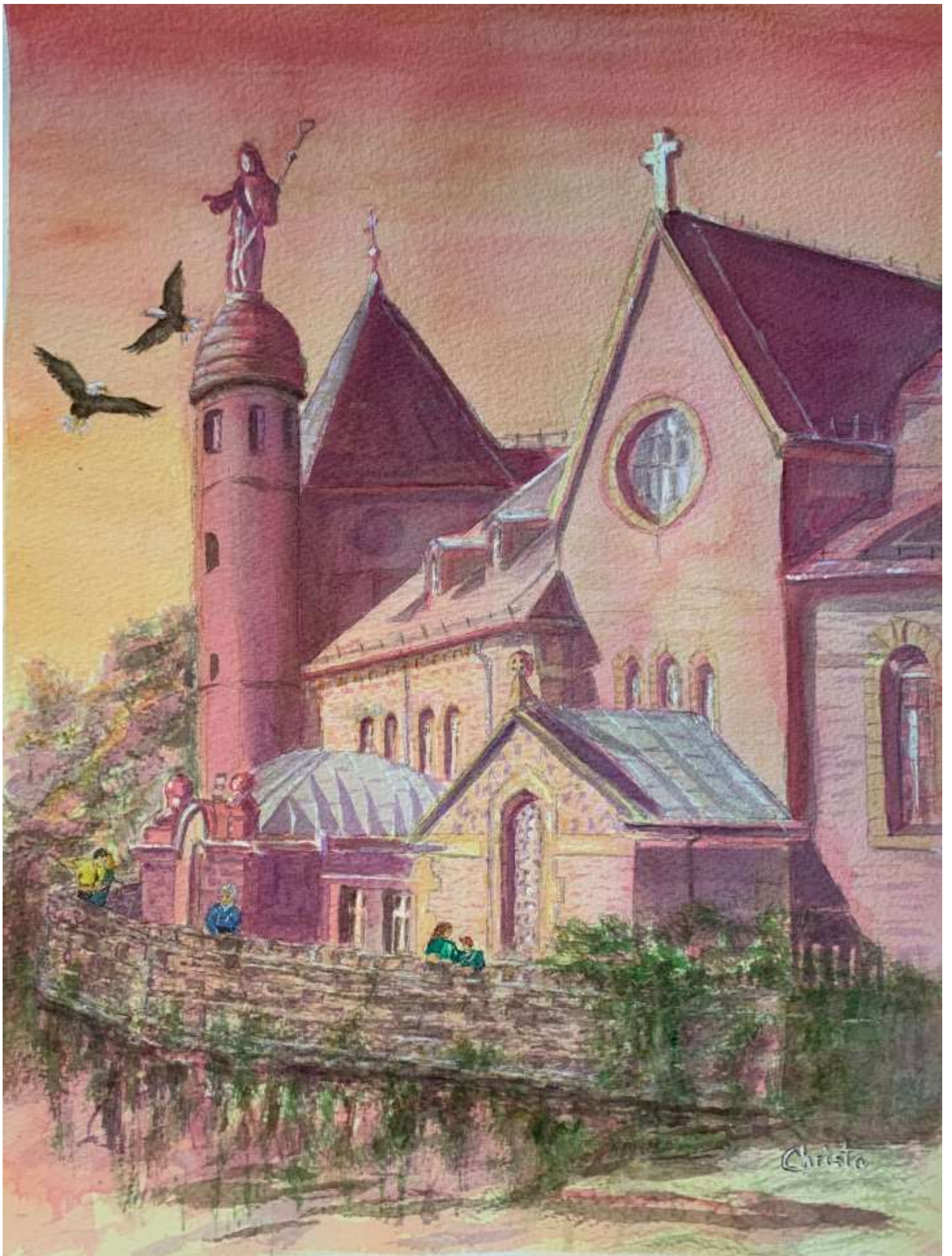
Ms. Connie Houser

Ms. Katherine Karp

Mr. Bryan McIntyre

NANCY HERRING

Ms. Elizabeth Frye



## Mont Sainte-Odile (*Odilienberg*)

At an elevation of 753 m, this emblematic site of Alsace sits at the heart of an exceptional natural environment.

Looking out over the plain of Alsace, Mont Sainte Odile was an influential convent for many centuries. Today, it has been converted into a hotel and this sacred place once dedicated to Odile, the patron saint of Alsace, still attracts many pilgrims. However, Mont Sainte Odile also welcomes a number of non-believers who simply wish to profit from the natural woodlands surrounding the area.

Hikers can stride along the sign-posted paths and discover, in particular, the pagans' wall built in around 1000 BC whose origins have given rise to a number of mystic speculations!

My sister and I have visited there and hiked among the ancient stones. It is considered one of the “thin places” of the earth – where the universal spirit touches human spirits who are open to it.

In my painting, I used a limited palette of colors that would evoke the mystical atmosphere one feels there.

Dr. Christa Metzger



Photography by Lori Holcomb

## Coronavirus - What You Need to Know

The COVID-19 outbreak has been accompanied by a flood of misinformation from unreliable sources. Be thoughtful about what you read or hear about the virus and make sure you are separating rumor from fact before you act.

Below are the latest updates from the state of North Carolina. For specific questions or concerns related to COVID-19, dial 211 or 888-892-1162. In the event of an emergency, call 911.

June 24, 2020

- Gov. Roy Cooper issued an executive order requiring people to wear face coverings while out in public where physical distancing of 6 feet from other people who are not members of the same household or residence is not possible. There are some exceptions.
- North Carolina will also remain under Safer At Home Phase 2 of lifting COVID-19 restrictions until at least Friday, July 17.

### ***What you need to know***

- Anyone can have mild to severe symptoms.
- **Older adults and people who have severe underlying medical conditions** like heart or lung disease or diabetes seem to be at higher risk for developing more serious complications from COVID-19 illness.

### ***Watch for symptoms***

People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear **2-14 days after exposure to the virus**. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

This list does not include all possible symptoms. The CDC will continue to update the list as more is learned about COVID-19. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

As serious as the coronavirus is, we have to  
take time to smile too.





Presbyterian Church (USA)  
2 W. Fayetteville Street  
Wrightsville Beach, NC 28480  
Church Office: 910.256-2819  
[www.littlechapel.org](http://www.littlechapel.org)

Early worship service (May – September) 8 am @ Access #4 **CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**  
Sunday School – 9:15 am / Traditional sanctuary worship - 10:30 am **CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**  
**SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES (outdoors in parking lot) - 9:30 am, weather permitting**

## STAFF

**Rev. Pat Rabun**  
Minister  
[pat@littlechapel.org](mailto:pat@littlechapel.org)

**Delores Dyer**  
Office Administrator  
[delores@littlechapel.org](mailto:delores@littlechapel.org)

**Angela McConnell**  
Director of Children's Ministries  
[angela@littlechapel.org](mailto:angela@littlechapel.org)

**David Lee Heinzman**  
Director of Music Ministry  
[david@littlechapel.org](mailto:david@littlechapel.org)

**Joan Denney**  
Bookkeeper  
[jdenney@littlechapel.org](mailto:jdenney@littlechapel.org)

**Daniel B. Holt**  
Custodian  
[danielbholt@aol.com](mailto:danielbholt@aol.com)

## SOUND TECHNICIANS

**Hugh Armstrong**  
**Andy Marhevsky**  
**Gary Kohunsky**



## SESSION

**CLERK of SESSION**  
**Jean Schild**  
[djeanschield@gmail.com](mailto:djeanschield@gmail.com)

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**  
**Christine Kennedy**  
[christine.wpfa@gmail.com](mailto:christine.wpfa@gmail.com)  
**Gail Miller**  
[gnmiller77@gmail.com](mailto:gnmiller77@gmail.com)

**FINANCE**  
**Beth Price**  
[sereneronandbeth@gmail.com](mailto:sereneronandbeth@gmail.com)  
**John Copeland**  
[wjohnncopeland@yahoo.com](mailto:wjohnncopeland@yahoo.com)

**MISSION**  
**Becky Smith**  
[rbayard60@gmail.com](mailto:rbayard60@gmail.com)  
**Mary Jo Kohunsky**  
[mkohunsky@yahoo.com](mailto:mkohunsky@yahoo.com)

## PERSONNEL & PLANNING

**Jane Hughes**  
[jhughes23@ec.rr.com](mailto:jhughes23@ec.rr.com)  
**Ed O'Neill**  
[edoneil60@gmail.com](mailto:edoneil60@gmail.com)

**PROPERTY**  
**Jim Herren**  
[jimherren72@gmail.com](mailto:jimherren72@gmail.com)  
**Barry Lindholm**  
[luckybll@aol.com](mailto:luckybll@aol.com)

**WORSHIP**  
**Janice Allen**  
[janiceallen@ec.rr.com](mailto:janiceallen@ec.rr.com)  
**Sherry Lovette**  
[slovette1@ec.rr.com](mailto:slovette1@ec.rr.com)

## DIACONATE

**COMMUNICATONS**  
**Gary Kohunsky**  
[gwkohun@yahoo.com](mailto:gwkohun@yahoo.com)

**CONGREGATIONAL LIFE**  
**Joan Page**  
[jpage25@bellsouth.net](mailto:jpage25@bellsouth.net)  
**Rebecca Beachy**  
[rmbeachy@aol.com](mailto:rmbeachy@aol.com)

**FELLOWSHIP**  
**Karen Windham**  
[k.windham@yahoo.com](mailto:k.windham@yahoo.com)  
**Phyllis Warren**  
[ppwarren3@aol.com](mailto:ppwarren3@aol.com)

**MEMBERSHIP**  
**Ginny Hall**  
[slowginn@hotmail.com](mailto:slowginn@hotmail.com)  
**Gerry Williamson**  
[gerrywilliamson1@gmail.com](mailto:gerrywilliamson1@gmail.com)

**STEWARDSHIP**  
**Jennifer Barnes**  
[6barnes64@gmail.com](mailto:6barnes64@gmail.com)  
**Rita Bolick**  
[jbolick001@ec.rr.com](mailto:jbolick001@ec.rr.com)

