



A Publication of
CAMDEN METHODIST CHURCH
A Global Methodist Church
February 2024

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From the Pastor's Desk

By Pastor Wayne Wood

In February the world sets aside one day for the subject of "LOVE". Candy, flowers, dining out, and gifts are all a part of this day of love. Not a bad idea, but how do you cover this subject with "ONE" day. There are people that get left out of this celebration. Love does not come to some, it comes for all. So do we really need a day to say "I love you"? Shouldn't that be everyday. The Word says God FIRST loved us. He reveals that to us everyday. Our response is to receive that love, to see it in our hearts, not just have a knowledge of His love. 1 Corinthians 8:2-3 says: "But while knowledge makes us feel important, it is LOVE that strengthens the church. So let us love everyday, sincerely and extravagantly.

Love Y'all,

Pastor Wayne

Three things will last forever—faith, hope, and love—and the greatest of these is love.
1 Corinthians 13:13

In the Spotlight

BY GEORGE !



*There is a saying that people come into our lives for a reason, for a season, or for a lifetime. It is our desire that the person featured today will be with our church for the rest of his life. Our Spotlight today is about **George Stonikis**, who started coming to Camden Methodist Church several months ago. Our lives have been enriched by having George and his wife, Suzanne, in our midst.*

With Pastor Wayne and George at Bible Study, we are doubly blessed. Pastor Wayne does a great job explaining the scripture while George makes each of us believe the words, written centuries ago, are speaking directly to us, individually, today. In the absence of Pastor Wayne, George has led our Bible Study as well as delivered the message on Sunday morning. Here is George's story.

At last I have been brought "Home"! Born the only child in a large extended family in Tidewater, Virginia, my early years were shaped by Methodist values in a loving and supportive family (my parents always had time for me!). My entire life has been blessed and the grace of Christ has never failed to provide experiences that got my attention and revealed His plan for my life...when I listened! My early childhood is recalled with fond memories of family, church activities, and opportunities for growth and learning that my parents could provide. When I was ten we relocated to Arlington, Virginia and school became my preoccupation...I loved it! Science fairs, sports, internships, studying, and there were "books!" And my family and parents were right there supporting me!

At the same time my life was being formed in Northern Virginia, a most important part of my destiny back in Tidewater was also being prepared...a future gift of God.

I attended Virginia Tech, earning B.S. and M.S. degrees in sociology and fell in love with "learning," my real hobby. Soon, I was a professor at Longwood University where teaching, writing and presenting papers at both the national and international level, administrative assignments, and becoming a departmental chairman focused my career. The Methodist Church was across the street from my office, and I taught adult Sunday school. During this time I fell in love with Suzanne, that gift of God from Tidewater, and we mutually supported each other in our careers and formed a strong and nurturing faith-based family: a son, now an educator in Waco, Texas, with two teenage daughters; and a daughter, a specialist in mortgage and title processes in Central Florida with an adult daughter.

Over 25 years ago, after three years of seminary training, I became an ordained Catholic Deacon and was given my own church in Amelia, Virginia. As a full-time professor and running a church (weddings, funerals masses, etc.) life was busy, but fulfilling. After 35 years as a professor we moved to Weeksville as Suzanne had been offered a position as Director of Surgical Services, it was her turn! I retired and became a deacon at the two local Catholic churches...for almost 20 years I served weekly and daily masses, taught classes, conducted funerals and weddings, and each day I increasingly realized the Catholic Church was less and less the Catholic "faith!" It had changed and left me! My Protestant roots called me back, and the incredible men at Camden Methodist Men's Group spoke faith-filled volumes to me! These powerful, dedicated, genuine Christians passionately shared their faith...and...at last...I found myself at home.

Once again in my life, I have been gifted by God direct "grace!" Camden Methodist Church, and its Holy Spirit animated parishioners, build and sustain my faith through their wisdom, example, and passion for the Word of God! The future of Camden Methodist Church is in their hands, and their steadfast faith and Spirit driven wisdom will serve His kingdom. I have preached in St. Paul's Basilica at the Vatican, pilgrimage churches in Rome, St. Mark's Basilica in Venice, the Upper Room in Jerusalem, on the shore of the Sea of Galilee...but YOU, my dear Christian sisters and brothers, humble me...you're Christ in the World!



IN AND AROUND THE CHURCH

Continued from previous page

Today, Suzanne and I both enjoy reading and studying, allowing ourselves to be “herded” by Border Collies, and returning each year to our true home, beloved North Yorkshire, England where we have dear friends, pastoral environs, and the peace and quiet to enjoy each other.

Welcome, New Members

On Sunday, November 19, 2023, we welcomed three new members into our church family.



Met Diane Voliva: Diane was born in Norfolk, Virginia and raised in Elizabeth City. After high school graduation, she left for 50 years returning in 2016. She has a daughter, 2 step-daughters, 5 grandchildren, 2 great grandchildren and a grand cat. Diane has been trained as a Stephen Ministry

Leader and served as a deacon in the Baptist church. She came to Camden Methodist Church via way of an invitation to the Thursday morning Bible study and felt led to join the church. Diane, along with Marsha Sand-erlin are co-organizers and leaders of the Wednesday morning prayer group.



Meet Rey Yulfo: Rey was born in Puerto Rico. He moved to New York at the age of 13 and relocated to Chesapeake, VA about 15 years ago. Following the death of his wife in 2022 he decided to buy a home in Shiloh to be closer to his daughter and son-in-law, Rachel and Sal Scotto DiVetta. He began

attending church with them following his move to Cam-

den. Rey has 2 daughters, 1 son, and 6 grandchildren. He is ready and willing to jump in and help anywhere he is needed. You have probably been greeted by his warm smile as you enter the church on Sunday mornings, as he frequently serves as our greeter.

Meet Betty Brown:

Betty was born in Wil-
mington, NC but spent
most of her growing up
years in Perquimans
County before moving
to Elizabeth City. She
was raised a Methodist
but has been exposed
to other denominations
by attending churches



with friends. She has 3 daughters, 6 grandchildren, a great granddaughter, and is expecting the arrival of a great-grandson. In 1993 Betty established a business in downtown Elizabeth City named Clown ‘n’ Around. It was her dream come true! Through this business she was able to serve the community by bringing joy to many people. She entertained throughout a five county area in churches, nursing homes, day care centers, and schools. It was her honor and a highlight of her career to be gifted an American flag which had been flown over Iraq headquarters, honoring her for her contributions to the American soldiers and Iraqi children. She sold the business in 2011. Betty found Camden Methodist Church when she was invited to our Thursday morning Bible study by Mrs. Doris Nixon. She states she found the faith-filled Biblical church she had been searching for.

A Fond Farewell



On Sunday, January 14, the congregation bid a fond farewell to Mike Crickard. Mike began attending Camden Methodist Church in 1991 at the invitation of the McEwen family and has made it his church home for over 32 years. Mike retired on December 30, 2023.



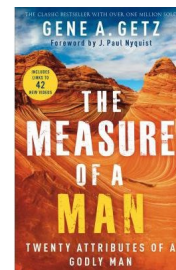
At the time of his retirement he worked at the USCG National Strike Force Coordination Center in Elizabeth City. Mike entered the USCG Academy in 1973 and has served continuously either as a Line Officer, Reserve Officer, and/or government service civilian until his retirement. That's a total of 48 years...10 monthsand 1 day! Mike states, "I thoroughly loved my vocation in serving the nation as a "Coastie" during some of the most devastating disasters...such as the Exxon Valdez oil spill response, 9/11 terrorist event, Katrina/Rita/Sandy hurricanes, and the Deepwater Horizon oil spill response." We thank Mike for his dedicated service to our country and to our church. We will miss hearing his beautiful tenor voice each Sunday, but wish him all the best as he joins his family in Albuquerque, NM and settles into retirement life.

His new address is: 5807 Irvin Blvd. NW
Albuquerque, NM 87114



CRUX MIHI ANCHORA
CAMDEN MEN'S MINISTRY GROUP

Our men's ministry group has been spiritually growing by leaps and bounds. We started a new study for 2024 in the book "The Measure of a Man" by Gene Getz. Our previous study taught us that we are in a spiritual battle and cannot sit on the sidelines and hope everything turns out ok. We have to be spiritually aware of our surroundings and continually nature our personal relationship with Christ. This next study shows the traits of a Godly man and how we can all get better at each one. Chapter 1 was "**Becoming a Faithful Man**". Thirty-one men attended from all over Camden. Gary Zimmerman taught that chapter and he ROCKED it. Next month our second chapter is "**Building a Good Reputation**" and will be taught by Mike Reaves, our middle school principal. We still have a few books left and can get more if needed.



We continue to feed the needy in Camden by offering a free spaghetti dinner for those who are in need. We take donations and have raised enough money to help a young lady with her college costs, money for church projects, and to supplement our ministry needs. We serve over 150 delicious meals each dinner. Come out the first Wednesday of every month for some delicious spaghetti.

ARE YOU READY FOR SOME

Be sure to sign up to attend the **Senior Saints** gathering on February 17 beginning at 11:00 a.m. Alberta Cox has planned a fun-filled event including bingo with door prizes and entertainment by McKinley Riggs, his daughters, and Jimmy Eason from Trinity Methodist Church. Rumor has it that Pastor Wayne may even join them!



Lunch will be catered by Topside and will include fried chicken, BBQ, cole slaw, collards, baked beans, corn bread and more.

Deadline to sign up is Sunday, February 4. Don't miss it!

CHURCH BLOOPERS

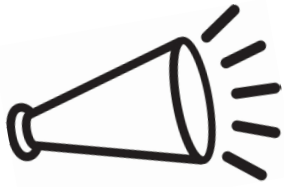
- 1) Don't let worry kill you—let the church help.
- 2) For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.
- 3) The pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday morning.
- 4) Scouts are saving aluminum cans, bottles, and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.
- 5) The church will provide fried children for the covered dish meal.

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

- Wednesday, February 7—Drive Thru Spaghetti Dinner
4:30 pm to 6:30 p.m. (note time change)
Saturday, February 10—Men's breakfast and book study 7:30 a.m. in church fellowship hall.
(USCG Team Cooking)

MEN'S MINISTRY TEAM

Butch Flythe Mike Gall
Ross Munro (Treasurer)
Pastor Wayne Wood



CALLING
ALL
WOMEN



It is with much excitement we announce a new women's Bible study group will begin meeting on Tuesday, February 13 @ 5:30 pm. The title of the study is **A Woman After God's Own Heart** by Elizabeth George. It will be led by Kellie Berry. Tentative plans are to meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month beginning March 5th.

Join us on the 13th for a cup of tea and to meet Kellie (if you haven't already). At this meeting you will learn a little bit about Kellie and how God led her to begin this ministry group. She will also introduce the study and take orders for the book.

For planning purposes there is a sign-up sheet in the vestibule beginning on February 4th or you can text your name to Kellie @ 252-339-1612. Feel free to invite a friend! They do not have to attend Camden Methodist Church. This is a perfect opportunity to draw closer to God and to each other.



We have three teachers who teach at Camden Middle School. They are beginning a new semester. At this point in the year many students do not have pencils, crayons, colored pencils, highlighters, scissors, glue sticks, 3 prong pocket folders, ear buds and 3 subject college rule notebooks. Teachers take a lot of money out of their pockets to buy these supplies for the students who do not have them. In order to help and support these teachers, the Jackie Berry Circle will be collecting these supplies through February 4th. If you would like to donate supplies you can place them in the basket at the front of the church.

Don't forget to place **your order** for Super Bowl Chili. You can choose from traditional chili or white chicken chili. Both are delicious! The price is \$10 per pint and the chili can be picked up after worship service on February 11th. Proceeds from the sale of this chili will be used by the Jackie Berry Circle to fund mission projects.



The Edenton District's First Inaugural Charge Conference for the Global Methodist Church was held on Sunday, January 21 at Camden Methodist Church. The district consists of five churches: three in Camden, one in Edenton, and one in Windsor.

The only order of business was approval of the pastor's package for each church. Myron Simmons, presiding Elder delivered the message and it was followed by communion.

Approximately 70 people attended the conference and the reception afterward. Attendees were encouraged to network with members of other churches to see what they were doing to reach lost souls for Christ.

A big thank you goes out to Rachel Scotto DiVetta for organizing the reception, and to everyone who contributed food, money, or helped with set-up and clean-up.

Those who deserve love the least need it the most.

But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you.

Matthew 5:44





Are you looking for a place to serve in the church? Has God laid it on your heart to volunteer to serve but you don't know what to do or who to see? There are many "jobs" available. Talk to Pastor

Wayne and let him know your interest, skills, etc. and he will find a place for you!



Ash Wednesday is one of the most important dates on the Christian calendar because it marks the start of Lent. Lent is observed each year to prepare for the celebration of Easter, when Christ rose from the dead to sit at the right hand of God, His father.

Ash Wednesday is celebrated this year on Wednesday, February 14. It always falls 6 1/2 weeks before Easter. It is celebrated over 46 days. It includes 40 days of fasting, self-sacrifice, and prayer and six Sundays on which fasting is not practiced.

The 40-day period has a special significance in both testaments of the Bible. In the Old Testament we are told Moses spent 40 days and nights with God on Mount Sinai in preparation to receive the Ten Commandments. In the New Testament we learn that after Jesus was baptized, He was led by the Spirit into the wilderness where he spent 40 days and 40 nights fasting. It was there, after 40 days and nights of fasting, that the devil tempted him.

12 Reasons Christians Don't Attend Sporting Events

1. The coach never came to visit me.
2. Every time I went, they asked for money.
3. The people sitting in my row didn't seem very friendly.
4. The seats were very hard.
5. The referees made a decision I didn't agree with.
6. I was sitting with hypocrites—they only came to see what others were wearing!
7. Some games went into overtime and I was late getting home.



FEBRUARY Birthdays

Trent Woods (7)

Bobby Spruill (10)

Marsha Beatley (25)

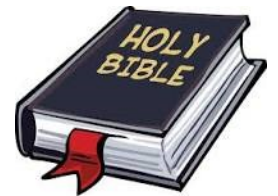
Michael Barksdale (28)

FEBRUARY Anniversaries

Bruce and Lillian Drahos

If your birthday or anniversary has been left off the calendar, please see Suzanne Berry or send a text to 252-202-5239.

Have y'all heard about the new rewards program? You get eternal life for signing up and you get Heavenly rewards for doing God's good work. No phone number or email required. More details can be found in the Bible.



If you would like to place flowers on the altar for a special occasion or in honor/memory of someone, please contact Wrae Collins @ 252-335-7049.

MARCH NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

8. The band played some songs I had never heard before.
9. The games are scheduled on my only day to sleep in and run errands.
10. My parents took me to too many games when I was growing up.
11. Since I read a book on sports, I feel that I know more than the coaches, anyway.
12. I don't want to take my children because I want them to choose for themselves what sport they like best.

Thursday February 1
10:00 am Bible Study
7:00 pm Strummer's Practice

Friday February 2
GROUNDHOG DAY

Sunday February 4
10:00 am Sunday School
11:15 am Worship Service
5:30 pm Dinner and a Movie (The Chosen)

Monday February 5
Pastor's Day Off
9:30 am Pre-Bag Food for Food Pantry

Tuesday February 6
8:30 am Minister's Council
7:00-11:30 am Food Pantry set-up, food distribution, clean-up

Wednesday February 7
10:00 am Membership Committee
10:30 am Praying Disciples
4:30-6:30 pm Drive Thru Spaghetti Dinner

Thursday February 8
10:00 am Bible Study
7:00 pm Strummer's Practice

Saturday February 10
7:30 am Men's Breakfast

Sunday February 11
10:00 am Sunday School
11:15 am Worship Service
12:15 pm Super Bowl Chili Pick-up

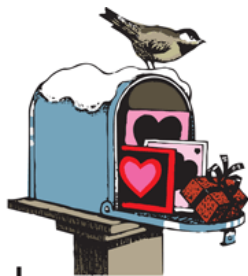
Monday February 12
Pastor's Day Off

Tuesday February 13
10:00 am-2:00 pm Gloria Wesner Craft Group
5:30 pm Bible Time and Tea Ministry

Wednesday February 14
VALENTINES DAY
10:00 am Membership Committee
10:30 am Praying Disciples

Thursday February 15
10:00 am Bible Study
7:00 pm Strummer's Practice
7:00 pm Trustee Meeting

Saturday February 17
11:00 am Senior Saints



February

Sunday February 18
10:00 am Sunday School
11:15 am Worship Service

Monday February 19
Pastor's Day Off
9:30 am Pre-Bag Food for Food Pantry

Tuesday February 20
7:00-11:30 am Food Pantry set-up, food distribution, clean-up

Wednesday February 21
10:00 am Membership Committee
10:30 am Praying Disciples
6:30 pm Jackie Berry Circle

Thursday February 22
10:00 am Bible Study
7:00 pm Strummer's Practice

Sunday February 25
10:00 am Sunday School
11:15 am Worship Service

Monday February 26
Pastor's Day Off

Tuesday February 27
10:00 am-2:00 pm Gloria Wesner Craft Group

Wednesday February 28
10:00 am Membership Committee
10:30 am Praying Disciples
7:00 pm Administrative Board

Thursday February 29
10:00 am Bible Study
7:00 pm Strummer's Practice



PLEASE NOTE

Due to the Super Bowl, Dinner and a Movie has been moved to February 4th, the first Sunday. The Jackie Berry Circle will be in charge of the meal.

Due to Valentine's Day, the Jackie Berry Circle meeting has been moved to February 21st. Cindy Haynes will be the guest speaker.

The Church Record for DECEMBER

Avg. Worship Attendance	78
Mortgage Fund Income	\$ 3,590.00
Mortgage Fund Expense	<u>2,819.93</u>
Net Surplus	\$ 770.07
Mortgage Balance	\$ 332,452.84
Operating Fund Income	\$ 13,565.97
Operating Fund Expenses	<u>5,572.43</u>
Net Surplus	\$ 7,993.54
Capital Improvement Income	\$ 800.00
Capital Improvement Expense	<u>10,424.38</u>
Capital Improvement Fund Balance	\$ 800.00

Please be Praying for...

At Home

Ann White
 Paula Ledbetter
 Gladys Clow
 Mike, Janet & Kirk Barkley
 Rose & Pete Kornegay
 Jerry Leitch
 Gail Umphlett
 Ada Sailer
 Pastor David & Myrna
 Stuart Dillon
 Addyson Singleton
 Matt Hite
 Chris Leary
 Diane Ledbetter
 Marsha Beatley
 Lori Hunt
 Maureen Kennedy
 Jimmy Brickhouse
 Tommy & Linda Dilday
 Nicholas Bundy
 Karen Seigh
 Sheila Aldrich

Mary Pritchard
 Kay Pierce
 Gloria Spence
 Callie Barker
 Callis Riggs

Unable to Attend

Anne Harrell
 Melva Hardison

In Service to Our Country

Owen Games
 Jeff Asper
 Jake Drahos
 Logan Munro
 Cameron Perry
 Drew Latham

If you need to add or remove someone from the prayer list please email: camdenmethodistcommunication@gmail.com

GREETER SCHEDULE FOR FEBRUARY

Dan Haynes



ACOLYTE SCHEDULE FOR FEBRUARY

4 Jaxen Schmultz
 11 Bentley Shockley
 18 Avery Holt
 25 Jaxen Schmultz



Camden Methodist Church

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Camden, NC 27921

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Facebook: Camden Methodist Church of Camden, NC

Email: camdenmethodist@gmail.com

Pastor Wayne Wood Cell #: 252-312-8152

Email: rwood125@gmail.com

If you have anything you would like communicated to the church or community then please E-Mail it to the Communications Team at camdenmethodistcommunication@gmail.com.



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