



Chapel Hill

United Methodist Church

August 12, 2024

Pastor's Message

CHUMC family,

Did you see that photo finish line? USA sprinter Noah Lyles was awarded the gold medal in the Men's 100M sprint in what may have been the closest race of its kind in Olympic history as he edged Jamaican sprinter Kishane Thompson by .005 seconds. The differential from 1st place to last place was .12 seconds! Every racer was within inches, excuse me, centimeters, of victory.

If you looked at the published photo of the victory, however, you may have noticed something strange. A foot that was not Lyles' was across the finish line in the still shot that supposedly showed him crossing the finish line first. Did he win?

Well, he actually did. The Olympic rules state that the winner is determined by the first torso to cross the finish. Therefore, feet, hands, etc., do not come into play at the finish line. Now, Lyles had lost to Jamaica's Oblique Seville in the semifinal as he was staring down Seville as he crossed the finish line. He potentially distracted himself by returning a taunt from Seville in a previous race and lost by .02 seconds. He ran distraction free in the final, though, and took home the gold.

In 1 Corinthians 9, Paul instructs his readers to "run (the race) in such a way that you may receive (the prize)." As followers of Jesus, we are running a race fueled not by water, or sports drinks, or proteins, but by the grace of God who calls us in Jesus Christ and baptizes us in the Holy Spirit. We run this grace race with the greatest prize of citizenship in God's beloved community ahead of us. We can get distracted in the grace race and start looking toward things we achieve by our power: wealth, status, power, self-righteousness, vengeance. We can run this race, the ego race, to seemingly great achievement. The reality, however, is we forget the ultimate power in creation and humanity is God's grace. Only in the grace race of love of God and love of neighbor may we run so as to receive the prize.

In the end, the ego race proves to have no winners. The good news is that there is no limitation of prize winners in the grace race, because it is not about speed or strength. It is about the enduring power of God's grace and love.

**Grace and peace,
Rev. J.D. Allen**



Chapel Hill UMC
Staff

Rev. J.D. Allen
Senior Pastor

Kate Whitaker Hendrick
Minister of Families

Melissa Sky-Eagle
Worship & Music

Jill Cox
Office Manager

Jim Hanigan
Building Manager



Prayer List

CHUMC Home Bound	Greg Hartman
The Gee Family	Ruby Wiechman
Yvette's kids	Mike Tatum
Matthew Shivar	Kaye Bandy
Aaron Brooks	Gary Fuls
Lynda Lyon (Iris Shivar's Cousin)	Patti and Harry Heckard
Judy Bull	Vin Scheihagen
Janis Coggshall	The Family of Gay Keim
David Loper	Adi, GISD former teacher
Claudia Marchant	The Claiborne Family
Joanne Marchant	Mass Shooting Victims
Terri Moore	Peace, healing, & restoration in war torn areas
Steve Ramsey	
Julia and David Knutt	
Stacey Ramsey	

Calendar of Events

September	Mission Emphasis: First Responders Care Packages
Sunday, September 1	Communion Offering: First Responders Care Packages
Monday, September 2	Labor Day – Church Office is Closed
Sunday, September 15	Potluck 11:30 am
October	
Sunday, October 6	Communion Offering: World Communion
Monday, October 14	Columbus Day/Indigenous People's Day – Church Office is Closed
Sunday, October 20	Children's Sabbath/Sermon 10:30 am
Sunday, October 20	Fellowship Lunch – Brown Bag Lunch 11:30 am

Announcements

- **Thank You Lunch**, Sunday, August 18th at 11:30 AM for the congregation's help in donating for the kids to go to camp.

Church Office Hours

Regular Office hours are
Monday through Thursday
10 AM – 2 PM

If you have a pastoral care emergency outside of office hours, please contact our Senior Pastor, Rev. J.D. Allen at (972) 467-7756.

Join Us for Online Worship!

YouTube: bit.ly/CHUMCYoutube

Facebook: www.facebook.com/chapelhillumc

BIRTHDAY REMINDER: Please let our church office know your birthdate, mm/dd/yyyy, so your church family can acknowledge your special day. **Your 'year' will remain private:** office@chapelhillumc.org



Faye Chapman	4-Aug	Kassie Hampton	21-Aug
Kate Whitaker Hendrick	6-Aug	Meredith Freeman	23-Aug
J.J. Mendoza	8-Aug		
Gaje Allen	11-Aug		
Jonathon Fehlau	14-Aug		
Yvette Ysaguirre	18-Aug		
Pam Hodges	20-Aug		