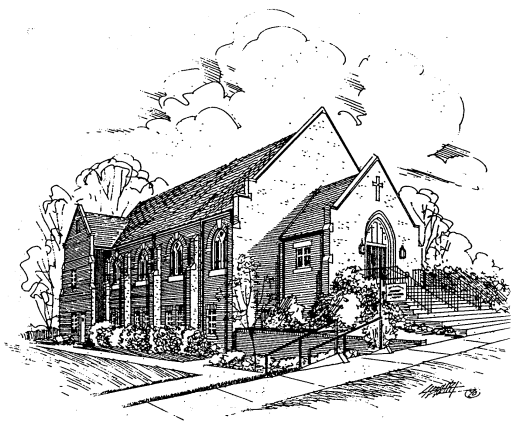


## Commonwealth Newsletter



2023



Commonwealth United Methodist Church

2434 Commonwealth Ave.  
Charlotte, NC 28205-5132  
704-376-4924  
[www.commonwealthumc.org](http://www.commonwealthumc.org)

Rev. Pilar Pérez - Minister  
704-995-1471  
[localpumc@gmail.com](mailto:localpumc@gmail.com)



Follow us on Facebook!  
[@CommonwealthUMC](https://www.facebook.com/CommonwealthUMC)



Lamentations 3:31-33  
<sup>31</sup> For the Lord will not reject forever, <sup>32</sup> For if He causes grief, Then He will have compassion according to His abundant lovingkindness. <sup>33</sup> For He does not afflict from His heart Or grieve the sons of men.'

Suffering is one of the most difficult concepts for a person to understand. It could fairly be said that no one will understand suffering completely in this life. But God, in His compassion, does help us to grasp this heart wrenching concept to a certain degree through His Word. One point to help us to understand God and suffering is that He is perfect in all of His ways (Psalm 18:30) and that He is more concerned about our holiness than His happiness. In the entire Biblical context, God will use whatever means to not only make His decreative will come to pass, but also to have people submit their will to Him. It is the gracious hand of God in our lives to use all things to conform to His image. And His ways are best; not always easy, but best. In times like these a few correct questions we can ask are: "God, what are you teaching me?", "How can I use this to grow?", and "How can I use this to glorify You, Lord?". These questions are for the new Christian as well as the mature Christian. Interestingly enough, we find that when we are holy, we are most happy; suffering helps to accomplish that growth.

A needful encouragement would be to 'Delight yourself in the Lord' as Psalm 37:4 says. When we are in the most pain, delight yourself in Him knowing that the ways in which He is accomplishing an amazing work in you is what's best.  
In Christ,  
Rev. Pilar Perez



### Our Prayer List

Ruby Agnew, Perry Laine Coxe (Bob & Jackie's Great Granddaughter)  
Jack Harwell (Ruby Agnew's brother)  
Shirley Laye, Pia Roe, Nadine Starnes,  
Reina Salinas, Phyllis Batts, Alice Shepherd

*If you know someone that needs to be added or removed, please let the church office know*



### 15<sup>th</sup> Newsletter Deadline

Please send anything you would like in the newsletter to the church office at [commonwealthumc@bellsouth.net](mailto:commonwealthumc@bellsouth.net) before October 15.

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS

After 50 years at 3500 School House Lane,  
Gary and I are moving to Aldersgate on  
October 9. We will be in the Francis Bldg apt  
1110. Our new address will be:

Gary and Peggy Bridgers  
3800 Shamrock Drive  
Charlotte, NC 28215



### October

1 Rev. Pilar Pérez  
11 Joyce Yates  
15 Pia Roe  
18 Lisa McCarter  
25 Connie Boza  
28 Adriane Beaver  
28 Steve Kurt

### November

12 Phyllis Batts  
24 Bob Samuels  
25 Vera O'Pry



### Attendance

September 3 - 22  
September 10 - 22  
September 17 - 22



### Stewardship

**September 3, 2023**  
Offering - \$1236.00

**September 10, 2023**  
Offering - \$2372.00

**September 17, 2023**  
Offering - \$2,223.00

## CUMC Clothing Closet



**10am-1pm**

**Saturday October 14, 2023**

The Clothing Closet is **FREE** and open to  
anyone and everyone!  
*Spread the word to anyone who has a need!*

**ADULT CLOTHING DONATIONS  
NEEDED!**



## Charge Conference

Commonwealth UMC will hold its Charge  
Conference on October 29 at 2pm. This will  
take place at Hickory Grove UMC.  
6401 Hickory Grove Road  
Charlotte, NC 28215



In Honor of Marie Rich  
By: The Chancel Choir

## Ushers

October - Phyllis Batts  
November - Connie Hartsell

