

Lighthouse Congregations are part of the UM Collective Movement, which seeks to be a connecting space for those who find themselves displaced because of disaffiliation.

Its mission is to provide care, a place to belong, and tangible pathways to explore the next steps for those on this challenging journey.

The UM Collective is an online community that will connect you with real people for anyone who might be wondering about different ways to remain United Methodist.

For more information, visit <a href="https://www.wnccumc.org/remaining-umc.">https://www.wnccumc.org/remaining-umc.</a>

We love you.

We care about you.

We're here for you.

8:45 am - Contemporary Worship 9:45 am - Sunday School 11:00 am - Traditional Worship



www.facebook.com/norwoodfirstumc



## Norwood First United Methodist Church

Rev. Dr. Mark L. Barden, Pastor 908 Pee Dee Avenue PO Box 948 Norwood, NC 28128 704-474-4160 www.norwoodfirstumc.com Email: norwoodumcoffice@qmail.com

Office Hours: 8:00 am -Noon, 1:30 - 5:00 pm

## Norwood First United Methodist Church

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Are you an individual or part of a group of people who have become displaced or churchless because of closing or disaffiliation in The United Methodist Church?

If so, a Lighthouse Congregation may be for you!

A Lighthouse Congregation is a United Methodist faith community that will serve as a resting place with people who will care for you while providing a haven of peace and grace.

Let your light shine before people, so they can see the good things you do and praise your Father who is in heaven. - Matthew 5:16



Norwood First United Methodist Church opens its doors to individuals and groups whose churches are disaffiliating, yet wish to remain United Methodist. We are a congregation who has a desire to welcome, love, and nurture.

## Lighthouse Congregations...

- 1) Provide a welcoming place to belong during this time of grief and transition, which might be for just a season, or for a lifetime. This includes a safe space with caring relationships, listening hearts, and unconditional love within a congregation that is confident it is remaining in the UMC.
  - ⇒ Provide all forms of pastoral and laity-driven care.
  - ⇒ This may also include providing physical space for "Remnant" groups to gather as they consider what it looks like to stay together.
- 2) Offer ministry opportunities in which to engage or not. There will be no pressure.
  - ⇒ Worship: Providing worship opportunities, whether online or in person. These services will intentionally engage and welcome new people into their midst. They will also include the sacraments of communion and baptism.
    - ⇒ Discipleship: Creating space to learn and grow through small group gatherings, Bible studies, and prayer opportunities.
      - ⇒ Mission: Inviting fellow United Methodists into opportunities to serve through hands-on ministries. These might include anything that involves making a difference and sharing the love of God with others.
        - 3) Organize local remaining UMC groups by proactively finding and connecting with individuals and groups displaced by disaffiliating churches.
          - 4) Connect individuals or groups with Conference and District resources to help them discern their next steps as they consider a new church home

Norwood United Methodist Church welcomes everyone!