

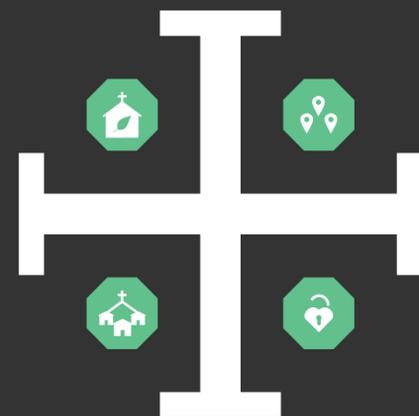
GIVING THANKS FOR Marty Cauley *by Rev. Tim Catlett*

Rev. Dr. Marty Cauley passed away on June 29 after a long illness. Marty served for over 27 years in ministry with the United Methodist Church, including five years in the Office of New Faith Communities. Marty left a legacy of disciple-making and transformation. This newsletter was created to celebrate and give thanks for our friend and colleague.



PLEASE SUPPORT OUR PLANTERS with your prayers for communion to be celebrated in new ways in their lives and in their communities.

- | | |
|---|---|
| Dorrell Briscoe
Six:Eight Church, Durham | Sarah Majors
Open Table, Raleigh |
| Daniel Childs
Kindred Church, Durham | Cleve May
Durham Home Church Network,
Durham |
| Randy Evans
The Feast Gathering, Wilmington | Wes Neal
Asbury, Durham |
| Jason Gaskin
Storied Church, Mebane | Meg McBride
Hope Recovery Church, Wilmington |
| Aaron Hayworth
Church at Six Forks, Raleigh | Gayle Tabor
St Paul UMC, Carolina Beach |
| Francis Kinyua
The Church at Spring Forest,
Hillsborough | Jamie Thompson
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| Sherei Jackson
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*An order of laity and clergy dedicated to embodying
apostolic hospitality for new people to be gathered
into communion with Jesus Christ.*

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Rev. Dr. Marty Cauley was a friend and colleague committed to the work of creating new spaces for new people to gather in communion with Jesus Christ. Marty served as the Director of Partner and Planter Development with the Office of New Faith Communities in the NC Conference for five years (2014-2019). One of Marty's many lasting contributions was the development of the Mary's Path program which was designed to help existing congregations discern and participate in the co-creation of new faith communities. Marty believed that "Conferences don't birth churches. Churches birth churches." The role of institutional leaders was to "simply act as a midwife in the process." Marty was incredibly gifted at coming alongside congregations and leaders as a holy friend, committed to helping them discern how and where God might be leading them.

In 2020, Marty was recognized for his work and commitment to bringing people into life-transforming relationships with Jesus when he was presented

with the Harry Denman Award for Evangelism. In presenting the award to Cauley, Rev. Tim Reaves said at the time, "We cannot think of anybody more deserving [of recognition] for a lifetime achievement of evangelism. In every role you've had in the church, it has been about reaching people for Jesus."¹

With Marty's life and words, he challenged us to live as authentic and vulnerable servant-leaders. He challenged us to stretch ourselves and be uncomfortable and as disciples of Jesus to seek to love our community, listen to our neighbors, and live "in the neighborhoods" to which we were called. Marty wrote, "We have to be willing to make inconvenient and costly sacrifices to live out the calling God has placed upon our lives." (October 2018, NRS Newsletter²)

Marty also reminded us that "those seeking to be real, radical disciples crave living examples of discipleship, not perfect ones. We crave relationship, not showmanship. We crave community,

not just crowds." (January 2018, NRS Newsletter²). Not only did Marty remind us of these truths, he tried to live his life embodying these values. He authentically shared his life with his friends and colleagues and invited many to journey with him as he journeyed with Jesus through the rejoicing and the pain.

Marty was also not afraid of death, for the church or himself. In one of those vulnerable moments, Marty shared his own journey as a parallel to challenge congregations to consider leaving a legacy for the next generation of disciples. Marty wrote, "Death is inevitable; hope is optional. Let us be resurrection people who allow our hope to live on and our legacy to continue." (May 2018, NRS Newsletter²).

Marty will be missed. However, his legacy is strong and will continue. We will always give thanks for his life, his witness, and the ways his work created new spaces for new people to gather in communion with Jesus. +

¹<https://nccumc.org/news/2020/12/denman-award-presented-to-marty-cauley/>
²<https://nccumc.org/newfaithcommunities/nrs-newsletter/>



A TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF MARTY CAULEY

BY DANELLE CAULEY

Marty Cauley believed in people. He believed that even though we are all broken from sin, we can still make a difference in our world and in the lives of others. He poured himself into sharing Jesus in innumerable places and ways: from his work at “the mother ship” (the NCCUMC building); to preaching/teaching at churches everywhere; to writing on the backs of napkins in restaurants to help people grasp a concept that might help them on their spiritual journeys.

During our 15 years together, I witnessed Marty loving people by pointing them towards their own potential through Christ. I will share with you a partial list of sayings that Marty liked to give to young adults to encourage them. Some of these are words of wisdom he gathered over his life (you know the man loved words!), and some have his own “Marty Flavor” all over them!

- Be authentic.
 - The best hugs come from five-year-olds.
 - Mend fences. Build bridges. Forgive.
 - Respect is a learned and earned value.
 - Not everyone you disagree with is wrong.
 - Real faith is believing even when you doubt.
 - Table manners are very important.
 - You don’t have to be strong all the time.
 - Appreciate little things.
 - People are more important than projects.
 - Sometimes you have to do what you have to do while you wait to do what you really want to do.
 - Significance is more important than success.
 - Texting is not really communicating.
 - Promises spoken are not necessarily promises lived.
 - Bless everyone you encounter.
 - Learn to smile and nod at advice.
 - Hard work pays off in the end.
 - Make a bucket list. Do the bucket list.
 - Eat better = feel better.
 - Your spiritual journey is a journey, not a destination.
 - Being right is less important than striving to live rightly.
 - You are enough!
- Every sunrise is God’s way of saying you get another chance.
 - Those you love the most will sometimes hurt you the most, even if they don’t mean to.
 - Everything you put online is public, permanent, and published.
 - Ask for help and accept it. Help someone else even if they don’t ask.
 - You cannot make somebody else love you. God loves you always.
 - It is worth the risk of being hurt to let people get close to you.
 - Life has lessons in unusual places if you will just listen for them.
 - There is a difference between knowing about God and knowing God.
 - It’s okay to be angry at God. God can handle it, but don’t let your anger control you.
 - Your parents (siblings, friends, children, coworkers, etc.) are people.
 - Just cry and get over it. Holding it back means it will explode on your later.
 - If you are not dead, you are not done.

To all of the people reading this—you are not dead and you are not done. God has good things for you to do! +



BY JILL MURPHY

I met Rev. Dr. Marty Cauley in the most peculiar way, a job interview.

I was interested in changing careers and my coach, Denise Baker, encouraged me to apply for a job I saw posted on the North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church (NCCUMC) website for the office of New Faith Communities. I had been a special education teacher for so long I wasn’t sure I was cut out to do anything else but I took the next step anyways and I will be forever grateful that I did.

Marty Cauley and I worked together in the office of New Faith Communities for three years before he took a medical leave of absence. During those three years, we developed a friendship that I will always cherish, mostly because when we would go to lunch together, he would always share his french fries with me. His impact as a Methodist pastor was broad across the conference with pastors and laity but it was the way he maintained friendships that I believe is his legacy.

Not to steal from Rev. Greg Moore’s Good Friends booklet*, but Marty was able to practice friendship with people who thought like him and people who didn’t. He was able to practice friendship with people who lived like him and people who didn’t. He was able to practice friendship with people who looked like him and people who didn’t. He was able to practice friendship with neighbors and those that try to make you their enemy. Marty practiced Holy Friendship in anticipation of all heaven breaking out.

Marty practiced friendship with me. For those of you lucky enough to have known Marty, I pray you continue to practice Holy Friendship with those around you. For those of you who never met him, may you know the friendship of Christ and be a Good Friend. +

**If you would like to read the Good Friends booklet, please go to <https://nccumc.org/> and search Good Friends.*

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