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From the Pastor...

Dear Friends,

Last fall, many of you heard the saga of the palm tree. How my wife Nell, when we moved to Charlotte, announced that since she now lived in the south she wanted a palm tree(!) How no amount of reasoning would convince her that palm trees are not native to the Piedmont. How every winter she would fret about her palm. How the previous winter, with a sleet storm approaching, she sent me on a wild trip to fetch bales of straw in the back seat of my two-door convertible to pack around the palm tree's roots.

Well, the saga is over. This year, we didn't have any dramatic storms, and the palm seemed to have been healthy through the bouts of cold weather that did come along. But then with the warm days of early March we noticed a few branches turning brown, and then some more, until soon the entire tree was dry and brittle. This weekend we sawed it down and went to the nursery to buy a replacement, not a palm tree this time, but a corkscrew weeping willow - still different and interesting, but more suited to Mecklenburg County. According to Google, this is a tree that is even known for looking good when covered in snow!

I suppose it is tempting to see all kinds of parables in this tale. How fragile life is. The folly of not paying attention to prevailing conditions. The wisdom of cutting our losses and moving on. The further wisdom of learning from our mistakes rather than repeating them. But you know, sometimes a tale is just a tale, a story with ups and downs and no ending in sight. It's just a good story and we will be telling it for years. We will tell it when the willow towers over the back yard, and our children will tell it after us. We could do a lot worse in life than just making stories and sharing them. What stories to you have to share?

Blessings, Elliott

Offerings & Attendance



Offerings:

April 22 - \$18,161.00
April 29 - \$ 5,087.00

S/S Attendance:

April 22 - 59
April 29 - 58

Worship Attendance:

April 22 - 101
April 29 - 106



April Session Report

The Session held its April Stated meeting on Sunday, April 22. The main item on the agenda was the report of the Task Force to study and update the church's Manual of Operations. Session members will continue to study the draft report and will meet for a second reading and vote on May 6. If the report is adopted, Session will schedule a Congregational Meeting in the near future to consider and act on recommended changes. The final version, as adopted by Session, will be available for all congregational members to study as soon as the meeting date is announced. In other business, Session approved the summer calendar and schedule for worship and Sunday School and heard reports about Youth Mission Week, Vacation Bible School, and Paw Creeks participation in the 150th Anniversary celebrations for Woodland Presbyterian Church this year (details on all these in this newsletter). Due to the Pentecost Sunday celebration with Woodland, the Session's stated meeting for May is cancelled - the next regularly scheduled meeting will be Sunday, June 10.

Prayer Concerns & Celebrations

Prayer Concerns:

- Elaine Litaker's son, Vernon continues to struggle with health issues and recently had a stroke. He is in rehab but hopes to move to a rehab in Columbia, SC to be closer to his daughter.
- Anne Glasscock passed away on April 28.
- Margaret White was in hospital overnight on April 26, but stress test turned out ok. She is back home and resting.
- Amy & Jeremy Chapman continue to need our prayers for a difficult pregnancy.

Celebrations:

- Ava was born on April 26th to Caitlyn & Tommy Deaton (Grandparents: Melissa & Jerry Mullis)
- Marlon Foust starts a new job this week.
- Chris Lee, former Youth pastor, has accepted a call to become pastor of a church in Texas.
- Alexis Tyler gets her Driver's license and has her finals this week.
- Mary Ellen Edwards neighbor, Willie, had surgery this past week and is doing well.
- Sherry Blevins had two more musical pieces accepted for publication.

Keep in Your Prayers:

- Hoyt & Jean Johnston
- Mary Frances Lail
- Flora Mae Love
- Dave Reames
- Marlene Thames
- Caregivers



Service Assignments

Count Team:

Team Leader: Danny McClure
Team: Eddie Chapman, Beth & Kevin Joy

Ushers:

Team Leader: Frances Lyerly
Team: Frances Lyerly, Betty Field, Chris Timberman & Donna Timberman

Greeters:

Narthex: Jon Kenley & Amy McGee
East Wing: Larry Ramsey
West Wing: Melissa Mullis

Prayer Team:

5/6 Debbie Taylor & Karen Cathey
5/13 Kay Scarce & Ann Cashion

Nursery - Crib Room:

5/6 Gloria Caldwell
5/13 Christy Corder

Nursery - Toddler Room:

5/6 Stephanie Sudderth
5/13 Sarah Cox

Visitation Schedule

Visiting Teams for May

Linda Riggins & Ann Cashion
Susan Kenley & Toni Torrence
Joyce & Leslie Joy
Virginia & Harold Staton
Barbara Ullem & Teresa Painter
Emily Adkins & Angie Ross
Grady & Karen Cathey
Frances Lyerly & Jane McArver
Margaret White & Judy Smith

Special Friends to be Visited:

Flora Mae Love
Anne Smith
Dave Reames
Jean Johnston
Bill Faust
Mike Johnson
Rennie Auten & Mary Frances Lail
Richard Rumble
Allen Wingate (& Laura)

Cards

Virginia & Harold Staton
Barbara Ullem & Teresa Painter

Bryce & Anne Moore, Bob & Marie Love
Bertha Ellis, Marlene Thames, Ralph & Harriet Underwood, Stella Whitlock



Summer Church Schedule

During the months of July and August, our Sunday School and worship will begin earlier in the day, to allow for more family time later in the day. Here are all the dates and times for summer activities:

- Sunday, June 3 Graduation Sunday - Lemonade on the lawn
- Sunday, June 3 Combined Summer Adult Sunday School begins
- June 24 - 27 Youth Group Mission Week
- Sunday, July 1 Summer Schedule begins
Sunday School at 9:00 am
Worship at 10:00 am
- July 8 - 12 Vacation Bible School (evenings)
- Sunday, August 26 Rally Day and Community
Back-to-school Event
- Sunday, September 2 Labor Day - Sunday School and Worship resume
normal schedules.

Prayer Garden

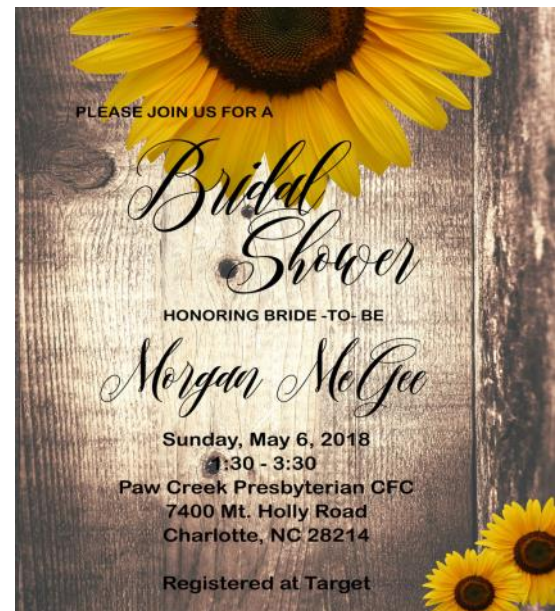
Get your Prayer Garden Paver Orders in now for your Mother's & Father's Day gifts !

Also great for Graduations, Weddings, Babies, & Anniversaries. Wonderful way to celebrate a loved one & family with a beautiful memory that will last forever.

Order forms in the narthex, church office and website.



Bridal Shower for Morgan McGee



Thank you to all of my friends at Paw Creek for your prayers, calls, food and cards during my recent surgery and recuperation. I'm so thankful to belong to such a giving, warm church.

God bless you all! Karen Cathey

To Elliott and the Paw Creek Church Family:

On behalf of my daughters, sons, daughter-in-law, grandchildren and extended family, please accept our sincere thanks for being part of the wonderful funeral service for Betty on Sunday, April 15th. So many of you came in spite of the worst possible weather and it was truly appreciated. The celebration of her life and the reception were exactly as she would have wanted them and we know she was there, in spirit, to enjoy both. On occasions like this, we are aware of all the preparations made by many of you. To you and all those in attendance, we offer our deep appreciation for your efforts. No one could ever have a more loving and supportive pastor and church family than ours at Paw Creek and we will always be grateful for each and every one of you.

Jim Pinkston
P.S.
Thanks also for the multitude of beautiful cards we have received that share such wonderful messages of love and faith and hope.

Dear Church Family,
Thank you for the support you have shown to us during Vernie's surgery and Ken's health concerns. Also, thank you for your messages of sympathy in the death of Vernie's brother, Wayne. How Blessed we are to be part of this Church Family.
Blessings,
Vernie & Ken Smith

Pentecost Celebration with Woodland Presbyterian Church

During 2018 Woodland celebrates the 150th Anniversary of its founding by former enslaved members of Paw Creek after the end of the Civil War. Our tenth annual Joint Pentecost service will be the first opportunity for us to help them celebrate this milestone year.

When: Pentecost Sunday, **May 20** at 11:00

Where: At Paw Creek

Who: All God's People!

Joint Choirs

Special Anniversary Preacher the Rev. Warren LeSane, Stated Clerk of the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic

Greetings from the Rev. Jan Edmiston, newly elected General Presbyter of the Presbytery of Charlotte

What: Festival worship and celebration of the Lord's Supper at 11:00

Pot luck Feast in the CFC to follow (fried chicken and drinks provided)

Anniversary T-Shirts

Buy a Woodland 150th Anniversary T-Shirt and join the crowd on Pentecost!

Order form included in the newsletter, or available in the Church Office and Narthex. Please bring form and check (payable to "Woodland Presbyterian Church") to Paw Creek Church office by **May 13**

[Click here to download the order form](#)



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Anniversary Mission Project

Let's all help Woodland meet its goal to collect 150 "Homeless outreach kits" as an Anniversary Mission Project. Mission kits are gallon-size zip lock bags filled with snacks, personal care items and other thoughtful small gifts for distribution homeless men and women through local shelters. There is no specific list of items - be creative and thoughtful! Bags can be left at the mission wall in the sanctuary, and will be dedicated on Pentecost Sunday.



Additional Anniversary Events

Paw Creek is invited to share in these additional Anniversary events in the fall, all of which will be take place at Paw Creek. Look for more information later in the year:

Homecoming Worship - **September 23** at 3:00 pm followed by reception in the CFC

Guest Preacher the Rev. J. Herbert Nelson, Stated Clerk of the General Assembly

Anniversary Banquet - Saturday evening **November 10** in the CFC



Attention All Graduates!

We want to honor you with a special service on **June 3**. Please provide any high school/ college honors received and your plans for the future to the church office by Sunday **May 20** so that we may order graduation gifts and include information in Graduation Sunday bulletin

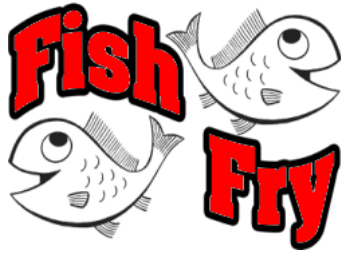
~CE Committee

Applications being taken for scholarships

Each Year the Presbyterian Women of Paw Creek Church offer our young adults (18-23) who are enrolled in or plan to attend a college, university, or technical institution a modest scholarship to help with the cost of their education. Applicants may apply twice for this yearly scholarship. (Scholarships are awarded based on the number of applicants and the funds available each year.)

Application forms for the scholarship are found in the Narthex and the Church office. Beside the application form, you must also provide proof of admission to the college, university or technical institution that you will or are attending when you submit the application.

The deadline to apply for a scholarship is **June 15th**. For questions please contact Celia Gray or Kay Scarce.



**Paw Creek Presbyterian Church
Annual Fish Fry & Bake Sale**

Saturday, **May 5, 2018**, 5:00 - 8:00 pm

Adults - \$9, Kids - \$4

Yummy Fish and Fixin's! Bake Sale!
Take-out will be available

The Presbyterian Women will hold a bake sale at the Fish Fry. Proceeds from the Bake Sale go to the PW Scholarship fund for the youth at our church. Please have your baked goods to the CFC by about 3:00 PM so they can be priced (and sliced if necessary). Please join us in this historical tradition and worthy cause with your homemade, baked goods!

Bible Study



Schedule for Bible Study (Wed. 10am & Thur. 5:30pm)

May 3/4	John 15: 9-17
May 10/11	Acts 1: 1-11
May 17/18	Acts 2: 1-21



Vacation Bible School

Please mark your calendars for **July 8-12th** 6-8:30pm

We'll be sharing the message of Peace while we eat dinner and have a lesson for all ages.

If you would like to volunteer, please see Victoria Krebs, Jan Chapman or Barbara Ullem.

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Walk with **Austin's Army** in 2018

19

to support our 19th year of striding

20

for our 20 year old, Austin!



May 19, 2018—Romare Bearden Park, Uptown Charlotte

Donate **\$18/\$19/\$20 TODAY**
for **MORE** tomorrows for Austin!
REGISTER OR DONATE HERE!
<http://fightcf.cff.org/goto/AustinsArmy>



Happy Hearts Senior Group

Happy Hearts

Tryon House / Uptown Charlotte Trip

Wednesday, **May 9th** we Plan to leave the church by 11:15 am and go to lunch at Tryon House and take the Charlotte light-rail from Scaleybark station to 7th street station where we will visit The Levine Museum of the New South (\$7.00 each) with option to visit City Park and/or Imaginon. We plan to return between 4-4:30 pm. Since we plan to pre-purchase round trip tickets for the light-rail for each participant from funds previously donated, please complete form below with your intentions to join us no later than Sunday, May 6th. Contact Jan Chapman 704-608-2283 with additional questions.

Happy Hearts - May 9th Field Trip

Name: _____

Attending _____



Paw Creek Presbyterian Church

P.O. BOX 64
Paw Creek, NC 28130-0064

Seek Matthew 6:33
Serve 1 Samuel 12:24
Praise Psalm 111:1
Love Christ! 1 John 4:12

Lord, we thank you for...

Have a Prayer Request? To put someone on our prayer chain, obtain permission from the person or family involved, then call:

Judy Smith (704) 392-2892

-or-

Kay Scarce (704) 825-4446

Know someone Who Needs a Visit?

Please contact the Church Office or Rev.

Hipp (704) 392-0329



SUNDAY, MAY 6
"NO GREATER LOVE"
JOHN 15: 9-17

SUNDAY, MAY 13
"WE ARE THE WITNESSES"
ACTS 1: 1-11

SUNDAY, MAY 20
PENTECOST SUNDAY
WORSHIP & POTLUCK WITH WOODLAND
GUEST PREACHER - WARREN LESANE

SUNDAY, MAY 27
"FERMENTATION"
MARK 2: 13-22

SUNDAY, JUNE 3
GRADUATION SUNDAY
"EARS TO LISTEN"
1 SAMUEL 3: 1-20

SUNDAY, JUNE 10
"PRIORITIES STRAIGHT"
MARK 2: 23 - 3:6

Church Calendar

Each Week...

Sunday

9:45am Sunday School
11:00am Worship Service
5:30pm Youth (Every other Week)

Monday - Thursday

9:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours

Monday—Friday

11:30am Senior Lunch Program

Monday

5:30pm Monday Study Group
7:00pm Girl Scouts

Tuesday

6:30am Men's Bible Study
9:00am Cardio Fitness
5:30pm Book Club @ Heirloom
7:00pm Boy Scouts

Wednesday

10:00am Adult Bible Study
12:00pm Bulletin Deadline
6:00pm Children Connecting w/Christ (CCC)
7:00pm Cub Scouts

Thursday

9:00am Cardio Fitness
5:30pm Adult Bible Study
6:30pm Chancel Choir Practice

Future Happenings...

Wednesday, May 2

10:00am Adult Bible Study
12:00pm Bulletin Deadline
6:00pm CCC- Gardening
*Newsletter

Thursday, May 3

5:30pm Adult Bible Study

Saturday, May 5

5-8pm PCPC Fish Fry

Sunday, May 6

11:00am Lord's Supper / 10¢ Hunger

Monday, May 7

5:30pm Monday Study Group

Tuesday, May 8

5:30pm Book Club @ Heirloom

Wednesday, May 9

10:00am Adult Bible Study
11:15am Happy Hearts Field Trip
12:00pm Bulletin Deadline
6:00pm CCC

Thursday, May 10

5:30pm Adult Bible Study

Monday, May 14

5:30pm Monday Study Group

Tuesday, May 15

5:30pm Book Club @ Heirloom

Wednesday, May 16

10:00am Adult Bible Study
12:00pm Bulletin Deadline
6:00pm CCC

Thursday, May 17

5:30pm Adult Bible Study

Saturday, May 19

8:00am Men's Breakfast @Circle G

Sunday, May 20

11:00am Pentecost Sunday w/ Woodland
12:00pm Potluck Luncheon w/ Woodland

Monday, May 21

12:00pm Newsletter Deadline
5:30pm Monday Study Group

Tuesday, May 22

5:30pm Book Club @ Heirloom

Wednesday, May 23

10:00am Adult Bible Study
12:00pm Bulletin Deadline
6:00pm CCC

*Newsletter