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From the Pastor...

Dear Friends,

Next week marks the beginning of the season of Lent on Ash Wednesday, March 6. Our Worship Committee has been busy in recent weeks making plans for this season, including some creative ways of preparing the sanctuary to visually mark the transformation from Lent to Easter, some familiar worship experiences (the Passion reading on Passion/Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday worship at table in the Scout Hut, and Good Friday tenebrae) and something new (a simple Ash Wednesday service in the sanctuary - see details in this newsletter). And of course Patrick, Mark and the choir are already busy preparing for the music of Lent and especially for Palm Sunday and Easter. Please join us on Ash Wednesday at 6:00, and look for all the details of dates and times of other services as they come nearer.

Beyond the details of the plans we have, I would also like to invite us to remember why the Lenten season is part of our church year. Although many of us have heard the popular idea that Lent is about "giving up" something valuable for a period of time, really a better understanding is to focus on the idea of "preparation". In the very early days of the church, new Christians were traditionally baptized after midnight in the early hours of Easter Sunday morning. The weeks leading up to Easter therefore became a time of preparing the converts by teaching them the faith and helping them deepen their relationship to Christ. More recently - when most of us are baptized as infants - the tradition has taken the same idea of preparation and has encouraged all followers of Jesus to spend these weeks in learning and in spiritual renewal. In that way all of us can also participate in Easter, not as the beginning of our Christian journeys, but as a yearly recommitment to our Christian life. Seen in this way, Lent has something to offer all of us, especially in these hectic times when it is so easy to be pulled away from Jesus and his message. Who doesn't need to make that kind of recommitment every single year?

Next Wednesday we will say these ancient words just before we make the sign of the ashes: "We are invited, therefore, in the name of Christ, to observe a holy Lent by self-examination and penitence, by prayer and fasting, by works of love, and by reading and meditating on the Word of God." Until then, please take a moment to reflect on this invitation - I hope that all of us will be able to find ways to participate throughout this holy season.

Godspeed,

Elliott

Offerings & Attendance



Offerings:

February 17 - \$4,817.00
February 24 - \$6,481.00

S/S Attendance:

February 17 - 56
February 24 - 44

Worship Attendance:

February 17 - 90
February 24 - 81



Annual Congregational Meeting

The Session has called a congregational meeting for Sunday, **March 10** after worship. At that time the session will present annual financial and budget reports, and the congregation will elect three members (not currently on Session) to serve on the 2019 Nominating Committee along with elders Jon Kenley (chair) and Grady Cathey

Prayer Concerns & Celebrations

Prayer Concerns:

- Carol and Roger McNeill, Roger is under nursing care in Florida.
- Karen Sisk had foot surgery last week.
- Gail Bryant has diverticulosis, needs prayers.
- Celia Gray's sister in Denver, Co., needs prayers.
- Vernie Smith came home from the hospital on Thursday following surgery from last week. Still needs prayers for continued healing and renewed strength.
- Billie Raborn is at home with Hospice Care.
- Paul Bradley's mother, Betty is at Presbyterian hospital waiting for results of tests administered on Friday.

Celebrations:

- Joy Pinkston was named Teacher Assistant of the Year at Whitewater Academy.
- Women's Ecumenical Luncheon last weekend was a great success.

Keep in Your Prayers:

- Hoyt & Jean Johnston
- Mary Frances Lail
- Flora Mae Love
- Bob & Marie Love
- Caregivers



Service Assignments

March Count Team:

Team Leaders: Peggy Harrington & Linda Riggins
Team: Bob Rudisill, Joy Tyler, Tim Sudderth

March Ushers:

Team Captain: Tommy Cashion

March Greeters:

Elder of the Month: Debbie Taylor

Prayer Team:

3/3 Debbie Taylor & Karen Cathey
 3/10 Tommy & Ann Cashion

Nursery - Crib Room:

3/3 Ashley Kenley
 3/10 Karen Cathey

Nursery - Toddler Room:

3/3 Jon Kenley
 3/10 Gail Bryant

Visitation Schedule

Visiting Teams for - March:

Ann Cashion & Linda Riggins
 Amy McGee & Debbie Taylor
 Virginia & Harold Staton
 Teresa Painter & Barbara Ullem
 Emily Adkins & Angie Ross
 Grady & Karen Cathey
 Frances Lyerly & Jane McArver
 Susan Kenley, Judy Smith & Toni Torrence

Special Friends to be Visited:

Rennie Auten & Mary Frances Lail
 Flora Mae Love
 Hoyt Johnston
 Richard Rumpel
 Allen Wingate
 Jean Johnston
 Ken Smith
 Mike Johnson

Cards:

Grady & Karen Cathey
 Virginia & Harold Staton

Bertha Ellis, Bob & Marie Love, Roger McNeill
 Bryce & Anne Moore, Stella Whitlock, Joe Troutman



****Mike Johnson's mail is not reaching him since his trustee has most of it forwarded to the bank. When mailing him a card, please use 233 Enwood Drive as his address. This is the address for his neighbor, and they will make sure that the mail gets to him.**

Happy Birthday to Those Celebrating in March!



Worship Recognition of
March Birthdays will be on
March 10th.

If we don't have your birthday listed, please let us know. You may call the office at 704-392-0329 or email your information to office@pawcreekpc.org. Thank you! ~Kim

March 2

Jordan Loud

March 4

Barbara Blankenship

March 7

Cambell Brown
Parker Brown
Tyler Brown
George Taylor

March 8

Danny McClure, Jr.

March 13

David Turner

March 15

Cole Caudill
Margie Caudill

March 16

Jennifer Caldwell

March 17

Jane Dorton
Sarah Kenley
Melissa Mullis

March 18

Seth Penna

March 20

Max Sudderth

March 22

John Burns
Beth Joy

March 23

Carlina Padgett
Angie Ross

March 24

Raymond Field

March 25

Judy Pinkston

March 26

Elizabeth Kincaid

March 27

Dillon Joy

March 28

Chris Normand

March 30

Frank Dale

March 31

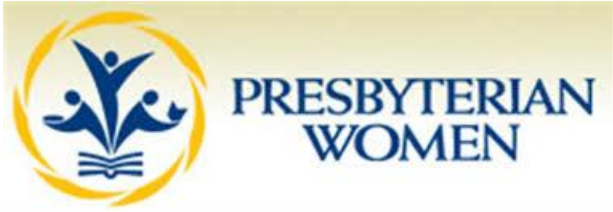
Jane Scott
Ellie Reese Helms

**Session Notes**

The Session held it's stated meeting for February on February 17 after worship. The following actions were taken at this meeting:

- Heard a report on the search for a new Director of Music. The Administration and Worship committees have assembled a search committee including Eddie McArver and Peggy Harrington (representing Administration), Debbie Taylor and Vickie Joy (representing Worship), Larry Ramsey (representing the choir), Mark Burleson and Elliott Hipp (ex officio staff). The Committee held an open meeting with the choir and has met to draft a position description. After presenting the draft to the choir, the committee will bring it to the Session to approve and then be ready to begin seeking and interviewing candidates.
- Adopted a Church Budget for 2019, based on the recommendation of the Finance Committee with minor changes. The Budget will be presented to the congregation at the Annual congregational meeting on March 10
- Elected Jon Kenley (chair) and Grady Cathey to represent the session on the 2019 Nominating Committee.
- Finalized plans for the Annual Congregation Meeting on March 10, to hear budget and financial reports and elect three members of the congregation (not current session members) from the floor to serve on the 2019 Nominating Committee.
- Accepted the recommendation of the Outreach Committee to schedule a blood drive on Sunday, March 24 prior to morning worship.
- Heard reports from the NEXT Elder Symposium on January 26 and the stated meeting of the Presbytery of Charlotte on February 9.

The next stated meeting of the Session will be Sunday, March 17 after worship.



Special Thanks for All Those Who Supported the Work for the Ecumenical Luncheon.

Karen Turner and I would like to express our appreciation to all who worked to bring together a wonderful Ecumenical Luncheon on February 16th. Special thanks goes to the Men of the Church, who worked with setup, take down, sound, and traffic control. We may say this is a PW event, but we could not do this without their support.

We also want to express our gratitude to all the PW of Paw Creek who provided salads and helped with setup, hosting, and cleanup. We had over 36 of our women involved in this event. The Coordinating Team also played a pivotal role in planning...particularly, Karen Turner, our Moderator, who designed and got the supplies for the table settings and decorations.

This year, we had an additional event...a raffle coordinated by Susan Bandel. Susan put together a "tea party" kit that included a hand knitted shawl. Dina Salvo also added to the raffle with a crocheted lap blanket. The raffle raised over \$200 for Urban Ministries.

A round of applause also goes to Megan Tuttle, our soloist from the Charlotte Concert Band, whose lovely voice greatly added to the worshipful atmosphere. Of course, that could not have happened without the music accompaniment from Mark Burleson, who has been doing this event for us for many years...Mark...you are a most cherished and gifted person.

Another person, who unexpectedly contributed, was Geneva Bennet who voluntarily made 300 pocket crosses for all attendees, which added to the spiritual poignancy of the morning.

But, the most wonderful aspect of the event was the message provided by Hannah Martin. The honesty, simplicity, and personal expression of her experience and faith was most inspiring.

Though we had fewer attendees this year (just a little over 168), it had no less an impact on those who attended. Just to let you know the impact, I was at a local restaurant the Sunday after event and a stranger walked up to me to express how much she appreciated the event and how much it inspired her.

Seek, serve, praise, love Christ is our mission at Paw Creek...this is what we do at the Ecumenical Luncheon.

Many thanks to all of you!

Teresa Painter, Assistant Moderator
Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team



Jeff Gordon Children's Center

February 7, 2019

The Child Life Department here at the Jeff Gordon Children's Center would like to thank you for your generous donation. Our patients and families love to utilize items during their stay with us here in the hospital. The items are awesome and so kid friendly. It is through generous donors like you that make a patient and family's stay more pleasant. It allows them to feel more like home instead of a hospital. We have seen many smiles from all our patients and families because of your love and commitment. Thank you for your time and dedication to our families here at the Jeff Gordon Children's Center.

Thank you,
Child Life Department



Happy Hearts Senior Group

Happy Hearts

Happy Hearts in March
"Carolina Aviation Museum"
Wed. **March 20th**

*Note date change to 3rd Wed.
Details to Follow



Daylight Saving Time begins on **March 10th**. Don't forget to set your clocks forward.



We are excited to announce that Community Blood Center of the Carolinas and OneBlood have agreed to merge and are on the path to becoming one. We will soon have a new look, but we are still your local blood center!

DONATE BLOOD!

YOU MUST PRESENT A CURRENT, OFFICIALLY ISSUED PHOTO ID TO DONATE

Paw Creek Presbyterian Church

Date:
Sunday, March 24, 2019

Time:
8:00 am - 11:00 am

Location:
Community Bloodmobile - 7400 Mount Holly Road

Appointments:
Sign-up after services or
call Tim Sudderth at 704-877-8498

All donors will receive a FREE T-Shirt and a wellness checkup including blood pressure, temperature, iron count, pulse and cholesterol screening!

1-888-59BLOOD • www.cbcc.us

@CBCCarolinas /BloodCenter
EVERY DROP STAYS HERE. SAVING LOCAL LIVES.



Nursery Tags

Starting this Sunday, the nursery will be implementing a check-in / name tag system for the children in the nursery. This is part of the ongoing improvements to our Child Protection Policy. Thank you for your co-operation in this new implementation.

Monday Study Group



Monday Night Book Study Group

The Monday Book Study will begin a new book on March 11. This is a great time for new members to join the group. The new book will be *What Christianity Is Not* by Canadian theologian Douglas John Hall. If you want to learn more, please speak to any member of the class: Miriam Childress, Peggy Harrington, Debbie Taylor, Barbara Ullem or Elliott Hipp. The book is available in paperback new or used on Amazon. Class meets Mondays 5:30 - 7:00 pm. Please join us!



Bible Study

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

February 27/28	Exodus 34: 29-35
March 6/7	Luke 4: 1-13
March 13/14	Luke 15: 11-32
March 20/21	Luke 15: 11-32
March 27/28	Luke 15: 11-32



Ash Wednesday on **March 6** marks the beginning of the season of Lent. We will gather in the sanctuary at 6:00 pm for a simple service of prayer, singing, and imposition of ashes to remind us of God's power in our lives. The service will end in time for choir rehearsal at 6:30.



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-

Ann Cashion (704) 301-0126

Know someone Who Needs a Visit?

Please contact the Church Office or Rev.

Hipp (704) 392-0329



SUNDAY, MARCH 3
 "THE VEIL OF RIGHTEOUSNESS"
 EXODUS 34: 29-35

SUNDAY, MARCH 10
 "AN OPPORTUNE TIME"
 LUKE 4: 1-13

SUNDAY, MARCH 17
 "THE STORY OF THE YOUNGER BROTHER"
 LUKE 15: 11-32

SUNDAY, MARCH 24
 "THE STORY OF THE FATHER"
 LUKE 15: 11-32

Church Calendar

Each Week...

Sunday

9:45am Sunday School
 11:00am Worship Service

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 Youth & Children
 6:30pm Chancel Choir Practice
 7:00pm Cub Scouts

Thursday

9:00am Cardio Fitness
 5:30pm Adult Bible Study

Future Happenings...

Wednesday, February 27

10:00am Adult Bible Study
 12:00pm Bulletin Deadline
 6:00pm Youth & Children
 *Newsletter

Thursday, February 28

5:30pm Adult Bible Study

Sunday, March 3

11:00am Lord's Supper / 10¢ Hunger

Monday, March 4

5:30pm Mon. Study Group @ Childress Home

Tuesday, March 5

9:30am PW Circle Fellowship & Bible Study
 5:30pm Book Club @ Heirloom
 7:00pm PW Circle Bible Study & Dessert

Wednesday, March 6

10:00am Adult Bible Study
 12:00pm Bulletin Deadline
 6:00pm Ash Wednesday Service
 6:00pm Youth & Children

Thursday, March 7

5:30pm Adult Bible Study

Sunday, March 10

*Daylight Saving Time Begins

11:00am Celebration Recognitions
 12:00pm Congregational Meeting

Monday, March 11

12:00pm Newsletter Deadline
 5:30pm Mon. Study Group @ Childress Home

Tuesday, March 12

5:30pm Book Club @ Heirloom

Wednesday, March 13

10:00am Adult Bible Study
 12:00pm Bulletin Deadline
 6:00pm Youth & Children
 *Newsletter

Thursday, March 14

5:30pm Adult Bible Study

Saturday, March 16

8:00am Men's Breakfast @ Circle G

Sunday, March 17

12:45pm Stated Session Meeting

Monday, March 18

5:30pm Mon. Study Group @ Childress Home

Tuesday, March 19

5:30pm Book Club @ Heirloom