



October 8, 2020

Weekly News at Paw Creek

Paw Creek Presbyterian Church

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Paw Creek Presbyterian

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Available 11am Monday

From the Pastor...

Dear Paw Creek,

Filled with longing, armed with hard-earned knowledge about safety, and buoyed by the Holy Spirit, our Paw Creek family begins to gather. This Sunday, October 11, we will worship - for the first time since March 8 - with members of the congregation in the pews.

For those of us who have decided that it is too soon, please know that our hearts are still bound as one. The church truly is the people and not the building - we pray for your safety and well-being, and know that we continue to be one congregation, no matter where we are. Live stream worship will be presented on YouTube and Facebook as always.

For those who are ready to come together, here are a few things to know. Approximately thirty of you were contacted earlier in the week to come on October 11 (in addition to worship leaders, ushers, greeters and live-stream staff). All the rest of you who asked to be included will be contacted for the following Sunday, October 18, along with our "priority" list (those who have not had access to on-line worship), who will come both Sundays. On the day(s) that you come, please remember to arrive between 10:15 and 10:30, and bring a mask and copy of this week's bulletin. There are baskets by the entrance and exits for offerings - in accordance with health guidelines, we will not pass the plates during worship. Please be sure to mark any special offerings, such as Ten Cents a Meal. After the 18th, Session's Task Force will review how well our procedures have worked and make plans for the subsequent weeks. November 1 will be All Saints Day and we will focus on inviting families who have lost loved ones in the past year. November 15 we will recognize Veterans Day and focus on inviting our veterans.

One additional change beginning on the 11th is that the weekly morning prayer gathering will continue on Zoom with the time moved to 9:45. These meetings last 10-15 minutes and are open to everyone - if you would like to join us, just let me know and I'll send the Zoom information.

Besides our move into the sanctuary, we have another big regathering event to look forward to after worship on October 18. Everyone is invited to a picnic! Since we will be outdoors (or in the large space of the CFC if there's rain), there are no limits - those who worship in person and those who worship on-line, new faces of those who have begun to worship with us on-line and familiar faces we haven't seen in a long time. Everyone!

We will begin with a brief Congregational Meeting and then move to the main event. The Fellowship and Congregational Care committees will provide box lunches and an ice cream truck. This is a gift from the committees to the congregation so just come, no cost, no reservation needed. Details: come to the CFC parking lot after worship time. You can stay in your car, or bring lawn chairs and picnic blankets. The Congregational Meeting will begin at 12:30 with lunch afterwards (non-church members are welcome to be with us during the meeting). If we do get rain, please bring chairs and blankets anyway to use in the CFC.

While we are together on the 18th, we will also take time to gather the Ten Cents a Meal Hunger Offering. As you know, this offering provides hundreds of thousands of dollars each year to fight hunger here within the bounds of Charlotte Presbytery. We normally receive the offering during worship each month, and so we have fallen behind in the months that we could not gather. This has happened throughout the Presbytery and funds have run low at a time when it is needed most. I hope that we can all give generously on October 18th to help replenish the fund and continue the work of feeding our most vulnerable neighbors.

I also want to explain a bit more about the Congregational Meeting on the 18th. The Session has called the meeting to take place both in person and via Zoom for any who are not comfortable gathering in person (I'll have the Zoom information in next week's letter). The first item of business will be to act on a recommendation from Session to adopt the following amendment to the Manual of Operations:

Under Section III, Meetings of the Congregation, add paragraph F:

Electronic meetings - A congregational meeting may proceed with some or all members participating via electronic connection whenever Session determines that civic restrictions are in place to limit the size of non-worship gatherings. The method of electronic connection shall ensure full simultaneous participation by all members.

This provision has been recommended to us by the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery to ensure smooth operations of the church during emergencies such as the current circumstances. The Stated Clerk has also advised that under current conditions it is acceptable to call the meeting to order via Zoom and adopt this motion as the first order of business. After considering the motion, we will proceed to our other business item, which is the election of elders for the class of 2023. The Nominating Committee is finalizing its report and I will have that for you in next week's letter. As always, after hearing the committee report, the floor will be open for additional nominations from the floor. If there are additional nominations, we will proceed to a written ballot, with ballots collected from those present in person, and time allowed for those present on Zoom to return their ballots to the church office - the ballots will not be opened or counted until all have been received. To prepare for a written ballot, please bring paper and pencil with you to the meeting, so that we can avoid having to pass those out. If you have any questions about how this will all work, please don't hesitate to give me call in the next few days.

In our prayers this week, we continue as we have for so long to think of those affected in any way by Covid-19, especially knowing that it's spread has reaching the highest levels of our government. May God's safety rest with all who are ill, guard those who are in danger, and wrap arms of comforting love around those who mourn. Among those who have been taken ill, Barbara Ullem asks us to pray for her cousin George Lux, who has contracted the virus in his assisted living facility in St. Louis.

So much to talk about this week, and so much of it details, details, details! But we are making our way through it and will reap the benefits as many of us meet face to face in the next couple of weeks. With thanks to all who are working to bring it about, let us seek God's care to for a smooth transition to this new phase, and for strong protection moving forward.

Blessings,

Elliott

Service for the Lord's Day
Paw Creek Presbyterian Church • October 11, 2020
Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Welcome

*The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and
the Communion of the Holy Spirit are in our midst. Thanks be to God!*

Prelude

Simple Gifts

arr. Jason Tonioli

Call to Worship

Psalm 122

I was glad when they said unto me,
"Let us go to the house of the LORD."
Jerusalem is built as a city
that is bound firmly together;
to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD,
as was decreed to Israel, to praise the name of the LORD.

Hymn 35

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

Praise ye the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near; join me in glad adoration!

Praise ye the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been granted in what he ordaineth?

Praise ye the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the amen sound from his people again; gladly for aye we adore him.

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, in our baptism you adopted us for your own. Quicken, we pray, your Spirit within us. Being renewed both in body and mind, may we worship you in sincerity and truth. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Matthew 22: 1-14

Once more Jesus spoke to the people in parables, saying: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

"But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

Homily

Invitation to the Banquet

Offertory

On Eagles' Wings
Larry Ramsey, soloist

arr. Mark Hayes

Prayers of God's People

Beginning with announcements and prayer concerns; and concluding with *The Lord's Prayer*

Hymn 770

I'm Gonna Eat at the Welcome Table

I'm gonna eat at the welcome table; I'm gonna eat at the welcome table, Alleluia.

I'm gonna eat and drink with my Jesus, I'm gonna eat and drink with my Jesus, Alleluia.

I'm gonna join with sisters, brothers; I'm gonna join with sisters, brothers, Alleluia.

We're gonna feast on milk and honey; we're gonna feast on milk and honey, Alleluia.

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Lord, I Lift Your Name on High

arr. Rick Founds

A NOTE OF



Dear Paw Creek family,

My dad treasured his friendship dearly with all his Paw Creek friends and we thank you for all of your prayers of love and support through the years. Thank you for all the cards, porch visits and treats that brought much happiness to us all. With many thanks.

The family of Frank D. Dale, Sr.

Thanksgiving Boxes

Anne Miller will be taking donations to fill Thanksgiving Boxes for The Charlotte Rescue Mission again this year. Please let her know right away if you will be able to help out by contacting her at 704-392-2989. Please leave a message including how many boxes you would like to donate. Here is the note from Charlotte Rescue Mission:

Though it may seem early, due to the COVID pandemic, we are receiving a lot of inquiries regarding the status of our annual Thanksgiving Food Box Program. We will be moving forward with collection as we feel this is an essential need within our community, especially now that so many people are unemployed. It is our hope that you will consider partnering with us again this year to help meet this need. Please be assured that we will follow all safety guidelines with regards to COVID.

Listed below are the **exact specifications** we are asking you to follow this year. For logistical reasons, **PLEASE** follow these instructions very closely! The items that you see highlighted, **bolded**, underlined, or in **red** are very important towards helping us manage the large number of boxes we receive. **Note:** Some items are highlighted, **bolded**, underlined **AND in red = extra important!**

A Food Box should consist of the following (photo attached):

1. **The Box** – For logistical purposes such as storing, transporting, and distributing, **please use this box ONLY:** It is called a “small packing box” - approximate dimensions, 16-3/8” x 12-5/8” x 12-5/8” or “1.5 cubic feet” offered by U-Haul (or any moving center), Lowes, and Home Depot. The average cost is .93 each. (Box dimensions and price may vary slightly by store.) **After filling the box, please close and secure the top with tape, leaving the side handles free.** If you cannot find the exact ounces indicated, get as close as possible.
2. Green beans 1 - 38oz can
3. Whole kernel corn 1 - 29oz can (jumbo can)
4. Cut sweet yams 1 - 40oz can
5. Cranberry sauce 1 - 14oz can
6. Stove Top Stuffing Mix 1 - 6oz box (turkey or chicken flavored)
7. Turkey/Brown gravy mix, dry 1 package
8. Boil-n-Bag Rice, 4 count 1 - 14oz box
9. Dry Pie Crust Mix 1 box - Betty Crocker (11oz) or Jiffy (9oz)
10. Pie Filling, Apple/Cherry, etc. 1 - 21oz can
11. Round Baking Pan for Pie 1 - disposable
12. Frozen Turkey (if possible) 12 – 15 pounds



IMPORTANT – Do NOT put a turkey in the box! By distribution day, the turkey will have thawed, spoiled, and ruined the contents of that box plus the boxes surrounding it.

If you decide to include extra items, they must be **non-perishable** (i.e., no fresh produce or refrigerated items), and **no items with soft lids** such as applesauce, pudding, jello, etc.

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. Elliott Hipp (704) 392-0329

Online Giving

Paw Creek has now implemented Online Giving for the convenience of church members and our friends who worship with us. Please go to our website at www.pawcreekpc.org and follow the link on the home page.



Once you click on this link, you will be directed to set up an account. You may make this gift as a one time transaction, or you can set up recurring payments. You may use your bank account information to create this payment, or you may use your debit or credit card. (If you use your debit or credit card, you will also be given the option to add the transaction fee to your payment if you choose to do so)



For those who like to use mobile apps, you can download the app: Give+ and search for Paw Creek Presbyterian Church. Once you have created an account, it will save Paw Creek as your default Church.

Upcoming Sermon Titles

Sunday, October 11

Matthew 22: 1-14
“Invitation to the Banquet”

Sunday, October 25

Matthew 22: 34-46
“Jesus Passes a Test”

Sunday, October 18

Matthew 22: 15-22
“Jesus Escapes a Trap”

Sunday, November 1

ALL SAINTS DAY
Joshua 3: 7-17
“The Verge of Jordan”