



News at Paw Creek

Paw Creek Presbyterian Church

April 8, 2021

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From the Pastor...

Dear Paw Creek,

Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed - alleluia! Holy Week and Easter were times of great depth, and finally great joy. Whether we celebrated in-person or on-line, we were caught up in the full sweep of God's story of redemption and glory. Many folks worked throughout the week to make our worship possible, and I know we are all grateful for the time, energy and dedication of everyone involved!

Of course one of the real joys of the week was a sense of slowly returning normalcy. We found this especially for those who were able to come to the Easter Sunrise Service. Behind our masks we were able to speak aloud, to pray, to sing and to reclaim worship as participants and not just observers. We are not quite there yet for indoor worship, but the time is coming closer and closer. Live stream worship is now an established part of our outreach, and for many of us, that will remain a permanent or occasional option - we rejoice that we can be together in that way and we are glad you are with us! For others, the sanctuary is becoming familiar again. With distance and masks, we are finding room, and will continue to monitor health recommendations to know when to further relax our guidelines.

Our committees are also planning for fellowship and study offerings outdoors over the summer, and the Christian Education committee has set a tentative target of Labor Day for our regular Sunday school schedule to resume. At its March meeting, Session approved guidelines for church groups to begin using facilities for occasional meetings and church-sponsored activities. Distancing and masking are still vital, so it is important to choose a space based on the size of your group. Small groups (5-6 people) can use the Session Room or Parlor; medium-sized groups (15-16 people) can use the CFC dining room; and larger groups can use the CFC gym. Please reserve through the church office to be sure we don't overlap and to receive specific information. For now, this change is for church groups only; requests from community groups will still go through our in-person task force.

One final change to note is that Session is committed to getting us back on track with our gathering of donations for the needs of our community. Please see the information in this newsletter about the 10¢ A Meal Hunger Offering and the gathering of food for Loaves and Fishes. The Outreach Committee is also exploring other safe ways that we can be good neighbors, including a blood drive later this month.

These weekly letters began over a year ago as a life-line for all of us when we had no other way to stay connected or to know what was going on. I think they've worked well, and I'm grateful we have had this tool when we needed it most. Now that we are seeing positive change, we have decided to pull back on the newsletter schedule. Beginning today, newsletters will go out twice a month, on the second and fourth Thursdays. This will allow us to be good stewards of our resources, with savings in postage, paper and time. In April you will find two worship bulletins in each newsletter. Beginning in May the bulletins will not be part of the newsletter, but will continue to be available for download on the church webpage. If you would like to be on a separate list to receive the bulletins each week by mail, we'll be happy to include you - please just call the office and let Kim know.

With thanksgiving for all God's providential care in the past and in the future, let us now offer our prayers to God, including these brothers and sisters in and around our church family:

Miriam Childress and her family on the death of her sister Jeanette Hamilton. Services are private - Jeanette's obituary is available at woodlawfuneral.org

Margie Caudill, who has been hospitalized in Pineville after a fall on Sunday; she should be released to return to residential care soon.

Vernie Smith and her family, with special concern for Vernie's granddaughter Sarah, who is undergoing testing at Duke Hospital.

Anne Miller, with praise for her successful surgery last Thursday, and prayers for speedy recovery.

Carol McNeal and family - her brother David Troutman has stopped chemotherapy and is now under hospice care.

Velda Bell, a friend of Larry Ramsey, who is experiencing serious aftereffects of Covid-19.

May God's blessings be abundant for these saints, and for us all,

Elliott

Reminders



We continue to collect donations for the Ten Cent Hunger Offering which supports efforts of our Presbytery to provide food for those in need. You can place your donations in the baskets we use for regular offering, or mail them in to the Church Office.



We also encourage support for Loaves and Fishes. There is a barrel in the Narthex where you can drop off canned meat, canned fruit (low sugar), cereal (low sugar), canned vegetables (low sodium), rice in 1 lb. bags.

Thank you for your continued support!

Service for the Lord's Day
Paw Creek Presbyterian Church • April 11, 2021
Second Sunday of Easter

Welcome

Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him;
and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other,
"Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road?"

Prelude

Rejoice, the Lord is King

Tune: Darwell

Call to Worship

Hallelujah! Give praise, you servants of the LORD;
praise the name of the LORD.
Let the name of the LORD be blessed,
from this time forth forevermore.
From the rising of the sun to its going down
let the name of the LORD be praised.

Hymn 246

"Christ is Alive!"

*Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring. Love, drowned in death, shall never die.*

*Women and men, in age and youth, can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
and find the way, the life, the truth, revealed in Jesus, freed for all.*

*Christ is alive, and come to bring good news to this and every age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring with joy, with justice, love, and praise.*

Prayer of the Day

O God, whose presence is veiled from our eyes: Grant that when we do not recognize you, our hearts may burn within us, and when feeling is lost, we may cling in faith to your Word and the power of bread broken in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Luke 24: 13-32

Now on that same day, the first day of the week, two of the disciples were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him." Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared!

Scripture Reading (Continued)

Luke 24: 13-32

Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?"

Hymn 252

"Day of Arising"

*Day of arising, Christ on the roadway, unknown companion walks with his own.
When they invite him, as fades the first day, and bread is broken, Christ is made known.
When we are walking, doubtful and dreading, blinded by sadness, slowness of heart,
yet Christ walks with us, ever awaiting our invitation: Stay, do not part.*

Sermon

We Had Hoped . . .

Offertory

Sweet Hour of Prayer

arr. Harris

Offerings for God's work through Paw Creek Church are gratefully received in the baskets by the entrance and exits to the sanctuary, or by mail to the church office.

Prayers of God's People

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

Hymn 250

"In the Bulb There is a Flower"

*In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree;
in cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.
There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody;
there's a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future; what it holds a mystery,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.
In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity;
in our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.*

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Rondeau

Mouret, arr. Bish

Guest organist today – Suzanne Lowery

Service for the Lord's Day
Paw Creek Presbyterian Church • April 18, 2021
Third Sunday of Easter

Preparatory Music

Welcome Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Prelude

Call to Worship Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD; Psalms 32 & 33
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.
Praise the LORD with the harp;
play upon the psaltery and lyre.
Sing for the LORD a new song;
sound a fanfare with all your skill upon the trumpet.

Hymn 254

"That Easter Day With Joy Was Bright"
*That Easter Day with joy was bright; the sun shone out with fairer light
when, to their longing eyes restored, the apostles saw their risen Lord.
He bade them see his hands, his side, where yet the glorious wounds abide,
the tokens true which made it plain their Lord indeed was risen again.
From every weapon death can wield, you own redeemed forever shield;
O Lord of all, with us abide in this our joyful Eastertide.*

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, through your only Son you overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life. Grant that we who celebrate our Lord's resurrection, may, through the renewing power of your Spirit, arise from the death of sin to the life of righteousness. Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Luke 24: 32 - 48

The disciples said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you-- that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

Hymn 257

"The Risen Christ"

*The risen Christ, who walks on wounded deer from garden tomb through darkened city street,
unlocks the door of grief, despair, and fear, and speaks a word of peace to all who hear.*

*The risen Christ, who stands with wounded side, breathes out his Spirit on them to abide
whose faith still wavers, who dare not believe; new grace, new strength, new purpose they
receive.*

Sermon

Why Such Long Faces?

Offertory

Offerings for God's work through Paw Creek Church are gratefully received
in the baskets by the entrance and exits to the sanctuary, or by mail to the church office.

Prayers of God's People

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

Hymn 260

"Alleulia! Sing to Jesus"

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus; his the scepter, his the throne;

Alleluia! His the triumph, his the victory alone!

Hark! The sounds of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood:

"Jesus out of every nation has redeemed us by his blood."

Alleluia! Bread of angels, here on earth our food, our stay;

Alleluia! Here the sinful flee to you from day to day.

Intercessor, friend of sinners, earth's redeemer, hear our plea

where the songs of all the sinless sweep across the crystal sea.

Alleluia! King eternal, Lord omnipotent we own;

Alleluia! Born of Mary, earth your footstool, heaven your throne.

As within the veil you entered, robed in flesh, our great high priest;

here on earth both priest and victim in the eucharistic feast.

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Paw Creek Presbyterian Women News!

Upcoming Meetings:

April 10, 2021 / in- person at the CFC / 9:00AM Lesson 8: Words of Love: Speak Truthfully Led by - Gerri Ann Shaw. -or- Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85993735262> **Meeting ID: 859 9373 5262**
-or- call in with one tap mobile +16465588656,,85993735262#

April 10, 2021/ 10:35 am - 34th Annual PW Spring Gathering Worship
You may join from the CFC on Zoom: [https://zoom.us/j/99009770739?](https://zoom.us/j/99009770739?pwd=RUDmaVMORVVBZ0trMmxoNINUVG5zUT09)
[pwd=RUDmaVMORVVBZ0trMmxoNINUVG5zUT09](https://zoom.us/j/99009770739?pwd=RUDmaVMORVVBZ0trMmxoNINUVG5zUT09) **Meeting ID: 990 0977 0739**

May 15, 2021 / CFC / 9:00AM Lesson 9: Words of Love: Don't Fixate on What You Don't Have Led by - Teresa Painter. -or- Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82599960251> **Meeting ID: 825 9996 0251**
-or- call in with one tap mobile +16465588656,,82599960251#

We look forward to seeing you!
PCPW Coordinating Team

*We will comply with all COVID protocol currently established at the time of our meetings.

PW Scholarship Announcements:

We are pleased to announce the PW scholarship awards for 2020:

Max Sudderth, son of **Tim and Stephanie Sudderth**, is majoring in Mechanical Engineering at NC State University

Grace Kenley, daughter of **Jon and Ashley Kenley**, is majoring in Elementary Education at Lenoir-Rhyne University and

John Burns, son of **Eric and Patty Burns** attended Erskine College and will attend Appalachian State in the Fall.

PW Scholarships are available for young adults who will be attending a college, university, or technical school in 2021. You may apply two times for the PW scholarship. Scholarships are awarded based according to the number of applications and funds available each year. Please contact Celia Gray at celia@tcgracing.com or 704-756-9697 to apply.



Graduation Sunday

This year more than ever it is important for us to honor and congratulate our graduates. The Christian Education committee is gathering names of graduates and will be in touch directly later in the spring to ask for more information and set a date for Graduation Sunday that works for your schedules. Please send names and contact information to Jan Chapman or the church office:

Church members who graduated in December 2020 and or will graduate in Spring 2021 from High School, College, or Graduate School. Thank you~ Christian Ed

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 contact Joy Tyler (phone captain - (704) 399-8040) - and- Ann Cashion (email captain - acatlake@gmail.com)

Know someone Who Needs a Visit? Please contact the Church Office or Rev. Elliott Hipp (704) 392-0329



The Reverend Gary Bryant Memorial Prayer Garden Brick Pavers

Get your Prayer Garden Paver Orders in now!

Great gift idea! Great for Birthdays, Graduations, Weddings, Babies, Mother's/Father's Day, Anniversaries and Eagle Scouts! A wonderful way to celebrate a loved one & family with a beautiful memory that will last forever.

Each brick paver cost \$40.

Order forms available in the Narthex, Church Office, and Website.

Upcoming Sermon Titles

Sunday, April 11

2nd Sunday of Easter

Luke 24: 13-32

“We Had Hoped...”

Sunday, April 25

4th Sunday of Easter

John 10: 11-18

“One Flock, One Shepherd”

Sunday, April 18

3rd Sunday of Easter

Luke 24: 33-48

“Why Such Long Faces?”

Sunday, May 2

5th Sunday of Easter

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

John 15: 1-8

“Abide With Me”