

MEN TO HOLD PANCAKE SUPPER 2-9-2016

Ash Wednesday Service 2-10-2016 @6:30am and 7:00pm

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A Beacon of God to all People

Growing in Christ.....Sharing God's Love..... Reaching Out to the World



## *Believe....Belong....Serve*

The Newsletter of the Parkwood United Methodist Church  
Proudly serving the Parkwood Community for 55 years

Mark 1: 14-15

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February, 2016

- What's Your Sign?



Making a Murderer, the documentary from Netflix that has everyone talking, ensnared Laura and I one weekend. I say one weekend because, like many of Netflix's shows, we sat and binge watched the whole thing. As we were watching one of the episodes my wife, all of a sudden, said, "Ash Wednesday." I looked at her quizzically before she pointed at the screen. "The lawyers...they all have crosses of ash upon their forehead. It's Ash Wednesday." She was absolutely right. How could I have missed the sign? As preachers, we always get excited when we see something like that.

It is hard for someone not to know what day Ash Wednesday is. If you are a Christian, you plan for that worship that begins our holy season of Lent. If you are not a Christian the day is marked by people with black, smudgy crosses on their foreheads. For someone who knows nothing about Christianity I imagine the image is so strange that you have to ask what it is all about, especially after seeing several folks during the day wearing them. So it can become a conversation starter, a simple sign that, for one day, has us wear our Christianity on our sleeves...or rather foreheads. For one day we are openly Christian as we bear the mark of the cross where all can see. As I ponder how awesome that is, I also ask...what sign do we carry of our faith for the rest of Lent?

Lent is upon us. It is a time of reflection and spiritual formation. It is a time of intense

worship and a journey towards the cross and Easter. But shouldn't it be a time where we continuously bear the mark of the cross to all people, even those of us who may not know what those signs are. As you consider what to give up for Lent or what to take on, ask yourselves if this is a change that others will notice. By this I don't mean something that you can parade around others and show off how great we are at fasting. Instead, is the way we are fasting truly changing us for the better and changing us in a way that others will notice? Does our devotional life bring a noticeable increase in joy or faith in others? Will our fasting of food create a deeper relationship with those that hunger and put us in relationship with them? As we contemplate more frequently the forgiveness of the cross, does that forgiveness begin to show towards others in our lives? So fast like you mean it this Lent. Give up something to make space for God and ask yourselves what signs others will see in you as you encounter God's grace this Lent. Oh, and join us on February 10 at either 6:30am or 7pm for our Ash Wednesday Service!

Pastor Nathan



## **SPIRITUAL OPPORTUNITIES**

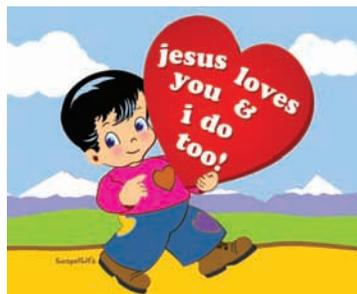


### **The Seekers Class**

On Sunday January 17, 2016, the Seekers Class began the Study of **John, The Gospel of Light and Life** by Adam Hamilton. Please plan to join us.

The Seekers class meets at 9:30 in room 5

The Seekers class is moderated by Bob Newlin



## the Jacob Class

### The Shadow of a Doubt Confronting Challenges to Faith



Bring your doubts out of the shadows and into the light.

"I don't believe it." In this five-week study, you'll learn that it's okay to have doubts about your faith. Everybody does at one point or the other. Author Talbot Davis suggests that the way to handle your doubts is to acknowledge and confront them.

Using biblical stories as illustrations about doubt, he shows you how to bring your doubts out of the shadows and into the light so that you have the opportunity to experience a more authentic faith

the Jacob class meets at 9:30 in room 1

the Jacob class is moderated by Ron Byrd



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU**



#### Birthdays

Lauren Key Feb. 1  
Beverly Jones Feb. 3  
Monica Eiland Feb. 6  
Pat Nestler Feb. 9  
Mary Greene Feb. 10  
Jeanne Schwarze Feb. 14 🍷  
Kyle Dube' Feb. 21  
Charlotte Thompson Feb.24  
Pam Skidmore Feb. 26

#### Anniversaries

Wayne & Marietta Abbott Feb. 9

*Send birthdays and anniversaries to [crabbyron@yahoo.com](mailto:crabbyron@yahoo.com)*



Friday Nite Movie  
Presents:

## “Somewhere In Time”



Christopher Reeve & Jane Seymour

Friday, March 11th at 7:30 pm

Previews of Coming Attractions for 2016\*

April	Blithe Spirit 1945	Rex Harrison & Constance Cummings
May	Court Martial of Billy Mitchell 1955	Gary Cooper & Charles Bickford
June	War room 2015	Pricilla C. Shirer & T.C. Stallings
July	North by Northwest 1959	Cary Grant & Eva Marie Saint
Aug.	Little Boy 2015	Emily Watson & Jakob Salvati
Sept.	They Were Expendable 1945	John Wayne & Donna Reed & Robert Montgomery
Oct.	The Robe 1953	Richard Burton & Jean Simmons
Nov.	The Glenn Miller Story 1954	Jimmy Stewart & June Allyson
Dec.	The Good Witch's Gift 2010	Catherine Bell & Chris Potter

\*subject to change



## Parkwood United Methodist Men



The Parkwood UMM will meet on Saturday morning February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016, for breakfast at Beneties Restaurant in the Greenwood Commons shopping center off Sedwick road at 8:00 am

## *Knit - Pur! - Pray*

Parkwood United Methodist Church

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

2<sup>nd</sup>. and 4<sup>th</sup>. Saturday



If you are an experienced knitter/crochet, beginner or a novice; you are welcome. We all have our own level of expertise and love to share.

## *News from the chicken coop*



Eggs for the Durham Rescue Mission will be collected on Sunday, April 17th

FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

THE CHURCH YEAR

The church year consists of six distinct periods, or seasons, of Christian observances. Each focuses on a different aspect of Christian experience and tradition. These seasons do not necessarily occur on the same dates from year to year, but are related to the dates of the two principal Christian celebrations of Christmas and Easter.

The first season – Advent – begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas. Advent is a version of the Latin word for coming, and is a period of expectant waiting and preparation for the birth of Christ.

The Christmas season includes the twelve days of Christmas beginning at sunset Christmas eve, plus the Day of Epiphany (January 6<sup>th</sup>). Epiphany commemorates the visit of the Magi and the presentation of gifts to the Christ child. Epiphany Sunday is celebrated on the Sunday closest to January 6<sup>th</sup>.

The season after Epiphany begins on January 7<sup>th</sup> and continues through Shrove Tuesday. This is a continued period of celebration of the birth of Christ.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and continues for 40 days, not counting Sundays. Lent is traditionally a period of fasting and abstinence, commemorating the 40 days Jesus spent in the wilderness before beginning His ministry.

Easter Sunday falls on the Sunday after the first full moon after March 21<sup>st</sup>, so it can fall any time between March 22<sup>nd</sup> and April 25<sup>th</sup>. Eastertide, which celebrates Christ's resurrection, lasts for 50 days, ending on the day of Pentecost.

Pentecost, from the Greek term for 50<sup>th</sup> day, was the occasion of the descent of the Holy Spirit on the apostles as described in Acts 2:1-31. In the church year, Pentecost Sunday (the 1<sup>st</sup> day of Pentecost) is celebrated as the birthday of the Christian church. The period after Pentecost, called the Ordinary Time, continues through the Saturday before the first Sunday in Advent.

Celebrations during the Ordinary Time include Trinity Sunday – the first Sunday after Pentecost – which celebrates the doctrine of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, All Saints Sunday – the first Sunday in November – which commemorates the Saints of the church and members of the congregation who have passed, and Christ the King Sunday – the Sunday before the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent – which reminds Christians that their allegiance is to their spiritual ruler in heaven as opposed to earthly supremacy.



## February Fellowship Refreshments & Hospitality Greeters Fellowship Refreshments

Feb 7	Ann Farmer	919-544-0282
Feb 14	Betty Byrd	919-544-1380
Feb 21	Elizabeth Carter	704-778-1667
Feb 28	Dena Roberts	919-544-6121

<b>Hospitality Greeters</b>	
Feb 7	Charlotte Thompson
Feb 14	Ann Farmer
Feb 21	Mike Billau
Feb 28	Debra Haynes

### **News from Urban Ministries**

As Christians we are expected to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ and to feed and clothe God's children. Here are some ways you can do that.

1. Donate food and clothes to the Food Pantry and Clothes Closet. Put them under the coat rack in the front hall. See the bulletin board for items we can and cannot take.
- 2) Help in the Clothes Closet and Food Pantry every third and fifth Thursday of the month. We meet in the parking lot at 8:45 am and carpool. We can always use extra volunteers.
- 3) Help serve Breakfast on the fourth Saturday of the uneven months. We meet in the parking lot at 7:45 am and carpool.
- 4) NEW OPPORTUNITY. Help serve lunch on the fourth Saturday of Feb., April, and June. We'll meet in the parking lot at 11:00 am and carpool.
- 5) Contribute eggs for our quarterly egg drives. The next one will be Sunday, April 17th.

If you have not been participating in these mission opportunities I hope you will consider them this year. If you have questions just contact Jan Schwarze at 919-475-1994 or [jan.schwarze13@gmail.com](mailto:jan.schwarze13@gmail.com). I would love to hear from you.

**These are some items we need now.**

**Blankets - twin or double especially**

**New underwear and socks for men, women and children.**

**Warm hats, mittens and scarves all sizes.**



## Chancel Choir



*You are cordially invited to join the Chancel Choir at Parkwood United Methodist Church. The choir meets weekly on Wednesday nights from 7:30-9:00 PM!*



### PUMC Christian Arts Camp

I share with you a special announcement about this Sunday's VBS meeting in the fellowship hall following church:

Greetings PUMC Family,

Believe it or not it is time to start thinking about summer and our upcoming Vacation Bible School! As I announced on Sunday, this year will be a revision of our traditional VBS. We are excited that we will be having our very first PUMC Christian Arts Camp. The arts camp will have many of the same things we have done in our traditional Bible School but with a focus on the arts. We will still have our story time, Bible study, songs, food! We will be adding choices of fun arts projects to reinforce our theme for the week.

After church service on Sunday we will have a brief introductory meeting for those who might be interested in helping our or who just want to learn more about what we will be doing. I know it is Super Bowl Sunday and assure you this meeting will last only about 30 minutes.

We need all kinds of helpers:

Art Project leaders: Lead art activity that interests you!! Some project ideas: Drama, Photography, Water colors, Music, Bracelet making, Puppetry, Carpentry, Cake Decorating, Crafts, Knitting, Sewing, Gardening .....Other ideas????

Assistants: Help with getting materials ready, guiding children as they work on the projects, taking children to their next activity or just helping out as needed

Kitchen crew: Help with putting together a light meal for the children and snacks for the evening

Story tellers

Greeters and registration desk: Greet children and families while checking children in  
You may think you are not creative/ talented but you are and we can use EVERYONE's special talents to help with these roles!!!!

Please plan to join us immediately after services on Sunday. We need YOU to make our Summer Arts Camp successful.

Blessings and thank you,

Brenda



**Finance Chair Report: Capital Campaign Status**

by Frank Stephans

Through most of last year we have been evaluating the feasibility for financing a capital campaign to fund a new parking lot and roof replacement, through gifts and pledges of money from the congregation. Results of the feasibility study show us that significant financial gifts from PUMC benefactors are not coming soon, to finance the two projects.

The United Methodist Church could provide a financial resource that should be willing to extend PUMC a line of credit for the projects. We have over \$70K of collateral to use for securing a line-of-credit, at a favorable rate-of-interest for our church. We can finally be financially positioned to begin the projects to build the parking lot, and to replace the roof, borrowing only what funds we need, when we need them.

The \$350,000 in estimated project expenses for parking lot and roof repairs will need to be financed by signed pledges from individual members of our congregation to give money regularly to PUMC for this purpose, on a weekly, monthly, yearly or other basis. Note that pledges to the capital project must be in addition to the weekly tithes and offerings, not instead of, the tithes and offerings regularly given by our congregation. (Tithes and offerings enable monthly expenses to be paid each month by the church).

During 2016, we will regularly report our progress in obtaining pledges to the capital campaign fund to you. When we reach a target of \$3,000 per month in dedicated pledges, we can then start the roof and parking projects up. Please see our Treasurer, Bob Newlin soon, and please give him your pledge card.

Thank you for your support!

Hello Parkwood!

The youth will be hosting their annual Valentine's Spaghetti Dinner on **Saturday February 13th from 5-7:30pm** where you get to be served by our youth!

If you would like to make reservations at 5, 5:30, 6, 6:30, or 7 or have you have questions or special dietary needs, please let me know! Otherwise, mark your calendars and we look forward to seeing you there!

Lauren Key



To the congregation and the chancel choir, many thanks for your thoughtful and generous Christmas gifts. I'm happy to be able to offer my service to Christ in your midst. Betty Romani



If you're spiritually alive, you're going to love this!  
If you're spiritually dead, you won't want to read it.  
If you're spiritually curious, there is still hope!

A Church goer wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday. I've gone for 30 years now,' he wrote, 'and in that time I have heard something like 3,000 sermons, but for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them so, I think I'm wasting my time and the priests are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all.'

This started a real controversy in the 'Letters to the Editor' column. Much to the delight of the editor, it went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher:

I've been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But, for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals. But I do know this... They all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today. Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!' When you are DOWN to nothing....God is UP to something!

Faith sees the invisible, believes the incredible and receives the impossible!

Thank God for our physical AND our spiritual nourishment!

All right, now that you're done reading, send it on!!! I think everyone should read this!! When Satan is knocking at your door, simply say, 'Jesus, could you get that for me..... while I send this message to your children?

IF YOU CANNOT SEE GOD IN ALL, YOU CANNOT SEE GOD AT ALL!

B. I. B. L. E. BIBLE simply means: Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth!

Did you know this? When you stand on the Word of God, Satan can't hurt you! When you are about to send this to others, the devil will discourage you? So go on send this to people who are DEAR to you and TRUST GOD.



## *United Methodist Women*

The United Methodist Women meet the fourth Thursday of the month. February's meeting is on Feb. 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 in the church hall. All WOMEN of the church are invited to attend.



LORD'S DAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SABBATH
	<b>1</b> Pastor @ Clergy Day Appt 9:30 Senior Exercise	<b>2</b> Pastor @ CFA Mtg. 5:30-6:30 GS R5	<b>3</b> 9:30 Senior Exercise 7:30 Choir	<b>4</b> 6-8 Cubs Rm 7 7 Cubs Rms 1,3,4,5,6	<b>5</b> 9:30 Senior Exercise	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 12:00 VBS Mtg. 3-5 GS Rms 5,7	<b>8</b> 9:30 Senior Exercise	<b>9</b> 5:30-6:30 GS R5	<b>10</b> 6:30am Ash Wednesday 9:30 Senior Exercise 7pm Ash Wednesday 7:30 Choir	<b>11</b> 6-8 Cubs Rm 7 7 Cubs Rms 1,3,4,5,6	<b>12</b> 9:30 Senior Exercise 7:30 Movie Nite: Somewhere In Time	<b>13</b> 9-11 Knit,Putt,Pray
<b>14</b> 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 3-5 GS Rms 5,7	<b>15</b> 9:30 Senior Exercise	<b>16</b> 5:30-6:30 GS R5	<b>17</b> 9:30 Senior Exercise 7:30 Choir	<b>18</b> 6-8 Cubs Rm 7 7 Cubs Rms 1,3,4,5,6	<b>19</b> 9:30 Senior Exercise	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 3-5 GS Rms 5,7	<b>22</b> 9:30 Senior Exercise	<b>23</b> 5:30-6:30 GS R5	<b>24</b> 9:30 Senior Exercise 7:30 Choir	<b>25</b> 6-8 Cubs Rm 7 7 Cubs Rms 1,3,4,5,6	<b>26</b> 9:30 Senior Exercise	<b>27</b> 9-11 Knit,Putt,Pray
<b>28</b> 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 3-5 GS Rms 5,7						
				Parkwood United Methodist Church	<b>February</b>	<b>2016</b>

<b>TASK</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 7</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 14</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 21</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 28</b>
<b>9:15 Greeters</b>	Marie Porter & David Thompson	Ron & Betty Byrd	Dianne Mitchell & Maureen Mitchell	Herb & Jan Schwarze
<b>10:45 Greeters</b>	Linnie Skidmore & Andrew Key	Priscilla Thompson & Janie Henderson	Ron & Betty Byrd	Marietta Abbott & Dianne Mitchell
<b>Infant Nursery</b>	Dena Roberts	Janie Henderson	Marietta Abbott	Dianne Mitchell
<b>Ushers</b>	Marie Porter & Dena Roberts	Marietta Abbott & Larry Oglesby	Linnie Skidmore & Andrew Key	Frank & Brenda Stephans
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Florine Layman	Marietta Abbott	Jan Schwarze	Pat Nestler
<b>Communion Set-Up</b>	Priscilla Thompson & Janie Henderson			
<b>Altar Flowers</b>	Marietta Abbott			
<b>Counters</b>	Jan Schwarze & Dianne Mitchell	Dianne Mitchell & Eddie Hanson	Eddie Hanson & Bob Newlin	Eddie Hanson & Bob Newlin
<b>FT &amp; Lection Reader</b>	Linnie Skidmore	Betty Byrd	Charlotte Thompson	Marie Porter
<b>Fellowship Refreshments</b>	Ann Farmer	Betty Byrd	Elizabeth Carter	Dena Roberts
<b>Office Help</b>	Jan Schwarze	Marietta Abbott	Bob Newlin	Nathan Wittman
<b>Hospitality Greeter</b>	Charlotte Thompson	Ann Farmer	Mike Billau	Debra Haynes

**MINISTRY TEAM FOR FEBRUARY 2016** \*If you can't serve on your day, please arrange for a substitute. Thanks!