

The REMINDER

Growing UPWARD Growing INWARD Growing OUTWARD

worshipping and praising

becoming more like Christ

sharing the good news



MARCH 2021



SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Greetings in the name of the Lord!

I enjoyed talking about my faith journey at church recently and sharing how old hymns and contemporary Christian songs have helped me along the way.

I thought of one more. You may know it: "On Christ the Solid Rock I Stand." All other ground is sinking sand.

Sometimes we feel off balance in these strange times ... like we just can't get our footing. I was led to these verses in the Book of Psalms today.

"You have not given me over to the enemy , but You have set my feet in a wide place." Psalm 31:8.

"He also brought me out to a broad place. He delivered me because he delighted in me." Psalm 18:19.

May we all have more faith that God is in control and that He will place us on solid ground.

Speaking of faith, I recently visited the Resurrection Restoration Center for the Homeless with

Darryl Evans and Tabatha Davis. They are doing a powerful ministry for the least of these, on a very limited budget. It was such a blessing to meet and pray with the leader and present a gift to her. We have recently been in touch with two other ministry partners.

Darryl, Chris Handley, and Janet Brand had a Zoom meeting with Jeremy Emert in Zambia and with Actionnel Fleurisma in Haiti. They were even able to put them together to talk and to encourage each other.

Thank you for your generosity in giving to the work of the Kingdom. We are so blessed to be able to share with the community we live in, and with people in need around the world.

Let's close with one more song: "Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus."

Debbie Jackson
Clerk of Session

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ON THE COVER
Benches were installed at the Columbarium and Memorial Garden.

The Missed & Misunderstood

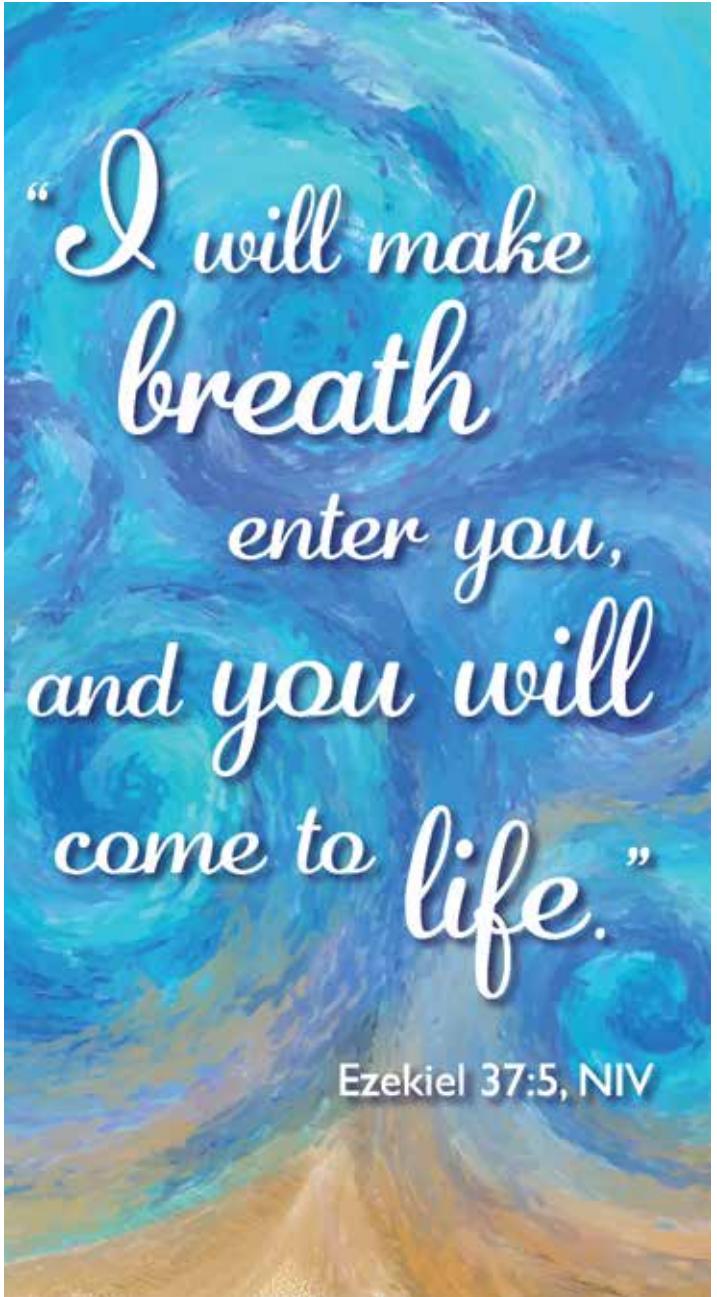
Dear Church Family,

The Lenten Season is so meaningful. It calls for sober judgment and clear thinking as we contemplate our mortality and the grace of Christ that defines our lives. It gives us the opportunity to think anew of the Resurrection and the life that Jesus gives. Many of us can look back on our lives or a time in life in which either Jesus became real to us for the first time and seemed very close, or perhaps a time when that relationship reached a deeper level and we had a fervent longing for God. Does that describe you? Have you ever experienced a season like that, only to later feel like some of the zeal is gone? Perhaps you gained new clarity on Jesus' Resurrection and love, or you felt more secure on what life after death holds, yet there remains a sense of "isn't something missing?" That may be because while we rightly hold the primary things front and center – such as the Cross – we have either missed or misunderstood some things that are foundational to our salvation – such as understanding the Trinity.

As such, our Lenten sermon series will plunge into the "Missed and the Misunderstood." We will consider the deep things of God – things that I often see around me, and that I have struggled with and missed in my own life that are nevertheless Gospel bedrock. We will consider things we often do not talk about, such as the Trinity, the Holy Spirit, and the Resurrection of the Dead.

These 40 Days will be both challenging and stimulating to preach and to ponder together, realizing that no one will ever understand it all, but that we can be led ever deeper into the loving heart of God. My prayer is that the Lord will be with us in a memorable way this year as we walk the Lenten path.

Peace,

A Thought or Two Challenging You Toward Discipleship

Love swells in God's heart

I am reading a book called *Surrender to Love* by David Benner with a group of folks. I mentioned it in my sermon last week. Here is the quote I reflected upon with you:

“What do you think God thinks of you? Regardless of what you have come to believe about God based on your life experience, the truth is that when God thinks of you, ...love swells in his heart and a smile comes to his face. God bursts with love for (us). He is far from being emotionally uninvolved with (us). God’s bias toward us is strong, persistent and positive. God chooses to be known as Love, and that love pervades every aspect of God’s relationship with us.” (p.20)

“What do you think God thinks of you?” It makes all the difference how your heart responds to God. When you begin to realize that “God bursts with love for you” that’s when you begin to “Delight yourself in the LORD.” (Psalm 37:4) Delight in the Lord rises as you understand how delightful He is. Understanding his heart for you puts wind in the sails of your faith life.

But we struggle to experience God in this way. Benner goes on to say that we often strive to impress God because of how we perceive him. He writes, “Think for a moment about how Christ-following develops if you assume God looks at you with disgust, disappointment, frustration or anger.” “Christians who assume that God

is preoccupied with sin tend themselves to adopt the same focus. In fact they often seem to think that they honor God by taking sin seriously as they do. Sometimes they judge other Christians by how seriously they seem to treat sin. ... Unfortunately, while they may give intellectual assent to God’s love, they often experience very little of it.” (p.22) And therefore, there is only striving and no surrender. “How could anyone ever expect to feel safe enough to relax in the presence of a God who is preoccupied with their shortcomings and failures?” (p.21)

Lent is set aside as a season of being mindful of our shortcomings. It is good to see and repent of sin. But do not let this discipline force you to focus on how angry God is with your sin. Thank Him that His love has allowed you to see your sin and your need to be cleansed and forgiveness that is yours in your Savior Jesus Christ.

Life is full of difficulties. We live in a broken world where all our STUFF still impacts our lives, as well as those around us. No one is exempt from the struggle with this brokenness. This requires of us prayer and love and steadfastness. Show us, Lord, how to love You and others like you love us!!

Chris

Big time, over-the-top moments delivered to your neighborhood

Have the summer of a lifetime close to home! WinShape Camps for Communities brings the ultimate day camp right to First Presbyterian Church the week of July 26, combining fun, faith and friendship into an action-packed week. Campers completing grades K5-8 cultivate their God-given skills and talents in a mix of indoor and outdoor moments, physical activity and creative play, with epic adventures at camp all day and sleeping soundly back at home at night. At the end of the week, we serve up a day of fun for the whole family—complete with a yummy lunch from Chick-fil-A.

Register today at <https://camps.winshape.org/day-camps/1091>



Toward a Healthier Church

Facts and Figures from Enabling

At the church conference on Sunday, February 21, 2021, Elder Mike Nunn gave a report on behalf of the Enabling Unit of the Session. I am using my newsletter article to share some of the highlights from that report.

2020 Ministry Action Plan

Pledge Gifts Received	\$1,270,288.00
Non-Pledge Gifts Received	\$429,690.00
Miscellaneous Income	\$21,392.00
Total 2020 Ministry Action Plan Receipts	\$1,721,370.00
Total 2020 Ministry Action Plan Expenses	\$1,574,889.00
Surplus	\$146,481.00

In 2020, 185 covenant partners pledged \$1,283,860.00 in support of the ministry and mission of First Presbyterian Church. In a year that saw many churches in our area struggling to keep their doors open due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, we received \$1,270,288.00 or 98.9 percent of the pledges.

Mission Funding

A significant portion of our ministry action plan and designated giving is dedicated to monthly support of national and global missionaries (Emerts, Actionnelle Flourisma, Carol Crom), as well as local benevolence agencies (Lighthouse Ministry, House of Hope, Choice to Make). In 2020, FPC covenant partners gave over and above to special mission causes: **Haiti Hunger Relief - \$51,298.** **Emert Pavilion Project - \$20,165.00** to help build an outdoor gathering space for the mission in Zambia. **House of Hope Tiny House Sponsorship - \$20,000.**

In addition to regular monthly support through our Ministry Action Plan, the Outreach Unit of the Session identified 4 agencies (2 local and 2 global) to receive additional funding in the amount of \$10,000 each for a total of **\$40,000.** The local agencies receiving the additional funds were House of Hope and Restoration Resurrection Homeless Ministry. The global support

went to OFCB Haiti (Actionnel Flourisma) and to the Emerts (Zambia).

2021 Preview

As we move into 2021, we are gradually reopening and attempting to return to some level of normal operations (worship, Sunday School, fellowship, etc.) At the church conference on February 21, it was reported that the Session approved the **2021 Ministry Action Plan** in the amount of \$ 1,685,986.00. To date, we have received pledges from 147 covenant partners totaling **\$1,203,245.00.** If you have not yet made a pledge, you may do so on REALM or by contacting the church office for a pledge card.

Do More ONREALM

First Presbyterian Church implemented a new ACS database system called REALM about 2 years ago. Since then, many covenant partners, staff and leaders have taken advantage of this system to communicate with each other. REALM allows you to update your personal information, follow church announcements, and look up other covenant partners. REALM also allows you to manage your giving to First Presbyterian Church. You can access REALM from your home computer. You can also access REALM from your mobile device (phone, tablet, etc.) with RealmConnect. Simply download the Connect app from wherever you get your mobile apps (App Store, Google Play, etc.) If you have questions, contact Teresa Stewart in the church office and she'll be happy to help you get signed up. Our goal is for everyone to get connected. Let's be the church...together.



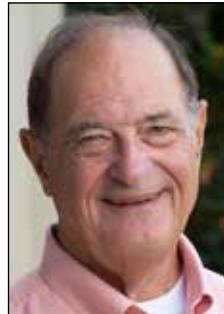
Living Eternally

PHILIPPIANS 1:19-30

There is no doubt that Philippians 1-3a was written from prison as Paul's life is threatened. Paul could be executed and he faces his own death. When a person faces death: a woman in childbirth, a warrior in battle, or in a struggle with a terminal illness; then they may understand Paul's attitude: "by speaking with all boldness, Christ will be exalted now as always is in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain (Philippians 1:20b-21)."

I have always admired this attitude of a Christian; but now as I am in my last years, I pray I will have as strong a faith as Paul. When I die, I will gain Christ by living in the place prepared by Jesus for me. As long as I live I need to proclaim Christ as God's way to salvation. The Psalms call us to trust God, to give thanks for being called by God to be Jesus' disciple, and to proclaim the steadfast love and faithfulness of God. We work on this earth to share our faith in God and the Christ.

Paul calls the Philippians to "live your life in a manner worthy of the Gospel of Christ... (Philippians 1:27a)." Living as a Christian is more than trusting, giving thanks, and proclaiming the Gospel. Living as a Christian means we live an ethical life seeking to love one another. The people we meet each day are to be loved and served no matter how hard it is to be loving. Paul mentions a difficult reality in the living of a Christian life: "For he (God) has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well (Philippians 1:29)." Suffering for Christ is outside the lives of most American Christians. Those facing disease have suffered, but



**REV. MIKE
FLEENOR'S BLOG**

<https://onepastorsponderings.wordpress.com/>

not always for Christ. Paul is speaking of the suffering caused by those who seek to destroy Christians and the Church. I am not sure I can ever understand how Paul speaks of suffering in Philippians. I can only hope that facing suffering or death for my faith in Christ, I would be loyal to Christ.

The pandemic of the coronavirus has produced suffering. Thousands have died; millions have been sick. I have known of several people who died during the pandemic who were Christians. Their deaths are a witness to trusting in Jesus. The pandemic produces fear, but how can I turn my fear to faith? I believe my fear witnesses to my faith by believing in the words of Paul in Philippians: "For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain." I pray my living witnesses to the power of salvation in Christ. My death will enable me to live eternally with Christ.

Mike

"For he (God) has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well."

Philippians 1:29

Preschool Days





March



MONDAY, MARCH 1

- 5:30 PM Stretch Your Faith
7:00 PM Men's Bible Study: Welcome Center

TUESDAY, MARCH 2

- 9:30 AM WIM Coordinator's Team Meeting: JFH
11:00 AM WIM Bible Moderators: Lawson-Rain
12:00 PM Just for Women Bible Study: CLC

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3

- 6:30 PM Praise Team Rehearsal

THURSDAY, MARCH 4

- 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study: Room 202
10:30 AM Prayer Group: LR
1:00 PM Bible Study: Zoom

FRIDAY, MARCH 5

- Wedding rehearsal and dinner: JFH

SATURDAY, MARCH 6

- All rooms reserved

SUNDAY, MARCH 7

- 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship
9:30 AM Rehearsal: JFH
10:00 AM Catechism: CLC
10:00 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM Traditional Worship
5:00 PM EGW Leadership Study: CLC



MONDAY, MARCH 8

- 5:30 PM Stretch Your Faith
6:30 PM Women of Grace: Home of Barbara Maffett
7:00 PM Men's Bible Study: Welcome Center

TUESDAY, MARCH 9

- 10:00 AM WIM Joyful Hearts: JFH
12:00 PM Just for Women Bible Study: CLC
12:00 PM WIM Soul Sisters: JFH
3:00 PM WIM Serenity: Lawson-Rain
6:30 PM Session
6:30 PM WIM Prayer Warriors

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10

- 6:15 PM Drive-In Concert
6:30 PM Praise Team Rehearsal
6:30 PM WIM Women of Valor

THURSDAY, MARCH 11

- 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study: Room 202
10:30 AM Prayer Group: LR
1:00 PM Bible Study: Zoom

SATURDAY, MARCH 13

- 6:00 AM Parking Lot Mission
9:00 AM WIM Bread & Fish:
Call Peggy Swearingen



SUNDAY, MARCH 14

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS

- 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship
9:30 AM Rehearsal: JFH
10:00 AM Catechism: CLC
10:00 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM Traditional Worship
5:00 PM EGW Leadership Study



MONDAY, MARCH 15

- 5:30 PM Stretch Your Faith
7:00 PM Boy Scouts
7:00 PM Men's Bible Study: Welcome Center

TUESDAY, MARCH 16

- 12:00 PM Just for Women Bible Study: CLC
6:30 PM Board of Deacons



March

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17**

6:30 PM Praise Team Rehearsal

ST. PATRICK'S DAY**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24**

6:30 PM Praise Team Rehearsal

THURSDAY, MARCH 18

7:00 AM Men's Bible Study: Room 202
 10:30 AM Prayer Group: LR
 1:00 PM Bible Study: Zoom

THURSDAY, MARCH 25

7:00 AM Men's Bible Study: Room 202
 10:30 AM Prayer Group: LR
 1:00 PM Bible Study: Zoom

SATURDAY, MARCH 20**SPRING BEGINS****SUNDAY, MARCH 21**

9:00 AM Contemporary Worship
 9:30 AM Rehearsal: JFH
 10:00 AM Catechism: CLC
 10:00 AM Sunday School
 11:00 AM Traditional Worship
 5:00 PM EGW Leadership Study:

**SUNDAY, MARCH 28**

9:00 AM Contemporary Worship
 9:30 AM Rehearsal: JFH
 10:00 AM Catechism: CLC
 10:00 AM Sunday School
 11:00 AM Traditional Worship
 5:00 PM EGW Leadership Study

**MONDAY, MARCH 22**

5:30 PM Stretch Your Faith
 7:00 PM Boy Scouts
 7:00 PM Men's Bible Study: Welcome Center

MONDAY, MARCH 29

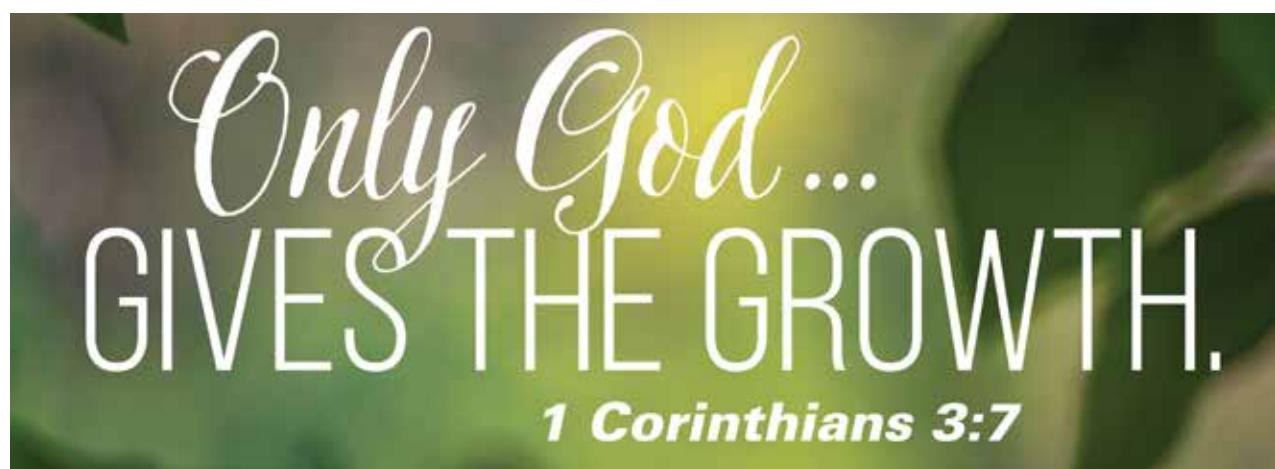
5:30 PM Stretch Your Faith
 7:00 PM Boy Scouts
 7:00 PM Men's Bible Study: Welcome Center

TUESDAY, MARCH 23

12:00 PM Just for Women Bible Study: CLC
 6:30 PM Session: Lawson-Rain Chapel

TUESDAY, MARCH 30

12:00 PM Just for Women Bible Study: CLC
 1:00 PM Red Cross Blood Drive





Drive-in Concert

A virtual drive-in concert “on the grounds” Wednesday, March 10, featuring Zach Williams! Concertgoers will pull up in the front paved parking lot facing the Church office entrance. You will have the option to listen from inside your car by tuning into the radio or you can bring lawn chairs and enjoy the concert outside. A boxed dinner is available at 6:15 p.m. and the concert begins at 6:30 p.m. Don’t miss it!





Covenant partners, guests, and families...

Please make plans to attend the Palm Sunday Egg Hunt!

March 28 at the Whitehead's
beginning at 4 p.m.
177 W. Pocket Road

Our little ones, just walking thru 5th grade, will hunt.
Our sixth-graders will hide eggs.

Eggs for Easter Egg Hunt: Love to dye eggs? About 60 dozen hard-boiled dyed eggs are needed for the Easter Egg Hunt on March 28. Please consider donating hard-boiled dyed eggs to the celebration. You can put them in the CLC refrigerator ahead of March 28.

Remember in Prayer

Extended Care

Heritage at Lowman

Mac King

Home

Adele Kassab
Glenn Odom

Methodist Manor

Joyce Floyd
Marie Jordan
Maria Whitehead

Presbyterian Community

Ann Cash
Helen Foster
Aaron Leland
Clariann Kellam

Memorials

Jack Cagle
Margaret Cantey
Betsy Eaddy
Wendy Fleming
Tom Kellam
Casey Taylor

Households

FLOCK 1: Nik and Ginny Casstevens, Laurel
 FLOCK 2: Peter and Gracelyn Elmendorf
 FLOCK 3: Larry and Donna Grubb
 FLOCK 4: Greg and Tomi Jean Cleveland, Grace and Jack
 FLOCK 5: Maria Whitehead
 FLOCK 6: Bob and Melba Whitesides
 FLOCK 7: Nigel and Shannon Watt
 FLOCK 8: Margaret Baroody

Sympathy

Family of Casey Taylor
Family of Hannah Carpenter
Jeremy Emert and family, loss of his mother

*Lord, Hear
Our Prayer*

Sick & Recovering

Margaret Baroody
Butch Carroll
Kent Caudle
Aubrey Crawford
Kit Fulmer
Linda Lawson
Isla Louise McCoy
Johnny Stoupenos
Fred Swearingen
Martha Tyson
Shannon Watt

Elders

Jayne Boswell
Mike Nunn

Deacons

Caroline Genoble
Whit Player

Mission

Manna House
Chandan Sah

Women in Ministry

Lindsey Banister
Merrette Dowdell

Sunday School Teachers

Munford Scott
Rob Hall

Staff

Darryl Evans
Chris Handley

God's Work in our Community

Manna House

One of the local missions First Presbyterian Church supports is Manna House. For more than 30 years, it has served warm meals to the homeless and underprivileged in the Florence community.

Founded in 1986 by an inter-denominational group of men and women who observed a need in our community, Manna House relies on donations of canned and

dried food. Fresh veggies, fruits, and frozen meats are purchased from Harvest Hope.

Executive Director Paul E. Jones, Jr., started in his role last summer. He previously served as a volunteer for a few years.

The Manna House served its first meal on July Fourth in 1987. Since then, the need has grown exponentially — clientele from 11 to over 200 served daily.

God's Work Around the World

Chandan Sah Empower Believers Movement Nepal

One of the global missions First Presbyterian Church supports is the Empowerment Believers Connection is a network of indigenous (Indian) mission agencies that are planting churches and transforming communities throughout the northeastern state of Bihar. Bihar is 0.06 percent Christian. The state is mostly Hindu (80 percent), followed by a large Muslim population (18 percent) and a mix of Buddhism, Jainism, Sikhs, etc.

EBC was founded and is led by Chandan Kumar Sah who employs multiple strategies to reach and transform communities, including: CHE (Community Health Evangelism), CPM (Church Planting Movements), DMM (Disciple Making Movements), and MED (Micro-Enterprise Development). Pramila, Chandan's wife, is instrumental in equipping and discipling women as she leads a strong women's ministry.



Empower Believers Movement Nepal (EBM-Nepal) is encouraging the leaders in the network to do Micro Enterprises Project to become self-supportive. Now EBM Nepal has provided Micro loans to 17 different leaders in the network. They are doing projects such as bicycle repairing shop, Sewing Center, Carpentry, Mobile Repairing Centre, Cosmetic shop, General store shop, Private Nursery School, etc.

Flowers in the Sanctuary

Do you have a friend or relative you would like to honor? Sign up to place flowers in the Sanctuary. Contact Genia Tyson (genia_tyson@hotmail.com or 843-665-0295) or Melba Whitesides (843-992-4267).

A spreadsheet found at www.florencefirst.org/ flowers-in-the-sanctuary — also has been set up for signing up and so dates available can easily be seen.



Women in Ministry Circle meetings

Bread and Fish	March 13	9 a.m.	Call Peggy Swearingen
Joyful Hearts	March 9	10 a.m.	Jenkins Fellowship Hall
Posies and Petals			Not Meeting
Prayer Warriors	March 9	6:30 p.m.	Lawson-Rain Chapel
SonFlowers			Not Meeting
Soul Sisters	March 9	noon	Jenkins Fellowship Hall
Serenity	March 9	3 p.m.	Lawson-Rain Chapel
Women of Grace	March 8	6:30 p.m.	3002 Japonica Lane
Women of Valor*	March 10	6:30 p.m.	Room 202

*Childcare available. Schedule a week in advance with Teresa Stewart in the church office, tstewart@florencefirst.org.



Red Cross Blood Drive to be held

Red Cross will have a blood drive on Tuesday, March 30, from 1 to 6 p.m. on campus. If you would like to sign up for an appointment, please call or email Kim Brauss at kbrauss@florencefirst.org or 843-662-2583.

Send in your college student's contact info

The Women in Ministry and the Deacons of First Presbyterian Church would like to encourage our college students through out the year. Please send the mailing address for your student(s) to Patricia Fast (patriciajfast@gmail.com) and Teresa Stewart (tstewart@florencefirst.org) so they are included.

Center accepting donations

The Child Development Center is accepting donations of roll paper towels, disinfectant wipes and peroxide to use at the center. Donations may be dropped off in the designated box in the Welcome Center.



Trail trip to prepare Scouts for Yosemite

Foothills Trail backpacking in late March will be our monthly outdoor adventure. Located in Upstate South Carolina and Western North Carolina, the trail is a National Recreation Trail.

Scouts are preparing for our Hunter Morgan-led backpacking trip to Yosemite National Park and the Sierras in late July.

The photo is from our Sierras trip in 2012.

Submit briefs for The Reminder to Kim Brauss by email at kbrauss@florencefirst.org by the 19th of the month.

Congratulations to 8U team



Coach Rufus Bratton and the 8U team earned the best record for this basketball season's church league. Congrats!

Easter Lilies

Remember or honor a loved one this Easter as we herald the remembrance of our risen Lord with a profusion of lovely palms, lilies and greenery to accompany our worship.

Your \$10 gift should be turned into the church office along with your loved one's name and your name and phone number by Monday, March 29.

In memory/honor of : _____
(circle one)
Given by: _____

Phone: _____



Special season underway for children

At infant baptism, we as covenant partners are asked, “Do we, in the name of the whole church of Christ, undertake with these parents the Christian nurture of the child, so that in due time he/she may confess faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior? We always answer, “yes.” Covenant partners fulfill this vow in many ways, but surely mentoring a confirmand speaks to this baptismal vow.

Our vision is that our covenant children would grow up to be life-long followers of Jesus Christ — people who actively walk with Jesus, engaging in acts of ministry in his name.

But we don't become mature Christians on our own. We learn “by looking over someone else's shoulder, emulating some admired older Christian, taking up a way of life that was made real and accessible through the witness of someone else.” (*Making Disciples*)

Our mentors walk beside a confirmand for a season, letting the confirmand look over their shoulder. They read the Gospel of Luke together and work through *Making Disciples* by William H. Willimon.

Thank you, mentors, for being willing to let God use you. Thank you for being a covenant parent to our children, for passing your faith on to the next generation.

“We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, his power, and the wonders he has done.” Psalm 78:4

Please keep our confirmands and mentors in your prayers during this special season.

Blessings,



WHO WILL JOIN THE VISION?

WOMEN IN MINISTRY HAS A VISION TO BLESS THE TINY HOME KITCHENS IN HOPE VILLAGE

Hebrews 13:16 says,
“And do not forget
to do good and to share
with others for with
such sacrifices God is
pleased.”

INDIVIDUAL HELP → BRING ITEM TO SUNDAY SCHOOL

SHOPPING LIST:

- CLEANING PRODUCTS
- TRASH BAGS
- PAPER TOWELS
- TOILET PAPER

GROUP VISION → BRING AN OFFERING SUNDAY

WE WILL PURCHASE A LARGER ITEM AS A GROUP

- TOASTER (\$20)
- SILVERWARE (\$25)
- MICROWAVE (\$90)
- REFRIGERATOR (\$150)



The Israelites joined Nehemiah's vision. Will the children of the church join WIM?

CONFIRMATION IS BEGINNING

Please pray for the confirmants and their mentors as they begin this exciting and challenging time in the growth of their faith.



Eliza Blanton



Ben Carter

CONFIRMAND

Eliza Blanton
Ben Carter
Alex Cotran
Will Evans
David Frost
Heyward Hanna
Thomas Hardee
Wells McBride
Jackson Mozingo
Julianne Newton
Mary Tiller Rabon
Anne Evans Scott

MENTOR

Elizabeth McLean
Charlie Caldwell
Mike Lavespere
Weave Whitehead
Robert Moore
Paul Davis
Erik Marechal
Jim Moseley
Don Hebert
Sally Dameron
Amy Williams
Tabatha Davis



Alex Cotran



Will Evans



Thomas Hardee



Wells McBride



David Frost



Heyward Hanna



Jackson Mozingo



Jules Newton



Mary Tiller Rabon



Anne Evans Scott



MARCH

MARCH 1

Rufus Brown

MARCH 2

Michael Coker
Gwen DuRant
Jan Green
Sullivan Johnson
Maggie Jones

MARCH 3

Karen Silver

MARCH 5

Billy McBride
Amanda McLaurin
Boyd Moree
Maggie Reames
Hattie Kaye Scott
Ed Sprenger

MARCH 6

Denise Alvey
Mary Wallis Vaught

MARCH 7

Matthew Dowdell

MARCH 8

Brooklynne Clancy
Karen Johnson

MARCH 9

Amelia Abernathy
Philip Leach

MARCH 10

Klay Kennedy

MARCH 11

Sloan Bankson
June Chang-Kim
Kaitlyn Molnar

MARCH 12

Hal Campbell
Madison Hindman
Martha Tyson
Anna Watt

MARCH 13

Whit Dozier
Grace Munn
Julianne Newton
Mike Nunn

MARCH 14

Carson Jeffords
Marcia McNeil

MARCH 15

Katherine Johnson
Weave Whitehead

MARCH 16

Bankston Wallace

MARCH 17

Ford Hofler
Wilson Josey

MARCH 18

Levi Hayes

MARCH 19

Joyce Dalsbo
Steve Halus
Marla Kunz

MARCH 20

Beth Brown
Hunter Grace Bulloch
Cannon Coker
Elizabeth Fast
Sonya Molnar

MARCH 21

William Duncan
Ronald Hayes
Merrell Kennedy
Anne Evans Scott

MARCH 23

Libbie Reames

MARCH 24

Susan Bankson
Ashleigh Bulliner
Elizabeth Frost
Ann Spearman

MARCH 25

Dan Abernathy
Noah Johnson
Jean Lavespere
Jeremy Williams

MARCH 26

Jack Banner
Mike Fleenor
Nell G. Oliver

MARCH 27

Jane Heath
Bob Olsen

MARCH 28

Kathy Crawford
Mary Ervin
Judy Henegar
Stone Lewis

MARCH 29

Berta Allen
Kaleb Griffin
Megan Matthews

MARCH 31

Warren Montgomery

Youth Ministry

Wednesday nights are back after a few weeks on Zoom! We've been studying a few moments in Jeremiah, particularly considering the challenging circumstances and context of the famous Jeremiah 29:11. As we've studied God's promise to his people that he has "plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope" that promise comes in the beginning of a period of exile in Babylon that would have been anything but comfortable. As our students (and all of us) are dealing with disruptions in community, schooling, isolation, etc., it can be easy for a verse like this to ring hollow and fall short of our hopes. Seeing the context of this promise can encourage us to fight to trust God's love and plan for us even in the midst of what seems like senseless frustration, pain, and loss.

Thursday morning hangouts at F.E. Pops have continued to be a great time for connection between the students, as well as an opportunity for Taiter and I to build

connections with them. Although this is not explicitly a time of Bible lessons or study it has been a space to be together, drink a mocha or latte, and encourage each other before heading off to school (usually in the form of shouting how proud we are of each student as they leave the coffee shop).

We've spent a lot of time in Mark and the Psalms on Sundays, but for the next few weeks we will be looking more closely at particular passages in Romans. We kicked off our time in Romans by examining Chapter 5:1-5 which has paired well with our study in Jeremiah. We might feel lost, or find ourselves wondering why, and in these few verses we are reminded of some powerful truths: we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through Jesus, we can rejoice in our sufferings, we can have hope, "because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us."





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