



MARCH 2018

Share the Lenten Journey in March with us at Celebration Presbyterian Church

Lenten Worship -- The Church's worship during the season of Lent is simpler and more austere. *Alleluia* is not said or sung during Lenten worship. Lenten hymns are somewhat somber and meditative. The color purple is used in our paraments on the communion table and pulpit, which is both a sign of penitence and an expression of hope. All of these measures are meant to help us focus more intently on the spiritual disciplines to which the Church calls us in Lent: self-examination and repentance, prayer, fasting, self-denial, and reading and meditation on God's holy Word.

Other Lenten Disciplines -- In this modern high-tech world we live in, some disciples find Lent to be a perfect time to take a "technology fast" by giving up their use of Facebook or Snapchat or the use of the internet or computers or tablets altogether. By unplugging/fasting from these technologies it frees up time for more prayer, Bible study, meditation and acts of service during Lent. I have offered two very positive disciplines to consider practicing during Lent. The first discipline is to view Lent as **40 Days of Praise** and to be very intentional to offer daily praise to God for something worthwhile and praiseworthy that you experience in the course of each day. The second discipline is to make Lent **40 Days of Give-Aways** and to be very intentional in your home to pare down your excess by setting aside items of clothing and housewares each day to give to someone in need who you know or to give them to a local charity like Salvation Army or Goodwill. These are just several ideas to consider as daily practices or disciplines during Lent.

Special Hymn Selection for Lent from the Glory to God Hymnal #851 *Come, Bring Your Burdens to God*. This hymn comes from South Africa. A great strength of music from southeastern Africa is that it usually emerges from communal life, and in singing such songs we unite our sung prayers with those of the people who created them. This hymn is based on the singing of the Mooiplaas congregation in South Africa. The English translation and music arrangement for this simple verse were done in 2008 by members of the Iona Community.

Hymn Text: *Come, bring your burdens to God; come, bring your burdens to God; come, bring your burdens to God, for Jesus will never say no.*



Pastor Tom Dendy

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Daylight Saving Time Begins at 2:00am on Sunday, March 11. Remember to "spring forward" one hour when retiring for the evening on Saturday.

It's also a good time to change your batteries in your smoke alarms.

SESSION RETREAT PLANNING

By Terry Pettijohn

2018 Session Priorities

- ♦ Session held a planning day on Saturday, February 3, to decide on the priorities for 2018. The group focused on the report last year based on the survey and small group meetings. Although additional tasks will be accomplished, the focused priorities developed in the group include:
- ♦ **Visibility/Identity Church Sign** - Session is currently investigating costs for improving our sign, and types of improvements that could be incorporated.
- ♦ **Church Property** - Session is having ongoing conversations with Presbytery and Horry County concerning the widening of Carolina Forest Blvd and the need to modify the entrance to our property. Session is also exploring options for a possible additional entrance on the western edge of the property and possible sharing with the County Recreation Center.
- ♦ **Church Directory** - Session is exploring the possibility of a Church Directory. LifeTouch has been in touch with the church. We will need a planning committee and volunteers to schedule appointments for picture taking.
- ♦ **Stewardship** - Session is working to help our congregation understand that stewardship includes time and talent as well as financial resources. We plan to communicate more often with the congregation with updates and information.
- ♦ **Small Group Gatherings** - Session would like to encourage more interaction in small groups, both in the church and in the community. As an example, we are planning "God Gab", where a group of church members go into the community to have a prayer and share session. Currently the first is God Gab at the Grumpy Monk, where the community is invited to meet with us.
- ♦ **Volunteers** - There is an ongoing need to encourage congregation members to share their talents. Session would like to recruit volunteers for various tasks. To highlight our many outreach activities, we are planning a Mission Sunday.
- ♦ **Identify Future Leaders** - Tied in with other priorities, Session would like to identify potential future leaders in our church.
- ♦ **Calendar of Events** - Session would like to develop an ongoing calendar of events so people can more easily plan to attend events. For example, we intend to have regular potlucks, movie nights, as well as other social events in the life of the church.
- ♦ **Publicity** - We have so many wonderful events in our church life, and Session would like to more effectively publicize them to the community. For example, we want to better utilize our website, newsletter, Facebook, and other social media to get our message out. We also are looking for people who are interested in helping with publicity.
- ♦ **Fundraising** - Session is planning fundraising events in the coming year.

PRESBYTERIAN COMMUNITIES AMBASSOR NEEDED



Presbyterian Communities of South Carolina Ambassadors are made up of men and women who represent the Presbyterian churches in South Carolina and serve as liaisons between their church and Presbyterian Communities of South Carolina. Ambassadors help communicate the various needs of Presbyterian Communities to their church members and encourage support of its ministries. They share ways to give, ways to volunteer, and other ways to contribute to our mission and ministry. They help arrange programs, presentations, and mission fair displays in churches. In addition, they help promote and coordinate the annual Mother's Day offering in their churches.

Celebration's Ambassador was Sally Herstine. Sally had a love for PCSC. Since Sally's passing we have not had an Ambassador to PCSC. If you feel this is something you would like to become involved in, they are having a Meeting on Wednesday, April 4, at the Florence Presbyterian Community. For more information, you may call Cathy Jackson at 803-772-5885.

JOURNEY TO THE CROSS

By Cecilia Evans

Celebration will be offering Journey to the Cross on Friday, March 30, from 12-7PM. As you go from station to station experiencing Jesus's last day prior to his crucifixion, we hope that it will provide a meaningful journey.

If you are interested in helping to set-up the Journey to the Cross, please plan to meet after church on Sunday, March 4, for an organizational meeting.

MISSIONS

By Cecilia Evans

In conjunction with the Preschool we will be collecting personal hygiene items in the month of March and early April. These **hygiene items** will be packaged at our April 12 church supper and provided to Helping Hand and the Community Kitchen for their guests.

Relay for Life is just around the corner and will be held at Market Common on May 5. There will be a meeting after church on March 4 for those interested. Contact Nanette Kelly for more information.

If you are interested in working at the **Pelicans** games for this season contact Bob Miller for more information.

JOIN US MONDAY, MARCH 19 at 6 PM for GOD GAB

A Gathering at The Grumpy Monk for food, fellowship and some GOD GAB with others.

From our 2017 strategic planning survey responses, we learned that many of you at Celebration are looking for new ways to fellowship and talk about God. In response, the Session planned what we are calling **GOD GAB** to address this need for new ways to fellowship and talk about God.



Our first **GOD GAB** gathering will meet at **The Grumpy Monk on Monday, March 19 at 6 PM in the Private Dining Room**. Please note that food and beverages at the Grumpy Monk will be "Dutch treat."

To facilitate the **GOD GAB** we will provide folks with a discussion topic/scripture/starter questions. Then we will let the conversation flow and see how God will use these discussions to build relationships and grow our faith.

Please JOIN US at The Grumpy Monk - MONDAY, MARCH 19, at 6 PM for GOD GAB and bring friends.

LADYBUG LUNCHEON

By Carol Butler



Our February lunch brought us to Doesn't Matter Bar & Grill, the new restaurant that took over the spot that Beef O'Brady's occupied. There were 15 Ladybugs in attendance. We were so happy to see Connie Dowd, Gloria Flowers and Nancy Resnick join us. We haven't seen them in quite a while. We collected \$65.00 for charity. Thank you ladies, as always, for your generosity.

The menu was extensive and orders ran from soup to salads and sandwiches. The service was excellent and the wait staff came around frequently to make sure that we were enjoying our food, which everyone seemed to. As always the friendship, camaraderie and laughter makes for a fun outing.

Our next lunch will be Thursday, March 1 at noon at Maggie D's, which is located behind Coastal Grand Mall on Seaboard Street. Pat Teal will be your hostess. If you plan to attend, the sign-up sheet will be in the Narthex. Let me know if you need a ride. All Ladybugs, their friends and family (female of course) are invited....hope to see you there. Come join a bunch of fun Ladybugs!

VOLUNTEERS SERVING THIS MONTH

Elder of the Week:

Mar 4—Carol Butler
Mar 11—Cecilia Evans
Mar 18—Ken Krenzer
Mar 25—Bernadine Lamar

Liturgist

Mar 4—Peg Speidel
Mar 11—Anne Brallier
Mar 18—Priscilla Mulligan
Mar 25—Carol Butler

Visitors Table/Greeter

Mar 4—Margaret Reeder
Mar 11—Linda Miller
Mar 18—Joseph Mehalick
Mar 25—Barbara Barranco

Pre K –Kindergarten Children's Church—

Tonja Paolini

Children's Church Grades 1-5

Trudy Miller

Nursery

Mar 4—Leslie Eckert
Mar 11—Betsy Hughes
Mar 18—Vicki Jacobs
Mar 25—Vicki Simon

Media Shout

Mar 4—Katrena White
Mar 11—Bernadine Lamar
Mar 18—Katrena White
Mar 25—Carol Butler

Sound Booth

Mar 4—Carol Butler
Mar 11—Carol Butler
Mar 18—Carol Butler
Mar 25—Nicklaus McIlrath

Ushers for the month of March

Kerry and Nanette Kelly, Jerry and Jenny Taylor

Communion for March

Nanette Kelly, Nancy Resnick, Scott Sinnet, Terry Baker, Priscilla Mulligan

Shepherd's Table Teams for 2018

Team A: Nancy Torcivia, Dom Torcivia, Margaret Reeder, Beth Bruton

Team B: Roy Andrews, Laurie Andrews, Dot Crissey, Nancy Thornburgh, Rick Thornburgh

Team C: Kathy Wechter, Bob Stepanek, Carol Butler, Ken Krenzer **You cook on March 15, Thursday**

Team D: Anne Brallier, Sara Bamrick, Donna Woodard, Gerri Byrne

Team E: Jerry Rashid, Rosie Rashid, Leslie Eckert, Tom Dendy, Paul Youngblood, Patty Youngblood

THANK YOU FOR SERVING THIS YEAR. Your dates will be listed on the calendar each month.

CHURCH WORK DAY

By Rick Thornburgh

Church Work Day



It's that time of the year again. Time for the spring garden cleanup/work day. It will be Saturday, March 17, starting at 9:00 till done, usually around noon. No rain date so pray for good weather.

This work day is just for pruning, weeding, etc. Mulch will be done at a later date. Come out and help get our church property in shape for the spring and summer months. All help is welcome!

BIRTHDAYS IN MARCH

Take a moment to wish those who have a birthday this month birthday wishes or send them a card.

If your birthday is not listed, please let Linda Berry in the office know.

2—Mary Biellak

2—Cherie Hall

6—Karen Williams

18—Sarah Abushakra

23—Nanette Kelly

25—Don Speidel

26—Barbara Bruno

28—Dalton Cicala

30—Laurie Andrews



FINANCIAL UPDATE

By Joe Alexander



For month end February, I'm projecting a break even or slight net loss of approximately \$2,000 after all remaining expenses and income are posted for CPC and Preschool.

For February 1 through the 21, we have received \$10,737 in pledges with one more Sunday to go. Our budget for pledges is \$12,500 per month. However, we have recently had several members who have had to lower their pledge amount due to personal financial reasons. The 2018 original pledge amount was \$145,055, but now stands at \$138,455.

Our congregation has always stepped up in time of need, but we need to also actively encourage people in our community to visit and join our wonderful church.

PRESCHOOL

By Susan Spraker

This month will be a very busy one for our preschoolers. There is rumor that a surprise visit from a tiny leprechaun is a possibility. Every year we try to set a trap to catch that sneaky fella, but he always seems to outsmart us. As soon as we turn our back he sneaks in and makes a mess everywhere.

Last month ended with our registration for the fall 2018-2019 school year. Needless to say, it was very busy in the Preschool. We registered more children than ever before. However, we still have some afternoon Preschool openings for the fall, so tell all your friends. Word of mouth is our best form of advertising.

The end of this month will be Spring Break for our preschoolers. The Preschool will be closed from March 30-April 6. School will resume on April 9, 2018. It is so hard to believe April is right around the corner.

Have a great month!



The Twelve Documents of the Book of Confessions

Elder Pettijohn continues discussion about our Book of Confessions. The Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (USA) consists of two parts: Part one is The Book of Confessions, which contains historical statements of what we as a church believe, and part two, the Book of Order, consists of the Foundations of Presbyterian Polity, Form of Government, Directory for Worship, and Rules of Discipline. Remember that to confess means to affirm, declare, acknowledge or take a stand for what one believes to be true. You can download the complete Book of Confessions: http://www.pcusa.org/site_media/media/uploads/oga/pdf/boc2016.pdf

The Book of Confessions contains 12 documents. Two are ancient creeds: The Nicene Creed and the Apostles Creed. The Nicene Creed was produced by 2 councils, Nicaea in 325 and Constantinople in 381. It was an effort to unify all Christians and focused on the Trinity of God and Jesus and the Holy Spirit. The Apostles' Creed was developed over the early centuries and formed a universal statement of belief for Christians. Originally it was associated with baptism.

There are 4 confessions that represent 4 nations: Scots Confession (Scotland), Second Helvetic Confession (Switzerland), Westminster Confession of Faith (England), and Confession of 1967 (United States). Scots Confession was written in 1560 by a committee that included John Knox. It was the first Reformation confession, and was a protest of the Roman Catholic Church, and established the tenets of Protestantism. Written in 1561, the Second Helvetic Confession served as an authoritative statement of faith by Reformed churches in Switzerland, Scotland, France, Germany. It tried to relate Scripture to everyday life and influenced English Puritans. The Westminster Confession of Faith, written in the 1640s, was an attempt to reform the Church of England (with the king as head of church) with a faithful interpretation of Scriptures. Its emphasis on practical living served as a model for Reformed churches in many countries. It was the main confession for American Presbyterians for many years. After 300 years the Confession of 1967 was developed to modernize the Presbyterian church in America. It resulted from the union of the United Presbyterian Church of North America and the Presbyterian Church in the USA in 1958. It also addressed the role of the church in society.

There are 3 catechisms: Heidelberg Catechism, Westminster Larger Catechism, and Westminster Shorter Catechism. A catechism is used for teaching. The Heidelberg Catechism was first adopted in 1563, and became doctrine for Reformed churches in Holland, Germany, and Hungary. Dutch explorers brought it to America in 1609. Written in 1647, the Shorter Westminster was designed to teach children about faith, and the Larger Catechism was originally designed for ministers to study in depth the faith of the church. They have questions and answers, for example from the Shorter Catechism: "Q1. What is the chief end of man? A. Man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy him forever." For many years, Presbyterian children had to memorize the 107 questions and answers.

There are two declarations. The Declaration of Barmen was written in 1934 as a clarification of the confessing churches of Germany against Nazism. The newest addition to the Book of Confessions was added to the Book of Order in 2016. It is a statement of belief against apartheid in particular, and stresses unity, reconciliation, and justice. It is especially relevant in discussing race relations.

The last document in the Book of Confessions is the Brief Statement of Faith, which resulted from the union of the Presbyterian Church in the United States and the United Presbyterian Church in the United States of America in 1983. It is basically a modern summary of beliefs applied to today's church arranged in a trinitarian format with sections on God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit.



HOSPITALITY

By Nancy Resnick

Our next potluck dinner will be held on March 8. Bring a dish to share and we will play "Family Feud" following the dinner. Come join the fun starting at 5:30pm.

The next Movie Night will be held on March 13, 6pm. They are currently choosing a movie to share with you.

Maundy Thursday is March 29. We will have a soup dinner prior to our Maundy Thursday worship service. Dinner will begin at 6pm with worship at 7pm.

MARCH 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Adult Bible Study 9:15 am Choir Rehearsal 10:00am Fellowship 10:15 Worship 11am Children's Church				1 LadyBug Luncheon at Maggie D's 12 noon	2	3
4 3rd Sunday in Lent COMMUNION Service of healing and wholeness following the morning worship Relay for Life Mtg and Journey to the Cross Mtg.	5	6 Quilters 10:00 am	7 Choir Rehearsal 7pm	8 Potluck Dinner with Family Feud 5:30 pm	9	10
11 4th Sunday in Lent He~Brews Café for Youth DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS 2AM ("spring" forward)	12	13 Quilters 10:00 am Movie Night 6pm	14 Choir Rehearsal 7pm	15 Team C cooks at The Shepherd's Table 2pm	16 Breakfast Buddies at The Early Riser 9am	17 Church Spring Work Day 9am St. Patrick's Day 
18 5th Sunday in Lent He~Brews Café for Youth (STATED SES- SION MEETING?)	19 GOD GAB at Grumpy Monk 6pm	20 Quilters 10:00 am	21 Choir Rehearsal 7pm	22	23	24
25 PALM SUNDAY Holy Week Begins <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 10px auto;"> April 1 EASTER </div>	26	27 Quilters 10:00 am	28 Choir Rehearsal 7pm	29 MAUNDY THURSDAY 6PM SOUP SUPPER and 7PM WOR- SHIP SERVICE	30 GOOD FRIDAY JOURNEY TO THE CROSS 12-7PM Preschool Closed	31 Preschool spring Bring March 30- April 8, classes resume on April 9



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Celebration Presbyterian Church

Dr Tom Dendy—Pastor

Sarah Abushakra—Music Director

Linda Berry—Office Administrator



CELEBRATION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

OUR IDENTITY STATEMENT

We are Christ followers who are open, accepting, loving and welcoming to all!

PRAYER OF JABEZ —“Oh that You would bless Celebration, indeed, and enlarge our territory, in your name. That your hand would be with us and that You would keep us from evil, that we may not cause hurt to others.” I Chronicles 4:10 (Adapted for Celebration)

The 7 Great Prayers for LENT

1. **I Love You God...** (Praise God and/or Jesus with "emotion and feeling".)
2. **Thank You God for...** (Reflect and thank God/Jesus, for the many blessings, small and big that you receive daily.)
3. **God, You are Inside Me...** (With this prayer mix in, God/Jesus you are inside me, you give me strength, love, peace, energy, health, wealth, etc.)
4. **I Attract God's Blessings...** (Visualize the blessings you desire as "already received.")
5. **God, I See You Everywhere...** (See God in your friends, family, and people you meet throughout the day.)
6. **God Bless...** (Pray for others. This is powerful.)
7. **God, Let Me Do Your Good Works...**



**HELPING
HAND**
OF MYRTLE BEACH, INC.

In January and February of 2018, you have donated **172** pounds of food to Helping Hand. For 2017 you donated **1,199** pounds of food. We are off to a good start, let's see if you can match or exceed last year's donations.

You can find a list of the items needed at <http://helpinghandofmyrtlebeach.com>.

Thank you for your generosity in helping others in our community.