



FEBRUARY 2019

PASTOR'S ARTICLE

By Tom Dendy

Dear Friends of Celebration,

I wish you a blessed February and I offer and commend GOD's LOVE to be our guide not only in this month when our culture urges candy and flowers and cards to celebrate a Valentine's Day of love, but every day, all day. In 1 John 4:7-14 the Bible instructs us to SHARE GOD'S LOVE: *Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world.*

I want to encourage us to reach out with God's LOVE to help reach people for Christ today and every day. The word for this is EVANGELISM which often seems to scare us into believing we are not equipped to share God's LOVE with others. Recently the Presbyterian Outlook (VOL.201 NO. 2) included a wonderful article on EVANGELISM written by Bill Tammeus, an elder at Second Presbyterian Church in Kansas City, Missouri, and former Faith Columnist for the Kansas City Star. This article is included with permission of The Presbyterian Outlook and the author.

Rethinking Evangelism—by Bill Tammeus

Because many people now think evangelism means fundamentalists shouting on street corners, lots of mainline Protestant churches have backed away not only from the word, but sadly, from any meaningful practice of it.

Charlene Han Powell, executive pastor at Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church in New York, says she's finally come to terms with the word and now wants to resurrect it in a way that mainliners can accept—not grudgingly, but enthusiastically.

Powell spoke about this recently to my home congregation in Kansas City, Second Presbyterian Church. What she said then (and in correspondence with me later) makes so much sense that I want to share it with you, especially if you, too, have been squeamish about even saying the word evangelism.

“Progressive evangelism,” she says, “is, first and foremost, listening to the Other, seeing the Other, honoring the Other. More important than being ‘right,’ progressive evangelism seeks to put the needs and narratives of others before yourself. After all, Jesus would have it no other way.”

Simple, right? We wish.

But many of us aren't good at listening. Powell experienced that at some of the sessions at which she spoke in Kansas City. She endured post-retirement white males (yes, that description fits me) mansplain church matters to her, a 30s-something Korean-American.

Lots of bad listeners in the pews need training in how to get outside the church, and discover what the wounded people there are crying for, whether it's food and shelter or something more complicated like fulfilling work, treatment for stress or education for the children whom many of our schools are failing.

When we speak first instead of listening, we're not giving Jesus—whose hands, feet and ears we are—a chance.

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Pastor Tom Dendy

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Watch for information on the upcoming Wednesday Night Dinner Fellowships in the next month's newsletter.

Upcoming Movie Nights are:

March 12, April 9, May 14, June 11

Mark your calendars, more information to follow.



Thank you to all who donate weekly, monthly or when you can items for Helping Hand. Last year you donated 1,618 pounds of food. THANK YOU !!!! So far this year you have donated 101 pounds of food. Think you can beat 2018, I think we can!

ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Celebration Congregation has been called for Sunday, February 17, 2019, at the close of worship. The Session will share a Mission and Ministry summary and a year-end financial report for 2018. The 2019 Ministry and Mission Budget, which was approved by the Session, will be provided for the congregation's information.

LADYBUG LUNCHEON

By Carol Butler



Our January luncheon took us to Maggie D's where we have dined before.

There were 12 Ladybugs in attendance and we welcomed our newest Ladybug, Joann Piazza. Joann and her fiancé, Mike have been coming to church for several months, and some of us had already met Joann at a Newcomer's meeting a couple of months ago.

We collected \$50.00 for charity. Thank you, ladies, as always for your generosity. I passed around three thank you notes from charities we had given to in the past.

There was lots of Italian food to go around. It was very good and service was very good. The owner even gave everyone a cannoli for dessert.

As always the friendship, camaraderie and laughter makes for a fun outing.

Our next lunch will be Thursday, February 7, 2019 at noon at Michael's Pizza located at 2132 Oakheart Road, next to Ollie's. 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!

NEW TREE IN THE GARDEN

By Barbara Barranco

Perhaps you have wondered what happened to the weeping yaupon tree that graced the right side of the church entry door and what is that small, leafless tree that's been planted in its place (see left photo below). The answer is that the Yaupon tree fell over again after being staked and was therefore disposed of. With careful consideration of the limited space, we chose a new type of crape myrtle that only grows 5 ft wide and 8-12 ft tall. Its name is Black Diamond Lavender Lace and the leaves will be black! The right photo below shows what the lavender blooms will look like this summer. So keep an eye on this tree and watch it leaf out then bloom!



Celebration Presbyterian Church 2019 Session

Tom Dendy, Moderator, Cecilia Evans, Clerk

Class of 2019

Priscilla Mulligan—Evangelism, Adult Christian Education

Nancy Resnick—Finance and Stewardship, Preschool

Terry Pettijohn—Strategic Planning, Personnel

Rick Thornburgh—Property

Class of 2020

Jeanne Bredbeck—Hospitality, Preschool

Cecilia Evans—Finance and Stewardship

Ken Krenzer—Hospitality, Property

Class of 2021

Myra Burrows—Evangelism, Children Christian Education

Kathy Wechter—Missions and Outreach

Katrena White—Personnel, Worship/Media/Web

Please pray for your session members as they lead Celebration.

On Sunday, February 3, there will be an Ordination/Installation Service for the Ruling Elders at the end of worship.

BIRTHDAYS IN FEBRUARY

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.

Feb 2—Cheyenne Cseh
Feb 4—Sharon Barry
Feb 8—Jan Coulter
Feb 8—Leslie Eckert
Feb 8—Alan Perry
Feb 10—Jeffrey Waltemeyer
Feb 12—Cindy Smith

Feb 15—Deborah McIlrath
Feb 17—Steve Meek
Feb 19—Richard McIlrath
Feb 26—Rebecca Schmidt
Feb 27—Lois Storms



CCU BASKETBALL GAME



VS



Join us for an afternoon of
CCU Basketball at the HTC Center
Saturday, February 23, 2 PM
Please sign-up by February 14
Tickets are \$22.00 per person
See Kerry Kelly for tickets

PRESCHOOL

By Susan Spraker



The month of January flew by before we knew it. All the children enjoyed their time off and were ready to move on with their work. We spent the month talking about Winter Wonderland and Arctic Animals. With the cold weather being what it has been this was a perfect time to talk about winter. The children even got to see a little bit of real snow this year.

Believe it or not, this month we will have our preschool registration for the 2019-2020 school year. Registration will be February 26, for our families already enrolled in our program, and February 27, for the public. If you are a church member and would like to register your child for preschool, please see me before February 26. **Church members will have an opportunity to register with preschool employees.** If you know of anyone who is interested in joining the Celebration Preschool family, please ask them to contact me at 903-3211. I can give them all the details about our registration process.

We are all looking forward to celebrating Valentine's Day at the preschool. It is such a fun time for all the boys and girls. Our Valentine parties will be February 13 and February 14. If you are in the area, we would love for you to stop by. I am sure love will be in the air!

I hope everyone has a great month!

THE SHEPHERD'S TABLE

By Cecilia Evans

Team A	Team B	Team C	Team D	Team E
Nancy Torcivia Dom Torcivia Margaret Reeder Beth Bruton Marsha Meek Steve Meek	Roy Andrews Laurie Andrews Dot Crissey Nancy Thornburgh Rick Thornburgh Doug Larson	Kathy Wechter Bob Stepanek Carol Butler Anthony Tiani Lois Storms Pat Himes	Anne Brallier Sara Bamrick Donna Woodard Gerri Byrne Ken Krenzer Sharon Mook	Leslie Eckert Tom Dendy Rosie Rashid Jerry Rashid Paul Youngblood Patty Youngblood
January 10	February 14	March 21	January 17	February 21
April 11	May 9	June 20	April 18	May 16
July 11	August 8	September 19	July 18	August 15
October 10	November 14	December 19	October 17	November 21
Sub: Cindy Smith				

Shepherd's Table Volunteers

Thank you for serving our community by participating in our cooking team's at Shepherd's Table. There are a couple of updates the first is cooking starting in February begins at 1pm. This is due to Shepherd's Table beginning to serve a Saturday meal.

The second is that training is required for all volunteers to ensure we are following DHEC regulations. You do not have to have a reservation, just go to one of the following dates:

February 11 from 9:00am-11:00am

February 13 from 9:00am-11:00am

February 18 from 9:00am-11:00am and 6:00pm -8:00pm

February 23 from 12:00pm - 2:00pm and 6:00pm -8:00pm

Thank you again for your service.



February 3, is Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday. Help us tackle hunger by bringing in your donations of canned food and monetary gifts to benefit Helping Hand of Myrtle Beach. The youth will be collecting your donations.

Elder Terry Pettijohn Reports Ruling Elders (from the Presbyterian Church (USA) website)

Elders are called to be spiritual leaders, strengthening and nurturing the faith and life of the congregation committed to their charge. In the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) elders are instructed to engage members in the mission of the church and to provide opportunities for evangelism, pastoral care, worship, education and stewardship.

Elders are called to exercise leadership, government and discipline. In the Presbyterian Church congregations share a common polity that ensures due process when disputes arise, and promotes equality for all persons. It provides a way of living together in which the concerns and suggestions of all members are taken seriously. It also helps assure members that finances are managed responsibly and mission is carried out faithfully.

Elders in the Bible—The Bible portrays various forms of church government, or polity, among the earliest Christians. There are virtues as well as limitations to every human form of government. While Presbyterian polity is not the only one suggested by biblical patterns, it does have strong biblical roots.

In the first five books of the Bible elders are always mentioned in connection with Moses. In Exodus 3:16–18 God directs Moses to “assemble the elders” and lay out a plan that would free the Israelites after years of bondage. Numbers 11 says elders were chosen after Moses complained to God that he needed help leading the people.

The role of the elder takes various forms throughout the Old Testament. Elders are responsible for carrying out legislative and administrative functions. They also are responsible for leading the community by teaching and living out models of obedience to the law (see Exodus 19:7–8; Deuteronomy 27:1, 31:9, 32:7).

In the New Testament, God calls to leadership wise, dedicated and mature persons of faith. All members of Christ’s body, the church, are endowed with unique gifts for the purpose of service. “Elder” can refer to one who shares in corporate leadership for a cluster of Christian assemblies or churches (see Acts 20:17, 28; 1 Peter 5:1–2), or to one who has leadership over a particular congregation (see Titus 1:5–7). The term does not so much confer a title as describe a function or role in the community.

Ephesians 4:11–13 lists some of the ministries to which church leaders are called: apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers (see also 1 Corinthians 12:27–31). All of these ministries exist for the purpose of equipping the saints, members of the congregation, for Christ’s mission. When people joyfully engage in the work of ministry, the body of Christ is strengthened and the church matures to take on the character of Christ.

PASTOR’S ARTICLE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

But we won’t hear any of that if our immediate goal is to get people to enter our church buildings, join and make a financial pledge.

Instead, we must shut up and listen. Where? In restaurants, gyms, offices, soccer fields, concert halls, public buses, crowded streets.

As we rethink evangelism, we can debate whether it means getting people to accept Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and savior so they won’t go to hell or whether it means what Jesus seemed to mean by the gospel, which is that God’s reign starts now and you can live in the kingdom today, experiencing mercy, joy, and forgiveness and love.

Bypassing that unproductive fight, Powell suggests we ask this question: “What could possibly be good news to a person in need?” Beyond that, she argues, “When the gospel isn’t good news for everyone, it isn’t the gospel.”

The decline of mainline churches is a story at least half a century old by now. But that story can mislead people into thinking the broader church is dying. In fact, there are many examples of thriving congregations—especially those overseen by and for new immigrants.

Why? One reason is that they are better at paying attention to the needs of the community around them and to listening first before proposing old solutions.

I’ve told myself over and over throughout my life that change is hard. But only recently have I acknowledged how hard it really is and why. It’s so difficult because we often don’t first pay attention to the reality around us. We see things primarily through the tired eyes of experience, but those eyes miss a great deal of the experiences of others who haven’t shared ours but have histories of other ways of being, thinking, doing.

So, if Powell is right—and I think she is—our first task as evangelists is to use our ears and hearts, not our mouths. If we do that, we’ll have a better chance of helping others see how the gospel of Christ can meet their needs with compassion and love when we are able to share that with them.

May we grow together in our evangelism and outreach with God's LOVE to our community!

In Christ's Service, Pastor Tom

FEBRUARY 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Adult Bible Study 9:15 Choir Rehearsal 10am Fellowship 10:15 Worship 11am Children's Church Nursery Holy Communion Ordination/ Installation of Ruling Elders SOUPER BOWL OF CARING SUNDAY	4	5 Quilters 10:00 am Girl Scouts	6 Choir Rehearsal 7pm	7 LadyBug Luncheon Michael's Pizza 12noon	8	9 Session Planning Retreat 8:30-2:30 at the church
10 Adult Bible Study 9:15 Choir Rehearsal 10am Fellowship 10:15 Worship 11am Children's Church Nursery, He~Brews Café	11 GOD GAB at The Grumpy Monk 6pm	12 Quilters 10:00 am	13 Choir Rehearsal 7pm	14 Team B cooks at The Shepherd's Table 1pm Valentine's Day	15 Breakfast Buddies Olympic Flame 9am	16
17 Adult Bible Study 9:15 Choir Rehearsal 10 am Fellowship 10:15 Worship 11am Children's Church Nursery He~Brews Café ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGRE- GATION STATED SESSION MEETING	18 President's Day Church Offices Closed Preschool Open	19 Quilters 10:00 am Girl Scouts	20 Choir Rehearsal 7pm	21 Team E cooks at The Shepherd's Table 1pm	22	23
24 Choir Rehearsal 10 am Fellowship 10:15 Worship 11am Children's Church Nursery	25	26	27 Preschool Registration	28 Preschool Board Meeting 9am		



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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!

OUR MISSION is to *Proclaim Jesus as Lord and Savior, Praise and Worship God, Prepare our hearts to share God's Word, and Provide Love and Service to ALL!*

OUR PURPOSE is to *Celebrate God's Glory by Reaching, Teaching, and Sending People to Love and Serve the Lord.*

VOLUNTEERS SERVING THIS MONTH

Elder of the Week

Feb 3—Katrena White
 Feb 10—Jeanne Bredbeck
 Feb 17—Cecilia Evans
 Feb 24—Ken Krenzer

Liturgist

Feb 3—Elizabeth Wills
 Feb 10—Peg Speidel
 Feb 17—Rick Thornburgh
 Feb 24—Anne Brallier

Visitors Table/Greeter

Feb 3—Priscilla Mulligan
 Feb 10—Barbara Barranco
 Feb 17—Carol Lagassee
 Feb 24—Margaret Reeder

Pre K –Kindergarten Children's Church—

Tonja Paolini

Children's Church Grades 1-5

Trudy Miller

Nursery

Feb 3—Leslie Eckert
 Feb 10—Betsy Hughes
 Feb 17—Nanette Kelly
 Feb 24—Donna Woodard

Media Shout

Feb 3—Bernadine Lamar/Donna Woodard
 Feb 10—Donna Woodard
 Feb 17—Bernadine Lamar
 Feb 24—Katrena White

Sound Booth

Feb 3—Carol Butler
 Feb 10—Katrena White
 Feb 17—Carol Butler
 Feb 24—Bernadine Lamar

Ushers for the month of February

Corey Jacobs, Margaret Reeder, Beth Bruton, Terry Baker

Communion for February

Katrena White, Terry Baker, Nanette Kelly, Bernie Pettijohn, Scott Sinnet

WE LOVE
 OUR VOLUNTEERS