

First United Methodist Church
NEWSLETTER

Pearisburg, Virginia 24134 [921-1021]

March 2020

Dr. Brian Burch, Pastor

Worship in March

Asa Returns

She has been here for funerals, weddings and to make Apple Butter. But this will be her first time preaching to her home church since seminary. She is currently serving as the Associate Pastor at Morrison First United Methodist. Sally Hendrickson is excited her daughter Asa Majors will be in town. We know you will be blessed.

Preparing for the Cross

Using the 1999 hymn, "Take My Life" by Scott Underwood as our basis, we will seek to be transformed to the mind and will of Christ through holiness, righteousness and faithfulness. Then on March 29 we will look at what the gospel of Luke considers the focus of that last week of Jesus' life.

Building Improvements

Can you hear the sounds? Do you hear the workers on the 2nd floor of the education wing? Each week they are making progress in replacing the 1966 wall heaters with gas heat. This new system adds air conditioning at the same time for this section of the church. The other sound is the discussions in the halls or our church. Our preschool is dreaming about moving upstairs and having three rooms of their own. Carl Adams and his Sunday school class are dreaming of moving to the first floor. The handbells are imagining the joy they would have if they had a space of their own that did not involve weekly setup and take down. The Take TWO program is dreaming of having more inside space for those cold winter months.

While this work is being completed, another 2nd floor dream is taking birth. The Lord's Acre team for a couple of years has dreamed of renovating the upstairs of the parsonage. Could we give the 1955 bathroom a major facelift? Could volunteers give everything a fresh coat of paint and refinish the wood floors on this level? If everything comes together construction could begin as early as mid-March. Thanks to your work with fried pies, Apple Butter, the Lord's Acre and your donations to the capital fund this is all taking place.

Prime Timers

Prime Timers will meet on Tuesday, March 17 at 6:00 pm for dinner and entertainment. Rhonda Frazier will be performing piano hymn tunes including traditional and more recent pieces.

Ladies in Action

Our United Methodist Ladies are in action in March. The morning group meets Tuesday, March 10 at 10 am in the small hall. The evening group meets that same week on Thursday at 7 pm in the parlor. Ladies, pick the meeting that best fits your schedule. Last month the Ladies made gallons of homemade soup and delivered them to those with limited mobility in our church family. March ends with Tracy Ferguson putting together a Ladies Tea on Sunday, March 29. Bring a tea cup, a hat and a smile.



- Mar 1 – Italian Lunch – 1pm
- Mar 3 – Wild Bunch-Bluegrass BBQ – 6pm
- Mar 4 – Men's Prayer Breakfast
- Mar 10- Wild Bunch-Chilis, Princeton – 6pm
- Mar 10 – UM Ladies – 10 am - Small Hall
- Mar 12 – UM Ladies – 7 pm - Parlor
- Mar 17 – Prime Timers Dinner – 6pm
- Mar 24 -Wild Bunch - Queens - 6pm
- Mar 31 -Wild Bunch - Shoneys - 6pm

Every Sunday:

Hispanic Bible Study 9:00 am
Sunday School 9:45 am Worship 10:55 am

Every Wednesday:

Take TWO–3:30-5:45pm
Handbell Ringers–6pm Choir Rehearsal–7pm

Missions in March

Feeding the Homeless takes place on Monday, March 16. This year the "To Our House" program is having its largest number of participants. We rejoice that this program not only provides meals and a warm safe place to sleep each night. They also provide help in finding jobs, housing and benefits for participants. Thank you for providing food and eating alongside these fellow persons loved by God. Jo Ann Zimmerman is in charge of the meal.

Lenten Banks: Your donations this year are being evenly split between two ministries. The Giles County Christian Service Mission is preparing to expand once again. In the last several years each time they improved their facilities two actions follow. Your donations to the mission and its sales increase. More importantly our provision of food, clothing, and assistance to the needy has also increased. The ministry is the 2020 Alaska Mission trip. Last August a wildfire destroyed over 50 buildings in the Willow, Alaska region. This summer, 16 from Giles County are going to help rebuild and remind those folks that someone cares.

Our Hope – Feeding Homeless

Our church will be providing dinner at Our Hope, feed the homeless, at Pembroke United Methodist Church on Monday, March 16 at 6:00 pm. If you would like to prepare a dish or volunteer to help serve, please contact JoAnn Zimmerman at 540-633-9802.

In Memoriam
Carrie S. Trout
February 1, 2020

Our condolences go out to the family of Carrie Trout at her passing. Carrie was a member of Pearisburg First UMC since July 31, 1955.

MEMORIAL GIFTS

Were given this month in loving memory of:

Mullie Mulheren
Bonnie Sprunk

Stewardship Report-Budget

Received February a year ago.....\$	19,307.25
Received February	\$ 16,164.00
Received Y-T-D a year ago	\$ 36,845.75
Received Y-T-D	\$ 30,541.15

Wow Moments in February

Could we do it? With Ellen Salmon in charge there should have never been a question. On a yucky weather Saturday our church volunteers packaged around 600 meals and made sure that 125 plus were personally delivered to those who requested the meals. The last couple of meals went to some folks in the Walmart parking lot who were hungry. What a joy to be leaders in the Giles Thrive program.

The Memorials made for Ellie Miller were combined; and former GHS band leader Joe Gollehon's baby grand piano was purchased for the choir room. With a little bit of tuning and some repairs by Dave Zimmerman it is in place.

Our Hispanic Bible Study continues to experience growth. Yuliet and Alvaro continue to provide valuable leadership. Roger & Jan Houck, Evelyn & Howard Kanter, Grace & Lanse Carpenter and Brian & DeAnne Burch provided the breakfasts in February. Nick & Jackie Clark, Steve & Debbie Taylor and Tim & Trish Poole are already signed up for March. The group is now meeting at 9 am on Sundays in the Small Fellowship Hall.

Our children lead! During a discussion in Take TWO the question of how does one be saved take place? The answer was to pray and ask Jesus into your heart. One girl said, "I want to do that today, I just don't know how." Before the adult leader could respond, another child said, "I know how, let's pray together." Jesus entered another heart that day, and a leader for our church was born.

Luminaria

You still have time to Purchase a \$5.00 Luminaria (Special February cost).

These Luminarias can be "In Honor" or "In Memory" of your loved ones. These Luminarias will be displayed in church, on our Luminaria Sunday, and then taken to the Giles Relay Event on June 26th. Please contact Diane Haynie, 540-599-0204, to orders yours today.

"Sweet" Lord's Acre Thank You

Our fried pie and chocolate peanut butter heart event was really sweet- just over \$1400 sweet! We thank the UMW for their contributions of heart funds to Lord's Acre for this project. Many thanks to all those individuals who helped in any way to make pies and hearts, and to those who sold and purchased our goodies. Lord's Acre anticipates contributing toward the proposed bathroom remodel for the parsonage with these funds.

Jan Houck and Debbie Taylor,
Lord's Acre Chairpersons

Youth News

Youth have prepared Lent in a Bag. They include items to use for devotions during Lent season. They are along the altar rail, please take one per family. Also, there is a prayer room behind the choir loft for anyone who wishes to use it during this Lent season. Each week, there will be two stations. One will be a prayer request to share, please take a moment to pray over others' requests & add any of your own. The 2nd station will change each week, so be sure to visit every week to experience all of the prayer prompts.

There are still Lenten Banks along the altar rail. The youth are suggesting taking these 40 days of preparing for Easter, as a way to also Spring clean your house. There are 6 weeks, why not clean out an area each week? You can donate items you don't need & you can also "count your blessings" by adding coins to your banks symbolic of being thankful for how blessed we are.

Youth plan to participate in Stations of the Cross on Maundy Thursday.

The youth wishes to thank EVERYONE for your support! Thank you for your donations that enable us to attend Resurrection! The speaker & band were AMAZING!!! We also thank you for your support of our Spaghetti lunch, we made \$755 that will go for the Alaska mission trip. Thank you,
Renee

Italian Lunch March 1

Can you taste it? Hot bread with butter and garlic? Maybe you are ready for a crisp salad. Perhaps what you truly want is a cheesy tomato pasta dish. These are all going to be awaiting you after worship on Sunday, March 1. This is a fund-raiser for Relay for Life. This group is committed to giving hope to those fighting cancer, celebrating those who are survivors and remembering those whose death is due to this disease. As our church prays for Elijah Harman and Barbara Stafford who are in the midst of treatments and recovery from cancer we give thanks that they are not doing this alone—we stand with them.

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.
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Pearisburg, VA
24134

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