

# The Arbor's Brush

*to inform, to inspire, to celebrate*

## Vision Statement

*REACH, GROW, SEND*

"We worship by reaching for God and to others, by growing and nurturing others in Christ, and by sending disciples to meet human needs."

## Got News?

If you have news you would like included in our monthly newsletter, please email [office@ramahpcusa.org](mailto:office@ramahpcusa.org). The deadline for April's *Arbor's Brush* is March 24.

## Staff

### Pastor

Rev. Brian Copeland  
[pastor@ramahpcusa.org](mailto:pastor@ramahpcusa.org)

### Music Director

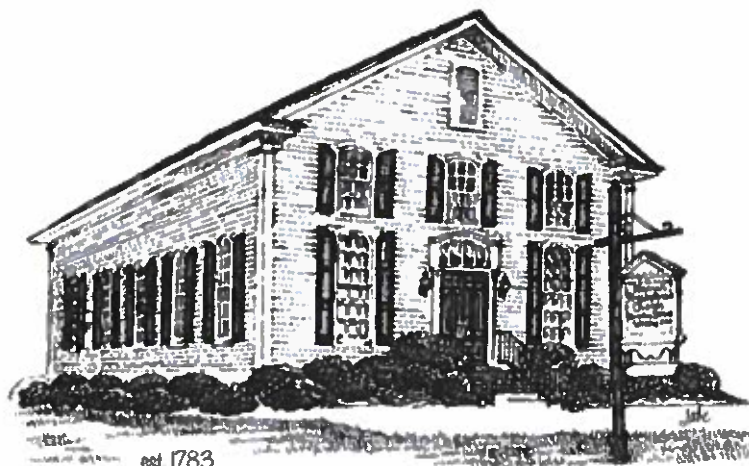
Tim Ward  
[music@ramahpcusa.org](mailto:music@ramahpcusa.org)

### Administrative Assistant

Julie Sczerbinski  
[office@ramahpcusa.org](mailto:office@ramahpcusa.org)

### Preschool Director

Alice Howerton  
[preschool@ramahpcusa.org](mailto:preschool@ramahpcusa.org)



## A Message from the Pastor

Welcome to Lent! Lent is a time of self-denial, soul-searching, and spiritual preparation for Easter. An act of self-denial can help us frame our daily lives around preparing for Easter, especially when it come in the form of breaking a routine. I've used an example of no sugar in my coffee. Every time I went to prepare my coffee, I'd have to break my routine of reaching for the sugar and in doing so remember in this small moment of self-denial that spiritual journeys don't anyways come in large dramatic actions. Another part of preparing ourselves for Easter can be spiritual development through prayer and devotional.

We will be working our way through, "Bread and Wine: Reading for Lent and Easter." I will be leading the **Sunday School class through a discussion based on that week's devotional readings. Everyone is invited to attend. We will begin at 9:45 sharp on Sunday**



## Remember in Prayer

Please continue to pray for our first responders, military and those on our prayer list:

- Natalie (Coach Zeller's granddaughter)
- Mary Nash (Kim Bradford's friend)
- John McCarthy
- Barbara Wise (Karen Helms' mother)
- Freida Buckner (friend of the Wilsons)
- Jackie Keel (Janine Bryant's sister)
- Walter Craven
- Jeanette Shoemaker
- Martha Ann Readling
- Sarah Craven Washam
- Dave McCord
- John Black

**mornings** and I will excuse myself at 10:30 sharp as the discussion continues. There are basically 3 questions I invite you to consider for each devotional. First, identify the main topic of the devotional, why was it written? Second, did this devotional evoke any emotions from you? Reflect on the particular words or phrase that sparked your response. Third, what is one thing from this devotional that you will still be thinking about next week? Why? You might want to keep a journal with your responses to these questions as part of your spiritual journey. There is no test on Sunday mornings and I certainly don't need to see anyone's journal.

During Sunday School we will first address any concerns about the week's readings. After we address these questions, we'll try to identify the theme(s). The focus of the discussion will change every week depending upon the readings. There really is no set agenda for our time together, other than staying with the topics as presented in that week's devotionals. I am looking forward to helping facilitate our discussions. This devotional book goes through Eastertide. We will continue as long as interest and devotions remain.

Peace,

Pastor Brian



## Lent Worship Service Schedule

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All are welcome!

### March 6, 2019 @ 12 Noon

Ash Wednesday Service and Lunch Bunch (Lunch out following service, typically at Showmars.)

### Happy Birthday!

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- 1 - Donella Wright
- 2 - Tommy Wright
- 3 - Martha Ann Readling
- 4 - Ceili Gray, Maloree Foster
- 8 - Dorothy Sumner, Teri Lindsay
- 10 - Jeanette Shoemaker
- 13 - Chip Bragg
- 15 - Robert-John Stanford
- 18 - Garrett Robinson
- 21 - Phillip Westmoreland
- 25 - John Patrick Harris
- 26 - Paul Isaacs, JoAnne Miller, Carl Senn
- 29 - Lucas Maness

### March 6, 2019 @ 7:00PM

Ash Wednesday Service

### March 13, 20, 27, 2019 @ 12 Noon

Daytime Lenten Vespers Service and Lunch Bunch (Lunch out following service, typically at Showmars.)

### Thursday, March 14, 21, 28 @ 7:00pm

Evening Lenten Vespers Service

### From the Administrative Commission...

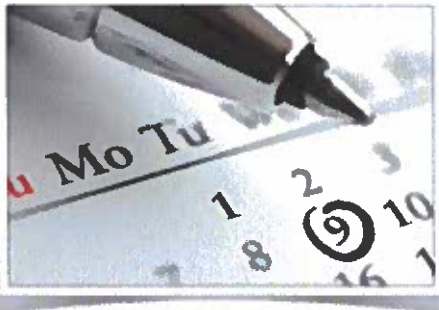
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At the congregational meeting on February 17, a slate of six dedicated and gifted members were presented and elected to serve as elder on Ramah's new Session:

- Class of 2019: Kim Bradford, Lee Brown
- Class of 2020: Bill Bradford, Robin Helms
- Class of 2021: Chip Bragg, Shannon Ward

We are excited that they answered God's call to serve. The Administrative Commission will be working with Pastor Brian to provide training in preparation for their installation this spring. We would also like to express our gratitude to the Nominating Committee-Dawn Bradford, Neill Cameron, and Tim Ward- for their thoughtful and prayerful work in bringing this slate of officers to the congregation.





## Preschool Happenings

February has been a lovely month at preschool! Despite the abundance of rain, the students have enjoyed a lot of fun indoor activities. The teachers have introduced yoga with video instruction that is quite fun!

### Mark Your Calendar

*Thursday, 3/7 @ 8am*

**Men's Breakfast @ Panera**

*Wednesday, 3/6 @ Noon*

**Ash Wednesday Service and Lunch Bunch**

*Wednesday, 3/6 @ 7pm*

**Ash Wednesday Service**

*Wednesday 3/13, 3/20, 3/27*

*@ Noon*

**Daytime Lenten Vespers Service and Lunch Bunch**

*Thursday, 3/14, 3/21, 3/28,*

*4/4, 4/11 @ 7pm*

**Evening Lenten Vespers Service**

*Thursday, 4/18 @ 7pm*

**Maundy Thursday Service**

*Saturday, 4/20 @ 9am-3pm*

**Holy Saturday Prayer Vigil**

*Sunday, 4/21*

**Easter Sunrise Service and 11:00am Worship Service**



Registration has been in full swing. We have returning students for next fall and many new families have registered for the new school year starting in the fall. There are a few open spots. Please send friends or family our way if they may be interested in preschool.

We have been learning about good practices for dental health. The students have made crafts and had learning activities along with a visit from a special person. The Tooth Fairy!!! She read and talked to everyone about the importance of a healthy smile and gave all the children the gift of a new toothbrush.



Now Ramah students, families, and staff are gearing up for a wonderful Preschool Sunday this week! **Sunday, March 3 is Preschool Sunday at Ramah. Please join us to see what we are all about!**

## Ramah Ramblers

We have 2 words for the Soup Lunch on Sunday Feb24th.....YUM! YUM!

Thanks to all who attended and all who made soup, breads, cornbread, and desserts. What a feast!! Congratulations to Helen Bailey, who found the baby in her slice of King's Cake. Everyone had a nice time, and we also saw the sun for the first time in many days while we were eating lunch!! There were many great soups and desserts. Below are just 2 recipes

from the delicious luncheon...hope to have more in next month's newsletter. Thanks again everyone!

### CHICKEN TORTILLA SOUP...prepared by Donna White

- 4 chicken breast halves
- 2 15 oz cans black beans, undrained
- 2 15 oz cans Mexican stewed tomatoes or Rotel tomatoes
- 1 cup salsa (mild, medium or hot...whatever you prefer)
- 1 4 oz can chopped green chilies
- 1 14 1/2 oz can tomato sauce

tortilla chips

2 cups grated cheese

Combine all ingredients except chips and cheese in a large slow cooker. Cover & cook on low for 8 hours. Just before serving, remove chicken breasts & slice into bite size pieces or shred. Stir into soup. Garnish with chips and cheese.

### APPLE NUT CAKE.....prepared by Lynn Wade

- 2 well-beaten eggs
- 1 cup oil
- 2 cups sugar
- 3 cups all purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 2 or 3 cups peeled & chopped Granny Smith apples (about 5 apples)
- 1 cup chopped pecans
- 1 teaspoon vanilla

Combine eggs and oil. Add sugar, flour, salt, baking soda, and vanilla. Fold in apples and pecans. Batter will be thick and heavy so mix well. Bake in 9 x 13 dish at 350 for 40-45 minutes.

Topping:

- 1 stick butter or margarine
- 1 cup light or dark sugar
- 1/4 cup evaporated milk

Bring to boil for 2-3 minutes. Cut cake into squares and pour topping over cake.

## Scout News

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Congratulations to Will Stadler for officially earning the rank of Eagle! Thanks to everybody who helped him along the way.

The scouts had fun at their annual Klondike campout despite the cold and the rain.

The scouts will go to Hanging Rock State Park for their March campout.

Troop 200 will promote cub scouts to boy scouts at our crossover ceremony in late March.

Again, many thanks to Ramah for supporting Pack and Troop 200.

We meet every Tuesday from 6:30pm to 8:00pm at the Fellowship Hall and at the Hut.

Boy Scouts: <https://www.troopwebhost.org/Troop200Huntersville/Index.htm>

Cub Scouts: <http://bsapack200.myscoutlink.com/>

# MARCH 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Pastor Brian Cell # 704-727-2813					1	2 12:30pm Worship Committee Meeting @ Dawn's
3 10am Sunday School  11am Worship Preschool Sunday	4 9am Preschool	5 9am Preschool  6:30pm Scouts	6 9am Preschool  Ash Wednesday 12pm Service & Lunch Bunch  7pm Service	7 9am Preschool  8am Men's Breakfast @ Panera	8	9
10 9:45am Sunday School  11am Worship	11 9am Preschool	12 9am Preschool  6:30pm Scouts	13 9am Preschool  12pm Lenten Vespers Service & Lunch Bunch	14 9am Preschool  7pm Lenten Vespers Service	15	16
17 9:45am Sunday School  11am Worship	18 No Preschool	19 9am Preschool  6:30pm Scouts	20 9am Preschool  12pm Lenten Vespers Service & Lunch Bunch	21 9am Preschool  7pm Lenten Vespers Service	22	23
24 9:45am Sunday School  11am Worship	25 9am Preschool	26 9am Preschool  6:30pm Scouts	27 9am Preschool  12pm Lenten Vespers Service & Lunch Bunch	28 9am Preschool  7pm Lenten Vespers Service	29	30
31 9:45am Sunday School  11am Worship						