

A LOOK AHEAD:

KNOWING CHRIST



ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

There will be an Ash Wednesday Service on **Wednesday, February 14, at 7:00 p.m.** in the Sanctuary, including the imposition of ashes. Childcare will be provided for children under 5. Please join us.

GROWING IN CHRIST

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Circles 1, 2, and 4 will meet in the Heritage Center for fellowship and beverages at 10:00 a.m. on **Monday, February 5.** The general meeting will convene in the Chapel at 10:30 a.m. Circle 5 will meet on **Tuesday, February 13** at 7:00 p.m. in the Heritage Center. All women are invited to join us. For more information, please contact Doris Jefferson at 336-228-0130.



Church Women United will be hosting "Fill My Cup," a tea and annual meeting, on **Saturday, February 3** at 1:45 p.m. The tea will be held at Belmont United Methodist Church on Hwy 49. All women are invited to attend. Contact Doris Jefferson at 336-228-0130 for additional information.

SHARING CHRIST

CEREAL SUNDAY



Cereal Sunday is **February 4.** Please deposit cereal or other dry/canned goods in the tubs in the cabinet in the Welcome Center. This month's collection will go to the Salvation Army. Thank you for your support!

METHODIST HOME FOR CHILDREN SUNDAY - FEBRUARY 11

The families served by Methodist Home for Children are those whom God has entrusted to their care. Their stories might be messy, the details might be complicated, but it's all so simple in the context of our faith: every child deserves a safe, loving home. On Methodist Home for Children Sunday, your gifts will bless someone in need of merciful compassion and care.



MHC cared for 1,627 children and families last year thanks to the generosity of United Methodist congregations. They need your support and prayers to continue this life-changing work. Please support this important ministry in 2018 with your gifts on Methodist Home for Children Sunday.

MEN'S BREAKFAST BIBLE STUDY PANCAKE SUPPER

Sunday, February 18, 2017, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. in Aldersgate Hall

Bring all your family and eat your fill of pancakes, sausage and/or bacon. Country ham will be available this year. The price is right—\$6 for an individual and \$16 for a family. Tickets can be purchased from members in the Welcome Center before, after, and between services on Sunday mornings and at the door.



This is the Men's Bible Study big fund-raising event of the year, where the net proceeds increase our annual gifts for mission purposes. We urge you to come and enjoy good fellowship, good food, and contribute to a great purpose.

SILENT AUCTION

There will be a silent auction on **Sunday, February 18** during the Men's Breakfast Bible Study Pancake Supper. All proceeds will go to youth missions.

BLOOD DRIVE

Front Street will have a blood drive on **Sunday, March 4,** from **8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.** in Aldersgate Hall.



Please stop by and help save a life. Contact Gene Fonville at 336-260-8114 for more information or to schedule your appointment.

FILL A DOZEN EASTER EGGS

Want to bring joy to children in our Front Street community this Easter? Fill one or two dozen eggs with candy, and the occasional \$1 bill (no coins please) and bring them to the church office by **March 12.** They will be hidden for the children to find at our Easter Egg Hunt on **March 17** at Lake Mackintosh. This event is sponsored by our Children's Ministry. Thank you for your support.



Prayers

- **Bob Alverson** who is home from the hospital but is still suffering from congestive heart failure
- **Joanne Scarborough** upon the death of her husband, Gene, on 1/18. A service celebrating Gene's life will be held on **February 10 at 2:00 p.m.** at Front Street United Methodist Church. The family will receive visitors in the Heritage Center immediately following.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Eric and Meredith Dutton upon the birth of their daughter, Margaret Hilda Dutton, born on January 23, 2018. Proud grandparents are David Hedgecock and Marshall and Carol Old.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The following dates are available to place flowers in the Sanctuary in honor or memory of a loved one: **February 25 and March 4 and 18.** The church has an annual flower budget, the purpose of which is to place flowers in the church when there is a funeral or memorial service. However, when there is a Sunday that nobody has signed up for the flowers, the church has to order flowers for that Sunday and the funds come from that budget. Please help our church stay within its budget by placing flowers on the Altar on one of the dates listed above. For more information, please contact Linda Paul at 336-543-5081 (cell) or kpaul5@triad.rr.com (email).



STAFF

Senior Pastor
Ross Carter

Pastor of Discipleship
Patrick Murphy

Director of Children's Ministry
Marcy Z. McAdams

Coordinator of Congregational Care
Carol W. Sineath

Associate Pastor of Student Ministries
Dave Bollen

Organist/Director of Music
Matt Brittain

Director of Aldersgate Music
Clay Stevenson

Choirmaster
Laura J. Sam

Finance Manager
Tammy T. Page

Administrative Assistant
Pamela P. Shields

Communications Coordinator
Joanna E. C. Strelow

Building Superintendent
Jackie N. Long

Maintenance
Joe L. Peloquin

Playschool Director
Barbara K. Long

Afterschool Director
Catherine H. Mills

Babies Morning Out Director
Rebecca H. Hurdle

ON CALL EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER:
336-380-4136

Welcome to New Members

We welcome new members, **Gary and Sharon Parrott**, who joined on Sunday, January 21.

Gary was born in Asheville, NC. He received a degree from NC State University. His work career began at Western Carolina University and this then took him to Michigan State University. After thirty years Gary retired as manager of Campus Landscape Services. Gary's retirement activities include gardening, volunteering at Habitat for Humanity on the building crew, and taking his therapy dog on visits to memory care and assisted living facilities.



Sharon was born in Winston Salem and grew up traveling as a military dependent until her father retired in Raleigh, NC. Sharon graduated from UNC-Charlotte in Nursing and has a masters degree from Western Carolina University. Sharon enjoys quilting, crafts, and volunteering at the gift shop at Twin Lakes where she and Gary live.

THE MISSION IN AZALEA.....CONTINUED FROM FRONT COVER

allow space for the adults to get to know each other on equal terms. Often there's a reading and craft element to our time, as well as games, learning, dancing, and food. Thematically, the activities shift based on the time of year. A regular rhythm of "being with" our sisters and brothers has slowly grown trust between us to the point that the children come freely and with excitement when we show up, and the parents are more and more becoming involved as well.

But we need your help. With my shift in focus toward discipleship within the church family here at Front Street, the Azalea ministry needs strong partners who have a heart for children, mission, and cross-cultural partnership.

The vision of this ministry begins with Revelation 7:9-12, which you have just read. John beholds an innumerable crowd held together in Christ from every nation, tribe, people, and language. What a vision, indeed! The Church believes that the Kingdom of God is present to us now in the work of the Holy Spirit, and that we, Jesus's disciples, are not exempted from participating in the work of justice, redemption, and love wherever we sense God calling us to be.

We hope to empower our sisters and brothers to come together in faith to realize their dreams for their neighborhood and residence in Burlington. A strong sense of community helps people not only to belong, but also to organize and advocate for themselves as people with dignity and place. Please check your hearts and consider helping this ministry thrive. We need you to carry this partnership to the next level.

Pastor Patrick

Periodical
Postage Paid
Burlington NC
27216-2597

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

FRONTLINE
(USPS 021-256)
Published bi-weekly except June, July, August &
December which will be published monthly.
by Front Street United Methodist Church
136 South Fisher Street
Burlington NC 27215
Postmaster, Send Address Changes to:
Front Street United Methodist Church
PO Box 2597
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Burlington NC 27216-2597
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FRONTLINE

Focusing on the life and ministry
of Front Street UMC



February 1, 2018 Volume MMXVIII No. 3

THE MISSION IN AZALEA MOBILE HOME PARK

Read Revelation 7:9-12

A few years ago God gave us a dream of beloved community like we see in the New Testament. The journey began when sisters and brothers from our partner church in Ponce, Puerto Rico, Iglesia Metodista "La Resurrección," spent two weeks serving alongside of us in July of 2015. During those two weeks we made connections with local ESL teachers, who then connected us with the people of Azalea Mobile Home Park.

Initially, we began by showing up on several randomly chosen afternoons to canvas the neighborhood and reintroduce ourselves as friends of the Puerto Rican missionaries who had just been with them, explaining that we hoped to continue building relationships in perpetuity. It was a risky move, and at first we were met with some resistance, but as my friend Carlos Valera would continually remind us, "You have to keep showing up to these people, Patrick. You have to show them you're serious about keeping your promises and serious about walking with them." His words were a prophetic challenge to us. And as time went on, the Spirit continued to press us outward to the communities of Azalea, Traveller's Rest, and Plaza mobile home parks.

Little by little, as we showed up, our neighbors shared their hopes and dreams and the struggles of their neighborhoods. Several visits later, we had learned that dreams included tutoring for their children, E.S.L. classes for adults, other enrichment programs for youth, and general ways to encourage community among the families there. These dreams were not small, but they were honest.

While working toward the tutoring and E.S.L., we began monthly gatherings on Saturdays to play with the kids, and

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