

First Presbyterian Church

PresbyNews



March, 2018

Dear Friends,

There is an irony at work in spiritual growth. Our awareness of God's mercy and grace is less sensed when we are maxed out with self-confidence and zeal. When, on the other hand, we are in the dumps or experiencing failure we are more able to recognize that we are not alone in our distress.

One of my most spirit-filled Lenten seasons occurred when I was emotionally raw following a series of disappointments. It followed letdowns that invited the self-critical part of my unconscious to inject demeaning notions into my thoughts doubling the pain I already felt.

In God's providence, I was able to worship regularly that season, sometimes multiple times weekly. I sat with the faithful in Presbyterian settings and Episcopalian; in Roman Catholic churches and homes. In spite of feeling a failure, I was assured by the Spirit over and over that God's love and mercy surrounded and carried me. It was as if the crash of my self-sufficiency freed me to be aware of the blessing that God offers non-stop.

We are never alone when we are in pain. Jesus experienced rejection by his culture and abandonment by his Disciples. In his final hours he was utterly alone except for God. We can now be certain of the presence of Christ with us no matter our condition.

These are the opportunities that our Lenten walk offers – to be reminded that we are not alone; are never alone. Christ is patiently anticipating our awakening to his love and support. Doing so we are empowered to move forward disclosing these gifts to others and making the gospel come alive yet again.

Have a rich Lenten season.

Grace and peace be with you!

Alan Arnold

February Session Highlights:

- Approved 2018 Church budget.
- Approved the infant baptism of James E. Morgan, son of Shelley and David Morgan, on Sunday, March 4th during worship.
- Approved upcoming fundraiser events for Mission Trip planning team.
- Approved Youth Sunday on April 29th and Graduation Sunday on May 20th.
- Received report from the Administrative Committee and approved the following projects on the church grounds:
 1. Markings for new paving and parking areas on the Third Street side of the church have started. The magnolia tree at the side, office door entrance will be taken down due to problems with the roots and so that the area can be repaved.
 2. Duke Energy will be removing the electrical and phone poles on the church property on the Third Street side and behind the Session House and burying the existing power lines. The wires will then be replaced from the Session House to the basement. Upon completion of this project, there will be new underground electrical equipment from Third Street to the service boxes in the basement.
 3. For security purposes, surveillance cameras outside of the sanctuary on the office side and in front of the building with a monitor inside the church will be installed.
 4. After consultation with Chief Keith Thomas of the Cheraw Police Department to discuss the best practices for safety during worship, the front doors are being locked five minutes following the start of the worship service (11:05 a.m.).
- Received a report from the Building Families Committee that Ms. Carisa Gerald has been hired as the new family specialist for the Building Families Program in Cheraw, and she will begin work here the week of February 26th.
- Agreed upon a timetable for the possible Unicameral Transition.

A congregational Meeting has been called by the Session for Sunday, March 11, at the close of worship. The purpose of the meeting is to act on a recommendation that the Diaconate and Session be joined into a single body; that the number of elders in each class be increased from four to five; and to receive a report from the Officer Nominating Committee.



**CHILDREN'S TEACHING SCHEDULE
FOR THE MONTH OF
MARCH 2018**

March 4 th	Kelli Beck/Mary Jane Evans
March 11 th	Hadleigh Smith/Douglas Anderson
March 18 th	Karen Tillman/Sadie Smith
March 25 th	Heather Tucker/Tom Hammer – Palm Sunday

Reminder: Teacher's Guides are ready to be picked up and are in the box on Mac's door. If there is a problem with picking them up – please let Mac know and he will get them to you! Thanks!

**FUN PROGRAM HAPPENINGS
FOR
MARCH 2018**



The month of March will be busy for the kids in Fun Program. Below is their schedule during the month.

Sunday, March 4 th	9:30 am - Practice song for Baptism during Worship
Wednesday, March 7 th	3:00 pm - Fun Program - Refreshments - Angles
Sunday, March 11 th	9:30 am - Kids will sing and ring during the morning Worship Service
Wednesday, March 14 th	3:00 pm - Fun Program - Refreshments - Angles
Wednesday, March 21 st	3:00 pm - Fun Program - Refreshments - Hydrick
Wednesday, March 28 th	NO FUN PROGRAM
Wednesday, April 4 th	NO FUN PROGRAM

PARENTS PLEASE NOTE: Please mark your calendars with Sunday, April 29th which will be Youth Sunday. The kids will be singing and ringing on that day. Mac wants to be sure that everyone has the date marked to avoid any conflicts!

**MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH SCHEDULE
FOR
MARCH 2018**

Here is the youth schedule for March. **Please note: we will begin working on Youth Sunday and putting things together. Please make plans to attend as many Sundays as possible.**

Sunday, March 4 th	6:00 pm Youth
Sunday, March 11 th	6:00 pm Youth
Sunday, March 18 th	6:00 pm Youth
Sunday, March 25 th	6:00 pm Youth



Also - if you are planning on going to Montreat this coming summer - please turn in the balance of the registration as you are able. The full balance of the registration will need to be paid to Montreat the first of April. Any questions or concerns - contact Mac! Thanks so much!

CONFIRMATION CLASS

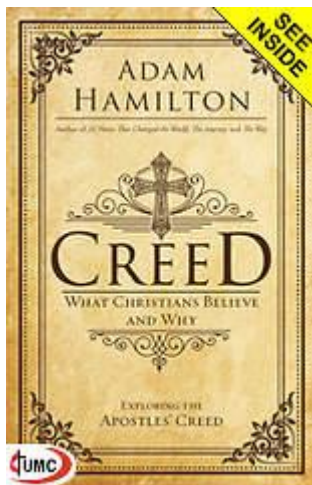


This year we have 5 youth who are going through Confirmation and who plan to join the church on Sunday, March 25th which is Palm Sunday. The five youth are: Caden Cauthen, Eva Goddard, Maylen Harris, Elizabeth Hydrick, and Alice McLeod. We are very excited for the youth as they make their own Profession of Faith in Jesus Christ at the end of March.

Below is the schedule for the rest of the Confirmation Class.

Sunday, March 4 th	4:00 pm Youth Room
Sunday, March 11 th	4:00 pm Youth Room – Statements of Faith are due to Mac by this date
Thursday, March 15 th	5:30 pm Confirmation Class meets with Session at their stated meeting
Thursday, March 18 th	4:00 pm Final Class Meeting
Sunday, March 25 th	11:00 am Profession of Faith during Worship

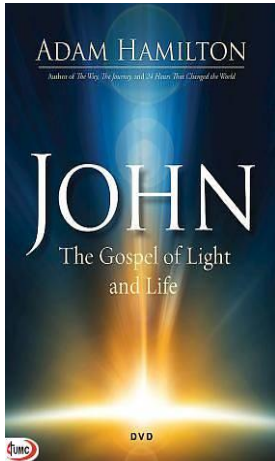
Please be in prayer for these youth as they continue their faith journey!



***PARLOR CLASS
LENTEN STUDY
CREED: WHAT CHRISTIANS BELIEVE AND WHY:
By Adam Hamilton***

The Parlor Class begin a Lenten Study on exploring the Apostles' Creed. There are some powerful answers that are contained in the Apostle's Creed for Christians and others seeking faith. Hamilton explores not only what Christians believe, but why it matters.

Come join the class as they look for a greater understanding of our faith. Come join them for this wonderful time of fellowship and study.



*FELLOWSHIP CLASS
LENTEN STUDY
JOHN: THE GOSPEL OF LIGHT AND LIFE
By Adam Hamilton*

The Fellowship Class began their Lenten Study on John: The Gospel of Light and Life this past Sunday, February 25th. The study will follow the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and hopefully understand the context of some of the best-known verses in the New Testament.

Plan to join the class on Sunday mornings during Lent as they explore this deeply spiritual Gospel.

**CHOIR SCHEDULE FOR
MARCH 2018**

Wednesday, March 7 th	6:30 pm Practice in Choir Room
Wednesday, March 14 th	6:00 pm Practice in Choir Room
Wednesday, March 21 st	6:00 pm Practice in Choir Room
Wednesday, March 28 th	6:00 pm Practice in Choir Room
Thursday, March 29 th	7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Service
Friday, March 30 th	7:00 pm Tenebrae Service





One Great Hour of Sharing Offering will be collected on Sunday, April 1, 2018. Please give generously and help share bread with the hungry, aid and shelter to people overcoming catastrophe and conflict, and resources to communities working to cast off the bonds of poverty and oppression.

Treasured Tuesdays, an older adult ministry of Camp Pee Dee, invites you to attend on Tuesday, March 20 to hear Mr. Derrick Dease, the Executive Director of Man 2 Man Fatherhood Initiative. Man 2 Man is a holistic program touching and strengthening all aspects of fatherhood. It offers education and services uniquely tailored for fathers trying to rebuild their lives and their families. Man 2 Man is devoted to helping men heal broken spirits and family relations, practice healthy parenting and gain productive, stable employment. The program begins at 10:30 a.m. with lunch at 11:45 a.m. (Lunch is \$10 per person). Reservations required: contact Kelly Boone at (843) 479-3051. (See bulletin board for additional information).

2018 Mission Trip Calendar

Mission Trip Chili Cook off Contest Fundraiser on Wednesday, March 7, 2018 at 5:30 pm in Fellowship Building. Entire Congregation is invited to be taster and judges!

Camp Pee Dee Workday on Saturday March 10, 2018. Meet at Church by 8:30

Mission Trip Love Offering on Sunday, March 18, 2018

Mission Trip Yard Sale on Saturday April 7, 2018 for an inside Yard Sale from 7:00 to 10:00 am. Start taking items from the Congregation the first of March. Place items on the right side of stage behind white wooden blinds. If you need help delivering your yard sale items to the Church, please call David Morgan at (843) 337-9231, or David Nagel at (843) 921-3607.

Pancake Breakfast Fund Raiser on Saturday, April 21, 2018 in Fellowship Hall from 8:00 to 10:00 am

After Church Mission Trip Luncheon Fundraiser on Sunday May 6, 2018.

Report Back to the Congregation and 2019 Mission Kickoff Luncheon on Sunday, October 7, 2018

Fellowship Building Setup

Groups or committees that require a special set-up for activities in the Fellowship Building are asked to make their request through the church office.



Prayer List

Members:

Gerry Rogers Dee Pierce
 Benny Moore
 Bennie Moore
 Pam Chapman Kathie Cook

Relatives/Friends:

Rebie Harrison (Sue Cutchin's mother)
 Bhree Barrett (Louise Carpenter's great niece)
 Rose Via (Tammy Joyce's mother)
 Anna Schoderbek (daughter of Reba & Buddy Brooks)
 Cheryl Goldsberry (Shirley Brock's daughter)
 Nancy Ingram Walters (Sloan Baker's sister)
 Fred Goddard (Craig Goddard's father)
 Elsie Rainey (Shirley Brock's sister)
 Cathy Phillips (Calvin Phillips' mother)
 Sammy Boan (friend of Jean Page Watson)
 Evelyn Petros (Jean Page Watson's aunt)
 John Pruitt, (Libby Pierce's brother)
 Rosalind Brymer (Gina Goddard's mother)

Community:

Chris Thrailkill

Nursing Home Residents (Away):

Residents at Presbyterian Communities:

Ruth Leggett (Columbia)
 Artha Sompayrac (Summerville)
 B. J. Moore (Summerville)

Other:

Mid-East Conflict & Victim



The **sympathy** of the congregation is extended to the family of Thomas Austin Brewer, Jr. Mr. Brewer died on February 15, 2018.

Deadline for the April Edition of the PresbyNews is Monday, March 26th, 2018.

Pray N Play Schedule for March, 2018



March 4 th	Emily Beck
March 11 th	Becky Childers
March 18 th	Laura Folger
March 25 th	Andy Beck (Palm Sunday)



At Ease - March 6th at 12:00

Congratulations.....

To Eva Goddard for being inducted into the Beta Club Honor society at LMS.

- 3-Bayley Hydrick
- 4-Kim Cauthen
- 8-DebbieWatson
- 10-Cathy Martin, Robert Moffat
- 11-Richard Pierce
- 15-Marion Murphy
- 18-Mary Jane Evans
- 19-David Brabham, Jr.
- 21-Robbi Gilpin
- 22-Andy Beck
- 23-Reba Brooks
- 25-Craig Goddard

The Giving Ministry Team News

Donations can be made on-line through the use of Realm. It can be accessed through the new church website **cherawfpc.org** under Giving or **onrealm.org**.





Daylight Saving Time Begins
on Sunday, March 11

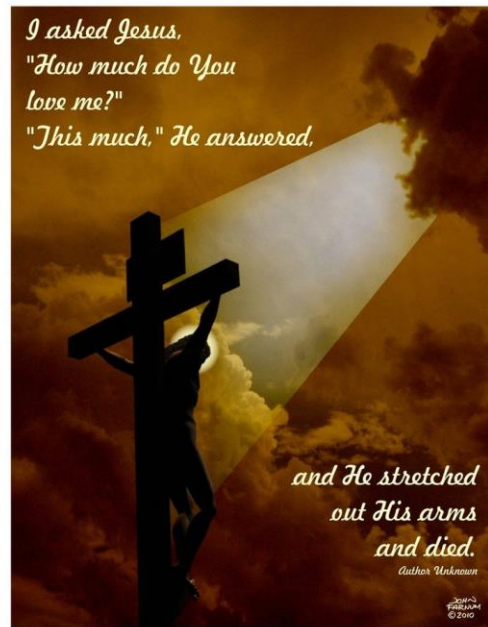


Spring Begins on March 21



**MAUNDY
THURSDAY**

We will observe Maundy Thursday
on March 29th - Services in the
Sanctuary beginning at
7:00 p.m.



Tenebrae Service will be held on Friday,
March 30 beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the
Sanctuary.



Please bring flowers to "flower the cross" on
Easter Sunday, April 1st.



Calendar of Events

4	9:30 a.m.	Coffee/Fellowship
	10:00 a.m.	Church School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
	6:00 p.m.	Youth
5	8:30 a.m.	MMO
6	12:00 p.m.	At Ease
	1:00 p.m.	At Ease Committee
	4:30 p.m.	PWCT
7	8:30 a.m.	MMO
	3:00 p.m.	Fun Program
	5:30 p.m.	Chili Cookoff
	6:30 p.m.	Adult Choir
11	9:30 a.m.	Coffee/Fellowship
	10:00 a.m.	Church School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
	6:00 p.m.	Youth
12	8:30 a.m.	MMO
	5:30 p.m.	Deacons
13	10:00 a.m.	Circle 1
	4:00 p.m.	Circle 2
14	8:30 a.m.	MMO
	3:00 p.m.	Fun Program
	6:00 p.m.	Adult Choir
15	5:30 p.m.	Session
18	9:30 a.m.	Coffee/Fellowship
	10:00 a.m.	Church School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
	6:00 p.m.	Youth
19	8:30 a.m.	MMO
21	8:30 a.m.	MMO
	3:00 p.m.	Fun Program
	6:00 p.m.	Adult Choir
25	9:30 a.m.	Coffee/Fellowship
	10:00 a.m.	Church School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
	6:00 p.m.	Youth
26	8:30 a.m.	MMO
28	8:30 a.m.	MMO
	6:00 p.m.	Adult Choir
29	7:00 p.m.	Maundy Thursday
30	7:00 p.m.	Tenebrae

Thornwell's Building

Families Program is happy to share that we have a new Family Specialist joining the team to serve families in the community of Cheraw, SC! Carisa Gerald began work on Monday, February 26th.

See complete brochure on **website**

www.cherawfpc.org "Thornwell-Building Tomorrow's families Today".