

WORDS OF BLESSING FROM
FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
53 HENDRIX STREET
WAYNESVILLE, 28786
828-456-8233
FUMCWNC.ORG

MARCH 2022

Pastor: Rev. Terry Rowland
828-550-4193
tlrowland50@gmail.com

Lay Leader/Treasurer: Susan Trantham
828-356-4652
PO Box 713, Canton, NC 28716

Trustee Chairman: Gerald Trantham
828-356-4652
PO Box 713, Canton, NC 28716

Council Chair/Newsletter:
Judy Ferguson
828-456-6944
Jlf21@charter.net

Missions/PPRC/Church Secretary
Beth Williams
828-593-7898
bwdwwms@aol.com

Music Director: Rick Boen
828-246-5486
rickboen@bellsouth.net

**Finance Chairman/
Sound Engineer:**
Eduardo Villaveces
828-452-1950
evillaveces@gmail.com

Bulletin Contact: Dr. Smokey Dooly
828-316-1504
smokeydooly@gmail.com

**Sunday School/Annual Conf.
Lay Representative**
Mark Dooly
828-316-1613
markdooly@yahoo.com

Financial Secretary
Tracy Villaveces
828-452-1950
evillaveces@gmail.com

Communion Steward
Tryllis Audrey
828-627-1018
tryllisautrey1@gmail.com

Leadership Member:
Earl Cogdill
828-456-6735

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR

Hey Folks, well it's time for us to get excited. Easter is just seven weeks away, the weather will soon start to warm, flowers and trees will be bathed with beauty, and people will want to attend church again. I hope that you will all work with me to contact all our members and encourage them to join in our celebration of life and service. We have a lot of good things happening in our church right now, and I believe those good things are going to be multiplied through our efforts and God's blessings. Let me encourage you to be part of the victory. If you are reading this and haven't been able to come for a while, please make every effort to attend. We need you and you need us. As Paul says in 2 Corinthians 6:2 "I tell you, now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation." During this pandemic, the church has slept for two years, it's time to wake up! See you in the assembly of God's People,
Terry



From the Lay
Leader Susan

The Remodel

For several weeks now, we have watched a determined little squirrel remodel his nest. Countless trips have been made up and down a leafless tree beside our deck. The little squirrel went out on limbs, chewed tender twigs and returned home with his efforts. He strategically wove them into the existing nest. Then he would depart from home and come back with a mouthful of leaves and place them in between the empty spaces. I'm happy to say his home improvement project looks complete. What a miraculous accomplishment for one of God's creatures!

This made me wonder what in our lives need a remodel or make-over. As we approach Lent, which begins on March 2, this might be a good time for us to take a look at that. Are we doing something in our lives we shouldn't or are we leaving things undone that we should do? Are we giving God the time he deserves or making excuses there is not enough time to do everything? Are we spending time immersing ourselves in His word and praying each day? All of these things could help us remodel our make-over ourselves in the image of Christ.

I hope all of us will commit to an effort of being all God is calling us to be. We might even have to be like the little squirrel and go out on a limb sometime. Have you ever thought that God needs us as much as we need Him?

May your Lenten journey be joyful, and you experience a miraculous accomplishment on Easter Sunday! ST



RICK'S REFRAIN

As a lowlander from Memphis, TN, I am still awed by the beauty of these mountains. Even in the dead of winter, the glory of God's creation astounds me. It will not be long before green begins at the base of the mountains and moves steadily upward until they are completely adorned with Spring foliage.

Our nation has been through a long-lasting winter of Covid restrictions and challenges. Most of us have lost family and acquaintances to this dreaded disease. But hopefully, Spring will burst forth in this as well and the restrictions will ease leading to more normalcy in our lives. I covet the return to the freedoms which have been curtailed, no matter how good the intentions. I want to see how far I can throw my masks when they are no longer required. (I may be arrested for littering.)

God has greatly blessed us through this time of Pandemic. Lamentations 3:22 says "Because of

the Lord's great love, we are not consumed, for His compassions never fail." He was here for Jeremiah who penned those words. Jesus later spoke these words as recorded by Matthew (9:36), "When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd." Jesus' compassion for us has not waned and gives us strength when the pressures of life seem overwhelming. What a great God we serve!

Our choir has resumed singing in the services. We meet at 10:30 a.m. on Sundays in the choir room, and we have room for any of you who would like to lift your voices with us. The 92nd Psalm is one of my favorites. Verse 4 says "For you make me glad by your deeds, O Lord; I sing for joy at the works of your hands." Let our voices reverberate in these mountains with joy and praise when we next meet in His house.



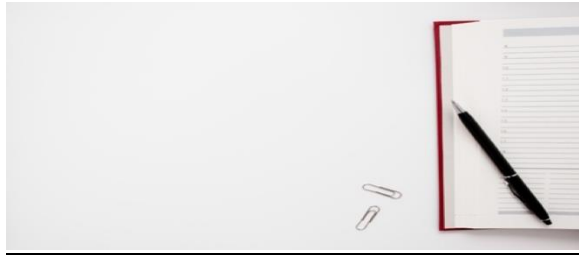
BETH'S MESSAGES

MISSIONS

Our March food collection will be soup! Such a versatile food and the food pantry tells me they can never have too much. This might be canned soup, bag mixes, dry soup, ramen noodles, even bouillon cubes. Soup is the word for March!!

Our Lenten collection will be for the Wesley Foundation at Western Carolina University. This organization supports college students seeking to know God better. College can be a trying time and they need all the help they can get;

their primary fund raiser is a golf tournament; if you would like to sponsor a hole, please see Susan or Gerald.



PPRC

Please be in prayer for our District Superintendent as a new preacher is sought for our church.

REV. ROBO CALLING!

We are so blessed to have our automated phone system, aka Rev. Robo, keep us informed with the needs of our Faith family, friends, and events.

We would ask if you have need for a Rev. Robo message, contact Susan Trantham at

828-356-4652.

Also, please be reminded we need permission from the patient or an immediate family member for any message regarding a health issue. In the event of a death, we will need permission from a family member to make the announcement.



Quiet time before Sunday worship service.



February 26, 2022

"I will be loyal to the United Methodist Church and uphold it with my Prayers, my Presence, my Gifts, my Service, and my Witness."

2022 Budget \$58,453.00

Needed through 2/20/22 for budget \$9,352.48

Received to date for budget \$6,072.00

Behind Budget \$3,280.48

Paid out to date for budget \$12,114.65



Grounds maintenance has been started with trees being removed and shrubs trimmed.

Carpet has been located to repair the outside entrance area. Workday to repair the wooden ramp will be scheduled when the weather gets warmer.

SUNDAY SCHOOL will return on March 6 at 10 AM with a special Lenten study, "Simon Peter: Flawed but Faithful Disciple" by Adam Hamilton. It is available on Kindle or in print (about \$10 from Amazon).



OUR NEIGHBORS NEED YOUR HELP AND RELY ON YOU!

Client Reception and Intake: Needed are kind and compassionate people to help show the love of Christ to our neighbors.

Food Pantry: Many rely on HCM for their weekly groceries. As the largest food pantry in WNC, HCM needs help to make sure no one goes hungry!

Donations and Thrift Store: Help is needed in receiving, sorting and distribution of all donated goods as well as help selling items in the thrift store to fund HCM work!

READY TO START? GO BY HCM OFFICE TO SPEAK WITH BLAKE, JOSH, OR DONNA. CALL 828-456-4838 FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO OBTAIN A VOLUNTEER APPLICATION.

MARCH 2022 DATES TO REMEMBER

SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM
WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM

March 1 – Shrove Tuesday

Shrove Tuesday is the day before Ash Wednesday (the first day of Lent), observed in many Christian countries through participating in confession and absolution.

Shrove Tuesday is observed by many Christians, who "make a special point of self-examination, of considering what wrongs they need to repent, and what amendments of life or areas of spiritual growth they especially need to ask God's help in dealing with." This moveable feast is determined by Easter.

The expression "Shrove Tuesday" comes from the word *shrive*, meaning "absolve".

As this is the last day of the Christian liturgical season historically known as Shrovetide, before the repentant season of Lent, related popular practices, such as indulging in food that one might give up as their Lenten sacrifice for the upcoming forty days, are associated with Shrove Tuesday celebrations. The term *Mardi Gras* is French for "Fat Tuesday", referring to the practice of the last night of eating richer, fatty foods before the ritual fasting of the Lenten season, which begins on Ash Wednesday. Many Christian congregations observe the day through eating pancakes or, more specifically, the holding of pancake breakfasts, as well as the ringing of church bells to remind people to repent of their sins before the start of Lent. On Shrove Tuesday, churches also burn the palms distributed during the previous year's Palm Sunday liturgies to make the ashes used during the services held on the very next day, Ash Wednesday.

March 2 – Ash Wednesday

A Christian holy day of prayer and fasting. It is preceded by Shrove Tuesday and falls on the first day of Lent (the six weeks of penitence before Easter).

As it is the first day of Lent, many Christians begin Ash Wednesday by marking a Lenten calendar, praying a Lenten daily devotional, and making a Lenten sacrifice that they will not partake of until the arrival of Eastertide.

Many Christians attend special church services. Ash Wednesday derives its name from the placing of repentance ashes on the foreheads of participants to either the words "Repent, and believe in the Gospel" or the statement "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

March 6 – Leadership Meeting After Worship Service

March 13 – Daylight Savings Starts

March 17 – St. Patrick's Day

Or the **Feast of Saint Patrick** is a cultural and religious celebration held on 17 March, the traditional death date of Saint Patrick (c. 385 – c. 461), the foremost patron saint of Ireland.

Saint Patrick was a 5th-century Romano-British Christian missionary and Bishop in Ireland. Much of what is known about Saint Patrick comes from the *Declaration*, which was allegedly written by Patrick himself. It is believed that he was born in Roman Britain in the fourth century, into a wealthy Romano-British family. His father was a deacon and his grandfather was a priest in the Christian church. According to the *Declaration*, at the age of sixteen, he was kidnapped by Irish raiders and taken as a slave to Gaelic Ireland.

It says that he spent six years there working as a shepherd and that during this time he found God. The *Declaration* says that God told Patrick to flee to the coast, where a ship would be waiting to take him home. After making his way home, Patrick went on to become a priest.

According to tradition, Patrick returned to Ireland to convert the pagan Irish to Christianity. The *Declaration* says that he spent many years evangelizing in the northern half of Ireland and converted thousands.

Patrick's efforts were eventually turned into a story in which he drove "snakes" out of Ireland, even though snakes were not known to inhabit the region.

Tradition holds that he died on 17 March and was buried at Downpatrick. Over the following centuries, many legends grew up around Patrick and he became Ireland's foremost saint.

Christians may also attend church services and the Lenten restrictions on eating and drinking alcohol are lifted for the day.

March 19 – St. Joseph's Day

Joseph's Day or the Feast Day of St. Joseph is celebrated annually on March 19th in honor of St. Joseph, the husband of Mary and

stepfather of Jesus. This holiday takes place during Lent, a time of fasting, and the holiday is traditionally a meatless feast.

Symbols associated with Joseph include the carpenter's square and lily. The carpenter's square not only symbolizes Joseph's trade but also the concept of truth. The lily, which represents purity and Joseph's celibate marriage to the Virgin Mary.

March 20 – Spring Begins



March Birthdays

- 2 – John Davis
- 3 – Kay Boen
- 9 – Beth Williams
- 18 – Terri Rogers
- 22 – Midge Hambrick
- 26 – Eduardo Villeveces
- 28 – George Dixon



March Anniversary

- 27 – Don & Beth Williams

If you would like a card sent to someone on Faith's Prayer Requests, please give the address to Judy.

Do you have access to the internet? You can go to www.fumcwn.org to hear the Sunday sermon. If you can't do that and would like to receive the Sunday message, please let that be known. Contact Eduardo or Judy.