



The Chapel Chatter

Plank Chapel United Methodist Church

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Kittrell, North Carolina 27544

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See our website: www.PlankChapel.org

December 2009

From the Pastor's Heart...

I was recently blessed with a session at the Clergy Renewal Center and was reminded of what is really important in life. My Spiritual counselor for the week reminded me of "my first priority" in life...and I feel it bears reminding for *all* of us. Yes, we all say that we put God first, and that is good. Yet it is so much more than that. It is more important, more loving, and more urgent than anything else in your life...it is a *loving relationship* with God. God as your best friend, your companion, your confidant, your counselor, above all others -even above your family, your job, and yes, even your church. All else is secondary.

Particularly in this exciting season of the year, Christmas, we often get consumed with the tasks of celebrating. All that is meaningful and should not be discounted, but kept in perspective.

Think for a minute...how much time do you spend in meditation with God...Not just praying and *talking to* God, but being still and *listening to* God? We should carve out time to

spend with God, and not wait until we have a crisis or health situation, for God to get our attention.

The season of Advent is a time of preparation. It is a wonderful opportunity to renew our commitment and our *loving relationship* with Christ. We are to prepare our hearts for the arrival of the Christ Child. Yes, that was some 2000 years ago, but we need to prepare our hearts on a daily basis for Him to reside there. The Christmas joy and renewal of our salvation commitment should fill our hearts every day. May the hope, love, peace, and joy of Christ fill your hearts!



and Happy New Year!

Christmas Blessings & Prayers,

Pastor Carol & Mickey

Pastor Carol Dean can be reached at:

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Worship Committee

Our Christmas Cantata will be December 20th at 11:00 am. The Christmas Eve service will be December 24 at 8:00 pm. Invite others to join us!



Bell practice sessions will be held as announced. Anyone interested in playing bells, feel free to come!
Donald Rose McGhee



UM YF . . . *Now known as...CHAOS!*
which stands for "*Christ Has All Our Solutions.*"

What happens when you have 6075 youth and chaperones, from 285 churches, in one big place?
PILGRIMAGE! We enjoyed Rev. Rubin Saenz from Texas, some great music, inspirational testimonies, and loads of fun. It was a Spirit-filled event. Plan now for next year!

Our next meetings will be Sunday - Dec. 6. [meal - Lorraine Abbott] We will have a planning session January 17 for youth and parents, so bring your calendars!

Youth in 6th-12th grades are invited to join. Stay tuned - Come and bring a friend! **Share some Christ-centered CHAOS!**



Historical Trivia

We are seeking someone who is dedicated to preserving our history to train. Please contact Hilma Smith if God is leading you to serve.



CHOIR REHEARSALS

The choir will meet on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm. Join the choir!



The UMMen invite everyone to join us for our **Christmas Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, December 20 at 8:30am. Come and bring a friend, then share in worship of the new born King!**

Thank you to everyone for the great team-work on the Barbeque!



Seniors' Circle

The Seniors' Circle always enjoys a great meeting. The next meeting of the Seniors' Circle will be on Wednesday, on December 16th, at 10:00 am. Invite a friend!



Kerr Lake Ministries, Inc.

KLM is looking forward to 2010! Watch for a January PANCAKE fundraiser. Thank you for all your help and support!



Education Committee Meeting

Stay tuned for coming events! Invite a friend to Sunday School and the Beginnings Sessions!

ACTS



ACTS continues to minister to the needs of our community. ACTS is in need of financial donations due to increased needs in our area. Please consider making a special gift to help this vital ministry. Support ACTS!



Believe it or not...Christmas is just around the corner! The UMW will have ongoing support for Zeb Vance Elementary for school. They will especially need Kleenex and paper towels, and COPY PAPER.

The next regular meeting will be December 20th at 3:00 pm. The UMW gives their pledges directly to Missions and decided to ask members to contribute at least \$20.00 to support our local group needs. Come join in mission and ministry with sisters in Christ!



The Administrative Council has given approval and urges everyone to embrace our Missions Statement. Notice that it spells "DISCIPLES," as we are called to "make disciples of Jesus Christ" in Matthew 28:16-20.

Discipling
In
Serving
Christ -
Inspiring
People to
Live by the
Example of the
Savior.

The Missions Team will be reviewing our missions statement - Stay tuned for coming info....



Age-Level Ministries:

Thank you to everyone for your help with the Fall Festival!

****Mark your calendars now!****

Christmas Caroling will be Sat., December 12 following a noon lunch and program practice. The Children and Youth Christmas Program will be December 13 at 6:00 pm. Share the love of Christ and invite a friend to join us!



Evangelism and Outreach Team News!

We visited in our community on November 21 and "planted seeds." Now we pray for God's abundant harvest!

*******Safe Sanctuaries*****

SAFE SANCTUARIES – Please pick up your family copy of our Safe Sanctuaries Policy soon. We need you to sign the back copy and turn it in. Thank you!



TRUSTEES

Safety is one of our greatest concerns, right behind Salvation! The Trustees want to ensure the safety of everyone in case of a fire and evacuation of the building. Just a reminder, there are 4 doors to our Sanctuary - the main entrance, the handicap entrance, the organ side entrance, and a door beyond the choir room. In the event of a fire, each person should exit the NEAREST SAFE exit, not necessarily the main door. Our handicap door opens directly to the outside, yet we are blessed with doors at each corner of the sanctuary.

Our fellowship hall has 3 doors - the main entrance, the kitchen, and the breezeway doors. Everyone should exit the NEAREST SAFE exit, or if necessary, either open or break a window if the exit area is not safe.

The Trustees continue to be good stewards and take great care of our facilities. Thanks for all you do!

Scott Ritchey



Remember others in prayer...



December Opportunities:

- 1 –
- 2 - 7:00 Choir
- 3 - 5:30 Aerobics
- 4 -
- 5 -
- 6 - 9:30 am Beginnings
11:00 am Worship
Noon - Children/Youth Practice
- 7 - 5:30 Aerobics
- 8 -
- 9 – 7:00 Choir
- 10 – 5:30 Aerobics
- 11 –
- 12 - Noon Children/Youth
Play Practice Lunch
1:00 pm Caroling - Everyone come!
- 13 – 9:30 am Beginnings
11:00 am Worship & Cantata
6:00 pm Children/Youth
Christmas Program
- 14 – 5:30 Aerobics
- 15 –
- 16 – 10:00 am Seniors' Circle
7:00 Choir
- 17 – 5:30 Aerobics
- 18 –
- 19 –
- 20 – 8:30 am Church-wide
Pancake Breakfast
9:30 am Beginnings
11:00 am Worship & Cantata
3:00 UM Women
- 21 – 5:30 Aerobics
- 22 –
- 23 – 7:00 Choir
- 24 – 8:00 pm Candlelight Communion
- 25 – Happy Birthday Jesus!
- 26 –
- 27 – 9:30 am Beginnings
11:00 am Worship
- 28 – 5:30 Aerobics
- 29 -
- 30 - 7:00 Choir
- 31 - 5:30 Aerobics



In His Service this Month:

Flowers:

Dec 6- Frances Brown & Poinsettias

Dec 13- Poinsettias

Dec 20 - Poinsettias

Dec 27 - Jacque Jones

Acolytes:

TBA

Greeters:

Dec 6- Johnny McGhee & Joe Rowland

Dec 13- Michelle & Matthew Denton

Dec 20 - Bobby & Beverly Newman

Dec 27 - Bryant Bobbitt & John Rogers

Outreach:

Dec 6- Marilove Spencer & Jane Owen

Dec 13- Joyce Edwards & B. W. Brown

Dec 20 - Joe & Susan Sears

Dec 27 - John & Jeanette Rogers

Lay Readers:

Dec 6- Jeanette McGhee

Dec 13- Gwen Ritchey

Dec 20 - Mike Ranes

Dec 27 - Amy Smith

December Ushers

Ben Brown, Thomas Beckham

Mac Wilson, Todd Wilson

December Altar Guild

Faye Woodlief, Beverly Newman



Thank You!

***For all the dedication and hard work
with recent events, Laity Sunday, misc.
repairs, Barbeque , clean ups,
Outreach, Evangelism Workshop,
Children & Youth practice, greeters,
Outreach, Native American Sunday,
5th Sunday, etc....and MORE!!!***

We Thank You!!!