

THE CHAPEL CHATTER

Pastor's corner

Lenten Practices

It feels like we just had Christmas and yet, the calendar says it is March. On the 9th of March at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary, we will gather for an Ash Wednesday service. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent. 40 days are marked off for us to remember the sacrifice of Jesus Christ by our own sacrificial

- ◆ Weekly—Choir Practice
Wednesday—7 pm—
Children and Youth—
Sunday—12:30 pm
- ◆ Monthly—3rd Sunday—
UMM—8 am UMW-3
pm 3rd Wed—16th-
Senior Circle at 10:00
- ◆ 6th Beginnings—Bible
Study starts 9:30 a.m.

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acts. The question asked often is, "What are you giving up for Lent?" The list of things often includes chocolate or caffeine or tea or coffee or donuts. There is a long list of food items that have been shared with me as Lenten sacrifices.

There is something in these 40 days that is important to remember. 40 was a number of significance to the Hebrew people. In the time of Noah the rains fell for 40 days and 40 nights. They spent 40 years in the wilderness. Moses spent 40 days on God's holy mountain to receive the law. Jesus spent 40 days in the wilderness where Satan attempted to tempt him. There are other prophets who also experienced trials of 40 days. The number 40 indicated a time of trial or of testing. At the end of those 40 years or days would be a judgment. There would be a change in the status of those undergoing the trial or test.

When we choose to engage in Lenten practices of sacrifice and fasting, we are entering a time of trial as well. We do not simply give things up, we surrender to God our will and our desire for whatever has been distracting us from God. It is a good practice when we also add to our spiritual disciplines of prayer, study, and action during this time. It would go something like this. I give up watching Good Morning America. During that hour I would normally watch GMA I now open my

Bible and read scripture for an hour. Another idea, I give up eating out at restaurants and the money I would have spent for those meals is saved and on Easter I made a donation to Stop Hunger Now. Or another idea is that I choose to not go on Facebook and the time I would be on the internet I pray for all my friends on Facebook. My sacrifices then provide opportunity for God through the power of the Holy Spirit to work in me and through me. When the 40 days are complete, God has moved through my life in ways that have changed me. I have heard people say that at the end of their own time of trial, their Lenten practice, they have found that what they gave up, they no longer need.

What God desires most is for us to be daily walking and talking with God. When we make a decision to enter into a sacrificial act during Lent, we are intentional about our relationship with God for these 40 days. Consider this for a Lenten practice, each of the 40 days find someone new and tell them about God's love and how your life was changed by that love. It is going to be my practice. Ask me how I am doing each Sunday.

Allow Joy, Allow Love, Allow God,
Pastor Carolyn



Men's Madness

The first is our annual Durham District Men's Prayer Breakfast. This year's breakfast will be held on Saturday, March 12 at Aldersgate UMC in Durham. Breakfast will be provided by the Aldersgate Men's Ministry and will be served at 8:00AM. A hymn sing and short program will follow our breakfast. Make plans NOW to bring your pastor and attend this

time of prayer and fellowship with men from all over the Durham district.

Although we're not asking for pre-registration, we would like to have a general idea of how much food to prepare - so please let me know how many folks will be coming from your church. Please contact John Hall (jahall@nc.rr.com) or

477-5802 if you have questions. Aldersgate UMC is located at 1320 Umstead Road in northern Durham off of Guess Road.

The second event is the No Man Left Behind conference, being sponsored by the NC Conference UMM. Here's information on the conference - I can attest that this conference can change your perspective on men's ministry. If there are folks interested in attending from our district, we can register together and take advantage of the early bird rate of \$199 per person, and the buy 3 - get one free offer. Note this MUST be done by Feb 28 - so if you or men in your ministry are interested

please get in touch with me right away.

Here's a letter from the Man in the Mirror folks with more details on the conference. Does your church have an effective discipleship process for all the men there? If the answer to the question is "No" or even, "Not as well as we'd like," then I hope that you will participate in the No Man Left Behind Conference coming to the Raleigh area, April 7th - 9th. The Conference is the premier discipleship training, divided into 18 teaching sessions, spread out over 2½ days, and interspersed with discussion, planning exercises, and personal consultation from Man in the Mirror President and No Man Left Behind Co-Author David Delk.

WITH DEEP GRATITUDE

From our Youth: We wish to thank all who made our Spaghetti and Steak dinners a complete success. Not only did we meet the goal we had hoped to reach, but with your help, we exceeded.
Missions Committee: Thank you for your gen-

erous donations and outreach to A.C.T.S. We are overwhelmed with gratitude!



Christian education

Church School News
March 2011
Beginnings—Longing to Belong Session
Longing to Belong?

Ten week study during Sunday School hour that explores the importance of community in the Christian

Faith, using fire as it's metaphor. The time includes a 20 minute video presentation with opportunities to discuss and share as a group.

Those wishing to attend need to sign up ahead of time for us to order books and supplies. For those attending Beginnings

Sunday School will begin at 9:30 a.m.

Vacation Bible School
Shake it Up Café!

See opportunities to serve for more information

Your leadership team will leave this conference with new vision and a plan that is custom-designed for your church to reach every man.



Audio and Video Options

Worship and Sermons

Recorded
Each week Scott Ritchey records worship in MP3 format

If you would like a copy of a particular service or Sunday, just ask Scott.

A complete copy of 2010 sermons can be yours. Just ask Scott!



Special Events

DVD's are available upon request of our special Advent Season events.

Contact Pastor Carolyn and if you can supply a recordable DVD, she will be happy to make a copy for you.

C.H.A.O.S.—Plans and Changes

Deadline for Kaleidoscope is March 11th

Kaleidoscope provided middle school youth encouragement in faith and growth in spiritual life. The weekend will feature inspiring worship services and fun recreation and games, as well as Covenant and Holy Habit groups to encourage spiritual growth in a small group setting. This year at Kaleidoscope, youth will be challenged to DIVE INTO FAITH. Hebrews 11:1 says "faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see". Middle school



can be a trying time for many youth, this weekend will help renew and clarify their faith by strengthening their personal relationship with Christ.

Weekly meetings will consist of tagging items for the upcoming yard sale, games and study.

Church School News

March 2011

Beginnings—Longing to Belong Session
Will be starting March 6th at 9:45 a.m.
Sign up today!

Adult and Children's Sunday School
Will start at 10:00 a.m.
Everyone will meet in the sanctuary for assembly and part to classrooms directly after.

Special offering March 20th

A NC Conference Missionary, Butch Huffman engages, encourages and recourses congregations for mission work-team participation. He works with churches to equip them with the "how-to's" of doing local and foreign mission work teams. Contact information— Phone 919-931-4303

Email: burtchuffman@bydasea.net





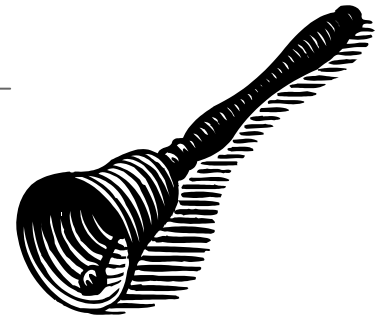
Opportunities to Serve

- A.C.T.S.
 - Volunteer at the YMCA
 - Rebuilding Hope
 - Volunteer at a Long Term Care Facility
 - Men's Homeless Shelter
 - Volunteer at school
 - Lifeline
 - Volunteer at church
 - District or Conference Ministry
 - Volunteer at the Library
 - Help at a pet shelter
- ter
- Habitat for Humanity
 - Vacation Bible School
- Shake it Up Café!
Contact
Beverly Newman or any member of the Education Committee
Supply Needs will be coming soon
Dates to be announced soon!
ACTS donations for this month are: Powdered Milk, Saltine Crackers, Canned vegetables (NOT CORN, NOT

STRING BEANS, NOT PEAS), Oodles of Noodles

Volunteers – 24 Hour Crisis Line for Domestic Violence Program, Advocates to go to court with the victims, Soup Kitchen – serve Monday through Friday if you wish to Volunteer

Large canned items are used in the kitchen and the smaller canned items are used in the pantry and in the kitchen



Bell Ringers Wanted To Ring Contact Donald Rose McGee

Community In Prayer

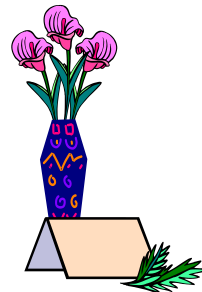
For... Jeanette & John Rogers, Family of Dub Smith, Ben Brown, Raymond Newman, David Driver, Martha & James Rowland, Bill Brown, Rita Sprouce, Debbie Sim-

mons, Sumner Smith
For... Those facing medical procedures this month, lost and afraid, without food and shelter, healing and reconciliation.

For... our shut-ins
Henry Brown, Bo Fitts, Charles Parsons Smith, Mildred Smith, Rev. Jimmy Williams, Faye Young



Birthdays and Anniversaries



Save the Environment and Help our Schools & Others!!!



Save

Campbell Soup Labels

Used Postage Stamps

Plastic Bottle Tops

Pop tops for cancer patients

Containers in the Education Building



MARCH 2011

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2 Choir 7:00 p.m.	3 Bible Study 1:20	4 7:00p.m. World day of Prayer at Fuller Chapel	5
6 Beginnings Bible Study 9:30a.m. 12:30 Children and Youth	7	8	9 Choir 7:00 p.m.	10 Bible Study 1:30p.m.	11	12
13 Beginnings Bible Study 9:30a.m Children and Youth 12:30 p.m.	14	15	16 Choir 7:00 p.m. Senior Circle 10:00 a.m.	17 Bible Study 1:30p.m.	18	19 Movie night at the Parsonage "Babette's Feast"
20 Beginnings Bible Study 9:30a.m UMM 8:00 a.m. Butch Huffman. UMW 3:00 p.m.	21	22	23 Choir 7:00 p.m.	24 Bible Study 1:30p.m.	25	26
27Beginnings Bible Study 9:30 a.m, Children and Youth 12:30 p.m. Missions 3:00p.m.	28	29	30	31	<div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> CHURCH SCHOOL 10:00 A.M. </div> <div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block; margin-top: 10px;"> WORSHIP 11:00 A.M. </div>	



Methodist Home for Children

Every day, Methodist Home for Children transforms the lives of children in need—moving them from darkness to light, from fear to love, from abuse to safety, from despair to hope. Through the grace of God and the unwavering generosity of churches and friends, the Home is able each year to meet the growing needs of children in its care. *There are buckets in the back of the sanctuary for your change to help the Methodist Home for Children*

Youth Lay Speaker Training

A youth Lay Speaker Training session for youth in grades 8-12 will be held Saturday, April 16 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the United Methodist Building in Garner. Youth interested in participating must submit their application and pastor/youth leader's recommendation by April 8. There is no cost to participate and lunch is included. The training will be led by Conference Director of Lay Speaking, Linda Harris. The application is available at <http://nccumc.org/youth/>



With the Easter season fast approaching, it makes me think of sacrifice. Sacrifices that Jesus Christ has made for me; along with the pain and suffering he went through for my sins. I sit in awe when I let my mind wander and think about the physical torture He went through. His blood, the pain from the thorns, the open wounds oozing flesh and blood; the sacri-

fice God made by giving his own son to death that I might be saved, completely putting aside his love for His son. A love I just cannot fathom but am very thankful for. What is Easter to you? What is it that God has spoken to you about giving up for Him? For me... the list is endless, but I know He loves me in a way that no other person ever could. May His love be with you this season; may you know the love He has for you without a shadow of a doubt.

Lent and Easter Services

Ash Wednesday
March 9th— 7 p.m.
Services of Ashes

p.m. Passion Service with Holy Communion.

April 23—11:30 a.m. Blessing of the Animals Service

Sunday Services in Lent will include a wreath of thorns with various Biblical Characters sharing their story.

Good Friday— Travel to Edenton Street, 7:30 p.m. Requiem by Maurice Durufle, 5:00 p.m. meet at church for car pooling

April 24th—Easter Sunrise Service 6:00 a.m. followed by breakfast

Palm Sunday April 17th— 11:00 a.m. Holy Communion . Egg hunt at 12:30 after church.

Easter Choral Service- 11:00 a.m.

Holy Thursday— 7:00



Eternal life given by God

All sins forgiven
Sacrifice beyond understanding

Torture He suffered
Every day forgiving us

Rejoicing in His love!





Plank Chapel United Methodist Church

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**CHECK US OUT
ON THE WEB:
www.plankchapel.org**

OPEN HEARTS.
OPEN MINDS.
OPEN DOORS.



Yard Sale
Sponsored by our Youth

April 9th
7-noon

Lots of treasures to behold
Refreshments- biscuits, hot dogs, coffee, tea

In His Service this Month



Flowers:

- 6th -Kay Thompson
- 13th -Lois Woodlief
- 20th-Olivia Kemp
- 27th -Ellen Allen

Lay Readers:

- 6th—Pat Edwards
- 13th—Patricia Fuller
- 20th—Darlene Ranes
- 27th—Tim Smith

Altar Guild:

- Joyce Edwards
- Kim Dettinger

Ushers:

- Bryant Bobbitt
- Bobby Newman
- Carlton Brown
- Bob Kemp

Greeters:

- 6th—Bobby & Bruce Newman
- 13th—Joyce Edwards & Taylor Abbott
- 20th—Midge & Amy Smith
- 27th—Henry & Ann Finch

Outreach:

- 6th—Joe & Susan Sears
- 13th— Pat Edwards & Donald Rose McGhee
- 20th—Marilove Spencer & Jane Owen
- 27th—Judy Wilson & Faye Woodlief

