

THE CHAPEL CHATTER



As I look forward into 2012, I do with a heart filled with joy and love as I have been journeying with you and our Lord towards the future God has planned for us. Over the past months in our ministry together, the Lord has refreshed the spirit of community that is a core value at Plank Chapel. I witnessed this in the increase in members visiting our sick, our shut-ins, and others in the community. I experienced it when I arrived at homes where yards were being groomed. Family members of our deceased Saints were comforted by the family of Plank Chapel. Our mission team went into the community to share

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Christ's love to families in need. Then as the year ended, our community grew as seven young people said "I do" to the question, "Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as your Lord, in union with the church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations, and races?" We are now challenged with nurturing their growth as they challenge us into stepping out in faith to share the Gospel message of hope to the community, a people of all ages, nations, and races.

For us to do this, it is important we know what a ministering community looks like and acts like, so as this new year begins, I am reading from Craig L. Nesson's book, *Shalom Church: The Body of Christ as Ministering Community*. Nesson speaks of God's will for the world to be reconciled and the Body of Christ, the church, as the agents of that reconciliation.

Reconciliation is very

Pastor's Corner

difficult work. It begins within, seeking God's vision of our church as a reconciling agent. What will we look like? What will we be doing? Is our physical plant an asset? How can it be shaped to be a community center of hope and healing? What gifts do we bring? We have great cooks, retired teachers, active teachers, plumbers, gardeners, electricians, carpenters, farmers, crafters, musicians, and artists. God has created a Body with a heart of love and a spirit for community. So I ask you, how do you see Plank Chapel moving into the new year? What vision have you been given of the future God has for us?

One member has talked about a large multi-purpose room with a working commercial kitchen. I see this room filled with worshippers for evening worship with Refresh. I smell fish fries and BBQ pork as our cooks feed the community. One image is of a thanksgiving service with table after table filled with people in the community gathered to eat and give thanks to

the Lord for what he has done for the community through Plank Chapel. Then I shift my gaze to the Lord's sanctuary and see the pews filled for morning worship with the choir rocking the house. I look out the doors to see children, youth, and adults playing on the grounds.

We are poised at the beginning of a year. Let us surrender this year to God and be open to the leading of the Holy Spirit as we are formed by the Lord to be a reconciling agent as the Body of Christ known as Plank Chapel United Methodist Church.

Allow joy, allow love, allow God,
Pastor Carolyn





Refresh

Come and be refreshed with us at our evening worship service. Beginning at 5:30pm Sunday evenings, we engage in a time of praise and prayer as well as break into age level

groups for a time of study; and return as a group for praise and closing prayer. We will be refreshed by the Lord as we experience him in this time of worship.

United Methodist Men

Every 3rd Sunday at 8:00 a.m. the bacon is sizzled, the biscuits are browned, and the men gather to discuss ways to be of service in the community. Come join this band of men. They are looking for willing hands and grateful hearts.



CHAOS Corner

January 8th, the UMYF will meet for the first time in 2012 after church. In this 12:30 meeting we will be setting dates for 30 Hour Famine, Spring Lock-in or Camp-Out, hand out registration forms for Conference Youth Events, plan our Valentine Dinner Fundraiser as well as discuss future fundraisers. We will pray, we will play, we will plan. Join us, parents and youth, and any who would like to be leaders of youth.

If you cannot make this meeting, UMYF meets the 1st Sunday of each month at 12:30

p.m. Ask Pastor Carolyn for a copy of the Conference Brochure with application. This Spring a new confirmation class will be offered during Sunday school on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of every month.

Refresh is also a great place for spiritual formation for our youth. The music is spirited, the study energetic, and the time truly blessed. Come out Sunday evenings at 5:30 p.m. and be refreshed.

THANK YOU

The family of Mildred Smith acknowledges with deep appreciation your kind expression of sympathy.

The barbeque was delicious! Thank you for providing it for the luncheon and reception. Jackie McNamara

Dear Church Family,

As the semester has come to an end and I've had time to reflect, I think of how grateful I am that you have been there with me. Your words of encouragement and support, your kind hugs and warm smiles uplifted me and truly carried me through an extremely rigorous and challenging semester. Thank you for ministering to me and being Christ for me in so many ways this semester. I am humbled, grateful, and blessed to know you, to share in worship with you each week, and to have your support as I journey through seminary. Thank you so very much.. Love in Christ, Amy

Dear Members of Plank Chapel,

Jeanette and I would like to thank everyone for the visits, calls, cards, food and especially the prayers that you have sent my way over the last month.

We cannot tell you how much they have meant to us. We especially want to thank the Methodist Men that came out and blew the leaves from our yard. It was truly a community effort and we are most grateful. We had trouble counting how many were

in the yard and John Allison said it was simple—count the legs and divide by two—we counted 18 legs—Once again we have felt the love and friendship of this church are proud to call ourselves members of Plank Chapel. Thank you again.

Love, Fred and Jeanette

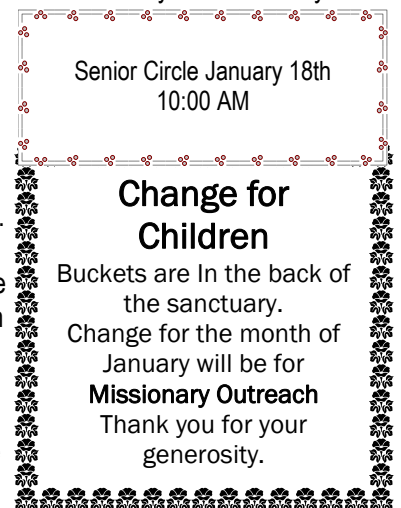
Dear Plank Chapel Family,

Serving as your pastor has been a joy. I cannot begin to tell you of the blessings that God showers upon Leo and I through our ministry with you. It is truly a gift from God to be serving the Lord with you. Leo and I are grateful for all the gifts we have received this Advent and Christmas season, the cards, the flowers, various wonderful items, and the generous gift presented by Santa. I am truly humbled by the magnitude of your giving. I have seen it as you have given gifts throughout this season to our community neighbors, gifts of time, talent, and treasures, and then we became recipients as well. Again, thank you for allowing me to serve the Lord with you. Thank you for all you have given and continue to give to Leo and I. With deepest gratitude, Pastor Carolyn and Leo Roy

Senior Circle January 18th
10:00 AM

Change for Children

Buckets are in the back of the sanctuary. Change for the month of January will be for **Missionary Outreach** Thank you for your generosity.





Opportunities to Serve

A.C.T.S.

- Volunteer at the YMCA
- Rebuilding Hope
- Volunteer at a Long Term Care Facility
- Volunteer at school
- Volunteer at church
- District or Conference Ministry
- Volunteer at the Library
- Help at a pet shelter
- Habitat for Humanity
- Volunteering with the Cancer Society

Community In Prayer

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



Prayer Group

Plank Chapel prayer group meets the first Tuesday to pray for the Church, its members, the community and everyone who is in need.. The focus and method used by the group is adjusted as necessitated by the requests and movement of the Holy Spirit. Please join us in this very basic way of serving Jesus Christ.

Kay Deans

Healing Waters Grief Group will resume after the holidays on Thursday, January 5th at 3:30 p.m.

Disciple Making is NOT a Program

The training event, "Disciple Making is NOT a Program" happens January 13 and again January 14, 2012, at the UM Building in Garner from 9:30am-3:30pm. This event is for lay and clergy and will be presented by Dr. Steve Manskar, Director of Wesleyan Leadership for The General Board of Discipleship.

Friday's one day event will be repeated on Saturday. This training opportunity will offer a look at small groups, a core element in our Wesleyan DNA and how John Wesley used the small group system for discipleship. It will also describe ways they can be utilized in today's church as a means of making and growing disciples. Dr. Manskar is the author of *Accountable Discipleship: Living in God's Household, A Perfect Love: Understanding John Wesley's 'A Plain Account of Christian Perfection,'* and the *Advanced Lay Speaking Class: Becoming Accountable Disciples*. The cost for the event is \$15 per person which includes lunch.

5th Sunday Sing

January's 5th Sunday Sing is a focus on Prayer. As we prepare this worship we would like to know your favorite scriptures on prayer, maybe even a favorite prayer, and your favorite hymns or songs about prayer.

RX Outreach

Franklin County Volunteers in Medicine Clinic is offering RX assistance to those in need of help. Please contact::

Angela Hurny

P.O. Box 397

Louisburg, NC 27549

PHONE : 919-496-0495

FAX: 919-496-0493





AMY

K ORNER

A R I N' S



As I look forward to 2012, the hymn, "This is a day of new beginnings" comes to mind. The fourth verse, to me, is both a challenge to live out and a hope to cling to in this new year: "Christ is alive and goes before us; to show and share what Love can do. This is a day of new beginnings; our God is making all things new."

New Beginnings

January holds high expectations. If you are like me, you often attempt to make a list of New Year's Resolutions that conveniently gets lost somewhere around the third week of January. Sometimes I feel guilty for not sticking with my New Year's Resolutions; other times, I just shrug my shoulders thinking, "There's always next year." But this year, I'm not making a New Year's resolution list. I'm doing something different: I am choosing one word to think on for the whole year. I want to see what God has to show me through that one word as I read Scripture, pray, and experience all that 2012 has in store. I encourage you to think about selecting your word of the year and to be intentional about listening for it to come up across this year.

In this new year, "may the Lord bless you and keep you; may the Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you; may the Lord lift up His countenance upon you; and give you peace." (Numbers 6:24-26)

Love in Christ,
Amy

Lord,

As I sit here reflecting on all the events of the past year, I am in awe of all you have done and I cannot thank you enough for those things you have taken care of for me. I find myself sitting back and wonder what you have in store for the New Year and can rest in your arms knowing that it is all taken care of. For each of my family members, Lord, not just the blood relatives, but my church family as well, I ask your divine blessing upon each one. I ask, Lord for your healing touch on those who are hurting, not just physically, but emotionally, spiritually and financially. Encourage each

one today as they search for answers of the unknown, as they wait for answered prayers, and rest in your arms. May they feel the presence of your Holy Spirit with their whole being and fill them with your joy and peace of mind. Lord, I love them with all my heart. Enfold them in your arms as they read these words. May they know they are loved. Bless us all, Father, in this marvelous new year!

Amen.

May God richly bless each one of you in a special way today and always. With His love,

Karin

Welcome new members



Welcome to your new confirmands and new members to Plank Chapel! You are a very special and vital part of


our congregation.

New members are:

- John Heaton
- Olivia Williams
- Kallie Jo Sears
- Matthew Denton
- Charles Thompson III
- Arianna Fuller-Bell
- Jasper Denton



JANUARY 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Epiphany	2	3 Prayer Group 7:00 pm	4	5 Healing Waters 3:30	6	7
8 Refresh practice 3 Refresh 5:30 UMYF 12:30pm Youth Cookie Sale Admin Council 3:00	9	10	11 7:00 pm choir 	12 Holy time Bible Study 1:30pm Healing Waters 3:30	13	14
15 Refresh practice 3 Refresh 5:30 Special Offering for Human Relations Day	16	17	18 Senior Circle 10:00am 7:00 pm choir	19 Holy time Bible Study 1:30pm Healing Waters 3:30	20	21
22 PPRC 3:00 Refresh Practice 3:00 Refresh 5:30	23	24	25 Choir 7:00 pm	26 Holy time Bible Study 1:30pm Healing Waters 3:30	27	28
29 Refresh Practice 3:00 Refresh 5:30	30	31				

**WORSHIP
11:00 A.M.**

**CHURCH
SCHOOL
10:00 A.M.**

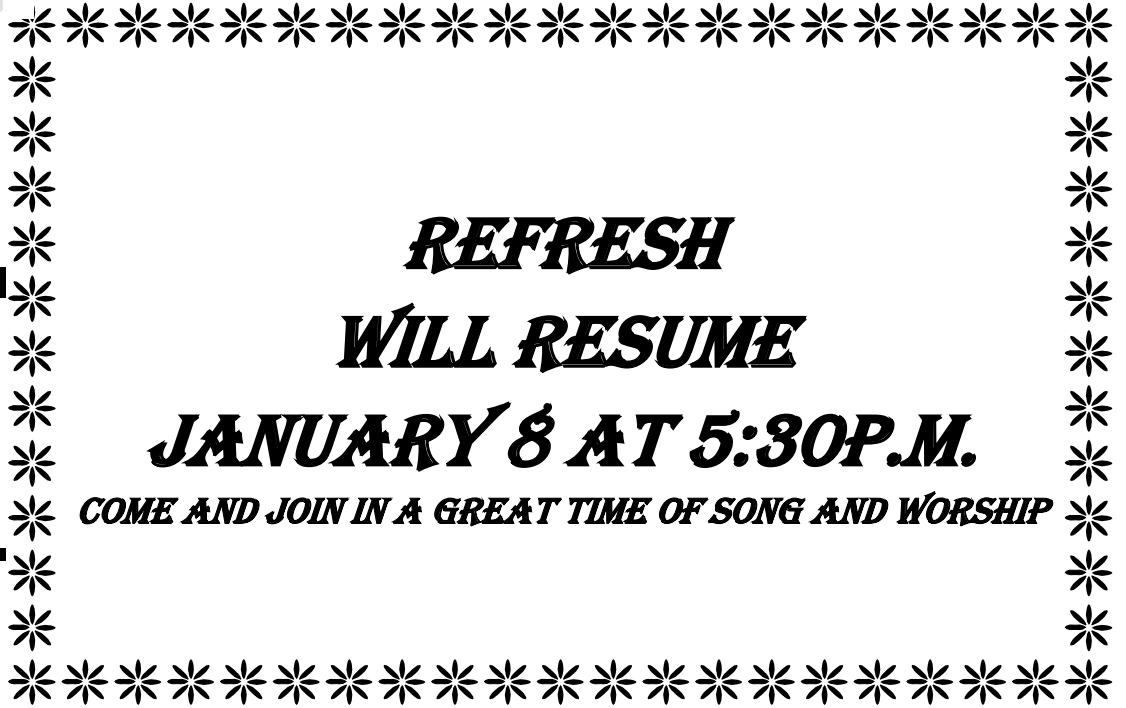
Plank Chapel United Methodist Church

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**CHECK US OUT
ON THE WEB:
www.plankcha
pel.org**

OPEN HEARTS.
OPEN MINDS.
OPEN DOORS.



***REFRESH
WILL RESUME***

JANUARY 8 AT 5:30P.M.

COME AND JOIN IN A GREAT TIME OF SONG AND WORSHIP

In His Service this Month



Flowers:

- 1— Darlene Ranes
- 8— Patricia Fuller
- 15— Gwen Ritchey
- 22—Kathy Rowland
- 29— Judy Wilson

Lay Readers:

- 1—Larraine Abbott
- 8— Jeanette McGhee
- 15— Gwen Ritchey
- 22— Mike Ranes
- 29— Various readers

Alter Guild:

- Darlene Ranes
- Kay Deans

Ushers:

- Freddie McGhee
- Ben Brown
- Joe Sears, Sr.
- Taylor Abbott

Greeters:

- 1—Mac & Judy Wilson
- 8— Freddie & Kim Oettinger
- 15— Mike & Darlene Ranes
- 22—Bob & Olivia Kemp
- 29—Bryant Bobbitt & John Rogers

Nursery :

- 1— Roxie Kearney & Jessica Lassiter
- 8—Rachel & Olivia Williams
- 15—Nancy & Kallie Jo Sears
- 22 — Judy Eaves & Arianna Fuller-Bell
- 29—Judy Wilson & Laurie Miller

