

CHAPEL CHATTER

Open Hearts | Open Minds | Wide Open Doors

BASIC UMYF

BASIC UMYF meets the first and third Sunday of most months. Youth from four sister churches gather for fellowship, fun, food, and to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ. Our location changes so check this issue for January's schedule.

UMM

The United Methodist Men of Plank Chapel meet on the third Sunday of each month at 8:00 a.m. After sharing a breakfast together, this group of men focus on ways they can serve the community through their time, talent, and treasure. Join in on this opportunity for fellowship and service.

UMW

The United Methodist Women of Plank Chapel meet at 3:00 pm on the third Sunday of the month. These mission minded women share a program and discuss where they are needed to serve. On special holidays they remember the teachers of Zeb Vance. All women are welcome. Please join us.



Wednesday's Ashes

I remember my first Ash Wednesday as a pastor of a church. I looked for the palms to burn and there were none, so I went to the local church store and purchased ashes. Can you imagine what my tax professional thought when I reported ashes as a business expense? It was a very unusual year.

Consider with me what the ashes on our altar on Ash Wednesday symbolize. These ashes remind us that from dust we are created and to dust we will return. Once though they were palms that we waved on a Sunday morning just a little less than a year prior.

Palms that we waved remembering the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. We

remembered the triumph of the Lord! It was a celebration time. A celebration time that turned rather quickly into a time of violence,





Thursday Night Crafters

On the second Thursday of the month, the Thursday Night Crafters gather to share ideas and create some amazing items. Each seems to have their favorite craft, but all cross many crafting disciplines.

Their first gathering was such a success that they plan to expand this spring to another night.

This group is intergenerational as young teach old and old teach young. They laugh and craft until they realize that it is time to go home.

What to bring? Crafts you are working on or ideas you need help getting started with and if you need specific tools like sewing machines, we are working on bringing in portable ones, otherwise, you will find that tools are shared amongst the crafters for the projects.

Bring a friend who likes to craft, bring a child who wants to learn, and join in a creative community that promotes emotional and intellectual well being through crafting.

death, and mourning. The ashes remind us that humanity is fickle in its love and loyalty. The ashes remind us that God is not. The ashes remind us of the mortality of our bodies. The ashes remind us that the gift of eternal life came with a price, a death on a cross. They also remind us that Jesus paid the debt for us.

What I find is a struggle with Ash Wednesday is the brokenness of my lenten disciplines. The ashes on the altar remind me of those things I promised to sacrifice and failed to complete those forty days. Praise the Lord, I can also remember the triumphs of the challenges of Lent.

As we begin our mission focus for 2016 on Food Insecurity locally and globally, I am challenging all of us this Lent to a "Food Fast." No, I am not asking us to fast all food for forty days, just some selective food. Choose a food that is more a luxury than necessary. (Pizza or Fried Chicken are not necessary for us to live.) Fast that food for forty days. Journal your progress and how missing that particular food item is impacting your life. After journaling read one or two psalms and take time to pray.

Consider as you journal that while you are going without a favorite food item, many in the world, in our communities, and some in our pews are going without the necessary food for the body to thrive.



BASIC UMYF

A very busy month for BASIC UMYF. It begins on February 6 with our first ski adventure. Those who are going remember: warm clothing (including a change of clothes), money for dinner Saturday night on the trip back, and to arrive at 5:00 a.m. at Plank Chapel. Permission slips will be emailed out and need to be signed.

February 7 - 4:00 p.m. - meet at Spring Valley for a short meeting as we prepare for Stop Hunger Now!

February 13 - 8:30 a.m. - leave for Wesleyan College in Rocky Mount - Stop Hunger Now Food Packaging and returning around 3:00 p.m.

February 21 - 4:30 p.m. - BASIC UMYF at Mount Carmel. We will gather, worship, share food, fellowship, and fun. Part of our time will include scheduling: Steak Dinner and Cake Auction, WinterJam, God's Not Dead 2, and our May campout.

Conference Youth Events - have you signed up yet?

K-Scope - April 8-10 - Middle School only at Camp Don Lee - 4 Holy Habits. Deadline March 25

Breakaway - June 20-25 - Both Middle School and High School at NC Wesleyan - Theme comes out of the Chronicles of Narnia. Deadline June 6 (or until full)

Trail Hike - July 11-16 - Senior High only on the Appalachian Trail. Deadline June 27

ACS - July 18-23 - Senior High only at Methodist University. The Galactic Senate (legislative affairs) will convene and light sabres (pens) will be used to transform the world. Deadline July 4

Scholarships are available for these events and mission trips.

Pilgrimage...November 11-13

Remember in our communion liturgy we pray how Jesus fed the hungry and ate with sinners. May our lenten fast show us the hungry we are to feed while reminding us that sinners just like us are in need of someone to sit and share a meal with them.

May Wednesday's ashes remind us all to repent and believe the Good News!

Pastor Carolyn

Locking the Church

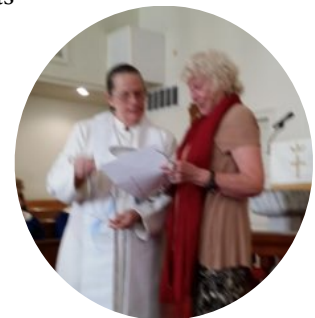
Please check all doors after your group uses the church, whether some were used or not. Double check the door you exit out of to make sure it closed and is locked. This added safety measure will help maintain the security of the facility.

Inclement Weather Procedures

In January we saw our first cancellation due to iced roads. When weather becomes a safety factor, the events scheduled for that day or days will be cancelled or postponed. We will notify by email, the Plank Chapel Facebook Page, and Faye Woodlief will call those without internet access. Check WRAL and WTVD as well. We care about your safety so please choose safety first.

Newest Member

Sarah Cruz joined Plank Chapel United Methodist Church on the second Sunday in January. She lives on Kittrell Road and has a great love for the Lord! She has one daughter and one grandson, both living out of state. You see Sarah and hear her laughter as she worships and serves with us. She even may divulge her age if you ask!



Lenten Season Begins...

...this year with a feast. Mardi Gras (French for Fat Tuesday) became a tradition out of necessity. On Ash Wednesday families would start their fast. The Tuesday before they needed to eat the rich foods of eggs, butter, and milk. These mixed together with flour created a fine feast of pancakes.

The Inward Formation Team invites all of us to come together on Tuesday, February 9 at 6:00 p.m. and enjoy fellowship as we prepare to fast. Pancakes, sausage, bacon, and coffee, tea, and milk. Dinner is free. We will have a donation jar for Stop Hunger Now near the beverage station. After the feast, the fast begins, On Ash Wednesday we will gather at noon in the sanctuary for worship.



A Very Special Sunday and Special Prayers

February 7 is a very special Sunday. It is Transfiguration Sunday! Jesus takes Peter, James, and John up to a mountaintop experience and He is revealed to them. It is also the Sunday we receive a special offering for the **Methodist Home for Children**. Consider giving to this ministry that impacts children and families throughout our state. It is also Super Bowl Sunday and this year the Panthers will be there. The Bishop of Colorado has challenged the Bishops of Western North Carolina and North Carolina to a pounding...which city (state) can collect the most poundage of nonperishables for the Food Banks. Remember what we bring benefits those who are in need!

Community in Prayer

For... Freddie McGhee, Tilley Hughes, Amy Beers, Brandi Dickerson, Alice Finch, Hilma Smith, David Driver, Faye Young, Frances Fuller, Bryson Jackson, Geneva Hawley, Jane Owen, Gerald Woodlief

For...healing and reconciliation

For...those facing medical procedures

For...those grieving

For...those without food, jobs and shelter

For...the lost and afraid

For...Henderson, Vance County

For...Plank Chapel, our leaders, our teachers, our volunteers, our children, our youth, our aging

For...Our military, families, and veterans

For...all in harms way

For...peace in our nation

For...peace in the world



Change Bucket Funds - Food Bank Of Central And Eastern NC (#S-00025) Provides food to 545,000 individuals in 34 counties in central and eastern North Carolina through more than 800 partner agencies including community-based, emergency feeding programs including food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters, elderly nutrition programs and after school programs for children. Phone: 919-875- 0707 Web: www.foodbankcenc.org

IN HIS SERVICE

February Ushers

Henry Finch, Jasper Denton
Scott Ritchey, Mac Wilson

February Altar Guild

Judy Wilson and Laurie Miller

February Greeters

Freddie McGhee

Flowers

7 - Transfiguration - Communion
14 - Jackie Brown
21 - Jeanette McGhee
28 - Debra Newman

Acolytes

7 - Austyn Abbott
14 - Matthew Denton
21 - Makayla Beckham
28 - Taylor Shepardson

Lay Readers

7 - Jeanette McGhee - *Exodus 34:29-35*
14 - Mike Ranes - *Luke 4:1-13*
21 - Lorraine Abbott - *Luke 13:31-35*
28 - Taylor Shepardson - *I Corinthians 10:1-13*

Nursery Workers

7 - Kim and Laci Oettinger
14 - Lora Young and Midge Smith
21 - Joyce Edwards and Laci Oettinger
28 - Roxie Kearney and Lizzie Driver

Outreach Team

7 - Faye Woodlief and Judy Wilson
14 - John and Patricia Rogers
21 - Joe Weaver and Henry Finch
28 - Mac Wilson and Richard Coghill

Local Mission Opportunities

Food Pantries

ACTS - Daily

Cokesbury UMC

1st & 3rd Wednesdays

Greater Ransom Way

1st and 3rd Saturdays -
volunteers come at 8:00 am

10:00 am - 12 am

A Super Bowl Pounding:

On February 7 the national focus will be on two teams and a ball. One team keeps reminding us to keep pounding. On February 7 - keep pounding the Food Pantries - bring in nonperishables and we can have a pounding for our local food banks!







CPOH Homeless Shelter

Meals: Tuesday Feb 23, Mar 8

The shelter is in need of supervisors for shifts in February and March - consider serving in that capacity this month.

Zeb Vance Elementary is always looking for volunteers - aid teachers, mentor students, lunch buddies

FEBRUARY

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|--|---|---|---|--|
| <p>31</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 AM Early Worship 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 2:00 PM January Workshops | <p>1</p> | <p>2</p> <p>Happy Groundhog Day!</p>  | <p>3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 AM 4 Seasons Cafe and Gift Shop 5:30 PM Faith and Fitness 6:30 PM Choir Practice | <p>4</p> | <p>5</p> | <p>6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:00 AM BASIC UMYF Ski Trip |
| <p>7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 AM Early Worship 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 4:00 PM BASIC UMYF <p><i>Transfiguration</i></p> | <p>8</p> | <p>9</p> <p>5:00 PM Pancake Dinner</p>  | <p>10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service 5:30 PM Faith and Fitness 6:30 PM Choir Practice  | <p>11</p> <p>6:00 PM Thursday Night Crafters</p>  | <p>12</p> | <p>13</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11:00 AM District youth event  |
| <p>14</p> <p>Valentine's Day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 AM Early Worship 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship <p>Happy Valentine's Day</p> <p>1ST SUNDAY IN LENT</p> | <p>15</p> <p>Presidents' Day</p>  | <p>16</p> | <p>17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 AM Senior Circle 5:30 PM Faith and Fitness 6:30 PM Choir Practice | <p>18</p> | <p>19</p> | <p>20</p> |
| <p>21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 AM UMM 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 3:00 PM UMW 4:30 PM BASIC UMYF <p>2ND SUNDAY IN LENT</p> | <p>22</p> <p>7:00 PM Cemetery Committee</p> | <p>23</p> <p>6:00 PM Community Partners of Hope Dinner</p> | <p>24</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:30 PM Faith and Fitness 6:30 PM Choir Practice | <p>25</p> <p>7:00 PM Nominations and Leadership</p> | <p>26</p> | <p>27</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 AM Community Gardening and Church <p>A seminar for churches interested in community gardens. If interested contact Pastor Carolyn</p> |
| <p>28</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 AM Early Worship 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship <p>3RD SUNDAY IN LENT</p> | <p>29</p> | <p>1</p> | <p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 AM 4 Seasons Cafe and Gift Shop 5:30 PM Faith and Fitness 6:30 PM Choir Practice | <p>3</p> | <p>4</p> <p>5:00 PM World Day of Prayer</p> | <p>5</p> |