

# CHAPEL CHATTER

Open Hearts | Open Minds | Wide Open Doors!

## Breakfast For Dinner

The Feast before we fast -  
Tuesday, February 25 at 5:30 p.m.  
Donations go towards our Red  
Bird Missions Team

## Ash Wednesday

February 26 is Ash Wednesday.  
7:00 p.m. we will have a service in  
the sanctuary to begin our Lenten  
journey to the cross and beyond.

## Resources Brunch

February 29 - 10:00 a.m. - 12:00  
p.m. We will have representatives  
from KerrTar Council on Aging  
and Dementia Alliance as we  
explore the resources in our  
community as we age.

## World Day of Prayer

March 6 at 7:00 p.m. at Liberty  
Christian Church. We gather to  
worship and fellowship as we  
learn about cultures around the  
world who are our brothers and  
sisters in Christ.

## UMCOR - March 22

Special Offering which supports  
the ministry of UMCOR.

## Winter White

Transfiguration Sunday will have  
spotty reminders of our winter  
storm. The white blanket of snow  
disappearing under the warmth of  
the sun. White patches will remain  
in the places of continual shade or  
darkness as visual reminders that  
even in our darkest days, the light of  
Christ remains with us.



As we turn into our lenten journey, our Sundays become patches  
of light. The 40 days of our wilderness wanderings do not include  
each Sunday as they are our remembrance days of THE  
resurrection day. Jesus spent 40 days facing the temptations of  
the world. His victory is our victory. We live into that victory.

The world can seem dark and gray like the winter landscape. It  
attempts to take our joy away by playing on our fears of the  
future. In the First Letter of John we read: "There is no fear in  
love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with  
punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in  
love." (1John4:18) John Wesley believed we could reach perfection  
in love in our lifetime. It takes work. It takes intention. The gift  
of the 40 days of Lent is a gift of time to do intentional work  
around love. Sundays remind us that love wins!

Before we enter those 40 days we remember a transfigured Jesus,  
white as snow and light bright as the sun. We are a people of a  
resurrected Lord...enter into Lent remembering the light of love  
and do not be afraid.

Entering into Lent with you.

Pastor Carolyn

## Message from Morgan

### *Preparing for Lent:*

I was talking to a friend the other day about how sad I am this time of year when I see that the trees are bare. I just can't wait for all of creation to be clothed with green and vibrant colors again. I want winter to be over. But in response my friend reminded me that there is something beautiful about those "naked trees". The more I think about it, the more I think that she's right. The more I look at myself I am reminded that there is a season for all things, a season for each of us to feel clothed and full and vibrant, dressed in righteousness. And then there are seasons when we feel



bare, vulnerable, helpless, exposed. And we know that nakedness has been the demise of human beings from the beginning. Yet still there is joy in all seasons knowing that the false coverings of sin have been broken down by Jesus, the Savior who was stripped down to nothing, exposing everything. And as much as we need Jesus to clothe us in righteousness, well sometimes we need him to help us shed some false layers of protection. I hope this is maybe what we will do in this Lenten season. Maybe we will allow ourselves to be bare and exposed before the Creator of the Universe. Because there is beauty in the naked trees. Their

bare limbs soaking in the direct light, creating a space for the work of resurrection. There is room for the growth of God, who graciously gives us a new set of leaves, a new wardrobe. But sometimes we must be patient and endure being vulnerable and bare, and in time, we will be clothed in the seasons to come.



## Lenten Disciplines

This year our Daily Lenten Devotions come from the Society of St. Andrew (SOSA). These devotions are from the staff of SOSA and their theme this year is: "Renewed by Living Water." Within the publication you will also find information about SOSA. For those who find fasting difficult, there is a Good Friday Fast from the Society of St. Andrew. This leads you through a 24 hour fast with instructions, information, scriptures, and prayers. Each year we have used sack cloths for our lenten sacrificial gifts. This year there are SOSA boxes for you to take and fill. For example, if you are fasting fast food and a typical meal costs you \$5.00, you would put \$5.00 in the box for that meal that you fasted. Or if you were fasting chocolate and you normally buy a candy bar at the checkout stand costing approximately \$1.00. When you get home from the store without your candy bar, \$1.00 would go in the box. On Easter Sunday, the boxes are then placed in the gleanings basket. Our children's church will also have SOSA boxes to offer.

## Church School

Gathering Assembly begins promptly at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary. It is a time of prayer, devotion and announcements before classes begin. Our Gathering Assembly leader, Donald Rose McGhee provides devotions that open our spirits in preparation for the lessons we will receive in our classes. Classes are held in the Education wing of the Fellowship Hall.

### Sunday School - Spring Theme: Life

This spring, our lessons support the theme of "Life." The writer of the student book lessons is Randy Cross; the teacher book writer is Taylor Mills.

#### Wilderness

#### Spiritual Practice - Fasting

Scripture - Genesis 3:8-24 | Matthew 26:36-46 | Numbers 21:4-9 | Matthew 4:1-11 | 2 Kings 25:8-21

Suffering is a reality of life, and this unit takes us to five places in Scripture where suffering is a dominant theme: an Old Testament garden story and a New Testament garden story, an Old Testament wilderness story and a New Testament wilderness story, and the exile of the people of Judah. We examine these stories, not to wallow in misery, but to understand them as context for hope and salvation.

#### Salvation

#### Spiritual Practice - Generosity

Scripture - Mark 15:22-39 | Matthew 28:1-10 | Haggai 2:1-9 | Mark 1:1-8

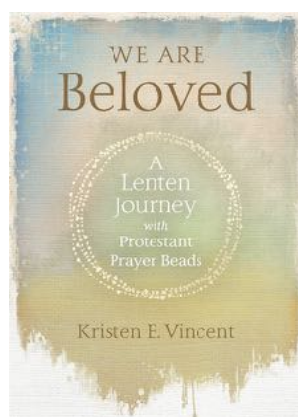
Suffering, the theme connecting the lessons in our first unit this quarter, is not the end of our story when God is involved with us. Thus, this second unit is about salvation. Over its four lessons, we will look at the new start for the people of Judah represented by the rebuilding of the Temple in Haggai's time and the new start for humankind announced by John the Baptist and accomplished through the death and resurrection of Jesus, —new starts made possible by God's initiative.

#### Grace

#### Spiritual Practice - Service

Scripture - Revelation 22:1-5 | Genesis 3:21; 4:10-16 | Exodus 16:2-15 | Luke 23:32-33, 39-43 | Acts 2:1-21

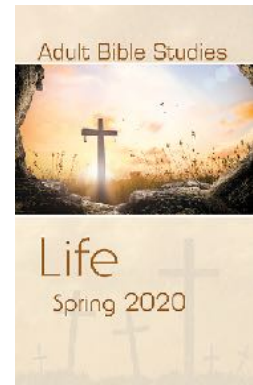
The first unit in this quarter began with the expulsion from the garden of Eden, the loss of paradise. With this unit, in Lesson 10, we see the Bible's prophecy of the return to paradise, the kingdom of God, made possible by God's grace. The other four lessons of this unit identify points in Scripture at which God's grace was also operative, reminding us that grace is an ongoing force in life for the faithful today as well.



## Small Group Study: 9:45 a.m. - Lenten Study - We Are Beloved

Christians often have the head knowledge that we are beloved, but deep in our hearts do we truly believe it? When we encounter Jesus in scripture, we tend to hear Jesus' words with judgment, thinking we cannot be beloved because we will never measure up to God's standards. Author Kristen Vincent takes us on a journey alongside Jesus that helps break this false understanding and allows us to discover how deeply beloved we are.

This 7-week Lenten journey follows stories of Jesus' experience of God's love. The incarnate Son of God was made fully human, which means that Jesus had



to fully mature in strength and wisdom to learn that he was beloved. Just as Jesus learned of his belovedness, we, too, can cultivate the wisdom and knowledge that we are deeply loved.

Each week begins with a scripture passage, a weekly devotion, reflection questions, an optional prayer bead experience, and a listening meditation. A Leader's Guide for small-group study is also included.

Be transformed by God's love this Lenten season.

*Class is held in the BASIC Youth room*

## *Leading Worship - Places to Serve*

### *Lay Reader*

*Lay Readers provide a unique gift to worship, they give voice to God's word. Each lay reader speaks from their own context. Adding different voices to the work of worship brings a depth to our understanding of God's word. There is no age limit or gender preference. Lay Readers not only read for weekly worship but are called upon for our worship services for high holy days: Christmas Eve, Tenebrae, Ash Wednesday, Longest Night are a few of those opportunities. Lay readers have offered to serve as communion servers as well. If you feel called or led to read scriptures or share a testimony or witness in worship speak to Pastor Carolyn.*

### *Choir*

*Music is one of the ways that the Holy Spirit touches our hearts. Often our emotions are reached through the chorus or hymn or special music because of the melody and the words. Choirs enhance worship with their voices. Choirs lead congregational singing, especially when the pastor picks a hymn that is unfamiliar. Plank Chapel's choir would love to have your voice join in the chorus...if you are considering, rehearsals are Wednesday nights at 6:30 p.m. If you would rather not sing but ring, we have a bell choir as well. Donald Rose McGhee will find a place for you.*

## **Trustee Updates-Cemetery Rules**

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The Cemetery Rules are now available on the Plank Chapel website. Copies are available upon request. To ensure the upkeep of our cemetery, we need your help. Consider giving to the Cemetery Fund on a recurring basis. Your financial gifts to this fund will provide for the grounds to be well kept and any improvements we need to make to the property. Mail checks to Plank Chapel UMC Cemetery Fund, c/o Mrs. Darlene Ranes, Cemetery Fund Treasurer, 2120 S Lynnbank Road, Kittrell, NC 27544.

## ***240 Years in the Making***

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In the summer of 1780 Bishop Asbury visited the area and on July 10, 1780 he records: "Made my journey to Roger Jones', about sixty people. God was with us." Dating from this visit of Bishop Asbury to Roger Jones', the history of Plank Chapel can be traced. The meetings were held at Roger Jones' home until a Methodist Meeting House was built on a part of his plantation. On July 10, 2020 we plan to celebrate the work of Christ in our community with an outdoor concert with Unashamed. You can be part of the plans and preparations as we move towards Sunday, July 12 with Bishop Hope Morgan Ward delivering the message. God planted deep roots and we are continuing to grow into the body of Christ planted here those long years ago. As we get closer - more opportunities to participate will be shared.

## Youth News

### Basic UMYF -

**WinterJam - March 22 -**

**PNC Arena - Doors**

**Open at 5:00 p.m. Show starts at 6:00 p.m.**

### Conference Youth Events Schedule for 2020



### Kaleidoscope - March 27-29 (grades 6-8)

Camp Don Lee

Theme: Around the World in Three Days

Cost \$110 - Registration Deadline March 8 or until full

### Breakaway - June 22-27 (grades 6-12)

NC Wesleyan College Theme: Go Out on a Limb

Cost \$285 - Registration Deadline Until Full (\$300 after June 5)

### ACS (Annual Conference Session for Youth - July 20-25 (grades 9-12)

Methodist University Theme: Christmas in July

Cost \$285 - Registration Deadline Until Full (\$300 after July 3)

### Pilgrimage - November 13-15 (grades 6-12)

Fayetteville Crown Coliseum

Cost: \$35/\$45/\$55

## United Methodist Men

Every 3rd Sunday at 8:00 a.m. the UMM gather for breakfast. Over eggs, bacon, biscuits, sausage, grits, melon, and tomatoes the men plan and discuss the areas they could serve or provide assistance.

They are always looking for new projects and men to join in the work and the fun!

## United Methodist Women

This group of mission minded women meet on the 3rd Sunday of most months (July/August break). Always looking for new members. Join us at 3:00 p.m. on a 3rd Sunday.

## Resources Brunch

**February 29**

**10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**

Join us Saturday morning as we gather with representatives from KerrTar Area Agency on Aging and Dementia Alliance of North Carolina to provide information and answer questions around care giving, resources, and issues with growing older. This conversation is not age restricted. All ages welcome to come and learn and grow together. Do you know all the resources available to you?

Light brunch will be served.

## Gillburg UMC

**March 22 - 6:00 p.m.**



The Kittrell Community Watch will meet Thursday, **February 27<sup>th</sup>** at 7 pm in the fellowship hall of Union Chapel United Methodist Church, 6535 US #1 Business S. Kittrell, NC. Guest Speaker will be Capt. John Shelton, Vance County Sheriff's Department. His topic will be church security and will touch on church policy, and lessons learned from recent "church shootings" across the country. He will offer insight in how to protect yourself and others should you ever be faced with this situation.

All are invited to attend even if you live outside the Kittrell area. Light Refreshments will be served.

# Outward Witness Opportunities



## Red Bird Mission Team Update

Mission Trip is planned from July 26 - August 1

Cost is approximately \$550.00 per team member. \$250.00 due on March 9. Our work will be in the mountains of Kentucky with one day for touring/playing. Contact Susan Sears for more information. [cj7review@gmail.com](mailto:cj7review@gmail.com) We have room for 1 more!



**Fat Tuesday** (Mardi Gras) is February 25th. We will be having breakfast for dinner. This tradition began as a preparation for the Fast of Lent. Families cleaned out their cupboards of all the rich food ingredients: milk, butter, eggs, flour, and sugar and feasted before the 40 days of Lent. We are inviting you to dine with us. If you wish to bring your favorite breakfast casserole or just your appetite, you are welcome to join us. Donations for the Red Bird Mission Team will be gratefully appreciated. Dinner is from 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.



## Change Bucket for March - Robeson County Church and Community Center (#791742)

For fifty years, Robeson County Church and Community Center has been helping their neighbors in their times of need, creating relationships across barriers, and constantly seeking new and innovative solutions to challenges in Robeson County. An ecumenical ministry in a multicultural community which is designed to help local churches meet emergency needs, literacy tutoring for children and adults, home repairs and building new homes.



**Consider staffing the welcome shift or if male the overnight shift. Our dates for meals are the 4th Tuesday of every month. Susan Sears coordinates the menu. Contact her if you would like to provide part of the meal or help deliver on March 24.**

### Upcoming plans for Outward Witness

- ✿ February 25 - Fat Tuesday Fundraiser/Shelter Meal
- ✿ February 29 - A Resources Brunch for issues of aging, Dementia/Alzheimers, caregivers
- ✿ March 24 - Last shelter meal of the season
- ✿ **April 18 - Memory Walk**
- ✿ Shelter Meal Dates: February 25 and March 24
- ✿ Bucket Funds for January and February ACTS
- ✿ July 26 - Mission Trip to Red Bird
- ✿ Recovery Work - Date yet scheduled



# Community Prayers

For... Sue Beal, Evie Odom, Brandi Dickerson, Tommy Fowler, Martha Rowland, James Deans, Joe Weaver, Ruth Hailey, Tilly Hughes, Jane Owen, Faye Young, David Driver

For...healing and reconciliation  
For...those facing medical procedures  
For...those grieving  
For...those without food, jobs, shelter  
For...the lost and afraid  
For...Plank Chapel  
For ...God's church  
For...Our local cities and counties  
For... Our state  
For... Our military, families, and veterans  
For...all in harms way  
For... Our nation  
For... God's world



Feeding the Community

**Cokesbury Food Pantry Sundays**

**March 1 and 15  
Nonperishable Goods**

# In His Service

## Flowers

- 1- Communion
- 8 - Olivia Kemp
- 15 - Ellen Allen
- 22 - Susan Sears
- 29 - Pat Edwards



## Altar Guild

Joyce Edwards

## Ushers & Greeters

### Ushers:

Ryan Rowland, Jamie Abbott, Avery Thomas, L.C. Medlin

### Greeters:

TBD

## Acolyte - March

Austyn Abbott

## Lay Readers

- 1 - Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7 Mike Ranes
- 8 - Genesis 12:1-4a Lorraine Abbott
- 15 - Exodus 17:1-7 Sally Coghill
- 22 - Ephesians 5:8-14 Avery Thomas
- 29 - Exekiel 37:1-14 Morgan Welch

## Nursery Coordinator

Roxie Kearney

## Children's Church Coordinator

Danielle Nugent



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 1st Sunday in Lent--Purple 8:30 AM Early Worship 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship	2	3 10:00 AM The Gathering Place 5:30 PM Faith and Fitness 6:30 PM Choir Practice 7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service	4	5 7:00 PM World Day of Prayer	6	7
8 Scouting Ministry (alternate USA) 2nd Sunday in Lent--Purple Daylight Saving Time begins 8:30 AM Early Worship 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 	9 6:00 PM Red Bird Mission Team meeting	10 7:00 PM Trustees Meeting	11 5:30 PM Faith and Fitness 6:30 PM Choir Practice	12 10:00 AM Keeping Holy Time Bible Study	13	14
15 3rd Sunday in Lent--Purple 8:00 AM UMM 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 3:00 PM UMW	16 9:00 AM Leadership Fellows	17 ... Leadership Fellows 	18 10:00 AM Senior Circle 5:30 PM Faith and Fitness 6:30 PM Choir Practice	19 10:00 AM Keeping Holy Time Bible Study	20	21
22 UMCOR Sunday (offering) 4th Sunday in Lent--Purple 8:30 AM Early Worship 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 6:00 PM Hymn Sing and Ice Cream Social @ Gillburg UMC	23 6:20 PM Shelter Meal	24 5:30 PM Faith and Fitness 6:30 PM Choir Practice	25 10:00 AM Keeping Holy Time Bible Study	26	27	28
29 5th Sunday in Lent--Purple 8:30 AM Early Worship 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship	30	31 10:00 AM The Gathering Place 5:30 PM Faith and Fitness 6:30 PM Choir Practice	1 10:00 AM Keeping Holy Time Bible Study	2	3	4



**Events**

- 7 - 7:00 p.m. - World Day of Prayer - Liberty Christian Church
- 8 - Daylight Savings
- 10 - 7:00 p.m. - Trustees
- 22 - 6:00 p.m. - Hymn Sing and Ice Cream Social - Gillburg UMC
- 24 - Men's Shelter Meal