

CHAPEL CHATTER

Open Hearts | Open Minds | Wide Open Doors

Change Bucket

The February Change Bucket is **ACTS**, Area Christians Together in Service. The goal of ACTS is to provide a warm meal to those who may otherwise go without. ACTS also offers a food donation program to help with a personal soup kitchen warehouse and to help with other community food supplies. ACTS serves a meal through our Soup Kitchen each weekday (Monday through Friday). Clients either come on foot or drive to our location to receive a plate. Clients are eligible to receive an allotment of food through our Food Pantry every 90 days. We give these out on Tuesday and Thursday morning. Clients need to call any weekday morning between 9:00am and 12:00pm to be put on the food distribution list. They will be scheduled for the next available date for which they are eligible.

Soup Kitchen Hours:

Monday through Friday,
11:00am to 12:00pm

Food Pantry Hours:

Tuesday/Thursday, 8:30am to
9:30am

Address: 201 S. William
Street, Henderson, NC 27536



The Gift of Love

“Though I may speak with bravest fire, and have the gift to all inspire, but have not love, that gift is vain, as sounding brass and hopeless gain.”, the first stanza of a hymn by Hal Hobson. When I walk through

stores in February seeing red hearts everywhere, I hear the melody of that song in my heart. Love is a gift freely given by God. We are called His beloved. I can remember when I did not feel loved or lovable. It didn’t matter who told me I was, I could not believe them. When Christ came into my life, all of that changed. I have come to understand that love is the only language that makes sense. If I live out of the love of Christ, then all I say and do is marinated by that love.

February can be hard on those who still see themselves as unloved or unlovable. There is much in this world that can reinforce our negative images of self or of others. My challenge this February as I lean into the Lenten season is to seek ways to speak the language of love in my words, my thoughts, and my actions. Would you like to join me?

On Ash Wednesday we are called to repent and believe the Gospel as well as to remember our mortality. Instead of lamenting our mortality, what if we celebrate the gift of love that is the Gospel message and honor the sacred gift of time that our limited lives hold? Begin the 40 days of Lent by fasting from what does not reflect the gift of love that is Christ. In these 40 days add practices that share Christ's love with the world? It all begins by giving Christ your heart, allow healing by the Holy Spirit, and then when God puts before you one who needs to know they are beloved, you will know how you are to share that gift with them.

Praying with you,
Pastor Carolyn

And now faith, hope, and love remain, these three, and the greatest of these is love. (1st Cor 13:13 NRSVUE)

FLOWERS - 2023



If you would like a note in the bulletin about the flowers contact Pastor Carolyn'cnbroy@nccumc.org.

Contact Judy Wilson at judith9563@gmail.com, or 252-492-0624 to set your date!

Easter Lily forms will be out in March.

Confirmation Classes — for youth 11 years and older. Adults are welcome who want to learn more about Methodism. Anticipating classes will begin in the spring and on Pentecost Sunday our youth who will be confirmed and adults who will affirm their faith will come forward and become full members of the United Methodist Church at Plank Chapel UMC.

Revival is coming...
June 5-9

Kittrell churches are planning a revival. Rev. Radford Frazier of Union Chapel Methodist Church and Markeith Daye of White Rock Missionary Baptist Church are leading the way. They are seeking our participation in this multi day event!

Sunday School

Theme: Power and Belonging

The lessons in this unit follow the trajectory of biblical imagery for faith development from adoption through baptism and infancy in faith, into youthful excitement and exuberance, and then to a mature faith that struggles, challenges, and questions.

Scriptures: Galatians 3:23—4:7; Luke 15:11-32; John 17:1-24 and Ephesians 4:14; Colossians 3:12-17; Matthew 22:1-14

Spiritual Practice: Rule of Life

Senior Circle and Area Agency on Aging

On Wednesday, February 15 at 10:00 a.m. Senior Circle will have their February luncheon with a short program. One of the speakers will be Susan Tucker. She will be sharing information about “*A Matter of Balance*” an 8 week class to begin on **March 1st at 12:30 p.m.** Join us at Senior Circle and learn how this upcoming class can help with fall prevention or possibly what to do after the fall. Exercise will be part of the class.

Missional Opportunities

Blessing Box Update

Our Blessing Box has been visited often, thank you for your support of this mission. We are adopting a practice of marking through the bar codes on the items we place in the box. It is a practice many of the Blessing Boxes have adopted to protect the families who need the food.



Remember to check your book shelves so that we can also offer children's books and adult books as a lending library.

Toiletries and feminine products are also helpful.

CPOH Men's Shelter Meals - prepare for 12 men - Outward Witness serves on the 4th Tuesday of the months the shelter is open. Susan Sears coordinates the menu - if you would like to assist in preparation, let Susan know. There are other dates available on the shelter's calendar, the following link will show what dates are available: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/>

904of4aabad2da6fe3-mens. They ask that food be delivered between 6:45 pm and 7:00 pm, if too early the food will be cold and they have no facilities to heat it up, if later they assume you are not coming and find another resource. Our current schedule is:

- Feb 1 — United Women of Faith
- Feb 28 — Outward Witness
- Mar 28 — Outward Witness

Meeting Notice

February 7 — 6:30 pm — Outward Witness Team
February 12 — 3:00 p.m. — Inward Formation Team

Zeb Vance Clothing Closet

This provides students with clothes should an accident happen or they come to school without. Sizes are for boys or girls K-3rd Grade. Pants (if you buy sweat pants - can go either for boys or girls), belts, shoes (assorted sizes), coats, gloves & hats, and hygiene items (wrapped or seals intact) i.e. deodorant, shampoo, body wash, toothbrush, tooth paste.

Interfaith Advisory Council Vance County Schools

Vance County Schools now holds quarterly meetings for the churches involved with their schools. The Interfaith Advisory Council is provided with updates on needs and programs in the School District. If you are interested in attending the next quarterly meeting, reach out to Pastor Carolyn so that when the date is announced, you can attend with her.

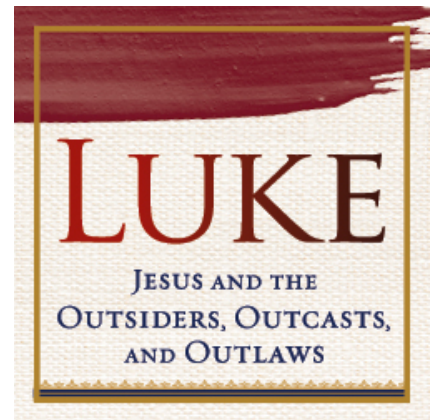
Rise Against Hunger Event ACTS Food Pantry Collection



In January of 2020, a county wide event was held Martin Luther King Day. On that day, with the collaboration of 31 area organizations, including 400 volunteers and donations, we collected a trailer full of food for ACTS of Henderson and packed 61,128 meals for Rise Against Hunger!

Next event is planned for Saturday, April 22nd, with the location to be determined. If you are interested in joining us for a planning session, please let Pastor Carolyn know.

Planning Meeting Date: Monday, February 6th
Time: 6:00 pm
Location: First United Methodist Church



Beginning February 26
Sundays — 4:30 p.m.
6 weeks

Adam Hamilton’s study for Lent is focused on the Gospel of Luke. He suggests we spend the 40 days daily reading from the Gospel. He broke the readings up so that each day’s readings may take 15 minutes. The 6 weeks will correspond to the 6 chapters of his book. Resources are available at www.AdamHamilton.com/Luke

Readings begin on Ash
Wednesday, February 22.

February’s Readings

- Day 1 - Luke 1:1-39
- Day 2 - Luke 1:39-80
- Day 3 - Luke 2:1-40
- Day 4 - Luke 2:41-3:20
- Day 5 - Luke 3:21-4:13
- Day 6 - Luke 4:14-44
- Day 7 - Luke 5:1-26

Weekly Sessions

- Feb 26 - Lifting the Lowly
- Mar 5 - Simon, Do You See This Woman
- Mar 12 - Parables from the Underside
- Mar 19 - On the Journey to Jerusalem
- Mar 26 - The Final Week
- Apr 2 - Crucified with the Outlaws



Community Prayers

For... Gene Thompson, Steve Cordell, Judy Lowrey, Bennie Hoots, Virgie Eaves, Sarah Cruz, Tilly Hughes, Bill Smith, Teressa Hock, Natasha Aiken, Kimberly West, Ian Massengill, Tim Smith, Whitney Abbott, Colleen Tyburski, John Rogers, Martha Rowland, Patricia Rogers, Russell Fuller, Nancy Nieto, David Driver, Tilly Hughes, Freddie McGhee, Faye Young

For... healing, reconciliation
 For... those facing medical procedures
 For... medical professionals and first responders
 For... those grieving
 For ... those with addictions
 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

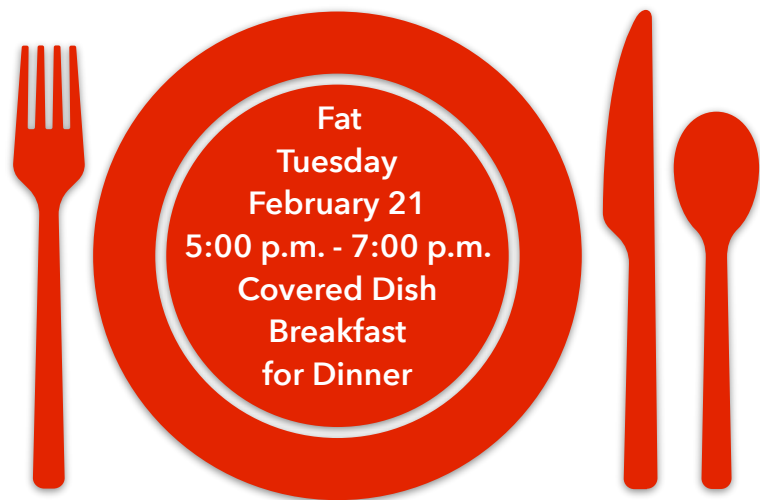
Pray as You Go!



Bishop Shelton is challenging us to commit to daily prayer as a conference. Many of you already have daily prayer routines. She offered a resource for some who are looking for an app that helps them pray as they go: <https://pray-as-you-go.org/> is the website and in your “app store” you can find it as pray-as-you-go. You can also sign a commitment pledge on the conference website: <https://nccumc.org/bishop/daily-prayer-commitment/>

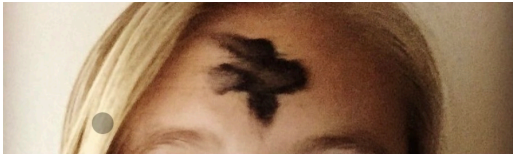
Ash Wednesday Moments of Worship

12:00 p.m. — Imposition of Ashes
 with Facebook Live devotion
 7:00 p.m. — Imposition of Ashes



A note from Madison Long Ailinger, one of our Field Ed Interns:
“Hello, I was on a run today and thought of you and the church you serve. I want to thank you for helping me heal by being such a kind community. Interning at your church was

exactly what I needed to have hope in the church again and be the pastor I am today. So, thank you for everything!"



Our pastoral intern Katherine Varnson Shares the following devotion from her home church

“Dirty Forehead, Clean Heart” -Rev. Dr. Wesley Wachob (retired Pastor of FUMC Pensacola)

For this month of February, I want shift our focus towards this upcoming Season of Lent in the church calendar. Lent has always been one of my favorite seasons in the Christian Church calendar. Growing up in the Gulf Coast, I remember the season of Lent beginning with Marci Gras parades, Pancake dinners on Fat Tuesdays, getting my forehead dirty on Ash Wednesday, and my mom encouraging me to give something up for some reason. Now, I understand that the Season of Lent allows me to have a focused goal where I try to either fast, repent, or give something up in hopes that I may grow closer to God during that time. As I've continued to age and grow spiritually, the Lenten Season has deepened and strengthened my relationship because of the effort I put into the practice individually and communally.

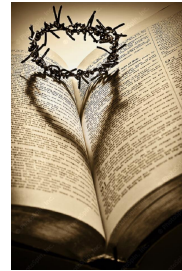
Lent is a time for waiting, a time for repenting, and a time of growth where we have the opportunity to recognize who we are and whose we are. I encourage each of you to dig deeper this upcoming season, to open your heart, and to welcome God in.

I'd like to leave us with a prayer from a worship book I own:

"God knows that while we are people of faith, we are not always people *with* faith. It is so easy to take faith for granted, and consequently live contrary to the faith we profess. If we are sincere about faith, then let us return to God in true repentance, and begin a new life. We have confidence in God's mercy, and seek God's forgiveness for our insincerity."

Coral, Heth H., *Lectionary Worship Aids: Revised for use with Common Lectionary, Series B*, (C.S.S. Publishing Company, 1984), 61.

Lenten Candles of Diminishing Light - 6 weeks of Lent — if you would like to share what this word means to you — reach out to Pastor Carolyn or Pastor Katherine



- Week 1 — Choices
- Week 2 — Unknowns
- Week 3 — Arguments
- Week 4 — Appearances
- Week 5 — Defeats
- Week 6 — Rejections
- Easter — Victory

Winter Weather Advisory

Winter weather can be unpredictable and challenging. If conditions call for us to cancel our in person Sunday worship and Sunday School, we will get word out through Facebook, email, and the phone tree. Pastor Carolyn calls Faye Woodlief who begins making calls. If you feel unsafe traveling that Sunday, please stay home. If you are wondering, please call 252-438-6080 and ask. There will be virtual worship through Facebook Live power permitting.



Thank YOU!!!!!!

Kay and Charles Thompson wrote: *We sincerely thank you for your heartfelt kindness and support. We gratefully appreciate the cards, flowers, food and acts of kindness during this most difficult time. It will always be remembered.*

Tim and Midge Smith asked that you know how humbled and grateful they are for your thoughtfulness as Tim was in the hospital and Midge was traveling.

Pastor Carolyn and Leo Roy thank you for your generosity this Christmas season.

UMM – Feb 19 – 8:00 a.m.
UWF – Feb 19 – 3:00 p.m.

February 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 AM Awakenings 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 2:00 PM Conference--Wide Leadership Training 	30	31 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00 PM Messy Church Information Session 	1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> First Day o...ory Month 6:00 PM UWF – Men's Shelter Meal 	2	3	4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12:00 PM Family Event
5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 AM Awakenings 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 	6	7 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30 PM Outward Witness Meeting 	8	9	10	11
12 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 AM Awakenings 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 3:00 PM Inward Formation Team 	13	14 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Valentine's Day 	15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 AM Senior Circle 	16	17	18
19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 AM UMM 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship – Communion 3:00 PM UWF 	20 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presidents' Day 	21 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:30 PM Fat Tuesday – Breakfast for Dinner 	22 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service 7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service 	23	24	25
26 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 AM Awakenings 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 4:30 PM Lenten Study 	27	28 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:20 PM Shelter Meal 	1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> First Day o...ory Month 12:30 PM A Matter of Balance 	2	3	4