



THE VISITOR for MARCH

2013



THE LENTEN SEASON & HOLY WEEK ACTIVITIES

ASH WEDNESDAY Lent began on February 13 with a worship service in the sanctuary.

PALM SUNDAY is Sunday, March 24th.

MAUNDY THURSDAY service on March 28 at 7:00 centers on the experience of the Last Supper, concluding with Tennebrae (the Darkening).

SILENT SATURDAY is March 30th. It is the time when nothing appears to be happening but the victory of evil. Spend personal meditation time in the reality that appearances deceive and that God is at work even when everything appears lost.

EASTER SUNDAY is March 31st. We celebrate the resurrection of our Lord through our:

EARLY EASTER COMMUNITY WORSHIP (6:30 a.m.)

EASTER BREAKFAST (9:30 a.m.)

CHILDREN'S EASTER EGG HUNT (10:00 a.m.)

WORSHIP SERVICE (11:00 a.m.)

EASTER LILIES



If you would like to place an Easter Lily in the sanctuary in honor or in memory of a family member or friend, please either call the church office, or fill out the appropriate bulletin form (available in March) no later than Tuesday, March 26. Lilies are \$11.50 each. Checks may be made payable to Pfafftown Christian Church and marked "Lilies"



LOOKING BEYOND EASTER...

** In the month of April, we begin our emphasis on Stewardship. Members will be given an opportunity to make an Estimate of Giving for our coming year.*

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| <i>April 1</i> | <i>Easter Monday (church office is closed)</i> |
| <i>April 3</i> | <i>Our next Fellowship Supper</i> |
| <i>April 8</i> | <i>Goodtimers</i> |
| <i>April 9</i> | <i>Elders' Meeting</i> |
| <i>April 16</i> | <i>CWF</i> |
| <i>April 17</i> | <i>newsletter deadline</i> |
| <i>April 30</i> | <i>newsletter crew</i> |

REMEMBER to move your clock forward before going to bed on Saturday, March 9. Daylight Savings time goes into effect on Sunday, March 10th. Enjoy the increasing light and longer days!



The Cross Tree



In the Season of Lent—the time when all God’s people prepare to celebrate the mystery of Easter—a branch will stand in our sanctuary, and each week of the Lenten season our children will help create

crosses to hang on the branch as part of our worship service. These crosses of many shapes and sizes will focus our attention on the rich symbolism of Lent.

On Sunday, March 17th, we invite the entire congregation to bring crosses to church. We trust God’s people will spend time preparing the crosses, either handmade or special to you.

—the Worship Committee

KIDS AHOY! IN MARCH?

Yes! Yes! Even though we normally do our **Kids Ahoy!** program as a summer fun event, we now have some activities planned for spring as well! What about that!

All Kids and Youth are invited to join us for an after school **Bowling Party** on **Wednesday, March 13**, at the AMF Major League Lanes on Jonestown Road. We will meet at the church at **3:45 p.m.** and carpool. Parents are welcomed to join us! **Cost is \$5.00** per child/or adult (includes 2 hours of bowling and shoes). We will provide snacks. This will be a special time to have some great fun. You may also invite a friend to join you. (Permission slips will be available in the Narthex).

—TIM



NOTES FROM TIM



I remember in the summer of 1980, in the Holy Trinity Episcopal Church at Glendale Springs, NC, Benjamin Long was painting a scene of “The Last Supper” with approximately 20 young artists which he invited to study with him and learn the art of painting a fresco. Local people in the West Jefferson area served as models for the biblical figures depicted in this beautiful fresco which spans the entire front wall of the church. It is truly an inspirational and amazing work of art!

On one of my recent visits to West Jefferson, I decided to stop by Holy Trinity to “revisit” the fresco of the “Last Supper.” While standing in this small quaint rustic wood church with my eyes fixated on this magnificent painting, I began to recount for a few moments the events of the last days of Jesus’ life and this last meal shared with His disciples. I began to picture in my mind the upper room—a basic wooden floor, few windows, if any, and very little furniture except for the table where the Passover food is displayed, waiting to be eaten. Jesus arrives and sits among His disciples, and there is a hush of previous chatter as the disciples begin to sense something is different. This is not just a moment to celebrate the past. Jesus is looking at each disciple, and it is as if He is looking right through them as He begins to impart the significance of this time with them. Do they truly understand as He takes the bread and tells them to eat it, for it is His body? Can you hear the murmuring of each disciple as they question what this means? Then Jesus takes the cup and thanks God for it as He begins to pass it to the disciples. He asks every one of them to drink of it as this represents His blood, which shall be poured out for many to forgive their sins. Do they realize this is the new covenant for all people and God’s purpose for sending His beloved Son to a fallen world for their salvation?

Do we as Christians today, truly understand what Christ has done for us? Inscribed on the front of our Communion table in the chancel are the words “DO THIS IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME.” When we revisit taking the bread and cup each Sunday during the worship service and the elders share these words: “This bread represents the body of Christ, which was broken for you; and the cup is Christ’s blood shed for you for the remission of your sins,” are we experiencing what the Lord would have each of us remember?

Thinking on these things during the season of Lent, I hope we will take a closer look at our walk with the Lord and be more in prayer as we contemplate this great gift of our Lord’s sacrifice for me, you, and all who truly seek Him.

Thanks for a wonderful Savior, Jesus Christ, and his promise of everlasting life! We are truly blessed!

Looking forward to seeing each of you at church this Sunday.

—Tim

Children's Corner

As we make preparations for the Easter Season children take note of these opportunities for you!

Palm Sunday, March 24th: All children (toddlers and up) are invited to gather in the Narthex (sanctuary entrance area) at **10:50 a.m.** to be part of the procession of the "palm branches" at the beginning of the Worship Service. *(Remember the Bible story of Jesus riding on a donkey through Jerusalem as the people praised Him, waving their palm branches and shouting: "Hosanna! Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord!" Matthew 21:8).*

Easter Sunday, March 31st: At **10:00 a.m.** following our Easter Sunday Breakfast, we will enjoy our annual Easter Egg Hunt on the church lawn. *(Easter eggs symbolize new life in Christ through His resurrection on Easter Day—as the bird emerges from its shell, so does Jesus from His tomb.)*

Easter Sunday Worship: **11:00 a.m.** Children are invited to remain in the worship service with their families following the children's time; however, a nursery will also be provided for younger children.

EASTER SUNDAY CROSS

Share in the glory of our Easter Resurrection Cross by bringing fresh flowers to the sanctuary by 9:30 on Easter morning. Together, we will proclaim the glory of the resurrection with a profusion of blooms and blossoms, covering the wooden cross.

APPRECIATION TO CMF

A note of thanks to our Christian Men's Fellowship for the wonderful Valentine Banquet and Bingo evening on Saturday evening, February 9th. It was well attended, and the steaks and chicken were grilled to perfection! Bingo was especially exciting and entertaining as we were overwhelmed with prizes to be won by the players! Thanks to our men for cooking and hosting this annual event. If you missed it—you really missed some great food, fun, and fellowship! You'll have to join us next year!

SAVE YOUR COATS !

As spring is on the horizon, do you have a coat that you might not keep for next winter? If so, the Outreach Committee would like to collect them on Palm Sunday, March 24, for a special project pertaining to the season of Lent and outreach. If you are not able to be in attendance on Palm Sunday, you may bring them by the church office in advance. These coats will be given to one of our local care agencies so that they can be ready for distribution in the fall to those in need. Thank you!

The Glorious Beauty of Easter

As I write this, we are in the season of Lent. Lent is a time of reflection and repentance — it's a somber sort of time, a time when we consider our relationship with God and try to realistically assess our sins and failings. That can be a depressing thing, because none of us enjoy thinking about our failings.

But Lent is really a good thing for us, because we don't often do enough of that sort of thing. Most of us tend to wander through life without thinking very deeply about what it is that God expects of us. So, we need to take some specific time to consider exactly what God wants of us. Lent provides us with a great opportunity to talk seriously with God about how our lives are going.

What we have to do is to remember that Lent is just the first part of our great theological discussion with God. Because after we've apologized to God about how we've disappointed our great and wonderful Creator, God steps in and reminds of something that is simply fantastic.

“Did you forget how much I love you?” God asks. **“Did you forget that when you ask my forgiveness, it is as if the sin never existed?”** God continues, **“did you forget that I sent my Son to teach you all of that?”** God goes on to say, **“What you must do is to simply accept my love for you. I've already done all the rest.”**

Easter is the remembrance of that wonderful love of God's. It's our annual reminder that absolutely nothing can overcome God's love: not wars and violence; not darkness and evil; not hate and intolerance; not even death!

Easter is God's great **“Oh, no you don't!”** No matter how hard the evil of life tries to bury God's love, God is there to remind us: not even the stone cold tomb can hold God in. The glory of spring helps us celebrate this great and powerful love, and we cover the ugliness of the cross with the beauty of flowers. Let's open our hearts and our arms and our mouths. Let's sing and shout and celebrate God's love. Let's lift our voices together and say **“Alleluia, Amen!”**

I hope that you will plan now to add your own voice to the PCC congregational chorus of praise as we celebrate the Glorious Beauty of Easter this year!

—Bob



Stop! Don't Blame Pat!



Have you noticed that your newsletters are a bit difficult to open lately? Well, don't blame Pat Boulware, our handy-dandy tabber. We are required to "tab" our newsletters with the transparent circle that you must break to open your monthly newsletter. In the past, Pat took great care to align the perforation of the tabs in a manner that you could easily open it. Unfortunately, though the perforations made it easy to open, the US Postal Service discovered that pieces held together with these tabs also came loose in their equipment—not a good thing. And so, the PO has now changed regulations. We can continue to use the tabs, but we must align the tabs vertically instead of horizontally so that the tabs DO NOT break easily. Newsletters will no longer hang in postal machinery, but they may be difficult for us to open without scissors, letter openers, or some other cutter. We regret the frustration it may cause you but...don't blame Pat. (In fact, you may want to give Pat Boulware, Gene Trippe, and Sam Safrit a pat on the back for continuing to render their faithful service as the "newsletter crew").



EGG HUNT

Donations for our Easter Egg Hunt are greatly appreciated! We can use both empty plastic eggs, and individually wrapped candies to fill the eggs. If you prefer, skip the shopping all together and make a donation toward these supplies. The office will gladly receive any supplies or money gifts that you bring (our office hours are 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, or on any Sunday morning). Thank you, in advance, for any donation that you might like to make for this fun event for our children and their guests on Easter morning!



Congratulations...

to parents Chris & Courtney Luper,
to grandparents Al & Kim Luper, and
to great-grandmother Edith Sprinkle
upon the birth of
Landon Christopher Luper
January 26th, 2013



Congratulations...

to grandfather Randy Spaugh, and
to great-grandmother Doris Spaugh
upon the birth of
Jamie Moye
February 5, 2013

SAVE THOSE LABELS!



Please remember to continue to save your Campbell Soup labels to benefit **Christmunt**. All that is needed from the labels are the bar codes along with the words "Labels for Education." If you are not sure what part of the label to cut, just bring the entire label. A jar in the hall is provided to receive your labels. Those with arthritic hands: if you have trouble removing the label, bring the entire Campbell soup can (washed and clean, please!). The office will be happy to remove the proper portion of the label for you. Turn something you might discard into something that can help others! Thank you!



GOODTIMERS TO MEET

The March meeting of the Goodtimers will be on Monday, March 11, at 11:30 a.m. in the DFH at the church. Following lunch, Rev. Chip Webb will present the program. (He was unable to speak at our January meeting due to a funeral). Remember to wear something GREEN for St. Patrick's Day. Come out and enjoy the fun and fellowship! Invite a friend to join you!



CHURCH LIBRARY NEWS



Featured Book for March:
Barton College—Our Century
by Jerry MacLean

This book contains some interesting history and facts relating to the founding of Atlantic Christian—Barton College (name changed to Barton, 1990). Included are enduring stories of the Sons and Daughters whose years on the Wilson, NC campus were marked by excitement, growth, and fulfillment. This book was a recent gift to our Church Library from Dr. Norval C. Kneten, President.



ATTENTION: Cemetery Clean-Up!

Please come out on Friday morning, March 22, at 10:00 a.m. to help your fellow church members beautify our church cemetery as we prepare for the Easter Season! Many of the saints of our church are buried there, and we can show respect to them by keeping our cemetery a beautiful place of remembrance in celebration of their eternal lives. Please mark your calendars and plan to come help.

New Series of Study in the Adult Sunday School Class

Beginning next Sunday, March 3, 2013, Donna Emmary will be leading a new series of studies of Paul's letters to his churches, usually referred to as the Epistles. Donna recently finished a similar series on the study of Acts, and it was outstanding. We meet from 10 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.; Donna passes out a lesson outline which we refer to and which you can take home; we read the scripture to be studied, and good, spirited discussion from many perspectives is encouraged.

Donna is an excellent teacher, and we very much enjoy these studies.

Anyone and everyone is invited to join us!

—Members of the class

Annual Budgeting to Begin

Yes, it is that time of the year again...getting tax returns prepared, creating budgets for the next church year, and determining our estimates of giving to the church for the next fiscal year. Each year the church struggles to make ends meet, just like most do when they prepare their family budgets...but we must push on to accomplish our missions!

Year-to-date expenses will be out to Committee/Department Chairpersons on 3/18 followed soon by budget worksheets and due to Stewardship by 4/26. Letters to the Congregation will be mailed 4/8 and are due by 5/3.

We thank everyone in advance for your cooperation in this most important work of the church.

—Your Stewardship Committee



**PFAFFTOWN CHRISTIAN CHURCH
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**THE LORD LIVES!
MAY OUR LIVES REFLECT THE FACT!**

Rev Bob Parvin,
Pastor

Rev Tim Shoaf,
Minister of Music & Director of Programs

Ralph Botte,
Ministerial Intern

Debbie W Parvin,
Secretary



What better words than these—
**WHY DO YOU SEEK THE LIVING AMONG THE DEAD?
HE IS NOT HERE; HE IS RISEN!**



SERVERS for MARCH

ELDERS: Phil Denton, Lynda Bryant

DEACONS: Don Robertson, Jill Robertson,
Betty Clodfelter, John Flynt

COMMUNION: Scott & Jill Robertson

OPENING/CLOSING: Ray Boore

HOLD IN YOUR PRAYERS

Gene Saalwechter (at the death of his mother), Julia Faircloth and family, Ruth Myers, Dick Flynt, Dot Jodrey, Bud Barker, Mary Ferguson, Doris Spaugh, Ludie Blakley, Jake & Evelyn Nifong, Gettys Pratt

NURSERY

- 03 Jackie Romanello
- 10 Kim Luper
- 17 Mary Groff
- 24 Lorrie Bennett
- 31 Rita Moore

Others
Naomi Ward (grandmother of Phil & Frankie Denton's daughter-in-law), Kim Crabill, Jane Browder, Jim McClure (Megan Downing McClure's father-in-law), Clive & Opal Miller (neighbors of the Clodfelters), Raye Feltner-Kapornyai, Margee Kjelson, Linda Rephan (friend of Frank & Kay Range), Mark Depew (friend of Kent Doub), David Tuttle, Cassie Mackie (Mary Timmon's sister), Carolyn Bennett, Bill Showers (brother of Dan), Barbara Hester (Jill Robertson's aunt), Jonathan Schaffer, Joy Beck (Jo Stanley's mother), Mary Ellen Cutter (Art Boulware's sister)

SUNDAY SCHOOL

- 03 Ralph Botte
- 10 Rita Moore
- 17 Jackie Romanello
- 24 Debbie Fletcher
- 31 Ralph Botte

Loved Ones in the Military

- PRAN Joshua Hughes/Norfolk, VA
- 1LT Hope Tucci/Texas
- Sgt. Samantha Goliat/Egypt
- Specialist Victor Sechrist/Alaska
- 1LT John G. Van Hoy, IV/ WA
- Chase Lee/New Haven, CT

Fly higher by practicing a spiritual discipline during the season of Lent!



March 2013



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Crisis Control Donation Item for the month: Laundry Detergent & Dishwashing Liquid					1 UFH Reserved	2 Cub Pack 918 Pinewood Derby
3	4 6:00 Jr. Girl Scouts 7:00 Scouts/Handbells	5	6 6:00 Supper 7:15 Choir Rehearsal	7	8	9
10 Daylight Savings Time Begins	11 11:30 Goodtimers 7:00 Scouts/Handbells	12 7:00 Elders meet	13 3:45 Kids Ahoy! 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	14 7:00 NIN	15	16 6:00 Scout Blue & Gold Banquet (UFH)
17 St. Patrick's Day	18 6:00 Jr. Girl Scouts 7:00 Scouts/Handbells	19 6:00 CWF	20 Spring  6:00 Supper 7:15 Choir Rehearsal	21	22 10:00 Cemetery Clean-up	23 Girl Scout Banquet (UFH)
24 Palm Sunday	25 7:00 Scouts/Handbells	26	27 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	28 7:00 Maundy Thursday Tennebrae Service	29 Good Friday	30
31 Easter Sunday (see front page for list of Easter Activities)	March Anniversaries: Van & Betty Kiger (March 20th)					

BIRTHDAYS

- 01 Dinah Myers
- 02 Gettys Pratt
- 03 Tom Ingram
- 05 Pete Cost
- 06 Jacob Ibrahim
- 06 Mary Timmons
- 07 Frank Range
- 07 Jo Stanley
- 08 Mindy Mock
- 14 Garland Terry
- 15 Beth Scharf
- 17 Ellen Denton
- 18 Andrew Edwards
- 18 Jason Cost
- 19 Sue Flynt
- 19 Susan Showers
- 22 Jordan Wood
- 22 Oscar Emary
- 23 Erika McAllister
- 23 Erin McAllister
- 26 Bob Parvin
- 26 Montana Dawson
- 30 Dawn Cline
- 31 Tom Norris