

fellowship PRESS

NEWSLETTER FOR THE CONGREGATION OF FELLOWSHIP PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

March 2018

From the **Pastor's** Pen:

Dear Friends,

It is good to be here. I am enjoying getting to know you better and look forward to conversations with you in the coming months as we make preparations for the Mission Study and other work to be done on the path to a new pastor. Please know that I am open to visiting with you in your home, at a coffee shop or at the church. You do not have to wait for "a better time" to call me. I am here to listen and help discern next steps.

We are well into the season of Lent now, and I'm wondering where you have experienced signs of God's presence? Have you taken on a Lenten discipline to deepen your spiritual life? Have you given up something so as to draw yourself into Jesus' experience of fasting and prayer in the wilderness? If you have, how is it going? What are you learning? If you haven't, it isn't too late to consider a way to mark our Lenten journey. In worship we have been learning about such disciplines as Radical Hospitality and Passionate Worship. This week is Intentional Faith Development. The following two Sundays we will highlight Risk-Taking Mission & Service and Extravagant Generosity. Have you been reflecting on how these practices might strengthen our congregation as followers of Jesus?

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday on March 25. We will celebrate **Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. On Maundy Thursday, we will gather for worship at 7:00 to remember Jesus' last night with his disciples.** On the night he was betrayed he took bread, blessed and broke it and gave it to his disciples to share. We have been observing this **sacrament ever since, remembering Jesus' love and real presence** in our lives and at the table. On Good Friday, March 30, we will return for worship at 7:00 p.m. for a Tenebrae service. Tenebrae is a service of shadows. We will **hear the passion story of Jesus' death as candles are extinguished. We'll be left in total darkness as we remember the crucifixion of the Light of the World.**

Take heart, my friends. Even death cannot defeat Jesus. Join us on Easter morning, Sunday April 1 as we sing Alleluia! Our service times will be 7:00 (outdoors, weather-willing), 9:45 and 11:15. A breakfast will follow the early service. Come celebrate with us that Christ is alive!

Deep peace to you,

Pastor Nancy

*Called to follow Christ,
Equipped to share Christ's teaching,
Committed to serve Christ in the
world!*

RULING ELDERS:

Class of 2018

Julie Davis, Dick Lee, Chuck Morgan,
Ned Steele

Class of 2019

Gary Anderson, Tom Harrison,
Linda Kershner, Charles Layno

Class of 2020

Tracy Dobbins, Mimi Carter, Susan
Harman, Jim Spain

INTERIM MINISTER:

Dr Nancy Jo Dederer

OFFICE MANAGER:

Martha Shannon

MUSIC DIRECTOR: Blake Tickle

CHILDREN/FAMILY COORDINATOR:

Tori Stern

HANDBELL DIRECTOR: Claire Clark

DIRECTOR FELLOWSHIP SCHOOLS:

Melissa Mitchell

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INTERIM NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

Charles Layno



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SAGES to Attend **Bach's Lunch** Program

On Tuesday, March 20, the SAGES group will meet at Starmount Presbyterian Church at 12:00 noon to **enjoy a 12:15 PM concert commemorating Bach's** Birthday. The program for that Tuesday will feature Weaver Academy Chorale. Following the 30 to 40-minute program, SAGES will meet for lunch at Bravo Restaurant in the Shops at Friendly.

If you are interested in carpooling, meet at Fellowship Church at 11:45 AM.

Please RSVP to Nancy Gible (545-1019) for lunch reservations by Monday, March 19.

Women's Study at Pathways

February 11 marked the third time the Women's Bible Study provided a meal to the families staying at Pathways. The lady's also welcomed friends to help them serve the Valentine's dinner.



Jerry McGrady Memorial

A Memorial Service for Jerry McGrady is scheduled for Saturday, April 14 at 1:00 in the Sanctuary. We celebrate that in life and in death we belong to God.

Easter

Maundy Thursday Service – March 29 at 7:00pm
Good Friday Service - March 30 at 7:00pm
Sunrise Service – April 1 at 7:00am
Sunrise Breakfast – April 1 at 7:45am
Traditional Service – April 1 at 9:45am
Tapestry Service – April 1 at 11:15am

God Speak

For where your treasure is, there also will be your heart. -- Matthew 6:21

Congregational Care

March contact: Ned Steele at 336-908-4870 or nedsteele24@gmail.com

Special care concerns:

Tori Stern	MaryLu Sanders
Carol Morgan	Bill Riedel & Geneva
Bill Brooks	Camp Riedel
Lyn Hart - home	Yvonne McGrady
MaryLu Sanders	Jay and Eileen
Bill Riedel & Geneva	Morman
Camp Riedel	Ruth Trace
Yvonne McGrady	Jimmy Clark

Session Workings

The Session of Fellowship Presbyterian Church met in stated session on February 27 at 7:00pm in the Church Parlor. Attending were Rev Dr Nancy Jo Dederer, Moderator, Wil Gible, Clerk of Session, and Session Members, Julie Davis, Dick Lee, Chuck Morgan, Gary Anderson, Tom Harrison, Linda Kershner, Charles Layno, Mimi Carter, Tracy Dobbins, Susan Harman, Jim Spain. Also in attendance was Greg French of the Stewardship and Finance Committee who was granted voice for the meeting.

After the Devotional and opening prayer, Greg French presented the revised 2018 budget. Session was advised this was not a balanced budget, but a delay in passing a budget was making it difficult to judge accurately the financial status of the church. After much discussion on how to close the gap and to make the congregation aware of the churches financial situation, the revised 2018 Budget was approved.

The Minutes from the January 2018 Session Meeting and the Annual Congregational Meeting were approved. Two building requests were approved and one request was tabled so more information could be obtained before a vote. The **Pastor's Report was given and a liaison for Blake Tickle** as well as the Sessions approval to sponsor him as he works through Seminary was approved and selected

Session then heard a report from the Building and Grounds Committee on a proposal to purchase a new ice maker, which was approved. The Worship and Music Committee gave a report on Easter Plans and thinking for the worship services. Approval was then given for time off for Rev Dr Nancy Jo Dederer to take care of personal issues as well as continuing educational opportunities. A report from the Christian Education Committee was given on the **Children's Education Plan. There were reports from** the Mission, School Board and Congregational Care Committees.

The Congregational People of Special Concern and Closing Prayer were conducted. The meeting was adjourned at 9:45pm.

Bible Tidbit

The Bible is not only the world's best-selling book but it is also the most shoplifted.

CONGREGATIONAL ANNUAL MEETING

On Sunday February 18 a Congregational Annual Meeting was held in conjunction with the Annual Chili Cookoff. The meeting was a "state of the church" kind of meeting where the congregation was given information and then could ask questions of the Session.

The meeting started off with particular "joys" of Fellowship Church that anyone might wish to share. A variety of items were mentioned, including: the formation of the Women's Bible Study, the Women's Bible Study service project, the Men's Mid-week Panera Breakfast, Blake Tickle and the Chancel Choir, the caring of the congregation, and many more.

Various elders were introduced and asked to describe the Session Committee they served on and what its main purpose was.

Greg French then gave the current view of Fellowship Church's finances and the status of the Fellowship Budget for 2018. The 2018 Budget is not yet balanced and also not yet approved by Session. Pledges and other sources of revenue have brought Fellowship to meeting 90% of its needs for 2018, but an additional 10% is still needed for the budget to be balanced. Greg asked that each person prayerfully consider whether they could add to their current pledge so that Fellowship Church could fulfill its mission throughout 2018.

Pastor Nancy then took a few minutes to describe herself and her hopes for how people will interact with her. This was followed by a time of questions and answers.

Reflection

Winter to Spring
By Eileen Morman

The gloom of winter is almost gone, spring will be near at last. The trees will start to look alive again when their leaves begin to show. Flowers will pop above the ground. Birds will start to chirp and start nesting somewhere they won't be found.

The seasons teach us many things when we look around. What an amazing world God created for all of us to learn about when we look and see.

There may be a few more gloomy days before warm days begin to come, but days will be warmer with the sun – so enjoy this special time of year. Summer will soon be here.

Church Directory

An updated Church Directory is available on our website <http://fellowship-presbyterian.com/> under the tab "Life Walk." For assistance downloading an electronic .pdf version, please email lindaueiland@gmail.com. Call the church office to pick up a printed version.

Easter Lilies Symbolize Spiritual Values

Easter Lilies will again be placed in the sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 1, to remind us of the spiritual values of joy, hope and life.

This year the lilies have again been generously donated, but we encourage you to purchase a lily or lilies in honor of or in memory of a loved one. All money collected will go to support the ONE GREAT HOUR of SHARING mission which provides relief to those suffering from natural disasters.

Order forms will be included in the church bulletins in March or you may order through the church office, 336-288-5177. The suggested donation will be \$10 each and 'Easter Lily' should be noted on the memo line of your check. Please include the name of the person(s) whom you'd like to remember or honor.

Thank you for helping to add to the beauty of the Easter Worship Service and supporting One Great Hour of Sharing.

Please take the lily/lilies you purchase home with you following the Easter Service.

March Birthdays

3/2 John Hart
3/7 Tom Craver
3/11 Noah McCutchen
Lee Wineholt
3/13 Josh McCutchen
3/17 Tracy Dobbins
Matthew Carter
3/22 Grace King
3/23 Emily French
3/25 Andrew Carter
Betsy Craver
3/26 Emma Mitchell
3/27 Gail French

Pastor Nancy Unavailability

Pastor Nancy will be out of the office March 12-16 to take care of details surrounding selling her home in Illinois. The Rev. Nancy Williams-Berry will be on call for pastoral emergencies.

2018 Communion Schedule

Ash Wednesday	August 12
February 18	September 9
March 11	October 7
Maundy Thursday	November 4
April 1	December 2
May 20	December 24
June 17	

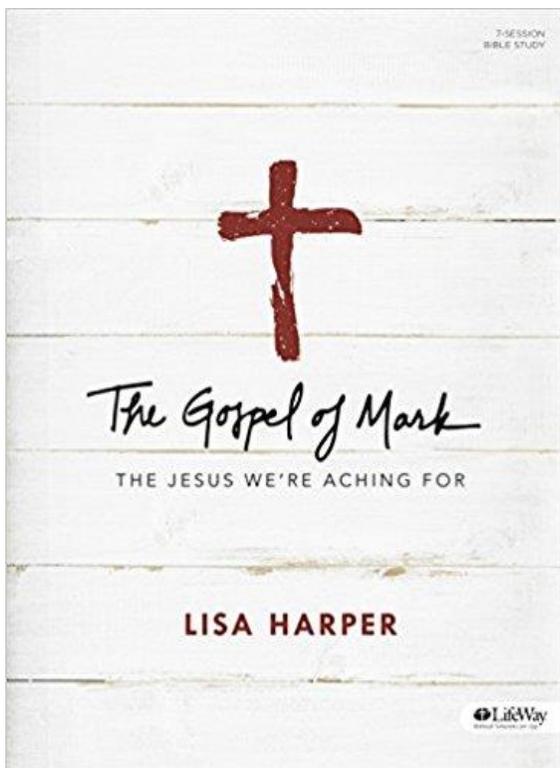
Transition Committee

The Transition Committee is starting work on the Mission Study. They are working on a survey so that **the entire congregation can help shape our church's** future. We also ask that anyone who wants to help in this process are welcome at the meetings, or let their feelings be known. Some special talents are currently in need: small group hosts/hostesses, Greensboro enthusiasts and demographics buffs.

They meet every other Thursday at 7pm in the Library starting March 8th. The other meeting dates are March 22, April 5 and 19, and May 3, 17 and 31. The Transition Committee: Anne Batten, Pastor Nancy Jo Dederer, Susan Harman, Jen Mauney, Bill McCorquodale, Jim Spain, Sarah St Cyr, Aimee Stevens and Bruce Weaver.

Women's Bible Study

The Women's Bible Study is on Tuesdays at 6:30pm in the Parlor. They are studying **The Gospel of Mark: The Jesus We Are Aching For** by Lisa Harper.



Church Committees

Session Liaisons

Building & Grounds-Gary Anderson,Susan Harman
Congregational Care-Linda Kershner,Chuck Morgan, Ned Steele

Discipleship/Christian Ed.-Mimi Carter, Gary Anderson, Jim Spain

FPC Day School -Tracy Dobbins, Dick Lee

Fellowship-Dick Lee, Linda Kershner

GEM/Outreach-Charles Layno, Chuck Morgan

Missions-Mimi Carter, Tom Harrison

Personnel & Administration-Susan Harman, Julie Davis, Tracy Dobbins

Stewardship & Finance-Tom Harrison, Jim Spain, Ned Steele

Worship & Music-Julie Davis, Charles Layno

Dinner for Four Easter Basket

Fellowship will be providing Easter Dinner this year for four needy families in our area. Please place a financial contribution in the collection plate marked "Easter Dinner" or put nonperishable food items such as canned vegetables (green beans, corn), box of cookies, or bottled iced tea in the boxes in the Dogwood Lobby. Financial contributions will be used to buy dinner rolls, milk, meats and the perishable items to complete the meal.

Providing a meal to a family in despair will give this Easter a special meaning.

This opportunity will be available through March 28, 2018.

Animal Shelter Donations

Thanks Fellowship for donating food and toys and blankets to the local animal shelter!



Fellowship Financials

January Income - \$12,924.02

January Expenses - \$26,306.39

Sunday Schedule

Traditional Service – 9:45am

Children's Church 10:00am

Adult Christian Ed –10:00am/11:15am

Tapestry Contemporary Service – 11:15am



Keep up with church happenings on our Facebook page!
<http://facebook.com/fpcgso>



or our Twitter page!
<http://www.twitter.com/fellowshipcc>



or our Instagram page!
<http://www.instagram.com/fpcgso>

