



THE MESSENGER

February 2018

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
P.O. BOX 36818
1830 CELANESE ROAD
ROCK HILL, SC 29732

It would seem we've just taken down our Christmas decorations, wrapped and packed them away til next December and now without much time to catch our breath, Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the Lenten session is upon us. This year Ash Wednesday falls on February 14, Valentine's Day. During the season of Lent I'd like to provide a study time for folks meeting on Wednesday at 11:00 in the Parlor followed by a simple meal of soup and cornbread. Our study material will be a selection of readings and poetry. Each of the sessions would "stand alone" so you wouldn't need to attend all Wednesdays. I would welcome you to bring a friend for study, fellowship and sharing a meal together. Please let me know of your interest so there might be enough study materials and soup.

Don't know much about Lent? I've included a very good piece by Debbie Taffen O'Neal which gives a lot of history and traditions regarding Lent. It's well worth your time to read!

Lent

The word *Lent* comes from the Anglo-Saxon word that means "spring" or "springtime." Taken literally, the word means that this is the time of the year when the days lengthen. This season of the church year is a time of preparation, reflection, growth, and change.

As God's people take the time to learn more about God and their relationship to God and to others, the season before Easter can be seen as the springtime of the soul—a time of growth in faith and a time to nurture the faith that is already theirs.

The Christian faith centers around the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We need to see this event from both sides—before and after—because each side of the story is incomplete without the other.

The season of Lent began in the early church as a time for preparing new converts for Baptism on Easter. By the middle of the fourth century, a 40-day preparation period had been established. During that time, candidates for Baptism fasted and heard lectures from early church leaders. Later, the season of Lent became a time for all Christians to prepare for Easter. It remains a 40-day long period, not counting Sundays. Historically the Lenten fasts were lessened on Sundays, thus not included in the days of Lent. All Sundays are considered "little Easters," celebrating the resurrection.

The season of Lent begins for many people on Shrove Tuesday, but it officially begins on Ash Wednesday and continues until Easter morning.

By the year A.D. 400 the early Christian church had established this period of 40 days. It became a time of self-discipline and harsh self-examination, and during the Middle Ages, the season of Lent was so strict that people dreaded its coming.

Through time, the harsh demands and expectations have been softened and relaxed. People today look to Lent as a time of growth and change. They often include fasting or restriction of some of their favorite

foods or drinks during the 40 days of Lent. Some people spend more time in prayer and meditation while others give up habits they think are unnecessary. Still others search to discover how they can share God's love with others in the world in meaningful ways by taking on service or spiritual practice.

Purple is the color associated with the season of Lent and is used in churches that observe liturgical traditions. Purple is a solemn color, reminiscent of royalty and repentance. It reflects the serious and somber nature of this time in the life of the church.

May your Lenten days be filled with times of reflection and spiritual growth.

DC Horne



SESSIONAL

INFORMATION

Congratulations to our newly elected elders Sam Cook, Jerry Cordell and Phillip Griffith. As a congregation we look forward to your leadership over the next three years and promise to lift you and our current elders in prayer.

We would also like to thank Adam Duer, Sharon Griffith, Curtis Kelley and Barbara Lewis for their completed term on session. We give thanks to God for your time, your energy and leadership to this congregation in the many ways you served.

Communion will be served on **Sunday, February 4.**

The Session will meet on **Monday, February 5** at 7:00 p.m. in the Tom Worthy Classroom.



Meetings and Misc Info

It's time once more for Sue Love Boulware to be marching 50 miles against MS in March! She has set her goal at \$7500 again, and just found out that her largest donor will not be giving this time. Let's rally behind her to get her to her goal! Our congregation has always been a huge supporter of her fight against MS with both prayers and donations – she continues to need both!. Checks can be made out to National MS Society, cash is good, or online donations can be made at <http://main.nationalmssociety.org/goto/suebee2018>. **Deadline for donations is February 14, Valentine's Day.**



November

Food Lion 559 boxes

Publix 145 boxes

Papa John's 62 pizzas

Olive Garden 366 lbs

Chick-fil-a 20 lbs

The Food Ministry was also able to help feed 443 people through donations given to Mt Prospect Church and 330 people through donations to St. Mary's.

PLENTIFUL HARVEST KITCHEN

Jan. 7: 102 people served

14: 85 people served

21: 84 people served

28: ? people served

PHK Greeters:

Feb. 4: Sue Boulware/Sheila Stewart
11: Terry & Sandy Odom
18: Grayson & Jan Goodman
25: Steve & Carolyn Garland



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN NEWS

PHK Team Leader/Cooks:

Feb. 4: Calvin Montgomery/
Woodhaven Baptist
11: Ella Messer/Aldersgate
18: Josh Bell/Boy Scouts
25: Martha Hinson/Covenant #1



The Handbell rehearsals will begin on **Wednesday, February 28** at 6:15 p.m. Rosalyn needs to know who will be participating in the spring session by **February 18**. Bells will be played during the worship service on **March 25**.



SCOUT NEWS

2/1 6:30 Den Meeting/Fellowship Hall
2/8 6:30 Den Meeting/Fellowship Hall
2/15 6:30 Den Meeting/Fellowship Hall
2/24 Scouts Blue & Gold Banquet

Any boys K-5th grade interested in our Scouting program please contact Josh Bell 803-448-5770.

Please note that **Sunday, February 11th** will be Scout Sunday at Covenant. We welcome our scouts and their leaders to worship with us.

The Night Circle will meet on **Monday, February 12** at **7:00 p.m.** in the home of Sue Boulware, Diana DeCarlis will be the worship leader for the lesson. Light refreshments will be served. Come and enjoy the fellowship and bible study together.

The Morning Circle will meet in the Fellowship Hall on **Tuesday, February 13** at 10:00 a.m. Dianne Barber will have the devotion and Denise Melton will be the worship leader for the lesson. Everyone is invited to go out to lunch after the meeting. Morning Circle is donating to Back the Pack.

The PW Council will meet **Monday, February 19** at 6:30 p.m. in the Tom Worthy Classroom.

Mission Sunday is February 25. The offering will be going to Safe Passage in Lancaster, York and Chester Counties in S.C. and Thornwell Home for children in South Carolina. Collection will be at both church doors following the worship service. Gifts of any amount will be appreciated.

February is "Have a Heart" Month: You are asked to donate something every day of the month of February. Please see the calendar for donating according to your blessings. Money collected will be donated to Back the Pack feeding program. Men, on the 16th it would be a good time to weed out the old ties you never wear. Women, on the 22nd, YES, count every pair. You didn't realize you owned so many earrings did you? Thank you to everyone for your donations.

In February the WOC will honor military members of the church with a care package.

One card Christmas collected \$50 this year and this money will be donated to the Children's Attention Home in Rock Hill. Thanks to everyone who participated.

A total of \$1,926.26 was raised in the WOC yard sale this year. We appreciate everyone's hard work to accomplish this as it was a major fundraising effort for us.

Please consider placing flowers in the church in honor or memory of someone on the Sunday of your choice. The calendar is placed on the bulletin board in the hallway. If you prefer, you may make a contribution to the flower fund which will be used to purchase artificial flowers for arrangements. The week you are scheduled you will receive a reminder in the mail. Let's all help make our sanctuary beautiful on Sunday. Thanks, Carolyn

PW'S TREASURER'S REPORT Dec./Jan.

Beginning Bal.	\$ 2,753.43
Expenses	\$ 447.65
Deposits	\$ 942.00
Ending Bal.	\$3,247.78



MOC NEWS

The MOC Breakfast is Sunday, February 18 at 8:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. All men are invited to attend. Cooks are: Jerry Cordell, Sam Cook and Terry Odom.

The MOC will have a BBQ on Saturday, February 24 from 11-2 p.m. in the church

Fellowship Hall. We will be selling fresh smoked pork bbq, 1 lb. container \$10, plate with ½ lb. bbq, beans, slaw and bread \$8, sandwiches \$4.50 each. All proceeds are used to maintain the church property or support various community needs.



From Our Treasurer

December 2017 Income	\$ 14,457.00
December 2017 Expenses	\$ 14,588.05
YTD 2017 Income	\$150,765.82
YTD 2017 Expenses	\$142,692.95



Communion Worker:

Greeters: Curtis & Kim Kelley

Ushers: Phillip & Sharon Griffith, Fred Stevens, Jerry Cordell

Elder in Worship: Grayson Goodman

Duty Elders: Phillip & Sharon Griffith



Nursery Workers

Feb. 4: Rachel Cook & Lisa Bell

11: Becky Carroll & Barbara Lewis

18: Sheryl Osborne & Heather Dark

25: Dora Duer & Carolyn Garland

Just a reminder, if you cannot be present on a Sunday when you are assigned nursery duty please contact **Dora Duer at 803-517-5526**. Thank you for being willing to care for our children!



Birthdays

- Feb. 3: Carolyn Snyder
- 9: Austin Colquhoun
- 12: Terry DeCarlis
- 14: Lee Dove
- 15: Curtis Kelley
- 20: Rachel Cook
- 22: Dora Duer



MEMBERS:

- Shirley Clark
- Mark Willis
- Mae Williams
- Betty Richardson
- Lib Childers
- Diane Barber
- Eileen Nichols
- Ron & Doris Keiber
- Barbara Lewis
- Clara Buchanan
- Brenda Beckham

SHUT-IN MEMBERS:

- Doris Wild
- George Brockelbank
- Caroline von Rosenberg

FRIENDS & RELATIVES:

- Vivienne Good (bone cancer)

- Sam Jacob (friend of Steve Garland)
- John Hunter (cancer friend of Phillip Griffith)
- Vera Collins (Carolyn Garland's mom)
- Jimmy Miller (Shirley Miller's brother in law)
- Jerry Coker (family friend of the Griffith's)
- James Luensbrotd (Jan Goodman's brother)
- Christie Collins (cancer)
- Euris Hyatt (Dorothy Mew's brother in law)
- Bob Morgan (cancer)
- Angela Robinson
- Jason Polk (Motorcycle accident)
- Tommy Reeves (Mew's son in law)
- Bud Jessup (Steve's friend-hit by car)
- Ken Wirth (cancer-friend of Carolyn Snyder)
- Jim Carey (Ed Kelley)

- All Military Personnel at home and abroad
- Nick Buchanan
- Joshua Sturgis & Justin Pfaff (Eileen Nichols' grandsons)

