



February 6, 2019



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

As the nation observes Black History Month throughout February, it reminds me to express gratitude to my Black colleagues and friends for all I have learned from them and the support we have shared with each other. There is a wonderful African term: *Ubuntu*, which translates roughly into: "I am who I am because of who you are to me." Among others, I learned from Archbishop Desmond Tutu that a person who is practicing *Ubuntu* is "open and available to others, also operating with a proper sense of self-assurance."

To offer a summary of how African Americans have contributed to the shaping of the Church, I appreciate the history supplied on the PC(USA) Website: *To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.* —1 Cor. 12:7 Should Presbyterians spend time reading and learning about the roles that African Americans have played in the foundation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)? Much of our Church offers a resounding, "Yes!" of course African American Presbyterian history matters!

Like the ministry of John Gloucester, for example. In 1807, Gloucester arrived in Philadelphia and began preaching. Rising from slavery and oppression, he formed the first African American Presbyterian congregation in 1811 and led African American Presbyterians to see the light of Christ within each of them. He was the first ordained African American minister in the Presbyterian Church. African American women have played a major role in shaping education throughout the years. Lucy Craft Laney, who organized a school in the basement of Christ Presbyterian Church in Augusta, Ga., was a recipient of the General Assembly Women of Faith Award.

This month is a time that the church and the nation have set aside to honor African Americans, who have contributed so much to society and the church. We celebrate the history and contributions of African Americans in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) now and throughout the year. And we continue to be inspired by those who have ensured that equal opportunities are offered to all people, regardless of the color of their skin.

Truly, John and Lucy provide just a couple of highlights of very noteworthy pilgrims on a rigorous journey of faith. I celebrate their devotion, courage, and commitment to sharing God's love. One does not have to be a MLK, Jr. or a Rosa Parks to practice *Ubuntu*. We are all made stronger, as we share our gifts, dreams, and manifestations of the Holy Spirit.

Peace,

*Lynn Thompson Bryant*



### First Sunday!

The **first Sunday of each month** after the worship service will be a time to dine together and learn about a current topic in the life of the church. This is a simple lunch, fellowship, and a short program to educate or entertain. Beginning **March 3**, we will serve Chicken Pot Pie, salad, tea and dessert. The presentation will be about the future of Presbyterian churches. Please plan to join us for a free lunch, donations gladly accepted.

Audrey Brady, Congregational Care

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#### *"This is My Church"*

*It is composed of people like me.*

*We make it what it is.*

*It will be friendly – if I am.*

*Its pews will be filled – if I help fill them.*

*It will do a great work – if I work.*

*It will make generous gifts to many causes – if I am a generous giver.*

*It will bring other people into its worship and fellowship – if I bring them.*

*It will be a church of loyalty and love, of fearlessness and faith, and a church with a noble spirit – if I who make it what it is, am filled with these.*

*Therefore, with the help of God, I shall dedicate myself to the task of being all the things*

*I want my church to be.*

(Author Unknown)

## MISSION CORNER

Free Community Dinner



**EVERYONE** is invited to join us on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of every month (**FEBRUARY 14<sup>th</sup>**) in FH

for the **COMMUNITY DINNER**. Dinner is served from 5:30-7pm and we are going to help celebrate with beef medallions, creamed mashed potatoes, gravy, broccoli and dessert. Encourage all to bring their special person for a delicious meal with no dishes to wash.

**FEBRUARY's** non-perishable food item that we are collecting for **Loaves & Fishes** is **CANNED PASTA** (no glass containers please). Collection boxes are in the Ed Bldg lobby & FH.

**Lily Pad Haven's February's** collection item is **cleaning products**. A collection basket is in the Narthex.

**URBAN MINISTRIES IS IN NEED OF EYE GLASSES**. Please bring your old glasses and place them in the basket in the Narthex.

Please remember to save your **Campbell Soup Labels** for Barium Springs Home for Children... you can put them in the 'Soup Can' in the Ed Bldg.

Items needed for **'Leah's Love Box'** that is in front of Rowan Hall: **Soap/body soap; Cleaning supplies (Laundry detergent; counter sprays, window/bathroom cleaner); Kleenex; Sunscreen; Hats/gloves; Insect repellent; Feminine hygiene products; shampoo/conditioners; Lotion; Diapers; Toothpaste/ toothbrushes/floss; Deodorant**. For more details, contact Heather Lyerly at 704/618-6947.

**Kajiado Children's Home...**For those interested in learning more about Kajiado Children's Home in Kenya or to become a sponsor of a child in need, please contact Gaye List (704-909-9910) or Pedo Self (704-516-1753). *Thank you for your love, prayers and continued support as we follow our mission to love God, love ourselves, love our neighbors and go tell others about Jesus!*

We are asking for donations of **MEN'S NEW and/or GENTLY USED coats** in **ALL sizes for men!** There will be a container in the entrance to the Education Building for your donations. Thank you!



### GOD IS LOVE,

as scripture says, and that means the revelation is in the relationship.

"God is love" means God is known devotionally, not dogmatically. "God is love" does not clear up old mysteries; it discloses new mystery. "God is love" is not a truth we can master; it is only one to which we can surrender. Faith is being grasped by the power of love.

(William Sloan Coffin, *Credo*, p. 28)



**Cook's KID'S CLUB** is **NOW meeting EVERY OTHER SUNDAY** and will meet again **THIS SUNDAY, February 10<sup>th</sup> from 1-2pm!** We invite **ALL preschoolers** (ages 3-4) and **ALL elementary aged kids** (grades K-5) to join Graham for snacks, games, devotion & music in the basement of the Education Building! We hope to see all of you here!



Thanks to all who had pictures made recently for our new church directory! If you were one of these people, each household will receive a free directory. If you didn't have a picture made and would like a copy of the new directory, the cost will be \$5.00 each. Note: our Homebound members will receive a free copy. Watch for a release date coming soon!



### ATTENTION LADIES @ COOK'S!

Ladies – please join us for one of the following Presbyterian Women's **CIRCLE** meetings that meet each month on the **2nd Tuesday...2/12: MORNING Circle @ 10am in Fellowship Hall or the EVENING Circle @ 7pm in the parlor.**

**ALL WOMEN:** Women's Sunday is **March 3, 2019** and we need all women to sing in the choir on that day. Please meet in choir room at 9:30am.



**YOUTH, grades 6-12, are welcome to be a part of the Youth Ensemble.**

They meet on **Wednesdays at 6pm** in the sanctuary and prepare songs for our Sunday morning worship services. If interested, write Charles Mathews at [singuheavens@yahoo.com](mailto:singuheavens@yahoo.com). Music reading is not a requirement and you do not have to have a great voice. If you wish to serve the Lord along with other youth, you are welcome.



## FELLOWSHIP HALL KITCHEN/PANTRY NEWS

Jean Oates is now going to oversee the kitchen/pantry in Fellowship Hall. She will make sure it is stocked and everything in its place. If you are using FH for a church event and would like Jean to make sure the items you need for that event are stocked, she will do so **IF** you let her know **in advance** what you need. Her phone # is 704/394-6505 and her email is jjoplbg@bellsouth.net. Thank you for your help in this matter.



## 2019 FLOWER CALENDAR INFORMATION

Here are the **AVAILABLE** dates that we have at this point on our 2019 Flower Calendar: **May 12; September 29; December 1.** Please contact Cheryl in the church office if you'd like to honor or remember a loved one by supplying our sanctuary flowers on one of these dates...704/399-7735 or office@cookschurch.org. Please note: we use Grace's Florist as our supplier (they have information to be able to get into our sanctuary to place any arrangements ordered) but you are not limited to them. You can make your own arrangements with flowers from your home or other flower suppliers. But please note these 2 items: we ask that arrangements be made with live flowers and you will be responsible for getting your arrangement in place in our sanctuary by 9am on your assigned Sunday. Thank you! If you have any questions, see Penny Love (704-458-1258).



*To Cook's Memorial Presbyterian Church  
Congregation...reference: The Love Box*

*I want to sincerely thank each and everyone for your donation to the Love Box for which I was a recipient due to the fire at my home – I lost everything I owned. I just made it out in time and had to leave barefooted. It was quite a devastating experience. From the bottom of my heart thank you. I have a long way to go as I piece my life back together like a puzzle but with the help I have had from all you wonderful Christian Church family I know slowly but surely my life be whole again. Sometimes it's a bit depressing but Cook's congregation and Pastor Lynn have given me hope. Thanks to you wonderful, special angels! God is good! Thanks again – I love you guys,  
Ledane Leigh Poplin,  
daughter of Melinda McElhaney*



**NOTICE: CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – This Sunday, February 10<sup>th</sup>- during 10am worship** for the purpose of electing the 2019 Nominating Ministry and presenting our 2019 Budget.

FYI – Cook's Session and Property Ministry has decided that **ROWAN HALL** needs to be **CLOSED** completely due to it being a safety hazard. **The power & water will be turned off completely and no admittance allowed whatsoever as of 3/1/19.** If you are currently storing items in Rowan Hall, please be sure that everything that you want/need is removed by 3/1/19. If you have any questions, please contact Dale Luckey at [sdlhomes@aol.com](mailto:sdlhomes@aol.com). Thank you for your help in this matter.



**Fat Tuesday** is a celebration before the beginning of the Lenten season.

**So plan now to join the Youth on Tuesday, March 5<sup>th</sup> from 5-8pm for their annual Fat**

**Tuesday Pancake Dinner!** The youth will be serving pancakes and other breakfast sides to raise money for this summer's activities. The dinner is completely funded by your donations, so bring your whole family for fellowship and food! We look forward to seeing you there!



**On Ash Wednesday, March 6, 2019 at 7:00pm, Cook's will worship God together by sharing scripture, hymns, prayer, the receiving of ashes and celebrating the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Please bring your families, friends and neighbors as we begin our season of Lent, a time to ponder Jesus' great sacrifice for us and all humanity.**



**ATTENTION YOUTH, CHILDREN AND PARENTS!**

The Youth, Children & Parents Planning Council meeting with Graham will meet **THIS Sunday, February 10<sup>th</sup>**, at 11:15am in Rm 113 - please plan to attend - we need your input!



We wish a **Happy Birthday** to the following:

- Feb. 11 - Carrie Troxler  
Feb. 12 - (Charles Mathews)  
Feb. 13 - Makala Young  
Feb. 16 - Heather Wilz  
Feb. 17 - Linda Lynn, Ben Stevens  
Feb. 18 - Rachael Stanford  
Feb. 20 - Jerry Benson, Jakob Bogojevich, Pattie Hale  
Feb. 23 - Kelly Harper, Lyle Pace, Amy Chichetti



**Feb. 10:** Sandy Birmingham, Beth Noles

**Feb. 17:** Cheryl Rollins, Sydney Thompson

**Feb. 24:** Dolores Freeman, Mary Thompson

{If you **cannot** keep nursery on your assigned day please find a substitute by 'swapping dates' with someone on list or call Diane at 704/398-8388.}

**Greeter Schedule:** Feb 10-Presbyterian Women; Feb 17-Men of the Church; Feb 24-New Horizon SS Class

**Usher Schedule:** February-Mike Stanford, Jim Phipps, Richard White, Marty Crosby

**Sound Tech Schedule:** February-George Wilz

**Teller Schedule:** Feb 10-Ginger Thompson, Johnnie Quinn, Christi Brafford; Feb 17-Audrey Brady, Scott Jones, Dwight Black; Feb 24-Ginger Thompson, Melinda McElhaney, Gordon Stanley

**Weekend Opener/Lockup:**

February-Mike Stanford



1/27/19: 115

2/03/19: 183

**2019 Offerings:**

Weekly offering needed for Budget YTD: \$36,860

YTD General Fund offerings rec'd: \$20,875



During these next 2 weeks, Feb. 10-23, please make a special effort to recognize **Carolyn Young and Melva Thompson** with a visit or a card. They would love to hear from you!

Carolyn Young, 9330 Belhaven Blvd, Charlotte, 28214

Melva Thompson, 8944 McClure Circle, Charlotte, 28216

Here is a complete list of our Homebound Members: Betty Hunt, Loretta Hinson, Melva Thompson, Nancy Stanley, Annie Luckey, Mildred Alexander & Carolyn Young...**please pray for them all daily.**



**ALL MEN** are invited to join Cook's Men of the Church on **Sunday, February 17** at **7:30am** for their monthly breakfast meeting - contact Dale Luckey if you have any questions.



Please remember in your prayers the following people:

Members

- |                                      |                      |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|
| <i>family of Loretta Todd</i>        | Hazel Dunn           |
| Frances Dean (CaraMont/Gastonia)     | Nancy Stanley        |
| James Harper (procedure on knee 2/8) | Gerri Rhodes         |
| Connie & Dale Luckey                 | Jill Griffin         |
| Vera Smith                           | Debbie White         |
| Pede Self                            | Corky McClure        |
| Pat Hager                            | Mork/Weldy family    |
| Ronnie Ransbottom                    | Cook's Pastor Search |

Friends & Relatives

- |                           |                                    |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Emalie Barnes             | Ledane Poplin                      |
| Kevin Cook                | Willi/Jimmy Messick (Hospice care) |
| Brian Thompson            | Carolyn Elliotte                   |
| Ava Davis & Tate family   | Bill Perrella (in remission!)      |
| Gary Shuler & son         | Marcia Larson                      |
| Grier Stanford & family   | Tonya Rhom                         |
| Sarah Nixon               | Drew Jolly                         |
| Serena Todd               | Lee Stilwell                       |
| Butch Meyer/Richard Meyer | Dee Peterson                       |
| Cole/Davidson family      | Kelly & Teresa Cousineau           |
| Cynthia & Mike Wicker     | Jeff & Gloria Herman               |
| Anita H.                  | Gloria Ricker                      |
| Mike Gant                 | Andy Dula                          |
| Theo Helms                | Susan Kenley                       |
| Eric Cuellar              | Jeep McQuay                        |
- Those affected by government shutdown  
Hurricane victims/Aid workers/Shooting victims & families in US

(Please note: we leave names on prayer list for 4 weeks unless otherwise notified/updated.)



Please remember in your prayers the following soldiers (and all veterans and their families) that are in some way associated with

**Cook's Church:** Triston Thompson, Austin McCrary, Turner Salm, Cecilia (Parker) Loren, Anne Ledford, Ronald J. Ransbottom, Shane Bennett, Andrew Simmerson, T.J. Sudderth, John Makahilli Jr., Jake Gibson, John Gibson, Eddy Self, Terrell Gore

**\*\*CONGREGATION\*\***



Please notify the church office (704-399-7735 / office@cookschurch.org) or Pastor Lynn (330-701-0426 / ltb4unc@alumni.unc.edu) of any

deaths, sickness, surgeries, births, etc. that you and/or a family member may be experiencing.



HAVE YOU EVER WANTED TO BE PART OF SUNDAY'S WORSHIP SERVICE?

THEN, WE NEED YOU!!!! We are currently looking for people to read God's Word on Sundays. If you are interested, please contact Teena Ridenhour (704-516-8957 / teenaridenhour@bellsouth.net).

We have slots open as soon as **FEBRUARY, 2019**...step right up...**YOU** are a very valued part of our service.

## CHURCH CALENDAR

### Sunday, February 10

- 9:00am – *Sunday School classes for all ages!*  
10:00am – *Worship Service/sanc*  
11:00am – *Fellowship on the Lawn* (cookies & drinks for everyone!)  
~11:15am – **MISSION Ministry mtg/sanc wing**  
~11:15am – **Youth, Children & Parents Planning Council Meeting/Rm 113**  
~ 1:00pm - **KID'S CLUB/Ed Bldg basement**  
~ 2:00pm – **PNC Orientation/Rm 113**  
~ 4:00pm – **YOUTH Group/Youth Room**  
~ 7:00pm – **SESSION meeting/FH**

### Monday, February 11

- 9:30am-1pm - Playschool  
6:30pm - Cub Scouts mtg/Ed Bldg



### Tuesday, February 12

- 9:30am-1pm - Playschool  
~10:00am – **MORNING Circle/FH**  
6:00pm - Aerobics/FH  
~ 7:00pm – **EVENING Circle/parlor**  
7:00pm - Boy Scouts/Ed Bldg 3rd floor

### Wednesday, February 13

- 9am-2:30pm – Quilting Bees/Rm 201  
9:30am-1pm - Playschool  
~5:45pm-**Youth Ensemble Rehearsal/Choir Room**  
~ 6:00pm - **String Trio Rehearsal/sanctuary**  
~ 6:30pm - **Adult Choir/Handbells Rehearsal**

### Thursday, February 14 – *God loves you!*

- 9:30am-1pm – Playschool  
~ 5:30-7pm – **COMMUNITY MEAL/FH**  
6:00pm – Daisy Scouts/bmst

### Friday, February 15

### Saturday, February 16

- ~ 3:00pm - **Room In The Inn/FH & bus**

### Sunday, February 17

- ~ 7:30am – **Men's Breakfast meeting/FH**  
9:00am – *Sunday School Classes for all ages!*  
10:00am – *Worship/Boy Scout Sunday/sanc*  
11:00am – *Fellowship on the Lawn* (cookies & drinks for everyone!)

### Monday, February 18-DEADLINE for next newsletter

- 6:30pm – Brownies/bsmt  
6:30pm - Cub Scouts/Ed Bldg

### Tuesday, February 19

- 9:30am-1pm – Playschool  
6:00pm - Aerobics/FH  
7:00pm - Boy Scouts/Ed Bldg 3rd floor

### Wednesday, February 20

- 9am-2:30pm – Quilting Bees/Rm 201  
9:30am-1pm - Playschool  
~5:45pm-**Youth Ensemble Rehearsal/Choir Room**  
~ 6:00pm - **String Trio Rehearsal/sanctuary**  
~ 6:30pm - **Adult Choir/Handbells Rehearsal**

### Thursday, February 21

- 9:30am-1pm - Playschool  
6:00pm – Jr Girl Scouts/bsmt

### Friday, February 22

- 12:00pm - LPH/FH

### Saturday, February 23

- ~ 9:00am – **PW's WORKDAY/sanc**

## Wise Words & Quotes

- Vern McCellan



*"Hatred stirs up quarrels, but love covers all offenses."*  
(Proverbs 10:12)

"One of the greatest tasks is how to give and receive love."



This is Cook's Memorial Presbyterian Church's new QR code. There is an "app" you can put on your phone that lets you scan the QR code and donate to the church with your credit card. You can download the "app" from our website ([www.cookschurch.org](http://www.cookschurch.org)).



If you shop at Amazon.com, link your account to Cook's Memorial Presbyterian Church and we'll get 5% back from your purchases through their Amazon Smile program! After linking the church to your account, start your purchases at <http://smile.amazon.com>. If you have questions, contact Ginger Thompson at 704-562-7558.

### Cook's Communicator

is a bi-weekly newsletter published by:

**Cook's Memorial Presbyterian Church (PCUSA)**  
3413 Mt. Holly-Huntersville Road, Charlotte, NC 28216

*"Cook's mission is to love God, love yourself, love your neighbor and go tell others about Jesus."*

*"We, the members of Cook's Memorial Presbyterian Church, are a community on a journey of faith dedicated to spiritual growth and Christ's teachings. We are committed to be a community of God, open to all people. We pledge to be witnesses for God and to be caring Disciples of Christ."*

### STAFF:

**Interim Pastor:** Pastor Lynn Thompson Bryant  
**Coordinator of Youth & Children Ministries:** Graham Hughes  
**Music Director & Organist:** Rev. Charles Mathews  
**Office Manager:** Cheryl Cole  
**Custodian:** Susan Mundell  
**Playschool Directors:** Kelly Carter/Bobbie Penninger  
**Treasurer:** Ginger Thompson  
**Financial Secretary:** Audrey Brady

**RULING ELDERS:** **Class of 2019:** Sheila Black (Education), Audrey Brady (Cong Care), Penny Love (Worship), Jerry Spurlock (Property); **Class of 2020:** Dale Luckey (Property), David Lyerly (Missions), Bonnie Pace (Finance); Johnnie Quinn (Clerk); **Class of 2021:** Joe Chichetti (Personnel), Dan Griggs (Nominating), William Savelle (Worship), Richard White (Fellowship)

**DEACONS:** **Class of 2019:** Steve Gilmore (New Members), Dave List (Special Needs), Bonnie Spurlock (Homebound), Deana Stanford (Special Needs); **Class of 2020:** Debbie Myers (Homebound), Jack McClure (Homebound), Jeannie McClure (Moderator/Special Needs); **Class of 2021:** Dwight Black (Homebound), Loretta Butler (New Members), Barbara Stevens (New Members), Sydney Thompson (New Members)

### PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Joe Chichetti, Laura Griggs, James Harper, Jeannie McClure, David Myers, Johnnie Quinn, Mike Stanford

**Sunday Schedule:** *Sunday School for ALL ages at 9:00am; Worship Service at 10:00am; Fellowship on the Lawn (Cookies & Drinks for everyone) immediately after worship.*  
**Office Hours:** Monday – Friday, 9am-5pm; (704) 399-7735; fax #: (704) 399-0823; E-Mail: [office@cookschurch.org](mailto:office@cookschurch.org)  
Website: [www.cookschurch.org/www.cmpcyouth.weebly.com](http://www.cookschurch.org/www.cmpcyouth.weebly.com)  
Now you can find us on **Facebook** and follow us on **Twitter!**  
{Online Directory User Code-allusers; Password-CJR53ERW}  
*Sermons/newsletters are available on our website!*

Cook's Memorial Presbyterian Church  
3413 Mt. Holly-Huntersville Road  
Charlotte, North Carolina 28216

## Good News Inside!

God, we thank You for:



Written articles to be in Church Office by  
**Monday, Feb. 18 at 4pm** for next newsletter!



Sunday Mornings at **9** is an opportunity to continue to learn the lessons of The Bible and how they relate to our daily lives. There are

classes for **ALL** ages! Teachers have prepared for babies, children, teens and adults to join them. **They are looking forward to seeing you next Sunday at 9am.**

Please note: the **Viewpoint Class** is meeting in Room 213 and the **Wilz gathering** is meeting in the gathering place in the Education Building.

If you have questions about a class to attend or would be interested in teaching, please contact Sheila 704-299-6147.

*Thank you Cook's Boy Scout Troop #51 and Cub Scout Pack #51 for your participation and leadership during our worship service last Sunday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>!*



Cook's Presbyterian Women will have a **WORKDAY**

on **February 23, 2019**. We will meet in the sanctuary at **9am** and divide into groups to clean different areas. Please bring dust cloths, furniture polish and kitchen cleaning products. We will work till lunch. We have multiple areas needing our attention so if we don't finish them all we will have another workday.