

March 6, 2019

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Advent and Lent are both Seasons of the Church year focused on preparation. In Advent, we prepare to welcome the Son of God. Levels of anticipation, exuberance, and hopefulness are high. Church scholars remind us though, that without the Easter experience, Christmas may never have been recognized. Our anticipated celebration of Easter is more about an examined heart and a turn toward the Christ, the man who modeled peace, love, and justice in his every action. Preparing for a baby, buying gifts, and sharing hospitality evoke joy, delight, and pleasure. Reviewing our actions that might take Jesus to the cross again if he lived amongst us in 2019 is a different story.

The confidence we hold as Christians is that the grounding message of Jesus' death and resurrection is all about Forgiveness. We need to review our lives in search of whatever deeds we might have done - or failed to do - that contribute to areas of brokenness, confusion, or stress that we feel today. I know I have some confessions to make.

Our Lenten Theme is "***Transforming Chaos into Wholeness.***" In Genesis 1, God started with Chaos. Some say there are traces, some say there are abundant oceans of chaos yet around us. Who wants to get comfortable with Chaos? Not me...! But that is where we start.

However, we don't need to stop there. Our national Self-Development of People program uses Isaiah to suggest that we might be repairers of the brokenness and restorers of the peace. Not because we know how to do that, but because the Lord will guide us. Our local sermon series will build on a series of topics that the world might consider weak: Prayer, Confrontation (in the style of Jesus), Hope, Vulnerability, Reconciliation, and Love, in search of what God might be wanting to do through us, here at 3413 Mt. Holly-Huntersville Road. The Apostle Paul wrote a lot about how God converts weaknesses into power, when we let God lead. I Cor. 1:18 and II Cor. 12:9 are worth reading.

My prayer for this Lent is that this wonderful, foundational, changing, thriving Body of Christ might listen deeply and experience God's Call for its direction. I have seen how you practice Philippians 4:8 and Ephesians 3:14. What is your prayer?

Peace,

Lynn Thompson Bryant



Congregation: *you are encouraged to prepare yourself for communion to be served during our 10am worship service on Sunday, March 10th, through prayer and the reading of scripture... "This do in remembrance of Me" {Luke 22:19}.*

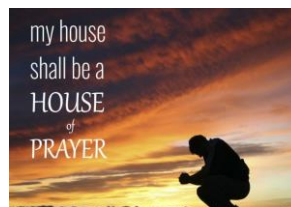


First Sunday!

The **first Sunday of each month** (with the exception of 5/5/19) after the worship service will be a time to dine together and learn about a current topic in the life of the church. There will be a simple lunch, fellowship, and a short program to educate or entertain. Please plan to join us for a free lunch, donations gladly accepted.

TUESDAY LENTEN DEVOTIONALS

Have you ever participated in a *visio divina*? Me neither. But I am looking forward to it! *Awakening to God's Beauty* is the Lenten Devotional published by Presbyterians Today, with the profoundly beautiful photography and guided meditations provided by Krin Van Tatenhove. The preface includes an idea expressed by Frederick Buechner that we need to see the beauty and promises of God "with the eyes of the heart." *Lectio divina* denotes divine reading; *Visio divina* refers to divine seeing. (Copies are available in the Narthex; if we run out and you want one, let the church office know.)



TUESDAY EVENINGS

have been set aside for these sacred conversations. Starting March 12, the next five weeks you can select the most convenient

Tuesday to join with a group of friends from the church in a neighbor's home close to you. The Lenten Devotions are from **7-8:00pm**. The purpose is to relate the verses from Psalm 23 to the photographs from nature in the provided resource. The program is the same each Tuesday, but the conversations may vary based on what people see with their "heart eyes." **ALL AGES** are most welcome! Please eat supper before you attend. The schedule is as follows. Thank you very, very much to all our gracious hosts!

3/12-Lylerly Home; 3/19-Ginny Dunn Home
3/26-Bogojevich Home; 4/2-Parlor in Fellowship Hall, 3413 Mt. Holly-Huntersville Rd.
4/9-Weldy Home; 4/16-**NO** Gathering on Tuesday!
4/18 - Please attend 6:30pm ***Maundy Thursday Meal and Service of Tenebrae*** in FH

MISSION CORNER



****DONATIONS of any kind of COOKIES for the Prison Ministry are now being received in Rm 113 through**

Sunday, March 17th! See Bonnie Spurlock is you have any questions.

Free Community Dinner



EVERYONE is invited to join us on the 2nd Thursday of every month (MARCH 14th) in FH

for the **COMMUNITY DINNER**. Dinner is served from 5:30-7pm and this month's menu will be shepherd's pie, salad, fruit and dessert. Please join us for a delicious meal and some great {and free} fellowship!

MARCH's non-perishable food item that we are collecting for **Loaves & Fishes** is **CERALS**. Collection boxes are in the Ed Bldg lobby & FH.

Lily Pad Haven's March's collection item is **laundry detergent/softeners**. 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 repellant; 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!*



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!**



Do you remember how much fun Salt Shakers was? A time when people who didn't know each other very well, got together once a month to share a night of sharing that would evolve into lasting friendships!

This time of **intergenerational** sharing proved to result in sharing quality "extended family time". If you participated before, you know how meaningful it can be. If you are a newcomer to this idea, you are in for a treat. Let's (**ALL ages!**) gather together to re-energize the Salt Shakers program. It's a wonderful opportunity to really get to know others in our church family. We will assign people to groups of 8 to 10. These groups will meet every 4-6 weeks for the remainder of 2019 to share a meal in each other's homes or at a restaurant, share a group activity such as ball game or bowling, or take part in a community volunteer initiative. We will be glad to help to connect people/families and provide ideas for activities. The point is, let's spend some quality time together! By the way, it's ok to invite other friends to join your dinner group for dinner too! It's a great way to introduce your friends to our wonderful church family! **SIGN UP TODAY!** Sign-up sheets will be in the Narthex. It's fun!

Contact Richard White, Fellowship Ministry at retiredcrw8@gmail.com or (704) 995-5412.

Name _____

Phone #s _____

Email address _____



Cook's KID'S CLUB is NOW meeting on SUNDAYS and will meet again SUNDAY, March 17th 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! {Please note: on the first Sunday of every month the meeting time will be from 12-1pm so that families can enjoy our First Lunch (meal & program).} We hope to see all of you here!



ATTENTION YOUTH, CHILDREN AND PARENTS!

The Youth, Children & Parents Planning Council meeting with Graham will meet **Sunday, March 17th**, at 11:15am in Rm 113 - please plan to attend - we need your input!



Cook's YOUTH are once again sponsoring a **SPRING PLANT SALE...**

DEADLINE for ordering is
MONDAY, March 11th!

Order forms are available each
SUNDAY in the Narthex & in the
church office. Proceeds will go
towards the Youth's 2019 summer
activities. Thanks for your support!



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.



COME, LET US SING FOR JOY TO THE LORD! PSALM 95:1

YOU ARE INVITED

Sunday, March 31, 2019, at 10:00am

is "Cook's Playschool Sunday" at
Cook's Memorial Presbyterian Church.

All Playschool students will be performing
and are encouraged to attend;
bring the whole family!

Mark your calendars; additional details
coming soon.



ATTENTION LADIES @ COOK'S!

*ALL Ladies @ Cook's are
invited to join our Presbyterian
Women for one of the following*

CIRCLE meetings on Tuesday, March 12th:

**MORNING Circle @ 10am in Fellowship Hall or
the EVENING Circle @ 7pm in Fellowship Hall!**



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



Tenebrae is the Latin
term for "darkness."
The Church often
offers a worship
experience on this

night of Jesus' betrayal in the Garden of
Gethsemane with a series of scripture readings that
follow the events of Holy Week. With each event
that takes Jesus closer to prison and the crucifixion,
we extinguish one light (or candle) taking us
through a process from light to darkness.

Like the disciples on that first *Maundy Thursday*,
we will gather to share a meal at **6:30pm**,
Thursday, April 18th, including The Last Supper.
Using the model of events, we will call on the full
cast of characters who were involved with the
decisions that lead to Jesus' Death Sentence and
tragic Darkness. "Were You There...?"



COMMUNITY GARDEN NEWS

****For those who have reserved a garden
plot for 2019, your money is due no later
than June 1, 2019.**

****There are some 4x10', 20" raised beds
filled with dirt that are ready for planting
and maintaining at a cost of \$30 a
year...they are going fast so if you are
interested, contact Michael Mauney at 704-
534-1400 asap!**



TANG's (anyone 50+
years young) are invited to
join us for our January

visit that had to be rescheduled to
Thursday, March 14th. Please let me (Penny
Love, 704/458-1258 or mlove03@gmail.com) know
as soon as possible if you plan to join me,
Suzie & Annette. Thanks!



**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 APRIL, 2019...step right
up...YOU are a very valued part of our service.

PLEASE NOTE:

Cook's Session and Property Ministry voted
recently that **ROWAN HALL needs to be
CLOSED completely** due to it being a safety
hazard. Therefore, as of **3/1/19**, there is **no
admittance allowed whatsoever**. If you need to
get in Rowan Hall for any reason, please contact
Dale Luckey to make arrangements. Thank you.



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

March 13 - Gerri Rhodes

March 15 - Mildred Grice, Cameron Jones, Avery Chami

March 18 - Joe Jackson, Eric Thompson

March 19 - Chris Brady, Carol Ann Rozzelle

March 22 - Abram Glaser



March 10: Sandy Birmingham, Beth Noles

March 17: Audrey Brady, Sydney Thompson

March 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: March 10-Cook's Youth;
March 17-Covenant SS Class; March 24-Presbyterian Women

Usher Schedule: March- Gordon Stanley & Mike Stanford (10) / Al & Linda Alexander (17,24&31), Denise Vead, Jerry Spurlock

Sound Tech Schedule: March-Chris Birmingham

Teller Schedule: March 10-Audrey Brady, Sheila Black, Christi Brafford; March 17-Ginger Thompson, Johnnie Quinn, Dwight Black; March 24-Audrey Brady, Sheila Black, Melinda McElhaney

Weekend Opener/Lockup: March-F.D. Hager



2/24/19: 109

3/03/19: 174

2019 Offerings:

Weekly offering needed for Budget YTD: \$66,348

YTD General Fund offerings rec'd: \$46,428

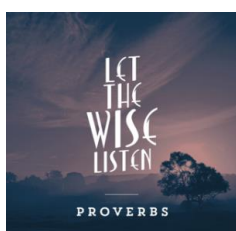


During these next 2 weeks, March 10-23, please make a special effort to recognize **Annie Luckey and Betty Hunt** with a visit or a card. They would love to hear from you!

Annie Luckey, 9906 Harwood Ln, 28214

Betty Hunt, c/o Arbor Acres, 1240 Arbor Rd, Rm 603, Winston-Salem, NC 27104

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.***



Wise Words & Quotes

- Vern McCellan

"But when you are praying, first forgive anyone you are holding a grudge against, so that your Father in heaven will forgive your sins, too." (Jesus, Mark 11:25)

"He who cannot forgive breaks the bridge over which he himself must pass." – George Herbert



Please remember in your prayers the following people:

Members

Dwight Black (CMC-Univ)

Carolyn Young (Huntersville Oaks)

Frances Dean (now home)

Jill Griffin

Gerri Rhodes

Vera Smith

Pede Self

Pat Hager

Ronnie Ransbottom

David Myers

Hazel Dunn

McKensie & Terrell Gore

Nancy Stanley

Connie & Dale Luckey

Debbie White

Corky McClure

Mork/Weldy family

Cook's Pastor Search

Friends & Relatives

Jerry McClure

Emalie Barnes

Kevin Cook

Brian Thompson

Gary Shuler & son

Grier Stanford & family

Sarah Nixon

family of Serena Todd

Butch Meyer/Richard Meyer

Cole/Davidson family

Cynthia & Mike Wicker

Anita H.

Mike Gant

Theo Helms

Nikki Kennedy's parents

Chiffon Mosely

Sonny Watkins

Gloria Bammel

family of Steve Baldwin

Dementia patients & caregivers

those hungry/abused/scared/depressed

(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.



Congratulations to Michael Mauney on becoming a PawPaw on Wednesday, February 20, 2019! Michael's daughter gave birth to Oliver Parker who weighed in at 8 lbs, 5 oz! May God bless this family with years of good health, happiness and love!

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, March 10

9:00am – *Sunday School classes for all ages!*

10:00am – Worship/Communion/sanctuary

11:00am – Fellowship on the Lawn (cookies & drinks for everyone!)

~11:15am – Youth, Children & Parents

Planning Council mtg/Rm 113

~11:00am – FINANCE Ministry mtg/office

~ 7:00pm – SESSION meeting/FH

Monday, March 11

9:30am-1pm – Playschool

6:30pm – Cub Scouts/Ed Bldg

Tuesday, March 12

9:30am-1pm - Playschool

~10:00am – MORNING Circle mtg/FH

6:00pm - Aerobics/FH

~ 7:00pm – EVENING Circle mtg/FH

7:00pm - Boy Scouts/Ed Bldg 3rd floor

Wednesday, March 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, March 14

~ 9:15am- TANG trip to craft store/bus

9:30am-1pm – Playschool

~ 5:30-7pm – COMMUNITY MEAL/FH

6:00pm – Daisy Scouts/bmst

Friday, March 15

Cub Scouts Banquet/FH



Saturday, March 16

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

Sunday, March 17

~ 7:30am – MEN'S Breakfast mtg/FH

9:00am – *Sunday School Classes for all ages!*

10:00am – Worship Service/ sanctuary

11:00am – Fellowship on the Lawn (cookies & drinks for everyone!)

~11:15am – MISSION Ministry mtg/Rm 113

~ 1:00pm - KID'S CLUB/Ed Bldg basement

Monday, March 18-DEADLINE for next newsletter

9:30am-1pm – Playschool

6:30pm – Brownies/bsmt

6:30pm - Cub Scouts/Ed Bldg

Tuesday, March 19

9:30am-1pm – Playschool

6:00pm - Aerobics

7:00pm - Boy Scouts/Ed Bldg 3rd floor

Wednesday, March 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, March 21

9:30am-1pm - Playschool

6:00pm – Jr Girl Scouts/bsmt

Friday, March 22

{H. Lyerly set-up in FH/6:30pm}

Saturday, March 23

H. Lyerly/2pm/FH



*It won't be long
now - new church
directories coming
soon!*



Don't forget to "spring" your
clocks ahead ONE hour
before going to bed this
Saturday night **March 9th!**



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).



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
Saville (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
Website: www.cookschurch.org/www.cmppyouth.weebly.com

Sermons/newsletters are available on our website!

Now you can find us on **Facebook** and follow us on **Twitter!**
{Online Directory User Code-allusers; Password-CJR53ERW}

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, March 18 @ 4pm for *next* newsletter!



It’s time to order our Easter flowers so that we can fill the sanctuary with beautiful flowers on *Easter Sunday*. We are offering the traditional white, 6” Easter lily.

Please have orders submitted to the church office or basket in Narthex by Friday, March 22. Questions - call Cheryl in the church office at 704/399-7735. You may take your plants home *Easter Sunday* after the worship service.

Desired #

Price per Plant

6” Easter Lily: \$11.00

Grand Total: \$

By:

In Honor of:

In Memory of:

CHECK THIS OUT!



It is almost



time...**Saturday, April 27!**

Dinner will be served in the
Soda Shoppe.
A Talent Showcase will be the
entertainment.

Some have your tickets but others do not. It is TIME! Tickets went on sale March 3...see Jeannie McClure for tickets and/or questions.