





No. 7

Dear Friends,

I appreciate those of you who gathered at church on March 6, a chilly, rainy *Ash Wednesday*. I hope you all are experiencing transformation from God's gifts of Prayer, Confrontation, Hope, and Reconciliation - when we use these virtues from a holy perspective. Easter, like Christmas, arrives regardless of how prepared we are. We see many signs of spring. How is the condition of your inner heart? Is your Spirit feeling renewed?

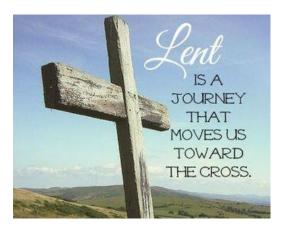
Jill Duffield, Editor of *The Presbyterian Outlook* offered a *Prayer for those in the middle of the Lenten Wilderness*. I know I need this reminder. We just observed the Fourth Sunday of Lent. We have three more full weeks to go...

The ashes on my forehead long gone, my Lenten discipline exposed as more good intentions than realized practice, the cold days of winter beginning to give way to warmer afternoons, the center of Lent feels like a mix of blooming daffodils and bare tree branches. Lord, I long for beauty even as the world languishes in the carnage of cyclones, war and revenge. I began this Lent determined to stay alert to the presence of the holy, awake to the inbreaking of the divine, on watch for how to serve the One who came to save the world. But, dear God, right here in the middle of the wilderness, I confess I am weary, weighed down with the urge to sleep until the suffering has passed and resurrection reigns.

Forgive my faithless stupor and in your mercy nudge me awake with glimpses of goodness, small acts of kindness and relentless beauty emerging from places long desolate. Do not let me ignore the angels who minister in wilderness places, the nourishment of daily bread or the gift of those on this journey with me. Patient God, guide me through these waning days of Lent, keep me alert to your presence, awake for your sake and on watch for your promised new creation. Amen.

Duffield's words of Mercy, Patience, and Nourishment stand out for me. May we use these next three weeks well.

Peace, Lynn Thompson Bryant





<u> Maundy Thursday - April 18th</u>

Encountering the people and events when Jesus went to Jerusalem to observe The Passover initiates the intense experience that results in Jesus' crucifixion. Had Jesus met with his friends in Jericho or even stayed with Mary, Martha, and Lazarus in Bethany for The Passover, he would likely have lived a little longer. But he knew his time had come to confront those who held earthly power over him, and against all human counsel, set his face to Jerusalem.

We will meet in Fellowship Hall at **<u>6:00pm</u>**. This is our traditional place for fellowship, eating, and singing, where we enjoy traditional foods, sing powerful music, and deepen friendships while breaking bread together. But when we remember what happened..., and imagine as nearly as possible what it was like for Jesus to be surrounded by friends and enemies who contributed to his receiving the death sentence, we feel compelled to ask how our behavior and decisions are all that different from how the crowds and Jesus' friends responded over 2000 years ago. Expect to meet people like Caiaphas, Judas, Peter, and Mary as we process through the night that Jesus was betrayed. The night will surely grow darker as we move through a Service of Tenebrae, extinguishing candles as Jesus moves closer to the Cross. Walking through the events of Maundy Thursday will enhance your Easter morning experience. Please make the effort to come walk with Jesus.



TUESDAY LENTEN DEVOTIONALS

TUESDAY EVENINGS have been set aside for our *Lenten Devotional* times and

next Tuesday, <u>April 9</u>, will be the *last chance* that you can 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. **ALL AGES** are most welcome! Please eat supper before you attend. **The last meeting will be held at the home of Bev Weldy on Tuesday**, **April 9**th. Thank you very, very much to all our gracious hosts!

MISSION CORNER



EVERYONE is invited to join us on the <u>2nd Thursday of every</u> <u>month</u> (**APRIL 11th**) in FH for

the **COMMUNITY DINNER**. Dinner is served

from 5:30-7pm and this month's menu will be ham, potato salad, green beans and dessert. Please join us for a delicious meal and some great {and free} fellowship!

<u>APRIL's</u> non-perishable food item that we are collecting for Loaves & Fishes is <u>100% FRUIT</u> <u>JUICE</u>. Collection boxes are in the Ed Bldg lobby & Narthex.

Lily Pad Haven's <u>April's</u> collection item is plastic baggies (all sizes). 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. Questions, call 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 Pede

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!



Cook's KID'S CLUB will meet again <u>this</u> SUNDAY, <u>April 7th</u> from 12-1pm! We invite ALL

preschoolers (ages 3-4) and ALL elementary aged kids (grades K-5) to join Graham for games, devotion & music in the basement of the Education Building immediately following the FIRST LUNCH & PROGRAM. We hope to see all of you here!

{Since the next meeting time will be Easter Sunday, the <u>next</u> KID'S CLUB meeting will be held on Sunday, <u>May 5th</u>, from 1-2pm. ALL children are invited to join Graham for our annual Children's Easter Celebration immediately following worship on 4/21...see note on next page for more details about that event.}



Cook's Presbyterian Women will be sponsoring **Blanket Sunday on April 7, 2019**. The CWS Blanket ministry is an easy way for churches to participate in a broadreaching mission to

provide our neighbors that are experiencing poverty, displacement or disaster with a warm blanket to comfort them in their time of need.

Last fall over 11,200 blankets were distributed to Hurricane Florence and Michael victims. In 2018 Church World Services distributed over 174,000 blankets and kits. Almost ³/₄ of these were distributed to people in the United States and territories. Often we will see people coming thru Room in The Inn at Urban Ministries with the CWS blanket a congregation has given them. Please prayerfully consider your donation to this vital ministry.

This **Sunday**, **April 7**, there will be Women standing at the exits to collect your donation. There will be also envelopes in the pew if you prefer to place your donation in the offering plate.

SALT SHAKE



SALT SHAKERS is

a time when people who don't know each other very well, get together once a month to share a night of fun that will evolve into

lasting friendships! If you participated before, you know how meaningful it can be and if you are a newcomer to this idea, you are in for a treat! It's a wonderful opportunity to really get to know others in

our church family. We will assign people of ALLAGES in groups of 8-10 and 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 provide ideas for activities. So please join us as we spend some quality time together! By the way, it's ok to invite other friends to join your group for dinner/activities too...what a great way to introduce your friends to our wonderful church family! SIGN UP TODAY! Signup sheets will be in the Narthex. Contact Richard White, Fellowship Ministry at retiredcrw8@gmail.com or (704) 995-5412 if you have questions.

Name	

Phone #s _____

Email address ____



2019 FLOWER CALENDAR INFORMATION

Here are the <u>AVAILABLE</u> dates that we have at this point on our <u>2019 Flower Calendar</u>: <u>APRIL 14</u>, <u>September 29</u>; <u>December 1</u>. 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.

Presbyterian

ALL ladies at Cook's are invited to join one of the following **CIRCLE**

meetings: SATURDAY MORNING, <u>April 6th</u> @ 9:30am in the parlor of FH or Tuesday, <u>April 9th</u> -MORNING Circle @ 10am in FH or the EVENING Circle @ 7pm also in Fellowship Hall.



At the Rock-N-Roll event, dinner will be served in the Soda Shoppe. Don't forget to bring CASH or CHECK as no debit cards were used in the 50's.



Our annual children's Easter celebration will take place on *Easter Sunday*, *April 21st*, immediately after our worship service! We will send the kids out

for the **EASTER EGG HUNT** and there will be designated areas for children of all ages so bring the whole family! Also, bring their Easter baskets for their 'egg collection'. Afterwards we will make, discuss and eat Resurrection Cookies. We hope that all of Cook's children will be able to join in the fun!

COMMUNITY NEWS

FISH FRY and Bake Sale, Friday April 5th,

4pm until they run out – Cost: \$10 a plate (flounder, slaw, fries & hush puppies) at Christ United Methodist Church (8020 Belhaven Blvd, 28216).



<u>Congregation</u>: you are encouraged to prepare yourself for communion to be served on Palm Sunday, April 14 and during our Tenebrae Service at 6pm on

Maundy Thursday, April 18th, through prayer and the reading of scripture - "This do in remembrance of Me" {Luke 22:19}.



Cook's PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY will meet on Sunday,

<u>Apríl 7th</u>, at 9am in the parlor. Please join us for a time of devotion, fellowship and instruction if needed. Call Audrey Brady (704-609-7931) with questions.



<u>Wise Words &</u>

Quotes - Vern McCellan

"In everything that you do, stay away from complaining

and arguing, so that no one can speak a word of blame against you." (Philippians 2:14-15)

"'Whines' are the products of sour grapes."



Dear Friends,

Many of you heard my aunt, Marcia Larson, sing for worship when she visited with us at Christmas time. She will turn 100

on **April 30th**! I write to ask you to send her a birthday card. If you will, please identify yourself as part of Cook's congregation. Her address is: 3585 Brambleton Avenue, Roanoke, VA 24018. Thank you for your kindness in advance. Peace in Christ, T.J. Thompson



COMMUNITY GARDEN NEWS

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

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 <u>asap</u>!



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 <u>APRIL, 2019</u>...step right up...YOU are a very valued part of our service!



Nursery

We wish a Happy Birthday to the following:

April 7 - Neil Thompson April 8 - Kristi Miller <u>April 10</u> - Dwight Black, (Sarah Hughes) April 12 - Jill Lucas April 13 - Jack Parker, Pete Sigmon April 25 - Jamie {Crosby} Putnam, Marty Crosby, Doug Riggs, Daniel Mork

> April 7: Beth Noles, Toni Thompson April 14: Cheryl Rollins, Audrey Brady April 21: Linda Lynn, Sydney Thompson April 28: 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: April 7-New Horizon SS Class; April 14-Spiritual Life/Adult SS Class; April 21-Cook's Youth; April 28-Covenant SS Class

<u>(Jsher Schedule:</u> April-Christi Brafford, Gordon Stanley, Doug & Dinah Riggs

Sound Tech Schedule: April-Joe Chichetti

Teller Schedule: April 7-Ginger Thompson, Scott Jones, Bonnie Pace; April 14-Audrey Brady, Sheila Black, Christi Brafford; April 21-Ginger Thompson, Johnnie Quinn, Gordon Stanley; April 28-Audrey Brady, Melinda McElhaney, Dwight Black

Weekend Opener/Lockup: April-James Harper



3/24/19: 113 3/31/19: 309

2019 Offerings:

Weekly offering needed for Budget YTD: \$95,836 YTD General Fund offerings rec'd: \$91,378



During these next 2 weeks, April 7-20, please make a special effort to recognize Loretta Hinson and Melva **Thompson** with a visit or a card. They would love to hear from you!

Loretta Hinson, c/o Concord Place Assisted Living, 2452 Rock Hill Church Rd, Concord, 28027 Melva Thompson, 8944 McClure Circle, Charlotte, 28216

Here is a complete list of our Homebound Members: Betty Hunt, Loretta Hinson (address is now c/o Brookdale @ Concord, Rm 2...street/city the same), Melva Thompson, Nancy Stanley, Annie Luckey, Mildred Alexander & Carolyn Young... please pray for them all daily.



YOUTH Spring Plant Sale PICK-UP THIS Saturday, April 6th,

9:30-11:30am in parking ot near playground...if you ordered

plants from our Youth, please be sure to pick them up on this day during this time or contact Graham immediately to make other arrangements (828-310-1433 / gkhughes31@gmail.com).



Please remember in your prayers the following people:

Members

Annie Luckey Bolz/Black family David Myers Carolyn Young Jill Griffin Gerri Rhodes Vera Smith **Debbie White** Ronnie Ransbottom

Dwight Black Nancy Stanley Hazel Dunn Corky McClure Connie & Dale Luckey Pat Hager Mork/Weldy family Cook's Pastor Search

Steve Self

Friends & Relatives

family of Sharon Tolley (passed away 3/28) Gary Carter Aliyah Thompson's grandfather Brian Zuercher **Emalie Barnes** Kevin Cook Ledane Poplin Marcia Larson Willi Messick (Hospice care) **Richard Meyer** Brian Thompson Ava Davis & Tate family Gary Shuler & son Larry Rupp Lee Stilwell **Dee Peterson** Kelly Cousineau Cole/Davidson family Cynthia & Mike Wicker Jeff & Gloria Herman Gloria Ricker Gloria Bammel Susan Kenley Theo Helms Anita H. Nikki Kennedy's parents Terrie Cook Mary Hightower Ray/relative of S. Justice Mike Lippy & family Bill Perrella Tom Medlin Brock Garland Foster family Rev. Bingham Dementia patients & caregivers

those hungry/abused/scared/depressed shooting victims & families throughout the world people going through life transitions

(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.



UPDATE: Our new church dírectoríes are being shipped to us on April 3rd...they will be distributed

shortly after that!



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. For instructions to download the "app", contact Ginger at 704/562-7558.

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, April 7

 9:00am – Prayer Shawl Ministry/parlor 9:00am – Sunday School classes for all ages! 10:00am – Worship/Blanket Sunday/sanctuary ~11:00am – FIRST LUNCH & PROGRAM/FH
 12-1pm - KID'S CLUB/Ed Bldg basement
 ~4:00pm-YOUTH/Egg-streme Egg Hunt/church

Monday, April 8 9:30am-1pm – Playschool



3:30pm – LPH/parlor 6:30pm – Cub Scouts mtg/Ed Bldg

Tuesday, April 9

- 9:30am-1pm Playschool ~10:00am – MORNING Circle/FH 6:00pm - Aerobics/FH
- ~ 7:00pm EVENING Circle/FH
- 7:00pm Boy Scouts/Ed Bldg 3rd floor
- ~ 7-8pm LENTEN DEVOTIONS/home of Bev Weldy

Wednesday, April 10

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, April 11
- 9:30am-1pm Playschool ~ **5:30-7pm – COMMUNITY MEAL** 6:00pm – Daisy Scouts/bmst
- Friday, April 12
 - 12:00pm B. Lara/reception set-up/FH
- Saturday, April 13
- 8:30am B. Lara/wedding reception & set-up/FH **Sunday, April 14**
- 9:00am Sunday School Classes for all ages! 10:00am – Worship/Palm Sunday Processional/
- Communion/sanctuary 11:00am – Fellowship on the Lawn (cookies & drinks for everyone!)
- ~11:15am FINANCE Ministry meeting/office
- ~ 7:00pm SESSION meeting/Rm 113
- Monday, April 15

****PLEASE NOTE:** the <u>DEADLINE</u> for our next newsletter has been <u>moved</u> to Tues, April 23, 9am.

Tuesday, April 16 6:00pm - Aerobics

- Wednesday, April 17 9am-2:30pm – Quilting Bees/Rm 201 ~ 6:30pm - Adult Choir/Handbells Rehearsal
- Thursday, April 18
- ~ 6:00pm MAUNDY THURSDAY Service/FH
- Saturday, April 20 ~10:00am – Adult Choir Cantata Rehearsal/sanc
- Sunday, April 21
- ~ 7:30am Easter Sunrise Service & Breakfast / front lawn & FH
 9:00am – Sunday School Classes for all ages!
 10:00am – Worship/Easter Cantata/sanctuary
 11:00am – Fellowship on the Lawn (cookies & drinks for everyone!)
- ~11:15am-Children's Easter Celebration/FH

Monday, April 22 **Church Office CLOSED for Holiday** 9:30am-1pm - Playschool

Tuesday, April 23-DEADLINE for our next newsletter 9:30am-1pm - Playschool 6:00pm – Aerobics 7:00pm - Boy Scouts/Ed Bldg 3rd floor

- Wednesday, April 24 9am-2:30pm – Quilting Bees/Rm 201 9:30am-1pm - Playschool
- ~5:45pm-Youth Ensemble Rehearsal/Choir Room
- ~ 6:00pm String Trio Rehearsal/sanctuary

Thursday, April 25 9:30am-1pm – Playschool 6:00pm – Daisy Scouts/bsmt

Friday, April 26 - Rock-n-Roll set-up/all day/FH

Saturday, April 27

~4-7pm-Rock-n-Roll dinner & entertainment/FH

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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

<u>Sunday Schedule:</u> Sunday School for ALL ages at 9:00am; Worship Service at 10:00am; Fellowship on the Lawn (Cookies & Drinks for everyone) immediately after worship.

<u>Office Hours:</u> Monday – Friday, 9am-5pm; (704) 399-7735; fax #: (704) 399-0823; E-Mail: office@cookschurch.org

Website: www.cookschurch.org/www.cmpcyouth.weebly.com Sermons/newsletters are available on our website!

Now you can find us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter! {Online Directory now available on www.cookschurch.org} 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 <u>Tuesday</u>, <u>April 23 @ 9am</u> for *next* newsletter!



First Sunday!

Congregational Care and some Creative Chefs have some wonderful plans for

the next First Sunday Luncheon and Program. Do you know how Cook's Community Garden began? Do you know how many people use it? Would you like to acquire some delicious, healthy recipes from the produce that comes from this beautiful Garden?! If you would like the answers to any of these questions, or would enjoy a wonderful time of enjoying good food (menu will be meatloaf, green beans, mashed potatoes & dessert [MawMaw style]) and fellowship after church on <u>April 7th</u>, please join us! <u>Please note</u>: there will not be a First Lunch/Program on May 5, 2019, but it will resume June 2, 2019.



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*!

Cook's Kids & Youth:

come be part of our **Palm Sunday Processional** during our Worship Service on



<u>SUNDAY</u>, <u>April 14th</u>! Please gather in the Narthex by <u>9:50am</u> to participate.



We will be having an **EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE this Sunday, April**

21st at <u>**7:30am</u>** on the *front steps* to the sanctuary...*breakfast* will be served afterwards by the Men of the Church in Fellowship Hall.</u>



Please bring flowers from home with you Easter Sunday morning (<u>April</u> <u>21st</u>) to help in 'flowering the cross' on the front steps of the sanctuary before worship!