



May 8, 2019

Dear Friends,

When I need to be productive, but feel foggy and out of sorts, I turn to one of my favorite sources of meditation. Often, it's the 23rd Psalm, reflective prayer to unravel the knots of the day, or maybe even a walk for fresh air and some inspiring scenery. But it's dark, I'm empty, and I'm tired. Sr. Joyce Rupp is one of my favorite authors. She opens her essay on "Seeking and Finding" with Jeremiah 29:13: "When you search for me, you will find me; when you search wholeheartedly for me, I shall let you find me."

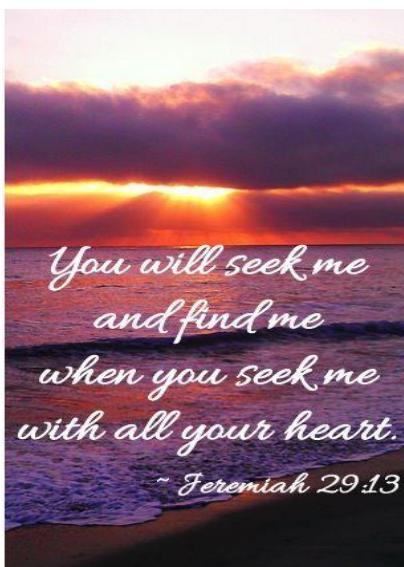
Then she acknowledges our human tendency. "We may not be consciously aware of our seeking. We may just be living our lives day by day. The wonder is that while this searching goes on within us, there is also One who keeps seeking us out, calling to us, greatly desiring that we find the home within."

We are living in this rich season between the proclamation of the Easter Resurrection of One in anticipation of the birth of the Church for All, on Pentecost Sunday. Yet while we long to spread this Good News to others, we are still searching for that validation for ourselves and for our church. With some of the questions, challenges, and disappointments around us, we struggle to get from a place of scarcity into the realm of God's abundant love. The hope revolves around finding the balance of exerting the energy to pursue a deeper relationship, and resting in the arms of the One who loves us through the storms and into the sunrise.

Rupp's Closing Prayer strengthens me. "God of all seekers, bless our yearnings for You. Fill us with courage to do what is best for the healing of our own hearts and the heart of the world. Accept our gratitude for the many times You have sought us and have invited us to recognize You in the heart of our true self. Amen."

Peace,

Lynn Thompson Bryant



If you feel sad that you missed some of the recent excitement in Fellowship Hall, don't think you have to wait until next year when events like the "Rock-N-Roll" Party or Cinco de Mayo (the PW Birthday Bash) roll around again. Take heart! **This Friday, May 10th at 6:00pm** is **MOVIE NIGHT**, with "Woodlawn" being shown and a light dinner being served! And **June 1st**, beginning at **5:00pm** we'll be enjoying a "Camp-In" Overnight experience in Fellowship Hall! Late night stories with chocolate and marshmallows is a great way to get better acquainted! Bring the whole family to both of these events!



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 be sure to join us for our next **FIRST SUNDAY Lunch & Program** on **June 2nd** in Fellowship Hall immediately following our 10am worship service! The theme that day will be "School Days" - more details to come.

MISSION CORNER

Free Community Dinner



EVERYONE is invited to join us on the 2nd Thursday of every month (**MAY 9th**) in FH for the

COMMUNITY DINNER.

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

MAY's non-perishable food item that we are collecting for **Loaves & Fishes** is **PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY**. Collection boxes are in the Ed Bldg lobby & Narthex.

Lily Pad Haven's **May's** collection item is **SOCKS (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; Feminine hygiene products; Hats/gloves; Insect repellent; shampoo/conditioners; Lotion; Diapers; Floss/toothpaste/toothbrushes; Deodorant.** Questions, call Heather Lyerly at 704/618-6947.

Kajiado Children's Home is **COLLECTING UNDERWEAR AND SOCKS IN MAY AND JUNE** to take to the children on the mission trip this year. We are also looking for **backpacks for the teens** to use for school. We have enough book bags for the younger children. **Please bring your donation to church or drop by the church office during the month of May and no later than June 16!** We plan to leave on June 20 and return home June 30.

Thank you for your continued support of Kajiado Children's Home. It is a privilege to represent Cook's Church in this important mission. We rescued 25 additional children this Spring and are seeking Christian sponsors for these children. To sponsor a child or find out more about KCH, contact Gaye List (704/909-9910) or Pede Self (704/516-1753). Thanks to everyone for their prayers and support!



Cook's KID'S CLUB

will meet again **SUNDAY, May 19th** 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!



*ALL ladies at Cook's are invited to join our Presbyterian Women at their May **CIRCLE** outings on **Tuesday, May 14th**:*

MORNING Circle** at 11:30am at **Midwood Sundries** in **Denver** or the **EVENING Circle** at 6:30pm at **Red Robin Restaurant @ Northlake Mall.** If you have any questions, contact **Johnnie Quinn.



If you **haven't** received yours yet, they are available for you to pickup in the **church office** M-F, 9-5pm {closed for lunch}.



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!**



2019 FLOWER CALENDAR

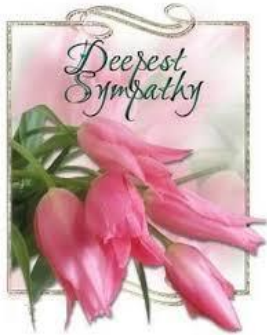
We have one date that is **AVAILABLE** on our **2019 Flower Calendar: September 29.** Please contact Cheryl in the church office if you'd like to honor or remember a loved one by supplying our sanctuary flowers on this date...704/399-7735 or office@cookschurch.org.



ALL MEN are invited to join Cook's Men of the Church on **Sunday, May 19** at **7:30am** for their monthly breakfast meeting – contact Dale Luckey if you have any questions.



Every May we list all of our members that are serving or have served in any branch of the U.S. Military, in war or peace time. It's almost that time of year so if you or someone you know should be on that list and was not included in last year's listing, please send the following information to the church office no later than **Monday, May 20th**: name, branch of service, war time or peace time. Thanks for your help and thanks to all our veterans for serving our country!



Our Christian sympathy is extended to Melinda McElhaney and Chad Poplin on the death of their daughter/mom, Ledane Poplin. Ledane passed away on Thursday, May 2nd. Please remember her family in your prayers during this time of loss.



Please make a note of the following address change in your church directory:

Loretta Butler, 2035 Fairways W Dr,
New Bern, NC 28562 (same phone #)



Cook's Memorial Presbyterian Church will host The Presbytery of Charlotte Meeting On Tuesday, May 21, 2019 at 10:00am.

Worship and Communion, with Reverend Katherine Cooke Kerr preaching from excerpts from Exodus 35 & 36, culminating with *"The people bring much more than enough for doing the work which the Lord has commanded us to do"* (36:6).

All are welcome, but please make reservations if you would like to enjoy lunch.

COMMUNITY NEWS

River Oaks Elementary School is in **DESPERATE** need of **PROCTORS** for EOG testing on **May 28th & 29th** (especially the 28th) from 8:30am-12:30pm. If you would be willing to help them out, please contact Ms. Anika Baker *immediately* at 980-344-1020 or a.baker@cms.k12.nc.us.



*Please bring the whole family and some friends and join us for **MOVIE NIGHT** this Friday, May*

10th @ 6pm – in Fellowship Hall! The movie will be "Woodlawn" – a family-oriented, true story about a football team. A light dinner will be served before the movie. Sodas & popcorn will be provided during the movie. Contact Connie Luckey @ 704-394-8514 for more information.

CAMPING OUT PARTY



**Save The Date -
Camp-In
Saturday
JUNE 1st,
5pm-Sunday am**

Bring your tent (or make one to put up out of paper or linen) and lounge chairs. We will be spending the night (if you can/want to), so pack accordingly. There will be a "campfire", stories told, smores to be made, hot dogs & hamburgers & chips, scavenger hunt, etc. We will be asking for \$20 "site fee" per family to cover food and other expenses. (Contact Sandy Birmingham to RSVP and pay 704-724-1620 or lilluck23@aol.com)

"Fun Dip" group is being created for ages 21-49 to get together and fellowship outside of church. More details and the first outing will be scheduled soon. Contact Sandy Birmingham 704-724-1620 or lilluck23@aol.com if you have ideas or would like to be involved.

Lastly, keep an eye open for an **informational class on Medicare & Medicaid** for those that are interested.



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

- May 12 - Robbie McClure
May 13 - Cheryl Rollins
May 16 - Julie Sasnett, Laura Griggs
May 17 - Christine Bogojevich
May 18 - Sheila Black
May 19 - Jamie Benfield
May 20 - Mia Chaney
May 25 - Elizabeth Bolick, Zach Rollins



- May 12:** Sandy Birmingham, Beth Noles
May 19: Cheryl Rollins, Sydney Thompson
May 26: 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: May 12-Men of the Church;
May 19-New Horizon SS Class; May 26-Spiritual Life/Adult SS Class

Usher Schedule: May-Lyle & Bonnie Pace, Steve Gilmore, Melinda McElhaney

Sound Tech Schedule: May-Dave List

Teller Schedule: May 12-Ginger Thompson, Scott Jones, Christi Brafford; May 19-Ginger Thompson, Johnnie Quinn, Dwight Black; May 26-Audrey Brady, Melinda McElhaney, Gordon Stanley

Weekend Opener/Lockup: May-Al Alexander



4/28/19: 105
 5/05/19: 84

2019 Offerings:

Weekly offering needed for Budget YTD: \$132,696
 YTD General Fund offerings rec'd: \$144,528



During these next 2 weeks, May 12-25, please make a special effort to recognize **Betty Hunt and Mildred Alexander** with a visit or a card. They would love to hear from you!

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

Mildred Alexander, c/o Carmel Place, Rm 206, 5512 Carmel Rd, Charlotte, 28226

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



Thank you to everyone who contributed to our CATCHUP CAMPAIGN...we have surpassed our goal of \$40,000! Your love and support of Cook's

Church has made this possible and with it, we can continue our worship and praise to our Heavenly Father and also the work Cook's does to help others and tell them about Jesus' love for them!



Please remember in your prayers the following people:

Members

- Melinda McElhaney/Chad Poplin (death of daughter/mother, Ledane Poplin)
 Steve Gilmore Gaye List & family (death of brother)
 Terry Thompson (Atrium/Univ Rehab, Rm 408) Laura Griggs
 Nancy Stanley Joyce Norris
 Russ Sasnett (Hunts Rehab) Jeannie McClure
 Debbie McCrary & family (death of brother, Brian Thompson)
 Carolyn Young Steve Self
 Hazel Dunn Jill Griffin
 Corky McClure Pat Hager
 Gerri Rhodes Debbie White
 Vera Smith Mork/Weldy family
 Cook's Pastor Search

Friends & Relatives

- Kelsey & Jonathan Prescott & twin boys Sam Cerio
 William Savelle's uncle & family Brian Zuercher
 Gary Carter Melody Mathews
 Emalie Barnes Kevin Cook
 Marcia Larson Willi Messick (Hospice care)
 Kristen & Bobby Benfield Larry Rupp
 Richard Meyer Cole/Davidson family
 Dee Peterson Ava Davis & Tate family
 Gary Shuler & son Gloria Bammel
 Kelly Cousineau Susan Kenley
 Cynthia & Mike Wicker Jeff & Gloria Herman
 Gloria Ricker Mary Hightower
 Bill Perrella Theo Helms
 Anita H. Hattie Mae & family
 Collin Dula family of Linda Smith
 Dale Thompson Hayes family
 UNC-Charlotte students/faculty
 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.



Wise Words

& Quotes

- Vern McCellan

"Blessed are those who are generous, because they feed the poor." (Proverbs 22:9)

"No person has ever been honored for what he has received; always, for what he has given."



CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, May 12 – Happy Mother's Day!

9:00am – *Sunday School classes for all ages!*
10:00am – *Worship/YOUTH Sunday/sanctuary*
11:00am – *Fellowship on the Lawn* (cookies & drinks for everyone!)

Monday, May 13

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

Tuesday, May 14

9:30am-1pm - Playschool
~11:30am – *MORNING Circle*/Midtown Sundries, Denver
6:00pm - Aerobics/FH
~ 6:30pm – *EVENING Circle*/Red Robin, Northlake
7:00pm - Boy Scouts/Ed Bldg 3rd floor

Wednesday, May 15

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, May 16

9:30am-1pm – Playschool/Graduation in sanc @ 11am
6:00pm – Jr Girl Scouts/bmst

Friday, May 17

Pack Promotion/Awards Night/FH

Saturday, May 18

Sunday, May 19

~7:30am – *MEN'S Group 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
~ 1-2pm - *KID'S CLUB*/Ed Bldg bsmt

Monday, May 20 – **DEADLINE for next newsletter**

**Presbytery meeting set-up/all day/FH
6:30pm – Brownies/bsmt
6:30pm – Cub Scouts Parent/Leader mtg/Ed Bldg

Tuesday, May 21

Presbytery meeting/all day/sanc & FH
6:00pm – Aerobics
7:00pm - Boy Scouts/Ed Bldg 3rd floor

Wednesday, May 22

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, May 23

6:00pm – Daisy Scouts/bsmt

Friday, May 24

2-4pm – S. Birmingham/FH kitchen

Saturday, May 25



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 **MAY 19, 2019**...step right
up...**YOU** are a very valued part of our service!



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.



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.

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.cmpeyouth.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
Monday, May 20 @ 4pm for next newsletter!



Summer Sunday School begins June 2nd!

Please plan to meet in the Fellowship Hall at 9:00am for an intergenerational Sunday School kickoff! There will be light breakfast food served. All adults are invited to join together at 9am in FH from June 9 thru Sept. 1 and our youth & children will join together also at 9am (location tbd). Once a month we will come together as one group. We will publish this schedule in the next newsletter.



ATTENTION PARENTS OF COOK'S CHURCH'S COLLEGE & HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES!

If you have a college or high school graduate that is a member of Cook's Church, please send us their name, school from which they are graduating, date of graduation, their plans for the future and degree in college that they have earned **NO LATER THAN SUNDAY, MAY 26th!** Please send above information and pictures of your graduate 'through the years' to office@cookschurch.org or 704-399-7735 or to Graham at 828-310-1433 / gkhughes31@gmail.com.

We will recognize all graduates during worship on Sunday, June 2, 2019.



Join us for Vacation Bible School the week of August 4-8! On

Sunday, 8/4, our opening celebration (games & dinner for all kids) will begin at 3:30pm. Dinner/classes for **all** ages will be held Mon-Thurs from 5:30-7:30pm. We will conclude the week with a VBS Celebration during worship on **Sunday, August 11**. Mark your calendars now!