

The Spire

Volume 2008 Issue 2

February 2008

And the Greatest of These....

"And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love....It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends." *I Corinthians 13:13, 7-8*

Lee Iacocca once asked the legendary football coach Vince Lombardi what it took to make a winning team. And, the answer? Lombardi said: "Now there are a lot of coaches with good ball clubs who know the fundamentals and have plenty of discipline but still don't win the game. Then you come to the third ingredient: If you're going to play together as a team, you've got to care for one another. You've got to love each other. Each player has to be thinking about the next guy and saying to himself: *If I don't block that man, Paul is going to get his legs broken. I have to do my job well in order that he can do his.*

"The difference between mediocrity and greatness," Lombardi said, "is the feeling we have for each other."

In any healthy church, each Christian learns to care for others. It's only as we take seriously Jesus' command to love one another that we have a winning team.

Or, as a friend of mine says so beautifully on the radio,

Ya'll let the love shine, in your hearts,

Jim

MINISTERS

The People

PASTORAL STAFF

Jim Ferry

PROGRAM STAFF

Rose Gurkin

Music Director

Gloria Oelke
Organist

SUPPORT STAFF

Sam Baldenow

Youth Director

Barbara Mayette

Administrative

Financial Secretary

Sermons for February

"Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God!"

– I John 4:7

Sun. February 3 "Deliverance"
Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Wed. February 6 ASH WEDNESDAY 7 p.m.
Sam Boldenow preaching

Sun. February 10 "Tempted!"
Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7;
Romans 5:12-15, 19
Matthew 6:12-13

Sun. February 17 "Holding Heaven"
– A Sermon in Drama

Sun. February 24 "Tempted – to be Full"
Matthew 4:1-4

ABOUT LENT

Did you know?

Lent

- is a season of the church year like Advent
- begins in 3 weeks on Ash Wednesday
– Feb. 6th
- comes from the Anglo-Saxon word 'Lenten' meaning 'Spring'
- has the liturgical color purple signifying penitence, humility, suffering
- lasts for 40 days plus 6 Sundays
- these 40 days signifying Jesus' 40 days of trial and temptation in the wilderness

Ash Wednesday

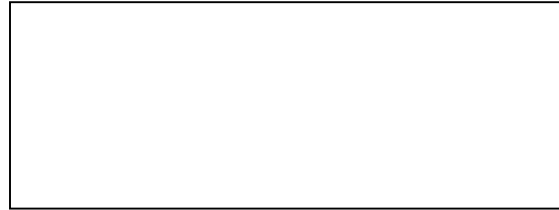
- is the beginning of Lent
- the ashes symbolize repentance from sin or sorrow in mourning
- ashes make the sign of Jesus' cross on your forehead
- the ashes are often made from the charred remains of palm leaves used the previous Palm Sun

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



OLDER AND BETTER

Yes, our senior group is certainly that, and that's our new name! About twenty of us gathered on January 5 to hear about some trips we may want to go on in the future. Eddie Glover from Ebenezer United Methodist Church told us about some of the trips he has arranged for people at his church, including a three-day trip to Pennsylvania (the Amish country, Hershey Park, Sight and Sound Theater, etc.), Savannah, Charleston, Wilmington and a mystery trip to ? Ken Summerville suggested we go on a day trip the first time, and presented some information about Poplar Forest, which was Thomas Jefferson's retreat when everybody else was visiting Monticello! It was also mentioned that the Senior Center is offering a trip to Billy Graham's Museum and Library this Spring. We'll make a decision at our next meeting.

Since many of us enjoy going to the Dinner and a Movie nights, it was suggested that we sponsor one, perhaps for our May meeting.

Juanita suggested speaker and artist, Cotton Ketchie from Morrisville. She has heard that he is very amusing and enjoyable.

The group decided to meet four times during the year; January, March, May and October. We have purchased some DVD's of shows held in Branson, Missouri, one of which will be shown at our March 1 meeting at 7:00. Details will follow. I would appreciate someone arranging for a few people to bring refreshments that evening. Please let me know if you would be willing to do so.

I hope more of you "older and bolder" folks will join us for fun and fellowship next time. We'll keep you posted on our trip plans. We'll need about 45 to fill the bus.

If you have any questions or suggestions, call Carol at 779-7355.

* * * * *

Personals:

Prayer Concerns:

Members: Sandra Hodge, Bob Berryhill, Clinton Ousley, Jerry Monroe, Mike Worsham, Parks Gray, Catherine Thomas, Betty Peel, Sandy Lee, Betty Clifton, Gerald & Greer Dillard, Alma Dedes, Carol Thompson, Tom & Lucille Crabtree, Catharine Lewis, Lillian Carroll, Ken & Pat Summerville.

Members Families: Riley Shinn, Richard Boohar, Emalyn Mercer, Jacquie Glover, Candice Davis, Beth Morrison, Ann Meacham, Jeff Holland, Daniel Carmichael, Ann Prater, Jennifer & Sarah Bazari, Marsha Rubble, Jennifer Floyd, Anne Marie Floyd, Duncan Thomas Floyd, Helen Howard, Melissa Meacham, Adrian Cherry, Bob Cundall, Bill Schellinger, Bob Blamer, Bob Dedes, Joey Parish, Megan Harrell, Sam Harrell, Kevin Stevens, Lois Culhane, Jane Clute, Austin Anderson, Harold & Carole Bishop, Annette Hill, Diana Johnson, Pearlie Albery, Beverly Farrington, Bill Brown, Deb Gregory, Rick Slack, Nina Rader, Evelyn Butler, Dail Beatty, Ronnie Atkinson, Nancy Trilli, Michelle Butler, Laurie Dodson, David Meyers, Marlin Klinger, Kenny Holland, Lillian Dever.

Friends: Sandy Walsh, Dwan Turner, The Hamps, Sandy Scherer, Graham McChesney, Barbara Cook, Sue Brinson, Callie Moody, Justin Butts, The Adkins Family, The Bailey Family, The Defranco Family, Kim Miner, Ann Hinds, June Christian, April Hansen, Charlie Henline, Ruth Brown, Family of Mitchell Jernigan, Julie Ellen Morris, Sara Crater, Dr. Amos Hood, Helen Northen, Billy Jones, Jr., Jimmy Handler, The Moose Family, Jody & Beth Bloedel, John Vassey, Sergio Godoy, Barry Norman.

Please check the Prayer Concerns above and notify the office of any changes.

Altar Flowers: Sign Up for 2008 Altar Flower chart is on the bulletin board outside the library. The cost of the flowers are \$35.00. There are 15 dates still available.

**Please make the following address change
for Gerald Dillard**

**Gerald Dillard
1514 MacDonald Avenue
Garner, NC 27529**

Bible Verse for February

*“So he prayed, “Lord, didn’t I say before I left home that this is just what you would do? That’s why I did my best to run away to Spain! I knew that you are a loving and merciful God, always patient, always kind, and always ready to change your mind and not punish.”
Jonah 4:2 (Today’s English Version)*

Wanted

temporary coverage in the office while Barbara is away

The Administration/Personnel committee has an important request. As there are times Barbara may need to be away from the church office, they are asking if any of you would be willing to cover the office phones and greet any visitors to the church from 9 to 11 a. m. any mornings she needs to be absent.

Could you do this for us?

If so, please call Carl Miller 508-8272 (w) or 779-3354 (h) at your earliest convenience. We will be needing such coverage from January 25th – February 1st so please respond promptly. .

Music Notes

Special Lenten Services

February 6 Ash Wednesday

March 16 Palm Sunday

March 20 Maundy Thursday

March 23 Easter Sunday



Kid's Choir and ToneChimes: All kids in Kindergarten through 5th grades are invited to join Kid's Choir at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday evenings and the ToneChimes at 6:40 p.m.

Lent: What is it? Why is it?

The highlight of the year for Christians is Easter, the day when our Lord rose from the dead. Lent is a forty-day season of preparation for Easter beginning on Ash Wednesday.

Why 40 days? Because, Jesus fasted and was tempted in the wilderness for 40 days. Lent, then, is our time of fasting, prayer, temptation and repentance. In many languages, the word "Lent" actually means "fast." This is where the custom of giving up something for Lent originated.

However, just to confuse things, Lent is actually 46 days rather than 40 days. Why? Because the 40 days of Lent are supposed to be days of fasting, which means days of discipline and self-restraint. But Sunday, the Lord's Day, should never be a day of fasting, but a day of celebration! So each Sunday we suspend our Lenten disciplines and celebrate.

The observance of Lent was a new tradition for me when I came to serve as your Music Director. Over the past six years, I have learned to deeply appreciate this season for serious, disciplined self-examination, a time spent in prayer and repentance before the cross of Calvary.

Selecting music for the Lenten season is a challenge. We try for a balance between the self-restraint of Lent and the Sunday celebrations. Anthems like "Kum Ba Yah" and "Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley" are appropriate as well as anthems that focus on the sacrifice of the cross. We then save the 'alleluias' for Easter Sunday.

I hope you will participate in all of the special services during Lent and Holy Week and that this year Lent will have a deeper meaning for you as well.

Men of the Church

Men-of-the-Church will convene for their next breakfast and meeting on February 10th at 8am. Our speaker will be Carmen Mathieu from the Division of Community Corrections. Miss Mathieu is the coordinator of State Victim Advocate notification.

Miscellaneous News of Special Interest

"New Beginnings" has begun its 12 lecture video series on Islam on Jan. 20th. The first lecture was only an introduction; there is still time to get in on this educational series. Some of the coming subject include the life of Mohamed and nature of the Koran. We ask that all attending be comfortably seated by 9:30 for orientation to the 30 minute lecture which follows.

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There will be a Deacons' meeting in the Ogburn Room on Sunday, February 17, following the worship service.

>>>>>>>>>>

The Ash Wednesday Service will be held, Wednesday night, February 6, 2008, beginning at 7:00 PM. Please join us for this Special Service.

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New Members

It is with great joy that we welcome two new members to our church.

Ingrid Fisher, a second year student at the NCSU vet school, hails from Sylva.

Cliff Johnson, is reactivating his church membership.

We are so blessed to have both of these wonderful people with us. Please welcome them warmly.

>>>>>>>>>>

Congratulations

...to our newly elected Elders of the Class of 2010
Sandy Lee, William Lee, David Pease, and Marvin Perkins
...to our newly elected Deacon, Sandra Hodge
filling an unexpired term of the Class of 2009

and

A Great Big Thank you

...to Tim Miley, Bruce Oelke, Joe Prater, Pat Yelvington
for a job well done as Elders of this church

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Remember to Recycle Those Bulletins!!!!!!

Youth News

Youth Activities

Hey guys...we're a little behind in planning the February Youth Calendar. We will still meet Sundays at 5:00pm. When we get specific activities lined up, I'll send everyone an email. Also, they'll be in the bulletins each Sunday. Sorry for the delay!

Meals for the Youth

We've still got some spots available for providing a meal for the youth. February 3 and February 24 are currently unfilled. If you're interested in helping out, please contact Karen at 779-9748 or krmc3@bellsouth.net

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PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN NEWS

Feb 12 10:00 am Ida Joy Circle in New Beginnings classroom

Feb 11 7:00 pm Lillie Circle - Ann Bagwell hostess

The Friendship Circle will be having their annual "Souper" Bowl lunch on Sunday, February 3. Come on down to the fellowship hall immediately after the morning service for all you can eat soup and sandwiches. Cost is \$6 for adults and \$3 for children 6 and under. See you there!

Two Cents a Meal

A \$200 contribution was made in December from the Two Cents a Meal fund to The Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina.

A total contribution of \$200 was made in December to the Garner Area Ministries; \$160 of this amount came from Ida/Joy Circle member donations and \$40 from the Two Cents a Meal fund.

RECIPE COLLECTION-COOKBOOKS

RECIPES NEEDED - we must have at least 200 and as of Jan 14th we had around 70.

The Lillie Circle members are collecting recipes for a new cookbook.

The recipes should be printed or typed on a specific form (included in this Spire or from any Lillie Circle member). Completed forms should be given to Lillie Circle members or left at the church office. The deadline has been extended to February 15, 2008 and we would really love to see at least one recipe from each church family. The cookbook will be a collector's item and we are striving to include "Heart Healthy", "Quick & Easy", "International", "In Memory of" recipes. We are also trying to include a kid's recipe section so please include some recipes from your children and/or grandchildren.

Please mark your recipe specifically if it falls in one of these categories. Of course, the standard categories of "Appetizers", "Main Dishes", "Desserts", "Vegetables", "Salads", and "Miscellaneous" will also be included. Questions or additional information can be obtained from Sandra Hodge, Ann Bagwell, or Dorothy McLeod. Thank you for your contribution.

MICKEY EFIRD LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

Thursdays Feb. 7th – March 13th

Once again this year, our church will be joining Garner United Methodist in sponsoring a special Lenten Bible Study series led by Dr. Mickey Efird. These studies, on the Book of Revelation this year, and which will be hosted by Garner UMC will be taking place each of the first six Thursdays of Lent @ 7 p.m. beginning at 7 p. m. each night. As many well know, Dr. Efird's interpretations of scripture combine the wisdom of a master teacher with the warmth and wit of an old friend. All are invited to join in this wonderful opportunity to increase the depth of our understanding of God's Word.,

* * * * *

Usher List: Feb. 2008

- 2/3 Debbie and Bob Dennison
- 2/10 Neal and Jane Knabe
- 2/17 Greg and Beth Cole
- 2/24 Julie and Brett Tedder

Nursery Schedule: Feb. 2008:

- 2/3 Parks and Lorrie Icenhour
- 2/10 Julia Russell, Mitzi Gray
- 2/17 Gayla and Christian Todd
- 2/24 Karine Gnall, Kendra Rommel

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RELAY FOR LIFE

That time of year is quickly closing in upon us. The time we all rally together to support the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life. If you've never been involved this might be your year. We have a great time and work hard to support a cause that touches almost everyone's lives in one way or another. The Relay for Life event is always the last Friday in April and we have several functions planned to raise money for this event.

The fastest approaching event is our annual Pancake Supper, scheduled for Friday February 29, 2008 from 5-7 pm in our Fellowship Hall. We will have pancakes, sausage, bacon, Canadian bacon and scrambled eggs – ALL YOU CAN EAT. Cost will be \$6 per adult and \$3 per child – course, we'll also take extra donations for the American Cancer Society. So please come, eat a hearty meal, and support our team and this worthy cause.

If you have any questions or would like to participate in any way contact:
Martha Long at 744-0751
Bruce or Gloria Oelke at 779-2159

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I would like to extend a huge THANK YOU to all who have served on the Social Committee with me this year: Some of you have served all three years and it really is appreciated. We've had a great team and some good times working together.
Thank you, Bruce