

Newsletter March 2022

Pastor's page

Are you busy? I know in between naps I hardly have time to eat or get a snack. Life is so very busy. But not all our busyness is important. Many of us get wrapped up in stuff that is pretty meaningless. Oh, it seems important at the time. In fact, it seems downright urgent. Doesn't it seem like our days are filled with nothing but urgent things? Stuff that needs to happen *RIGHT NOW*? Stuff like... finding acetone to unstick your fingers after gluing them together with ultra-glue; spraying your car with air freshener after you forgot about the half-eaten burrito that rolled under your seat two weeks ago; tweeting all your friends to tell them you found the acetone and your fingers are no longer stuck together, and do they know if acetone can be used on lips? Urgent things like, filling out that job application to become

the greeter at Walmart; reorganizing your spice rack; checking the cracks in your couch for change so you can go out for ice cream; or alphabetizing your cans of soup in the pantry.

Yes, there are so many things that scream out, "Take care of me now!" Life is full of unfinished things each crying out. Charles Hummel called this "The tyranny of the urgent." Hummel writes that he was told, "Your greatest danger is letting the urgent things crowd out the important."

Too often we are guilty of just that, letting the urgent crowd out the important. It's not that we have a shortage of time, but we fail to recognize what is important and what just seems important or urgent at the moment.

The phone rings...we get a text...an email appears in our inbox....do we have to immediately abandon what we are doing to respond? Can't it wait a few minutes until we accomplish the work at hand?

We can get so wrapped up in looking for the best ring-tone, or stalking Jennifer Lopez's Facebook page to see if she's changed her relationship status, that we forget to stop and take care of the important things.

There are people around us who need a word of encouragement. There are those we know in need of prayer. There is someone who needs to hear about Jesus. There are words of love that need to be spoken.

Ecclesiastes 3 says, ¹ *There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven: ² a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, ³ a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, ⁴ a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance, ⁵ a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain, ⁶ a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away, ⁷ a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak, ⁸ a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace.*

May God *help* us always see clearly what is important and what is simply a distraction.
Chad

Lenten Bible Study

Beginning Tuesday, March 1, we will offer a video Bible Study. The class will meet at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. We will be viewing the video study entitled, Death and Resurrection of the Messiah, by Ray Vander Laan. This is a 10-session class, which will take us into mid-May. If there is interest in an evening study, please speak to Chad. Friends, visitors, and others interested are invited to attend.



The PW coordinating team will meet Monday, March 7, at 2:00.

The circle will meet Monday, March 14, at 11:00. Ladies, please come out and join us for the bible lesson and fellowship with one another. Patsy McBryde will lead us in Lesson 6, on Bathsheba.

It's a joy to see Jean McSwain recovering from her hip surgery and back at church.

Fellowship Committee

Chairman: Sandy Dull; members: Jean Lyons, Faye & Willis McNeill, Nancy Mead, Rose Owle, Debra Wall, Helen Weathers, Connie Wynn.

The committee hosted a fellowship lunch after church, February 20. Thanks to all who furnished the delicious soups, sandwiches, and deserts. A fun time was had by all!



Communications Committee

Jerry Wynn, chair; and members: Patsy McBryde, Maggie Wester, & Connie Wynn

Thanks for the pictures in the newsletter, bulletin boards and the many print projects!

Congregational Care Committee

Chairperson: Patsy McBryde; members: Jean McSwain; and Debra Wall, is sending out Birthday Cards.

Music & Worship Committee

Chairperson: Teresa Mangum; members: Jeanne Anderson, Patsy McBryde, Jean McSwain, Nancy Mead, and Connie Wynn. March 22, is next worship committee meeting at 1:00. Communion Dates: February 27; April 10; June 12; October 2; Christmas Eve & Christmas Day.

The Head Elder for March is Jerry Wynn

Property & Grounds Committee

Chairman: Johnny Sellars & Patricia Sellars. Come by and see the new pastor's study. We turned the Sarah Wilson classroom into a study for our pastor. It has more space & plenty of light. New carpet has been installed, and a new desk has been added. The room has received a fresh coat of paint, and bookcases have been moved from another room into the study.

Our next big project will be *to replace sewer line from the fellowship hall to the road*, to alleviate our bathroom flooding problems. This will require digging up parts of the parking lot and yard, as soon as quotes come in and a company chosen. ~ Johnny & Trish ~

Christian Education Committee

Chairperson: Jeanne Anderson; members: Nancy Mead, Connie Wynn, Teresa Mangum

Missions Committee

Chairperson: Jonathan Wester;
members: Maggie Wester and Steve
Womack.

The *First Sunday offering* for March will
be for CUOC.

Thanks to everyone who gave a blanket
in honor and/or memory of someone.

Our total offering for *Church World
Services* is **\$456.00.**



Blanket Sunday Offering

Blankets Given In Memory Of:

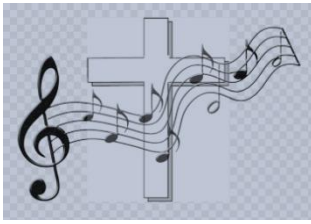
Allison Anderson by Jeanne
Bob Rosser by Jerry and Connie Wynn
Flossie Beal by Shelia McNeill
Ruby Godwin by Patsy and Chip
McBryde
Bob Rosser by Barbara
Bob Rosser by Patsy and Chip McBryde
Willa Holder by Mary Holder
Lela Gilmore by Mary Holder
Billy Collins
Ray McNeill by Shelia McNeill
Flossie Beal by Willis & Faye McNeill
Archie McNeill by “ ”
Leoma McNeill “ ”
Ray McNeill by “ ”
Bob Rosser by Children and Grands
Bob Rosser by Barbara
Lucille by Jeanne Anderson
Willa Holder by Teresa Mangum
Roy McSwain, Joey McSwain
Bill and Mark Gibson
Dr. Mary Margaret McLeod
Ray McNeill by Janet McNeill



**CHURCH WORLD SERVICE
BLANKETS+**

Blankets Given In Honor Of:

William Mangum by Children
Steve and Kathie Womack
Maggie Wester by Kylie
Steve and Faye Thomas
Chris McNeill by Willis & Faye McNeill
Shelia McNeill by “ ”
Glen McNeill by “ ”
Heather McNeill by “ ”
Willis and Faye McNeill by Shelia McNeill
William Jr. and Annie Mangum by
Theresa
Athalous Gibson and Susan Snow
Joyce and Earl Garris
Kylie and Jonathan Wester
Kathie Womack
Janet McNeill by Shelia McNeill
Kylie Wester by Jonathan Wester
Leroy McSwain
Kylie Wester
Trent McSwain
Bertha and Billy Thomas
Barbara Rosser by Children and Grands



Ash Wednesday, on March 2, marks the beginning of the Christian period of Lent. During Lent, which is an annual period of self-examination and meditation in preparation for Easter, the music is very expressive. It is sometimes somber, and often lacking harmony in its minor-key. These songs remind us of our sinful humanity but also of God's grace and forgiveness as we prepare ourselves to hear the major notes of Easter trumpets! About the stone that was rolled away when He resurrected from death and gave all of us life eternal!

The paradox of the Lenten claim is powerful--that in dying we live. The way of the cross, the way to Easter, is through death of the "old self." In dying, we live. "During our individual and corporate journeys as God's faithful people, may we be inspired by the hymns that we sing during Lent, listening for God's voice in the music that surrounds us. May we sing with gratitude for individual insights received during our Lenten journey"

(Anne McNair, President, Presbyterian Association of musicians. Presbyterian Outlook, 2/2018).



The family of Ruby Godwin.



She was the last of our *Charter Members*. Ruby had served as an Elder, Deacon, and in many capacities in the Presbyterian Women and was loved by all.

Her graveside service was led by Jody McNeill on February 16. Tim Wilson provided music, along with Dawn Weathers who sang *In the Garden*.

During Lent, let us ...
Fast from judging others;
feast on the Christ within



them. Fast from emphasis on difference; feast on the unity of life. Fast from pessimism; feast on optimism. Fast from worry; feast on trust in God's Care. Fast from personal anxiety; feast on eternal truth. Fast from discouragements; feast on hope. Feast on unceasing prayer. (excerpts from William Ward's writing)

March Prayer Families of the Week



- 6 Janet McNeill
- 13 Jody, Kim, Emma & Alex McNeill
- 20 Mary & Amanda McNeill & Jaxtin
- 27 Sheila McNeill