



Steele Creek Presbyterian Church

Cross Currents

January 16, 2018

**Blessed by God that we
might be a blessing to
others**

**Sunday School 9:30 am
Worship 10:30 am**

Sunday, January 21

Where Else Will We Turn?

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Mark 1:14-20

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

In an effort to continue the accurate flow of information, the Session has asked that the members of the Merger Exploration Committee periodically share what is happening in our discussion with Pleasant Hill. Hopefully, this information will keep the rumors and misinformation to a minimum.

Has the church already sold its property to the airport?

-No. The church did sell the Manse property to the airport. This recommendation was made to the congregation and the congregation voted to sell the Manse property to the airport. No other property belonging to the church has been sold!

Can the Session sell church property on its own?

-No. The Session cannot sell church property. The congregation would have to vote to sell the church property!

Can the Session merge the church on its own?

-No. The Session cannot merge the church. The congregation would have to vote to approve a merger before it could take place. Also, the Presbytery must approve the merger.

If the church sells its property, would the cemetery be sold?

-No. The Cemetery has never, ever, been part of the conversation. The Session would never recommend selling the Cemetery and the Airport has been clear that it would never consider buying the cemetery.

FAITH AND FAMILY NIGHTS BEGIN JANUARY 18

The winter session of Faith and Family nights will run January 18 - March 8. Dinner will be served each week 5:15 pm - 6:15 pm followed by an adult's study and activities for children. The adult study this session will be "Just Walk Across the Room" by Bill Hybels (see additional article for more information on the study). Dinner reservations are due by noon on Tuesday each week. Look for dinner reservation forms in the bulletin.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Our Congregational Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 28, 2018, following the end of the Worship Service. The purpose of the meeting is to review the financial and statistical reports for 2017, to receive the 2018 Budget for information, to consider changes in terms of call for the pastor, to elect the Nominating

If the church sells its property, would the cemetery still be accessible?

-Yes! If the church sells its property, the Cemetery would remain accessible as it is now. There have been rumors circulated that it would be fenced in and access would be denied. That is not true.

Will the cemetery always be cared for and kept up?

-Yes. There is a separate fund that provides for the upkeep of the cemetery. That fund keeps up the cemetery now and is under the direction of the Cemetery Committee, not the Session.

Has the Merger Exploration Committee already made a decision about where the merged church would be located?

-No! At this time (01/2018), the Merger Exploration Committee has not made a decision about the location for the future church, should a merger be agreed to by both congregations. The Committee is looking at several possible locations for a merged church. The options are limited. There must be enough land (10 acres or more). It must be in a good location (access, visibility, not too close to other churches, etc.). It must not be too expensive. All these factors must be taken under consideration.

We hope these questions and answers are helpful to the members of Steele Creek as we continue to work with Pleasant Hill toward a possible future merger. Please keep in mind that the Merger Committee is working on a Plan for Merger which it will present to both congregations when all the details have been worked out. At that time, both congregations will have to vote in favor of the Plan for Merger before it can go into effect. We will continue to provide information to our members about the process. If you have questions you would like to have answered in this format, please call the church office or speak to one of your Elders.

REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR CAMP GRIER

Now is the time to begin planning a trip to camp for your child this summer! There are many date options open for camp; however, a group from Steele Creek will attend July 22-27. Steele Creek is an official Sustaining Congregation for Camp Grier and our code is 242016. You will need to enter this code when registering your child to receive the Sustaining Congregation discount. In addition to this discount, an additional \$100 per camper will be provided by the church! You can register at www.campgrier.org. Please let Lorie Lewis know when you register.

Committee, to have a meeting of the Steele Creek Presbyterian Church Corporation, and any other business which may arise out of these matters.

GOOD SAMARITAN FUND

Our Good Samaritan Fund is very low. Please give as you are able to help our neighbors who are in financial crises. Any amount will be greatly appreciated.

LOAVES AND FISHES

Please help our hungry neighbors by donating non-perishable groceries to be given to Loaves and Fishes. The "Food-of-the-Month" list for January is: Canned Vegetables.

FLOWERS NEEDED

Please sign up to provide flowers for a worship service. Flowers are needed for **January 28** and for February 4 & 18; March 11 & 25. Please put your name on the date of your choice on the flower calendar in the narthex or call the church office. And thanks to all who provide flowers. Your contributions are very much appreciated!

2018 EVENT DATES

For all those getting their new 2018 calendars in order; here are some dates to add so you will be ready to participate!

March 24
Spring Festival
April 14-15
Women's Retreat at Montreat

CHILD YOUTH PROTECTION POLICY UPDATE

The implementation of our Child/Youth Protection Policy continues in 2018. This past Fall we held several training sessions for our volunteers who work with children and youth. About 90% of our volunteers have completed their training and we have completed background checks on each of them. We will continue to train the rest of our volunteers in the first quarter of 2018. Also in this quarter, parents will receive a medical information form and a photo release form to complete for each of their children. These medical forms will be kept confidentially on file and will be used in case of a medical emergency or, in the case of food allergies, for planning of activities. The photo release will give us permission to post pictures of your children on our Facebook page, our website and in Cross Currents. Know that as part of our policy, no individual child will ever be identified when we post a picture.

An additional reminder to parents, as part of our Child/Youth Protection Policy, children should only be released to a parent from Sunday School or Kid's Time. If you would like to give permission for an older sibling to pick up a child, you will need to speak with Lorie Lewis. Thanks so much for your support in creating a safe and secure environment for our children and youth at Steele Creek!

WHAT IS SMALL GROUP MINISTRY?

Have you heard the term Small Group ministry and you are not sure what that means for you? Small Group Ministry is a movement to live in a community similar to the first churches that we read about in the book of Acts. These communities of believers lived as a family as they ate together, prayed together, sang together, laughed together, grieved together and encouraged one another. Basically, these groups shared everything — their possessions, their time, and their love. They supported each other in the good and the bad. How could your life change if you had a place where you could totally be yourself and know that you were supported no matter what is going on in your life? How could your life change if you had a group that could pray with you when making tough decisions or choices, and could offer their advice and encouragement? The goal of Small Group Ministry is to provide the opportunity for communities of believers to organize and flourish. Over the next few weeks, you will have the opportunity to hear from several individuals and their past experiences with small groups. The first small group at Steele Creek will meet monthly beginning, Sunday, February 11 at 5:30 pm. There will be a brief Exploration Meeting, February 4 after the worship service. Attending this meeting will not obligate you to participate, but it will be a chance to get more information or to ask questions. In the meantime, if you would like more information, you can contact Sandi Lauerman at sandolauerman@gmail.com or 803.370.0367.

June 10-14

(5:30 pm - 8:15 pm)

Vacation Bible School

July 8-14

Middle School Mission Trip

July 22-28

Montreat Youth Conference

July 22-27

Camp Grier

October 20-21

Family Retreat

October 27

Fall Festival

THIS WEEK

Jan 16-23

Tuesday

Scripture & Starbucks 6:30p

Men's Basketball 7:00p

Wednesday

Staff Meeting 10:00a

CDC Board Meeting 11:00a

Birds of a Feather 7:00p

AA Meeting 8:00p

Thursday

Fun Bunch Lunch

Faith & Family Night 5:30p

Praise Team Rehearsal 6:15p

Choir Rehearsal 7:00p

Friday

Room in the Inn 5:00p

Saturday

Room in the Inn (cont'd)

Girl Scouts 9:00a

Sunday

Ethiopian Evangelical Church

10:30a

Session Meeting 11:30q

Genesis Square Dance 1:30p

Meck12 GS Leader's Meeting

1:30p

Combined Youth Group at SCPC

5:30p

AA Meeting 8:00p

Monday

Boy Scouts 6:00p

Tuesday

Men's Basketball 7:00p

FUN BUNCH LUNCH

It is the start of a new year and the Fun Bunch cooking team is planning a menu to bring good fortune to those who join us on Thursday, January 18, at noon. We will be serving a traditional new year feast of pork, black-eyed peas, greens and cornbread. Please try to be there for the food, fun and fellowship. How about a resolution to come all 12 months in 2018? Think how much fun we can have. As usual, call Frances Campbell (704-588-4686) or the church office (704-588-1290) to let us know you are coming. We don't want to run out of peas and greens!

JUST WALK ACROSS THE ROOM

The evangelism team wants to encourage everyone in the congregation to consider attending the study "Just Walk Across the Room" by Bill Hybels. Bill Hybels is founding and senior pastor of Willow Creek Community Church in South Barrington, Illinois. This study will explore the natural and empowering approach to evangelism that Jesus modeled himself. Participants will be encouraged and equipped to step out of their comfort zone to develop friendships and extend care, compassion, inclusiveness to people living far from God. There will be two opportunities to take participate in this study:

Sunday mornings, January 21 - March 11, 9:30 am - 10:20 am, led by Cooper Lewis (in the Multi-purpose classroom)

Thursday evenings, January 18 - March 6, 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm, led by Pastor Jeff Pinkston

(dinner will be served before this study as part of Faith and Family nights)

Let's begin the new year focusing on how to share the story of Jesus and his love with everyone!

PRAYER UPDATE*

Please update your personal prayer list according to the information below.

Cheryl Simerly – Severe back pain
Lorie Richardson – Minor surgery this week (Cheryl Simerly's sister)
Family of Jim Tapp - (Becky Neely's brother in law)
Bettye Reep - Fall (Home)
Margaret Niell - Laryngitis
Marjorie Smith - Bronchitis
David Hines - TIA (Home on medications)
Louise freeman - Upcoming back surgery
Jack Ferrell - Lincolnton Rehab for stroke (Louise Freeman's brother)
Scott and Pam Cato – Scott has mass on the brain and lung (Ann Sanburg's sister and brother in law)
Family of Danny Douglas (David McCorkle's friend)
David Warren - Hospice at home (Pancreatic cancer, Betty Warren's son)
Family of Patricia Brock (Ann Sanburg's Aunty)
Family of Donna Gibson (Debbie McDowell's Sister)
Randy Carroll - Serious Cancer (Thad Carroll's father)

**This PRAYER update is not intended to be a comprehensive list of all prayer requests, as lack of space prohibits us from doing so. Prayer requests/updates will be listed here for two weeks but should remain on your personal prayer list until informed otherwise. Thank you for your understanding.*

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