



Steele Creek Presbyterian Church

Cross Currents

March 13, 2018

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

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

Sunday March 18

***How To Live*
Psalm 119:9-16
John 12:20-33**

FROM PASTOR JEFF

Dear Church Family,

Today (3/13), I taught the Circle lesson for our ladies. The lesson focused on the Hope we have in Community and we had a good discussion. We discussed the promise of eternal rest that God offers to all of us through Jesus. We also discussed the rest that God gives to us in the here and now, a chance for renewal, to recharge our spiritual batteries as we open ourselves up to Sabbath rest, giving to God one-seventh of our time. We were all reminded of the importance of living, loving and serving together in community.

Part of our discussion focused on how God's presence with us in community has seen us through some of our most joyous times and some of our most trying times together. We celebrated how God saw our ancestors to this place where they formed the community we now know as Steele Creek Presbyterian Church. We remembered how God has seen us through the American Revolution, the Civil War, World War I, World War II, the Korean Conflict, the Civil Rights Movement, the Vietnam War and so much more. God is our hope even in the most difficult of times and the most challenging of circumstances. He supports us, loves us, leads us, watches over us through our community, as we remain strong and committed to one another. We even laughed at how some of the big challenges the church has faced over the years, seem much less significant with the passing of time – like the time the church debated whether or not to “Air Condition” the sanctuary. It was quite the controversy at the time, yet few of us can imagine coming to church now without the benefit of Air Conditioning on a hot, summer day. God sees us through our struggles and yes, even blesses us as we come together as the community of faith, the people of God.

We face a great deal of uncertainty in the years ahead. We know the Airport will greatly impact us and our ministry as we

TOWN HALL MEETING

We will be having a Town Hall Meeting following the Worship Service on March 18th to hear a report from the merger Planning Committee, to answer questions, and to receive comments.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO DELIVER MEALS EASTER WEEKEND

Friendship Trays needs drivers and kitchen assistants on Friday, March 30th and Monday, April 2nd. Make your Easter weekend even more special with the gift of service. Email Martha Cochrane to sign up today!

SPRING FESTIVAL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Our Annual Spring Festival will be held on Saturday March 24th from 10:00 a.m. till 12:00 p.m. There will be a DJ, Balloon Artist, Crafts, Bounce House, Egg Hunt and the movie, “The

move into the future. We're not sure how great that impact will be, but it doesn't look good. The Airport may forcibly take our land when the current study is complete, and the new runway begins construction. Or we may be spared only to realize that life at the end of a runway is not very practical. We can hardly enjoy being outside now, when the planes are taking off in our direction. We also know the Airport is buying all the property across the street from us to eventually build an industrial park with offices, trucking, and rail service. There are plans to eventually reroute Highway 160, Steele Creek Road, up through Steele Berry Acres and over to West Boulevard and Billy Graham. This would further isolate us from the rest of the community. All of this is to remind you what we are facing and how uncertain and unsettled our future is right now.

We have a Town Hall Meeting scheduled for this Sunday (3/18), after worship. We will hear a presentation from members of the Merger Planning Committee on the progress they have made toward a Plan for Merger between ourselves and Pleasant Hill Presbyterian Church. Members of that committee from both our church and Pleasant Hill will try to answer your questions and will listen to your feedback. No votes will be taken. I want to encourage you all to plan to be with us this Sunday for worship and the Town Hall. Before that meeting, I ask that you pray for our church and that we all recommit ourselves to one another. When we stay strong in community with one another, God not only sees us through, but He blesses us. Let us come together and conduct ourselves in a way that reflects our Christian faith and our love for one another. We can disagree without being disagreeable. We can express our opinion without offending others. We can have dialogue without falling into debate. Our future is together, in God's hands. Let's commit not to fracture that community with volatile rhetoric or dramatic statements about what we will or will not do. God has called us to be a church family and like all families we can have our differences without dissolving or withdrawing from the family. So, please pray in preparation for our Town Hall meeting. Join us for worship, where we can unite our hearts as one in the glorifying of God's name. And let us conduct ourselves as brothers and sisters in Christ, even as we wrestle with an uncertain future.

God will continue to watch over and guide us. God will bless us! And if we don't get in the way, God will keep us strong as a church family! To God be the glory! Amen!

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Jeff

REGISTRATION FOR WOMEN'S RETREAT HAS NOW BEGUN

All women of the church are encouraged to attend the Women's Retreat, April 14-15 at William Black Lodge in Montreat. *Finding God in the Dark-Evil, Suffering and Faith* is the theme of this year's retreat. Our guest facilitator will be Rev. Ruth Roberts who will lead us in exploring how we can find God in the midst of all that is happening in our world today. Whether shootings, natural disasters or fighting over politics we need to be able to use our faith to shine a light in

Greatest Adventure-The Easter Story. Volunteers are needed and always appreciated to make this event a success. Please let Sandi Lauerman or Cheryl Simerly know you can help. Please continue to donate bags of individually wrapped candy that can be dropped off in the bin outside Lorie Lewis's office.

THANK YOU

We wish to thank the Pastoral Care Committee and Church Members for the kind words offered through cards, phone calls and visits during Louise's hospital stay and recovery time. Hearing and reading those kind words really help during a rough time. Thank you, again. --Louise & Bob Freeman

BOX TOP UPDATE

Thanks to all who turned in box tops for Steele Creek Elementary. We mailed in 250 box tops this week that will help provide funds for their science programs. Now that you are in the habit of clipping, don't stop!! Most box tops have a long expiration date so they can be turned in and used at the next collection date in November. Collection boxes will remain in the the narthex and educational building entrance. Thank you!

LENT SCHEDULE

March 14, 2018

Lent Noon Service
Dr. Jeff Pinkston
PHPC 12:00 PM

March 21, 2018

Lent Noon Service
Mr. Billy Grier
CSCPC, 12:00 PM

March 29, 2018

the darkness for ourselves and our families. The retreat will begin on Saturday morning at 10:30 am but there is also an option to arrive Friday night. Costs for retreat fees, lodging and meals will be:

- Double Occupancy: One Night-\$172 Two Nights-\$233
- Single Occupancy: One Night-\$202 Two Nights-\$292

Look for a brochure with more information and a registration form in the narthex or outside the church office. Registration deadline is March 25.

****NEW** SMALL GROUP KICKOFF**

What: The beginning of a small group using mixed agendas and locations, based on the growing needs of the group.

When: Saturday, March 31st beginning at 4:00 pm.

Where: The Thomas's: 13615 Erwin Rd, Charlotte, NC 28273

Who: Likeminded folks who are looking to connect, grow spiritually, and provide a support system for each other.

Note: Kids are welcome to watch movies in bonus room, as adults meet on the porch. #bringyourownrockingchair

CHURCH WORK DAY

The Property Committee is hosting a work day at the church on Saturday, March 17th starting at 9:00 am. Our main objective is to cut shrubbery and tidy up for Easter. If you plan to attend, please bring your work gloves, long handle loppers, hard garden rake and or a pitch fork. These will handle the debris better. If time allows, we're going to try to cut the crepe myrtles along the cemetery wall. The ladies of the church are welcome as well. Everyone's time and efforts are greatly appreciated and hope to see you there. If questions, contact Carl Sanburg at 704-214-9844 (cell).

EL SALVADOR MISSION TRIP 2018 - SEPT 7-15

Join Steele Creek Presbyterian Church in Ahuachapan, El Salvador. Come experience the warmth and hospitality of the people of El Salvador. Come build houses and relationships with brothers and sisters in Christ. Celebrate the birth of the Virgin Mary at the Dia de los Farolitos (lantern festival) and see how others live their faith. For more information contact Aaron Salmon (704-607-0138) or aaron_salmon@yahoo.com.

ATTENTION PARENTS!

Several weeks ago, you should have received a letter with Medical Information and Photo Release forms for your children (birth - 5th grade). These forms are part of our Child/Youth Protection Policy and will help us continue to provide a safe and secure environment for our children, youth and volunteers. If you have not completed your forms, please do so soon! If you did not receive your forms or have any questions, contact Lorie Lewis, lorie@steelecreekpres.org, 704.927.4293. Thanks for your help!

Maundy-Thursdays
Community Service
MPC 7:00 PM
April 1, 2017
Easter Sunrise
Community Service
PHPC 7:00 AM
Easter Worship Service
SCPC 10:30 AM

FUN BUNCH LUNCH NEWS

In September, we celebrate our Scottish Heritage but in March we are all Irish. Fun Bunch will be held at noon on March 15th. We will be serving corned beef, cabbage and potatoes for a true Irish feast. Please plan on joining us and seeing how much "fun" we can have. And, even though it is a couple of days before St. Patrick's Day, wear green. There might be leprechauns among us and we don't want anyone to get pinched! As always, invite friends, family and neighbors to join us. All we ask is that you let us know how many are coming by calling either Frances Campbell (704-588-4686) or the church office (704-588-1290). The cooks don't want to be pinched for running out of food!

FAITH AND FAMILY NIGHTS

This Thursday will be the last Faith and Family Night for the winter session. Dinner will be served from 5:15 pm - 6:30 pm followed by the adult's study and activities for children..

NEW ADDRESS

Joan Brown
1118 Scaleybark Rd
Apt 220C
Charlotte, NC 28209-0027

TICKETS TO HOCKEY GAME STILL AVAILABLE

We still have tickets to the Charlotte Checkers Game! The Checkers will be playing the Binghamton Devils on Saturday, March 17 @ 6:00 pm. Tickets are \$17.50 and include a free Checkers baseball cap. Please reserve your tickets with Lorie Lewis, lorie@steelecreekpres.org, 704.927.4293. You can meet at the church and ride together or just meet us there. Looking forward to a fun evening with our church family!

WANT TO TAKE A TRIP ON THE CATAWBA QUEEN?

We would like to book a sightseeing tour of Lake Norman on the Catawba Queen riverboat but we need to have commitments from 25 people before we can reserve the boat. Here are the details: Monday, April 30, we will travel by church bus to Lake Norman, boat will leave the dock at 11:00 am for a two-hour tour. Price is \$30.00 per person, which also includes a box lunch. If you would be interested in this trip, please contact Lorie Lewis, lorie@steelecreekpres.org or 704.927.4293 by March 25. Remember you can also invite friends and family!

PRAYER UPDATE*

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

Family of Dayton Dwy

Marilyn Price - Home (Recovering from intestinal surgery)

Frances Campbell - Home (Heart issues)

Rev. Bob Jack - CMC Pineville (Fluid on the lungs and pneumonia)

Glenn Kales – End stage mesothelioma (High school friend of Bob Freeman)

Family of Cindy Gilleland

Query Byrum - Autumn Leaves of Fort Mill (a Memory Care facility), 1061 Gold Hill Rd, Fort Mill, SC 29708, Phone: (803) 219-2723

Louise Freeman - Home (Recovering from neck surgery)

**This 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.*

THIS WEEK

Mar 13-20

Tuesday

Ladies Circle Mtg & Bible Study 10:00a

Men's Basketball 7:00p

Wednesday

Staff Meeting 10:00a

Community Lenten Service

@ Pleasant Hill

Presbyterian Church

12:00p

Cheerleading Practice

6:00p

Stewardship Team Meeting

6:30p

AA Meeting 8:00p

Thursday

Fun Bunch Lunch 12:00p

Faith & Family Night 5:30p

Praise Team Rehearsal

6:15p

Sullivan's Trace HOA

Board Meeting 6:30p

Hand Bells Rehearsal 6:45p

Choir Rehearsal 7:30p

Saturday

Church Workday 9:00a

Girl Scouts 9:00a

Violin Recital 2:00p

Checker's Game 5:00p

Sunday

Children's Choir Practice

9:00a

Ethiopian Evangelical

Church 10:30a

Town Hall Meeting 11:30a

Session Meeting 12:30a

Meck12 GS Leader's

Meeting 1:30p

Combined Youth Group

at SCPC 5:30p

AA Meeting 8:00p

Monday

Boy Scouts 6:00p

Tuesday

Scripture & Starbuck's

Ladies Bible Study 6:30p

Men's Basketball 7:00p
