



The Pilgrim

A Message from the Minister

Several of you have asked about the classes that I am taking as part of my studies. The coursework is built around the specialization of Congregational Growth and Development. In the fall, I took “Church Growth Shaped by Community Outreach and Mission.” In January, I was ridiculously inspired by the course called “Spiritual Formation and Congregational Vitality.” In March, I will be taking “Prophetic Leadership.” I am not sure what the summer courses will be, but I assume that at least one class will deal with research methods for our dissertations (and that’s a project that will involve YOU)!

When we gather for class, we are together all day...and I do mean ALL day. While the hours and the reading are intense, I’ve grown to appreciate the fellowship with my classmates. I learn so much from listening to their experiences. We talk a lot about our congre-

gations. We talk about how statistics show that people are leaving the institutional church in large numbers and why this is. We talk about how different churches are faithfully addressing this trend. We talk about how we can better join God’s work in this business of redeeming the world. And, we talk about the vision for our ministries. In January, my teacher was fond of quoting Proverbs 29:18: “Where there is no vision, the people perish.”

When I ponder a ‘vision’ for our church, I think of peering into a lighted window at WMCC and catching the vision of people worshiping God and praying for knowledge of God’s will. I catch a vision of people walking out of our doors and into the community to actively seek out needs and meet them. I catch a vision of people nurturing each other, eating together, and sharing stories and conversation. I catch a vision

of classrooms and even chat rooms with people laughing and learning about faith and applying it to their lives. I catch a vision of people using their talents to serve God—the cooks are cooking, the handy-men are repairing, and the teachers are teaching. I catch a vision of people smiling about the opportunity to be a full participant in God’s ongoing work with their gifts, their prayers, and their actions. It is a vision of a very special place where the Holy Spirit is indeed on the loose to inspire and to lead. It is a vision of a place where people know they are in the presence of God, and they are loved and valued and challenged. In sum, the vision is that WMCC will be an outpost of the Kingdom of Heaven.

What is your vision? How do we get there and where do we start? Stay tuned.

Lea can be contacted via email: wilsonsmillsc@gmail.com.

WMCC Inclement Weather Policy

These guidelines cover cases of inclement weather and other situations (power outages, building damage, etc.) that may make it unsafe to conduct normal church services, church meetings, or other church business.

—In cases of severe weather or other crises, the pastor may elect to cancel Sunday activities or other weekday events. The pastor will seek the input of church leadership before a final decision is made concerning canceling services or programs. For weekday activities, actions taken by the Johnston County School Board regarding school closings will be used as a guide.

—Every effort must be made to communicate cancellations of Sunday or other weekday activities with the congregation. Information concerning such cancellations will be posted on WRAL. In addition, an email will be sent out to the church announcement list.

—When a decision is made to cancel activities due to inclement weather, all committee, council, and other group meetings occurring on that day will be cancelled – no exceptions. There is some inconvenience when groups must reschedule meetings because of weather events. However, confusion sets in when a decision is made to cancel services/programs and then groups make exceptions to that decision. In addition, groups that decide to go ahead with their meetings run the risk of excluding members who feel they cannot come because of safety concerns.

In rare cases, worship services will be held even when all other events and meetings have been cancelled (e.g., in the aftermath of a hurricane or other devastating events when people need to gather for worship, but not for a committee meeting).

Worship Attendance

January 1 — 54
January 8 — 65
January 15 — 72
January 22 — 73
January 29 —

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9:45 A.M. Coffee
10:00 A.M. Sunday School
11:00 A.M. Worship

Week of Compassion

Week of Compassion (WoC) is our denomination's disaster relief ministry. Each year, one week is designated as a time to focus on the ways that WoC meets needs throughout the world. The WoC theme for 2012 is "Sharing Brings Joy to Others." Most of the time, our gifts to WoC bring joy to others with very tangible results. For example:

- A family displaced by natural disaster or political unrest is grateful to receive food, shelter, and the comfort of a safe place to begin to rebuild their lives (we experienced this in North Carolina when WoC brought clean-up buckets to our coastline after the hurricane)
- A woman who has had to walk miles to carry potable water for her family smiles as she draws water from a clean well near her home.
- A child excitedly arrives for the first day of class at her village's new school.

When we give to others, we often feel the joy that our gifts bring to those whose basic needs are met through our efforts and support. But Paul reminds us in his second letter to the Co-

rinthians of another way our giving brings joy to others. In encouraging the Corinthian church to give to the collection for the believers in Jerusalem, he reminds them that when the Jewish believers there receive gifts from their non-Jewish sisters and brothers, they will be moved not only by the gifts themselves, but also by the unity in Christ the gifts represent. Across social and economic lines that might have separated them, followers of Christ reached out to support one another.

And the joy they experience from sharing in God's abundance will extend beyond the tangible expressions they receive. Knowing there are those who would share willingly with them, they are reminded of who they are: beloved children of the Creator, sisters and brothers of us all, each one a person of sacred worth. And, even in 2012, that's how it works.

So, this year, pick up your giving calendar and your change box from the basket outside of the sanctuary, and see for yourself how sharing brings joy.

A Letter from the Lawhorns

When I think of WMCC many things come to mind. This church has given me more than just a place to worship God. It is a place where I am filled with love and happiness. I am blessed to be surrounded by other Christians who continuously teach me something new. I am challenged to think about my faith which forces me to grow in my walk with God. I am thankful to have a pastor and a church family that allow me to do this and are there to help me strengthen my relationship with God. My children look forward to coming to church to play with friends and to see "baby Jesus" and "the cross." It is comforting to know that my two-year-old already recognizes what church is and is beginning to understand the importance of thanking God for our many blessings. I attribute that to our membership and involvement at WMCC. WMCC is more than just a beautiful church. It is a place that is bursting at the seams with love, joy, fellowship, and friendship. We will be forever grateful to the Trogdons for inviting us to church as this church has forever changed our lives, our children's lives, and our relationship with our Savior. I look forward to the years ahead in watching our children grow and learn about God with the other children that WMCC has recently been blessed with. In all, I am blessed to have you all as our family and look forward to the memories that we have already had and the memories that we have yet to make.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Candy Bee	Jeff Trask
Penelope Buyer	<u>Continued:</u>
Lawhorn Family	Cheryl Bryant
Sandra Sauls	Annette Cobb
Paul Sydow	Ina Mae Lee

Welcome!!!

Our New Members:

Tim and Tanya Wells Duncan and Kendall

311 Old York Circle
Clayton, NC 27527

Tanya.Wells@usfoods.com
Tim (c) 757.412.7704,
Tanya (c) 443.226.7040



WELCOME TO THE WORLD...

Rilynn Noelle Bryant, 6 lbs 15 oz...Congratulations to Kari and Rob, and the proud big sisters, Kenli and Klara! Rilynn was born on Friday, January 20th!

Thad Michael Daughtry, 8 lbs. 1 oz...Congratulations to Leanne and Kevin, and the proud big brother, Luke! Thad was born on Friday, January 6th!

Lea will be on vacation February 3-10. In case of a pastoral emergency, please contact your board chairperson, Ginger Lee. A local minister will be on call.

If you have any empty tubes of Chapstick, please save them for Lea's cats. They love them as play-toys.

Nursery Schedule

February 5--The Trogdons
 February 12--The Wells
 February 19--The Lawhorns
 February 26--Linda and Peter Wilson

March 4--The Raglands
 March 11--The Ramseys
 March 18--The Dumonceauxs
 March 25--Youth

April 1--The Trogdons
 April 8--The Wells
 April 15--The Lawhorns
 April 22--Linda and Peter Wilson
 April 29--The Raglands

Lenten Study

Our 6-week Lenten book study will begin on Thursday, February 23rd at 7:15 PM. As usual, we will order pizza for each session! We will be using Adam Hamilton's "24 Hours that Changed the World" which explores the last 24 hours of Jesus' life.

Chapter titles include: The Last Supper, The Garden of Gethsemane, Condemned by the Righteous, Jesus, Barabbas, and Pilate, The Torture and Humiliation of the King, The Crucifixion, and Christ the Victor.

Cost of the book is \$12.

If you would like to participate, please let Lea know.

New Opportunity!!!

Help us with the new WMCC Coupon Exchange! Please bring in coupons your family will not be using--ones cut out or whole Sunday newspaper inserts. The goal is to make those available in an organized filing system for our members to search through, take, and use. The box is located in the fellowship hall.

In addition, the Coups for Troops program accepts coupons for our US military families stationed overseas. Since they do not have access to weekly coupons like we do here in the states, commissaries and exchanges overseas accept manufacturer coupons up to six months past expiration. Please assist us in supporting our soldiers by helping them save a few dollars.

Bring in your nearly expired or expired coupons and we'll mail them off!

Save the Date

March 11th

Potluck Luncheon

Bridal shower

for

**T.J.Parrish and
 Meagan Hudson**

Registered at
 Target and
 Bed Bath and Beyond.

From the Worship Committee...

The 2012 Lenten season begins with our Ash Wednesday service on February 22nd at 7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday takes its name from the ceremonial imposition of ashes on the foreheads of worshipers as a reminder that we need to turn our hearts back to God. It is a wonderful way for our church family to begin the Lenten season. Please plan to join us. Child-care will be provided.

**CAMP
 CAROLINE
 WORK
 DAYS
 MARCH 10
 AND
 MARCH 31
 9AM-3PM**

Please help us get ready for the 2012 camping season!

Some items on the agenda include:
 install gutters, fix minor repairs, paint fence,
 paint cabin bathrooms with mold & mildew
 resistant paint, trim bushes, cut small limbs and
 other yard work, pressure wash buildings.

Bring your paint brushes or rollers (we'll supply the paint),
 chain saws, hedge trimmers, hammers, pressure washer (don't
 forget water hose), etc.

We'll have a continental breakfast and lunch.

If you are interested in joining the work force from WMCC, contact Ginger Lee for more information about these important Clean Up Days.

A Challenge from Membership and Evangelism

The Membership & Evangelism committee would like to put forth an exciting and fun spirited challenge to all of the members of WMCC. Week of Compassion is the week of February 19 - 26. As we reflect on our many gifts and believe in the amazing good that comes out of Week of Compassion, M & E will be matching member's donations up to

\$500. Please make your checks out to WMCC and include Week of Compassion on the note section so that the donation can be applied directly. If we could have your gifts by the 19th, we will announce the grand total at church on the 26th. Any questions, please see me or Lea.
 Thank you, Louise

MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE

If you believe we should have a vocal choir at church and like to sing, please join us at 5:15 for an hour of practice on Thursdays, before the

handbells meet at 6:15. We do need more voices; it is not necessary to read music. The choir is now working on several easy and peppy anthems

as well as introits, and would welcome all who show up on Thursday evening. Child care is provided.

February Worship Service

	February 5	February 12	February 19	February 26
Church Appointments	Trogdons, Lawhorns, and (Peter) Wilsons	Trogdons, Lawhorns, and (Peter) Wilsons	Trogdons, Lawhorns, and (Peter) Wilsons	Trogdons, Lawhorns, and (Peter) Wilsons
Elder	Eileen Penny	Ginger Lee	Linda Ramsey	Janet Stephenson
Deacons	Joe Slaton Peter Wilson	Sarah Foxworth Whitley Stephenson	Trudy Carter Rose Thompson	John Dumonceaux Jason Lawhorn
Worship Leader	Travis Stephenson	Paula Bennett	Trey Ragland	Thomas Trogdon or Alison Lawhorn
Nursery	Trogdons	Wells	Lawhorns	Linda and Peter Wilson
Acolytes	Kenli Esau	Emily Dumonceaux	Kaylen Mejia	Emily Ramsey
Paraments	Green	Green	Green	Purple

Happy Birthday 2 U...Happy Birthday 2 U

2/8 Dorothy Proctor	2/22 Travis Stephenson
2/8 Janet Stephenson	2/23 Lynn Stephenson
2/14 Alex Wilson	2/25 Tyler Dumonceaux
2/15 Bryan Eatmon	2/27 Ron Foxworth
2/16 Kaylen Mejia	2/28 TJ Parrish
2/17 Cole Ramsey	2/28 Zack Parrish
2/18 Abigail Keyser	

2011 TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Pledged	Pledges Rec.	Donations	Received
\$117,474	\$115,797	\$9,263	\$125,060

Upcoming Events

CMF Meeting—February 13
 Craft Night—February 10
 Choir and Handbells—Every Thursday Evening
 Lenten Study begins February 23
 March 3-5—Elder/Deacon Workshop at Christmount

March Acolyte Schedule

4--Sierra Kirk
 11--Tyler Dumonseaux
 18--Klara Esau
 25--Duncan Wells

FEBRUARY 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
JANUARY			LOGOS 5:30 PM	5:15 PM Choir 6:15 PM Handbells		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12:00 PM Board Mtg.			LOGOS 5:30 PM	5:15 PM Choir 6:15 PM Handbells	Women's Craft Night 5-10 PM	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	CMF Meeting 6:30 PM		LOGOS 5:30 PM	5:15 PM Elders Mtg. 5:15 PM Choir 6:15 PM Handbells		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
			Ash Wednesday Service 7:00 PM	5:15 PM Choir 6:15 PM Handbells 7:15 PM Lenten Study	CWF Meeting 6:30 PM	
26	27	28	29	1	2	3
			LOGOS 5:30 PM	MARCH		

Post this page on the refrigerator!