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### Encouraged for the Journey

Often, when we are trying to do the Lord's work we will experience discouragement. God never said that working in His kingdom would be easy and that we would not feel like giving up. Your effort to follow Christ will not go unchallenged. If Jesus himself was tested in the wilderness, what makes us think that our faith will not be tested? (Matthew 4:1-11)

Our enemy uses discouragement to distract our attention. He seeks to demobilize us with anxiety and fear. But, we join in concert with the Psalmist who said, "If it had not been for the Lord who was on our side, where would we be?" (Psalm 124:1) Though we may feel alone, the Lord is with us.

Throughout times of discouragement, God urges us to put our trust in Jesus Christ and he promises to never leave us or forsake us. The assurance of God's ongoing presence means we are equipped to win the battle and to defeat the despair that the enemy uses to impede our progress.

In order to overcome discouragement, we must turn to Jesus Christ. Who else has the power to save, heal and deliver? In this season of Lent, we walk in the way repentance - turning from our sins and towards the gracious, loving Lord and Savior - Jesus Christ. Trials and tribulations are a part of the Christian journey, but this battle is not yours. It is the Lord's!

*Shalom,  
Bruce*





## Join Us for a Souper Bowl: Feb. 1

Sunday, February 1, is Super Bowl Sunday, but for us, we'll be celebrating SOUPER Bowl Sunday. Immediately following morning worship, youth will provide a soup lunch. We have a limited number of take out containers so please feel free to bring your own if you want to take your soup home! Donations accepted for Granny's Purse, which funds youth trips!



## In Case of Inclement Weather:

Please check any of the following regarding changes to our schedule:

Our website: [www.wbpresbyterian.org](http://www.wbpresbyterian.org)

WRAL-Channel 5 OR WTVD- Channel 11

## Don't Miss WNL in February

If you missed the first Wednesday Night Live on January 14, you missed learning "who is a cousin to Elvis", "who was born in Scotland", or "who paraglided down the Alps". But don't worry, other interesting programs are coming in February...



On February 4, John Ann Earnhardt will share many interesting things about brown nut-hatch birds and show us how to build bird houses for them.



On February 11, Santi Matthews will lead us through a way to pray as we create our own prayer sticks.



On Wednesday, February 18 we will have a free soup meal and then the Ash Wednesday service as we enter into Lent together.



On February 25, we will have a fun evening of BINGO. This year there will be an adult and a youth winner for each game.

Make plans to be present and enjoy this fun time with your church family.



**Join Us @The Table**  
Sundays at 5:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Grab a cup of Java and feast with us in this coffeehouse style worship. @The Table will host a dynamic Jazz Vespers with Mime Ministry at **5:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 22.**

## Ash Wednesday Worship Service

February 18 at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Join us **February 18 at 6:30 p.m.** as we begin our Lenten journey with a Taize (contemplative) worship which includes the imposition of ashes and communion. **The Wednesday Night meal will be begin at 5:45 p.m. Reservations are needed for the meal.** We will serve lentil and vegetable soup free of charge.

## Welcome Back!

We are counting the days until Sunday, February 1 when we welcome Pastor Betty Connette back from a well deserved sabbatical month! Betty, we will be so happy to see you again!

## Donate a Glory to God Hymnal to WBPC

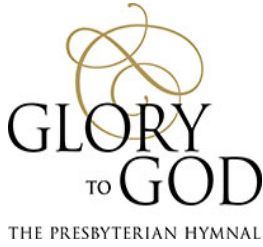
In October the Session unanimously voted to adopt the Glory to God hymnal for WBPC worship and to fund it by member contributions. We need 235 hymnals, each costing \$21. Fifty hymnals have already been donated by the Janet Westerman Memorial Fund.

You have the opportunity to purchase and donate one or more of the new hymnals. Complete the order form and submit it with a check or cash for the exact amount of the hymnal(s) purchased. The completed form and accompanying payment can be mailed to the office, dropped off at the office, or placed in the offering plate at Sunday worship. Make your check payable to WBPC. Mark "hymnal" on the memo line.

An expanded form, with room for several bookplate designations, can be found on the church website and in the narthex at the Glory to God display. This form can be used to give hymnals in memory/honor of different individuals.

Do not lose out on this opportunity to memorialize family member(s) or friend(s). As soon as we reach our total of 235 hymnals, we will place our order for purchase. Help us reach our total quickly, and soon we will begin using our new hymnals in worship!

Please see form on next page to place order.



## Glory To God Hymnal Order Form

In late 2014, the WBPC Session approved the acquisition of the new Presbyterian hymnal, Glory to God. If you would like to donate a hymnal to remember or honor a special friend or relative, please complete this form (please print neatly) and return it with your donation of \$21 per hymnal to the church office, or place in the offering plate. Make checks payable to WBPC. Please write *Hymnal* in the check memo line.

Given by \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Total number of hymnals requested: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$21.00 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Paid by \_\_\_check \_\_\_cash

# of hymnals \_\_\_\_\_

*Bookplate to read:*

This hymnal is given to the glory of God by \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

*and/or*

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

# of hymnals \_\_\_\_\_

*Bookplate to read:*

This hymnal is given to the glory of God by \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

*and/or*

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

# of hymnals \_\_\_\_\_

*Bookplate to read:*

This hymnal is given to the glory of God by \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

*and/or*

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

# of hymnals \_\_\_\_\_

*Bookplate to read:*

This hymnal is given to the glory of God by \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

*and/or*

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

## Year End Financial Report

2014 - Thanks to Divine Intervention, good response to our pledge requests and opening offering, and managed spending for December, the Church ended the year with a small surplus. Our pledge receipts fell short of our budgeted amount by \$17,960.00, but with an overage in opening offering and miscellaneous receipts of \$10,407.00, and underspending of \$7,406.00 we managed to end the year with a surplus of \$147.28.

2015 - We had an excellent response in pledges; and when combined with an increased estimate for opening offering we were able to meet the requested budget as presented. This represents an increase of 10% over 2014. Again we wish to express our thanks for your effort in understanding the mission of our church and answering with great generosity.

### WBPC December Financial Report

	<u>DECEMBER 2014</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Pledges	\$ 36,746.80	333,832.29
Open	8,803.35	34,835.57
Church School	58.00	1,139.99
<b>Total Offering</b>	<b>45,608.15</b>	<b>369,807.85</b>
Expenses	<u>28,018.83</u>	<u>369,660.57</u>
<b>Net Total</b>	<b>\$ 17,589.32</b>	<b>147.28</b>

### Recently Your Session

- Approved the 2014 Year-End Financial Report.
- Approved the 2015 budget.
- Expressed appreciation for their service to the officers rotating off of Session and the Board of Deacons. Please contact an Elder with any questions.



### It's Preschool Registration Time!

Registration has begun for next fall. Between January 15 and 31, we are registering those who are currently enrolled, siblings, and church members. If you have a preschooler or know someone who does, please let them know. We will be having an Open House and Registration for the community and others interested at 10:00 a.m. on February 2.

### Don't Forget Breakfast: Sunday, Feb. 8!



The Men of the Church will prepare and serve breakfast once every month, on the second Sunday of the month. Breakfast begins at 8:45 a.m.! Join in the fun on Sunday, February 8, and share the most important meal of the day! Thank you Men of the Church!

### Five Loaves and Two Fishes...

The morning breakfast crew led by Ron Pittman was able to stretch breakfast in January to feed all the homeless in the WIHN program from both tracks. For some reason, the day center was not opened at the normal time and rather than leave these folks outside on a very cold day, they were brought to our church and served a hot breakfast. THANKS to all that helped show God's love to others.

### Not Much When You Think About It

2 cans of beans, 1 can each of carrots, tomatoes, meat/tuna, one jar or can of applesauce, one pound each of grits, rice, and dried beans, 2 boxes of mac and cheese, 2 envelopes of powdered milk, one jar of peanut butter, and one box of cereal. That is not much to feed a family on, but people do and are thankful they have it, because if they did not get a food bag from Urban Ministries, they would not eat. Kids would go hungry, Moms and Dads would not eat, co-workers would have no lunch, students would have no breakfast... But thanks to you and your donations of food items to Urban Ministries Food Bags some families can eat. Keep the support coming and thank you. All donations can be dropped off in the bins outside the Fellowship Hall or in the box in the narthex.

### SJF Studies | Israel-Palestine

**Kathy Huffstetler**, from West Raleigh Presbyterian speaks to us on February 1. The program, *Voices From The Holy Land* will start at 3:30. Kathy travelled to The Holy Land in April 2014 with the PC(USA) Peacemaking Group of 107 folks.

February study: *Zionism Unsettled*.

The Social Justice Forum would like to open this study to our community. Please share this opportunity for dialogue with friends and neighbors.

## AMAZING GRACE!

The Mission/Outreach Committee for the 5<sup>th</sup> year is sending a wonderful team of servants led by Kathy Johnson to the **Yahve Jire Children's Foundation in Croix des Bouquets, Haiti**. The trip is scheduled for June 18-26 with 28 team members; twice as many as we have ever had going. It is an incredible ecumenical gathering. We have representatives from WBPC, Discovery Church, Shaw University, UCC-Chapel Hill, UCC – Holly Springs, Pinetops Presbyterian, Masonic Home for Children, Congregations in Winston Salem and Tennessee, Union Presbyterian Seminary – Charlotte and Wilmington.



We are doing things a little differently this year. Half of the team will be building the playground at the new orphanage site. This is being built with funds raised by Allie Parker, a Senior at Chapel Hill High School, who 2 years ago went to Haiti and was so moved by the experience that she answered a call to raise funds and to return to Haiti to oversee the Playground Project. In addition the Sunday School kids and Vacation Bible School kids at WBPC and Discovery Church have contributed funds for us to purchase swings, climbing rocks and rope for a swinging bridge. The other half of the team will be engaged in the arts. This group will be led by Dr. Van Anthony Hall, music director of our @The Table Service. In addition, Stacy Borelli, Swank Photography and Wanda Applewhite, liturgical dance crew director, will join with Van Anthony to hold a music/art/dance camp for the kids at the orphanage and the children that attend the Yummy Bilingual School from the community. It doesn't get much more exciting than this.

Stay tuned to upcoming information about fundraising activities. The first activity will be a concert and liturgical dance at 5:00 p.m. on February 22 during the @TheTable Service. Please come and join us for this treat. We will be scheduling a dinner and a BBQ take out for March and April. Pinetops Presbyterian Church will be selling Brunswick stew this spring as well. WBPC will be collecting new towels, washcloths, and toiletries for the team to take along with music and art supplies. As always, you are welcome to help us collect donations, to contribute financially to the projects during the mission trip or to contribute financially to the orphanage itself as a one time donation or on a monthly basis.



The Bible verse chosen for this year's team is about praying and our prayers being answered and all the possibilities that come from the Lord. *"Call to me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you know not."* Jeremiah 33:1-13. Pray for us again this year as we prepare to travel to visit with our Christian brothers and sisters in Haiti.

## Welcome New Church Officers

The church officers listed below were elected by the congregation in early December 2014, and will be ordained and installed into their respective offices in morning worship on February 8, 2015. We give thanks for the call God has placed upon their lives, and for their willingness to answer that call.

### Elders

**Elizabeth McClellan Allen** has been a member of WBPC for most of her life. She is married to Chris Allen and is the daughter of John McClellan. She has grown up in the church and has been involved in Sunday School, volunteered with WIHN, was a youth elder in high school, and was married in the church last Summer. Elizabeth is presently serving on our K-2 Sunday School teaching team.

**Becky Burmester** and her husband Joe have been members at WBPC for several years. She and Joe have 4 children. Leslie and Matt are grown with their own families while Rita and Shawn are 12 & 14. Becky is an active part of @theTable on Sunday at 5 PM. The Social Justice Forum, Mission Outreach Committee, and VBS are areas of regular involvement. She looks forward to serving as an Elder at WBPC.

**Walt Clapp** (two year term) was a member of WBPC for 5 years before leaving to marry Betty in 1996, and then returning to WBPC when she was called as pastor in 2005. Walt and Betty have one beautiful daughter, Katherine Anh, and one neurotic labrador named Molly. When Walt first came to WBPC, he served as a youth advisor, elder, and a member of the Property Committee. He presently serves on the Property Committee, provides the Sunday morning coffee fellowship, and supports Betty in countless ways.

**Jenny Fleming** has been a member of WBPC for nearly three years. She is married to Frank Fleming, together they have 2 children, Lily and Matthew, and she is step-mother to Frank's daughter Emily. Jenny has been involved in Sunday School, WIHN, and Children's Choir in addition to helping as a Vacation Bible School volunteer. She has served on the Fellowship committee for the past 2 years.

**John Woodruff** has been a member of WBPC since 1965. He and his wife, Cindy, have two children, Bill and Pam, and one grandson, Tyler. John is active in morning worship and has faithfully served the church over the years in various other capacities.

### Youth Elders

**Mary Todd Earnhardt** (one year term) has grown up at WBPC. She is the daughter of John Ann and Todd Earnhardt, and sister of Evelyn. She is active in Sunday School, worship, and youth fellowship. She assists with Children's Chapel and occasionally helps in the nursery. Mary Todd participated in the youth mission trip to NJ last summer and plans to return this summer. She is a Junior at Athens Drive High School.

**Noah Milchuck** (one year term) has grown up at WBPC. He is the son of Beth and Frank Milchuck, and brother to Jacob, Jonah, and Ollie. Noah is active in Sunday School, worship, and youth fellowship. He assists with Children's Chapel and VBS. Noah is a Junior at Athens Drive High School.

### Deacons

**John McClellan** has been a member of WBPC since 1995, raising his children, Michael and Elizabeth, in the church. He has served as Sunday School Superintendent for many years and was on the Christian Education Committee for several years. John has also helped with WIHN and spent many wonderful Sunday mornings working with Men of the Church preparing breakfast for our hungry congregation. He has also served as a church teller, and is preparing to rotate back into that role.

**Larry Shelton** and his wife, Judy, and have been members of WBPC since the early 80's. Their children grew up at WBPC and now their granddchildren are as well. Larry previously served two terms as an Elder, taught Sunday School, worked with the Community Garden, served on a Pastor Search Committee and lead many work teams to the Gulf Coast after Hurricane Katrina. Currently, Larry works with the youth group as a Mission coordinator and substitute teaches youth Sunday School.

# PRAYER CONCERNS

**MEMBERS:** Joyce Barbour, Kaye Byrd, Daisy Lowery, Gwen Orilio, Peggy Reese, John and Mary Jane Roberts, Dot and Jimmie Smith, Peggy Stevens

**FAMILY/FRIENDS:** Honey Dunn (mother of Jeanne Alderson, and grandmother of Mollie, Caroline, and Annie Tucker), Debra Falkner (cousin of Peggy Stevens), Ben Glasgow (brother of Lori Grippo), Ruthanne Munro, Lauren Snyder (granddaughter of LouGene and Jim Hemphill), Beth Vanderkin (friend of Peggy Stevens)

**REX REHAB APEX:** Louise Beck

**ABBOTSWOOD:** Margaret Pittman

**UNIHEALTH/THE OAKS:** Betsy Roberts

**BRIGHTON GARDENS:** Jo Gilmore

**SUNRISE REHAB:** Dot Gebbie

*Congratulations extended to:*

*Susan and Arman Assa upon the birth of their new baby girl, Arezou Bennett Assa, born January 22 at 4:41 p.m. weighing 6 lb., 9 oz. Arezou is Persian and means "wish". Marcia and Frank Bennett are very proud grandparents.*

*WBPC Custodian, Brad Ammartek and his wife Amy upon the birth of their second child, Anyada Ammartek, born Friday, January 9, all are doing well.*

*Sympathy extended to:*

*Dave Grace upon the death of his grandfather.*



Friday, February 20  
11:30 a.m.  
D&S South Hills

Keith and Charlotte will present Part II of their Australia/New Zealand travelogue.

## Thank You!

We greatly appreciated all the prayers, thoughts, cards, and food that was given to us during Dad's failing health and eventual passing. Thank you so much for your caring thoughtfulness. God bless you!

—The Lentz family

Ken and I would like to thank all of you for your thoughts, prayers, cards, and emails. I have finished radiation and am grateful that both the chemo and radiation went so well for me, which I attribute to all the prayers on my behalf. Thanks again for your prayers.

—Geneva Thigpen

# WBPC Church Members,

Firstly, I'd like to introduce myself - my name is Anne Neuenschwander, and I am the new site coordinator for AventWest Children's Mentoring (AWCM.) I've been an English as a Second Language teacher for the last 7 years both here in the Triangle and abroad in Germany. I've been enjoying my time so far with AWCM and look forward to continuing to grow with the program. There have been so many smiling faces and helpful hands from the church just in the two short months I've been with the program! I want to thank the fellowship for your continued support that has led to the success of our winter celebration and consistent volunteers coming to work with the children on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The kids really enjoyed their special Christmas surprises; I know that it made their holidays even more memorable. Thank you for sharing your space and your time, and if you'd like to volunteer to work with our AWCM kids please email me at [awcmelementary@gmail.com](mailto:awcmelementary@gmail.com). We'd love to see you!

*Thanks again,  
Anne*

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Thel Stevens	1
Evelyn Earnhardt	3
Joyce Emerson	4
Evan Barnette	6
Chris Alcorn	8
Michele Clark	10
Robin Howell	10
Mary Todd Earnhardt	10
Todd Earnhardt	10
Andrew Mitchell	10
Daisy Lowery	11
Katie Ware	11
Cookie Littlefield	13
Maria Boshoff	18
Heidi Cleveland	20
Bill Clifford	20
George Barrick	21
Peggy Reese	22
Lori Grippo	23
Susan McLaughlin	23
Brandie Peede	23
Cindy Woodruff	23
Beverly Simpson	24
Paul Simpson	25
Harris Cummings	26
James Lowery	28
Graham Shelton	28