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### On the Way to Jerusalem

I hear lots of talk this time of year about what people are planning to give up for Lent - chocolate, coffee, fast-food, swearing, late-night snacks, work! In our culture of overindulgence, it's good to think about giving up things. But let me add a word of caution. As my colleague, Robb McCoy says so well, "Don't let your giving something up for Lent replace an actual relationship with the living God. And don't let your sense of piety over giving up something for Lent keep you from taking a hard look at what God really wants us to be doing."

The prophet Isaiah had a few things to say about what God wants of us:

This is the kind of fast day I'm after:  
to break the chains of injustice,  
get rid of exploitation in the workplace,  
free the oppressed,  
cancel debts.

What I'm interested in seeing you do is:  
sharing your food with the hungry,  
inviting the homeless poor into your homes,  
putting clothes on the shivering ill-clad,  
being available to your own families. (Isaiah 58:6-7, The Message)

The goal of Lent is to identify with Jesus Christ and to follow in his way of giving himself up for the sake of others. Here are a few suggestions for your Lenten journey:

- Spend time alone with someone who is feeling discouraged and rejected.
- Give up Facebook. And take up a pen and piece of paper and a stamp, and write a note to a teacher, a friend, a loved one, someone sick, or someone lonely.
- Give up TV. And take up conversations. Take up stronger relationships. Take up the Bible. Take up prayer.
- Go through your closets and give away clothes that are still in good condition, but that you could do without.
- Treat yourself to a meal of rice and tea once a week as a physical sign of concern with the real majority, the hungry world.
- Volunteer your time at a soup kitchen, a clothing closet, a homeless shelter, a hospital.
- Read the Bible daily, especially the Gospels.

Don't let this list overwhelm you. Simply pick something that holds meaning for you, something that will ultimately draw you closer to the living God.

— From one pilgrim to another...  
God's blessings on your journey,  
Betty

## Ash Wednesday Worship Service

**March 5 at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary.**

Join us March 5 at 6:30 p.m. as we begin our Lenten journey with a contemplative worship service of scripture and music, including the imposition of ashes and communion. The Presbyterian hymnal, *Glory to God*, has provided us with some beautiful new hymns for this time of prayer and reflection. **The Wednesday night meal will begin at 5:45 p.m. Reservation are needed for the meal.** We will serve lentil and vegetable soup free of charge.

## Evening Bible Study with Robert Owens

**March 12, 19, 26, and April 2**

Have you wondered about the prophet Amos? Why was he called to prophecy to Israel during a time of prosperity? What did he mean when he said, "I heard the roar of a lion?" What was his relationship to the priest Amaziah and the king Jeroboam? Get the answers to these and other questions; join us for a four week study, "**Amos, A Prophet for the Powerless,**" starting March 12 at 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the parlor.

## Sixty-Fifth Anniversary Celebration

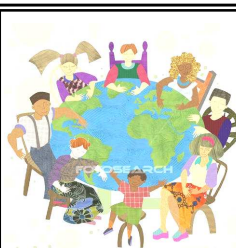
**Sunday, June 1, 2014**

WBPC will celebrate its 65th anniversary on Sunday June 1, 2014. Plan to be present on this very special day. Invite friends, neighbors, former members and staff to join us in this celebration. Following the Sunday worship service there will be a catered meal in the Fellowship Hall. There will not be a charge for the meal but donations are requested to help cover the cost. The meal will contain vegetarian options. The Fellowship Committee plans to send "save the date" cards to former members and staff in March. Please help by sending names and addresses to the church office. Watch for more information about this special celebration in the coming months.

## Breakfast Served on Sunday, March 9!



The Men of the Church will 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, March 9, and share the most important meal of the day! Thank you Men of the Church!



## 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 coffee-house style worship.

**On March 2 at 5:00 p.m., @TheTable will host a Potluck Communion.** Join us for this special and meaningful way to remember the Lord's Supper!

## Confirmation Class Begins March 16

WBPC offers a Confirmation Class to prepare young teens who are ready to make a public profession of faith in Jesus Christ and join the church. This class is offered every 3 years to our 6th-8th grade youth (and older teens who have not been confirmed). The dates for the class are **March 16 thru June 15, 5:30-6:30 p.m., class will meet in the parlor.** If you have a teen who is ready to be confirmed, please contact Betty Connette no later than Sunday, March 2. [[betty@wbpresbyterian.org](mailto:betty@wbpresbyterian.org)]

## Glory to God - Hymnal update

Want to know more about the new Presbyterian hymnal? You can check out a hymnal from the church library and examine it for yourself. Several copies are on the shelf in the library. They're purple – you can't miss them. Take one home for a week. Hymns are great to sing or read as part of a daily devotional.

## March Children's Chapel Schedule

**March 2**

**Communion Sunday (No Children's Chapel)**

**March 9**

*Jesus and Zacchaeus*

Storyteller: Suzanne Smith;

Greeter: Carolyn Esbenshade

**March 16**

*The Good Samaritan*

Storyteller: John Bayne; Greeter: Evan Barnette

**March 23**

*Jesus the King*

Storyteller: Carol Parker;

Greeter: Carolyn Esbenshade

**March 30**

*Lenten Puzzle*

Storyteller: Beth Milchuck; Greeter: Jill Parker

## Recently Your Session

- Examined new officers for Session and Diaconate.
- Approved removing John Bush from active membership roll.
- Approved commissioners to Feb 22 Presbytery meeting.
- Elected Art Chard as new Clerk of Session.
- Reviewed and approved 2013 Annual Statistical Report to Presbytery.
- Reviewed organizational items for new Session members and received Committee Assignments.
- Reviewed how Congregational Care groups work.
- Noted special thanks to Gene Curtis and Phil Westerman for filling as FAP chair.
- Approved fund raising activities of 2014 Haiti Mission Team relating to Yahve Jire Children's Foundation.
- Approved communion dates for 2014.

## WIHN Thank You to All!

Many thanks to all who volunteered during our WIHN week! Thanks to all the drivers, evening hosts, overnight hosts, meal preparers, set-up and break down persons who gave of their time and energy to help those in need! WIHN is one of the area's greatest outreach programs, and we could not participate without YOUR help!

## 2014 Haiti Mission Team News

The **2014 Haiti Mission Team** has been approved by our Session to host several fundraiser dinners this spring to help with the cost of construction materials to build more closets, to purchase paint and plant materials to put in the raised bed gardens while we are in Haiti July 10-18th. **Watch for details coming soon!** We also will be taking the children at the Yahve Jire Children's Foundation on another field trip. This year we will be going to the beach. We will be going for the day to Montrouis, Haiti to Club Indigo where the kids can swim in the ocean or pool, eat a buffet lunch, play soccer and badminton and enjoy the beauty of their country. This is something they have never experienced before. Congratulations to Discovery Presbyterian Church in Clayton who raised \$1,000 at their Souper Bowl event for our work in Haiti. Getting excited again!

*Kathy Johnson, Mission Team Coordinator*

## Deadline for Contact Newsletter Articles

For ease in remembering, WBPC is changing its newsletter article deadline to the **15th of every month.**

## End Violence Against Women



Presbyterian women are in action around the world to witness and act for an end to violence against women and girls.

On the 25th of each month – join people around the world in observing an Orange Day to work for an end to violence against women and girls. This call comes from Say NO-UNITE to End Violence Against Women, a social mobilization platform on ending violence against women and girls that is related to UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon's campaign, UNITE to End Violence Against Women.

<http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/un/orangeday/>

What you can do:

- Take part in the [Stop Rape Now](#) campaign to stop the use of rape in war.
- Plan to observe Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October. The [Presbyterians Against Domestic Violence Network](#) provides ideas and liturgical resources.
- Wear orange. Tell those you meet why you are wearing orange. Take pictures and share them on social media with an explanation of why you are wearing orange.
- Join [Presbyterians Against Domestic Violence](#).
- Create a group in your worshiping community, mid-council, school or other location to work to end violence against women and girls.
- Sign the [global call for action](#) to tell governments around the world that you want them to make ending violence against women and girls a top priority.
- Ask 3 people you know to [sign the call to action](#).
- Join [Say NO - UNITE to End Violence Against Women](#) on Facebook and share why you think ending violence against women and girls should be a priority for decision makers around the world.

In our community, if you or you know someone who is experiencing violence, INTERACT, a domestic violence/sexual assault program in Raleigh, is available 24/7. Contact the 24 hour crisis line at 919-828-7740.

Blessings to all the women and girls who have the courage to get help.

*Kathy Johnson*

*Fellowship Presbyterian Women's Circle*

## Anna Carter Florence Coming March 1st to White Memorial Presbyterian Church

Saturday, March 1, 9am-12:30pm

Anna Carter Florence is the Peter Marshall Associate Professor of Preaching at Columbia Theological Seminary. She is a frequent teacher and lecturer in this country and abroad. In her presentation at WMPC, Anna will invite us to read the biblical "script" by focusing on the verbs that are given and chosen by the characters. She concludes that it's the verbs in Scripture that form a script for us about life as we know it, and life as we yearn for it. Register for this event by going to [www.whitememorial.org/winterretreat](http://www.whitememorial.org/winterretreat). The \$15 registration fee includes 8:00 a.m. breakfast for early risers.

## March Madness is Here!

March Madness is upon us once again! And it's also time for our annual Food Bag Drive for Raleigh Urban Ministries. Let's all rally behind our favorite basketball team and help Raleigh Urban Ministries help those who are hungry to be the ultimate winners. The competition runs throughout the month of March and ends on March 30. Each complete food bag with your team colors on the bag counts as a point towards your favorite team! —Wednesday Morning Prayer Circle

## VBS 2014: Save The Date!

VBS 2014 will run from 9AM-12PM, June 16-20. Look for registration forms in the coming weeks!

Happy Birthdays

Jeff Cleveland	2
Nicolas Smith	2
Holly Mitchell	4
Kenneth Thigpen	4
Joyce Smith	7
Jeanne Whitaker	8
Deane Irving	9
Cali Howell	12
Kelsey Peede	15
Nancy Wade	15
David Reese	20
Henry Burke	25
Jacob Taylor	25
Lorelei Partin	27
Eva Reopelle	28
Charles Smith	21
Mollie Tucker	30
Lewis Ware	30
Donald Whitaker	30

## Jerusalem

Playing at IMAX Theater @ Marbles

February 22-March 20 (check website or call theater for times)

Filmed for the first time in 3D and for the giant screen, *Jerusalem* immerses audiences into one of the world's most beloved cities. Discover why this tiny piece of land is sacred to three major religions through the stories of Jewish, Christian and Muslim families who call Jerusalem home. Join renowned archaeologist and UNC Distinguished Professor, Dr. Jodi Magness, as she travels underground to solve some of this city's greatest mysteries. Find out why, after thousands of years, Jerusalem and the Holy Land continue to stir the imagination of billions of people. Unprecedented access to the city's holiest sites, as well as rare and breathtaking aerial footage of the Old City and the Holy Land, combine to make *Jerusalem* a unique and stunning cinematic experience.



Friday, March 21  
11:30AM  
D&S South Hills

## PRAYER CONCERNS

**MEMBERS:** Joyce Barbour, Nita Brinkley, Kaye Byrd, Dot Gebbie, Miranda Johnson, Richard Lentz, Gene Reese, John and Mary Jane Roberts, Dot and Jimmie Smith, Peggy Stevens

**FAMILY/FRIENDS:** Lauren Bridges (friend of Pat and Brenda Byers), Tim Meece (uncle of Chad Barnette), Warren Peede (father-in-law of Cherie Peede), Wendy Ratley (sister of Leslie Adams), Lauren Snyder (granddaughter of LouGene and Jim Hemphill), Joe Tognoli (cousin of Peggy Stevens), Geny Ware (mother of Lewis Ware), Rich Westin (friend of Steven Kotnik), James Wilson (Mavis Stott's nephew)

**ABBOTSWOOD:** Margaret Pittman

**UNIHEALTH/THE OAKS:** Betsy Roberts

**THE COVINGTON:** Annie Woodruff

**BRIGHTON GARDENS:** Jo Gilmore

*Congratulations to:*

*Jason and Jennifer Simpson, big brother—Seth and proud grandparents—Paul and Beverly Simpson upon the birth of Meredith Shae Simpson, born February 18.*

*Becky and Joe Burmester, proud grandparents of twins!*