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A Spiritual Spring Cleaning

It is Lent - a season of repentance and renewal. During these six weeks leading up to Easter, we are called to reflect on our relationship with God. The word "Lent" comes from the Germanic word for "springtime" and so some view this season of the church year as one for a *spiritual spring cleaning*—a time for taking spiritual inventory and then cleaning out those things which hold us back from having a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ. I invite all of us to spend this season doing our own personal spiritual spring cleaning. To help in this endeavor, here is a wonderful reflection from renowned Methodist pastor, Adam Hamilton, on repentance.

[And John said to them,] "Bear fruits worthy of repentance."...And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." (Luke 3:8-11)

"Repentance involves the entire person: head, heart, and hands. The word in Greek, *metanoia*, means literally to "think differently afterward" and signifies a change of thinking that leads to a change of heart that leads ultimately to a change in behavior. It is not enough, John said to the multitudes who came to be baptized, to step into the water. Repentance is accompanied by a *change in life* - there must be fruit born of repentance and baptism.

It is interesting to note that in Luke's gospel, when the people asked what this fruit looked like, all three of John's responses were economic in nature: sharing our coats with someone who has none; making sure not to overcharge people when collecting taxes; refusing to extort money through false accusations. John's list wasn't comprehensive, but it surely tells us that if we seek to live as a repentant sinner, we will be generous and giving, honest and fair. My experience is that people who live this way, and who are not focused on constantly yearning for more, are happier in life and usually more successful.

Are you producing the fruits of repentance? Are you regularly giving to help those in need? Are you fair and honest in all your dealings? Do you speak well of others? And are you cultivating contentment with what you have?"

Lord, help me to produce fruit in keeping with repentance. Help me to be generous, honest, and content with what I have. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Lenten blessings on your journey,
Betty

Lenten Bible Study with Betty Connette

Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus

Thursdays at Noon in the Church Parlor: 2/26-4/2

We will encounter together the life and ministry of Jesus in a fresh and exciting way. In The Way: Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus, author and renowned pastor Adam Hamilton explores the earthly ministry of Jesus to help us hear his teaching and view his actions anew by drawing upon insights from history, archaeology, and the geography of the Holy Land. Using videos shot on location, Hamilton takes us to the Jordan River where Jesus was baptized and the wilderness where he was tempted. We'll see the ruins of ancient Capernaum, where Jesus healed the sick, and ascend the mountain where he gave his most famous sermon. We'll travel across the Sea of Galilee, and we'll visit the last remaining community of Samaritans in the world. Finally, we'll travel to Jerusalem, where Jesus spent his final days. This 6-week "visual" journey into the heart of the land where Jesus walked, will surely deepen our understanding of Jesus' life, while also increasing our love and faith in Him.

Guests Coming to WBPC!

Church Women United (CWU), founded in 1941, is a racially, culturally, theologically inclusive Christian women's movement, celebrating unity in diversity and working for a world of peace and justice. The Wake County chapter will be meeting at **10:00 a.m. on March 7 in the WBPC fellowship hall** for an Ecumenical Action Day. Our focus is on ministry for migrant workers. The Episcopal Farm Worker Ministry in Newton Grove NC has asked for help in supplying **long sleeve shirts and medium and large pants** for the workers. (Long sleeves are needed to protect the skin from pesticide exposure.) Bins are outside Betty's office for any donations. This is a chance to clean out your closets and donate clothing!

Additionally, there are labeled bins for donations of hygiene kits items: **disposable razors, combs, travel size conditioner, travel size shampoo, individually sealed toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, lotion, boxed band-aids, deodorant, shaving cream, small hand towel, and wash cloths.** These kits are given to migrants when they arrive to tide them over until they get paid.

All women are invited and we hope all WBPC women will join us for refreshments and this program from the National Farmworker Ministry staff before we pack boxes for delivery to Newton Grove. This will be an exciting day to work with women from local churches on a community need.



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.

Wednesday Night Live

Join your church family for fun and fellowship on Wednesday evenings. All programs are designed to be inter-generational and fun. Invite your neighbors and friends and plan to be present!

Sign up on the Sunday attendance form or call or email the church office by noon on Monday the week of the event.

Dates: January 14-March 18

Time: Dinner: 5:45~6:30; Classes 6:30~7:25

Cost for dinner: \$7 / \$5 ages 6-9 / free for ages 5 & under

March 4: Chili Cook-Off

Chili, Salad, Dessert

March 11: Hip Hop Dancers

Amedeo's: Italian Dinner

March 18: Open Mic Night

Pittman Surprise



Check out our website
www.wbpresbyterian.org
to find updates about programs.

CDCA/Sarah Junkin Woodard Visit!

We are so excited to be welcoming Sarah Junkin Woodard back for her annual visit to WBPC on **Sunday, March 15!** Sarah hails from Nicaragua where she serves with the Center for Development in Central America. The CDCA's work focuses on five main areas: Sustainable Agriculture, Sustainable Economic Development, Health Care, Education, and Appropriate Technology. Their mission is "to enable communities to become self-sufficient, sustainable, and democratic entities". Those are lofty goals and they do an amazing job! Please join us after morning worship for a light lunch, a short presentation from Sarah, and an opportunity to support CDCA's efforts by purchasing lovely handmade pottery, jewelry, and other arts from Sarah's friends in Nicaragua.

Breakfast Served on Sunday, March 8!

The Men of the Church serve breakfast on the second Sunday of every month. Breakfast begins at 8:45 a.m.! Join in the fun! Thank you Men of the Church!

Recently Your Session

- Approved the 2014 Annual Statistical Report
- Approved Becky Burmester and Charles Smith as Commissioners to the Feb. 28 Presbytery Meeting in Greenville where Ed Johnson will be examined
- Approved the tellers for 2015
- Approved Joe Burmester to preach in the @TT Service on February 15
- Approved allowing the collection of shirts, pants, and hygiene kits for farm workers during the month of February
- Approved 3 fundraising activities for the Haiti Mission Trip
- Approved the collection of special offerings in 2015
- Approved WBPC joining Church Women United
- Approved the Alternative Gift Fair on November 1
- Approved hosting Sarah Junkin with the Center for Development in Central America on March 15
- Discussed the need for an elevator in the Education Building

Please contact an Elder with any questions.

WBPC's Prayer Chain

Prayer changes things - for those who pray and for those for whom we pray! For most of WBPC's church life, we have had an ongoing Prayer Chain for any who need prayer: church members, family, friends, community, or global. If you would like to be included in the emailed prayer notifications, please contact Marcia Bennett, sen1969@hotmail.com. When you receive your email prayer chain, all you have to do is sit quietly and pray earnestly for the need, then go about your daily routine. If you have prayer needs or celebrations yourself, you may contact the church office, or your pastors, or your deacons, or Prayer Chain co-leaders, Marcia Bennett or Betty Dean: betdean@nc.rr.com. Also, if you have made changes in your email address, please let us know.

BackPack Buddies Food Drive

William's Weekend for BackPack Buddies, a food drive organized by our own William Winslow, will be held on April 18. You can sign up to help on his website (www.thefooddrivekid.org) or by emailing William at (william@thefooddrivekid.org).

Social Justice Forum in March

On Sunday, March 1 join us for action at 3:30 and at 4:00 p.m. in room 212, we will host *Dr. Burhan Ghanayem*, who was born in occupied Palestine. He will share his personal story "*Palestine Dismantled: The Personal Experience of an American and his Family in Palestine.*" On March 8 we will resume our study of *Zionism Unsettled*. On March 15, we will have no class as Sarah Junkin Woodard is joining us for a program (and light lunch) after morning worship. Sarah will update us on the Center for Development in Nicaragua. On March 22 and 29, we will continue with our study of *Zionism Unsettled*.

Bread for the World Convention

Saturday, March 28, 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Highland United Methodist Church

1901 Ridge Road, Raleigh, NC 27607

For more info go to

<http://RaleighBFTWconvention.eventbrite.com> or

email breadfortheworldraleigh@gmail.com

We can end hunger in our time, whether the hungry live in the next house, the next state, or the next continent.



Friday, March 20

11:30AM, D&S South Hills

Keith and Charlotte Cassel will present

Part II of their Australia/New Zealand travelogue.

What's Your Color?

Red and White, Navy Blue, Sky Blue, Orange... Which is it? State, Duke, Carolina, or Clemson... maybe another one? Show your support for your team by filling a bag for Urban Ministries. Urban Ministries help feed hungry families right here in our area.

Fill a bag with the need items...

1 can tuna or other canned meat

1 can carrots

2 cans beans (any kind)

1 can tomatoes

1 can fruit

1 jar applesauce

1 lb. bag of grits

1 lb. bag of rice

1 lb. dried beans

2 boxes macaroni & cheese

2 envelopes of powdered milk

1 jar of peanut butter

1 box of cereal.

Drop off your bag or bags in the narthex with a ribbon around the handle in your school colors... the team with the most filled bags wins bragging rights for the year! Support your team and help feed another human being.



Easter Lilies 2014



As we begin our planning and preparation for Easter, the Worship Committee would like to offer the congregation an opportunity to honor or memorialize a loved one by putting a traditional lily in the sanctuary. The cost of a lily is \$12.00. Please complete the form below and put it in the collection plate with your payment or return it to the church office **no later than Monday, March 30**. Please indicate *Easter Lilies* on the memo line of your check.

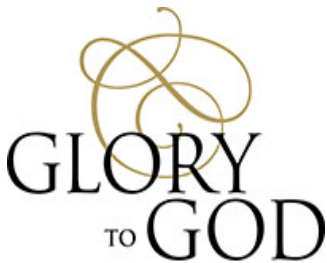
Given by _____ Phone # _____

In Memory of (1) _____ (2) _____

In Honor of (1) _____ (2) _____

Number of Lilies requested: _____ x \$12.00 each = \$ _____

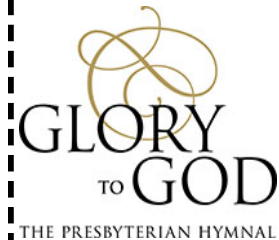
Paid by ___check ___cash



Glory to God Hymnal Order Update

Thank you, everyone, for your quick responses during our hymnal campaign! In only 4 weeks, we have orders for 190 of the 235 hymnals needed. There is still time to purchase hymnals and dedicate them in memory or in honor of loved ones. You can use the form on the next page, or find order forms on the church website, in the church office, sanctuary narthex, fellowship hall, and choir room.

Mark your calendars for the hymn festival and Glory to God hymnal dedication during Sunday worship on April 28.



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 _____

Number of hymnals requested: _____ x \$21.00 each = \$ _____

Paid by ___check ___cash

Bookplate to read:

This hymnal is given to the glory of God by _____

In Memory of _____
and/or

In Honor of _____

Thank you! From



Wheels4Hope would like to thank you for your support in 2014. It's congregations like yours that help us meet our mission of providing affordable, reliable transportation to low-wage earning families in our local community!

- Cars change lives!
- Wheels4Hope placed 130 program vehicles in the Triangle area in 2014.

We work with 31 Partner Agencies serving the Triangle area in
Raleigh, Durham, Chapel Hill, Cary, and Wake Forest.

We are turning donated cars into local blessings for our community.

Help Make 2015 A Success

Wheels4Hope is excited about 2015! We have a high goal of placing 145 program cars with your help. This mission would not succeed without the support of congregations:

- sharing about Wheels4Hope
- donating cars
- Volunteering
- providing financial support

Thank you!

For more information go to www.wheels4hope.org or call 919-832-1941.



CPR/AED Training Coming Soon!

It is time for our annual American Heart Association Heartsaver CPR with AED Training. The class is scheduled on Saturday, April 18 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the WBPC parlor. New and renewing students are welcome. Registration fee is \$40 per person, with Youth scholarships available for WBPC Youth. Come learn how to save the life of an infant, child or adult and to use the AED (Automated External Defibrillator) located outside Betty's office. It is the single best means of reviving someone from sudden cardiac death and anyone can use it with just a little bit of training. For questions or to register, please contact Joyce Smith at 919-606-0982 or at JoyceSmithNC@nc.rr.com. Will there be prizes this time like last fall? It remains to be seen...

March Children's Chapel Schedule

March 1: Communion Sunday (No Children's Chapel)

March 8: *The Great Pearl*

Storyteller: Phyllis Fann; Greeter: Carolyn Esbenshade

March 15: *The Synagogue and the Upper Room*

Storyteller: Suzanne Smith; Greeter: Evan Barnette

March 22: *The Good Shepherd and the Wolf*

Storyteller: Carol Parker; Greeter: Grace Odum

March 29: *Jesus' Last Passover*

Storyteller: Allisen Fischer; Greeter: Katherine Anh Clapp

The WBPC Congregation is a great source of strength for us, and we thank you for your gifts and for your moral support for us and for our new born baby. May God Bless You ALL.

—Brad Ammartek (WBPC Custodian) and Family

Thank you so very much for all the food, cards, valentines, phone calls, and mostly for your prayers.

—With Love, Mavis Stott

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

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
Charles Smith	21
Mollie Tucker	30
Lewis Ware	30
Donald Whitaker	30

In the Spirit of Christian Joy & Fellowship

You Are Invited By

The New Hope Presbytery

and

Western Boulevard Presbyterian Church

to the

Service of Ordination

of

Edward Reginald Johnson, II

to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament

Western Boulevard Presbyterian Church

Saturday, March 28, 2015 at 2:00 p.m.

The Rev. Betty Connette will preach.

Please join us for a reception following the service in the fellowship hall.

VBS 2015: Save The Date!

WBPC Vacation Bible School 2015 will run from 9AM-12PM, June 15-19. Look for registration forms in the coming weeks!

PRAYER CONCERNS

MEMBERS: Joyce Barbour, Louise Beck, Pat Byers, Kaye Byrd, Daisy Lowery, Gwen Orilio, Robert Owens, Peggy Reese, Dot and Jimmie Smith, Peggy Stevens, Mavis Stott, Bonnie and Jeanne Carter

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), Carol Williamson (father of Jennifer Pittman)

ABBOTSWOOD: Margaret Pittman

UNIHEALTH/THE OAKS: Betsy Roberts

BRIGHTON GARDENS: Jo Gilmore

SUNRISE REHAB: Dot Gebbie

Sympathy extended to **Sarah Lindsay** and family upon the death of **T.C.** on February 15.

Congratulations extended to **Carol and Tommy Parker** upon the birth of their grandson, **Nolan Richards**.