

OUTREACH

RCS No Longer Taking Clothing

Please take note that RCS has decided they will no longer be able to process and house clothing. We recently delivered some donated clothing to them and it was refused. Therefore, First Pres can no longer accept clothing donations. Salvation Army and Goodwill are still accepting your donations.

Empty Bowls Celebrates 10 Years in New Bern

The Empty Bowls event returns to New Bern for its 10th Year on Thurs. Feb. 28th at Temple Baptist Church, 1500 Kingdom Way, in New Bern from 11AM to 1:30PM. Tickets are \$25.00 and are available in advance at the Bank of the Arts, 317 Middle Street, Tuesday - Saturday from 10:00-5:00. By phone, tickets may be purchased at 252-638-2577, or online at emptybowlsnewbern.org. Proceeds help us nurture the creative process and feed hungry people in Craven, Jones and Pamlico Counties.

Backpack Blessings Update

Please mark your calendars now for our next Build. It is scheduled for Saturday, **March 2nd** from 9 to 11AM and takes place at Garber Methodist Church, our usual location. We could use your help. Bring a friend!

Crop Walk

The CROP Hunger Walk was postponed last fall because of Hurricane Florence. But we are coming back STRONGER THAN EVER! The new Walk is set for Sunday, **March 10th**. Registration begins at Union Point Park @ 2:00 PM. The Walk begins at 3:00 PM. In 2019, 50% of the money collected will go to Religious Community Services (RCS) of New Bern to assist with hunger and hurricane recovery. Anyone can be a CROP Hunger Walker! Many churches and organizations sponsor CROP Walk Teams. But Individual Walkers are always welcome! Our CROP Walk coordinator is Jennifer East, 252-671-7771 or email jenniferheast@gmail.com.

Some early 2019 Calendar Events

February 17	New Member Class (See Bill Hawkins if interested)
February 18	President's Day (Federal Holiday)
February 24	Presbyterian Women Soup & Service 12:15 pm
March 3	Transfiguration of the Lord Sunday – Lord's Supper
March 6	Ash Wednesday (evening service) 7 pm
March 10	Crop Walk 3pm (registration 2pm)
March 12	Lenten Lunch 12 noon (1 of 6)
March 17	Sacraments Class (first class) 12:15 pm
March 19	Lenten Lunch 12 noon (2 of 6)
March 24	Sacraments Class (second class) 12:15 pm
March 26	Lenten Lunch 12 noon (3 of 6)
March 31	Sacraments Class (third) 12:15 pm
April 2	Lenten Lunch 12 noon (4 of 6)
April 3	Spring Ring/Fellowship Dinner 5:30 pm
April 7	Sacraments Class (fourth) 12:15 pm
April 7	Rothermel – Alzheimers Research 2 pm
April 9	Lenten Lunch 12 noon (5 of 6)
April 14	Palm Sunday – Lord's Supper
April 16	Lenten Lunch 12 noon (6 of 6)
April 18	Maundy Thursday (evening service) 7 pm – Lord's Supper
April 19	Good Friday
April 21	Easter Sunday / One Great Hour of Sharing
April 26	St. Francis Retreat (see Lloyd Griffith)
May 5	Children's Sabbath
May 26	Summer Worship Schedule Begins(One Service at 10am)

WEEKLY CALENDAR

FCG Fellowship Ctr Gym SHM Session House Main (Rm);
SHL Library SHP Parlor LH Lighthouse MC Ministry Center

SUNDAY		February 10
8:25 & 10:55 AM	Worship Service	
9:40 AM	Sunday School (See Schedule)	
4:30 PM	Confirmation Choir/MC 2.08	
5:30 PM	Youth Group/SHM	
8:00 PM	Clean Freedom of Narc Anon/LH	
MONDAY		February 11
2:00 PM	Knit for Others/SHP	
3:00 PM	D Bennett Writers Group/LH	
4:00 PM	Covenant Choir/MC 2.08	
5:00 PM	YMCA Basketball/FCG	
5:30 PM	Worship Commission/MC 1.07	
7:00 PM	Women's Bible Study/SHP	
8:00 PM	Clean Freedom of Narc Anon/LH	
8:00 PM	Girl's Basketball/FCG	
TUESDAY		February 12
8:00 AM	Ladies Community Bible Study/SHP	
9:30 AM	Staff Meeting/MC 1.07	
2:30 PM	Pickleball/FCG	
3:30 PM	Kinderchoir/MC 2.08	
5:00 PM	Craven Ukes Club/MC 1.19	
6:00 PM	Police Basketball/FCG	
6:15 PM	AA (12 x 12 Closed)/LH	
7:00 PM	Session/SHM	
8:00 PM	Clean Freedom of Narc Anon/LH	
WEDNESDAY		February 13
9:00 AM	Preschool Financial Meeting/SHL	
10:00 AM	PTSD Veterans Group/LH	
11:45 AM	Preschool Choir/MC 2.08	
12:00 PM	Centering Prayer/MC 1.25	
2:00 PM	Personnel/SHL	
5:00 PM	Contemplative Worship/MC 1.25	
6:30 PM	Nar-anon/LH	
7:00 PM	NC Civil War Round Table/SHM	
7:30 PM	AA (Women's C)/SHP	
THURSDAY		HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!! February 14
8:00 AM	Men's Bible Study/MC 1.19	
9:30 AM	Women's AM Bible Study/MC 1.07	
2:30 PM	Pickleball/FCG	
5:45 PM	Resurrection Singers/MC 2.08	
6:15 PM	AA (12x12 Closed)/LH	
7:00 PM	Daybreak/Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal/MC 2.08	
FRIDAY		February 15
7:00 PM	House Church #11/MC 1.19	
SATURDAY		February 16
10:00 AM	Men's AA Way of Life/LH	
8:00 PM	Clean Freedom of Narc Anon/LH	

WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



400 New Street • P.O. Box 1069
New Bern, NC 28563-1069

Phone: 252.637.3270

Fax: 252.637.4494

Website: firstpresnb.org

Preschool: 252.670.9290

Michael Anello, *Partner in Mission to Haiti*
Andy and Ellen Collins, *Partners in Mission to Thailand*

NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH invites all who are led to serve our Lord Jesus Christ in discipleship through his body the Church to join our congregation. Members are received in one of three ways: Profession of Faith and Baptism, Reaffirmation of Faith, or by Letter of Transfer.

VISITOR BROCHURES are available in the vestibule and the narthex as well as in the friendship pad that will be passed along your pew. Please take one or two!

THE FELLOWSHIP CAFÉ in the Ministry Center (behind the Sanctuary) is open at 8:45 AM (before Sunday School) for coffee. It remains open until Sunday School begins, at 9:40am. Come, one and all, that we may meet and greet one another!

PRAYER REQUEST CARDS and envelopes are in the pew racks. If you have a prayer request for you or your loved one, please supply the information requested on the prayer card and put it in the privacy envelope. Confidentiality is always honored. For all other requests or questions, please call Janet Benrey (638-5787). *For my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.* (Isaiah 56:7c)

SERMON MANUSCRIPTS are available in the Church Office and the audio version can be found on our website located at: www.firstpresnb.org.

10 February 2019

COMMISSION AND COMMITTEE EVENTS

ADMINISTRATION

Update From the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee

You may be wondering about the work of the APNC now that Bill has announced his retirement. We are receiving guidance from the Presbytery and discerning the best way to proceed. Maren's contract remains in place through December and she is supportive and committed to this process. We will update the congregation as soon as we have more information. This is a time of transition for our church and we have been blessed with a wonderful head of staff for 18 years. God continues to bless our congregation with a committed staff and He led Maren to us. We are truly grateful for her! Your continued prayers are appreciated.

Congregational Meeting

Our next Congregational Meeting will be held on February 24th at both services. Matters before the congregation are as follows: 1) the election of the 2019-20 Nominating Committee and 2) to dissolve the Ministry Terms of Call for Rev. William L. Hawkins. Also presenting will be Jim Briley, Treasurer who will review the 2018 Financial Statement and the 2019 budget.

CARE

GriefShare

GriefShare is a Christian faith based support group for people who have lost a loved one: spouse, family member, relative or friend. It is open to the community no matter what your religious affiliation or beliefs might be.... ALL ARE WELCOME!! GriefShare runs every Monday from 10:00 AM until noon in Room 206 at the Centenary UMC office building at 309 New St., from January 28th to April 22nd. You can join us at any time. For more information and to register, please contact Pam or Ron Bonina at 252-497-8489 or dadboni@outlook.com

Redeeming Dementia Presentation

On Sunday, Feb. 24th, 12:30PM at Christ Episcopal Church (Parish House), a presentation by two members of the Virginia Theological Seminary, Dorothy Linthicum and Janice Hicks will conduct a discussion on the newly released book, "Redeeming Dementia". Lunch will be served, but reservations are required. Call Christ Church at 633-2109 to sign up. Reservations must be made by Feb. 13th.

Food 4 U

Please consider making a food item for those members of our congregation returning home from the hospital, recovering from surgery or an illness. You can contribute to the Food 4 U Freezer in the Session House kitchen any time. Containers are available (on top of freezer) for your convenience. Please label each item with the contents and date before placing in freezer. Thank you very much!

EDUCATION

Youth Group tonight-5:20-7:30PM - Joint Youth Group at Christ Church. We'll meet at 5:20 at First Pres and walk over together to Christ Church. Pick up at First Pres at 7:30PM.

Youth Group Next Sunday, Feb. 17th, 5:30 to 7:30PM in the Session House. We'll have dinner and make goodie bags to take to a nursing home.

S.A.L.T. (3rd thru 5th Graders) Meets NEXT SUNDAY, 5:30-7:30PM in the Fellowship Café.

Register for First Presbyterian Preschool

Time to Register for the 2019/20 School Year! Registration opens to current students and church members on February 11th and opens to the public on March 4th. Classes range from infants (6 weeks and older) to Pre-K, and before and after-school programs are available. Please complete and return the registration form, media release form, and financial form with a check or money order for your registration fee to Preschool Director Kerri Wheeler (firstpreskerri@gmail.com). Scholarships are available! Forms are available in the Preschool office in the Ministry Center or on the preschool website (firstprespreschool.info) under "forms."

Sunday School Classes Begin at 9:40AM/Nursery at 9:30 am

Encounters with Jesus in the Gospel of John/Rev. Maren/Seth Smith
In the Session House Main Room we are exploring together the interactions of various people with Jesus (Nicodemus, Mary, the Samaritan Woman, Lazarus, the disciples, etc) using close textual study, conversation, and artistic interpretations, and guided by New Testament Professor Frances Taylor Gench's excellent study of the Gospel of John.

The Present Word – Our Love For God/Joan Leibert/SHP

This quarter we focus on the theme of God's love for us and our love for God throughout the Bible.

“Thin Places”: Finding a better way to perceive light from Christ's Spirit breaking through the darkness of these turbulent times/ Lloyd Griffith/MC Chapel (1.25) Using The Great Spiritual Migration by Brian D. McLaren as our study guide, we will explore spiritual, theological, and missional migrations that shift our understanding of faith into a way of living.

Mid-Week Formation Opportunities

Monday Evening Women's Bible Study/SHP

The Monday night women's Bible study group which meets in the Session House Parlor every Monday from 7:00 to 8:30 is now studying Barbara Essex's *Bad Girls of the Bible* this winter. For information, call Marice DeBruhl 252-637-5468 or Wendy Moeller 252-514-7729.

Centering Prayer Group /MC Chapel

Centering Prayer is an ancient form of prayer that involves learning to rest in God's presence. This group meets every Wednesday from noon to 1PM in the Ministry Center Chapel and is led by Rev. Lloyd Griffith.

Contemplative Worship/MC Chapel

This small group worship experience is offered each Wednesday from 5PM to 5:30PM in the Chapel. A brief service is planned around silence, prayer and meditation on the Biblical text chosen for preaching the coming Sunday. Please feel free to bring a friend.

Presbyterian Men's Morning Bible Study is led by Brent Schlottman and Bill Hawkins at 8AM in the Ministry Center Café. You're welcome to join us for coffee (and sometimes baked delights from Chip or Dean or others), fellowship, and deep-dives into Scripture in the Fellowship Cafe.

Thursday Morning Women's Bible Study, led by Maren Sonstegard-Spray, will meet weekly from 9:30AM to 10:30AM in the Ministry Center Conference Room (MC 1.07). We are studying a new book, "Wearing God: Clothing, Laughter, Fire, and Other Overlooked Ways of Meeting God" by Lauren Winner.

Montreat Women's Conference - Discount Available

Join us at the Montreat Women's Connection Conference Friday-Sunday, August 9-11 - registration has already opened. The keynote speaker is Valeria Kaur, civil rights activist and founder of the Revolutionary Love Project, and with music leadership on Sunday by Grammy-winner Amy Grant. More information and registration is at montreat.org/events/women. Registration cost includes program, room, and meals (single and double occupancy options), AND we are offering a 50% discount off the cost of the registration from the McClary Scholarship fund to make it easier to attend the conference! Please contact Maren (maren@firstpresnb.org) to learn more about the discount.

FELLOWSHIP

Presbyterian Women Soup and Share

All women of the church please join us in the Session House on Sunday, Feb. 24th at 12:15PM for our annual Soup and Service Luncheon. Our Guest Speakers will be Sharon Godard, Roxanne Porter, and Lynette Williams, all of which are Disaster Preparedness Trainers for New Hope Presbytery. These ladies have been certified to help congregations prepare for disasters before they happen. At the luncheon, we will also continue our mission collection of paper products, school supplies or check donations for Children's Hope Alliance (Barium Springs). Hope to see you there to enjoy the delicious soups and wonderful fellowship.

February Lunch Wagon

On Friday, February 15th we will be touring New Bern Academy, which is across the street from the Lighthouse. Margaret Cooper, a member of First Pres and a volunteer Docent at Tryon Palace will take us through the building and share with us the history of New Bern Academy. There is no charge for this tour, but donations are appreciated. Prior to the tour, we will meet for lunch at the Chelsea at 11:30, after lunch we will either drive or walk around the corner to begin the tour, which will begin at 1:00. Note: **We will be ordering off the menu, but we request you please have cash on hand to pay for your lunch. It will expedite the process of paying individually for our own lunches.**

Refrigerator Needed in Café

Would you like to make a special contribution to the church? You may or may not be aware of the role of the Ministry Center Café. It's not just used on Sundays. It is used daily by the staff, the preschool, and committee members attending meetings. There are several Presbyterian Women Circles that meet in the café, and a number of House Churches also use the café for its meetings. As you can imagine, the refrigerator gets a lot of use. Ours is on its last leg! A new refrigerator is needed so very badly. If you feel a calling to purchase one, or if you can contribute toward one, it would be greatly appreciated. Please see Tommy Hall for details. He works every day 9AM to 2PM, or can be reached at 670.4198. Thank you!