

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HIGHLANDS



**MARCH
2020**

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FROM THE PASTORS

In her poem “Upstream,” Mary Oliver says that “Attention is the beginning of devotion.” With that line, Oliver invites us to engage in a lifetime of paying attention. Her poem invites adults to teach children to see daisies and taste wintergreen, and marvel at the lives of sunbursts and blueberries.

Oliver goes on to say, “Stand them in the stream, head them upstream...” which means, perhaps, that children receive a blessing when they have some resistance in their lives. Certainly, a blessing when they have a direction for their lives.

Of course, Oliver speaks not only on the care of children, but also on the care of people of all ages as she announces to us, “Attention is the beginning of devotion.”

Oliver’s words here present a good mantra for the liturgical season of Lent. The word “Lent” means “lengthening,” and refers to the lengthening of daylight in the spring. But the Church uses this term to note the length of days, forty days, Jesus spent in the wilderness suffering without food before resisting temptation.

So, Lent serves as a time when we can pay attention to the work of God in Jesus Christ, as Jesus will also resist the temptation to

avoid the cross. We pay attention as Jesus moves to the suffering cross, and then to the triumph of his resurrection.

In the season of Lent, we have an opportunity to pay attention to the work of God in Jesus Christ. We have an opportunity to begin our devotion as followers of Jesus. Some of this attention can arise by giving up something, such as a food item. Or, attention can arise by taking up something, such as a charitable activity.

Note here the role of resistance in giving up and taking up. We resist the temptation to eat something. Or, we resist the temptation to hold things to ourselves.

The point, though, whether something is given up or taken up, is to heighten our attention. Our attention arises by means of our mouths, or our hands, leading us forward into the stream where Jesus heads us in his way, his truth, and his life.

In the season of Lent, by paying attention to Jesus, we may begin to devote ourselves to the wonder of God’s work in the cross of Jesus Christ. By paying attention to Jesus, in some form of devotion, we can receive a blessing that places us in the stream of Jesus, which then heads us in his way, his truth, and his life.

SESSION REPORT

After a thorough report offered by session member Gerri Tulley, the session approved a motion requesting that the Property Ministry Team acquire two AED (Automated External Defibrillator) units to be installed in the Ravenel

Room and in the downstairs hallway of the Faith and Fellowship Building. The session also gratefully approved the publishing of a brief church history, compiled by Stell Huie and Angie Jenkins, to be available at our church entrances.

MISSION PARTNERS

Life Challenge of Western North Carolina

Chosen...Changed...Complete for Life!

Life Challenge of Western North Carolina is a charitable, nonprofit ministry for women with life-controlling problems. Life Challenge is a Christ-centered program which serves as a residential center for women 18-39 seeking assistance in overcoming drug and/or alcohol addiction. The home can comfortably accommodate ten residents. Residents must commit to at least one year of residential treatment. During their enrollment, the women are provided a safe home, food, specialized program materials taught by volunteers, individual and group counseling, and 24-hour care. Additionally, they offer a one-year

follow-up plan and optional transitional living for women who choose to stay following graduation. Life Challenge also serves as a referral center for men and adolescents.

NEEDS: Paper Towels • Toilet Paper • Kleenex

- Cleaning Supplies • Canned & Frozen Foods
- Art & Office Supplies • Wal-Mart Gift Cards
- Gas Cards • Donations for The Blessing Closet (a thrift store)

DONATE: Life Challenge is a faith-based ministry. They do not require residents to pay room and board, tuition, or book fees. They rely solely on private donations to fund their ministry. If you would like to make a donation to Life Challenge, there are convenient options for you to give. All donations are tax-deductible, but please be sure to provide your name and a current mailing address. Donations can be mailed to P.O. Box 2553, Cullowhee, NC 28723, or donations can be made with a card or PayPal by visiting their website at www.lifechallengewnc.org/donate.



Hello Highlands First Pres!

*This is your "Newsletter Newsletter" from UKirk WCU Presbyterian Campus Ministry - it's **our** newsletter for **your** newsletter.*

Your support is important to us. We appreciate that you make space in the life of your church to hear about what is happening in the life of UKirk.

Higher Call Hiring

Of all the emails which come through the contact form on the website and of all the handwritten notes which are slid across the counter towards me, the most common question is: Are you hiring?

But there's been a noticeable shift. Last year, we received mostly general interest requests or desperate pleading. This year, nearly every message asking about a job says something like, "I love the fact that this is a ministry" or "I'm interested in working at a place that has faith as part of its mission."

To those who have eyes to see it, we are serving more than coffee and lattes - we're serving God through acts of hospitality and intentional mission. That kind of enacted faith is attractive to people who are trying to live and grow their faith while moving more clearly into the adult working world.

Continue to pray for the students who are in our coffeehouse, who are part of our staff, and who are working out what it means to be faithful at work.

Rev. Noah McIntee
UKirk WCU & Hillside Grind Coffeehouse

FEBRUARY HAPPENINGS



Our February 2nd service was beautifully enhanced by Chancel Choir member Christine Reeder singing the Spiritual "Ride On, King Jesus." Pastor Curtis preached on Matthew 5:1-12, "Receiving the Blessing" and Pastor Emily provided the Children's Moment with Clara and Katherine in attendance.

The February 9 worship service was canceled due to a Saturday snowstorm which left many roads icy and treacherous. Any time road conditions make travel to and from church unsafe, we will not hold services. Every attempt is made to notify our membership and "regular visitors" via email, facebook, phone calls, and announcements on the local radio station, WHLC 104.5. However, if you are unsure, the best policy is not to drive. We want our congregation to stay safe!



On February 16 we were treated to an ensemble of our Chancel Choir interns, comprised of Jay Bowman, Christine Reeder, Owen Varnadoe and Wesley Walker, singing the Shaker song, "Bow Down Low" during the Offertory. Following the service, our luncheon in Coleman Hall included the presentation and discussion of the Annual Report to the Congregation.

Check the church calendar for the date of the luncheon every month. Marty's feasts are not to be missed!



MORE FEBRUARY HAPPENINGS



Dr. Linda Lancaster and Angie Jenkins provided special music with flute and piano on February 23rd. On the 26th we held our Ash Wednesday service, in which worshippers came forward for the imposition of ashes to symbolize our mortality and penitence. During the service participants were invited to write down their confessions of sin on slips of paper; these papers were burned on the church steps at the conclusion of the service. A delightful lunch of Marty's soup, salad and quiche followed in Coleman Hall.



SONSHINE SCHOOL

Meet Michelle Flores. Michelle is a senior at Highlands High School and is our wonderful student teacher. Michelle gives of her time every afternoon to help the kids with after school talks, homework and fun! Thank you Michelle for all you do! And thank you Angie for the joyful music. The kids have great voices, love singing and know all the songs! In February an all-new Children's Handbell Choir was formed, led by Angie. The youngsters are quick learners and took to the new activity with enthusiasm.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE 2020 MULLEN LECTURE

The Mullen Lecture committee is delighted to announce Prof. Maxwell Miller as our 2020 presenter at First Presbyterian Church on Sunday, June 14, and Monday, June 15.

Prof. Miller is emeritus professor of Old Testament at Candler School of Theology at Emory University. He has conducted archaeological excavations and written books about ancient biblical sites and written three books on the biblical history of Israel.

Prof. Miller's topic for the Mullen Lecture will address the "Israel-Palestinian Conflict," although his presentation will not delve into the contemporary politics. His presentation will focus on his observations of the conflict from a historical perspective, as he has observed it for more than 25 years while conducting his archaeological work in the Middle East and written books on the history of ancient Israel.

NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY

A new printed membership directory is now available for pickup in the sanctuary entrances. If you are not listed in it and would like to be, please contact Marty Boone or Jennifer Regner in the church office. If your name and contact information appear but there is no photo, please contact Marty Boone at fpchmboone@frontier.com or 828-526-3175.

In addition, an online directory is available for your computer or mobile phone. Please go to the following web address in your web browser <https://servantkeeper.com/directory/FPCH/> and enter the password [FPCH1234](#) to log in.

Depending on your mobile device the following information can help you create a shortcut (icon) to the directory on your home screen. You can always find the link to the directory on the church's website www.fpchhighlands.com under the connect tab on the membership page.

Creating a Shortcut (Icon) to the Online Directory on your Phone/Tablet - Android

1. On your smart phone or tablet, open the Chrome browser.
2. Go to the church's Online Directory <https://servantkeeper.com/directory/FPCH/> enter password (FPCH1234) and log in.
3. Select the 3 dots in the top right-hand corner of your browser.



4. Choose the "Add to Home Screen" option.



Creating a Shortcut (Icon) to the Online Directory on your Phone/Tablet - Apple

1. On your smart phone or tablet, open the Safari browser.
2. Go to the church's Online Directory <https://servantkeeper.com/directory/FPCH/> enter password (FPCH1234) and log in.
3. Select the share icon at the bottom of the screen. (See below.)
4. Choose the "Add to Home Screen" option. (See below.)
NOTE: If you're using iOS 13.0 or newer, you will need to swipe up to see the full menu of options in order to select "Add to Home Screen".
5. On the "Add to Home" window, type the name you'd like to give your shortcut (or keep the default name). Click [Add] to continue. (See below.)



Step #3



Step #4



Step #5

MARCH BIRTHDAYS


March 1	Betty Fuller
March 4	Horst Winkler
March 5	Susan Nading
March 6	Tempe Fussell
March 8	Jill Wolfe
March 10	Alice Gadilhe
March 12	Helen Steward
March 14	Triddy Peacock
March 15	Carol Young
March 18	David Rozendale
	Cindy Trevathan
March 19	Bessie Speed
March 21	Fran Matthews
March 22	Linda Brannan
	George Jay
March 29	Steve Cathcart
March 30	Gwen Brammer
	Mary Louise McLaurin

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

March 1	Connie & Russell Jobson
March 4	Tricia & Tom Graves
March 19	Carol & Skip Hughes
March 20	Leslie & Don Stewart
	Janey & Jon Swift
March 21	Donna Woods & Marty
	Rosenfield
March 25	Veda & Jimmy Sherard

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

April 4	Kathy Maps
April 5	Darlene Scott
April 6	Kyle Clark
April 7	Scottie Scott
April 8	Bill Lewis
	Kay Smith
April 10	John Bauknight
	Andrea Cole
	Jane Johnson
April 11	Jeff Thompson
April 13	Wayne Coleman
April 16	Bob Markley
April 17	Mozelle Edwards
April 20	Duane Meeter
April 22	Gena Smith
April 24	Jennifer Regner
	Jim Tamplin
April 25	Dan Brasfield
	Jim Johnson
April 27	Nancy Curlee
April 30	Kat Evans
	Catherine Manning

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

April 1	Kaye & Tony Cole
April 17	Darlene & Scottie Scott
April 24	Betsy & Marc Hehn
April 30	Catherine & George
	Manning

**ADULT EDUCATION/
LENTEN STUDY**

A Lenten Study will be held on Sunday mornings at 9:30 in the church Library, throughout the month of March. The topic will be "*Jesus Sees Women: An Adult Lenten Study.*" Please join Pastors Curtis and Emily as they lead this meaningful and thought-provoking discussion group.

MEN'S PRAYER GROUP

The Men's Prayer Group meets every Monday at 8:30 am in the Highlander Room. Meetings begin with devotion and prayer, and are followed by breakfast at a local restaurant. All men of the church are invited to join.

**BEYOND THE WALLS
BOOK CLUB**

The *BEYOND THE WALLS* Book Club meets every Tuesday at 4 pm, at the Highlands Recreation Park. We are continuing to read *New Stories from the South 2009*, edited by Madison Smart Bell. Books are available in the church office for \$7.00. You are invited to join this energetic group as we move our Christian faith *Beyond the Walls!*

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

On Wednesday, March 4 the Women's Bible Study group will meet at 10:30 a.m. in the church library. The group will study "Transforming Grace," pages 82-86, from *Jesus Always*. Please bring a sandwich and something to share for lunch. All ladies of the church and friends are invited to join us.

**WOMEN'S HORIZON
BIBLE STUDY**

On Thursday, March 12, our study group will meet at 7pm in the Fisher home at 351 Cheney Lane. We will be discussing *Love Carved in Stone: A Fresh Look at the Ten Commandments* by Eugenia Anne Gamble. All ladies are invited to attend these meaningful studies.

Please keep in your prayers these members and friends of the congregation:

Frances Boggess (Sally Copeland's niece), Steve Castellaw, Shirley Cochran, Blanche Fenner (Karen Sullivan's mother), Don Fisher, Alice Gadilhe's family upon her death, Marc Good (Frances Hicks' brother), Cecil Hines (Sally Copeland's sister), Elizabeth Daniel Hughes (Carol & Skip Hughes' daughter), Mary Jellison, Jim Johnson, Linda Lancaster in the death of her aunt, Pauline Bergeron, Ashley Turner Leverett (daughter of Peggy and Scott Turner), The Howard Manning, Jr. family, Celia McCullough, Don Mullen, Arnall Page (son of Dr. & Mrs. John Page), June Peel (Donna Philips' sister-in-law), Hillrie Quin, David Seaton (son of Nell and Charles Seaton), Veda & Jimmy Sherard, Kay Smith, The Tietze family, Paul Trulock, Betsy Turner, Robert Whaley (Judy Joyner's cousin), and Richard Wood (Karen Sullivan's brother-in-law).

Please keep in your prayers these members in the community and beyond:

Mike Bobo, Caroline Cook, Dianne Copeland, Lyle Cox, Billie Jean Hendrix, Jeff James, Linda James, Donna Kneeland, Melanie Nix, Eliza Parish, Jim Shearon, Michael Shomers, and Woodrow Wilson.

JANUARY 2020 TREASURER'S REPORT**Operating Income and Expenses**

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Difference</u>
YTD Income	67,175	115,108	47,933
YTD Expenses	<u>63,901</u>	<u>56,025</u>	<u>7,875</u>
Net Income	3,274	59,083	55,808

PLEASE KEEP YOUR PLEDGES CURRENT!

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p>1</p> <p>Adult Education 9:30 Worship 11:00 am</p> <p>Communion Sunday & Ministry of the Farthest Pew</p> <p>David Benoit, <i>Baritone</i> Guest Musicians: Larry Black, <i>Trumpeter</i> Linda Lancaster, <i>Flutist</i></p>	<p>2</p> <p>8:30 Men's Prayer Breakfast 3:15 Sunshine School 5:30 AA</p>	<p>3</p> <p>3:15 Sonshine School 4:00 Book Club 5:30 AA</p> <p>Memorial Service for Alice Gadilhe TBA</p>	<p>4</p> <p>10:30 Women's Bible Study 11:30 Children's Church 11:40-12:00 HCCDC Music 12:00 AA 3:00 Staff - Library 3:15 Sonshine School 4:00 Handbell Choir Rehearsal 6:15 Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>5</p> <p>8:00 Town of Highlands Board Retreat—Coleman Hall 3:15 Sonshine School 5:30 AA</p>	<p>6</p> <p>11:30-12:00 HCCDC Music 12:00 AA 3:15 Sonshine School</p>	<p>7</p> <p>2:00 Memorial Service for Adel Jones</p>
<p>8</p> <p>Adult Education 9:30 Worship 11:00 am</p>	<p>9</p> <p>8:30 Men's Prayer Breakfast 5:30 AA</p>	<p>10</p> <p>3:15 Sonshine School 4:00 Book Club 5:30 AA 6:00 FPCH Sponsored Community Table</p>	<p>11</p> <p>11:30 Children's Church 11:40-12:00 HCCDC Music 12:00 AA 3:00 Staff - Library 3:15 Sonshine School 4:00 Handbell Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>12</p> <p>3:15 Sonshine School 5:30 AA 5:30 ESL/GED Classes - Coleman Hall 7:00 Women's Horizon Bible Study Group—Fisher Home Session Reports Due</p>	<p>13</p> <p>11:30-12:00 HCCDC Music 3:15 Sonshine School 12:00 AA</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>Church School 9:30 Worship 11:00 am</p>	<p>16</p> <p>8:30 Men's Prayer Breakfast 1:00 HCCDC Board Meeting 3:15 Sonshine School 4:30 Session Meeting 5:30 AA</p> <p>Articles for newsletter are due! Session Reports are due!</p>	<p>17</p> <p>3:15 Sonshine School 4:00 Book Club 5:30 AA</p>	<p>18</p> <p>11:30 Children's Church 11:40-12:00 HCCDC Music 12:00 AA 3:00 Staff - Library 3:15 Sonshine School 4:00 Handbell Choir Rehearsal 6:15 Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>19</p> <p>3:15 Sonshine School 5:30 ESL/GED Classes - Coleman Hall 5:30 AA</p>	<p>20</p> <p>11:30-12:00 HCCDC Music 3:15 Sonshine School 12:00 AA</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>Adult Education 9:30 Worship 11:00 am</p> <p>Guest Musicians: Gap Singers, Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School</p> <p>Congregational Luncheon</p>	<p>23</p> <p>8:30 Men's Prayer Breakfast 3:15 Sonshine School 5:30 AA</p>	<p>24</p> <p>3:15 Sonshine School 4:00 Book Club 5:30 AA</p>	<p>25</p> <p>11:30 Children's Church 11:40-12:00 HCCDC Music 12:00 AA 3:00 Staff - Library 3:15 Sonshine School 4:00 Handbell Choir Rehearsal 6:15 Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>26</p> <p>3:15 Sonshine School 5:30 ESL/GED Classes - Coleman Hall 5:30 AA</p>	<p>27</p> <p>11:30-12:00 HCCDC Music 12:00 AA</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>Adult Education 9:30 Worship 11:00 am</p>	<p>30</p> <p>8:30 Men's Prayer Breakfast 3:15 Sonshine School 5:30 AA</p>					

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF HIGHLANDS**

471 MAIN STREET
P. O. BOX 548
HIGHLANDS, NC 28741

828-526-3175
FAX: 828-526-0784
E-MAIL: FPCH@FRONTIER.COM

Sanctuary hours for meditation are
9:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Office hours are 9:00 to 4:30

Monday—Friday

Adult Education 9:30 a.m.

8:30 a.m. Church Services

June through Labor Day weekend

Communion served every Sunday

11:00 a.m. Communion served the first
Sunday of every month

SESSION

Class of 2020

Adult Education, Marc Hehn

Vision 20/20, Tom Joyner

Property, Scott McDuff

Congregational Care, Gena Smith

Class of 2021

Personnel, David Hodgson

Finance, Bill Peacock

Worship, Kat Evans

Mission, Gerri Tulley

Class of 2022

Children's Education, Ann Sullivan

Clerk of Session, Delaine Nelson

Congregational Care, Sherrie Cathcart

Membership, George Manning

MINISTERS

The Congregation

STAFF

Jennifer Regner, Administrative Manager

Marty Boone, Administrative Assistant

Steve Mehder, Church Treasurer

Michael Lancaster,

Director of Worship/Music

Angie Jenkins,

Director of Music Ministry/Organist

Marty Rosenfield, Food Coordinator

Kyle Clark, Property Manager

Mozelle Edwards & Angela Swain,

Sonshine School Directors

Michelle Flores,

Afterschool Assistant

PASTORS

Curtis Fussell

Emily Wilmarth

LECTIONARY

As you prepare to come to
worship, here are the
scripture texts that will make
up the services during the
month of March:

1st Sunday in Lent

MARCH 1

Gen. 2:15-17; 3:1-7

Psalm 32

Rom.5:12-19

Matt.4:1-11

2nd Sunday in Lent

MARCH 8

Gen. 12:1-4a

Psalm 121

Rom 4:1-5, 13-17

John 3:1-17

3rd Sunday in Lent

MARCH 15

Exod. 17:1-7

Psalm 95

Rom. 5:1-11

John 4:5-42

4th Sunday in Lent

Reformation Sunday

MARCH 22

1 Sam. 16:1-13

Psalm 23

Eph. 5:8-14

John 9:1-41

5th Sunday in Lent

MARCH 29

Ezek. 37:1-14

Psalm 130

Rom. 8:6-11

John 11:1-45



CONGRATULATIONS TO ANGIE JENKINS

on her transition to the position of
Director of Music Ministry/Organist.

Angie and Michael Lancaster, our
Director of Worship/Music, have
worked tirelessly to provide an
exceptional standard of excellence to
the music ministry at First Presbyterian
Church.

Angie's job responsibilities have greatly
expanded over the years and she has
moved to this new full time staff
position as of January, 2020.

We offer our grateful appreciation to
Angie and all of those who serve God
through music.

The Rev. Dr. Dan McCall was honored at
Reid Memorial Presbyterian Church on
Sunday, February

9th, upon the
60th anniversary
of his ordination.
Rev. McCall began
his ministry here
at Highlands First
Presbyterian
Church in 1961.

