

East Guilford Parish Press

The Pastor's Corner

March 2014

Dear Friends In Christ,



Although Easter comes very late this year (April 20th), Lent is almost upon us. On March 5th we will once again begin our observance of Jesus' Passiontide. What can this mean to us in the 21st century? Recent scripture readings from Isaiah and Micah have told us that God does not delight in sacrifices; that instead, God prefers that sacrifice of self that comes from doing justice (all three kinds – commutative, distributive and social), loving kindness, and walking honestly and openly with our God. This ideal flies in the face of the notion of “giving something up” for Lent. In past years (way past) I have tried both cheese and chocolate without success. Maybe that's because God cares less about what we

eat, and more about the love and caring that comes from us and flows towards the “Others” in our lives. Psalm 51 tells us that the sacrifice of God is a “broken and contrite heart.” Giving something up – especially food or games (toys) – is probably not the kind of self denial that God values. That may be because no one benefits from our sacrifice, no one receives justice, and no one is set free. In short, giving some “thing” up may be the easy way out.

So, if that kind of self denial doesn't appeal to God, according to the prophets, what does? How about setting time aside - a daily dedicated time - for prayer; for honest talking/listening time with God? What about spending time with a loved one who is lonely, or trying to heal a rift between ourselves and another? Start – or continue – reading the Bible. These are just a few suggestions. The “sacrifice” doesn't need to be a giving up of something. Rather, it can be a change in behavior made in the true spirit of repentance – turning around; a devotion - an act that draws us closer to God and each other might be just the ticket. Whatever devotion we choose, as we prepare for Lent 2014, may God alone be praised.

Much love in Jesus' Name,
Patty



Outreach & Mission

The Feinstein Challenge

Once again, Alan Feinstein has donated a million dollars to be split between non profit organizations that help the needy. Whatever food for the food bank that is donated between March 2nd and April 27th is counted up, and depending on how many organizations participate, a portion of the million dollars is awarded to them. We did this last year, and the participation was wonderful. We collected 1,210 items and over \$200, and received \$253.70. Considering that many large churches/organizations participate in this challenge every year, it says a lot that we received more than the minimum of \$250. So please do whatever you can to help both those in need and our cause by donating. Thank you in advance.



The JAARS JAR

East Guilford continues to support JAARS in its effort to translate the Word of God – the Bible – to all people. With over 1,000 languages to go, JAARS brings not only the printed Word, but missionaries, food, clothing and medicine to the most remote parts of the globe. Please continue to support this effort by leaving your change in the JAARS Jar. Remember, Bibles change lives!

Earthcare News

Water....

The angel also showed me the river of the water of life, sparkling like crystal, and coming from the throne of God and of the Lamb and flowing down the middle of the city's street. On each side of the river was the tree of life, which bears fruit twelve times a year, once each month; and its leaves are for the healing of the nations.

Revelation 22: 1-2

I find myself thinking a lot lately about water. I listen to radio news every day as I travel to and from work. Just over a month ago, approximately 300,000 residents near Charleston, West Virginia were advised to stop drinking water because of a chemical spill. It sounds like officials are not sure how the tainted water might affect people. After a short period of time, the 'do not use' order was lifted, but I sense that some officials are being very careful NOT to say the water is safe. Many people in the area are surviving on bottled water. Some people are travelling outside of the Charleston area to get water, and they are bringing it back for themselves and for others who cannot travel for various reasons. Wow. How would you feel if you needed to live through this?

The Bible provides plenty of analogies between God and water. Like water, we need God. God nourishes our soul. Water is vital to the health of our bodies, and it is vital to our food sources.

On our Earth Care bulletin board, some of you have already told us how we can help to conserve and protect the water God has given us. Here they are:

- Use water sparingly.
- Don't let the water run when doing dishes.
- Buy a dishwasher, and then air dry if time allows.

Please think about how you use water once in awhile, and find ways to preserve and protect what water we have been given. When you use water, say a prayer of thanks for God's gifts. Finally, pray for those that are in Charleston so that God will solve their water issues and protect them from poor health.

Jan

Christian Education

Adult Bible Study

Wednesday Morning Breakfast & Bible Study 7:00 A.M. in the Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, March 19, 2014
Wednesday, March 26, 2014
Wednesday, April 2, 2014
Wednesday, April 9, 2014
Wednesday, April 16, 2014
Wednesday, April 23, 2014

Psalm 9 and Matthew 9
Psalm 10 and Matthew 10
Psalm 11 and Matthew 11
Psalm 12 and Matthew 12
Psalm 13 and Matthew 13
Psalm 14 and Matthew 14

JOIN US FOR THE BEST BREAKFAST IN TOWN ON A WEDNESDAY MORNING!

Thursday Evening Breakfast & Bible Study 7:00 P.M. @ The Home Of Lola Palmer

Thursday, March 6, 2014
Thursday, March 13, 2014
Thursday, March 20, 2014
Thursday, March 27, 2014
Thursday, April 3, 2014
Thursday, April 10, 2014
Thursday, April 17, 2014
Thursday, April 24, 2014

Proverbs 11:27 and Exodus 28
Proverbs 11:28 and Exodus 29
Proverbs 11:29 and Exodus 30
Proverbs 11:30 and Exodus 31
Proverbs 11:31 and Exodus 32
Proverbs 12:1 and Exodus 33
Proverbs 12:2 and Exodus 34
Proverbs 12:3 and Exodus 35



New & Noteworthy

Lent

Winter - before the rebirth of Easter –
We are reminded that all fall short of God's glory.

Yet, as we look to our Savior
His dying frame on the cross
- whereupon we ourselves have hoisted him -
We hear his tortured voice say,
"Father forgive them, they know not what they do!"
Once and for all time
The road back has been paved with bloody stones.

Easter dawns – and the warm fire of resurrection –
Pierces our souls.
Asleep beneath the ground like ancient ruins,
We are unearthed year after year;
Breathing again - like our risen Friend
Our lives a clean slate,
a fresh palette,
vibrant with the colors of love.

Over and over we will walk that road!
Turning, turning, again and again;
Changing – in the true spirit of *shalom*:
Guiltless, whole and unafraid,
No atonement this,
But a divine pronouncement –
"Even your worst cannot drive me away."

Until our Christ returns to find us imaged in Him,
and He in us.

~ Pastor Patty 2/2011 ~



*** Coffee Hour Sign Up
Sheet!!! ***

Hi All! Everyone loves coffee after worship. It's a great time to visit and get "caught up". If you feel called to provide COFFEE on some Sunday, please check out the new COFFEE HOUR SIGN UP SHEET on the bulletin board. Please help out when you can. Thanks!!!

Ray & Elma Taylor
2457 County Road 35
Bainbridge, NY 13733
Phone [607-563-2083](tel:607-563-2083)

Presbyterian Women

Presbyterian Women of East Guilford @ 10:00 A.M. First Thursday of the Month

Thursday, March 6, 2014 @ the Church
Thursday, April 3, 2014 @ the Church
Thursday, May 1, 2014 @ the Church

Next COM Dinner: May

Presbytery Gatherings

Assembly Dates & Locations – 9:00 A.M.

Saturday, March 1, 2014 @ First Presbyterian Church of Delhi

Saturday, May 31, 2014 @

Saturday, September 20, 2014 @ East Guilford Church

Saturday, November 15, 2014 @

Registration Begins @ 8:30 A.M. ~ Walk Through The Docket @ 8:50 A.M.

Assemblies Begin @ 9:00 A.M.

East Guilford Session Meetings

Scheduled Meetings – 2nd Monday of the Month @ 7:00 P.M.

Monday, March 10, 2014 @ The Church

Monday, April 14, 2014 @ The Church

Monday, May 12, 2014 @ The Church

East Guilford Session News

February 2014

Membership: 59

Actions/Motions Approved:

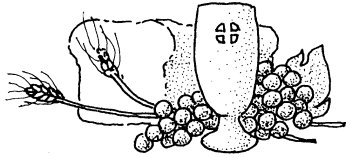
- ❖ **A Complete Manual of Operations (Policies)** is being circulated and updated.
- ❖ **Newsletter will go out by 3/1.**
- ❖ Ongoing discussions will be held to determine other ways to work with Mount Upton United Methodist Church. Jan and Elma will discuss whether we should work on the Feinstein Challenge in concert with them.
 - Follow-up: It was determined that for this year, we each will participate separately in Feinstein.
 - Patty and Elma will make announcements.
- ❖ 10% of Loretta Reinhart's bequest (\$500) will be given to mission: \$300 to Habitat for Humanity and \$200 to Good Samaritan Fund.
- ❖ A Stewardship Letter will be mailed before the end of February.

Other Discussions & Items of Interest:

- ❖ Received a new Home Communion set – A gift of Joyce Warren
- ❖ Another \$100 has been collected for JAARS

Worship Schedule

Spring 2014 Communion & Home Communion Schedule



1st Sunday of the Month

Sunday, April 6, 2014

Sunday, May 4, 2014

Sunday, June 1, 2014

Special Services Coming Up

	<p>ASH WEDNESDAY Wednesday, March 5, 2014 7:00 PM</p>
	<p>5th Sunday Hymn Sing Sunday, March 30, 2014 9:00 AM</p>
	<p>Sunday, April 13, 2014</p>
	<p>Sunday, April 20, 2014</p>

Birthdays & Anniversaries

January Birthdays

1/3 Jeremy Johnson
1/3 Bill Ohl
1/4 Harley Switzer
1/5 Jean Schlafer
1/5 Oscar Williams
1/9 Kathy Schmidt
1/10 Terry Lodovice
1/15 Pastor Patty
1/16 Cerice Palmer
1/24 Todd Holley
1/28 Katie O'Brien
1/29 Karen Schlafer Williams
1/30 Bruce Elliott
1/30 Sara Lafayette

January Anniversaries

February Birthdays

2/3 Erin Clune
2/7 Gerry Palmer
2/9 Dave Williams
2/12 Holly Lodovice
2/21 Emma Egli
2/21 Irv Palmer
2/26 Al Clune

February Anniversaries

2/27 Ray & Elma Taylor

March Birthdays

3/16 Frank Holley
3/21 Alex Schmidt
3/22 Michael Aymar
3/24 Tina Pabst
3/29 Elma Taylor
3/30 Denis Egli

March Anniversaries

April Birthdays

4/1 Ruth Davis
4/3 Sandy Egli
4/9 Janice Williams
4/9 William Scott Andreyko
4/10 Beulah Lodovice
4/12 Jerri Shupperd
4/14 Doris Ferrara
4/14 Mary Williams
4/19 Jim Bartlett
4/19 Laura Hotaling
4/21 Joe Shupperd
4/24 Roy Straka
4/25 Robin Lafayette
4/28 Ardis Gould

April Anniversaries

4/2 Mike & JoAnne Aymar
4/6 Roy & Sally Straka

May Birthdays

5/1 Heidi Schmidt
5/6 Anna Egli
5/9 Todd Straka
5/11 Laverna Foree
5/22 Neil Elliott
5/25 Dick Palmer

May Anniversaries

5/30 Ruth & Dixie Davis

June Birthdays

6/1 Todd Williams
6/3 Dan Schlafer
6/4 Marie Holley
6/5 Judy Ives
6/11 Carol Petersen
6/14 Norma Palmer
6/16 Mark Baldwin
6/22 Lola Palmer
6/24 Kristie Taylor
6/26 Connie Schlafer
6/26 Russell Taylor
6/29 Alex Baldwin

June Anniversaries

6/3 Chris & Bill Davis
6/4 Sandy & Denis Egli
6/11 Jim & Jerri Shupperd
6/13 Dave & Kathy Williams
6/16 Al & Judy Ives

July Birthdays

7/2 Stephen Ohl
7/7 Sharon Havens
7/13 Peter Schmidt
7/20 Bill Davis
7/23 Kathy Burnett

July Anniversaries

7/18 Joann & Mark Ohl
7/24 Jill & Gerry Palmer

August Birthdays

8/9 Sandy DuMond
8/12 Dave Schmidt
8/22 Jean VanValkenberg
8/24 Al Ives
8/28 Joyce Warren
8/28 Allison Clune
8/31 April McWeeney

August Anniversaries

8/5 Kathy & Dave Schmidt
8/7 Jan & Dave Lafayette

September Birthdays

9/5 Becky Holley
9/7 Pastor Ruth Fiscella
9/7 Mark Ohl
9/10 Raymond Taylor
9/30 Jan Lafayette

September Anniversaries

9/3 Mark & Alex Baldwin
9/3 Bruce & Pat Elliott
9/9 Todd & Karen Williams
9/23 Marissa & Todd Straka

Birthdays & Anniversaries

October Birthdays

10/2 John Davis
10/5 Jill Palmer
10/10 Laurie Williams
10/15 Edie Phelps
10/16 Vera Sergio
10/17 Kirby Morenus
10/27 Sally Straka
10/28 Jennifer Ondreyko

October Anniversaries

10/4 Scott & Jennifer
Ondreyko

10/13 Norma & Irv Palmer
10/20 Ron & Laurie Williams
10/28 Dan & Diane Bradshaw

November Birthdays

11/1 Scott Williams
11/5 Gordon Spreutels
11/18 Marge Almy
11/30 Marie Spreutels

November Anniversaries

December Birthdays

12/7 Diane Bradshaw
12/18 Dan Bradshaw
12/21 Bill Ohl, Jr.
12/26 Ron Williams
12/28 Kathy Williams
12/20 Dane Palmer

December Anniversaries

12/20 Gordon & Marie
Spreutels

**Please Call Sharon Havens With Changes, Additions or Deletions
(607) 610-4033 or shavens002@stny.rr.com**

Meshach's Facts ~ March 2014

Dear Fellow Camel Lovers,



Lent will soon be upon us! It seems that only yesterday it was Christmas, and already we are approaching Easter. My how fast the year goes by!!

As you know, Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and lasts for 40 days (not counting Sundays). This is to commemorate the 40 days Jesus was tempted in the wilderness as he prepared to start his earthly ministry. Lent is a wonderful time to rethink our relationship to God and each other. We camels often try to make amends with family members and/or make new friends: we try to look at our lives –STOP – THINK – and decide to go in a different direction. God wants all of us to have abundant, complete lives. But sometimes we need to stop – think – and change something we are doing. This is the true meaning of the Hebrew word “shuv” – *the word we usually translate as “repent.”* The kind of repentance God speaks of in the Old Testament is the kind that makes us whole – that heals us. The Hebrew word for that is a word you all know – Shalom!

Shalom

שְׁלוֹמַךְ