



The Messenger

Laurinburg Presbyterian Church

600 West Church Street Laurinburg NC 28352 910.276.0831
www.laurinburgpres.com laurinburgpresby@bellsouth.net
Vol. 35, No. 1 February 1, 2015

Feb 2

PW Circles meet

Feb 3

4:00 pm Vday Candy Due
7:00 pm BEG Mtg

Feb 4

1:30 pm Scotia Service
6:00 pm Wed Meal & Service

Feb 8

12:00 Congregational Mtg
5:45 pm Youth @ The Hut

Feb 10

5:00 pm Membership Mtg
6:00 pm TOT's
6:30 pm UNCP Concert

Feb 11

1:30 pm Scotia Service
6:00 pm Wed Meal & Service

Feb 12

5:30 pm Childcare Mtg
7:00 pm Finance meeting

Feb 14 - 15

Scouts 420:
Crossover Ceremony
Pinewood Derby

Feb 16

7:00 pm Elders' Session

Feb 17

5:00 pm CNE Mtg

Feb 18 Ash Wednesday

6:00 pm Wed Meal & Service

Feb 21

MAC's Museum

Feb 22

5:45 pm Youth @ The Hut

Feb 25

1:30 pm Scotia Service
6:00 pm Wed Meal & Service

Feb 26

Taste of the Town

Sunday, February 8th following worship we will have our Annual Congregational Meeting. We will be reviewing the budget and Minister's Terms of Call. The nominating committee will be submitting Julian Butler to complete the vacant session term for two years. Annual reports are available at the entrances.

FROM OUR PASTOR:

I just finished reading Kazimierz Bem's article: Christianity Cannot Survive the Decline in Worship: Church leaders who are serious about saving the faith need to be serious about worship.

I find it relevant and fascinating; probably, because I agree with his conclusion: worship is corporate worship is essential to the church.

The trend of decline in mainline Protestant churches has now reached the evangelical churches as well. In a desperate attempt to stay alive, (Lyndsey calls it - survival mode) churches are tailoring services for terribly busy people, giving them a brief moment of worship (with the stress on brief). Don't focus on worship — "do stuff" instead!

Kazimierz Bem's question is simple: Is all this really what we, the church, are called to do?

Of course, service is important. But, I agree with Kazimierz Bem as he writes:

I deeply believe that when we say, "The future of the Church is service," we are allowing our culture, once again, to get the best of us. We so desperately want to be popular that we are sacrificing our distinctiveness as church. So we create worship where our prayers are innocuous, so as not to scare busy people away. Or we devise a little prayer before or after a meal and pretend it is worship. Let's be the ACLU, Sierra Club, United Way or YouTube at prayer. You know: let's be spiritual and a little - but only a little - religious.

If that is the Church's future some see for us, then we are committing suicide.

John Calvin wrote, "To know God is to be changed by God; true knowledge of God leads to worship." So, maybe ... just maybe, the future of the Church is the same as the past of the Church, and the present of the Church: worship.

That is the unique, distinct, set-apart thing the Church does and is called to do. We worship. We worship together. From our worship, we are led to go and serve. But, we worship.

Bem writes:

Worship is a central act of proclamation of God's grace to us — in preaching and in faithful administration of sacraments. It needs to be robust, faithful, engaging — but its focus must be the God revealed to us in Jesus Christ, God's free, abundant, deep grace and love shown for us on the cross.

As the Congregational theologian Peter T. Forsyth once wrote: "The greatest product of the

Church is not brotherly love but divine worship. And we shall never worship right nor serve right till we are more engrossed with our God"

So may we commit ourselves to worship God together in 2015. And from our corporate worship, may we go and serve God in gratitude.



The Finance and Administration Committee is exploring the needs of our church campus. For some time now, we have identified a serious need to reroof the fellowship hall and make needed roof repairs to the educational building and the sanctuary. We are exploring our use and need of church buses along with remodeling and/or creation of additional restrooms. The Building, Equipment and Grounds Committee has been busy gathering some hard financial numbers for planning purposes relating to these projects.

In the coming months, we will be developing a plan for a capital campaign to fund whatever needs we decide upon as a congregation. At the appropriate time, we will hold informational meetings to seek feedback from the congregation on these projects. In the meantime, we will be moving forward to explore our options, gather necessary financial data and create a committee to manage a capital campaign.

David Harling, Chairman
Finance and Administration Committee

Join us for Sunday Worship

February 1 - Fourth Sunday after Epiphany / Scout Sunday

Deut 18:15-20; Ps 111; 1 Cor 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28

Neal's sermon: *Boundaries of Love*

473 For the Beauty of the Earth

386 O for a World

343 Called as Partners in Christ's Service

February 8 - Fifth Sunday after Epiphany, Year B Healing & Wholeness

Is 40:21-31; Ps 147:1-11, 20; 1 Cor 9:16-23; Mark 1:29-39

Handbells Ring

Neal's Sermon: *Everyone is Searching for You*

Hymn 482 Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

Hymn 404 Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Hymn 371 Lift High the Cross

In lieu of flowers this Sunday a donation has been made to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund in memory of Essie Carmichael by her children, grand children, and great grand children.

February 15 - Transfiguration of the Lord Communion

2 Kings 2:1-12; Ps 50:1-6; 2 Cor 4:3-6; Mark 9:2-9

Neal's Sermon: *No Ordinary People*

Hymn 142 All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

Hymn 454 Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

Hymn 462 Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Sky

The flowers today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dr. Winston H. Tornow by his family.

February 22 - First Sunday in Lent, Year B

Gen 9:8-17; Ps 25: 1-10; 1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:9-15

Neal's Sermon: *Wild Beast and Angels*

Hymn 81 Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

Hymn 78 Alas! and Did My Savior Bleed

Hymn 85 What Wondrous Love is This

The flowers today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of John and Jo McLaurin by their family.

March 1 - Second Sunday in Lent, Year B

Gen 17:1-7, 15-16; Ps 22:23-31; Rom 4:13-25; Mark 8:31-38

Children Sing

Neal's Sermon: *A New Name*

Hymn 488 The God of Abraham Praise

Hymn 393 Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said

Hymn 354 Guide My Feet

In lieu of flowers this Sunday a donation has been made to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund in celebration of the 73rd wedding anniversary of Ervin and Ann Hill by their children.

Sunday Worship Service is broadcast on WLNC 1300 Sunday at 11 am, & on the internet (wlncradio.com) On TV Channel 2 Sundays at 10 am and Tuesdays at 8 pm for the previous week's service.

The Membership Committee is also showing Sunday's service at Scotia in the MMEC at 2 pm for the same day's service. The church office is providing large print bulletins and hymns.

SCOTIA STUDY

Join us in the Living Room on the 2nd floor at 1:30 pm every Wednesday.

Placing Flowers in the Sanctuary

The Flower Calendar, maintained by Lynn Mason, is posted in the office. If you would like to put flowers in the church on Sunday, please contact Lynn Mason 280-1417 to see what dates might be available.

The Worship Committee is pleased to offer the use of two colored silk flower arrangements (or white for communion Sundays) to be placed in the sanctuary on Sunday mornings. Because the Pastor's Discretionary Fund is used often to discreetly help those in our congregation and community who are in need, we are hopeful that some who wish to honor loved ones might choose to make a donation to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund instead of purchasing flowers. The silk flowers would be used for that Sunday and the bulletin would read, "In lieu of flowers this Sunday, _____ has made a donation to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund in memory (or in honor) of _____."

SUNDAY SCHOOL

We have nursery during worship with Darlene Swing as caregiver with volunteers. Our Children's Classes are taught following the children's sermon on the steps: Explorers 3 year olds -1st grade meet on first floor, and Trekkers for 2nd-5th grade meet upstairs.

Three adult classes are taught at 9:45 am: Men's Bible Class in the Session room, the 3M's Class and the Fun Adult classes meet off the fellowship hall. The Part Time Adults meet upstairs with Neal teaching the weekly lectionary passages at 10 am.

Needed: Sunday School teachers for the Trekkers (2nd - 5th graders). Sunday School is taught after the sermon on the steps.

We have a rotation where you teach about every 5th week. Please call the church office for more details.

CHURCH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES is currently experiencing a shortage and is in need of food and gently used clothing donations. Especially needed are canned foods, pasta, grains and fruit cups along with cold weather clothing like gloves, scarves and hats. Please help by donating a few items as you can. Collection baskets are located at the entrances for your donations.

WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES

6:00 pm Fellowship Meal and Open Space

6:30 pm Wednesday Night Program

6:30 pm Children's Choir/Chimes

7:15 pm Chancel Choir

Adults: \$7. Children 12 and under: FREE!!

Reservations/cancellations needed by 1:00 pm on Wednesday.

Feb 04 - Meatloaf, mashed potatoes and gravy, vegetable casserole, glazed carrots, tossed salad, bread, tea, dessert

Feb 11 - Boston Butt, pinto beans and rice, collards, corn casserole, tossed salad, bread, tea, dessert

Feb 18 - Ash Wednesday - Pancakes, sausage, ham, grits, egg casserole, fruit, tea, dessert

Feb 25 - Stewed chicken with mushroom gravy, brown rice, butter beans, stewed apples, tossed salad, bread, tea, dessert

PRAYING FOR THESE

Continuing Concerns: Flora Wells, Susan Hardy, Ray McCormick (Virginia Ann McCormick's brother), Creed Sellers, Frances Shannon, Jim Sutherland, Sam Snowden, Lucile Bridgeman, Hugh McArn, Ralph Parker (Boone). At Scotia: Edna Drake, Frances Hopkins, Virginia Johnson. At Special Care: Frances Haupt, Anne Collins, Reba Essey, Evelyn Crossley. Assisted: Edna McKeithen, Ervin & Ann Hill, Helen Middleton. At Scottish Pines: Thelma Morgan, Mary McDonald, Joyce Stutts. At Prestwick: Dooda Robertson, Lois Muse. At Morgan Center: Katherine Edmund. Hospitalization: George Melton (Asheville)

CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS

Martha Evans	2/03
Pete Liles Jr.	2/03
Lucy Sojka	2/03
Kristen Anderson	2/04
Alec Braswell	2/04
Hugh McArn Jr.	2/04
Sara Simmons	2/04
Daniel Caudill	2/05
Will Loftus	2/05
Stuart Carmichael	2/06
Debby Holcomb	2/06
Apita Waters	2/07
Bill Carmichael	2/08
Vivian Carter	2/09
Bill Loftus	2/09
Jaime Martinez	2/10
Nathaniel Bowden	2/10
Sarah Carmichael	2/10
Robert Floyd	2/10
Mary Goodwin	2/11
Helen Middleton	2/11
Scott Bruner	2/12
Emily Freeman	2/12
Bill Purcell	2/12
Jimmy Stubbs Jr	2/12
Thomas Eric Stang	2/13
Jennings Dean	2/14
Ginger Massey	2/15
William Carmichael	2/16
Susan Hartwell	2/16
Eleanor McRae	2/16
Tripp Wells III	2/17
Gracen Byrd	2/18
Mike Coughenour	2/18
Celeste McRae	2/18
Steve Urie	2/18
Gavin Puryear	2/19
Sara Beth Sellers	2/19
Laura Polk	2/22
Mac McInnis	2/24
Sharon Jones	2/25
Andy Womble	2/25
Glenn Batten	2/26
Janice Liles	2/26
Alice Mannette	2/26
Leigh Williams	2/26
Katherine Edmund	2/27
Bill Hill	2/27

OPEN/CLOSE SUNDAY MORNINGS

Feb	Randy Miller
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ACOLYTES

Feb 1	Jackson Sellers
Feb 8	Cooper Sutherland
Feb 15	Communion
Feb 22	Matthew Patterson
Mar 1	Creed Sellers

NURSERY

Feb 1	Mitzi & Jeff Byrd, Haley Sellers
Feb 8	Chris & Eddie Carmichael
Feb 15	Courtney Carmichael
Feb 22	Georgia Dye

EXPLORERS

Feb 1	Sarah Williams & Courtney Carmichael
Feb 8	Carolina Caddell & Pam Hill
Feb 15	No Explorers Today (Communion)
Feb 22	Chris & Eddie Carmichael
Mar 1	Meredith & Brian Bounds

TREKKERS

Feb 1	Annette Morgan & Candy Nichols
Feb 8	Denise & David Herr
Feb 15	No Trekkers Today (Communion)
Feb 22	Kristin & Kitson Broadbelt
Mar 1	Bette Sellers

BUS DRIVERS Remember to pickup at Scotia 10:15

Feb 1	Bill Caudill
Feb 8	Scotia to Bring
Feb 15	Brian Bounds
Feb 22	Jimmy Stubbs
Mar 1	Jim Mason

GREETERS Sanctuary Door

Feb 1	Ellen & Dan Dean
Feb 8	TBA
Feb 15	Bill & Pam Hill
Feb 22	Richard Massey & Dan Dean
Mar 1	TBA

GREETERS Office/Fellowship Door-Elders

Feb 1	Beth Elliott
Feb 8	Craig Ellis
Feb 15	Allen McLaurin
Feb 22	Celeste McRae
Mar 1	Lynn Massey

GREETERS Elevator Door-Deacons

Feb 1 Pat Hix
Feb 8 Randy Miller
Feb 15 Amy Sloop
Feb 22 Kevin Patterson

USHERS

USHER TEAM #1 Leader - Jimmy Thigpen
Earl Bowling, Danny Caddell, David Carmichael, David Harling, Bill Hill, Richard Mabry, Richard Massey, John McRae, Marcus Norton, Maggie Ratliffe, Scott Sellers, Andy Womble

COMMUNITY GARDEN

The Community Garden is leasing plots for 2015! If you are interested, please contact Sam Thompson at 910-852-9415 or samthompson2009@gmail.com for more information.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

PW Circles

Monday, Feb 2

Circle 1 meets at 7 pm at Leslie Sellers' home
Circle 2 meets at 10 am at Ramona Wright's home
Circle 3 meets at 12 pm in the Fellowship Hall
Circle 4 meets at 3:45pm at Scotia (CHANGED)
There will be a PW coordinating Team Meeting on Monday, Feb 23 at 5:30 pm in the Session Room.

Valentine Candy for Our College Students

The PW will be sending Valentine candy to our church members who are away at college. If you are not a candy maker, a donation to help defray the cost of shipping is always appreciated. Contact the church office for more information.

Presbyterian Women's Beach Retreat

February 20-22

Ocean Isle and Sunset Beaches

Please remember that this event is for all women in our church, not just for those that are active in a circle. This retreat will not only be a study of our faith but a time of deepening our friendships through fellowship. If you have any questions, please call Lucy Sojka, Beverly Bowling, Pam Hill, Lynn Massey or the church office.

Lorena Clark Piner Scholarship

Attention all high school seniors and students enrolled in institutes of higher education: The scholarship forms for the Lorena Clark Piner Scholarship (given by Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Coastal Carolina) will be available soon and can be picked up in the church office. Deadline for submission is Thursday, February 12, 2015.

PW Honorary Life Membership

Nominations are now being received for the Presbyterian Women Honorary Life Membership Award. Please pick up an application outside the church office. The deadline for nominations is March 3. Contact Lucy Sojka with any questions: 277-7598.

Easter Lilies

Lent begins Wednesday, February 18 and Easter will soon be here so it's time to order Easter lilies for our sanctuary. Presbyterian Women take orders for Easter Lilies each year given in honor of or in memory of a loved one. Cost of the lilies is \$10.00 each.

Make checks payable to: Presbyterian Women. You may mail checks and order forms to: Delia Muse P.O. Box 335, Laurinburg, NC 28353 or place them in the PW box in the church office. You may also email laurinburgpresby@bellsouth.net with the name of the one you are honoring or remembering and who is donating the lilies. Also please remember to pick up your lilies after the Easter Service on April 5.

Thank you,

Lynn Mason

PW Flower Chair

The Cottonland Garden Club is hosting a power point presentation of "The North Carolina Wildflower Program" on Thursday, February 19, 2015 at 10 a.m. in the fellowship hall of Laurinburg Presbyterian Church, 600 West Church Street. The speaker of this colorful and exciting program will be Derek C. Smith, Roadside Vegetation Asset Management Engineer with the North Carolina Department of Transportation.

There is no admission charge and the public is invited. Everyone planning to attend should make reservations in advance before Monday, February 16 by calling or emailing Lynne Mabry, Club President, 276-5616, mabrylynne@bellsouth.net.

MUSIC NEWS

UNCP presents "Perspectives on the Civil War Era"

Tuesday February 10, 2015

Join us for songs and stories commemorating Emancipation. This is a free concert and joint production of the UNCP Departments of Music and History. LPC's own Dr. Jose Rivera and Dr. Jaime Martinez conduct and direct this moving concert, which includes student artwork, songs, stories, period photography and more. For more information and to reserve your seat, please call Sis Thomas (276-0220) or the church office. LPC will be providing a bus, leaving at 6:45pm.

It's Cool In the Furnace

One night only! March 14th at 7:00pm. Join our students as they tell the tale of a Godly guy named Daniel, his three side-kicks and a fiery furnace. This one is about as cool as it gets! Stay tuned for more information regarding casting and practices.



KIDS' CHOIR NEW MEMBER NIGHT FEBRUARY 11

Joyful Singers & Ringers (Grades 1-6) meets Wednesday evenings from 6:30-7:10 in room 219. We will be playing for worship on February 8, so the following Wednesday night (February 11) is an excellent time for new members to join us! We will participate in worship three additional times this spring, and will also present our Spring Concert on Wednesday, April 22. Contact Jaime (jam6ah@gmail.com or 910-258-8459) for more information.

WANT AN EXCUSE TO MAKE NOISE IN WORSHIP? JOIN THE BELL CHOIR!

The Whitechapel Ringers rehearse immediately following worship on most Sundays during the school year. The group is open to all youth and adults, and new members are always welcome. No prior musical knowledge or experience necessary--if you can count, you can play bells!

THEOLOGY ON TAP (TOT)

Tuesday, February 10 at the Downtown Club.

Join us for fellowship starting at 6 pm.

Dinner reservations are required by noon, Friday February 6, so the food count is accurate.

Conversation starts at 7 pm.

MACS

MAC'S (Maturing Adult Christians) will be taking a trip to visit the US Army Airborne & Special Operations Museum on Saturday, February 21 at 10am in Fayetteville, NC. We will go to lunch afterwards for a dutch treat meal at K & W Cafeteria. Come and learn through exhibits from 1940 to the present. Learn how our men and women protected us. Contact Betty Jackson (276-7621) or Sis Thomas (276-0220) if you are interesting in taking this journey with us.

YOUTH

Spring Jr. Youth Schedule

Feb 15 Mission Event - Valentine Cards to

Local nursing home. Dinner at McDonalds - return to Hut by 7:30.

Mar 1 Lesson/Activity at the Hut

Mar 15 Discovery Place -Rockingham

Meetings at the Hut

Feb 8 5:45 pm

Feb 22 5:45 pm

Youth Ski Trip

The LPC Middle School and Senior High Youth will be going skiing at Winterplace Ski Resort in West Virginia on the weekend of March 6 - 8. We will be leaving the LPC parking lot Friday afternoon March 6 and return on Sunday March 8th. We will ski at Winterplace Ski Resort on Saturday March 7th. We will spend Friday and Saturday nights at the Glade Springs Resort. We hope all the LPC Youth will be able to join us on this FUN and EXCITING Weekend.

Reflection on Raleigh Youth Mission:

We all had a great time in Raleigh. It is always wonderful to see our youth step up and be willing to work at any task given to them. We received many compliments for how hard everyone worked and how well they handled themselves talking with some of the people who were at the shelter for a meal. Throughout the weekend we were reminded of how grateful we are for all that we have and for our wonderful families. Once again we learned what a wonderful experience it is to help others in need and that in the end it helps us even more. - Susan Hartwell, Middle School Advisor

BOY SCOUT TROOP 420

FEBRUARY: Scout Sunday celebration on February 1 and the continued testing of our cooking skills on a troop campout at McCoy Pond

MARCH: Study of the Battle of Bentonville and participating in the 150th anniversary of this final battle of the civil war

Troop 420 meets every Tuesday night at the Hut from 7:00pm to 8:30pm. If you would like to support our troop in anyway, contact David Harling or Gus Purcell.

CUB SCOUT PACK 420

Pack 420 Cub Scouts and I would like to thank Laurinburg Presbyterian Church for allowing us to use the fellowship hall and host a pancake breakfast fundraiser. I would like to personally thank each and everyone who bought tickets, made cash donations, helped prepare food, donated items, and cleaned up. You all were an important part in this success. Without the support from the church members and community, this event would not have been possible.

Thank You,
Gray Sellers, Cub Master Pack 420

MONROE CAMP & RETREAT CENTER

Attention College Students! Are you looking for a summer job? Monroe Camp & Retreat Center is currently seeking counselors, lifeguards, musicians, a horse wrangler and other leadership positions. For more information, please contact Rev. Lyndsey McCall. Applications can be found on our web page monroecamp.org. Summer season is from June 24, 2015 - August 7, 2015.

College Conference

February 20-22, 2015

\$55.00 per person

Monroe Camp & Retreat Center is starting a brand new COLLEGE CONFERENCE! Dr. Neal Carter and Lynndee Horne will be our keynote speakers. The college conference is open to any and all college students. This retreat will have a faith based focus and theme that will inspire our college students. We hope to have our neighboring Universities such as St. Andrews and UNCP to join us for this great event along with several college students that have served on staff. If interested in attending the college conference please contact Rev. Lyndsey McCall.

THIS LENTEN SEASON:

"No single event in human history has received more attention than the suffering and crucifixion of Jesus of Nazareth. In this Lenten journey, Adam Hamilton guides us through the last twenty-four hours of Jesus' life. Each chapter is designed to help the reader experience and understand the significance of Jesus' suffering and death in a way you have never done before. Whether readers are long-time Christians or simply curious about the story of Christ's crucifixion, they are invited to join the author in retracing the last 24 hours of Jesus' life."

TASTE OF THE TOWN: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26

Come support the Scotland County Literacy Council at their Annual Taste of the Town fund-raiser on Thursday, February 27, from 6:00 to 8:30 pm in the fellowship hall. Tickets cost: \$8 for Adults, and \$6 for children 6 and under. You may purchase tickets at the door or through the Literacy Council office.

HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING IN CHILDCARE

The childcare classes are learning about the colors red and pink, the shape of the month is a heart, dental health, Black history and much, much more!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Are you interested in helping with VBS? There will be an informative meeting, previewing VBS material on February 17 at 7pm at Northview Harvest Ministries. If you would like to attend with LPC's CN&E, please contact Rev. Lyndsey McCall.

On the Calendar... Sundays: 9:45 am SS Adults; 11 am Worship; 11:20 am Children's Church School; 12:15 White chapel Ringers; 5:45 pm Youth
Wednesdays 6 pm Fellowship Meal & Open Space; 6:30 pm Adult Program and Children's Chimes/Choir 7:15 pm Chancel Choir

Most of the staff can receive voicemails to their smart-phones/iPhones anytime call LPC 276-0831, when you hear Lu's voice dial the ext number:

Neal Carter ext. 302 cell 280-9688
nealcarter64@gmail.com
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José Rivera ext. 305 cell: 414-218-2822
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Non-Profit Organization
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