



February 2020

The First Word

*A Mini-Edition while searching for an Office Manager
growing in Faith, . . .serving with Hope, . . .sharing God's Love*

Service and Mission Team

by Geneese Gotshalk

“IF I CAN HELP SOMEBODY, MY LIVING SHALL NOT BE IN VAIN” *

Join us for a simple meal of soup and bread after the service on February 2. **ALL** donations (plus a 50 cents/dollar match) go directly to CareNet to feed the hungry in Macon County. We'll enjoy the fellowship, soups, and an ice cream social for dessert to remember and celebrate the life of Jeanete Pof.

On February 7, pause and say a prayer for the 125 special needs guests attending the evening's “Night to Shine” (and all the volunteers, including our own Patsy Clinton and Doris Munday, guest “buddies”). The organizers are so grateful for the \$813 raised by our “dollars” offering. It will help provide a magical evening for some very special people.

Throughout this month, please continue your generous support of our county's homeless and nearly homeless with your dollars for Macon New Beginnings.

Remember that February 26 is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent and the season of our One Great Hour of Sharing. This is the only denomination-wide offering in which our congregation participates, and we hope you'll give generously.

This is a month to remember and live the words of that old gospel song*—a month for simple acts of giving that will help somebody in the name of our Lord.

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February Support Volunteers

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Lay Reader</u>	<u>Greeter/Parking Lot</u>	<u>Child Care</u>	<u>Counters</u>
Feb. 2	Jim Geary Sandy Geary	Lew Mesta Jeff Stevens	Morgans	Lew Mesta Tom Fagg
Feb. 9	Jim McInnes	Neal Keenum John Duncan	Brenda Kraft, Pam Davis, Melissa McClure	Neal Keenum Jeff Stevens
Feb. 16	Doris Jelley	Jim Geary Jeff Stevens	Sandy Geary, Jan Stevens, Linda Keenum	Jan Stevens Susan Fagg
Feb. 23	Geneese Gottschalk	Griff Morgan Ray Heckeler	Brenda Kraft, Pam Davis, Melissa McClure	Pat Mesta Ann Blake



February Birthdays

Feb. 1—Gail Lehman
 Feb. 2—Judy Kelly
 Feb. 9—Carole Roy, Doris Munday,
 Lionel Caynon, Toby Tobias
 Feb. 15—Pat Callahan
 Feb. 16—Al Griseck
 Feb. 19—Clyde Genter, Jan Ledford
 Feb. 24—Jan Sharp
 Feb. 25—Barbara Griseck

January Offerings (through 1/19)

YTD Goal	YTD Actual
\$9,600	\$8,314



February Anniversaries

Feb. 16—David & Kathy Key
 Feb. 21—George & Gail Barrett

Stories of Love from Different Faith Traditions



Our church is hosting a pot-luck meal, Thursday, February 13, at 6:30 pm in Tartan Hall. The Inter-faith Coalition is providing the program with representatives from various religions telling a story of faith and how it impacts their faith tradition. There will be time for fellowship and questions.

This is the second Interfaith event that has been held in Tartan Hall. It is the hope of the Coalition that our fellowship and learnings will promote peace in these divided times.

Christan Educaton

by Melissa McClure

Our Sunday school class meets at 9:00 am on Sunday mornings in an upstairs classroom, for all desiring to grow in Faith in Christ.

February 2nd will be featuring "Goliath Must Fall" by Louie Giglio.

The last three Sundays in February will be a DVD series by Max Lucado and Randy Frazee called "The Story of Heaven". They will open your eyes to what is beyond the glorious finale of God's masterfully told story of life here on earth. Combining new content with adapted teaching from God's story, they offer an awe-inspiring peek into the hope and promise of eternal life. People of all ages can learn, discuss, and apply biblical teaching about heaven to their everyday lives. These sessions will be led by Melissa McClure or Doris Jelley. Come to one session or all. Our Bible study is on Fridays at noon in M2. We are currently studying I Samuel. We offer Bible readings followed by lively discussion from each chapter of the Bible.

The short story group will be discussing "Three a.m. and the Stars Were Out" by Ron Rash, from Something Rich and Strange (available in office) on Monday, Feb. 17 at 2 pm at Lazy Hiker.

Lenten Prayer

Lord through these 40 days of Lenten vigil,
Help us to see the price of all our sin. Teach us
how prayer makes strong a faith that's fragile;
Help us confront our sinfulness within.
Seeing past self to other's need,
Help us to walk the servant's way with Jesus,
Leading to resurrection hope in-deed!

-from a poem by Stephen I lassmer

Presbyterian Men

by Ned Kraft

The first activity for the year will be the second Sunday lunch in March. The Men's group will provide the main course and sides. We would like to ask the congregation to provide the desserts. After the expenses are paid the net profits will go towards helping Homeless Veterans in Western North Carolina and especially in Macon County.

Men's Monthly Meeting

Monday, Feb. 3 at 7:00 pm (TH)

Men's Breakfast

Saturday, Feb. 8 at 8:00 am - Franklin Café

Men's Wed. Lunches

11:30 am - See calendar for locations

Worship and the Arts by Tempe' Fussell



Silk Paint Panels

Come paint a picture or design based on a Scripture verse for Lent. No talent is necessary, just a desire to visualize Scripture with a paint brush. Join us Monday, February 11 at 10 a.m. The silk panels will be part of a larger Lenten display.

Ash Wednesday

The season of Lent begins with on Wednesday, February 26th at 5:30 pm. It will be a service of quiet music and readings where participants are invited to receive ashes to mark the season of preparation for the incredible Gospel of Easter.

Property Team

by Ray Heckeler

First of all, the Property Team would like to thank David Key for his outstanding leadership and hands-on approach towards not only maintaining our facilities as we enjoy them today but also the improvements he was instrumental in making happen. The improvements in the Fellowship Hall are an excel-lent example.

The Property Team welcomes the new year under the leadership of Jim McInnes with the opportunities to continue addressing facility issues with the Church Campus, Memorial Gardens and the Church Manse. This year one of our challenges will be investigating how we can be more pro-active in mitigating issues before they become significant issues.

Our "TO DO" List has numerous items for your Property Team to pursue. Three of them are:

- Receiving approval and then implementation of the new Building Use Policy.

- Pressure washing of the fire escape outside of the Fellowship Hall. Cleaning and exposure of the structure will allow inspection and treatment of the adjacent building wall to prevent entry of rainwater.

- Implementing a contract to perform cleaning of the church facilities' interior areas, starting at one end and continuing to the other, including cleaning of the Tartan Hall carpeting.

The key to the success of any organizational activity is good communications. We would ask that any problems, concerns or questions with any of the Church Facilities be brought to the attention of any of the Property Team members so they can be addressed appropriately.

Congregational Care and Outreach

by Linda Keenum

Our next scheduled home bound visits will be January 30th for Valentine's Day. We visit 8 of our members in homes and facilities. All are welcome to participate in these wonderful conversations.

We will have an Ice Cream Party after the Souper Bowl Meal on February 2nd, to celebrate Jeanette Poff's life. Jeanette's daughters will be providing the ice cream and toppings. Please join us for this celebration of her life. A list of all our monthly meals is on the bulletin board in the office.

We plan to ask the congregation to bring prepared, small, casseroles this month. Please bring non-returnable containers. Depending on the response, there may be a cooking day on February 25th to have a supply of food on hand. This will also give Tempe' a supply of food when she gets a call of someone in need.

A birthday party is planned on February 9th after church to celebrate Doris Munday's 90th birthday! Please join us to celebrate this extraordinary lady.