

First Presbyterian Press

**First Presbyterian Church
Goldsboro, North Carolina**

**Volume 21, Issue 3
March, 2019**

Dear Ones,

A little humor, in honor of the beginning of Lent.....

John Smith was the only Protestant to move into a large Catholic neighborhood. On the first Friday of Lent, John was outside grilling a big juicy steak on his grill. Meanwhile, all of his neighbors were eating cold tuna fish for supper. This went on each Friday of Lent. On the last Friday of Lent, the neighborhood men got together and decided that something had to be done about John; he was tempting them to eat meat each Friday of Lent, and they couldn't take it anymore.

They decided to try and convert John to be a Catholic. They went over and talked to him and were so happy that he decided to join all of his neighbors and become a Catholic. They took him to church, and the priest sprinkled some water over him, and said, "You were born a Baptist, you were raised a Baptist, and now you are a Catholic."

The men were so relieved, now their biggest Lenten temptation was resolved. The next year's Lenten season rolled around. The first Friday of Lent came, and just at supper time, when the neighbor were sitting down to their tuna fish dinner, there came the wafting smell of steak cooking on a grill.

The neighborhood men could not believe their noses! What was going on? They called each other up and decided to meet over in John's yard to see if he had forgotten it was the first Friday of Lent. The group arrived just in time to see John standing over his grill with a small pitcher of water. He was sprinkling some water over his steak on the grill, saying, "You were born a cow, you were raised a cow, and now you are a fish."

We didn't celebrate Lent in my growing up home. Lent was a "Catholic thing." Over my life, main-line Protestants have adopted Lenten preparation for Easter. That is a good thing. Far beyond a time to "give up things", Lent is a season for self-examination. Here's how Frederick Buechner describes it:

"In many cultures there is an ancient custom of giving a tenth of each year's income to some holy use. For Christians, to observe the forty days of Lent is to do the same thing with roughly a tenth of each year's days. After being baptized by John in the river Jordan, Jesus went off alone into the wilderness where he spent forty days asking himself the question what it meant to be Jesus. During Lent, Christians are supposed to ask one way or another what it means to be themselves.

If you had to bet everything you have on whether there is a God or whether there isn't, which side would get your money, and why? When you look at your face in the mirror, what do you see in it that you most like and what do you see in it that you most deplore?

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If you had only one last message to leave to the handful of people who are the most important to you, what would it be in twenty-five words or less? Of all the things you have done with your life, which is the one you would most like to undo? Which is the one that makes you happiest to remember? Is there any person in the world, or any cause, that, if circumstances called for it, you would be willing to die for? If this were the last day of your life, what would you do with it?

To hear yourself try to answer questions like these is to begin to hear something not only of who you are but of both what you are becoming and what you are failing to become. It can be a pretty depressing business all in all, but if sackcloth and ashes are at the start of it, something like Easter may be at the end.

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, March 6th. We'll join our sister congregation at Faith Presbyterian for a service that will include the imposition of ashes. May God bless your Lenten time with thoughtful pondering.

Love,
Bob

The Foundation of FPC



The *Foundation of First Presbyterian Church* annually provides gifts and support for worthy causes, and it is time for all interested parties to make application for this support. The Foundation funds cannot be used for operating expenses of the church. Only benevolent and non-operating “causes” can receive gifts, such as local and foreign missions, Christian educational support, and special music worship enhancement. All requests should be submitted using an FPC Foundation Grant Application. **We have an updated application this year**, and these applications are available from the church office and on the web. All requests should be submitted **no later than March 31, 2019** to The Foundation of First Presbyterian Church, C/O First Presbyterian Church, 1101 East Ash Street, Goldsboro, N.C. 27530.

If you would like to make a memorial contribution to the FPC Foundation, brochures and envelopes are available. Your gift will be wisely invested in God's service.



**Sunday
March 10, 2019**



We would like to extend an opportunity to the congregation to place a name on the memorial or honor list and share in the cost of the Easter lilies. The cost will be \$10 for each name listed. The deadline for placing orders is April 15, 2019.

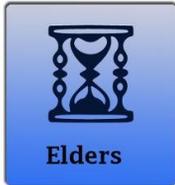


March 3 Dr. Bob Bardin
 March 10 Dr. Bob Bardin

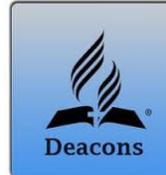
March 17 Dr. Bob Bardin
 March 24 Dr. Bob Bardin
 March 31 Dr. Bob Bardin



Deacon in Charge: Michael Ellis
Co-Deacon: Katherine Parker
Ushers: Brownie Doss, Jimmy Doss, Scott Jara, and Steve Jara



March 4 Lee Futrelle
 March 11 Kathryn Spicer
 March 18 Malcolm Shearin
 March 25 Borden Parker



March 4 Joyce Wooten
 March 11 Joyce Wooten
 March 18 Joyce Wooten
 March 25 Toby Brown



Circle 4 will meet on Monday, March 4 at 6:30 p.m.
Circles 1 and 2 will meet on Tuesday, March 5 at 10:00 a.m.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN! Don't miss the March Bible study led by Joyce Pate Monday evening the 4th and Tuesday morning the 5th! Her topic will be *Two Sisters, Two Different Styles of Love and Service: Mary and Martha*. Scripture references include Luke 10:38-42, John 11:1-45, John 12:1-7. We are nearing the conclusion of our study from the Gospels, **WOMEN LIKE US WHO MEET JESUS.**

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- | | | | |
|----|----------------------|----|------------------------|
| 3 | Maddie Jara | 24 | Fort Parker |
| 4 | Mr. Tom Bradshaw | | Mrs. Lynn Branch |
| 5 | Mr. Sam Hunter | 25 | Ms. Sandra Franklin |
| | Trotter Sumner | | Dr. Sherman Hawkins |
| 6 | Dr. Rick Potts | | Mrs. Debbie Bronner |
| 9 | Thomas Sumner | 26 | Dr. Joe McLamb |
| 10 | Mrs. Mildred Merritt | | Mrs. Ann Hunter |
| 11 | Mr. Sonny Wooten | | Mr. Tom Shaw |
| | Mrs. Meredith Gurley | 27 | Scott Jara |
| 14 | Mrs. Elva Graham | | Mr. Fred McCall, Jr |
| 15 | Miss June Fields | 28 | Mr. Mike Richter |
| 19 | Mr. Philip Brogden | 29 | Mr. Bill Corbin |
| 21 | Mr. Michael Ellis | 30 | Mrs. Loretta Hawkins |
| 22 | Jayson Keeton | | Mrs. Sandi Bair-Gibson |
| | Emily Sauls Lewis | | |
| 24 | Mr. Bob Bass | 31 | Mrs. Linda Brown |



YOGA

Join Us For Yoga!
 Every Thursday at 5:30 -6:30 pm
 In the Activity Center
 Teresa Smith is the
 Yoga Teacher
 A minimum of \$5 is
 recommended for each class.
 All proceeds will go to Missions.



We are excited about FPC's new Cherub Choir for two year olds through third graders. We will meet after worship in the Sanctuary Chancel for about 15 minutes every Sunday beginning today. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Taneti.

Elementary School Age Group

Camp Albemarle Junior Camp Session 2 – July 14-19

Middle School Age Group

Camp Albemarle Middle Camp Session 2 – July 14-19

High School Age Group

Montreat High School Conference Session 1 – June 2-8

Youth Triennium – July 16-20

For Camp Albemarle, parents register directly. After registration, share information with Mary Taneti for church scholarship. For high school camps, contact Mary Taneti to register.



Dates Available for Sanctuary Flowers

If you would like to place flowers in the Sanctuary, the following dates are available:

March 17, 31, April 28

June 30, July 14, 21, 28

August 11, 18, 25

Please contact Susan Stackhouse or Ruth Smith in the church office if you are interested.

