

The Pinecrest Precentor

April 2021

From Our Senior Pastor

Dear Pinecrest Family,

How good are you at patiently waiting?

How long can you last before getting upset at your children for taking too long to get into the car? How long can you last before getting upset with someone driving too slow in front of you? How long can you last before getting upset for waiting too long at the DMV or a doctor's appointment?

When I think of people who had trouble waiting in the Bible- I think of John the Baptist in Matthew 11:3. Through his disciples, John the Baptist asked Jesus: "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" Which is another way of John the Baptist asking Jesus: "Are you really the Savior?"

This question should us strike as strange because John the Baptist is the one who rejoiced in his mother's womb when in the presence of Jesus, the one who prepared the way for Jesus by calling Israel to repent and be baptized, the one who at first humbly refused to baptize Jesus and then heard the voice of God the Father after he did, saying "This is my beloved son". John the Baptist is the one who told his disciples that it was better to follow Jesus than to follow him.

How could John the Baptist now question who Jesus is? Had Jesus changed? No, the only thing that had changed is John the Baptist's circumstances. John the Baptist was now arrested and he was awaiting his execution. John the Baptist had grown tired of waiting for Jesus to come and rescue him.

Jesus responds to John the Baptist giving clear evidence that he is the messiah and he is doing his Father's will. He is bringing good news and salvation to this world even though he doesn't always immediately remove people from their difficult circumstances.

Brothers and sisters, I don't know what difficult situation you may be facing today and how ready you are to be out of it. I know many of us have grown tired of this pandemic and that many today are tired of the physical, financial, and relational issues in which they find themselves. But I would encourage you to not think that Jesus has changed, just because your circumstances have changed and you want out of them. Jesus is still God's son, Jesus is still the savior of sinners, Jesus has not forgotten you, and Jesus will fulfill every promise that he has made you in God's timing. Jesus has already given us all the proof that we need to know that he is our savior and will keep his promises- through the miracles of his own day, by his continued work in our lives, and by the empty tomb that first Easter Sunday.

Be patient brothers and sisters. Trust in Jesus Christ and what he has promised and will do for you. Thanks to Jesus and Easter, better days are coming.

He is Risen!

Rev. Rhett Carson

Intercessory Prayer

Marge DeZwaan, Liz Kimberling, Mike McCall, Pinecrest Easter Services and Baskets, Pinecrest's Vision Team

Thank you

Thank you everyone for the calls, cards, meals, and prayers during Kathy's recent procedure. She is doing much better and we thank God for this and for all of you! Rhett & Kathy Carson

Deacons Workday

On Saturday, March 27th, our Deacons invite you to join them for a Workday as we take care of various projects inside and outside of the church building.

2021 Easter Schedule

Thursday, April 1, 6:00 pm—Maundy Thursday Worship Service with Communion

Saturday, April 3, 11:00am – Virtual Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday, April 4, 9:30am – Hymn Sing

10:00 am—Worship Service

Virtual Easter Egg Hunt

To ensure safety for all those involved, our annual Easter egg hunt will be virtual this year! Rather than getting a large group together in-person, we will be putting together “egg hunt kits” that parents and grandparents can pick up from the church. These kits will include pre-filled eggs, a craft, and an object lesson to be accompanied by a Facebook live video on Saturday, April 3rd at 11am. Be on the lookout for more info coming soon! If you’d like to volunteer to help with this event, please contact Christian Beamguard.

Easter Sunday Hymn Sing

Join us at 9:30AM on Easter Sunday, April 4th outside the memorial garden at Pinecrest Church, weather permitting, as we begin our Easter celebration by singing a few of our favorite Easter Hymns with Christian on the guitar. We will end this time at 9:45AM so that everyone has time to transition to the sanctuary for our indoor Easter Service at 10AM.

April Youth Event

Our April youth event will be on Saturday, April 17th. Please contact Christian for more information.

Sickness Policy for Public Worship Services

Pinecrest has resumed in person public worship services. Please see below for our updated sickness policy. For our full guidelines please go to the church website www.pinecrestchurch.com. We will continue to broadcast our services online each Sunday from Facebook and our church website for those who need to remain at home.

Sickness Policy for In-Person Worship Attendance during COVID

Anyone (staff, volunteer, or attendee) who themselves or a household member has tested positive for the coronavirus should not attend public worship services until two weeks after the test was administered and any symptoms subside.

Anyone who themselves or a household member has exhibited symptoms of the coronavirus should not attend public worship services until two weeks after symptoms subside.

Anyone who knows they or a household member has been directly exposed to the coronavirus should not attend public worship services until two weeks after exposure and any symptoms subside.

On any given Sunday, anyone who does not feel well for any reason should not attend public worship services that day.

Anyone who tests positive for the coronavirus and has attended a public worship service at Pinecrest in the past two weeks should notify the church office as soon as possible at 828-692-0063.

Wednesday Online Prayer Meetings

Until we are able to meet in person again, Pinecrest will be having an online prayer meeting each week on Wednesdays at 11:00 am using Zoom Cloud Meetings. If you did not receive an email from the church with instructions on joining, please contact the church office. Please email pinecrestarp@gmail.com with any prayer requests and plan to join us online each week as we pray for each other and for the end of the coronavirus.

Inviting Others to Church Online

The coronavirus has changed not only how we worship as a church but it has also changed how we invite others to church. Even while we are worshipping online we need to be inviting others to worship with us so that they can join us in praising God and hearing the gospel message. We can invite others to worship with us online through word of mouth but we can also invite them digitally. We digitally invite people to worship online by pressing the “like” button at the bottom of the video (the more likes, the more “like”-ly it is to pop on in someone’s search for a church service). We also invite people to worship with us online by clicking the share button on the video and posting it to others through email or your Facebook page— a few words about what you learned or liked about the service will greatly encourage others to listen. Continue to join us for worship online each week but please also remember to encourage others to join us as well— they need to hear the good news of Jesus Christ too!

Online Giving

During this difficult time, we wanted to make it easy for you to continue your contributions to the church. Please visit our webpage at Pinecrestchurch.com and click on the “Give Online” button in the top right-hand corner. You may use a credit or debit card or opt for direct draft from your bank account. You may also download the Tithe.ly app, create an account,

and then search for Pinecrest Presbyterian Church. Or you may opt to mail your check directly to the church at PO Box 421, Flat Rock, NC 28731.

Bonclarken's Annual Volunteer Work Week

Bonclarken's annual Volunteer Work Week, April 19-21, is a great time of fellowship, fun, and work as volunteers are housed and fed free of charge in exchange for their labor as the grounds are prepared for the upcoming summer season. We are condensing the week to just three days, beginning Monday with breakfast and ending with lunch on Wednesday. We will mostly be focusing on work projects where you can keep socially distant from each other. For more information, please contact mdill@bonclarken.org.

April Birthdays

3 Lillian Galloway
6 Jane Kennedy
7 Ben Whitehurst
9 Parker Young
10 Barbara Molton
11 George Tennille
16 Lois Van Orsdol
19 Michael McCall

Cecil Patterson
20 Gordon Ann King
23 Sheri Clarke
Shirley Fearnside
26 John Andrews

April Anniversaries

29 Ron & Tracy Grigsby

If your name or family members name is missing and you would like to have it included in future publications, please call the church office at 828-692-0063.

Financial Statement February 2021

*Contributions	Expenses	Deficit
\$22,040	\$34,224	\$12,184

Year to Date

*Contributions	Expenses	Deficit
\$64,186	\$68,106	\$3,920

*Does not include investment income/loss.

Upcoming Events:

In addition to the weekly schedule listed below

April 1st – Maundy Thursday Service at 6:00pm

April 3rd – Virtual Easter Egg Hunt at 11:00am via Facebook Live

April 4th – Easter Sunday

April 17th – Youth Event

April 19th -21st – Bonclarken's Volunteer Work Week

Pinecrest Presbyterian Church *Associate Reformed Synod*

1790 Greenville Highway, Flat Rock, North Carolina

For the Glory of God, Pinecrest Presbyterian Church exists to produce fruit for God's kingdom by rooting people in God's word, growing them in their faith, and helping them branch out with the gospel in their homes, communities, and the world so that all may know that Jesus is Lord.

Sunday Worship Service 10:00 am.

Sunday Youth Group Meeting 3:00 pm.

Wednesday Prayer Meeting via Zoom 11:00 am.

You may visit our webpage at Pinecrestchurch.com, connect with us via Facebook, or YouTube to view our Sunday Sermon.