

The Pinecrest Precentor

March 2021

From Our Senior Pastor

Dear Pinecrest Family,
It's only temporary.

Have you ever been told that? Have you ever told someone else that? Why do we say these words?

We use these words as the bad news for a good situation. Things are really good right now but enjoy it while you can because nothing lasts forever. As an example: "Enjoy this nice weather in February- it is only temporary."

We also use these words as the good news for a bad situation. Things are really bad right now but endure it because nothing lasts forever. As an example: "Endure cooking everything in a microwave oven while your kitchen is remodeled- it is only temporary."

All people both Christians and non-Christians seem to realize the constant state of flux of this world. Things are here one moment and gone the next. This is the good news and the bad news of life in this world- it is only temporary.

How we take this phrase and this constant state of flux depends a lot upon our current situation in this world and also our perception of how important the things of this world are to us.

As Christians we should be able to roll with the punches and not be extremely upset when things come and go- because our true hope, home, and treasure is not found in this ever-changing world. Our true hope, home, and treasure is found in heaven through Jesus Christ (Matthew 5:19-21). Jesus didn't just come to give us something fleeting, he came to give us something permanent: Permanent salvation, Permanent right standing with God, Permanent Hope, a Permanent Home.

If you are enjoying the things of this world, then I have a stark warning for you: "Beware your time on earth and the pleasures it offers are only temporary."

If you are tired of dealing with disease, natural disasters, politics, isolation, broken relationships, sinful habits, persecution, and suffering, then rejoice at this coming Easter season. Jesus Christ came to bring about permanent and eternal salvation by defeating all of our enemies even sin and death. Because of Christ I have good news to share with you: "Endure your time on this world and all the sufferings it brings- It is only temporary."

1 Peter 5:10 And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.

In His Grace,

Rev. Rhett Carson

Intercessory Prayer

Barbara Herdina, Marge DeZwaan, The Bonilla Family, Liz Kimberling, and Kathy Carson

Book of Remembrance

The following have contributed towards the General Fund or other fund as noted below:

In honor of Mrs. Liz Kimberling from Mr. & Mrs. Jim Brice.

In memory of his parents, Dale & Vida Bosely, from Mr. David Bosely

Daylight Savings Time...

...begins on Sunday, March 14th. Don't forget to "Spring" forward one hour.

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. More information to follow.

Souper Bowl of Caring

Thank you so much to everyone who contributed money and canned goods for Interfaith Assistance Ministries. Pinecrest was able to raise \$272.00.

2021 Easter Schedule

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

Sunday, April 4, 10:00 am—Worship Service

Wednesday Night Prayer Group

We have made the decision to postpone the Wednesday Night Prayer group meetings until warmer weather so that we can meet again in person.

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.

Pastor's Discretionary Fund

Pinecrest was blessed to be able to make several generous contributions, totaling \$6,000.00, to IAM (Interfaith Assistance Ministry) in 2020. This ministry is serving a vital role in our area providing food, financial aid, and counseling for the many

families impacted by COVID 19. In addition to helping with the ministry of IAM the fund has also been used to directly help church members in need of financial assistance. As a result, our Pastor's Discretionary Fund is depleted. The Session is asking our members to consider making a special contribution to that fund so that our church may continue serving our community. You may place a separate check in your tithe envelope or in one of the **Special Offering** envelopes designated for this fund that can be found in the lobby. Thank you for your consideration of this request. Praise God that we are able to help others in need.

March Birthdays

3 Calvin Grier	
9 Gabriel Harper	
11 Susanne Allers	
15 Maria Blevins	
18 Katherine Elgin	
Chris McCraw	
19 Charlesie Cooper	
20 Ruth Anne Gibson	
23 Brian Pugliese	
25 Bob Eckley	
	27 Grant Blevins
	Nelson Klaner
	28 Tait Eckley Hewett
	31 Marie Carson
	John E Carson
	Chip Sherer

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.

Middle School Retreat

This spring the planning committee for our presbytery's middle school retreat at Bonclarken is offering a day-camp option, so we can enjoy the activities and fellowship of a retreat without needing to stay overnight. If your 6-8th grader would like to attend day camp on Saturday, March 20th, please contact Christian for more information!

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.

2021 Flower Calendar

The 2021 Flower Calendar is on the bulletin board outside the sanctuary ready for you to fill in the dates you would like to provide flowers for worship services in memory or in honor of someone you love.

Financial Statement January 2021

*Contributions	Expenses	Surplus
\$42,145	\$33,882	\$8,263

*Does not include investment income/loss.

Upcoming Events:

In addition to the weekly schedule listed below

March 1st – Regular Office Hours Resume

March 9th – Joint Session and Deacons Meeting

March 20th – Middle School Retreat at Bonclarken (Day Camp)

March 27th – Deacons Workday

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

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

April 4th – Easter Sunday

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 High School Discipleship Group via Zoom 3:30 pm.

Wednesday Prayer Meeting via Zoom 11:00 am.

Wednesday Youth Group Meeting 3:00 pm.

Wednesday Night Prayer Group 6:00pm-Postponed

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