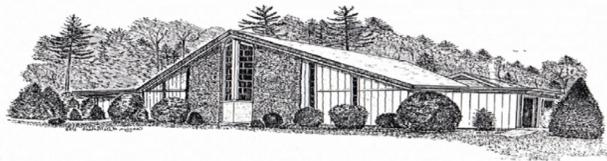


THE PINECREST



PRECENTOR

MARCH 2020

From Our Senior Pastor -

Dear Pinecrest Family,

As we head into March, I want to use my newsletter article to give you an update on our Pinecrest Vision Team.

The Pinecrest Vision Team consists of Christian Beamguard, Marris Byrd, Rhett Carson, Norma Eckley, Tracy Grigsby, Melody Heltman, Bill Kent, and Lynn Rogers. We have been meeting regularly in January and February and already have spent dozens of hours together on this important task. We went through a time of training with the staff of Outreach North America in early January and have since met on our own several times. During these meetings we have completed worksheets, reflected upon the history of Pinecrest Church, looked at detailed statistical data about our community, and had several lengthy discussions on a number of topics especially in regards to church health and outreach.

Recent discussions have particularly focused on identifying the strengths of Pinecrest. What has Pinecrest Church as a whole done and continues to do well? What are the passions of Pinecrest that get its staff, leadership, and members excited? As we answer these questions as a group we are praying and looking for consensus about how God has uniquely equipped Pinecrest to serve our community, at this time. We have a message and we have gifts that many in our community need - what is the best way to get that message and our gifts to them?

As we answer these questions for the church as a whole, I would also like to challenge you to not only pray for our vision team but to ask these very same questions about your own personal ministry. Who has God made you to be? What are your gifts? What gets you excited about serving the Lord? What do you have to offer the community around you? My "hunch" is that God does not simply have a plan for Pinecrest but He has one for each of us to be salt and light in a darkened world (Matthew 5:13-16).

Please continue to pray for God's guidance for our church's vision team, leadership, and each individual member of Pinecrest.

Blessings!

Rev. Rhett Carson

Intercessory Prayer

The Family of Helen Danelson

The Family of Dale Killinger

The Family of Billy Young

Pinecrest Vision Team



Book of Remembrance

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

In Memory of Mrs. Jeanette Burrell from Joel Reed and Elaine Reed.

In Memory of Mrs. Dale Killinger from Mr. & Mrs. John Gibson and Mr. & Mrs. Bill Stanley.

1st Wednesday Dinner & Program

Youth Fundraiser

Our first Wednesday program for March will be a wonderful youth fundraiser. The purpose of this event is to provide scholarships for our summer trips to Bonclarken, as well as the youth mission trip. Our menu will be baked ziti, a salad bar, and some great desserts. You'll want to stick around after the meal for some great entertainment. Please plan on joining us Wednesday, March 4th, at 5:30 pm. All are welcome.

Pinecrest's Got Talent

Be a part of our Youth Fundraiser by showcasing your talents for all to see! All acts welcome, whether musical, comical, dance, craft, or otherwise! Curtains up: March 4th—following the 5:30 pm Fundraiser Dinner. There is a sign up sheet in the atrium or contact Christian Beamguard.



Sunday, March 8th, is the beginning of **Daylight Savings Time**. Set your clocks to Spring Forward one hour!

Special Missions Presentations

On Sunday, March 8th, Josh Grimm, campus minister with Reformed University Fellowship at Queens University in Charlotte, NC, will give us an update on his ministry in the Fellowship Hall during Sunday School.

On Sunday, March 22nd, bring your favorite breakfast casserole, fruit, or pastries and join us for a cover dish brunch immediately following the 10AM worship service. During brunch, we will hear from missionary Jerri Lotze on her recent mission trip to Malawi with the Rafiki Organization.

Stewardship Article of the Month

Traditional Stewardship Season Timing

Most every church has its own long tradition that has become sacrosanct. Any change in “the way we’ve always done it” is considered close to heresy. For Christian stewardship, that holy-of-holies is the reverent observation of the stewardship season. There is no clear definition of exactly when stewardship season actually is. Each congregation is different, but there are certain ironclad dictums for most of them that make all congregations pretty much the same. First, don’t mention tithing. Second, if you mention tithing, leave an opening for a soft and gentle definition. Use the term “sacrificial giving” as a substitute for tithing—even though sacrificial giving may imply something quite opposite to tithing.

Then, always schedule the stewardship season after Labor Day, but a little before Thanksgiving. No preacher wants to get the crass messages of Christian giving confusingly mixed with the warm feeling of the Pilgrims’ Thanks Giving. This is always a difficult scheduling balance, since the stewardship season must come toward the end of the year to allow the church the necessary time for budget approval in January. The difficulty is even more pronounced, since more than likely the top line of the budget is the minister’s call, reflecting the long deserved increase in salary. Right off the bat, any stewardship message is received as a self-serving plea by the preacher for a pay increase. So, stewardship season is usually slipped into the first week of October—preferably at the Wednesday night prayer supper.

The stewardship season is an exercise to give obligatory recognition to the discipline of Christian stewardship through the use of adroit flanking maneuvers. This ambiguity is understood by the membership through cultural guidelines that have withstood the test of time for the local congregation. The purpose is clarified with the ultimate production of an annual budget validating another successful stewardship season. Well done. Satisfaction all around. For any of these common reasons, it’s a wonder that stewardship is mentioned at all.

I’m not saying that our Pastor was concerned about these common traps, but our congregation did have a long hiatus from one stewardship message to another a few years back. During that drought, I thought to myself, “I believe Stewart can help out.” I thought I could help out in a number of ways.

First, we have 52 Sunday services a year, and if only one service is on stewardship, then that’s less than 2%. If I can publish a short message 12 times a year, this will give our congregation an 18.75% chance to receive God’s stewardship promises. This approaches Jesus’ stewardship teaching standard of about 30% and boosts our church’s awareness factor by 800%. (Okay, you can see that deep down I am a numbers nut, but a very poor statistician, Anyway, I figure more is better, and I can help do more.)

Second, we can erase the idea of thinking about stewardship only during a certain season. Stewardship mes-

sages can be during any time of year. I can have a stewardship message all year. That’s the way it should be. I’ll admit that one of my biggest dilemmas was deciding which month to start my series. Of course I chose October...the first week of October. I never said I was courageous.

Third, In order to reach the entire congregation with a meaningful message. Peter wrote, “Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time” (1 Peter 5-6). I read this as a message not for the humble, but for the proud. The proud should be lifted up. In our eyes, each of us is the rich young ruler of the Gospels. We are the patriarchal benefactors. At least we guard our personal wealth like we are. So, God’s message for Christian stewardship is for the young careerist and for the industrial mogul equally: “*Humble yourselves.*” My stewardship messages are meant for you.

Excerpt used with permission from
Glen Smotherman, author of
Steward Shipp of Peachtree Corners



The Precentor deadline for submissions is **Sunday, March 22nd.**



Sermon Videos Online



We are very excited to announce that you may now view our full sermon online. Please go to our website, Pinecrestchurch.com, then click on the Sermons tab and then on the right hand side of the page click where it reads “2020 Sunday Morning Worship”. This link will direct you to our Facebook page where all of our future sermons can be watched.

If you are already a Facebook pro, you may find our sermons by searching for Pinecrest ARP Church within Facebook. Friend us!

Bonclarken youth retreats

There will be weekend youth retreats for both Middle and High School in March. The dates are March 6-8 for High school, and March 20-22 for Middle School. Please contact Christian for more information about these great camps!

Bonclarken’s Volunteer

Work Week



Bonclarken’s annual Volunteer Work Week, April 19-24, 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.

Financial Statement as of January 2020

Contributions	Expenses	Deficit
\$33,793	\$37,207	\$3,414

Pinecrest Calendar & Recurring Events

Sunday 10:00 am Worship
 11:15 am Sunday School
 6:00 pm High School Discipleship Group

Weekly Meetings & Events
 Monday 4:00 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal
 Tuesday 2:30 pm Sunshine Small Group—Every other week
 Wednesday 4:30 pm Choir Rehearsal
 6:00 pm Evening Worship
 Thursday 12:00 pm Sunday Bulletin Deadline
 Saturday 9:00 am Men's Prayer Group

MARCH 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Sunday School 6:00 pm HS Discipleship Group	2 4:00 pm Handbell Practice	3	4 4:00 pm Choir Practice 5:30 pm 1st Wed. Covered Dish & Presentation	5	6 Middle School Retreat @ Bonclarken through Sunday 3/9	7 9:00 am Men's Prayer Group
8 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Josh Grimm Presentation 6:00 pm HS Discipleship Group	9 4:00 pm Handbell Practice	10 12:30 pm Circle 2—Library 2:30 pm Sunshine Group 6:00 pm Deacons Meeting	11 1:15 pm Circle 3—Library 4:30 pm Choir Practice 6:00 pm Bible Study	12 6:00 pm Circle 5—Library	13	14 9:00 am Men's Prayer Group
15 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Sunday School 6:00 pm HS Discipleship Group	16 4:00 pm Handbell Practice	17 1:00 pm Circle 4—CV 6:00 pm Session Meeting	18 4:30 pm Choir Practice 6:00 pm Bible Study	19	20 High School Retreat @ Bonclarken through 3/23	21 9:00 am Men's Prayer Group
22 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Jeri Lotze Presentation and Brunch 12:00 pm Precentor Deadline 6:00 pm HS Discipleship Group	23 4:00 pm Handbell Practice	24 2:30 pm Sunshine Group	25 4:30 pm Choir Practice 6:00 pm Bible Study	26 9:00 am Precentor Mailing	27	28 9:00 am Men's Prayer Group 10:00 am Kimmons Memorial Service
29 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Sunday School 6:00 pm HS Discipleship Group	30 4:00 pm Handbell Practice	31				

Circle News

Circle 2~ Meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 1:00 pm in the church library.

Circle 3~ Meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 1:15 pm in the church library.

Circle 4~ Meets the third Tuesday of the month at 1:00 pm at Carolina Village.

Circle 5~ Meets the second Thursday of each month at 6:00 pm in the church library.

If you are interested in joining a circle, please contact one of the circle leaders: Jeanie Bennett, Ruth Anne Gibson, Susan Sanders, or Kathy Carson.

March Birthdays

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

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

Worship Workers Schedule: March 2020

Elder of the Month:

Bill Kent

Deacon of the Week:

Mar 1...Ray Burns

8...Gary Burrell

15...Jan Moore

22...Jim Moore

29...Paul Rector

Greeters:

Mar 1...Bill & Dottie Kent

8...The Wilson Family

15...Tom & Linda Carpenter

22...Fran & Jerry Jester

29...The Scott Family

Toddler Nursery:

Mar 1...Margo Pugliese

8...Marie Carson

15...Eben Carson

22...Emily Jane Carson

29...Barbara Sherrill

Children's Church:

Mar 1...Bill & Kathy Guerard

8...Gary & Mary Burrell

15...John & Ruth Anne Gibson

22...Sue Brogi

29...Lynn Rogers & Emily Jane Carson

Ushers:

Mar 1...Jim Moore, Bill Stanley, Mike Rector, and Paul Rector

8...Ken De Zwaan, Mike

Pugliese, Ray Burns, and

Dennis Dodd

15...Jim Hart, Ron Grigsby, Dave Morton, and Paul Rector

22...Dan Eichenberger, Bill Guerard, Xan Hicks, and Eben Carson

29...Jim Moore, Bill Stanley, Mike Rector, and Paul Rector

Visitation Team:

Mar 1...Rose Ann Perry

8...Cecil Young

15...Bill Stanley

22...Barbara Sherrill

29...Susan Sanders



Food & Clothing Focus

Food Pantry Needs: Canned fruit, canned tuna, canned chicken, laundry detergent, and dish detergent. (We can store meat, milk, fresh produce and other items in our walk-in cooler and freezer so do not hesitate to donate cold/frozen foods.) Personal care items are always needed as well such as: Shampoo, Soap, Toothbrushes, Deodorant, Disposable razors, Maxi-pads, and Diapers.

Clothing Closet Needs: Warm blankets of all sizes, new and gently used bath towels, mens' work gloves, men's small winter shirts, and men's jeans/athletic pants size 30"-32" waist.

Safety Committee

In light of violence happening in schools, churches, and other large gatherings, we are inviting interested members of our congregation to form a Safety Committee. Agenda to be determined by members. Will interested folks please speak to any Deacon. Bob Heltman, Deacon-Safety.

Meeting Minutes

Minutes for all Session, Deacons, Congregational, and Corporate Minutes can be found in Evans Hall along with information about Pinecrest's 2020 Officers.

PINECREST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
POST OFFICE BOX 421
FLAT ROCK, NC 28731
(March 2020)
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Place label here

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.

Come Worship with us:

Sunday Morning Worship Service: 10:00 AM

Sunday School: 11:15 AM

Sunday Evening High School Discipleship Group: 6:00 pm

Wednesday Evening Bible Study: 6:00 PM