



FEBRUARY 2020

PASTOR'S ARTICLE

By Tom Dendy

WE ARE CALLED TO LOVE!

Jesus said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Matthew 22:37-39

Tough times in life lead me deeper into relationship with God. It can be so easy to be swept away by the latest bad news headlines of local tragedy or domestic terror or international crisis and threat of war. Thank God that each day I have a choice either to listen to the loud voices of the world we live in with their anxious cries of doom and gloom or we can choose to seek in silence and prayer to listen for a deeper voice that calls us to rest beside still waters and have our weary souls restored by One who knows our needs better than we can even speak them. How good of God to offer to be present in all of life. How amazing that the creator of all that is not only offers to be with us but also invites us to rest and be fed and renewed and nourished in sustaining and loving ways that help us face all the valleys of darkness, dread and even death without fear. I am so deeply grateful for God's persistent, ever-present love that enfolds and upholds us for the facing of these challenging days we are living in today. Every day I pray for and entrust each of you to the same caring and present God whose compassion and love surrounds us all.

As we seek the call of God for our church's mission and ministry in 2020, we must begin with time devoted to the hard work of prayer. Only by seeking and praying and listening can we discern the will of God for how best to direct our time, talent and resources to serve God faithfully in this community. May we have a heart for what breaks God's heart in our community and may we direct our lives and Christian action to share the love of God in the places and with the people to whom God will lead us. I believe that as we grow together in faith, hope and love and learn to pray without ceasing, allowing ample time to listen for God's answers and directives we will see our church family grow spiritually, missionally and numerically. We have such a loving and compassionate congregation that others will be drawn to be a part of Celebration as we learn to live outside our church walls in ways that demonstrate the value of our ministry to the people of Carolina Forest and surrounding areas. If you see a need in our larger neighborhood, help us be aware of the need and to prayerfully discern how God might be calling us to meet the need through active service and love.

I close with a poem by Wendell Berry entitled "The Peace of Wild Things" from his letter "Sabbaths Everywhere," found in the volume *The Selected Poems of Wendell Berry*. *Wendell Berry is an American novelist, poet, environmental activist, cultural critic, and farmer.

When despair for the world grows in me
and I wake in the night at the least sound
in fear of what my life and my children's lives may be,
I go and lie down where the wood drake
rests in his beauty on the water, and the great heron feeds.
I come into the peace of wild things
who do not tax their lives with forethought
of grief. I come into the presence of still water.
And I feel above me the day-blind stars
waiting with their light. For a time
I rest in the grace of the world, and am free.

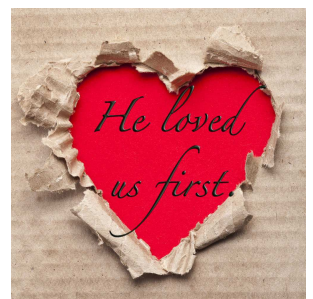
With LOVE, *Pastor Tom*



Pastor Tom Dendy

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SESSION REPORT

By Cecilia Evans

The session was excited to welcome and hear the faith statements by our incoming elders, Sara Bamrick, Anthony Tiani, Wayne Harms, and Terri Pettijohn. They were examined and sustained for ordination on February 2.

Thank you to Elders Nancy Resnick, Rick Thornburg and Priscilla Mulligan for their service on session.

The session voted to have the budget remain flat from 2019 to 2020. The budget will be presented at the Annual Meeting on February 2.

Thank you for your continuing Stewardship.

The session will meet for a strategic planning session on February 8, 9am-1pm.

Upcoming events include - January 31 Game Night; February 11 Habitat Dinner for Homebuyers; February 26 Drive-Thru Ashes

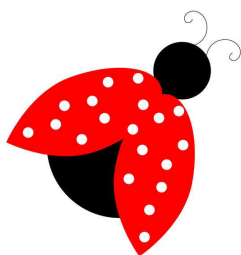
- ♦ **Motion** made and **approved** to elect Katrena White to serve as commissioner for February 22 Harmony Presbytery Meeting at Pawley's Island
- ♦ **Motion** made and **approved** to accept the 2020 budget
- ♦ **Motion** made an **approved** for Cecilia Evans to be able to speak with Anderson Brothers on behalf of Celebration Presbyterian.
- ♦ **Motion** made and **approved** for Wayne Harms to be able to sign loan documents on behalf of Celebration Presbyterian Church.

Policy and Procedure manual is a work in progress. Cecilia and Terry met in December to revive this project and work on a usable document.

Meeting ended in prayer.

LADYBUGS

By Carol Butler



For our January luncheon, we went to the Carolina Ale House for the second time. There were 15 Ladybugs in attendance. We welcomed our newest Ladybug, CharMarie Wenzel's friend and neighbor Dorothy Wenzel (no relation). Dorothy has been coming to Celebration for quite some time now and we were happy that she finally decided to attend one of our luncheons. Also, Marjorie Jones brought her friend and Ernest's former caregiver, Lisa Douthit. Hope to see both Dorothy and Lisa again.

We collected \$85.00 and made the decision to combine that with \$115.00 already in the kitty and donate \$200.00 to the Ellen DeGeneres GoFundMe page to help those affected by the wildfires in Australia. The food and service was very good and of course the laughter and camaraderie always makes for a fun time.

Sadly this will be my last newsletter, as many of you know that I am moving back north to be with my family, especially my grandsons....don't want to miss all the precious moments in their lives. Kathy O'Halloran will be taking over for me and I know that she will be up to the challenge. Our next luncheon will be Thursday, February 6 at noon at Crepe Creation in Market Common. If you plan to attend, the sign-up sheet will be in the Narthex. Let us know if you need a ride and one will be available. All Ladybugs, their friends and family (female of course) are invited.....hope you are able to attend. Come join a bunch of fun Ladybugs!

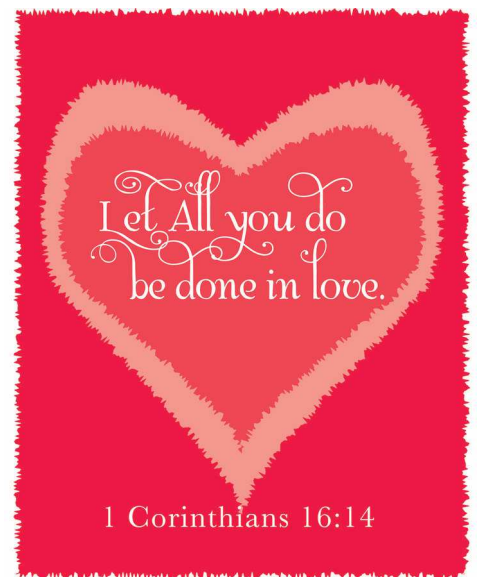
ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING— FEBRUARY 2 AT THE CLOSE OF WORSHIP

The Session will share a Mission and Ministry summary and a year-end financial report for 2019. The 2020 Ministry and Mission Budget, which was approved by the Session, will be provided for the congregation's information.

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING



The Youth will be participating in the Souper Bowl of Caring on Sunday, February 2. They are asking each person to bring a canned/staple good and \$1.00 per person. 100% of what is collected will go to Helping Hand. Thank you for supporting our youth.



HELPING HAND

In 2019 you donated 983 pounds of food to Helping Hand. Helping Hand is a short-term crisis and referral agency which seeks to address the needs of our community not met by other existing institutions. Their mission is to assist individuals and families with immediate, short-term needs such as food, rent, utilities, and other specialized services, which if not met, would threaten an individual's or family's stability. By providing these services Helping Hand seeks to prevent those in need of basic services from falling into homelessness.

Canned or boxed food along with personal hygiene items are needed. We collect the items here and take them to Helping Hand.

To date in 2020 you have donated 38 pounds of food.



CONGREGATIONS

By Terry Pettijohn

This month we look at the PCUSA Book of Order to learn about Congregations (from Book of Order, G-1.01)

The Mission of the Congregation The congregation is the church engaged in the mission of God in its particular context. The triune God gives to the congregation all the gifts of the gospel necessary to being the Church. The congregation is the basic form of the church, but it is not of itself a sufficient form of the church. Thus congregations are bound together in communion with one another, united in relationships of accountability and responsibility, contributing their strengths to the benefit of the whole, and are called, collectively, the church.

Through the congregation, God's people carry out the ministries of proclamation, sharing the Sacraments, and living in covenant life with God and each other. In the life of the congregation, individual believers are equipped for the ministry of witness to the love and grace of God in and for the world. The congregation reaches out to people, communities, and the world to share the good news of Jesus Christ, to gather for worship, to offer care and nurture to God's children, to speak for social justice and righteousness, to bear witness to the truth and to the reign of God that is coming into the world.

The Fellowship of the Congregation The polity of the Presbyterian Church (USA) presupposes the fellowship of women, men, and children united in covenant relationship with one another and with God through Jesus Christ. The organization rests on the fellowship and is not designed to work without trust and love.

Governed by the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (USA) A "congregation," as used in this Form of Government, refers to a formally organized community chartered and recognized by a presbytery as provided in this Constitution. Each congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA) shall be governed by this Constitution. The members of a congregation put themselves under the leadership of the session and the higher councils (presbytery, synod, and General Assembly). The session is responsible to guide and govern the life of the congregation. The session leads the congregation in fulfilling its responsibilities for the service of all people, for the upbuilding of the whole church, and for the glory of God.

2020 Session Committees and Elders Responsible:

Hospitality—Jeanne Bredbeck and Ken Krenzer

Evangelism—Myra Burrows and Anthony Tiani

Finance and Stewardship—Cecilia Evans and Wayne Harms

Missions and Outreach—Kathy Wechter and Sara Bamrick

Christian Education—Myra Burrows, Sara Bamrick and Ken Krenzer

Strategic Planning—Terry Pettijohn

Preschool—Kathy Wechter and Jeanne Bredbeck

Personnel—Terry Pettijohn and Katrena White

Property—Anthony Tiani and Wayne Harms

Worship/Media/Web—Katrena White

Please pray for your session members as they lead Celebration.

On Sunday, February 2, there will be an Ordination/Installation Service for the Ruling Elders at the end of worship.



THE SHEPHERD'S TABLE 2020

Team A	Team B	Team C	Team D	Team E
Nancy Torcivia Dom Torcivia Margaret Reeder Beth Bruton Marsha Meek Steve Meek	Laurie Andrews Roy Andrews Nancy Thornburgh Rick Thornburgh Anita Brooks Lou Brooks	Kathy Wechter Anthony Tiani Lois Storms Pat Himes	Anne Brallier Sara Bamrick Donna Woodard Geri Byrne Sharon Mook	Leslie Eckert Rosie Rashid Jerry Rashid Patty Youngblood Paul Youngblood
January 9	January 16	February 6	February 13	March 12
April 16	April 23	May 7	May 14	June 11
July 9	July 16	August 6	August 13	September 10
October 8	October 15	November 12	November 19	December 10
Sub: Cindy Smith				

If you cannot serve on your assigned day, please contact Cindy Smith to see if she is available and let Linda know in the office. Thank you!

BIRTHDAYS IN FEBRUARY

Take a moment to wish those who have a birthday this month birthday wishes. If your birthday is not listed, please let Linda Berry in the office know.

Feb 8—Leslie Eckert
Feb 8—Alan Perry
Feb 10—Jeffrey Waltemeyer
Feb 12—Cindy Smith
Feb 15—Wayne Harms
Feb 17—Steve Meek
Feb 26—Jeff Walsh
Feb 27—Lois Storms



GOD GAB

GOD GAB will meet on Tuesday, February 18, at Bob Evans on River Oaks and Hwy 501 at 6pm. All are welcome to come eat, enjoy fellowship and join in for a lively discussion on the Bible topic of the day. Bring a friend!



ASH WEDNESDAY

For the third year, Celebration Presbyterian Church is offering a drive-thru service for ashes on Wednesday, February 26, from 4:30-6pm. Ash Wednesday derives its name from the practice of blessing ashes made from the palm branches from the previous year's Palm Sunday, and use these ashes to place a cross with a blessing on the heads of participants.

Ash Wednesday starts the Lenten season, which is an observance of the 40 days before Easter Sunday and represents the time Jesus fasted in the wilderness before being tempted by Satan.

Often people are too busy to take time for spiritual renewal but with Drive-Thru Ashes we are offering a way for the community to take a few minutes and reflect and renew.

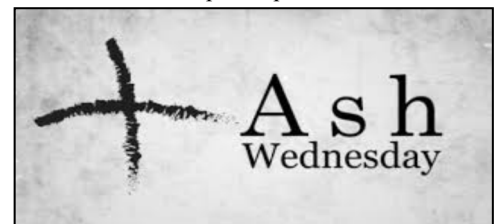
With the busy community in Carolina Forest, we reached not only our church members last year but members of the community. All are welcome to participate.

For those who want to help set up and distribute ashes, please arrive at Celebration at 3:30pm on February 26 to set up and to have a brief training on the prayer and blessing we will offer the participants.

Looking forward to sharing the message – “From dust you come and to dust you return” with those who participate.

If you have any questions, please contact the Church office at 843-903-0308.

Drive-Thru Ashes will be held on Wednesday, February 26, 4:30-6pm in the church parking lot.



PRESCHOOL

By Susan Spraker


The month of January flew by before we knew it. All the children enjoyed their time off and were ready to move on with their work. The month started with the children bringing in board games to share with their friends. These days we have found that a lot of children have not learned to take turns and how to be a good winner and loser. This is one of the teacher's favorite weeks of the year. The end of the month was spent talking about Winter and Arctic Animals.

Believe it or not, this month we will have our preschool registration for the 2020-2021 school year. Registration will be February 26 for our families already enrolled in our program and February 27 for the public. If you are a church member and would like to register your child for preschool, please see me before February 26. Church members will have an opportunity to register with preschool employees. If you know of anyone who is interested in joining the Celebration Preschool family, please ask them to contact me at 903-3211. I can give them all the details about our registration process.

We are all looking forward to celebrating Valentine's Day at the preschool. It is such a fun time for all the boys and girls. Our Valentine parties will be February 13 and 14. If you are in the area, we would love for you to stop by. I am sure love will be in the air!

I hope everyone has a great month!

FEBRUARY 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Choir Rehearsal 10:00am Fellowship 10:15 Worship 11am Children's Church Nursery Communion Elders Installed Annual Congregational Meeting Souper Bowl of Caring	3	4 Quilters 10:00 am Daisy Scouts 5pm	5 Choir Rehearsal 7pm	6 LadyBug Luncheon Crepe Creation 12pm Team C cooks at The Shepherd's Table 1pm	7	8 Session Planning 9am-1pm
9 Adult Bible Study 9:15 Choir Rehearsal 10:00am Fellowship 10:15 Worship 11am Children's Church Nursery, He~Brews Cafe	10	11 Quilters 10:00 am Habitat Dinner for Homebuyers	12 Choir Rehearsal 7pm	13 Team D cooks at The Shepherd's Table 1pm	14 Valentine's Day 	15
16 Adult Bible Study 9:15 Choir Rehearsal 10:00am Fellowship 10:15 Worship 11am Children's Church Nursery, He~Brews Cafe	17 President's Day Church/ Preschool Closed Stated Session Meeting 7:00pm	18 Quilters 10:00 am Daisy Scouts 5pm GOD GAB Bob Evans 6pm	19 Choir Rehearsal 7pm	20	21 Breakfast Buddies Hot Stacks 9am	22 Presbytery Meeting at Pawley's Island
23 Fellowship 10:15 Worship 11am Children's Church Nursery	24	25 Quilters 10:00 am	26 Ash Wednesday Drive Thru Ashes 4:30- 6pm Choir Rehearsal	27	28	29



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 Dr Tom Dendy—Pastor
 Sarah Abushakra—Music Director
 Linda Berry—Office Administrator



CELEBRATION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OUR IDENTITY STATEMENT
We are Christ followers who are open, accepting, loving and welcoming to all!

VOLUNTEERS SERVING THIS MONTH

Elder of the Week

Feb 2—Myra Burrows
 Feb 9—Kathy Wechter
 Feb 16—Katrena White
 Feb 23—Sara Bamrick

Liturgist

Feb 2—Rick Thornburgh
 Feb 9—Anne Brallier
 Feb 16—Sara Bamrick
 Feb 23—Robert Callender

Visitors Table/Greeter

Feb 2—Nanette Kelly
 Feb 9—Carol Lagassee
 Feb 16—Margaret Reeder
 Feb 23—Betsy Hughes

Children's Church—Trudy Miller

Nursery

Feb 2—Donna Woodard
 Feb 9—Nanette Kelly
 Feb 16—Vicki Simon
 Feb 23—

Media Shout

Feb 2—Katrena White
 Feb 9—Katrena White
 Feb 16—Bernadine Lamar
 Feb 23—Katrena White

Sound Booth

Feb 2—Anthony Tiani
 Feb 9—Bernadine Lamar
 Feb 16—Wayne Harms
 Feb 23—Anthony Tiani

Ushers for the month

Feb 2—Wayne Harms, Cindy Smith, Sharon Mook, Steve Meek
 Feb 9—Wayne Harms, Cindy Smith, Sharon Mook
 Feb 16—Wayne Harms, Cindy Smith, Sharon Mook
 Feb 23—Wayne Harms, Cindy Smith, Sharon Mook

Communion Elders—Cecilia Evans, Bernie Pettijohn, Kathy Wechter, Bob Miller, Rick Thornburgh

Chimes

Feb 2—Cindy Smith/Janet Rouseff
 Feb 9—Kathy O'Halloran/Sharon Mook
 Feb 16—Cindy Smith/Janet Rouseff
 Feb 23—Kathy O'Halloran/Sharon Mook

If you cannot serve on your Sunday, please change with someone and let Linda know in the office. Thank you!

