



The Link

Vol. 53, No. 8

February 22, 2012

DRIVEN INTO THE WILDERNESS: A LENTEN DISCOVERY

The season of Lent is a time of introspection and preparation as we ready ourselves to celebrate Christ's resurrection. The term itself is derived from the Middle English words *lenten* or *lente* which mean "to lengthen" and refers to the longer daylight hours during this season. In essence, Lent means "spring," an appropriate connection since nature produces new life at this time of year and Jesus' resurrection leads the way to new life for us all.

Our theme for worship will be "Driven into the Wilderness." Mark's gospel reports that Jesus was "driven into the wilderness by the Holy Spirit." He was compelled, but why and for what? During this journey we will discover why Lent is important and what there is for us to experience.

A weekly devotion guide will be sent by email to all who request it. If you would like to write a devotion, please let us know as soon as possible. Reflect on Psalm 51:10-12 and write about how it relates to your own spiritual journey during Lent. Weekly prayer services will be offered at 5:30 p.m. on Mondays, 7:30 a.m. on Wednesdays, and 12:30 p.m. on Fridays.

TENTH ANNIVERSARY

We celebrate with Elizabeth Edwards her tenth anniversary as our Associate Minister. We are grateful for the many gifts Elizabeth has and for the many ways she shares them with our congregation. Please take the opportunity to congratulate her and express your appreciation for her ministry with us.

WORLD RELIGIONS STUDY: MORMONISM

This Sunday evening, February 26, we will hold the first in a series of World Religions seminars. We will meet in the Lecture Room from 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. for a presentation and discussion of Mormonism led by Kimberly Whitted, a Campbell Divinity School student and intern with the World Religions and Global Cultures Center at the University. She will provide us with a history and overview of Mormonism, talk about its core beliefs, and answer our questions about its relationship to a more traditional Christian faith. Invite friends to come with you.

MISSIONS MARKETPLACE 2012

"Fingerprints, Fireflies and Faith" is the theme for this year's Missions Marketplace, hosted by our children on Sunday, March 4, from 5:00-7:00 p.m. We will enjoy a "picnic" covered-dish supper together, with the church providing the fried chicken and each of us providing the fixins. The children will provide entertainment, set up an art gallery titled "Praying in Color," and auction off hand-painted ceramic crosses. In addition, many of our members will provide items for the Silent Auction. Please join us in raising awareness of and support for missions. Half of the proceeds will be given to our global missions offering and half will support the United Community Ministries' S.O.S. (Saving Our Shelter) campaign.

AMONG OUR MEMBERS

Please remember the following persons who need our prayers and support:

Nash General Hospital, 2460 Curtis Ellis Drive (04)

Doug Powell, (Sheila Martin's father), Room 323

Bryant Aldridge Rehab Hospital, 2400 Medpark Drive (04)

Marie Price, Room 811

Lambert Sutton, Room 822

Wake Medical Center, 3000 New Bern Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27610

Eddie Glasgow, Room 2C-11

Spring Arbor, 1251 South Winstead Avenue (03)

Erma Berry, The Cottage; **Marjorie Taylor**, Room 212

Liberty Commons, 121 Racine Drive, Wilmington, NC 28403

Carlton Kimbro

Clemmons Village Nursing Home, 6441 Holder Road, Clemmons, NC 27012

Joan Wood (Susan Ballentine's mother)

At Home:

Ella Coats, 1600 Hammond Street (03)

Catherine Cooper, 5028 Netherwood Drive (03)

Doug Daniel, 201 Dover Road (04)

Jarrett Dickens, 128 Timberlane Road (04)

Hank Dunham, 1109 Meadow Drive, Townville, SC 29689

Carrie Fussell, 1420 Sunset Avenue (04)

Susi Goodman, 4009 Woodstock Road (03)

Ed Hamlet, 1357 Fairway Terrace (04)

Bobbie McFarland, 1111 Bryan Road, Brandon, FL, 33511

Chris Wiggs, 1441 Rock Creek Drive (04)

Drew Yanishak, 9022 Brigadier Road, Mechanicsville, VA 23116

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of Beverly Bulluck who died on February 21. Beverly was a Secretarial Assistance at Lakeside for four years and a dear friend of the congregation. A service to celebrate her life will be held in our sanctuary at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, February 24.

CASSEROLE AND BAKE SALE

Mark your calendars for the 2012 Lakeside Casserole and Bake Sale!!

March 17, 2012

Special time for Senior Adults 8:45-9:30 a.m.

Restock & reopen for everyone else:

10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

The church office has a supply of containers and labels for the casseroles and soup.

Sunday morning sign-up opportunities will continue through March 11.

We need your help!

DISCUSSION CLASS

This Sunday morning the Discussion Class will focus on an issue to be put before N.C. voters on May 8: the constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriages. Members of PFLAG Rocky Mount will discuss how this issue impacts their families and friends. You are invited to join the Discussion Class on Sunday as they explore how our faith impacts our daily lives.

YOUTH NEWS

I am pleased to report that, after considering several worthy local projects suggested by the Missions Committee, the youth have voted to donate the Casserole Sale proceeds to United Community Ministries S.O.S. campaign. I hope all of you are planning to work at the sale on March 17 to make it a great success!

If you were not here on Sunday evening, you will be receiving a packet of information about the 30-Hour Famine scheduled for March 2-3. Please let me know as soon as possible if you plan to participate and begin collecting donations from family and friends to benefit World Vision's World Hunger Fund.

This Sunday evening, youth will have choir at 5:00 p.m., dinner at 5:45 and the World Religions Forum beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Lecture Room.

I look forward to seeing all of you in Sunday School and worship on Sunday.
Elizabeth

MUSIC NOTES

Please mark your calendars with these important dates:

Sunday, February 26 - Dress rehearsal for Missions Marketplace

Sunday, March 4 - Missions Marketplace

Friday, March 9 - Registration Deadline for Children's Choir Festival

Saturday, March 24 - Children's Choir Festival in Raleigh

April 20 & 21 - Youth Choir Festival in Greensboro

I look forward to seeing all the children and youth at rehearsals as we continue to prepare for these upcoming events.
Amy

WOMEN'S RETREAT

What a wonderful time of reflection and renewal, fellowship and laughter we shared at our women's retreat last weekend! Peggy Haymes led our group with such thoughtfulness and helped us to consider ways we can create time and space to nurture our spirits. Each participant contributed ideas and friendship to the group. Jessica and Duane Williams allowed us to use their beautiful home on Lake Gaston. Jean Tripp helped in planning the logistics for the retreat. Many thanks to each of these who made the weekend possible. The unanimous opinion of those who participated was to make this an annual event, so we hope to include even more of Lakeside's women next year.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY FOR 8 WEEKS

2012 Missions and Ministry Budget: \$627,851

	Week	YTD
Budget Goal	\$11,846	\$94,770
Receipts February 19	\$21,651	\$75,326
Amount Remaining to meet Annual Budget:		\$552,525

2012 PLEDGE REPORT

Thus far we have received 109 pledges in support of the 2012 budget for a total of \$354,246. Please return your pledge card in support of this year's ministry.

Worship at Lakeside

February 26, 2012

The First Sunday in Lent

Lessons: Genesis 9:8-17; Mark 1:9-15

Sermon: "Driven Into the Wilderness: Why Lent?"

Chancel Choir Anthems:

"God Is Seen" - arr. Parker

"On Jordan's Stormy Banks" - arr. Scott

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, February 26

- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:00 a.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal
- 10:30 a.m. Coffee and Fellowship, Education Building Foyer
- 11:00 a.m. Worship
- 5:00 p.m. Preschool Storytime, Children's Missions Activities
- 5:00 p.m. Youth Choir and Handbells
- 5:45 p.m. Dinner for Preschoolers, Children and Youth
- 6:00 p.m. World Missions Forum: Mormonism, Lecture Room
- 6:15 p.m. Preschool Music and Activities, Children's Choir

Monday, February 27

- 5:30 p.m. Lenten Prayer Service, Sanctuary

Wednesday, February 29

- 7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer, Sanctuary
- 6:30 p.m. Adult Handbell Rehearsal
- 7:30 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal

Friday, March 2

- 12:30 p.m. Lenten Prayer Service, Sanctuary

SUNDAY AT LAKESIDE

Deacon Greeters - Ann Winstead and Jerry Carter

Ushers - Group II, Ray Weathers, Captain

Crucifer - Marrena Boistard; Acolyte - Foster McAdams

Extended Session - Elaine and Paul Jaber; Nursery - Alicia Hamrick

Audio Booth Volunteer - Ricky Cobb