

# LITTLETON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FEBRUARY 2016

We are a family of believers, glorifying God, welcoming new members from near and far, and learning to love God and neighbor.

Pastor's Corner

Our Lenten Journey Begins Anew

It's that time of year again; the time when the season of Lent begins. Lent is the period of time that leads up to Easter; a time that was once used by those who were professing their faith in Christ for the first time, to prepare themselves for their baptisms on Easter morning and for the new life they would live in Christ. Over time, Lent also became a time for people to rededicate their lives to Christ and draw closer to God. Recently, people have begun to refer to Lent as "a tithe of time" because the season of Lent lasts for roughly one tenth of the year. Often, during Lent, Christians spend more of their time in prayer, fasting from certain foods and practices, and giving themselves to greater acts of service and love in Christ's name. We call these practices, spiritual disciplines.

Often, when we talk about discipline today, we think of punishment, when someone has done something wrong. But the word discipline, has the same root as the word disciple, and means "teaching".

Since Lent is a time reserved for greater spiritual discipline, it is also a time set aside for greater learning; a time we set aside to once again remember our calling to not only be servants of our Lord but students. In order to do so, some of you may choose to read a good book that deals with living out our faith in modern times and under modern pressures. Some of you may choose to devote more time to prayer and not just asking for things, but practicing the hidden art of "listening" which is the foundation of prayer and understanding God's will. Some of you may even choose to take on a new project, hobby or service that you believe will aid in expressing the love of God in more tangible ways.

Another discipline I encourage you to try is to join others in some form of group study or reflection on scriptures, current events, or even facing the challenges that life has brought each of us. For those of you who are interested, I encourage you to join me for the Lenten study being offered Tuesday mornings at Littleton PC or Thursday evenings at Stanley White PC. In this study, we'll be exploring how the Apostle Paul answered his call to the early Church; a time when the Church was still forming, reaching out, and learning to adapt to different cultures. If you'll recall, answering that call to the Church, took him in a completely different direction than his life had been going in the first place. And it required a good deal of time in constant study and reflection of his own to learn the way God was calling him to follow.

As we enter this time that we call "Lent", I hope you will join me in taking up the challenge of deepening our own relationship to Christ, improving our understanding of God's will and ways, and living more faithfully as the people of God.

May God bless you on this Lenten journey!

In Christ's peace,

Pastor Kevin

#### PRAYER LIST

*Our Church, *Agnes Atkins,	* Helen Heinlein's Neice, Missy,	*Anne Baker,	*Ann Broaddus,
*Billie Perkinson, Sister, Anne Smith,	*John Williams' Family,	*Bonnie Vest,	*John Williams'
*Debbie Alston, Around the World	*Our Service Men and Women Around the World,		*Believers

#### WISH LIST ITEMS

\*Rugs For Sunday School Room and Nursery

\*13 Gallon Trash Can

\*Items For Fellowship Hall:

Stove and Refrigerator To Be Donated By Jo Ann Daniel's Brother

Trash Cans

Folding Chairs

#### SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

\*A joint meeting was held at Stanley White PC to discuss the pastor's terms of call to be voted on by each

congregation.

\*John Clark and Pastor Kevin will get together in January to complete the annual statistical information.

\*The Session discussed the donation of property to be sold off to fund the building of the fellowship hall.

~If approved by the congregation, it will also need to be approved by the Presbytery in accordance with

G-4.0206 "Selling, Encumbering, or Leasing Church Property" which states:

"Selling or Encumbering Congregational Property- A congregation shall not sell, mortgage, or otherwise encumber any of its real property and it shall not acquire real property subject to an

encumbrance or condition without the written permission of the Presbytery transmitted through the

session of the congregation.

~Wanda is putting together financial information required by the Presbytery for permission to be

granted.

~The building committee will put together plans to propose on December 13 at a congregational

meeting.

~The building committee will also find out more about property taxes.

\*The Session approved the 2016 budget.

\*The Session approved John Clark leading worship on December 27 and Michelle Moseley on January 3.

\*The Session made notes about things to try next year for the parade/open house like additional signage, garland on railing, and offering sandwiches.

\*Prayer meetings have been cancelled due to low attendance.

\*The Session will be looking to assess the effectiveness of the website and at starting a facebook page.

\*The Session expressed their thanks to the John Williams Family for their donation of the doors and trim work.

\*The Session approved sponsoring Stanley White PC's Relay for Life team by taking up a special offering on

February 14 to help meet the \$250. level. Pastor Kevin is asking someone from the Stanley White PC team

to come and speak to the congregation during worship for a "minute for mission".

\*Pastor Kevin submitted his proposed continuing education and vacation leave dates for 2016.

\* The Session approved holding a "love feast" on Sunday, February 14 at LPC at 4pm with a slide show of pictures from 2015, music, and a game.

\*The Session approved having special music on the 2nd Sundays. Wanda will ask around to see who might

be interested in coordinating this.

\*The building committee reported that \$5,300. deposit has been sent to Capital Buildings Inc. The total cost

of the first stage of the building will be \$21,375. Ground breaking should be around Good Friday.

\*The Session approved communion and special offering dates.

\*The phone chain was updated since Nancy Lawler is rotating off of the Session.

\*Officers for the Session were elected as follows:

Clerk of Session- Wanda Clark

Treasurer- John Clark

Assistant Treasurer- Henrietta Williams

\*No changes were made to the rolls but the baptism records are being checked.

\*Henrietta Williams will ask George Heinlein to review the financial records for 2015.

\*A joint session meeting with SWPC has been called for January 31 at 3pm to discuss the covenant between the pastor and the congregations.

\*Littleton PC will host the Lenten lunch on Wednesday, March 16th in the Littleton UMC fellowship hall.

\*Pastor Kevin will be leading a Lenten study of the book and DVD by Adam Hamilton entitled "The Call: The

Story of the Apostle Paul" each Tuesday morning, starting February 16.

**COMMUNITY LENTEN LUNCH AND DEVOTION SERIES**

Each Wednesday, February 10- March 16, 12:00- 1:00 P.M.

Date	Location	Speaker
February 10	Littleton United Methodist Church	Rev. Beverly Huck/ St. Alban's Episcopal Church
February 17	Littleton Baptist Church Campbell/ Lakeside Lutheran Church	Rev. Rusty
February 24	South Street Baptist Church Gaston Methodist Charge	Rev. Stan Lewis/ Lake
March 2	St. Alban's Episcopal Church Brunk/ Littleton Presbyterian Church	Rev. Kevin
March 9	Weaver's Chapel United Methodist Church Littleton Baptist Church	Rev. Mike Currin/
March 16	Littleton Presbyterian Church Bishop/ Lake Gaston Methodist Charge	Rev. Wendy

At Littleton United Methodist Church

**FEBRUARY CALENDAR-** Ushers/Mark and Rhonda Driver, Fellowship/ Mark and Rhonda Driver

2	Tues.	10:30-noon	Pastor's Office Hours
3	Wed.	10:30-noon	Pastor's Office Hours
7	Sun.	9:30	Worship, Communion
9	Tues.	10:30-noon	Pastor's Office Hours
10	Wed.	10:30-noon	Pastor's Office Hours
		12:00-1:00	Lenten Lunch
14	Sun.	9:30	Worship, Guest for " Minute for

Mission", Fellowship

		4:00	Love Feast
16	Tues.	10:30-noon	Pastor's Office Hours
17	Wed.	10:30-noon	Pastor's Office Hours
		12:00-1:00	Lenten Lunch
21	Sun.	9:30	Worship
23	Tues.	10:30-noon	Pastor's Office Hours
24	Wed.	10:30-noon	Pastor's Office Hours
		12:00-1:00	Lenten Lunch
28	Sun.	9:30	Worship