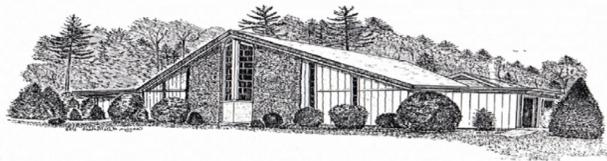


THE PINECREST



PRECENTOR

MARCH 2019

From Our Senior Pastor -

Dear Pinecrest Family,

Spring is almost here and I know that many in the church are already making plans for their gardens. Time and time again, the Bible uses farming analogies to teach us about our spiritual responsibilities. In fact, I just preached a sermon on how God called the Israelites to be spiritual gardeners in Canaan. In my newsletter article this month, I thought I'd share a few spiritual gardening tips with you from Scripture.

First of all, we need to remove the bad things from our spiritual garden that inhibit spiritual growth. All of our spiritual gardens have weeds and rocks in them that must be removed (Matthew 13). Like weeds, we have sinful habits that are part of our former way of life in sin. They do not produce anything pleasing to God and in fact cause us to produce fruits that bring about God's displeasure. We also have rocks in our lives in the form of idols. We give praise, worship, and service to these false gods but they do not help us. In fact, they get in the way of us receiving the nourishment that we need from God. In order to have a healthy spiritual garden, we must continue to remove the weeds and rocks.

Second of all, we need to make sure that we receive the good things that help our spiritual garden grow. As plants need water, sun, and fertilizer, we need God's Word, prayer, and the fellowship of believers. God's Word gives us the instructions we need (Psalm 1). Prayer gives us the help that we need (Luke 11:9). The fellowship of believers keeps us focused and supported (Proverbs 27:17, Ecclesiastes 4:12). In order to have a healthy spiritual garden, we must continue to fill our lives with the things God has supplied to help us grow.

Finally, we need to trust in the master gardener. Many of us turn to others who know how to bring life and health to their gardens for guidance. As Christians we also have a master gardener in Jesus Christ who can bring life where there is death. There is no need to try and figure things out on our own and there are many things that are outside of our ability to fix, but thankfully we have Christ at work in us (2 Corinthians 5:17).

I hope this year that you are able to grow a beautiful garden, but even more importantly I hope you are able to grow a beautiful spiritual garden which produces great fruit for God's glory and God's kingdom

(Galatians 5:22-23).

Your fellow gardener,

Rev. Rhett Carson

Intercessory Prayer

Margaret Fenner
Joyce Letchworth
Sharron Morton
Rich Shader
Clark Wilson



Book of Remembrance

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

In Memory of Mrs. Geraldine Bailey from Mr. & Mrs. Don Muller.

In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Dale Bosely from Mr. David Bosely.

In Memory of Mr. Alvin Brickley from Mr. & Mrs. John Gibson.

In Honor of Mr. & Mrs. Tom Carpenter from Mr. & Mrs. Werner Goerke.

In Memory of Mrs. Anna Wilson from Mrs. Dale Killinger.

In Memory of Mr. Mel Zwart from Mrs. Barbara Herdina and Mr. & Mrs. Andy Scott. And to the Music/Choir Fund from Mrs. Rose Anne Perry, and Mr. & Mrs. Marris Byrd.

Thank you

Thank you for your thoughts, prayers, and cards during the death of my sister, Ruth, in November.— Barbara Eichenberger

1st Wednesday Covered Dish and Presentation

Youth Fundraiser

Please join us on Wednesday, March 6th at 5:30pm, for a Youth Fundraiser dinner. All proceeds will go toward the youth groups' upcoming summer trips such as Horizon and Quest camps at Bonclarken and a mission trip in July. Dinner will be provided, donations are encouraged.

Eschatology 101

Join us on Wednesday evenings in March as Dr. John Carson teaches a class on the different Christian views of the end times.

Stewardship Article of the Month

God’s Prosperity Promises Are about Him, Not You

...Continued from February

Let’s go back to one of the first promises of prosperity that the Lord gives to his children. As long ago as Abraham, God promised his children land—the Promised Land. Land was the quintessential indicator of prosperity. That same promise was repeated time and time again. Moses led his people out of Egypt for this promise. Millions of Israelites trusted God—even while wondering through the desert for forty years. Upon the eve of entry to the Promised Land, the Lord spoke to Joshua once again.

After the death of Moses, the servant of the Lord, the Lord said to Joshua son of Nun, Moses’ aide: “Moses my servant is dead. Now then, you and all these people, get ready to cross the Jordan River into the land I am about to give to them—to the Israelites. I will give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised Moses. Your territory will extend from the desert to Lebanon, and from the great river, the Euphrates—all the Hittite country—to the Great Sea on the west. No one will be able to stand up against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you: I will never leave you nor forsake you.”
(Josh. 1:1-5)

According to this, the Promised Land included a vast part of the then known world. It stretched from the southern desert to Lebanon in the north, from the Euphrates River in the east to the great Mediterranean Sea in the west. In today’s terms, it included Saudi Arabia in the south, Lebanon and Syria in the north, Iraq and Kuwait in the east and Jordan with the east coast of the Mediterranean in the west. What an inheritance awaited the children of Israel. What a fortune was there before them. God had not forsaken them after their wanderings. God would not forsake them ever. His land was now their land, with no obstacles before them.

It seems that the Lord was big on promises, but small on delivery. Israel never reached the boundaries prescribed by God. The biblical Israel is much like the Israel of today. It was a small nation confined to a narrow sliver of land situated around the small Jordan River—a river of little economic and no geo-political sig-

nificance. The Israelites never expanded their land even to the nearby seacoast controlled by the Philistines. They never marched against the Hittites to the Euphrates. They never ventured into the neighboring Arabian Desert, then seemingly so desolate. Even today, the Jews have limited their Promised Land to that 8,000 square mile area.

It is as though the Lord handed the Israelites a large canvas—canvas with paint-by-numbers all stenciled in. My grandson got a similar paint set last Christmas. I remember that by Christmas night he had already begun to paint the picture promised on the box cover of the set. The picture was never completed. There are only a few bright colors in the lower left corner of the paint board. Other Christmas gifts offered far more fun and entertainment. He was content in the fact that someday he could come back and complete the painting. But he never has. Now, to see my grandson’s intended painting, I have to look at the promised picture on the box top.

In biblical Israel we do not see a complete picture of the Promised Land, only a few strokes of paint in the far left corner, much like my grandson’s project. It is only with hindsight that we can fill in the stenciled, unpainted picture. What a lovely picture the Lord had planned. Oh, it would have been so easy for the Lord to give Joshua an idea of what the final picture would have looked like. It would have been so easy to have a box top with all the colors filled in.

To be continued next month...

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

Volunteers Needed

Our church secretary will be away on vacation March 13th-19th and we need volunteers to occupy the church office in her absence on Thursday, Friday, Monday and Tuesday. If you are interested, please call the church office at 828-692-0063.



The *Precentor* deadline for
submissions is **Sunday, March 17th.**



Food & Clothing Focus

Food Pantry Needs: Canned Chili, instant grits, canned tuna, instant oatmeal, mixed beans, canned vegetables, individual fruit cups, coffee, and tea. (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: There is a great need for new underwear and socks, in all sizes for men, women, and children. Other needed items include: Men’s and boys winter shoes, blankets, pillows, sheets, towels, and wash cloths.

United Way’s 211 of WNC: An information line linking people to health and human services in Henderson, Buncombe, Madison, and Transylvania Counties. Whether you want to find help or give help, the referral specialists who answer your call will identify the right resources for you. 211 is free, confidential and available 24/7 to speakers of all languages. Dial 211 on your phone or visit nc211.org.

Pinecrest Calendar & Recurring Events

Sundays

New Worship Times

10:00 am Worship
11:00 am Sunday School

Weekly Meetings & Events

Monday 4:00 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal
Tuesday 2:30 pm Sonshine Small Group—
2nd and 4th week
Wednesday 6:00 pm Evening Worship
7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal
Thursday 12:00 pm Sunday Bulletin Deadline
6:00 pm Men's Bible Study—
1st and 3rd week
Saturday 9:00 am Men's Prayer Group

MARCH 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 9:00 am Men's Prayer Group
3 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Sunday School	4 4:00 pm Handbell Practice	5 10:00 am WOCM Board Meeting— Library	6 5:30 pm 1st Wed. Dinner & Program 7:00 pm Choir Practice	7 6:00 pm Men's Bible Study	8	9 9:00 am Men's Prayer Group 11:00 am Brickley Service
10 Daylight Savings Time 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Sunday School	11 4:00 pm Handbell Practice	12 12:30 pm Circle 2— Library 2:30 pm Sonshine Group 7:00 pm Deacons Meeting	13 1:15 pm Circle 3— Library 6:00 pm Evening Worship 7:00 pm Choir Practice	14 7:00 pm Circle 5— Library	15	16 9:00 am Men's Prayer Group
17 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Sunday School Precentor Deadline for submissions	18 4:00 pm Handbell Practice	19 1:00 pm Circle 4—CV 6:00 Session Meeting	20 6:00 pm Evening Worship 7:00 pm Choir Practice	21 9:00 am Precentor Mailing 6:00 pm Men's Bible Study	22	23 9:00 am Men's Prayer Group
24 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Sunday School	25 4:00 pm Handbell Practice	26 2:30 pm Sonshine Group	27 6:00 pm Evening Worship 7:00 pm Choir Practice	28	29	30 9:00 am Men's Prayer Group
31 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Sunday School						

Circle News

Circle 2~ Meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 12:30 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 Tuesday of each month at 7:00 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	28 Tait Eckley Hewett
9 Gabriel Harper	Nan Simpson
11 Suzanne Allers	31 Marie Carson
15 Maria Blevins	John E Carson
18 Katherine Elgin	Chip Sherer
19 Charlsie Cooper	
20 Ruth Anne Gibson	
22 Helen Danelson	
23 Brian Pugliese	
25 Bob Eckley	
27 Grant Blevins	
Nelson Klaner	

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.

2018 Contributions

Contribution statements are still available in the atrium of the church. In order to reduce the expense of postage, statements will not be mailed unless you live outside the area. If you would prefer to receive your statement via email, please call the church office to request an emailed statement at 828-692-0063.



Sunday, March 10th, is the beginning of Daylight Savings Time. Set your clocks to Spring Forward one hour!

Middle School Retreat

Our Spring Presbytery middle school retreat is March 15th-17th at Bonclarken. The cost is \$60. Please talk to Christian to sign your student up! This spring middle school retreat we will be exploring the subject of trusting God and the glory He receives from our trust.

Beautification Day

On Saturday, April 6th, the church will have a beautification day to clean, repair, and reorganize. Currently we have no set agenda however we will be working inside and out. Ability level is not an issue, we can find something for anyone and everyone to do. If you are available and are willing to get a little dusty, please sign up in the atrium. If you know of something that is in need of repair, please let a deacon know.

Bonclarken Volunteer Work Week

Bonclarken's annual Volunteer Work Week is a great time of fellowship, fun, and work. Volunteers are housed and fed, free of charge, in exchange for their labor as the grounds are prepared for the upcoming summer season. Please join us April 22nd-26th.

One Call Now

Throughout the year Pinecrest uses a phone messaging system to alert you to closings, inclement weather delays, deaths of members and special friends, and announcements for special services. If you would like to receive these calls, please make sure the church has your current phone number on file by calling the church office at 828-692-0063 or by filling out the contact update form in the atrium.

Volunteers Needed

There are three Volunteer Committees at Pinecrest that need help and support—from both women and men. Event Committee, Meal Committee, and Visiting Committee. If you can be of assistance to any one or more, please fill out the volunteer sheet in the atrium and follow the directions given therein.

Financial Statement as of January 2019

<u>Contributions</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Deficit</u>
\$31,524	\$33,748	\$2,224

PINECREST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
POST OFFICE BOX 421
FLAT ROCK, NC 28731
(March 2019)
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: 11:00 AM

Wednesday Evening Bible Study: 6:00 PM