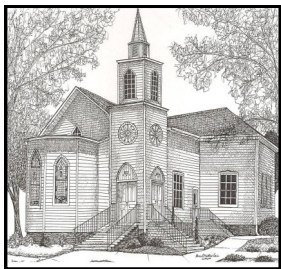


THE ABBEY NEWS



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FEBRUARY 2020

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FROM THE PASTOR

Near to the Heart of God

"You're blessed when you're at the end of your rope. With less of you there is more of God and his rule." Matthew 5:3, The Message

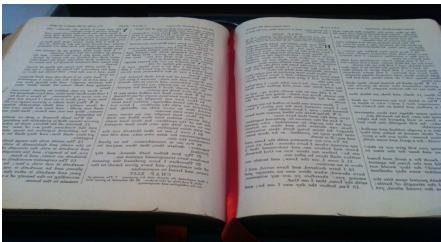
This month we are beginning a sermon series on Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. We are told that Jesus saw that his ministry was drawing huge crowds, and so he decided it was time to bring them the Word. A few years ago when we did a sermon series on the Beatitudes, which are at the beginning of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, I offered a translation of "blessed are you" as "near to the heart of God are you." So, if we take this translation and combine it with Peterson's translation of Jesus' introductory statement, we get:
Near to the heart of God are you when you're at the end of your rope.
Near to the heart of God are you when you feel you've lost what is most dear to you.
Near to the heart of God are you when you're content with just who you are—no more, no less.
Near to the heart of God are you when you've worked up a good appetite for God.
Near to the heart of God are you when you care.
Near to the heart of God are you when you get your inside world—your mind and heart—put right.
Near to the heart of God are you when you can show people how to cooperate instead of compete or fight.
Near to the heart of God are you when your commitment to God provokes persecution.
Not only that—near to the heart of God are you every time people put you down or throw you out or speak lies about you to discredit me. (Matthew 5:3-11, The MSG)

As we re-read Jesus' sermon on the Mount this month, we will learn how to get near to the heart of God. We will hear Jesus calling us into the heart of God through humility, peace, and service. We will learn how to live a life as one called by God to do God's work in the world.

How might you, during this month that celebrates love, lean more into the heart of God? Where in your life do you need to practice humility, peacemaking, giving up what you have already lost, seeking a life of right-living with Jesus? It is my prayer that this month and next month's sermons offer you a transformative perspective of living near to the heart of God.

Blessings,

Rev. Audrey



FEBRUARY SERMONS

2: "Near to the Heart of God" Micah 6:1-8 and Matthew 5:1-12 (Sermon on the Mount Series 1)

9: "Be Salty": Matthew 5:13-20 (Sermon on the Mount Series 2)

16: "The True Top Ten Part 1": Matthew 5:21-37 (Sermon on the Mount Series 3)

23: "The True Top Ten Part 2": Matthew 5:28-38 (Sermon on the Mount Series 4)

We are so blessed to have a loving and caring church family here at WPC! If you would like to be a part of this family, we would LOVE to have you! You are only a visitor once at WPC! There are so many offerings of service through our church. There is one for YOU! God bless you and keep you today and throughout the coming new year!



We will celebrate Holy Communion on February 23rd during the morning worship hour.

Join us for SUNDAY SCHOOL!!! 10 am. You will receive a blessing!! We offer a traditional class that meets in the choir room behind the sanctuary and also a class that meets in Gossett for prayer concerns and fellowship. Come join us for fun and fellowship as we study God's Word!





We are So Blessed! Our church has so very much to offer! Whether you enjoy a wonderful sermon, beautiful music, thoughtful Bible study or awesome Christian Fellowship, Westminster Presbyterian is the church for YOU! To God Be the Glory!





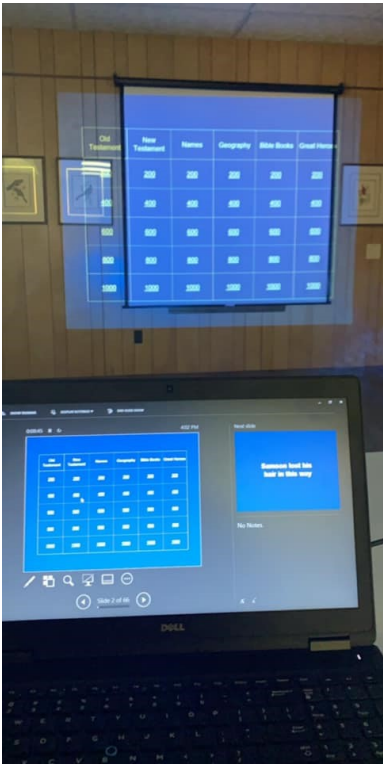
TREASURER’S REPORT

Dec receipts: \$ 17,023.24
expenses 21,570.22
- 4,546.98

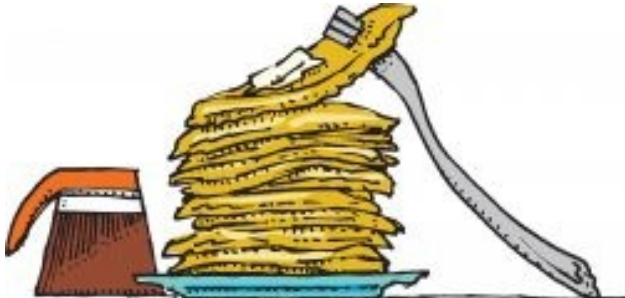
YTD receipts \$ 146,456.77
expenses 144,900.67
+ 1,556.10



We will be collecting canned foods or money after worship on February 2nd to benefit Dot’s Kitchen! Please look for our youth manning the soup pots! Thank you for your generosity!



Thanks to everyone who came out for our first Bible Jeopardy tournament! What a great way to study God’s Word! We hope to do this again very soon!



SHROVE TUESDAY

Join us for our annual Shrove Tuesday pancake supper on February 25th. We will eat at 6:00 pm in Gossett Hall. Join us as we prepare our hearts for the upcoming Lenten season. The men of the church are in charge of this meal so come out and see what a great bunch of cooks we have at WPC!



Your giving to WPC directly affects the ministry and programs of our church. We are grateful for all that you give in your time, talents and money!

Presbyterian Women Circles



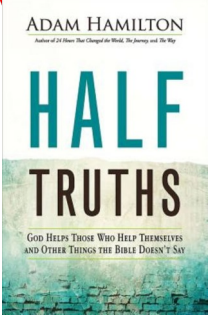
Don’t miss our Circle Meetings every month the first Monday after the first Sunday!

Morning Circle

will meet at 10 am and Evening Circle will meet at 5:30 pm. If you have not joined a circle, this is the time! We would love to have you! Morning circle continues their Bible study with Max Lucado’s Book of Mark and the Evening circle will begin our Max Lucado’s Book of Luke! Come be a part of a wonderful circle of sisters in Christ!

Valentine Dinner

Join us for a delicious Valentine dinner on February 12th. Our dear Sherry Moates will be catering this event! The main course will be pork tenderloin. The cost is \$17 per person. Please let Rev. Audrey know if you will be attending! Hope to see you there!



BIBLE STUDY

Join us on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 26th for our Soup and Study. This year’s Lent Study will be “Half Truths” by Adam Hamilton. Let

me know if you plan to attend so we can order enough books. We will also do this book club style like we did our Advent study. I’ve started reading this book, and it’s really thought provoking!

February Flowers

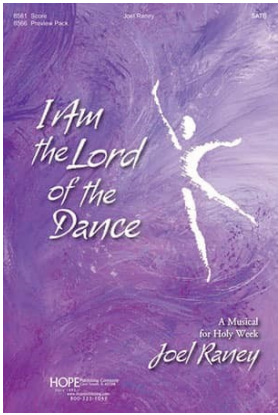
2/2/2020	Linda	White
2/9/2020	Patsy	Morgan
2/16/2020	Shannon	Burton
2/23/2020	Tonya	Stancil



Meet your new Session!

Clerk: Brad Stancil
Congregational Care: Martha Brancazio
Mission/Outreach: Trish McCoy
Worship: Virginia Gordon
Christian Education: Lou Haynes
Property: John Merritt
Stewardship/Finance: Michael Meades

Adult Choir



Our adult choir has starting working on our cantata for the Lenten season! We are so happy to be presenting Joel Raney’s beautiful cantata “I am the Lord of the Dance” which features many familiar hymns and uses the story of the life of Jesus in the Lord of the Dance hymn.



Valentines for our college kids and shut-ins

Please remember to sign all of our Valentines for our most treasured members! Thank you to Shepherd Chuites and our shepherding / visitation team for this awesome idea! The cards for the kids are in the front of the church and the ones for our shut-ins are located in the back of the church by the choir room.



I Corinthians 16:14



FEBRUARY CALENDAR DATES

- 2.Souper Bowl of Caring
3: Morning Circle 10 am Evening Circle 5:30 pm
5: Dot’s Kitchen
9: Lunch Bunch at Magnolia Manor 12:15 and 1:00
11: Dot’s Kitchen
12: Session reports due
12: Valentine’s Day Dinner 6 pm
16: Session 12:15 pm
25: Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper 6 pm
26: Ash Wednesday/Lent Study begins 5:30 pm
-



WPC VISITATION TEAM

Our visitation team continues to be a blessing! .If you would like to join our team of servants, please contact Martha Brancazio.



On February 2nd, Rev. Audrey will begin a sermon series on the Sermon on the Mount. You don’t want to miss this one! Join us as we worship and hear God’s words through the words of His Son, Jesus Christ. Invite a friend or friends to join us!



From the Mouths of Children

A woman was trying hard to get the ketchup out of the jar. During her struggle the phone rang so she asked her 4-year-old daughter to answer the phone. "Mommy can't come to the phone to talk to you right now. She's hitting the bottle."

A little boy got lost at the YMCA and found himself in the women's locker room. When he was spotted, the room burst into shrieks, with ladies grabbing towels and running for cover. The little boy watched in amazement and then asked, "What's the matter, haven't you ever seen a little boy before?"

While taking a routine vandalism report at an elementary school, I was interrupted by a little girl about 6 years old. Looking up and down at my uniform, she asked, "Are you a cop?" "Yes," I answered and continued writing the report. "My mother said if I ever needed help I should ask the police. Is that right?" "Yes, that's right," I told her. "Well, then," she said as she extended her foot toward me, "would you please tie my shoe?"

While working for an organization that delivers lunches to elderly shut-ins, I used to take my 4-year-old daughter on my afternoon rounds. She was unfailingly intrigued by the various appliances of old age, particularly the canes, walkers and wheelchairs. One day I found her staring at a pair of false teeth soaking in a glass. As I braced myself for the inevitable barrage of questions, she merely turned and whispered, "The tooth fairy will never believe this!"

While walking along the sidewalk in front of his church, our minister heard the intoning of a prayer that nearly made his collar wilt. Apparently, his 5-year-old son and his playmates had found a dead robin. Feeling that proper burial should be performed, they had secured a small box and cotton batting, then dug a hole and made ready for the disposal of the deceased. The minister's son was chosen to say the appropriate prayers and with sonorous dignity intoned his version of what he thought his father always said: "Glory be unto the Faaather, and unto the Sonnn, and into the hole— he— goes."

A little girl had just finished her first week of school. I'm just wasting my time," she said to her mother. "I can't read, I can't write and they won't let me talk!"

A little boy opened the big family bible. He was fascinated as he fingered through the old pages. Suddenly, something fell out of the Bible. He picked up the object and looked at it. What he saw was an old leaf that had been pressed in between the pages. "Mama, look what I found," the boy called out. "What have you got there, dear?" With astonishment in the young boy's voice, he answered, "I think it's Adam's underwear !

Praying for You

Imogene Giles
Ruth Payne
Kathy Darnell
Mary Frances Mabry
Robbie McClure (Marie
Dunnam’s brother)
Nancy Dougherty



Scenes from the Foothills Women’s Retreat

