



**WORSHIP
FOR
FEBRUARY**

8:45 AM: Early Worship
9:45 AM: Sunday School
10:55 AM: Morning Worship

**Sunday, February 7:
Boy Scout Sunday,
First Food Sunday,
Communion**

**Wednesday, February 17:
6:00 PM Ash Wednesday
Service in the Chapel**

**Sunday, February 7
First Food Sunday**

**Sunday, February 7
Souper Bowl of Caring**

Monetary
donations will
be accepted at
the conclusion
of each worship service for
Samaritan Kitchen.



**9:00 AM
Every Sunday in
February our
men provide
breakfast
for everyone!**

**Ash
Wednesday**

**February 17
6:00 PM Service**

The First Grapevine

THE CHRISTIAN PERSPECTIVE

By
J. Christian Wilson

LENT

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday and covers forty days excluding Sundays until Easter. The date of Ash Wednesday depends on the date of Easter. In the Christian year Easter is called a moveable feast, because its dates change every year. Ash Wednesday is a moveable fast. The date of Easter is the first Sunday after the first full moon after the vernal equinox. The vernal equinox is usually March 20, 21, or 22. The date Easter can thereby vary by as much as a month. This year Ash Wednesday is February 17 and Easter is April 4.

Lent commemorates two events in the life of Jesus: first, his 40 days fasting in the wilderness during the time of the temptations; second, the forty days of his journey from Galilee to Jerusalem and his crucifixion and resurrection there (although the gospels do not specifically mention that time period as forty days).

Lent is the most serious and somber season of the Christian year. It is a time of fasting, repentance, introspection, and deepest spirituality. Our worship services are different during Lent. There are no flowers on the altar. We do not sing or say Hallelujah. We avoid having baptisms and weddings during Lent. We don't use the word *celebrate* for Lent. We *observe* Lent or *keep* Lent or *commemorate* Lent.

Special services during Lent include the Ash Wednesday service with the imposition of ashes at 6:00 on February 17 and the Maundy Thursday communion service on April 1 at 7:00. Because Ash Wednesday is a fast day, we will not be having First Feast that day.

Noon Grace will be different during Lent. We will have communion as usual but instead of our usual *lectio divina*, we will be doing divine readings from great spiritual writers, divine music from the ages, and Celtic ways of praying. If you are not a Noon Grace regular, coming to Noon Grace would be a wonderful spiritual addition for your Lenten discipline.

Two additional things we will have for Lent this year are a Book of Lenten Devotions, with daily devotions written by many different members of our church, and a guided Labyrinth walk after each Sunday morning 10:55 service. We can take no more than three people at a time on the Labyrinth walk, so you will need to make a reservation. There will be sign-up sheets in the bulletin.

As you consider your own Lenten practice this year, I would love to hear from any of you what you plan to do for Lent or what you plan to give up for Lent this year. May it be a blessed season for you.

In Christ,

Chris

February Worship Assistants

Ministry & Coordinator	DATE February 7	DATE February 14	DATE February 21	DATE February 28
Acolyte-Crucifer Gina Ortiz February Crucifer: Daniel Shinaman	Harrison Wilson Stephanie Shinaman <hr/> Leader: Ellen Wilson & Mel Shinaman	Alex Ortiz Charles Reece <hr/> Leader: Gina Ortiz	Alex Ortiz Charles Reece <hr/> Leader: Gina Ortiz	Avery & Josh Van Noy <hr/> Leader: Joanna Van Noy
Children's Church	N/A	Leigh Shepherd	Lee K. Cornett	Betsy Whittington
Communion Assistants: Ann Absher	Neil & Leigh Shepherd Joe & Martha Thompson Matt Harrold	N/A	N/A	N/A
Financial Assistant Coordinator: Joe Brank	Sarah Howell & Beth Lovette	Sarah Howell & Beth Lovette	Sarah Howell & Beth Lovette	Sarah Howell & Beth Lovette
Greeters: Lisa Casey	Dick & Eutha Hix & Family	Dick & Eutha Hix & Family	Dick & Eutha Hix & Family	Dick & Eutha Hix & Family
Lector Coordinators: David & Teresa Minton	Boy Scouts	Debbie Cangioli	Pauline Brown	Fay Kennedy
Nursery Coordinator: Laura Phillips	(8:45 AM) Laura Phillips <hr/> (10:55 AM) Brett & Kyrie Krenz	(8:45 AM) Lisa Casey <hr/> (10:55 AM) Joanna & Lindsay Van Noy	(8:45 AM) Abby Whitson <hr/> (10:55 AM) Jane & Laura Phillips	(8:45 AM) Laura Phillips <hr/> (10:55 AM) Mel Shinaman & Jenny Hix
Sound Coordinator: Brad Shinaman	David Stackhouse	David Stackhouse	David Stackhouse	David Stackhouse
Usher Captain: C. K. Smith	Keith Howell	Keith Howell	Keith Howell	Keith Howell
Altar Guild: Ginny Moore	St. Martha Chapter	St. Martha Chapter	St. Martha Chapter	St. Martha Chapter

Attendance and Offering	Jan. 3	Jan. 10	Jan. 17	Jan. 24	Jan. 31
Sunday School	97	114	107	121	Next month's
Worship	174	177	182	185	Grapevine
Offering	\$4,611.00	\$4,431.00	\$6,003.00	\$3,034.00	
UMCOR Offering for Sunday, Jan. 17: \$4,000.00		YTD Total Received: \$18,379.00			

Card Ministry Report January 1-December 31, 2009

All occasion cards: 1,247
 Welcome Visitor Postcards: 92
 Memorials (various agencies): 6
 High School/College Gifts (card & a \$2 bill): 9

Due to generous donations of money, cards & stamps from church members and friends in 2009, there were no expenses charged to the church budget for this ministry. A balance of \$205 is on hand to begin our new year for 2010.

Respectively & Gratefully Submitted,
 Betty Link, Chair



February 2010

01	Blaine Johnston; Lynn McAulay
	David Stackhouse; George Walter
02	Peggy Faw; Michelle Noble
03	Chip Furr
04	Donald Drost; Gerald Hendley; James Williams
05	Matthew McAulay; Trey Warren
06	Tom Moore; Ruth Reeves
07	Harold Humphrey; Anne Phillips
08	Jackson Hamilton; Dan Little
09	Kelly Lenderman Plumley; Maxine Winstead
10	Will Chapin; R.V. Hayes
	Rick Lovette; George Wescott
11	No listings
12	Helen Eller
13	Katie Wright
14	Junior Goforth; Pam Herring; Keith Howell
	Billie Moore; Jonathan Nichols
15	Robert Erhardt
16	No listings
17	Mike Kennedy
18	No listings
19	Donna Cosolito
20	Betsy Goldston; Barbara McCord; John Myers
21	Janice Burchette; Rick Hughes
22	No listings
23	No listings
24	Gladys Goff; David Hale;
	Rita Kinney; Lindsay Van Noy
25	No listings
26	Betsy Whittington; Laura Wills
27	Trey Church, III; Pat Ellis
	Jerry Strader, Sr.; Benny Wellborn
28	Madison Wright
	Anniversaries
2	Joey & Gina Ortiz
13	Joe & Martha Thompson
22	Kenny & Linda Reisinger
24	Sam & Debbie Winters
26	Chip & Debbie Furr

WE'RE ON THE WEB!
WWW.FIRSTNW.ORG

U. S. Postage Paid Permit #3
First United Methodist Church
P. O. Box 1145
N. Wilkesboro, NC 28659
Non-Profit Organization

Circle Meetings for Tuesday, February 2

- 10:30 AM:** Johnston-Hix & Frank Smoot / Fellowship Classroom
Project: Emergency Fund
- 12:30 PM:** Franklin-Gardner / Fellowship Classroom
Project: Donations for tutoring fund
- 6:00 PM:** New Light Fellowship / at Tamara Whittington's house, Finley Park. Will get food from restaurant, will call with details.
Project: UMCOR Health Kits for Haiti

Keepers

February 9, 12:00 PM
Youth Arena



Everyone is asked to bring their own bag lunch, a dessert or snack to share, their favorite card or board game and even a friend to join the Keepers in the Youth Arena of the church for a time of food, fun and fellowship. Please sign up on the sheet outside of Matt's office. Drinks will be provided.



Altar & Flowers

The new Sign-up Calendar is outside of the Chancel area on the organ side. This is a wonderful way to glorify God and remember loved ones. There are no flowers during Lent beginning February 17 until Easter Sunday.

Preschool Registration

Registration for the preschool year 2010-2011 began on Jan. 12.
Cost:
4 yr. old—Tues., Wed., Thurs., & Fri.—\$105.00 monthly
3 yr. old—Wed. & Fri. —\$90.00 monthly
2 yr. old—Tues. & Thurs.—\$90.00 monthly
There is a \$40.00 registration fee and applications are available at the church office.

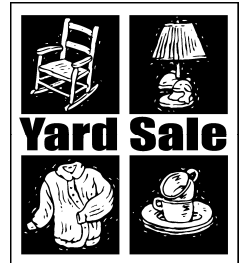
Short Term Disciple Bible Study--Invitation to the New Testament

This 8-week course led by Matt Harrold will begin Monday, March 1st at 11:00AM in the library. Books are \$8.00. There will be a very brief orientation meeting in the library Sunday, February 21st immediately following the 10:55 worship service. Please contact the church office by February 8th if you would like to participate. Books are now available at the church office and the cost is \$8 each.

Come to Our House for Dinner

In keeping with John Wesley's idea of small groups, I would like to propose dinner groups for February-May of this year. I see this as groups of eight (singles or couples) who would meet at each other's homes for dinner once a month. The hostess or host would decide on a menu and prepare the main dish. Other group members would be assigned the remaining items to bring. Each group of eight could decide when, where & the time they want to meet for dinner. Games or cards or talking could follow dessert, so that we all get to know each other better. If you want to be a part of the group, please call Marianne Wilson at 838-2290.

Yard Sale! Sponsored by First UMC Youth. Yard Sale will be held on Saturday, May 15. Donations are now being accepted. If you don't want it lying around your house anymore, the Youth will come take it off your hands or you may leave your donated items on the MMFH stage. Just call Matt at the church office. All items are greatly appreciated. All proceeds will support 2010 Youth Missions



Sweetheart Supper

Join the children of our church to celebrate Valentine's Day with a delicious candlelight meal in the Faith Center consisting of salad, baked ziti, garlic bread and cheesecake. The cost is \$6 for Adults and \$3 for children. This includes entertainment by our children. We will be honoring two couples who have celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary this past year.

**Wednesday
February 10
5:45 PM**

Concert Opportunity

On Thursday, March 25, Stefani Collins, violinist will be a soloist with the Greensboro Symphony. If you would be interested in attending this concert, please contact Norma. If enough are interested we could perhaps travel as a group in the church van.

Thank You

I wish to thank everyone who prayed, sent cards & showed kindness and comfort in the loss of my niece in November. This church is such a loving, caring, God-centered church. I am proud to be a member.

May the Lord bless all of you and praise be to the Lord Jesus Christ. —In Christ, Lynn McAulay

Prayer Concerns

Assisted Living/Group Home: Sue Beaver, Marilyn Colvard, D. W. De Gruchy, Jr., Bob & Marge Gresham, Julie Kitchen, Elsie Kay Sansing

We Remember Long-Term Health Concerns: Barbara Barnes, Paula Bentley, Tammy Black, Jane Connor, Debbie Davis, Geneva Dunn, Peggy Faw, Betty Glasbrook, Richard Haskins, David Henson, Sharon Hudler, Nancy Lyon, Batina McKinney, Buck Owens, Dee Pennell, Betty Pierce, Kristen Sivertsen, Bessie Lee Simonds, Shirley Culler Steele, Lois Smith, Helen Bell, Ashley Sidden (granddaughter of Isobel Johnson),

Recovering: Clara Hall, Richard Haskins, George Walter, Tamara Whittington, Carl Swofford, Tim VanNoy

Prayer Requests: Mary Jo Hayes, Tom Moore, Jane and Bud Connor, Pete Peterman (Duke Hosp.) Linda & Dan Edmiston (Dan-Britthaven), D.W. DeGruchy (WRMC), Stan Clifton, DeDe Power, Pat Sansing, Asher & Samuel Etheridge, Richard Mueller (brother of Freda DeGruchy), June Hege

Bereaved Family of: Sam Dickson, Minnie Anderson, Marshall Little (brother of Barbara Barnes)

