

The Messenger

February, 2015

Happy
Valentine's
Day

Sunday Schedule

9:30 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Worship Service
11:45 AM Fellowship

1459 White Memorial Church Rd.
Willow Spring, NC 27592
919-639-9973
www.wmpcwillow.spring.org

MISSION STATEMENT

Remembering God's grace, the mission of White Memorial Presbyterian Church in Willow Spring is:

*Come to be joyous and thoughtful in worship;
Walk with God's guidance into deeper faith and knowledge;
Stretch out to the needy with tangible acts of service;
Be loving and generous with time, talents, and treasures;
Go out into the world to welcome and invite.*

THE YEAR OF THE BIBLE

One month into our adventure and we are growing in number and in appreciation. Completing the reading of Genesis, one commentator described it this way:

GENERATION..."In the beginning God." Gen 1:1

DEGENERATION...."Now the serpent" Gen. 3:1

REGENERATION...."Now the Lord" Gen. 12:1

If you've not yet begun, you can certainly start now. At choir this week, Sharen Jackson said she had caught up and did not start until January 18—A dedicated reading time is all that's required, AND a willingness to **STEP OUT** of your comfort zone and promise to meet with God every day.

The Round Table SS class is having good discussions. We are making a "genesis" of our own....a beginning.

It is a safe place and a perfect time to share unbelief and doubt, to ask questions, to confess fears and lack of knowledge, and to be blessed with sincere conversation of new and old experiences of study and of living into our Christian walks.

The variety in this reading plan makes it easy and interesting—two books of the OT and two from NT each day with two Psalms added each week.

We will complete Matthew on February 3. One of the themes of Matthew is the call to the church to be obedient to God. We see references to living a righteous good life, as in the parable of the sower. The Sermon on the Mount gives a compelling picture of a serious Christian life. Discipleship is tied to this section. If you **ARE NOT** part of this endeavor, please take the time to read Matthew 5-7.

February 18 is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent.

Lent was not observed in the Presbyterian Churches until recent years. I am thankful that we recognize and participate in this season of reflection and preparation for Easter.

All of us go through wilderness seasons of life where our faith and our strength are tested. Observing Lent helps to prepare a Christian for these wilderness times. Some people fast from special loves, like chocolate or beer----Giving up a habit for 40 days helps a person acknowledge that he/she is able, with God's help.

Lent is a time for moderation, repentance, and spiritual discipline. Sundays are not included.

PRAYER CONCERNS

- Rickey Page passed away on January 27th after a stay in the hospital. Condolences to Joan, Kristy, family and friends as they deal with this loss of their husband, father, grandfather and friend.
- Becky Stephenson had knee replacement surgery and is doing well during the recovery period. She and her family were with us for worship on January 25th.
- Frances Seagroves is being cautious of colds, flu, etc. Prayers for Frances to stay well during the winter weather. She is getting an iron transfusion and B-12 shot monthly.
- Paul Dunn, Lynn Stephenson's father, has a mass on his face which is getting larger and more painful. He has chosen not to have treatments.
- Keith Smith, Helen's son, has returned to home. Doctors are closely watching his blood work.
- Angie Weaver, Jessica Rimbey's mother passed away after a battle with cancer. Condolences to Angie's family and friends and especially the Rimbey family.
- Prayers for Barbara Rhodes, Margaret King's sister, has diverticulitis.
- DeEtta Wood as she continues with her current treatment program.
- Joan Page's daughter-in-law, Pandora's, co-worker Dottie, her daughter Julia has been diagnosed with cancer.
- Joyce Byrd's nephew, Randy Holder, as he recovers from open heart surgery and respiratory problems. He is still recovering at the hospital.
- Michelle & Monica's uncle, Gene McGee has been diagnosed with acute leukemia. Their aunt, Annie Merle Sawyer Hodges, passed away on January 26th.
- Carole McCartney's daughter-in-law, Val Beshard's, mother has been diagnosed with stage 3 cancer and Val's father was taken to the hospital with a stroke.
- Sandy Parrish's brother-in-law in West Virginia passed away.
- Blake Chapman's friend, Tyler Gordon, whose grandfather passed away.
- Anne Honeycutt and others who have battled the flu this season. Prayers also for Anne's friend, Sabrina Cannon.

CONTINUED PRAYERS FOR OUR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

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|--------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|
| * Mitch Parrish | * Idelle, Stacy & Eric Penny | * Frances Seagroves |
| * DeEtta Wood | * Marion Brooks | * Janet Bunn |
| * Meagan Poole | * Kaylan King | * Vada Allen |
| * Paul Dunn & wife | * Steven & Florence Marcinko | * Ray Pearsall |
| * Barbara Rhodes | * Della Stephenson | * Frank Shutters |
| * Marie Stephenson | * Earl and Alice Honeycutt | * Susan Burgoff |
| * Jaylen Stanley | * Geraldine Stephenson | * Lillian Ortle |

THOSE IN NURSING HOMES OR ASSISTED LIVING

- Danny Matthews, Hester Family Care Center, 154 Haven Lane, Princeton, NC 27569
- Pauline Jones, Liberty Commons, 2315 Hwy. 242, Benson, NC 27504
- Vada Allen, Oak Hill Living Center, 9767 NC Hwy 210, Angier, NC 27501
- Alene Stamey, North Chase Nursing Facility, 3015 Enterprise, Wilmington, NC

JOYS

Congratulations to Laura Katherine Smith and Arnulfo Bermudez who are engaged to be married.

March 1st recognizes Cancer Survivor Sunday

Clem Closet is the organization which accepts our contributions to the food bank. They sent a thank you note recognizing our contributions.

Service and Celebration Page

February, 2015

Ushers

Teresa and Don Smith

Nursery

1 – Jenn Baudoux, 8 – Michelle Johnson, 15 – Linda Strickland
22 – Joyce Byrd

Birthdays

5 – Michael Rimbery, 7 – Janna Stephenson, 8 – Jan Cammeron,
8 – Jaden Turner, 12 – Helen Smith, 12 Kristy Gathings
14 – Kaylee Johnson, 22 – Nicole Stanley

Cleaning

7 – Glenda Talton, Michelle Johnson, Kaylee Johnson
21 – Ken Bianco and Mike Stewart

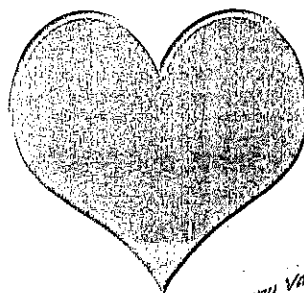
PULPIT SUPPLY FOR FEBRUARY

1 – Henry Coats

8 – Rev. Danny Stephenson

15 – Brenda Buffaloe

22 – Rev. Carole McCartney



Happy Valentine's Day

FEBRUARY 2015



MOUSE NEWS

- Ira and Deirdre Jersey will be married 50 years on May 8. The celebration begins the first week of March when sons, their wives and grandchildren will also celebrate with Mickey and Minnie at Disney World. WOW! Congratulations. (Mouse thinks everyone who reaches this milestone deserves a medal.)
- At Joan Page's house as they prepared for Ricky's funeral, there was a gentle atmosphere of "remembering" that accompanies grief. As Joey and Emily went through pictures and asked questions, laughed and remembered, a sweet peace prevailed. May God's peace continue with Kristy, Joan and all who loved Ricky.
- The Congregational Care Committee is serving up a Love Lunch for the entire congregation on Sunday, February 15, after worship. What a wonderful gift!
- ARE WE NOT BLESSED WITH WILLING SERVANTS AT WMPC? Mouse thanks God every day for the brothers and sisters in Christ who worship and serve together here.
- Thanks to Carol McCartney for being our anchor during this vacancy of a minister. She has helped to keep stability, to quiet anxiety, and smooth the road. Bless you, Carol.
- Mike Stewart blesses the congregation every Sunday with music. He willingly stepped up when Teresa left and while we search for her replacement. Thank you, Mike, for above and beyond giving. And please remember Jenn Beaudoux and the flowers in the church year round. THAT IS BIG! In the old days, members cleaned for a month and were responsible for flowers in the church that month. Can you imagine that? At least we didn't have the Fellowship Hall.
- Our cleaning plan for the past two years has been to hire someone every other week and ask for volunteers on other weeks. That's not been working too well, which indicates that members had rather pay someone to clean. If you are willing to clean, then sign up. If not, then please say that to the BLDG. Grounds Committee.
- Another big thanks goes to Robin Grimes for keeping the grounds. That too is huge. Members also used to do all the mowing. Robin, I thank you, with my whole heart.
- Ashley Sanderson who lives in Austin, Texas was responsible for promoting a designer event in her job in Nordstrom's Handbags. She worked very smart and hard and set her goal for a 30K event. THEY SOLD 41k. The event sent her department to #1 in the store and in the region, and #2 in the entire company, a huge success by any measure. Amomma is very proud of her, although it's difficult to comprehend that the average price of the bags sold was \$1900. (I believe there's a sermon in there somewhere.)
- Jayce Stephenson got a guitar for Christmas. His picture was on FB playing or picking. I can't wait to get a serenade.
- Glenda Talton is blessed when her grandchildren are at church with her. AND SO ARE THE REST OF US. Kayley, Landon, Blake, and Faith, you lift our spirits.
- The Don Smith Family is readying for a November wedding, with joy. Don retired and has taken a part time job---two part time jobs, if you count church treasurer.
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We want to show you some love... so let us feed you a delicious Valentine Day lunch
Sunday, February 15 following worship in the fellowship hall.

The menu includes Florence's homemade lasagna, green salad (keepin' us healthy!),
Italian bread (garlic and plain for you lovers who don't want to have garlic breath), and
of course, chocolate desserts.

We need to know how many to expect so let us know by Sunday, February 8. You can
sign below or call Florence at 919-275-4182.

Name/# of people

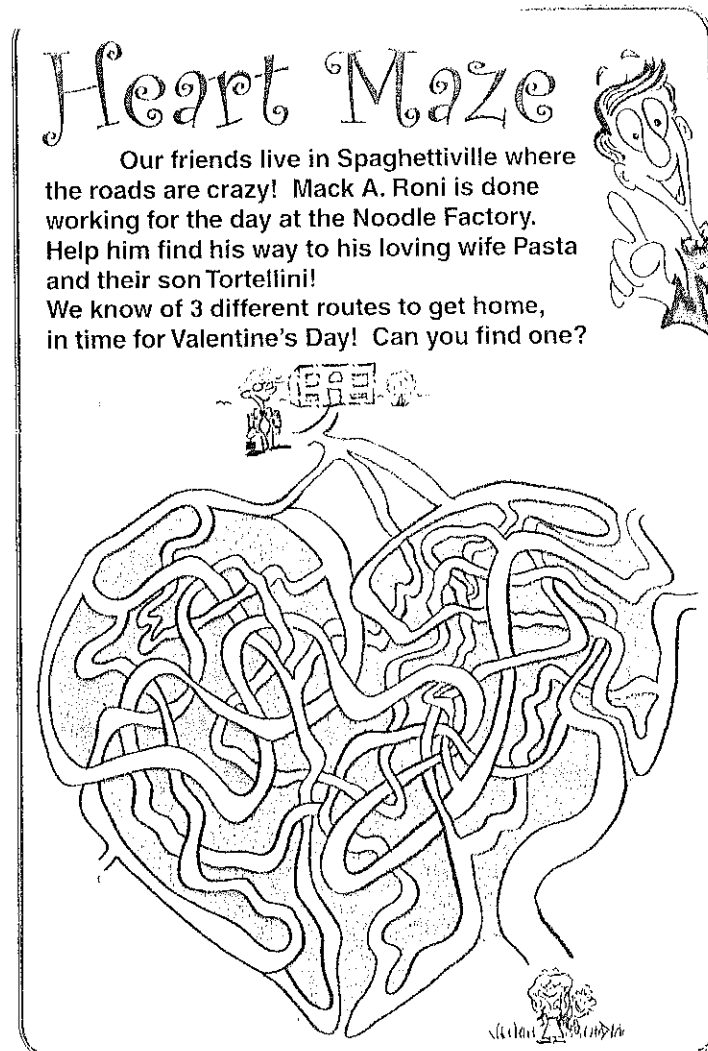
Note from Teresa Holt

Dear White Memorial Friends,

I am sorry that you haven't heard from me since I last played at a service. My life has been a bit of a whirlwind. You have certainly been in my thoughts, though I can hardly express in words how wonderful it was, and how much it meant to me to be a part of your loving church. I felt a lot of sadness in making the decision to leave, but felt I had many special interactions with each of you over the past four years.

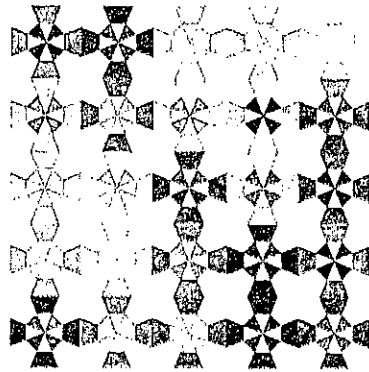
You will always be a part of my heart and I hope to see you in the near future. God bless you all. You surely have been a blessing to me.

Love in Christ, Teresa



WMPC - You're Invited

Join the Quilts for Kids Project
at The Quilt House, Willow Spring



Thursdays from 2:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

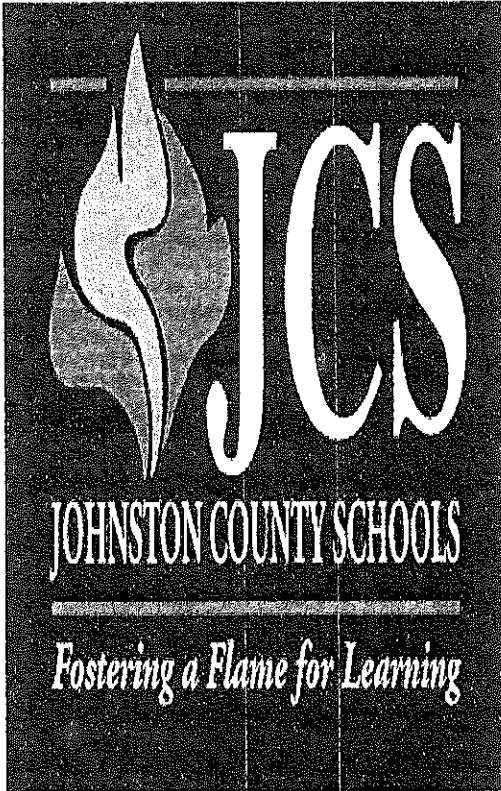
Drop in for an hour or for the whole time. Help Prepare, Sew or Complete Quilts for hospitalized children – Premature and Full-Term Infants and Young Children. Add a spark of color and caring to an otherwise difficult time for the children and their families. Donations of colorful children's 100% cotton fabric also appreciated.

And it's easy and convenient!

Bonnie Whitley and her husband purchased 635 Mt. Pleasant Road, Willow Spring and have converted it to a Quilt House. There are cutting tables with mats and rotary cutters set-up for preparing kits, 20 sewing stations for those who prefer to sew (you do need to bring your own machine). Lots of fun, food, and fellowship.

To get on Bonnie's email list for any changes to the schedule or start times, please email her at twwbww@yahoo.com or call 919-894-3326 (business) or 919-894-2088 (home) or 919-369-2376 (cell).

BACKPACK BUDDY PROGRAM



Johnston County Schools' Backpack Buddy Program

- Dixon Road Elementary, McGee's Elementary and Middle Schools benefit from the Backpack Buddy Program.
- These three schools have about 50% of students that receive free or reduced lunch. They often do not have much food after lunch. The students that are in the program receive bags of boxed food, snacks, or canned goods.
- Lighthouse Baptist Church collaborates with these schools to provide the bags. There are 51 bags sent out per week. Eight to nine dollars per bag.
- The students and families of Johnston County Schools would greatly appreciate your donations if you could help in any way. Thank you.

JOHNSTON COUNTY SCHOOLS
835 Dixon Road, Willow Spring, NC 27592

Work 919-894-7771 Home 919-896-6166 chazelldouglas@johnston.k12.nc.us

Angels.....as explained by children

I only know the name of two angels, Hark and Harold

Everybody's got it all wrong. Angels don't wear halos anymore. I forgot why, but scientists are working on it.

It's not easy to become an angel. First, you die. Then you got to Heaven and then there's still flight training to go through. And then you got to agree to wear those angel clothes.

Angels work for God and watch over kids when God has to do something else.

My guardian angel helps me with math, but he's not much good for science.

Angels don't eat, but they drink milk from Holy Cows.

Angels live in cloud houses made by God and his son who's a very good carpenter.

My angel is my grandma who died last year. She got a big head start on helping me while she was still down here on earth.

Some are in charge of helping heal sick animals and pets. And if they don't make the animals and pets get better, they help the child get over it.

What I don't get about angels is why, when someone is in love they shoot arrows at them.

