



WEST END NOTES

FEBRUARY 2020

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING
8:00AM MEN'S BREAKFAST
10:00AM SUNDAY SCHOOL
11:00AM WORSHIP
YOUTH RETURNING FROM
CROSS MISSION, CHARLOTTE

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9

10:00AM SUNDAY SCHOOL
11:00AM WORSHIP
6:00PM YOUTH

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14

♥ HAPPY VALENTINES DAY ♥

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16

10:00AM SUNDAY SCHOOL
11:00AM WORSHIP
~ ANNUAL MEETING
6:00PM YOUTH

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17

PRESIDENTS DAY
~ CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
6:00 PM SESSION MEETS
7:30PM EVENING CIRCLE

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23

10:00AM SUNDAY SCHOOL
11:00AM WORSHIP
~ COMMUNION
6:00PM YOUTH

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26

ASH WEDNESDAY
7:00PM WORSHIP
~ GATHERING ROOM

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27

10:30AM JOURNEY
THROUGH THE WILDERNESS
~ HOGAN YOUTH CENTER

“... THE LONELY PEOPLE, WHERE DO THEY ALL BELONG?”

The other day I was in the grocery store and saw a young woman taking a selfie in front of a display of Valentine candy. These days, I'm not surprised when people stop to take pictures of themselves in otherwise odd places. But what did surprise me was her gestures and facial expression. She had her tongue out and a displeased face, and let's just say her middle digit was raised. I hurried past. I can only presume that she posted that picture to her Instagram story with a caption filled with a few choice words.

I've wondered about this young woman who either really hates red and pink boxes of chocolate or had been through some recent heartache. The story I imagined about her was that she had been hurt one too many times. And that this commercial day of love taunted her. I don't know if that is what was really going on, but it was the most obvious inference.

Valentine's Day is approaching with all its frills and flowers and diamonds and candy. There is a lot of pressure on Valentine's Day, especially on single people, who may feel extra alone as they are surrounded by signs of companionship. And I think that is what I'm most aware of in this new year: loneliness.

There seems to be a pervasive loneli-

ness in our world. Its possible to be in a crowded room and to feel overlooked. Its possible to be in a committed relationship and feel isolated. Its possible to be part of a team and to feel utterly disconnected. It is possible to be viewed by others as "the life of the party" and as someone with many friends, but also to feel like no one gets you. It is even possible to come to church and to feel left out.

Sometimes all you need is your own box of chocolates to feel better when you are feeling a little down, but what really works is being intentional about connecting. As a community of faith, part of the agreement we make with each other is to be connected. Connections that go beyond proper pleasantries are the most sustaining of all. Getting to know one another: our names, our passions, our fears, our hopes, our dreams is part of who we are. We have opportunities to do this every time we gather for worship or fellowship or service.

When Jesus sat down with the Woman at the Well, he was able to "tell her everything" about her. This invisible woman who went to the well at the heat of the day because there would be fewer people there to deride her - she was finally seen, finally acknowledged. And it was like living water.

Continued

This month let us think about how to offer this living water to someone else. Is there someone you haven't talked to in a while? Is there someone who is sitting alone? Is there someone who hasn't been around? Give them a call. Text them a message. Go sit with them. Not only will that person feel more connected, but so will you. We belong to each other. Remember that, always!

*With love,
Maggie*



Rev. Maggie F. Beamguard

Wilderness

LENT 2020

This Lent we will be exploring the theme of "Wilderness." Wilderness sounds like a barren and desolate place, but in fact it is a place of familiarity (we've all been there at one time or another), a place of mystery, a place of new beginnings, and a place of resilience.

STARTING THE JOURNEY TOGETHER !

To begin our journey through the wilderness, we invite you to join us for a time of prayerful preparation. On Thursday, February 27th (the day after Ash Wednesday) at 10:30am you are invited to a time of prayer and preparation in the Hogan Youth Center as we make elements to adorn the sanctuary. All are welcome. Artistic skill is not required. Our preparation will be couched in liturgy, poem, and song.

DO YOU KNOW YOUR TYPE?

Come to a book study and discussion of the Enneagram, a tool to help you grow in understanding and empathy for yourselves and others. The book, *The Road Back to You*, will be available in the Church office (copies are \$8). We will meet Thursday mornings in March, 10:30-11:30 in the Hogan House. All are welcome! Discussion will be facilitated by Sara Turner. We are offering this class during Lent as a way of enhancing our spiritual journey through the wilderness.

AS YOU PREPARE FOR YOUR LENTEN OBSERVANCE, CONSIDER JOINING US FOR THESE SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICES:

ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP FEBRUARY 26 ~ 7:00 PM

This service includes the imposition of ashes. Ashes are a biblical sign of sorrow and repentance, and have deep significance for Lent, symbolizing our mortality and utter dependence on God.



PALM/PASSION SUNDAY APRIL 5 ~ 11:00 AM

The children will lead a palm processional. Through readings and song we will experience the triumph of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem and the events that culminated in his death.



MAUNDY THURSDAY APRIL 9 ~ 7:00 PM

This service of communion recalls Jesus' last gathering with the disciples before his death.



EASTER SUNDAY APRIL 12 ~ 11:00 AM

We will celebrate Jesus' Resurrection. An Easter Egg Hunt will be held during the Sunday School hour. Bring your fresh flowers for the cross.



A NOTE FROM THE MUSIC



DEPARTMENT

"SPEAK TO ME IN ASHES"

In 1974 I was in the second grade and I drove my teacher absolutely crazy because every day in the month of February I would remind her that my birthday was on Ash Wednesday. Whether we in the middle of doing math, eating lunch or in the middle of recess, I would interrupt her and tell her that my birthday was on Ash Wednesday. Did you tell you that my birthday is on Ash Wednesday?? For some reason I thought it was really important that my birthday was on Ash Wednesday. I really wanted ashes on my forehead as a birthday present. But growing up Methodist, we never received the imposition of ashes like all of my Catholic friends. I really wanted to have those ashes on my forehead ~ those Catholic kids were special. Looking back and knowing myself, I probably wouldn't have understood the significance. God knew what he was doing with those Methodist kids in Madison, NJ.

Fast forward 30 years...I finally got my ashes and I wore them all day like a banner screaming "I am a child of God!" I am so grateful that I understand the significance and more grateful that I get to sing about it! On Wednesday, February 26th at 7:00 pm we will be having an Ash Wednesday service. The Chancel Choir will be singing a beautiful anthem by Karen Crane and Douglas Nolan entitled "Speak to Me in Ashes." The text is very poignant and speaks from the perspective of the receiver of the ashes, the receiver of God's grace.

"Speak to me in ashes, speak to me in tears.

Whisper to the silence my soul.

Lord, I wait in stillness, ready now to hear.

Speak to me in ashes and in tears...

Speak to me in silence, speak to me your peace...

Touch my heart and still my troubled mind.

Words of calm assurance, all my fears release.

Speak to me in silence, give me peace..."

I invite you all to come to this unique Ash Wednesday service we have planned. We will be holding the service in the Gathering Room as we did last year. It will be a wonderful opportunity to dive deep as you start your Lenten journey. Through the scripture and song and though the mediation and sacrament, it truly will be a time of personal reflection, fellowship and meaningful worship. And of course there will be ashes...glorious ashes...gooey thick glorious ashes that speak to you..."I am a child of God!" Certainly a true joy for ages and faiths! One more thing, my birthday isn't on Ash Wednesday this year...

Jennifer Thomas

Director of Music

WEEKLY WEDNESDAY MUSICAL REHEARSALS

JOIN US!

HANDBELLS IN THE SANCTUARY

6:00PM – 7:00PM

CHANCEL CHOIR IN THE CHOIR ROOM

7:00PM – 8:30PM



THANK YOU, ANN CHASE for keeping our community informed with the events and news happening at WEPC. Ann is dedicated to sharing an article a week with The Pilot. Yes, that's 50 plus articles a year, keeping our community informed! I encourage you to look for Ann's articles as you read your newspaper.



In the beginning of January, I had the pleasure of being at Montreat for College Conference. This year's theme was "Remembering Sabbath" and as you might imagine there was a good deal of discussion about sabbath - what it is, why its important, and how we practice it. The preacher for the conference was Rev. MaryAnn McKibben Dana and she shared one story in particular that stuck with me. She lives in the Northern Virginia area and a particular school system there had changed the bus schedule slightly so that kids were arriving home later. This dismayed a group of parents who were concerned that their children have adequate time for a snack or transportation for a myriad of after school activities. So the parents banded together, enlisted others, went through the proper channels, and lobbied for change. Which they ultimately 'won'. And what do you suppose was the no extra time they had in the afternoon? *Four* minutes. Their children arrived home four minutes earlier. The idea of sabbath comes directly from God who rested for a day after shaping creation into being. In the gospels, Jesus would find time by himself for quiet and prayer. Life so often moves at a pace that is hectic and stressful. We are called by God to take a breath...several breaths...and remember who and whose we are. To borrow a favorite phrase, we are not to be so busy living that we forget to enjoy life. Sabbath time often looks a little different for each person. But there are so many possibilities...reading, painting, movies, music - listening or playing, exercise, time outside, time with friends and family, etc., etc. etc. The only real 'requirement' is being intentional about stepping away. It is my prayer that we all remember to make the time and space to do this. Four minutes would be a great start.

~ PASTOR TODD

YOUTH SCHEDULE:



**FEBRUARY 2
SOUPER BOWL
SUNDAY OFFERING**

BRING YOUR CANNED GOODS
AND CASH DONATIONS

**NO REGULAR YOUTH GROUP MEETING.
YOUTH ARE RETURNING FROM CROSS MISSION.**

FEBRUARY 9

6:00PM

YOUTH GROUP DINNER AND PROGRAM

FEBRUARY 16

6:00PM

**YOUTH GROUP DINNER AND PROGRAM:
BEGIN PREPARATIONS FOR YOUTH SUNDAY.**

FEBRUARY 23

6:00PM

**YOUTH GROUP DINNER AND PROGRAM:
PREPARATIONS CONTINUE FOR YOUTH SUNDAY.**



**MASSANETTA
MIDDLE SCHOOL
CONFERENCE:
June 23 – 26**

**MONTREAT
HIGH SCHOOL
CONFERENCE:
July 11—18**



**For information on any of these programs,
please contact Pastor Todd,
todd@westendpres.church**



W.O.W

THE WOW kids greatly appreciate your support for their mission project Change for Haiti. WEPC received a letter in January from Haiti Help and Hope. They wrote...

Thank you for all the prayers and financial support you have provided for Pastor Sidor, the churches, and Lahai Roi School in Montrouis, Haiti. Your desire and continued commitment to make sure the Gospel of Jesus is heard and the poor are cared for has made an eternal difference in Haiti this past year.

Our father continues to bless Pastor Sidor and the mission work being done in Haiti. We are thankful for the opportunity God gives us to work alongside Pastor Sidor and you, our mission ministry partners. Haiti Help and Hope's prayer for 2020 is that we keep our eyes focused on the will of God, the name of Jesus be lifted high in Haiti, and that many will hear and surrender their hearts to Him.

Thank you for being part of Haiti Help and Hope and having generous hearts for the lost and forgotten people of Haiti. May our loving God continue to bless us as we work together during 2020 to support his will and plans in Haiti.

Sincerely in Christ's love,
HAITI HELP AND HOPE



WOW children
Wednesday, January 22



CAMP MONROE would like to invite the West End Presbyterian Church family to join them on Sunday, May 17 from 3:00pm–6:00pm for their annual Friends of Monroe Day. This year, Jonathan Sherrod, former director from 1995-2002 and current Pastor of Kirk of Holly Springs, will be their guest speaker.

SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

It's hard to believe with the cold weather outside, but they are already full force into planning June and July's activities for campers! If you register by February 29, 2020 you will receive an Early Bird Discount of 10% off the cost of registration. Help spread the word!

Over the past three years Camp Monroe has grown to more than 350 kids served, up by more than 100% since 2016. This summer looks to be even bigger than last, and this trend is expected to continue.

CAMP MONROE ISN'T JUST FOR CAMPING!

- WEDDINGS
- FAMILY REUNIONS
- YOUTH RETREATS
- OFFICE TRAINING
- SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICES
- CONFERENCES
- LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

SUMMER JOBS!

Know of a young adult who needs a summer job and wants to make a difference in the world?

Apply on their website.

WWW.MONROECAMP.ORG

FOR INFORMATION!

On Sunday afternoon, January 19, a group of youth and adults traveled to Apex to enjoy an afternoon of fun and fellowship at Defy Gravity.



Defy Gravity



THE PRESBYTERY OF COASTAL CAROLINA & WEST END PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

JOYOUSLY INVITE YOU TO THE INSTALLATION OF

REV. DENTON TODD DAVIDSON

AS ASSOCIATE PASTOR OF

WEST END PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SUNDAY, MARCH 8

4:00 P.M.

WEST END PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

275 KNOX LANE

WEST END, NORTH CAROLINA 27376

RECEPTION TO FOLLOW



MEET YOUR WEPC ELDERS & DEACONS

REV. MAGGIE BEAMGUARD, MODERATOR

JAYNE LEE, CLERK

ELDERS

CLASS OF 2020

HAROLD JONES
MAC JONES
SHANNON KITCHEN
LOUISE THOMAS

CLASS OF 2021

BILL EISEL
MAC CLARK
JAYNE LEE
CHARLIE CUNNINGHAM

CLASS OF 2022

JERRY ARNOLD
SHARON KUETHE
JUDY LAUT
JOHN WILSON

DEACONS

CLASS OF 2020

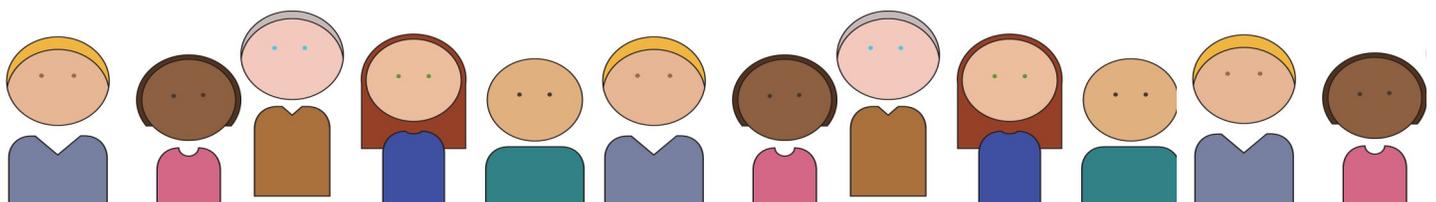
JIM BERRY
JEANNE WILLIAMS
CATHERINE LOTT
VALERIE RYAN

CLASS OF 2021

KIM AUMAN
LOIS ANN EISEL
PHYLLIS RONDELLO
RON SHEPARD

CLASS OF 2022

AMANDA BROWN
JULIE JONES
DIANE MORETON
ROBERT PITTS





YOUR CHURCH STAFF IS HERE FOR YOU!

We have a first-rate staff at West End Presbyterian Church, and we strive to be partners in ministry with you: helping with matters of communication, supporting ministry teams, and keeping everyone connected. In such a lively and vibrant church, this work keeps us (largely) out of trouble!

Our office hours are 8:30am-4:30pm Monday-Thursday and Fridays from 8:30-Noon. The staff meets on Tuesday mornings, and bulletins are typically printed and folded on Thursday afternoon. If a project you or your team is working on needs office assistance, we welcome you to make an appointment with us so that we can make sure that our fullest resources are at your disposal.

With thanks!



Rev Maggie Beamguard, *Pastor*
maggie@westendpres.church

Rev. Todd Davidson, *Associate Pastor*
todd@westendpres.church

Paula Montgomery, *Book Keeper*
(Works on Mondays)
paula@westendpres.church

Martha Parker, *Church Administrator*
martha@westendpres.church

Jennifer Thomas Danis, *Director of Music*
jennifer@westendpres.church

PRAYERS *of the* CHURCH



CONGREGATIONAL CONCERNS

In an effort to care for all of our members, we invite you to share with us when you, a family member or a friend is facing an illness, hospitalization, death or major life transition.

If you would like to add someone to the prayer list or update someone's condition, please secure their permission and notify Rev. Maggie or Martha in the church office.

You will find the prayer list attached to the weekly email or you may pick up a copy from the narthex or church office.



COMMUNION SCHEDULE



On Sunday, February 23 we will celebrate the sacrament of holy communion during the 11:00am worship hour. Please see the Communion Schedule below:

- FEBRUARY 26 ~ ASH WEDNESDAY
- MARCH 15 ~ 3RD SUNDAY IN LENT
- APRIL 5 ~ PALM/ PASSION SUNDAY
- APRIL 9 ~ MAUNDY THURSDAY
- MAY 17 ~ 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Ways you can SERVE

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A WAY
TO BE MORE
INVOLVED AT CHURCH?

VOLUNTEERING

AS A LITURGIST

IS AN EASY WAY TO SERVE!



We provide you with a script ahead of time and there's no other prep work required. Please prayerfully consider accepting this call. Share your interest with Judy Laut (judyl29@nc.rr.com or 910-391-0137).



PRAYER SHAWL
MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl Ministry has completed its fourteenth (14th) year serving our congregation and the wider community. They meet, knit and pray the second Wednesday monthly at 10:30am in the Gathering Room. In addition to prayer shawls, they knit cancer caps that are given to Moore Regional Hospital. Joan Carter, one of the dedicated members of this team has crocheted over 105 beautiful shawls since she began meeting in 2005. Nell Judge and her team thank you for your continued support.

We invite you to join us on
Wednesday, February 12
10:30 am ~ Gathering Room

PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN



MORNING WOMEN'S CIRCLE will meet on Monday, February 4 at 9:30am in the Hogan Youth Center. The study will be lesson nine: In Community with All the Saints from the book "Cloud of Witnesses." All women of the church are invited. Bring a friend and your Bible.

EVENING WOMEN'S CIRCLE will meet Monday night February 18 at 7:30pm in the Hogan Youth Center. All women are welcomed to attend. For more information contact Jayne Lee at 910-690-0190.

**THE CHURCH OFFICE NEEDS
A FEW GOOD OFFICE ELVES!
CONTACT MARTHA,
MARTHA@WESTENDPRES.CHURCH
TO VOLUNTEER!**

ASH WEDNESDAY
worship

**Worship with us on
Wednesday, February 26 at
7:00pm in the gathering room.**

FEBRUARY VOLUNTEERS

DEACON OF THE MONTH:
DIANE MORETON

ELDER OF THE MONTH:
MAC JONES

LITURGIST SCHEDULE

FEBRUARY 2 CAROL McDONALD
FEBRUARY 9 LINDA DEYOUNG
FEBRUARY 16 LYNNE GRAHAM
FEBRUARY 23 LYNNE GRAHAM

ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

FEBRUARY 2 JASMINE CRAFTER
FEBRUARY 9 RYLAND MCCLOSKEY
FEBRUARY 16 CHARLIE RUST
FEBRUARY 23 ADDIE SCOTT

NURSERY HELPERS

DATE	SUNDAY SCHOOL	WORSHIP
2	KIM AUMAN	KIM AUMAN VALERIE RYAN
9	BECKY WATKINS	BECKY WATKINS JUDY LAUT
16	SHARON BETTINI	SHARON BETTINI ALISON MCCLOSKEY
23	SHARON BETTINI	SHARON BETTINI NIKKI HIGH



FEBRUARY 02 NORMAN DYSON
FEBRUARY 04 HOLTON EASTER
FEBRUARY 06 DEREK SIMMONS
FEBRUARY 09 VIRGINIA KENNINGTON
FEBRUARY 12 CHARLIE CUNNINGHAM
FEBRUARY 13 FRED ALLEN
FEBRUARY 15 PHYLLIS RONDELLO
FEBRUARY 17 JEAN SETTLES
JULIA HOLDERFIELD
MARK BARE
FEBRUARY 20 JEAN SCHMIDT
JERRY PHIPPS
FEBRUARY 22 JIM CARTER
LIAM WYLIE
FEBRUARY 23 SCOT BROWN
FEBRUARY 27 JENNIFER THOMAS DANIS
FEBRUARY 28 KELLY WILSON



FEBRUARY 16 KATHY & BOB HESS
FEBRUARY 28 JULIE & MAC JONES
FEBRUARY 25 SUE & RONALD SHEPARD
FEBRUARY 25 NANCY & RONALD WORKMAN



If you are wondering why the flags are at the left side of the church office...
Marlins Septic came out to show exactly where our lines run.
Thank you for your patience.



The MEN'S BREAKFAST begins in the Crawford Center at 8:00am on the first Sunday of every month (February 2 and March 1). Join the men for prayer, breakfast, project proposals, and fellowship. The usual breakfast is eggs, sausage, bacon, grits, gravy, biscuits, and cinnamon rolls. All this for \$5. *The first meeting is as a guest.*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 8:00 Men's Breakfast 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship ~ Souper Bowl of Caring	3 9:30 Morning Circle	4 2:45-5:00 Tuesday Tutoring ~ CC 5:30 Christian Ed.	5 2:45-5:00 WOW 6:00 Handbells 7:00 Chancel Choir	6	7	8 11:00am Frank Land Memorial Service
9 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 6:00 Youth	10	11 10:00 Staff 2:45-5:00 Tuesday Tutoring ~ CC 5:30 Music & Worship 6:30 Deacons	12 10:30 Prayer Shawl 2:45 WOW 5:30 Finance ~ Gathering Room 6:00 Handbells 7:00 Chancel	13 1:30 Membership Committee	14 <i>Happy Valentine's Day!</i>	15
16 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship ~ Annual Meeting 6:00 Youth	17 <i>Church Office Closed Presidents Day!</i> 6:00 Session 7:30 Evening Circle March Newsletter Deadline	18 10:00 Staff 2:45-5:00 Tuesday Tutoring ~ CC	19 2:45-5:00 WOW 6:00 Handbells 7:00 Chancel Choir	20	21	22
23 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship ~ Communion 6:00 Youth	24	25 10:00 Staff 2:45-5:00 Tuesday Tutoring ~ CC	26 2:45-5:00 WOW 7:00pm Ash Wednesday Service	27 10:30 Begin the journey through the Wilderness ~ HYC	28 	29

West End Presbyterian Church



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Fax: 910-685-7416
Website: www.westendpres.church

*This newsletter is sent with a blessing
and a prayer to:*

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



THE CHURCH STAFF:

Rev. Maggie F. Beamguard
Rev. Todd Davidson
Martha J. Parker
Jennifer Thomas Danis
Paula Montgomery
Sharon Bettini
Kathy Hess

Pastor
Associate Pastor
Church Administrator
Director of Music
Finance Administrator
Nursery Attendant
Sexton

maggie@westendpres.church
todd@westendpres.church
martha@westendpres.church
jennifer@westendpres.church
paula@westendpres.church
sharonbettini@gmail.com

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

The church office is opened Monday - Thursday from 8:30am to 4:30pm and Friday from 8:30am to Noon.