

February 2024

Clemmons Presbyterian Church

Believing, Belonging, Becoming and Branching Out

Grace and Peace in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! It is hard to believe that February marks the start of Lent this year. Ash Wednesday on February 14th initiates the season as we mark ourselves with ashes. We also point to the theological reality of how the sin and the brokenness of the world resulting from the Fall disfigures us who are created in God's image. We are reminded of our loving Creator who formed us out of clay and molded us out of ashes whose sovereign hand sustains and guides all the days and seasons of our lives until they come to fruition, and we profess "our baptism is now complete in death." We return to ashes.

"From ashes you have come and to ashes you return." Don't miss the Ash Wednesday service on Valentine's Day following the Wednesday night dinner. This season we will continue to explore the themes of impermanence and transformation as we explore the story of Peter. The staff has chosen the Sanctified Art curriculum called "A Wandering Heart: Figuring Out Faith with Peter." As we follow the trajectory of Peter's relationship with Jesus Christ and witness his transformation from a fisherman to a "fisher of people," to one who walks on water, to one who recognizes Jesus as the Messiah, we see someone who grows and evolves in their faith. Someone who is human and has lapses in judgment.

Peter at times succumbs to his own fear and obscures living into the highest intentions God is calling humanity to. And yet, through it all, God uses broken things and imperfect people to bring the story of God's salvation and life-giving love to fruition in the universe.

Peter is a stand-in for any of us who have followed Jesus- doubted, betrayed God and our highest ideals, yet found redemption, life-giving hope, grave-shattering transcendence, and ultimate renewal. Writing on this series, Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman, one of the founding creative partners for a Sanctified Art says, "I want to be present like Peter- to orient my life towards God's will, to ask for help when I'm sinking, to celebrate moments of clarity, to pause when I'm not quite getting it, to be open to learning and redirection, to receive gifts with humility, to acknowledge devastating missteps to repent, to run toward hope, and to feel the freedom that is found in abundant, astounding grace. At the end of the journey, I don't want to be perfect. I just want to be able to say that I loved, and that I loved well."

We will follow Peter's journey as we follow the eclipses of God's grace, and we will pair the trajectory of Peter's story with the words of "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing."

My hope is by the time we reach an empty tomb on Easter Sunday, we will sing these words as our own:

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!

Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee.

Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;

Here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.

Happy Lent,

Leigh



CPC Lunch Bunch

Lunch Bunch will meet on Thursday, **February 1** at 12:00pm at **801 Southern Kitchen and Pancake House** in Bermuda Run. Please RSVP to Brent Eaton at brent_a_eaton@yahoo.com, by text to 336-865-2524, or by calling the church office.



Golf Fellowship

Golf fellowship will resume on Saturday, April 6. Mark your calendars and stay tuned! Contact Art Blackwood (art.blackwood.3@gmail.com) for more info.



Party Bridge

Join us for fellowship and bridge at CPC! **February 13 & 27** at 1:00 pm in the parlor. For more information contact Carolyn Haggerty at 336-391-8117 or Susan Allred at 336-671-0104.



Christian Creations

We had a great turn out for our January meeting. Along with the prayer shawls we are trying a few new projects. Please join us on **February 8** at 11 am (immediately after the Thursday morning Bible study).



Cookies and Lemonade

Plan to stop by the after the worship service on Sunday, **February 11** as the worship committee hosts cookies & lemonade.



Our next **men's breakfast** is coming up! Join us on **February 17** at 8:30 am in the fellowship hall. All men are invited, please scan the QR code to RSVP or visit <https://clemmonspreby.flocknote.com/signup/153727>.



The Ruth Circle will meet on **February 20** at 10 am in the church parlor. We will continue our study and discussion of Philippians where we left off at Philippians 3:2. If you would like to join this group of women call Frankie Muse at 336-766-9950 for information or visit the group in the parlor.



The deadline to submit articles for the March newsletter is **Monday, February 26**. Please send articles to cpc@clemmonsprebyterian.org.



Blood Drive

Our next blood drive is Thursday, **March 14** from 2:30-7:00 pm. For an appointment you may contact Sam Boger (336-830-4034 phone/text) or sbogger262@gmail.com. You may also sign up at www.redcrossblood.org or on the Red Cross donor app.

Habitat

In 2023 we raised \$3,435 from the Habitat gift cards. Compare that to 2022 when we raised \$1,710! Thank you for your support and helping us double our donation to Habitat. Let's make 2024 an even better year!

CPC Scholarships

Applications for the 2023 youth scholarship and youth program enhancement awards are due March 3. Announcements are Sunday, April 7. Maximum award is \$3,000. Forms will be available online in early January at <http://www.clemmonspresbyterian.org/cpc-youth-endowment.html>. If you have questions contact Marv Dickerson, 336-998-2248 or marvinhd1@gmail.com.

A/V Volunteers Needed

The audiovisual team is looking for a few good men and women to volunteer to learn how to stream and use the mixing board. Learn to make and keep our worship beautiful! Please let Dan Zacharias, Terry Holt, Bob Maclin, Jim Register, or Leigh Wisner know if you are interested.



Before you settle in to watch the big game, don't forget to bring cans of food to worship on February 11th!

The GOOTH will be collecting donations before and after worship in the narthex. If you need help carrying items, please find a student and they can come to your car.

Even \$1 or 1 can of food can make a difference!

All collected food and money will be split between the two main food pantries that we support: Clemmons Food Pantry and A Storehouse for Jesus!

Congratulations Bryce!

Congratulations to Bryce McPherson who received his Eagle Scout award with his troop on January 22. It was wonderful to see him reach this accomplishment! An official ceremony will be held at a later date.



Annual **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

FEB. 11, 2024

11 AM

Come and hear the annual reports of the session committees and elect the new nominating committee.

Christian Education

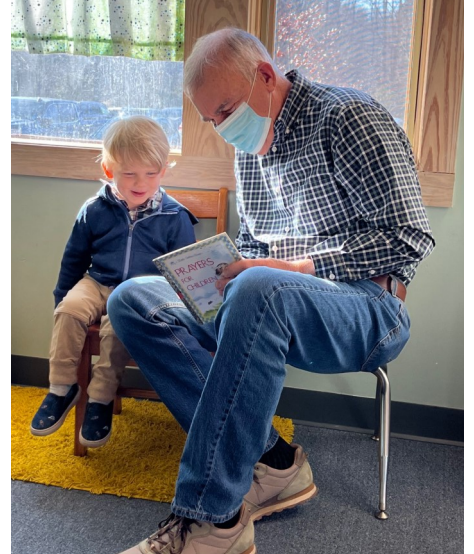
Thursday Women's Bible Study

The women's Bible study is continuing to meet using the *Follow Me* curriculum. This material will focus on prayer. This class gathers in room 206 at 10:00am on Thursdays. Please contact Char Holloway by email at holloway42003@yahoo.com if you have any questions.



A growing nursery needs volunteers!

Please consider serving in our nursery in the new year. We have a dedicated group of volunteers, but it would make a huge difference to even have 5 or 10 more people in the rotation, so our volunteers can enjoy worship as well. To serve in our nursery, you must have completed our child protection policy training as well as filled out the form for a background check. This may seem daunting, but we have made this as accessible as possible by offering the training on our website, which you can complete at home! Please consider taking this training, as this is the best way we can protect our children at church. Visit our website, and check under the "ministry" tab to find the policy. You can also follow this link <https://www.clemmonspresbyterian.org/protection-policy.html>.



Children's Church: what is it?

Children's church is a special time for children in 1st grade through 5th grade to learn about the Bible during worship service. They will leave worship at the designated time with their teachers and head down to the nursery wing for a lesson. Parents can pick them up following the service.

We also have a new group, "mini" children's church that is for friends ages 3—kindergarten!

It takes place at the same time as regular children's church but is geared toward a younger audience. Each week will teach a new Bible story and make a craft.



Music Makers!

Open to all children 2nd through 6th grade

The Music Makers plan to gather for 15 minutes following worship each Sunday before Sunday school to prepare beautiful music to share with the congregation. This group will also meet on Wednesday evenings following supper!



Joyful Noise!

This group is for ages 3 through 1st grade and also gathers on Wednesday evenings!



Group of Youth—Grades 6-12

Provide a snack for



Would you be willing to fuel our youth group one Sunday afternoon?

It could be as simple as chips or fruit or as fancy as your famous cookie recipe

scan here to sign up:

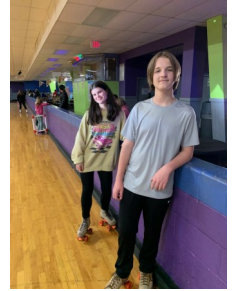


You are welcome to stay for GOOTH if you wish!

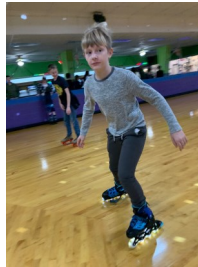
GOOTH Happenings

GOOTH is short for “Group of Youth.”

GOOTH is a community of faith for young people that worships, learns, grows, serves, and plays together.



To kick off our spring semester, we went roller skating! It was so much fun (and more exhausting than I remember) to relive our elementary school days together.



YOUTH SUNDAY

Please plan to join us on February 25 for our youth-led worship service. We are already working hard to put together all the elements of worship.



Do you have questions about GOOTH?

Contact our youth director Kaylee Hilston by email at

khilston@clemmonspresbyterian.org

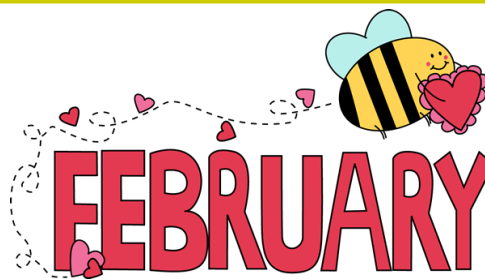
or by text at 336-517-7227

Or email our youth elder Shannon Spencer

skspencer1@gmail.com

Are you receiving weekly GOOTH emails and text messages?

If not please let Kaylee know ASAP so she can fix that!



Feb 4 Youth Sunday Prep (5:30-7pm)

Feb 11 Souper Bowl of Caring (am)

Super Bowl Party (pm-see email for specifics)

Feb 18 Youth Sunday Prep (5:30-7pm)

Feb 24 Youth Sunday Rehearsal

Feb 25 YOUTH SUNDAY!!!

**in lieu of GOOTH Eats, plan to come to Wednesday night dinners and we can sit together!*

Wandering Heart

This **Lent**, we are focusing on the life and faith of one of Jesus' most famous disciples. In Peter, we see a person who is both steadfast and unsteady, a dear friend and a betrayer, a follower and a wanderer. In Peter, we often see ourselves. By following Peter's journey, we watch the story of Jesus unfold through the eyes of a very normal human trying to figure it all out—just like us.

As we were studying Peter's faith journey, the lyrics of "Come Thou Fount" came to mind. It's as if Peter himself wrote this song. Like many of us, Peter has a wandering heart. His journey is not polished, or linear, or perfect, but he is always tethered to the love of God.

In this series, we want to affirm that faith is a constant journey of steadfast pursuit, one that ebbs and flows. We want to affirm the ways Peter keeps going: he drops his nets, he walks on water, he runs to the empty tomb, he swims to the shore to meet the risen Christ. He keeps searching and yearning and loving, even after missteps or mistakes. Ultimately, in Peter's story, we are reminded that God loves imperfect people—in fact, time and again, that's precisely who God claims and calls.

This Lent, we will look for ourselves in the stepping stones of Peter's story. We will reflect on the stages of our own faith journeys as well as who and what has shaped us along the way. As we wander, let us tune our hearts to sing God's grace. May we rest in streams of mercy, never ceasing.



Ash Wednesday Service

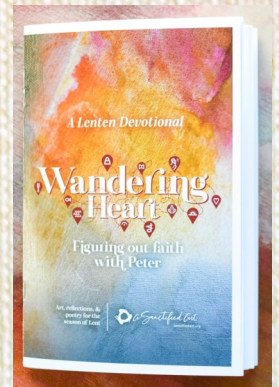
February 14, 2024 6:30 PM
In-Person & Online

The Lenten journey from the ashes of death to resurrected life begins on the first day of Lent, Ash Wednesday, which signifies a time to turn around, to change directions, to repent.

Lent Devotional Books

This year we are offering two options in devotional books.

1) The first is a weekly devotional that follows the scriptures through the second Sunday of Easter. Each week offers: commentary, poetry, visual art, written reflections, hymns, and reflection prompts.



2) The second option (produced by Society of St. Andrew) offers a more traditional devotional booklet, where you will find daily meditations, prayers, and personal stories of growth that illustrate how God speaks to people through a variety of life experiences.



Printed copies of each book will be available in the atrium and narthex. PDF versions will be available on the church website.



Mark Your Calendar

Palm Sunday: March 24
Maundy Thursday: March 28
Good Friday: March 29
Easter Sunday: March 31

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Flowers are a valuable part of our services at CPC. Are you thinking of a way to honor your spouse, your parent, your child, a friend?

You can order an arrangement for the Sunday service with a notification in the bulletin acknowledging who is being honored.

Purchase 1 or 2 arrangements for \$50 ea.

www.clemmonspresbyterian.org/flowers



HELP US REACH
MORE PEOPLE



Use the link below to leave a quick review of
Clemmons Presbyterian Church on Google!
<https://g.page/r/CdrPZXSHd5HUEB0/review>

Missions

Food Pantry: The CPC food donations for February will go to Clemmons Food Pantry.

The requested needs for this month are: Cereal (all types), baking goods (sugar, flour, pie mixes, etc.), pasta sauce, & canned meats

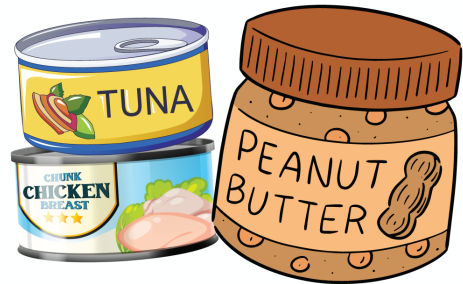
Lenten Project 2024. As we have done over the past few years, the missions committee is sponsoring the CPC Lenten project.

Traditionally, Christians give up something as part of their Lent focus. Instead of this tradition, we ask for people to give for Lent. During the six weeks of Lent, CPC will respond to requests for specific needs of organizations that CPC supports.

Although these have not been fully identified they will include pennies for hunger and One Great Hour of Sharing. More details will be in the weekly highlights sheet. The missions committee encourages the congregation to give instead of giving up.



FOOD DRIVE



WHAT WE NEED:

- CANNED TUNA (5 OR 12 OZ CANS)
- CANNED CHICKEN (12.5 OZ CANS)
- PEANUT BUTTER JARS (16OZ)
- OR MAKE A DIRECT DONATION TO MEALS 4 MORGAN BY SCANNING THE QR CODE BELOW

DONATE HERE:



WHAT IS

MEALS 4 MORGAN?

Meals 4 Morgan is a food program that provides meals on the weekends to our students who experience food insecurity. Your support helps us provide meals to students in need!



Please place items in the round containers in the atrium and narthex.

PNC Update

Happy February and God's blessings to you all! The pastor nominating committee (PNC) is excited to share with you that we have been working diligently to ensure our pastor search progress has made some great strides. The first step for the PNC is to develop our ministry discernment profile (MDP), which we heavily based on our mission study that was created by the transition committee. Once we felt we had a great product, we presented our MDP to session and received approval. Following this, we presented the MDP to Salem Presbytery. Lastly, we have made our MDP available to receive personal discernment profiles (PDP) for pastors seeking to be our next Senior Pastor. We are now receiving and reviewing PDPs and will identify those whom we would like to invite for interviews within the next few weeks.

As with all hiring practices, we cannot share specifics of our meetings and discussions, but rather share where we are in the process. We ask for your understanding that we are bound to confidentiality, your patience as we diligently serve our congregation in this significant endeavor, and your prayers for discernment of God's plan for our future.

In Christ's Love,
Melissa Switzer and the Pastor Nominating Committee

Meet Your Session

Rebekah Ayscue—New Member and Outreach

I'm delighted to be nominated to serve CPC as an elder. As you recently read in my new member bio, I spent my childhood in Lexington, KY; Lewisburg, WV; and Albemarle, NC - moving around a bit as a PK (preacher's kid!). I currently work from home for a company based in Charlotte. I spend my free time practicing yoga, lifting weights, baking, tending to my house plants, hiking, playing board games, being a groupie for my brother's band, "Migrant Birds", and traveling to visit friends.

I moved to Clemmons in March to put down roots in a new area. CPC's welcoming spirit, robust music program, and full slate of programming, despite being in transition, drew me right in! I look forward to working with new member and outreach to help others find their home at Clemmons Presbyterian.



THE NEW HIP FAREWELL PERFORMANCE
FEATURING ALLEN COOPER



ELVIS IS BACK

FEBRUARY 17, 2024

DINNER - 6 PM | SHOW - 7 PM

Tickets: VIP table (seats 6-8) - \$350 | Adults - \$30 each
Kids (age 6-16) - \$15 | Kids (5 and under) - Free

Menu

Salad, Bread, Spaghetti, and Dessert

Purchase tickets online at
www.ClemmonsPresbyterian.org/elvis
or by scanning the QR code



Enjoy dinner and a show to benefit the CPC building fund

February Birthdays



Jenna Caputi	1	Kayla Stovall	12	Susan Pugh	23
Stevie Armbrrecht	1	Jane Ring	14	Roger Hartsfield	23
Anne Welch	2	Sara Morris	17	Beth Maclin	23
Dan Darst	4	Betty Balser	17	Dana Schram	23
Rev. Timothy Porter	5	Bruce Sanspree	17	Lexy Schram	23
Chris Sheehan	5	Rob Swaim	17	Owen Smith	25
Ben Tedder	5	Rachel Warren	18	Callie Warren	25
Birch Boyd	5	Jim Register	18	Elizabeth Morris	26
Steve Moss	7	Donna Stovall	19	Brennan Klingler	26
Jacob Smith	7	Julia Switzer	20	Carolyn Stallard	26
Jennifer Holton	7	Ann Cuningham	20	Lee Norris	27
Karen Sell	7	Kirkie Blackwood	21	Linda Register	27
Bobbie Calgaro	8	Leo Peraldo	22	Cindy Adams	28
Zeresenai Markos	8	Susan Preston	22	Brent Eaton	29
George Aitken	9	Kay Teeter	22		

Clemmons Presbyterian Prayers

CPC Members to Remember in Your Prayers

Margaret Moore, Jan Royer, Kerry Mowery, Nancy Shelton, Ann Oates, Larry Gregory, Mary Brookwell, Jan Smith, George Jensen, Bev Tosi, Patty Chidester, Ann Cuningham, Eve Shaw

Relatives & Friends:

David Baker (Katie McDowell's friend)
 Kelly Belcher (Winn and Frankie Muse's friend)
 Anna Moss (Stephen and Rachel Moss' daughter-in-law)
 Kent and Jane Wold (Bruce Wold's parents)
 Heather McSwain (Roger & Cyndy Hartsfield's family)
 The family of Patricia Fleming (Katie McDowell's mother)
 Keith Stanley (Allen and Rhonda Cooper's friend)
 Barbara Ratzlaff (Nate Ratzlaff's mother)
 Cathy Williamson (Carolyn Brown's sister)
 Henry Hayes (Dave Westlake)

Beverley McPherson (Bessie Belcher's sister)
 Bob Lingerfelt (Carolyn Brown's brother)
 Jennifer Thomas (Carolyn Brown's niece)
 Hiroyuki Koyama (Cyndy Hartsfield's daughter-in-law's father)

Special Prayer Concerns:

Peace, All Military Service People & their families, Salem Presbytery Hispanic Mission, CPC members seeking jobs, Rev. John McCall (the PCUSA Mission Worker CPC helps support in Taiwan)

Please contact the church office
office@clemmonspresbyterian.org with
updates to the prayer list.

Condolences to and prayers for:

the family of Kathy Harrold upon her passing on January 3. Kathy's funeral was held at CPC on January 13.



Thank You Elders!

The session and congregation of Clemmons Presbyterian Church would like to thank the following elders who are completing their terms: Susan Allred, Lora Crowley, Kathy Hedrick, Jenn Holton, and Scott Williford. Your love, dedicated service, and compassion for CPC has helped build Christ's kingdom in our midst!

Thank you to Rebekah Ayscue, Jennifer Gardner, Bob Geyer, Sandy Moffet, and Bev Sanford for answering God's call to love and serve the Church as an elder! We look forward to your partnership in the gospel and the journey ahead.

On Sunday, January 28 the incoming elders were ordained and installed during the worship service.



Stephen Ministry

Pastors will always be on the front lines of care, especially during times of crisis, but there are always many more needs for ongoing, one-to-one care than pastors can effectively meet by themselves.

The Surgeon General reports that there is an “epidemic” of loneliness in our society. We are more “connected” through technology and social media, but we are more isolated than ever.

You may not be going through a crisis—perhaps you just need conversation and connection. At certain times of our lives, we all feel this way. You may think that you can do it alone, in isolation. The truth is, we cannot. That's not the way God made us. We all need human connection.

Do you need someone to just listen? Stephen Ministers are gifted laypeople who receive training to support and extend, not replace, the care that pastors continue to provide. Stephen Ministers reach out with God's love to people who are hurting—congregation members and nonmembers alike. A Stephen Minister is a caring Christian friend who listens, cares, prays, supports, and encourages.

If you or someone you know is in need of confidential care and support, Stephen Ministry is available. For more information, or to request a Stephen Minister, contact CPC today at 336-766-4631.



CONSTRUCTION AT CPC

Please note: during the **week of February 5** we will have new shingles installed on every building.

The contractor will start with the sanctuary first and work their way towards the fellowship hall, 200 building and then the 100 building last.



Clemmons Presbyterian *Weather Alert*

In the event of inclement weather any cancellations will be posted on the church's website, Facebook page and on WXII-12. An email and text message will also be sent out.

Clemmons Presbyterian Church
3930 Clemmons Road
Clemmons, NC 27012
336-766-4631

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Instagram: [@ClemmonsPresby](https://www.instagram.com/ClemmonsPresby)

YouTube: [www.youtube.com/
ClemmonsPresbyterianChurch](http://www.youtube.com/ClemmonsPresbyterianChurch)

Return Service Requested

Church Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Friday 8:30 am - 2:00 pm
(Closed for lunch from 12:30-1:00 pm)

Wednesday Night Dinners

EACH WEEK AT 5:15 PM

The menu will be printed in the highlights sheet each week

Please RSVP (each week)
www.clemmonspresbyterian.org/dinner
or by scanning the QR code

