



## *From the Pastor:*

Dear Church Family,

Be sure to make plans to stay after worship this Sunday for a congregational luncheon that includes spaghetti and meatballs, as well as a report from Connie Bennett on her recent medical mission trip to Trinidad. The church is providing the meal and you may bring a dessert to share if you'd like.

In our current sermons, we are taking a look at what the Bible says about our five main areas of ministry emphasis: worship, discipleship, fellowship, mercy and stewardship.

This past week we considered fellowship - our partnership or common life together in the Lord. Fellowship takes place when we gather to know the Lord and serve one another well. In the early church the people of God were "devoted to the apostle's teaching, fellowship, breaking bread and prayer." (Acts 2:42)

Our commitment to one another in the Lord is especially sweet as our culture is increasingly individualistic and self-centered. It's good to be with others and to serve others! And the Bible says that it's not good to be alone and that there is strength in numbers! (see Genesis 2:18 and Ecclesiastes 4:12)

This Sunday our sermon will speak to the subject of mercy - our God is merciful, he has been merciful to us and we should be merciful to others. This is best shown when we take care of our fellow church family members and as we serve Gospel & material needs locally and around the world through evangelism and missions.

In our world enamored with social gospel, we need to be reminded that man's greatest need is salvation through Jesus Christ. And yes, material needs are important. We do desire people to have work, food, shelter and other basic life needs. Our job, however, is to be redemptive, helping others see their need and give them a way forward in life, especially in the life to come through Jesus Christ.

For those interested in joining the church, I will be planning to teach a New Members Class during the Sunday School hour beginning March 5. The class considers the seven questions of church membership. - one per week for 7 weeks. Anyone interested may attend! Please let me know of your desire to participate.

Lord willing - see you on Sunday!

**Congregational Luncheon** is THIS Sunday, February 19 after Worship. Connie Bennett will be giving a report on her Mission Trip to Trinidad. The Church will provide the meal of spaghetti, meatballs, salad, and bread. The Congregation is requested to bring desserts.

**Fellowship while Crafting.** Saturday, March 4th, at 1 PM, join in the fun! We will be making a craft to add to gift bags for our homebound members! Lunch will be from Chick-Fil-A--chicken nuggets and chicken salad with fresh fruit!

**Visiting Homebound.** Saturday, March 18th, at 2 PM, please join in visiting our homebound members!

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Booklets are available at the piano narthex entrance with information that will help you shop year round.

### January:

- Fishing hooks & line for kits. Small 2 inch plastic boxes from Dollar Tree are great for the kits.
- Tools (Hammer & nails, Screwdriver & screws, measuring tapes)
- Carabiner clips

### February:

- 1 1/2 yards of fabric
- Sewing kits. Walmart has \$1 kits or donate packs of needles, matching thread, small scissors
- Utility candles: Dollar Trees sells 6 pack for \$1

### January Financial Update

Contributions:	\$17,377.96
Expenses:	\$20,609.99
Budget:	\$22,042.90

## First ARP Calendar of Events

### February

- 19 Congregational Luncheon & Short-Term Missions Report
- 20 Men's Gathering - 7 PM
- \* Young at Heart Luncheon resumes in March
- 22 Ladies Bible Study - 11 AM

### March

- 1 Ladies Bible Study - 11 AM
- 4 Craft Day & Chick-Fil-A Lunch 1 PM
- 5 Lord's Supper
- 6 Men's Lunch
- 7 Women's Envy of Eve Book Study - 7 PM
- 8 Ladies Bible Study - 11 AM
- 11 Church Workday
- 13 Men's Evening Gathering
- 15 Ladies Bible Study - 11 AM
- 18 Homebound Visitation
- 20 Stated Session Meeting
- 22 Ladies Bible Study - 11 AM
- 28 Young at Heart Luncheon
- 29 Ladies Bible Study - 11 AM

## FEBRUARY

### BIRTHDAYS

Sarah Ickes	2/1
Don Childrey	2/2
Dylan Jones	2/2
Harold Boswell	2/4
Janice Richardson	2/4
John Robinson	2/7
Stephanie Dobbins	2/9
George McKinney	2/10
Margaret Owens	2/10
Abigail Newton	2/13
Jan Burwell	2/15
Karen Hoke	2/17
Lynn Limon	2/18
Al Wright	2/18
Alex Jones	2/22
John Greeson	2/23
Karen Jones	2/27
Jim Christopher	2/28

### ANNIVERSARIES

John & Cathy Young (38)	2/3
Stephen & Ann Dobbins (23)	2/12
Ossie & Jennifer Spaulding (21)	2/14
Michael & Mary Peppo (25)	2/21

### PRAYER REQUESTS

Cindy Wright will be having hip replacement surgery on February 22.

Give thanks to the Lord for a successful surgery for Lynn Limon on 2/13. Pray that she is cancer-free.

Freeman Baulding will be having surgery on his esophagus in early March.

Connie Bennett will be having foot surgery on March 22.

### Nursery:

Feb 19: Kathy & Laurie Isley  
Feb 26: Macon Baird & Fran Haynes

### Counter:

Feb 19: Jay Snow  
Feb 26: Ferald Mann

### Deacon Duty:

Feb 19: Stephen Robinson  
Feb 26: Glenn Owens

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