



# THE EXTENDED FAMILY

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Volume 24 Issue 2

March 2017

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## *Steve's Slant*

In her final sermon here, Beth told a story about how quickly our congregation is adapting to and implementing the internal structure of our ministry plan. (See the following pages for one last word from Beth and a photo from Sunday's wonderful luncheon celebration.)

She noted that at the most recent meeting of the Congregational Life Leadership Team, the group had already identified three separate ministry teams. This same thing has happened across all four of our new goal areas: our leadership teams have met and identified several specific ministry teams that will help us realize our goals.

To keep us all up to date, and to help us become more familiar with this new internal structure, I will outline our goals below, along with each of the new ministry teams that have formed to support them. The facilitators for each ministry team are in parentheses:

**Goal One: Improve Congregational Care and Hospitality**

- Hospitality (Vicki Collins)
- Nurture (Georgena Millar and Ned Guardenier)
- Fellowship/Special Events (Sarah Anne Eller and Eloise Murchison)

**Goal Two: Deepen Our Engagement with and Service to the Wider Community**

- Increase use of the Ohler Spiritual Center (Bob Gambrell)
- Expand our interaction with the college (Diana Sanderson)
- Advocacy and Social Justice (Jamie Dale and Kathy Rouse)

(Note that several specific action teams have already formed out of this larger group: political issues, inclusivity, partnerships/collaboration, environment, health, immigrants and refugees, and poverty/homelessness.)

**Goal Three: Enhance Faith Development and Worship and Music Experience**

- Adult Education (TBD)
- Children Education (Kristin Williams and . . .)
- Worship and Liturgical Arts (Corise Gambrell)

**Goal Four: Strengthen the Church for a Sustainable Future**

- Administration (Mike Levi)
- Communications (Barbara Griswold)

(Note that several specific action teams have already formed here, too: website and social media, print media, public relations, church directory.)

When we started this work, one of the primary hopes driving our Ministry Plan was that it would help us find a way to invite a broader cross section of the congregation to participate in and support our ministries and programs. I think it's safe to say that we have done that.

If you haven't already done so -- and so many of you have! -- let me encourage you to review these teams, find your place and jump in! This train is heading for our future!

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**PRAYERS WELCOME FOR:** Neil Satterfield; Tom Moore; Barbara Robinson; Chuck & Lue Stephenson.

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**March Birthdays!**

Betty Siviter	March 2	Evva Hamilton	March 6
Beth Newman	March 6	Catherine Showalter	March 7
Patrick Sanderson	March 10	Amber Crumpler	March 11
Bill Sanderson	March 15	Wendy Myer	March 18
Anne Craven	March 18	Anne Hamilton	March 20
Betty Boyd	March 21	Dennis Stockdale	March 24
Jonathan Crumpler	March 26	Andrew Pulsifer	March 27
John Bishop	March 29		



The Warren Wilson Book Group will be meeting on Thurs. March 9th at noon in the Fellowship Hall. Susan Taylor will lead the discussion of "America's First Daughter" by Stephanie Dray and Laura Kamole. It is the story of Thomas Jefferson's daughter and her role beginning with his years at Monticello and moving on to his Presidency and beyond. Bring your own sandwich for lunch and snacks will be provided. (Submitted by Sandy Brauer)

**ASH WEDNESDAY** Weather permitting, on Wednesday, March 1st, we will hold a Taizé-style Ash Wednesday service at 5:30 on the porch of the fellowship hall, with imposition of ashes. If the weather is too chilly, we will gather inside the fellowship hall. We hope you'll join us for this special service as we mark our entrance into the Lenten season.



**Ash Wednesday**

**Lenten Luncheon Schedule**

**Services begin each Wednesday at noon**

March 1 (Ash Wednesday)	St. James Episcopal
March 8	First Christian
March 15	Ridgecrest (First Baptist as host)
March 22	Montreat Presbyterian/ Montreat Conference Center
March 29	Black Mountain United Methodist
April 5	Tabernacle United Methodist
April 15 (Good Friday)	Black Mountain Presbyterian



## Update on Two Agencies WWPC Supports: Homeward Bound and Pisgah Legal



Homeward Bound is a nonprofit organization to end homelessness in Buncombe and Henderson Counties. They believe in the “Housing First” national best practice for ending homelessness. Their Homeless Services offer support, services, and hope to people who are homeless while they wait to get into permanent housing. Homeward Bound offers two types of housing programs: Rapid Rehousing and Permanent Supportive Housing. Eighty-nine percent of the 1,562 people housed have not become homeless again. It costs \$23,000 of public resources annually for each homeless person. To house a homeless person, it costs \$10,000 the first year and \$3,800 for following years. Go to [homewardboundwnc.org](http://homewardboundwnc.org) if you would like to sign up for the Homeward Bound newsletter and check out volunteer opportunities.



**PISGAH**  
LEGAL SERVICES

Pisgah Legal seeks to pursue justice by providing legal assistance and advocacy to help low-income people in Western North Carolina meet their basic needs and improve their lives. Pisgah Legal Services is an innovative nonprofit law firm founded in 1978 that:

- provides free civil legal aid to people who live in poverty;
- helps more than 15,000 of the most vulnerable people in our communities annually to meet urgent needs such as: housing, safety from abuse, health care, and income;
- partners with dozens of other agencies to make sustainable change for people in crisis;
- coordinates the services of more than 300 pro bono attorneys (and 18 staff attorneys) in WNC;
- improves systems and policies that impact the lives of thousands of low-income people.

Go to [pisgahlegal.org](http://pisgahlegal.org) for more information.

*(Paulette Heck, for Social Outreach)*



The Communications Committee is currently updating the information found in the Church Directory. Please help them by checking to see if your information is current. You can do this by looking through the roster in the Narthex following church. The roster will be in the Narthex for several Sundays to make sure everyone has time to make corrections or additions as needed. There will be a photographer available.

Thank you for your help with this bi-annual project!

*(The Communications Committee)*

**THE HENSLEYS ARE NOW AT HOME IN HABITAT PRESBYTERIAN/METHODIST HOUSE # 25  
AND THANKFUL TO ALL WHO HELPED BUILD IT**

When Cindy Hensley applied to become a Habitat homeowner, she wrote *“I would like a safe and family-friendly neighborhood to raise my children.”*

That wish came true when she closed on Presbyterian/Methodist # 25 house in Asheville’s Shiloh section on February 23, and with her children, Bryson and Bryanna, moved in two days later.

The final countdown for the big day began on Friday, February 10, when Asheville Area Habitat held a luncheon to dedicate five new houses including this one, and Rev. Steve Runholt presented a ceremonial key to Cindy and her children.



(Photo by Greta Bush, Habitat)

Volunteer work on the house began on August 11 when four WWPC members helped prepare for the wall raising event the following day.

After that our volunteers were back at the site eight more times through mid-October, working a total 203 hours in 2016. The total hours surpassed our total of 174 in 2015 and were once again the most by members of any participating church.

On behalf of Habitat and the Hensleys, a very special “thank you” goes to the following people for donating half a day, or more, to help build Presbyterian/Methodist House # 25:

Sally Broughton  
Anne Dale

Don Collins  
Jamie Dale

Elisabeth Cook  
Andrew Daugherty

(continued)

Derron Daugherty  
Ross Griswold

Bob Gambrell  
Ned Guardenier

Larry Griswold  
Bill Heck

Toby Ives  
Ken Murchison  
Bill Sanderson

Sally McDuffie  
Kelly Rich  
Jerry Vaneman

Georgena Millar  
Kathy Rouse

Another very special “thank you” also goes to everyone who contributed to the special offering when the Hensley’s visited our worship service last September, and to the Social Outreach Committee for their continued support of Asheville Area Habitat for Humanity.

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**A REVIEW OF THE 2016 FINANCIAL YEAR** - Last year was a financially challenging one for our church and for many other mainline denominational churches locally and nationally. However, there were some bright spots, and the energy and interest surrounding implementation of the new Ministry Plan, “Strength for Today, Bright Hope for Tomorrow” bode well for our future.

The Operating Fund budget provides the primary support for staff, programs and administration costs with the majority of the funds coming from congregant pledges and regular giving. The following is a brief summary of actual and budgeted income and expenses for 2016, with the comparable figures for 2015.

	2016	2015
Actual pledged giving	\$176,308	\$168,095
Actual regular unpledged giving	\$ 16,055	\$ 21,400
Actual loose plate offerings	\$ 5,970	\$ 6,097
Total actual income from all sources	\$209,088	\$203,540
Total budgeted income from all sources	\$233,412	\$230,945
Total actual expenses	\$231,226	\$221,964
Total budgeted expenses	\$232,397	\$230,945
Transfer from Memorial Fund to balance budget	\$ 22,137	\$ 18,424

Bright spots include the increase in actual pledged giving despite the small decreases in membership and church attendance, and keeping the actual operating fund expenses below budget. Unfortunately the actual income was significantly lower than budget. Initial steps have been taken in the development of the 2017 budget to address this issue and will remain a focus of the Budget and Finance Committee through the year as we seek to develop an Operating Fund Budget that requires no support from Special Purpose funds.

Another bright spot is the strong support congregants provided for Special Offerings to Presbytery and directly to organizations addressing community needs. In 2016 Special Offerings beyond our church totaled \$13,153. Major recipients were Presbytery (\$5,218), Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (\$1,900), Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry (\$2,0350) and Asheville Area Habitat for Humanity (\$1,960). These funds were in addition to the donations from the Operating Fund (\$8,500 to Presbytery programs and \$9,500 to 22 different local organizations). We are truly a congregation of generous givers!

Budget and Finance Committee





April 9th is Palm Sunday. It's also the day to receive the One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) offering. The funds support the Presbyterian Hunger Program (36%), Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (32%), and the Self Development of People (32%). Funds are used locally and internationally.

In late February, a Lenten Giving Calendar will be available for use from Ash Wednesday to Easter. It will prompt reflection, and giving to the One Great Hour of Sharing. What will a "unit" be to you? A penny, a nickel, a dollar?

Safe water is important here in the United States and in other countries. Please be generous with your gift to One Great Hour of Sharing on Palm Sunday. (Anne Dale, Social Outreach)

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**Dear Warren Wilson Church Family,**  
I'm writing this on the Wednesday before my last Sunday. We've just wrapped up our staff meeting where we've gone over the details of my last service in your midst as your Associate in Ministry. It's hard to believe it's been almost eight years; I started this job in the summer of 2009 and Tess hadn't even begun kindergarten yet. These years have been rich for me in so many ways, and I'm so grateful to all of you for all you've done for us as a family, especially when I was sick. But I'm mostly grateful for the opportunity to be a pastor in your midst. It is a wondrous gift to be invited into the life of a church and into the lives of its members. You have been gracious and faithful in so many ways and have been an inspiration to me and models of faithfulness for my children. I will be eternally grateful to God for that. Brownie, the girls and I will miss being with you on a regular basis, but we look forward to visiting often. May God bless you and keep you, Beth





**W-1**  
**Presbytery of Western North Carolina**

**Spirituality Retreat**

**March 31-April 1, 2017**

**Topic: Challenges for the Church in a Time of Change**

**at Bonclarken Conference Center outside Flat Rock, NC**

**Description:**

We face a significant number of challenging issues as a nation and as people of faith. The divisive and differing viewpoints related to these issues were laid bare in the rhetoric and conduct of our recent elections. Our nation, communities of faith and even our families remain wounded and in some cases deeply divided around a number of issues. This year's spirituality retreat will provide a setting to consider some of these vexing issues for ourselves and for the church. We'll share perspectives, engage in spiritual practices, and consider the role of the church in the intersectional work of reconciliation, engagement and advocacy. In a world of challenge and change, we'll look at how the Season of Lent can be a time of both compassionate healing and prophetic witness for ourselves and for our worshipping communities.

**Retreat Leader: Carl Horton**



**Carl Horton** leads the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program for the Presbyterian Church (USA). He is a lifelong Presbyterian and has served in installed and transitional pastorates in California, Nebraska and Kentucky. He spent a number of years doing leader development for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and now focuses that work within the denomination's Peacemaking Program. He is highly committed to equipping peacemakers and strengthening the church at all levels for its engagement in peacemaking. In his free time he is a backyard farmer, piano student, and kayaking novice.

(For more information and the complete flyer, please see Sally Broughton)



At Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church we are mothers and fathers, single and married, gay and straight, young and old, black and white, prosperous and poor, uncertain and sure, broken and whole. We are the many faces of humanity-yet as a community of faith, we are committed in our diversity to be one in Christ!

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*The Extended Family* ◻