



THE EXTENDED FAMILY

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Volume 27 Issue 2

March 2020

Steve's Slant

Many of you will know that Robyn's mother, Betty, used to direct the Cancer Center at DeKalb Medical Center in Decatur, Georgia.

Time and again, Betty found that the single biggest predictor in the outcome for a given patient was the extent to which they felt hopeful about their prospects. No two people are alike, of course, but it was her repeated experience that two patients could have the same diagnosis, and could undergo the same treatment, and if one was hopeful about her prospects, and one was less so, the former almost always tended to do better than the latter.

Thankfully most of us are not cancer patients (though some of you are survivors), so this comparison has its limits.

But this particular moment in the life of our country feels awfully scary and uncertain to a lot of us: uncertainty about what may be the most high stakes election any of us will ever vote in; predictions of a global pandemic; rising temperatures and rising seas; an unstable stock market.

Who will win in November? Will the corona virus sweep through North Carolina? What can we do about climate change? Is my retirement account safe and secure?

There are no easy answers to these questions, and no quick solutions to the troublesome dynamics that are giving rise to them.

That said, we have a choice as to how we respond to these hard realities. We can wait around passively, and just worry ourselves silly. Or we can take active measures to change the things we can change, and to make sure we preserve our own well-being vis-à-vis the things we cannot change.

For starters, we can pray. And we can wage hope.

As for the former, we will certainly make space for prayer -- personal and corporate -- in worship. As for the latter, and to borrow a phrase from one of the candidates in this year's presidential race, we have a plan for that.

We're calling it *COMFORT FOOD: an evening of stories, songs (and snacks) to restore you, body, mind and soul.*

The stories we tell and the songs we sing will likely not be overtly religious. But they will be selected because they will be easy to sing, or because they will inspire you, or make you smile, and perhaps even make you laugh out loud.

Our own hope is that by the time you leave, you will feel more hopeful yourself, buoyed by the shared experience you've just enjoyed with your fellow travelers.

It's another way to be church together, outside of Sunday morning. But because the program for a given evening won't be overtly religious, there is an added benefit.

You can bring a friend! Perhaps someone who you might not feel comfortable inviting to come to worship, but who you nevertheless would like to introduce to our congregation. This is a perfect way to give them a taste (literally and otherwise) of what we're like -- who we are, and how we are. And what we eat!

(Continued on page 2)

Steve's Slant Continued...

So mark your calendars now: Tuesday evening, March 31st at 7:00 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall. Come prepared to sing and to listen and to laugh. Come prepared to have your spirits lifted. Come prepared to create hope together, and to leave feeling better about the world and your place in it.

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March Birthdays!

Betty Siviter March 2

Catherine Showalter March 7

Bill Sanderson March 15

Harriet Cowal March 22

Andrew Pulsifer March 27

Evva Hamilton March 6

Patrick Sanderson March 10

Wendy Meyer March 18

Dennis Stockdale March 24

John Bishop March 29

Beth Newman March 6

Amber Crumpler March 11

Anne Hamilton March 20

Jonathan Crumpler March 26



The Warren Wilson Book Group will be meeting on Thursday, March 12, at noon in the Fellowship Hall. Sandy Brauer will lead the discussion of "Gold" by Chris Cleave. The story focuses on a young woman deciding whether or not to try for Olympic Gold at a time when her daughter is fighting Leukemia.... Chris Cleave is a master storyteller. Bring a sandwich and join the discussion. Jo Majka will provide snacks.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

9:45 am Lent/Easter Book Study. *Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again.* Author Rachel Held Evans explores the life shaping power of storytelling and literature, diving deep into eight biblical stories. Each story stands on its own, so you do not need to read every chapter to participate. Ask Grace Boyer for a book and schedule.

The Congregational Life Team thanks the loving people of this congregation for the gracious, generous contributions of food and service for the memorial receptions we have at WWPC, especially for the out pouring of food and kindnesses in the past two months. We have received many thanks from visitors as well as the congregation.

You are the church!
Congregational Life Team



THANK YOU!

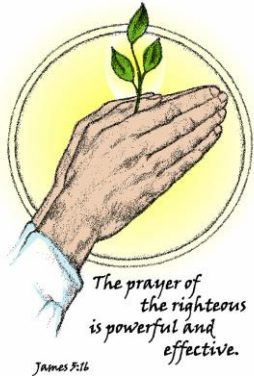


Don't forget to change your clocks! Set them ahead one hour before you go to bed on March 7. Spring forward!

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING REPORT

On February 2, our youth and children participated in the national Souper Bowl of Caring, a one day , youth led effort to collect food and monetary donations to help address the issue of hunger in our local community. They recommended (and Session approved) that the collection this year be donated to MANNA Food Bank. The collection totaled 148 lbs. of non-perishable food items (providing 123 meals) and \$896.00 in monetary donations. Thanks to all who supported our youth and children as they participated in such a successful and worthwhile project.





PLEASE HOLD THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS: Pat Levi and the Levi family on Mike's death; Jon Hettrick and family; Kim Reece, daughter of Nancy and Rick Garrison, who is in the hospital, and Pat Crumpler.

Room in the Inn

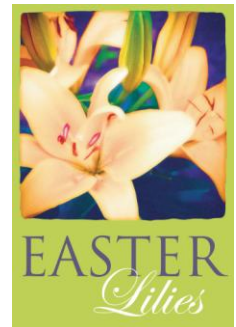
We are hosting 12 ladies for Room in the Inn for the week of March 22. We need people to bring lunches, suppers and **ESPECIALLY NEED** overnight hosts. Please sign up in the narthex or see Susan Laney or Vicki Collins for questions.

Special thanks to the Caring Groups who have already volunteered to bring 2 dinners for the women!

Comfort Food for the Soul...

Feeling stressed? Depleted? Sounds like you need some COMFORT FOOD, an evening of stories, songs (and snacks) to restore you, body, mind and soul. All are welcome to this ecumenical event led by Joel P. Rogers, Steve Runholt and Robyn Castellani Runholt. 7:00 pm Tuesday March 31.

Look for order forms in your bulletins to purchase Easter Lilies in honor/memory of your loved ones in the coming weeks. The flowers will be displayed on Easter Sunday in the Chancel of the Sanctuary. Following the service, take them home to enjoy!



Upcoming in April

April 5, Palm Sunday Service

Arrive at 10:45 am out in front of the chapel to get your palms!

April 9, Maundy Thursday Service

7:00 pm in the Chapel

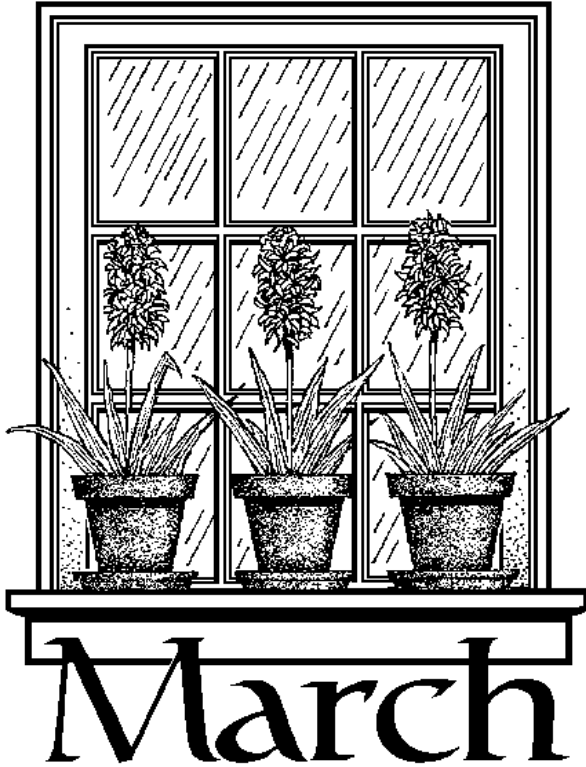
April 12, Easter Sunday Service, 11:00 am

Intergenerational Sunday School Class



On Sunday, February 23 we joined together for our second intergenerational Sunday School Class. For the art portion of the class, we worked on images of “The Transfiguration”.





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 - and
everything in between.

Together we are the
many faces of humanity,
yet as a joyful, caring
and loving community of
faith, we are committed
in our diversity to be one
in Christ!

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The Extended Family