

THE EXTENDED FAMILY

Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church

Steve's Slant

BY REV. DR. STEVE RUNHOLT



I'm writing this, the penultimate instalment of Steve's Slant, sitting in my favorite chair at home, a place I love to read and write. With Robyn, we're watching a steady stream of Trick or Treaters passing by our house, and on all the houses on our street, everyone clearly eager to join the big, bright, loud street party that is Vermont Avenue in West Asheville on Halloween.

I would guess that most revelers – most Americans for that matter -- are unaware of the history of Halloween, particularly the part about how the ancient observance of All Hallows Eve, a day of remembering the dead, eventually gave rise to the Church's observance of All Saints Day.

I should note that not everyone approves of the revelry on Vermont Avenue. And probably not everyone approves of All Saints Sunday for that matter. It's hard to imagine John Calvin, for example, loving children dressing up in costumes and Trick or Treating for candy, or approving of the idea of remembering the dead. And you certainly won't find anything about Halloween in the Book of Order!

But I think we all instinctively understand the importance of remembering our loved ones. On some deep level it just feels right to commemorate and celebrate the saints who've gone before us: the people whose lives inspire us, by the quality of their own, to be the best versions of ourselves we can be. To fulfill the potential God has entrusted to each of us, individually and collectively.

So even though the tone of the two events is very different – costumes and revelry at one, reverence and respect at the other -- it's honestly not that big of a jump in my mind from Halloween to All Saints Sunday.

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It's even less of a jump for me to shift from thinking about the ancient practice of remembering our forebears, which marks our entrance into November, to anticipating Thanksgiving, the wonderful feast day that falls toward the end of the month and marks our entrance into the holiday season more generally.

I think about all the beautiful people who have gone on to God's eternal embrace during my time here, and about how thankful I am to have been their pastor, what a privilege that has been.

I am sure you feel the same way: you, too, are aware of all the beautiful people who are no longer with us, mindful of how grateful you are to have once sat beside them in the pews, conscious of what a privilege it was to have counted them as friends.

After all these years with you -- and having done ninety memorial services here -- my own list of saints is far too long to recite here. Plus, I have my own names to add to that list, faithful loved ones whose legacies, as saints, are more specifically personal to me. But taking all those names together, I'm glad to close out this edition of Steve's Slant by remembering and celebrating the lessons they taught me.

- About the importance of waging joy and creating hope.
- About being generous, and curious.
- About being good stewards of all the gifts and resources God entrusts to me, to us.
- About how to draw on my faith when facing down giants, and trusting God to see me through, to see us through, whatever challenge is coming our way.
- About the value of kindness.
- About how to die well. (And, yes, in a few cases, how not to die.)

These are just a sliver of the lessons the faithful, departed members and friends of Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church (and the other saints I've known) have taught me over the years. But they are lessons I will take with me when I leave this place. They are a lasting gift for which I am deeply thankful.

THE WARREN WILSON BOOK GROUP



The Warren Wilson Book Group will meet at noon in Fellowship Hall on Nov. 9. From 12-12:30 bring your lunch and get to know us! At 12:30 Sue will lead our discussion of *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus. New readers are always welcome!



JOYS AND CONCERNS

Our Healing Prayers go out to: Derron Daugherty and family, on his accident; Dolores Coulter, Derron's sister; Beth Newman; Susan Runholt, Steve's sister; Lee Dugger and family; Betty Smith; Salyna Morgan; Blake Joslin and his parents, Carol Lee and Brooks; Houston Huggins, Beth Meriwether's brother; Bartley Spencer, Sandy Brauer's brother; Jackie Wintle's sister, Judy Reynolds; Pat Crumpler; Shane Reece, Nancy Garrison's son; Pat Wilson's son, Kell; Erika Lytle; Jackie Ligon Cole; Rick Garrison; Fran Roberts' sister-in-law, Linda Briggs; Flo Bishop; Jon Hettrick and his family; Marjorie Hettrick; Kim Reece, daughter of Nancy and Rick Garrison.



We want to celebrate more joys with our congregation. If you have something you would like to share (birth of child/grandchild, anniversary, wedding or any type of good news), please complete this [form](#) or scan the QR code at the right of the screen to take you to the form.



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Kay Stockdale	Nov. 3	Tom Eller	Nov. 12
Izzy Presnell-Smith	Nov. 14	Susan Daugherty	Nov. 16
Bev Ohler	Nov. 22	Ernst Laursen	Nov. 24
Sharon Lytle	Nov. 25	Sally Broughton	Nov. 26
Kathy Rouse	Nov. 27	Paul McDonald	Nov. 28
Steve Runholt	Nov. 29		



HABITAT FOR HUMANITY



Anne Dale learns a new skill as she helps with the Habitat build.



Ken Murchison and Andrew Daugherty also helped with the build in October.



Jim Storey and Jamie Dale point to their handywork on the project.

HABITAT CONTINUED...



Listed above, are the many church's who have donated their time and money to Habitats House of Faith #3

TRUNK OR TREAT



CREATIVE ARTS TEAM

Our newly formed Creative Arts team is off to a great start!

You may have seen the colored banners we've made hanging in the Narthex that represent the six colors of the LGBTQ flag.

Our next project will involve flying doves...curious? Get involved, join us!

Our Creative Arts Team members are, Cadence Cowal, Carolyn Cole, Donna Eagle Joslin, and Susan Daugherty. All are welcome!



ADULT EDUCATION THIS FALL

We will continue discussing David LaMotte's book, *You are Changing the World Whether You Like it or Not*, during the month of November.



SOMETIMES A LIGHT SURPRISES

STEWARDSHIP AND YOU

Sometimes a Light Surprises.

We're in our third week of Stewardship Season, and we've hit the \$45,820.00 mark toward our goal of \$216,500. Thanks so much to all those who have gotten us off to a great start!

Commitment letters have been distributed, and are coming in daily, so hopefully you have received yours. You may return your form by postal mail to the church at 101 Chapel Lane, Swannanoa, NC 28778, or complete it online by using the QR code at the right, at <https://warrenwilsonchurch.org/> or bring it with you to worship and drop it in the stewardship box in the narthex. Stewardship Season ends Nov. 19th. It is of course most helpful to the Administration Team too, in their efforts to be good stewards of our resources to know what resources will be available in the coming year.

Stewardship is a season of discernment. We do well to contemplate how the Spirit lives in us, guides us, and moves through us. As we review our goals, we also open our hearts to what lies ahead.

To be the body of Christ in the world, we need more than money. We need folks to prepare the communion elements, serve as liturgists, lead meetings, participate on ministry teams, sing in the choir, help with children and youth. When you share your time and talents, we all win. What does being a good steward look like in your life?

Stewardship Team Members: Diana Sanderson, Susan Daugherty, Beth Meriwether, Sandy Stanford, Steve Runholt, Donna Eagle Joslin, Elizabeth Cook, Sally Broughton



Manna Food Bank is in need of the following donations: oatmeal, jelly, cooking oil, and pasta as well as the usual personal items such as deodorant, shampoos, toothpaste, etc. Thank you for helping during this important time of year.



NOTEWORTHY EVENTS

Empty Bowls Dinner



THE CENTER FOR EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING PRESENTS

25th Annual

Empty Bowls Dinner

A BENEFIT FOR
HAYWOOD STREET
CONGREGATION

NOVEMBER 15TH, 2023

RANSOM FELLOWSHIP HALL

6:00 PM



SCAN TO PURCHASE TICKETS!

TICKETS

STUDENTS: \$15

GENERAL: \$25

RAFFLE: \$2



Thanksgiving Service

Join us on Sunday, November 19 in the chapel for our special Thanksgiving service. Each year the Farm crew, Landscape crew, Fiber Arts crew, and others on campus help decorate the sanctuary with a scene from the past that includes trees, leaves, farm implements, and even possibly a few farm animals which always animate our service!

This tradition began in 1933, and has continued each year in various locations on campus until 1964 when this chapel was completed, and it's been held here ever since. Come join us for this wonderful service.

Thanksgiving Dinner in Fellowship Hall



Making plans for Thanksgiving? Are you looking forward to company and traditional foods? Are you looking forward to the stress of cooking and housecleaning? Consider joining your church family for our Thanksgiving meal at 2pm November 23. We invite students, college staff, friends – everybody!

We need to get an estimate of the size of the group to make our plans, but definitely feel free to join us if you decide later! We always have plenty of food! We need to get an estimate of the size of the group to make our plans, but definitely feel free to join us if you decide later! We always have plenty of food!

It will help us to plan if you send a note to Vicki Collins (vcollins@warren-wilson.edu, 828-712-0251) with the following information:

Can you help set up? Can you help clean up? How many guests?

What would you like to bring? Turkey and gravy, Vegetarian main dish
Potatoes (white or sweet), Vegetable dish or salad, Rolls, cranberry relish,
Dessert?

Your family is welcome! This tradition has been popular with church members and especially welcome for students who are far from home and the campus dining room is closed. It is a good time to celebrate and meet new friends! Hope to see you there!



The Hanging of the Greens

Join us on Friday, December 1, for our Hanging of the Greens party in the sanctuary of the chapel. We'll have hot cider, home baked goods, and Christmas music playing to inspire us!

Bring cuttings from your property of magnolia, holly, white pine etc. and we'll put them to good use decorating the sanctuary for our Advent season. All are welcome and encouraged to join the fun.



Farewell Celebration

A colorful poster for a farewell celebration. The top left features a stylized sun with a rainbow and birds flying. The main text reads "FAREWELL CELEBRATION STEVE & ROBYN" in large, bold, blue letters. Below this, it says "Join us during our annual Wassail Event to celebrate Steve & Robyn before they ride off into their next adventure!". In the bottom left, there is an illustration of two people riding a tandem bicycle on a green hill. In the bottom right, there is a photograph of a man and a woman smiling. A circular graphic in the center says "SAVE THE DATE! DEC 17".

CHURCH CONTACTS

Church Office: 828-298-9092

Church Admin.: Donna Eagle Joslin, 825-298-9092, deagle@Warren-Wilson.edu

Minister: Rev. Dr. Steve Runholt, 828-712-7803, srunholt@Warren-Wilson.edu

Interim Dir. of Music: Frank W. Boles, 317-509-3089, frankwboles@gmail.com

Treasurer: Leslie Sayyar, 828-333-8867, treasurerwwpc@outlook.com

Treasurer: Brent Roberts, 919-844-6311, brentbroberts@icloud.com

Bookkeeper: Barbara Escalante, bookkeeperwwpc@outlook.com

