

The Informer

February 2020

FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD
THAT HE GAVE
HIS ONLY
BEGOTTEN
SON
THAT WHOSOEVER
BELIEVETH IN HIM
SHOULD NOT PERISH
BUT HAVE EVERLASTING LIFE

John 3:16

A NOTE FROM PASTOR TRACY

Wednesday February 17th is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the Lenten season. Lent comes from the Anglo Saxon word *lencten*, meaning “lengthen” and refers to the lengthening days of spring. The forty days represents the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, enduring the temptation of Satan and preparing to begin his ministry.

Lent is a time of repentance, fasting and preparation for the coming of Easter. It is a time of self-examination and reflection. In the early church, Lent began as a period of fasting and preparation for baptism by new converts and then became a time of penance by all Christians. Today, we focus on our relationships with God, growing as disciples and extending ourselves, often choosing to give up something or to volunteer and give of ourselves for others.

Much remains uncertain in the life of the church as we continue our pastoral search process, and in our world as we continue to deal with COVID 19, a struggling economy, and social justice issues. In his book, *Whistling in the Dark*, theologian Frederick Buechner encourages us to think of the forty days of Lent as the tithe (or 10%) of a year. That approach seems very appropriate during these challenging days. So at FBC, let’s view this Lenten season as a tithe of the year ahead, and let’s ask ourselves some important questions.

- ⇒ Who is God calling us be as individuals and a congregation?
- ⇒ What can we give to God – on our own and as a family of faith?
- ⇒ What can we give to the world around us?
- ⇒ What gifts can we gather together as we head toward resurrection – the resurrection of Christ, the church, and our world post-pandemic?

We’ll be asking these questions and more as we worship during the Lenten season.

Plan to join us for this meaningful service, time of preparation and discovery.

On the journey with you,

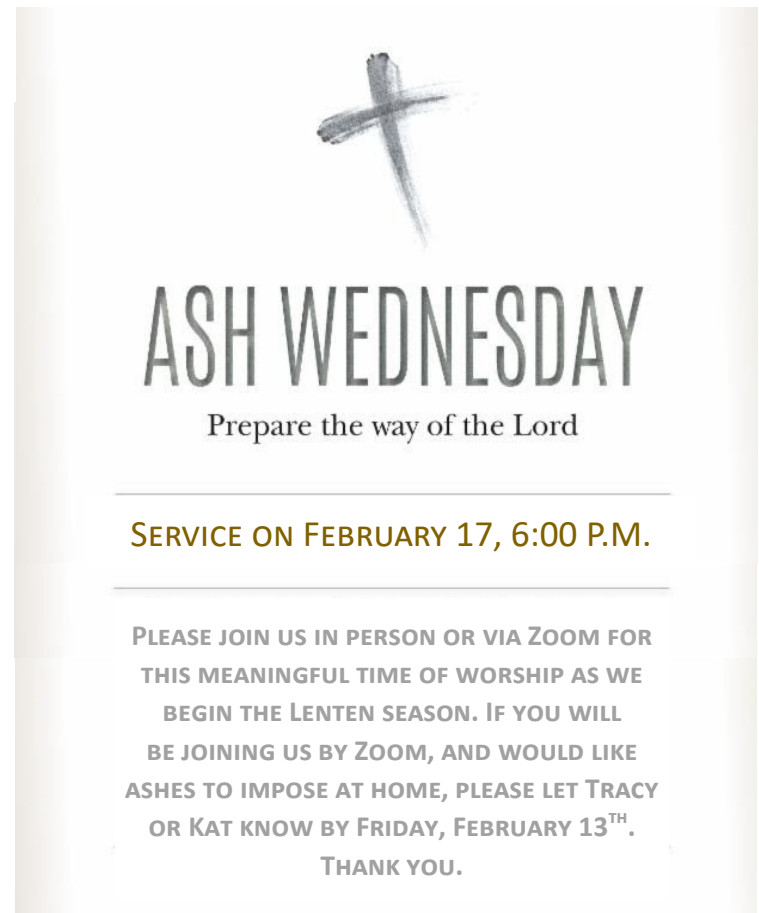
Pastor Tracy



Pastor Search Committee Update

The pastor search committee thanks you, the members of FBC, for your thoughtful and meaningful input during our series of Town Hall meetings this fall and winter. We now have the information we need to develop our church profile and pastoral profile – the two documents that potential candidates will read when considering a call to serve among us. Our goal is to have these documents ready to share with the congregation by mid-late February and to publish them publicly shortly thereafter. Then we will begin to gather resumes and screen candidates.

Please continue to pray for the Search Committee as we move into the next phase of our work, and pray that God will continue to prepare



ASH WEDNESDAY
Prepare the way of the Lord

SERVICE ON FEBRUARY 17, 6:00 P.M.

PLEASE JOIN US IN PERSON OR VIA ZOOM FOR THIS MEANINGFUL TIME OF WORSHIP AS WE BEGIN THE LENTEN SEASON. IF YOU WILL BE JOINING US BY ZOOM, AND WOULD LIKE ASHES TO IMPOSE AT HOME, PLEASE LET TRACY OR KAT KNOW BY FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13TH.
THANK YOU.


WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

If you are able to volunteer for our upcoming services please contact Sandy Yeatts or the church office at (434) 392—5041.

"I am very appreciative of the prayers and cards of encouragement with my struggles, especially in the last year with my R.A."

-Penny Huskey

And now these three remain:



but the greatest of these is love.

1 Corinthians 13:13

CrossCards

DEACON FAMILY MINISTRIES

Tim Trent	A—Bh	Jordan Whiley	Dr—E	Joyce Davis	P—R
Janett Southall	Bi—Coo	Kathryn Copeland	F—L	Chuck Daniel	S—Tn
Janett Southall	Cop—Dq	Becky Kelly	M—O	Joyce Davis	To—Z

LIFE DEACONS

Peggy Cave, Jack Davis, Jim Davis, Joyce Davis, Gene Watson, Cecil Yeatts

Have you hit the Pandemic Wall?

I have been hearing a good bit this week about how many of us are “hitting the wall” these days - and no wonder – we are almost a full year into the COVID-19 pandemic, and we’ve just come through a season of great social unrest and a contentious election. Psychologists and clergy are both seeing a significant uptick in the number of people who are really struggling these days. Here are some signs that you may be struggling too: an over-all sense of anxiety or worry, difficulty sleeping, extreme fatigue, feeling overwhelmed, increased anger or sadness, isolation. If these signs describe you, you are not alone. One psychiatrist reported this week that 53% of American adults would identify with a number of these indicators.

What can you do if you find yourself in the 53%? The good news is that there are a number of things that can help us all. First, name and own that you are struggling. Many of us feel like we have to “buck up” and handle this on our own, but we don’t. (Remember the recent sermon addressing the half-truth that God helps those that help themselves?). There is no shame in admitting that we need some help right now!

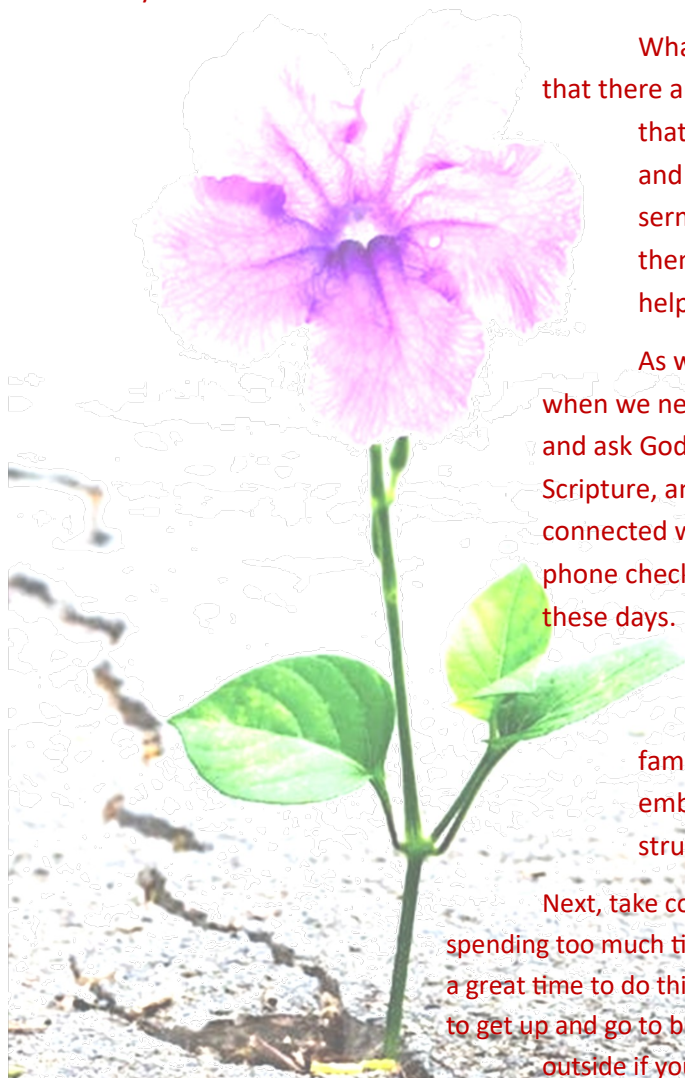
As we said in worship last week, God should be the first place we turn when we need help. Begin with prayer. Let God know about your struggles and ask God to give you peace and a sense of God’s presence. Read Scripture, and meditate on it (it’s a great way to go to sleep at night). Stay connected with your church family through worship, Bible study and phone check-ins. Human contact, even virtually, is essential for navigating these days.

Some of us may need help from a support group or a professional. Don’t be afraid to reach out to me or your family physician if you need additional support. If we are embarrassed or ashamed to reach out, those feelings just add to our struggles.


Next, take control of your environment as much as you are able. Are you spending too much time watching the news or your Facebook feed? Take a break (Lent is a great time to do this.) Try to stick to a routine, even if you are working from home. Try to get up and go to bed close to the same times each day, build in some exercise – outside if you can – the endorphins and fresh air do wonders to improve our outlook. Make one change in your eating habits to be healthier. End your screen time at least an hour before bed to help your mind transition to sleep. These may seem like small things, but they can add up to really help.

Friends, we will get through this, and the good news is that we don’t have to do it alone. Please let me know how we can help.

Pastor Tracy



FEBRUARY 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	2 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	3 Happy Birthday Carter Chassey 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman 7:00pm : Bible Study via Zoom	4 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	5 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	6 Happy Birthday Sandy Yeatts & Suzanne Towler
7 10am-Worship Service	8 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	9 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	10 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman 7:00pm : Bible Study via Zoom	11 Happy Birthday Alesha Jackson 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	12 Happy Birthday Mary Schmidt 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	13 Happy Birthday Victoria Wilson
14 Happy Birthday Carol Noel HAPPY Valentines Day 10am-Worship Service	15 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman 	16 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	17 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman 6:00pm : Ash Wednesday Worship Service	18 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	19 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	20
21 Happy Birthday Tricia Wingo 100am-Worship Service	22 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	23 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	24 Happy Birthday Terri Atkins Wilson 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman 7:00pm : Bible Study via Zoom	25 Happy Birthday Lenwood Jackson 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	26 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	27 Time TBA : Kid's Art Night at Red Door 104
28 10am-Worship Service						

Notes:

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

February 3	7:00 PM	Virtual Bible Study led by Ken Copeland via Zoom Meeting ID 721-659-616 with passcode 688863
February 7	10:00 AM	In-Person and Virtual Worship Service held in Church Sanctuary and via Zoom Meeting ID 626-833-551 with passcode 592659
February 7	10:45 AM	In-Person and Virtual Special Called Business Meeting to approve work for exterior of the building. Zoom Meeting ID 626-833-551 with passcode 592659.
February 10	7:00 PM	Virtual Bible Study led by Ken Copeland via Zoom Meeting ID 721-659-616 with passcode 688863
February 11	8:00 AM	Life Line Public Health Screening at Farmville Baptist Church
February 14	10:00 AM	In-Person and Virtual Worship Service held in Church Sanctuary and via Zoom Meeting ID 626-833-551 with passcode 592659
February 17	6:00 PM	In-Person and Virtual Ash Wednesday Worship Serviced held in Church Sanctuary and via Zoom Meeting ID 721-659-616 with passcode 688863
February 21	10:00 AM	In-Person and Virtual Worship Service held in Church Sanctuary and via Zoom Meeting ID 626-833-551 with passcode 592659
February 24	7:00 PM	Virtual Bible Study led by Ken Copeland via Zoom Meeting ID 721-659-616 with passcode 688863
February 28	10:00 AM	In-Person and Virtual Worship Service held in Church Sanctuary and via Zoom Meeting ID 626-833-551 with passcode 592659

Through 01.26.2021 Monthly Financial Report	January Receipts —Undesignated—	\$7,826.00
	January Expenditures —Undesignated—	\$9,141.62
	2021 Pledged Giving's	\$98,440.00

Remember you can also stay informed by following our Social Media Pages, and by checking the church website calendar!

www.facebook.com/farmvillebaptist.org



@farmvillebaptist



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