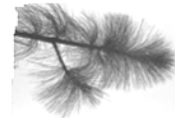




The Evergreen Bough



Volume II, No. 4, April, 2007

A monthly newsletter for the congregation and friends of Evergreen UMC

“People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will *never* forget how you made them feel”—*Maya Angelou*

EASTER

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Eugene Peterson writes, "Christ is the way as well as the truth and life. When we don't do it his way, we mess up the truth and we miss out on the life. We can't live a life more like Jesus by embracing a way of life less like Jesus."

This season of Lent is nearly at a close. Next week you and I will do two terribly difficult things; first, we will vividly remember the violent death of an innocent man. This man suffered horribly, and died, literally nailed to a tree for the single purpose of giving you and me an opportunity to either accept, or reject his love. Secondly, we will celebrate this same man's victory over death, a resurrection from the dead. This victory provides us our only opportunity for eternal life in right relationship with our Creator, the Lord God Almighty!

Why are these things difficult? They are difficult because they force us to acknowledge that God loves so much that God was willing to die for us to say, "yes!" And, that we must acknowledge God loves us so much that God was willing to die, and still let us say, "no."

I am in prayer for you, for our church, and for our community, that we all might say yes! Let us all choose the way that we might speak the truth, and enjoy the *Great* life.

Peace as we share the way of Jesus,
Pastor Jeff

Holy Week Services

Choir Cantata Thursday, April 5, 7pm
Good Friday Service April 6 7pm
Easter April 8 7am 9am 11am

Breakfast following the Sunrise service.

A Message from the PPRC

It is that time of year when the Appointive Cabinet of the North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church convenes to consider Pastoral reappointments and some may be wondering if the cabinet is considering a change for Evergreen this year. Evergreen's Pastor Parrish Relationship Committee, (PPRC), has been in close communication with District Superintendent Bill Gattis and we do not anticipate any change in Pastoral leadership at Evergreen this year.

As we prepare to begin our third year with Pastor Jeff, the PPRC is resolute in its role of providing an open line of communication between Evergreen staff and our congregation. The committee is available to assist all as together we strive to become the team that can fulfill God's vision here at Evergreen.

One way the PPRC believes we can assist is by sponsoring participation in a program offered by Plowpoint Ministries.

"The work of Plowpoint Ministries is to equip you, as a congregation, to become the church that God desires you to be and to accomplish the work that God desires you to do. We accomplish this by breaking up the hard, stale ground which results from past disagreements and conflicts that have impeded you from moving forward in your ministry and by breaking new ground through teaching new behaviors and skills for grasping the promising future that God has for you as the church." © 2006 by Plowpoint, Inc.

Plowpoint offers to help us with relational healing, conflict resolution and strategic visioning. The program consists of a six-hour workshop and six two-hour weekly sessions plus personal coaching

sessions for our Pastoral Team. You will be hearing more about this exciting opportunity in the future. Additional information can be found at the Plowpoint website: www.plowpoint.org
Barry Briggs, PPRC Chairman

Food Pantry:

The Food Pantry at Evergreen is an ongoing success. We still need help, though. We need at least two people, twice a month, to go to the Food Bank in Durham and help load food

Qualifications are easy: a strong desire to help feed the hungry in Chatham County, the ability to lift 25# or more, and some free time on the second and/or fourth Tuesday of each month.

We have one hour to do our "shopping" at the Durham Food bank. Once that is done and loaded we drive back to Evergreen and unload and stock the shelves in the pantry. *David Bryant* has been meeting us at the food bank, helping to shop and loading vehicles and then returning to work. David's help is invaluable and greatly appreciated. If someone is able to do the same it would help all involved. If you are unable to go to the food bank but could meet at Evergreen between 2:30 and 3:00pm, to help unload that would work also.

If you just want to help once, that too is alright. All assistance is deeply appreciated. Please continue your prayers for the food pantry and all who participate.

If you want more information please call me (919-321-8406) or *Georgana Bond* (919-542-0693). We will be happy to answer any questions.

Rachel Kohr

Please donate your Lowe's green points to the Food Pantry for items we can't get at the food warehouse. If you have 3000 points or more, you can donate them to Evergreen by calling 1-800-435-5674. Ask that your points be transferred to account 4202 2751 6625. You will need to give your account

number from the back of your Lowe's card.
Carolyn Watterson

Evergreen website:

www.evergreen-umc.org

You'll really love it!!!

Earthday

In Honor of Earth Day we will be collecting aluminum cans to recycle. This will be our part to help support our Earth for the Children's Spring Festival Celebration.

For the month of April please bring your cans to the Church. You may leave them by the trailer in the back, underneath the landing, and Rick or I will pick them up and recycle them. The money from the cans will go into our Evergreen Children's Ministry. So we are cleaning up our Earth and taking care of our children, our greatest gifts. Thank you.

Ronda Teta

Finances (.time, treasure. talent..)

Avg. weekly giving \$3,044
Avg. needed to make budget \$3,596
weekly shortfall \$552 x 12 weeks = year-to-date shortfall of \$6,624.

While the average is improving we still have far to go. The year-to-date shortfall has made it impossible to pay any of our share of the district work fund or conference apportionments.

Robbie Dircks

We have made our commitment. **We** need to honor that commitment.

Knitting/Crocheting Ministry

Holy Hookers, Evergreen's Fiber Artists meet the second Tuesday of the month at 6pm at Evergreen. Bring your knit, crochet or needlework project and enjoy the fellowship.
Anna Nicholson

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