



# The View

February 2024

## Embracing Ash Wednesday: A Spiritual Journey of Reflection and Renewal

As we embark on the Lenten season, a time of introspection, repentance, and spiritual growth, we are reminded of the profound significance of Ash Wednesday in the Christian faith. This solemn day marks the beginning of our 40-day journey leading up to Easter, inviting us to pause, reflect, and draw closer to God.

Ash Wednesday holds deep roots in tradition, symbolizing our mortality and the need for repentance. The use of ashes traces back to ancient biblical times when individuals would cover themselves in ashes as a sign of humility and sorrow. Today, the imposition of ashes in the form of a cross on our foreheads serves as a visible and powerful reminder of our mortality and the call to repentance.

The ashes used on Ash Wednesday are typically derived from the palm branches blessed on Palm Sunday of the previous year. This symbolism connects the joyful celebration of Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem with the somber acknowledgment of our own need for forgiveness. It reinforces the cyclical nature of our faith journey and the continuous opportunity for spiritual renewal.

On this sacred day, we gather as a community to acknowledge our human frailty and sins, recognizing that it is only through God's grace and mercy that we find redemption. The traditional words spoken during the imposition of ashes, "Remember that you are dust, and to dust, you shall return" (Genesis 3:19), echo the biblical truth of our earthly existence and the transient nature of our lives.

Ash Wednesday also serves as a call to self-examination and repentance. It provides a unique opportunity to evaluate the state of our hearts, confess our sins, and turn toward God with sincerity. As we contemplate the significance of the cross marked in ashes, we are invited to surrender our shortcomings and seek forgiveness with contrite hearts.

Moreover, the Lenten season that begins with Ash Wednesday encourages us to embrace spiritual disciplines such as prayer, fasting, and acts of service. These practices create space for deeper intimacy with God, allowing us to draw closer to His heart and cultivate a spirit of humility and gratitude.

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## Prayer Team

The Prayer Team meets on Tuesday mornings at 10am. Join us and help pray for our congregation and world. If you have a prayer request, please fill out a request form and place in the collection plate.

*"First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone..."*

*1 Timothy 2:1*

Ash Wednesday is a poignant and transformative day in the Christian calendar. It sets the tone for a season of reflection, repentance, and renewal. As we bear the mark of ashes, let us embrace this journey with open hearts, seeking God's mercy and grace, and growing in our faith as we prepare to celebrate the joy of Christ's resurrection.

May this Lenten season be a time of profound spiritual growth and a rekindling of our love for the One who sacrificed everything for our redemption.

With grace and peace,  
-Rev. Andrew

### February Birthdays

3	Matthew F.	12	Kristina Anson
4	Jim Stone	15	Becky Carle
7	Elly Welchert	18	Linda Hostetter
9	Curtis Keal	23	Blake Savidge
10	Laura Keal	24	Mark Mehl
11	Alexa D.	28	Laura Griffith

### February Anniversaries

12	Bill & Judy Tucker – 63 years
14	Karl & Natalie Morrison – 9 years
	Michael & Shelley Peterson – 12 years

## SUMMARY OF THE JANUARY SESSION MEETING

Session reviewed the Christmas/Advent season services, and all were in agreement that the Cantata and all the worship events were outstanding. The 4 p.m. family Christmas Eve service was especially joyful with the participation of the children in the Nativity story.

New visitors are still coming to Chapel Hill, and that is delightful.

Rev. Dr. Florio is in the planning stages for Lenten services with our ecumenical partners; a couple of the pastors in our partner churches have left, but the remaining clergy are planning the Lenten series services.

- The date was set for the Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation: April 14, 2024. The meeting will follow the format of the 2023 meeting, which is to begin the meeting at 9:15 in Stone Hall, move to the sanctuary for a slightly abbreviated worship service, and complete the meeting at the end of the worship service. Mark your calendars!
- All ministry unit Annual Reports must be in the church office by March 18, 2024 to be printed by April 7, 2024.
- Watch for a congregational opinion survey on the way forward to celebrate communion post-pandemic.
- Rev. Dr. Florio will be on a work study leave/vacation March 10-22.
- The heating unit on the roof that needs replacement will be replaced when the weather improves.
- Worship & Music let Session know that Lent begins with Ash Wednesday services on February 14, 2024. Palm Sunday is March 24 and Easter falls on Sunday, March 31.
- Evangelism & Membership is planning an Easter brunch. More information to come.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol S. Coe  
Clerk of Session

## Choral Corner

Happy New Year!

The Adult choir is back in rehearsals for the upcoming Lenten and Easter season. The choir will sing at the Chapel Hill Lenten Service, Palm Sunday March 24, the Maundy Thursday service on March 28, and Easter Sunday March 31. Anyone interested in participating in these services are very welcome to join the choir. The choir rehearses at 8:15 a.m. on Sunday mornings.

The Children's choir will also be singing during the Easter season with songs for Palm Sunday, with the children processing with palms and then, singing again, at the Easter service.

The children's performance of the Nativity story at Christmas Eve was wonderful. They performed the story with grace and discipline. The narrators, Abby and Evelyn did such an admirable job. The angels and all performers sang beautifully, and Harvey, Calvin and AJ performed the speaking parts very clearly.

## Christian Nurture

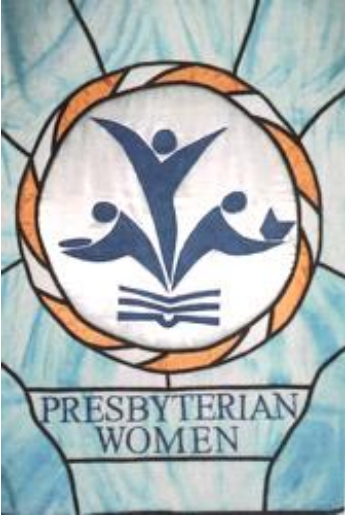
**February 10<sup>th</sup>,  
5-8pm**

**Bring your kids to  
Chapel Hill for dinner,  
crafts and fun. Sign up  
in the CHPC App.**



## Annual Meeting of the Congregation

The annual meeting of the congregation will be held on Sunday, April 14. The meeting will follow last year's successful and active format as a way to make our time more engaging and productive. For this year's annual meeting we will begin at 9:15am in Stone Hall with donuts and coffee. The different ministry units will all have a booth in Stone Hall with information about their particular areas of ministry and how you can get involved. This is a great time to ask your elders any questions you may have about their ministry unit. Next we will gather in the sanctuary and formally open our meeting with prayer, there will be a time for questions, the budget will be presented, and you will hear from the staff, and after that is concluded we will begin our amended worship service. Please note that our annual meeting and worship service will conclude at our regular time and that Sunday school will take place as usual. Please join us and find new ways to be involved with our fantastic church.



## Thursday, February 15 at 12:30pm in the Kitchen

This month's lesson is from Acts 3:1-10, a person with a physical disability encounters Jesus and will be led by Leanna Kryzck with refreshments provided by Betsey Congdon. If you've not come to one of our meetings before, it's not too late to still join us, we still have study guides available. Our circle is always open and the fellowship with these amazing Sisters in Christ is priceless. Don't forget to bring your mission offerings: jingle money, folding money and gluten-free dessert mixes for Vickie's Pantry. Hope to see you there for study, fellowship and of course food.

### Church & Society

February! Love is in the air and spring is getting closer. Please be thinking of to whom we will be giving our peace and Pentecost offerings this year and share those with Church & Society. Our February meeting is cancelled. We will be meeting next on March 3 at 8:45 am in the kitchen.

For other activities, please check with Tim Deveney regarding Cherith Brook, Debra Sipes regarding cooking for Uplift and Gail Tucker for riding with Uplift.

Please let us know of any other ways we can help in our church community.

## OPERATION Breakthrough



### Needs for Operation Breakthrough

Diapers and unscented baby wipes  
Cleaning supplies  
Feminine pads  
Body wash  
Shampoo/conditioner

Canned fruit/applesauce

Soup

Tuna

Pasta meals - Ramen, Spaghettios, ravioli, etc.

Snacks for kids - individual servings: fruit cups, crackers, pretzels, etc.

Cooking spices: garlic powder, onion powder, Italian seasoning, poultry seasoning and cinnamon



## 2024 Community Lenten Series

**Wednesday, February 21**

**Host:** All Saints' Lutheran Church

**Preacher:** Rev. Cliff Caton

**Address:** 421 SW 19th Street

**Wednesday, February 28**

**Host:** Chapel Hill Presbyterian Church

**Preacher:** Rev. Jonathan Galles

**Wednesday, March 6**

**Host:** Episcopal Church of the Resurrection

**Preacher:** Rev. Dr. Andrew Florio

**Address:** 1433 NW R.D. Mize Road

**Wednesday, March 13**

**Host:** First Christian Church

**Preacher:** Rev. Sarah Pierce

**Address:** 901 NW 15th Street

**Wednesday, March 20**

**Host:** Good Shepard Christian Church

**Preacher:** Rev. Joe Carle

**Address:** 111 SW Woods Chapel Road

**Community Meal at 5:30pm**

**Worship at 6:40pm**

**The offering will go to support the work of  
Community Services League of Blue Springs**



**LENT  
AT  
CHAPEL HILL**

**Ash Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, 7pm**

**Palm Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, 9:30am**

**Maundy Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, 7pm**

**Easter Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, 9:30am**

## February Volunteers

February 4th	February 11th	February 18th	February 25th
<b>Greeters</b>	<b>Greeters</b>	<b>Greeters</b>	<b>Greeters</b>
Betsey & Curt Congdon	AJ F.	Joyce & Gary Dickerson	Morrison Family
<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Ushers</b>
Eva I. & John D.	Colette Laukner & Carol Coe	Jean & Johnny Hwang	Kristina & Ryan Anson
Tim & Sarah Deveney	Joyce & Gary Dickerson	Karl & Natalie Morrison	Jim & Dixie Bozarth
<b>Acolytes</b>	<b>Acolytes</b>	<b>Acolytes</b>	<b>Acolytes</b>
AJ F. & Remy A.	Evelyn A. & Dean M.	Eva I. & Natalie B.	AJ F. & Dean M.
<b>Word with Children</b>	<b>Word with Children</b>	<b>Word with Children</b>	<b>Word with Children</b>
Brooke Wynne	Natalie Morrison	Erin Gill	Carol Coe
<b>Liturgist</b>	<b>Liturgist</b>	<b>Liturgist</b>	<b>Liturgist</b>
Kay Isgrig	AJ F.	Mike Dryer	Sue Meinders

## Deacons Meeting

Deacons will meet on Monday, February 12<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Kitchen.

THANK YOU!

## CSL Christmas Store Thank you

The CSL Christmas Store for 2023 was held at the Blue Springs Assembly Church. We had 16 church members that helped during the week. Some of them brought family members and grandchildren. The following church members that helped were: Melissa Long, Jean Clark, Steve and Karen Moore, Gordon Dryer, Danny Lane, Colette Laukner, Ron and Ruth McCubbin, Marcia Justus, Gary Dickerson, JoD Randall, Becky Carle, Joyce Carpenter, Patty Sudhoff, and Curt Zoller. The Christmas Store served 254 families with 523 children, for a total of 900 people.

Thanks Jim and Dixie Bozarth.

# Youth and Kids

## Overnight Camp at Heartland Camps

**Register now for Summer 2024!**

If you haven't registered for overnight camp yet, now is the time. Campers can spend the night at Heartland starting after 2nd grade, and they have camps all the way through high school. Check out all of the options at [heartlandcamps.org](http://heartlandcamps.org): different camps have different types of sleeping quarters, different themes, different activities. And keep in mind, Chapel Hill offers a partial scholarship for any CHPC kids and youth that register. Talk to Erin if you'd like more details.



## Chapel Hill Day Camp - Registration OPEN for grades K-5!

**July 8-12, 2024 9-5 each day**

Every summer we host a week of Day Camp here at our church. Heartland Camps joins us on site, and we have a week of fun, faith, and friendship. Kids currently completing Kindergarten through 5th grade can sign up for full day camp, and registration is open now! You can register through the Heartland Camps website. Go to [heartlandcamps.org](http://heartlandcamps.org) > Day Camps > Traveling Day Camps, then scroll down and find Chapel Hill on the list. Friends are welcome to camp with us, too!

**Preschool Camp:** We do hope to host a half-day camp for our littlest members the same week as big kid camp. Mark your calendars now, and stay tuned for details in the coming months.



**Volunteers are needed!** We can't run this program without volunteer support from our congregation. Teens and adults, watch for information coming next month about how you can get involved.

## Time for Lent!

If it feels like that space between Christmas and Lent was short this year... it was! While Christmas is always December 25, Easter actually moves around in the calendar anywhere from March 22 to April 25. Its on the early side this year- March 31st. So that backs up the whole Lenten season, which kicks off with Ash Wednesday on February 14th (yup- also Valentines Day). Join us that evening at CHPC for the Ash Wednesday service! (We won't have Youth Group on Thursday that week.)



## February Parents Night Out

**Saturday, February 10, 6-9pm**

CHPC Kids are invited to hang out at the church for the evening while parents do boring parent stuff somewhere else (maybe an early Valentines dinner?). Register in the CHPC app to let us know how many kids to expect.





## Upcoming Meeting Dates:

**Youth Group:** February 12, March 1 and 29, April 12 and 26, May 10

**Kingdom Kids:** Every Thursday except Feb 15- come to the Ash Wednesday service on Feb 14 instead!

## Presbytery Youth Service and Fellowship

On Martin Luther King Jr Day, we had fun visiting with our friends from around the Presbytery! We served with the Parkville Living Center, a community outreach group that operates out of Parkville Presbyterian Church's building. With our many hands, we were able to help them get their space clean and organized, helping them feel confident in their stewardship of that space. We also packed care packages for active duty US soldiers, a mission near to the heart of the veteran that runs the center.

After our morning of mission together we went to TShotz, a recreational golfing facility, and spent 2 hours together in fellowship. We had to brave the cold- Kansas City broke record low temperatures that day- but it was still a really fun time with our Presbytery friends!



## Next Event: Ellis Cemetery TLC

**Youth in grades 6-12, Save the Date for March 10. Specifics coming in soon!**

Planning for our next Heartland Youth gathering, we called Heartland Camp and asked if there was any way we could be of service to them. The answer? Help show some TLC to the Ellis Cemetery, a historic cemetery located on camp property! Originally part of the Ellis family farm, the land became a graveyard with the first burial there in 1863. 121 people are recorded to have been buried there, continuing until 1972. As the property changed hands, so did the responsibility to caretaker the cemetery. Today, the land belongs to Heartland Camp. They have maintained the cemetery through the years, but it is a heavily wooded and somewhat remote area, and has become overgrown. We're going to visit and do what we can to help restore this sacred space. Save the date!







## February Dates

- 1 Youth Group, 7pm
- 4 Christian Nurture Meeting, 8:30am  
Church & Society Meeting, 8:45am
- 5 Worship & Music Meeting, 7pm
- 8 Youth Group, 7pm
- 10 Cherith Brook Event, TBD
- 12 Deacons, 7pm
- 13 Session, 7pm
- 14 Ash Wednesday Service, 7pm
- 15 Presbyterian Women, 12:30pm  
Youth Group, 7pm
- 22 Youth Group, 7pm
- 25 Kingdom Kids, 6:30pm
- 29 Youth Group, 7pm

## Stewardship Corner

*Doing things for others* - whether small, unplanned acts or regular volunteering - is a powerful way to boost our own happiness as well of those around us. The people we help may be strangers, family, friends, colleagues or neighbors. They can be old or young, nearby or far away.

Giving isn't just about money, so you don't need to be rich. Giving to others can be as simple as a single kind word, smile or a thoughtful gesture. It can include giving time, care, skills, thought or attention. Sometimes these mean as much, if not more, than financial gifts.

Kindness towards others is be the glue which connects individual happiness with wider community and societal wellbeing. Giving to others helps us [connect with people](#) and meets one of our basic human needs - relatedness.  
(by *Action for Happiness*)

### General Fund Summary (Excludes Prepaid Pledge and All Designated Funds)

	December 2023-Year to Date		
	Actual	Budget	Variance
Jan. 1-Beginning Balance	\$191,455	\$191,455	\$0
Income	\$323,266	\$298,600	\$24,666
Expenses	(\$302,437)	(\$314,850)	\$12,413
Dec. 31-Ending Balance	\$212,284	\$175,205	\$37,079



### Online Giving for Chapel Hill Offerings Now Available

Give your pledge, general offering, special offerings, memorial or to other funds directly from your phone. Scan the QR Code at left to link to the Chapel Hill Giving Page, follow the prompts and use the dropdown menus to make your selections. Once completed, the system will immediately send you a receipt. If you choose to cover ACH bank transfer or credit card fees, those amounts will be included on your quarterly giving statement. (Note: ACH bank transfer fees cost less.) And, of course, checks are certainly still accepted. **Thank-you!**

“No act of virtue can be great if it is not followed by advantage for others. So, no matter how much time you spend fasting, no matter how much you sleep on a hard floor and eat ashes and sigh continually, if you do no good to others, you do nothing great.”

-John Chrysostom



*February 2024 – The View from Chapel Hill*

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WORSHIP WITH US ON SUNDAYS

9:30 AM Service

Contact office to be added to  
virtual service list

[www.chpresby.org](http://www.chpresby.org)