



From the Pastor

When you get this newsletter we will be in the midst of Lent. Lent is the season during which the Church traditionally prepares for Easter and has been celebrated by Christians around the world for centuries. Historically, it was the time when new Christians professed their faith in Christ and were received into the community of believers. For the faithful, it was a time for Christians to focus on repentance and renewal of their baptismal vows.

Many people today, if they celebrate Lent at all, use it primarily as a time to give up a less-than-healthy habit. But the season includes so much more! The practices, prayers, and services all serve to encourage reflection on where we have been and where we are headed in our walk with Christ.

The spiritual disciplines associated with this season don't have to be intimidating or onerous. However, they do require commitment and effort, so that we can experience a new growing season, spiritually speaking—not unlike what we see happening all around us in nature during springtime. In the end, we trust that our efforts will pay off in a more robust faith and a deeper love for our precious Lord and Savior.

Please join me in giving our best to what this season asks of us. I look forward to seeing you regularly at the many opportunities for worship, service and fellowship that await us here at Wightman UMC during this Lenten season.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor B



Lenten Breakfast

From Sunday, March 6, through Palm Sunday, April 10, the congregation is invited to gather in the Christian Life Center at 8:00 a.m. for breakfast and a short devotion.



Welcome New Members!

We welcomed Larry & Whitney Wadsworth as a part of the Wightman church family on February 12. They come by profession of faith in Jesus Christ. Larry is the area manager for a national builders' supply company, & Whitney is retired as an office manager for a dental office. They have 3 grown children & 6 grandchildren. Welcome Wadsworths!

A Special Thank You!

Dear Wightman Church Family,

When I retired at the end of December, I asked that I leave with no fanfare or special recognition. Others, however, had a different idea. I arrived at the church on February 8 to do some work as the church treasurer. Surprise! Waiting for me were a number of church members who had gathered to honor me. I am so grateful for all the expressions of love I received, not only from this group, but from all of you who took the time to stop by the church to wish me well or who sent me a card expressing your appreciation for the 50 years that I served Wightman as administrative assistant. Looking back over the years, I can honestly say, "I loved my job!" Thanks to all of you and thanks also to Trent and Kelli Fowler of The Blend who provided refreshments for the get-together.

Sincerely,
Lynda Counts

March Assistants Traditional Service (9:00)

ACOLYTES

March 5 - Hudson Defreese
12 - Bristol Freeman
19 - Ethan Counts-Wohnig
26 - Kayleb Graham

CROSS BEARERS

March 5 - Linda Richardson
12 - Melissa Freeman
19 - Charlotte Hargreaves
26 - Kim Graham

TRUSTEE

Kelli Fowler

USHERS

Mike Smith, Larry Graham,
Tommy Bowers, Lonnie Finley

GREETERS

Leonard and Therry May

LAY READERS

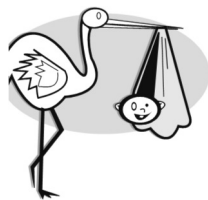
5 - Christy Bouknight
12 - Lonnie Finley
19 - Hubert Kinard
26 - Gary Hooker

The United Women in Faith

The United Women in Faith will meet on Tuesday, March 7, at 3:00 pm in the old fellowship hall. Rosemary Bowers will lead the Call to Prayer and Self Denial. Bring a special offering for this ministry in addition to your monthly givings. Also, bring some items for the Shoebox Ministry. Marcelle Ackerman and Wylene Smith will provide snacks.

Birth Announcement

Congratulations to Austin and Kristin Guy on the birth of their daughter, Natalee Claire. Natalee was born on January 30th and weighed 7lbs 15oz. The proud grandparents are Arthur and Audra Guy. Natalee's great grandmothers are Judy Livingston and Sandra McLain.



March Assistants Contemporary Service (11:15)

GREETERS

Will and Tristan Lever

USHERS

Josh Meetze, Blake Cantrell,
Chris Butler, Nick Counts

LAY READERS

5 - Kristina Cannon
12 - Jared Jones
19 - Madison Butler
26 - Will Lever

Special Gifts to Wightman

Operating Budget

In memory of Herb Stephens by Wylene Smith
In memory of Herb Stephens by Rosemary Bowers
In memory of Herb Stephens by Mollie Graham
In memory of Dennis Wood by Rosemary Bowers
In memory of Wade Pitts by Anne Neel
In memory of Herb Stephens by Reverend Bruce and Joyce Palmer
In memory of Woody Berley by Ladison and Paula Hamm

Asbury Bedenbaugh Class Fund

In memory of Dennis Wood by Gary and Tina Hooker

Youth Missions

In memory of Wade Pitts by the Gaston Floyd Family
In memory of Nancy Robinson by Cindy Ramirez and Cathy Floyd

United Women in Faith

In memory of Herb Stephens by Jeanne Riggs

UMKids

In memory of Herb Stephens by Cody and Neva Caldwell

CARE Group

CARE Bible Study will meet on the third Thursday of each month at 10:00 a.m. in the old fellowship hall. This month's meeting will be held on March 16. All ladies of the church are invited to join. If you have questions, talk to Tina Hooker or Rosemary Bowers.

March Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 2 - Alice Douglas, Josey Engen, Alicia Overstreet, Elizabeth Skinner
- 4 - Melinda Sease
- 5 - Brady Sease
- 7 - Kenley Beckham, Logan Friar, Jewel Garner, Linda Hiller, Missy Roach
- 8 - Luke Meetze, Michael Ward
- 9 - Arthur Guy, Robbie Kinard
- 11 - Linda Clevenger, Cam Farr
- 15 - Donna Eustace, Austin Guy
- 16 - Margaret Boozer, Asher LeCompte, Jeanne Riggs, Chris Ringer, Pam Smith
- 17 - Dillon Hamilton, Leah McCullough
- 18 - Emily Metts, Hunter Shaw, Tina York
- 20 - Kelly Hamilton
- 22 - Renee Joiner
- 23 - Lena Dickert, Paula Stewart
- 24 - Dante Meade, Zack Sherman
- 25 - Blake Bickley, Coleman Cannon, Jackson Cannon, Joe Miller
- 26 - Brittany Hazel
- 27 - Cole Allred, James Hazel, Alex Wood
- 28 - Agatha Cook
- 29 - Brian LeCompte, Lynn Thacker
- 30 - Sam Floyd
- 31 - Maria Chandler, Preston Farmer, Billy Gallman, Jr., Dennis Knight, Pete McLain, Billy Parnell, Tim Ringer



- 2 - Kirk and Shirley Atwood
Johnny and Betty Walker
- 5 - Mitch and Susan Lowder
- 6 - Jon and Missy Roach
- 7 - John and Jordan Butler
Will and Tristan Lever
- 19 - Daniel and Elyssa Haven
- 21 - Daniel and Rosemary Floyd
Jackie and Jenny Harris
- 26 - Bobby and Pam Martin

Monthly Financial Summary

General Funds (total)	\$ 118,274.50
Designated Funds	-81,022.37
General Funds Available	37,252.13
Capital Improvement Fund	<u>230,445.46</u>
Total Funds	348,719.96

AVERAGE ATTENDANCE FOR FEBRUARY

9:00 Worship -	144
11:15 Worship -	105
Combined Worship -	249
Church School -	129

Easter Eggstravaganza

The Easter Eggstravaganza will be Saturday, April 8th, 11-1. We need many people to help with this big outreach event! Can you help with traffic? Set up? Clean up? Or any other attraction? Please contact Heather Studer at 803-727-3685 to volunteer a little bit of your time.



Sisters on Standby will meet Monday, March 20. All ladies are welcome!



Mardi Gras Celebration with the JOY Group at the Big Easy Diner

Join us Monday, March 13, in the CLC. Wear Mardi Gras colors (purple, green, gold) and bring donations for the meal.

At 11:00 a.m. we will have Mardi Gras trivia and collect our beads. At 12:00 p.m. we will enjoy our New Orleans meal!

Wightman UMC Kitchen Shower

The United Women in Faith are sponsoring a kitchen shower during Brunch and Bonding at 10:15 a.m. on April 30. Everyone's help is needed to help stock both kitchens with supplies needed for church sponsored events. A list of needed supplies will soon be provided. You can buy items from the list or donate cash.

Young Adult Fellowship Night

On Saturday March 4 at 5:00 p.m., all high school seniors, college students, and young adults are invited to a FREE night of fun, food, fellowship, prizes, and devotions. Join us at the Lighthouse located behind the Prosperity Fire Department. Bring a friend to increase your chance to win prizes!



Community Need

The Good Samaritan Clinic - Chapin (1808 Chapin Road next to We Care) is in need of volunteer Spanish/English translators to assist their Spanish speaking clients during their medical visits, Thursday afternoons from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. If interested, please contact the clinic director, Susan Boland, by phone (803) 528-6363 or by email at kdsboland@bellsouth.net.



UMKIDS

Children's Church

March 5 - Born Again
12 - Woman at the Well
19 - Jesus Heals the Blind Man
26 - Jesus Raises Lazarus from the Dead



Children's Sermons

March 5 - Christy Bouknight
12 - Holy Communion
19 - Anna Farmer
26 - Madison Graham

Thank you to everyone who came to our Valentine's activities. We all had a great time playing games and making Valentine crafts!



Mark your calendars for the Easter Eggstravaganza April 8 from 11 to 1. Afterwards we will have an Easter story and egg hunt. Bring your baskets! There will be a donation basket in the narthex and CLC for eggs and candy.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

VBS July 9-13
Celebration Sunday is July 16

You don't want to miss it.
It's going to be STELLAR!





March 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Bible Study - 6:30 am Mission Movers - 11:00 am Newsletter Staff - 2:30 pm Choir - 6:30 pm	2	3	4 Young Adult Night of Fellowship - 5:00 p.m.
5 Lenten Breakfast - 8:00 am Youth - 4:30 - 6:00 pm	6	7 UWF 3:00 pm	8 Bible Study - 6:30 am Mission Movers - 11:00 am Chancel Choir - 6:30 pm	9	10	11 Youth @ Winter Jam
12 Day Light Savings Lenten Breakfast - 8:00 am Holy Communion - 9:00 & 11:15 am Youth - 4:30-6:00	13 JOY Group - 11:00 am	14	15 Bible Study - 6:30 am Mission Movers - 11:00 am Chancel Choir - 6:30 pm	16 CARE Group - 10:00 am	17	18
19 Lenten Breakfast - 8:00 am Committees-12:30 Council - 1:30 pm Youth - 4:30-6:00	20 UMen - 7:00 pm SOS - 7:00 pm	21	22 Bible Study - 6:30 am Mission Movers - 11:00 am Chancel Choir - 6:30 pm	23 FOG - 5:30 pm	24	25
26 Lenten Breakfast - 8:00 am Youth - 4:30-6:00 pm	27 Newsletter Deadline - 12:00 pm	28	29 Bible Study - 6:30 am Mission Movers - 11:00 am Newsletter Staff - 2:30 pm Choir - 6:30 pm	30	31	

**WIGHTMAN UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH**

Rev. Ben L. Barnett, Pastor
P. O. Box 376
Prosperity, South Carolina 29127

Phone: 364-2340
Pastor's Cell Phone: 843-274-0898
Church E-Mail: secretary@wightmanumc.org
Pastor's E-Mail: blbarnett@umcsc.org
Web Site: www.wightmanumc.org

Sunday Schedule

Traditional Worship – 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School – 10:15 a.m.
Contemporary Service – 11:15 a.m.



Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Prosperity, SC
Permit No. 1

***RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED***