



Snow Creek Christian Church

4970 Snow Creek Road
Martinsville Virginia, 24112
Phone 276-638-5272
www.snowcreekcc.com
Like us on facebook



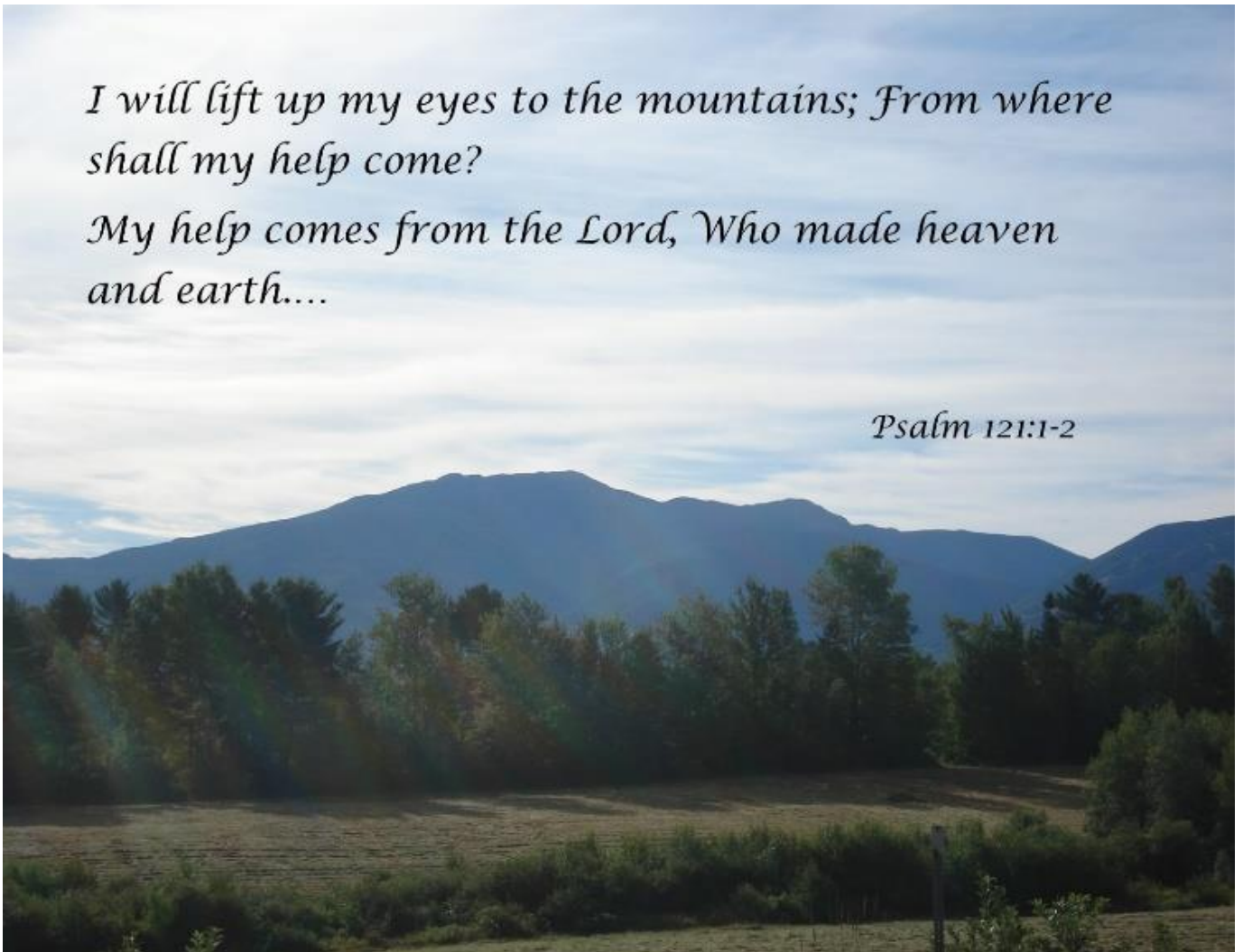
March 2020

Reflections

*I will lift up my eyes to the mountains; From where
shall my help come?*

*My help comes from the Lord, Who made heaven
and earth....*

Psalms 121:1-2



The season of Lent is now upon us. I wrote about this a little in the last newsletter, but, at the risk of sounding like a broken record, I thought that it would be good to bring it up again. Most Christians get excited about Easter, as they should. Easter means resurrection and celebration, both spiritually and in the natural world. The flowers are beginning to bloom, the weather is warming up, the days are getting longer. Lent, on the other hand, is that not-quite-dead-of-winter-but-definitely-not-spring time of year when we are supposed to fast and repent. I know, I know, where is the fun in that? Bear with me though while I take a moment to put in a good word for Lent.

First off, what is Lent?

Not to be confused with that stuff you are always pulling out of your pockets, Lent (with an e) is a forty-day period that many Christians observe as a time for both self-denial and self-examination in preparation for the Easter celebration.

That doesn't sound like much fun, why do people do this?

For a couple of reasons. First is the First Commandment, "You shall have no other gods before me" and similarly Jesus' Greatest Commandment, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." Denying ourselves of certain worldly pleasures helps us to remember what is really important and what we should always focus on putting first: our love for God.

Secondly, it is a way to follow in Jesus' examples. The forty days of Lent are meant to recall Jesus' forty days of fasting in the wilderness. This took place BEFORE Jesus did anything in regards to his ministry to the public. It is a reminder that if we wish to follow Jesus and call others to follow him as well, we must first prepare ourselves.

So how do we observe Lent?

There are a lot of ways that this can be done. In last month's newsletter I listed several ideas that I will refer you back to. Since the lectionary this past month has been focused on Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, I will add a couple of ideas that he discusses in his sermon.

Traditionally, Lent has involved some type of fasting. Give up a luxury that you will miss several times a day, usually at meal times. Vegetables do not count. Cut out that cup of coffee in the morning or that cocktail after work or that piece of candy after dinner. In many countries, Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent, is designated as National No Smoking Day. Giving up something accomplishes two goals. One, it reminds us of the regular discipline that God requests of us to resist the many temptations of the world. Secondly, every time you think about that craving it should serve as a reminder of why you are fasting, a reminder of all the times that God is in our lives and we never notice God's presence.

Additionally, Jesus discusses prayer and even offers the Lord's Prayer as an example of right relationship with God.

Many people have a regular prayer routine, but, like myself, can get lax in carrying it out. Lent calls us to refocus on our relationship with God and this starts with prayer. Recommit yourself to conversing with God at least daily throughout the forty-day period. This will serve as a daily reminder of all that you have to be thankful for and will invite God in to help with those parts of life where you are struggling.

Finally, Jesus speaks of giving. Your offering is meant to be a weekly reminder of the abundance with which God has provided us. It also focuses our attention on the needs of others who may not be as fortunate. I would encourage you to strive to give at each of the six Sundays

in Lent and certainly at the Easter celebration that brings Lent to an end. If you tend to give monthly, take this time of year to seriously consider increasing your giving. Are you tithing at the Biblical standard of 10%? Maybe now would be a time to move closer to that goal.

Jesus reminds us also in the Sermon on the Mount that fasting is not meant to be for misery or for show. It is a way to reconnect with the basics of life, God's love being prime among them. Giving something up is a great reminder of all that we had in the first place. As we look forward to a happy Easter, I encourage everyone to prepare with a happy Lent.

Blessings, Scott

March Lectionary Readings

Sermon topic in *italics*

March 1 (1st Sunday in Lent)

- *Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7*
- Psalm 32
- Romans 5:12-19
- Matthew 4:1-11

- Romans 5:1-11
- *John 4:5-42*

March 22 (4th Sunday in Lent) – Youth Sunday

March 8 (2nd Sunday in Lent)

- *Genesis 12:1-4a*
- Psalm 121
- Romans 4:1-5, 13-17
- John 3:1-17 OR Matthew 17:1-9

- 1 Samuel 16:1-13
- Psalm 23
- *Ephesians 5:8-14*
- John 9:1-41

March 29 (5th Sunday in Lent)

March 15 (3rd Sunday in Lent)

- Exodus 17:1-7
- Psalm 95

- Ezekiel 37:1-14
- Psalm 130
- Romans 8:6-11
- *John 11:1-45*

Psalm 51:1-17

1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

2 Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

3 For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

4 Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment.

5 Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me.

6 You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

7 Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

8 Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.

9 Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

10 Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

11 Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me.

12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.

13 Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.

14 Deliver me from bloodshed, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance.

15 O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.

16 For you have no delight in sacrifice; if I were to give a burnt offering, you would not be pleased.

17 The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.



SNOW CREEK CHRISTIAN CHURCH BOARD MEETING

January 12, 2020

G.B. called the meeting to order. Del had our opening prayer. Minutes were reviewed. Del made a motion to approve the minutes and Gusta seconded the motion, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report - Bud presented the treasurer's report for the 4th quarter of 2019 and for December 2019. He said that everything looks good for 2019 and going forward. Ruth made a motion to approve the treasurer's report and Janet seconded the motion, motion carried.

Pastor's Report - Scott wanted to thank all who participated in ringing the Salvation Army bell, contributed to the Advent Devotional and lit Advent candles, supported the youth in the Christmas program and youth Sunday, delivered fruit baskets, participated and attended the Christmas Eve service, helped decorate and take down the Christmas decorations in the sanctuary. Scott is on a short break from Seminary until February 3rd, when he will begin Theology. Ordination has been rescheduled for May 21 and he attended the first meeting for Vacation Bible school.

Committee Reports

Worship - Ruth wanted to thank Jadie, Linda, and Joyce for helping to take down the Christmas decorations. She will be purchasing the Bible for Steve's baptism. We are continuing to search for globes for the Windows.

Property - The gutters at the Church need to be cleaned out. Curtis said that he would bring his ladder up to anyone willing clean gutters. Joyce suggested that we put window well covers over the windows that collect leaves.

Old Business - G.B. presented an estimate to repair the roof over the entrance to the fellowship hall. Joyce made a motion to repair the roof and Janet seconded the motion, motion carried. Curtis wanted to thank the ladies for preparing the supper for the men's meeting.

New Business - Youth excursions - G.B. reported on the activities of the youth and how important it is to the Church to make sure we keep them involved. They went to the pumpkin patch in October, caroling in December and to the YMCA in January. He wants to look at camps for the youth and a Bible study group.

Bud brought up handicap bathrooms and what could be done. We will be looking into this, but we have no real good options right now.

Calendar of events -

Tuesday and Wednesday, January 21st and 22nd Pictures for the Church directory

Sunday, February 2nd Sub and Souper bowl Sunday

Wednesday, February 26th @ 7:00 pm Ash Wednesday service

Scott will be at Lexington June 14th and 21st

Scott had our closing prayer

Meeting Adjourned,

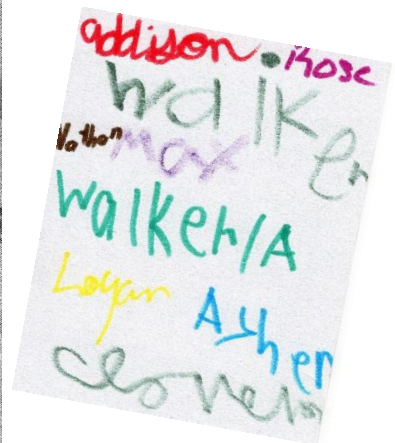
Respectively Submitted, Kay Boyd

BAPTISM AND CONFESSION OF FAITH OF STEVE JORDAN





Y o u t h N e w s



The Youth enjoyed fellowship together at the YMCA following worship service and subs and soup on Super Bowl Sunday. They had a great time!!!





CONGRATULATIONS TO NATHAN AMOS FOR FINISHING THIRD IN THE FRANKLIN COUNTY SPELLING BEE OF 5TH THROUGH 8TH GRADERS. HE REPRESENTED SNOW CREEK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL. HE IS THE SON OF PATTI AND JARRET.



Easter Egg Hunt April 11 from 10 a.m.-12 noon at the Church. There will be Crafts, games, storytelling by Minister Scott, lunch, and a hunt. **ALL KIDS WELCOME!**

GRADUATES



Please provide high school and college graduate pictures and information to Barbara by deadline of April 24 for May edition. You can provide honors, type of degree, future schooling or employment, etc.

Upcoming Events

- March 1 Men's Prayer Breakfast at 7:30 a.m.
- March 8 Church Board Meeting following Worship
- March 22 Youth Sunday
- April 5 Men's Prayer Breakfast at 7:30 a.m.
- April 5 Community Easter Service at Trinity Baptist at 3:00 p.m. More Details later.
- April 9 Joint Maundy Thursday Service with Pleasant Grove United Methodist at 6:30 p.m. at Snow Creek Christian Church
- April 10 Joint Good Friday Service at 6:30 p.m. at Pleasant Grove United Methodist. Church
- April 11 Easter Egg Hunt 10 a.m.-12 noon at the Church. There will be Crafts, games, storytelling by Minister Scott, lunch, and a hunt.
ALL KIDS WELCOME!
- April 12 Joint Easter Sunrise Service at Boones Chapel Church of the Brethren at 7:00 a.m.
- April 12 Easter Worship Service at 11:00 a.m.
- May 2 Buffet Breakfast Fundraiser. (See Flyer below for details)
- May 10 Honor Mothers for Mother's Day
- May 24 Honor deceased veterans for Memorial Day
- May 31 Youth Sunday

Country Breakfast Buffett



Snow Creek Christian Church

4970 Snow Creek Rd
Martinsville, VA

Saturday, May 2, 2020
from 8:00 - 10:00 AM

Eggs, Ham,
Sausage, Gravy,
Apples, and
Biscuits
Crafts and baked
goods will also
be for sale

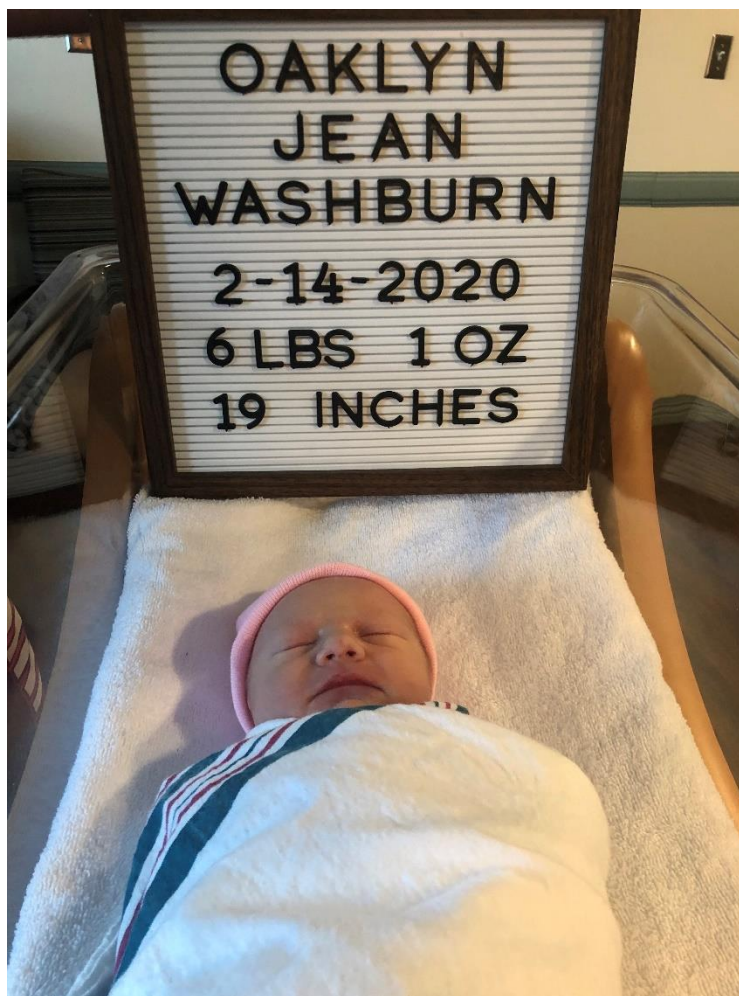
All proceeds from
crafts and baked
goods will go to
support the Back-
Pack program at
Snow Creek
Elementary.

Adults
\$8.00

Children Under 8
\$4.00



Family News



**CONGRATULATIONS TO JOSH AND MORGAN WASHBURN
ON THEIR BEAUTIFUL VALENTINE DAUGHTER !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**



LET'S CELEBRATE



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Susan Walker
- 2 Kellyn Eanes
- 5 Doug Davidson, Ryland Mitchell
- 6 Calvin Martin, Bryce Mitchell
- 9 Joshua Washburn
- 11 Nancy Robertson
- 20 Stevie & Davie Mitchell
- 24 Louise Washburn
- 30 Breanna Robertson
- 31 Todd Martin

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

- 16 Tony & Nancy Plybon

If you have information for the newsletter on our church family please email me at barbsmith@b2xonline.com or call me at 540 352 4535 or relay in person.