

Heritage Presbyterian Church



VOLUME 7 ISSUE 3 MARCH 2017

5323 Bells Ferry Road, Acworth, GA 30102
Phone: 770-926-3558



Kaye Mero, Editor

Called by God's grace to make disciples, as we minister to the needs of a broken world.

**Worship: Sundays 8:30 am
11:00 am
Sunday School 9:45 am**

A Message from Pastor Elizabeth Lovell Milford

In the Presbyterian Church (USA), we often say that we are a "connectional church," but what does that really mean? In February, I experienced some wonderful things that would help shape my answer.

Being connectional means we share in faith together. On February 4, our meeting of the Presbytery of Cherokee overlapped with the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta for worship, where the sanctuary of Trinity Presbyterian was filled with Presbyterians worshipping in full voice (and with a full pipe organ!). The guest preacher was Jan Edminston, who is one of our PCUSA General Assembly Co-Moderators. Her sermon was powerful, reflecting on John 21 when Jesus asks Peter, "do you love me?" and challenging us to consider what things in this world, as individuals and as the church, we might actually love more than Jesus. Later, she shared candidly about many issues facing the American church today, particularly related to issues of race and ethnicity, and gave excellent insights into how these conversations are happening in different parts of our country. More than just a report, her words were an invitation for us to engage our faith more deeply. She reminded us that we are connected with over 1.5 million people who identify themselves as Presbyterian (PCUSA).

Being connectional means we learn from each other. As we gathered in our Cherokee Presbytery group, we celebrated the joys of our individual congregations, and engaged in real meaningful work of the amendments

proposed to change aspects of our *Book of Order* from last summer's General Assembly. The conversations were passionate, and deeply theological, as we thought and spoke about the meaning and significance of baptism, among other concerns. As I heard those who both agreed and disagreed with my position, I gained new insights and found new questions to ponder. As a result, my own faith grew and I left the gathering with a renewed sense of the importance of this sacrament for my own life and ministry. Later this week, I will gather with a few colleagues from our Presbytery to discuss a book we are reading together (*Falling Upward* by Richard Rohr). I am so grateful to be a part of a larger community of faith that both challenges and encourages each other to be more faithful – in our personal lives and in our ministries.

Finally, being connectional means we serve together. This week, I received the annual "Year in Review" from Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, which is part of our denomination's mission efforts, and is the organization through whom we contributed last year to support disaster relief after flooding along the Gulf Coast. This "Mission Mosaic," which I will post on the mission board across from my office, highlighted the ways that small gifts can make a big difference. Last year, over \$4 million in grants were distributed around the nation and world, and 8,811 work team volunteers responded to disasters.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

HPC's newsletter comes out at the beginning of each month and we want to be sure that everyone who wants it receives it, in the format they prefer. Each month we email the newsletter to everyone in our email data base.



If you are not receiving the newsletter in your email, and would like to receive it, please let the office know. We also send printed copies to those who call the office and request it be mailed. Each month the newsletter is posted on our website and for those who prefer, printed copies are available in the Narthex the Sunday after it comes out.

For the past several months we've been putting the newsletter in a template and emailing it using Mail Chimp. The "good news" was that the format used on Mail Chimp allowed users to read the newsletter on their cell phone. The "bad news" is that the Mail Chimp format doesn't allow us to print the newsletter in a readable format and the members of our congregation who have requested print copies and don't use computers and email,

are not receiving our monthly newsletter. So, we've returned to the Publisher format until we can figure out how to get a decent print copy on Mail Chimp.

The Communications Division's main goal is to improve our church's internal and external communications. If you have suggestions for how we can better let the congregation and community know the wonderful things we are doing at HPC, please send them to:

communications@heritagepres.com

WORSHIP

Lent is a season of reflection and penitence as we consider how we are doing in our walk of faith. Each week, our sermon texts will explore a different "gift" that God has given us to help us become more faithful. As we open these gifts together, we will discover God's incredible grace and love, preparing us for the incredible sacrificial gift that will come.



March 12
Psalm 121
The Gift of Help

March 19
John 4:5-42
The Gift of Living Water

March 26
1 Samuel 16:1-13
The Gift of Acceptance

Maundy Thursday Dinner
April 13, 6:30 pm
Remember the last meal Jesus shared with his disciples with a pot-luck dinner wrapped in a casual worship service, including the celebration of communion. Our time will be interactive, and children are welcome. Please sign-up in advance to help make sure we have enough seats.

Good Friday Tenebrae
April 14, 7:30 pm
Experience the darkness of the Passion story. Through scripture, drama, and song, we will walk along the road to the foot of the cross as Christ gives up his life for us. Childcare will be provided for young children.

MOPS.....

is a grassroots international Christian organization dedicated to supporting women as they walk the road of motherhood. MOPS stands for Mothers of Preschoolers, and by preschoolers we mean kiddos from birth through kindergarten. We are moms, and we believe that better moms make a better world. The beauty of it is that we don't all have to agree with one another but everyone is in and we all need each other.

We meet the fourth Tuesday of the month from 5:30pm-7:30pm. While moms meet, children meet for "Moppets", a Christian based program based on fun and fellowship.

Join us Tuesday, March 28th from 5:30-7:30p.m. as we discuss the importance of saying no so we can leave frantic living behind. Bring a brown bag dinner for you and your child if you desire or just enjoy the light refreshments provided and come enjoy some fellowship with other Moms. Childcare will be provided for ages 6 and under. Hope to see you there!



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Don't forget to "Spring Forward" one hour before going to bed Saturday March 11. Daylight Saving Time begins March 12!

SPRING



- 3/2 Milissa H., Jordan H., Hunter K.
- 3/4 Nancy M., Theodora M.
- 3/6 Karli R
- 3/8 Debbie B.
- 3/9 Barby C., Ron R.
- 3/10 Mike H.
- 3/11 Evelyn A.
- 3/12 Beth M.
- 3/13 Melek Owenby
- 3/14 Susan Smith
- 3/15 Sylvia H., Tray
- 3/16 Fritz M., Carol H.
- 3/17 David B.
- 3/18 Kaye M., Margaret N., Ian W.
- 3/20 Jeri H., Greg D., Byron M., Jennifer P.
- 3/21 Joyce H.
- 3/23 Logan P.
- 3/25 Karen P., Joey N.
- 3/27 Meghan B., Rachel B., Grace S.
- 3/28 Culyer S., Bob E., Elizabeth M., Leona M.
- 3/30 Lea T.



Happy Anniversary!

- 3/12 Carol & Henry W.
- 3/18 Cassie & Brian W
- 3/19 Merle & Jim H.
- 3/24 Lisa & Pat N.

Continued from pg. 1:

Because of groups like PDA, we are a part of sharing Christ's love and hope when disaster strikes. I am so proud of the mission we do locally, but am also glad we can be a part of a wider mission that reaches out into other communities like ours who may not have the resources to provide assistance.

There are many more explanations, of course, for what "being connectional" means, but I hope this has given you a glimpse into some of the ways that we as a congregation are a part of something more. On Sunday, March 5, we will welcome the Mission Coordinator and Stated Clerk, Rev. Nikki Collins MacMillan, to join us for worship (and preach!). I am looking forward to hearing what she has to say. Join us to learn more, and celebrate our relationship with the 29 other churches in Cherokee Presbytery and even more in our denomination. We are a part of a great cloud of witnesses!

Peace,
Elizabeth

**GEORGIA BOY CHOIR
&
SANTA'S CARAVAN'S ANNUAL SPRING BRUNCH**

Sunday, April 23, 2017 the Georgia Boy Choir will sing for both services. If you haven't had the pleasure of hearing this group, this is your chance! The Georgia Boy Choir is an internationally known choir that has performed all over the world. Our own Nevin Korbett, son of Susan and Karl Korbett, is a member of this prestigious group and will be performing with the choir on April 23..



Santa's Caravan will be holding their Annual Spring Brunch between services. Food donations can be made by contacting Sue Smith or Karen Payne. There is always a wonderful selection of brunch foods, and as always, everyone will be looking for Tom Simmons's famous Maple Brown Sugar Bacon!!!

Come support Santa's Caravan and the Georgia Boy Choir and enjoy the wonderful music and great food.



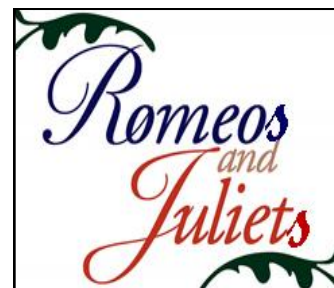
HPC BLOOD DRIVE
March 8, 2017
M&M Building

POWER in the BLOOD
You can put the power of faith into action and help save a life!

Please sign up to give blood today!
For more information or to schedule an appointment, please go to
redcrossblood.org
and enter sponsor code: **heritagepres**



Romeos met
Tuesday, March 5,
2017 11:30 am at Gus-
ton's on Wade Green
Rd. Kennesaw, GA For
more information call
770-485-6565.



Juliets met Thursday,
March 2, 2017, 12:00
pm at La Pariella, 1065
Buckhead Crossing,
Woodstock.

HPC YOUTH

SPRING BREAK MISSION TRIP

The Youth's Spring Break Mission Trip is April 2-5. Our youth will be serving in Huntsville, Alabama alongside, and hosted by Faith Presbyterian Church. A \$20 dollar deposit was due March 5th with the final balance due March 26th. The Total cost is \$70 per person. Contact Matt Milford with any questions.

YOUTH GROUP

The Youth Group meets every Sunday night from 5:30-7:30 pm in the M&M Building. The night includes dinner, a group game and a devotion. Come join the conversation!