

# Spruce Pine United Methodist Church

11090 South Highway 226

Spruce Pine, NC 28777

Church: (828) 765-7446

Pastor: (828) 467-8743 cell

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Facebook: Spruce Pine United Methodist Church



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March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent

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Jeremy I. Troxler, Pastor

Kathey Hollifield, Music Director

Kathy Miller, Organist

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**WELCOME TO WORSHIP!** THE WORD "WORSHIP" COMES FROM THE OLD ENGLISH WORD FOR "WORTHY." WHEN WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD, WE ARE DECLARING THAT GOD ALONE IS "WORTHY" OF OUR LIVES AND OUR PRAISE. THE COLOR PURPLE IN THE SANCTUARY REMINDS US THAT WE ARE IN THE CHURCH SEASON CALLED "LENT." LENT IS A PERIOD OF ROUGHLY 40 DAYS (AND 6 SUNDAYS) IN WHICH WE PREPARE FOR THE MYSTERY AND JOY OF HOLY WEEK AND EASTER THROUGH A TIME OF INTENTIONAL REFLECTION, REPENTANCE, AND RECONCILIATION. TODAY WE CONTINUE IN A LENTEN SERMON SERIES CALLED "JESUS VS. RELIGION," IN WHICH WE WILL BE STUDYING JESUS' CONFLICTS WITH THE RELIGIOUS LEADERS OF HIS DAY.

## GATHERING OF THE CONGREGATION TO WORSHIP

### Chiming of the Hour

### Welcome and Announcements

AARON BUCHANAN

### Prelude

### "Pie Jesu"

FAURE

PLEASE USE THIS TIME TO FOCUS YOUR WHOLE SELF - MIND, BODY, AND SPIRIT -  
ON WORSHIPPING GOD, THE FATHER, AND THE SON, AND THE HOLY SPIRIT

## OFFERING OUR PRAISE, GIFTS, AND PRAYERS

### ^Song of Praise

### "Honor and Praise"

TFWS 2018

### ^Prayer of Confession and Forgiveness

*(All are invited to a time of silent prayer and confession after each petition.)*

Holy and gracious God,  
our sin and our failings are too heavy to bear alone.  
Trusting in your mercy, in prayer we lay before you the truth of who we are.

We confess our failure to love as Christ loved . . .  
*(time for silent prayer)*

We confess our covetousness and our greed . . .  
*(time for silent prayer)*

We confess our weakness before temptation . . .  
*(time for silent prayer)*

We confess our frailty before the challenges of this world . . .  
*(time for silent prayer)*

Merciful God, forgive us.  
**Heal us, and make us whole,  
for our sake, and for the sake of your Son, our Savior,  
Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

Friends, trust in God.  
Even when our hearts condemn us, God's love is greater than our hearts:  
In Christ there is no condemnation.  
In the name of Jesus Christ we are forgiven and restored to wholeness.  
**Thanks be to God!**

^ **Sharing of the Peace of Christ**                      “The peace of Christ be with you”                      **“And also with you.”**  
*(Through the gift of Jesus Christ, we have been granted forgiveness and peace with God and with one another. As a sign and celebration of the peace we have been given, we invite you to turn to your neighbors, extend your hand, and greet/bless them with the words, “The Peace of Christ be with you.”)*

^ **Hymn of Praise**                      **“My Hope Is Built”**                      UMH 368

**Offering our Praises and our Gifts to God**

**Offertory**                      CHELSEA THAYER

**Doxology**                      **“Thou Art Worthy”**                      TFWS 2041

**Children’s Message**                      MELANIE MURPHY

**Children’s Change Offering**                      M-Y MEDS MEDICATION MINISTRY

*(Following the children’s change offering, parents of small children may choose to escort their little ones to our church nursery: our nursery volunteers will meet you in the welcome center just outside the sanctuary.)*

**Call to**                      **“Come and Fill Our Hearts”**                      TFWS 2157

**Prayers of the People / The Lord’s Prayer**

## **PROCLAIMING AND HEARING GOD’S WORD**

**Choral Anthem**                      **“At Calvary”**                      CHANCEL CHOIR

^ **Scripture Reading**                      **Mark 7:1-23**                      NT 40

**Proclamation of the Word**                      **“Cleanliness Isn’t Next to Godliness”**                      REV. JEREMY TROXLER

## **RESPONSE TO THE WORD AND SENDING FORTH**

^ **Sending Hymn**                      **“Lord of All Hopefulness”**                      TFWS 2198

^ **Benediction**

^ **Postlude**

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^IF ABLE, PLEASE STAND

## **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **IF YOU’RE NEW HERE . . . WELCOME!** We’re glad you could join us, whether you’re new to the community, new to our church, or if you might be new to this whole “church” thing altogether. We hope you won’t be nervous: it doesn’t matter who you are, what you’ve done, what you’re wearing, what you believe, or what you don’t believe – you are welcome here. You are among friends, and we hope you feel at home in this place of grace.
- **A SPECIAL WELCOME TO CHILDREN!** Parents, we are so grateful that you and your children are here to worship with us! We believe that children have much to teach us about how to receive the Kingdom of God, so please don’t worry about your kids being a distraction in worship: the sounds that children make are music to our ears, and we are genuinely grateful that they are in our midst.
- **CHURCH NURSERY** - If it is helpful, you are welcome to leave your child with the caring and trained volunteers in our church nursery, which is located in our Sunday School hallway; or, if you prefer, you can make use of the “family room” which we set up each Sunday in the blue-carpeted foyer at the back of the sanctuary: that way your child can play and roam freely while you can relax and listen in to the service.

## MARCH/APRIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **SUMMIT STUDENT MINISTRY & HILLTOPPERS CHILDREN'S MINISTRY - TODAY** - at 5:30pm at SPUMC. All kids (Hilltoppers) and all 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders (Summit) are invited to enjoy a meal, fun activities, and time to grow in faith together.
- **LENTEN DEVOTIONS - THIS WEDNESDAY APRIL 3<sup>RD</sup> AT 6:00 PM IN THE SANCTUARY** - To help us in our Lenten observances, Pastor Jeremy will be leading a brief time of Bible Study and prayer each Wednesday evening before choir practice. All are welcome.
- **MINISTRY TEAMS MEETING - NEXT WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10<sup>TH</sup> AT 6PM** - The members of our four Ministry Teams (Worship, Fellowship, Nurture, and Mission) will be meeting together to carry forward our ministries forward in these areas. All are welcome to come and join a team and offer their gifts and ideas. Pizza will be available at 5:30pm for those who have not had time to eat.
- **WEDDING** - Randal Greene and Beverly Hale are to be married at Spruce Pine Methodist Church Saturday April 13 2019 at 2:00pm. No invitations are to be sent. Friends and family are welcome. There will be a reception following the ceremony hosted by the Nightingale circle. Please RSVP to the church office if you plan to attend. The couple is registered at Belk and Target.

## ONGOING ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **A SIGN UP SHEET IS AVAILABLE** on the Welcome Table - Please sign up and fill out the information if you are willing to periodically help members of our Church family. The primary focus is food and transportation requests.
- **CONTACT PERSON** - Janet Ouzts is the contact person for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter and may be calling if someone is in need of food, transportation, etc. Her phone number is 828-467-1025.
- **LEFT BEHIND IN THE HIGH COUNTRY - SUPPORT GROUP FOR SUICIDE LOSS SURVIVORS** - Meets at 6:30 pm the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday every month in the Oak Room, Sloop Medical Offices Building, Cannon Hospital, Linville, NC. Contact Bob at 321-243-1640 or Sandy at 828-467-5379.
- **BRIDGE OF HOPE / SONS OF THE SON** - wants you to be part of our Ministry by Praying for us: Needs: coats, gloves, hats, socks, blankets, food and toiletries etc. Thank you & God Bless, Phil White
- **WE INVITE EACH FAMILY TO BRING AT LEAST ONE CAN OF FOOD EACH WEEK** for the Shepherd's Staff food assistance ministry. There is a box in the Welcome Center...let's fill it each week! Please check the "Best Used Before" date on the items you donate and make sure it is more than 30 days before expiration. Thank you.
- **PLEASE FILL OUT THE PEW REGISTRATION PADS** by the windows at the end of each pew. **Pass them to the inside** and the ushers will pick them up after they receive the offering.

REGULAR MEETINGS			
GROUP	DAYS	ROOM	CONTACT
Blue Ridge Bridge Club	Mondays, 10 am	Fellowship Hall	Nancy Ball
SPUMC Book Club	1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday, 10 am	Parlor	Margarett McGraw
Weight Watchers	Tuesdays, 5 pm	Fellowship Hall	
UMW Nightingale Circle	2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday - 7 pm	Welcome Center	Sharon Drum
Choir Practice	Wednesdays - 7:00 pm	Sanctuary	Kathey Hollifield
Al-Anon	Every Thursday	Youth Room	467-1193 & 704-609-3360

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP SCHEDULE:					
(If you are unable to serve on the date scheduled, please exchange dates with someone and let the church office know.)					
DATE	LECTOR	CHILDREN'S TIME	GREETERS	NURSERY	PRESCHOOL
4/7	Meredith Hoilman	Tracy Carroll	Nancy Ball / Jan Hamilton	Sherry Sherman	Brandy Miller
4/14	Dwight Willett	Bruce Ikard	Susan Basini / Clara Ahlquist	Rachelle Shock	Tracy Deyton
4/21	Tim Drum	Greg Hoilman	Lloyd & Nelle Glenn	Chelsea Thayer	Kim Ledford
4/28	Bruce Ikard	Kathey Hollifield	Neil & Marie Brown	Becky Nance	Meredith Hoilman

## OUR COMMUNITY COVENANT

*When a person becomes a professing member of the body of Christ at Spruce Pine United Methodist Church, he or she covenants to participate faithfully in the ministries of the congregation and in life in the world by their prayers, their presence, their gifts, their service, and their witness.*

- **GENERAL PRAYERS:** For all who do not know the love of God in Christ Jesus the Lord; for the well-being of our community; for local, state, national, and world leaders
- **SUSTAINING PRAYERS:** Our homebound members (*Shirley McManus*); Brian Center, Smoky Mountain, and Mitchell House Residents; Staff, and Families (*Mabel Whiton, Audrey Davenport, Ramona Gragg*); *Beth Wyatt & Reg Bezzola*; Jo Thomas; June Wilson; David Hoepfner; *Bretta Walker*; *Charles Hale*; All expectant mothers and unborn children (*Carolyn Boles*); *Laura Curtis Hodges*; for those in addiction: for recovery and sobriety in 2019; *Sandra & Louis Woodard*; Maggie Snyder

(caregiver); Troubled Teenager; Lynda Briggs; Jan Hamilton's family, Weston Stout; Jane Greenwood; *Tim Hollifield*; Olivia Silver; Amanda Drum; James Davis; J.C. Gage; Crystal Wood; Stan Elkins; Muffy Dayton; Marcia Murphy; Dakota Yelton; Kimberly Oberhammer family; *Beverly Hale*; Mike Bartlett; Dennis Chandler; Rosemary Coffman; Rosemary Allen (*Stan Cook's sister*); Barbara Butts (*Ann Denny's daughter*); Tess Coulter (*Jack Burleson's mom - Hospice*); Corey & Kathryn Hoilman & new baby Avery

- **FOR THOSE WHO MOURN:** those who have suffered miscarriage; family of Ruth Buchanan; the family of Cary Pitman; the family of Zoe Ellis; Gloria Schulman & family; family of Henry Street; family of Bea White; Paul Sherman & family (death of father); the family of John Ahlquist; the family of Kathryn Riddle
- **FOR THOSE PREPARING FOR/RECOVERING FROM TESTS OR SURGERY:** Jerry Morgan (*Quincy's dad - back*); Atlas Benton (back); *Ann Denny*; Wayne Whitson (*Ima's brother*); Allan "Jerry" Douglass (corneal transplant surgery); Bishop Sharma Lewis; Madeline McKenzie (Shoulder); *Danna Gibson (Crohn's)*; David Wilson; Meredith Hoilman (bone marrow donor); Heather Walker (heart transplant); Norma Weathers; *Neil Brown (surgery)*; Tom Wilson (recovering from surgery); Wayne Hoilman (lung transplant); Ann Winfield (heart surgery); *Wanda Henline*
- **FOR THOSE WITH CANCER:** Judy Rinard; Diane Meatyard; Joyce Woody; Holly (brain tumor); Randy Chambers (cancer treatment); Jada Daniels (lung); Larry Metcalf (liver); Chase Ambrose; Ava Hollifield; Shirley Hise; Hal Harrison; Janet Ward Slaughter; Gloria Smith (lung); Brian Baker: Rev. Brenda McDaniel; Claire Spence; Becky Hoilman; Unnamed Person; Bill Hayes; Dan Whetstine; Dick Hautala; Darren Ward; Mike Burke (brain tumor); Peggy Grantham (bladder); Eliza Bray (4 yr. old) and family; Lisa McKinney; Cheryl Oglesby; Marcia Murphy
- **FOR THOSE LIVING WITH PAIN, ILLNESS OR INJURY:** Mike Snyder (Parkinson's); Aubree (encephalitis); Wanda McClellan (lupus); Mary Kay Thompkins (MS); Heather Blackburn; Sandra Glenn; Tonya Hall Wilson; Nelda Johnson; Danna Gibson; Allison Street; Brian Westveer (fall); Sarah Hobart; Amanda Ikard (discs); Martha Wrenn (Crohn's); Coy Hollifield; Sam Blevins (lungs)
- **FOR SURVIVORS OF INJUSTICE, DISASTER, OR TRAGEDY:** Survivors of sexual abuse or harassment; Survivors of child abuse; Separated children & families; Victims of human trafficking; Samuel Oliver Bruno family; Thacker family (house fire); people of Venezuela
- **FOR AREA CHURCHES & MINISTRIES:** The Toe Valley UMC Charge (Mt. Zion - Pine Grove); Bakersville UMC, Red Hill - Deyton Bend UMC; The Newdale UMC Charge (Celo-Martin's Chapel-Windham); SPUMC (Pastor, Staff & Members); M-Y Parish Food Bank; Lamplighters Children, Families and Staff; Shepherd's Staff
- **FOR THOSE TRAVELING, ON MISSION, OR IN THE MILITARY:** Dallas Martin (Marines); Tucker McElrath; Lindsey Potter (Army National Guard); Ben Potter (Army); those on Mission Trips

*We want to join with you in prayer for your concerns and needs. Simply contact Pastor Troxler or the church office and tell us about your prayer concern. Please submit names to the church office by Thursday morning to be included on the weekly list.*

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK			
4/1 - Beth Ziemba		4/3 - Mariea Tountasakis	4/4 - Donna Martin, Mike Murphy
		5 - Clara Ahlquist	
PRESENCE:		March 24 <sup>th</sup> , 2019	11:00 - 126
GIFTS	March 24 <sup>th</sup> , 2019	General Fund - \$5,793.00	Weekly budget need - \$4,583.00
		Year to Date - \$63,499.00	YTD Budget Need - \$54,996.00
		Children's Offering - \$99.55 - M-Y Meds.	Summit Youth Meal & Donations- \$2,400.00
		Community Assistance - \$1,405.01	Lanning Mission Fund - \$1,000.00
		Shepherd's Staff - \$25.00	Shepherd's Staff Donations - 26

*The Spruce Pine UMC would like to acknowledge a gift to the general fund in Memory of John Ahlquist from Clara Ahlquist.*

**SERVICE:** Thanks to those who are serving in special ways throughout the past week and today ...

Lector: Aaron Buchanan      Greeters: Mary Robinson & Donnie Peters      Children's Time: Melanie Murphy  
Head Usher: Vern Coulter      Nursery: Quincy Sparks      Preschool: Meredith Hoilman      Offertory: Chelsea Thayer

**WITNESS:** LAST WEEK IN WORSHIP WE STUDIED JESUS' PARABLE OF THE PHARISEE AND THE TAX COLLECTOR, AND TALKED ABOUT HOW THE HUMBLE AWARENESS OF OUR OWN FAILINGS CAN MAKE US MORE COMPASSIONATE TOWARDS THE FAILINGS OF OTHERS. THE ANTIDOTE TO CONDEMNATION AND HATRED IS REGULAR SELF-EXAMINATION AND THE CONFESSION OF OUR OWN SINFULNESS: "LOVE THE SINNER, HATE MY SIN." THIS WEEK, THINK OF A PERSON WITH WHOM YOU ARE ANGRY OR UPSET, WHO HAS WRONGED YOU IN SOME WAY. INTENTIONALLY TAKE A MOMENT TO PRAY FOR THAT PERSON: BUT BEFORE YOU DO, TAKE A MOMENT TO CONFESS TO GOD THE WAYS YOU HAVE RECENTLY WRONGED OTHERS THROUGH YOUR WORDS OR ACTIONS.

**\*\*Next Week's Scripture - April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019\*\***

Isaiah 43:16-21; Psalm 126; Philippians 3:4b-14; John 12:1-8