

Spruce Pine United Methodist Church

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February 24th, 2019

7th Sunday After The Epiphany

Jeremy I. Troxler, Pastor

Kathey Hollifield, Music Director

Kathy Miller, Organist

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. TODAY IN WORSHIP WE WELCOME FELLOW CHURCH MEMBER AND FORMER DUKE DIVINITY INTERN PETER CONSTANTIAN AS OUR PREACHER.

GATHERING OF THE CONGREGATION TO WORSHIP

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Announcements

BEVERLY HALE

Prelude

"Lord, Be Glorified"

KILPATRICK

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

"Come, Now is the Time to Worship"

WORSHIP & SONG 3176

^Opening Prayer

Let us pray together:

As the bridegroom to his chosen,
as the king unto his realm,
as the keep unto the castle,
as the pilot to the helm,
so, Lord, art thou to me.

As the fountain in the garden,
as the candle in the dark,
as the treasure in the coffer,
as the manna in the ark,
so, Lord, art Thou to me.

As the music as the banquet,
as the stamp unto the seal,
as the medicine to the fainting,
as the wine-cup at the meal,

so, Lord, art Thou to me.

As the ruby in the setting,
as the honey in the comb,
as the light within the lantern,
as the parent in the home,
so, Lord, art Thou to me.

As the sunshine in the heavens,
as the image in the glass,
as the fruit unto the fig-tree,
as the dew unto the grass,
so, Lord, art Thou to me.

Lord, help us to worship you.
Amen.

^ 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

“Open the Eyes of My Heart”

WORSHIP & SONG 3008

Offering our Praises and our Gifts to God

Offertory

“Forever”

PRAISE BAND & CHOIR

Doxology

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

UMH 95

Children’s Message

KATHEY HOLLIFIELD

Children’s Change Offering

COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE FUND

(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 Prayer

“In God Alone”

WORSHIP & SONG 3135

Prayer for the 2019 UMC General Conference (February 23rd-26th)

Gracious and Loving God,
We pray for the United Methodist General Conference.
May it be a means of your grace.
Empower and sanctify your people by your Holy Spirit.
Let the same mind be in your church that is in Christ Jesus.
Give your peace which passes all human understanding: make your disciples one in you.
Guard and guide those who serve as delegates and leaders.
Open eyes to see where you would lead.
Awaken ears that your voice may be heard.
Let the words of all mouths and the meditations of all hearts be acceptable in your sight.
Overcome fear with your perfect love.
Inspire trust. Instill hope.
Give humility, humor, patience, strength, and courage.
Bestow wisdom. Reveal your glory.
Lord, use this gathering to point to your Kingdom,
to build up your body, the Church,
and to renew your people called United Methodist.
Through its worship, fellowship, discussion and decision-making,
through your broken people and perhaps even in spite of your broken people,
help us to know and to choose the right way forward,
so that your will may be fulfilled on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

PROCLAIMING AND HEARING GOD'S WORD

Special Music

"You Make Me Brave"

BRENDA SPARKS

^Scripture Reading

Genesis 45:3-11, 15

OT 41

Proclamation of the Word

"Come closer to me, I am your brother"

PETER CONSTANTIAN
DUKE DIVINITY STUDENT

RESPONSE TO THE WORD AND SENDING FORTH

^Sending Hymn

"Jesus, Lord, We Look to Thee"

UMH 562

^Benediction

^Postlude

^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.

FEBRUARY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **WE WELCOME PETER CONSTANTIAN AS TODAY'S PREACHER.** Peter is a member of our church, served as our Duke Pastoral Intern during the summer of 2017, and is completing his final year at Duke Divinity School before becoming a United Methodist pastor somewhere in our Western NC Annual Conference. We are grateful for Peter's willingness to serve us while pastor Jeremy is away today at the United Methodist General Conference. Thanks for sharing a word from God with us, Peter!
- **FEBRUARY FELLOWSHIP MEAL IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING WORSHIP** - All are invited to stay after worship today to share in a fellowship meal of tacos prepared by the church's Finance Committee. Donations are welcome but not required. Let's follow Jesus command from last week and "eat together," being intentional about trying to check on and get to know each other.
- **PLEASE BE IN PRAYER FOR THE 2019 UMC GENERAL CONFERENCE AND ITS DELEGATES** - A specially-called General Conference of 800+ delegates from across the global United Methodist Church will be held in St. Louis, MO on February 23rd-26th to seek a way forward for the UMC amid its members' differing convictions about same-gender marriage and the ordination of LBGTQ persons.
- **SUMMIT STUDENT MINISTRY - TODAY AT 5:30PM @ SPUMC** All 6th-12th graders (Summit) are invited to enjoy a meal, fun activities, and time to grow in faith together. Please note: there will be no Hilltoppers children's ministry (K-5th graders) because of Pastor Jeremy's absence.

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 1st quarter and may be calling if someone is in need of food, transportation, etc. Her phone number is 828-467-1025.

- **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.

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
3/3	Janet Ouzts	Kathey Hollifield	Josh & Jennifer Newton	Rachelle Shock	Brandy Miller
3/10	Matt Miller	Sharon Drum	Jon & Melanie Jirka	Chelsea Thayer	Tracy Deyton
3/17	Grant Sparks	Ginny Downs	Beth Ziemba / Bill Dailey	Becky Nance	Cindy Stewart
3/24	Tracy Deyton	Beverly Hale	Wayne & Wanda Henline	Katie Willett	Kim Ledford
3/31	Aaron Buchanan	Melanie Murphy	Mary Robinson & Donnie Peters	Quincy Sparks	Meredith Hoilman

REGULAR MEETINGS

GROUP	DAYS	ROOM	CONTACT
Blue Ridge Bridge Club	Mondays, 10 am	Fellowship Hall	Nancy Ball
SPUMC Book Club	1 st Tuesday, 10 am	Parlor	Margarett McGraw
Weight Watchers	Tuesdays, 5 pm	Fellowship Hall	
UMW Nightingale Circle	2 nd 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

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 Hoeppner; *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 Coffin
- **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 Chris Ollis; family of Henry Street; family of Bea White; family of Rick Crisp; Paul Sherman & family (death of father); the family of John Ahlquist
- **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)
- **FOR THOSE WITH CANCER:** Judy Rinard; Diane Meatyard; Tom Wilson (tumor); 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; Rhonda Newman; Dick Hautala; Darren Ward; Mike Burke (brain tumor); Peggy Grantham (bladder); Eliza Bray (4 yr. old) and family
- **FOR THOSE LIVING WITH PAIN, ILLNESS OR INJURY:** Wayne Hoilman; 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)

- **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 - Dayton 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				
24 - Jan Hamilton	25 - Sue Ledford	25 - Vernon Coulter	27 - Gloria Buchanan	28 - Pat Paton
PRESENCE:		February 17th, 2019		11:00 - 118
GIFTS	February 17th, 2019	General Fund - \$3,042.00	Weekly budget need - \$4,583.00	
		Year to Date - \$38,902.00	YTD Budget Need - \$32,081.00	
		Community Assistance - \$240.00		
		Children's Offering - \$60.95 - Comm. Asst.	Shepherd's Staff Donations - 10	

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

Lector: Beverly Hale Greeters: Frank Baskin / David Goodnight Children's Time: Greg Hoilman
 Head Usher: Vern Coulter Nursery: Sherry Sherman Preschool: Meredith Hoilman Offertory: Praise Band & Choir

WITNESS: IN THE TIMES WE ARE LIVING IN, WHERE THERE IS SO MUCH ANGER AND ANIMOSITY, PERHAPS ONE OF THE MOST POWERFUL WITNESSES TO CHRIST MAY BE THE ABILITY OF CHRISTIANS TO LISTEN PATIENTLY TO THOSE WHO DISAGREE WITH THEM AND TO TREAT THEM WITH THE DIGNITY AND RESPECT THAT ACCORDS WITH THE WAY OF PEACE. HOW CAN YOU SHOW PATIENCE AND LOVE TOWARDS THOSE WHO DISAGREE WITH YOU ABOUT IMPORTANT ISSUES? AND HOW CAN THE WAY YOU RESPOND BE A WITNESS TO CHRIST?

****Next Week's Scripture - March 3rd, 2019****

Exodus 34:29-35; Psalm 99; 2 Corinthians 3:12 -4:2; Luke 9:28-36 (37-43)