



# THE CHRISTIAN CALLER

fccfarmville.org

from the Pastor

February 2018



*"...You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' "*

Matthew 22:36-39



Hello my friends and family,

Lent begins this month! On Valentine's Day to be exact and we will have our Ash Wed. program in the fellowship hall followed by the placement of Ashes in the sanctuary at 7 pm.

Lent like Advent, is a time of contemplation and the thing I suggest we contemplate primarily is the resurrection. Not so much the crucifixion, but the resurrection (some of you may know where this is going, amen). Some view primarily the crucifixion as something which necessitated the resurrection.

This "sin theology" understands that Gods love is based upon some sort of transaction like Christ atoning for our sins or Christ being a ransom for the many or Christ paying the price for us. Since when does unconditional love require a price be paid? Did the universe God freely created come at a cost? It's contradictory right?

This begs another question. Was the birth of Christ not the original plan of God? Did Christ not come to transform us? Did our sin force God to go to plan B to "fix" the problem? If that is the case, then we have the power to ruin the sovereign Gods greatest masterpieces- creation and the incarnation. I mean ruined, as in God planned for them to center around Christ but we changed all that because we "sinned" and therefore the forgiveness of our sins in order to restore creation from its brokenness became God's purpose.

You see the theology of sin starts with Adam. That everything God freely did has been tainted by humanity. That everything waited until humans were created or for some, exiled from the garden, to be "redeemed." This means that humans are necessary for the redemption of creation. That we are needed as part of some redemptive transaction in which the murder of an innocent would be required. We become the first cause of God's action. We become the Alpha and the Omega of divine restoration for the cosmos.

That is the hubris of humanity. That we think ourselves to be the center of everything, the axis mundi. That we are the reason for the incarnation and the "fall" of all creation. That everything had to wait until we were in place to begin our drama (which seems to never end) rather than Christ revealing Gods love for all things beginning with creation and further unfolding with the incarnation all the way to the resurrection.

So here's the thought I would like us to contemplate during Lent. If there were no sin, would there still be Easter? Was the crucifixion necessary for the resurrection to occur? Remember, Jesus didn't come to change God's mind about humanity. Jesus came to change humanity's mind about God.

God saw all and it was good, and Jesus came so that we may believe because God so loved the world.

With love, Kevin

## Board Meeting Highlights

### General Board Meeting Jan 14, 2018

Present: Board Members: Judy Owens, Jessica Avery, Kim Griffiths, Marah Walker, Leslie & Amy Church, Gina Langston, Joyce Albritton, Miriam Lewis, Mary Steinbauer, Christine Dempsey, Doris Briley, Wes Flake, Bert Smith, Paul Bryant, Chester Ellis, BJ Lawrence. Also: Kevin Deibert

**EDUCATION:** Working on ideas for 2018 youth events.

**OUTREACH:** Undie Sunday on Feb 4—donations to be sent with mission team to Nicaragua. A 10 yr boy at Sugg was helped at Christmas, and a local woman helped with medical issues in December. 2018's budget is all under the Outreach Committee's discretion and they will review requests individually as they arise.

**WORSHIP:** New Elder/Deacon training Jan 31 at 7pm

**MEMBERSHIP:** New members Laura Bardin & Keith Pittman will be welcomed by Membership at a lunch Jan 21.

**DWM:** Raised \$465 at the last Woodside Antiques Auction, and are making their plans for 2018 Dogwood Festival.

**NEW BUSINESS:** 3 delegates/3 alternates needed for Regional Assembly in Greenville on April 21.

Stewardship is focusing on being a year around event, and the Board approved an anonymous poll of the congregation to help the Committee gather information.

### Next Board Meeting—Feb 11

### February Birthdays

John Baumgartner	Feb 3
Madelyn Davis	Feb 3
Josh Walker	Feb 3
Nancy Quinerly	Feb 5
Amy Driver	Feb 6
Martha West	Feb 7
Dave R. Davis	Feb 8
Lesley Albritton	Feb 9
Marie Cowan	Feb 10
Mandy Harris	Feb 10
Ruth Taylor	Feb 11
Harry Albritton III	Feb 12
Denise Hankins	Feb 17
Joan Smith	Feb 17
Bobby W. Hodge Sr.	Feb 19
Janie Joyner	Feb 28

### February Anniversaries

Kevin & Tracy Deibert Feb 23



## WATCH

for updates from our Nicaragua Mission Team!

## In Our Prayers

### Prayer needs:

Mabel Bowen, Larue & Emmitt Brinson, Ann Byrd, Marie Cowan, Dave Davis, Melissa Davis, Cissy Deas, Bud Eason, Jean Ellis, Annie Gurganus, Wes & Denise Hankins, Bobby Hodge Sr, Janie Joyner, Caleb Knox, Betty Lewis, Joyce Letchworth, Shane Miller, Camilla Murphrey, Beth Norville, Joan Smith, Myrtle Sugg

### In service to our country:

Jameson Cowan, Glen McDustrell, Zach Murphy, Jake Nicholson

Please notify an Elder of any changes.

## GIVING MADE EASY

Your bank will do the work for you! Just sign up with your bank's 'auto pay' feature, and your bank will mail a check to FCC on a regular schedule—whether it's weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, or something else.

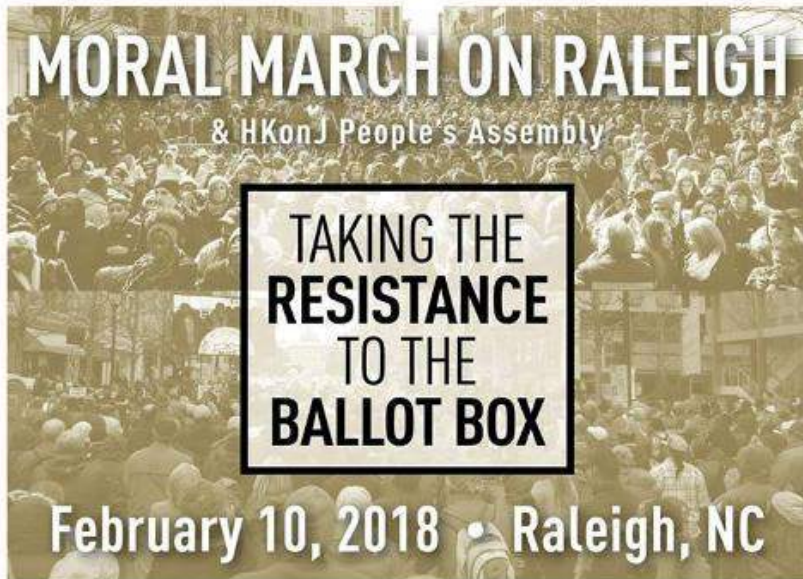
You get to be sure that even if you have to miss a Sunday or even if you left your checkbook at home this week, your giving goes on and your church can continue its work.

More and more of our members are using this hassle-free method to keep up with their giving. Check it out!

## Outreach

FCC is in charge of the Soup Kitchen every first Friday of each month. We are ALWAYS in need of volunteers to help with cooking and serving—especially serving! We start setting/heating up at 11 and the kitchen closes at 1pm. Please consider volunteering. You get to work with some really great people!





- 8:30 a.m. Begin Gathering
- 9:00 a.m. Pre Rally/People's Assembly  
Corner of Wilmington and South Streets  
near Shaw University
- 10:00 a.m. March Begins followed by  
Rally/People's Assembly



#MORALMARCH2018



For more information, visit our websites at [naacpnc.org](http://naacpnc.org) or [hkonj.com](http://hkonj.com)

**Forward Together, Not One Step Back!**



FEBRUARY 4

**BRING YOUR UNDIES!**  
We'll be sending packages of new undies along with our mission team to Nicaragua

2nd  
Annual  
Luann  
Blalock



**DESSERT BUNCO**  
Feb 26 7pm \$10  
First Christian Church




Congregation  
Bayt Shalom

4351 E 10th St Greenville  
Sat, Feb 17

9am Torah study  
10am Worship service

**Join us!** We have the opportunity to share a morning Torah study followed by a service with Congregation Bayt Shalom. Contact the office and we'll organize travel.



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY,  
BOBBY!!**

**You're invited!**  
**Celebrate Bobby Hodge, Sr's  
80th birthday  
Sunday, Feb 18  
3-5pm  
Fellowship Hall**

## February Servants

**Elders:** Miriam Lewis HE; John Briley  
**Deacons:** Amy Church HD; Leslie Church,  
Velinda Moore, Jessica Avery, Jackie Bulpett

*If you are unable to serve,  
please contact someone  
to take your place.*



### Church Staff

Rev. Kevin Deibert	Senior Minister <i>pastor@fccfarmville.org</i>
Timothy Price	Director of Music <i>music@fccfarmville.org</i>
Kim Griffiths	Church Administrator <i>office@fccfarmville.org</i>
Julia Beamon	Nursery Attendant

Church Office: (252) 753-3179  
Regular Office Hours:  
9 am—3 pm, Mon—Thurs, 9am—12pm Fri  
Also by appointment.  
*office@fccfarmville.org*    *fccfarmville.org*

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER

Feb 7 - Boomers  
Feb 14 -Membership  
Feb 21 - COVERED DISH  
Feb 28 - Scripture & Coffee

Mar 7—CMF  
Mar 14—DWM  
Mar 21—COVERED DISH  
Mar 29—Maundy Thurs—Boomers

### Mission of First Christian Church

#### Disciples of Christ

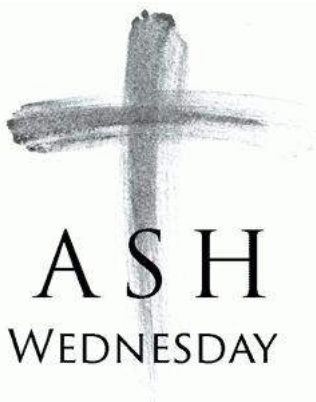
#### Farmville, North Carolina

*It is the mission of First Christian Church (DOC) of Farmville, NC  
to provide an environment where all who come can learn,  
fellowship, worship, and grow spiritually closer to God. We will  
fulfill our greater obligation to spread the Good News of Jesus  
Christ by being of service to the members of our community and  
to the world. Our efforts will be done in the name of Jesus Christ.*



**First  
Christian  
Church**  
Disciples of Christ

3776 South Main St.  
PO Box 205  
Farmville, NC 27828



**FEB 14**

**6p Supper**

**6:30 Devotional in Fellowship Hall**

**7p Ashes in Sanctuary**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<h1>February</h1>				1	2 11a Soup Kitchen	3 Fellowship Hall reserved
4 <b>UNDIE SUNDAY</b>  5p Choir practice	5	6	7 9a Quilting Bees 6p WNS— Boomers cook 7p Pastoral Relations	8	9	10
11 8a Elders mtg 11 Mission Trip Dedications 2-4 Fellow. Hall reserved 5p Choir practice 5p DWM Exec. mtg 6p Ministry Teams 7p General Board mtg	12 10a DWM— church library  7p DWM— church library	13	14 6p WNS— Membership Cooks 6:30 Ash Wed meditations in FH 7p Ashes in Sanctuary	15	16	17 9 Torah Study 10 Shabbot @ Bayt Shalom  Nicaragua Mission 2/17-2/25
18  8a CMF mtg 3-5 Hodge Birthday Party in Fellowship Hall 5p Choir practice	19	20 9-11 FBM  7p Trustees mtg	21 6p WNS— COVERED DISH Prayer vigil for mission team	22 6p CMF District mtg—La Grange	23	24 Scouts Pin- ewood Derby in Fellowship Hall  5 Scouts Chili Cook-off
← NICARAGUA MISSION 2/17—2/25 →						
25  11 Knox Baptism 12-2 Fellowship Hall reserved 5p Choir practice	26  7p Dessert Bunco Relay for Life	27  6:30 Scouts	28 6p WNS— Scrip/Coffee Cooks	<b>SUNDAYS</b> 10a Sunday School and Coffee Fellowship 11a Worship		
← Meals on Wheels 2/26—3/2 →						