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CHAPEL CHIMES

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Inside this issue:

Paul's Ponderings	1
Stewardship Season 2020	3
News From Your Mission	3
Interfaith Cooperation Team	4
43 Anniversary	4
Worship Team	5
Finance Team	5
November Prayer List	5
Chapel Choir	6
Lunch Bunch and The Gathering	6
November Volunteers	7
Board Members	7
Matt Northcutt Benefit	8
November Birthdays	9
November Anniversaries	9
Holiday Calendar	9

Paul's Ponderings...

Gratitude

In early November of 2016 after seven nail-biting games the Chicago Cubs won the World Series to become the best team in Major League Baseball. Now, for those of you who are not baseball fans you might be saying, "Big deal! What's so great about that?" So, let me enlighten you. In that one final victory over the Cleveland Indians the Chicago Cubs broke a one hundred and eight year-old losing streak. In one hundred and eight years of competition the Chicago Cubs had never won a World Championship.

So, as you might imagine as thousands of fans gathered, the fireworks lit up the skies, and the scoreboard screen in the outfield flashed "Cubs Win - Cubs Win" over and over again. The Chicago Tribune reported that grown men and women wept, that children lined the sidewalks long after their bedtimes to encourage the honking of car horns, and

that one fan was quoted as saying, "it was the greatest night of my life."

Two days later the team and fans joined together at Grant Park for the celebration to continue and it was estimated that the overflowing crowd numbered in the five million range, the seventh largest gathering in human history. Months after that final game, the Washington Post reported, "It's a lot of gratitude," said Cubs manager, Joe Maddon. "It's the same refrain from everybody. For the most part, they don't want an autograph or a picture. They just want to shake your hand and say, "thank you.""

Journalist Barbara Ehrenreich says, "For most people in the world today the experience of collective ecstasy is likely to be found, if it is found at all, not in a church or at a concert or rally but at a sports event." There is no doubt that thanksgiving and sports are linked.

Continued on Page 2

Continued from Page 1

relief and gratitude at the final point of a three hour match...these are all examples of how sport and thanksgiving intersect.

But, let me suggest that down through the ages the prophets and poets and preachers of Christianity have also had a relationship of gratitude with God that has promoted a spirit of thanksgiving. In our Old Testament we read, "O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving..." (Psalm 95:1-2) and in the New Testament we hear, "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18) Author and historian Diana Butler Bass says, "Our stadiums, or perhaps our local bars (where people who cannot afford expensive tickets) ...might be our most public areas of gratitude...but another communal place where imbibing and praise come together in gratitude is in the church, in a ritual celebration called the Eucharist..."

The Eucharist, from the Greek *eukharistia* meaning "thanksgiving" or "gratitude" has been a sacrament of the church from the beginning with its origins attributed to Jesus himself. Bread and wine are blessed and shared as a reminder that both are a

gift from God. Holy Communion is a feast of gratefulness and is intended to show that in the church we give thanks to God who is the source of all good things.

At the very center of the Christian life is the gift of abundant life (John 10:10) that is received with humility and calls all of us to respond with gratitude and thankfulness. As we approach this 2019 season of Thanksgiving, let us remember that faith and gratitude are also interconnected and that we express our thanks most earnestly in worship, in the sacraments, and in communion with God and with our neighbor.

This Thanksgiving I hope you will join us for The Gathering on November 14th at 5:30 when we will give thanks to God and once again for the Interfaith Thanksgiving Service on November 24th at 4:00 at Pinehurst Congregational Church when we will express our gratitude to God as an entire community of faith. Let's not leave it to the athletes and fans in the stadiums but to the believers and disciples in houses of worship to express gratitude for one another and our thanksgiving for all God's blessings. This thanksgiving let us just say a simple "thank you" to our creator, sustainer, redeemer, and the author of abundant life.

Pastor Paul

Chapel Stewardship Season for 2020

Your Board of Directors adopted the theme: Gather, Grow, Give, Go for our Stewardship Season for 2020. We gather to worship and fellowship, we grow closer to God and to each other, we give of our time, talents, and resources to the ministries of this Chapel, and then we joyously go and serve to the glory of God and reflect the light of Christ onto each other and onto those in need in our community.

of being a church together in this place that we call "Chapel." And, to wrap things up, JoAn Moses spoke to us about serving our God through volunteering our time and talents. Each of these asked us to join them and their families in supporting all the ministries of this Chapel to the glory of God.

To complete our Stewardship Season of 2020...

On October 13th Mama Dot shared with us her love for the people of this Chapel as we gather for worship and fellowship and service to God. The next Sunday Jade Baker told us of her experience maturing in her faith through the teaching and nurturing of this Chapel and how she has grown from a child-seed, to a youth-seedling, to a young adult spreading her branches of faith out into the world. Dick Van Horne spoke to us on October 27th about the financial realities

November 10 Annual Congregational Meeting: Recommitting ourselves to God and to the ministries of this Chapel for another year

November 17 Pledge Sunday: Dedicating our gifts of time, talent, and treasure to the glory of God -Catered celebratory luncheon to follow

Please bring you completed Pledge Cards and Time and Talent Sheets with

The Mission Team Stays Busy!

The Chapel Mission Team has been busy, busy, busy! Several members of the Team spent a few hours at West End Presbyterian Church in early September interviewing the participants of the Christmas for Moore Angel Tree Program. The participants had already been screened by Social Services and found eligible for the program. Our purpose that day was to question the participants on needs, sizes, preferred colors, etc. so that we can record that information on the tree tags. As soon as the tags are finished, the tree will go up, and all of us at CIP will have an opportunity to choose tags and start buying gifts. There is a suggested minimum

dollar amount of \$40 for each participant.* You are not, however, required to purchase all of the items listed on the participants' tags. After you've made your purchases, please wrap each gift and attach a "TO/FROM" label which should include a family number and a number assigned to each person in the family.

More details to follow in the next newsletter, such as: date gifts must be returned to the Chapel, a sign-up sheet for delivery drivers and the date we plan to deliver. This has always been a special event for the Chapel and, especially for the children, those who give and those who receive.

This information will also be announced at our Sunday service and will be available near the Angel Tree.

So, if you love to shop, you are in the right church! When you see the Angel Tree in the Fellowship Hall, you'll know it's that time again. Thank you in advance for your participation.

*Just a reminder that several years ago, due to financial strain on the Mission Team, the Chapel ended its practice of reimbursement for the cost of the gifts.

Submitted by Vickie Bedder, Co-chair of the Mission Team

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

The Chapel in the Pines chose to become a part of the Interfaith Thanksgiving Service shortly after its conception in 2006. Our Chapel hosted the event in 2012, 2014, and 2017 and our pastor preached for this interfaith gathering in 2013 at Jackson Springs Presbyterian Church. As it says in the bulletin for this service, "This annual event has been designated to bring the whole community into a setting in which various faith traditions share their gratitude for the blessings of this nation and this world."

This year the Interfaith Thanksgiving Service will be hosted by Pinehurst Congregational Church and Pastor Judy Boroughs of Jackson Springs Presbyterian Church will deliver the message. The music will be lead by the music director of Pinehurst Congregational and the service begins at

4:00. Everyone is asked to bring a nonperishable food item to be donated to the West End Methodist Church Food Bank and also a dish to share with everyone at the covered dish supper to follow.

The participating faith communities are the Sandhills Jewish Congregation/Beth Shalom, the Congregational Church of Pinehurst, the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the Sandhills, St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, The Chapel in the Pines, The Community of Mindful Living in the Pines, Jackson Springs Presbyterian Church, McDonald's Chapel Presbyterian Church, and the Masjid Al Madina Mosque of Raeford.

Everyone is welcome to attend this interfaith service of gratitude and to linger afterwards for good food and fellowship.



43rd Anniversary of The Chapel

On Sunday, November 24 at our 9:00 worship service we will celebrate the forty-third anniversary of the Chapel in the Pines. The very first Sunday morning worship service of our congregation was officiated by Reverend Cecil Callis and was held on the

Sunday before Thanksgiving 1976. A wedding had taken place one week prior to this service while construction was still underway but Sunday of Thanksgiving week marks the founding of our Chapel.

Let's fill the church to overflowing as we celebrate our anniversary, Christ the King Sunday, and Holy Communion all in the same service. And, if we are not too exhausted, let's gather again to give thanks for all these blessings and more at the Interfaith



Chapel Prayers

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”

(1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)

Our Chapel Family...

Bob Dantzer, Mary Kay Allen, Jane and Charles Hinson,
Jimmy McCaskill, Meta and Jim Evans, Esther Robinson, Jason Harris, Mama Dot
Riggins, Ray MacKay, Joe Ambrosio, Mike Parker,
The family of Shirley Percival on the death of her sister, Patricia
The family of Jim Beck on the death of his brother, Ray
The family of Clint Ingram on the death of his wife, Lucy

Our Chapel Friends...

Laurie Stevens, Pat and Maureen Kibbie, Robert Gatto, Anna Verra
Tom Sullivan, Juster Machovi, Norma McKeithan, Robin Welch, Abbe Wells
Bruce Lowe and Christina Buble, Elizabeth McKenzie, Matt Northcutt
Gardenia Flores, June Ann, Duncan Stewart, Elmer Parker, John Moses
The family of John Fletcher on the death of his wife, Rebecca

The Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines Lunch Bunch

All single seniors are invited to attend the Seven Lakes Lunch Bunch for Lunch at the Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines Joralemon Hall. There is no cost. Reservations would be appreciated. Transportation will be provided if needed. Following lunch Gail Mace, of Lisa Dance Studio will be our speaker. She will tell us about the history of the Mary Kay products. To make a reservation for lunch and if transportation is needed, please call the chapel office at 910-400-5188.

Chapel Choir

“Sing, Choirs of angels, sing in exultation, O sing, all ye citizens of Heaven above!” reads the third verse of the Christmas hymn, “O Come, All Ye Faithful,” and although we are clearly not a choir of angels, we would like to invite all singing citizens of Heaven to join our choir. If you have interest in signing, like to hum along with the radion, or even lift your voice within the confines of the shower, now is the perfect time! The Chapel Choir is preparing for our annual Christmas Cantata, scheduled for Saturday, December 21 at Chapel in the Pines, and Sunday, December 22, at Carthage United Methodist Church. Both performances will be at 5:00 pm. Even if you’ve never been in a choir, you are welcome to join just for the season to it on for size. Cantata practice is every Wednesday evening, 6:00—6:55. There are eight practices ;eft, including one dinner practice, November 6. Dinner will be provided—you just come and sing for your supper! We do not practice the night before Thanksgiving. “O Come , let us adore Him. O Come, let us adore Him. O Come, let us adore Him, Christ The Lord.”

Finance Team

Tax free donations to the Chapel account to the chapel to qualify.

IRA Minimum Distributions. If you’re age 70 1/2 or older, you must take a minimum distribution (4%) from your IRA each year and pay income tax on the amount of your withdrawal. However, you can make a “tax-free” charitable contribution from your IRA to the Chapel. The money must be sent directly from your IRA For a retiree in the 24 percent tax bracket, an IRE charitable contribution of \$5,000 could reduce your income tax bill by \$1,200. Even a \$1,000 would save you \$240 in taxes. Questions? Call Dick Van Horne at 910-673-3123 or email him at rvanhorne@embarqmail.com.

November Volunteers

ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

3-CLAIRE COLLINS
10-KIONA BAKER
17- ROWAN COLLINS
24- LUKE BRYAN

FLOWER SCHEDULE

**3 - SHIRLEY PERCIVAL & LISA PE-
TERS/JANE KINNEY**
10 - JANE HINSON
17 - STOLTZ FAMILY
24 - FRAN STARK

USHER/GREETER SCHEDULE

**3* - LEE CONNELLY, GISELA DANIELSON, PAT DANTZER, HARLAN
MCCASKILL**
10 - BOB TOURT, DOT MACDONALD, WENDY TETREAU, LORE OLSEN
**14 - THURSDAY 5:30 PM GATHERING – ANYONE ATTENDING PLEASE
STEP FORWARD**
17 - SHIRLEY PERCIVAL, SUE & MIKE BARRY, PAT PRICE

OFFICE ASSISTANTS

1- SHIRLEY PERCIVAL
4 - WENDY TETREAU
8 -WENDY TETREAU
15 -SHIRLEY PERCIVAL
22- WENDY TETREAU
29- SHIRLEY PERCIVAL

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

3 - BRUCE & VICKIE BEDDER
10 – NANCEE LETTER
17 – CHAPEL CATERED DINNER
24 – TRACEY, FRANK, GINNY



Board Members

Effective August 27, 2019

Acting President - Harlan McCaskill	hhchicory6@aol.com	910-684-8060
Vice President - Lee Connelly	lrconne@nc.rr.com	910-673-2521
Secretary - Bob Racine	bpsu1956@yahoo.com	910-400-5116
Treasurer - Peggy Olson	citp-treasurer@7lakeschapel.com	910-673-3214
Member at Large – Amanda Bryan	amandabryan7@gmail.com	910-603-7252
Member at Large – Kathy Golzio	kbatrixie@aol.com	845-216-9446
Member at Large – Rev. Fran Stark	star2993@aol.com	910-673-5493
Member at Large – JoAn Moses	jmoses370@yahoo.com	910-673-0368
Member at Large – Dick Van Horne	rvanhorne@embarqmail.com	910-673-3123

Matt Northcutt Benefit November 16

ALS or Lou Gehrig Disease is a neurodegenerative disease that affects nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord, which strikes people between the ages of 40 and 70. At present, more than 16,500 Americans are living with ALS, for which there is no cure or treatment to halt the progression of the disease.

SYMPTOMS: Progressive loss of muscle control. ALS gradually prohibits the ability to WALK, GRASP OBJECTS, SWALLOW, BREATHE, SPEAK, and finally MOVE. The brain does not stop functioning.

Some ADDITIONAL FACTS about ALS:

Over 5,000+ people are diagnosed per year.

Only 10% of cases are inherited through a mutated gene, which means 90% occur without any family history.

Every 90 minutes someone is diagnosed, and someone passes away from this disease.

Only 4 drugs have been approved by the FDA to treat ALS, but none will stop the progression.

Estimated cost to develop a drug to stop this progression is \$2 BILLION.

High percentage of victims of ALS are VETERANS, regardless of branch of service or service in war or peacetime, and FOOTBALL PLAYERS are found to be affected.

FINALLY, the average life expectancy is 2 to 5 years.

Why is this information important to the Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines, the Seven Lakes Fire Company, Seven Lakes First Bank, the Kiwanis, and the North/South Homeowners Association? Because a young man, Matt Northcutt, 44, a long-time resident of Seven Lakes, with his wife Tammy and their three young children, 5, 7 and 9...is a victim of this disease that was diagnosed almost five years ago.

Matt, a First Responder volunteer in Seven Lakes for years, became one of the first policemen on the original Seven Lakes Police Force then joined the Fire Company, drove the ambulance, and finally, became an EMT. While a volunteer he was employed by the NC State Employment Security Commission working

with farmers in up to five surrounding counties.

Matt was diagnosed with ALS almost five years ago while still an EMT and had to resign from a job he loved since he could no longer trust his legs to respond as needed. He continued to work for the State and eventually was given a handicapped-equipped van in order to continue working. In June he had to resign from that job. Then Tammy, who worked for First Health Family Medicine in Seven Lakes, had to resign to assist Matt at home. This leaves them without an income, but with medical bills and living expenses for five.

The Mission of the groups named above, along with area friends, neighbors and businesses is to assist Matt and his family with those medical bills by holding a "BENEFIT FOR MATT NORTH CUTT" on November 16th from 12:30 pm to 4:30 pm, at the Chapel in the Pines. We will have Pulled Pork BBQ with sides, a BENEFIT CLASSIC CAR CRUISE-IN, and the MCKENZIE BROTHERS BAND playing, all for a \$10 ticket.

In addition, we are holding a RAFFLE with prizes including a YETI TUNDRA WHEELED COOLER, a SPARTINA PURSE, and CALLAWAY GOLF EQUIPMENT;

a SILENT AUCTION with BASKETS and GIFT CERTIFICATES from local merchants and golf courses, and a 50/50 DRAWING.

Our goal is \$10,000 but can only be met with the help of the Community. We need to show this young family our appreciation for all they have given us during their young lives. Please volunteer to assist us in this Mission by purchasing tickets and/or making donations.

Tickets are on sale at THE CHAPEL IN THE PINES, FIRST BANK IN SEVEN LAKES, THE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION ON THE NORTH SIDE, AND THE SEVEN LAKES FIRE COMPANY. We accept cash or checks [made out to BENEFIT FOR MATT NORTH CUTT] for the \$10 Benefit Ticket and if you wish to buy an early Raffle Ticket to get a lucky number, they are \$10 each or 3 for \$25!

If you are interested in volunteering to help us in any way, please call the Chapel in the Pines at 910-400-5188 and leave a message with your name and phone number. We will call you back. We can use any help you wish to offer!

The Chapel in the Pines—2019/2020

The Seasons of Thanksgiving, Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany

THANKSGIVING

November 14 The Gathering - 5:30
A service of gratitude and thanksgiving
Covered dish supper

November 24 Interfaith Thanksgiving Service - 4:00
Pinehurst Congregational Church
Bring a nonperishable food item for the West End Methodist Church Food Bank and a dish to share for supper

ADVENT

December 1 First Sunday of Advent - A Service of Hope

Almost Christmas Bible Study - 3:00

December 5 From Darkness to Light - 5:00

A meditative celebration of Christmas
Holy Communion
Soup, bread, and dessert covered dish supper

December 8 Second Sunday of Advent - A Service of Peace

Almost Christmas Bible Study continues - 3:00

December 15 Third Sunday of Advent - A Service of Joy

Almost Christmas Bible Study continues - 3:00

December 19 The Gathering - 5:30
Covered dish supper and Christmas caroling

December 21 Christmas Cantata (Chapel) - 5:00

December 22 Fourth Sunday of Advent - A Service of Love

Almost Christmas Bible Study concludes - 2:00

Christmas Cantata (Carthage UMC) - 5:00

December 24 Christmas Eve
A Service of Carols, Candles, and Communion - 4:00

Holy Communion

CHRISTMAS

December 29 A Service of Lessons and Carols

EPIPHANY

January 5 Epiphany of the Lord Sunday

January 9 The Gathering - 5:30

November Birthdays



November 1st – Dorothy Lovin’s Birthday

November 7th – Shirley Percival’s Birthday

November 9th – Charles Hinson’s Birthday

November 9th – Thomas Hinson’s Birthday

November 11th – Fred Young’s Birthday

November 18th – Pat Dantzer’s Birthday

November Anniversaries

Connie & Joe Ambrosio’s Wedding Anniversary (1969)

