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CHAPEL

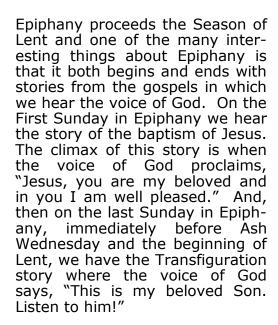
Volume 5, Issue 2

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Paul's Ponderings...

Listening for the Voice of God in Lent



The Hebrew name for this Divine Voice is "bat Cole" which translated into English becomes "the daughter of a sound". In 1 Kings in the Old Testament we hear the story of Elijah in a cave when the presence of God passes past him. There we are told that Elijah hears a "still, small voice" or more literally "the sound of thinnest silence". That's bat Cole... the daughter of a sound, the sound of thinnest silence, a still, small voice...all different ways of attempting to express something that lies beyond the boundaries of speech.



One of my fellow students once shared with the class that his wife had plainly heard the voice of God. She said that, "She didn't hear it with her ear, but she heard the Voice." Perhaps you've had a similar experience but if not, no worries, because God also speaks to us in less dramatic ways.

We sometimes hear the voice of God in our dreams, or in gentle nudges from friends, or from inexplicable leadings and proddings from God's Spirit. Sometimes God speaks to us through scripture or through the liturgical seasons of the church. And, as Transfiguration Sunday approaches let us prepare to hear God's voice implore once more, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him!"

In Mark's gospel, immediately after we hear the Voice say these words comes Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent which recounts Jesus' final journey from Galilee to Jerusalem. As I have said before the Season of Lent is all about following Jesus on that journey and our listening to Jesus along the way.

Jesus said, "If any person would come after me, let that person take up their cross and follow me." And, the Apostle Paul teaches the same thing when he says, "I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me." If we are to take the way of the cross seriously this Lenten Season it means that we are willing to die with Christ but it also means that we are willing to be resurrected with Christ...to be reborn in Christ.

As we begin the Season of Lent on Ash Wednesday the ashes will remind us of sin and death when we hear, "You are dust and to dust you shall return". But, as we journey with Jesus to Jerusalem and listen to him along the way, we will also be assured that Lent is most certainly about rebirth....dying to an old way of being and being born into a new way of being. Yes, dying to an old identity and being born into a new identity in God, in the Spirit, in Christ...this is what we aspire to achieve every Lent.

Dust may be our ending, but it was also our beginning. Dust and ash are reminders of our mortality and calls us to repentance but dust is also the stuff of creation. Church historian Diana Butler Bass says of Ash Wednesday, "Deserts do bloom. Charred land-scapes birth new forests. From dust

and ash come flowers and trees and fruitful fields. Dust is not nothing; ash is not nothing. Dust and ash are necessary for new life."

Perhaps Ash Wednesday and the entire season of Lent is not so much about our mortality and our need for repentance as it is about renewal, new life, and rebirth. So, let us pray for that which will be reborn in our spiritual hearts and renewed in our lives during these forty days, as we listen for the Voice that will bring us closer to God, to God's amazing creation, and to one another.

Peace, Pastor Paul

***Note - we will bring the Season of Epiphany to a close as we celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion on Transfiguration Sunday here at the Chapel on February 11 at 9:00. And, we will enter into the Season of Lent as we gather on Ash Wednesday at 5:00 for the Imposition of Ashes. Please place both of these most important worship services on your calendar. And, for those of you planning a romantic night out for Valentine's Day, I bet dinner reservations will be easier to get on Tuesday or Thursday and that will free you up to worship with your Chapel Family and Friends on Ash Wednesday.



Prayers for Chapel Friends:



Patty and Jackie Madden, Anthony Tuliano, Janet Hegeman, Evangeline Caliandro, Laurie Stevens, Little Daniel Auman, Koran Sanders, Lerici Racine, Kevin Carter, Neida Crow, Kerra Paduano, Kathy Steele, Harry Wahlquist, Walter Hundley, Esther Robinson's sister Judy, Cindy Hess, Lynn Garbarino, Bob Macdonald, Elaine Bertino, Mary Farley, Kitty Price, Kerri Klein, Jean Schmidt, Ed Barry, Bill Bohl, Cynthia Fetty, Bob Lovin, Dwight and Faye Jessup, D.J. Kirit, Steve Hall, Phil Westerman,

Lucy Dunn Martin, Jerry Hyatt, Chandler Stewart, Drew Carr and family, Ann Rorie, Sharon Hacker, Michael Taylor, Gerry Crow, Rev. Bill and Marty Bruner, Mary Steensen, Debbie Franklin, Nancy Cecchini, Mary Herold, Mary White, Mary Faas, Robert Allen, Joseph Rickards, Phyllis, Mahin and the family of Jack Sealy.

Prayers for Chapel Family:

Bud Holzerland, Dave Westerman, Meta Evans, Charles Hinson, Butch and Mary Kay Allen, George Hoffman, Glenda Clendenin, Jean Lawrence, Bob Dantzer, Mary Tuft, Phillip Thingstad, Sue Van Horne, Jimmy McCaskill, Carol Caggiano, Kathy Hilton, Dick Van Horne, Jane and Jeff Lowe and Jenny, Peggy Olson, Tamara Lee, Kristen Thompson, Katy Swain, Bill and JoAn Moses on the death of their son-in-law, Ron.





President's Corner



As I write these words on January 22nd, we're having another colder than usual day. The TV weather people have been saying that these recent several days have been the coldest days in central North Carolina for a couple of years. Thankfully, the predictions for the next several days are for temperatures warmer than normal. Let's all keep our fingers crossed that there are few if any very cold days in February.

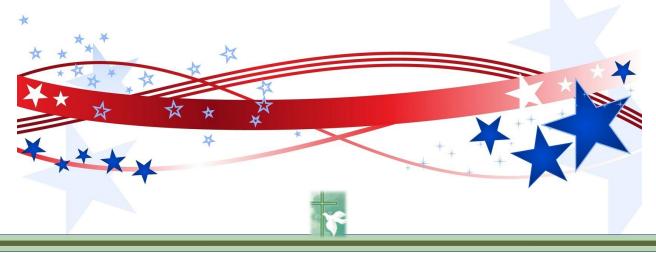
The first Chapel in the Pines Board of Directors meeting was held on Sunday, January 21st.

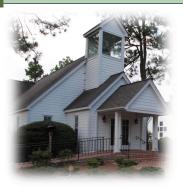
A major outcome of the meeting was from the Nominating Team. They presented two individuals to be presented to the Chapel's congregation to become members of the Board of Directors. Please stay tuned for more information and the invitation to the Special Called Meeting to be sent out by Susan Williams shortly.

We also approved Pastor Paul's proposed 2024 Worship and Communion schedule.

Throughout my entire career as a professional computer programmer, it was drummed into my head that it is better to be pro-active than re-active. So please allow me to wish everyone that has a birthday or anniversary in February my best wishes. I also would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very happy Valentine's Day.

If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions that should be brought to the attention of the Board, please don't hesitate to contact me.





Special Called Meeting

January 24, 2024

Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines Congregational Family:

This letter is to inform you that the Board of Directors is calling a special called meeting on Sunday, February 18, 2024 immediately following the morning worship service for the purpose of voting on two candidates submitted by the Nominating Team for the Board of Directors.

Candidates nominated by the Nominating Team for the two vacant positions on the Board of Directors are: Ruth Klein and Wayne Garland.

Please note that nominations for candidates can be made from the floor on Sunday, February 18, 2024, provided the nominee has been consulted prior to the meeting and has agreed to having their name submitted for nomination and consideration for a board position.

The By-Laws for Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines state that members automatically have voting privileges. If a member is unable to attend the meeting, they may grant a proxy in writing to another member who will then be able to vote on their behalf.

Friends of Seven Lakes Chapel of the Pines, those who worship or serve God through the ministries of this church are automatically granted voting privileges if they request it in writing before the start of a special called congregational meeting. Requests for voting privileges may be submitted to the Board President Jon Tichenor (tichenorjon@gmail.com) or the Chapel Administrator (citp10@7lakeschapel.com).

The Board of Directors sincerely thanks each of you for your support and covet your prayers as we make decisions for the direction of our church seeking God's will in all we do.

Sincerely,

Jon Tichenor, President Board of Directors





Team Updates

Nominating Team



The Nominating Team met on Wednesday, January 17th. The following people are currently on the team for this year: Esther Robinson, Alice McPheeters, JoAn Moses, Leslie While and Tracey Olsen. We accomplished quite a bit with some heavy tasks to tackle. We

have brought 2 members before the Board of Directors for the Board vacancies. The Congregation will vote on these individuals in the near future. We also have asked the Board to appoint a person to take John Caggiano's position as he has retired from the team.

Building & Grounds Team

The Gathering Hall doors have been repaired, so now the west end door is the main functioning door again.

Also, as a temporary security fix, we are having a dead bolt installed on the Chapel front doors until we can figure out how to have crash bars installed.

We are planning on installing outer sweeps on two lower level doors to prevent water leakage.

The water leakage repairs done last month have had positive results this past month during the recent rains.

Mike Barry Building Team

Cemetery Team

We have not sold anything at the Cemetery or the Chapel since August of 2023 except a headstone.

Mark Bearden's headstone was installed last week.

We had an interment at the main Columbarium in the Cemetery for Philip Streit. Things have been very slow. I am expecting delivery of a headstone very soon from the V. A. for Mr. Nickerson.

We will be offering a military DISCOUNT on all NICHES and GRAVE PLOTS.

We have been unable to get our irrigation system to function because of its age and the use of thin wall piping that keeps breaking. So, we are looking at trenching a new line from the irrigation shack to the center of the Cemetery and to Section I for two water spigots to water the Cemetery. This will be happening in early February, if weather permits.

Mike Barry Cemetery Team Chair





Team Updates

Mission Team

We met in the Fellowship Hall on Friday, January 12th at 10AM. Our meetings are on the second Friday of each month at 10AM. Our next meeting is February 9th.



We welcomed our new team leaders: Lydia Litteral and Deb Rush. Thirteen people attended the meeting. We currently have approximately 15 members on the team.

The Mission Team checking account has held steady as well as our Money Market account.





We continue to collect new twin size sheets, mattress pads, comforters, bed-in-a-bag and pillows. This is part of our outreach helping Sleep in Heavenly Peace (a non-profit) in the area.

Bunco was cancelled for January due to inclement weather. We are discussing many other ideas moving forward in efforts to increase our funds. The Wheelbarrow will return in March, so please save your coins. We will keep it out for the entire month.

The Mission Team will provide flowers and after Coffee and Fellowship after church on various Sundays.

We continue to host Fran's Friends on the first Thursday of each month at 3PM. Please join us for fellowship.



Worshíp Team



Well, January is rapidly coming to an end. Thanks to everyone who turned out to put away the Christmas decorations. We had enough people on hand so that all (or 99%) of the work was done in just over an hour. Many hands make little work. And it was fun. Lots of laughter. What a wonderful congregation we have. So many caring people to care for the Chapel. Everyone, pat yourselves on the back!

As we go into February and March, be prepared! These will be two very busy months, we can look forward to the Transfiguration of the Lord Sunday, Ash Wednesday, Lent, Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday in that time frame.

Warm weather has come our way, YAY! Spring won't be much longer!

Leslie While



CITP Men's Fellowship

The CITP Men's fellowship would like to invite all men of the church to join us for breakfast and fellowship the second Saturday of each month at the Seven Lakes golf club restaurant at 8 AM.

At our meeting on Saturday, January 13th it was decided to graduate to a monthly fellowship breakfast at the golf club restaurant. The Agenda will be the same in that after breakfast and fellowship we will have a devotion, discussion and time of prayer and thanksgiving.



Men's Fellowship

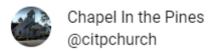


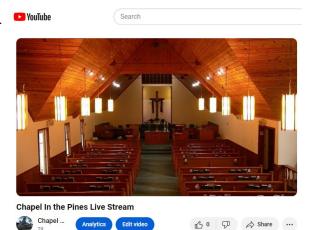
You can find our Chapel Services Online?

Our Chapel Services are on YouTube?

If you miss a Sunday Service, OR, if you are out of town you can simply go to our Chapel in the Pines website **www.7lakeschapel.com** and click on the **Sunday Services Live** tab. There you will find previous services, as well as, the current Sunday service. The bulletins for each Sunday are also available on or website and easy to locate. Bulletins are listed beside each of the services.

You can also find us on our **YouTube** Channel **Chapel in the Pines @citpchurch**. On our YouTube channel you will also be able to see past services, as well as, the scheduled date and time for the next service.

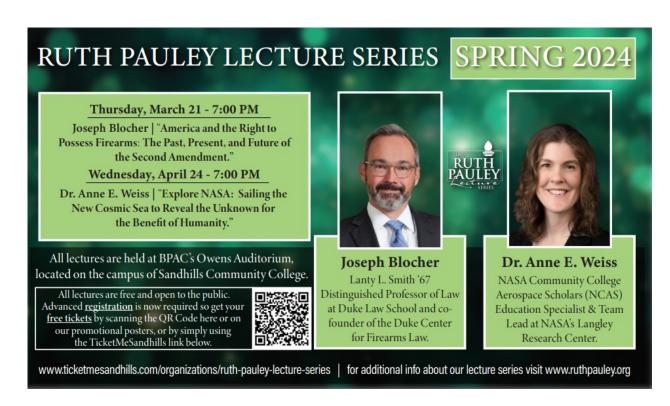




THE RUTH PAULEY LECTURE SERIES PRESENTS THE SPRING 2024 SPEAKERS

Ruth Pauley Lectures are always free and open to the public.

IMPORTANT UPDATE: Advance registration is now necessary. Don't worry. It's easy. Get your free tickets (no tax/no charge) simply by scanning the QR code below or on our promotional posters out and about or by using: Ticket-mesandhills.com/organizations/ruth-pauley-lecture-series.



Professor Blocher will explain the text, history and development, and possible future of the right to keep and bear arms through the lens of past and pending Supreme Court decisions – in one of which he played an active role - that have over time shaped and continue to transform the right. He will also attempt to dispel common misconceptions about the Second Amendment.

More than 50 years after the Eagle landed at Tranquility Base, Dr. Weiss will discuss NASA's preparation to send the Artemis II crew further than ever before into space aiming to establish a permanent base of operations at the Moon's South Pole and in lunar orbit. This foundational outpost, on the shores of a vast cosmic sea, will allow humans eventually to follow the trailblazing robotic missions that explore our Solar System and beyond, some of which look back nearly to the beginning of the Universe itself.



Tuesday, February 27
Dot Riggins
Tuesday, February 27
Mike Barry
Wednesday, February 28
Samuel Stoltz

Saturday, February 3
Ruth Klein
Thursday, February 8
Joan Tourt
Thursday, February 8
Dot Macdonald
Saturday, February 10
Kathy Reszka
Sunday, February 18
Marilyn Powers
Sunday, February 18
Steve Urie







Thursday, February 28 Kathy Hilton & James Reid





Upcoming Events

Thursday-February 1	3:00 pm	Fran's Friends
Sunday-February 4	9:00 am	Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
Wednesday-February 7	4:30 pm	Chapel Choir
Friday-February 9	10:00 am	Mission Team
Saturday-February 10	7:45 am	Men's Fellowship
Sunday-February 11	9:00 am	Transfiguration of the Lord
		Holy Communion
Tuesday-February 13	6:00 pm	Bunco 4 Missions
Wednesday-February 14	5:00 pm	Ash Wednesday
Sunday-February 18	9:00 am	First Sunday of Lent
		Chapel Board Meeting
Wednesday-February 21	4:30 pm	Chapel Choir
Sunday-February 25	9:00 am	Second Sunday of Lent
Wednesday-February 21	4:30 pm	Chapel Choir

Coffee Fellowship



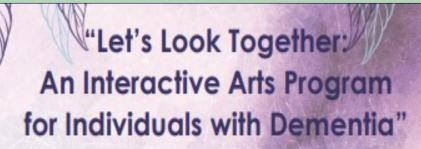
February

- 4 Bruce & Vickie Bedder
- 11 Stacy & Kathy Golzio
- **18** Joyce Singletary and Katy Swain
- 25 Mission Team

March

- **3** Mission Team
- 10 Volunteer Needed
- 17 Volunteer Needed
- 24 Volunteer Needed
- 31 Volunteer Needed

To volunteer contact our Church Administrator, Susan Williams by calling **910-400-5188** or emailing **citp10@7lakeschapel.com**. You can also sign up at the podium just outside the entrance to the fellowship hall.



Tuesday, February 13th, 2024 from 11am – 12pm Tuesday, March 12, 2024 from 11am-12pm

Location: Arts Council Galleries at Campbell House, 482 East Connecticut Ave., Southern Pines, NC

Registration required for this FREE PROGRAM: 910-692-ARTS (2787)

Limited to 6 couples: care partner and their individual

Contact: Rae-Lynn Ziegler with questions: riziegler@nc.rr.com

"Let there be NO fear of failure in this interactive program with other individuals experiencing memory loss. Feel a sense of focusing positively on the skills that are present in an individual with the diagnosis of Dementia. The opportunity with the visual and musical art promotes connections in the brain that engage parts of the brain not impacted by cell loss. Socializing with others is critical to well being, decreasing withdrawal and isolation for both the care partner and the individual with the diagnosis." (RLZ, OTR)

Sponsored by the Arts Council of Moore County





Flower Schedule

If you are interested in volunteering to provide flowers for the chapel, you may call **910-400-5188** or e-mail cit10@7lakeschapel.com to have your name added to the Flower Sign-up List.

February	
2-4	Bruce and Vicki Bedder
2-11	Volunteer Needed
2-18	Volunteer Needed
2-25	Mission Team
March	
3-3	Mission Team
3-10	Volunteer Needed
3-17	Volunteer Needed
3-24	Sandy Cifranic
3-31	Paul James

Back Pack Pals and Matthew 25:40 Programs

We Need Your Help—Please Donate as Often As You Can!

Juice Boxes, any flavor Pop Tarts, any flavor Peanut Butter/Cheese Crackers



Capri Sun Juices, any flavor Pop Tarts, any flavor Chef Boyardee Micro Cups, in yellow and red Small Water Bottles Protein Bars, all flavors Fruit Cups Apple Sauce Cps









Board of Directors - 2024

Jon Tichenor		
President	tichenorjon@gmail.com	910-466-9148
Jim Beck Treasurer	lotsaoaks@gmail.com	910-673-5682
Ed Burke Secretary	edembr@hotmail.com	910-477-2947
Tracey Olsen	tolsen415@gmail.com	704-604-7930
Dot Macdonald	dotjmac1957@gmail.com	910-673-3866
Peggy Reuter	preuter@nc.rr.com	910-295-6370
Bob Donaldson	rhdon138@gmail.com	201-317-1925
George Norman Immediate Past Preside (Ex-Officio)	gngolfer@nc.rr.com nt	910-987-4664

Chapel Staff and Contact Info

Pastor Reverend Paul James	pastorpaulchapel@gmail.com	910-690-5529
Chapel Administrator Susan Williams	citp10@7lakeschapel.com	910-400-5188
Financial Secretary Paula Montgomery	citp-treasurer@7lakeschapel.com	910-986-9191
Choir Director Kristen Thompson	kristen.webb@gmail.com	910-220-1979
Seven Lakes Cemetery Columbarium Team Le Mike Barry		910-466-9100
Sound/Audio Technici Dillon Corral	an,	

Church Office: 910-400-5188
Church Email: citp10@7lakeschapel.com
Church Website: http://7lakeschapel.com





Seven Lakes Chapel in the Tines

2125 Seven Lakes South West End, NC 27376

Serving our Community by Preaching, Teaching, and Living the Gospel of Jesus Christ

