



*And Jesus said to them,
 "Follow me and I will make
 you fish for people."*

Mark 1: 17

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March 2019

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**60th Birthday
 Celebration**



**Memory Garden
 Dedication**



**141st Presbytery South
 Louisiana Stated Meeting Procession with Communion;
 Pastor Nanette Cagney was installed as Moderator of Presbytery South Louisiana.
 We are so proud of her.**



Pastor's Ponderings

This Wednesday, March 6, is Ash Wednesday. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Lenten journey. The ashes remind us that we are mortal and that we have sinned against God and neighbor. As Abraham spoke to Almighty God, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes" (Genesis 18:27). Adam was made from the dust of the ground (Genesis 2:7). We each return to the dust and ash (Genesis 3:19) when our bodies die and decompose. We do not like to think about these things, but that does not change reality.

The imposition of ashes also connects us to our baptism. Many Presbyterians and others were baptized with water on their forehead. It was a sign of washing and renewal, of dying with Jesus and rising again to new life. Paul writes how baptism is connected to Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection: "But, if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus." (Romans 6:8-11)

The ashes are a reminder that we have already died in our baptism. We died to sin and have begun to live the new life in Christ. The ashes we place on our head will eventually wash away; the promise of our baptism is not so easily removed. Oil is a symbol of the Holy Spirit and the ashes are mixed with oil to make them spreadable. The Holy Spirit holds us in Christ Jesus.

The ashes do NOT mean that we are being marked for sorrow, for shame or false humility or for thinking we are less than we are. This is not what it is about. This marking is a reminder of what God can do with these bodies made of dirt. God claims us in baptism, God continues to heal us, and God claims us again.

So, this year, our Ash Wednesday will be celebrated a bit differently. We will receive ashes, but recognizing the power of God's forgiveness, after the Assurance of Pardon we will wipe them off. This symbolizes that God has wiped us clean of sin. As we depart from the service, we will touch the water of baptism, releasing us once again to new life in Christ.

Nanette



Birthdays

3/08 Grant Keith Kral
 3/09 Pat Marshall
 3/13 Samuel Soileau
 3/15 Pat Barron
 3/18 Margy Clawson
 3/22 Debbie Scritchfield
 3/26 Gage Simon
 3/30 Ryan Keenan

Anniversary

3/20 Colleen & Hugh Dykes

Prayers and Concerns

We offer prayers of thanksgiving for those who visited this past month.

Also, remember in your prayers the many members and friends in need of support during the trying times of their lives: Susan Benge's father; Sandy Brister, the pastor at St. Andrew Leesville, her husband, and her mother; Edward Chavanne; Carolyn Chingo; Margy Clawson; Nancy Crcic; Jody Flanagan; Annette Harlow; Creighton Leblanc (Eva's brother); William Ludwick; Laura Ludwick; Sarah Marshall; Dorothy Strait; Hilda Trahan, executive director of Evergreen, & her sister, Julie; Cullen Nolan; Thomas Schwab; and baby Liam.

Condolences to the family and friends of Cheryl Roch.

Prayers for those serving in the military.

When you are ready to be taken off the list, please call the church office.



St. Andrew Presbyterian Women

The Mission Stitches of St. Andrew work hard to make many projects to sell to support local missions they have chosen to work with, and to support the two offerings chosen by the national Presbyterian Women; the **Birthday Offering** and the **Thank Offering**. Local missions chosen are ETC, Oasis, Potter's House, The Lord's Place, and Evergreen. Contact Jan Laird or Linda Latour for more information about any of these groups. They have also helped Welsh Presbyterian Church and purchased items; such as the benches for the Meditation Garden.





PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

2019 Birthday Offering of Presbyterian Women Recipients

The Birthday Offering is one of Presbyterian Women's two offerings. Received in the spring each year, it gives women a tangible way to celebrate the blessings in their lives. The Birthday Offering funds **up to** five projects each year, in amounts of \$75,000 to \$150,000 each. The recipients are selected before the offering is received, so grant amounts depend on the gifts received.

The recipients for 2019 are:

Disaster Response Team

Presbytery of Charlotte, Charlotte, North Carolina

The Disaster Response Team of the Presbytery of Charlotte will expand its ministry to support people affected by human-made or natural disasters. PW's grant will help provide a warehouse, parking lot and security fencing. This new space will hold household goods, food, hygiene, and school kits, and clean-up buckets, and will house mobile shower units and disaster recovery trailers.

Effingham Child Development Center

Inclusive Playground, Effingham, Illinois

In a child's early years inclusive play environments set the tone for successful future relationships. The Effingham Child Development Center serves children and families of differing abilities and is paving the way for all kids to learn and play together. The Birthday Offering will improve the center's playground by helping to provide a protective play surface and all-inclusive play equipment.

Presbyterian Homes and Services of Kentucky, Inc. Good Shepherd Community Nursing Center, Phelps, Kentucky

Presbyterian Homes and Services of Kentucky cares for people who are sick, poor, lonely or vulnerable due to infirmities of age and poor health. This project will improve the quality of life and safety for nursing center residents in the Appalachian region of Eastern Kentucky. PW's grant will help provide new wardrobes, bedside cabinets, over-bed tables, nursing beds, mattresses and lift recliners.

Wings of Refuge

Restoration Home, Iowa Falls, Iowa

Wings of Refuge provides a safe and healing space for women victimized by human trafficking. Without safety and shelter, there is little healing. PW's Birthday Offering grant will help fund a larger long-term safe home where many more women will find restoration, identity, community, opportunity and hope, and transition into independent living.

https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/what_we_do/support-mission/birthday-offering/

This year's Lent Study will be *Simon Peter* by Adam Hamilton.

Simon Peter was neither rich nor educated, but he was familiar with hard work. He was quick-tempered and impetuous, but possessed a passion that would change the world. He left everything to follow his teacher, yet struggled with doubt and fear. Peter was there at the beginning of Jesus' ministry, he was there at the end and he was there after the resurrection.

Come join us for this Lent study, beginning Sunday, March 10, at 9:30 in the Session Room.



A Special Thanks to all who worked so hard to make our 60th birthday celebration and the PSL meeting a success. There were long hours worked, much baking done, special donations given, manual labor galore, but our church now shines. Everything looks wonderful and was well-received. What a success!



A "Mission Stick" has been placed in the front of the Sanctuary. It started as the "Goat Stick" based on our first mission through Heifer Project.

The funds were to be used to purchase goats and other animals for Heifer. The children of St. Andrew place coins in the "stick" as their offering every week. The money from the coins is used to help a special mission chosen by the children. In the past years the "Goat Stick" or "Mission Stick" money has been used to help the Heifer Project and to help their church. The chosen mission for this collection this time is Abraham's Tent which feeds the homeless and those in need in the Lake Charles area. A collection of non-perishable items was also taken. We have some incredible youth in the church and thank them for their compassion towards others.



UPCOMING EVENTS



- 3/06 Ash Wednesday Worship in the Sanctuary at 6:00 p.m.
- 3/10 Sunday-McNeese Clarinet Recital in the Sanctuary with Jaiden Courville. Doors open at 1:00 p.m. with recital starting at 2:00 p.m. Anyone may attend the recital, free of charge.
- 3/10 Sunday- Stated Session meeting in the Session Room at 5:00 pm.
- 3/15 Friday-Fabulous Friday starts at 10:00 a.m. in the Richardson Room with the Horizon Study; Luncheon at 11:30 a.m. in the Art Room; Mission Stitchers at 12:30 p.m. in the Sewing Room.
- 3/16 Saturday-Men's Breakfast at Greater St. Mary Missionary Baptist Church at 8:00 a.m.
- 3/17 Sunday- Cake Walk for Camps in the Fellowship Hall after worship service. Homemade desserts for the event are appreciated. Contact Wade Marcantel or Charlene Aguiard for more information.
- 3/18 Monday, "Fellowship of Differents" study starts at 6:30 p.m.
- 3/20 Wednesday-NSG meeting in the Session Room at 6:00 p.m.
- 3/23 Saturday is **Ecycle Day**. Please bring any unusable electronic items to the church office. They will be stored in the storage shed until **Ecycle Day**. Joe Dye will load it all in his truck to take to the facility. **Only electronics at this time.**

The start was a humble one. The name — Ten Thousand Villages — was inspired by Mahatma Gandhi's quote. Because in every village are people who want to live a meaningful life with dignity and who bring beautiful culture worth sharing. Multiply the village idea by ten thousand and it represents the world we're working to build.

It all began with one woman selling textiles from the trunk of her car. Her name was Edna Ruth Byler — wife, mother and unexpected entrepreneur.

As a volunteer living in Akron, Pennsylvania in the 1940s, Byler became known in the Mennonite community for her warm hospitality, creative spirit and cinnamon rolls.

In 1946, when Byler traveled with her husband to Puerto Rico, she met women in La Plata Valley who were struggling to feed their children. Having lived through hard times herself during the Depression, she knew the face of poverty. She also knew the importance of dignity and people wanting a way to help themselves.

Byler was moved to do something. She saw the pieces of fine embroidery the women of La Plata created, but had no place to sell. If she, an American, was so struck by these unique textiles, perhaps other Americans would also appreciate their beauty. With no clear plan but a sense of purpose, Byler brought the pieces home and began to sell to friends and neighbors.

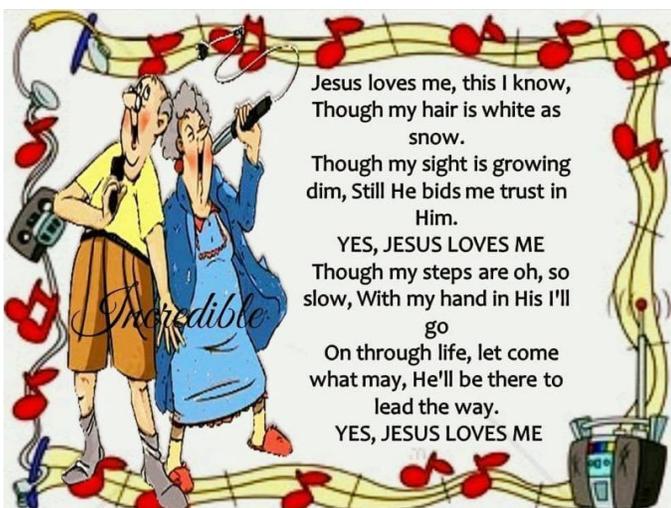
Mennonite Central Committee, an aid and relief agency, saw the long-term value that sustainable income opportunities would bring to impoverished villages. They supported Byler's endeavors and facilitated her travels abroad including to India and Jordan.

By the 1950s, she was driving her Chevy II packed with global needlework to women's sewing circles and parties of interested friends across the country. She shared the stories of the makers, describing how each purchase meant that a woman gained economic independence and a chance to give her family a brighter future.

It was a simple idea. But a pioneering one that would launch Ten Thousand Villages and blossom into a global fair trade movement.

Check out their website to see the crafts and gifts made by the 10,000 Villages artisans. The Fair Trade Organization promotes fair wages, gender equality, safe working conditions, environmental practices, and many other skills and opportunities to promote dignity.

<https://www.tenthousandvillages.com>





March Calendar
Elders on Duty: Joe Dye & Melinda Sharp
 To see the newsletter in color go to www.standrewpres.com

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 12:30pm Mission Stitchers	2
3 9:30am Adult Bible Study 10:45am Communion Worship Service	4 6:30pm Fresh Start GA & Gam-Anon	5 6:00pm Into Action AA mtg (open) Office Closed	6 1:00pm Bryce in Sanctuary 6:00pm Ash Wednesday service 6:30pm Choir Practice	7 12:30pm Art Class 3:00pm Recital rehearsal /clarinet 6:30pm New Hope GA	8 12:30pm Mission Stitchers	9 
10 9:30am Adult Bible Study 10:45am Worship Service 5:00pm Stated Session mtg Daylight Saving Time	11 6:30pm Fresh Start GA & Gam-Anon	12 6:00pm Into Action AA mtg (open)	13 6:30pm Choir Practice	14 12:30pm Art Class 6:30pm New Hope GA	15 Fabulous Friday 10:00am Horizon study 11:30am Luncheon 12:30pm Mission Stitchers	16 8:00am Men's Breakfast at Greater St. Mary's Missionary Baptist church
17 9:30am Adult Bible Study 10:45am Worship Service After worship service, Cake Walk for Camps	18 6:30pm Fresh Start GA & Gam-Anon 6:30pm "Differents" study Location TBA	19 6:00pm Into Action AA mtg (open)	20 6:00pm NSG Meeting in Session Room 6:30pm Choir Practice	21 12:30pm Art Class 6:30pm New Hope GA	22 12:30pm Mission Stitchers	23 E-CYCLE Day
24 9:30am Adult Bible Study 10:45am Worship Service	25 6:30pm Fresh Start GA & Gam-Anon	26 6:00pm Into Action AA mtg (open)	27 6:30pm Choir Practice	28 12:30pm Art Class 6:30pm New Hope GA	29 12:30pm Mission Stitchers	30
31 9:30am Adult Bible Study 10:45am Worship Service/luncheon						