

LECTIONARY READINGS

January 29, 2017

4th Sun. after the Epiphany

Micah 6:1-29
Psalm 15
1 Corinthians 1:18-31
Matthew 5: 1-12



February 5, 2017

5th Sun. after the Epiphany

Isaiah 58:1-9a
Psalm 112:1-9
1 Corinthians 2:1-12
Matthew 5:13-20

Remember our Youth as they enjoy time away at Seven Springs Mountain Resort in Pennsylvania. They will return Sunday, January 29.



Paul M. Pridgen III

Expression of Thanks

The family of Mrs. Grace P. Blanchard wishes to express their sincere appreciation to church members for the many acts of kindness and prayers rendered in their behalf.

WEEKLY REPORT (1/22)

Offering

Amount Received.....\$10,034.92

Other Monies Received

Wed. Supper.....291.00
Memorials.....480.00
Reimb. to Youth.....60.00
Youth Ski Trip.....115.00
Bicentennial Purchases34.00
Global Missions.....10.00
Food Pantry.....1.00
TOTAL.....3,172.00

Attendance

Sunday School.....107
Chowan River Nursing.....40
SS TOTAL.....147
Worship Total.....188

SHUT-IN OF THE WEEK

Mrs. Mary Jo Byrd
PO Box 987
Edenton, NC 27932

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Miss Abigail Stanley
Appalachian State Univ.
Box 10953
Boone, NC 28608

HOSPITAL REPORT (1/25)

Vidant Medical Center
Linda Rinehart Green.

January & February are "SOUPER MONTHS"

During these cold months, the Edenton-Chowan Food Pantry has asked us to donate items to make soup: all types of beans & peas, rice, canned tomatoes, carrots, corn, etc. They also are asking for canned tomato or chicken noodle soups.



Last Sunday, our worship focused on God's call to serve. It was nice to reflect on the various men and women who have been called by God from within our congregation to serve God through ordained and church-related ministries. I am grateful to Charles Swanner, David McCall, and Dallas Stallings for their reflections on how God called them to serve and how God is continuing to extend his call to our congregation. I am also grateful to everyone who prepared food for our luncheon and stayed to enjoy the meal. We offer a special thanks to all the members of the social committee who set up the fellowship hall, served the meal, and cleaned up afterward: Clyde & Jackie Adams, Jimmy & Karen Fleetwood, Tony & Miriam Hughes, Mac & Joan Privott, Bobby & Lisha Sparks, Jim & Betty Ward. When you see these folks, be sure to thank them for their hard work that enabled us to enjoy a great meal together.

As I reflect on last Sunday, I am grateful for every person who has answered the call of God to serve in ordained and church-related ministries. At the same time, I am thankful that God's call is not limited to just those people who become ordained ministers or missionaries or chaplains or other church-related vocations. God's call is for **all** of us. Every one of us has a vocation in life, something which God has called us to do with our abilities and his gifts to us. And no single vocation is more "holy" or "special" than another. God's call to be an auto mechanic, an artist, a sales clerk, a manager, a mail deliverer, a biologist, a police officer, or a nurse is equally as holy as a call to serve in ordained ministry. As the reformer Martin Luther once wrote, "God himself will milk the cows through him whose vocation it is." God looks upon each of us as vessels of his grace, and God calls each of us uniquely to serve him with our abilities and interests and individual lives. And by doing our work faithfully every day, we grow as Christians and show our faithfulness to God. As Tish Harrison Warren writes, "We grow in holiness in the honing of our specific vocation. We can't be holy in the abstract. Instead we become a holy blacksmith or a holy mother or a holy physician or a holy systems analyst. We seek God in and through our particular vocation and place in life." ^[1]

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The challenge, then, from our "Called to Serve" worship service last Sunday, is to be sure we are listening for God's voice as God calls to us. In our daily vocations—whether we are students in school, working for pay, working at home, volunteering in retirement, or otherwise—we can find life's greatest fulfillment and joy by doing what God desires of us. But we have to listen patiently and eagerly to what God is saying. Let's pray for one another in this endeavor.

Grace and peace,

David

^[1] This quote and the quote from Martin Luther are from Tish Harrison Warren, *Liturgy of the Ordinary: Sacred Practices in Everyday Life* (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2016), 93, 94.

Birthdays

Sunday, January 29

Yvonne Pittman
Kim Sloan

Monday, January 30

John Brooks
Dorothy Layden

Wednesday, February 1

Cam Byrum
Ashley Katharine Record
Evelyn Swanner
Bob Zembraski

Thursday, February 2

Betsy Kelly

Friday, February 3

Steve Hampton
John Marshall
Jackie Partin

Anniversaries

Wednesday, February 1

M/M West Small

Saturday, February 4

M/M James Criddle

Schedule Changes:

- No church basketball games this week.
- No Youth REAL Talk on Sunday (ski trip).

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

Sunday, January 29

8:30-Baptist Men's Breakfast
9:45-Sunday School
10:45-Pastor/Deacon Prayer
11:00-Morning Worship

Tuesday, January 31

11:30-Joy Club, Fellowship Hall
5:30-Handbell Rehearsal

Wednesday, February 1

5:30-Supper (chicken spaghetti)
6:00-Children's Choirs
6:30-Adult Bible Study
6:45-Children's Missions
7:30-Adult Choir Practice

Thursday, February 2

10:15-Book Bag Buddies
3:30-Homebound Team