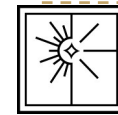




# The MorningStar



## Lectionary Gospel Texts

### March 3

Transfiguration of the Lord  
*Communion Celebrated*  
Exodus 34:29-35; Luke 9:29-36

### March 6

Ash Wednesday Service of  
Worship  
*Imposition of Ashes -- 7:30 pm*

### March 10

First Sunday in Lent  
Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Luke 4:1-13

### March 17

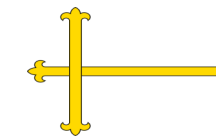
Second Sunday in Lent  
*Communion Celebrated*  
Genesis 15:1-12; 17-18;  
Luke 13:31-35

### March 24

Third Sunday in Lent  
Isaiah 55:1-9; Luke 13:1-9

### March 31

Fourth Sunday in Lent  
Joshua 5:9-12; Luke 15:1-3, 11-32



## Pastor's Corner

What's all the business about Lent? The tradition goes further back than that, all the way to the origins of the organized church in the Middle Ages of Europe. The idea is to have a time of introspection and mission/good works in the midst of getting ready to remember the Good Friday event of the Crucifixion of Christ. And forty days is a good round number to use as that time of preparation.

We know that the number forty is a familiar number to the faithful. It takes about 40 weeks from conception to birth. In the great flood of Genesis in the Bible, the rain kept up for forty days and forty nights, and the freed Israelite slaves from Egypt in the Old Testament book of Exodus wandered in the wilderness for the span of forty years before they were allowed to enter the Promised Land. And most importantly, Jesus was tempted in the wilderness after His baptism for forty days, preparing Him for His public ministry. We take our cue from that.

We spend the forty days of Lent, beginning with Ash Wednesday, to prepare our hearts for the power and promise of the Crucifixion, with the fulfillment of the Cross in the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter morning: the Lord's Day. We begin the season of Lent with the Imposition of Ashes on Ash Wednesday as a simple of the fragility and humility of the human existence, and then celebrate Easter Sunday with festive songs, flowers and the statement that: "The Lord is Risen!" (He is

risen indeed.) And the purple color in abundance in the sanctuary during the Lenten Season? The color of repentance and preparation. Lent to Easter, full of color, introspection, good deeds and a place in the rhythm of the disciple's journey.

Faithfully,  
Steve Mitchell

### TEN CENTS A MEAL OFFERING

will be taken the last Sunday of each month. It will be taken on March 31. . . Serving the needs of God's children by feeding mind, body and soul.



### Soup and Scripture is Back

Join your MSPC friends for a weekly Bible Study in Lent that will be focusing on Paul's Letter to the Philippians. Soup will be provided by volunteers, and you bring a bill with a small study guide that we will receive donations for. So make plans to keep those Wednesday nights Open (March 13- April 17) at 6:15pm. Bring your appetite and your curiosity.

**CARD AND GAME PARTY – EVERYONE WELCOME**

Tuesday, April 9, 2019

1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Heavy Appetizers, Snacks Door Prizes, Silent Auction  
FOOD FUN FELLOWSHIP . . . . . EVERYONE INVITED

Bring your own cards/games

Questions/Tickets/\$10.00 per person -- call or email church

704-847-0864 [morningstarpresby@windstream.net](mailto:morningstarpresby@windstream.net)

**MORNINGSTAR PRESBYTRIAN CHURCH**

13000 Idlewild Road, Matthews, NC 28105

*Sponsored by Presbyterian Women*



The PW met on February 18, 2019 at the home of Tricia Bunn. There were 11 members in attendance. The "Least Coin" was collected and a check in the amount of \$104.00 was sent to the local PW Least Coin. Beach Trip is also scheduled for May 4-12. There are 12 women attending. Room for more if you would like to join us. Everyone was encouraged to collect door prizes from local vendors and to think of ideas for gift baskets for the Card & Game Party. The next meeting will be held at the home of Mary Miller on March 18 at 6:00 pm.

Don't forget to bring in your donations for PW's "12 Months of Giving" appeal. The item to bring to MSPC this month is instant **mashed potatoes**. At the close of the month these donations will be packed up and delivered to Matthews Help Center. Thanks for your help.

**12 Months of Giving**

**SYNOPSIS OF FEBRUARY 10, 2019 MSPC REGULAR SESSION MEETING**

**PRESENT:** Moderator: Steve Mitchell Elders: Jerry Cole, Linda Horky, Nancy Hamilton, Curtis Moore, Tom Clifford, Kathy Jones, Sharon Browning and Dianne Dalto. **EXCUSED:** Clara Hoeffler

**DEVOTION:** Jerry Cole shared a devotion on "Daily Prayers" and opened the meeting with prayer.

**REPORT OF THE PASTOR (Steve Mitchell):**

Pastor moderated the Session at Philadelphia Presbyterian during their time of change. Elder Kathy Jones gave a hard copy synopsis of this past Presbytery meeting at Sharon PC.

**REPORT OF THE CLERK:**

Approval of minutes: January 13<sup>th</sup> (regular); January 27<sup>th</sup> (annual congregation); approved as read.

**TREASURY REPORT – (Mary Miller)**

Mary Miller (Financial Assistant) supplied hard copies of the financial balances as of 2/9/19. BB&T Checkbook balance. \$ 4,216 / BB&T Savings balance: \$16,673 (designated funds included)

**CONSENT AGENDA** - These are the items that were moved and approved as a Consent Agenda:

- **Ash Wednesday Service of Worship with the Imposition of Ashes: 3/6/19 @ 7:30 p.m.**
- **MSPC Card Party Fundraiser to be held at MSPC on 4/9/19 from 1-4 pm.**
- **Maundy Thursday Service of Worship with the Sacrament of Holy Communion on 4/18/19 @ 7:30 pm.**
- **"Sunrise" Easter Service of Worship 4/21/19 @ 8:00 am.**
- **One Great Hour of Sharing to be received on 4/21/19 (Easter Sunday).**
- **Celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion at joint Bluegrass Service of Worship on 5/5/19 at Matthews Presbyterian. Starting time of service still to be determined.**
- **Super Bowl offering received on 2/5/19 is to be sent to 10 cents a meal.**

**MINISTRY GROUPS –**

**UPWARD/INWARD – No Written report (Sharon/Kathy/Nancy)**

Committee is interested in bringing back old school VBS with a tentative date of last week in July. The time would be 9-12 in the morning with only serving a snack. A kick-off meeting will be held in early March to discuss needs and general overview. Easter breakfast to be held between services.

**FORWARD – Written report (Jerry Cole/Tom Clifford/Curtis Moore)**

Interstate Sales is picking up the new mower to do yearly service on 2/12. Any service that needs to be done on the other mowers will be done in-house. Jay Alexander is taking the lead on getting a speaker for the choir area.

**NEW BUSINESS –**

Pastor Steve Mitchell will be headed to Princeton Seminary for a 5 day time of study on Monday 2/25.

**CALENDAR REVIEW –**

Next Session Meeting: Sunday March 10<sup>th</sup> @ 11:15 a.m.

# Calendar Reminders

- 1 World Day of Prayer
- 5 Girl Scouts 6:00 pm
- 3 Transfiguration of the Lord; *Communion*
- 6 Ash Wednesday Service 7:30 pm; *Imposition of Ashes*
- 8 International Women's Day
- 10 First Sunday in Lent; Session Meeting 11:15 am; Daylight Savings Time begins
- 12 Girl Scouts 6:00 pm
- 13 Soup & Scripture 6:15 pm; Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm
- 17 Second Sunday in Lent; *Communion* 10:00 am
- 18 Presbyterian Women 6:00 pm
- 19 Girl Scouts 6:00 pm
- 20 Soup & Scripture 6:15 pm ; Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm; First Day of Spring
- 24 Third Sunday in Lent
- 25 Ministry Groups 7:00 pm
- 26 Girl Scouts 6:00 pm
- 27 Soup & Scripture 6:15 pm; Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm
- 31 Fourth Sunday in Lent



- March 5 Joe Nestor
- March 19 Rick Loomer
- March 31 Betty Besemer

# Volunteer Schedule

**LAY LITURGIST**

- March 3 Steve Guthrie
- March 10 Steve Guthrie
- March 17 Ted Highsmith
- March 24 Ted Highsmith
- March 31 Rhonda Harrington

**NURSERY**

- March 3 Joe & Nancy Nestor
- March 10 Travis & Sharon Meredith
- March 17 Don & Roberta Kesler
- March 24 Brenda McIntosh/Nancy Hamilton
- March 31 Skip & Gloria Smith

**COUNTERS**

- March 3 Tricia Bunn/Robert Hamilton
- March 10 Lynne Cole/Sharon Browning
- March 17 Jerry Cole/Skip Smith
- March 24 Jan Davis/Linda Horky
- March 31 Tricia Bunn/Robert Hamilton

**GREETER/BEADLE**

- March 3 Nancy Hamilton/Brenda McIntosh
- March 10 Lisa Pianka & Clara Hoeffler
- March 17 Mary Miller
- March 24 Curtis & Mary Moore
- March 31 Travis & Sharon Meredith

T H A N K Y O U

MorningStar Presbyterian Church is welcoming congregational mission teams for a weekend Appalachia Service Project trip to Jonesville (Lee County, Virginia) the first weekend in May 2019. It will be involve travel on Thursday, May 2, to the center to be housed and fed during the work period, with work onsite Friday and Saturday, and returning to our home congregations Sunday morning the 5th. Work teams are composed of 5-6 adults per team. The cost is \$95 at registration time per team (before March 1), and \$130 per team member, with the balance of fees due to ASP by April 2. Questions? Call Steve Mitchell at 704.302.7383 or email at stevemspc@windstream.net. More information about ASP? Go to asphome.org . This is taxing work over two days, but a serious chance to make a difference in a family's life ... and in your life.