



February 2017
Newsletter



The Pastor's Pen

Love: If It Is Easy, You Are Probably Doing It Wrong

You have heard that it was said, "You Shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy." But I say to you, love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you.

We live in a culture that loves love. Or... what it calls "love." Nine times out of ten, when you hear the word "love" in an everyday conversation people are referring to that feeling of affection that is generated between two or more people. It is a good feeling, and it is easy to fall in love with. It feels good when someone feels that way toward you, and it feels good when we feel that way about someone else. Unfortunately, our surface level culture stops there. Only the feeling is honored. If someone hurts you, rebukes you, holds a different opinion than you, or persecutes you, then there is no room to love them in our culture. Those things do not feel good so they have nothing to do with love, or so goes the sentiment of our age.

One aspect of this belief is correct. Love does produce a feeling that feels good, but real love is not always, nor can it be reduced to the feeling. This is like plucking a flower off its stem and saying, "This flower is the only aspect of the plant." Well, no. The plant is also the stem and the leaves and the root. Furthermore, when you remove the flower from the plant it immediately begins dying. The same is true with love. The flower of love is certainly the good feeling we get, but love is difficult. Love is intense uncomfortable conversations when both sides refuse to discount each other. Love is swallowing your pride to admit that you are wrong no matter how gut wrenching it feels. Love is saying "I forgive you" to someone who has wounded you deeply. These are the stems, the leaves, and the roots of love. As soon as you remove the feeling of love from these roots it immediately begins to die.

I believe this is why our society is so divided today. It is not because someone holds a different opinion than I do. It is because when I see someone other than me I want them to love me, and I want to love them, but our opinions are so different, or we have hurt each other so deeply that separating from them is easier than loving them. This is what generates the discontent in our societies. We desperately want the feeling of love without doing the work of love.

It is also what generates the discontent in our heart. We want to love God, and we want God to love us. However, God is unwilling to compromise and love anything less than perfect, and we are unwilling (and unable) to change our lives enough to live by His standard. We want that feeling but we are unwilling to do the work of setting aside sin. Oh, the unhappiness of our hearts!! But herein is the good news; the miracle of love: Where we are unwilling to become what God demands that we be, God Himself becomes what we need for Him to be. He becomes a perfect human in the person of Jesus Christ. A perfect sacrifice for the sins of those that God loves. The only and perfect way for us to experience what our hearts long for, the love of God. Won't you trust in Jesus? Won't you experience the flower of God's love that comes to you through the hard work that Christ has accomplished?

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February Ushers —Ted Kalnen, Becky Kalnen,
Bert Srowe, Kay Stowe, Rodney Oakes,
Kathy Oakes

February Liturgists — Feb. 5 Michael Coleman,
Feb. 12 Evelyn Morris, Feb. 19 Janet Casey,
Feb. 26 Jennie Galloway

Clerk of Session: Paul Albritton 799-4271

Finance: Fritz Rohde (chair) 431-3891,
Dave Allen 392-1274

Property & Maintenance: Russ Barker (chair) 392-
1376, Brenda Locklear 791-7809

Strengthening the Church: Debbie Anderson
Chair)712-1535, Sue Stott 799-4701,
Bonnie Townsend 395-5097

Mission and Service: Matthew Coleman (chair)
228-9390, Becky Kalnen 799-9612

Worship: Bebe Brewton (chair) 793-1299,
Doug Bradshaw 799-8042, Julia Huntley 395-2366

Personnel Becky Kalnen 616-0015

Presbyterian Women: Ellen Allen 200-1871 and
Elizabeth Albritton 799-4271

Men of the Church: Bud Townsend 395-5097

Minister: Rev. John R. Pflug, Jr., 910-617-5200,
email: revjohnpflug@gmail.com

Secretary: Fran King, 515-6484,
email: windermere@bizec.rr.com

Music Director: Candace Williams, 791-5966,
email: towerkat_n_mouse@yahoo.com

Pre-School Director: Leslie Moore, 791-8290,
email: windpreschool@att.net

Nursery: Donna Kaiser, 508-2296

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30 am – 2:00 pm

Our Missionaries

Shane & Dorenda Hartley—Campus Crusade,
Wilmington

Bret & Mindy Taylor-Wycliffe Bible Translators,
Waxhaw

Outreach Foundation, Iran

Dustin & Sherry Ellington—Outreach Foundation,
Zambia, Africa

Rev. Gary and Marlene Van Brocklin – PCUSA, India,
Pakistan, Bangladesh,

MEALS ON WHEELS
February 25th
Please sign up!



Finances

December 2016

Windermere was blessed in many ways in 2016. We started the year expecting a deficit of about \$71,000 but ended the year with a net income of over \$3,000! How did that happen? First of all, our membership gave more than they had pledged, including some stock and IRA donations that were converted to cash. In addition, we received a bequest of about \$33,000 from an estate. Finally, our expenses were about \$7,000 less than budgeted. We ended the year with \$31,790 left in the General Fund.

Budget for 2017

We now have to deal with a deficit of \$48,823 for 2017. This is considerably less than the deficit we face a year ago, but still a cause for concern. Contributions are expected to be about the same as what was actually donated last year. Expenses show a small increase in each of our program areas, and we have committed to continue tithing our operating income to missions. We have also allowed for very modest salary increases for our staff.

So how do we plan to handle this deficit during the year? Fortunately, our General Fund of \$31,790 should be able to take us through at least half of the year. Also, our membership is expected to continue growing, which could bring in additional contributions, or our current members may feel led to increase their giving. In a worst case scenario we would have to transfer some money from the Building Fund. These are possibilities, but ultimately a certain amount of faith will be required on our part to get us through this year. The Finance Committee will review our budget each quarter and give a status report to the Session.

I feel optimistic that Windermere is on the right track and that our priorities are in order. Although we cannot see the future, I believe that God will continue to bless our church and that our needs will be met.

Tom Hebert, outgoing Treasurer

Mission Statement:

The mission of Windermere Presbyterian Church is to mutually nurture, support and encourage one another toward spiritual maturity while reaching out to the community in response to God's gift of His Son, Jesus Christ, for the salvation of the world.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S NEWS

The Women of the Church will meet Tuesday the fourteenth of February in the Fellowship hall. Meeting begins at 10:30 a.m.

Ladies, please bring your salad or your sandwich and we will provide beverages and dessert. It is Valentine's Day. Do you think there may be chocolate?? It will be a great time of fun and fellowship.

Carol Pearson will teach our lesson and Julia Huntley will give the devotional.

Many thanks to Phyllis Sickmond for becoming our coordinator for the Bazaar craft group! Our Bazaar is October 14. Time to clean out the attic and help with crafts if you would like.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S PURPOSE - Forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves: to nurture our faith through prayer and Bible study, to support the mission of the church worldwide, to work for justice and peace, and to build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (USA) and witnesses to the promise of God's kingdom.



Craft Committee Organized

The Craft Committee for the bi-annual bazaar held its organizational meeting in the Laura Colby Room on Thursday, January 26th. A list of crafts sold at previous bazaars was reviewed. A few crafts were eliminated and ideas for some new items were discussed. Volunteers were requested to lead craft workshops at future meetings and all crafters were asked to bring at least one sample of their crafts to the next meeting.



A wealth of surplus fabric gathered from previous craft events was made available for crafters to select for crafting projects.

The committee is still seeking members to offer craft ideas, experience, or to learn new crafts at the workshops. Crafters unable to attend meetings but can make crafts at home are also sought.

The next meeting of the committee is scheduled for Thursday, February 16th, in the Laura Colby room at 9:30 a.m.

For additional information, contact Phyllis Sickmond at 910-399-5123 or pcsickmond@gmail.com.

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If you will do that then our societies have a chance at love too. If Jesus can love sinners who, at one point were enemies of God; if He can pray forgiveness for the very soldiers who nailed Him to the cross, making love a reality for even them, then surely, we can put down our protests signs, and take off our red hats to love each other. Now I am under no illusion that it will be easy. There are deep divides, harsh things that have been said, and enough blame for everybody, and then some! But do this, go to a basketball game with a neighbor who voted differently than you. Go tell an ungrateful family member you are sorry for what you said. Give forgiveness to someone you have always hated. "Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you." I know it is not easy, but if love is easy, you are doing it wrong.

Grace and Peace, Pastor John.

For the past few years, Windermere has supplied Chris Carlisle with these coloring books as part of his mission work in Haiti.

Praise God for such encouragement and may He continue to work in the lives of these children.

The Lord is using our church to reach hearts all over the world!



"After explaining the colored pictures, some children decided to ask their mums to buy them a Bible to know more about Jesus, the King of their life."



Every Sunday we collect canned goods, dry goods, & hygiene products for donation to Mother Hubbard's Cupboard.

Fellowship, Food, and Fun!

Don't forget **Family Night Dinner**, Wednesday, February 1st at 5:30 p.m.

Tacos and Taco Salad, Missionary Brett Taylor will be the speaker!



February 28th - **Shrove Tuesday**, Pancakes and Sausage



Mark your calendar for Friday, March 17th for a **St. Patrick's Day Celebration**,

Potato Bar and Salad Bar — **Bingo** afterwards! If you would like to donate a prize, see the STC Committee



VBS - We are looking for someone who loves children, loves the gospel, and loves organizing events. That is right we are looking for a Vacation Bible School Director. The dates we have set for VBS are July 17th through 21st, but we are far enough ahead we can be flexible with those dates. Interested? Please contact Debbie Anderson andersondg@uncw.edu or John Pflug at revjohnpflug@gmail.com

Mission Spotlight: February

Our Missions & Service Spotlight for the month of February is Wilmington Interfaith Hospitality Network. WIHN provides temporary housing and meals at various host churches. Once a quarter the people of Windermere, in partnership with Pearsall Memorial Presbyterian Church on Market St, provide 3 days and nights of ministry to homeless families who are part of WIHN.

Our next opportunity to serve WIHN families is coming up in March, and details are on the way. There are several ways to get involved. Our local leader for WIHN is Walt Griffith. (For those that don't know, or may be new to the church, he's up in the choir with the dashing bow tie.) For more details about WIHN, the work they do, and how to get involved, see Walt, and be sure to visit the Missions table in the Narthex during the month of February for brochures and other information.

You can mark your calendar with the following dates: 3/14/17-3/16/17, 6/20/17-6/22/17, 9/26/17-9/28/17, and 1/9/18-1/11/18.

Minute for Missions — Matthew Coleman

Greetings from the Missions & Service Committee! We've had a great start to the new year. There are lots of amazing things coming over the next few months, including the 2017 Fall Bazaar! Planning has already started, including sign-ups in the Narthex to be a part of the crafts team. Be on the lookout for details on the bazaar, along with other opportunities to serve, throughout the year.

It's also exciting to know that we're getting visits from a handful of our supported missionaries this year: The Taylors from Wycliffe Bible translators as guest speakers at the February Family Night Dinner, and a visit is currently being planned for April when the Van Brocklins will visit us from Asia! God is doing amazing work all over the world with the gifts of Windermere.

Speaking of gifts, a HUGE "Thank you!!" to everyone who supported Warren and Calley from RUF on their upcoming mission trip to Nassau. Isn't it great to be able to help two young Christians explore the mission field, and to have the chance to commission them from Windermere! It's been a busy few weeks in 2017 so far... can't wait to see what the Lord has in store for us next!



Fun and Fellowship!



The Youth meet the third Friday of each month from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.



February 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
			9:30 Preschool/ Chapel/Sanc. 10 am Preschool Board Mtg 5:30 pm Family Night Dinner 6:30 pm AA 12 Step 7 pm Choir	6 pm Meals on Wheels Council 6 :30 pm Cub Scouts		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
45 am Sunday School 9:30 am Choir 10 am Worship Boy Scout Sunday Souper Bowl of Caring 6 pm Bible Study	11am-12pm Bible Study / Laura Coley room 11:30-12:30 Chime Choir 7 pm BST 255 7 pm Bible Study	9:15 am TOPS 12-12:30 Pre- school/LC room 12 noon Ministers Mtg. & Lunch 7 pm Property	9:30 Preschool/ Chapel/Sanc. 10 am Worship 2 –4 pm Quilts for Klds/L.C. Rm 6 pm Pastor Sunday Sch Class 6:30 pm AA 12 Step 7 pm Choir	6 pm Strengthening of the Church Comm. 6 :30 pm Cub Scouts 7 pm Mission & Service Comm.		8-12 Church Work Day
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
8:45 am Sunday School 9:30 am Choir 10 am Worship 6 pm Bible Study	Preschool Closed 11am-12pm Bible Study / Laura Coley room 11:30-12:30 Chime Choir 2 pm Finance 7 pm BST 255 7 pm Bible Study	9:15 am TOPS 10:30 am Circle / Fellowship Hall 12-12:30 Pre- school/LC room 	9:30 Preschool/ Chapel/Sanc. 6:30 pm AA 12 Step 7 pm Choir	9:30 am Craft Comm./LC room 6 :30 pm Cub Scouts 7 pm Session		6-8 Youth Group
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
8:45 am Sunday School 9:30 am Choir 10 am Worship 6 pm Bible Study	11am-12pm Bible Study / Laura Coley room 11:30-12:30 Chime Choir 7 pm BST 255 7 pm Bible Study	9:15 am TOPS 12-12:30 Pre- school/LC room	9:30 Preschool/ Chapel/Sanc. 2 –4 pm Quilts for Klds/L.C. Rm 6 pm Preschool Chill Cook Off 6:30 pm AA 12 Step 7 pm Choir		8-12 Meals on Wheels prep. in Kitchen	8:30 am Meals on Wheels 9-3 Scouts Pinewood Derby
26	27	28				
8:45 am Sunday School 9:30 am Choir 10 am Worship 6 pm Bible Study	11am-12pm Bible Study / Laura Coley room 11:30-12:30 Chime Choir 7 pm BST 255 7 pm Bible Study	9:15 am TOPS 12-12:30 Pre- school/LC room 5:30 pm Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner				

PRAYER CONCERNS



Our Body of Christ

Betty Jo Register, Charlene Farrar, Nettie Peterson, Robert and Diane Stevens, Irene Gerhartz, Clara Wilson, Bob Huntley, Layne Kuiper, Bob Leech, Evelyn Morris, Doug Bradshaw

Our Extended Body of Christ

Shelia Groves, Carol Bowers, Baby Rogan, Trent and Anjie McCumbee and their son Levi, Mary Summerlin, Ed Casey, Melinda Sumrall, Janis Bedsole, Fred Jones, Diane Workman, Ann Kirby, The Pyle's granddaughter, Fiona, Cathy Weaver, Peggy Powell, Lois Williamson, Larry & Gladys Packett, Kathy Tearno, Allan Rochelle, Caroline Cropp, David Johnson, Elizabeth Donaldson, Scott Brandon, Wade Smith, Peggy Holt, Anna Frye, Grace Brinson, Annerose Oxendine, Jane Moore, Doris Failing's son Bruce, the Family of Dane Waggett, Our Missionaries

Note from Estelle Link – Estelle has given up her landline so she will only be using her cell # 910-233-2393 in the future.

 **Many thanks** from Janet and Ed Casey for all the cards and prayers as he recovers from his recent surgery. Your kindness is greatly appreciated.

Who to Call ...

Usher Coordinator	Pam Aherne	319.3070
Communion Coordinator	Becky Kalnen	799.9612
Women of the Church	Elizabeth Albritton	799.4271
	Ellen Allen	392.1274
Men of the Church		
Funeral Coordinator	Ellen Allen	392.1274
Wedding Coordinator	Ann Barker	392.1376
Wednesday Family Night Dinners	Sue Stott	799.4701
Meals on Wheels	Michael Coleman	262.8771
Youth Group	Alison Sayer	620.6603
Hands 4 Christ Quilting Group	Becky Kalnen	799.9612
Church Work Day	Russ Barker	392.1376
Operation Christmas Child	Janet Coleman	262.3189
Sunday School Coordinator		
Prayer Chain	Sue Stott	prayers4windermere@gmail.com

February Anniversaries

Robert & Doris Failing 02/22

February Birthdays

Mary Cox 02/03

Walter Griffith 02/07

Noah Thomas 02/08

Dennis Wood 02/09

Cecilia "Cely" LaGrange 02/11

Ed Casey 02/12

Linda Kalnen 02/13

Trudy Matthews 02/13

Lynette Thomas 02/13

Joan Edge 02/14

Mary McLeod 02/17

William Bell 02/18

Rowan Allen 02/19

Nancy Christ 02/19

Julia Huntley 02/20

Guy Sickmond 02/21

Carolyn McBride 02/24

Heather Cook 02/25

Lucas Sayer 02/25

Emma Coward 02/26



New

Choir Members
Welcome!

Assisted Living:

Doris Erkes, Morningside Asst. / Living Residence, 2744 S. 17th St., Wilmington, N.C. 28412
Nettie Peterson, Brightmore Commons of Wilmington, 2324 41st St., Rm. 16, Wilmington, N.C. 28403
Mary Daniels, Spring Arbor Assisted Living, 809 John Barry Dr., Room 215, Wilmington, N.C. 28403



**Save the date for the
Fall Bazaar
October 14, 2017.**

**More information
coming soon.**

Preschool News

February is the month of love. It's the time of year that we are encouraged to spend a little extra time telling our loved ones how much they mean to us. The Bible is full of scripture that teaches us about the ultimate love of God. I Corinthians is probably the most well known scripture teaching us all of the characteristics of Godly love-patience, kindness, humility, selflessness, hopeful, among others. It's so easy to get caught up in the Hallmark version of Valentines Day. I hope that all of us can focus on God's idea of Valentine's Day instead of the world's.

This month at preschool, we will talk about Groundhog Day, shadows, Valentine's, Dental Health, and our Five Senses.

Registration for next year has begun and we still have just a few spots available. If you know of anyone looking for a preschool, please send them our way.

Our chili cook-off will be Wednesday, February 22nd at 6:00 PM. I hope everyone can join us.

Leslie Moore, Director



Session News for February

Decided every third Session Meeting would be non-business to study scripture, prayer, etc.

Approved spending up to \$1,000 to repair roof leak in Sanctuary

Established new Personnel Committee to answer direct to Session – Becky Kalnen, Chair

Welcomed new members Bill and Teresa Bell and welcomed back former member Mary Cox

Elected Fritz Rohde Treasurer for 2017 (Dave Allen Vice-Treasurer)

Approved use of Fellowship Hall and kitchen on Feb 8 from 5:30 to 7 pm for Pastor John's Sunday School class

Approved potluck lunch to be held by Mission and Service Committee after Sunday service on April 2, 2017

Approved Fall Bazaar on October 14, 2017

Approved Maundy Thursday service with communion on April 13, 2017

Guest Pastor in February

Rev. Aaron Janklow is Assistant Minister at St. Giles' Cathedral in Edinburgh, Scotland, where he is also finishing his Ph.D. in Divinity from the University of Edinburgh. He was born in Fort Lauderdale, FL, though grew up in New Jersey, just outside NYC. Before moving to Scotland, he served churches in Ann Arbor, MI and Delray Beach, FL. He will be joining us as guest pastor on February 26th.



Sunday, February 5th, Souper Bowl of Caring and Scout Sunday

Our scout troop and Windermere will be celebrating the Souper Bowl of Caring event, Sunday, February 5th. We encourage you to bring can (s) of soup and dollar(s) with you on this Sunday.

After our worship service, please join us in the narthex to honor our scouts at the Gathering Table.



Windermere Presbyterian Church

104 Windemere Road
Wilmington, NC 28405

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



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Newsletter

Telephone: 910-791-5966

Email: windermere@bizec.rr.com

Website: www.windermerepres.org.

Presbyterian Counseling Center

CENTERPOINT

“What do you say to someone who is deeply grieving the loss of a loved one?”

I posed that question to a church group. We imagined ourselves at the funeral home waiting to speak to a family member. “He’s in a better place,” was one suggestion. “You will always have your wonderful memories,” was another idea. “You were so lucky the whole family could make it to the hospital.” “It’s God’s will, even if we can’t understand.”

As well meaning as these comments are, they imply that grief should be avoided. It is as if people can talk their way around grief with reassuring words. Yet the reassurance is only for the person offering the consolation. We seek to comfort ourselves more than offering compassion.

Instead of trying to help others escape their grief, the most helpful thing might be to enter the grief and share it with them in some small way. Perhaps the most helpful phrase we might say is simply, “I am so sorry for your loss,” coupled with a caring handshake or a sincere hug. Perhaps the most helpful thing we can do at such a moment is to let ourselves feel sad.

To explore troubling feelings, call the Center at 910-452-7370 and visit at www.presbyteriancounselingcenter.org