

A Word From Pastor Scott

Remembering to Prepare

Lent is here. A season of preparation, a season of lamenting, a season to remember “from dust we came and to dust we shall return”. Why do we need Lent? So glad you asked! Because, in short, we have amnesia; or as I like to say we are “amnesiacs”. All of us. We forget all that Jesus means to us. We forget all that God has done to ensure our salvation. We forget just how bleak and desperate we are for the forgiveness of God and the incredible sacrifice Jesus made for each of us. We forget. We are amnesiacs.

Lent calls us to “remember”.

For the next 40 days (excluding Sundays), Christians around the world are encouraged to take part in offering our penitence, our sorrow for the many ways we ignore, and even to some extent, *reject* how powerful the cross of Calvary really is to our everyday lives!

Here is the thing. My experience as a Christian reveals that without this Lenten season, Easter comes and it will be just another Sunday! When we intentionally participate in Lent, Easter comes, and IT IS GLORIOUS!!! And my goodness, it truly IS.

I encourage you...don't let this season go on without preparing. Don't allow this world to suck the BEST of what God has done and make it irrelevant! It is REAL. It is the ultimate expression of LOVE and of HOPE.

How will you remember? How will you prepare?

See you in Church,

Pastor Scott

Ash Wednesday Service

Ash Wednesday is a solemn reminder of human mortality and the need for reconciliation with God. This day marks the beginning of the Season of Lent and is commonly observed with ashes and fasting. Stallings UMC will have a special Ash Wednesday Service and imposition of ashes on Wednesday, March 2nd at 6:30pm in the Sanctuary. All are encouraged to attend. As Pastor Scott reminded in his article above, this is a time for us to begin preparing our hearts for the Love of the Cross, The Hope of Glory, and Resurrection Sunday Morning! The KING is coming!



CONCERT IN THE Park

Our very own SUMC Praise Band that plays every Sunday morning during the 9am Contemporary Service is hosting a “Concert in The Park” at Bonterra Village Neighborhood Gazebo in Indian Trail on *Saturday, April 9th from 5pm –7pm.*

Several of your church family live in Bonterra, and they have extended this invitation to YOU the entire church! Along with the Live Music, there will be food trucks and a great time of socializing. Most importantly, this is a week and a day before Easter Sunday morning! What a tremendous opportunity! Bonterra is a huge community. This is a chance for you to help the people of Bonterra get to know what Stallings UMC is all about. You get to meet people where they are, literally!

You don't have to witness or do a home visit. You will be mingling in a social atmosphere. And our Praise Band will have handouts you are welcome to share with anyone you meet to invite them to Easter Sunday services. It's THAT EASY! Come enjoy some live music from your amazingly talented Praise Band, have a bite to eat, meet some new people and invite someone to meet you here on Resurrection Morning!



Overview continued...

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO...

Blake Proctor	03-01	Brooke Williams	03-11	Sarah Thompson	03-19	Sandy Blomstrom	03-27
Patti Ireland	03-02	Ed Fleenor	03-12	Robin Edwards	03-19	Kevin Tice	03-28
Amy UpChurch	03-02	Joseph Creel	03-13	Alecia Nakamura	03-19	Barbara Boland	03-28
Janice Walker	03-03	Bobby Ellis	03-13	Dee Peaslee	03-19	Nelson Howlett	03-29
Melissa Woodruff	03-03	Sandra Hazelton	03-13	Roger Bookman	03-21	Kathy Wilke	03-29
Mike Frazier	03-04	Kathy Lewis	03-13	Brooke Rodden	03-21	Debbie Ellis	03-30
Sean Kobel	03-04	Jeremy Miller	03-13	Joseph Floyd	03-23	Mary Ella Pettigrew	03-30
Carl Wallace	03-04	Richard Phillips	03-14	Trevor Powell	03-23	Tyler Rodden	03-31
Katie Lefler	03-05	Ruth Fleenor	03-15	Charles Czagas	03-24		
Ruth Doares	03-07	Stephanie Smith	03-15	Corey Tice	03-24		
Steve Bramhall	03-09	Jackson Caig	03-18	Debbie Chandler	03-27		
Sandy Smith	03-10	Megan Thompson	03-18	Suzanne Flippin	03-27		



Giving

Date	Budget/Tithe	Building Fund
Feb 06	\$ 6,853.27	\$ 1,705.00
Feb 13	\$ 4,532.67	\$ 719.00
Feb 20	\$ 5,328.76	\$ 470.00
Feb 27	\$ 7,154.42	\$ 1,090.00

*Please do not forget your church when you go out of town, on vacation. God loves a cheerful giver!

O.F.I.A (Outstanding Folks In Action)

Maybe you are new to Stallings UMC in the past year and you're wondering what in the world is O.F.I.A. Well, before COVID, our Senior Adults had a thriving group called O.F.I.A (Outstanding Folks In Action) that met once or twice a week for different outings, activities, and acts of service. As with so many other things, COVID brought O.F.I.A. to a screeching halt. I am excited to announce that this past month, our Senior Adults began meeting weekly at the church once again. They are still working out the "kinks" of timing, what to do about food, etc. For now, O.F.I.A meets every Wednesday from 11am - 1pm in the Agape Classroom near the Sanctuary to play Dominos! I can hear the laughter from my office, and it's music to my ears! **All Seniors are welcome!** You can bring a snack to share with the group if you like. Some weeks the group may decide to go to lunch after dominos. Other O.F.I.A. events are in the works! Stay Tuned!



Bible Studies are back In Person

Our Ladies Tuesday Bible Study **AND** Pastor's Wednesday Bible Study are BOTH going back IN PERSON! Ladies will meet in person beginning Tuesday, March 1st at **2pm** in the Pairs & Spares Classroom. Please note the time change. Pastor Scott's Wednesday Bible Study is canceled on March 2nd. This study will resume IN PERSON in the Disciples Classroom on Wednesday, March 9th at 1pm. Whether you've been a part of one of these groups for years or brand new, you are all welcome to join in one on one or both!

Bible Studies

United Methodist Men's Group

Our next Men's Breakfast is Saturday, March 12th at 8am in the Fellowship Hall. All men are invited. You will be discussing the date change of the golf tournament after breakfast!

In Loving Memory of



In Memory of Jerry Keene:

- ◆ Tommy & Judy Stilwell
- ◆ Margaret Rabon



In Honor of

In HONOR of Tommy Stilwell:

- ◆ Art and Barbara Stegall
- ◆ Janice Limburg

RUN YOUR CLOCKS FORWARD 1 HR



ON SUNDAY, MARCH 13TH