PASTOR’S NOTE . . .

Happy New Year!!! In some ways it is challenging to realize that we have yet ago crossed the threshold of another year. What will it hold in store for us and what will be bring to the new year?

During the season of Advent, which began the new Christian Year, we sang “O Lord, you’re Beautiful, your face is all I seek and when your eyes are on this child, your grace abounds to me.” As we repeatedly sang those words, I often thought of the work God is doing in us to show how his grace not only meets our every need, but how God gives more than enough grace so that we can share it with others.

In January each of our church committees will meet to make plans for 2016. As they are meeting, I am challenging them to explore how we can share Church both with those who are present and those who are not. I believe that God is giving us a great opportunity to show to the world the power of his Word and his Presence through the Church of Jesus Christ. And, I want us to claim our place in the sharing. There are many places and ways in which we have already done so, but there must be some “unturned stones” that we have not yet explored. We need every member to help us do the seeking and to do the sharing. I invite you to prayerfully consider what you will do to share Christ during this year. In this newsletter you will find a prayer calendar for January that includes the names of every committee person. Will you pray for them as they prepare for this year? Will you ask God to direct them into new pathways as they plan for 2016? Will you commit to supporting the ministries of our church as they are planned and commissioned by our Administrative Councils?

The first council meeting of Brown’s Chapel will be on January 24, 3 p.m. The Pleasant Hill meeting is January 31, 7 p.m. We need every member present to move into the plans and workings of our churches for 2016. Happy New Year in God’s grace!

Ray

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Brown’s Chapel Worship Committee will meet on Thursday, January 7, 6:30-7:30 p.m. All committee members and anyone who assists in worship are invited. Committee members are: Mary Hall, Donna Holt, Lynda Smith, Neal Smith and Oliver Mitchum. Mary Hall’s contact information is: 919-269-9898. mary.hall@unchealth.unc.edu

The Brown’s Chapel Evangelism and Nurture Committee will meet on Thursday, January 7, 7 p.m. Committee members are: Janice Britson, Ginny Condrey, Donna Cheek, Robin Brady, Kimmel McDiarmid, Paul Mitchum, Sybil Lutterloh, Kim Berens, Coley Shachtman.

The Brown’s Chapel Wellness Committee meets on Sunday, January 10, 6:30 p.m. All who are interested in serving on this committee are invited.

The Pleasant Hill Trustees will meet on Tuesday, January 12, 6:30 p.m. Supper will be provided. Trustee members are: Don Pettit, Barbara Pugh, Darryl Clark, Thomas Peace, Pete Droese, Dixie Cline, James Peace, Justin Green and Valerie Broadway.

The BC Education Committee will have a lunch meeting on Sunday, 1/10, following Sunday School. All committee members are encouraged to stay for chili lunch and a planning meeting for 2016. Committee members are: Tanya Alvord,
Dana Griffin, Jean Stubbs, Sherri Stubbs, Susie Shachtman, Catherine McDiarmid, Olivia Frost, Laura Lutterloh, Chess Griffin, Brianna Stubbs.

The BC Finance Committee will meet on Sunday, Jan. 17 at 6 pm in the Fellowship Hall in preparation for the Administrative Council meeting. Treasurers should have their year-end reports to Kay by Thursday, Jan. 14. In response to the Finance input from revival, we will be discussing a class on budgeting using the material from last year's Crown Ministries class on Journey to Financial Freedom. Committee members are: Kay Straughn, Teresa Farrell, Ann Thomas, Lisa Mann, Teresa Martin, Charles Lutterloh, Tanya Alvord, Lynda Smith, Karen Sirls, Allen Gubert, Frank Crabtree.

The Pleasant Hill Evangelism and Nurture Committee will meet Tuesday, January 19, 7 p.m. Committee members are: Janet LeGay, William Mitchell, Dwayne McLaurin, Tammie Kendricks, Cameron Stevenson, Don Pettit, Valerie Broadway.

The Pleasant Hill Worship Committee will meet on Wednesday, January 20, 7 p.m. Committee members are Paulette McLaurin, Barbara Pugh, Thomas Downing.


The PH Missions Committee will have its first meeting of 2016 on Sunday, January 24, at 6 PM. We need a good turnout, as we will be making plans for the new year as well as distributing money to local groups that we would like to help. See you there!! Committee members are: Jean Copeland, Frankie Green, Lisa Morris, Jean Droese, Faye Culberson, Donna Stevenson, Scott Stevenson, Laurin Fogle, Sue Harrison, Paulette McLaurin.

FELLOWSHIP CLASS PARTY

The Fellowship Class is bringing in 2016 with a class meal on Saturday, Jan. 23rd at 6 pm in the Fellowship Hall. The class felt like the Fellowship Hall location allows more time and space to visit with others in the class. The meal will be catered by Scurlock's and will include fried chicken, vegetables and dessert and will cost $11 per person. There will be a sign-up sheet in church and money needs to be paid to either Kay or Tanya by Jan. 17th so we can give a good count to Scurlock's.

BRIDAL SHOWER

Love is in the air again at Brown's Chapel as Alex Smith and Jaeder Monteiro plan to marry on March 19th. A bridal shower will be held for Alex and Jaeder on Sunday, Feb. 7 from 2 - 4 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Alex and Jaeder are registered at Belk's and Bed, Bath and Beyond. A sign-up sheet for the shower will be posted in the Fellowship Hall.

THIRD THURSDAY AT PLEASANT HILL

The Faith Builders Sunday School class will provide a variety of chili and fixin's for the Third Thursday meal on January 21st at 6:30 pm.

PLEASANT HILL MISSIONS COLLECTION

The Pleasant Hill missions collection for January will be a "sock drop". We will be gathering new socks for adults and children which will be given to local groups which can distribute them to those in need. A "sock bag" will hang in the vestibule where you can drop the socks. Thank you!!

BC UMW News

The Brown’s Chapel UMW will be serving the Silk Hope Ruritans on 1/11. Ladies, be on the lookout for an email for food sign up and volunteers to heat up the food. This is our first major fundraiser for 2016.

We will have our usual monthly meeting on February 21 at 9a. Please plan to be in attendance as we plan out other events for this year.

Also, mark your calendars for our Annual Women's Luncheon to be held 3/12 at 11a (don't worry, we have ensured that there are no important
athletic events that day to prevent you from attending!!) We need 7-8 hostesses to decorate tables in whatever theme you choose. The meal will be catered by Scurlocks again and we always enjoy their good food. An uplifting speaker will challenge us to carry on in doing good work. This is a great time of fellowship, which is part of the UMW Purpose.

BROWNS CHAPEL MISSIONS NEWS

The next Habitat workday is right around the corner on Saturday February 6 in Pittsboro. A sign up sheet for both those who'd like to work and those who would like to help with providing lunch will be on the clipboards in worship after the New Year or let Denise Carman know if you can help. You can email her at denisee@digitalbits.org or call at 919-444-1873.

The Carolina Cross Connection Mission trip is set! The Browns Chapel team consists of Marcia King, Neal Smith, Thomas Smith, Olivia Frost, Catherine McDiarmid, Susan McKnight, Shannon Patterson, and Denise Carman. They'll be heading out July 3rd to western North Carolina and return to Pittsboro July 9th. We appreciate all the support and prayers already provided!

BROWN’S CHAPEL WORSHIP LEADERS

January 3
F:  Ray Gooch
G:  Ellie & Olivia Frost
P:  Tanya Alvord
A:  Chandler Stubbs
U:  Ellie & Olivia Frost
N:  Macy & Dana Griffin

January 10
F:  Gail Sloane
G:  Bill Sloane
P:  Bill Sloane
A:  Chandler Stubbs
U:  Gail & Bill Sloane
N:  Tanner Griffin

January 17
F:  Denise Carman
G:  Denise Carman
P:  Denise Carman
A:  Tanner Griffin
U:  Doug & Denise Carman
N:  Tanya Alvord

January 24
F:  Katie Guthrie
G:  Matt McDiarmid
P:  Lex Alvord
PLEASANT HILL WORSHIP LEADERS

January 3
F: Barbara Pugh
G: Brenda Gunter
P: Thomas Downing
A: Abi McLaurin
U: Don Pettit & Cameron Stevenson

January 10
F: Paulette McLaurin
G: Brenda Gunter
P: Thomas Downing
A: Cameron Stevenson
U: Tony Keck & Tanner Fogle

January 17
F: Sue Harrison
G: Lillie Burke
P: Donna Stevenson
A: Shelby Peace
U: William Mitchell & Dwayne McLaurin

January 24
F: Linda Peace
G: Brenda Gunter
P: Phyllis Pettit
A: Tanner Fogle
U: Cameron Stevenson & Don Pettit

January 31
F: Betsy Mitchell
G: William Mitchell
P: B. J. Copeland
A: Laurin Fogle
U: Tanner & Laurin Fogle

SCRIPTURES
The following scriptures are used in worship and as the basis for Bible Study.

January 3: Epiphany Sunday Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14; Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12

OUR ATTENDANCE

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GIFTS

Gifts to the Pleasant Hill Building fund in memory of Perry Harrison have been given by:
- Darryl & Dixie Clark
- Tom & Louise Womble
- William & Naythelle Fields
- Don & Phyllis Pettit
- Ray Gooch
- Thomas Downing
- Justin & Frankie Green
- Barbara Jones
- Jamie & Karen Sirls

A gift to the Brown’s Chapel Cemetery Fund has been made by Rev. Belton Joyner in memory of Brian Weaver
Emma Dell Perry made a gift to the Brown’s Chapel Cemetery Fund.

Gifts in memory of Wilber Lutterloh have been made by:

CT & Nancy Owens
Emma Dell Perry
Isaac & Patricia Lutterloh
Faye Dark
Mary Faye Dark
Therese Lutterloh

PEOPLE NEWS . . .

Mildred Johnson has completed the third of her chemo treatments. The fourth one is scheduled for early January for which she is looking forward to have completed.

Justin Green continues to improve and gain better mobility since his hip replacement surgery.

Randy Dixon is scheduled for full replacement of one knee and a partial replacement of the other knee on January 7 in Florida. He and Angie will be there for about six weeks of recovery and rehab following his surgery.

Charles Clark is having a lot of impact from shingles in his right eye, which causes headaches and blurred vision.

Helen Marie Self, grandmother of Ryan Self and cousin of Rochelle Downing and Charles Clark, was recently had UNC Hospital because of pneumonia and medication adjustment. She is now a resident at the Coventry House Assisted Living Facility in Siler City.

We share our love and compassion with these families:

Brian Weaver died at his home on December 18, 2015 after a nine year battle with ALS. His funeral and burial were at Brown’s Chapel on December 21. Memorial gifts are suggested to The Lee/Chatham ALS ride, www.ALScharityride.com.

Colon Jones, cousin of Rochelle Downing and Charles Clark, died on the way to surgery following a fall that produced a broken hip. Colon also had cancer.

Charles Whitaker is recovering at home from pneumonia.

A Matter of Balance

The Chatham County Council on Aging has scheduled an eight-week program, A Matter of Balance, to help seniors address concerns about falling. According to the Council, people who develop this fear often limit their activities, which can result in physical weakness, making the risk of falling even greater. The program is designed to reduce the fear of falling and increase activity levels among older adults.

Classes will be held in the Eastern and Western parts of the county on Wednesdays starting February 3, 2015 from 2-4 pm. For more information or to register, contact Allison Andrews (Pittsboro) at 919-542-4512 or Julie Auler (Siler City) 919-742-3975.

CHICKEN SALAD SALE

If you are looking for something to serve for Super Bowl Sunday, the UMYF has a solution. We have extra chicken that we over purchased from the previous sale. On February 6 we will have for sale more chicken salad. The cost is $6 per container. There will be an order form in the church vestibules soon.

FIFTH SUNDAY ACTIVITIES

January 31 is a Fifth Sunday. During 2016 our worship schedule for all Fifth Sundays is: PH: Worship, 9:30; Sunday School, 10:45 BC: Sunday School, 10:00; Worship, 11:00 On Fifth Sundays we collect canned and dried foods and paper products for the CORA Food Pantry. In a recent CORA newsletter there is a poignant report from one of the volunteers who also volunteers with a youth helping agency. She reported that she had said on a recent occasion to the youth she was working with that she would let her go a bit early so she could get home early. The youth replied, “No hurry today. Tonight is no my night to have dinner.” We can make a difference with our food gifts in the lives of Chatham residents!

We also provide worship at Laurels of Chatham on Fifth Sundays, 3:30-4 p.m. Come join us!
CHURCH CALENDAR

January
1  New Year’s Day
3  Epiphany Sunday
3  Pleasant Hill Men’s Breakfast, 8 a.m.
3  PH: Worship, 9:30; Sunday School, 10:45
3  Brown’s Chapel Continental Breakfast, 9:30 a.m.
3  Brown’s Chapel Homebuilder’s Class meets
3  BC: Sunday School, 10:45; Worship, 11:00
3  UMYF at parsonage, 4:30-6 p.m.
4  Bible Study at Pleasant Hill, 7:30 p.m.
6  Epiphany Day
6  Bible Study at Brown’s Chapel, 8:30 a.m.
6  Bible Study with Ellen Ornat, 11 a.m.
6  Brown’s Chapel Choir, 7:30 p.m.
6  Pleasant Hill Choir, 7:30 p.m.
6  Pleasant Hill Christian Sisters, 10-12 noon
6  Yoga at Brown’s Chapel, 6:30 p.m.
6  Brown’s Chapel Worship Committee, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
6  Brown’s Chapel Evangelism and Nurture Committee, 7 p.m.
6  Pleasant Hill UMW meeting to dismantle Chrismon Tree, potluck refreshments, 7:30 p.m.
10  Baptism of the Lord Sunday
10  Brown’s Chapel UMM Breakfast, 8 a.m.
10  BC: Worship, 9:30; Sunday School, 10:45
10  PH: Sunday School, 9:30; Worship, 11:00
10  Brown’s Chapel Education Committee meeting following Sunday School with chili lunch
10  UMYF at parsonage, 4:30-6 p.m.
10  Brown’s Chapel Wellness Committee meeting, 6:30 p.m.
11  Brown’s Chapel UMW serving Ruritans, 6 p.m.
11  Bible Study at Pleasant Hill, 7:30 p.m.
12  Pleasant Hill Trustees meeting at church, 6:30 p.m.  Supper provided
12  Bible Study at Brown’s Chapel, 8:30 a.m.
12  Bible Study with Ellen Ornat, 11 a.m.
12  Brown’s Chapel Choir, 7:30 p.m.
12  Pleasant Hill Choir, 7:30 p.m.
13  Pleasant Hill Christian Sisters, 10-12 noon
13  Brown’s Chapel Year End Treasurer’s reports due to Kay Straughn
14  Yoga at Brown’s Chapel, 6:30 p.m.
17  PH: Worship, 9:30; Sunday School, 10:45
17  BC: Sunday School, 10:00; Worship, 11:00
17  UMYF at parsonage, 4:30-6 p.m.
17  Brown’s Chapel Finance, 6 p.m.
18  Bible Study at Pleasant Hill, 7:30 p.m.
19  Pleasant Hill Evangelism meeting, 7 p.m.
20  Bible Study at Brown’s Chapel, 8:30 a.m.
20  Bible Study with Ellen Ornat, 11 a.m.
20  Pleasant Hill Worship Committee, 7 p.m.
20  Brown’s Chapel Choir, 7:30 p.m.
20  Pleasant Hill Choir, 7:30 p.m.
CHURCH CALENDAR

January
21  Pleasant Hill Christian Sisters, 10-12 noon
21  Pleasant Hill Third Thursday Dinner hosted by Faith Builder’s Class, 6:30 p.m.
21  Yoga at Brown’s Chapel, 6:30 p.m.
23  Fellowship Class party at Brown’s Chapel, 6 p.m.
24  BC: Worship, 9:30; Sunday School, 10:45
24  PH: Sunday School, 9:30; Worship, 11:00
24  Newsletter items due to Ray Gooch
24  Brown’s Chapel Administrative Council, 3 p.m.
24  No UMYF today!
24  Pleasant Hill Missions meeting, 6 p.m.
25  Bible Study at Pleasant Hill, 7:30 p.m.
27  Bible Study at Brown’s Chapel, 8:30 a.m.
27  Bible Study with Ellen Ornat, 11 a.m.
27  Brown’s Chapel Choir, 7:30 p.m.
27  Pleasant Hill Choir, 7:30 p.m.
28  Pleasant Hill Christian Sisters, 10-12 noon
28  Yoga at Brown’s Chapel, 6:30 p.m.
31  PH: Worship, 9:30; Sunday School, 10:45
31  BC: Sunday School, 10:00; Worship, 11:00
31  Fifth Sunday Collection of Canned and Dried foods and paper products for CORA Food Pantry
31  Special Offering at Pleasant Hill for Building Fund (Special envelopes in vestibule)
31  Worship at Laurels of Chatham, 3:30 p.m.
31  UMYF at parsonage, 4:30-6 p.m. (Maybe a special event!)
31  Pleasant Hill Administrative Council, 7 p.m.

February
  6  UMYF Chicken Salad Sale
  6  Brown’s Chapel Habitat Workday
  7  Methodist Home For Children Sunday with special offering
  7  Shower at Brown’s Chapel for Alex Smith and Jaeder Monterio, 2-4 p.m.
  7  Super Bowl Sunday

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS THANKS

During the Advent and Christmas season there were many wonderful expression of Christian hospitality and generosity. Thanks to all to acted as a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ in any way: The gift for Angel tree, fruit baskets and poinsettias to homebound and special remembrances, leadership in worship, singing in the choir, playing musical instruments, sharing gifts of all kinds, praying for others, feeding families, supporting grieving people, whatever you did you did it well. Thank you.

We remember Brenda Gunter and Johnny Covert at the death of their cousin, Roger Johnson, who died December 17, 2015. His burial was at Chatham Memorial Park. He lived in Carrboro and died from cancer complications.