



FEBRUARY



The Church Mouse



February, 2019

Walking with Walter

It's hard to believe that it's already February. Last year passed so quickly. The old saying is time flies when you're having fun. Without a doubt, last year even with its challenges, was a lot of fun. I don't know about you, but I have enjoyed being the pastor of this wonderful church. No one could ask for a better group of people than you.

I am so proud of each one of you. The church has grown tremendously because you all are inviting your friends and neighbors. People give me credit for the growth, but the reality is that it's because of you all. If you all did not ask others to come, there would be no growth. Words cannot express how thankful I am that you all love your church enough to want others to share in the worship experience here.

People from the outside who learn about this church are always astonished at what you do within the community. Those folks see a small church with a big heart. You are a people who care about helping others. You often go out of your way to make sure that people are cared for. One recent Saturday afternoon, following a memorial service, a couple of people took food from the reception and carried it across the street to the kids playing on the basketball court. Now that's what it means to be Christian.

One of the great things about our church is your willingness to pray for others. Every Sunday, you can see that by our prayer list. Every week it seems to grow larger and larger. Because it has gotten so long, with your indulgence, I would like to purge the prayer list each month and start over. We have so many names on the list, one person said to me, "The prayer list is almost as long as your sermon." The remedy for that is to purge it on a regular basis. Realize, that even though we will start over each month, that does not mean that we will stop praying for them. Intercessory prayer is a vital part of the Christian life. We are to be a praying people; people who pray for themselves as well as for others.

As the doxology says, "Praise God from whom all blessings flow". That is how Ellen and I feel when we think about you all. You are a blessing to both of us. Time and again, Ellen and I talk about all that you have done. As I mentioned above, you are at church — a people, with a very big heart.

DR. WALTER G. LASETER is available for pastoral care and can be reached at 352-598-5767.

WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS

The congregation received six new members in January.
We welcome



**Bev Gilby,
Stan Martin,
Bill & Barbara West
Bill & Janet Williams**

to our church family and pray for the Lord's guidance in their participation in church service & activities.

STANTON WEIRSDALE ELEM. SCHOOL SCIENCE FAIR

Volunteers (Marlys, Jim, Lorna, Bill and Linda) met at the elementary school January 29th to assist with the school's annual Science Fair Event.



At our stations, the students learned how predatory animals use their sense of smell to find their food and the students tested their own senses of smell with prepared test tubes of vanilla, coconut, vinegar, onion and lemon. They learned how different foods affect the liver and had real pieces of liver to experiment with! At the "Poop Table" (yes, that is what it was called), students were shown what the poop of different animals looked like so they could identify animals by their droppings. At another table, the topic was scabs and how they look, how they are formed and how they should be left alone when on your body.

So the next time the school asks us for Science Fair volunteers, hopefully you haven't been scared away because it was a fun and exciting evening. The students had hands-on experience and learned many interesting facts.

2019 HARVEST HAPPENINGS CRAFT BAZAAR

Debbi McCloskey is organizing Harvest Happenings for the Fall of 2019.

Crafters are needed for the many craft projects. The group is meeting on the 1st & 3rd Mondays of each month from 9AM to noon in the craft room downstairs in Douglas Hall. Debbi can be reached at 330-461-4286 for further information.

Needed items for the Harvest Happenings Craft Show:

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Glass Blocks | Paddles & Oars |
| Fan Blades | Cutting Boards |
| Glass Jugs/Jars | Used Large Paint Brushes |
| Old Windows | Solid Bricks (no holes) |
| Denim Jackets | Christmas Decorations |
| Wood Pieces | Christmas & Decorative Ribbon |
| Old Wood Furniture Pieces | Jewelry |
| Old Iron Skillets | Yarn—orange & apple red (Fall Colors) |
| Ice Skates | Antlers |
| Wooden Spindles | |



TUESDAY TIME OUT

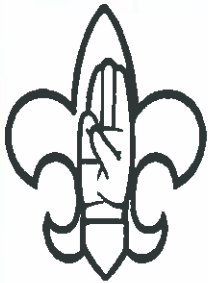
If you have never experienced a Tuesday Time Out luncheon in Douglas Hall, you don't know what you are missing—tables full of people, food and lots of entertainment.

Some of the upcoming themes for TTO include:

- Feb. 12 Valentines Lunch
- Feb. 26 Breakfast for Lunch
- Mar. 5 Mardi Gras Lunch
- Mar. 12 St. Paddy's Day Lunch
- Mar. 19 Welcome Spring Lunch



Come by and enjoy the great fellowship. Fun starts at 11:30 and a home made lunch for only \$4 is served at noon.



SCOUTS CAMPED OUT

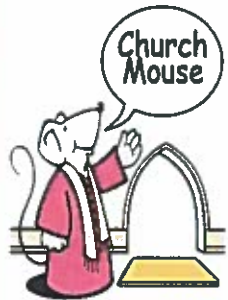
The scouts spent a cold and rainy weekend in January at Camp Shands but were able to work on and qualify for their Rifle and Shotgun badges.

Walter drove up and spent some time teaching them how to shoot.



?USPS OR EMAIL?

There was an overwhelming response to the emailing of the Church Mouse Newsletter in place of sending it through the US postal system. Sixty-five people have opted out of waiting for theirs to arrive with a postage stamp and prefer the colorful version as seen on the computer.



There are still some who prefer getting it through the postal system and that is fine. Whichever way your are receiving yours, if you change your mind and want to try the other way, just call the office and let Linda know.

The Church Mouse can also be seen on the church [website](http://www.weirsdalepresbyterianchurch.org) as well. The website has recently been revised so that the newsletter now shows up as a full-screen image. Go to www.weirsdalepresbyterianchurch.org and click on the "Newsletter" menu tab.

I am available to help if you need it.

Linda Spatta

352-821-2757

weirsdalepres@gmail.com

YOUR SHARING IS A BLESSING

These dates in are open for altar flowers and fellowship. Please consider signing up for one or the other.

ALTAR FLOWERS

March 3 & 24

May 5, 12 & 19

June 2 & 30

FELLOWSHIP HOST

March 3

May 19

June 9, 23 & 30



Operation Shoebox is in full swing downstairs in Douglas Hall. The group is cutting, sewing, knitting, and crocheting ditty bags for the troops overseas. Come join them; they are working for a church mission that reaches thousands. They meet the 2nd & 4th Mondays from 9AM to 12PM. Diana Harris is the coordinator for the sewing group and delivers the items to Operation Shoebox.

For further information, she can be reached at 352-425-4351 or at 352-625-6021.

FIRST SUNDAY EACH MONTH IS "FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY" COMMUNITY OF GRATITUDE THANKS YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

The Community of Gratitude is grateful for our monetary support and food donations.

During the last quarter of 2018, they served 899 households and assisted 2617 individuals which included 793 children. They provided food that was equivalent to 23,553 meals!

There is always a need for non-perishable staples such as soups, peanut butter and jelly, bread, All-in-One boxed meals, personal toiletries and also pet food.



SECOND SUNDAY EACH MONTH IS THE "SCHOOL CLOTHING DRIVE" FOR STANTON-WEIRSDALE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Every second Sunday of the month is designated for the school clothing drive. Please consider bringing new clothing, sizes 6-12, for the school closet. SWES is also requesting shoes, sizes 13, 1, 2 & 3. Parents will be permitted to walk through and pick out needed items for their children.

The school is very thankful for our financial support for the educational needs of the children as well. Our continued commitment to Stanton-Weirsdale Elementary School is appreciated by the entire Stanton-Weirsdale community.

POSTAGE STAMP MISSION

Diana McDonald wants to thank you all for saving your cancelled postage stamps for the Alliance Stamp Ministry. She recently mailed in 10,000 stamps contributed by our church!

They will be used in support of the Spanish language curriculum used in Sunday schools in Latin America. She asks that you continue saving stamps and turning them in.

Instructions for the stamps are as follows:

1. Carefully trim leaving a border around each stamp of 1/4" to 1/3". Do not remove from envelope.
2. Place stamps in plastic bag and leave on table at the door as you enter Douglas Hall. No paper clips, rubber bands or saran wrap around the stamps, please.
3. Use the following categories of US postage stamps:
 - Small common 1/2¢ through current postal rates
 - High value, large commemoratives on white or pastel paper
 - Presorted, precancelled and bulk rate
 - Priority stamps \$2.40, \$2.90 and up
 - Canadian commemoratives, small common, Christmas

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Family of Dora

Becky
Michella
Sandy
Colby
Levi
Mike Jr.
Billy
Anna
Jenna
Jack
Nikki
Judy
Steve
Jackson
Julie
Paul
Kim
Jen
Irene
Norman
Tom
Jose'
Art
Evelyn
Shorty
Robert
Jeff
Cassie
Reilly
Jan
Carol
Mary
Bob
Robert
Ralph
Jane
Henry



May your days on earth be many.
May your life be free from strife.
May God walk beside you every day of your life!

WE LOST FRIENDS THIS MONTH



Richard Bradley went home to be with the Lord on January 12th.
Also George Cope passed on January 5th. Though he was not a current member of our church, he still had a lot of friends here who remembered him from his membership in years past.
Please keep both families in your prayers.

PRAYER CHAIN INFORMATION

If you have a prayer request or are interested in helping on the prayer chain, please call **Marlys Forbrook** at 352-430-1727 or **Axie Grimes** at 352-537-0854.



Remember our friends who are homebound or in a care facility by sending them a card to brighten their day:



Robert Lipsner
800 Lake Port Blvd. Apt C505
Leesburg, FL 34748

Betts Mengel
ATRIA Lady Lake
930 County Road 466
Lady Lake, FL 32159

James & Audrey Stangle
4680 Bellwether Ln. Apt. 113
Oxford, FL 34484

FEBRUARY WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Head Usher: Cindy Strategos
Liturgist: Nancy McPeek
Communion Setup: Diana McDonald
Communion Servers Feb 10: Carol Everman, Nancy McPeek, Ilene Newton, Starr Patterson, Linda Spence

MARCH WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Head Usher: Starr Patterson
Liturgist: Bill Matthews
Communion Setup: Sue Farley
Communion Servers: Jim Bowers, Marlys Forbrook, Lorna McKenzie, Angela Pecor, Cindy Strategos

As always, if you are unable to serve as listed above,
PLEASE find a substitute.
And, thank you for your willingness to serve our church!



February 2019



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 DEACONS Meet 9AM
3 Food Pantry Sunday BOY SCOUT SUNDAY Worship 10:30AM Spaghettl Dinner 11:30AM	4 Harvest Happenings Crafters 9AM	5 TTO 11:30AM	6 BSA 7:30PM	7 Women's Bible Study 10AM Choir Rehearsal 4:30PM	8	9
10 School Clothing Drive Sunday Worship 10:30AM w/ Holy Communion 11:30AM Fellowship	11 Operation Shoebox 9AM	12 TTO 11:30AM	13 BSA 7:30PM	14 Women's Bible Study 10AM Choir Rehearsal 4:30PM	15	16
17 Sunday School 9AM Worship 10:30AM Fellowship 11:30AM SESSION Meats 11:45AM	18 Harvest Happenings Crafters 9AM	19 TTO 11:30AM	20 Seniors' Group 5PM BSA 7:30PM	21 Women's Bible Study 10AM Choir Rehearsal 4:30PM	22	23
24 Sunday School 9AM Worship 10:30AM Fellowship POTLUCK 11:30AM	25 Operation Shoebox 9AM	26 TTO 11:30AM	27 BSA 7:30PM	28 Women's Bible Study 10AM Choir Rehearsal 4:30PM	1	2

**WEIRSDALE
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

16303 SE 137th Court
P. O. Box 269
Weirsdale, FL 32195

Phone: 352-821-2757

Fax: 352-821-3554

E-mail: weirsdalepres@gmail.com

Website: www.weirsdalepresbyterianchurch.org



**Our Mission:
Bring People to Christ
Develop our Discipleship**



Weirsdale Presbyterian Church
Sunday Worship: 10:30 AM
Fellowship: 11:30 AM

Sunday School:
9:00 AM
(October through April)