



# The JPC Monthly

## February 2024

### FROM PASTOR JAY



The Season of Lent always sneaks up on me. This year more than any other this is true because Easter is so early. I think that Easter is almost as early as it can possibly be? (I Googled this and the earliest Easter can be is March 22<sup>nd</sup>). This is also a special February because of the way the calendar aligns. I think it is exceedingly rare because there are 4 of each day in the month because of the leap year and if I remember correctly this is the only time this will happen in our lifetimes. I don't think it can happen again for 800 or more years. This month is also unique because Christian days and Hallmark days melt together. Ash Wednesday and Valentine's Day are the same day. I even joked that perhaps Sammie and I should impose heart shaped ashes so that lovebirds could look morbidly festive at dinner.

For the most part, Lent doesn't really impact the life of a Presbyterian too much. We might adopt the habit of giving something up for Lent or something like that, but I know that I enjoy meat on most Fridays and don't feel any guilt at all. Even the practice of imposing ashes is a relatively new practice in the Protestant church in America.

Lent is a season of preparation. It is a season of focus. It is a time that we should intentionally seek to draw closer to God. Maybe your focus will include the Life Center Series which began last night and the commitment to prayer that went with it. Maybe you will take on a new devotional reading or spend more time in God's word.

Giving things up for Lent is not meant to be a punishment. Lent is not meant to be that final weight loss cram before swimsuit season. It is a time of practicing disciplines. This is why it is so easy to simply exchange giving up for adding. The practice of preparing for Lent is the practice of harnessing and focusing your spiritual life and journey to be more focused on Christ. It is really up to you whether that means giving up or adding.

I am really excited about our series on prayer. If you missed the first one, there is still space for you. I hope that each of you is working in your prayer journal. I also hope that prayer could be one our Lenten disciplines. Almost 1/4 of the church jumped on board with the study. I hope that we can have a meaningful Lent and spring together.

To sum it all up, what is the purpose of Lent? Lent is a Christian season of practice, celebrated by some Christians though not all. It's not a prescription for holiness, but an invitation to relationship. Lent has its roots in the very early church, with some of those roots in preparation for baptism. During Lent the Scriptures remind us of God's expectations for Israel, Jesus' temptation in the wilderness and his journey to the cross. Lent is a chance for us to practice, every year, focusing on God in Christ. We remember God as immersed in earthly life with our earthly practices.

This season I invite you to remember, to draw closer, and to focus on Christ. May your Lent be one that is fruitful to your faith journey and relationship to the Lord. May we as a congregation also strive to have a meaningful impact on our community this Lenten season. One other hope I have for us is that we are more bold in telling the world about Jesus and sharing the life changing grace of Jesus Christ.

## DONATIONS

Donation to JPC Music Fund  
In memory of Doris Porter by  
Charles & Betty Labella  
Cedarwood Garden Club  
David & Marion Waters  
Kathryn Bailey  
Mary Wray  
Wes & Lynette Smitherman

Donation to Orange Feather Fund  
In memory of Doris Porter by  
Jim & Darryl Ray

Donation to JPC Music Fund  
In memory of Gwendolyn Phelps, Vashti Forrest's  
mother, by  
Phyllis Kelly  
Jo Burroughs

Donation to JPC Music Fund  
In memory of Joe Auman, Barbara Auman's son, by  
Jim & Darryl Ray  
Bill & Nancy Carter  
Bob & Janet Craver

Donation to JPC Lane Pleasants Fund  
In memory of Lane by  
Evangeline Freeman  
Jim & Darryl Ray

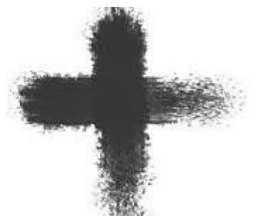
## LEISURE FELLOWSHIP

Leisure Fellowship will be meeting for a covered dish luncheon at 12:00 Thursday, February 15. Please bring a dish to share. Pat Wade, the wonderful pianist who has played for us before, will be entertaining us with wonderful music for Valentine's Day. I don't think you want to miss that. Please mark your calendars and join us for great food, great fellowship, and great music.



## ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE AND PANCAKE SUPPER

What better way to celebrate love, than the love Jesus Christ demonstrated as he prepared to die on the cross for our sins. This year, Ash Wednesday, the start of the Lenten season is on February 14th. Please make plans to join us for a pancake dinner beginning at 5:30pm in the CLC. At 6:30 pm, join us in the sanctuary for an Ash Wednesday service, including communion as we begin the season of Lent. Bring your loved ones and join us. Please contact the office to RSVP for supper. We ask that you kindly let us know no later than 12:00 pm on Monday, February 12th. Thank you!



## ARISE

JPC guests and team at Arise over MLK weekend. Such a great experience! Next Arise dates are Labor Day weekend in September. Would love to have you! Talk to any of these folks about details!



## JPC KIDS AND YOUTH CORNER

### FROGS

Our FROGS have become Chefs!! We made delicious brownies with chocolate chips for the Greensboro Shelter in January (and we tasted for quality control)! We had an all-boy Sunday afternoon meeting complete with a bit of Ga-Ga ball and discussion on Prayer while the Brownies baked!

**Mark February 18 from 3-5 pm on your calendar for SPARE TIME!!!**



### POLYWOGS

Our POLYWOGS met in January too and made beautiful Valentines for our home-bound members. Each Valentine is filled with a lot of love from our youngest members of the JPC family!

**POLYWOGS will meet next on February 25 at 4 pm in the Fellowship Hall!**





## Men of Jamestown Presbyterian Church 2024 PINE NEEDLE SALE

It is that time of year again!

The Men of JPC are having our annual pine needle sale.  
The cost is **\$6.00** per bale, delivery included.  
Unfortunately, we will not be able to offer spreading.

Deliveries will begin the week of February 26th and should be completed by March 3rd.  
*(Please be aware these dates may change due to weather)*

This project is sponsored by the Men of JPC and provides the primary funding for our outreach projects and mission work.

To order you may submit via sign up genius using this link:

[JPC Men Pine Needle Sale 2024](#)

You can also order by emailing JPC Men [jpcmensgroup@gmail.com](mailto:jpcmensgroup@gmail.com) or calling the church office. **Payment for order is due upon delivery. Cash and checks are accepted.**

**Make checks payable to: Men of Jamestown Presbyterian Church**  
**Send to: 1804 Guilford College Rd**  
**Jamestown NC 27282**

*Thank You for Your Support*

## LADIES MORNING CIRCLE

The Ladies' Morning Circle will meet on Monday, February 19th at 10:00 in Room 222. The lesson from **The Women of the Bible: Life Changing Stories for Women Today** highlights Leah. Also we plan to spend some time on an Outreach project. Put the date on your calendar and come join us!





LifeCenter Study  
continues!

Join us on February  
28th 5:30-7:30pm



If you plan on attending the dinner at the Life Center Study, Congregational Care asks that you kindly **RSVP to the office no later than noon on Monday, February 26th** so we know how many meals to prepare. Thank you!



I appreciate each prayer, card, phone call, gift and visit during my hospitalization and rehab! Thank you so much for the outpouring of love! I apologize for not being able to write thank you notes. I am so blessed to be a member of such a caring and kind congregation!

Thank you!  
Francis Snow

Thank you to everyone for your prayers, calls, emails, and cards during Byron's recent heart attack and recovery. He is doing well now and expresses his gratitude too. You cannot imagine what it meant to me to know that my church was holding my son up in prayer at a very critical time. We have a wonderful church family. Thank you, thank you!

- Charlotte Griner

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### **JPC SESSION**

#### **Class of 2024**

Vivien Carson  
Carlos Frontera  
John Martin  
Clayton Robinson  
Brian Stroud  
Joanne Vitelli

#### **Class of 2025**

Mike Bryant  
Bill Carter  
Charles Graham  
Angelin Ham  
Linda Honeycutt  
Becky Robinson

#### **Class of 2026**

David Bean  
Becky Brown  
Nancy Seay  
George Wissmiller  
Anne Wright