



Weekly News at Paw Creek

January 21, 2021

Paw Creek Presbyterian Church

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Paw Creek Presbyterian
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Facebook and YouTube

Sermon By Phone:
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Available 11am Monday

From the Pastor...

Sunday Worship via Livestream only, January 24 and January 31

Dear Paw Creek,

As I announced in last week's letter, we are now beginning a two-week period in which our Sunday worship will be available only via livestream. This decision was made by the Session in support of directives from Mecklenburg County and is intended to keep us all safe and slow the spread of Covid-19 during this dangerous phase of the pandemic. Yesterday we also received communication from the Presbytery of Charlotte (our two general presbyters along with the Presbytery Council) strongly urging all our churches to support the county directive. These are still hard times for all of us, made more difficult as we again pull back into our on-line forms of communication. But as we hear more and more names of family, friends and neighbors who are fighting the virus, these are wise and temporary changes we can make. At the end of two weeks we will see where things stand and chart a course going forward. The growing number of people who are now being able to receive the vaccine is certainly a hopeful sign for all of us.

This evening, Thursday, our Session will meet for the first time with new elders who were ordained and installed last Sunday. Before moving forward, I do want to take a minute to again thank the outgoing elders of the class of 2020 - Tim Gray, Donna Hall, Toni Torrence and Joy Tyler. These wonderful folks were elected to the Session just as I was arriving at Paw Creek in the fall of 2017, and they were some of the first church members I got to know well as we met together that fall for officer training to prepare them for ordination and installation. They have been tireless members of the session, contributing to the life and work of our church in so many ways, and I have enjoyed working with them throughout their term. Of course, each of them remains an ordained elder in our church and will continue to be vital parts of our congregation. But they now have some well-earned time off from meetings and committee responsibilities, and we are grateful for all they have done.

In our prayers this week, we remember all who are being affected by this surge of Covid-19, praying for God's hand to guide and protect us all, and to grant a swift roll-out of the vaccinations that have come about through his gifts of scientific knowledge and ingenuity. And of course we have prayers of gratitude that the threat of violence in Washington and in state capitols around the country has passed, giving thanks for the courage and dedication of those sworn to protect us in the ranks of law enforcement and the National Guard. We also have a few prayer updates gathered since last week's letter:

- Frances Lyerly reports that her sister Judy Hinson continues to show slow improvement after difficulties from her ankle surgery. Judy has been approved for transfer to rehab care in the next couple of days.
- We pray with the family of Mr. A.G. Brown, a former church member who died last week.
- Dickie and Eddie Chapman ask our prayers for several friends and their families: for the family of a friend and former coworker Tracy Starr, who died of Covid-19 last week; for another former coworker Dick Armstrong, who was hospitalized last week with Covid-19; for a childhood friend Glenn Fowler, who has been seriously ill and is awaiting further diagnosis to find out what is wrong.

In all places and in all ways, let us turn our hearts to God,

Blessings,

Elliott

Opportunities for Virtual Learning and Fellowship

Starting on Tuesday, January 26, Ashley Kenley will begin leading the **Fresh Start** Sunday school class in studying a book of devotions called [100 Days to Brave](#) by Annie F. Downs. The Fresh Start class meets each Tuesday evening from 7:30 – 8:00 pm via telephone conference call. The class would like to extend an invitation to others in the congregation who would like to join our class in studying these devotions. If interested, please email Ashley Kenley at akenley70@gmail.com to learn more about this study and to receive the telephone conference call information for the class.

Wednesday Bible Study continues to learn about the Old Testament books of Ezra and Nehemiah, asking how the story of God's renewal and revival of faith at the end of the Babylonian exile can offer us lessons for faith in our time. The class meets on Zoom at 5:30 each week. Check with Elliott for log-on information.

Text for Wednesday, January 27: Ezra, chapter 3.

Service for the Lord's Day
Paw Creek Presbyterian Church • January 24, 2021
Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Via Live Stream - Facebook and YouTube links at pawcreekpc.org

Preparatory Music *Holy, Holy, Holy* arr. Janice Faber

Welcome *Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.
This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.*

Prelude *Brethren, We Have Met to Worship* George Atkins and William Moore

Call to Worship Psalm 63

O God, you are our God, and eagerly we seek you;
our souls thirst for you,
as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.
For your loving-kindness is better than life itself,
and so will we bless you as long as we live.
Our souls cling to you;
your right hand holds us fast.

Hymn 408 "There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit"

*There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place, and I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord;
there are sweet expressions on each face, and I know they feel the presence of the Lord.
Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove, stay right here with us, filling us with your love;
and for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise; without a doubt we'll know
that we have been revived when we shall leave this place.*

*There are blessings you cannot receive till you know him in his fullness and believe;
you're the one to profit when you say, "I am going to walk with Jesus all the way."
Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove, stay right here with us, filling us with your love;
and for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise; without a doubt we'll know
that we have been revived when we shall leave this place.*

Prayer of the Day

Loving God, through your Son you have called us to repent of our sin, to believe the good news, and to celebrate the coming of your kingdom. Like Christ's first apostles, may we hear his call to discipleship. Forsaking old ways, may we proclaim the gospel of new life to a broken world. Through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Mark 1: 14-20

After John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people.” And immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

Hymn 720

“Jesus Calls Us.”

*Jesus call us: o’er the tumult of our life’s wild, restless sea;
day by day his sweet voice soundeth, saying, “Christian, follow me.”*

*In our joys and in our sorrows, days of toil and hours of ease,
still he calls, in cares and pleasures, “Christian, love me more than these.”*

*Jesus calls us: by thy mercies, Savior may we hear thy call,
give our hearts to thine obedience, serve and love thee best of all.*

Sermon

By the Lakeshore

Offertory

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

arr. Jason Tonioli

Offerings for God’s work through Paw Creek Church are gratefully received in the baskets by the entrance and exits to the sanctuary, or by mail to the church office.

Prayers of God’s People

Beginning with announcements and prayer concerns; and concluding with *The Lord’s Prayer*

Hymn 729

“Lord, I Want to Be a Christian”

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart . . .

Lord, I want to be more loving, in my heart, in my heart . . .

Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart, in my heart . . .

Charge and Benediction

Vocal Postlude

Lord, I Lift Your Name on High

Rick Founds

*Elliott Hipp, Pastor • Mark Burlison, Pianist • Patrick McCarthy, Director of Music/Soloist
Clint Shaw, Video and Streaming • Worship Committee, Arrangements*

A NOTE OF



I just wanted to say Thank you so much to my Paw Creek Church Family for their Thoughts and Prayers as I've battled Neuropathy since the 1st of November. It's been a long road but I believe with the help of prescriptions and guidance from my Dr.'s, we may have it whipped. I am feeling so much better.. There is truly "power in prayer".

May God Bless you all for your thoughts and prayers,
Dickie

Prayer Chain

As we begin a new year, please let the church office know if you want to be added to the prayer chain. There are two options of either receiving a prayer request by phone or e-mail.

If you have a prayer request, please contact either Joy Tyler (phone captain – 704-399-8040) or Ann Cashion (e-mail captain – acatlake@gmail.com) and they will get the prayer request going.

Likewise, if you would like to be removed from the prayer chain, please contact the church office.

Paw Creek Presbyterian Church

P.O. BOX 64
Paw Creek, NC 28130-0064

Seek..... Matthew 6:33
Serve 1 Samuel 12:24
Praise..... Psalm 111:1
Love Christ!.....1 John 4:12

Lord, we thank you for...

Have a Prayer Request? To put someone on our prayer chain, obtain permission from the person or family involved, then contact either Joy Tyler (phone captain - (704) 399-8040) -or- Ann Cashion (email captain - acatlake@gmail.com)

Know someone Who Needs a Visit? Please contact the Church Office or Rev. Elliott Hipp (704) 392-0329

Online Giving

Paw Creek has now implemented Online Giving for the convenience of church members and our friends who worship with us. Please go to our website at www.pawcreekpc.org and follow the link on the home page.



Once you click on this link, you will be directed to set up an account. You may make this gift as a one time transaction, or you can set up recurring payments. You may use your bank account information to create this payment, or you may use your debit or credit card. (If you use your debit or credit card, you will also be given the option to add the transaction fee to your payment if you choose to do so)



For those who like to use mobile apps, you can download the app: Give+ and search for Paw Creek Presbyterian Church. Once you have created an account, it will save Paw Creek as your default Church.

Upcoming Sermon Titles

Sunday, January 24

Mark 1: 14-20
"By the Lakeshore"

Sunday, February 7

Celebration of the Lord's Supper
Mark 1: 29-39
"Message to Share"

Sunday, January 31

Mark 1: 21-28
"Come to Destroy?"

Sunday, February 14

Mark 2: 1-12
"Jesus Saw Their Faith"