

The Newsletter of Hendersonville Presbyterian Church

April 2021
VOLUME 36 NUMBER 04













The Most Wonderful Time of the Year!

Spring is beginning to spring! Trees are beginning to show leaves again. Flowers are starting to bloom. My wife is celebrating another birthday (April 6). And Resurrection Day is right around the corner! I am so excited! We get to gather and celebrate the EMPTY TOMB! Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! This is the most wonderful time of the year!



This April 4th, we will have two Easter services: one at 8:00 am out at Jackson Park (by Shelter #1), and one at 11:00 am in the Sanctuary at HPC. We hope that you will join us for one of those amazing times of worship. The 11:00 am service will be available via livestream and on Facebook live! Tell your friends. Invite them to come, or tune in. It is going to be amazing.

Within the pages of this month's Update, there are many great articles, wonderful people mentioned, and exciting events upcoming. But my prayer is as you read this newsletter, I hope you will have the words of "An Easter Carol," by Phillip Brooks rolling around in your heart and mind. He writes:

Tomb, thou shalt not hold Him longer; Death is strong, but Life is stronger; Stronger than the dark, the light; Stronger than the wrong, the right. Faith and Hope triumphant say,

Christ will rise on Easter-Day.

And when sunrise smites the mountains, Pouring light from heavenly fountains, Then the earth blooms out to greet Once again the blessed feet; And her countless voices say, Christ has risen on Easter-Day.

As the rest of Spring is springing, the promise of the Resurrection leaps up as well. Christ is risen. He sprang forth from the grave. Death might be strong, but Life is stronger! So, may we gather this April 4 and join our voices with the voices of millions of believers around the world as we boldly proclaim that Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!

Yours in Christ, Pastor Rob



Session Highlights - March 15 2021

The complete minutes of session meetings are posted on the Session Bulletin Board in the Fellowship Hall as soon as they are approved.

Priscilla Haynes reported on a large number of people in the congregation facing illnesses and grieving losses and then held them all up in prayer.

The Finance Ministry reported that giving in January and February had been strong, but that expenses had not been as low as had been reflected because the Benevolences to missionaries and local agencies were being paid quarterly in March. Therefore, the difference between income and expenses was not as positive as it currently appears as there is actually \$35,000 to be paid to these in March.

The Pastor asked approval for congregational singing, with masks on, for the final hymn on Easter Sunday. This was moved as a referral to the COVID Task Force. The Moderator further recommended that the next study for the session be the book and study guide *Emotionally Healthy Spirituality*.

The Outreach and the Administration Ministries both reported they are currently recruiting and reorganizing and have no report this month. Member Life and Personnel Ministries also had no reports.

The Discipleship Ministry (previously Christian Education) requested approval for a prayer wall to be erected outside the door to the fellowship hall during Holy Week and that it be advertised for participation by the community, as well as the HPC family. The prayer requests inserted in the wall will be gathered and prayed over. It was further requested that an Easter "giving tree" be placed in the Elevator Lobby through the period of March 19 to April 16 to raise scholarship funding for the Creative Beginnings program. There will be eggs placed on the tree with various amounts for people to take and make gifts toward the Creative Beginning scholarship program. Without The Women in Ministry meetings through COVID-19, this giving has greatly fallen off.

The Worship Ministry requested approval for King Street Worship to hold an Easter morning service at Jackson Park on Sunday, April 4 at 8:00 a.m. instead of meeting the Saturday evening before, as is customary. Communion services will be held for the Easter services at King St. and the Traditional service. King Street leaders also requested approval to move back to 9:00-10:30 worship on Sunday mornings sometime this summer. There was a lengthy discussion of the ramifications this might have as far as our COVID concerns, and also as to the difficulties it might place on getting our early service back up and running. This was referred back to the Worship Ministry and to the COVID Task Force to look at and recommend plans that encompass all three of our worships services and proper health precautions.

The Board of Deacons has been making calls to the entire congregation to help everyone get their information onto our new Realm membership software in an updated and accurate manner. This has increased our knowledge considerably of who is and is not still actually a member of our congregation. A number of people have either moved or asked to be removed from our rolls. Our rolls, thanks to the diligent effort of our deacons should be in its most updated state in a number of years after all their calls.

The Session received, with regret, a letter of resignation from Assistant Pastor Dwayne Durham due to the increased responsibilities of his work at Pardee Hospital and particularly his helping with the Covid-19 crisis. The Session expressed its gratitude for Dwayne's many years of service to HPC. The Session would also like to publicly celebrate Dwayne's service to HPC and will work to find a date that works with his schedule. Once that date is set, the congregation will be invited to celebrate his ministry among us. Dwayne will remain active in the church and has agreed to fill the pulpit on occasion.

Deacon's Meeting - April 12, 6 pm Session Meeting - April 19, 6:30 pm

Respectfully submitted, Mimi Jamieson, Clerk of Session

TO THE CHURCH TRIUMPHANT

David Radcliffe

March 2, 2021

Carol Brinkley
March 6, 2021

Jack Townsend March 23, 2021

Our Christian sympathy is extended to their families and friends.

UPDATE DEADLINE

Deadline for the UPDATE is the 21st of each month. If you have information or articles for the May UPDATE, please get them to us by April 21.

You can leave written copy/photos in the Communications mailbox in the Church office, or send electronically to the church office or direct to Brenda Bradshaw:

BrendaBrad@aol.com
Thanks for your cooperation!



UPDATE



Volume 36 Number 4 **April 2021**



The Newsletter of Hendersonville Presbyterian Church



Rev. Rob McClelland Editor: Brenda Bradshaw Production:



Church Office



Deadline for submissions is the 21st of each month.



CORNER

MEET DEACON JAN STEWART

I am Jan Stewart, wife of HPC's bookkeeper, Rick Stewart. I was born in Macon, Georgia, and moved to Florida at an early age where I attended a Presbyterian kindergarten, six different elementary schools and one junior high. During eighth grade, I was baptized at The Church by the Sea in Madeira Beach, Florida.



My family relocated to Brandon, Mississippi, and I attended Brandon High through eleventh grade. I graduated from Morrow High School in Georgia. I met and married Rick while studying accounting at Georgia State University in Atlanta. Upon graduation, I worked for a CPA firm for eleven years. We transferred with Rick's employer to the Mississippi Gulf Coast. There I worked part time as an accountant for our church, again for eleven years.

After Hurricane Katrina, we moved to Hendersonville. We joined HPC in December 2016. I have been employed part time since 2007 by a local CPA firm, until COVID-19 concerns hastened my retirement in March, 2020. Prior to the pandemic, I attended HPC's "Digging Deeper, Hearing His Voice" class and volunteered with the Bruce Drysdale Elementary Good News Club sponsored by HPC.

Our son Scott, his wife, Katie, and their infant daughter, Sloane, are in the process of moving from Manhattan, New York, to Darien, Connecticut. Our daughter, Alex, recently relocated from Atlanta, to Greenville, SC.

I am so grateful to our sovereign God for leading us to a gospel-based church to worship Him, serve the body of Christ, and spread the Good News.



Hendersonville Presbyterian Church

at the corner of 7th Avenue and Grove Streets. Parking lot is accessible from Grove Street, King Street and 6th Avenue (64 E).

We have a place for you!

Saturday Contemporary Service:
King Street Worship
5:00 pm - Fellowship Hall
Except Easter Weekend:
Service will be on Sunday,
April 4 at 8 am, Shelter #1
at Jackson Park

Sunday Traditional Service: 11 am - in the Sanctuary

MUSIC NOTES

A message from Gayle

Music is a gift from God. I love all kinds of music! I even enjoy a "joyful noise." One of the greatest blessing in my career as director of music is the opportunity to support and encourage others' musical gifts. Making music is rewarding, but as with other activities, making music with others is a blessing.

I am grateful to those who have faithfully worked with me since last March to provide music for our livestream listeners on Sunday mornings.

Our pastor, Rob McClelland, and his daughters Cameron, Taylor, and Ailene graced us with music on Christmas Eve. We hope we will have other opportunities to hear the family duets and ensembles.

Choir members Grant and Susan Sitler sing in choir, and with Gayle in the Patriotic Ensemble. The Sitlers teamed up one Sunday as an inspiring duo and later with two other couples in an ensemble. Grant also provided trombone music for numerous services; and shared his gifts on the programmed organ. Grant says he is "pretty easy-going, hard to ruffle." He believes that life's joys are all around us, especially in the simple mundane things that we often take for granted. He says: "Our job is to discover the blessings and opportunities that God presents to us each day, then share those blessings with others."

Kathleen Guice Reid takes time out from managing her own Beauty Shop to grace us with an occasional clarinet solo. She is also a member of the handbell and handchime choirs.

Cathey Gilbert is a second-grade teacher at Atkinson Elementary, where she has taught for 24 years. Coming from a musical family, Cathey has enjoyed singing solos and participating with the choir since she was a little girl. In fact, her first solo was at Hendersonville Presbyterian singing "Once in Royal David's City" on Christmas Eve when she was eight years old. She thanks the many members over the years who have modeled their walk with God for her and have helped her grow in faith.

Rena Johnson says: "If you know me, it's all about horses." Rena also loves music, theater and traveling. She loves spending time with family especially when she and her son can catch a Broadway play. She looks forward to being 'back to normal' to enjoy some of those experiences again.

Sherry Thomas is married to her high school sweetheart, Richard Thomas who grew up in HPC. Loving music at an early age, she grew up singing soprano in a Baptist church as a young child with her mom, who was an alto, and has continued singing in large and small churches: for musicals, funerals, weddings, in choirs and as a soloist. Sherry is thankful that the Lord has placed her at HPC and is grateful for the opportunity to share and worship in song on Sunday mornings.

Gabe, Ana, Sam and Luke Morris have worked as a team with their father, Dr. Andrew Morris, who plays guitar and sings to everyone's delight! Andy and his wife, Laura, have each served as elder and Andy is a family physician at Blue Ridge Community Health Services and Pardee Hospital.

Lisa Burns occasionally comes to the 11:00 service to accompany Andy Morris on the piano and harmonize with him in song. She is married to Session member, Robert Burns. She and Robert play in the Praise Team for King Street Worship services.

Larry and Caryl Mobley met in the Chapel Choir at Duke University and music has been an important part of their lives ever since. Some of their best memories from those years include singing the full Messiah about four times within a few days each December and going on choir tours over Spring Breaks. While living in Texas for 26 years, they were both in Chancel and handbell choirs. Since moving "back home" to North Carolina and Hendersonville, they have been active in many aspects of the church in addition to choir, including Larry as church Treasurer, an Elder, and a Sunday School teacher, and Caryl as a Stephen Ministry leader and committee member for Operation Christmas Child.

Continued on Page 11



Sanctuary Flowers

Volunteers are needed to supply Sunday flowers for the sanctuary.

Currently, there are 22 available weeks from which you may choose a date to honor a loved one, or to commemorate an anniversary, birthday, or other special occasion. If you would like to volunteer, please contact the office for available dates.

PLEASE JOIN US ONLINE IF YOU CAN'T BE WITH US IN PERSON

Go to our website, click on Worship and follow simple instructions. Also available on our Facebook page: (@hendersonvillepc).

Videos of past services are available on our website and on YouTube.

If you do not have a computer or phone or other device with which to hear and see our worship service, we would love to discuss options available for you.

Please call the church office and someone from the Communications Committee will contact you.

Come to the wall!

March 27-April 3

The Prayer Wall gives each of us a tangible opportunity to bring our prayers before the Lord. Some may feel the need to repent for something. The act of repentance draws us closer to the Lord. Others may want to bring prayers of praise and thanksgiving. We are told in Psalm 106:1 "Praise the LORD. Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever."

The Prayer Wall will be in place, under the covered portico outside fellowship hall, for Holy Week, starting Saturday, March 27 until Saturday morning, April 3. You may come at any time during the week to place a prayer in the wall. (You will fold or roll the prayer up and push it through the slot to the back of the wall.) On April 3, all prayers will be gathered. Then on Sunday, April 4, following the service, we will gather in the parking lot to bless the prayers and burn them as incense to the Lord. "...He was given much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all the saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne. And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, ascended before God from the angel's hand." Revelation 8:3-4.

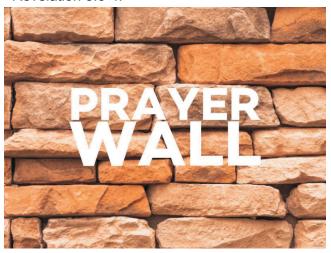


Photo by Chuy Cervantes on Unsplash



Creative Beginnings Christian Preschool Easter Giving Tree

March 19-April 16

Creative Beginnings Easter Giving Tree will be set up in the lobby March 19–April 16 for those who would like to give a donation to our scholarship fund. We encourage you to take an egg with a dollar amount and write a check to HCP with "scholarship fund" in the memo or put cash in one of the envelopes in the lobby with "scholarship fund" written on it. Your donation can be dropped into the offertory plate during the service.

If you are interested in sponsoring a child for the whole school year, please call Michele Revis at the church for more information.

MOKSHIP MITH ASI

Our regular schedule is as follows:

King Street
Contemporary Worship
Saturday, 5 pm • Fellowship Hall
Children's Bible Study
Saturday 9 am • via Zoom

Youth Bible Study
Saturday, 4 pm • In Youth Room

Traditional Worship
Sunday 11 am • in the Sanctuary

or

JOIN US ONLINE

Website: Hendersonvillepc.org Facebook: #hendersonvillepc

Samariture P.

It's never too early to think about Christmas!

CHURCH BAZAAR

to benefit
Operation Christmas Child

WANTED

We are in need of volunteers to help with the OCC rummage sale on April 24th (rain date will be May 1st). The sale will begin at 9am until 1pm outside under the portico. Set up will begin at 7am. Covid precautions will be observed. If you can help for anytime, please contact Ragena at 828-458-8229 or sign up on the board at the church office window.

ALSO...

OCC is accepting donations of used items for its annual sale, tentatively set for April 24. All items must be clean and in good working order.

We cannot take the following:

- Clothing (will take handbags, scarves and shoes only)
- Electrical items that do not work
- Old TVs (will take only slim models)

Call Ragena White, 828-458-8229, if you have any questions or need any help.



Operation Christmas Child committee has 18 Dollywood tickets for sale for \$40 each. They are 1 day passes that are good from March1, 2021 thru January 3, 2022. It will be on a first come first serve basis. We would like to limit it to 4 tickets per family so more families can take advantage of the discounted tickets. Proceeds will go toward shipping costs of OCC shoeboxes in November. If you are interested please contact Dale Stephens via email at stephedi51@gmail.com.

SPRING into action. The Operation Christmas Child Committee does not hibernate. A collection box is outside of the church office. Please, no used items, liquids (shampoos, lotions, toothpaste, liquid glue, etc.), or items with company or military logos. Post-holiday



sales are also a great time to find WOW items.... the treasures that make a child's eyes light up. WOW items are always needed to keep this mission work going strong.

This was reported in the 2020 annual summary from Samaritan's Purse. "With the novel coronavirus spreading sickness and fear, children needed hope now more than ever. Were there challenges? Yes. Over 100 of the countries we worked in this year were locked down in March.

"But with God all things are possible" (Matthew 19:26), and we saw God work time and again all around the world opening doors wide to usher in Good News and great joy!" In addition to a gift-filled shoebox, children have the opportunity to learn about Jesus. "The pandemic didn't impede our efforts to disciple children in 2020 through The Greatest Journey, the 12-lesson Bible course for shoebox recipients that teaches kids how to become faithful followers of Jesus and how to share Him with others. In all, over 3.5 million children participated in The Greatest Journey in 2020 and over 1.3 million came to faith in Jesus!"

OCC can use ...

Your old Christmas Cards

We can use your old Christmas cards to make bookmarks to put in each shoebox



for children to use with their New Testament and the booklet, "The Greatest Journey."

Also milk bottle tops

Any color - we use them to make Tic-Tac-Toe game pieces. Be sure to rinse them first!



Hang onto these things and bring them to church when you can.

"I will lift up my eyes unto the hills, from whence comes my strength."
—Psalms 121:1

Visit our Website: www.HendersonvillePC.org

Creative Beginnings

Creative Beginnings
Easter Giving Tree
will be set-up in the
lobby Mar. 19thApril 16th for those
who would like to give
a donation to our

scholarship fund. For more information see article on Page 5



We have started enrolling and have limited spaces available for the "Master Peace with

a Masterpiece" Summer Art Program. This program will be held on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from July 6 - July 29. The children will study Picasso, Kandinsky, Mozart, Beethoven, and more. It is a great way to introduce your children and grandchildren to art and the world of creating. We will end our summer art program with a Sidewalk Art Stroll to display their artwork. The registration forms are available at http://

He is RISEN

youth/creativebeginnings.cfm.

We are grateful for the Easter season and the opportunity to teach the children that our Lord has Risen! John 1:1-5 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

We thank you for your continued support and prayers of Creative Beginnings Christian Preschool.

Children & Youth & Families

Thank you to the youth for leading the King St. service in worship on March 13. It was a blessing for all and gave honor and glory to our God and King.

May my prayer be set before you like incense. Ps. 141:2

During Holy Week, March 27-April 4, come write a prayer or many prayers on a slip of paper and place it into a hole in the prayer wall, which will be located outside of Fellowship Hall.

These prayers will be collected on Easter Sunday, prayed over, and then burned as an incense to the Lord.



Photo by Chuy Cervantes on Unsplash



Children's Ministry



The children meet for Sabbath class on Saturday mornings at 9:00 a.m. via Zoom. This month, we are learning about our source of power, which comes from King Jesus. We are learning how to stand against things that are not of God, and what to do when we face difficulties in our lives.

Contact Lorna— Kids@hendersonvillepc.org for the Zoom code to join the class.

We are blessed to be a blessing!

Student Ministry



We continue our study of the book of Mark. We are also reading Prodigal God by Tim Keller and discussing it together.

Youth Calendar

March 27 @ 2pm--Students will meet for an afternoon of games and fellowship. If the weather is nice, we will meet on the playground. If it is cold and rainy, we will meet in the game room.

April 3--No Sunday school

April 10 & 17 @ 4pm--We will continue our study of Mark in the youth room.

April 24--Fun Saturday, destination TBD

Contact Laura—

students@hendersonvillepc.org—with any questions or to be placed on the text chain.

An Invitation

SCRIPTURE AWAKENING

Legacy Dinner

Scripture Awakening (SA), a supported mission of our church, invites you to a "Legacy Dinner" on May 20 to share the excitement about programs being developed and the variety of ways individuals and organizations within the community can support SA.

Led by Dr. Bill Campbell, SA has recently enhanced programs you may already be familiar with, such as Bible in 90 Days, and is in the process of developing entirely new concepts of building scriptural awareness and discipleship. All these programs will be featured at the event. It will be an enjoyable gathering with a number of informative displays and presentations as well as appealing and varied dinner selections. Social distancing will be observed.

The Legacy Dinner will be held on Thursday, May 20, beginning at 6:30 pm, at the Cascades Mountain Resort in Hendersonville. Seating is by reservation only. Cost is \$50 per person. Tables for eight may be reserved at a discounted price. Pick up your invitation on the literature table in the elevator lobby, or visit scriptureawakening.com and click on "Legacy Dinner" to make your reservation.

LÔÔKING

FOR SOMETHING TO DO ... OR, NEED SOME HELP?

There are some members of our congregation who fall into the "at risk" category of the coronavirus and really shouldn't go out at all. If you are in that category, we have volunteers willing to run essential errands for you (groceries, medications, etc.) This service is available to our congregation Monday through Friday from 9AM till 3 PM.

Please call Ragena at 828-458-8229 if you have a need.

If you are not in the "at risk" category and would like to help run errands, or if you are a prayer warrior willing to call those in need of prayer, give Ragena a call or email at:

ragenawhite@gmail.com

But the fruit of the Spirit is
love, joy, peace,
patience, kindness, goodness,
faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.
Against such things
there is no law.
— Gal 5:22-23 (NIV)

INVITE A FRIEND TO WORSHIP WITH US IN PERSON OR VIA LIVE STREAMING

INVITE A FRIEND to share our Saturday or Sunday service in person or join us online for 11 am Sunday Worship. Go to:

hendersonvillepc.com click on "Worship" and follow the simple instructions. Also available on our Facebook page (#hendersonvillepc).

Videos of past services are available on our website, Facebook and on YouTube.



HELP WANTED

CAN YOU HELP with Live Streaming?

We need a few more helpers who are able to sit in the balcony on a Sunday morning (probably only one Sunday a month) to help with the Live Streaming of our 11 am service. It isn't difficult, and training takes just a short while. Please contact Sharon Mitchell to volunteer: slpb123@gmail.com or 828-290-2121

LIGHTS CAMERA / ACTION •

PLEASE KEEP IN PRAYER

The Brinkley Family on the passing of Carol Joanne Radman's Family on the passing of Scott Frank Ahern Jean Austin Ray and Beverly Barstow Jeanie Beinert Carol Broyles Lloyd and Sharon Candell Teresa Compton Deanna Crawford Nadine Dillon Reva Dixon Jauhneil Durham Len and Ruth Dykstra Chuck Emel Nancy England Marilyn Haynes Ed and Barbara Henderson Charlie Horne **Bob Hollis** Ginger Houlton Rená and Richard Johnson Willie Johnson Mark Lemelman Betty Muller Nancy Payne Bobbie Radcliffe Joanne Radman Ed Smith Irene Solbakken Geri Sorrell Linda Stephens Larry Stepp, Sr Dave Stewart Jack Townsend Bob and Sarah Walrath Heidi Weicker

Paul and Anita Weinert

Jan Alford's brother Jake

Rick Austin's mother
Gil & Carol Broyles' granddaughter
Kristen and Jeff
Deanna Crawford's friend
Eddie Youngblood
Donna Dalton's grandson Ryan
Dan and Jan Demirgian's son
David, home safely from a 2+ year
long Missionary term abord the
Logos Hope

Reva Dixon's daughter and son-in-law JoAnn and David Fain's son-in-law, Steve

Bob and Linda Hollis' son Scott Don and Brenda Holmer's son-in-law Mitch

Eva House's daughter's in-laws, Richard and Mary Wolfe Dick and Eva House's friends: Evelyn Douglas, June Beddingfield, Cathy Easterbrook, Charlene Harris, the Hollers, Becky Knapp, Ray and Christie Strickland

Tanya and Larry Jones' friends
Katrina and Valerie Gessler
Tanya Jones' friend Diane
Gardner's husband and grandson
Nancy Lindsay's mother Pat
Larry Mobley's friend's daughter

Larry Mobley's friend's daughterin-law Jordan

Betty Muller's granddaughter Chelsey Mossberg Nancy Payne's son Chris

Glenn Richardson's friends Jeff and Renee Wuff

Peg Richardson's brother and sister-in-law Bill and Fran Meeker Dale and Anita Rozell's son-in-law Danny

Lynette Stark's mother Linda Stephens' friend's baby Hudson Bette Lee Taylor's friend Barbara's daughter Carolyn

Bette Lee Taylor's daughters Kristin and Julie

And All Those in Military Service

Chris and Beth Matthews' son Nick and wife Alaura in SC, their son Pete and wife Laura in AZ, and son Sam in VA, and John Woodham's son Tee

Hospital Visitation Schedule

 April 4
 Darlene Davey
 828-595-9105

 April 11
 Ragena White
 828-458-8229

 April 18
 Scott Perry
 828-696-5764

 April 25
 Priscilla Rouse
 828-697-7234

Thanks to all involved in hospital visitation

Let's show our love to our shut-ins with cards, prayers and visits.

Nadine Dillon Accordius Health 200 Heritage Circle Hendersonville, NC 29891

Rosie Pardue
Wesley Court Assisted Living
916 Wesley Court
Boiling Springs, SC 29316

Irene Solbakken Carolina Reserve - Laurel Park 1825 Pisgah Drive Hendersonville, NC 28791

* At Home See Church Directory

* Ray and Beverly Barstow * Sylvia Honeycutt * Geri Sorrell

For prayer chain concerns, please call:

Tanya Jones at 692-8678 or the church office.



INTERFAITH ASSISTANCE MINISTRY (IAM) helps citizens of Henderson County who are in financial need.

The IAM pantry focus for APRIL- individual fruit cups, instant grits and oatmeal, coffee, toothpaste.

Other foods and personal care items are always welcome.

Another current need is for queen size bed liners, bed sheets, pillows, towels and all sizes of NEW underwear.

You can leave your donations at the church.Or, use the drive thru at IAM to drop off yur gifts.

THERE IS GREAT NEED NOW!

MISSIONARY CARE COMMITTEE

MINDY HENSON Reliant Mission

(FORMERLY GREAT COMMISSION MINISTRIES)
UKRAINE

Between the unexpected passing of her husband and soul mate, David, and the restrictions of COVID-19, the past several years have been a very real struggle for Mindy.

Nonetheless, in 2019 she was able to realize a dream of David's—the building of a house for a refugee family and in 2020 to continue alone to minister to the people in Kiev, plus provide humani-



tarian aid to the military and to residents in the "grey zone" (area between government-controlled land and occupied land) in the Russia-Ukraine War.

In early-2020, following the well-attended fourth annual Women's Meeting, came the pandemic and accompanying quarantine. Since then, Mindy has been creative with her ministry outreach. For example, a taxi driver friend helped her deliver Bible verse packets she'd made and ready-made food she'd bought to families all over Kiev. She has had (masked) weekly individual Bible study meetings with Christian women friends in her apartment.

Mindy delivered some of David's clothes; coffee, tea and cookies to a military chaplain in eastern Ukraine. Even during quarantine restrictions, a late-summer camp was held when many children learned about Jesus through their "Adventures in the Land of Narnia."

During a brief end-of-year visit with family and doctors in the States, Mindy's Missouri home church presented her with 42 bags full of practical and fun things. Upon her return to Kiev, these were delivered by her and members of her Kiev Spring of Hope Church to needy children there and in outlying towns, including one near the war-zone.

Recently, Mindy and a friend prepared a set of Bible verses in English, Ukraine and Russian that they distributed to 12 women encouraging them to speak the words, meditate on the verses, and be obedient to what God says in them.

"I have received so much good from God. And now when 'good' can no longer be defined quite so easily, what will I choose? To run toward God in my grief, or to run away from God saying, 'Enough!' Pray that I will keep running toward God..."

Designated Fund for Missionary Care and Local Missions

These two funds were established in September 2013 to replace the no longer available, long-standing Lovett Fund. The only source of monies now for missionary transportation costs for Table Talks or to preach; shortfalls; or special needs not covered by the church's annual Benevolence support, is from the Missionary Care Designated Fund.

When Henderson County organizations our church supports through Local Missions are in need of extra monies for their support, the only source is the Local Missions Designated Fund.

This is a reminder that, should you want to give to either of these accounts, please write your check to the church and on the bottom state either "For Missionary Care DF" or "For Local Missions DF." Both committees thank you.

From Mindy's heart...

In a recent newsletter, Mindy shared what is in her heart concerning her ministry: "I sometimes think about myself and about non-believers. For me, this terrible grief is the worst I will ever feel, and in the future—joy, happiness beyond my imagining. But for those without Christianity, the happiness they find on earth is the BEST they will ever have. My brief anguish will end, and any sorrow that I taste now can be a reminder—a glimpse of what they will taste forever. It should give me even more of a passion to share the good news of Jesus Christ."

David is HOME!

Dear Supporters and Friends,

I'm home, back in Henderson-ville! I have disembarked from the *Logos Hope* after 916 days aboard. March 15 was officially my last day, so any donations given to my *Logos Hope* account



after that will probably be returned to you. You have more than completed your obligation to me, but you are welcome to continue supporting OM ministry if you wish.

I want to thank you so much for all that you've done to support me through finances and prayer. You guys have been a great force to push me into God's plan for me in the Kingdom.

I will be sharing more details about what I did during the extension soon. Please continue to pray for me as I seek the next step into God's ministry for me.

Grateful in Him, David Demirgian

Message from Gayle ——Continued ftrom page 4

Bill and Sherri Jones serve our church in many capacities. Sherri is chairman of the Board of Deacons and leads the Women in Ministry of the Church. Bill teaches Sunday school, serves as liturgist, and participates on various church committees. Bill and Sherri sing in choir, and Bill plays handbells and handchimes. Bill is also an accomplished pianist. Bill and Sherri share that "after living in the Midwest most of their lives, they love living in North Carolina even more." An interesting fact, they say, is that they met each other "on-line."

Karen Grady paired with Bill Jones to play some handbell accompaniment for the Easter Hymn. Karen's father was a professor of music, and Karen has sung and played music her entire life. She has directed choirs, sung with Sweet Adelines, and directed handbell and handchime choirs. She is currently the director of the Blue Ridge Ringers, an auditioned group; and our handchime choir at HPC.

Cindy Leonard sings lovely soprano solos when her schedule allows. She and her husband Tom run a cleaning service.

Brenda Holmer graces us with a piano solo each month. She is a piano teacher; and she regularly accompanies the Creative Beginnings music programs. She and her husband Don sing in choir.

Brian Tribby came to Hendersonville in 1992 and upon request has provided solos for events and services at HPC since the mid-nineties. He and his wife Darlene enjoy volunteering at various events in Western North Carolina. Brian also drives vehicles for local auto dealerships. Brian says he "considers it a privilege to sing at Hendersonville Presbyterian and to work with Gayle in the Patriotic Ensemble and other musical endeavors."

Danny Sherrill was a member of Hendersonville Presbyterian from the eighties through the mid-nineties. During that time, he played guitar and sang solos, as well as singing in the choir. He also served as elder and worked on an HPC renovation project. Candace Norton, flutist; helped

Candace Norton, flutist; helped organize a recorder choir at HPC and has assisted Gayle in securing instrumentalists for special events and ensembles as well as providing flute solos for programs and worship services.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Betty Sweigart
- 4 Barbara Byrd,
- 5 Jared DeRidder, Abby Robertson
- 6 Tabi Stevens
- 8 Leon Crawford
- 9 Anne Carlin, Rick Spindler
- 11 Deanna Crawford
- 12 Carol Broyles
- 13 Tom Pickins
- 15 Jason Ghrist
- 16 Julia McCaslin, Bob Price
- 17 Bob Hollis, Erin Hovendon
- 20 Dale Stephens
- 21 Esther Jacobson, Joanne Radman, Bob Walrath
- 24 Marlene Jiminez, David Demirgian
- 25 John Woodham
- 27 Roger England
- 28 Frank McLeod, Fred Schoch
- 30 Sam Morris, Bruce Rau, Billy Ward, Heidi Weiker

PLEASE NOTE



Audio CDs of the Sunday morning worship services, and Table Talk programs will be delivered or mailed to those unable to watch the services live. Please call the church office at 692-3211 to request copies.

Message from Gayle ——Conclusion

KatieTulliffo, soloist and Ross Sortore pianist and soloist are friends of our church. We are grateful they are willing to visit us occasionally and share their musical gifts.

I thank God for each of these friends who share with us their gifts of music!

—Gayle Stepp



The Great Commission

After His resurrection Jesus commanded his disciples as recorded in Matthew 28:18-20:

And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.

-Matthew 25:40

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Easter is a time of rebirth, of remembering God's love and promises. The following is a personal experience about how grief can transform into something beautiful.

During Lent, a church's youth raised mail order caterpillars that were timed to enter into the chrysalis stage and emerge as butterflies for an Easter morning release. A member of the congregation, who had lost her mother suddenly, was still feeling the disbelief, emptiness, and utter despair of this loss months later.

She decided to bring home three of the caterpillars, and they all formed their chrysalises.

While two of them emerged from their chrysalises without difficulty the day before Easter, the third one, which she had named after her mother, was struggling to emerge on Easter morning. During the day the chrysalis blackened and the struggling ceased; the woman was distraught thinking she had killed the butterfly. Later Easter evening she saw some movement in the butterfly cage; she found the chrysalis shriveled, some reddish waste material on the bottom of the cage, and a beautiful butterfly fanning

her wings and becoming strong.

"That image remains a powerful metaphor, reassuring and resurrecting in its own right: the suffering, the pain, the hopelessness, the empty tomb, the exhilarating joy, the new and glorious life.

"The woman 'learned to trust that through God's grace something beautiful and new would emerge even in the face of my weakness, tears, pain and hopelessness."

If you are grieving, either due to the loss of someone dear to you or due to life—as you knew it before Covid—ceased to exist, Stephen Ministry can help you. Please contact a church leader or call the church office and let us know about your situation.

If you would like to read the full story, go to the Stephen Ministry bulletin board in Fellowship Hall for the article *Pooky's Triumph* by Bethel Bretscher Crockett.

