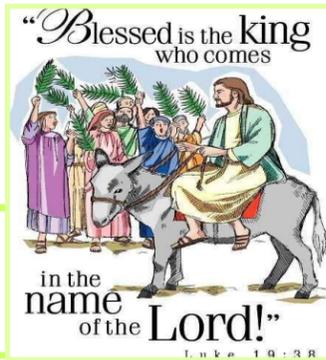


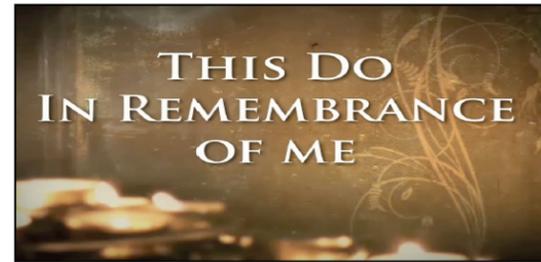
MARCH 2018



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 10:00 Women's Bible Study 7:00 AA Mtg.	2 7:00 Girl Scouts	3
4 Communion (Jim Beisner)	5 7:00 AA Mtg.	6 6:30 Discipleship Mtg. 7:00 Boy Scouts	7 7:30 AM AA Mtg. 5:00 G & G 5:30 PW#2 Circle Mtg. 6:00 Handbell Rehearsal 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	8 5:30 Resources Mtg. 7:00 AA Mtg.	9	10
11 (Cooper Keller)	12 7:00 AA Mtg.	13 9:00 Early Risers 7:00 Boy Scouts	14 7:30 AM AA Mtg. 5:00 G&G 6:00 Handbell Rehearsal 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	15 10:00 Women's Bible Study 7:00 AA Mtg.	16 7:00 Girl Scouts	17
18 12:15 Witness Meeting (John Dunn)	19 7:00 AA Mtg.	20 9:00 Early Risers 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:00 Stated Session Mtg.	21 7:30 AM AA Mtg. 5:00 G&G 6:00 Handbell Rehearsal 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	22 10:00 Women's Bible Study 7:00 AA Mtg.	23	24 11:00 Easter Egg Hunt
25 Palm Sunday 12:15 Relay for Life Luncheon (Janna Szeto)	26 7:00 AA Mtg.	27 9:00 Early Risers 7:00 Boy Scouts	28 7:30 AM AA Mtg. 5:00 G&G 6:00 Handbell Rehearsal 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	29 10:00 Women's Bible Study 6:00 Maundy Thursday Service	30 7:00 Good Friday Service	31

- Happy Birthday!**
- Mar 1 Aaron Dunn
 - Mar 4 Pat Stanley
 - Mar 6 Lorren Huggins
 - Mar 9 Justin Pratt
 - Mar 12 Dora McManus
 - Mar 13 Justin Seal
 - Mar 13 Anne Watson
 - Mar 14 Tony Williams
 - Mar 18 Adam Dunn

- Mar 24 Kim Seal
- Mar 26 Evangeline Newsome
- Mar 28 Tracey Clipper
- Mar 28 Chandler Pass
- Mar 29 Barry Newsome
- Mar 30 Bob Johnson



SPC SPOTLIGHT

The Church At The Bridge

Hello from the recliner! This is NOT where I was expecting to be at the beginning of March. During the time I was making plans to be gone and trying to get everything organized, I pictured myself sailing through this surgery and coming back to work full time after 4 weeks. What is the matter with me? My first knee replacement was back in 2012 — is that so long that I forgot what it's really like? Evidently! Anyway, here's the revised schedule for March: Lord willing, I'll preach every week. Jeffrey Cochran will teach Sunday School unless the class ends up attending Laura Richardson's Lenten study. Aside from that? One day at a time!

This doesn't mean, by the way, that anything's wrong. Far from it! My doc and my wonderful PT guy both say I'm right on schedule and progressing fine. The problem was just me, expecting to be Superwoman when I'm really just NOT!

While we're on the subject, I want to say a huge thank you to all of you for the cards, meals, visits, and prayers. It's hard to find words to express how grateful I am for you! There's a lot of talk now about people sending "thoughts and prayers" to folks who are in crisis — but never actually DOING anything to help. That could NEVER apply to you! You are a great congregation who reaches out to help in all sorts of physical ways, AND provides spiritual and emotional support— both hugely important. As I always say, when someone from SPC says they'll pray for you, they actually do it! How blessed I am to serve as your pastor and be the recipient of your care and love. THANK YOU. You're my favorite people!

In other news ... Easter will be here before you know it, which means some of the best times of worship are right around the corner. Please don't miss the Maundy Thursday dinner, worship, and communion service on March 29th. We'll be in Fellowship Hall as we have been for the last few years, our elders will be serving us, there'll be beautiful music, and we'll remember Jesus as we have the Lord's Supper

Rev. Susan Bennett, Pastor

together. The next day, Friday, March 30th, our Tenebrae service (also called the Service of Darkness) will lead us deep into the time of Jesus' crucifixion — a reminder that although the Easter celebration is on its way ... it's not Easter yet. And Easter doesn't come without sacrifice and pain. Remembering that time of darkness will help make Easter the season of gratitude and joy it's meant to be!

So even though I'm not sitting behind my desk as I usually am, I'm still available and accessible so please feel free to contact me if you need to. Email is especially good. And thank you again for your loving ministry to me. I appreciate you deeply! Much love to you all —

Susan

UPCOMING SERMONS

- Mar 4** Psalm 19:1-4, 7-10,14
1 Corinthians 1:18-25
"This Doesn't Make Sense!"
- Mar 11** Psalm 69:1-21, 29-36
John 2:13-22
"Can't You Just Be Nice?"
- Mar 18** Psalm 51:1-12
Ephesians 2:1-10
"Born That Way"
- Mar 25** Palm Sunday
Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29
Mark 11:1-11
"A Moment of Clarity"
- Mar 29** Maundy Thursday Dinner/Service
John 13:1-17, 31b-35
"Remembering Jesus"
- Mar 30** Good Friday/Tenebrae Service

DISCIPLESHIP

As we prepare for Easter morning, we will continue to praise God during our Lenten journey. It is our hope that you have used this season as an intentional time to grow closer to our Lord.

Please join us for our annual Maundy Thursday dinner on March 29 at 6 PM in the fellowship hall. We will share a meal and observe the sacrament of communion together. "Love God, Love One Another", Jesus. If you haven't, please RSVP by completing a reservation form in the weekly bulletin and place it in the offering plate.

On Good Friday, March 30, we will worship together in the Sanctuary at 7:00 PM. This will be a special Tenebrae Service and I know that you will not want to miss it! It is always one of my favorite services; full of passion and emotion. Then comes Easter morning! What a joyous time that will be! Join us! April 1, 11:00 AM in the Sanctuary.

Blessings,
Laura & Mary Carol



'Someday You Will Hear Billy Graham Is Dead. Don't Believe a Word of It': His 7 Best Quotes About Heaven

Billy Graham's words of wisdom reached far across the globe, echoing from the past into the future. Over the years, he made clear that this Earth was just his temporary home.

Here are some of his best quotes when questioned about what was waiting for him, and us, on the other side:

1. "Some day you will read or hear that Billy Graham is dead. Don't you believe a word of it. I shall be more alive than I am now. I will just have changed my address. I will have gone into the presence of God."
2. "My home is in Heaven. I'm just traveling through this world."
3. "Do I fear death? No. I look forward to death with great anticipation. I am looking forward to seeing God face to face. And that could happen any day." (Newsweek, July 4, 2005)
4. "When we all reach the end of our earthly journey, we will have just begun."
5. "The Bible says that as long as we are here on Earth, we are strangers in a foreign land. There are enemies to be conquered before we return home. This world is not our home; our citizenship is in heaven."
6. "Heaven doesn't make this life less important; it makes it more important."
7. "Death for the Christian is the doorway to heaven's glory. Because of Christ's resurrec-

tion we can joyously say with Paul, 'Where, O death, is your victory?' (1 Corinthians 15:55)

Graham wrote a book called Nearing Home about seven years ago in which he asks, "What home are you preparing for?"

He writes, "Some people spend their lives building ultimate dream homes so they can enjoy their twilight years. Some find themselves exchanging their bank accounts for residence within the gates of a retirement center. Others spend their last days in nursing homes.

For those of you who do not know Him, choosing your eternal home is the most important decision you will ever make. For the Christian the last mile of the way is a testimony to God's faithfulness, for He said, 'I go to prepare a place for you.' (John 14:2 NKJV)

And no collection of the famous evangelist's best quotes would be complete without one of his great explanations of salvation:

"I'm counting totally and completely on the Lord Jesus Christ, and not on Billy Graham. I'm not going to Heaven because I've read the Bible, nor because I've preached to a lot of people. I'm going to Heaven because of what Christ did."



RELAY FOR LIFE FUNDRAISER LUNCHEON

Everyone is invited to the Relay 4 Life Luncheon, being hosted by the Witness Committee on **Sunday, March 25**, immediately following the worship service.

Below is the link to the SPC Friends Team page. You can use this link to join our team or make a donation. There are also forms in the Narthex for you to purchase a luminary in honor or in memory of a loved one.

http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR?team_id=2263860&pg=team&fr_id=88670&s_locale=en_US&et=XOV3iah8ty73q6JbHOvkPA

This year the Relay for Life event is on **Friday, May 4th**, and begins at 7:00 p.m. at the Salem Baptist Church Park.



Maundy Thursday is March 29. As in past years, there will be a family style dinner in the Fellowship Hall prior to the church service. The Discipleship Committee is planning a simple dinner of chicken stew, bread, dessert and tea. We will need your help with the food items for the meal. Please check the "donation tree" in the Narthex for needed items. Please contact Linda Roberts at lsr1273@gmail.com or 770-474-0220 with questions. Thank you.



The group meets on the 1st, 3rd, 4th and sometimes 5th Thursday of the month at 10:00 AM in the conference room. Please join us!



Goodness & Groceries Ministry

Our Goodness and Groceries Ministry meets on **Wednesdays at 5:00 p.m.** during the school year. We are continuing our partnership with Food Depot, Cotton Indian Elementary, Dutchtown Middle, Smith Barnes Elementary, and Stockbridge Middle School to ensure no child goes hungry on the weekends. If you are looking for a way to serve God by serving others, please join us in the Fellowship Hall.



5 ON THE 1ST FOR JOSEPH'S PANTRY

SESSION MINUTES

Stated Meeting - January 16, 2018

Clerk's Report:

Session: "The Session of this particular church is composed of five (5) women and three (3) men. Their racial ethnic backgrounds and age groups range from the young adult through senior age group, giving fair participation to persons of all age groups, of mixed ethnic members of the congregation." In so far as practical, the principals as stated in the Book of Order, 2015-2017, G-3.0201 and G-3.0103 have been adhered to. The installed pastor, Reverend Susan Bennett, is the moderator for 2018. A quorum of the session consists of the Pastor and one-third of the active ruling elders, not fewer than two.

Quorum of a congregational meeting: Congregations shall provide by rule the quorum necessary to conduct business. (Book of Order, G-1.0501) The quorum of a meeting of the congregation shall be not less than one tenth of the members. No meeting of fewer than three members shall be considered a congregational meeting.

The Session received instructions for the completion of the 2017 annual statistical report.

The Session received a thank you note from Dorothy Clark for her Christmas gift card.

The Consent Agenda was approved.

Committee Assignments: The following is the 2017 session committee organization:

COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS

Resource Gene Ingram, Kim Seal
Discipleship Mary Carol Stanley
Laura Richardson

Witness Arlene Lathrop, Jeffery Cochran, Aaron Roberts, Stephanie Phillips-Ayoola

Elder Commissioners were elected for the 2018 meetings of the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta.

Jim reminded the committees of requirements for the 2017 annual report.

Jim distributed instructions for updating the Church Officer Handbook to include milestone dates.

Resources Committee:

The Session approved the use of the Fellowship Hall on Tuesday, January 23, 2018 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for a Southeast Clergy Cluster meeting. Susan will host and there are no set up or take down issues to be addressed.

The Session approved the use of the sanctuary and fellowship hall for December 22,

2018 by Gene and Jo Linda Ingram for marriage vow renewal and a reception to follow.

December 2017 financial statement was reviewed.

Witness Committee:

No issues or recommendations.

Discipleship Committee:

The Session approved the purchase of a 5 lesson Max Lucado's "He Chose the Nails" Lenten study by TWW Sunday School class.

Pastor's Report:

Susan requested medical leave from 1/30/18 to 2/28/18. The Session approved her leave.

Old Business:

Gene discussed the search for a different janitorial company and recommended Coverall Health-Based Cleaning System. The Session approved the Coverall Service Plan and Proposal. We will terminate our contract with JAN-PRO effective 1/17/18 with Coverall starting 2/18/18. (Attachment VIII)

Gene discussed information on hiring off duty officers as part of increasing church security during worship service. The Session agreed to hire an off duty uniformed police officer for Sundays from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and special services as required.

New Business:

No new business.

There being no further business to conduct, the meeting was closed with everyone praying the Lord's Prayer.

Special Meeting: January 13, 2018

Rev. Susan Bennett opened the meeting with prayer.

The purpose of the meeting was to examine the Elder Class of 2018 and 2020 in accordance with G-2.0402 of the Book of Order.

Elders elected to the Class of 2020 Aaron Roberts, Kim Seal and 2018 Mary Carol Stanley, received training on the Book of Order and duties and responsibilities of Elders, were examined, and found to be proficient (Attachment I). The motion to sustain the examination was made by Laura Richardson, seconded by Gene Ingram, and unanimously approved. The Elder Class of 2020 will be installed on Sunday, January 14, 2018.

There being no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned with prayer by the Moderator.

The reason for the meeting having been

accomplished, Rev. Bennett closed the meeting with prayer.



In the past your support in paying the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta per capita has been greatly appreciated. The Session is again asking your support with per capita in 2018 by providing a gift of \$24.23 per SPC member. Thank you.



OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

BEADLE

- Mar 4 Jim Beisner
- Mar 11 Cooper Keller
- Mar 18 John Dunn
- Mar 25 Greg Lathrop

LITURGISTS

- Mar 4 Jim Beisner
- Mar 11 Cooper Keller
- Mar 18 John Dunn
- Mar 25 Janna Szeto

CHILDREN'S SERMON

- Mar 4 Monica Coutin-Baxter
- Mar 11 Rev. Susan Bennett
- Mar 18 Tami Pass
- Mar 25 Stephanie Dunn

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP WORKERS

- Mar 4 Stephanie Phillips-Ayoola
- Mar 11 Tami Pass/Alisa Newsome
- Mar 18 Greg Lathrop
- Mar 25 The Howard Family