



The Epistle

Greetings to you in Jesus name. Have you ever had one of those days when you could not focus? You know, one of those days when you just could not seem to get anything accomplished. We all have seasons in our lives when stress, worry, or busyness makes it hard to focus. The cure is to find a time to get away and refocus. Maybe we have to find time to sit with a trusted friend or professional who will listen and help us remember what is important.

Our church calendar offers one such season of refocusing. We call it the season of Lent. This is the 40 days leading up to Easter where we focus on the ministry and sacrifice of Jesus. To take this opportunity to focus on Jesus will focus us on the absolute joy of Easter or Resurrection Sunday.

Many people take the opportunity to fast dur-

ing Lent. A fast is a time to abstain from something that gives us pleasure so we can focus on and better understand the sacrifices of Jesus. We give up something in order to remember what Jesus gave up for us. The point is not to be miserable for seven weeks. Jesus says:

"When you fast, do not look somber as the hypocrites do, for they disfigure their faces to show others they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that it will not be obvious to others that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen; and your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you (Matthew 6:16-18, NIV)."

Fasting is something that the Father of Methodism, John Wesley, strongly encouraged as a way of staying focused on God. When we realize what Jesus gave up so we can have eternal life, what else can we do other than to thank him with all we have?

This season of Lent, let me encourage you to a fast. If you have never participated in a fast, start with something small. Give up cokes before noon every day. If you have fasted before, be a little more courageous and give up all sweets or skip one meal a day for Lent. It does not matter what you give up, just make sure it is something you will really miss. Then every time you have a craving say this prayer, "Jesus, thank you for what you gave up so I can have eternal life." Here is one more helpful hint: *Sundays are not part of Lent because every Sunday is the Day of Resurrection. That means you do not have to fast on Sundays.*

Fast, Refocus, Praise God. Because of His Extravagant Grace, Brian

Rev. Brian F. Scott



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Opportunities for Worship

Sunday

Morning Worship:

8:30 & 10:50 am

Sunday school 9:45 am

Evening Worship

6:00 pm

Wednesday night:

5:30 pm Supper

6:30 pm Activities

Created By God-

We are working on dates for Created By God which will probably be in June. Nancy Ball, from Starkville UMC will be teaching the course again. I will post the date as soon as we have that. Thank you for your patience. If you have any questions, please see Amy French.

As the disciples crossed the Sea of Galilee, Jesus went to them, walking on the water. The Bible says the disciples were "terrified." They thought they were seeing a ghost. Despite their fear, Jesus showed he cared for them. Instead of condemning them for their fear, Jesus encouraged Peter to come to him. Peter joined Jesus for a watery walk on the wild side. Then, Peter realized he was walking on

water, his fear resurfaced, and he began to sink. Jesus reached out his hand and caught him, saying, "Why did you doubt?" You can use this story to play spot light inside or outside. Tell them that anytime they begin to doubt that Jesus is the light and will wash away any fears or doubt they may have.

Winshape C3 Day Camp

will be at Wade Baptist this year again on June 6-10. It was a wonderful experience last year. C3 Camp is an all day, day camp that provides the most excellent and relevant camp for completed 1st through 6th graders in town. C3 camp is executed by a professionally trained staff and is specifically

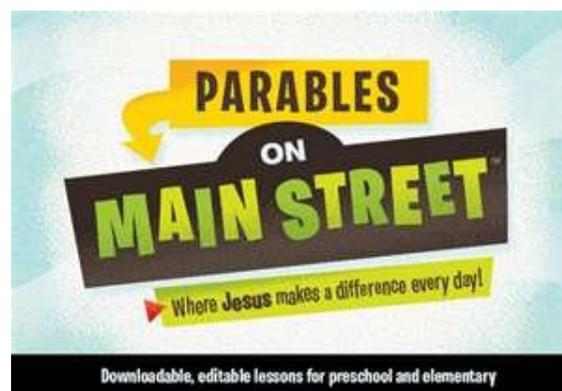
C3 camp combines multiple tracks for children's interest into one unforgettable week!

designed for both athletic and non-athletic children. Camp staff programs every second of every day for children to experience life-changing moments. C3 camp com-

bines multiple tracks for children's interest into one unforgettable week! Registration is now open. Cost is \$179 per camper. You may register at www.winshapecamps.org

Mark your Calendars-Inside Out & Upside Down on Main Street VBS

will be June 20-24. Please start praying for this ministry! We are in need of several directors for VBS, such as Stage Decorator, Bible Story Room Decorator, Arts & Crafts Organizer, PR Director, and so on. Please pray about this and if you fill lead to serve God and our church in this ministry please see Amy French.



Children's Church Program

We now have a "Kids Own Worship" service at the 10:50 service for ages 3-1st graders. We are located in the old fellowship hall directly behind the sanctuary. We are taking amazing trips through the Bible, please come and join us.



Mark your Calendars-



Churchwide Easter Egg Hunt/Worship Service will be on April 10 at 5pm at Mark and Susan Greenough's home, located in Park Ridge Subdivision in Hurley. We will have a map in the next newsletter. We will be serving fried chicken and everyone is asked to bring a side dish. The worship service will begin at 6pm.

Stations of the Cross

will be on Thursday, April 21, 6:30pm. Please come and experience a Hands-on approach to Jesus' last moments before he died for our sins.



a fundraiser for our summer youth trip

The Youth will be working the concession stand for Upward Basketball each Saturday until March 19th. This is a fundraiser for our summer youth trip. We need all the workers we can get.

We are planning a luncheon for Sunday, March 27th. This will also be a fundraiser for our summer trip.

The summer trip this year will be July 14th - 19th. We are going to Lake Junaluska, North Carolina to a youth weekend.



Chapel at Lake Junaluska

Mark Your Calendar



March 20th - Scholarship Fund Raiser - Our Church presents a \$500.00 Scholarship to one of our high school seniors - at graduation

Wherever you go, no matter what the weather, always bring your own sunshine. *Anthony J. D'Angelo*

All Young Adults.....

are invited to join us for Sunday school every Sunday upstairs above the gym.

Thanks to the young adults who have volunteered to help paint a lady's deck in Moss Point. Your help is appreciated



Mission Trips -

We have several from our Church going on mission trips this summer. There will be several opportunities to help financially.

Sunday, February 27 there will be a fundraiser lunch to help with these trips.



Music Ministry.....



I can't believe that 8 weeks have passed since I joined the staff at Caswell Springs. Wow! Like I have always heard, "time sure flies when you're having fun!" Now that I have had a chance

to settle into my position and I have a better understanding of my role in the church, I'd like to address some prayer needs we have in the Music Ministry.

First of all, I'd like to especially thank Paula Goff and Ida Mae Cumbest. Without their gifts, our worship services would be greatly lacking, and it is comforting to know we have such talented and wonderful musicians available to play in worship. As many of you already know, we have purchased a keyboard for use in worship services both inside and outside the church, and I ask you to pray for some people to play. Don't misunderstand - Paula is and will remain the pianist in our church for as long as she

wants to continue in that role, but we need at least one or two other keyboard/piano players ready to step up and fill in for her whenever she isn't available. The keyboard is kept in my office, and you are welcome to come take a look whenever I'm available. I'll be happy to answer any questions you have about it.

Secondly, and on the same basic subject, we need a drummer. You have probably heard about one of our Friday Night Jam Sessions, where we set up a PA, keyboard, drum kit, guitars, bass, and microphones and play worship and praise music for a few hours - I have guitarists, a couple of keyboardists, and several singers, but so far no one has shown a talent for or a desire to play the drums. Please add this to your prayer list, because with a drummer we can have a praise band that ministers both inside and outside the walls of our church. What would the CSUMC Outreach Ministry look like if we had a Praise Band that we could share with those in the community? How many people could we bring into the Kingdom of

God through music that we aren't reaching without contemporary praise and worship music?

Finally, and STILL related to recruiting - I have mentioned on several occasions that we need men for our choir. All are welcome! Please be in prayer for this ministry as well. Men form the foundation of the choral sound, and we need some strong, manly men to step forward and fill up our choir loft. Choir rehearsals are at 4:30 on Sunday afternoons in the sanctuary. We will be working on some musical selections leading into and through the Lenten season and Easter.

In closing, we need your prayers, and lots of them. In the meantime, keep your eyes focused on Him, your heart filled with his love, your footsteps on His path, and may the song you sing ever be praising His name!

"I could sing of Your love forever!"

Mark Walley

Birthdays

01 Richard C Pierce	12 Cheryl Ann Allgood	21 Jody Goff
01 Staci Shirley	12 Brian McGhee	21 Lori Cupit
01 Savannah Travis	12 Robbie Taylor	22 John Thomas
04 Tina Goldman	13 Lauren Parker	23 Tim Hall
4 Claire Balcer	13 Eual Adkison	23 Carolyn Davis
05 Matthew Hadley	13 Joseph White	25 Bobby Goff
06 Avery Jackson	14 Manly Barton	25 Patricia Bowerman
06 Lee Fletcher	14 Ron Bowerman	25 Cindy Stewart
07 Allison Sims	14 Ally Stephenson	26 Jim Yancey
07 Jared Fagan	15 Kennon Barton	27 Eli French
07 McKenzie Johnson	16 Wes Goff	27 Madge Fisher
08 Brianna Smith	17 Latisha Goff	27 Susie Buckhalter
09 Alan Sward	17 Cathy White	28 Bob Pearson
09 Becky Whitfield	17 Michael Hall	28 Patty Howell
09 Ryan Davis	19 Monica Pitts	30 Barbara Hutchens
10 Edwin Makamson	19 Amber Cumbest	30 Grant Cumbest
11 Jacob Levi Sims	19 Wayne Goff	31 Olivia Wachsman
11 Lindey Howard	19 Jill Parker	31 Robin Blackledge
11 Martha French	20 Anna Lee Scarbrough	
12 Alex Sward	20 Kenneth Parker	
12 Lindsey Huff	20 Lou Havard	
12 Leslie Goff	21 Johnny Goff	

Anniversaries

- 4-Andy & Dina Hawkins
- 12-Brent & Patti Cumbest
- 15-J. R. & Brandy Hoffman
- 16-Jesse & Tammy Lacy
- 21-Harold & Elaine Morris
- 21-Ross & Lee Fletcher
- 30-Robin & Sonya Blackledge



The first day of Lent is Ash Wednesday.

This year it is on Wednesday, March 9, 2011. We will have two services of Ashes that day. The **first will be at 6**

a.m. in the Sanctuary. I will remain there until 7 a.m. for anyone who wants to start their day with the ashes of repentance. We will also have the service of Ashes during our usual **Wednesday night time at 6:30 p.m.** I hope you will be able to join us at one of these services.

MARCH 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 His Way	2 5:30 pm Supper 6:30 pm Activities	3 5:30 am Men's Prayer Group	4	5
6	7	8 His Way	9 <u>Ash</u> <u>Wed Services</u> 6 am and 6:30 pm Supper 5:30	10 5:30 am Men's Prayer Group 6 pm Trustees	11	12
13 4:30 pm Admin. Board Mtg.	14	15 His Way	16 5:30 pm Supper 6:30 pm Activities	17 5:30 am Men's Prayer Group	18	19
20	21	22 His Way	23 5:30 pm Supper 6:30 pm Activities	24 5:30 am Men's Prayer Group	25	26
27	28	29 His Way	30 5:30 pm Supper 6:30 pm Activities	31 5:30 am Men's Prayer Group		



Filling up and overflowing with Christ's Love.



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We're on the Web
caswellsprings.org

**Fun For the Whole
Family.....**

Mark your Calendar: Night
of Saturday, April 9th

Filling Up and overflowing

Christian faith is about filling up with God's love and letting it overflow to the world.

Where are you filling up?

Do you have a Sunday School class? Do you attend Men's Group, Wednesday night Bible Studies, youth group, or Prayer meeting? Are you coming to church every Sunday morning and night with your family? Do you have a group you pray with regularly?

Where are you overflowing?

We have many opportunities to teach classes, cook or deliver meals to the needy, and work with the NOMADS in the community. When was the last time you shared your faith with someone at work or School.

If you are not sure ask Bro. Brian