

The Weekly Update

JANUARY 30, 2024



Due to the weather forecast for snow, we will be canceling in-person worship.

Pastor Matt will record a video for worship, and LeAnne will email the link out tomorrow afternoon. We will celebrate communion online, so feel free to prepare some bread and wine/juice at your home to participate.

MARDI GRAS PANCAKE DINNER FUNDRAISER

Enjoy a delicious stack of pancakes and celebrate with festive Mardi Gras spirit—all while helping our youth make a difference through service and outreach this summer.

Join us for a fun and flavorful Mardi Gras-themed Pancake Dinner on February 17 at 6pm to support our youth as they raise funds for their Summer Mission Trip!

Bring your family, invite your friends, and come hungry! Your support helps our youth grow in faith, service, and community.



Use the link below to RSVP!

RESCHEDULED! *Fairy Hair* by Hannah Rhyne

she leaves
a little
Sparkle
everywhere
she goes

**NEW SIGN
UP LINK
BELOW**

Due to the expected snow, we need to cancel the Fairy Hair appointments scheduled for this Saturday. While we're disappointed to postpone the sparkle, safety comes first. The good news is that Fairy Hair has been rescheduled for Saturday, March 7! Please note that everyone will need to sign up again using the new link below, even if you were already registered. Thank you for your understanding, and we look forward to a fun (and glittery!) day in March.

Care Givers Support Group

Cross & Crown is a home away from home—a caring community that walks together through both joyful and challenging seasons. Our Caregivers Support Group offers a safe, compassionate space for those caring for loved ones to share, listen, and find encouragement. You don't have to carry this journey alone—we're here to walk with you, pray with you, and support you every step of the way. We meet on the first Wednesday of each month.

Join us on Wednesday, February 4th, 5-6 pm in the library.



Family Meet Up!

Due to the weather forecast for this weekend, we have canceled the event for tomorrow.



LADIES! YOU'RE INVITED TO THE BREAKFAST CLUB!
Good food, good friends, and great conversation!

Collective Café
(1031 Matthews-Mint Hill Rd.)

Wednesday, Feb. 4th
7 am

Please RSVP to Heidi Rhyne.

Children's Ash Wednesday Service

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent—but it can be a little tricky for young children to understand. That's why we're offering a hands-on worship experience designed especially for children and their families.

Join us **Tuesday, February 17 at 6:45 pm** for an interactive, welcoming service that helps kids explore what Ash Wednesday means in an age-appropriate way. This service is geared toward preschool through 3rd grade, with parents and caregivers invited to participate alongside their children.

Come learn, wonder, and worship together as we begin the season of Lent.

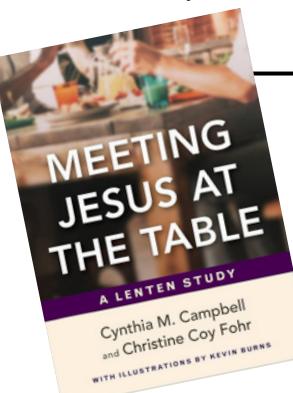
Ash Wednesday Worship



Ash Wednesday, February 18 marks the beginning of the season of Lent—a time for reflection, prayer, and renewal. Join us for worship as we remember our need for grace and God's steadfast love. Services will include scripture, prayer, music, communion and the imposition of ashes.

Noon & 7:00 PM Services

Whether you are beginning Lent intentionally or simply seeking a moment of stillness in a busy world, you are welcome here. All are welcome.



Congregational Lent Study: Meeting Jesus at the Table

This Lent, we invite you to gather around the table—both literally and spiritually—as we journey together through the season of Lent. Our congregational study will be based on the book *Meeting Jesus at the Table*

by Cynthia Campbell and Christine Fohr, which explores the many ways Jesus meets people through meals, hospitality, and shared stories.

Together, we'll reflect on how these table encounters shape our faith and invite us into deeper community, grace, and discipleship. Whether you're new to Bible study or a longtime participant, this study offers meaningful conversation and thoughtful reflection for all. More information to come about all the Lenten offers. Pick up your book today at church (\$10) or buy it on your own.

Come hungry for connection, conversation, and spiritual nourishment as we walk through Lent together.

Women's Spiritual Retreat 2026

Joyfully Called Step away from the noise of everyday life and join us for a soul-refreshing weekend designed just for women. This retreat is a sacred space to rest, reflect, and reconnect with God and one another as we explore the truth of Psalm 139—that you are known, loved, and wonderfully made by God.

Through worship, music, teaching, quiet reflection, and meaningful fellowship, you'll be encouraged to embrace your God-given identity and walk away renewed in spirit and purpose.

Scholarships and payment plans are available!

We don't want finances to be a barrier—please reach out for details.

Cost:

- \$200 per person – shared room
- \$350 per person – single room

Come as you are. Leave refreshed, encouraged, and confident in who God created you to be.

**Register by March 6, 2026 to reserve your spot.
Space is limited, so don't wait!**

Use the link below!

Collection for Our Furry Friends

In February, the Community Care Ministry will collect supplies for the Humane Society of Charlotte! Any dog or cat beds, food, toys, collars, treats, etc. can be dropped off in the bins in the Narthex. We also would love the children to bring in quarters, (we encourage them to earn the quarters by showing their love for parents, siblings, neighbors, etc. by doing extra chores or good deeds,) to "feed" the dogs and cat banks. These banks have an electric little dog or cat on top that reaches down and appears to eat the money! Adults can play too! They will be out after the 10:15 a.m. Sunday service in February. When the banks have been filled, the money and all the pet supplies will be donated to the Humane Society. Our last Sunday for collection will be March 1st.



NEW C&C MINISTRY

Gift Share is a new ministry of Cross & Crown led by church member Sabina "Beanie" Bragg. Gift Share provides adults with disabilities opportunities to build social skills & explore vocational interests through art therapy and gift basket assembly. These gift baskets will then be delivered to community members who would benefit from a cheerful reminder that they cared for & loved.

- **Informational Session:** February 8th, following the 1015 service.
- **Gift Share classes** will meet Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 am-noon in ROOM 105 downstairs beginning February 10.

Gift Share is open to any adult who may benefit from vocational discovery and art therapy. For participant interest or questions, please email bragg.sabina@gmail.com.

Have a gift to share? Gift Share welcomes volunteers with experience in art instruction, vocational training, or other applicable skills. We are also seeking donations of lightly used wicker baskets and extra ribbon. If you are interested in volunteering or donating materials, please email bragg.sabina@gmail.com.

What Are Thrivent Action Teams? How Can They Help C&C?

Do you have a Thrivent life, health or annuity product? If the answer is yes, then you have access to two Thrivent Action Teams per year. Thrivent provides \$250 in seed money for service-oriented projects.

Thrivent Action Teams are designed to empower members to serve their communities in meaningful ways. These projects have supported countless local causes, from helping families in need to improving community spaces.

Cross & Crown has used Action Teams for various projects, such as:

- Teacher emergency kits at Matthews Elementary
- Angel tree gifts
- Boxes filled with goodies for college students & military personnel
- Thanksgiving meals
- Summer series meals, and more



If your Action Teams are dedicated to personal or family projects, that's great! Otherwise, please email LeAnne using the link below with the number of teams you have and their availability for ministries at Cross & Crown.

Information you will need when applying for an Action Team includes:

Project Type: Fundraiser, service activity, or educational event.

Beneficiary: Who or what organization the project will benefit.

Project Description: What you plan to do, how your team will be involved, and how it spreads generosity.

Project Date(s): When will the activity take place.

Team Size: Estimated number of volunteers.

Funds/Items: For fundraisers, how much you aim to raise or items to collect.

After the project is complete you must return to your Thrivent account and report the following information:

Service activities:

- Number of volunteers.
- Length of event.

Fundraisers:

- Number of volunteers.
- Length of event.
- Funds raised.
- Items collected and quantity.
- Number of attendees.

Educational events:

- Number of volunteers.
- Length of event.
- Number of attendees.

PRAYER list...

MEMBERS:

JEANETTE ABBOTT KATHI & FRANK MACARINE
 JENNY BOOTH LORI MEATH
 JUNE BROOKS TILLER FAMILY
 JIM BURNS JOE & CRISS UCMAN
 DENNIS DOWNEY DAWN WATTS
 LINDA FARIES JD WINFREY

FAMILY & FRIENDS:

Kenneth Ackerman, Larry Pool's brother-in-law
 Kristi Alary, Julie Moffat's sister
 Sidney Ames, Susan Arcuri's sister
 Scott Anderson, friend of the Ucmans
 John Bailey, Russ Bailey's father
 Andrew Bernauer, son of Wayne & Rosemary Bernauer
 Jim Carty, Suzy Wleznak's brother
 Joann Church, Behzad Vaqar's mother
 Drude Corbet, Angelina Corbet's brother
 Ruth Deal
 Rick, Debbie & Jason Eldridge, friends of
 Vivian Farland
 Reid Evans, friend of Barbara Maillet
 Brad Faries, Barry & Linda Faries' son
 Owen Farr, Julie Wright's grandson
 Lily Ferrulli, Joann Ferrulli's granddaughter
 Dorothy Henke, Lisa Roth's mother
 Portia Hutchinson, friend of Felicia Eybl
 Will Jacobs, friend of the Macarine's being
 deployed
 Jim Kozlinski, Cathy Kozlinski's husband
 Jan Knutson, Jerry Putnam's sister
 Mark & Ellen Kramm, friends of Jill Jurgensen
 Helen Laatz, sister-in-law of Leslie Laatz
 Randy LaMere, Jennifer LaMere's father
 Madsen family, friends of Joe & Criss Ucman
 Marylou, friend of Annette Downey
 Jeanne Maylor, Denise Bratschie's friend
 Ted Meiss, Christine Meiss' husband
 Alice Louise (Lou) Miller, Criss Ucman's cousin
 Gary Mintz, friend of David & Debra Cox & Felicia Eybl
 Matt Moulton, Tom & Janis Dorsey's nephew
 Fred Olafson, friend of the congregation
 Brian Orton
 Nga Pace, Yen Forsblom's sister
 Olivia Reardon, daughter of Barry & Linda Faries' friends
 Sameer Saproo, Teri Strom's nephew-in-law
 Nancy Scholhammer, friend of Susan Arcuri
 Derek & Smith & family, Roger & Debbie Black's
 daughter & son-in-law
 Sherrill & Patricia Tucker, Donna Tucker's parents
 Joanne Varnum, friend of Joe & Criss Ucman
 Haley White, Barbara Maillet's granddaughter
 Lucas White, Barbara Maillet's grandson



Please pray for Laura & Reneau
 Van Ladingham at the death of
 Laura's father, David Jacomet.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday: 8:30 am - 2 pm Thursday: 8:30 am - 2 pm
 Tuesday: 8:30 am - 2 pm Friday: 8:30 am - 2 pm
 Wednesday: Church Office closed, phone lines & office email is
 open & replied to between 8:30 am - 5 pm.

2025 CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Felicia Eybl- President Todd Atwood
 Chris Frisina- Vice President Katie Goode
 Jason Roberge- Secretary Jerry Putnam
 Ann Whitener

Happy Birthday

Bernice Knight JAN. 30
 Roger Black JAN. 30
 Vivian Farland JAN. 31
 Margaret White FEB. 2
 Wayne Bernauer FEB. 4

Oops! I Missed These Birthdays!

Kim Ferguson JAN. 20
 Audrey Goode JAN. 20
 Jeff Taylor JAN. 21

Oops! Did we miss your birthday?
 Please let us know so we can add
 you to our list!



RESCHEDULED! Operation Sandwich

February 15th
 following the late service
 ALL ARE WELCOME TO HELP!



Wednesday Night Happenings

Good food, good conversation,
 & community!

Single \$7
 Kids (ages 4-10) \$3
 Families \$25
 (AGES 0-3) FREE!



February 4

Shepherd's Pie

Savory seasoned beef
 cooked with peas and
 corn topped with
 whipped potatoes.
 And gravy!
 Sides: Carrots,
 Garden Salad, Rolls &
 Dessert

BE A MAN. OF FAITH. MEN'S RETREAT: FEB. 20-22



This isn't your typical men's retreat—it's a retreat for
 guys who hate men's retreats.

Join us at Camp Canaan for a weekend packed with
 great food and friendly paintball competition. It's a
 relaxed chance to connect, grow in faith, and enjoy
 some genuine "guy time." Use the link below to
 register!

Coming up this week...

Monday, Feb. 2. - 1 pm- Majohng Lessons
 7:30 pm- Women's Bible Study
 Tuesday, Feb. 3- 12 pm- Staff Meeting
 7 pm- Worship & Music Committee Meeting
 Wednesday, Feb. 4- 7 am- Ladies Breakfast Club
 5 pm- Care Givers Support Group
 6 pm- Wednesday Night Happenings Dinner
 6:45 pm- Handbells
 7 pm- Mary's Gathering
 7:30 pm- Choir
 Thursday, Feb. 5- 7 pm- Evening Book Club
 Friday, Feb. 6- 4:25 pm- Walking Club
 Saturday, Feb. 7- 8 am- CCC Men's Fitness Group