



**God is my witness . . . Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted[a] by the devil. 2 After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. Matthew 4:1-2**

When we take the Lenten season seriously, then all of us will face challenges regarding the things we are hungry for. Just like Jesus who fasted for 40 days in the wilderness, we too will be confronted by the enemy of our soul to feed that itch in the wrong way. Beware if you are hungry for attention. Beware if you are hungry for control, and beware if you are hungry for success. It is then we are offered short cuts instead of waiting for a Godly word that always satisfies our soul.

I don't know about you? but already my Lenten experience has exposed the weak points of my walk with Christ. When I was young, I remember fasting before a prayer meeting at my church in Brooklyn. My mindset at the time was that if I fast before the meeting then I will experience a supernatural power that would elevate me into a super Christian. During the meeting as the choir was singing and praising God, instead of feeling like a super Christian, I felt so incredibly weak. The hunger had robbed me of my strength, and I found it hard to concentrate on the service. Instead, I concentrated on my hunger. Afterward, I was very perplexed, wondering what happened? I thought for sure as a result of my fast I would begin to prophesy. Immediately upon reflection, as I was riding the train back to Coney Island, the Lord explained to me that it was my weakness He was after all along. Paul shares God's attitude toward his weakness this way **9 But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness."** *2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 12:9-10* God works better in our weakness than in our self-sufficiency.

Whereas the devil dares us to 'turn stones to bread' ourselves. The enemy wants us to depend on our own strength, and ignore our need for God's holy word. This Lenten season has held this mirror to me. Challenging my appetites, my motives and my tactics. Self-sufficiency can be idol built on the altar of our pride. We love that admiration of being a self-made success story. I have seen this first hand. Such attitudes are the weeds that lead to jealousy, competition, and discord among the body of Christ. But for those who endure to the end, do so in total dependency on the Lord. There is no such thing as a super Christian. It took me all my young adult life to recognize this truth. To this day I have wrestled with the emotional, physiological and spiritual temptation of that lie. The lie that champions the unchristian attitude that "God helps those who helps themselves." No, absolutely not! God wants people who always confesses their need for a loving savior. May your lent lead you finally, to this important truth.

**The Lenten Season begins with us**

**Chatham County UMC Lenten Services**  
 All @ Pittsboro UMC Sanctuary, Wednesdays 11am

Feb 25 - Lucas Nelson, Pittsboro UMC

Mar 4 - Kyle Burrows, First UMC, Siler City

Mar 11 - Patrick Jones, Ebenezer UMC

Mar 17 (TUE) - Amanda Dixon, Mt Pleasant and Cedar Grove UMCs

Mar 25 - Brent Levy, The Local Church

Apr 1 - Bill Negron, Browns Chapel and Pleasant Hill UMCs

A Community Lenten series of worship of all UMC churches will be begin every Wednesday 11am from 2-25-26 until April 1<sup>st</sup> at Pittsboro UMC each service will be conducted by a different pastor of our United Methodist Connection. All our welcome



**Maundy Thursday**  
 The Pittsboro Circuit will be hosting the Maundy Thursday Service @ Pleasant Hill UMC on April 2nd @ 6:00pm along with Cedar Grove and Mount Pleasant UMC. Guest Speaker Amanda

Dixon



**Good Friday Service**  
 Pittsboro UMC will be hosting the Good Friday Service April 3rd time TBD! along with the Pittsboro Circuit. The service will be a joint effort with PH and BC UMC

**PH Loves all of God’s Creatures:** Pleasant Hill will be collecting items for the Chatham County Animal Shelter during the month of March. Let’s show our love to the furry, four-legged friends they are trying to help!

Requested items include:

towels blankets for cats. Cat and dog toys

cat & dog treats

cat & dog food

**PH MISSIONS 40 items in 40 days,** in observance with our Lenten tradition, we are asking you the church that each day of lent you select an item you no longer need but that someone may benefit from. (no clothing please) and lay aside that item for the church along with a written prayer or blessing attached for a new recipient. We will collect these items after Easter for our annual “Free” yard sale that will be open to the community. The date of this yard sale has yet to be determined.

**PH Building Maintenance special offertory:** Every fifth Sunday at Pleasant Hill is building maintenance Sunday. But in order to give specifically to the building fund please place in the memo section of your check that you are giving to the building fund. And it will be earmarked for that fund.

**Step 5: Fill in the Memo Section**

YOUR NAME: 000123  
 Your Address Place  
 Tel: 99999-0000

DATE: 7/4/2024

PAY TO THE ORDER OF: Alexander Johnson \$ 900.00  
 Nine Hundred Dollars and Zero Cents DOLLARS

NAME BANK: Bank Address Place

RE: Building Fund AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

123456789 123456789 001234

**PLEASANT HILL Come and See Meal**  
Come and see Brunch: March 7th 1pm. All are invited to our "Come and See." Pot luck Brunch at the home of Scott & Donna Stevenson home 660 D Hart Rd. Siler City NC 27344 last Driveway on right beside the Field. We will have food, fellowship, and vision building discussions about Pleasant Hill UMC. A signup sheet will be in the back to accommodate space.

PH March Liturgist

3-1-26 Bill Negron

3-8-26 Aaron Fogle

3-15-26 Lisa Baaske

3-24-26 Aaron Fogle

3-29-26 Jennifer Negron

**BC PH Election News** Both Pleasant Hill & Brown's Chapel Fellowship Halls are being used as a polling place for the election. Equipment will be moved to the Fellowship Hall on Thursday, Feb. 26. The Fellowship Hall will be used for setup of equipment on Mon. Mar. 2 and for the election on Tuesday, Mar. 3. We have been asked not to enter the Fellowship Hall except to vote during this time. Yoga on Mar. 2nd and Bible Study scheduled for Mar. 3rd have been cancelled.

**BC PRAYER PAL MINISTRIES** Prayer Pals for the Next Year: There are now 25 children who have asked for a prayer pal which means we would need 25 adults total! We only have 13 adults so far so we need 12 more adults! The Prayer Pal program is a program where each child is assigned a secret prayer pal who prays for them throughout the year. At the end of the cycle, we have a prayer pal luncheon to reveal who has been praying for each child through the year, where folks

can share the stories about how it was to pray for their prayer pal through the year. Prayer pals may send anonymous cards to let the child know they are praying for them but the only card or gift that is requested is the gift of prayer. For adults, the only thing we need is your name if you cannot fill out the form. Cell phone number is also helpful for Kimmel. If you are willing to volunteer as an adult prayer pal for this cycle, please reply to Kimmel McDiarmid via e-mail at kimmelmcd@gmail.com or print the form and leave it on the front pew on the choir side at Brown's Chapel. There will also be some blank forms on the front pew on the choir side. Kimmel and Kay

**BC First Thursday: March 5<sup>th</sup>**  
The First Thursday for March will be Mar. 5 in the Fellowship Hall at 6:30 pm. This meeting will include 3 presentations on bereavement throughout the year. To start, Pastor Bill will talk about the shock of losing a loved one. Bring a dish (if you can) and come join us for food, fun and fellowship! There will not be a First Thursday in April due to Holy Week services.

**BC Men's Club:** The Men's Club breakfast will be Sunday, Mar. 8 at 8:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. Edward, Mike and John look forward to sharing fellowship and good food! Johnny Glosson has been invited as a special guest.

**BC Yard Sale:** One Man's Trash is Another Man's Treasure United Women in Faith: Jun 13 Are items accumulating around your house after the gifts and holidays? The *UWIF* will be hosting another Free yard Sale on June 13! Please save giveaway items for the yard sale.

### **BC New Beginnings through Yoga**

Yoga will be continuing this year with the Embracing the Light 12-week yoga sessions and chair or slow flow yoga on Mondays 23 from 6:30 – 7:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. The sessions will continue from Mar. 9 - Mar. 30 (cancelled on Mar. 2 for Elections setup) with a Restorative Candlelight session. All are invited to join the fun and make good on a New Year resolution.

**BC Bible Study:** Everyone is invited to the Bible Study meeting Mar. 10, 24, and 31 at 10:00 am 24 in the Fellowship Hall as they study the book of Acts. Mar. 3rd has been cancelled due to the Election and Mar 17 cancelled due to the UMC Lenten series.

### **BROWN'S CHAPEL MISSIONS**

#### 2026 Carolina Cross Connection Missions Trip to Blowing Rock

Anyone interested in a week-end of construction, service and fellowship with a mission's team. from church? We're talking to Carolina Cross Connection about having another mission's trip to Blowing Rock – very similar to what we did last year when we had 12 people go and completed 2 ramps for people in need. We are planning to go the weekend of April 23-26. We may need to rent a house or hotel rooms because right now the Blowing Rock Conference Center rooms are booked, but that was also the case last year and they opened up a couple of weeks before we went. Please let Marcia know if you're interested at [thekings2971@gmail.com](mailto:thekings2971@gmail.com) or 919-704-6450. There will also be a signup sheet at church.

### **BC Ruth Thomas Class**

Please join Us to Eat at Hayley Bales Monica has reserved Hayley Bales for the Ruth Thomas Class for Saturday Mar. 7th at 6:30 pm. Anyone and everyone are invited to the get together but she will need a head count. Earlier dates were booked and it may be best in March due to the unknown weather events. If you are interested in going, please let Monica Craig by contacting her by cell at 919-601-2419 or, [mcraigpbo@outlook.com](mailto:mcraigpbo@outlook.com).

### **BC Road Cleanup**

Our next road cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, Mar. 21 at 8:00 am. Many hands will help to make light work. We will meet at the shed.

### **BC New Hymnals**

It was decided at the Administrative Council that we will be buying new hymnals for the sanctuary. The UMC hymnals cost \$35. A signup sheet will be available if you would like to purchase a hymnal and you may specify if you would like it to be in honor or in memory of someone.

### **BC Meeting with Young Adults**

An email has been sent out for a meal with the young adults to plan future church programs and activities. If anyone has any questions or did not get it, please let Allen know at 919-606-0818 or [agubert@abpeds.org](mailto:agubert@abpeds.org).

### **BC Prayer Pal Reveal and Easter Egg Hunt:**

Sunday, March 22 will be a big day for our youth! After the service, we will have a pot luck lunch, followed by the Prayer Pal Reveal. At the Prayer Pal Reveal, we will announce the adults who have been praying for different youth for the past year. New

Prayer pal adults will also be assigned for the next year. Join us for our Church Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday, March 22, immediately following the Prayer Pal Reveal! As soon as the youth reveal ends, our youth will head out to hide the eggs. Then the children will be set loose to find them! All children are invited and welcome to participate. We are in need of filled plastic eggs—please drop them off in the fellowship hall. We look forward to a fun afternoon of fellowship and celebration together!

### **BC BBQ Pork and Chicken on Apr. 11**

Mark your Calendars – The date for the BBQ has been set for Saturday, Apr. 11 since our normal day (first Saturday in April) falls on Easter weekend. More information will be coming.

### **Care For Kids from Brown's Chapel**

Requests for funds are picking up now that we're known in the community a little more and have extended to "in need" kids rather than just McKinney Vento qualifying children. Care For Kids was presented to the Chatham success network which is working on the Bold Gold for the county United Way. Organizational information was also presented to the Chatham

County school social workers. Care For Kids team members will team up with social workers who have storage space at their schools to have items on hand that they need for the "in need" kids that they serve. Please continue to consider making monetary donations to Care For Kids to help support these much-needed goods and services, marking the envelope or your check & "Care For Kids" in the memo line. We are thankful for your support as we move into new programs to help these youth.

**BC Fellowship Class Additional Teacher Wanted:** The Fellowship Class is an adult Sunday School class which meets weekly on Sundays from 10-10:40 am in the classroom to the right of (next to) the sanctuary pulpit area. At this time, we are in need of an additional teacher. If interested, please email me at [jsmitchum24@gmail.com](mailto:jsmitchum24@gmail.com). Note that we also invite all who are interested in just being part of a class to come and "try it!! So, please join us! Thank you, Jeanette Mitchum and the class

### **From the Brown's Chapel United Methodist Alignment Committee (UMAC)**

The MAC plans to enhance communication while preparing delegates for the NC Annual Conference in June. Once the conference information packets are available to delegates, they will be reviewed within the MAC. Information related to ballot voting and other topics of interest regarding Annual Conference will be shared with the congregation. People of the congregation will have opportunities to access information and express preferences (via an informal church voting process). Congregational input will help determine how MAC delegates vote at the conference the intention is for delegates to represent the voice of the Brown's Chapel. For informational purposes: Here are developments to learn about and contemplate in relation to our denomination. This information was previously shared with the Administrative Council Meeting in December 2025: In November, the UMC announced ratification of Worldwide Regionalization. Here are additional links, most specific to Regionalization:

□ Voting on Constitutional Amendments information already voted on by Annual Conferences)

<https://nccumc.org/news/2025/06/voting-on-constitutional-amendments/>

#### □ New United Methodist Church Structure Ratified

<https://www.umnews.org/en/news/new-united-methodist-church-structure-ratified>

□ Plainspoken Podcast: Considering Charlotte - Regionalization & Ratification of Constitutional Amendments

[https://youtu.be/Qj\\_2KiLODbM](https://youtu.be/Qj_2KiLODbM) (This podcast is not a UMC source, but includes feedback from UMC representatives.) Any questions, suggestions, or recommended informational sources can be directed to Jeanette Mitchum at [jsmitchum24@gmail.com](mailto:jsmitchum24@gmail.com).

#### **BC Girl Scout Cookies**

If anyone would like to support Troop 1201 by buying Girl Scout cookies, you can order from Hazel at church or purchase them online here, please see Hazel at church! Ordering is open until March 15.

<https://digitalcookie.girlscouts.org/scout/hazel1962507>

#### **Jamie's Vision Cookbooks (from Sherri):**

Need an idea for a present? A cookbook from Jamie's vision would make a great gift and are still available. Cookbooks are for sale for \$20. Contact Sherri.

#### **BC Brunswick Stew:**

Great weather for stew! There are now were approximately 115 quarts of stew left in the freezer in the Fellowship Hall that will be useful in the cold weather or for gifts and need to be gone before the BBQ. If you would like to buy stew for yourself, others or Food Banks (CORA, Feed-Well Fridges, or others), you may get the stew and leave the

money in the designated area of the Fellowship Hall freezer.

#### **NC Conference News**

#### **A Day of Discovery on Saturday, May 2, 10am–2pm, at the NC Conference Building in Garner.**

This gathering is designed to help laity discern how God may be calling them to serve within the life of the church and the world. It's a day of worship, storytelling, and guided reflection, with no pressure—just an opportunity to listen and respond to God's leading. Participants will learn about the certifications available through Lay Servant Ministries:

- Certified Lay Servant – equipped for leadership roles within the local church
- Certified Lay Speaker – prepared to offer pulpit supply around the district
- Certified Lay Minister – trained for team-based, defined ministry roles serving under the supervision of a clergy mentor

#### **MARCH BIRTHDAYS**

- 2 Synjun Cheek (BC)
- 3 Jamie Sirls (BC)
- 3 Karen Sirls (BC)
- 4 Winfred Cheek (BC)
- 4 Ivey Lynn Mitchell (PH)
- 5 Donna Stevenson (PH)
- 9 Robin Brady (BC)
- 13 Jennifer McLaurin (PH)
- 13 Phyllis Pettit (PH)
- 14 Robin Stevens (BC)
- 15 Lauren Fogle (PH)
- 15 Harry Mitchum (BC)
- 15 Edward Straughn (BC)

- 17 Deborah Mabry (PH)
- 21 Maxie Mitchell (PH)
- 22 David McMillan (BC)
- 23 Valerie Broadway (PH)
- 23 Caroline Straughn (BC)
- 25 Laura Lutterloh (BC)
- 27 Dixie Cline (PH)
- 29 Brittany Kidd (BC)
- 29 Annabeth Morrison (PH)
- 30 Danny Stubbs (BC)
- 30 Herbie Stubbs (BC)

**BC liturgists**

- 3-1-26 Lynn Frost
- 3-8-26 Allen Gubert
- 3/15-26 Bill Negron
- 3-22-26 Ruby Parks
- 3-29-26 Jennifer Negron
- 4-5-26 Lynn Frost

In reserve Joanne Ornat, Jennifer Negron



*It is Finished*

Lent/Holy Week Bible Reading Plan  
Video devotionals and free resources

- |                      |                    |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| 1. John 1:1-18       | 21. Psalm 34       |
| 2. John 1:19-24      | 22. Psalm 23       |
| 3. Isaiah 6:1-7      | 23. Exodus 15:1-21 |
| 4. Psalm 139         | 24. Isaiah 61      |
| 5. Revelation 4      | 25. John 4: 1-26   |
| 6. Psalm 19          | 26. John 8 :1-11   |
| 7. Isaiah 11:1-10    | 27. John 12:1-19   |
| 8. Psalm 27          | 28. John 12:20-50  |
| 9. Lam. 3: 19-26     | 29. John 13:1-20   |
| 10. Psalm 30         | 30. John 14: 1-13  |
| 11. Psalm 51         | 31. John 14:15-31  |
| 12. Matthew 4:1-11   | 32. John 15:1-17   |
| 13. Matthew 5:1-11   | 33. John 16:1-15   |
| 14. Psalm 42         | 34. John 16:16-24  |
| 15. Matthew 5:13-16  | 35. John 16:25-33  |
| 16. Matthew 6:19-24  | 36. John 17        |
| 17. Matthew 6: 25-34 | 37. John 18        |
| 18. Job 38:1-11      | 38. Matt. 26:36-46 |
| 19. Isaiah 55        | 39. John 19        |
| 20. Psalm 16         | 40. John 20        |

michellediercks.com

**PEOPLE NEWS . . .**

**Happy Birthday Harry!** It's so hard to believe that Harry Mitchum will be 30 years old on Sunday, March 15th! Thanks to all our church family for signing up to come celebrate in the fellowship hall after worship on that day. It'll be a special time of thanksgiving and appreciation of all the love and blessings he has always given and received within our church! We plan to keep it a low-key event—no speeches, just sharing a meal and wishing Harry a Happy Birthday in person is all you need to do! No gifts please...but greeting cards, homemade cards, and notes are welcome. All food is provided. The catered lunch includes fried chicken with sides and birthday cake!

**Eddie Cotton** used to work at Piggly Wiggly in Pittsboro and moved to the Siler City store when the Pittsboro store closed. Eddie fell and hurt his head and was at UNC-Hillsborough but is now being moved to Laurels for long term care. Eddie would appreciate cards at Laurels of Chatham, 72 Chatham Business Dr., Pittsboro, NC 27312.

**Sheila Fogleman Dixon**, niece of Ava Fogleman, is recovering after surgery on her spine that she hopes will help Benton Thrailkill is now under Hospice care.

**Jean Copeland**: is doing well after a slight health issue with a stay at Chatham hospital but is doing well

**Lessie Straughn** is now a Great, great grandmother welcome to the world baby River

## CHURCH CALENDAR

### March

- 1 Pleasant Hill Men's Breakfast, 8 a.m.
- 1 PH: Worship, 9:30; Sunday School, 10:45
- 1 BC: Sunday School, 10:00 am; Worship, 11:00 am
- 2 BC Yoga Class, 6:30 pm Cancelled due to Election
- 3 Elections, BC (and PH?) Fellowship Hall in use
- 3 BC Bible Study 10 a.m. Cancelled due to Election
- 4 UMC Lenten series, PUMC, 11 am
- 4 Pleasant Hill Prayer service 6:30pm.
- 4 BC Choir Practice 7:30pm
- 5 First Thursday meal with Pastor Bill as speaker on Bereavement
- 8 PH: Worship, 9:30; Sunday School, 10:45
- 8 Daylight Savings Time: spring forward
- 8 BC UMM Breakfast 8:30 am Johnny Glosson as a special guest.
- 8 BC: Sunday School, 10:00 am; Worship, 11:00 am
- 8 BC: Sunday School for Youth, Young Adult and UMYF
- 9 New Beginnings Through Yoga Lynn Frost 6:30pm/Fellowship Hall
- 10 Bible Study at Brown's Chapel, 10:00 a.m.
- 11 UMC Lenten series, PUMC, 11 am
- 11 Pleasant Hill Prayer service 6:30pm
- 11 BC Choir Practice 7:30pm
- 15 Pleasant Hill Worship, 9:30; Sunday School, 10:45
- 15 BC: Sunday School, 10:00am Worship, 11:00
- 16 New Beginnings Yoga Lynn Frost 6:30pm
- 17 **Saint Patrick's Day**
- 17 Bible Study at Brown's Chapel, 10: a.m. Cancelled
- 17 UMC Lenten series, PUMC, 11 am (Tues instead of Wed)
- 18 PH Prayer service 6:30pm
- 18 BC Choir Practice, 7:30 pm
- 21 BC Road Cleanup, 8:00 am
- 22 PH: Worship, 9:30; Sunday School, 10:45
- 22 BC: Sunday School, 10:00; Worship, 11:00
- 22 BC Easter Egg Hunt, after Prayer Pal Reveal
- 23 New Beginnings Yoga Lynn Frost 6:30pm
- 24 BC Bible Study at Brown's Chapel, 10:00 a.m.
- 25 Pleasant Hill prayer 6:30 p.m.
- 25. BC Choir practice 7:30pm
  
- 29 PH: Worship, 9:30; Sunday School, 10:45
- 29 BC: Sunday School, 10:00; Worship, 11:00

- 29 BC: Fifth Sunday CORA collection
- 30 New Beginnings Restorative Candlelight Yoga Lynn Frost 6:30pm
- 31 BC Bible Study at Brown's Chapel, 10:00 a.m.

Holy WEEK

- 1 UMC Lenten service with Pastor Bill, PUMC, 11 am
- 1 Pleasant Hill prayer 6:30 p.m.
- 1 BC Choir practice 7:30pm
- 2 Maundy Thursday, PH, 6 pm
- 3 Good Friday, PUMC, 7 pm?
- 9 Easter Sunday
- 6- 10 Pastor Bill at Duke work study
- 11 BC BBQ Pork and Chicken Sale



Pleasant Hill UMC  
 Budget \$61,560  
 Need Weekly 1,184  
 Rec'd 2.22.25 910  
 YTD Need \$9,472  
 YTD Given \$ 10,208



Browns Chapel General Budget for 2026  
 Total Budget: \$160,256.00  
 Needed each week- \$3,081.85  
 Received Tithes & Offerings - 2/22/26- \$3,587.00  
 Year-to-Date Needed \$24,654.80  
 Year-to-Date Given \$21,882.01