



## What are You Adding for Lent?

By Brian Johnson

“**W**hat are you giving up for Lent?” If you’re like me, you have either heard this question or asked it of yourself a few times in the last few weeks.

Lent is, after all, just around the corner. When we think about Lent at all, we tend to think of it as a time when we stop doing certain things. But why do we do this? What’s the point of giving stuff up? What is Lent all about?



### OUR MINISTRY OF PRAYER

*Please pray for these brothers and sisters in Christ*

Lawrence Allen, Brian Beckley Jr., Annie Mae Carter, Ashley Draper, Leola Frayser, Thomas Jackson, Jane Gray Kibler, George & Lois Fallows, Betty McKee, Pat Moran, Virginia Moran, Betty & Harvey Roach, Rita Robinson, Patricia Sotos, Benjamin Shannon, Lavelle Sheffield, Steve Sheffield, Carolyn Stone, Gloria Slingerland, Ann Taylor, Johnny Taylor, Mary Walker, Jennifer Yeary

Lent originated in the early church as a forty day period during which people who were getting ready to be baptized at Easter (a time when many early Christians were baptized) underwent the final, intense stages of their baptismal preparation. This preparation included fasting, intense study of Scripture and creeds, and learning from more experienced Christians. Through all of this, new Christians sought to learn how to be Christians in a world which was largely

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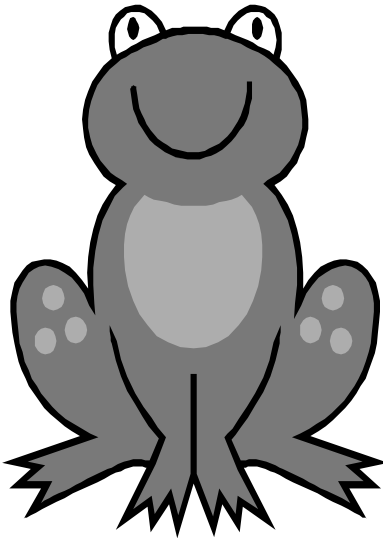
## *From The Pastor . . . .*

### Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ

A mother was sitting in her favorite chair reading one night when she heard this big crash come from her son's room. She immediately jumped to her feet and ran to see what had happened. When she came into the room she found her son down on the floor, having fallen from his bed. The mother very lovingly picked up her son and, after giving him a big hug, asked what had happened. The young boy said that he guessed he had been sleeping too close to where he had gotten in.

I wonder if our faith life is like this little boy's problem? Are we still too close to where we first got our faith? Are we growing in our faith? There are many ways to grow in our faith; however, they all require involvement. Yes, we have to be involved in order for us to grow in our faith. We need to attend Bible studies and participate. We need to attend church and Sunday school and participate. We need to attend the other activities of the church and participate.

The church is made up of others who believe in Jesus Christ and are willing to work for Jesus Christ. I was told that just sitting in McDonalds didn't make me a hamburger and just sitting in church doesn't make me a Christian. We need to continue to grow in our faith by practicing our faith.



The church has a vision that everyone would be involved in the church and it is a great vision, however this vision is only as good as the people of the church. Where do you see yourself in the vision? Sitting at the same place that you first got in? Sitting on

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*Methodist Minute:****Greenwood History***

Greenwood is rich in history. This month our Methodist minute consists of a little history of Greenwood UMC. Here is a list of the pastors from its beginning to now. How many do you remember?

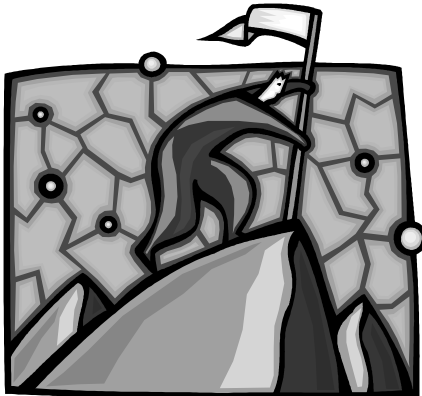
W.G Lumpkin .....	1874	J.T. More .....	1927-1930
J.B. Laurens .....	1874-1876	E.B. Loving .....	1930-1931
G.W. Williams .....	1876-1879	V.W. Bargamin .....	1931-1933
R.N. Crooks .....	1879-1882	J.W. Brown.....	1933-1937
C.H. Boggs .....	1882-1886	T.E. Johnson, Jr. ....	1937-1938
M.S. Colonna.....	1886-1889	W.C. Freemwn .....	1938-1943
R.B. Beadles.....	1889-1891	H.M. Burleigh .....	1943-1946
G.R. Griffith.....	1891-1893	R. A. Craig .....	1946-1948
W.T. Williams .....	1893-1895	S.G. Cowan .....	1948-1952
G.H. McFaden .....	1895-1897	H.B. Owen .....	1952-1961
R.B. Scott .....	1897-1898	L.D. Nave.....	1961-1962
W.R. Smithey.....	1898-1899	C.K. Gray.....	1962-1964
W.G. Burch .....	1899-1899	H.E. Nichols .....	1964-1967
C.W. Leftwich.....	1899-1901	W.H. Wiley .....	1967-1967
J.M. Anderson.....	1901-1902	R.H. Mcaden.....	1967-1972
J.L. Pribble .....	1902-1906	W.A. Thomas .....	1972-1975
J.D. Forkner.....	1906-1909	E. W. Paylor Jr. ....	1975-1980
W.R. Crowder .....	1909-1910	J. Crawford III.....	1980-1987
H.L. Weston.....	1910-1914	A.W. Ayers .....	1987-1991
W.S. Deyerle.....	1915-1919	J. Messner .....	1991-1995
R.W. Creekmore.....	1919-1921	M. Reuter.....	1995-1997
R.B Proctor .....	1921-1922	C. Beethoven .....	1997-2002
C.A. Campbell .....	1922-1924	G.D. Pittman .....	2002- Present
G.M. Gibson .....	1924-1927		

## Vision Committee Sets Goals

The Greenwood Visioning Committee established three goals to help the church move forward from the visioning workshop held in January. Those goals are:

- 1) Better internal communication in the congregation regarding activities and contacts for activities.
- 2) Focusing on specific missions that Greenwood has supported, with a specific spokesperson or advocate for that mission.
- 3) Monthly "focal points" that will draw attention to the specific missions, presented by the advocates.

At their February 9 meeting, the committee chose six specific missions supporting goal number 2: school supplies, Lamb's Basket, the after school program, CARITAS, vacation bible school, and the Easter egg hunt.



The committee established the following advocates for these missions: school supplies – Lewis Daniel; Lamb's Basket – Nancy Yeary; after school program (through June) – Adamarye Patteson; vacation bible school – Brenda Shuler and Brian Johnson. The position of mission advocate for Greenwood's annual Easter egg hunt is still open.

The general plan is that the mission's advocate will say a few words about the mission during the services during that mission's month. The advocate will serve as the primary point of contact for the mission to answer questions and coordinate volunteers for activities related to the mission.

Members of Greenwood's Visioning committee are: Charley Banks, Lewis Daniel, Roger Eckwright, Jennifer Friedline, Charlene Hawkins, Adamarye Patteson and Dean Pittman.

## Musical Notes

***Why Do We Sing Hymns?***

## Greetings in Jesus!



Why do we sing the hymns that are in our hymnal? Good question. There are so many alternatives. Christian pop & rock, praise songs, chants, classical oratorios – these are just a few that come to mind. So why do we just sing the hymns in the hymnal?

T. David Gordon, professor of religion and Greek at Grove City College, has released his latest book – *Why Johnny Can't Sing Hymns: How Pop Culture Rewrote the Hymnal*. In this book he exposes the modern desire of congregations to bring in the young people. Change the style of worship to address newer, broader ideas of worship. Make it more exciting. Controversy is widespread in our churches as the full understanding of the Gospel is put on a back burner to amuse and entertain the people ... bring them in!

So, why do we, at Greenwood UMC, sing from our hymnal? To Glorify God! To Lift God up in praise! To focus on worship of God!

The church IS the people in it. The music of the people should be

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## Church Office Volunteers

The church office at Greenwood is staffed Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. We have a volunteer for each of these days and now we have three alternates. Jean Mowatt is our newest alternate — WELCOME JEAN!. One of our original volunteers has been out for a while and I would like to take time to say: “We miss you Catherine. Hope you will be back with us.” Thanks to all of these ladies and gentleman — Gay Stapleton

# Lamb's Basket

By Nancy Yeary

I haven't seen anyone from Greenwood UMC come to volunteer as of yet, but I am still looking forward to seeing a familiar face soon.

There were other churches that brought in their "Souper Bowl" food collection right after the Super Bowl and it certainly helped fill in bare spaces on the shelves.

Did you know that as a church that sponsors Lamb's Basket, Greenwood UMC is eligible to get food for CARITAS when that time comes around again? Adamayre Patteson was delighted when I passed along the word to her.



The most needed foods go through cycles. Most often, there is need for grape jelly, canned fruit, rice, and spaghetti sauce. You may keep this in mind when making your contribution.

Continue with your prayers and support for Lamb's Basket.

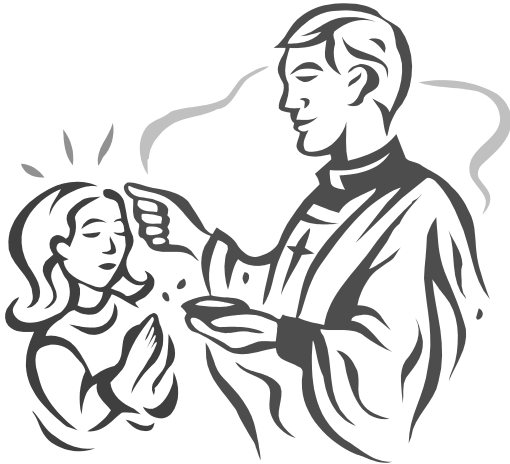
## **March Communion Offering**

### *Lamb's Basket*

Lamb's Basket aims to provide food to the needy families of Henrico County. Patrons are referred by area churches, the Central Virginia Food Bank, Catholic Charities, Henrico County Social Services, the United Way, and other organizations.

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## ***FunRaisers***



### **Fellowship Dinner**

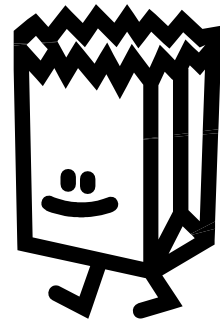
March 9, 6:30 p.m. followed by Ash Wednesday Service at 7. Menu will be homemade potato soup, bologna & cheese sandwich and Inis Blair's delicious peanut butter pound cake. A LOVE OFFERING WILL BE TAKEN.

Sign up on the flyer in the bulletin or call the church office at 266-5341 to place your order.

### **FUNraisers Bag Lunch**

FUNraisers are making bag lunches to pick up after Sunday worship services on March 27; cost is \$7.00 per lunch. Menu is: meat loaf sandwich, chips, banana pudding.

Sign up in the Narthex or call the church office at 266-5341 to place your order. All proceeds go towards purchasing a projector and screen for the church.



### **Greenwood Lenten Opportunities**

*Ash Wednesday Service* — March 9 at Greenwood  
Soup & Sandwich 6:30 p.m. — Worship Service 7:00 p.m.

#### ***Lenten Bible Study***

Greenwood Fellowship Hall, 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., every Sunday  
starting March 13 through April 17

## Willing Workers Circles

The Willing Workers Circle will meet on the first Wednesday in March at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Gina Lahocki located at 4911 Kellywood Circle in Glen Allen. If any of you would like to join us we would be happy to have you.



In February we packed and mailed 4 large boxes to troops in Iraq. We sent the boxes with the hope that they will bring a little bit of home to the troops. Our president, Charlene Hawkins, read a thank you note from The Lamb's Basket for the cleaning and beauty supplies the Circle donated last month. We voted to donate \$100.00 in supplies to Lamb's Basket each month.

Nancy Yeary told us about the new nursery attendant for Sunday morning worship. Since this is a needed, but not a budgeted, position we voted to donate \$20.00 per month to cover this. We discussed several other projects we would be interested in but we needed more information and will take these up again at our March meeting.

On behalf of the Willing Workers Circle, Maurice Hawkins is reading to children ages 2-5 at Barnes & Noble in exchange for books for the older children in After School. I wonder who is enjoying this more, the children or Maurice?



Nancy Yeary sent cup cakes to the After School kids. She is sure they enjoyed this surprise since the container came home empty. Nancy plans to do this until the end of school.



# Ruth Circle Cooking up Easter Eggs

The Ruth Circle will make candy Easter eggs to sell again this year. These hand dipped chocolate eggs come with filling in 3 flavors: peanut butter, coconut, and cream. Cost is \$4.50 for a half-pound decorated egg.

You can place your order with any member of the Circle. We would like to have your order by March 26. Use the order form to the right or in the bulletin insert.

We will meet to work in the kitchen and fellowship hall at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 9. At lunch break we will enjoy pizzas and tossed salad



We welcome volunteers. For more information contact Adamarye Patterson or any other Circle member.

## Ruth Circle Easter Eggs Order Form



Delicious, Hand Dipped, Half Pound, Beautifully Decorated  
\$4.50 each

Your choice of filling  
Please order by March 26  
Eggs will be ready  
Sunday, April 10

Please pay when ordering  
Thank you for your order

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Filling                      How Many?

Peanut Butter \_\_\_\_\_

Coconut \_\_\_\_\_

Cream \_\_\_\_\_

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## From the Pastor — Continued

*(Continued from page 2)*

the sofa at home complaining that the church has let you down? Out on the golf course? God is there for us, we – yes we – have to move toward Him. We need to reach up for God and not try to bring God down to us.

What was that loud sound? Is it where you fell in your faith journey because you were still too close to where you first got in? Could you be what John Wesley called an “almost Christian?”

Shalom

*Dean*

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*Musical Notes — Continued*

## Why do We Sing Hymns?

*(Continued from page 5)*

ALL ABOUT GOD!

Focus on praising God while you sing and hear the words that you sing. Stay clear of repetitious words (chanting mantras). Jesus told us: “When you pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.” — Matthew 6:7.

This applies to singing as well. Singing and praying are both communication with God! One Sunday, open your hymnal to page vii. Read John Wesley's *Directions for Singing*.

Lift up your voice and sing praise to God! You will truly be blessed!

## **March Celebrations**

### **Birthdays**

Janet Pittman	March 10
Austin Stanley	March 18
Amanda Banks	March 21
Ike Wagner	March 21
Jaroa Favilla	March 28
Inis Blair	March 29



### **Anniversaries**

Dean and Janet Pittman	March 11
Ike and Virginia Wagner	March 31



## **Where are You in the Vision of the Church?**

**Loving God**  
**Connecting and Growing with God**  
**Serving Others**  
**Everyone Involved in a Group Ministry**

## **Greenwood Road Clean Up**

Greenwood's contract with Henrico County to pick up litter from Greenwood Road between Mountain and Woodman has been renewed.

The Church is obligated to pick up the litter at least four times during 2011.

The proposed dates for the pick-ups (dependent on the weather) are March 5, June 4, August 6, and October 1. More pick-ups can be conducted according to the need.

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hostile to faithful Christian living.

Lent has also long been associated with the forty days which Jesus spent in the wilderness immediately after His baptism, during which He was tempted and yet did not give in to temptation. This time of temptation was essential to Jesus' ministry, among other reasons, because it gave Him the opportunity to explicitly say "no" to the things which were opposed to God and to say "yes" to the way of life which God the Father had set before Him. The rest of His ministry can be understood as the living out of that "yes" to faithfulness.

For us, Lent has similar purposes. Lent is a time to prepare for Easter. Lent is a time when we have the opportunity to take on historic Christian practices, and in so doing, learn how to be better Christians in a world which is largely hostile to faithful Christian living.

It is a time to say "yes" to

faithfulness to God and "no" to the temptation to follow those things which are opposed to God. In all of it, it's not just about "giving something up."



It's about doing something that will move you closer to God. Perhaps you will give up a food you love so that you can learn to better depend on God every time you crave it. Perhaps you will take on a new practice you've always wanted to try, like praying for twenty minutes every morning. Perhaps you will find a way to repent of some of the ways in which you may have mistreated God's creation.

Whatever you do, Lent is fundamentally about repenting of our sin and redirecting ourselves towards God. So, perhaps the real question shouldn't be "What are you giving up for Lent?" Instead, the question should be "What are you doing to add to your relationship with God this Lent?"

## February Attendance and Offerings

*“Honor the Lord with your substance and with the first fruits of all your produce”*  
— Proverbs 3:9

Date	Sunday School	Worship	Giving
February 6	29	64	\$2,424.25
February 13	24	79	\$2,230.90
February 20	30	59	\$1,717.00
February 27	Figures not available at press time		
<i>February Totals</i>	83	202	\$6,372.15
<i>February Averages:</i>	28	68	\$2,124.05

\$2,725 offering needed weekly to meet Greenwood's 2010 operating budget of \$141,712. Your generosity is appreciated

### Baby Shower!

Kim and Brian Johnson  
Sunday, March 27 at 3 p.m.  
In the Fellowship Hall  
All the church family is invited!




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### **The Twig Bender**

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Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
Worship 11:00 a.m.  
Senior Pastor: Rev. Dean Pittman  
Minister of Christian Education: Mr. Brian Johnson

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804-262-1628

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