



Come Grow With Us

Worship Schedule

SUNDAY MORNINGS

Sunday School

9:30 a.m.

Coffee & Fellowship

10:30 a.m.

Worship Service

11:00 a.m.

WEDNESDAYS

Kids' Klub

5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

From Ben's Pen

One of the hobbies that I have enjoyed since boyhood is that of collecting American stamps. The first block of stamps that my father gave to me to start my hobby were stamps of the Mercury spacecraft. Over the years, until the price of single stamps hit \$.45, I collected corner blocks of four stamps together known as plate blocks. I also have a number of sheets of stamps. When my granddaughters were here before the holidays, I showed them some of the books that house my stamp collection.

One of the interesting parts of the collection is a series of ten sheets of stamps issued in the late 1990's entitled, "Celebrate the Century." Each sheet of stamps celebrates a decade of the 1900's. As we looked at them I was reminded they were not only colorful but educational. This series of stamps in particular reminds us of the importance of the past. We had great fun as we looked at them.

From the stamps we learned that in 1903 the first box of crayons was produced. It cost five cents and contained eight colors. In 1902 America's teddy bear was created. Baseball championship games in 1903 were considered baseball's first World Series, and Boston of the American League beat Pittsburgh of the National League. From the decade of the 1900's familiar words added to our vocabulary were cheerleader, filmmaker, phony, and psychoanalysis.

From the decade of the 1910's, we learned that Erector sets were introduced in 1913, Tinkertoys in 1914, and Lincoln Logs in 1916. They were all a part of my childhood as I grew up. On December 21, 1913, the first cross word puzzle (which I usually do every morning), created by Arthur Wynne, appeared in the *New York World*. The first continental telephone line was completed in 1914, and on January 25, 1915, the first call was made from New York to San Francisco. This was the decade when traffic lights and white lane dividers became a part of the American landscape. The *Titanic* sank, and our

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The church newsletter is published monthly.

Interim Pastor Ben Shinn

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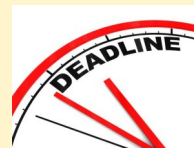
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The **deadline** to submit articles and information for the **March 2020 newsletter is February 25.**

Disclaimer: If any news, articles, or information was printed incorrectly or left out, it was done inadvertently. Please accept my apologies. Liz

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BEN'S PEN CONTINUED

country fought in World War I during this decade. Words from this decade that were added to our vocabulary include camouflage, electronics, and troublemaker.

From the decade of the 1920's, we learned that the radio had become a national sensation. Families would crowd around the radio to listen to newscasts, comedy and children's shows, variety hours, and presidential speeches. Created in the United States, jazz was spread by radio and recordings. May 20-21, 1922, Charles Lindbergh completed the first nonstop solo transatlantic flight from Long Island to Paris in 33 ½ hours. Babe Ruth hit 54 home runs in 1920, 59 in 1921, and 60 in 1922. The 19th Amendment was ratified August 26, 1920 giving women the right to vote. The Stock Market crashed in October 1929 ushering in the Great Depression. New words from this decade were motel, robot, fan mail, and teenage. New words from the 1930's were all-star, oops, pizza, and racism. New words from the 1940's were hot rod, pinup, bikini, and self-employed. New words from the 1950's were brainwashing, ballpark, high-rise, and centerfold. New words from the 1960's were hippie, workaholic, scam, and skateboard. New words from the 1970's were junk food, slam dunk, and miniseries. New words from the 1980's were yuppie, infomercial, and biodiversity. New words from the 1990's were e-commerce, Web site, and Y2K.

Isn't it interesting how our world has been shaped by our past? No matter who you are, your life has been shaped and molded by people and events of the past. What has great meaning for me is that even though we are shaped by the past, we have the opportunity to shape and mold the future. The great affirmation that has always resonated in my life and ministry, especially during times when I serve as an interim pastor, are words spoken by Jesus, "Behold. I am making all things new."

STATS FOR JANUARY 2020

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Regular Offering</u>	<u>Designated Offering</u>
January 05	32	\$2,697.50	\$71.00
January 12	48	\$1,360.71	\$150.00
January 19	33	\$2,532.50	\$200.00
January 26	31	\$1,722.00	\$50.00
Monthly Totals	144	\$8,312.71	\$471.00
Monthly Average	36	\$2,078.19	

FEBRUARY VOLUNTEER RESPONSIBILITY SCHEDULE

Date	Reader	Greeters	Cleaning
February 02	Dan Gentry	Jewell Dill & Carolyn Wood	Liz Johnson
February 09	Jewell Dill	Raymon Wood & Virginia Gafken	Virginia Gafken & Marjorie Hess
February 16	Theresa Gentry	Carolyn Hawk & Margaret O'Brien	Virginia Lynch
February 23	Jana Tipton	Gayle Edwards & Carroll Dill	Gayle Edwards

Ushers for the Month of February: Carroll Dill & Wassie Reynolds

♥ *Happy Valentines Day* ♥

UPCOMING EVENTS AND MEETINGS

February 4

Community Game Day with Lunch 10:00 a.m.

February 5

Pastor Ben in Church Office 10:00 a.m.

Kids' Klub Gathering & Dinner..... 5:30 p.m.

February 12

Pastor Ben in Church Office 10:00 a.m.

Kids' Klub Gathering & Dinner..... 5:30 p.m.

February 14

Valentine's Day

February 16

"Bring A Can Sunday" for FUMC Food Pantry

February 18

Community Game Day with Lunch 10:00 a.m.

February 19

Pastor Ben in Church Office 10:00 a.m.

Kids' Klub Gathering & Dinner..... 5:30 p.m.

February 26

Pastor Ben in Church Office 10:00 a.m.

Kids' Klub Gathering & Dinner..... 5:30 p.m.

Ash Wednesday Service.....7:00 p.m.

Beginning of Lent

February 27

SPRC Meeting with District Superintendent, Rev. Todd Harris 6:00 p.m.**

**Liz will be contacting SPRC members to set a date for a meeting prior to the meeting with Rev. Harris to bring the new members up-to-date on the roles, confidentiality, etc. of the Staff Parish Relations Committee. The date for this meeting will probably be either Thursday, February 6 or Thursday February 20. So SPRC members please be expecting a call.

THE LEGEND OF ST. VALENTINE

The history of Valentine's Day—and the story of its patron saint—is shrouded in mystery. We do know that February has long been celebrated as a month of romance, and that St. Valentine's Day, as we know it today, contains vestiges of both Christian and ancient Roman tradition. But who was Saint Valentine, and how did he become associated with this ancient rite?

The Catholic Church recognizes at least three different saints named Valentine or Valentinus, all of whom were martyred. One legend contends that Valentine was a priest who served during the third century in Rome. When Emperor Claudius II decided that single men made better soldiers than those with wives and families, he outlawed marriage for young men. Valentine, realizing the injustice of the decree, defied Claudius and continued to perform marriages for young lovers in secret. When Valentine's actions were discovered, Claudius ordered that he be put to death. Still others insist that it was Saint Valentine of Terni, a bishop, who was the true namesake of the holiday. He, too, was beheaded by Claudius II outside Rome.

Other stories suggest that Valentine may have been killed for attempting to help Christians escape harsh Roman prisons, where they were often beaten and tortured. According to one legend, an imprisoned Valentine actually sent the first "valentine" greeting himself after he fell in love with a young girl—possibly his jailor's daughter—who visited him during his confinement. Before his death, it is alleged that he wrote her a letter signed "From your Valentine," an expression that is still in use today. Although the truth behind the Valentine legends is murky, the stories all emphasize his appeal as a sympathetic, heroic and—most importantly—romantic figure. By the [Middle Ages](#), perhaps thanks to this reputation, Valentine would become one of the most popular saints in England and France.

*<https://www.history.com/topics/valentines-day/history-of-valentines-day-2>

HELP A CHILD ATTEND CHURCH CAMP

It's that time of year again! We are already gearing up for summer camps at the Bridgeport United Methodist Church Camps. Registration has begun and at the time of publishing this month's newsletter, Forestburg U.M.C. has two kids (Houston Johnson and Wyatt Johnson) who have reserved their places for the June 22-26 Camp. Possibly we could a couple more kiddos to register before the end of January. Just like everything else, camps are not as cheap as they once were. The cost of sending a child to camp is \$375 minus the \$50 registration fee (which the parents pay), just for the camp and meals. The balance due for each child is \$325. SO! If you can help with any contribution, it would certainly be appreciated

A donation can be made during the offering each Sunday **(Be sure to mark in the memo that it is for Church Camp.)** Or contact the church office with your contribution.

This is a very worthwhile ministry of our church. Thank you!



Abby, Presley, and Houston, attended last summer.

Houston and Wyatt (who has been looking forward to this year since Kasch first attended four years ago) have already registered and are excited to be going this year!

CELEBRATING JANUARY KIDS' KLUB BIRTHDAYS



Christian



**Our Children
Our Future**

Happy Birthday

February 1

Mary Whatley

February 14

Dixie Gregg

Rosemary Reynolds

February 26

Garrett Johnson

February 27

James Baber

Happy Anniversary

February 4

Dawna & Tony Vann

February 8

Margaret & Gerald O'Brien

February 22

Virginia & Doyle Lynch

Prayer Request

Clara Tipton & Family

Bobbie Wylie

*Louise
(Sheree Roberts' Aunt)*

Stella Crowsey & Family

Robert Pruett

Those Absent

Judy Farrell

Skip Mann & Family

Myrt Denham

Glen & Mary Whatley

Helen Ellzey & Family

Our Military Men & Women

Trent Tipton

Wassie & Rosemary Reynolds

Treavor Freeman

Chance Fox

Harriet Nauert

James Wooldridge

Veronica Greanead

Travis Landers

Our Church & Church Family

Travelers

Joe Bauers

Harrell Vogue

Carolyn Hawk

Gloria Gregg & Family

Byron Ensey

Jerry Cody

Vicki Jones & Family

Moore Family

Christie Smith

Roberts Family

Places We've Seen God at Work

Healings

Family

Friends

Children

Grandchildren

Great Grandchildren

Veterans

Answered Prayers

Grandparents

Our Interim Pastor, Ben Shinn



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