



# The Chapel Times

A Twice-a-Month Newsletter of  
Pierce Chapel United Methodist Church  
Established in 1855

*Our mission is to develop mature disciples who know, love, and serve Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.*

Volume 20, Number 5

March 1, 2017

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Lent Begins March 1

## ***It All Leads to Jesus***

The Lenten Sermon Series looks at Old Testament characters and stories and how they ultimately point us to Jesus.

**During Lent, we are invited to draw closer to Jesus.**

**How can you do that?**

- Worship on Sundays with your Pierce Chapel family.
- Spend private time each day reading your Bible and praying.
- Participate in one of the Ash Wednesday Services on March 1, either 5:30 p.m. or 6:30p.m., both in the Chapel.
- Join the Wednesday morning Lenten study (beginning March 8) at the home of Sara Bankhead, using the book *Restored: Finding Redemption in Our Mess* (see details on page 2).
- **On 4 Wednesday nights - March 8, 15, 22, & 29 - we will have a March "fast" from Wednesday night suppers** (two of those weeks are Spring Break weeks for Muscogee & Harris Counties). **Youth will meet from 5:30-7:30 in the Youth Barn (see details on p. 3), but adults and children will not meet.** Pray and think creatively about how you can use those Wednesday nights to draw closer to Jesus and one another. **Some suggestions for those 4 Wednesday nights in March:** Eat a meal with your family and share highs & lows of the day, reminding each other that God is with you through it all; gather with other families at Pierce Chapel for a meal in your home; spend extra time reading your Bible and praying; (for women) participate in the March Wednesday night study *The Women of Easter* at Marie Massey's home (see p. 2 for details).
- Invite others to experience the love of Jesus through the Pierce Chapel family. Pray for friends who are not connected to Jesus or the church, using the 40-day devotional guide titled ***Praying for 5***. Pick up your copy of the booklet at Pierce Chapel or access it digitally at [https://sgaumc.brtapp.com/files/files\\_library/praying+for+five.pdf](https://sgaumc.brtapp.com/files/files_library/praying+for+five.pdf).

**Sunday Worship Services at 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.**

Church Office 706-327-9807

FAX 706-327-7253

Preschool 706-327-9807, ext. 6

E-Mail Prayer Ministry: Send prayer requests to [prayers@piercechapel.com](mailto:prayers@piercechapel.com)

For news & current events, go to [piercechapel.com](http://piercechapel.com) or connect with us on Facebook.

**Pierce Chapel UMC**  
5122 Pierce Chapel Road  
Midland, GA 31820

## NEW PRAYER CONCERNS

Thelma Bunch

## ONGOING PRAYER CONCERNS

Michil Abitew (Kiddy Seifu's brother)  
Carolyn Billings  
Cliff & Virginia Brewer  
Peggy Brooks  
Alice Brumbach  
Dorothy Carrothers  
Joann Cherry (Sheila Cook's sister-in-law)  
George Cliff  
Kathy Davis  
Will Duke  
Ben Dunton (Linda Soggi's son)  
Malachi Estevez (Leila Cantrell's great-grandson)  
Tracie Hadaway  
Melissa Herndon  
Margaret Hunt  
LaVerne McClellan  
Hugh Morris  
Susan Pagani (Alma Artz's niece)  
Don & Patti Russell  
Danny Seifu (Kiddy Seifu's son)  
Cheryl Seymour  
Mickie Tennyson  
Linda Todd  
Zane Vaughan  
Bill Wall  
Vivian Webb  
All past and present military service members  
All military families  
Our military partnership units:  
Crusade for Christ  
Warrior Transition Battalion

## PIERCE CHAPEL'S DEPLOYED MILITARY

Blake Dorer

## PIERCE CHAPEL'S EXPECTANT MOTHERS

Grace Davis (due May 31)

*(Call the church office to make changes in the prayer list.)*

Please help us keep the prayer list updated by letting us know when it would be appropriate to remove someone's name from the list.

*We express our love and sympathy to:*

— *Len & Fay Williams at the death of Len's brother, Terry Williams, on February 20.*

— *Mary & Ken Wakefield at the death of Mary's brother, Dave Hanson, on February 26.*

## **2017 Graduating High School Seniors**

Please send your high school grad's info to the church office by April 15 to be included on our senior display board in May. Email graduate's name, high school, college they plan to attend and intended major (if known) to [katie@piercechapel.com](mailto:katie@piercechapel.com). We also need a 5x7 print of your graduate. For more info, email [localmissions@piercechapel.com](mailto:localmissions@piercechapel.com) or see the brochures at the Welcome Center.

## **TWO Ash Wednesday Services**

**Wednesday, March 1, 5:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.**

**Both services held in the Chapel**

The season called Lent (40 days leading up to Easter, not counting Sundays) is a time for deliberate self-reflection and a time to draw nearer to God through intentional practices like worship, prayer, Bible study, and various kinds of fasting. To begin the season of Lent, there are *two options for Ash Wednesday worship at Pierce Chapel*: Come to the 5:30 service (held during the meal time for those who prefer not to come for the meal) OR come to the meal at 5:30 and stay for the 6:30 service. Whichever you choose, draw near to God, expecting to experience His grace in life-giving ways.

## **Lenten Group Studies**

*Restored: Finding Redemption in Our Mess*

**Beginning Wednesday, March 8, 10:00-11:30 a.m.**

In the home of Sara Bankhead (5213 Pierce Chapel Road)

Rev. Tom Berlin uses his gift of storytelling to remind us how messy our lives are, but they don't have to stay that way. The messiness in our lives, Berlin acknowledges, is the result of the condition of sin. "I've called the book Restored," Berlin writes, "because restoration is the goal of the Christian life." How are we restored? We are restored through the power of grace. Books are available through the church office for \$9. For further information, please contact Sara at [sarabankhead@mchsi.com](mailto:sarabankhead@mchsi.com) or 706-322-4753.

*The Women of Easter:*

*Mary of Bethany, Mary of Nazareth and Mary Magdalene*

**Beginning Wednesday March 8, 5:30-7:15 p.m.**

In the home of Marie Massey (11215 Rambling Trail, Midland)

Author Liz Curtis Higgs invites us to meet three women named Mary, each of whom has a life-changing encounter with Jesus. Mary of Bethany prepares the way for the Lord's burial when she anoints His feet and fills the air with her perfume. His mother, Mary of Nazareth, remains by His side from His first breath to His last, her loyalty unwavering. Mary Magdalene, delivered of seven demons, bravely supports her Teacher through His darkest hours, then proclaims the glorious news of His resurrection. What a trio. What a Savior! Books are available through the church office for \$12. **On March 8, Marie will provide chili for supper!** For more info, contact Marie at [cwzeker@mchsi.com](mailto:cwzeker@mchsi.com) or 706-315-1093.

## **30<sup>th</sup> Annual Open Door Classic Walk & 5K Run** **Saturday, March 4**

**5K Run registration is at 8:00 a.m., is \$30 & begins at 9 a.m.**

**Walk registration is at 8:30 a.m. and the Walk begins at 9:30 a.m.**

Whether you can be there to walk or not, please give your support and make your offering by **Saturday, March 4**. (A \$25 donation will get you a t-shirt!)

The Walk and Run will be held rain, shine, or snow! Please have your registration form filled out before you arrive & indicate you're a Pierce Chapel member on the form. Forms are available at church on the half-wall by the Welcome Center.

All runners will receive a t-shirt, and medals will be awarded at the end of the race. There are 10-year age groupings for males and females in all categories.

All participants (whether you walk or just show up for the fun) who raise/donate \$25 or more will receive a t-shirt and be eligible for door prizes. The church that raises the most money and the church that has the most walkers/participants at the event will be awarded trophies. It is not necessary to walk or run to be counted. You just need to be present. Dogs with current rabies tags are welcome. Please bring plastic bags for their "deposits".

ALL CHECKS (whether you turn them in at Pierce Chapel or at Open Door) MUST BE MADE PAYABLE TO OPEN DOOR COMMUNITY HOUSE (be sure to earmark checks "Pierce Chapel"). **You may turn in your money & registration forms at Wednesday night supper or to our church office. You may also turn them in on Saturday.**

**Questions? Contact Bill or Judy Mullins at 706-324-0007.**

## SAVE YOUR STUFF!

For our Youth-Sponsored Yard Sale

Saturday, April 29

6:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

"Mobile Attics" will be available beginning Friday, March 31. The Youth will pick up large items during the 2 days before the yard sale. Thank you for your support!

## Collecting for Rose Hill & Safe House

Coffee and sugar are needed! Please place in the box marked "Rose Hill/Safe House" located by the Welcome Center.

## Team Meetings

**Administrative Council**

Monday, March 13

7:00 p.m. in Worship Center

**Stephen Ministry**

Thursday, March 16

6:00-8:30 p.m. in Room 206



Great news! We have the opportunity to fund a pilot program for MercyMed to establish a medical clinic in Fox Elementary—made possible through your Faith Promise offerings! We're waiting for a final "GO" from MCSD, hoping to launch the pilot program in March!

*Dear Pierce Chapel family of faithful friends, GIC is no small undertaking yet you pulled it off with ease. Thank you for the many ways you made me feel comfortable and welcome...from the hospitality room to the great meals...for the special handmade gifts by the ladies to the wonderful goodie baskets...from the great set-up to the last person on the clean-up crew...from the A/V folks to the prayer teams and everyone else who had a hand — THANK YOU! I saw and felt the Hands and Heart of God at Pierce Chapel. May you continue to be blessed as I know "GOD IS ON THE MOVE!"*

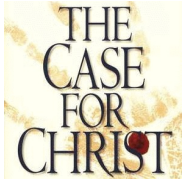
*Thank you for loving me and our children!  
Warmly, Alison Evans (The Methodist Home)*

*I want to thank our church family for the beautiful cards, phone calls, visits, flowers, and delicious food we've received during my surgery and recovery. The kindness and overwhelming love and attention we have received has just been wonderful. It is so encouraging to know that your friends in Christ are lifting you up in prayer for God to sustain you, protect you, and keep you safe during the entire process. We miss being there, and hope to be back soon. Thank you, again, for all you have done for us.*

*In Christ,  
Billie Stallings*

## New Men's Bible Study

If you were a journalist, how would you investigate the top story in human history? Join Lee Strobel, award-winning former legal editor of the Chicago Tribune, as he cross-examines a dozen of the country's top scholars to uncover incontestable historical, scientific, and psychiatric evidence to support the claims of Jesus. A powerful defense of the Christian faith! This study begins Sunday, March 5, 6:00 p.m. in room 216. Questions? Contact Jon Long at [thoselong@aol.com](mailto:thoselong@aol.com) or 706-940-2923.



## Two Mission Opportunities

### Kentucky Mission Team Info/Lunch Meeting

Sunday, March 5, 12:15-1:45 p.m. in the Hospitality Room

Our strategic partnership with Henderson Settlement continues! Once again we will have the privilege of leading a Vacation Bible School and repairing homes of community residents near Frakes, KY, July 2-8. This team is open to 7<sup>th</sup> graders and up (or 6<sup>th</sup> graders if accompanied by a parent). If you're interested in being on the team, plan to attend the info/lunch meeting to hear about team meetings and team requirements. To **RSVP** for this info meeting or ask questions, contact Team Leader Stephen Childers at 706-905-1701 or [stephenmchilders@gmail.com](mailto:stephenmchilders@gmail.com).

### Honduras Mission Trip Info Meeting

There will be an info meeting on Sunday, March 12, following the 11:00 service (12:15) in Room 210 for anyone interested in learning about a mission trip to Honduras September 1-8 to provide respite for and minister to the missionaries who work with Mission on the Move (the ministry led by Ernie and Allison Sizemore). Questions? Contact Michelle Crawford at 706-580-8681 or [localmissions@piercechapel.com](mailto:localmissions@piercechapel.com).

## Join us the first Tuesday of every month for: First Tuesday Bible Study

*The Me I Want to Be*

**Date:** Tuesday, March 7

**Place:** Susan Wooldridge's Home  
(5451 Pierce Chapel Rd)

**Time:** 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon (this includes brunch)

**Information:** Contact Elaine McKenzie at  
706-561-2004 or [mckenzie3200@hotmail.com](mailto:mckenzie3200@hotmail.com).



## Faith Promise Commitments

The *Beyond the Valley* and *Local* Mission teams have approved the following commitments:

1. \$500 per month to the Joel Aycock ministry (His Hands Mission International) in Honduras to hire a full-time local employee to work alongside Joel.
2. \$300 per month to the Sizemore ministry (Mission on the Move) in Honduras for the purpose of caring for one orphan baby.
3. \$5,000 to MercyMed to establish a pilot program medical clinic within Fox Elementary School to address illnesses immediately and thereby bolster attendance in school.
4. \$2,500 to Circles of Columbus at Open Door for their Loan Empowerment Fund, which supplies loans for Circle leaders diligently working their way out of poverty.
5. \$150/month to Rose Hill Fellowship for utilities and general operating expenses.



Your Faith Promise funds have made it possible for Circle Leaders, through Circles of Columbus, to work through financial barriers by contributing to the Circles Loan Empowerment Fund. Thank you for your faithfulness!

Now...**we need your help!** We need loving volunteers to play with children during the Circles meeting on Thursday, March 9, 6:00-8:00 p.m. Contact Michelle at 706-580-8681 or [localmissions@piercechapel.com](mailto:localmissions@piercechapel.com).



## Happy Achers & Senior Exercise

**Happy Achers** Sack Lunch & Games for senior adults in the Hospitality Room at 11:30 a.m. on Thursdays, March 2, 16, 23 & 30. Bring a sack lunch! Join us for extraordinary fun & fellowship. On Thursday, March 9 we will have our monthly business meeting at a restaurant (TBA) then back to the Hospitality Room for games. Questions? Contact Sara Bankhead at 706-322-4753.

**Senior Exercise** meets Tuesdays, Thursdays & Saturdays in the Youth Barn from 9:00-10:30 a.m. If you haven't been before, or need to check the dates that we may not be meeting, please contact Connie Luby at 706-325-2615 to learn of any changes in the schedule.

## March Anniversaries & Birthdays

- 1 Lawrence Glover & Hartley Glover  
Ben & Suzanne Tabor's Anniversary
- 2 Andrew Meeks, Pati Miller
- 3 Collin McCann, Mark McKinstry, Bill Stohr & Geary Underwood
- 4 Samantha Thomas
- 5 Lynn Meadows-White & David Sutcliffe
- 6 Richard Korytoski & Mack Thomas
- 7 Jordan Eckenroth
- 8 Retha Martin  
Gene & Sallie Kennedy's Anniversary
- 9 Connor Archilla, Wesley Rhinehart, & Fred Van Noy  
Tom & Juline Maholick's Anniversary  
Larry & Eleanor White's Anniversary
- 10 David Bauers & Stephen Digby
- 11 Jim O'Donnell & Jenna Pinney  
Rick & Cheri Mattson's Anniversary
- 12 Kathy Cobb & Amanda Kalahar
- 13 Lynn Barbour-Stephens & Sam Stohr
- 14 Brian & Lauren Bush's Anniversary
- 15 Shelly Blanton, Tori Duke, David McKenzie, Chris Schmitt & Aubrey Todd
- 16 Leila Cantrell, Lynn Johnson, Eric Meeks, Gracie O'Donnell & Jonathan Peck  
Steve & Gigi Lennon's Anniversary  
Jason & Shannon Stansell's Anniversary
- 17 Graham Hasty
- 18 Laura Hardcastle
- 19 Jake Seman
- 20 Molly Denham, Will Hanko & Debi Van Noy
- 21 George Cliff & Elena Graves
- 22 Wendy Boyd & Gigi Lennon
- 23 Verna Campos & Harrison Tew
- 25 Louie & Margie Grosser's Anniversary
- 26 Cody Boyd & Lisa Diaz
- 27 Luis & Lisa Diaz's Anniversary
- 28 Brent Howell, Tonia Russell, George Stanton, Regan Tew & Autumn Todd
- 29 Leslie Mockalis  
Jon & Jennifer Glover
- 31 Elizabeth Mason

News deadline for the **March 15** newsletter is **12:00 noon on Monday, March 6.**



## YOUTH NEWS (7th -12th grades)

**Youth Supper/Meeting** (7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades) each Sunday, 5:30-7:30 p.m. in the Youth Barn. Bring a friend! Sunday supper is \$2 per person (adults, tweens & youth). We meet in the Hospitality Room for supper at 5:30 then transition to the Barn

for hangout time until 6:15. From 6:15 to 7:30 we worship together and have a lesson which includes experiential learning, student leaders, videos, and games. Youth will meet every Sunday in March including those connected to Spring Breaks. We will have a game night afterglow at the start of Muscogee County Spring Break on Sunday, March 19 from 7:30-9:30 p.m. Third Night will be Sunday, March 26 at the start of Harris County Spring Break. We will eat at 5:30 at Pierce Chapel and then transition to Brookstone School for 3rd Night from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. After 3rd night, we will have a bowling night afterglow at Bowlero (Peach Bowl Lanes) on Sunday, March 26 from 7:30-10:00 p.m.

**Ash Wednesday:** Youth will participate with the rest of the church for Ash Wednesday on March 1. There are two services, one at 5:30 p.m. and one at 6:30 p.m. after supper. Nathan will attend the 6:30 service with whichever youth come on their own and eat supper with us.

**Ultimate Prayer and Tailgating** (Wednesday nights March 8, 15, 22, & 29) - The church is taking a break from Wednesday night suppers after Ash Wednesday through the month of March. Youth will be meeting those 4 Wednesdays from 5:30-7:30 p.m. and we're calling it "Ultimate Prayer and Tailgating!" Supper will be provided and will be a mix of tailgating food every week (pizza, finger foods, burgers, brats, hot wings, chicken fingers, fruit, chips, dips, sweets, etc.). Cost will be \$2/student. Each week, we will eat, then explore and practice a different aspect of prayer: (1) intercessory prayer for leaders, friends, healing, etc. (2) prayers of adoration and thanksgiving (3) prayers for our enemies (4) prayers of confession. After prayer time, we'll play Ultimate Frisbee in the field across the street from the church. On Wednesday, March 8, we will START with ultimate, then eat, then pray, because daylight savings will not have started yet. We will resume our usual Wednesday night schedule on April 5.

**Souper Bowl Soups:** We did really well this year with sales of over 300 pints of soup and we had a couple of donations to boot. Our total profit was \$1,691.96. Each of the 37 students who worked earned \$46 for their youth account!

**Souled Out Summer is coming!** Dates are June 6-9. Cost is \$310 per student. Registration packets will be Emailed to parents this week and will be available in the barn for students to pick up.

Questions or concerns? Contact Nathan Carr at 706-464-7548.



Save the Date!

**Columbus Area Kids Camp 2017**

**-Pine Eden Christian Retreat Center-**

2nd-4th Grade Camp - June 18-22

5th-7th Grade Camp - June 25-29

Camp is split into two sessions based on age. Each week's schedule and layout is designed specifically with the age group of the campers in mind. Campers will enjoy an array of activities such as swimming, crafts, games, music and more, along with daily devotional times. Camp is \$220 per camper. A non-refundable deposit of \$100 is due at the time of registration. Registration can be completed online at [stmarkumc.com/kidscamp](http://stmarkumc.com/kidscamp). **Sign up today!**

