



# 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 6

March 15, 2017

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**Jarod Ingram**  
*Security*

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

## PRAYING FOR

## FORGING ETERNAL FRIENDSHIPS THROUGH DAILY PRAYER

# 5

Have you ever learned that, unbeknownst to you, someone had been praying for you? Maybe they wrote you a note to let you know you were in their prayers, or perhaps you learned you were on a prayer list of people dedicated to prayer and you discovered that they had been lifting you up for some time — daily.

I hope you have had this experience. It can be powerful, especially when life is at its lowest and you need encouragement.

Now flip it: Are you one who will take time to pray for others? Have you ever told someone that you were praying for them? I hope so! That experience can be quite powerful as well — for you and the recipient.

In worship recently, we have been encouraging you to pray for five friends. If you've not already done so, simply pick up the 40-day devotional guide called: *Praying for Five: Forging Eternal Friendships Through Daily Prayer*. These are available in the hallway outside the Worship Center.

This little booklet is a practical tool that enables you to pray for five friends to come to know and follow Jesus. It has two sections.

1) A brief "how to" section that provides practical advice:

- Find Five Friends
- Pray for Your Friends
- Have Meaningful Conversations with Your Friends
- Tell Your Story to Your Friends
- Invite Your Friends to Come Hear The Story

2) A "devotional" section with 40 one-page devotions for daily use that will focus your prayer time and help you be intentional in praying for five friends that you identify.

I encourage you to pick up a booklet and give it a try. **Palm Sunday (April 9)** and **Easter (April 16)** are wonderful times to invite someone to experience Pierce Chapel, especially someone who has no church home. Pray for them, look for an opportunity to have a meaningful conversation, then extend a simple invitation. Someone you know may be very glad you did.

Blessings,  
Howard

## 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.

## NEW PRAYER CONCERNS

Linda Todd

## ONGOING PRAYER CONCERNS

Michil Abitew (Kiddy Seifu's brother)  
Carolyn Billings  
Cliff & Virginia Brewer  
Peggy Brooks  
Alice Brumbach  
Thelma Bunch  
Dorothy Carrothers  
Joann Cherry (Sheila Cook's sister-in-law)  
George Cliff  
Kathy Davis  
Will Duke  
Ben Dunton (Linda Socci'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  
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.

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*We express our love and sympathy to Susan & Ed Durham at the death of Susan's mother, June Bone, on March 11.*

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*Dear Pierce Chapel family,  
Don and I would both like to thank you for all the prayers, cards and visits (along with some delicious food) that you have shared with us. My surgery went much better than I thought it would. I'm still in the healing stages and will be for a few more weeks, but I can drive again! Don has come through his knee replacement surgery (again) and is beginning rehab. We know God is watching over us and that He will provide all we need. Thank you all.*

*Love in Christ,  
Patti and Don Russell*

# Lenten Group Studies

## *Restored: Finding Redemption in Our Mess*

**Began 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 from Sara for \$9. For further info, 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*

**Began 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 from Marie for \$12. All women are invited! For more info, contact Marie at [cwzeker@mchsi.com](mailto:cwzeker@mchsi.com) or 706-315-1093.

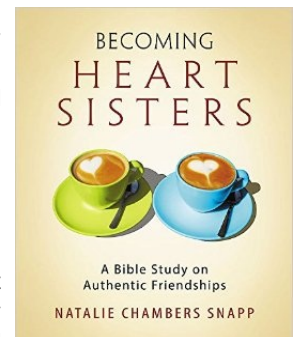
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## **New WOW (Women of the Word):**

### **"Becoming Heart Sisters:**

### **A Bible Study on Authentic Friendships"**

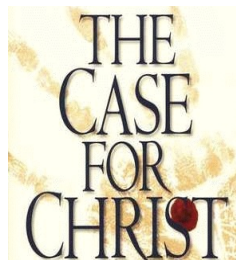
"Let's get together to catch up!" How many times have you and your friends made this exchange? And how many times did you follow up? Despite being more connected than ever before, we struggle to feel connected. And yet, our friendships with other women are not only something we want, they're something we, as women, need. In this six-week DVD Bible study, author Natalie Chambers Snapp teaches you how to develop and nurture the kind of enriching and satisfying friendships that build up the body of Christ and bring honor to God. Includes five daily lessons for each week combining study of Scripture with personal reflection, application, and prayer.



Please join women of all ages and stages for this new study. The **Sunday evening study will begin on Sunday, March 26, 5:30-7:00 p.m.** in room 305 and will be led by Melissa Herndon. **Monday WOW will begin on Monday, March 27, 9:15-10:45 a.m.** in the Youth Barn and will be led by Kim Stanley-Heim and Becky Castellow. Study guides will be available for purchase through Pierce Chapel for \$12. Nursery will be available upon request. For more information or to request childcare, you may contact Melissa Herndon at [msh.blessed@gmail.com](mailto:msh.blessed@gmail.com) or 706-888-0084 or Kim Stanley Heim at [kdstanley@gmail.com](mailto:kdstanley@gmail.com) or 865-771-1169.

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## **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! Our next meeting is Sunday, March 19, 6:00 p.m. in room 216. Questions? Contact Jon Long at [thoselong@aol.com](mailto:thoselong@aol.com) or 706-940-2923.

*Have you met our newest members?*

**Randie Baker**  
**Trey & Kim Heim (& son Martin)**  
**Jonny & Amanda Hicks**  
**Robert & Debbie Ribolini**  
**Jim & Dianne Simpson**  
**Darryl & Sara Skelly (& son Seamus)**  
**Luther & Beth Stanton**  
**Grant & Bethany Venable**

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## **Attention 2017 Graduating High School Seniors!**

Please send your high school graduate's information to the church office by April 15 to be included on our senior display board in May. Email the 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 information, email [localmissions@piercechapel.com](mailto:localmissions@piercechapel.com) or see the brochures at the Welcome Center.

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## **Happy Achers & Senior Exercise**

**Happy Achers** Sack Lunch & Games for senior adults in the Hospitality Room at 11:30 a.m. on Thursdays, March 23 & 30. Bring a sack lunch! Join us for extraordinary fun & fellowship. On Thursday, March 16 we will order BBQ sandwiches from Pepper's BBQ and eat in the Hospitality Room. 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.

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## **Church Office Deadlines**

News deadline for the **April 1** newsletter is **12:00 noon on Friday, March 24.**

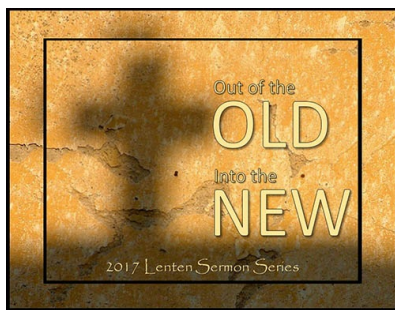
Sunday worship bulletin deadline is **12:00 noon on Wednesdays.** Please email all newsletter and/or bulletin announcements to [katie@piercechapel.com](mailto:katie@piercechapel.com) or call Katie at 706-327-9807, ext. 1.

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## **Team Meetings**

**Jerusalem Team**  
Monday, March 20  
6:30 p.m. in the Conference Room

**GO Team**  
Thursday, March 23  
6:30 p.m. in the Conference Room



## **It All Leads to Jesus**

The Lenten Sunday Sermon Series looks at Old Testament characters and stories and how they ultimately point us to Jesus. Join us on Sundays at 8:30 or 11:00.

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### ***You are not alone...***

Pierce Chapel will host a pilot Connection Recovery Group Meeting on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month starting April 6, 6:30-8:00 p.m. in Room 216.

### **NAMI Connection**

NAMI Connection Recovery Support Group is a free, peer-led support group for adults living with mental illness. You will gain insight from hearing the challenges and successes of others. The groups are led by NAMI-trained facilitators who've been there. They follow a structured model to ensure you and others in the group have an opportunity to be heard and to get the support you need.

### **What You'll Gain**

By sharing your experiences in a safe and confidential setting, you gain hope and develop relationships. The group encourages empathy, productive positive discussion and a sense of community. Among other benefits, NAMI Connection Recovery Support Group will help you: aim for better coping skills, find strength in sharing experiences, not judge anyone else's pain, forgive yourselves and reject guilt, embrace humor as healthy, accept that you cannot solve every problem, work for a better future in a realistic way & never give up hope.

If this information does not pertain to you, please pass it on to someone it could benefit. If you have any questions contact Teresa O'Donnell at 706-289-7703 or Stephen Akinduro at 706-315-0966.

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## **2017 Open Door Classic**

*We had a beautiful day for this event and a great turnout from our PCUMC Family. Over 200 of you showed up to either volunteer, walk, run or hang out. We were 2/3 of the people there! We brought the trophy home again! The Classic has raised over \$85,000 so far and we contributed over \$10,000 to that total! Wow! Imagine how much this will help continue the work of Open Door Community House. A big thank you to all who participated in any way to help make this event a success! We are blessed to be members of a loving, generous, Christ-centered church.*

*Love in Christ,  
Bill and Judy Mullins*

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## **Hiking Group Information Meeting**



Do you enjoy being outdoors, walking, and discovering quiet and peaceful settings perfect for prayer and contemplation? If so, join others from Pierce Chapel as we begin hiking Pine Mountain and other nearby trails. Before we wander off into the woods, we will have a short safety and trail information meeting on Thursday, March 30, 6:00 p.m. in the Youth Barn. If you have any questions, please contact Marie Massey at [cwzeker@mchsi.com](mailto:cwzeker@mchsi.com).

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## **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. Thanks for your support!

**Mark your calendars!**  
**Wednesday night suppers**  
**and all activities will resume**  
**on Wednesday, April 5!**

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**Save the date!**

Our next Day of Service is Saturday, April 22. Details coming soon. For questions or more information, email [localmissions@piercechapel.com](mailto:localmissions@piercechapel.com).

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**Candy Donations For**  
**Easter Egg Hunt**

Easter's on its way! Donations of individually wrapped candy or small toys are needed for the egg hunt which will take place on Sunday, April 9. Donations are needed by Sunday, April 2 & may be placed in the donation box across from the Welcome Center. If you would like to make a monetary donation toward the Egg Hunt, please place it in the offering plate and earmark it "egg hunt candy." Thank you for your help in making the Easter Egg hunt a success and blessing to families!



**Vacation Bible School**

**Save the dates!**  
**June 12-16, 2017**



As you make plans for summer, remember to save the dates for VBS! VBS is open to kids age 4 (by September 1) to current 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Plan to join us for an awesome week where

kids build, explore and discover that they were made by the Ultimate Creator and that He has a plan just for them!

**Interested in helping to design and build decorations for VBS this year?** If you have carpentry, engineering or artistic skills (or just a willingness to be a worker bee!), come share your talents with this team as we transform our church into a WHIMSICAL FUN FACTORY! Our stunning decorations, combined with enthusiastic volunteers, are what make our VBS so memorable and make kids want to come back year after year to experience another exciting week! Join us at 4:30, Sunday, March 19, in the Chapel to learn how you can help create decorations that will be enjoyed by HUNDREDS of kids this summer!



**YOUTH NEWS (7<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> 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. We will have an Afterglow game night on March 19, 7:30-9:30 p.m. Join us!

**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), Sunday, March 26, 7:30-10:00 p.m.

**Ultimate Prayer and Tailgating** (Wednesday nights March 22 & 29) - The church is taking a break from Wednesday night suppers through the remainder of March. Youth will be meeting those 2 Wednesdays in the barn from 5:30-7:30 p.m. 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: (March 22) prayers for our enemies (March 29) prayers of confession. After prayer time, we'll play Ultimate Frisbee in the field across the street from the church. We will resume our usual Wednesday schedule on April 5.

**Souled Out Summer is coming!** Our annual Souled Out Summer youth camp is Monday, June 5 to Friday, June 9 at Laguna Beach Christian Retreat Center, FL. Souled Out is full of inspired teaching, powerful worship, sharing time for students, group time for Pierce Chapel, and lots of free time for the beach, pool and organized recreation. Souled Out is open to students finishing 6<sup>th</sup> grade through students finishing 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Cost is \$310/student (see fundraising and scholarship info below) and covers almost all expenses including: transportation, speakers, the worship band, organized recreation, t-shirt, great food, and 5 nights lodging.

**Yard Sale Fundraiser** Students can earn money for their youth account by participating in the upcoming yard sale fundraiser on April 29. Students can work leading up to the sale, the night before the sale, or the day of the sale itself. Last year, each student earned \$100 for their account. Contact Nathan to sign up!

**Scholarships** All families and students are eligible to request a scholarship to help offset the cost of Souled Out. If a scholarship may be helpful for your family please contact Nathan.

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

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**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. Student registration can be completed online at [stmarkumc.com/kidscamp](http://stmarkumc.com/kidscamp). **Sign up today!**