



## \_\_\_ March 2018 \_\_\_ **A VIEW FROM THE PULPIT**

John was fascinated by the sight of a lone telephone pole standing in the middle of a plot of land surrounded by a chain-link fence. There was a sign that announced that this was a training center for telephone linesmen.

He watched, two men, clearly an instructor and a young trainee, walked over to the pole. Both were wearing hard hats. The younger man was also wearing a safety belt and work shoes with spurs on them.

"All right," said the instructor, "Let's get started."

The trainee looked up to the top of the pole, a little fearfully maybe. He started to wrap his safety belt around the pole, but surprisingly the instructor stopped him. "Don't forget," he said, "you don't wear



the harness except when you're working on a line." So, the trainee hooked the belt around his waist again, circled the pole with his gloved hands, dug his spurs into the wood and climbed to the top of the pole. Only when both hands were occupied splicing wires did the trainee use his safety gear.

When the instructor signaled the trainee to come down, the young man once again hooked his belt around his waist and made his way down the pole without the harness.

"Wasn't that dangerous climbing down without the belt?" John asked the instructor.

"No," he said. "If you slip the belt will throw you against the pole and you'll catch a stomach full of splinters. It's easier and safer to hold tight to the pole."

We humans far too often look for "safety belts" from secondary sources; money, position, education, even friends and family. These are good in themselves but if we rely just on them we are often thrown into life's poles with its inevitable splinters.



Almighty God loves all his children and never hates them for their sins. With that in mind, as his children in this season of Lent we need to face up to ourselves, admit we are often in the wrong, and reach with confidence for God's mercy in Jesus Christ, life's ultimate safety belt.

Rev. George Walton  
Stated Supply Pastor

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## **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

The Adult Sunday School Class meets from 9:45 – 10:45 a.m. For the month of March, we will study the following lessons:

- March 04th **The Lord Will Provide**  
*Genesis 22: 1-3, 6-14*
- March 11th **There is No God Like You**  
*2 Chronicles 6: 12-21*
- March 18th **The People Gave Thanks to God**  
*2 Chronicles 7: 1-9*
- March 25th **Keep My Statues and Ordinances**  
(Palm Sunday) *2 Chronicles 7: 12-22*

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**CWS** On Sunday, March  
11th, we will collect  
our gifts for the **Blanket Fund**  
**Offering** during our worship service.

We thank you in advance for your donations to this worthy cause.



## **Session Corner**

### **Highlights from Congregational Meeting held January 28, 2018**

Each committee representative gave a brief report of their respective committee. Lee Setzer, representing both Administration and Men of the Church, made the 2018 budget available and invited everyone to attend the Sweetheart Banquet on February 11th. Larry Collins invited everyone to come to adult Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. and J.W. Bailes explained that Outreach would invite anyone interested to join that committee to assist with distributing food, cards and phone calls to anyone in need. Buddy McNeill thanked our ministers and choir on behalf of the Worship Committee and as Trustee gave the financial report of our Trust monies. Jackie Frie recounted the many accomplishments of the Women this last year such as Spring Yard Sale and Fall Bazaar. Many organizations benefitted from donations from the Women. All committees are looking for more participation from the congregation and invite you to attend any meeting and join in the work of the church.

### **Highlights from Stated Meeting held February 11, 2018**

With the flu epidemic it was agreed that bumping elbows should replace handshakes. The Blanket Offering is scheduled to be collected on March 11th. This is a world-wide effort to supply blankets and other items for those in need supported by Buffalo Women and the congregation. Rev. Walton and one Elder will be taking Communion to those members unable to attend church.

Next Session Meeting will be 6:00 p.m., March 11th.

Jean Wilberg  
Assistant to the Clerk

**Remember with love and prayer:**

**CHURCH MEMBERS:** Lynda Bowers, Sheila Brewer, Nellie Cox, Greg Deck, Frances Foushee, Barbara Jo Glass, Bobby Johnson, Karen Johnson, Sandie Lemons, Lois Martin, Shawn McNeill, and Rev. George and Mark Walton

**FAMILY OF CHURCH MEMBERS:** Vernell Cersosimo, Robert Hardee, Inez Holt, Michael Holt, Richard Holt, Elaine McBryde, Barbara Suggs, Doug Ury, and Allison Williams

**FRIENDS OF CHURCH MEMBERS:** William Anderson, Jarrett Blackwell, Susan Bristow, Noah Clifton, Henry & Nancy Douglas, Billy Edwards, Brenda Godfrey, Jim Griggs, Dallas Hurley, Kasyn Kolacinski, Stella Smith, Sandra Ward, and Emily Hurley Wright

**WEEKLY OFFERING TOTALS**

February 04, 2018 – \$3323.00  
February 11, 2018 – \$1423.00  
February 18, 2018 – \$1406.00  
February 25, 2018 – \$2024.00  
5 Cents A Meal Offering – \$102.65  
BackPack Kids Offering – \$125.71

**FLOWERS WILL BE PLACED IN THE SANCTUARY DURING MARCH BY THE FOLLOWING:**

03/04/18 – by John Monroe in memory of his wife, Nancy C. Monroe  
03/11/18 – **OPEN**  
03/18/18 – **OPEN**  
03/25/18 – **OPEN**

**NEWSLETTER** Deadline for articles to be included in the next issue of the newsletter will be Thursday, March 22nd by 9:00 a.m.

**EMAIL:** [buffalochurch@windstream.net](mailto:buffalochurch@windstream.net)

**SEE THE NEWSLETTER IN COLOR AT:**

[www.buffalopres.org](http://www.buffalopres.org)

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Mar. 01st – Jan Renwick	Mar. 12th – Lori Renwick
Mar. 01st – Susan Bradley	Mar. 22nd – Jeff Renwick
Mar. 02nd – Bobby Bowers	Mar. 28th – Mary Bailes
Mar. 11th – Gregory Deck	Mar. 29th – Anna Renwick

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**WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES**

March 10th	Kevin & Pam McDonald
March 12th	Bob & Mattie Kelly
March 24th	Tim & Karen Johnson

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**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING - GREETER**

March 04th	Lee Setzer
March 11th	J. W. Bailes
March 18th	Larry Collins
March 25th	Karen Johnson



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**KENNA CARPENTER - February 2018**



# PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

## February Rains and Valentine's Day

Yes, the title doesn't really depict the Cupids and Valentine messages we normally hear about, but this Special Event the men put on every year to honor the Sweethearts of Buffalo was a real successful evening. The Fellowship Hall was transformed into a beautiful and welcoming place to hold the dinner. The tables were decked out in the usual reds/pinks and the centerpieces set the tone for the candies and tableware. Our Collins Team always do a fantastic job in the decorating area. The smells made you think you were hungry even if you were not.

Huge delicious steaks, baked potatoes with trimmings, salads, rolls, and delicious red velvet cake squares with cream cheese frosting. All of this on time and served by the men to about 50 guests.

Patrick Kelly set us all up for a Trivia Game and the winning table was awarded even more candy hearts. Bobby and Evelyn Johnson were married the longest with Bob and Jeanne Jolly coming in second. Both were awarded a beautiful gift.

Then we had the pleasure of George and Holly Walton belt out a couple of love songs for us romantics. We all joined in with Amazing Grace to close out the evenings gala.

If you missed the Event, you are welcome to come next year. The men get better every year and we thank them for always making the ladies and all who come feel very special.

Once again, a BIG Thank You to the Men for dinner and to the Walton's for their special music, making this a very Special Valentine's Day. We all love you.

Buffalo Women





PRESBYTERY OF COASTAL CAROLINA

Look what the Presbytery accomplished through your generous donations in 2017:



- Raised \$101,000 to disaster relief for Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria in addition to continued Hurricane Matthew recovery efforts
• Supported foreign missionaries in the amount of \$44,000
• Special Offerings (One Great Hour of Sharing, Pentecost, Joy Gift, and Peace and Global Witness) totaled \$94,000
• Cents-ability donations supporting local, national, and worldwide food ministries amounted to \$63,000
• Chartered First Hispanic Presbyterian Church in Fayetteville
• And ... met our budget!!!

As we go forward, let's reflect on our commitment as individual churches and as a Presbytery to local, national, and worldwide ministries.

What will 2018 bring?

The answer is up to you!

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The deepest sympathy of the congregation is extended to:

The Family of Chuck Zander

(Brother of Jan Renwick, Uncle of Jeff, Theresa, Sharon, and Karen)



Gifts to the Church

In Memory of Chuck Zander
Jan Renwick

The men want to thank everyone who came to the Valentine's Day Banquet.



We had about 50 people present who had a delicious steak supper and lots of fun! We wish everyone could have been there!



I want to thank the Women of Buffalo for the gift they gave me for Valentine's Day and I would like to thank the men for the delicious steak supper they provided for the women. I love you all!

Janet Warner, Church Secretary

Rev. George Walton would like to thank the Buffalo Women for the gift they gave him for Valentine's Day. He is very appreciative!



To the Women of Buffalo Church,



The spoken or written word cannot express feeling from the heart. Therefore, please know that I am most grateful for the gift. You are most kind and considerate.

Thanks also for allowing me to be part of your worship services once a month.

In Christ, Rev. Gilbert McDowell

CHURCH DIRECTORY



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Email: buffalochurch@windstream.net
SUPPLY PASTOR, Rev. George Walton.....498-1467
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SECRETARY, Janet Warner.....353-3568
DISBURSING TREASURERS, Kathy Jolly.....774-1997
Ken Frie.....75-5097
RECEIVING TREASURERS, Nelson Burke.....774-1997
Lee Setzer.....775-7881
CHOIR DIRECTOR, Jim Monson.....774-7263
ORGANIST, Pat Kelly.....258-3908



THE SESSION 2018

Table with 3 columns: Name, Position, Phone Number. Rows include J. W. Bailes, Larry Collins, Buddy McNeill, Cong. Care & Fellowship, Worship/Christian Ed., etc.

2019

Table with 3 columns: Name, Position, Phone Number. Rows include Karen Johnson, Kathy Jolly, Lee Setzer, Jean Wilberg, etc.

Table with 2 columns: Name, Phone Number. Rows include TRUSTEES (Frances Foushee, Bobby Johnson, Buddy McNeill), PM PRESIDENT (Lee Setzer), PM TREASURER (J. W. Bailes), PW MODERATOR, CO-MODERATOR, PW SECRETARY (Jan Renwick), PW TREASURER (Jean Wilberg), HISTORIAN (Sheila Brewer), MARY LOU CAMPBELL (Marie Macko), SUNSHINE CIRCLE (Anne Collins), FLOWER CHAIR (Geri Hales), BUFFALO WEBSITE (www.buffalopres.org).