



Avalon United Methodist Church

Loving God, Loving People
On Our Christian Journey

Pastor Debbie Cone

March 1, 2018

Weekly Newsletter

AT THE CROSS

At the cross
where mercy reigns and never dies
where streams of grace flow deep
where love ran red
where my sin washed white
where sin and shame are powerless
where Jesus paid it all

Because the Righteous One went to the cross and bore our sin, many can be made righteous. (Isaiah 53:11). That's the gospel! Never forget it! Never lose sight of it. Never let a day go by that you don't preach that gospel to yourself and remember that we have been made righteous because the Righteous One suffered in our place! As we are in a season of repentance, may we all draw near to the cross of Christ and rest in the shadow of His sacrifice, glory, and forgiveness. If you're standing on anything or anyone or any hope other than, less than Jesus Christ, you have no hope at all. All other ground is sinking sand. In Christ alone is our hope! On the cross, Jesus, the bread of life, gave His flesh, broken for us, that we might live forever. His death brings us life. With arms extended on the cross, He invited us to come, to believe, to repent, to take His sacrifice as the payment for our sin. Oh, what a Savior! It is finished and there is nothing that anyone can contribute to Jesus' work on the cross to bring us any closer to salvation. Because it is finished, let's worship the One who was wounded for our transgressions and crushed for our iniquities. It is finished!

Thanks be to God! Pastor, Debbie Cone

MEMORIALS

Capital Fund Memorials

Evelyn Bruner	Katye Reed
Ray Bruner	Mona Faye Williams
Rose Stone	Mona Faye Williams
Mary Beth Davis	Mona Faye Williams

Safe Sanctuary Training

Sunday, February 25th and Sunday, March 4th 4pm in Youth Building. All volunteers will need to recertify in Safe Sanctuary training. Any questions please see Anna Zuern.

Holy week

Avalon will host other Methodist Churches during Holy Week, March 26- March 30, 12pm to 1pm in the Fellowship Hall. Come for lunch and the Word!

Monday-Rev. Anna Miller, Morning Side UMC

Tuesday-Rev. Joey Cannon, Palmyra UMC

Wednesday-Rev. Patricia Burns, Putney UMC

Thursday-Rev. Sandra Conley, Christ UMC

Friday-Rev. Debbie Cone, Avalon UMC

49'ers Senior Luncheon Avalon UMC

Fellowship Hall

Next Luncheon:

March 20, 2018 11:30am

\$7.00 per person

Third Tuesday of each month in the Fellowship Hall. Lunch provided by Kaye Blalock, Southern Elegance Catering. Come bring a friend and enjoy making new friends who love the Lord! Everyone is invited. Bring your neighbors and friends!

Circle of Concern:

Nikki Daniel, Laverne Hawkins, Dot McClain, Dorothy Griffin, Rebecca Smith, family of Nathan Bundrick (Betsy Tatum), Ursula Gaydosh, Elizabeth Wall, Gene Hawkins, Charles Tallent, Cora Dasher, Eugenia Harrington, Tammy Mills, James Ivey, Mike Ling, Harold Smith, Clint Britt (friend of Gerald Collins, family of Jan Cowart, family of Evelyn Bruner.

If you know of anyone that needs to be added or removed please call the church office. Non- members names that have been on this list over one month have been removed. If they need to be on here please call the office

Home Bound - Please join us in this ministry to these members:

Barry & Nikki Daniel, Ann Dollar, Fred & Barbara English, Ed & Nelle Ennis, Gene & Laverne Hawkins, Gay Sheffield, Rebecca Smith, Betsy Tatum, Elizabeth Wall, Joyce Waters, Kitty Tomlinson, Jeannette Cosey, Bill & Jan Cowart, Cora Dasher, Lola Moreland, George Anderson. Eugenia Harrington.

Ben Brown passed away on Dec. 1, 2017. He was predeceased by Avalon members, Harlan & Dot Brown. He had recently moved his membership to Ft. Lauderdale, FL. He died from complications with cancer. Christian sympathy for his sisters and Avalon friends is noted.

From the Youth Minister, Derek Thornton, Desk

As the cold days of Winter pass and we look forward to Spring, our students will be very busy over the next couple of months, both prepping for the summer, but also staying busy before school lets out! On Saturday, March 3rd, our students will have a game night at the Student Center. This event will last from 5 pm to 7:30pm and all middle and high school students are welcome! Food and drinks will be provided, so please see Derek to let him know that you are coming so he knows how much food to order! The next day, Sunday, March 4th, we will have an Italian-styled luncheon to help support and fundraise for our annual summer camp to Daytona Beach. This event will be after Sunday morning service in the Fellowship Hall. This potluck should be an excellent opportunity to fellowship, but also to enjoy some good food for a great cause.

On Friday, March 16th, the youth group will be camping out at Chehaw Park for the evening. This short retreat will offer us an excellent time of fellowship, but also a peaceful quiet evening to remove ourselves from the noise of our routines to focus the calling of Christ in our lives. The following day, we will conclude with a grill out where we will invite other students that we have recently been mentoring. If you would like to help chaperone or volunteer for this event, please see Derek, as we can always use more volunteers!

Starting the following Monday, March 18th to 28th, leading up to Easter, we will be having a bid-a-basket and bake sale, similar to the one that we had last year. If you missed out on one of the amazing baskets that we had for Easter 2017, here is your chance! All proceeds from this event will also go to the fundraising for our annual summer camp to Daytona Beach. More details on the baskets themselves to come!

Our students will also be helping out with our Vacation Bible School this year! Avalon's VBS will run from June 18th -29th, lasting from 9 am to 1 pm each day. This should prove to be a great time for our students to help out our growing children's ministry!

Lastly, every Monday night at 7 pm, there is a bible study for young adults and college students that is led by Linda Stevens. This has proved to be an excellent time of study and reflection on Scripture, designed to give our students a group to transition into after leaving the youth group, moving into college. For more information, please contact Derek through the church office!

JOYFUL NOTES FROM THE CHOIR!

Lent is upon us, and we prepare ourselves for Passion Week from Jesus' triumphal entry to his sacrificial death on the cross. We can prepare with daily prayer and devotionals, repentance, forgiveness, and the singing of songs and hymns that tell of God's sacrifice. We will share the Holy Week cantata "Behold God's Holy Lamb" by Mark Hayes, on Good Friday, March 30, at 6:30pm. The word of God refers to sacrifice and a "sacrificial lamb" throughout scripture. It is with the spirit of reverence and gratitude that we commemorate God's sacrifice. Come one, come all to share the word of God in song! We have your chair and your music ready if you feel called to ministry by singing with the choir. If you prefer to only participate in the seasonal cantatas, we rehearse the music for the cantatas on Wednesday evenings from 7:30pm -8:30pm, 6-8 weeks before the date of the cantata. May we all be blessed as we recall the sacrifice of Jesus.

Diana Boensel

GENEROSITY

We should be thankful to be able to give, never complaining, but giving cheerfully. The word translated as "cheerful" in most of our English Bibles literally means "hilarious", so we should be extremely delighted to give freely, openly and happily. We give cheerfully because it is the good and right response to His giving to us. as well as because He tells us He "loves a cheerful giver". II Cor. 9:7

God gave: Jesus to purchase our salvation, His Holy Spirit to comfort, guide and teach us, and the promise to have an abundant life here and to live eternally in Heaven with Him. He gives us access into His throne room, allowing us to talk to Him, promising to hear and answer our prayers. Since He gave us all this and so much more, how can we not give? He gave and gave and gave and He gives and gives and give.

He blesses us by allowing us to be a channel of blessing to others. Consider the disciples when Jesus took the few loaves and fishes and multiplied them to feed thousands. As long as they passed the food to the hungry there was more there. It is the same with us when we give from the blessings He gives to us. Don't you just know they were enjoying that multiplication? He is still multiplying!

God has not promised to immediately solve all our problems, but He has promised to supply all of our need. Phil. 4:19 With our needs met, what more is there? And what more can we do than give in return? God's purpose is that we serve Him fully and that we give cheerfully in return.

Biblical generosity is intentional and above all full of joy. I like the "sound" of "hilarious" generosity- it makes me smile. Joy is a fruit of the Spirit which is planted in each heart at the moment of acceptance of Jesus as Lord and Savior. As we work it out, it won't become dormant in our hearts. It will be productive.

He wants us to give and give and give, just as He does. He never stops. We can train ourselves to look for opportunities to give, not just money, but whatever is needed by someone else that we can provide a smile, a word of encouragement, a handshake, a cheerful greeting, a listening ear to discern a need. God will use our willing spirits and hearts to help supply such.

Jan Beard, Stewardship Chair

The family of Harold Smith would like to extend t heir heartfelt thanks for the overwhelming prayers, cards and food during his brief illness and death. You are an awesome church family!

Norma and Family

Thank you for your prayers and many acts of kindness during my hospital stay. God bless you.

John Tracy

THOSE WHO SERVE

Offering Stewards

Mar. 4	Aubrey McClain/Kim Glass
Mar. 11	Bill Beard/Ellen Branch
Mar. 18	Wayne Barnette/Sheila Creel
Mar. 25	Katy Reed/Jenny Collins

Ushers

Mar. 4	Lloyd Mears, Ron Wolfe, Carl Ellis, Richard Griffin, Robbie Collins, Josh Hammond
Mar. 11	Avalon Youth
Mar. 18	Lloyd Mears, Ron Wolfe, Carl Ellis, Richard Griffin, Robbie Collins, Josh Hammond
Mar. 25	Lloyd Mears, Ron Wolfe, Carl Ellis, Richard Griffin, Robbie Collins, Josh Hammond

Prayer Room

Mar. 4	Homer Milliner
Mar. 11	Katie Dillard
Mar. 18	Carolyn Rentz
Mar. 25	Jenni Bode

Nursery

Mar. 4	Nancy Newman
Mar. 11	Kim Glass
Mar. 18	Linda Stevens
Mar. 25	Sheila Daniel

Sound Technician: Bob Smith

Trustee of the Month- Floyd Herman

Wednesday Family Night Fellowship (FNF)

March Menus FNF Begins at 6PM

Mar. 7	Pork Loin, Broccoli casserole, Zipper Peas, Coconut pie.
Mar. 14	Baked chicken, Calico rice, Butterbeans, Chocolate cake.
Mar. 21	Chicken pot pie, Green beans, Tossed salad, Key lime cake.
Mar. 28	BBQ pork, baked beans, Potato Salad, Brownies.

Server Rotation: Volunteers

Please be mindful that if your reservations are not cancelled by noon on Tuesday, you are responsible for payment.

Cost: Adults-\$6.50, Children under 12 years- \$3.50, Takeout's- \$.50 extra