



Rev. Dr. Peter Bynum
Pastor & Head of Staff

Lenten Self-Reflection

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished.
(Matthew 4:1-2)

Forty days plus Sundays. That’s the duration of the season we call Lent. Following the Council of Nicaea in the year 325, the bishops called for a church-wide period of preparation that would precede the celebration of the Easter Vigil. The length of this period would mirror the forty days that Jesus spent being tempted in the wilderness. Sundays would be excluded from the count, presumably because each Sunday can be considered a “little Easter” of its own.

Regardless of how you choose to mark this season – by giving something up, giving something away, giving something back, or giving some other part of you to God – this is a time for you to ponder **what it really means to be you**. God created you to fill a place in this world that no one else can fill. There has never been anyone quite like you, and there never will be again. As pastor and author Frederick Buechner has written, “During Lent, Christians are supposed to ask one way or another what it means to be themselves.”

As you engage in this holy discipline, perhaps some of Frederick Buechner’s questions will serve as a helpful guide:

“If you had only one last message to leave to the handful of people who are most important to you, what would it be in twenty-five words or less?”

Of all the things you have done in your life, which is the one you would most like to undo? Which is the one that makes you happiest to remember?

Is there any person in the world, or any cause, that, if circumstances called for it, you would be willing to die for?

If this were the last day of your life, what would you do with it?”

“To hear yourself try to answer questions like these,” Buechner says, “is to begin to hear something not only of who you are but of both what you are becoming and what you are failing to become. It can be a pretty depressing business all in all, but if sack-cloth and ashes are at the start of it, something like Easter may be at the end.”¹

Blessings and peace,

¹ Frederick Buechner. Listening to Your Life. San Francisco: Harper Collins (1992), p. 56.

March 2019

Connect With Us

SUNDAYS

Worship: 8:15 & 9:45 AM, Sanctuary
11:15 AM, Sanctuary & Fellowship Hall (The Net)
Sunday School: 9:45 am (All Ages)
Fellowship Breakfast
9:00 – 11:00 AM, Fellowship Hall
Childcare
Available during every service, Seabrook
Secure Check-In & Background Checks

Sermons

[Live Streaming](http://mppc.net/watch-live): mppc.net/watch-live
[Sermons](http://mppc.net/sermons): mppc.net/sermons
[Podcast](http://mppc.net/podcast): mppc.net/podcast

WEDNESDAYS

Get Fed: Faith, Fellowship & Food

mppc.net/get-fed

Events, Registrations & News

mppc.net > News & Events

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IMAGINE With Us & Commit by Mar. 5

www.mppc.net/commit-2019

mppc.net 843.884.4612

LENT @MPPC



Rev. Dr. Leanne Van Dyk

Leanne Van Dyk is the President and Professor of Theology at Columbia Theological Seminary. She accepted this call in the spring of 2015 and serves as the tenth president of the seminary. Formerly, she was the Dean and Vice President of Academic Affairs and Professor of Reformed theology at Western Theological Seminary in Holland, Michigan. She is a graduate of Calvin College, Western Michigan University, Calvin Theological Seminary, and Princeton Theological Seminary. The author of several books and numerous articles, Dr. Van Dyk is particularly interested in the potential of theological education to serve the church and the world. She is an ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church (USA).

For more information, contact [Ann Burdette](mailto:aburdette@mppc.net) (aburdette@mppc.net or 843-884-4612)

Lenten Small Group Kickoff: Mar. 3

Sunday Worship & Keynote (5:30 PM)

Our Lenten Small Groups kick off March 3 as we welcome Rev. Dr. Leanne Van Dyk, President and Professor of Theology at Columbia Seminary in Atlanta, to the pulpit Sunday morning. "A Keynote Conversation and Dinner" with Dr. Van Dyk will follow that evening from 5:30 – 7:00 PM. No reservations required. Small groups will meet weekly for six weeks beginning March 6 to study Jesus's parables using Amy-Jill Levine's *The Short Stories of Jesus*.

Pancake Supper: Mar. 5 • 5 PM, Fellowship Hall

Ash Wednesday: March 6

8:00 AM – 7:00 PM (Drop-In), 7:00 PM Worship Service

The journey of Lent is a path that begins with open and honest confession of our need for God's grace. Join us for a time of penitence and prayer, including, for those who desire it, the symbolic imposition of ashes. Drop in for the imposition of ashes at a time convenient to you between 8 AM – 7:00 PM. (Please note the change in the starting time.) At the beginning of each hour, the church bell will be rung followed by a five-minute liturgy of scripture and prayer. A worship service which will include music, a brief homily, and the imposition of ashes will begin at 7:00 PM. For more information, please contact [Barbara Loehr-Fox](mailto:bloehr@mppc.net) (bloehr@mppc.net).

Get Fed Adult Study - Practicing Lent

On Wednesdays during Lent, our Get Fed adult study will focus on spiritual practices and disciplines for us in Lent and throughout our lives. Spiritual practices are anything we do with intention that opens us to the presence of God. Each week we will address a particular style of prayer, meditation, Bible study or worship. While not directly using the Lenten Study, we will utilize the parables as part of each week's practice. We invite you to learn about and try some new experiences, allowing your spiritual life to be refreshed and renewed.

Mar. 13 - Parable: Good Samaritan, The Examen, Bart Edwards

Mar. 20 - Parable: Pearl of Great Price, Taize Worship, Barbara Loehr-Fox

Apr. 3 - Parable: The Mustard Seed, Praying in Color, Lib McGregor Simmons

Apr. 10 - Parable: Laborers in the Vineyard, Lectio Divina, Peter Bynum

Apr. 24 - Parable: Widow and the Judge, Approaches to Prayer, Kim Trimboli

Lenten Worship & Lunch on Thursdays

Beginning at 12 Noon, enjoy a 30-minute service with a light lunch to follow. For more info, contact [Barbara Loehr-Fox](mailto:bloehr@mppc.net) (bloehr@mppc.net).

Mar. 14 – Worship with Communion @MPPC, Regina Helcher Yost, flute

Mar. 21 – Worship with Communion @Sunrise Presbyterian

Mar. 28 – Worship with Communion @MPPC, Ann Caldwell, gospel singer

Apr. 4 – Worship with Communion @Palmetto Presbyterian

Apr. 11 – Worship with Communion @MPPC, Christopher Teves, classical guitar

Worship

Congregational Meeting: Mar. 10

Commitment Sunday: Mar. 10

Daylight Saving Time Begins

Mar. 10

Set your clocks ahead one hour on Saturday night.

Easter Lily Offering for Worship

mppc.net/events

Each Easter, MPPC offers members and friends the opportunity to purchase lilies which will adorn the worship on Easter morning. They may be purchased (\$15 ea.) in honor of or in memory of a loved one. Donations received by April 8 will be published in the Easter bulletin insert. Lilies may be picked up after our 11:15 am worship.

Easter Worship April 21

7:00, 8:15, 9:45, 11:15

Care & Support

Cancer Support Group for

patients, survivors & care-takers

Mar. 28, Church Parlor (6:30 PM)

Speaker: Dr. Buddy Jenrette

Fellowship

Gathering for Chris Sarkowski

Mar. 3, Following 11:15 AM

Service, Fellowship Hall

Join us as we thank and honor Chris Sarkowski, Director of High School Ministries, with cake and refreshments. Best wishes to Chris as he begins a new ministry at Auburn Presbyterian Church.

Pacesetters Dinner & Program

Mar. 8 - 6:00 PM, Charleston

Symphony Orchestra Wind Quintet

Village Concert Series

Mar. 8: 7:00 pm, Sanctuary

Please join us for an evening of woodwind music with members of the Charleston Symphony: Regina Helcher Yost (flute), Kari Kistler (oboe), Gretchen Roper (clarinet), Anne Holmi (French horn), and Ryan Leveille (percussion). The concert is free and open to the public. For more info, contact [Jason Pedeaux](mailto:jpedeaux@mppc.net) (jpedeaux@mppc.net).

Lunch Bunch: Mar. 25

11:30 AM, Fellowship Hall

All are welcome to join us for great food, fun, and fellowship. Bring your favorite covered dish! For more information, [Alexis Wright Singleton](mailto:asingleton@mppc.net) (asingleton@mppc.net).

Missions

Bridge Builders Ministry Team

Mar. 4 - 7:00 pm, Grace Hall 223

The MPPC Bridge Builders (formerly called Diversity) Ministry explores ways to be Christ's church in welcoming, sharing, and serving all our neighbors regardless of race, religion, ethnicity, or gender. We invite you to join us as we seek to understand implicit biases and discover new paths of reaching across cultural divides to join in fellowship and service with others. To join our team, or more information, please contact the church office.

Family Mission Day: Mar. 9

10:00 AM, Fellowship Hall

Calling all families! The Children's Ministry Special Events team is hosting a mission project perfect for the whole family. Join us in the Fellowship Hall to make Easter crafts and deliver to those who are home bound or in assisted living situations. We will pray for these families and ensure they feel Christ's love as Easter approaches. Please register: mppc.net/events. For more information, contact [Susan Dalton](mailto:sdalton@mppc.net) (sdalton@mppc.net, 843-884-4612).

New Members

New Member classes are held throughout the year. If you are interested in joining the church, please contact the church office.

P&G Update

The Property & Ground's Ministry (P&G) has been hard at work. In 2018, we repaired the rot on the Administration building and the Sanctuary and repainted the areas. We have replaced all 14 windows in the Fellowship Hall due to rot damage. We also plan to replace the windows in the Choir Room in February 2019.

We pressure washed several of our buildings in February with a hope to have money in the budget to paint some of the buildings in 2019. We had to replace two of the four Fellowship Hall HVAC units this last Fall/Winter and rework a closet that held one of the HVAC units. All four HVAC units were initially installed at the same time, so we may be replacing two more units sooner rather than later. We had a successful Work Day with the Confirmants and church members on January 27. We painted, cleaned out the church bus, removed and moved a lot of tree limbs, and light yard work. We are blessed to have such dedicated members who are willing to give of their time to our campus.

We have a lot of work to do around campus. We appreciate your prayers, your time and your generosity.

BIRTHS

Lucy Shipp Chandler, daughter of Logan & Mark Chandler and granddaughter of Sugie & Willard Stout (DG #45), Jan. 21.

BAPTISMS

John Charles Justice, III, Feb. 17

Fielding Elaine Cross, Feb. 17

Miller Anderson Nickles, Feb. 24

Randall Edmund Miller, III, Feb. 24

DEATHS

Dick McGillivray, Member, husband of Sheryl McGillivray (DG #19), Jan. 22.

Hillary Johnson, sister of Alice Jenkins (DG #17),

Jan. 29.

HOPE HOUSE

In MEMORY of

Robin Scott, my friend, given by Miff Cone.

Don and Betty Rice, and In Honor of All that remembered her Dad at his death, given by their daughter, Ann Rice Phillips.

ENDOWMENT

In MEMORY of

Fred Scott given by Dallas Deer, Jr.

In HONOR of

Ilse White given by Patrick O'Neil.



Haiti Outreach Ministries (HOM) together with their Haitian partner, Mission Communautaire de l'Eglise Chretienne des Cites (MICECC) works to share the Love of Christ by providing education, health care and churches for worship with the goal of developing self-sustaining communities and nurturing hope for tomorrow. Together, with God's grace, HOM strives to meet the spiritual and physical needs of the Haitian people in Port-au-Prince.

The Mission of HOM, to share God's Good News and the love of Christ in Haiti, is led by Pastor Leon Dorleans, his wife, Jackie, and a dedicated group of Haitian pastors, church leaders, health professionals and teachers, who minister to the people of Haiti in the name of Jesus Christ through evangelism, discipleship and providing clean water, food, shelter, education and other assistance to those in need.

At each of three mission sites, Terre Noire, Cite Soleil and Repatriote there is a preK-6 school, health clinic, clean water access and a church. They provide opportunity for safe learning, worship and fellowship. Pastor Leon and Jackie's daughter, Nadege Gay, is the assistant superintendent of the schools and head of the House of Hope where she oversees operations. Nadege has long had a passion for assisting orphan children in Haiti. She, along with other partners, started the House of Hope, which now has 15 girls in residence. They call her "mom" and attend school in Terre Noire.

Worship

The church is the foundation of HOM'S ministry. There is no doubt that God has touched the hearts of many and His work is visible. Each Sunday, over 3,000 people gather

together at the churches to worship and praise God.

Education

Education goes beyond influencing the lives of students, it has the power to impact families, communities and the nation. Many parents come to know Christ by seeing the love and knowledge their children are receiving through a Christian education. An education provides the skills needed for employment and a successful future. At each campus there is a school for pre-K through grade 6.

At another site, Barye Fe, there is a secondary school with grades 7 through 11; grades 12 and 13 are to be built soon. Pastor Leon's wife is the principal of the secondary school. Plans are being made also to build a vocational school and a Bible college.

Health Care

Another goal of HOM is to share the love of Jesus by promoting wellness by providing quality health and dental care to the communities surrounding the campuses. There is a clinic in Cite Soleil; health care is also provided at the other campuses. Last year, 30,000 patients were treated with the help of 26 medical teams, 6 dental teams and 3 surgeons and the few local health care providers.

During the first week of December, Rev. Bart Edwards, Suzy Edwards and members of the International Mission Team (IMT) visited Haiti Outreach Ministries. In January, they sent \$4,000 to HOM for replacement of a sewer line at the House of Hope. IMT has decided to partner with and support HOM. IMT will begin making plans soon to send a mission team this fall to provide health care. There is also the opportunity to support individual students with small monthly contributions.

[To learn more about HOM](https://www.youtube.com/embed/kwvEPZ9oJkM), view this short video (<https://www.youtube.com/embed/kwvEPZ9oJkM>). Click here to [sponsor a child](http://www.haitiom.org/student-sponsorship) in the HOM school system (\$35 a month, www.haitiom.org/student-sponsorship).

Haiti Outreach Ministries



Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church

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Hope House: Come Visit & Stay A While

The next time you are in the vicinity of Hope House, don't simply walk by... stop by for a visit. You will notice the brand new porch with sturdy boards that don't creak and new railings painted white. As you enter the front door, your eyes immediately go to the staircase. No longer does it snake its way up and around. The steps are wider and all are finally the same height. They are easy to navigate with handrails the entire length for added safety. One recent guest, who has had a hip and two knee replacements, was thrilled that she could maneuver the stairs so easily! Underneath the staircase, with access from the kitchen, is a newly crafted and well organized pantry!

What a blessing it was to have Bob Smith and crew at RA Smith Construction take charge of this monumental project. They did a great job and were delightful to work with!

During the renovations we had to close the House for about three weeks, which meant Hope Cottage was constantly in demand. Guests were lining up to stay at Hope House even before it reopened...all seeking the comfort so many have experienced here over the past nine years.

Much of the credit goes to the volunteers who offer hope, a helping hand, or a hug and a prayer. For many of them, being a Caretaker or a Team Leader at Hope House is a way of giving back for kindnesses shown them, their family or a friend in the past.

How To Get Involved

If you feel inspired to join this team, and get to know our many wonderful guests who stay at Hope House and Hope Cottage, please contact Beth Moore (843-532-4892, bmoore@carolinaone.com) for information about volunteer and giving opportunities.