

Lamplighter

Let your light so shine
before others . . .
Matthew 5:16



Up River Friends Meeting, Belvidere, NC 27919 -- Vol. XXXII No. 2

February 2019

WORDS FROM OUR PASTOR -----

DEAR FRIENDS:

HELLO:

Several weeks ago I was walking to my car, when I noticed a stranger getting out of his car. He had just shut his car door when I arrived at my car, which he had parked beside. As I opened my car door, I said to this man, "Hello, I hope you're having a good day?" As our conversation ended he said, "by the way, thank you for taking the time to say hello."

I wondered how many opportunities I miss, daily, to bless others, by not saying hello? I wonder how many opportunities I have missed to pray with someone, encourage someone, or lead someone to Christ because I was in too big of a hurry to simply say, *hello*?

In Acts chapter three Peter, sees a lame man sitting beside the temple gate. Scripture says that Peter fixed his eyes upon this lame beggar (v. 4). Peter could have chosen to pretend he did not see or hear this lame beggar, but Peter did not. Peter could have been so preoccupied with getting to the temple that he missed seeing the lame beggar, but again he did not. Scripture states that Peter fixed his eyes upon the man. In other words, Peter became present and involved in the man's life. Peter took the time to hear the individual, and meet his need for healing.

God might not use us in the dramatic way He used Peter, but, He cannot use us at all if we do not first become present in the lives of others. The more present we become in the lives of others, the more able He is to use us in their lives.

Obviously we cannot be present in the lives of every person. Jesus had just completed His earthly ministry, and in the years He had ministered, He had never had the opportunity to heal this lame beggar. Jesus, while present in the lives of many, had never been present with this individual. Jesus' earthly work was complete, but Peter's ministry was in progress. Peter was continuing in the work Jesus began—the same work you and I continue.

The best place to begin is at home. Be intentional with your spouse, children, and family members. I once had a child tell me that they felt safe with me because I took time and listened to that child. The child explained that mom and dad were so involved with their tablets and mobile devices that he knew they never really heard him speak. I am confident that the more intentional we become with our inner circle, the more this intentionality will spillover into our lives with those outside that inner circle.

As Babbie Mason has written and sang, "Each one can reach one; as we follow after Christ we all can lead one. We can lead one to the Savior; then together we can tell the world that Jesus is The Way" (1990, Word Music). Perhaps reaching that *one* is as simple as a sincere, *hello*.

Pastor Chuck,



WHAT IS
SOWN
IS PERISHABLE;
WHAT IS
RAISED
IS IMPERISHABLE.

1 Corinthians 15:42

UP RIVER FRIENDS MISSION STATEMENT:

To know Christ and to make Him known.

SCHEDULE OF SUNDAY & WEEKLY SERVICES:

- 10:00 am Sunday School
- 11:00 am Worship Service
- Nursery and Junior Church
- *****
- 04th 7:00 pm Mtg. Ministry Counsel
- 06th 6:00 pm Choir Practice
- 6:30 pm Fellowship Meal
- 7:00 pm Children's Program
- 7:00 pm Bible Study
- 11th 2:00 pm Elizabeth White Miss. Circle
- 13th 6:00 pm Choir Practice
- 6:30 pm Light Meal
- 7:00 pm Bible Study
- 7:00 pm Children's Program
- 7:30 pm Monthly Meeting
- 20th 6:00 pm Choir Practice
- 6:30 pm Light Meal
- 7:00 pm Children's Program
- 7:00 pm Bible Study
- 24th 11:00 am New Salem
- 25th - 27th Revival

BIRTHDAYS and ANNIVERSARIES:

- 02nd Steve Sanders
- 04th Whitney Elizabeth Winslow
- 06th Adam Richardson
- 07th Kent White
- 08th Kim Owens, Kathy R. Hunter
- 09th Scott Winslow, Teresa Winslow,
- 12th Chay White, Joey Colson
- 14th Lyn Winslow, Marie Rawlings,
Zack Hebert
- 15th June Wampole
- 17th **MIKE & CHERYL WHITE**
- 18th Reggie Winslow
- 20th **RANDY & LYNN LASSITER**
- 21st Maddox Tate Barton, Waldo Winslow
- 22nd Evelyn Ann Savaria
- 23rd Joshua Lassiter,
Brad Thompson, Griffin T. Crain
- 25th Kim Baker
- 26th Wyatt Ethan Winslow
- 27th Crystal Colson, Hayden Thomas Dail
- 28th Wayne Winslow

FLOWERS:

- 3rd Nancy L. Winslow
- 10th Dianne Mize
- 17th Lynette Baker

(Would you like to provide flowers on the 17th, if so please call or e-mail Catherine. Thank you.)

PRAYER REQUESTS: World leaders and those working to bring world peace. Our elders, children, youth and leadership of our meeting; Lona Stallings; Linda Givens; Flora Hurdle; Shirley Sawyer – Sonya Winslow's mother; Preston Morgan; Ronni Sweeney; Cheryl White; Jo White; Jamie Davenport; Barbara Saunders; Joe Meads; and Lorraine Casper.

HOMEBOUND AND/OR CONVALESCING: Tommy Stallings; Jesse Rountree; Bob Booze (cousin of Tommy and Lyn); Bob Parsons; Clyde Stallings; Joe Liner; Janet Riddick; Vivian Winslow and family; Jovan and Wesley Ward; Tommy Riddick; Wiley Shore; Archie Creed; Eura Hall, Dale Hunter; Wiley Shore; Archie Creed; Leah Robertson; Forrest White (great grandson of Judy Parsons); Lester Baker, Tommy Chappell; Carlton Rountree; Karen Boblit; Sonya Hartman's mother Jean Presley, sister Wanda, and aunt Sue Hall; Christine Chappell; Barbara and Perry Robbins; Eloise and Lyndon White; Affie Spivey; Jeff Sweeney; James Parks; Dawn Alexander (Dena Richardson's sister); Renee Marshburn (Robin Winslow's sister); Herbert Williams; Pat & Mary Frances Twiddy; Sid Stallings; Ann Brown (friends of Jacque); Garland Anderson; Kathy Turner; Robert Hall (cousin of Rose Riddick); Lois Faye, Paul White and family; Quincy Riddick; Abby Baker; Anna Spivey; Carey Guyer; the families of Betty Ann Thach; Reggie Trueblood; Charles White; Peggy Chappell's brother; Cecil Brown; and Charles Smith; our caregivers, and missionaries.

If you know of anyone who needs to be added to our prayer list, please contact Pastor Chuck or Catherine. Thank you.

PAST AND UPCOMING EVENTS:

BIBLE STUDY:

Jennifer-Beth Sawyer is leading midweek Bible Study on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm with the exception of February 27th when we will be having revival.

WORSHIP IN SONG:

On Sunday February 24th at 11:00 am the group *NEW SALEM*, from Winston Salem will be leading worship in song.

REVIVAL:

SPRING FORTH REVIVAL will be held February 25, 26, and 27 at 7:00 pm nightly. Guest speakers are Reverends Brian & Jennifer-Beth Sawyer and Pastor Jeremy Pugh.

UP RIVER FRIENDS CHILLI COOK OFF:

The 6th annual Up River Friends *Chili Cook Off* will be held **Wednesday, March 6th at 6:30 pm.** There are three categories – **Classic, Exotic and Heat.**

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ELIZABETH WHITE MISSIONARY CIRCLE:

The Elizabeth White Missionary Circle met in the Fellowship Hall on Monday, January 14th for our regular meeting at 2:00 pm. Jacque Pagels brought a very interesting program written by Addis Beason, a long time member of NCUSFW, to the 5 members present. In our business meeting it was decided to contribute \$100.00 to the Belize Friends Center Building Fund in memory of Dale Graves. Dale, a long time faithful member of the Society of Friends and FUM, had served in Belize

Our next meeting will be Monday, February 22nd at 2 o'clock in the Fellowship Hall. We welcome new members.

* * * * *

UP RIVER FRIENDS VISIT GATES HOUSE: (Thank you R. J. Lassiter for sharing this much appreciated and moving article).

First off, let me do a little horn honking. Ms. Catherine G. Winslow has been faithfully for at least my lifetime, producing, editing, and printing our bulletin and Lamplighter which I look forward to reading weekly and monthly. She is the person behind the scenes who makes it happen without accolades or enough mention in my opinion. So, thank you Ms. Catherine!

I bumped into Ms. Catherine at the copier at the Meeting House where we were both on a mission from God to copy text for two different services. She met me with understanding and patience and encouraged our efforts to facilitate the day's worship; and this invitation to share.

Two weeks ago Mark Baker and I went to the Oyster Bar to plan our 6th annual Chili Cook Off. We ate. We chatted. We laughed. We did everything but plan the cook off, but on the way home we were reminiscing about past nursing home visits and the fruit from it, and right in the middle of Turnpike Road almost audibly the Holy Spirit said, "Mrs. Vivian Winslow, Gates House. Go. Do it. Do it Now." Neither of us said it, but both heard it.

From then on and this is where it gets indescribable, it was like some long lost benefactor had bought us all-inclusive trips around the world with plenty of time to do so. What I am getting at is the delight, and joy and anticipation. I have never even looked so forward to Christmas as a kid as I was stoked to go and be a part of a nursing home visitation.

Things started to happen. Our congregation willingly laid down Sunday School so that the majority could attend. The standing Up Riverbilly's (Scott Winslow, Randy Lassiter, Adam Lassiter, David Jethro, and I) had a called practice. We wrapped this effort in prayer; knowing that something good and outside of our

norm and ourselves was going to take place. Personally, I started to fast and pray fervently that whatever was supposed to happen would happen.

Murphy's Law, we wake up to a winter cold front with sideways wind and rain. Mark and I texted one another in prayer the night before as we were still both in the Spirit. He even woke up at 4 am unable to sleep; ready to preach. Scott rounded on me that morning at church to let me know he was on his way "to help mom get ready".

We arrive and approximately thirty folks consisting of the Open Class and the Young Married Class were there. The Riverbilly's tuned up and off we went. We worshipped and testified through song and then Mark led a devotion on Love and how it is commanded, but not as easy as it seems, but out of everything or anyone it is the only thing that prevails. Afterwards, we had corporate prayer while each member laid hands on all of the residents. That was it. Or was it? When we adjourned and exhausted all of the Spirit in us, God gave us all a sense of peace, and completeness, and unity, and purpose and it ended up being an Uncloudy Day

One never truly knows what exactly the Spirit is doing inside someone else, but as a body it was clear something was taking place and is taking place. Coming down, I still have jolts and shocks of overwhelming joy and thanksgiving that we together took the opportunity to follow the leading of the Holy Spirit and minister in a fashion outside of our norm (a ministry we thought had run its course) where we simply participate and let God move.

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THE MAYONNAISE JAR:

A professor stood before his philosophy class and had some items in front of him. The class began, wordlessly, he picked up a very large and empty mayonnaise jar and started to fill it with golf balls. He then asked the students if the jar was full. They agreed that it was.

The professor then picked up a box of pebbles and poured it into the jar. He shook the jar lightly. The pebbles rolled into the open areas between the golf balls. He then asked the students again if the jar was full. They agreed it was.

The professor next picked up a box of sand and poured it into the jar. Of course, the sand filled up everything else. He asked once more if the jar was full. The students responded with an unanimous "yes!"

The professor produced two cups of coffee from under the table and poured the entire contents into the jar, effectively filling the empty space between the sand. The students laughed.

"Now," said the professor, as the laughter subsided, "I want you to recognize that this jar represents your life. The golf balls are the important things - God, Family, Children, Health, Friends, and favorite passions; things that if everything else was lost and only they remained, your life would still be full. The pebbles are the things that matter like your job, house, and car. The sand is everything else - the small stuff.

"If you put the sand into the jar first," he continued, "there is no room for the pebbles or the golf balls. The same goes for life. If you spend all your time and energy on the small stuff, you will never have room for the things that are important to you."

"So ... pay attention to the things that are critical to your happiness.

Spend time with God.

Play with your children.

Take time to get medical checkups.

Take your spouse out to dinner.

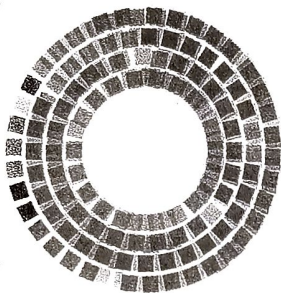
"There will always be time to clean the house and fix the dripping tap. Take care of the golf balls first - the things that really matter. Set your priorities. The rest is just sand."

One of the students raised her hand and inquired what the coffee represented. The professor smiled. "I'm glad you asked! It just goes to show you that no matter how full your life may seem, there is always room for a couple of cups of coffee with a friend."

To each of you who contributed to this newsletter, **THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH.** If you would like to share in upcoming newsletters, please feel free to do so – just give me a call at 252-297-2485, new e-mail address - candlcwjr@gmail.com. Also, if you have a loved one or a friend whom you think would like to receive our newsletter – or if you no longer wish to receive our newsletter, please let me know. Thank you very much. Catherine G. Winslow

The church as mosaic

A mosaic consists of thousands of little stones. Some are blue, some are green, some are yellow, some are gold. When we bring our faces close to the mosaic, we can admire the beauty of each stone. But as we step back from it, we can see that all these little stones reveal to us a beautiful picture, telling a story none of these stones can tell by itself.



That is what our life in [the church] is about. Each of us is like a little stone, but together we reveal the face of God to the world. Nobody can say: "I make God visible." But others who see us together can say: "They make God visible." [Christian] community is where humility and glory touch.

—Henri J.M. Nouwen

[image above: MOSAIC_18404, MOSAIC_18404C]

Neighborly love

As an ordained minister, Fred Rogers harnessed the power of television to tell children they were loved – and to show them how to love others. In *You Are Special*, he writes, "When we love a person, we accept him or her exactly as is: the lovely with the unlovely, the strong along with the fearful, the true mixed in with the façade, and of course, the only way we can do it is by accepting ourselves that way."

In a review of the touching documentary *Won't You Be My Neighbor?* a writer for *Variety* notes: "Rogers' real secret was ... that the call to love your neighbor as yourself isn't a slogan to hang in your kitchen with flowers around it – it's a decision you make at every moment, to view every man, woman and child on earth as your neighbor. If you don't see and feel that, and act on it, then you're just another narcissist with a kitchen slogan."

Last October, when a synagogue shooting shattered the peace of Rogers' real-life former neighborhood, residents of all religions embraced one another as neighbors. Afterward, the Fred Rogers Center stated, "We long for a day when there is no more tragedy born from hatred."

Affectionately yours

St. Valentine, a Roman priest, was martyred in 270 A.D. for loving Jesus. Some sources say he performed weddings after the emperor banned them; others say he rescued Christians from Roman prisons. Two centuries later, the pope declared February 14 St. Valentine's Day.

According to legend, the priest signed his letters "Your Valentine." Later, Christians followed suit to honor him. By the mid-1700s, friends and sweethearts exchanged heart-shaped trinkets or sent handwritten notes of affection on February 14.

Got love?

Love asks nothing in return but seeks those who need it. And who needs our love more than those who are consumed with hatred and are utterly devoid of love?

—Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Lighten your load

Keeping sabbath, not just on Sundays but throughout the week in an integrated way, keeps us sane, says Donna Schaper. While our culture constantly pushes us to move faster, work harder and acquire more money and stuff, sabbath observances promote play, rest, love and worship.

"Sabbath – time for God – is a gift in its origin and in its keeping," Schaper writes in *Sabbath Keeping* (Cowley Publications). "It is not another must; it is a may. God invites us to keep sabbath; God does not demand it."

The commandment to keep the Sabbath day holy, she notes, "is an invitation to a party, not to a hanging. Sabbath keeping is not one more thing to add to our already long lists. [It] is lightness, not heaviness."



LAMPLIGHTER
 Up River Friends Meeting
 523 Up River Road
 Belvidere, NC 27919

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Meetinghouse: 252-297-2442

QUERIES FOR BOYS AND GIRLS:

Do you work hard to be cheerful, unselfish and cooperative in your home, your school and your playground, so that every day you can put into practice some of the lessons that Christ taught?

A MESSAGE OF
Love

Make this valentine for a family member or friend.



What you need:

- 10 wooden craft sticks
- Painter's tape
- Markers
- A photo and glue (optional)
- Craft knife (and adult help)
- Ribbon or a rubber band

What you do:

1. Set the sticks side by side. Secure with two tape strips.
2. Flip the sticks over. Draw (or glue on) a picture or write a message or Bible verse. If using glue, let dry.
3. Flip the sticks again and remove tape. If you glued on a photo, have an adult help cut the sticks (and photo) apart.
4. Secure the sticks with ribbon or a rubber band.
5. Deliver the gift and invite the recipient to assemble the puzzle.

WITH LOVE FROM ABOVE

The Bible is full of special words from our loving God.

Directions: Using the messages on the candy hearts, complete the Bible verses (all NIV) below.

God is our _____ and _____,
 an ever-present help in trouble. Psalm 46:1

"Surely I am with you _____." Matthew 28:20

And the _____ of God ... will guard
 your hearts and your minds in
 _____. Philippians 4:7

Whoever lives in _____ lives in God,
 and God in them. 1 John 4:16

_____ love drives out fear. 1 John 4:18

Answer: refuge, strength, always, peace, Christ Jesus, love, perfect

