

Musings 01-15-19

I trust that you all endured the weather on Sunday without too much disruption. We cancelled our service at the church along with the Official Board meeting. That meeting has been pushed back to this coming Sunday and, at this point, the weather seems fine! Also, this Musings is coming a day earlier because I wanted to give you a “heads up” about another slight change in schedule. We had planned to have a working group gather tomorrow morning at 10 to assemble the Annual Report. In order to have sufficient time to copy everything, that **work has been pushed back to Thursday at 1 pm**. Again, if you are available and can lend a hand, please stop by the church office.

One of the first sermons I preached at First Christian back in late 2007 was a narrative sermon about John the Baptist. It was well received, and since this past Sunday was focused once more on baptism, I thought it might be fun to preach another narrative sermon. However, with the cancellation of the service, I was left with a written sermon and nowhere to preach it with retirement fast approaching. So, I share it here as an attachment with this Musings if you're interested in reading it.

This coming Sunday Margot and I will be in Indianapolis for a memorial service for her brother, Scott. You may recall that Scott died just before Thanksgiving last year. Because of the upcoming holidays, his wife decided to put off his service till now. In my absence, Richard McBride will be our guest preacher. For the service Richard has selected Ps. 36.5-10 and John 2.1-11 as the scripture readings. The Rev. Eddie Weathers of the Eastern NC Association met with the Pastoral and Interim Search Committees last night, so the search process has officially begun. Eddie will also be participating in a “Time of Farewell” ceremony for my final service on the 27th. Remember, if you are planning to join us for lunch following the service on the 27th, please fill out a reservation form that you'll find in Sunday's bulletin, or call the church office. As it is a catered meal, we need to know how many folks will be coming.

Finally, please mark you calendars for the Annual Meeting following worship on Feb. 3rd. Annual Reports will be available this Sunday. You'll find them next to the pulpit or in the church office. Please, only one per family, and remember to bring it back with you for the Annual Meeting. The Report contains the latest church directory. Extra directories are available. Take as many of those as you need!

On the prayer concern front, the Whitfield's son, Lee, passed away last week after a sudden illness. His service was this past Saturday. Benjie Terrell continues to make progress recovering from surgery. Doris Massey recently had a bad fall that injured her head. She is home recovering but still with some pain. Harvey Sharpe continues his recovery from a recent bronchial infection. Then, please keep Margot and me and her family in prayer this weekend as well as ongoing prayers for Louise Walters, Donna Freeman, Nancy Thomas, Margaret Turner and Anna Gerow.

Mark