We will soon arrive at the end of Lent, 2015. We approach now the week that is called Holy. We shall experience together Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, an Easter sunrise service at the shelter at 7:00 AM and our annual Easter cantata in worship on Easter Sunday at 11:00.

We have considered together the light that God sends into the world and how we are to be reflectors and purveyors of that light. We are not the sole source of the light. The light only shines in and through us by our faithful response in a rapidly changing world.

Sometimes Lent is understood to be a somber and difficult time - a time of serious self-examination. That may be the case for some and may even be necessary. But I hope these days have been more of a search that has enlightened your life and challenged you to deeper consideration of what discipleship is and how it may find expression. You are not only accepted by God and held in God's grace, but you are needed to serve as reflectors of the light of God. You are important, you are needed. God chooses humanity to be the hands, feet, and heart of God. And when the light is made present, the darkness cannot overcome it.

Grace

Prayer Requests CONCERNS

Those who have suffered loss: Family of Ric Comer; Chris Shuford and family, Family of Laura Wilkenson, cousin of Jean Stroupe
Those who are sick: Susie Wiberg, Rhea Lamb, Luke Cashdollar, Donald Joines, Davis Overcash, Ronda Stewart-Wilcox, Juanita Stroud, Helen Current, Diane Martin, Amy Hrabar, Logan Elkins, Madysen West, daughter of Reponda Powell, Kat Martin, Amber Davis, Redallia Freeman, Miguel Angel Morrillo, Tony Bellamy, Sue Walser, Marian Grant, Fred Wilson, Jean Wilson, Sharon and Dennis Keller, Teresa Rimmer, Daniel Renegar, Mary Alice Woods, Jeff and Karen Coggins, Tressie and Allen Starrette, Ernie Hendrix, Mary Ruth Godfrey, Anita Tuit and family, Gail Germain, John Munson's father, Anita Johnson, Barbara Robinson, Mary Jean Grose, Dr. Hanna Kutteh, Beecher and Mary Lee Grose, Don and Deborah Autrey-Cooke, Scott Cranford, Leisa Parks, Dalton Edwards

Those facing tough times: Ed and Nancy Clark, David and Teri Campbell and family, Faith Aiken, Dima Hanania and family, Robbie Harkey and family, Michael Teasley and family, Goodman family, those who are mentally ill, those who are affected by violence, those who are incarcerated, those dealing with addictions in our community and in our world: Children who are a part of the Guardian ad Litem program, local law enforcement officers and fire fighters

Those in the military: Molly Murphy, Greg West, Josh Wingfield, James Pulliam, Mark Staley, Adam Ivey, Austin Frutig, Zach Spoor, Mary Jane Johnson, Travis Clower, Logan Frutig, Caleb Sisk, Felix Martin, JJ Golden

CELEBRATIONS
March 24 - Sophie Jordan
March 28 - Lisa Wardo

Benjamin Martin Adams was born on Saturday, March 21 to Layne and Forrest Adams! The entire Barnard clan is thrilled with this new little boy who has come to their family!

Speaking of babies, Peggy Nicholson and Justin Tosco will be welcoming their little one any time now. Hold them tight as this special time gets closer.

March 22 - 29, 2015

www.gracestatesville.org

gracestatesville@gmail.com

Gary's cell - 704-682-1767

- AND...speaking of <u>more</u> babies, Brittain and Will Kenney will welcome twins in September! Nancy James will have her hands full!
- Austin Gold, nephew of Tip and Nancy worshipped with us on Sunday. Their weekend had been spent celebrating his 30th birthday.
  - Madysen West will return home on Wednesday!
  - Emily Starrette has accepted a job in Manhatten working with an agency that works with children with mental health issues.
- Susie Wiberg got a good report last week. Chemo and radiation will begin within the next few weeks, but all scans were clear!
  - Mary Whitted will be moving to Wilmington soon! Remember her as she starts this new journey...and remember her mom and dad, too

## **CONCERNS**

- Luke Cashdollar begins radiation this week.
- Remember Ernie
   Hendrix and all the
   residents at The
   Gardens. There has
   been a serious outbreak
   of the flu.
- Barbie Hamm has been diagnosed with breast cancer.

Lauren Berryhill's VISTA presentation to the City Council of Lancaster, California can be viewed on the church website homepage!
www.gracestatesville.org

Our dear friend Joseph Bathanti is a visiting writer for the 2015 Doris Betts Spring Literary Festival. His session is Saturday, March 28 at 1:30 p.m. at Shearer Hall. It's free and open to the public.

## **OUTREACH**

ICM is in need of a variety of canned food items
Fifth Street is in need of towels and washcloths
Both agencies can benefit from your financial support

## **WEEKLY ASSIGNMENTS**

Church maintenance before
Sunday:- Grose
Worship Hour Childcare for
Sunday - Mary Hendrix and
Bailey Wiberg/Tom Wiberg and
Zoe McMillan

## ; ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wednesday: 10:30am - Lenten Ladies morning group at the church;

Thursday: 6pm - Lenten Ladies
Friday: 8pm - NA
Sunday: - 10am - Sunday
School; 11am - Worship;
Potluck after worship
Thursday: 6pm - Maundy

Thursday Communion Friday: 6pm - Good Friday

Service

Easter Sunday - 7am: Sunrise Service at the Shelter; 11am -Easter Cantata If you can help with mowing this spring/summer/fall, sign up on the sheet in the back of the church.

For the Lenten season, the Mission board has decided to collect money for the Guardian ad litem program. We would like to use the money to purchase stuffed animals or small toys for the children in that program, especially for those who are taken who have very little. If you would like to donate a toy of stuffed animal you are welcome to do that as well.

From the Stewardship Board: Thanks to those who helped with the spring clean-up days! Much was accomplished!

SCRIPTURE Mark 11: 1-11

WORDS OF GRACE "Looking Around at Religion"

BUDGET
Needed year to date:
\$23,483.76
Received year to date:
\$20,064.00

Under budget: \$3,419.76 ,Weekly needs: \$1956.98