Starting Over

I’ve been asked a few times if I’ve ever had the first few months at the start of a new call be as unusual as this January and February have been for me. The answer is no. First, several unusually-timed events occurred in my first two weeks. Then, a weird (thought to be bronchial) wheezing took over. As we now know, I never had bronchitis. Instead, an unusually large benign polyp (mass of tissue) had grown in my throat below my vocal chords. It was blocking 95% of my windpipe. An excellent throat surgeon removed it and now I am “good as new” again. Wow. I now feel a strong need to “make up for lost time.” I encourage you to help me out by not being shy about contacting me so that we can plan some time together. Also, here are a few structured opportunities available to all of you:

“Day of Discovery” (Congregation-wide Planning)

The model that I use for transitional ministry is narrative-based. We will be seeking the Lord’s guidance together as much by a process that emphasizes sharing brief stories with each other as much as through traditional surveys. We will end up with the data needed for the call process, but how we get there is different. I particularly like a narrative model because 1). It fits our Moravian culture which is relationally-focused (The memoir tradition at funerals is a good example) and 2). The Bible is itself a collection of many faith stories authored by many different people of faith over a 1,000 year period. Everything we know about Jesus is due to the multitude of faith stories assembled in the 4th century into what we know today as the New Testament. What those Bible stories reveal is that Jesus taught primarily through sharing, and evoking, faith stories including the Divine-human story of his life, death, and resurrection that has been at the heart of Christian faith for nearly 2,000 years.

Fairview’s Joint Board has planned our first congregation-wide event for our transitional ministry process - a “Day of Discovery” on Sunday March 31st. We will gather together for worship at our regular time of 10 am then move into a whole-church planning process. It opens with brief 1-1 interviews of one another. We then gather at tables for discussion on our findings. Each table then reports out on the common themes that they are hearing. Finally, each of us will have an opportunity to identify which of those themes connect best with how we see God’s living spirit at work in our congregation’s mission and ministry. Follow-up events will help us to “drill-down” on selected ministry priorities. Those who cannot be here on March 31st, including homebound members, will have an opportunity to do this process on an individual or small group basis soon after March 31st.

The key to this process is listening deeply to everybody’s unique stories. We will be gradually identifying God’s leading for us as a unified body of Christ. It is my conviction that faith communities have unique callings just as individuals do.

Informal Gatherings

I’d also like to meet personally with all of you informally. Lets share a meal together, hang out, or plan a small informal gathering. Please either contact me directly to schedule a time together or contact Patricia in the office. She will have some dates and times that I am blocking off for this purpose.

Are you ready? Set? Let’s go forward together!

With Hope,
Pastor Jeff
WOMEN’S FELLOWSHIP NEWS

Day of Prayer at Fairview will be on Wednesday, April 3rd at 11:00 AM. Our Associate Pastor, Victoria Lasley will be the speaker for this service. Communion will be served.

The Women’s Fellowship will provide flowers and cleaning of the graves for of two sections, at God’s Acre in Old Salem, on Easter Saturday, April 20th. Help is needed!

Reminders:

Projects for March:

School supplies for Speas School
Circle IV–Trellis (Hospice) Tuesday, March 12, 2019.
Circle III–Next in line for food for a bereaved family.

Coming Up:

Women’s Conference
Annual Soup and Salad Bar Luncheon
Fund raiser for Stella

Next Executive Board Meeting, Monday, 25th at 10:30AM, in the Conference Room.

“Happy Saint Patrick’s Day to you”

CANDLE MAKING
The Women’s Fellowship will be making candles in the Activity Building
SATURDAY MARCH 9th FROM 10:00 UNTIL NOON
MONDAY MARCH 11th FROM 10:00 UNTIL WE ARE FINISHED.
MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND COME AND JOIN US IN MAKING CANDLES FOR OUR CHRISTMAS LOVEFEASTS AND SOME FELLOWSHIP WITH FELLOW CHURCH MEMBERS.

Birthdays in March

1 Amy Yarbrough
6 Terri Barringer
8 Lillie Mae Joyce
9 Gwen Shields, Bill Yokley
10 Ruth Morgan
11 Rod Back
12 Opal Miller
13 Phyllis Footland
14 Ken Hauser,
15 Larry Sprinkle
16 Lilly Brendle
17 Anne Hauser
18 Rebecca Swanson
19 Linda Self
20 Sunna Kimel
21 Dick Joyce
22 Marshall Mathers
23 Debra Coleman
25 Meredith Tuttle
26 Bonnie Sparrow
27 Meghan Hubbard,
Eleanor Swaim
28 Richard Minor

April

1 Vikki Doub,
Jane Hilker

Daylight Saving Time Begins
Sunday, March 10th

Remember to turn your clocks forward one hour before going to bed on Saturday, March 9th!

We are pleased to report that $491.00 was collected in the special offering at our Missionary Chapter Lovefeast on February 24th. This money will be used in Moravian mission work. Many thanks to all who contributed to this worthy cause of helping to spread the Gospel around the world.

Mark Your Calendars!
Women’s Fellowship Soup & Salad Luncheon
Tuesday, April 30th, 2019—11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Adults: $10.00 / Children Ages 4-12: $5.00
Fellowship Hall
"What are you going to give up for Lent?" How many times have you heard that question from friends? I grew up in Baptist churches, so this question didn’t hold a lot of meaning for me when I was younger. I figured it was like a second chance at a New Year’s Resolution for those who had already abandoned theirs.

Lent is one of the oldest observations on the Christian calendar. Like all Christian holy days and holidays, it has changed over the years, but its purpose has always been the same: self-examination and penitence, demonstrated by self-denial, in preparation for Easter. Early church father Irenaus of Lyons (c.130-c.200) wrote of such a season in the earliest days of the church, but back then it lasted only two or three days, not the 40 observed today. In 325, the Council of Nicea discussed a 40-day Lenten season of fasting, but it's unclear whether its original intent was just for new Christians preparing for Baptism, but it soon encompassed the whole Church.

The forty days represent the time Jesus spent in the desert, where he endured temptation by Satan. Different churches calculate the forty days differently. In Western Christianity Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and concludes on Holy Saturday. The six Sundays in Lent are not counted among the forty days because each Sunday represents a "mini-Easter", a celebration of Jesus’ victory over sin and death.

The purpose of Lent is the preparation of the believer for the annual commemoration during Holy Week of the Death and Resurrection of Jesus, which recalls the events linked to the Passion of Christ and culminates in Easter, the celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

On March 6th, Ash Wednesday, we will be invited to begin our journey toward Easter. One of my favorite authors is Ann Weems, a Presbyterian minister who died in 2016. In her book Kneeling in Jerusalem, she shares the following poem, entitled “Living a Life-giving Lent”:

Lent is a time to allow a fresh new taste of God! Perhaps we’re afraid to have time to think, for thoughts come unbidden. Perhaps we’re afraid to face our future knowing our past. Give us courage, O God, to hear your Word and to read our living into it. Give us the trust to know we’re forgiven and give us the faith to take up our lives and walk.

Hold of us,

Notes from Lewis

FAIRVIEW FRIENDS FELLOWSHIP

Several years ago we changed our name from SENIOR Friends Fellowship to FAIRVIEW Friends Fellowship. Although most of us fall into the “senior adult” category, we don’t necessarily like to admit it. We thought that the change of name might encourage more of our members to join us for our activities. As the name implies, there is no minimum age – everyone in the church is welcome to join us. Why not invite a friend and come to one of our activities? We always have a great time of fellowship and I can pretty much guarantee that you will have a great time!

Thursday, March 28th, 10:00AM

We will travel to Shiloh General Store in Hamptonville, an Amish country and general store that offers quality, handmade items for the home. They offer a large selection of home-style baked goods, deli meats and cheeses, fresh-baked breads, fried pies, whoopie pies, and gift boxes filled with your choice of Amish jams, jellies, pickles, relishes, butters, teas, and coffees. We will have lunch somewhere in the area following our visit to the store. Be sure and reserve your space on the bus by calling Jeanne Willard (336-768-5645) no later than Sunday, March 24th.
Workshops Available in 2019:
Pastor Jeff is available to lead several optional workshops that can strengthen your personal faith as individuals or couples. These will be scheduled (and can be offered more than once) based on the availability of those who express an interest. Please let Pastor Jeff (or Patricia) know if you have any interest in any of these being offered at Fairview:

“Discover Your Life Purpose” - a 5 week series of 1.5 hr small group sessions. Each individual uses a workbook to take specific steps each week to identify their core, God-given life purpose (this is different from “spiritual gifts”). This can also be offered as a single full day workshop. Max: 15 people. Cost: $25 each (cost of the workbook).

“Learning How To Forgive” - a ½ day (9 am - 1:30 pm) retreat learning specific steps to use to find freedom from any ongoing resentments from past hurts that hinder one’s own spiritual and relational growth moving forward. Jesus taught us to forgive, but not how to do so. This is not a counseling group. Participants are invited to share (if they so choose) about their experience with the process that day (rather than about specific experiences from the past). Max: 15. Cost: $10 ea. (includes a light lunch)

“Couples Enrichment” - 5 meetings whereby Pastor Jeff leads a couple through a workbook of specific relationship-building exercises. The exercises are chosen based on a private online program that each person does separately. Available for dating, engaged, or married couples of any age. This can also be offered as a full day event in a workshop format for up to six couples if there is significant interest. Cost: $35 per couple (the cost of the online program).

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**Holy Week**

**Worship Schedule**

Palm Sunday Lovefeast – April 14th, 10:00 a.m.
Holy Week Readings – Sunday, April 15th through Wednesday, April 17th, 7:00 p.m.
Maundy Thursday Communion – April 18th, 7:00 p.m.
Good Friday Service – April 19th, 7:00 p.m.
Cleaning Gravestones in God’s Acre in Old Salem – Saturday, April 20th, 9:00 a.m.
Band Rounds – Saturday, April 20th, 2:00 p.m.
Great Sabbath Service at Home Moravian Church – Saturday, April 20th, 7:00 p.m.
Band Breakfast at Home Moravian Church – Sunday, April 21st
247th Easter Sunrise Service in God’s Acre – Sunday, April 21st at 6:00am
Worship at Fairview – Sunday, April 21st, 10:00 a.m. (No Sunday School)
Church Office Closed on Monday, April 22nd

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**Easter Schedule**

Easter Practices at Home Moravian Church
March 31st, April 7, and 14 at 2:15 p.m.

Palm Sunday, April 14th-10:00 a.m. Prelude 30 minutes prior to the service.
Tuesday, April 16th-7:00 p.m. Holy Week Prelude
Saturday, April 20th Easter Bus Rounds-2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
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<tr>
<th>Sun</th>
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<tr>
<td>Reporting Church Council</td>
<td>3-6pm Sanctuary In Use 4:30pm Band Practice (C) 5pm A/B In Use</td>
<td>4 10:30am WF Circle 2 (CR)</td>
<td>5 7pm Joint Board Mtg</td>
<td>6 10am WF Circle 1 Meet at church to go to Day of Prayer 10:45am DOP-Home MC 7pm Ash Wed. Service</td>
<td>1 8am Men’s Fellowship Breakfast at K&amp;W Healy Dr.</td>
<td>2 8am Amazing Grace Clothes Closet</td>
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<td>Holy Communion 9:30am Band Prelude 2pm Day of Prayer-Christ MC</td>
<td>11 10am Candle Making (AB) 7pm Joint Board Mtg</td>
<td>11 11am Outreach Mtg (CR) 11:30am Fellowship Hall in Use</td>
<td>13 11am DOP Trinity MC Luncheon to follow</td>
<td>14 8am Men’s Fellowship Breakfast at K&amp;W Healy Dr.</td>
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<td>9 10am Candle Making (AB)</td>
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<tr>
<td>St. Patrick’s Day</td>
<td>4:30 pm Band Practice (C)</td>
<td>18 7pm WF Circle 3</td>
<td>19 5:30pm CEC Mtg (CR)</td>
<td>20 10:45 am DOP Ardmore MC</td>
<td>15 8am Men’s Fellowship Breakfast at K&amp;W Healy Dr.</td>
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<td>24 4:30 pm Band Practice (C)</td>
<td>25 10:30 am WF Executive Bd, Mtg (CR)</td>
<td>26 5:30pm CEC Mtg (CR)</td>
<td>27 10:45 am DOP Calvary MC</td>
<td>21 8am Men’s Fellowship Breakfast at K&amp;W Healy Dr.</td>
<td>22 8am Men’s Fellowship Breakfast at K&amp;W Healy Dr.</td>
<td>23 8 am to 4 pm Provincial Jump Start Program at Unity MC</td>
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<td>31 2:15pm Easter Band Practice at Home MC</td>
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The Fairview Bus will leave the church at 10am for the Day of Prayer services.

Elder of the Month: Amy Mendenhall
Trustee of the Month: Bill Wright
Mission Trip Fundraiser for Stella Brendle

Saturday, May 18th from 3:00–6:30 p.m.

BBQ Chicken with fixings.
Eat in or Take Out

$10.00—12 yrs. and older
$5.00 under 12

Come out and support one of our young adults go out into the world and do good things for people in need! Thank you!

MARCH

WORSHIP GREETERS

11th Joanna and Bill Oehman
18th Nancy and Ken Tomberlin
25th Sharlene Medley and Mollie Rascoe

Elder of the Month: Amy Mendenhall
Trustee of the Month: Bill Wright

Lunchtime Lecture Series

March 14, 12:15 p.m. ~ Lunchtime Lecture – Archivist J. Eric Elliott will speak on the creation of the Archives traveling exhibit “The Languages of Flowers in Moravian Wachovia” at Spaugh Lecture/Recital Hall of the Archie K. Davis Center. You are welcome to bring your lunch!

March 21, 7:00 p.m. ~ Triad Community Band Concert (formerly Bethabara Band) at Rural Hall Moravian Church fellowship hall (7939 Broad St., Rural Hall). Please bring canned food donation.
Inquire first for the word of the Lord
2 Chronicles 18:4
March 2019 Newsletter

Preventing the "Easter Egg Hunt"

Looking ahead at Easter...our Egg Hunt at Fairview this year will be Saturday, April 13th. The Christian Education Committee is asking our very generous Fairview Family to once again donate candy and prizes. The following is a list of items we could use to help make this fun for all the children. All of these suggestions can be found at the Dollar Tree. Thank you as always for your generous support!

- 4/pk. Play Dough
- 6/pk - pencil sharpeners
- 2/pk. Yoyos
- 3/pk. notebooks (3x5)
- 3/pk. bubbles
- Bags of wrapped candy