



God is love and love lives here!

600 North Houston Lake Blvd., Centerville 31028

(478) 953-3090

www.thewellatcenterville.com

Office Hours: Mon-Thur 8:30a-12:30p

Rev. Tommy Odum

pastortommy@thewellatcenterville.com; 478/397-9491

Sunday, February 18, 2024, First Sunday in Lent

Fat Tuesday and Ash Wednesday

We were meeting with a group of people last Tuesday and the discussion turned to one of their kids talking about a special cake. They came home telling their parents that they ate a cake at school and it had a baby in it!! Yes, a baby! Now don't get alarmed as our schools have not started cannibalizing children in an effort to cut down the cost of lunch. The king cake is a tradition celebrating the epiphany and is eaten sometime between January 6th and the day before Ash Wednesday, also known as Fat Tuesday. Whoever finds the baby, a subtle nod to Jesus, gets to be King for the Day!

What's the connection? Well, Fat Tuesday is the last day before a time of fasting or what we call Lent. They eat whatever they want and gorge on the things they are choosing to fast leading up to Easter. The first Methodist Church we attended would have a huge pancake breakfast to which everyone from the community was invited in the final celebration. Once Lent begins there's no more king cake, the time for indulgence is over. The first day they may go to a service like we had this week known as Ash Wednesday. The ashes were imposed on their forehead as a blessing over them as they prepare their hearts and minds for Easter over the next 46 days. Every week from Monday through Saturday they choose to fast something of great importance whether it be food, social media, tv, or any other activity that would be a sacrifice to live without. Sunday, they take a break and begin again the next day. There are 40 days in total of fasting representing Jesus' time in the wilderness, all building up to Easter as we celebrate the one true King who is Risen and Risen Indeed!

Sometimes we don't realize the connections we have to those around us or even the cultures around us. When we celebrate the life of Christ, we are celebrating more than what we gain for ourselves but what we have gained in humanity. Whatever our differences may be there is a connection that holds us together that goes beyond a simple cake or traditional values. This connection is divine and only accomplished outside the realm of our own abilities. There's nothing I can do to build it myself or to even earn it. God has done all the work ahead of me and asks that I honor it with my life, the connection that is. Sometimes our differences need to be laid to rest so that we can focus on the connection we have through Jesus. Without the connection, on another, we are nothing but a King Cake without the baby. This Lent my desire is for our focus to be on building connections with one another and the community around us. I would ask that as we fast through the season of Lent our prayer be for the church and our connection to Centerville. God has called us here for such a time as this and I know he has great plans for us if we will only see the connections around us.

Connections to be built, and affirmed, and those to grow. If this is our prayer and the intention of our fasting I believe God will bless our congregation through this season of Lent in extraordinary ways making it more than just another Fat Tuesday and Ash Wednesday.

Keep The Faith,
Pastor Tommy

Gifts Given to the Glory of God

- ☼ In memory of Sonny Watson by Lamar & Marilyn Outz, Nancy & Leon Hudson
- ☼ In memory of Betty Estep by Larmar & Marilyn Outz, Nancy & Leon Hudson
- ☼ In memory of Ann Stafford by Nancy & Leon Judson
- ☼ In memory of Warren McDow by Nancy & Leon Hudson, Mary Frances Logue
- ☼ In memory of Roger Cothren by Jim & Barbara Hilliard, Nancy & Leon Hudson, Mary Frances Logue

Scripture and Sermon:

Mark 1:40-45

“Miracles:
Cleansing a Man
with Leprosy”



New Concerns

Mary Lee Carter
 Marie Davis
 Tommy Odum & Family
 Vicky Moore
 Sue Braun
 Susan Howdeshell
 Kitty Barfield

Continue Prayers for:

Patricia Dietsch
 Elaine Shierling
 Family of Roger Cothren
 Family of Warren Mcdow

Christa Avret
 Michael & Jennie Walston
 Betty Byrd
 Leon Hudson
 Mary Prater
 Jim & Mary Leary
 Virginia Eadie
 Bill Reedy
 Sarah Mayer
 Cary Martin
 Mac McNeal
 James McNeal
 Our Country, Leaders, Military

Finance Report for February 11

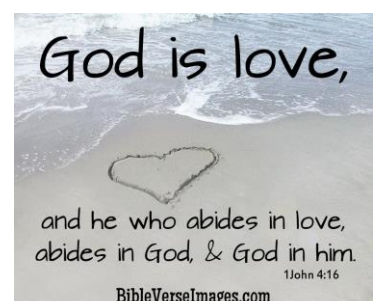
Operating Budget.....	\$6,805.50
Clothes Closet.....	25.00
Food Pantry.....	150.00
Total.....	\$6,980.50

Worship Attendance

115

Sunday School

48





- ✓ 02-14-24- Ash Wednesday Service 6p
- ✓ 02-18-24- First Sunday of Lent
- ✓ 02-19-24- Office Closed
- ✓ 03-01-24- Church-wide Clean-up Day 8a-until
- ✓ 03-02-24- Church-wide clean-up Day 8a until
- ✓ 03-10-24- Daylight savings Time Begins
- ✓ 03-11-24- Finance Committee Meeting 6p
- ✓ 03-11-24- Administrative Council Meeting 630p
- ✓ 03-24-24 Palm Sunday
- ✓ 03-28-24 Maundy Thursday Service 6p
- ✓ 03-28-24 Prayer Vigil 6:30p til noon Friday
- ✓ 03-29-24 Good Friday Service 12 noon
- ✓ 03-31-24- Easter Sunday



18
Mary Prater
21
Carolyn Nettles
22
Mary Summers
23
Blair Bagwell
Suzanne Smith
24
Brittany Miller

Community Missions

- Food Pantry January totals: families served- 641; people served- 2166; portions distributed- 873; weight of food distributed- 28,179 lbs. Yall rock!
- The next Food Pantry is February 28, 2024... come on out and volunteer! You will be blessed. Our Food Pantry Team rocks!
- Our Clothes Closet is open every Tuesday 9a-12 noon... Closet volunteers for 02-20-24 are Barbara Hilliard, Nancy Brechin, Becky Martin
- Regarding the move out to the Outreach Center- hopefully, we'd like to begin transferring things on March 18th and get as much done as possible so we won't have that much to do during Holy Week. **We need volunteers!** Marilyn will post a sign-up sheet on the church bulletin for volunteers to help during the week of March 18th – 23rd. The Closet will be closed March 26th.
- A Yard Sale will be held February 16-17 from 9a—1p at 112 Covey Dr. with the proceeds going to the closet. If you have any items you wish to sell, contact Paul Smith at 478-662-1332.
- Workers are needed in the Clothes Closet Mondays and Tuesdays from 9a-12 noon.

Bible Reading Plan	
Week of February 18 th :	
Sunday.....	Matthew 20
Monday.....	Matthew 21
Tuesday.....	Matthew 22
Wednesday.....	Matthew 23
Thursday.....	Matthew 24
Friday.....	Matthew 25
Saturday.....	Matthew 26

Volunteers Needed, Please!

Come on yall! If you love to hold babies, teach toddlers and children, please let Katie know so she can hug your neck and sign you up. You will be blessed!



Safe Sanctuary and Children's Church Training

Safe Sanctuary training and training on our new Orange curriculum for children's church and toddler nursery will be March 3, right after the Worship Service in the Children's Church room. Safe Sanctuary training will be first, so those not taking Orange training can leave. Please RSVP to Katie at 478-397-5243.

Thank You

"I would like to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, texts, calls, love and support. I don't know what I'd do without my church family." ~~ Kitty Barfield ~~

Church-Wide Clean-Up

Mark your calendars for the church wide clean up days **March 1 and 2** at 8a- until each day. Come if you can, stay however long you can, any help is appreciated.

Lynn-Pritchett Circle

The decision of our UMW/UWF unit not to join the CMC women's organization has been made. Our own church will have it's own Unit with Ms. Terry's and Criendship Circles continuing. With a saddened heart, I am sorry to note that due to declining attendance, the Lynn-Pritchett Circle is no longer viable and will not be continuing. One may join another circle or become a member At Large or just help out at various functions or contribute to the various minitries and missions that the Unit and Circles have supporting Women and Children. Thank you for all your many years of dedicated service for women and children locally and around the world! You have blessed and have been a blessing for so many. Again, a heartfelt thank you for all you have done through the years! ~~ Debbie Gray ~~

Puzzle Fans!

Your church library has a lot of new puzzles that you may borrow and return OR borrow and not return AND we are very happy to accept your unwanted puzzles, too! We ALWAYS welcome more puzzles to our puzzle table. Also, the Centerville Public Library now has puzzles available to take, trade or drop some off for others on the shelving to the right past the check-out area just beyond the Friends of the Library sale books. (GREAT selection of various genres of sale books is just 50 cents each!)

Garden Flag

No clue where Waldo is now, nor can I find the garden flag pole and flag from the parking lot side entrance (single door). The one at the “office” entrance is still there, but the other one is missing in action. Anyone who brought it in and placed it somewhere safe, please let me (Debbie Gray) or LaWanna know. Thank you!



Abundant Life!
A CELEBRATION BENEFITTING WESLEY GLEN

Join us for a fun night of
dinner and dancing
featuring the Grapevine Band and
13WMAZ Chief Meteorologist, Ben Jones!

SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 2024
5 PM
EDGAR H. WILSON CONVENTION CENTER
220 COLISEUM DR
MACON, GA 31217

SCAN TO REGISTER FOR YOUR
FREE TABLE AND BID ON
SILENT AUCTION ITEMS.
VISIT OUR WEBSITE
WWW.WESLEYGLENMINISTRIES.COM
OR CALL 478-471-3711 EXT 103

Thank you to our sponsors!

the grapevine band Emcee, Ben Jones

Wesley Glen

Abundant Life Celebration

It's time again for the Abundant Life Celebration benefitting Wesley Glen. Last year the cost was \$50 per person... this year there is no charge, however, a love offering will be appreciated. Everyone had a good time last year and we were able to fill one table. Let's try to fill two tables this year! **We only have 2 more seats available!**

If we get enough people, we could take the van. Anyone interested in going, please contact Stevie Bowen at 478-954-5938 or steve.bowen1958@gmail.com.

Easter Hams!

Men at the Well are selling hams for Easter! Cost is \$40. Pick up is Saturday, March 30, 10a-2p. See J.O., Mel, Stevie, Jim or come by the office for your ticket(s). Remember, they freeze well!



“Make Me Clean”

Mat. 8:1-4; Mk. 1:40-45; Lk. 5:12-16



Are you Looking for a place to serve? To get involved? We have it!

This Week's Schedule:

Sunday- February 18

Ushers

10:30a J.O. Miller, Tony Rozier
Mel Smeltz, Cheri' Cox, Roy Carter
Keith Mobley, Stevie Bowen
Joy Fleming, Sherrie Shell
9:15a Sunday School
10:30a Worship



Greeters

10:30a Cheri Cox, Marie Davis



Communion Servers

Cynthia Boutwell, Lynn Mayfield
Jim & Linda Blanton



Finance Stewards

Nancy Hudson, Amber Gamble, Joy Fleming



Assisting with Children

Sunday- February 18

Nursery- Sherrie Shell, Dawn Wilkins

Children- Brenda Crow

Sunday- February 25

Nursery- Joy Fleming, Laura McKenzie

Children- Sherry Armour



Women at the Well

Monday- February 19

10:00a Quilters
7:30p Narcotics Anonymous



Tuesday- February 20

9a-12n Open Door Mission Closet
9:15a Movin' n Groovin'
10:00a Partners in Prayer
10:00a Yoga



Wednesday- February 21

8:00a Men's Fellowship Breakfast
11:30a Friendship Circle
1:00p Life Group I "Under Construction"
6:30p Choir Practice
7:30p Narcotics Anonymous



Thursday- February 22

9:15a Movin' n Groovin'
10:00a Yoga
6:00p SPRC Meeting
6:30p Handbells
7:30p Narcotics Anonymous



Friday- February 23

2p-4p Young at Heart
7:30p Narcotics Anonymous



Saturday- February 24

7:30p . . Narcotics Anonymous

Sunday School at 9:15a

Are you looking to get involved in Sunday School? We have a great line up of classes to explore! Maybe you've been attending Sunday School regularly but see a topic you're interested in – it's okay to move around and try different classes – let's learn and grow together!

Sunday School Class

Seekers
Issues & Answers
New Beginnings
Christian Fellowship
Youth
Pilgrims

Studies

Easter Bible Story
Matthew
Revelation
2 Corinthians
Dinosaurs in the Bible
On Hiatus

Teacher

LaWanna Porter
Katie Odum
Nancy Hudson
Don Schall
Eric & Gloria Nelson
Kathy Blanchard

