



# The Messenger

A publication of The Church of the Transfiguration

February  
2016



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The Rev. Wes Shields

I hope you are all staying warm and you were able to enjoy the beauty and stillness of this last storm. As we head towards Lent there is a lot going on here at the church. On Tuesday February 9<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 we will have the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. Shrove Tuesday is the last day before Lent begins and it has historically been a time to celebrate and have some fun before the reflective and preparatory season of Lent begins. Speaking of that, on Wednesday February 10<sup>th</sup> we will have our Ash Wednesday service here at the church at 10am. If you haven't attended an Ash Wednesday service before I highly recommend it. It is one of our services that is very different from the rest of the year. No Eucharist and it is very penitential in its nature.

During the season of Lent we will have Wednesday night potluck dinners with a program. This will start the week after Ash Wednesday on the 17<sup>th</sup>. Just bring a dish to share at 5:30. The first topic that we will discuss will be forgiveness. We will be using a book entitled *The Art of Forgiving* by Lewis Smedes. It cost \$13 on Amazon and if cost is an issue please let me know and I will gladly get you a copy. It is not necessary for you to read this book to get a lot out of our conversation, but it will definitely be helpful. Forgiving is a subject that we are not always comfortable talking about and for that very reason I would say that we need to talk about it. I suspect that there is not one single person reading this that doesn't need to forgive someone or be forgiven by someone else. This is an absolutely fundamental piece of our faith and it affects every aspect of our lives. When our Lord taught us to pray, he devoted a lot of space in a very short prayer to forgiveness. If you want to improve your relationships with the Lord and your fellow man, improve your health and well-being, and find more peace and satisfaction out of life, then I highly recommend you take part in these dinners.



“Forgive your  
brother or sister  
from your heart.”

MATTHEW 18:35, NRSV

## Events for February...



Firewood Ministry **Mondays at 1 pm** For more information, contact Wes at church.



The "M&M" Club - **3rd Wednesday of each month from 1-3**, This month, we will have a professional yoga class (both chair & mat) in parish hall. Refreshments and prizes (no cost for yoga, compliments of the Vestry) Contact Wendy Field for more information.

Church Breakfast in Parish Hall. **3rd Saturday of each month at 8:30 am** - Come Join Us!

Friendship Dinners at **4:30 pm on Sundays** Come out for a free dinner and great fellowship. Invite your friends and neighbors.

TCW - **2nd Tuesday of each month @ 1pm**. Come early at 12:30 and bring a bag lunch. Open to all women at Transfiguration. Come join us! (parish hall) Contact Carlann Scherping for more information.

Bare Necessities - **1st Wednesday of each month from 4-7 pm** Contact Laura Shields for more information.

### Special Events this month:

**HNGO Souper Bowl - Sunday, Feb. 7**, Bring Food for Kids Program (p 5) details

**Shrove Tuesday, Mardi Gras Pancake Supper - February 9**, 5:30 pm ( p 4) details

**TCW Presents Kids Night Out (Parents Night Off) - Friday, February 12**, 5 - 8 pm ( p. 4) details



Ash Wednesday: February 10 - Services at 10 am



Lenten Potluck

Mark you your calendars for Lenten Potlucks and programs beginning Wednesday, February 17th at 5:30 pm. Please bring food to share with others. (Program will be on Forgiveness. You may want to get a copy of the book "The Art of Forgiving" by Lewis B. Smedes which is the book Wes will be discussing. Book can be purchased from Amazon.)

**Winter greetings from the Children's Sunday School class!** We pray that all of you have remained safe during the recent storms. Sunday School attendance has been like our recent winter weather – unpredictable! Learning continues no matter if there is one child in attendance or a dozen. For the past several months we have been emphasizing teaching the children a similar lesson based on the day's Gospel Reading. While we still occasionally follow that routine our new strategy is to revisit the wonderful, classic parables and stories that teach the children the values that help them navigate their religious and everyday lives. So far we have learned about Loaves and Fishes & Daniel in the Lion's Den. We ask that you take a moment to check out the bulletin board where we will post different items that reflect the children's understanding of these stories. We are also memorizing Bible verses. The children do a great job with memory work, having conquered the Lord's Prayer and the Ten Commandments. These memory verses will be posted on the big cabinet doors so parents, please take a moment to familiarize yourself with our verses in order to help your little ones practice at home. Our first verse is: "1 John 4:19. We love because he loved us first." What a true statement and what wonderful words by which to live!

Carlann, Gloria, and Amy

We love  
Him,  
because He  
first loved us.  
1 John 4:19

**JOIN OUR**  
**BIBLE**  
**STUDY**



On  
Wednesdays  
at 11:00 am  
after the  
10 am  
Eucharist  
with Healing



# TCW Presents Kids Night Out (Parents Night Off)

TCW invites all the children of the church to our Kids Night Out for dinner, movie, and some fun and games! Kids can bring a friend to join in the fun.

Kids can come in PJ's or some comfortable clothes with a blanket and pillow (these will become our comfy movie watching area).

Parents with kids 3 or younger should stay and have fun with us.

The TCW women will be on hand to manage the fun and get to know all the wonderful children who are part of our church community.

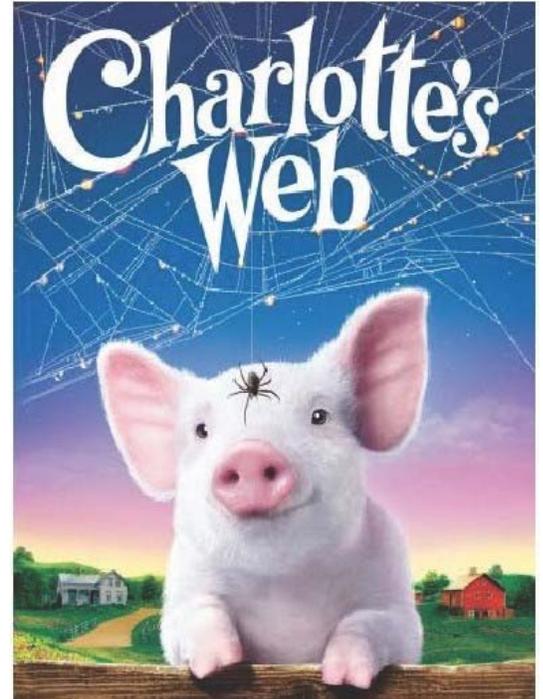
If you have any questions please contact Dawn Milachouski:  
828.429.8727

**When:** February 12th, 5 - 8 pm

**Where:** Transfiguration Church Parish Hall

**Dinner:** Salad, Pizza, Cupcakes for dessert (Popcorn for movie snacking)

**Movie:** Charlotte's Web (1 hour 36 mins)



## Let's Celebrate Mardi Gras

**When:** Tuesday, February 9th

**Where:** Transfiguration Church

**Time:** 5:30 to ???



Put on your fancy costumes and masks and let us celebrate the last day before Lent. Pancakes and sausage, and, of course

## KING CAKE

**Souper Bowl Sunday “Food for Kids List), please bring these to church on February 7th so food can be bless before it goes to Hickory Nut Gorge Outreach. Thank you!**

- Full size & small boxes of cereal
- Granola bars
- Individual sized applesauce and fruit cups
- Instant oatmeal packets
- Small boxes of raisins
- Individual packs of cookies, chips & other snacks
- Small cans of tuna
- Chunky soups, e.g. Progresso & Campbell's
- Chef Boyardee
- Peanut butter
- Jelly
- Juice boxes
- Pop tarts



**How Do You Express Thankfulness?**



I sometimes take my blessings for granted and forget to give thanks to God. One thing that reminds me to pay attention to my thankfulness is a little blue box

that sits on my desk. This Blue Box is part of the United Thank Offering (UTO) a ministry of The Episcopal Church. Through UTO, adults and children nurture the habit of giving daily thanks to God by recognizing and naming our many daily blessings. One way of making an offering of thanks is by slipping a coin or bill into the UTO Blue Box while giving thanks to God for your blessings

both large and small.

One hundred and twenty-five years ago, the United Thank Offering was founded by the Women of the Episcopal Church to help individuals pay more attention to the spiritual blessing in their lives by making small thank offerings. These offerings were used to support innovative ministries in the Church that the church budget was not yet able to fund. Throughout the 19th and early 20th centuries, Episcopal Church women organized, promoted, and funded much of the missionary outreach of The Episcopal Church. Today, UTO grants are awarded from the money collected from these Blue Boxes. In 2015, the United Thank Offering of The Episcopal Church awarded 55 grants for a total of \$1,558,006.85 for the mission and ministry. The 2015 grants were awarded to projects in 36 domestic and ten overseas dioceses. These grant recipients are seeking to change lives by new and innovative ministries.

Your TCW (Episcopal Church Women) continues the practice of offering the little blue boxes and by having an 'ingathering" twice a year of the money you collect in the boxes. These boxes will be available at the Church and you are encouraged to make this part of your families daily practice of thankfulness. Please consider taking home a Blue Box of your own. In April, we will ask those of you who choose to participate to empty your boxes and write a check to the Church for UTO. Your thankfulness can make a difference in the lives of others.

Carlann Scherping



## Devotion for Vestry Meeting - January 13, 2016

Hebrew 10:25

You should not stay away from the church meetings, as some are doing, but you should meet together and encourage each other. Do this even more as you see the day coming.

What a blessing the church is, not just for individuals, but for the whole family. The church is the ideal place to settle in, to gain friendships, to grow in faith. When we stay away, we have a tendency to feel like outsiders, and this only makes us want to stay away even more. So, dig in your heels. Get involved. Become vulnerable. Let people love you and vice-versa. Allow yourself the joy-and sometimes the pain-of being in relationship with others in the body of Christ. When others look inside our doors and see people being in harmony, they are drawn in. And that is a beautiful thing!

Our Heavenly Father, thank you for our church. I am grateful to be surrounded by people who love You and who loves me. I pray that I will settle in for the long haul, ready to work alongside my friends in Christ. In Jesus name I pray. Amen - Barbara Mauldin

Please thank our photographer Blaine Cox for continuing to take photos of our various activities.



Having fun at M & M ( Mature & Motived) program.



Laura & Kathy with items they are taking to Haiti in January, 2016.

Church members enjoying a wonderful breakfast January 16th in parish hall.

# Rotation Schedule for 10 am Services

Feb 7 Joselyn & Chuck Watkins

Feb 14 Wendy Field & Marily Floyd

Feb 21 Michele Yackel & Patrick Warncke

Feb 28 Charlene & David Efird



## Ushers & Greeters



Feb 7 Harriet & Robert Taylor

Feb 14 Michele Yackel & Patrick Warncke

Feb 21 Sandra & Carl Nelson

Feb 28 Marion & Fred Wilson

Feb 7 Dawn Milachouski

Feb 14 Dave Scherping

Feb 21 Mike Maziarka

Feb 28 Marily Floyd



Feb 7 Veryle Lynn Cox

Feb 14 Jack Stanier

Feb 21 Harriet Taylor

Feb 28 Wendy Field



## Lay Readers

Feb 7 First Lector - Robert Taylor

Second Lector - Nancy McNary

Feb 14 First Lector - JoAnne Ellingson

Second Lector - Julie Maziarka

Feb 21 First Lector - Marily Floyd

Second Lector - Susan Marshall

Feb 28 First Lector - Chuck Watkins

Second Lector - Curt Ellingson



## Nursery



A spiritual gift  
is **given** to each  
of us so **we** can  
**help** each other.



- February
- 01 - Gloria Anders
  - 07 - Julie Maziarka
  - 08 - Marily Floyd
  - 09 - Barbara Search

- 14 - JoAnne Okpych
- 14 - Chuck Watkins
- 15 - Marcia hardy
- 16 - Robert Taylor
- 16 - Tucker Shields
- 21 - Jennifer Whiteside
- 21 - ZT Whiteside
- 22 - Dean Eagly
- 22 - Demi Weaver
- 27 - Linda White

February

- 01 - ZT & Jennifer Whiteside
- 12 - Mike & Kathy Boff



Please pray for members who are in the hospital and who are sick.

Shane Maxwell Banks, Susan Brown, Lee Butler, Monica Ferguson, Margaret Hodge, Nancy Long, David Woodcock, Gertrude, Ackie Okpych, Ellie Osborn, Chelsea Parks, Jim Stanier, Stacey Weaver, Berta Whitt, Joe Whitt, JoAnne Woodcock, Brian Daniels, Robert Ell, Steve Hailey, Zee Woodcock, Rick Metcalf, Jacob Chalker, Steve Ruddy, Ken Langlands, Sam Thompson, George King, Thomas Stroud, Sylvia Mariani, Don Hinton, Marty Taylor, Kaitlyn McElreath, Evelyn Barry, Lauren Jones, Linda White, Jim Pryor, Tim Turner, Sr. Eddie Gaines, Laura Shields, Nancy McNary, Barbara Meliski, Jim Proctor, Jeanne Reichert, Chuck Hailey, Barbara Freeman, and Dorothy Hailey.



Please pray for our men and women in the military and those serving in other areas of conflict.



Daniel Crane, Ralph Salamone, Hamilton, Jordan, Hunter Fitzpatrick, Benjamine St. Pierre, Bryla Robinson, Kellie Green & Zach Poole.

### Special Dates in February

\*African-American History Month

- Boy Scout Sunday, *February 7, 2016*
- Transfiguration of Our Lord, *February 7, 2016*
- Ash Wednesday, *February 10, 2016*
- First Sunday in Lent, *February 14, 2016*
- Valentine's Day, *February 14, 2016*
- Presidents Day, *February 15, 2016*
- Second Sunday in Lent, *February 21, 2016*
- Third Sunday in Lent, *February 28, 2016*

Do you have a special story or memory you would like to share with our church family? If so, please email photo and story to

[mransom1@bellsouth.net](mailto:mransom1@bellsouth.net)



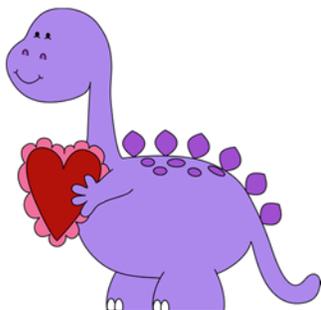
This is your newsletter, so please share your photos and stories by sending them to

[mransom1@bellsouth.net](mailto:mransom1@bellsouth.net)

The Messenger's next deadline will be

February 25, 2016

Thanks, mary ann



Please pray daily for the leaders of our church.

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Worship & Education	Fr. Wes Shields	625.9244
Senior Warden	Julie Maziarka	625.1309
Junior Warden	Mike Boff	419.438.3460
Finance/Church Treasurer	JoAnne Ellingson	625.9637
	Marta Campbell	432.300.9950
	Barbara Mauldin	828.779.2751
	Jack Stanier	625.4274



## The Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration

Diocese of Western North Carolina

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828.625.9244

### Weekly Services

Holy Eucharist: Sundays 8:00 am and 10:00 am

Holy Eucharist and Healing: Wednesdays 10:00 am

### Bible Study:

Sundays 9:00 am & Wednesdays 11:00 am

**Choir Rehearsal:** Sunday 9:15 am