

PFAFFTOWN CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)
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Church Staff

The Rev. Gerald Thomas
 Pastor

The Rev. Tim Shoaf
 Minister of Music & Programs

Traci Canter, Office Administrator



Volume 3, Number 9

THE VISITOR



Lenten Study

Supplies for the Journey

The Basics We Carry With Us

Six Sunday mornings during Lent
 at 9:30 a.m.

Lent is a season of heightened commitment to our faith. You are invited to join a special Connect Group on Sundays in Lent as we examine the basic matters of faith Christians carry on their journey. Study Topics:

March 1 Christian. What's In a Name?
 March 8: Following Jesus
 March 15: The Bible
 March 22: Making Our Prayers to God
 March 29: Worship
 April 5: Life in a Church

We will begin on Sunday, March 1 and conclude on Palm Sunday, April 5. Persons who sign up are asked to commit to being present every Sunday during this study as an act of increased devotion during Lent. Each participant will receive his/her own study guide. Each guide also contains devotional guides for each day of the week.



Beginning March 1

Deep Blue: Weekly Adventures Through the Bible

Bring your children and your grandchildren, age 9 and under. Every Sunday at 9:45 a.m., Room 107



Let's visit Deep Blue Shores, the town where Asia, Caleb, Kat and Edgar live. You'll be invited to meet people who live in their town and explore their community.

We'll move beyond the Sunday School classroom and take Deep Blue Adventures into the community. We'll discover what the Bible has to teach us about being a person of faith in a community where not everyone acts or thinks the same way. Your children will hear and see Bible stories that teach us how to share God's love with people who might be different from us.

Deep Blue Connects: Loving God, Loving Neighbor is a comprehensive Bible study for children. The study incorporates Bible stories, service learning, science activities, arts and crafts, animated video storytelling, and active games into a lived-faith experience. Children will discover what it means to be a disciple of Jesus and a faithful part of their communities.

(We also have a class for youth in room 105 and adults in the Downstairs Fellowship Hall)



As Way Leads On To Way



Recently, a photograph showed up that I first remember being on the front my newspaper in 1996. That weekend, the Klu Klux Klan was rallying in Ann Arbor, Michigan. It was not much of a rally, as only a handful of Klan members were on sight. But hundreds of anti-Klan protesters managed to show up. Things got nasty. Protesters wanted the Klan out of town. They charged barricades, threw rocks, and tussled with police. Finally, when unable to reach Klan members, they seized a Klan-sympathizer wearing a confederate flag on his jacket, threw rocks at him and began to beat him. In the frenzy of mob-induced violence, it did not occur to protesters they had become every inch what the Klan represents.

This *did* occur to Keshia Thomas. And so, in a picture on the front page of my Sunday morning newspaper, this eighteen year old black woman was using her body to shield this white Klan-sympathizer. Her reasoning? “Just because you beat somebody doesn’t mean you’re going to change his mind.”

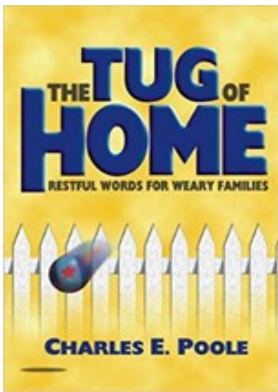
A lot of character is understood in this statement. A lot of character is found in Keshia Thomas. The temptation is awfully strong to become the very thing we disdain, to sell our souls for the opportunity to kick our oppressors or opposition. Keshia Thomas chose to save one today who may very well oppose her tomorrow. Yet, her life will not be dictated by the hatred of racism, the rabid current of a mob, or the opportunity of the moment.

To look closely at the Associated Press photo is not so much to see the determined face of Keshia Thomas, but the determined face of God. - GT



Off the Shelf

The Tug of Home: Restful Words for Weary Families
Peake Road Press, 1997
By Charles E. Poole



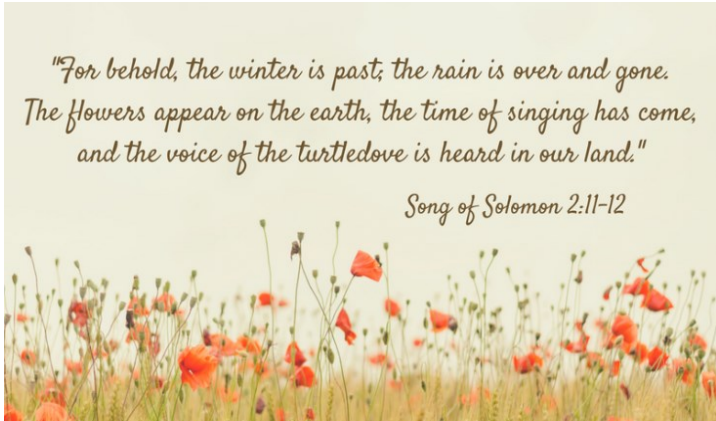
For as long as there have been families, families have needed a place to rest. Families are struggling to keep up with the demands of life, figure out the complexities and live through the difficulties of life. Families are trying to keep pace with overburdened schedules and overcommitted calendars. If a book can become, for a few moments, "a place," then, hopefully, the words inside this book can clear out a restful, quiet place where weary families can go for a little while.

Volunteers for Children’s Sermons

If you would like to be on a rotation to share responsibility for the children’s sermon on Sunday morning, please contact our pastor. We are establishing a schedule where our pastor brings the sermon every-other Sunday. The rest will be shared by parishioners.



This month’s memory verse is



MARCH 2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 9:30 AM- Connect 11:00 AM- Worship	2	3	4 Staff Mtg 11:00 AM	5	6	7
8 9:30 AM- Connect 11:00 AM- Worship	9 Elder's Mtg. 7:00 PM DFH	10	11 The Gathering 6:00 PM DFH	12	13	14
15 9:30 AM- Connect 11:00 AM- Worship	16	17 CWF Mtg. 6:30 PM DFH	18	19 Spring Pastor Relations Mtg 7:00	20	21
22 9:30 AM- Connect 11:00 AM- Worship/ Business Mtg	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 9:30 AM- Connect 11:00 AM- Worship	30	31				

01 - Dinah Myers

03 - Tom Ingram

06 - Mary Timmons

07 - Jo Stanley

07- Pamela Backi

08 - Mindy Mock

18 - Andrew Edwards

19 - Sue Flynt

19 - Susan Showers

23- Rick Johnson

23- Erika & Erin McAllister

30- Dawn Cline

30 - Dawn Cline

Van & Betty Kiger

March 20

MARCH 8TH

DAYLIGHT

SAVING TIME

SPRING FORWARD

Happy

Anniversary

For behold, the winter is

past; the rain is over and

gone. The flowers appear

on the earth, the time of

singing has come, and the

voice of the turtledove is

heard in our land.

Song of Solomon 2:11-12

Pfafftown Christian Church
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual
July through December 2019

	Jul - Dec 19	Budget	\$ Over Budget
Income			
Projected W/D from CIF	0.00	0.00	0.00
Carryover from Prior Year	0.00	0.00	0.00
Contributions Income	75,747.74	89,091.00	-13,343.26
Loose Offering	360.00	720.00	-360.00
Sales Tax Refund	0.00	502.00	-502.00
Building Rental	126.00	248.00	-122.00
Investment Earnings	3,082.01	3,608.00	-525.99
R G Flynt Endowment	1,127.47	1,538.00	-410.53
Yard Sale	3,050.00	2,602.00	448.00
Fund Raisers	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Income	83,493.22	98,309.00	-14,815.78
Expense			
Administrative Expense	69,927.11	73,660.00	-3,732.89
Christian Education	358.64	698.00	-339.36
Building and Capital Improv Fd	0.00	999.00	-999.00
Evangelism	0.00	52.00	-52.00
Membership	300.00	202.00	98.00
Fellowship	229.70	502.00	-272.30
Childcare	0.00	98.00	-98.00
Property	17,130.35	19,224.00	-2,093.65
Worship	1,784.83	1,650.00	134.83
Total Expense	89,730.63	97,085.00	-7,354.37
Income over Expenses	-6,237.41	1,224.00	-7,461.41

General Fund giving is running behind budgeted amount.
Please keep your giving current as we enter into the second half of church year.



Spiritual Lessons We Can All Learn from Gardening

Anyone that plants a garden, is familiar with the physical hard work and faith you need that what you have planted will actually grow. Being a follower of Jesus can feel a bit like that. Sometimes we can feel wilted rather than strong in our faith and walk with Him. There are some lessons that we can learn from the simple task of gardening that we can also apply to our spiritual life.

* Gain Wisdom from Seasoned Gardeners- Listen to the wisdom of Christians who have walked through the highs and lows of faith. They can serve as encourages and

help equip us in our own journey of faith. (Ephesians 5:15-16)

* Beware of Hidden Pest- When our sins are left unchecked, it separates us from God. But your iniquities have separated you from your God, your sins have hidden His face from you so that He will not hear. (Isaiah 59:2)

Christ suffered on the cross for our sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, so that He might bring us to God.

* Deadheading is necessary for growth- In gardening, it is necessary to pull away the dead heads of flowers to encourage new growth and strengthen the plant. Sometimes things may creep into our hearts that go unnoticed but if left there, will do great harm. Jesus can help us remove the “dead heads” in our lives and heart. Sometimes through painful pruning in trials and challenges, our character is refined and blossomed into His liked holiness.

* Watering is vital- Gardens need water to live. We all need water to live. Spending time with God by prayer and reading His word waters our faith which strengthens, builds up and results in growth in Him.

* Labor of Love- To have a beautiful garden, one has to look after it which takes time and a labor of love. We should have be sacrificing with other and love our neighbors as we love ourselves...”greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends (John 15:13). That’s real, unending, unconditional love.

* Bearing fruit- How exciting when we see our garden bloom and so it should be when we “bloom” in our lives. The fruits of the Spirit mentioned in Galatians 5:22-23: love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Mrs. Pamela Backi : 4667 Fairway Run,
Pfafftown, NC 27040
(336) 416-8155

Mr. Billy Page 4667 Fairway Run
Pfafftown, NC 27040

Welcome to our PCC Church Family!



CWF News

The next CWF Meeting will be Tuesday, March 17 at 6:30 p.m. in the Downstairs Fellowship Hall. All ladies are welcomed and encouraged to attend.



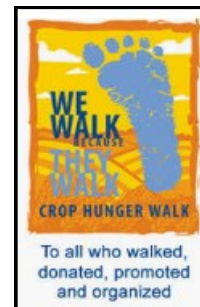
Called Church Business Meeting

Sunday, March 22

Following Morning Worship

Our church will vote on the following proposal:

“We propose the PCC become a partner with New Covenant Food Ministry by providing monthly collections of 200 cans/units of food.”



PCC received an acknowledgment letter from the WS/FC CROP Hunger Walk thanking us for our team’s participation and contribution of \$925 in October, 2019. A copy of this letter is on the bulletin board outside the Narthex. Thank you again for your participation



During the month of March, we will be collecting grits. You may still continue to donate socks or any other items if you wish. Please place your item(s) in the Crisis Control Box located in the hallway near the Narthex. As always, thank you so much.



*Be sure to pick up the newest
Spring 2020 Secret Place
Devotional located in the Narthex.
Adding this to your daily time with
Him will bring you such a
blessing!*



Sunday, March 8 is Girl Scout Sunday here at PCC. We welcome and look forward to having these wonderful young ladies in our worship service!



Romans 15:13
Now the God of hope
fill you with all joy and
peace in believing,
that ye may abound in
hope, through the
power of the Holy
Ghost.

I heard a story about a man who was imprisoned during Napoleon's reign. While sulking in his dungeon one day, he etched on the wall the words "Nobody Cares".

A few weeks later, through a crack in the dungeon floor, a little green shoot sprang forth, reaching toward the tiny ray of sunlight that came from his small prison cell window. The prisoner began giving a portion of his daily water to the little shoot and it began to grow. One morning the man awoke to a beautiful flower. A tear rolling down his face, he crossed out the words, "Nobody Cares" and replaced them with "God Cares."

The story goes on to tell that His devotion to the flower was reported to the Empress Josephine. She was so very moved that she convinced Napoleon to set the man free.

How many times do we feel like "Nobody Cares"? God has planted little shoots of hope in each and every one of our difficult circumstances -- do you know that? Perhaps we're stepping on them or not even noticing they exist. Perhaps we're pulling the shoots before they spring forth into beautiful flowers.

God wants us to be released from our prisons of despair. Look around! See what God has planted since the beginning of time especially for us today. Be encouraged!

(ChristianPerspective.com)



Don't Forget!
Daylight Savings
Time
begins
Sunday, March 8!



SERVERS for March, 2020

*If you are unable to serve,
 please, contact someone to
 switch with you or call:
 Lynda Bryant: 336-924-4223 or
 Jo Stanley: 336-813-2522*

ELDERS: Scott Robertson, Betty Simpson
DEACONS: Betty Barker, Jack Bryant
 Robert Flynt, Emma Robertson
COMMUNION: Worship Committee
CLOSING: Kevin Cline
Thank you for your part in ministry at PCC!



Staff Meeting
 Wednesday, March 4 ~ 11:00 a.m.
Girl Scout Sunday
 Sunday, March 8
Elders' Meeting
 Tuesday, March 10 ~ 7:00 p.m. DFH
The Gathering
 Wednesday, March 11 ~ 6:00 p.m. DFH
CWF Meeting
 Tuesday, March 17 ~ 6:30 p.m. DFH
Pastor Relations Committee Meeting
 Thursday, March 19 ~ 7:00 p.m. Pastor's Study



Thursday, March 19



The Gathering
 Wednesday, March 11
 6:00 p.m. DFH

Please make plans now to join us for a great time of food and fellowship! Menu: Fish, Ranch Potatoes, Slaw, Hush Puppies and Lemon Pie.



Plans are being made for the awesome PCC Garden! Bill Simpson has tilled the private plots and planting will soon begin. The "plan" (subject to weather) is to till the corn plot prior to 4/18 and plant that day. Much help is needed; therefore, anyone that can help is greatly appreciated. Additionally, any requests to reserve a private plot before April 1, should contact Bill Simpson at 336-918-6028. We look forward to another amazing garden!



After Easter, we will soon begin our Annual Stewardship Drive. We will begin distributing estimated giving cards to help us prepare an estimate of funds to forecast the operations of our church. We ask that you pray and seek Him as He leads you in your part. Please always be in continuous prayer for our church as we continue to share and spread the good news of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.

Notes from Tim

*'Tis midnight, and on Olive's brow
 The star is dimmed that lately shone;
 'Tis midnight, in the garden now
 The suffering Savior prays alone.*

*'Tis midnight, and from all removed
 Emmanuel wrestles lone with fears
 E'en the disciple whom He loved
 Heeds not his Master's grief and tears.*

*'Tis midnight, and for others' guilt
 The Man of Sorrows weeps in blood;
 Yet He who hath in anguish knelt
 Is not forsaken by His God.*

As we begin our journey through the Lenten Season we are reminded of the events of Jesus' ministry followed by the intensity of the pain and anguish which Christ bore as He approached the time of his suffering and death on the cross. He knew what was ahead and as He prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane as He realized His arrest and crucifixion were just hours away. And in His suffering He prayed alone and wrestled with His fears. And while He struggled, the inner circle of His disciples slept nearby. And for the sake of us, the guilty, the Savior wept and His sweat became as drops of blood. He must have been in horrendous agony.

At our Maundy Thursday Service we usually sing this hymn 'Tis Midnight and on Olive's Brow. The hymn's author, William B. Tappen (1794-1849) was a clock maker by trade. In 1822 he was engaged as Superintendent of the American Sunday School Union, which later was named the American Missionary Fellowship and recently renamed InFaith. In 1822 he was a 28-year old poet/educator/Christian believer, who evidently was touched, maybe during a sleepless night of his own, by his Lord's night of torment in Gethsemane. And as a result the words of this hymn were penned and released in his second volume of poetry. In 1853 musician William B. Bradbury put the poem to music and it has been part of the Easter season since then. During this season, don't forget the events that lead up to the crucifixion, especially the time spent by Jesus in the Garden at the foot of the Mount of Olives. This was part of the suffering that He went through for each of us. We deserved to pay this price, but He bore it for us. And understanding and remembering this should make Resurrection Day even that much more meaningful.

God be with you,
 Tim

(some info from Hymn Stories"-Barry Kauffman)

Remembering in Prayer



Bereavement:

*Family of Mike Hepler: Friends of Scott
 and Jill Robertson
 * Family of Elisabeth Safrit Ibrahim
 daughter of Anne & Sam Safrit

Baptist Hospital: Brandon Whitley
 friend of the Fletcher Family

Brighton Gardens: Edna Williamson

Rose Tara: Vallie Cline

Walnut Cove Rehabilitation: Mary Ferguson

Willowbrook Rehabilitation: Bud Barker

Church Family: Helmut "Steve" Backi, Pat & Frank Barber, McKenzie Bryant, Christine Faircloth, John Grice, Jodi Saunders, Ed Snuffer, Garland Terry, Julie Tilley, Tommy Timmons

Others:

Jason Alexander: Jack & Mary Groffs' friend
 Haley Burns: Skip & Jo Stanley's friend
 John Davis: Ken and Vicki Davis' friend
 Tommy Disher : Traci Canter's uncle
 Jennifer Durham: Irma & Fred Muetzel's
 granddaughter

Geraldine Edwards: Ann Fletcher's aunt

Jan Everton: Jo Stanley's sister

June Fulton: Jill Robertson's friend

Elaine Grice: John Grice's sister

Betty Haddock: Sharon Binkley's mother

Cayden Kingsbury: Rodney Stilwell's grandson

Chuck Kolstad: Evelyn Nifong's son-in-law

Sharon Linscott : Gerald & Marlene's friend

Ramon Mandry: Pat Millsap's family

Doug McClay: Marlene Thomas' uncle

Scott McDaniel Family: Alan & Debbie Fletcher's
 friends

Sue Miles: Jo Stanley's friend

Plemmons Family: Alan & Debbie Fletcher's friends

Daniel and Lewis Shields (infants): Jill Robertson's
 friends

Darlene Stewart: Ann Fletcher's sister

Heather Stokes: Jill Robertson's niece

Joy Stokes: Jill Robertson's sister

Emory and Ella Thomas: Gerald Thomas' parents

Judy West: Ann Fletcher's cousin

Loved Ones in the Military:

Joshua Hughes, Norfolk, VA.; Chase Lee, Guam;
 USS Key West; Major Hope Poster, NG, Texas; Cpt.
 John G. Van Hoy IV, Fort Campbell, KY