

Rev. John Donaldson—Pastor
Dee McDaniel—Administrative Assistant

Mike Kelley—Music Director
Alex Kelley—Children’s Director

Ashley Hammac—Preschool Director
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Pastor’s Cell Phone: 706-421-6339 Pastor’s Email: pastor@burnsmemorial.com

Office Hours: Monday - Friday: 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Burns Memorial Methodist Church
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Sweetheart Banquet

Sponsored By The Burns Methodist Men

February 26, 2024 7:00 PM

C. R. Family Life Center at Burns Methodist Church

There will be a delicious steak dinner and

Entertainment by

The Garden City Quartet

Tickets: \$15 per person Child Care is available

The Flame Deadline: February 21st

The Flame

of Burns Memorial Methodist Church

February 2024

On Fire for Christ

Issue Number 217

From The Pastor

February 14 is Valentines Day, right? Absolutely. Think of how many ways your dear love has brought joy to your life and remember to do something nice for them on this day! But this year, February 14 is also Ash Wednesday. This is the first day of Lent, and a time to do something good for your soul. It might have to do with confronting our own sins. Catherine Doherty (1896-1985) an interesting Christian leader and writer described Lent like this:



"Lent is a time of going very deeply into ourselves... What is it that stands between us and God? Between us and our brothers and sisters? Between us and life, the life of the Spirit? Whatever it is, let us relentlessly tear it out, without a moment's hesitation."

One of the earliest Christian penitent prayers comes from one of the first Christian hymn writers, Ephrem the Syrian (306 – 373). I love the way his prayer touches so much of life.

O Lord and Master of my life, keep from me the spirit of indifference and discouragement, lust for power, and idle chatter. Instead, grant to me, your servant, the spirit of wholeness of being, humble-mindedness, patience, and love. O Lord and King, grant me the grace to be aware of my sins and not to judge my brother; for you are blessed now and ever and forever. Amen.

Seeking God anew during Lent often involves focusing on the practices Jesus taught in the Sermon on the Mount -- giving, praying, and fasting.

Giving is a way to help others, to help the community, to live out our worship of God, and perhaps most importantly, to remind our souls of our dependance on God. We usually think of giving in terms of money, but so often real gifts are about giving time and talents.

When teaching about prayer, Jesus taught his disciples “The Lord’s Prayer.” The practice of the early Christians was to pray those words three times a day. This way they would constantly remind themselves of what mattered most – honoring God, submitting to God’s will, and seeking God’s help in life.

Fasting is perhaps the hardest of the three practices. Many times I have heard this question, “What does God get out of me being hungry?” But maybe the question is, “What do we get out of fasting?” Just look this up on the internet and there are numerous benefits; from cleansing your body to refocusing your soul.

In this season of Lent, seek God anew. If your life has been straying into a ditch, the season of Lent is about putting us back on track. Jeremiah wrote:

“Stand in the ways and see, and ask for the old paths, where the good way is, and walk in it; then you will find rest for your souls.” (Jeremiah 6:16)

Grace & Peace, Pastor John

Community Meals: Because we just like eating together!

Family Night Supper

Join us Wednesday Night, February 21, for a wonderful supper of Homemade Vegetable Beef Soup, Cornbread, Crackers, Salad and Dessert. It's \$8 for 13 yrs. & up, \$4 for 4-12 yrs., and 3 & under eat free! We hope to see you there!

Fellowship Lunch

Following the worship service on February 11, all are welcome to a wonderful lunch in the Family Life Center. The meat this month is grilled pork chops. Come join us and please bring a side to share!

Way To Go!

Congratulations to the Burns Preschool and Daycare Center in passing their Quality Rating inspection and earning 2 out of 3 stars! The inspection comes around every three years and this is their highest level of rating so far! We have a wonderful Preschool and Daycare team and they enable Burns to have a wonderful ministry to the children of the community.

MASTERS TABLE

Volunteers from Burns continue to help at the Masters Table Soup Kitchen on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month, from 10:15 to 12:15. New volunteers are welcome. Contact the pastor if you are interested!



There Are Many Committee Meetings in February

- The Trustees will be meeting on February 5th at 5:15 PM
- The Finance Committee will be meeting on February 12th at 6:00 PM
- The Administrative Council will be meeting on February 19th at 6:00 PM

NEXT STEPS

There will be a gathering of North GA Global Methodists and those thinking about becoming Global Methodists at Norcross Methodist Church, (2500 Beaver Ruin Rd), February 10, 10 AM to 3:30 PM. It will be a time of worship, communion and update on the GMC, with a question time. The featured speaker will be Bishop Scott Jones. Please let the pastor know if you would like to attend as part of a group.

