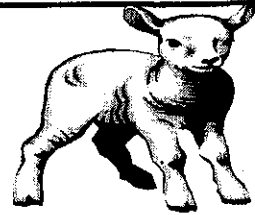


# ST. MATTHEW'S BELLWETHER



VOL II ISSUE 3

MARCH 2000

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

A man, whose name shall be known only as John Doe, was a merchant living in these United States, and this man was very much inclined to scoff at the Bible and its teaching. One day his niece persuaded him to go to church "just to please her." Greatly to her grief, the lesson was from the fifth chapter of Genesis. As the verses were read, she could only shrink back into her place. "Why had God permitted such an uninteresting list to be read this day of all others?" she thought to herself.

Mr. Doe made no comment as they walked home. The only difference was that he was a little quieter and more thoughtful. And yet, with every passing footstep, every tread of his own feet, every throb of his heart, came the refrain, "And he died."

Up in his room that night, Mr. Doe seemed to hear the clock strike the words, "And he died."

The next morning, busy at his ledger as usual, his pen seemed to trace the words, "And he died." Finally, he could stand it no longer and reached for his almost-forgotten family Bible and read the words from the Bible lesson again: "All the days that Adam lived were nine hundred and twelve years: and he died." "All the days of Seth were nine hundred and thirty years: and he died." All the days of Enos were nine hundred and five years: and he died." All the way to the end of the chapter he read. Wicked or good, the same simple story was told of each. "He lived...and he died."

The Spirit of God can use the most unlikely of instruments. By this uninteresting list of facts, this man's life was entirely changed. He was living—but he would have to die, and what then?

That very night, Mr. Doe decided to give his life to the Lord, who has said, he that "believes in Me shall never die."

I believe, don't you, that we can always learn something from the Bible, no matter where we read? I believe we should thank God for His Word to us and then use it daily. Your life and the lives of those around you will be changed and blessed.



Your Pastor & Friend,  
Larry

## SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS

We have time to prepare for Hurricanes and Snowstorms. Our section of NC is referred to as "**Tornado Alley of the East**" by NOAA and the NWS. Terrible wind, hail, lightning and tornadoes can happen at any time.

Occasionally, even the experts cannot give us enough warning. What should you do if you are in church and severe weather occurs?

Right now—**TODAY**—know what to do if severe storms were to happen. **IT IS VERY IMPORTANT NOT TO PANIC!**

If we are in service, the quickest action is to crouch under and between the pews. Cover your heads with your arms. The Choir should move to the area between the pulpit and outer wall. If Mini-Church is in progress, they and the Nursery should go immediately to the hallway.

If you are asked to move to safety during Sunday School or Special Meetings, go to the inner hallways. Still, remember to cover your heads with your arms.

This information is meant to keep you as safe as possible, not to cause you fear or alarm. We pray that we never have to use this, but we deserve to be prepared.

Look for articles in future editions of the **Bellwether** that will answer many questions.

Yours in Christ's Service,

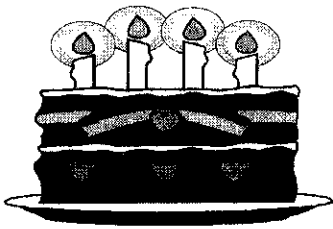
Amy & Dan Eberhardt,  
Disaster Response Committee



**ATTENTION!**  
**YOU ARE INVITED**  
**TO JOIN US**  
**IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL**  
**EACH**  
**THURSDAY MORNING**  
**9:00 - 10:00 A.M.**  
**FOR BIBLE STUDY**

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Charles Lucas
- 3 Stephanie Brackett
- 6 Gina Keller
- 8 Rick Webb
- 12 Jean Brown  
Dale Mitchell
- 13 Ginger Sessoms
- 19 Amber Webb
- 23 Nicholas Norton
- 24 Harold Taylor
- 27 DeAnn Trevathan
- 29 Carolyn Davis  
Jay Jordan
- 31 Brandi Makarov



**HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY**

### RUTH-ETHEL SMITH CIRCLE NEWS:

Spring is just around the corner. New beginnings for so many things in this beautiful world. Maybe we should all exercise a new beginning in our Faith. It's a wonderful season for renewal of all things.

We had a good February meeting and looking forward to an even better one on March 8th. Continue to encourage others to join us for a time of fellowship in our Circle.

Our February project was very successful!! Jean Lambert and Dorothy Spakes had the program. They invited a guest speaker, Rita McConnell from "Faith In Action" of Cumberland County. We all enjoyed hearing about this program.

For our March project, we have purchased 8 Turbins for the Cancer Clinic. I can speak from experience, this is a worthwhile deed for those patients. Extending any small gesture of kindness and concern for the ones who might not have the means to acquire them, is a big event in their lives.

Keep God in your heart, a smile on your face, a kind word and good thoughts about everyone, and you will always be a Shining Star for goodness in this world!!!!



God bless You All,  
Catherine Morgan,  
Chairperson

### "WE ARE GRATEFUL"

Dear Larry and Friends,

If we could wrap love in a ribbon, that would be our gift to you. In sickness you have touched our lives through those who have come, sent cards, called, and brought beautiful flowers. All those things have brought much needed sunshine, but the greatest of all...your prayers to God in our behalf and through so many there and other churches. God is working miracles. "To God Be the Glory."

Our Sincere Christian Love,  
Edgar & Pegi Lineberger

## SPECIAL OFFERINGS

### DONATIONS GIVEN TO:

- ◆ Power Bill from the Thrift Shop.
- ◆ Emergency Fund from...The Boyd Snyder Class...Paul Sharpe...Connie Knight's Secret Pal in honor of her birthday (2-14)...Joyce De-Bruhl...United Methodist Women in memory of Charles Lucas' mother...Boyd Snyder, Mrs. P.D. Mounce, Calvin & Christy Rome & Gail Terwilliger in memory of Linda Snyder...Doris Mayo & Peggy Pullman Class in memory of Fran Lynn...Ruth-Ethel Smith Circle...Nan Blehi's Secret Prayer Partner in honor of her birthday (1-23)...Gudrun Arnold in honor of Catherine Morgan's birthday (2-12)...Peggy Pullman Class...Gertrude Schultz

### IT MATTERS TO THIS ONE

As I walked along the seashore  
This young boy greeted me.  
He was tossing stranded starfish  
Back to the deep blue sea.  
I said, "Tell me why you bother,  
Why you waste your time this way.  
There's a million stranded starfish  
Does it matter, anyway?"

And he said, "It matters to this one.  
It deserves a chance to grow.  
It matters too this one.  
I can't save them all, I know.  
But it matters to this one,  
I'll return it to the sea.  
It matters to this one.  
And it matters to me."

I walked into the classroom.  
The teacher greeted me.  
She was helping Johnny study.  
He was struggling, I could see.  
I said, "Tell me why you bother,  
Why waste your time this way.  
Johnny's one of millions,  
Does it matter, anyway?"

And she said, "It matters to this one.  
He deserves a chance to grow.  
It matters to this one.  
I can't save them all, I know.  
But it matters to this one,  
I'll help him be what he can be,  
It matters to this one.  
And it matters to me."





The Thrift Shop is alive and well! Alive with steady returning shoppers that we appreciate. We have faithful, dependable workers that never let us down. There are no words that I can say to express my gratitude to them all.

The Thrift Shop Committee met on Tuesday, February 22 to discuss our aims and goals for the year. Our Mission work is growing, and we are reaching out to more and more areas. We thank God for the ability to do this. We are looking forward to a great year.

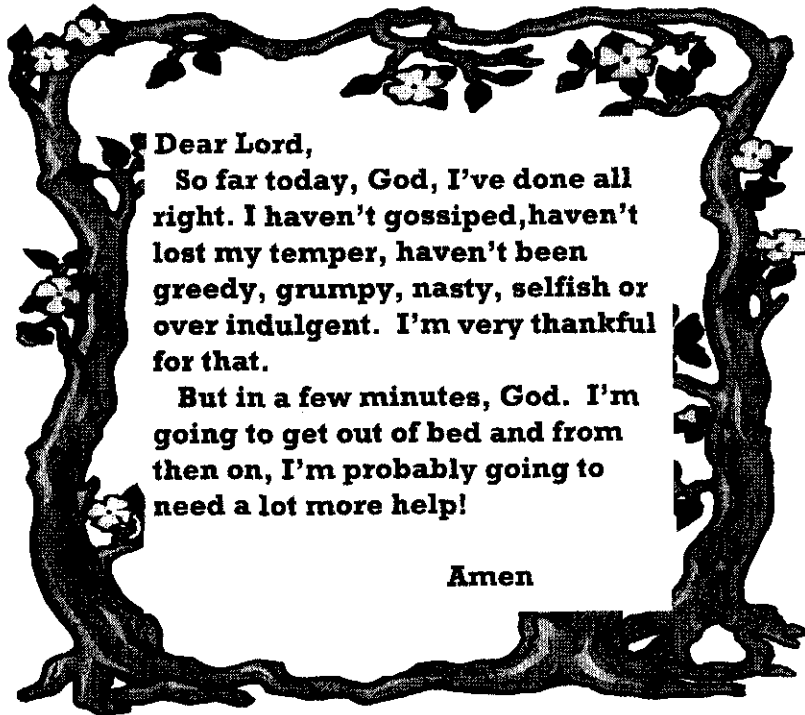
Eva Smith,  
Chairperson

### HELP'N HANDS

Help'N Hands monthly meeting was Thursday, Feb. 24th. We had a fun time, good food and a time of sharing together. You will be hearing more about the "Geriatric Gems" in the future, and we are all excited about this new vision for us seniors. Join us and find out what it's all about and give us a help'n hand.

Our next meeting will be March 23rd at 11:00 a.m. Does this prayer below relate to you?

Eva Smith,  
Adult Coordinator



Dear Lord,  
So far today, God, I've done all right. I haven't gossiped, haven't lost my temper, haven't been greedy, grumpy, nasty, selfish or over indulgent. I'm very thankful for that.

But in a few minutes, God. I'm going to get out of bed and from then on, I'm probably going to need a lot more help!

Amen

### ONE-BY-ONE

"Is this Heaven?" asked Shoeless Joe Jackson. "No, it's Iowa," answered Kevin Kostner in the movie "Field of Dreams." Sometimes, ONE-BY-ONE seems like a bit of Heaven right here. Such joy! You have heard so often that the Lord is busy at work here at St. Matthew's. It is as if His blessings are beyond our comprehension. We continue to thank one and all for your help, your confidence and your support. There are angels among us-YOU! We have new students and new teachers. A special welcome to our new peer tutors: Amanda Colon', David Dominie and Ashley Stone. Their enthusiasm is contagious, and their dedication is amazing. The next session will meet on the following dates: March 20,27, April 3,10 and 17. Again, if anyone would care to visit, please come on! We'll be here from 7:00-8:00 p.m.

God bless you all  
Amy



### UNITED METHODIST MEN NEWS:

The UM Men held their monthly fellowship breakfast on Sunday, Feb. 20. There were 19 men who attended the chipped beef & gravy breakfast, which has become somewhat of a tradition. Our brother, Charles Lucas, prepared it. After breakfast we ate Tums. Just kidding!

We agreed to contribute toward the Camp Rockfish Summer Camp Program. Although, we received several requests, we felt led to support the local camp as it provides our very own youth with a wonderful experience in a great setting. After the vote, we fine-tuned the details for the Sweetheart dinner.

The dinner was held in the Fellowship Hall that evening and what a turnout! It was standing room only as over 70 people enjoyed incredible fellowship with a Ribeye Steak on the side. Lynwood "Mr. BBQ" Griffin dressed those steaks with his secret recipe, which had everyone licking their fingers by night's end. A special "thank you" goes out to all the men that brought this event together. And thank you, Lord, for allowing us fellowship and providing us all with a wonderful dinner.

The UM Men would like to invite and encourage men of all ages to attend our monthly breakfast which is held on the 3rd Sunday of each month at 7:30 a.m.

Matt Jamison, UMM Secretary

### TELEPHONE CRISIS LISTENERS NEEDED

(Come learn and have fun, too!)

**CONTACT** invites you to train to become a more effective listener using Active Listening Communication Skills. Come to at least the first three nights of training and if you're not hooked by the third night, we will refund your money. You don't have to become a volunteer to take the training. The training will benefit you personally as well as professionally. Our next Training Class will begin Tuesday, April 11, 2000, 7:00-10:00 p.m. at Snyder Memorial Baptist Church on Westmont Drive. For more information call the Contac Business Office at 483-8970.

### JOB OPPORTUNITY!

Preschool Director Position available for large Methodist Church. BA in Early Childhood or Elementary Education and 3 yrs. related experience required. 25 hrs. per week. Submit letter of interest and resume by March 31, 2000 to 1700 Ft. Bragg Road, Fayetteville, NC 28303, Attention: Preschool.

# ST. MATTHEW'S UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Where are the days going? Here we are already at the beginning of March. How will you begin and end the month? Will you be a lion or a lamb? Lets each of us take on the ferociousness of the lion as we prepare to go about our unit's committed work. Then, we are called to show the gentleness and compassion of the lamb to those around us who are in need. Our "fruit" will bear out our commitment and compassion; let us get committed!!

As usual, both circles are busy with individual projects each month. In March, in addition to any individual project that is planned, both circles will combine for a project that should prove to be refreshing, fun, and beneficial for the church kitchen. The gift list for the "kitchen shower," is registered at **Target** and available for your selection. Please go by the UMW Bulletin Board for instructions on how to access the gift list at **Target** and for other information that you might need. Remember, **wrap your gift** and bring it to the "kitchen shower" on March 12th at 3:00 p.m. in the church fellowship hall. If two or three ladies want to go together and purchase a gift - feel free to do so. We will have decorations, food, games, and lots of fun; please do not forget to attend this event. Our Decorating Committee for this event is Mary Rozier, Linda Webb, and Janet Wagoner.

The UMW General meeting for March will be in the church fellowship hall on March 6th at 7:00 p.m. The meal will be a meal-of-salads. Please make a salad and join us for our regular meeting of program and unit business. In addition to the regular agenda, we will have a game, and door prizes. The drinks will be provided. Please bring your 2000 Directory for any notes you might need to write down for later reference. The Night Owl Circle will setup and decorate the fellowship hall for the General Meeting; they are also in charge of cleanup.

Please remember the date for the **FAYETTEVILLE DISTRICT LAY RALLY** on March 19th at Haymount UMC from 2:30 - 4:00 p.m. Dr. Evelyn Laycock will be the guest speaker. This is a service where our church, as well as other churches, celebrate the accomplishments of the past year—come join in the celebration of your church this year.

As part of St. Matthew's adoption of the **J.W. Coon Elementary School**, Debbie Hager, Roberta Brown, and Betty Probst served breakfast refreshments to teachers and staff on February 3; what a lovely idea ladies!! Please remember the donation box in the office foyer to collect needed items for the school. See you March 6th!

Your UMW President,  
Betty Patrick

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## NIGHT OWL CIRCLE NEWS

The Night Owls met on February 10, 2000 with 14 Owl members and 1 visitor. We discussed our next projects that are coming up for the months of March, April and May. The Night Owls have chosen to have a kitchen shower as their project for the month of March. This is a combined project of the two circles and will be held on March 12th at 3:00 p.m. Please understand that this is **NOT** a come and go shower, so be prepared to stay the entire time for games, food and fun. There is a list hanging on the UMW's bulletin board of what is needed for the kitchen and how many of each item, and where it is purchased. The Night Owls voted at their last meeting to purchase everything from **TARGET** that way it will all match and stay well within our individual budgets. It will be listed in Target under their Bridal Registry as **ST. MATTHEW'S METHODIST CHURCH**. You have to enter the Bride's initials in the registry which for us would be **ST.** for the first name, and **MET.** for the last name. After you have entered this information, it will ask you to touch on the screen for the state the wedding occurs,  
(Continued on Page 5)

### CHICKEN ALFREDO



4 Chicken Breast (cooked & cut into small bite-sized pieces)  
1 (2.5 oz.) can sliced Mushrooms  
1 cup Evaporated Skim Milk  
3 Tablespoons margarine  
1/4 cup self-rising flour  
4 teaspoons chicken broth  
1/4 cup Parmesan cheese, grated  
1/4 teaspoon garlic, minced  
1/4 teaspoon black pepper  
1/4 teaspoon salt  
10-12 ozs. Fettuccine noodles (cooked & drained)

Blend flour, margarine, milk and chicken broth in a saucepan over low heat. Add garlic, salt and black pepper. Cook over low heat stirring constantly until thickened. Stir in cheese and mushrooms. Fold cooked mixture into cooked pasta. Serve immediately. (If sauce is too thick, add a little more milk and chicken broth.)

**NOTE:** This recipe comes from our friends in Winona, Mississippi, Elsie & Eugene Banes. Gene is a United Methodist minister; they hope to join us in worship here at St. Matthew's on Sunday, March 12th. This recipe is good comfort food!!! Enjoy!!

**(NIGHT OWL CIRCLE NEWS CONTINUED)**

and you will touch North Carolina, once this is completed then a screen will pop up with the information in a box, you touch the box and it will give the option to print the information. Print the information and use the list to see what has or has not been purchased. Once you have chosen your item or items to purchase, take the sheet with you to the checkout and show them which item you purchased, because they will be the ones to delete it from the list.

Feel free between now and then to go over to Target and pull up the registry on their computer and see what has or has not been purchased. If you are not familiar with Target, when you enter the store the computer for the registry is to your immediate left. This is going to be a fun time for all of us to share in refurbishing the kitchen with some nice things. This is also a great time for fun, food and fellowship for both circles. I would like to thank Mary Rozier for the planning of the shower. She and her chosen committee are working very hard to make this event special for all of us. If you cannot attend the shower, you may still purchase an item on the list. Most of the items are fairly inexpensive. and you may purchase more than one if you can.

For the Month of **April**, the Night Owls decided to **Adopt J.W. Coon Elementary School** as their project. There is a list of items teachers need listed in the church bulletin and on the **UMW** bulletin board. Please review this list and purchase as many items as you can. Also, if your schedule allows try to volunteer at least 1-2 hours a week if nothing but to sit and listen to a child read to you. It is so important that our children, even if they are not yours, feel like people care. We **ALL** have at least 1 hour to give a week. I know that when you leave, you will be blessed.

For the month of **May**, the Night Owls have chosen to give a donation to the **St. Matthew's UMC Scholarship Fund** Please be in prayer for this project. It needs everyone's help to ensure continuing education.

Don't forget the **UMW General Meeting** on Monday, March 6th. This is a dinner meeting with salads. I want all of our Night Owls there. If you do not have time to fix a salad, please do not stay home. We always have plenty.

Candice Wagoner, Night Owls Circle Leader

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**YOUTH NEWS**

I regret that so much time has passed since my last letter was written to our faithful readers. This is the scoop from the UMYF. In past months, we have been busy with our weekly meetings, a **Winter Weekend Retreat** to the **Thomson Mountain Home**, **Krispy Kreme Donut Sale**, and most recent the **Spaghetti Donation Dinner** which was a huge success. The youth and myself would like to give a **GREAT BIG THANKS** to everyone who came to support us. Because of your generosity, we made a whopping profit of **\$370.00**. This money will be put to good use. Our future plans include attending a **Youth Rally** in Rocky Mount, **T-Shirt Sales**, **Car Wash**, **Spring/Summer Rafting Retreat** and a very top secret mission fund raising project that will be sure to have everyone in the congregation and community watching the skies to see where we will land next!!!! So...beware, we are on the loose.

**Thank you** to the UMW for their generous \$100.00 donation to our UMYF, they gave just because they love us and we sure are grateful. The money was used to buy supplies for the donation dinner, which in turn has helped our bank account tremendously. Also, the youth wants to recognize **Meghann Dominic** for winning **Ms. Academic** in her School Pageant. Kudos to you!! Keep up the good work. Again, thanks to everyone for all your support.

Love in Christ,  
Leigh Thomson

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**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

**Communications Committee would like E-Mail Addresses of everyone who has access to one, and would like to receive news and announcements and other near "stuff". Give your address to Darrell or Cathy Collins or send it to [Noizynabor@cs.com](mailto:Noizynabor@cs.com).**

**ATTENTION GRADUATES!**

The church office needs your Name, Name of School or College and the date you will be graduating this year.

**CONGRATULATIONS!!**

**Lorri Shackelford, Bob Pray and Troy Willoughby just completed the Basic Lay Speaker Training on February 13th. Roberta Brown completed the Advanced Lay Speaker Training at Salem UMC.**



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
			<b>1</b> Card Ministry-5pm Wed. Night Alive & Bible Study-6:30pm Choir Practice-7:30pm	<b>2</b> Bible Study-9:00am  Administrative Board Mtg. - 7pm in F.H.	<b>3</b>  Mission Saturation Event at Salem UMC-6:30pm (Bring Covered Dish)	<b>4</b> Mission Saturation Event at St. Matthew's-5:30pm	<b>EVERY SUNDAY SCHEDULE:</b>  <b>8:30AM EARLY WORSHIP SERVICE (NO) NURSERY PROVIDED</b>  <b>9:45AM SUNDAY SCHOOL (ALL AGES)</b>  <b>11:00AM WORSHIP SERVICE (NURSERY PROVIDED)</b>
<b>5</b> Charge Conference-12:00pm	<b>6</b> Pastor's Day Apart  UMW General Mtg.-7pm	<b>7</b>  Prayer Mtg.-7pm Worship Committee-7:30pm	<b>8</b> Ruth-Ethel Smith Circle-10:30am in F.H.  Card Ministry-5pm Wed. Night Alive & Bible Study-6:30pm Choir Practice-7:30pm	<b>9</b> Bible Study-9:00am  Night Owls Circle-7pm in F.H.	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	
<b>12</b> UMW Kitchen Shower-3:00pm	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>  Prayer Mtg.-7pm Trustee's Mtg.-7:30pm	<b>15</b> Home Extensions-9:30am  Card Ministry-5pm Wed. Night Alive & Bible Study-6:30pm Choir Practice-7:30pm	<b>16</b> Bible Study-9:00am DCOM at Harry Hoosier UMC-10:00am	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	
<b>19</b> UMM Breakfast-7:30am  District Lay Rally at Haymount UMC-2:30pm (Dr. Evelyn Laycock-Speaker)	<b>20</b>  One-By-One-7pm	<b>21</b> District Pastor's Mtg.  Prayer Mtg.-7pm Council on Ministries-7:30pm in F.H.	<b>22</b>  Card Ministry-5pm Wed. Night Alive & Bible Study-6:30pm Choir Practice-7:30pm	<b>23</b> Bible Study-9:00am Help'N Hands-11:00am	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	
<b>26</b>  <u>PASTOR HOLDS</u>	<b>27</b>  <u>REVIVAL AT</u>	<b>28</b>  <u>HOPEWELL UMC</u>	<b>29</b>  Card Ministry-5pm Wed. Night Alive & Bible Study-6:30pm Choir Practice-7:30pm	<b>30</b> Bible Study-9:00am	<b>31</b>		