

Englewood Communicator

Issue 2

February 1, 2020



Rob's Revelations by Dr. Rob Westlund

Dear Family,

As many of you know I chair the Church Development Committee in our presbytery. It is a huge responsibility and at the same time a blessing for us as we are informed and educated on what it means to be the church in 2020. Having said that, from one perspective being the church has not changed in the last 2000+ years. We the church are commissioned to make disciples. That hasn't changed.

What has changed is the external context in which we are striving to fulfill the Great Commission. The fact is, we are in a post-modern post-Christian world where the church finds herself on the margins of culture. I don't want to dwell on this. We've heard it. In our hearts, we know it to be true. But we still struggle with it, because we know deep down it means change.

Change is necessary for us, because not changing means death. For the past 50 years not changing meant homeostasis, status quo, comfortable, and familiar. In 2020 not experimenting, being flexible, and being obstinate toward change means we will die a slow death as a church. Don't blame the messenger, this is our reality and it is coming at us fast. There is another reality. God is still in charge. God's Word is still sharper than any double-edged sword. The Holy Spirit is at work. Jesus still saves. There is nothing in all creation that can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. Jesus is still name above all names and every knee will bow and every tongue will confess Him as Lord. The Great Commission is still in effect. While we may fear change our mission as Englewood Presbyterian Church will never change. It will always be to make disciples. The problem is Sunday School, VBS, Revivals, church programs, Sunday Preaching, and the pastor being the main disciple-maker are not going to keep the church alive.

Life for the church is going to come from all of us finding 1 person, maybe even 2 or 3, to disciple. I know that's scary, but don't forget the truths above especially that the Holy Spirit is still at work and Jesus still saves. Each of us has the Holy Spirit and the Word of God to sit down with someone who does not know God loves them. We each have a salvation and faith narrative to share with someone who doesn't. Disciple-making does not require a theological degree. Disciple-making requires a heart sold out to God and focused on loving our neighbors. There is always room for one more at EPC. Who is your one more?

In Jesus, Rob

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Special points of interest:

- Sign up for Easter Lilies during the month of February
- Souper Bowl Offering, 2/2
- Blood Drive, 2/13 noon to 6 pm and 2/14 11 am to 4:30 pm
- Women's Fellowship Lunch & Movie, 2/15 @ 11:30 am
- Bowling, 2/21 @ 6:30 pm
- Ash Wednesday Service, 2/26 @ 6:30 pm

Blood Drive

The next Red Cross Blood Drive will be held on Thursday, February 13, from noon to 6 pm and Friday, February 14, from 11 am to 4:30 pm.



For 2019, the Rocky Mount Public Blood Drive had the most blood donations for Nash County! A total of 388 units were collected. Thank you for your support!

The EPC Blood Drive for December had a goal of 64 and we collected 58 units (6 under goal).

Women's Fellowship

The Women's Fellowship will have a Movie and Lunch event at Leona Briggs' home on Saturday, February 15, at 11:30 am.

You don't have to bring a thing! We will have chili for lunch and watch "The War Room".

Please sign up on the sheet provided on the bulletin board in the church lobby.

Easter Lily Sign Up

We are taking orders for Easter Lilies for our sanctuary on Easter Sunday. Please fill out a form found in the Sunday bulletins and place your form and \$7.50 in any Sunday offering plate by March 1. You may purchase the lily in memory or honor of someone—just be sure to put that information on the form.

Ash Wednesday

We will have an Ash Wednesday Service on February 26 at 6:30 pm.

Sound Booth Training

Would you like to be a part of the Sound Booth Team? Come for training on Wednesday, February 12, at 6 pm. For more information, please see Mary Ruth Johnson.

Coming Up in February

- 2/3 Missions Team, Library, 7 pm
- 2/4 HOPE U, Youth Building, 5-8 pm
- 2/5 Congregational Care Team, Library, 10 am
- 2/11 Women's Fellowship Bible Study, Library, 10 am
- 2/18 HOPE U, Youth Building, 5-8 pm

YCRC Celebrate Life Banquet

The Your Choice Resource Center Celebrate Life Banquet will take place on Thursday, February 27 at 7 pm (doors open at 6:30 pm) at Englewood Baptist Church. Tickets are \$20 per person (covers the cost of the meal) and the deadline for purchasing tickets is February 19. To purchase your tickets phone 446-2273. Go by the table in the church lobby for more information about the work of the YCRC.

"Souper Bowl" Offering

On Sunday, February 2, the Missions Team will be taking up an offering following the morning worship service for our Backpack Program. We are also asked to bring in boxes of mac and cheese for our Backpack children.

Sunday Evening Small Group Resumes

The Sunday Evening Small Group will resume on Sunday, February 9, at 6 pm at Richard and Karen Rose's home (812 Dahlgren Avenue).

They will be starting a series entitled "Overcomer" by Dr. David Jeremiah. They welcome any and all newcomers!

Bowling

Everyone is invited to go Bowling on Friday, February 21 at 6:30 pm at the Rocky Mount Bowling Center. The cost will be \$5 (includes shoe rental) for each game. You may also want to bring money for dinner or snacks at the alley.



There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the church lobby so we can get an idea of how many to reserve a space for.

Serving in February

Greeters

- 2/2 Fran Westlund and Elizabeth Langston
2/9 John and Jean Feagans
2/16 Richard and Karen Rose
2/23 Buck and Sherry Young

Ushers: head ushers Leon and Greg Bisette

- 2/2 Rex Bisette and Rusty Bryant
2/9 Harold and Nancy Colston
2/16 David and Ginny Hodges
2/23 Phil and Leona Briggs

Sound Board

- 2/2 Jeff Proctor and Leona Briggs
2/9 Jeff Slack and Caleb Chesis
2/16 Yvonne McLeod and Leona Briggs
2/23 Denise Bisette and Caleb Chesis

Lay Readers

- Denise Bisette
Daxie Dozier
Buck Young
Cindy Batchelor



Children's Church

- 2/2 Ginny Hodges
2/9 Indy Chesis
2/16 Jill O'Brien
2/23 Ellen Henson and Ashley Lanham

Backpacks

- 2/3 Nancy Kirkwood and Mary McMillan
2/10 Anita Stander and Hope O'Keefe
2/17 HOPE U and Rachel Westlund
2/24 Yvonne McLeod and Kay Owen

Elders of the Month: Denise Bisette and Rose Burnett

Thank You

Thanks for your prayers, uplifting get well cards and Christmas cards. May you have God's blessing in the coming year.
Rose Bailey

Frances and I would like to thank each and everyone of you for the outpouring of love and thoughtfulness that we have received. With such wonderful friends as you, who could have any enemies! We would like to thank you for the visits, food, cards, calls, and prayers. All were greatly appreciated!
In Jesus' Love, Johnny and Frances Long

Directory Change

Please change Rusty and Maria Bryant's phone number in your new directories to 641-4169.

Birthdays

- 12 Nancy Kirkwood
13 Earl Sears
15 Leon Bisette
Caleb Chesis
Anita Stander
24 Greg Bisette
25 Lauren Westlund
28 Janet Slack



Anniversaries

- 2 Harold and Nancy Colston
14 Dale and Marsha Winstead

Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy goes out to . . .


- ♥ Myra Taylor and family upon the passing of her mother on January 1.
- ♥ Kevin Lewis and family upon the passing of Kevin's mother Martha on January 21.
- ♥ Debbie Wenzel and family upon the passing of her mother January 27.

Please remember these families in your prayers.

Congregational and Corporation Meeting

There will be a Congregational and Corporation Meeting on Sunday, February 16. Annual Reports for 2019 will be available on that date.

February 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<div style="border: 2px solid red; padding: 5px;"> <p>Key</p> <p>CORE Men's Bible Study FH Fellowship Hall</p> <p>HI Hampton Inn SAN Sanctuary</p> <p>YB Youth Building SS Sunday School</p> </div>					1 HOPE, YB, 10:30 am to 2 pm
2 SS, 9:15 am Fellowship, 10 am Worship, 10::30 am J.O.Y. SS Super Bowl get-together, Rose's home, 6 pm	3 Prayer, SAN, 6:30 pm Missions Team, LIB, 7 pm	4 HOPE U, YB, 5-8 pm	5 CORE, HI, 6:45 am Cong. Care Team, LIB, 10 am Small Group, Gravely's home, 6:30 pm Choir, 7 pm	6 Bible Study, YB, 10:30 am Stitches of Love, YB, 11:30 am	7	8
9 SS, 9:15 am Fellowship, 10 am Worship, 10::30 am Small Group, Rose's home, 6 pm	10 Prayer, SAN, 6:30 pm	11 Women's Fellowship, LIB, 10 am	12 CORE, HI, 6:45 am Small Group, Gravely's home, 6:30 pm Sound Booth Training, SAN, 6 pm Choir, 7 pm	13 Bible Study, YB, 10:30 am Stitches of Love, YB, 11:30 am	14  Valentine's Day	15 Lunch and a Movie, Briggs' home, 11:30 am
16 SS, 9:15 am Fellowship, 10 am Worship, 10::30 am Congregational and Corp. Meeting, 11:30 am Small Group, Rose's home, 6 pm	17 Prayer, SAN, 6:30 pm	18 HOPE U, YB, 5-8 pm	19 CORE, HI, 6:45 am Small Group, Gravely's home, 6:30 pm Choir, 7 pm	20 Bible Study, YB, 10:30 am Stitches of Love, YB, 11:30 am	21 Bowling, Rocky Mount Lanes, 6:30 pm	22
23 SS, 9:15 am Fellowship, 10 am Worship, 10::30 am Small Group, Rose's home, 6 pm	24 Prayer, SAN, 6:30 pm	25	26 CORE, HI, 6:45 am Small Group, Gravely's home, 6:30 pm Choir, 7 pm	27 Bible Study, YB, 10:30 am Stitches of Love, YB, 11:30 am	28	29

Blood Drives

Financial Information for January

	<u>January</u>		
	Actual	Budget	Difference
Tithes and Offerings	\$18,388.72	26,410.62	(\$8,021.90)
Other Income	<u>80.00</u>	<u>213.00</u>	(<u>133.00</u>)
Total	18,468.72	26,623.62	(8,154.90)
Expenses	<u>23,783.56</u>	<u>26,623.62</u>	<u>2,840.06</u>
Total Income (Expense)	(\$ 5,314.84)	0.00	(\$ 5,314.84)

	<u>Year to Date</u>		
	Actual	Budget	Difference
Tithes and Offerings	\$18,388.72	26,410.62	(\$8,021.90)
Other Income	<u>80.00</u>	<u>213.00</u>	(<u>133.00</u>)
Total	18,468.72	26,623.62	(8,154.90)
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Total Income (Expense)	(\$ 5,314.84)	0.00	(\$ 5,314.84)

Memorials

Memorial Gifts were given in memory of David Potter (Stan and Mary Margaret Neighbor's son) by Gary, Nancy, and Amy Kirkwood, Ed Moore, Betty Smith

Memorial Gifts were given in memory of Marie Daughtridge (Rose Burnett's mother) by Ed Moore, Marie Michl, Betty Smith, Ray and Anita Stander

Memorial Gifts were given in memory of Martha Lewis (Kevin Lewis' mother) by Rose and Craig Burnett, Ray and Anita Stander

Christian Stewardship

The English word "steward" comes from the Anglo-Saxon words "stig" or "stye", meaning an enclosure or a hall, and the word "wéord," which means keeper. A steward is a person in charge of property or affairs of another person, who is the true owner. A steward also often acts as a supervisor, an administrator of finances and property on behalf of the owner of the property. The relationship is one of trust.

Matthew 25:14, Jesus tells a story of a man entrusting an amount of money to three servants. In each case, the amount transferred corresponds to the individual's ability. Two of the servants realize that the master is showing them trust by asking them to take care of the sum of money. They accept the responsibility of stewardship and the risk that goes with it. They use initiative, their talents and abilities and manage to double what was entrusted to them. When they gave an account of their stewardship, they are praised and rewarded. For the third man, the handing over of the money was not a sign of trust, but a trap to get him into trouble. He refused to use his gifts and abilities; he simply ensured that he could return the money in the end. Instead of praise, he stands condemned at the time of reckoning.

Stewardship involves hard work and effort and taking appropriate risks courageously. Fear is the great enemy of being a good steward. Fear is the opposite of faith. Throughout Scriptures, we are commanded to "be not afraid... fear not." Fear draws our attention away from acting upon the intentions of the True Owner; faith steadies our focus on the Master. Not one of us owns anything. Upon the day of our death, we will know this statement to be true.



Be sure to pick up your
2020 Phone Directories
from the table set up in
the church lobby.

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