

THE HARBINGER

Newsletter – March 2023



The Season of Lent

*Reflecting on Christ's ministry,
death and resurrection*

The season of Lent is a time of preparation for Jesus' death and resurrection at Easter. It is a journey of recommitment and one that moves us closer toward the cross. While prayer, fasting, and almsgiving are the three central pillars of Lent, let us also examine the need for deep transformation in our lives during this season.

To transform is to make a thorough or dramatic change in the form, appearance, or character of something. As Christians, transformation takes place when we ask ourselves, "what in our lives needs to be changed; and how, by the grace of God, can we be transformed?" The Apostle Paul writes in Romans 12:2, "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God - what is good and acceptable and perfect."

During this time, Lent presents us with the opportunity to renew our minds each day and prompts us to live a life that honors God ; not conforming, but rather transforming. Lent is not about being perfect or attaining some ideal standard of holiness, but about making time and space to connect with God, and grow closer to Him by meeting face-to-face with our desperate need for salvation.

Over the course of the next few weeks, focus on Christ and listen to the voice of God. Focus on his mercy and love. Spend time in prayer, read Scripture, and ask God how you may be of service to others. May we see God's goodness and glory in new ways, and may we know the depths of his love for us more fully throughout this season of Lent.



This Month at FPC Belmont

ADAM HAMILTON
Author of Making Love Last a Lifetime and Love To Stay

Why?

Making Sense of God's Will

LIMITED SERIES

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Led by Rev. Daria Ragan

**Where is God when tragedy strikes?
Is it God's will when we suffer?**

In this 4-week limited series, we will discuss how God works, and doesn't work, when bad things happen in our lives.

MARCH 5 - 26 | 9:45 AM
(Held in the Fellowship Hall)

While it is not a requirement, you may purchase the corresponding book for this class. Scan the QR code to order.

JOIN THE LUCK OF THE IRISH THIS

ST. PATRICK'S DAY

SENIOR ADULT DINNER & ACTIVITIES

**FRIDAY, MARCH 17TH
6-8 PM**

MENU:
CHICKEN-POT-PIE
SALAD/ROLLS
SHORT BREAD

REGISTER & PAY ON REALM: \$5 PER PERSON

Joy Circle

Tuesday, March 7
10:00 am

NEW MEMBER CLASS

For visitors, inquirers and new members who are interested in learning more about our church.

SUNDAY, MARCH 5 & MARCH 12
9:45 AM IN THE GATHERING AREA

High School MISSION WEEKEND

MARCH 10 - 11

Mission Retreat held in Bryson City & Cherokee

LOG ONTO REALM OR CONTACT LEE WOODEN FOR MORE INFO

MEET & EAT LUNCH

Tuesday, March 14 at Noon

**Guest Speaker:
Kerri Massey of Holy Angels**

WOMEN WITH Faith

MARCH 8TH & MARCH 22

HELD THE 2ND & 4TH WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 6:30 PM, FOLLOWING THE FELLOWSHIP SUPPER.

Youth SPAGHETTI DINNER FUNDRAISER

March 15 | 5 - 7 pm

\$8.00 PER PLATE (PAY IN PERSON)

-Dine In or Carry Out-

PROCEEDS GO TOWARD YOUTH MISSION TRIPS

Women's Malawi Mission Project

Project extended through March!

**Thursdays
9:30 am - 12:30 pm**

A women's project to help support and empower girls and women of Malawi.

ORGANIC & FAIRLY TRADED PRODUCTS

COFFEE, TEA & CHOCOLATE SALE

Benefiting the Guatemalan Microloan Project

Fill your cup and satisfy your sweet tooth while helping others!

FINAL DAY TO ORDER IS MARCH 1! ORDERS ARE EXPECTED TO BE DISTRIBUTED ON MARCH 26.

ORDER NOW THRU MARCH 1

GIRL SCOUTS SUNDAY

Sunday, March 12

8:30 & 11:00 SERVICES

Stay Connected

For weekly news and upcoming events, be sure you are signed up to receive our congregational emails or log onto Realm to stay connected! Not yet registered? Scan the QR code to sign up today. Also, be sure to follow us on social media!

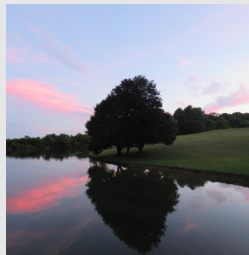
FACEBOOK: [FPCBelmontNC](https://www.facebook.com/FPCBelmontNC)

INSTAGRAM: [fpcbmont](https://www.instagram.com/fpcbmont)

Questions? Contact our Communications Director, Jessica White, at jwhite@fpc-belmont.org



Children's Ministry & Youth Ministry



Middle School Summer Conference

June 22 - 25

MASSANETTA SPRINGS -
HARRISONBURG, VIRGINIA



This conference is a transformational program that welcomes hundreds of middle school students and their leaders from all over the country each summer. Participants attend keynotes, recreation, workshops, and worship designed by the Advocates (youth leaders) with them in mind. For more information including conference cost and registration, log onto Realm by scanning the QR code.



High School Mission Trip

July 15 - 23

NORTH CAROLINA COAST



Through Praying Pelicans Missions, our mission team will assist local Ministries and non-profits serve a local community on the coast of North Carolina. The team will help with construction. This includes gutting water-damaged homes, building ramps, roofing, and more. The cost is \$375 per person and a mandatory meeting will be held on Sunday, May 7, following the 11:00 service. Scan the QR code to learn more or to register!



2023 Children's Summer Camp

July 30 - August 4

BETHELWOODS CAMP -
YORK, SC



The Summer Camp at Bethelwoods will be offered as follows:

Day Camp: Completed Kindergarten - 5th Grade (July 31 - Aug 4): \$175

Partial Week Overnight Camp: Completed 1st - 5th Grade (July 30 - Aug 2): \$175

Full Week Overnight Camp: Completed 3rd - 5th Grade (July 30 - Aug 4): \$350

More detailed information is available by scanning the QR code.

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED!**

SAVE THE DATE!

VBS

2023



June 12 -15

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

**COMPLETED KINDERGARTEN
THROUGH 5TH GRADE**

OTHER DATES TO REMEMBER:

Sunday, May 7

**Children's Service & Annual
Church Picnic**

Sunday, May 14

8th Grade Confirmation

Sunday, May 21

Senior Sunday

For questions regarding the Children's Ministry or Youth Ministry, please contact one of our directors:

Christian Education Director: Robin Russell
russell@fpc-belmont.org

Youth Ministry Director: Lee Wooden
lwooden@fpc-belmont.org

Recent Events at FPC Belmont

WOMEN'S MALAWI MISSION PROJECT

Our Malawi Project has been a great success, with over 420 sanitary pads being assembled thus far. Our project will continue on throughout the month of March and we invite all women who would like to be a part of this wonderful project, to come out on Thursdays from 9:30 am - 12:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Thanks to each lady who has played a helping hand in making this mission possible. For questions, please contact [Paula Wallace](#).



RISE AGAINST HUNGER

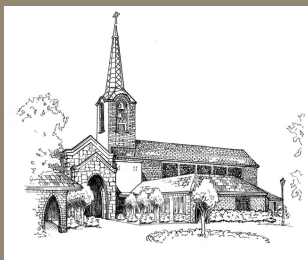


On Sunday, February 5, members of FPC and our community worked together to pack 15,120 meals in just over an hour for the Rise Against Hunger mission. Thank you for your support, financial donations and prayers that have been prayed for the people who will be receiving these meals. **SAVE THE DATE! Our next meal packing event will be on February 4, 2024.**

WDS PARENT APPRECIATION EVENT



Last month, the Weekday School hosted a "Parent Appreciation Event" for all of our Preschool and Weekday School families. The appreciation event consisted of a "drop-in" breakfast where parents were able to grab breakfast on their way to work, or come and fellowship with others. It is our hope that our school families always know how grateful we are for the opportunity to serve and care for their children each day!



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