



MARCH  
2025

## THE MEETING HOUSE NEWS

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Office hours: Monday-Thursday 9:00 am - 2:00 pm 1765 Meeting House



MISSION STATEMENT OF NAZARETH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*To worship and glorify God and to make disciples for Christ.*

Dear Nazareth Family,

Although Lent and Easter are late this year, it seems as if we just celebrated Christmas. Lent is my favorite season on the Christian calendar because it is void of all the commercialism of Advent and Christmas. If you are new to the Reformed tradition or just need a refresher—Lent is the season of 40 days, from Ash Wednesday until Easter—that we spend preparing for Easter Sunday. It is a time of prayer, fasting and self-examination and lasts 40 days to commemorate the time of the flood in Genesis, Moses' sojourn at Mount Sinai, Elijah's journey to Mount Horeb, Jonah's call to Nineveh to repent and Jesus' time of testing in the wilderness. In the early church, Lent was a time of preparation for the celebration of baptism at the Easter Vigil.

While some faiths observe a Holy Lent by giving up something - wine, chocolate, procrastinating, etc., we do not. I always like to add something, as I highlighted in the Wonderful Wednesday Words.

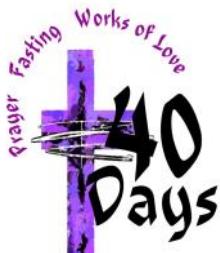
This year, I will be preaching a sermon series entitled “Leaning Towards the Light,” focusing on our need for the light and life that Jesus brings us. Although Lent is somewhat dark and introspective in nature, I felt a need for light after 2024. It is my prayer that the sermons will help us soak up the presence of Jesus. During our Lenten Bible studies, beginning March 12, I will teach a series on light-seekers. These will be Biblical characters who lean into the light of Jesus as well. I hope you will join us for all the special services and Bible studies. May our church family be encouraged to simply allow leaning towards Jesus and soaking up his presence to be “enough” during the season and take encouragement from this set of unlikely characters who positioned themselves to grow towards the light.

Blessings,

Julie

“So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ: be reconciled to God. For our sake God made the one who knew no sin to be sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.” 2 Corinthians 5:20-21

# Worship



**Worship in person or “Livestream” every Sunday.  
Come and worship with us and bring a friend.**

**Wednesday, March 5      Ash Wednesday 7:00**

**Sunday March 9**

**Sunday March 16**

**Sunday March 23**

**Sunday March 30**

**1st Sunday of Lent**

**2nd Sunday of Lent**

**3rd Sunday of Lent**

**Confirmands Join the Church**

**4th Sunday of Lent**

**Head Ushers for March are: Brian and Ella Kern**

## Session Minutes

### Approvals:

- Approved amended motion from Worship Committee to set Communion dates for 2025: Sunday January 5, February 2, March 2, April 6, May 4, June 1, July 6, August 3, September 7, October 5, November 2, and Thursday, April 17 (Maundy Thursday), Wednesday, December 24 (Christmas Eve).
- Approved motion from Admin Committee for \$720 Dyal Fund Grant for Christian Education to host a certified CPR class for leaders and a non-certified class for family and friends.
- Approved motion from Admin Committee for \$700 Dyal Fund Grant for Fellowship to offer a Beginner Pickleball Clinic to members and non-members. The format is patterned after another Church's successful implementation.
- Approved motion (Yarborough/Hoenig) for Julie to be on 6-week Sabbatical leave June 2-July 14. Julie will preach June 1 and return to the office July 14. Rev. Pressley Cox will cover during the Sabbatical leave.

### Other Items:

- Dyal funds are currently available for use. Committee chairs are reminded to submit requests for funds ASAP.
- The BG&S subcommittee is working on the bathroom renovation project. Discussion of Parlor renovation is also in progress.
- \$1450 was donated to the Souper Bowl of Caring offering. The Youth voted to send our donation to The Carpenter's Table.
- The Bake Auction raised \$7,230. Thank you to everyone for your generosity and support of our Youth.
- Friends & Family CPR training is on Wednesday, Feb. 19. THE CPR certification training is February 24. Will ask about a possible grant from Spartanburg Regional for AED equipment.
- Amy is working on plans for a possible Mission Trip to assist with Hurricane Helene Recovery in Montreat/Black Mountain. Tentative date is August 4-8. More details to follow.
- Julie received a lovely email from a visitor who attended a service in response to the Postcard mailout suggested by the Legacy Partnership team.
- The Fellowship Committee is planning a Welcome Spring event at the end of March. Watch for details about this fun event.
- Julie is off Sunday, March 2, 2025. Rev. Pressley Cox will be preaching.

# Christian Education



Thank you to everyone who supported the youth at their spaghetti dinner and bake auction! We truly appreciate everyone's help, especially Chef Chuck Holmes; Sous Chefs Jeff Hayes and Isaac Melton; the dynamic duo of Katie and Joe Barath; Mr. Clean himself, Lance Allen; "The Man" on the mic, our auctioneer, Steve Balltrip; and our lovely "bankers" Ashley Whitfield and Lisa Hayes. Thank you to all of our Bakers, Bidders and Eaters! We truly appreciate you and all that you do! And of course, a BIG THANK YOU to our awesome youth and our Naz kids for all of your help! \$7,330 was raised for the YOUTH!

Beginning on **March 12 and ending on April 9, we will have 5 Bible study lessons** on light seekers; different biblical characters who were seeking the light. **This year we are doing things a little differently in that people have signed up to bring parts of the meal. There is no cost to you for dinner, but we do ask that you sign up if you plan on eating dinner, using the sign-up sheets in the Fellowship Hall.** **Dinner is at 5:30pm followed by Bible Study from 6:00-6:55pm.** Nursery will be provided if you let Amy know in advance. Julie will teach the adults, Amy will teach the youth, and Lara will have the littles and elementary-aged kids (but please let Amy know if they plan on coming).

## MARCH YOUTH EVENTS

- Sun. March 2-** Frankie's Fun Park & Dinner Out-6:00-8:30pm/Leave and return to FLC
- Sun. March 9-** 6:00-7:30 YG @ FLC
- Sun. March 16-** 6:00-7:30 Dinner & Clean the Sanctuary
- Sun. March 23-** 6:00-7:30 YG @ FLC-Format
- Sun. March 30-** Spring Fling @ FLC-Time TBD



## Confirmation Class

**You will be confirmed on Sunday, March 23 during worship.** Parents, please check your email or Remind text for announcements and updates.



Also, our day of volunteering at the Spartanburg Humane Society and taking our donations is Saturday, March 29 from 11-noon.

**The Confirmation class would like to thank EVERYONE who donated items to the Spartanburg Humane Society! We are very appreciative of the items and can't wait to take the donations to them!**

# Christian Education, cont.

## SUMMER Retreat/Camps

**High School Retreat- Fun in the Son @ St. Simon's Island, June 22-27.**  
**Last day to register your youth is March 1<sup>st</sup>.**

Please contact Amy for registration information. Price based on Total # of kids going from your family-per tier below

**Middle School Retreat- The Great Escape: Smokies @ Ocoee Ridge in Tennessee, July 27-31: last day to register your youth is March 1<sup>st</sup>.**

Please contact Amy for registration information. Price based on Total # of kids going from your family-per tier below

**K5-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Camp Fellowship-** This year we are offering two dates for Camp Fellowship: June 22-27 and/or July 27-30 (It's a shorter week). When registering your young people, please use the case sensitive code: Nazareth2025. Something different this year is that you will pay the church the camp fee per the number of kids in your family going to camp. See Summer Cost tier below.

**Cost for Summer Retreats (Based on Total # of kids you have going to ANY retreat/camp in your family)**

1 Youth= \$125

4 Youths= \$350 Total

2 Youths= \$225 Total

5 Youths= \$375 Total

3 Youths= \$300 Total

**Payment is due by, Sunday, May 25.** Checks made payable to NPC, please.



**CONGRATULATIONS  
TO OUR TOP FOUR FINALISTS IN THE  
FIRST ANNUAL FOOTBALL THROW  
AT THE SOUPER BOWL LUNCHEON**

***Susan Kern, Debbie Balltrip, Ava Mathis and Noah Melton.***

***Ava took home the runner-up prize  
and Noah took home the big prize!***

# Missions

***The MISSIONS focus for MARCH is the Soup Kitchen.***

In honor of Lou Sartor, the director of The Soup Kitchen who recently passed away, our Item Collection for March will be for The Soup Kitchen.

**Items needed: sugar, Mrs. Dash seasoning, salt, pepper, garlic powder, onion powder, and large cans of lima beans, mixed fruits, and collard greens.**

Bins for these items will be provided in the Fellowship Hall.



**The Pennies for Hunger Offering will be received on Sunday, March 30th and will benefit our Feed The Future ministry. Please start saving your change! As always, the Missions Committee will match the amount collected.**

**VOLUNTEER**



**Our next Saturday to volunteer at the Spartanburg Soup Kitchen will be March 22nd.**

On Saturday, February 22, Nazareth's volunteers showed up to help at our chilly day at The Carpenter's Table! Several new volunteers came to help, including some Boy Scouts, and their presence was much appreciated! We serviced 184 families, this month! Please consider helping at The Carpenter's Table every fifth Saturday. The more volunteers we have offers speedy delivery of food to our clients. Those with young children or handicaps benefit the most from less wait time. Thank you for considering this mission.

**VOLUNTEER**



**Our next Saturday to host The Carpenter's Table will be on March 29th.**

**A heartfelt thank you for your donations of soup cans for our February collection to Meals on Wheels! Thank you for your generosity to the recipients!**



***~ Join us for this new ministry ~***  
**The NOMEO Club**

***(Nazareth Old Men Eating Out)***

**will meet on Tuesday, March 11th at 6:00 pm.**

**The location will be announced.**



# Presbyterian Women



Ladies from Nazareth Presbyterian Church attended the Foothills Women of the Church Lake Day at Hartwell Saturday, Feb. 22. Patricia Tull, author of the Back Porch Circle's Study book "Let Justice Roll Down" was the featured speaker. The topic of the day was, "One Voice, Big Idea" and focused on how one person can make a difference in the world. The afternoon was spent with "mini-TED talks" featuring speakers from local non-profits that began with one voice.

Pictured: Front—Caroline Shiffer, Shirley Boone, Julie Schaaf, Jean Gosnell, Robin Whitfield. Back—Ashley Whitfield, Petra Warren, Joyce Oates, Nancy Hughes.

**Ladies Who Lunch** will reconvene on Friday, March 14th @ 11:45 in our cozy meeting room at Apollo. We won't have to wear classy go-to-wedding clothes this time. Do come. We're always so glad to see each other.

**Back Porch Circle** will meet on Tuesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, to discuss and learn about Chapter 7, *Economic Climate Justice*. Meet in the Fellowship Hall at 10:00 a.m. and encourage a friend to come too!

**Circle 3** will meet Tuesday, March 11th, at the home of Elfriede Henry, 115 Brookhaven Drive, Moore, at 6:15 PM. We will continue our Bible Study, *Fruit of The Spirit*, with Chapter 3 "Peace." Visitors are always welcomed.

## Fellowship



**Mark your calendars for Sunday March 30th!!**

Fellowship, together with Evangelism and Nurture, is planning a **"Nazareth Spring Fling"** for the Nazareth Congregation. Everyone is encouraged to bring their neighbors and friends as well, so spread the word!!

There will be line dancing and instruction, bingo and prizes, a bouncy house, corn hole and other outside games, and plenty of food, treats and drinks! Not to mention a lot of fun! Plan on being at the **Family Life Center from 6:00 to 7:30 on March 30th**. More details to follow in the coming weeks! **WELCOME SPRING!!**

Many thanks again to everyone for joining us at the Souper Bowl Luncheon in February and a special thanks to those who provided all the wonderful soups!! Also thanks for your contributions of \$1,420 for The Carpenter's Table!



Hoping to see each of you at Coffee and Conversation from 9 to 9:30 every Sunday morning in March in the Fellowship Hall!

# HISTORY by Carroll Caldwell, Nazareth Historian



## “ROADS”

In the early days, roads were no more than Indian trails and animal paths. They usually ran alongside a river or a tributary of water. The first settlers followed the creeks and rivers up the Congaree, the Santee, the Combahee, the Enoree, the Broad and the Tygers to their destinations in the back country of the Carolinas,

securing their land grants and establishing their homes among the old growth of virgin forest. Eventually, the paths became well-worn horse and wagon roads as more settlers arrived. It has been said that one of the earliest known roads in this area was the Old Georgia Road, which meandered in the direction of Greenwood and on to Augusta, Georgia, similar to the course of the current Highway 221. The other is the Blackstock Road, which was originally a cattle path that started near current Landrum, and ended at the Blackstock Plantation, named for the Blackstock family, at which there was a Patriot Victory over the British in 1781. Many Militia men resting in Nazareth cemetery participated in that and other battles including Cedar Springs, Musgrove Mill, Cowpens and Kings Mountain.

In an early survey of the original eight acres belonging to Nazareth Presbyterian Church, there is a plat of land describing the Meeting House, the burial ground, the Spring and the “Wagon Road” that passes by the property dated August 3, 1786. That is the current Nazareth Church Road. Now the “Old Gap Roads” course ran in the direction of today’s highway 290 or Moore Duncan Road and continued into Gap Creek Road and on to Gowensville. The Howard Gap Road followed the direction through Inman to Campobello and on into Tryon, NC. Before there was a Reidville or a Reidville Road, this thoroughfare was called the Crawfordsville Road, named for Senator John Crawford, the Son of the famed Revolutionary soldier, Patrick Crawford, both of whom rest in Nazareth Cemetery. The bridge on the North Tyger was called the “Snoddy Bridge”, the one on the Middle Tyger on Anderson Mill Road was the “Barry Bridge” and on the South Tyger was the “Wakefield Bridge”.

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*“Two roads diverged in a yellow wood, And sorry I could not travel both  
And be one traveler, long I stood, And looked down one as far as I could  
To where it bent in the undergrowth;*

*Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—Took the one less traveled by,  
And that has made all the difference.”*

*by Robert Frost ~ 1874-1963*

# Our Church Family

*“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18*

Please remember the following in your prayers.

## Members and Friends of Nazareth:

Buddy Berry  
John and Martha Bainbridge  
Gerald Broome  
Carroll Caldwell's son, Aaron  
Jane Cook  
Gene and Kathy Cothran  
Margaret Culclasure  
Janice and David Douglas,  
friends at Mt. Nebo  
Jean Glass' sister, Joan Myers  
Joe Fox and family  
Lisa Hayes' friend, Donna Sue  
Amy Jackson's niece, Katherine, & nephew,  
Drew and baby

Amy Jackson's mother, Kathy Schonhar  
Frances Lynch  
Gladys Mills  
Ted and Joann Robertson  
Julie Schaaf's parents, Bob & Becky Carter  
Amelia Senn's brother, Robert  
Marian Stephen's sister-in-law, Trish  
Jessica Sullens' sister, Lori Cook  
Russ and Dale Wright's granddaughter,  
Claudia, and friend, Dianna

*Christian sympathy is extended to the family of Rachele Cash in the passing of her sister, Renee*



## In the Armed Forces:

|               |               |                 |
|---------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Lee Hughes    | Mike Roberts  | Albert Bianco   |
| Reggie Hughes | Dorothy Ellis | Ridgway Jackson |
| Albert Bianco | Eric Gallman  | Shelly Roberts  |

## Missionaries and Mission Partners:

Mark Adams  
Shalynn and Tyler Crawford  
Tim and Marcie Schaeffer

## Concerns of the World:

Unity and Cooperation in the Government

War in Ukraine

**“So, then, this is my very first command: God’s people should make petitions, prayers, intercessions and thanksgivings on behalf of all people – on behalf of kings, and all who hold high office, so that we may lead a tranquil and peaceful life, in all godliness and holiness.**

**This is good; it is acceptable with God our savior, who wants all people to be saved and to come to know the truth.” 1 Timothy 2:1-4**

Please call the church office when a concern needs to be added to or taken away from the list. Thank You.

## Committee Meetings for MARCH

|                             |                                                          |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| Buildings, Grounds & Safety | Sunday, March 2nd at 8:30 in the Wagner Classroom        |
| Worship                     | Sunday, March 2nd at 8:30 in the Session Room            |
| Evangelism & Nurture        | Sunday, March 2nd at 8:45 in the Middle School Classroom |
| Christian Education         | Tuesday, March 4th at 5:30 in the Session Room           |
| Fellowship                  | Sunday, March 9th at 8:30 in the Gift Classroom          |
| Missions                    | Sunday, March 9th at 8:45 in the Missions Room           |
| Administrative              | Monday, March 10th at 5:15 in the Session Room           |

### OFFICE HOURS

**Julie** is in the office Monday-Thursday  
9:00am to 4:00pm

**Debby** works in the office Monday-Thursday  
9:00am to 2:00pm

**Amy** works in the office on Wednesdays and Thursdays, 9:00am to 3:00pm

*In case of a pastoral emergency, please call Julie at 864-421-4750*

### FLOWER CALENDAR



|          |                   |
|----------|-------------------|
| March 2  | Communion         |
| March 9  | Gerald Broome     |
| March 16 | Jean Gosnell      |
| March 23 | Stephanie Heath   |
| March 30 | Julie Schaaf      |
| April 6  | Cyndy Urquhart    |
| April 13 | Palm Sunday       |
| April 20 | Easter Sunday     |
| April 27 | Roy & Joyce Oates |

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*Sign up on the 2025 Flower Calendar in the SS hallway. If you would like to provide flowers.*

### UPDATED WEBSITE

Check out our updated website with weekly sermons available and directory. Please Like us on Facebook

### NEWSLETTER INFORMATION for the APRIL NEWSLETTER

**will be due to Debby in the office by  
Monday, March 24th.**

**All moderators and others who contribute, please adhere to this date. Thank you!**

**Dear Church Family,**



*The entire family of our daughter-in-law, Rachele, is so grateful for Nazareth members' prayers and concerns during this time of the passing of Renee. God bless all of you for helping us get this far.*

**Paula & Chris Cash**

### Offerings for General Giving

Offerings as of 1/31/25	\$ 24,916.00
Expenses as of 1/31/25	\$ 33,396.00
< \$ 8,480.00 >	

***"Owe no man anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law." Romans 13:8***

# Celebrate Birthdays and Anniversaries

## MARCH

- 02 Thomas Rodgers
- 03 Dorothy Ellis
- 03 Ann Gwinn
- 07 Tommy Lynch
- 07 Kay Morgenstern
- 14 Annabelle Smith
- 18 Frances Lynch
- 20 Allison H. Hoffman
- 21 John Henry Yarborough
- 22 Beth Smart
- 23 Ken Smith
- 24 Lois Weneck
- 25 Charles Heath
- 25 Elaine Kirkpatrick



## MARCH

- 07 Barry & Deb Gray
- 14 Ross & Judy McClellan
- 24 Brian & Susan Kern
- 27 Tom & Anne Brewer
- 31 Benjamin & Katie Friday



## APRIL

- 02 Ella Yarborough
- 03 Jean Gosnell
- 04 Marjorie Warren
- 06 Larry Whitfield
- 06 Ashley Royle Allen
- 07 Noah Melton
- 08 Simon Cairns
- 08 Ashley Melton Maul
- 08 Darcy Yarborough
- 11 Jay Campbell
- 13 Carroll Caldwell
- 13 Jeremy Houghton
- 13 Rusty Kirkpatrick
- 14 Katharina Morgenstern
- 17 PJ Earley
- 17 Katie Friday
- 17 Betty Hoenig
- 18 Susan Collins
- 18 Wendell Stidham
- 20 Bailey Segrest
- 21 Candy Franklin
- 23 Stephen Gray
- 24 Robin Whitfield
- 24 Sheila Smith
- 25 Brenda Roberts
- 28 Ann Campbell
- 28 Joyce Dillard
- 30 Gwen Yarborough

## APRIL

- 09 John & Martha Bainbridge
- 13 Chris & Paula Cash
- 14 Wendell & Jenny Stidham
- 16 Neal & Karen Segrest
- 17 Nelson & Betty Hoenig
- 26 George & Pat Sykes
- 27 Robert & Kay Morgenstern




# MARCH

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 HELLO MARCH! 
2 BG&S 8:30 Worship 8:30 Evan & N 8:45  Youth @ Frankie's & dinner 6-8:30	3  Handbells 5:30	4	5  Ash Wednesday Service 7:00	6  AA meeting 6:30	7	8  Spring Forward  *set your clocks ahead
9 Fellowship 8:30 Missions 8:45  Daylight Savings Begins  Youth @ FLC 6:00	10  Administrative Meeting 5:15  Handbells 5:30	11 Back Porch Circle 10:00  NOMEQ Club 6:00  Circle 3 7:00	12  Dinner 5:30 Bible Study 6:00  Choir 7:00	13  AA meeting 6:30	14 Ladies Who Lunch 11:30	15
16  Youth Dinner & Clean Sanctuary 6-7:30	17  Handbells 5:30  Session 7:00	18	19  Dinner 5:30 Bible Study 6:00  Choir 7:00	20  AA meeting 6:30	21	22 The Soup Kitchen 9-1
23  Confirmation Sunday  Youth @ FLC 6:00	24  Handbells 5:30	25	26  Dinner 5:30 Bible Study 6:00  Choir 7:00	27  AA meeting 6:30	28	29 The Carpenter's Table 8-12  Confirmands volunteer @ Humane Society 11-12
30 Pennies for Hunger offering  Youth @ FLC SPRING FLING	31  Handbells 5:30		**Dinner & Bible Study will continue through April 9th.			