

The Chapel Herald



**Grace and peace to you
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus
Christ**
(2 Corinthians 1:2)

Village Chapel family,
As we worship our way
through the season of
Epiphany, I'm mindful of

the opportunities that we have as a congregation to deepen our faith and to serve Christ and others. I want to share with you some of these opportunities and provide you with some thoughts about the coming months.

The Christian Education committee has worked hard to provide a broad range of small group offerings for discipleship. Some groups meet in the morning, some in the afternoon, and some in the evening. From basic Christian doctrine to theological reflections and discussion, and everything in between, these offerings are listed in the bulletin each Sunday with a comprehensive list available in the Chapel's administrative building or on the Chapel's website. Our commission from Christ to "make disciples" cannot be accomplished with Sunday worship alone. There is no substitute for living in authentic Christian community beyond the weekly worship.


Christian discipleship, at its foundation, certainly requires fellowship. First Wednesday Fellowship (FWF) is an excellent opportunity to enjoy interaction with members from all three

worship services and to meet new members and guests who may be attending for the first time. FWF is offered on the first Wednesday of every month throughout the entire year, barring a few exceptions like Ash Wednesday.

Service opportunities are continually available and an updated list is printed in the weekly bulletin. Also, our Outreach Committee serves as a liaison between Chapel volunteers and the community ministries we support; there are always ways you can serve in the community through these local organizations.

You can expect to hear in the coming months, ideas and strategies for expanding our Christian reach and influence to the Village of Pinehurst and surrounding communities. Our Communication committee has been enlarged with three new and highly gifted members for the purpose of bringing a marketing slant to bear on our goals for the future. A Children & Youth Committee has been formed for the purpose of planning and implementing ministries that will utilize Heritage Hall, and to develop ways to reach the un-churched, or under-churched, families of Moore County. From military families to young professionals, to those flocking here for retirement, we are very fortunate to have an abundance of souls that are ripe for harvest.

The future for The Village Chapel has never been brighter. I praise God for each of you and I am looking forward to serving you, as we serve Christ together.

Worship, Learn, Serve. 

Pastor Ashley

What's Inside?-

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Families & Youth- pg. 7 • Outreach- pg. 8 & 9 and more...*

UPDATE ASSOCIATE PASTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE

The Search Committee for the new Associate Pastor has met every two weeks since October 4. Our ad for the position was posted to twenty sites during the first week of January. Minimum requirements for the position include: a four-year degree; a Masters' in Divinity degree; and at least three years of experience in a church. To date, we have received resumes from almost sixty candidates and have begun the filtering process. The application process remains open.

The committee is asking for your prayers as they continue the search process. Please pray for The Village Chapel, for the candidates seeking the Associate Pastor position, and for search committee members as they continue the process of discernment. Pray, also, that God will lead us to the candidate He has already chosen for The Chapel.

Search Committee members: Kay Beran, Jim Busby, John Rowerdink (Vice-Chair), Liz Skvarla (Secretary), Brent Slosser, Greg Wetzelberger, and Ann Whitley (Chair). Pastor Ashley, Pastor John, and Stephen Gourley serve as ex-officio members.

FIRST WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP IS BACK!!!



Join us the FIRST WEDNESDAY of every month for great food, fellowship and music! Next up—April 6, 2022





has chosen all the tables and chairs, carpeting and flooring, storage cabinets, TVs, white boards, etc. At the same time, the audio/visual system has been designed and a contract awarded for its installation. The system, which will be integrated throughout the building, includes Wi-Fi and a movie projector, screen and speakers in the activities room.

January 2022 Update

As the New Year begins, we enter the home stretch on the construction of our Heritage Hall. With God's continued guiding hand, we expect to hit the finish line in May in full stride.


If you haven't had the opportunity to get a good look at Heritage Hall, do it. The masonry work is well underway, and the slate roof will be going on soon. Meanwhile, the interior work has continued apace. Everything is on schedule, and we remain on budget. The Heritage Hall Committee met in early January and received encouraging reports from each of the sub-committees. Construction is about 55% complete and the total project costs so far, including architectural and administrative costs, stand at 57% of budget.

The Pavers Project netted \$30,000 and the Hall - a - Palooza at the Fair Barn in October netted just under \$120,000. The total of \$150,000 will pay for the furnishings, including a state-of-the art audio visual system, plus several small finishing projects that are not covered under the general construction contract. The Internal Furnishings and Decor sub-committee

Financially, we are in good shape but please redeem your 2021 and 2022 pledges as soon as possible. We have paid our construction contractor \$1.4 million so far (55%) and have a projected \$1.2 million (45%) yet to pay. We have more than that in the bank, with about \$300,000 in pledges outstanding. Barring any unforeseen major expenses, we should cross the finish line in the black.

Over the next few months, we expect the interior of Heritage Hall will be largely finished, the roof and brickwork completed and the paving and landscaping well underway. Commemorative signage will be created and installed. Barring any unforeseen delays, we are looking at mid-April as our completion date and mid-May for the issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy.

When we have our Certificate, we can start moving the furnishings into the building. Plans are being made for an appropriate dedication service, probably in early June.

To God be the Glory. Great things He has done! 



The Whimsical Christian each Friday from 10:00 – 11:30 am

Along with C.S. Lewis, Dorothy Sayers was one of the most influential apologists for Christianity in the past century – in addition to being a best-selling author of detective novels and translator of Dante's *Divine Comedy*.

Please join in Pastor John's weekly presentation of the essays of Dorothy Sayers entitled *The Whimsical Christian* each Friday from 10:00 – 11:30 am in Chapel Hall. All materials are provided at no cost, the class is open to the public, and is scheduled to continue through the end of May.



Farewells



Barbara Barnes, was called to the Lord December 30, 2021. An active, contributing member of the Village Chapel since 1988, she was one of our longest-term members and we will miss her dearly.


married in the church and practiced her faith wherever she and Ray lived. For 22 years they worshipped at the Union Church of Hinsdale, Illinois and 18 years at Christ Church of Oak Brook, Illinois where she served as a deaconess and secretary of the Women's bible study group. She was also a Campfire Girl leader. Her life reflected her religion and sense of service.

A couple years ago, we wrote in an article on Barbara and her husband, Ray, that few people could have lived such a Christ-centered life as they did. Both have been models of what a Christian marriage and life should be.

Barbara was born in Peoria, Illinois on March 24, 1927 to Homer and Evangeline Barlow. That her maiden name began with "B" turned out to play a pivotal role in her life. After graduating from high school, she enrolled at the University of Illinois in Champaign to study home economics. Seating in her Psychology 101 class was done by alphabetical order. Ray Barnes, just returned from duty in the U.S. Navy, was seated beside her. The rest, as they say, is history. They remained beside each other, devoted to each other from the day they were married on June 26, 1948 until Barbara's passing - nearly 75 years.

Barbara added to her home economics degree with practical experience in the field and in raising three children who remain devoted to her. She was more than a loving mother and wife skilled in the arts of home making; she was also an avid sports fan, played tennis and skied. More important, she was a devout Christian all her life (which probably influenced her two sons, who are both pastors). She was raised in the church,

When they retired to the Pinehurst area in 1988, they quickly decided on the Village Chapel as their new church home and we are so fortunate they did. While Ray served on the Board of Trustees and is credited with setting up the Mission Committee and the Radio Ministry, Barbara served for many years as the Chapel shepherd for Foxfire and Seven Lakes until they moved to Penick Village in 2008. She volunteered at the Bargain Box, served on the Worship Committee and was an active volunteer at First Health for 26 years. Until the pandemic struck, Barbara and Ray were permanent fixtures at the 11:00 service. She truly walked the walk.

Hers was indeed a Christ-centered life of which we at The Village Chapel were privileged to share a good portion. We are grateful for that. We will remember her good sense of humor and her generous sharing of her caring heart. We will miss her but we know where she is - in her Lord's loving arms. Rest in peace, dear Barbara. 

"But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep." ~1 Corinthians 15:20



Waiting for a Transplant

Jack Laflin needs a kidney.

His situation is as simple and as complicated as that.

A live donor is preferable. Donors are able to lead normal lives with the single remaining kidney. Recipients may also live longer than with a cadaver organ.

Transplantation surgery yields good results. The complicated part is finding a donor with the matching blood type, most likely a family member. Laflin has no siblings. His wife Betsy, their three children and nine grandchildren have all been ruled out, for various reasons.

The wait list for a live donor at Duke Transplant Center, where the 74-year-old is a patient, is five to seven years. Nationally, 100,000 people await donations through United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS). In 2020, 22,817 patients received transplants. His other choices — dialysis or cadaver donor — have limitations. Therefore, Laflin decided to “go public” with an appeal.

“It’s a humbling experience,” he says. Laflin, who played football and baseball at Cornell, enjoyed a successful career as a human resources executive for corporations like Harris Semiconductors on the east and west coasts. In 2007, the family was forced to evacuate their home by California wildfires. They drove across the country to visit relatives in Cary. Laflin had often played golf in Pinehurst. This time, he took Betsy, a non-golfer. She fell in love with the village, the people, everything. “We came down and never went back,” Laflin recalls.

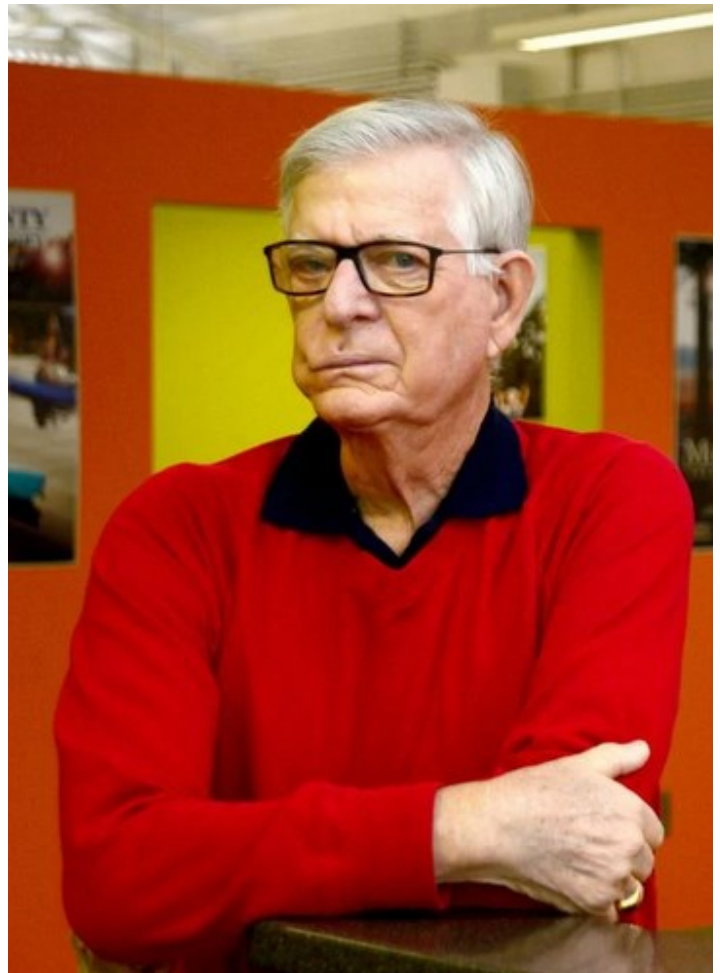
In 1974 Laflin was diagnosed with a rare form of cancer. “I was given low odds of surviving, but we made it,” he said. Then, for the past six years, he has suffered a steady degradation of kidney function attributed to hypertension, first treated locally before being accepted at Duke.

“Last March they started talking about dialysis,” the primary treatment for patients. Laflin wanted an active role. “I did my own research and after eating meat for years, drastically changed my diet to plant-based,” he says: low potassium, low sodium, no alcohol. He plans and prepares their meals. “I became an Indian-vegetarian food savant,” using spices familiar from time spent in India.

Laflin credits dietary changes for helping stabilize his condition.

Nevertheless, Laflin’s local nephrology team referred him to the Duke clinic. “Not everyone qualifies,” he says. “But I met the medical criteria.” After two days of examinations and evaluations, he was deemed capable of receiving a transplant and told a living donor was the best option. In November, Laflin’s name joined the queue which, in the U.S., numbers 120,000.

Once again, Laflin, now facing dialysis, chose to mount his own search. Many methods have been tried, including sky writing. A Florida publica-



tion reports a man walking through Disney World in a “In need of a kidney O positive” T-shirt. Someone posted his photo on Facebook and, six months later, a volunteer came forward. Social media is flooded with case histories ending in pleas.

Laflin learned that any donor he found must be evaluated medically and emotionally by the Duke Live Donor Transplant team.

(Continued on page 9)



My Beautiful Stutter

As many of you will know, for the past four summers I have served as a counselor at Camp SAY: a summer camp for young people who stutter, and at the end of each summer I have returned with a great sense of rejuvenation and renewal, having spent three weeks with some of the most remarkable groups of colleagues and campers. The support from the Village Chapel family as I go away each summer is something truly special to me.

Around 2015, a documentary was filmed during camp and around several of our campers in the days that preceded camp, highlighting some of the challenges that young people who stutter deal with. While challenges are the focus of the film, the documentary also illustrates how intelligent, resilient, creative, and talented people who stutter can be.

~ *Stephen Gourley*



I am excited to announce that I will be hosting a free screening of the documentary at Owens Auditorium on the campus of Sandhills Community College Monday, February 21 at 6:00pm.

While the screening is **free**, tickets will be required for entry.

Tickets will be available online at ticketmesandhills.com or at the door. We will need an approximate headcount after the showing of the documentary for the film distributor. I will be introducing the film and hosting a question and answer following the screening.

You may go to www.mybeautifulstutter.com for more information on the film itself.

You are all invited to attend, and I look forward to letting you in on this special journey that I have been on for nearly five years.



Families and Youth



Youth 6th-12th Grade
MFUGE

Liberty University
July 18th -22nd

Cost \$379 (scholarships available)
Let Ms. Vickie know ASAP
(Limited space available)

Children and Youth Committee

will meet **Sunday, February 13th**
immediately following the 9:30am Worship Service
in the room across from Pastor Ashley's office.



**Youth volunteer to
help clean up after ice
& snow weather**



OUTREACH

MISSION STATEMENT OF THE VILLAGE CHAPEL: "As an interdenominational Christian community, we worship God in spirit and truth; teach and encourage the Christian faith; support the spiritual needs of our congregation, and reach out to others with the Gospel of Jesus Christ."

MISSION STATEMENT OF YOUR OUTREACH COMMITTEE: "Prayerfully and earnestly distribute budgeted funds of the Village Chapel to vetted entities through rational giving, while encouraging congregational participation with organizations we support."



The children attending these programs lack sufficient support from home, and many are in trouble at school or involved with the juvenile justice system. Most of the children have been separated from school (due to expulsion, detention, or some other reason). The goal of this program is to replace the nutrition they would otherwise have received at school. This program will include workshops with a local chef who will broaden their knowledge and skills about nutrition and food preparation.

C.A.R.E. Group, Inc

On January, 2021 Moore Buddies Mentoring merged with Moore County Literacy Council to form The C.A.R.E. Group, Inc. The principal purpose of the merger was to create a more robust organization, serving more clients more effectively and at a lower cost. The C.A.R.E. Group offers remedial education programs for residents from cradle to retirement.

Moore Buddies Mentoring, Inc. mission is to champion successful children and youth through mentoring and empowering families.

In January 2022 this agency will initiate a new nutrition program for children in their structured day and mentoring programs. They will establish, stock and operate a kitchen. Nutritious and balanced meals and snacks will be provided for the children. They will be taught how to prepare simple meals for themselves, with lessons on hygiene and nutrition. The children will be involved in the preparation of the food and cleaning up afterwards. Teaching kids the basics of cooking will make them more self-reliant. Mastering these tasks will also improve their self-esteem. Ingesting a healthy meal or snack should improve their ability to learn and decrease bad behaviors which can be the result of poor nutrition.

Upcoming Outreach Dates to Remember:

Feb 25-27, 2022

WyldLife Carolina Point Camp for Middle School Students.

Contact Cliff Stallings (252)717-8037 or stallingsel1@gmail.com or visit WyldLife of the Sandhills at: Sandhills.YoungLife.org

Sunday, March 6 | 12:00-2:00 pm
Empty Bowls |

Enjoy a sampling of soups and desserts from area chefs.
Benefit for the Sandhills Coalition
Country Club of Whispering Pines
2 Clubhouse Blvd. | Whispering Pines, NC
Tickets and info: www.sandhillscoalition.org

Mar 18-20, 2022

Young Life's Pioneer Plunge at Windy Gap for H.S. Juniors and Seniors.

Contact Greg Noble at (910)315-7949 or nobleyl@yahoo.com or visit their website Sandhills.YoungLife.org

Apr 28, 29, 30, 2022

Habitat Apostle's Build weekend for TVC & ESBC

Volunteer signups can be made at:
<http://vhub.at/apostles>



APOSTLES BUILD



A FAITH MOMENT: WHY HABITAT?

Let's look at the two current Habitat of the Sandhills Apostles Build families: Ofelia Lopez, the 2021 Apostles Build homeowner in Robbins, NC, and Shanetta Strong, the Apostles Build 2022 future homeowner. Both head up households with two children. Both work full time. However, until linking with Habitat, homeownership was not possible. Now it is.

A look around reveals many Habitat-built homes in Moore County. Some go back thirty plus years. Some homes are in a community of twenty or so Habitat-built homes, while others are individual. The families in these residences support the larger community, not only by way of payment of property taxes but also are well maintained and inviting to the larger community. They have produced college graduates, business owners and town council members. All share in the pride of home ownership.

By building with one family at a time and by helping families sustain their communities over time, Habitat's mission is involved in bringing "Thy Kingdom to earth as it is in Heaven." A floor in a Habitat home is literally a platform providing stability and hope, allowing for the kind of growth mentioned above.

World Vision's Richard Stearns writes in *The Hole in our Gospel*, about the big picture of world poverty, associated with hunger and the lack of access to potable water and adequate healthcare. People of Faith are encouraged to continue supporting efforts to combat these ills.

Your support of Habitat's mission is focused on moving people up the ladder and out of dispiriting dependency. Milton S. Hershey (the chocolate maker) constructed his utopian town based on the concept of homeownership. He observed that homeowners took pride in their property and community, so he sold houses to his workers and did not rent. This was truly foundational.

Please consider joining us on the next Apostle's Build Habitat site at 1110 Keyser Street, Aberdeen, NC, where

you will experience joyful, loving, and Spirit-led people of faith, engaged in providing a hand up. We start the day of work with a prayer, but we don't proselytize except with our hands and feet, just as St. Francis would want us to do. Amen.

The Village Chapel has committed to the dates of **Thursday, April 28, Friday, April 29, and Saturday, April 30th for this year's build.** The Pastors and Champions Build Day to kick off the build in February 24, 8-1.

NO TOOLS REQUIRED!

Skilled & unskilled are all welcome; Habitat's Contractor on site will show and tell us what and how to do what is needed to be accomplished each day.

Please share with your neighbors and friends and Visit the volunteer sign-up webpage at: <http://vhub.at/apostles>,

or contact Christy Brewster at : volunteer@sandhillshabitat.org

(910)295-2798



(Continued from page 5)

He was warned of medical tourism to Indonesia, Mexico and elsewhere, where kidney transplantation for a flat rate thrives.

Laflin is beginning his search with a more personal approach. "I was cautious for a while but knew I had to get out and do this. I've never been afraid of anything in my life."

He started with a simple letter addressed to "friends," which include golf buddies and organizations he supports, like Sons of the American Revolution. Then, Cornell alums, including fraternity brothers and coaches. He tapped into the Florida community, where his son still lives. The letter stresses that the cost of evaluation, surgery and recovery are covered by his insurance.

His children and adult grandchildren have made the donor search a family project.

So far, "It's slow," Laflin says. "I've had people come forward who weren't eligible. I have to increase the size of the net." Facebook and LinkedIn

are possibilities.

This search could not be implemented by a patient alone. "Betsy, my wife, is the most wonderful person in the world. I couldn't do it without her love and support."

Betsy is her husband's appointed and trained caregiver, physically and emotionally. "Life has changed for us both — in a positive way," she says. This began with the radical diet. "Waiting for a transplant, you have to be ready for what might happen."

Betsy's participation was enhanced by her doctorate in special education. "I understand disabilities. I have faith in humanity."

Now, the wait. Will Betsy's faith be confirmed? Laflin's kidney function is declining rapidly. "A successful living kidney transplant will improve the quality of my life and reduce my risk of dying," he concludes. Then, hopefully; "I believe there are angels out there."

Jack Laflin Needs a Kidney

Dear Friends:

Some of you know that I have advanced kidney disease. You may not know that my kidneys have worsened to the point where they are barely working on their own. My treatment options are either daily dialysis or transplant. I have been accepted in the Duke Kidney Transplant Living Donor Program. This means that if I can find a living donor, I can proceed to a transplant.

Daily dialysis is an option that could keep me alive. However, studies show that patients who have successful kidney transplants live significantly longer and have a better quality of life than those on dialysis.

Asking another person to donate a kidney to me is probably the most difficult thing that I have ever done. But it is my best possible option to improve my chances of getting a living kidney for transplant.

A successful living kidney transplant will improve the quality of my life and reduce my risk of dying. You might not know a lot about living donation - I know I didn't before kidney disease affected my life. Understandably, some people are afraid about the surgery and what living with one kidney will mean for them. Here's some basic information about kidney donation:

- You only need one kidney to live a healthy, long life.
 - Most donor surgery is done laparoscopically, meaning through tiny incisions.
 - The recuperation period is usually quick, generally two weeks.
 - The cost of your evaluation and surgery will be covered by my insurance. The hospital can give you extensive information on this.
 - You will have a separate team of healthcare professionals to evaluate you as a living donor. Their job is to help you understand the risks and benefits and look out for YOUR best interests.
- You can also learn more about living donation on the National Kidney Foundation (NKF) website: www.kidney.org/livingdonation or by contacting the NKF's free, confidential helpline at [855.NKF.CARES \(855.653.2273\)](tel:855.NKF.CARES) or nkfcare@kidney.org. If you want to talk to someone who's already donated a kidney, NKF can also help.**

Thank you for being my friend. If donating a kidney to me is something you would like to consider, please call or email me or contact the Duke Transplant Center directly at 919-613-7777.

Jack Laflin

858-405-5201 Mobile laflin47@gmail.com



February Birthdays

- 1 Cheryl Veni
Cora Grace
Cooper
Carmeil Lapa
- 2 Sally Adams
Paul Bride
- 3 Ed Gavin, II
Jack Lund
R.Q. Simmons
Patsy Parkhill
John Brosch
Fred Fox
- 4 Lisa Wingfield
- 5 Ed Reeves
Jon DeVault
Jack Wood
Ed Emmett
Trisha Glover
- 6 Lori Morse
Ruth Holm
- 7 Cayleigh Ana
Kruse
Whitley Barrett

- 8 Jane Jackson
Judy Auch
Gemma Torok
- 9 Pennie Clack
Lin Cook
Don Lee
- 10 Mike Bradley
- 11 Logan
Totten-
Lancaster
- 12 Cooper Crocker
Hunter Shumski
- 13 Tom Stewart
- 15 Sarah Slade
Jason Lee
Cindy Cordell
- 16 Borders Utley
- 18 Janet Lowrey
Rhonda Brooks
Danna Carter
Anita Baker
- 19 Steve Woodward
- 20 Ceil ten Braak

- Riley Grimshaw
Susan Joslin
- 21 Susan Jacobsen
- 22 Margaret Elliott
Lesley Woodruff
- 23 Natasha Bell
- 24 Roy Longhta
Taylor Edrington
Grace Edrington
Lou Torok
Cate Goodman
- 25 Marian
Schillerstrom
Radford Walker
- 26 Richard Ballard
Art Romero
Gary Strickfaden
- 28 Kim Pahk

Happy Anniversary

- 2 John & Laurie Wiles
- 8 Jack & Nancy Sadler
- 10 Don & Judy Auch
- 14 Don & Vickie Taylor
Patrick & MJ Pizzella
- 21 Cam & Janice Cantelou
- 25 Greg & Tanner Page
- 26 Chandler & Kelley Adams

Please contact the office if your birthday or anniversary information is incorrect, or if you need to be added to the list.



FRIDAY, MARCH 25, 7:00PM

The TVC Music Series Presents An evening of

Lenten Reflections

With

Soprano, Catherine Kelly

All are invited to this meditative and reflective program on the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Soprano Catherine Kelly is an active recitalist, teacher, and frequent guest to our Chapel.

The English Speaking Union's Shakespeare Competition

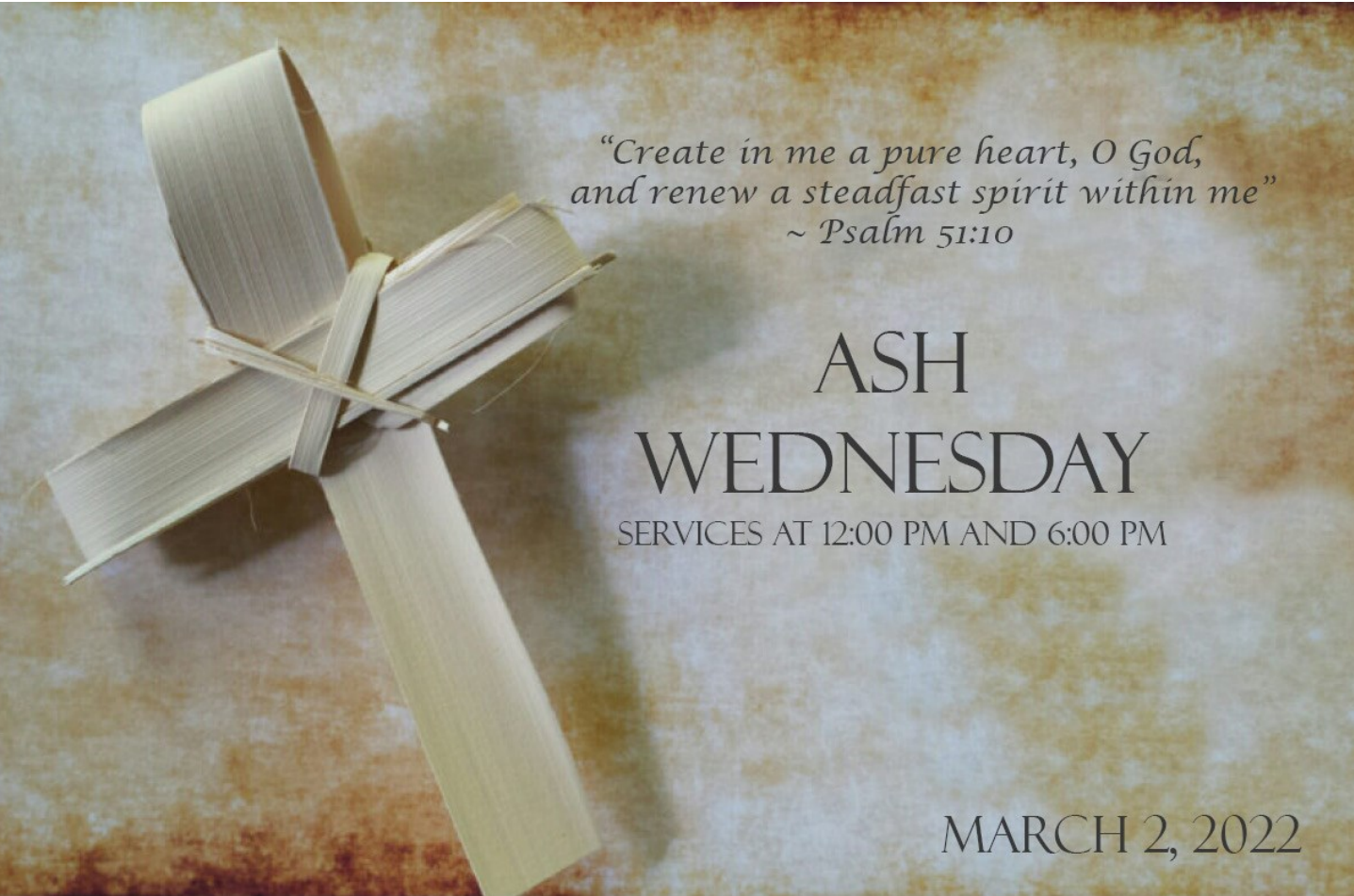
Saturday February 19, 2022 | 2:00 PM | In the Sanctuary



Call the church office for information

This event will be live streamed.





*“Create in me a pure heart, O God,
and renew a steadfast spirit within me”
~ Psalm 51:10*

ASH
WEDNESDAY
SERVICES AT 12:00 PM AND 6:00 PM

MARCH 2, 2022

The *Chapel Herald* is a publication of The Village Chapel, 10 Azalea Rd., Village of Pinehurst, NC 28374; www.TVCPinehurst.com
Telephone: 910-295-6003; Fax 910-295-3729; The Care Cottage: 910-295-8026 ; Email info@TVCPinehurst.com

The Village Chapel

The Village Green
10 Azalea Road
Pinehurst, North Carolina 28374
www.TVCPinehurst.com
910-295-6003

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