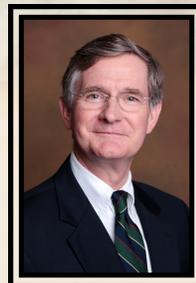


THE MESSENGER

LANT'S LINES

.....
A MESSAGE FROM
OUR PASTOR



Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. 1 Peter 3:13-16 (NRSV).

As this edition of the *Messenger* is distributed, it will arrive on Good Friday, a day when we contemplate the terrible sacrifice Christ made on our behalf. Yet even this Friday is a day of hope, as is acknowledged by the name we give it—"Good" Friday. And on the third day—Easter morning—we will celebrate our hope with full-throated song.

Next week (April 4) our Wednesday programs will resume after a week's vacation during Spring Break. Since the weather is improving and the sunlight lasts longer, the children will also resume meeting in the parking lot at 4:30 p.m. for playing on riding toys. Grace Notes Choir rehearsal will follow at 5:30 p.m., as has been our recent practice.

The adults in the 7:00 p.m. class on Wednesday have just finished their study of Richard Foster's *Celebration of Discipline* and will be starting a new series of programs—on *Famous Conversions*, by Hugh Kerr and John Mulder (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1983) ISBN 0-8028-4065-5. In this book the editors tell the Christian conversion stories of fifty famous persons going all the way from the Apostle Paul in the first century to Charles W. Colson in the twentieth century. We can't do all fifty, but we'll choose some that interest us the most. What I think we will learn is that "conversion" happens in many different ways—from the Damascus Road experience of Paul to a quieter and more gradual dawning. When we hear these stories, we will be listening to those Christians doing just what the author of First Peter encouraged—"being ready to make your defense [or to give an account] . . . of the hope that is in you." Hearing the conversion stories of others inspires us in our own faith, and I'm confident that will be the result of this course. I hope it reminds us how powerfully influential for others is our own faith statement, when it comes from our hearts. I invite you all to participate in what I'm sure will be some lively discussions!

Mountain Brook Presbyterian Church

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Staff

Pastor - Rev. Lant B. Davis
Director of Music - Dewin Tibbs
Organist - Gary Smoke
Youth Director - Emily Frandsen
Administrative Assistant - Sally Gregson
Director of Preschool - Mary Liz Ingram
Financial Assistant - Bernie Gregson
Boy Scout Troop 320
Scoutmaster:
Frank Tynes
Cub Scout Pack 320
Cubmaster:
Dave Caskey

Contact MBPC

3405 Brookwood Road
Mountain Brook, AL 35223
(205)967-5037
www.mbpcusa.org
sgregson@mbpcusa.org

Sign up to be a liturgist by clicking the link to signup genius on our website's homepage.

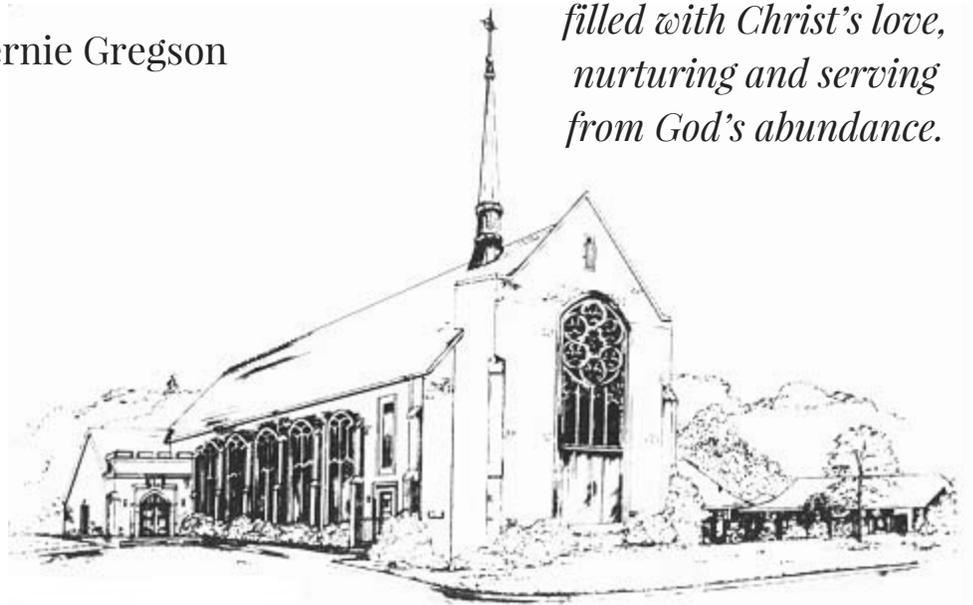
Like us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/mbpcusa/>

Access the church google calendar at:
<https://calendar.google.com/>

Our Mission

We are a congregation filled with Christ's love, nurturing and serving from God's abundance.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9am - Early 9:30am - Easter 10:15am - Chanc 11am - Worship 11:15am - School 5pm - No Youth	2 7:30am - Working on Lightening on	3 10:30am - Prope 4:30pm - Progra 5pm - Hand Bell 6pm - Dinner 7:30pm - Chance	4 deposit	5 5pm - Men's retreat @ Dave Kaiser's	6 8am - Body 9:15am - Presch	7 Van reservations
8 Van reservations Men's retreat @ 9:30am - Sunday 10:15am - Chanc 11am - Worship 11:15am - School 12pm - Finance 5pm - Session 5pm - Youth	9 8am - Body 5pm - Boy	10 Spring 8am - Body 1pm - Worship	11 4:30pm - Progra 5pm - Endowmen 5pm - Hand Bell 6pm - Dinner 7:30pm - Chance	12 deposit 8am - Body 10am - Bible	13 8am - Body	14
15 9:30am - Sunday 10:15am - Chanc 11am - Worship-- 11:15am - School 5pm - Youth	16 8am - Body	17 Spring 8am - Body 9am - Prayer 11am - Worship 1pm - Worship	18 Class Portraits PEO in Reception 4:30pm - Progra 5pm - Hand Bell 6pm - Dinner 7:30pm - Chance	19 deposit 8am - Body 10am - Bible	20 8am - Body	21 8:30am - Church
22 Preschool 9:30am - Sunday 10:15am - Chanc 11am - Worship 11:15am - School 5pm - Youth	23 8am - Body	24 8am - Body 1pm - Worship	25 4:30pm - Progra 5pm - Hand Bell 6pm - Dinner 7:30pm - Chance	26 deposit 8am - Body 10am - Bible	27 Van reservations - Boy scouts 8am - Body	28 Decorator Show
29 Decorator Show House Van reservations 9:30am - Sunday 10:15am - Chanc 11am - Worship-- 11:15am - School 5pm - Youth	30 8am - Body	1	2	3	4	5

Mountain Brook Presbyterian Church presents...

BIBLE TIMES on BROOKWOOD

2018 VBS for ages 4 – 10

Tuesday, May 29 – Friday, June 1

9 a.m. – 12 noon

MOSES LEADS THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL OUT

OF EGYPT....Journey back
to ancient days, live in a tent,
and join one of the
12 tribes of Israel.

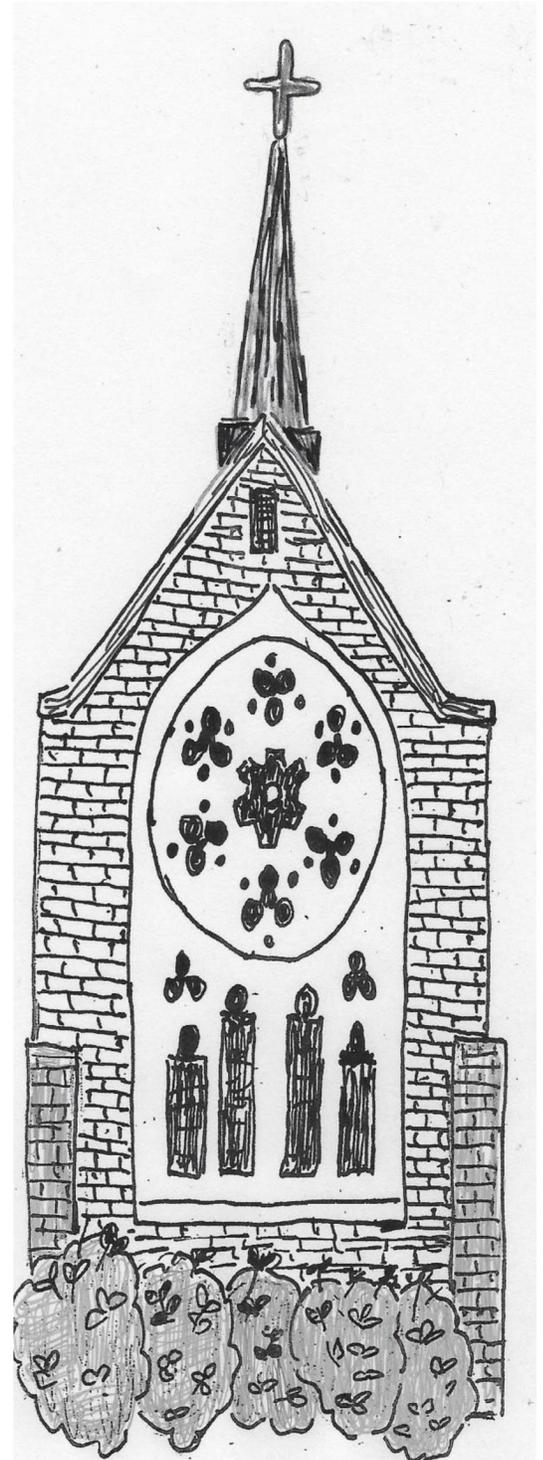
Registration forms:

www.mbpcusa.org

Phone: 205-967-5037

Email: sgregson@mbpcusa.org

or stop by the church office





Registration Form
BIBLE TIMES ON BROOKWOOD
2018

Tuesday, May 29 – Friday, June 1
9:00 a.m. – 12 noon
Ages 4-10
(with middle school and older as tribal
assistants and leaders)

Please complete a separate form for each child.

Child's Name _____ M or F Emergency Contact: _____

Child's D.O.B. _____ Grade in August: _____

Parents' Names _____

Parents' Mailing Address _____

Parents' Email _____

Phone Numbers: (home) _____ (cell) _____ (cell) _____

Mid-Morning Snack will be served. Please record here what we should know about health issues, as well as food and other allergies:

OTHER QUESTIONS:

If your child attended last year which tribe was he/she in? _____

The tribal groups are multi-age, so please provide names of any siblings or special friends that you would like to be in the tribe with your child.

Please return this form and a \$10 craft fee to Mountain Brook Presbyterian Church;
3405 Brookwood Road; Birmingham, AL 35223; 205-967-5037

February 2018

PRESBYTERY MEETING REFLECTION

By Sheppards & Lapsley Moderator, Jane Clayton

The **Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley** convened for its quarterly meeting on 23 February 2018 from 2:00 - 5:00 P.M. at **First Presbyterian Church, Tuscaloosa**. Moderator Jane Clayton began the meeting with prayer:

After asking for any new business to be referred to the Stated Clerk, Presbytery voted without objection to elect Patti Winter as the Moderator for the Committee on Nominations and Representation for 2018. Presbytery also voted without objection to elect the following members of the 2018 Bills and Overtures Committee: Ruling Elder Olympia McCrackin of Brown Memorial; Teaching Elder Lindsey Wade, Transitional Pastor at Montevallo; and Teaching Elder Paul Sherwood, of Oakmont.

Stated Clerk Tom Winter recognized Ms. Sally Jackson from Northern Heights in Selma as a faithful Commissioner to Presbytery on her 101st birthday. The assembly sang *Happy Birthday* to Ms. Jackson and gave her a standing ovation.



Michael Bailey, pastor of First Tuscaloosa, welcomed everyone. Jenny Thagard then discussed the plans for Main Event, which began immediately following the Presbytery meeting.



Lou Ann Sellers reported from the Executive Council. The following actions were taken: Presbytery voted to elected Leanne Pearce Reed to the Living River Board, class of 2020; Presbytery voted to submit an overture to General Assembly to concur with the Madagascar overture previously submitted by a New York Presbytery.

Jean Russell presented the Treasurer's Report, admitted to record.

Patti Winter presented a report from the Nominations and Representation Committee. Presbytery voted without objection to elect Brenda Toomey to the class of 2020.

Jamie McLeod reported from the Commission on Ministry. The following actions were taken: Presbytery examined, approved, and commissioned two Commissioned Ruling Elders: Chuck Kukal to Bold Springs for 2018 and Olympia McCrackin to the supply preaching list; Presbytery approved the terms of call for John Brock, who will be serving as installed pastor at First Presbyterian Church, Eufaula; Presbytery voted to dissolve the Administrative Commission for Korean Presbyterian Church of Tuscaloosa, AL; Presbytery voted to approve James Ephraim for honorable retirement on 31 March 2018, with a celebration of his service to First United Presbyterian Church, Forestdale, to be held at the May Presbytery meeting.



Joe Genau reported from the Commission on Preparation for Ministry. Presbytery voted for Mary Sellers Shaw of Independent to be admitted to candidacy.



Jonathan Yarboro reported from the General Presbyter Search Committee that they recommend the Reverend Jay Wilkins for candidate as General Presbyter of PSL. Presbytery voted without objection to elect Jay Wilkins to this position.



During his report, Jay Wilkins asked two of the PneuMatrix apprentices to describe the results from their churches' experiences this past year. Daniel Killilea presented from the Montevallo group, and Catherine Mason presented from Southminster.

Bev Dodson reported from the Trustees and the following actions were taken: Presbytery voted to close Mt. Pleasant Presbyterian Church in April 2018 with the property being deeded to the Mt. Pleasant Cemetery, Inc., L.L.C. Approximately \$4500 in church funds will be given to the cemetery association to be used for future church upkeep. Presbytery Commission on Ministry will appoint a Commission to oversee the closing and final worship; Presbytery voted to approve the sale of a parking lot at Chapel in the Pines.



During the report from Living River, board members David McGiffert, Teresa Pulliam, Debbie Laws and Lock Hunter were recognized and thanked for their service.

Tom Winter read the Necrology Report and offered a closing prayer and benediction.

Jane Clayton, Moderator

IT'S TIME TO REGISTER FOR

EARLY RATE \$80
PER WEEK DUE
BY APRIL 13TH!

SUMMER FUN!



MBPC PRESCHOOL SUMMER FUN 2018

Open to ages 3 months to completed 2nd grade

8 weeks, 9:00-1:00 with Sunshine Bunch (8:00-9:00) & Wee
Play (1:00-2:15) offered

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE WWW.MBPCPRESCHOOL.COM TO
REGISTER ONLINE!**

Preschool & church family registration opens Feb. 22nd @ 6am

Open Registration: March 1 @ 6am

Registration is by the week

From our racing feet to rockets in space, we will run, jump, climb and fly our way through another great Summer Fun! Join us this summer as we race our way around the world, from the sea to the sky to the land in between. We will get our bodies moving, our minds growing and our hands creating with games, crafts, science experiments and more.

You are invited

to Mountain Brook
Presbyterian Church's

Preschool Sunday

April 22

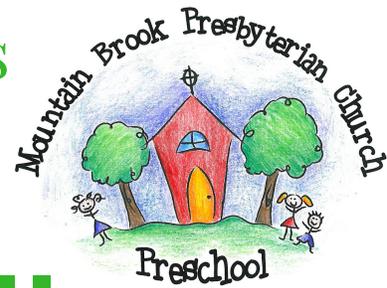
10:45-12:30

Please join us for a special service honoring our preschool students & teachers, with an art show & reception following at 12:00 in the Fellowship Hall.

Please drop off your child in his or her classroom at 10:45. Twos and up will process to the Sanctuary with their class to sing for you at the beginning of the church service! After the children's moment, preschoolers are invited to exit for a special Sunday School program in the fellowship hall during the remainder of the service.

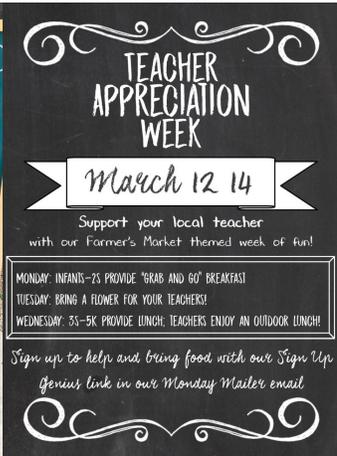
MBPC Preschool News

Mark your calendar for Preschool Sunday!



Teacher Appreciation Week

On March 12-14, we celebrated our wonderful teachers with a Farmer's Market themed week of fun. Preschool parents provided a delicious breakfast on Monday, that the teachers enjoyed all week. The teachers were showered with flowers on Tuesday, and sweet notes and cards from the students. On Wednesday, thanks to the generosity of our preschool parents, The teachers were able to enjoy a sit-down lunch. We appreciate our amazing team of teachers and hope they enjoyed a great week!



HUNGRY?

For Food? For Fellowship? For Faith?

FIND

Food of the most delicious kind...

Fellowship of the warmest kind...

Faith of the strongest kind...

WHERE? WHEN?

MBPC Fellowship Hall 6:00 Wednesday Nights

New series beginning Wednesday, April 4, 2018

CONVERSION

A once-born or twice-born Christian?

Find the answers for the famous, the not-so-famous, the surprising, and (perhaps) the near.



CHURCH WORK DAY April 21

Church Work Day

Boy Scout Troop 320 and MBPC Property Team are planning a work day beginning at 8:30 a.m. on April 21. Please consider volunteering. For more information contact Dick Trueb (richardtrueb@gmail.com) or the church office (205)967-5037.

Maintenance Problems

Note from the Property Team:

We have begun a new procedure for receiving maintenance requests from members of the staff and congregation. We ask that anyone who is aware of a maintenance issue, please email it to the following address: maintenance@mbpcusa.org.

This account will be monitored by the Property Committee, and requests will be prioritized and addressed as appropriate. Thanks to everyone!

Refrigerator

The church needs a basic refrigerator for the sacristy. If you have an old fridge you could donate, please contact the church office by email or phone: sgregson@mbpcusa.org, (205)967-5037. Thank you!

Youth Update with Emily Frandsen

Dear Youth Friends,

I'm delighted to bring you news of two great things that are happening in the next few weeks. The first is that High School Seniors are invited to attend UKirk (College Ministry) on Wednesday, April 11th from 7-9pm. Come see what it means to have a community of faith in college. Free dinner, worship, and Christian community can be found in college too! Go to www.ukirkbirmingham.org for more information on UKirk or just show up on April 11th to have a hands-on experience. And just like all church events, you are welcome and encouraged to BRING A FRIEND!

The second thing that is happening is the culmination of a year's worth of hard work and planning on the part of the BYG youth. The BYG Event at Southminster Presbyterian Church will be happening from 2-5pm on Sunday, May 6th. Come discuss topics ranging from bullying to inequality to immigration with youth and a few area experts. This event will be youth-led and will be youth-oriented, but adults are welcome too! The goal is to create a safe space for conversation on some potentially controversial issues. With so much division in our world and our communities, one thing might unite us: our love for God and our willingness to listen. Come share in this unique and inspired experience.

The dates for Montreat Middle in Maryville, TN (July 18-22) and the High School Montreat in Montreat, NC (July 7-14) are fast approaching, but it's NOT TOO LATE! Be sure to reply to this email if you are interested in registering or would like more information.

Pray without ceasing, Emily

Please see below for our April Youth calendar.

BYG (Sunday night youth group) will meet at Edgewood Presbyterian (Homewood) beginning on April 8th.

April 1st : Easter Sunday - He is Risen!

(No Sunday School or BYG)

April 4th: 6:00-7:45pm - Wednesday night Bible study

April 8th: 9:30-10:30am - 4th-12th Grade Sunday School Class (Church Office)

5:00-7:00pm - BYG @ Edgewood Presbyterian Church

April 11th: 6:00-7:45pm - Wednesday Bible study

7:00-9:00pm High School Seniors are invited to worship with UKirk at IPC

April 15th: 9:30-10:30am - 4th-12th Grade Sunday School Class

5:00-7:00pm - BYG @ Edgewood Presbyterian Church

April 18th: 6:00-7:45pm - Wednesday night Bible study

April 22nd: 9:30-10:30am - 4th-12th Grade Sunday School Class

5:00-7:00pm - BYG @ Edgewood Presbyterian Church

April 25th: 6:00-7:45pm - Wednesday night Bible study

April 29th: 9:30-10:30am - 4th-12th Grade Sunday School Class

5:00-7:00pm - BYG @ Southminster Presbyterian Church

May 2nd: 6:00-7:45pm - Wednesday night Bible study

May 6th: 9:30-10:30am - 4th-12th Grade Sunday School Class

2-5pm - BYG EVENT @ Southminster Presbyterian Church

Session Summary - March 2018

The opening was given by moderator, Lant Davis.
Devotional and prayer were read by Frank Semmes.
The agenda was accepted.

Clerk's Report, Judi Huddleston

- February 11, 2018 minutes were approved as written.
- A Thank you note from Will Krueger was acknowledged.
- April 8th responsibilities for devotion and prayer – Nancy Harper.
- Home communion responsibilities for April 4, 2018 (9:30-3:30) – Nancy Harper.
- Membership roster included in the session packet was approved.
- 2017 Annual Statistical report to PC(USA) was approved.

Ministry Team Reports

Finance, Bob Dudelston

- Financial report was received, reviewed, and approved.
- Chancel Guild will receive a new restricted account.
- Session approved request for an additional expenditure of \$2,300 from the Special Church Support Fund for the next phase of the sanctuary lighting project.

Education, Lant Davis (for Amanda Davis)

- Preschool Sunday is April 22, 2018.
- Graduate Recognition Sunday is May 13 for high school and college graduates.
- Vacation Bible School, "Bible Times on Brookwood" begins Tuesday May 29 and end Friday June 1, 2018. The times are 9 a.m. to noon each day. The theme this year will be Moses and the Exodus.

Property Team, Lant Davis (per Dick Trueb)

- Approved proposals for Marathon Electric to relight the Fellowship Hall with LED pendant fixtures:
Labor - \$1,200, Material (12 light fixtures and dimmers) - \$2,400, Total = \$3,600.
- Marathon electric to relight the administration building with new fluorescent LED fixtures:
Labor - \$3,700, Materials (28 fixtures and dimmers) - \$1,200, Total = \$5,800.
- Marathon electric to relight the St. Stephens Building with new LED fixtures:
Labor - \$5,000, Materials (38 fixtures and dimmers) - \$2,400, Total = \$7,400.
- Marathon Electric to relight the Parlor/Reception Room with 15 new recessed LED fixtures and 3 chandeliers:
Labor - \$2,400, Materials (18 fixtures and dimmers) - \$2,000; painting the ceiling if needed - \$1,800, Total = \$6,200. Funds to come from the Presbyterian Women Account
- Funds for the Fellowship Hall, administrative building and St. Stephens to come from Special Church Support Fund (#8904).
- Session approved the PEO request for the use of request for the use of the building.
- Work day scheduled for Saturday, April 21. Boy Scout Troop 320 will be helping.

Worship, Nancy Harper

- Communion service to congregation – March 4.
- Extended communion to homebound members – March 7: Those visited and given communion were Dot McCraney, Jane Patton, Lew Whitehead, Clara Horton, Corrinan England and Sandee McCord. Visitation only - Dottie Hays.

Men's Silent Retreat at the Kaisers will take place the weekend after Easter.

Missions, Drew Spransy

- Salvation Army Marketplace in Norwood will likely be where we send our donations.

Congregational Care, Drew Spransy

- Reminder of Palm Sunday Luncheon and Easter Early Service and Breakfast.

Preschool, Frank Semmes

- Financials -January financials – on course
- Enrollment Update: 96 - down from families moving, one to elementary; room for K and T/Th toddlers.
- Needs: Possibly two 5 day 2 year old aides
- Summer Fun: o 103 registered o Waiting lists o Opened new classes - 4s and toddlers
- Floor replacement project: o scheduled for Spring Break
 - o replacing Shannon's 2s, Anna Kat's 3s, Denise3s/Toddler room
 - o we have around \$8000 in reserve to use; thinking the flooring & installation will be \$6000-\$7000
 - o Installer estimate: 1050sqft; Labor for removal/installation = \$3150
 - o Flooring \$2.45sqft + tax and shipping, and we have to order a case which is a little more than 1050sqft
 - o same flooring & installer as used in Nursery/Toddler rooms
 - o Catherine Carter's mom ordered flooring at wholesale pricing o Will have to buy rugs
- Childcare Manager changes - Kimmy - SmartCare purchased Childcare Manager, now cloud based, has app where you can pay online; 2.85% per CC transaction, \$0.40 per ACH
 - o \$99 monthly fee to use, but no purchase fee, already paying \$20 for parent portal, no longer pay \$280 annual support fee o Teachers will be able to post on app
 - o No charges until June 1st, time to transfer data and train (free training)
 - o Other options have large setup fees, higher monthly fee
- Staff changes - RJ Henderson (2s aide) has received another job; we have filled the position with Yaicha Brown (TF) and Courtney Bradford (MWTh)
- Teacher Appreciation this week- March 12-16 o Theme: Farmer's Market
- Preschool Sunday: April 22 - 2s-5K
- New Business - Researching basic security

Moderators Report, Lant Davis

- Session voted to move forward with "Farmers Market Project".

Old Business

- Property team to draft policy for the use of our building by non-member groups.
- Youth protection policy is being researched.
- Compensation for church youth workers who go on overnight trips with the youth is being researched.

Adjournment with Prayer, Lant Davis

Next Meeting: Sunday April 8, at 5:00 p.m.