



# Foothills Cooperative Parish Newsletter

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March 2018

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## Celebrate This Easter with Us



**Colliers UMC 3/31 11a-1pm**  
Kids Egg Hunt, Obstacle  
Course & Easter Party.  
Lunch provided.

Kids Egg Hunt at **Gamewell  
UMC**  
**3/31 2p-4p**

Everyone Welcome.  
Invite others to join the fun!

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### Parish Website

[www.foothillscooperativeparish.weebly.com](http://www.foothillscooperativeparish.weebly.com)

## A Note and a Prayer

*"<sup>12</sup> Little children, I'm writing to you because your sins have been forgiven through Jesus' name. <sup>13</sup> Parents, I'm writing to you because you have known the one who has existed from the beginning. Young people, I'm writing to you because you have conquered the evil one. <sup>14</sup> Little children, I write to you because you know the Father. Parents, I write to you because you have known the one who has existed from the beginning. Young people, I write to you because you are strong, the word of God remains in you, and you have conquered the evil one."*

1 John 2:12-14 (CEB)

The church is intergenerational. We call the church "our family" and like a family, the church has people of all ages. Parents, children, grandparents, aunts, and uncles make up a family and in the church we know people who feel as close as our biological family. Like family, we also have matriarchs or patriarchs who have helped shape and form the ministry and the identity of the church. The church also has young people who provide energy and a fresh view of life in the church. Both have

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Submit Calendar Entries by the  
20<sup>th</sup> of each month to  
[clmitchell@caldwellschools.com](mailto:clmitchell@caldwellschools.com)  
or [foothillscooperativeparish@gmail.com](mailto:foothillscooperativeparish@gmail.com)

Send Newsletter entries to  
[ourfcpnews@gmail.com](mailto:ourfcpnews@gmail.com) by the  
25<sup>th</sup> of each month.

## Whitnel Pastor Preaching Schedule

Feb. 14 (Ash Wed) – Mar. 30 (Good Fri.).....Peter  
April 1 - May 13.....Lori Anne  
May 20 - July 1.....Peter  
July 8 - August 19.....Lori Anne  
August 26 - October 7.....Peter  
Oct. 14 – Nov. 25.....Lori Anne  
Dec. 2 – Dec. 24.....Peter  
Dec. 25 - Baptism of the Lord.....Lori Anne

value.

When the author wrote 1 John, he was not necessarily speaking of age levels. Little children, parents, and young people were not designation for ages. Instead, he was speaking more of the maturity of their Christian faith. All those who had come to belief in Jesus Christ were little children for they have all been adopted as God's child. ("All who are led by God's Spirit are God's children." Romans 8:14). Parents were those who had accepted faith over a longer period of time than young people.

The author outlines the difference of parents and young people and commends each for their faith and the way they have held to their belief in the midst of difficulty and struggles. They have held fast to their faith in God as Father and have overcome the evil one (or devil).

Looking at the Scripture I see how they needed each other. The parents and young people of 1 John worked together as the little children who believed. They each had value and their shared value made the church stronger and more vital.

Today's church laments the loss of young people with families in the church. We also look at the aged that are in the church and think that death is imminent. There are many obstacles to overcome before we are safe from death and possible closing of churches. Maybe what we need is to look back at the early church and see how they worked together to overcome their obstacles. The old and the young in faith shared their giftedness for the good of all.

Today's church is no different. The wisdom and experience of our older Christians can mingle well with the energetic excitement of the new Christians. Together, all of God's children, working together can revive the church of today. There are many different gifts in the church. The gifts come in different forms and in different people. No one has all of the gifts. No one has all that is necessary for reviving and growing the church. The church needs everyone to share their gift: young or old, new Christian or life-long disciple.

Let's talk about how YOU can live into your gift for helping the church be the church in making disciples for Jesus Christ.

*God who is our Abba, Father, we praise you for adopting us into your family. We give you glory for the gift you have given us and for the gift of your church. Guide us into faithful joining of our gifts so that your church will grow through making disciples. We pray in the name of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.*

In Christ's Love,

*Lori Anne*

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## Finishing Well

*"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, and I have remained faithful." 1 Timothy 4:7*

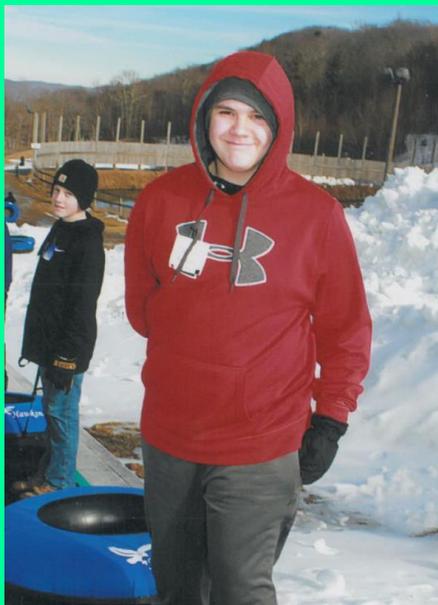
Well, we are half way through the season of Lent. How are you doing?



## Youth Summit in Blowing Rock February 2018



A Youth Retreat for  
Worship, Fellowship  
and Fun!!



Traditionally many of us make a sacrifice by giving something up for Lent, whether it is everyone's favorite; chocolate, or maybe refraining from gossiping or abstaining from Facebook. Whatever it was, how are you doing against your objective? Are you still maintaining a strong sense of commitment, or have you allowed temptation to get the best of you? Staying the course is something very difficult for all of us to do.

I think the following suggestions might be helpful for us all as we approach Holy Week and Easter Sunday.

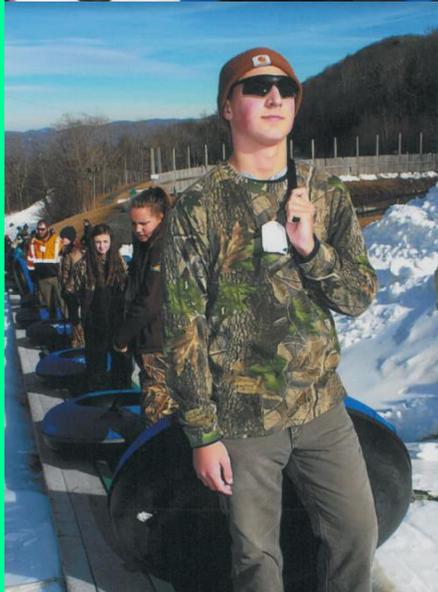
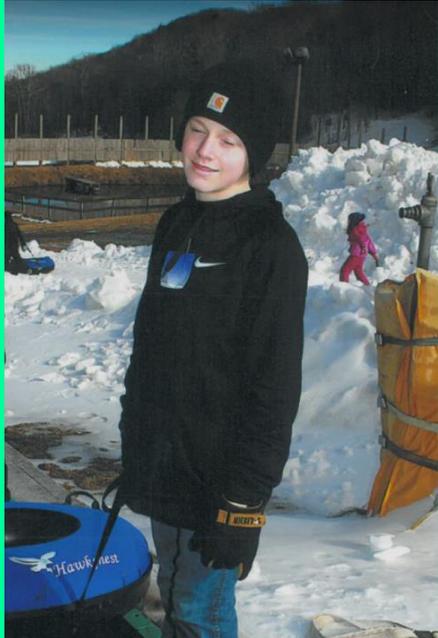
- Keep pushing forward: We all have the tendency to want to relax a bit, and take a rest. When we let our guard, or our defense shield down, it creates an easy way for Old Slick to attack ("Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour." 1 Peter 5:8)
- Stay mentally awake: One daily discipline that we should all make an attempt to maintain is that of reading God's Word. The more that we exercise our minds with Holy Scripture, the less apt we are to lose our focus on our ultimate objective for this season of Lent. Our mind is like a muscle that needs to consistently be exercised in order to stay in shape. If you are not sure how to begin a formal Bible reading plan, then ask Lori Anne or I, and we will be glad to help you get started.
- Stay conscious of your weaknesses: We each know the areas that get us distracted. Laziness, Envy, Pride, Greed etc. I know I catch myself drifting off into each of these areas. One way to help you to stay focused is to share your problem areas with a friend, or an accountability partner. Someone that you know who cares enough about you to tell you when they see you getting slack.
- Pray, and then pray some more: Prayer is something you can do anytime and anywhere; the shower, the car, while you work, before you eat etc. Our God isn't always looking for long, elaborate prayers. God is only looking for us to communicate on a regular basis, to open up and share the twists and turns of our lives. We can gain so much strength from those intimate conversations that we have with God. And oh, by the way, we don't always need to just have our list of requests when we pray. Don't forget to thank God not only for the good things in your life, but also those rough spots as well.
- Attend the Holy Week services. Check your church bulletin for the schedule of times and places. Give yourself the opportunity to hear five different messages from five different Pastors.

If you try to follow these suggestions, I pray that the remaining days of Lent will become more meaningful to you, and who knows, maybe, just maybe you might pick up some new habits along the way!

*Eternal and merciful God of us all, we pray that we will allow ourselves to open up so that you might permeate our hearts and minds. Help us we pray to finish these final days of Lent to the best of our abilities. Amen*

Christ's Blessings to you,

*Peter*



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## *Congratulations to our Youth!*

Five of our Parish Youth were chosen to participate in the Thirteenth Annual All County Chorus on February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at the J.E. Broyhill Civic Center.

Averi Sigmon for Granite Falls Middle  
Savannah Smith for Hudson Middle School  
Elizabeth Elliot for Hibriten High School  
Joe Watson for Hibriten High School  
Damion Ripley for West Caldwell High School

It was a beautiful Performance. Well Done!!

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## *Parish Committee Updates*

### Confirmation Class

Our Confirmation Class started on March 4, 2018. We have 5 youth and one adult who are participating. Please be in prayer for Dalton, Averi, Elizabeth, Emily, Alex, and Kathy. And save the afternoon of May 20, 2018 for the Confirmation Service. More details will be given later.

### Parish Game Night at Colliers

Everyone loves to play games!!! (If not, we will also have a movie to watch & snacks to munch!!) The Parish Council is sponsoring a game night on Friday March 16, 2018 from 7-9 p.m. at Colliers UMC. Bring a favorite game and a favorite snack and come out to join in the fun. The games will be for all ages and skill levels.

### Parish Staff Parish Relations Committee

Next meeting date to-be-determined.

### Parish Council met on January 30<sup>th</sup>

1. Scriptures & Prayer (Peter Brown)
2. Minutes were reviewed/discussed
3. C4C
  - a. Are taking up mid-year supplies
  - b. Will schedule a meeting soon and advertise
  - c. Sending cards to teachers – good comments from the school staff at both places
  - d. Both schools liked the cookies at Christmas
  - e. Gift cards – not enough for the rest of the year but the committee has enough funds to purchase the rest if need be.
  - f. Two are signed up for lunch buddy program (Lois Mikeal and Peter Brown) – would love to have more.
  - g. GUMC will do a duty-free lunch for Gamewell Elementary for the teachers. This might be something Colliers/Whitnel can do for Whitnel Elem. When teachers will be relieved of their supervision duties for lunch time.
4. Parish Christmas Caroling
  - a. Had a good time. Maybe next time we could create a route ahead of time

5. Longing to Belong Initiatives and Continuation
  - a. Committee is no longer meeting but Prayer partners continue.
6. New Business – Church Reports
  - a. Peter is starting a Life Study @ Gamewell Parsonage (Thurs. – 6:30p)
  - b. Lori Anne will do a Lent Bible Study
  - c. There will be a combined Ash Wed. service & comm. meal at WUMC
  - d. Parish Game night 7-9pm on Mar. 16<sup>th</sup> at Colliers
    - i. Heavy snacks (everybody bring a snack)
    - ii. Wii / movie projector / card games
  - e. Parish Gathering on August 19<sup>th</sup>
    - i. Places (Tuttle State Park/Little John Church/Mulberry Rec)
    - ii. 5-7pm Covered Dish. Bring your own chair
  - f. Peter was accepted before a committee as continuing his role as Licensed Local Pastor. Congratulations!
7. Youth
  - a. Doing well – average attendance 6-9 youth
  - b. Lori Anne and Peter will hold a confirmation info session at Whitnel on Feb. 11
  - c. Possible Youth-led service after Confirmation
  - d. Youth will be attending Summit in Blowing Rock Feb. 2-4 (7 Youth will be attending)
8. Parish Finances
  - a. The parish finance committee is now a part of the Parish Council and not a separate committee
  - b. This month they paid \$827 for workers comp for the year
  - c. Regularly paying checks out and it is going smoothly
  - d. W-2s will be finalized tonight – per Amy Dunlap
  - e. WesPath didn't match clergy comp form. So we over paid Peter for the year. He will reimburse the Parish to correct that.
  - f. We're under budget on Annual Conference, Cont. Ed. And Travel for the year.
9. Lori Anne closed with a prayer.

Next Parish Council Meeting: April 24<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 – Gamewell UMC

### **Congregations for Children Committee (C4C)**

**We need your prayers!** The C4C program is seeking God's direction in our next steps. The committee and individuals in the church have worked hard in making sure the teachers and staff are supported and in helping children know they are loved. What are we to do next? Where is God calling us to serve? Please join us in prayer for God's leading as we look towards the coming months and years.

Here are some things we have already planned for the rest of this school year:

- The mid-year school supplies have been given to the schools. Thank you for your donations.
- We will ask for cards to be sent to teachers and staff in early May as an encouragement before they begin End of Grade Testing.
- We will take baked goodies to the schools on May 21. A bulletin announcement will remind you to bring your goodies to the churches on May 20.
- We will begin on July 8 collecting school supplies for the next school year.

As always, look in your bulletin for more information.

**Foothills Cooperative Parish**  
(Colliers, Gamewell & Whitnel UNITED Methodists)



| Date | Day           | COLLIERS   | WHITNEL                                    | GAMEWELL  |
|------|---------------|--|--|---|
| 1    | Th            |  |  | No Bible Study @ Gamewell<br>Pray for Peter & Prison Ministry                 |
| 2    | F             |  | 6-9pm Crafting Session (Open)              | Pray for Peter & Prison Ministry  |
| 3    | S             |  |  | Pray for Peter & Prison Ministry  |
| 4    | Sun<br>Lent 3 | Communion  | Communion<br>Jim Evans Preaching           | Peter away (Prison Ministry)<br>Pray for Peter & Prison Ministry              |
| 5    | M             | 6:30pm 5 Means of Grace  | 2:00pm 5 Means of Grace<br>6:30 Cub Scouts |   |
| 6    | T             |  | 6:30 Scout Troop                           |   |
| 7    | W             | 10:00 Morning Circle<br>6:00 Prayer Group  |  | 5:30pm Choir Practice<br>6:30pm Wholehearted Practice                         |
| 8    | Th            |  |  | 6:30 Bible Study @ Gamewell<br>Parsonage                                      |
| 9    | F             |  |  |   |
| 10   | S             |  |  |   |
| 11   | Sun<br>Lent 4 | Mission Sign-up/Hot Dog Lunch<br>5:00pm Church Council<br>6:30pm Intersection @ Dos Amigos | 6:30pm Intersection @ Dos Amigos           | Communion Service<br>Noon Soup & Sandwich<br>6:30pm Intersection @ Dos Amigos |
| 12   | M             | 1:00pm Ladies Lunch<br>6:30pm 5 Means of Grace   | 2:00pm 5 Means of Grace<br>6:30 Cub Scouts |   |
| 13   | T             |  | 6:30 Scout Troop                           | 6:00pm PLANT NOW mtg.   |
| 14   | W             |  | 6:00pm Free Community Meal                 | 5:30pm Choir Practice   |
| 15   | Th            |  |  | 6:30 Bible Study @ Gamewell<br>Parsonage                                      |
| 16   | F             | 7-9pm Parish Game Night  | 7-9pm Parish Game Night -<br>Colliers      | 7-9pm Parish Game Night -<br>Colliers   |
| 17   | S             |  |  | 8am Church Clean-up Day   |
| 18   | Sun<br>Lent 5 | Return Easter Baskets for<br>Yokefellow<br>6:00pm UMW General Mtg.                         |  |   |
| 19   | M             | 6:30pm 5 Means of Grace<br>Study   | 2:00pm 5 Means of Grace<br>6:30 Cub Scouts |   |
| 20   | T             |  | 6:30 Scout Troop                           | 6:00pm UMW Mtg.   |
| 21   | W             | 6:00 Prayer Group  |  | Noon JOY Lunch Bunch<br>5:30pm Choir Practice                                 |
| 22   | Th            |  |  | 6:30 Bible Study @ Gamewell<br>Parsonage                                      |
| 23   | F             |  |  |   |
| 24   | S             |  |  | 10-2:30 Red Cross Blood Drive   |
| 25   | Palm<br>Sun   | 7pm @ Whitnel UMC  | Rev. Jim Evans & Colliers Choir            |   |
| 26   | M             | 7pm @ New Covenant UMC   | Rev. Peter Brown                           |   |
| 27   | T             | 7pm @ Colliers UMC   | Rev. Charlie Rivens                        |   |
| 28   | W             | 6:00pm Bible Study & Dinner  |  | 5:30pm Choir Practice   |
| 29   | Th            | 7pm @ Gamewell UMC (Holy Communion)  | Rev. Caren Morgan                          |   |
| 30   | F             | 7pm @ Mt. Hermon UMC   | Rev. Uiyeon Kim                            |   |
| 31   | S             | 11am-1pm Easter Egg Hunt   |  | 2-4pm Easter Egg Hunt   |



| Date | Day | YOUTH (6 <sup>TH</sup> – 12 <sup>TH</sup> )   | Community   |
|------|-----|---|---|
| 1    | Th  | <b>EASTER FERN SALE</b><br>\$17-\$20 suggested donation<br><br><b>See bulletin for order form.</b>  | 10:00am Silver Sneakers @ Trinity UMC   |
| 2    | F   |   | 6pm Benefit Bake Sale & Concert @ Collettsville Elem. School for 1st grader cancer patient  |
| 3    | S   |   |   |
| 4    | Sun | 5-7:00 Youth Meeting<br><b>UMCOR &amp; Hospital Bag Shopping Trip</b>   |   |
| 5    | M   | <b>EASTER FERN SALE</b><br>\$17-\$20 suggested donation<br><br><b>Can place in your church for Easter in memory or honor of someone special!</b>              |   |
| 6    | T   |   |   |
| 7    | W   |   |   |
| 8    | Th  |   | 10:00am Silver Sneakers @ Trinity UMC   |
| 9    | F   |   | Spaghetti Supper @ Cald. Sr. Ctr 5-7pm \$8  |
| 10   | S   |   |   |
| 11   | Sun | 5-7:00 Youth Meeting<br><b>Movie Trip</b>   |   |
| 12   | M   | <b>EASTER FERN SALE</b><br>\$17-\$20 suggested donation<br><br><b>A special memorial/honorarium bulletin will be featured in Parish bulletins for Easter.</b> |   |
| 13   | T   |   |   |
| 14   | W   |   |   |
| 15   | Th  |   | 10:00am Silver Sneakers @ Trinity UMC   |
| 16   | F   |   |   |
| 17   | S   |   |   |
| 18   | Sun | 5-7:00 Youth Meeting<br><b>Hospital Bags Delivery Trip</b>  |   |
| 19   | M   | <b>EASTER FERN SALE</b><br>\$17-\$20 suggested donation   |   |
| 20   | T   |   |   |
| 21   | W   |   |   |
| 22   | Th  |   | 10:00am Silver Sneakers @ Trinity UMC   |
| 23   | F   |   | 2pm Bingo @ Chick-fil-A<br>Call 758-2883 to Sign-up to play   |
| 24   | S   |   |   |
| 25   | Sun | 5-7:00 Youth Meeting<br><b>7pm Holy Week Service @ Whitnel UMC</b>  |   |
| 26   | M   | <b>Collecting items for Silent Auction &amp; Yard Sale on April 22<sup>nd</sup>!</b><br><br><i>Start your Spring Cleaning for the Youth!</i>                  |   |
| 27   | T   |   | 9-4 Domestic Violence & the Church training @ Civic Center RSVP<br><a href="mailto:breanna.mckay@shelterhomeecc.org">breanna.mckay@shelterhomeecc.org</a> |
| 28   | W   |   |   |
| 29   | Th  |   | 10:00am Silver Sneakers @ Trinity UMC   |
| 30   | F   |   |   |
| 31   | S   | <b>Help w/ Colliers Easter Party 11-1</b>   |   |