

# Mt. Hope United Church of Christ

2400 Mt. Hope Church Rd.  
Whitsett, NC 27377

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## *church pastor*

Rev. J. Lloyd Spencer  
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Office Hours: 9:00 a.m.-Noon

## *church secretary*

Shirley Connor  
Office hours:  
Wednesday, 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.  
Thurs. - Fri., 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

## *consistory president*

Dallas Belvin

## *choir director / organist*

Tim Hucks

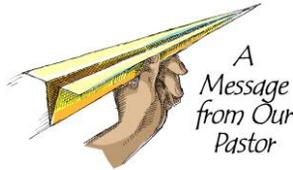
## *custodian*

Brenda Currie



# Mt. Hope Messenger

February, 2016



It wasn't a lot of fun being iced in. I started thinking about the times when I was growing up when the snow got so deep that we were pretty well tucked in for a while. Where I grew up we couldn't just run to the store to buy milk and bread, but we always seemed to manage some way. It all started by trudging through the snow to the coal house to fill up the buckets so our fire wouldn't go out. After that was done we had to make sure the fire was constantly fed. Each of us took our turn at running downstairs to the furnace and shoveling in the coal. Then we had to trudge through the snow and start it all over again.

If that were all there was to it, then it would have been a rough time, but that wasn't all there was to it. It gave us time to spend together as a family. We were able to talk, play games, and just generally have fun being together. It really made the trudging and the shoveling worthwhile because we became stronger as a family because of it.

Too often we look at the bad things that happen to us as an inconvenience, and I guess they are. Could those bad things be even more than an inconvenience? Could they be seen as an opportunity to grow closer?

There are far too many things happening in society and in the church today that we see as bad or inconvenient. Maybe it's time that we started looking at them in a whole different way. When things go wrong or when we feel that things are beginning to fall apart, let's step back for just a moment. What can we learn from those things? What can we do that will help bring us closer together and find ways to deal with them together?

I sure didn't want to be inconvenienced by the snow then any more than I do now, but I learned a long time ago that things are going to happen. Instead of complaining or getting upset, complaining, and getting disgusted, let's make something good come out of them. It's a brighter, better world for those who do.

Lloyd

**Mt. Hope United Church of Christ  
Consistory Meeting 12-14-15**

**Members Present:** Gloria Apple, Dallas Belvin, Todd Chapmon, Simon Clark, Elizabeth Craft, Bennie Gerner, Clifton Greeson, Dee Greeson, Joe Hughes, Dora Moore, Linda Shue and Becky Stafford

**Trustees Present:** Stephen Shue and Randy Underwood

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. A quorum was established and Dallas welcomed all.

**Devotions:** Dallas presented devotions on the Christmas Season. God sent his Son, born unto a woman, and the gift of eternal life through Him. He read scriptures Romans 5:12-21, Romans 6:23 and Galatians 4:4. Dallas closed in prayer.

**Trustees Report:**

- The trustees each now have a key to the outdoor kitchen at the picnic shelter.
- Steeple has leaked again. Trustees will check it on Thursday when it rains to pin point the leak.
- Mold on wall, work in progress.
- Bathroom upgrades, work in progress.
- Kay Heating & Air donated and will install the heating & cooling unit for the parlor. Pop-off valve in boiler room, work in progress.

**Approval of the Minutes:** Paint Company name missed spelled and Doug Clapp opens the church up earlier for Friends & Neighbors meetings. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes with the corrections. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Joe Hughes presented a report on November. The beginning balance in November was \$32,126.11 and the monthly income was \$18,305.77. Expenses were \$15,906.57. This resulted in a closing balance of \$34,525.31. A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made and seconded. Motion carried.

**Meals4kids Report:** Gloria reported that the December bags have been delivered. Cliff and Gloria went to the Guilford Bow Hunters meeting. They are one of our sponsors. They asked Gloria to tell them about Meals4kids and our process for bagging. They presented her a check for Meals4kids that night for \$600.00. We offered to help them with their shopping for Elementary Kids. We got 8

kids to shop for and on December 10<sup>th</sup> Helen delivered the presents, with a thank you note for their donation and helped them wrap the gifts for the kids. Our next bagging will be due January 11<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Stewardship Report:** Simon reported that they are not meeting again until April.

**Evangelism Report:** Elizabeth reported that the Creative Worship Team will be meeting Dec 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Old Business:** Nursery Care – Terri Staley and Dorie Whitman filled out the proper documentation and have committed to working in the nursery every Sunday in December. Christina Oliver has shown interest in doing two Sundays a month. Elizabeth to check on getting training for the nursery workers. TV/VCR for nursery is tabled until further development. Due to paying the nursery workers it was suggested that we close out the Sunday School account and have all moneys go the General Fund with a line item as Sunday School fund. A motion was made and seconded for Dora to close out the Sunday School account at the end of December to start the new process in January. Motion carried.

**New Business:**

- Youth mission work, Lisa asked for approval to team up with Tabernacle Church youth group. Consistory approved to support our youth in their work with Tabernacle.
- Brown Boxes: A motion was made and seconded that the brown boxes be put out for two Sundays, December 27 & January 3<sup>rd</sup>, to help Better Tucker. Motion carried.
- Our medical assistance equipment needs to be cleaned and put on third floor to be stored. Also the wheelchairs need to be placed on each floor. One at the carport and one outside of the new fellowship hall at the high chairs.
- 2016 Officers – a motion was made and seconded to keep the executive officers the same as 2015. Motion carried. Executive Officers for 2016 are Dallas Belvin, President, Elizabeth Craft, Vice-President, Joe Hughes, Treasurer, Dora Moore and Becky Stafford Assistant Treasurers, Gloria Apple, Secretary, and Linda Shue, Assistant Secretary.

**Actions Approved by Dallas:**

- Patty & Roger Coble had a house fire and he is taking them a Target Gift Card from the church to help out. Patty expressed much

appreciation for what the church and church members have done for them.

- January 3<sup>rd</sup> we will install the new officers for 2016.

### Pastor's Report:

- Lloyd reported that at the January meeting he will have the dates for Communion for 2016. Working on Christmas Eve service and they are trying some new things and hopes everyone will attend.
- On a personal note he has 1-1/2 weeks of therapy left then 2 months of a stretching machine daily.

**Search Committee:** Dallas gave the Consistory an update and their next meeting will hopefully be before January 14<sup>th</sup> so he will have more to report at our January meeting.

Dallas closed in prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 9:27 p.m.

Next Consistory Meeting is January 14, 2016 at 7p.m. Meeting rescheduled for January 21, 2016 at 7p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Gloria Apple, Secretary



Things have been a little quieter since Christmas. The beautiful snowy weather has given us time to meditate and to catch up on some of those indoor activities that provide balance for our lives.

Our circles will meet on Tuesday February 9<sup>th</sup> at the usual times. Our study theme will be **Stormy Water—Faith**. The background Scripture will be Matthew chapter 14: 22-23.

Ladies, let us try to invite another friend or new member to our circle meetings. This is a great time of fellowship as well as time for Bible study. The Church Women play a pivotal role in every facet of our church life except perhaps the maintenance committee (working on the furnace, fixing toilets, repairing and painting, etc.) One of our special areas

of Christian caring is for people who are home-bound or in nursing homes. If you do not have an assigned Home Friend, and would like one, please speak to your Circle Leader. In addition, if you know of someone who should be added please mention this also.

Thank you ladies for your support of the bereavement committee when they ask you to help provide food and help for funerals. This is a great support for families at a time of loss, as we have just experienced with the death of Howard Lambert. Jaynee Brown and Dee Greeson are the leaders of this committee. Please tell Barbara Greeson if you would like to be added to the committee.

Elizabeth Craft



### Greensboro Urban Ministry:

The food donations for Urban Ministry have been somewhat low these past few months, but we do appreciate your support in this project when you have been asked to and have supported so many other worthwhile projects going on in the church. Again many thanks for supporting all these important projects and continuing to prove what a caring church family we are! It is such a blessing to help others! There is a basket in the Narthex for your donations and a monetary container is there also if you would like to make a cash donation. There is also a container located in the breezeway and the portico entrances. The February collection dates are February 7<sup>th</sup>, and February 14<sup>th</sup>. We pray for God's Blessings on all of us as we support this much needed ministry.



### Friends and Neighbors

Our Friends and Neighbors group had a great birthday party when we met Tuesday, January 19. It was a celebration of everyone's birthdays, but in particular we celebrated the January birthdays of Mary Catherine Moser, Peggie Coble, and Ferol Wolfe. We began our business meeting with a meditation. Barbara Greeson had devotions and prayer in which she reminded us that in this New Year, we should make each new day count as we

celebrate God's goodness and grace. We can all make today and every day in 2016 a new day in the Lord. Dottie Deeter led the business portion of the program. We remembered Margie Kovach and were glad to hear from her during Christmas. We welcomed Ferol Wolfe back. Door prizes were awarded to Carol Clapp, Mary Ann Strader, and Cynthia Morris. We sent cards to the sick and prayed for good health to return. Dottie read a poem entitled "Call Me Mature" for those of us who are no longer considered "young." We all enjoyed many games of bingo with fun prizes; Lloyd Gilliam graciously served as our caller. Lunch was spaghetti, salad, rolls, and birthday cake. Doug Clapp led us in singing happy birthday and in returning thanks for lunch. Great lunch prepared by the ladies on the committee. We were also able to share our spaghetti lunch with several shut-ins and hope they will soon be feeling stronger.

Be sure to join us on February 16, in the fellowship hall at 10:30 for our next meeting. We will be stretching with the Oldies led by Jane Fitante (Linda Miller's daughter). You know we need to do our best to stay healthy. Bring two cans of food (soup, peas, corn, etc.) to use with our stretching exercises. Afterward we will donate the food to Greensboro Urban Ministry. We will then celebrate a late Valentine's lunch at CIAO's. Join us for a fun time.



**The Creative Worship Team (CWT)** wants to thank everyone who has been reading scriptures during the 11 o'clock worship services. Also, we want to thank everyone who will read scriptures in the future! We hope you are finding this to be a meaningful experience!

February scripture readers include:

February 7: Jeff and Sue Holt

February 14: Dottie Dexter  
Pat Huizinga

February 21: Lorie Arrington  
Brenda Currie

February 28: Bill and Elizabeth Craft

**The CWT has something new to share** with you that we are very excited about! It will be a great addition to our services! We will reveal the new part of the service on February 7th, so hope you can be there!

## 2016 Youth Retreat

Mt Hope Youth attended the 2016 Youth Winter Retreat in Boone this year. **The theme was: "Who is your Neighbor"? Everyone is your neighbor!** This person may be your next door neighbor, someone in another city, state or country. They are the person on the street needing a helping hand. God teaches us to love our neighbor, whomever they are.

**"Be comfortable, to be comfortable". "I want you to be a blessing, so you can be a blessing to others."**

We listened to a guest speaker, **Rev. Waltrina Middleton** and attended small group breakout sessions. In these sessions the scripture of the day was discussed and reflected upon how these affect them in everyday life. We enjoyed great music by **"Alathea"**. The musicians, were a couple of young women from Johnson City, TN. Hopefully, we can get them to come to Mt. Hope one day.

During free time there was always a game of basketball being played in the gym or other games in the lodge. When we woke up Sunday it was snowing, but just enough to get everyone excited. The group went to Jonas Ridge on Sunday morning to go snow tubing. Then to the Mast General Store to get some candy or other goodies, lunch at Five Guys and Tanger Outlets afterwards for a little shopping.

Several found some great deals and some were on a sugar high from all of the candy. During this retreat, we learned a lot about each other and about what God expects from us.

**This is a great group of youth** and we look forward to going back next year. Lisa, Greg, Carmen & Sonia



**Good morning from Boone! Mt Hope Youth & Leaders**



Connor Chapmon and Colby Arrington

Congratulations on Your New Baby!



**New Baby:** We would like to welcome a new baby in our midst! Sophia Marlene Levens was born on December 22, 2015. She weighed in at 7 pounds and 3 ounces. Her proud parents are Cole and Shannon Levens; grandparents are Beezer and Amanda Levens; great grandparents are Pat Levens and Nancy Phipps. Sophia will be baptized next Sunday, January 24<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations to the entire family!!



Addison Harris participating in Speak Out Time at Gathering Session

**Spring Gathering 2016, Creating a Welcoming Community:** Hosted by the Western NC Association. March 5, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at Mount Tabor UCC, 1002 E Holly Grove Rd., Lexington, NC 27292. Clergy, lay people and youth are invited to this educational opportunity focused on creating a welcoming community within our Association, member churches, and communities. The cost is \$5/person or \$20/group of 5 people. See the flyer posted in the breezeway for more details. Registration forms are available in the church office. Registration deadline is February 19<sup>th</sup>.



**The “Mosaic Memories Cross”** has been completed and the Photo Book of each piece will be located in the parlor. Please go by and take time to write about the piece you gave or just go and look at it. There are a lot of great stories in it. Thanks to everyone that gave pieces for it and helped with this project.

The Mosaic Cross will be displayed soon. We are in the process of getting glass to cover it to protect the items in it.

**Youth Fundraising:** We still have 26 old hymnals if anyone would like to purchase one. They are \$5 each. Also we still have a few Mount Hope T-shirts left. 1 small, 1 medium and 4 large shirts, they are \$15 each. Please see Gloria Apple. Thanks for supporting the youth.





**All Sunday services on January 24, at Mt Hope Church were canceled due to weather. It sure made a pretty picture though!**



**Soup Fundraiser:** Boy Scout Troop 365 is having their annual soup fundraiser. Proceeds help send the boys to camp and other expenses throughout the year. To place your order for the vegetable meat soup at \$6 per quart, please see Colby Arrington, Wade Greeson or Josh Apple.

Soup will be made on February 5<sup>th</sup> and pick up will be February 6<sup>th</sup> at Mount Hope Church. Thank you for your continued supporting of Scouting!



**Thank you:** We want to thank our Mt. Hope Church family for all the prayers, beautiful cards, nice visits and most of all, their support. We are truly grateful to our Mt. Hope Church family. Thank you!! Bob and Cindy Hamlett

**Thank you:** Roger and I thanked God for keeping us safe. We thank all of you at Mount Hope for the love and help you gave us. We are so blessed to have friends like you for giving the love and support you gave us in this time of need. God bless you all. I hope to be back in church soon. Love, Roger and Patty Coble

**Thank you:** Thanks so much to my church family for the loving support you have given me and my family the past few months. Your thoughts, prayers, cards, calls & generous assistance were very much appreciated. Love, Betty Tucker



### February Birthdays

- 1<sup>st</sup> Blanche Greeson, Jeff Jarrett
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Dacia Singleton, Becky Stafford
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Dreama Greeson, Mary Reece, Nick Volle
- 4<sup>th</sup> Lloyd Spencer, Tony Staley, Christie Volle
- 5<sup>th</sup> Chase Szychowicz
- 6<sup>th</sup> Waylon Bolton, John Hunt, Jr.
- 7<sup>th</sup> Travis Gannon
- 8<sup>th</sup> J.W. Johnson, Chris Minor
- 12<sup>th</sup> Jodi Owen
- 13<sup>th</sup> Jim Wimbish
- 14<sup>th</sup> Sandra McCray, Matthew Shue
- 15<sup>th</sup> Tammy Flinchum
- 16<sup>th</sup> Sandra Martin
- 18<sup>th</sup> Lloyd Gilliam, Betty Kim Settlemyre
- 20<sup>th</sup> Virginia Barker, Mandy Stovall
- 21<sup>st</sup> Sandy Gardner, Pamela Minor
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Jason Clapp, George Farmer, Ralph Greeson, Joan May, Callie Moser, Levi Stanley, Jr.
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Cecelia Gannon
- 24<sup>th</sup> Greg Moser, Inez Thornburg
- 25<sup>th</sup> George Hunt
- 26<sup>th</sup> Dora Faye Moore
- 27<sup>th</sup> Faith Oakley
- 28<sup>th</sup> Bob Hamlett, J.H. Neese, Jr., Kolby Whitesell



### February Anniversaries

- 5<sup>th</sup> Larry & Patsy Moore
- 14<sup>th</sup> Nicholas & Pamela Taylor
- 28<sup>th</sup> Charles & Geraldine Greeson



# Calendar

## February Events

- 1st 9:00 a.m., Quilters meet
- 2nd 7:00 p.m., Garden Club
- 3rd 6:45 p.m., Handbell Choir Rehearsal  
7:30 p.m., Choir Rehearsal
- 4th 6:30 p.m., Creative Worship Team  
7:00 p.m., High Lonesome Strings  
7:00 p.m., Meals4Kids Volunteers
- 7th Collecting for Urban Ministry  
9:45 a.m., Sunday School  
11:00 a.m., Worship
- 8th 9:00 a.m., Quilters meet  
7:00 p.m., Music & Worship Team meet
- 9th 1:30 p.m., Willing Workers Circle  
7:00 p.m., Mary/Martha Circle

- 10th 7:00 p.m., Ash Wednesday Service  
Choir Rehearsal following service
- 11th 7:00 p.m., Consistory
- 14th Collecting for Urban Ministry  
9:45 a.m., Sunday School  
11:00 a.m., Worship, Communion
- 15th 9:00 a.m., Quilters meet
- 17th 6:45 p.m., Handbell Choir Rehearsal  
7:30 p.m., Choir Rehearsal
- 18th 6:30 p.m., Creative Worship Team
- 21st 9:45 a.m., Sunday School  
11:00 a.m., Worship
- 22nd 9:00 a.m., Quilters meet
- 24th 6:45 p.m., Handbell Choir Rehearsal  
7:30 p.m., Choir Rehearsal
- 28th 9:45 a.m., Sunday School  
11:00 a.m., Worship
- 29th 9:00 a.m., Quilters meet



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|----------|---------|----------|---------|
| 1—Red    | 3—Blue  | 5—Orange | 7—Brown |
| 2—Yellow | 4—Green | 6—Purple | 8—Black |

# The Howard Coble Center for Special Needs



**Come see what we're all about!**

We welcome all families who have children with special needs to preview our center.

**FEBRUARY 13<sup>TH</sup>**  
**FLOATING**  
**4:00-8:00 PM**

Please [click here](#) to sign up to attend.

## **Who We Are:**

A community-based youth recreation program designed to benefit young people from 5-19 years old with varying abilities and special needs. The program is free of charge and is fully supported by donations and contributions of local citizens, civic and religious organizations, and business partners.

## **Our shared VISION**

To create a brighter future for special youth by fostering lasting friendships now.

## **Questions?**

**Email:**

[coblecenter@gmail.com](mailto:coblecenter@gmail.com)

**Phone:**

336-316-1200

## **Location**

Howard Coble Center  
for Special Needs  
610 Spur Rd.  
Greensboro, NC 27406

***A SPECIAL PLACE  
FOR SPECIAL  
PEOPLE***

