



Pleasant Green
United Methodist Church

PleasantGreenUMC.org

Roots & Branches

October 2015



Welcoming the Changing Seasons

By Dr. Jesse Brunson, Pastor

The change in temperature, warm days, cooler evenings, and change in color of the leaves on the trees let us know that it's Autumn. I love autumn because it opens the door for some of the great holidays, such as Thanksgiving and Christmas. Without asking, I believe you would agree these are beautiful seasons. A changing season reminds us that everything changes.

The Bible informs us that in creation ***God placed the lights in the firmament of the heavens to divide the day from the night, and to let them be for signs and for seasons, and for days and for years.*** (Genesis 1:14)

Yes, seasons come and seasons go. This is the way God planned it, because everything must change. In his book, *Maximize the Moments*, Bishop T.D. Jakes compares the stages of life with the seasons of the year. He has suggested, like infancy, Spring is the first season of life. It is the time of planting and growth and it is the time of accomplishment. It is, during this time, that which you need to build is flowing to you and through you. Summer, he says, is the season of blazing hot; an era in which you maintain what you have birthed. The infancy is over and this is the time of stability.

Autumn is the season of maturity. It is in this season that you are settled. You have produced your fruit. You have matured in many areas, and you now know what is expected and also how to cope with what you have to work with. You have adjusted your expectations and have benefited from the experiences; the knocks and bruises. This is the season of calmness. You are not easily rattled by life's challenges.

Winter, he says, is the season of rigidity. This is the season when ideas have become so formalized and traditions are maintained with passion because that is all that is familiar. All else is giving way to change and rebirth, as life prepares for the next generation of people, companies, and ideas. Winter is the season of life when we assess our accomplishments, enjoy our assets, pass on counsel, and take our bows.

Yes, in the end everything must change, because nothing stays the same. So we say, come on Autumn and Winter. We welcome you into our lives, with the changes that God will send.

Blessings;
Pastor Jesse

October is Pastor appreciation month!

From OCIM ...

We are sending out a plea for help. The food pantry is looking quite bare right now. In the past three days, the pantry has assisted 52 households. We know the holidays will bring in a great deal of donations, but until then we are asking for extra help to get through the next few months. The items the pantry needs most are:

**Canned Meat and Stew / Peanut Butter & Jelly / Soup / Pinto Beans and Pork & Beans
Pasta Sauce / Canned Pasta / Rice / Cereal / Saltine Crackers / Macaroni & Cheese
"Kid" Snacks / Toilet Tissue / Bath Soap / Powder Laundry Detergent / Toothpaste**





**Join us for either
worship service
the last Sunday of
each month to
hear the
Pleasant Green
Praise Band!**

Corridor District United Methodist Women

**2015 Annual Meeting — Sunday, October 25 at Front Street United Methodist Church
136 S. Fisher St., Burlington, NC 27215**

Gathering: 2:30-2:45 pm ~ Meeting begins at 2:25 pm

Special Guest Speaker: Rev. Garol Goehring, Corridor District Superintendent

The Hearts & Hands Class

invites all to join them on the 2nd Sunday on each month, as they volunteer at the Murdoch Developmental Center in Butner.



The group will be leaving the church on October 11 at 8:30 am in time to arrive for transporting the residents to the Center's Worship Service. Contact Van McCay with any questions: 919-477-9692.

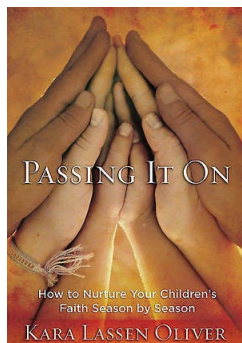
Passing It on: How to Nurture Your Children's Faith Season by Season

Parents have the most direct impact on their children's spiritual formation. But often they lack confidence in their biblical knowledge, theological understanding, and grasp of Christian tradition.

With gentle humor and faithful insight, Kara Oliver encourages parents by providing practical ideas for passing on their faith to their children.

She suggests that parents incorporate weekly gatherings into their family schedules for short periods 4 weeks at a time during 4 times of year: Advent, Lent, summer, and back-to-school.

Copies of this book are available in the church office at the cost of \$7.



Back to School Kick-Off Celebration!



Tom Carr gives Back to School tips for children and parents.



Church and Afterschool families enjoy a dinner of lasagna & pizza following Tom Carr's tips.



From the Prayer Team...

Abundant Grace

1 Timothy 1: 14 ...and the grace of our Lord was exceedingly abundant, with Faith and Love which are in Christ Jesus.

Last month, we prayed Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8, which teaches us about seasons of our lives. We talked about periods of quiet and activity. This month, the focus is on God's abundant Grace through His Son Jesus Christ. We are in a period of abundance, generally: the harvest of our crops, brilliant fall colors, excitement (or not) about returning to school, new church activities. We also have an abundance of years of Pleasant Green's (183!!) existence, joy and celebration of God's work during Homecoming, an awesome Pastor and staff; and, an opportunity for new growth and discipleship through *Unbinding the Gospel* and *Project Bountiful*.

God's Grace has led us through lean times, war, conflict within our church, and periods of stagnation and indecision. Over the years, His Grace has blessed us with growth, a beautiful church building, perseverance, friendships, love and faith. Through trust in Jesus and the Holy Spirit, we have come to this point; fresh in God's love and bounty. Can you imagine where God will lead us next? Where His next touch of Grace will come? It is hard for us to imagine, but God already knows and is paving the way for a new plan for us. Let us praise God and wait with excited anticipation for His next gift of Grace.

Dear Heavenly Father, We are in awe of your freely-given gifts. We know we are not worthy of your many blessings and much love, yet you give us a bounty of Grace anyway. We praise you for your power and might; for your compassion; and, for knowing what we need, as individuals and as a church. We thank you for staying with us, wanting a relationship with us; wanting the best for us. No one knows better than you, Lord, what is best. Open our hearts, minds and souls to you as we wait with excited anticipation for your guidance and directions for our lives and church. Help us be joyful and obedient as you make your will known to us. We want to be a church that is passionate about living your Word and sharing it with others; to bring more people to you and your Kingdom on earth. Help us move through this time of waiting and discovery in ways that are pleasing to you. We pray these things, Lord, in your Son's Holy Name, Amen.

October Prayer Ministry Meeting

The October meeting will take place on Wednesday, October 21st at 6:30 pm. We pray actively for our church activities, church and extended family members; and, local, national and global issues. We are also planning ways to include shut-ins in our prayer life and ways to visit those in need. Come join us! In the meantime, check out the Prayer Ministry bulletin board above the prayer letters table in the hallway, leading to the Fellowship Hall. Remember to fill out the yellow prayer cards found in the pews to request prayer for those in need.

Corridor District Classes ~ Lay Servant Ministry **Saturday, November 14, 2015 8:00 am - 4:30 pm** **Aldersgate UMC – 1320 Umstead Road**

Registration is \$25.00, online registration only
Registration is open until Sunday, November 1, 2015
Check in: 7:30 am ~ continental breakfast and lunch provided
Requirement: 10 hours of class time is required. Please order your participant book and read it in advance for 2 hours of credit.

If you have questions about the class your District Co-Directors of Lay Servant Ministry are available for you.
Sandy Quinn, fluffy11@ix.netcom.com or 919-475-2783
Barbara Atkinson, habnc@hotmail.com or 919-638-5711

Courses Offered: Basic Course: Lay Servant Ministries /
Advanced Course: Leading in Prayer

We welcome
Beth Nichols
and children,
Millie & Asher
to our
Pleasant Green
church family!
August 23, 2015



Mt. Sylvan UMC

Fall Festival

October 3

8:00 - 12:30pm

Breakfast & Lunch

Fall Festival / Craft & Vendor Sale

**cakewalks, dunking booth,
bounce house, silent auction,**

Sat., Oct. 17 ~ 8am-1pm

Immanuel Baptist Church

Holiday Craft Show

Sat., Nov. 7 ~ 9am-3pm

**Central Orange Senior Center
103 Meadowland Dr.**

from the Pleasant Greeners...

The Pleasant Greeners is a group that meets on the 4th Wednesday of every month from 12:00 noon for fellowship and sharing covered dishes, except November and December. While the focus is on people 55 years and older; anyone who is free and interested may come. Recently, even toddlers Daisy (and her Mom, Anna) & Sawyer (with Grandmother, Evelyn) shared with us! For those of you newly retired; this is a wonderful way to meet people and enjoy a different aspect of our church. The Pleasant Greeners meet shortly after the Wednesday Bible meetings from 10:30 to 11:30 am. A few minutes is needed to set up for lunch after Bible study.

October 28th ~ 12:00 to 1:30 pm – covered dish lunch, followed by a discussion with Yvette Missri, Volunteer Connect 55+ Manager, with Orange County Department on Aging. Yvette will share important information on volunteer service.

November & December – look for other activities in our church bulletin and newsletter. We look forward to having you join us!

To the congregation of PGUMC,

On behalf of myself and many children and families of Cameron Park, I would like to extend a very heartfelt thank you for all your generous donations. You all made it possible for many kids to come to class with their supplies, ready and eager to learn. We are very fortunate to have a relationship with such a caring and supportive community. Your generosity towards those in need was felt by so many in our school, and we are all incredibly grateful. In the words of one student: "Thank you so very much, my mom would not have been able to afford all of this for us."



Best, Bekah Pea (Cameron Park School Social Worker)

To All PGUMC Members,

Thank you all so very much for the thoughts and prayers during my mother's passing. I miss Durham and all the special people at Pleasant Green UMC, but am thankful that we moved home to the VA farm. We were able to have 2 good and blessed years with my mom and now here to help my father!

God's love and blessing to all, *Lois Rittenhouse & family*

Dear PGUMW,

On behalf of Duke Children's Hospital, I want to express appreciation for the teddy bears for pediatric patients. The bears are so lovely, the colorful butterfly fabric brings smiles to the faces of our children and staff. The bears are being used to comfort children in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit. I greatly appreciate the ministry of Linda Fonville, Gloria Perry, Ceil Matthew and the other members of the common thread. Thank you for being an extension of God's love in the lives of these children.

With care, *Chaplain Michael Gross*



"Shine Fit Life" (DanceFit) in the Fellowship Hall

7pm with Michelle Pendergraft ~ Thursdays starting October 8

MISSION: Encourage women and men to look beyond the physical aspects of exercise and discover how fitness can be an emotional and spiritual experience as well. By making the CHOICE to invest in yourself, you will see CHANGE, and because of that positive change, you will IMPACT the world around you.

Live ~ Laugh ~ Love ~ Be The Light and Pass it On... \$5 per class for an hour of fitness fun!

~ 1st Class Free! ~

We would love for you to join us!

pleasant green youth group



from Ali...

October Youth Calendar

Friends, Fellowship, Games and Lessons / Sunday School 10 am

Youth Website: <http://pgyouth.weebly.com/quick-links.html>

- **Oct 4 (Sun)** Instead of Elevate on this date, we will be joining with other Youth in our district for the Fall Rally. Please RSVP by Oct 1. I also need Adult T-Shirt Size for your youth (option for short or long sleeve)
- **Oct 11 (Sun)** Youth are Leading Worship
- **Oct 31 (Sat)** Halloween Carnival 5:30 pm –7:30 pm
- **Nov 13-15 (Fri – Sun)** Pilgrimage - We have 14 signed up to go! There are more spots, if you haven't signed up yet...
- **Nov 22 (Sun)** Youth are Leading Worship
- **Dec 8 (Tues)** Food For All (Youth Ministry is Leading)
- **Dec 13 (Sun)** Christmas & Cookie Making Party at Ali's House ~ 4:00 - 7:30pm

**CORRIDOR DISTRICT
U.M.Y. 2015
FALL RALLY
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4
CAMP CHESTNUT RIDGE
2 PM - 6 PM**

HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL!

**October 31st
5:30-7:30pm**

**Pleasant Green
Community Center**



Trunk or Treat?

*We need 10
people to volunteer
their decorated
trunks & themselves
to give out
candy at
the carnival.*

Please sign up in the
Narthex or call the
church office.

October Fun!

"Spirits of Hillsborough Tour" ~ October 24 ~ 5 - 9pm

This is a walking tour to some of the historic places in Hillsborough. You'll be greeted by some of Hillsborough's haints. Julie and Billy Painter will be Mr. and Mrs. Coffin. Gabi Tesoro, Shari Metzger, and Wayne Leonard are Tour Guides, Michele Metzger is a scamp named Elizabeth (not sure what that is, but sounds interesting) Bella Tesoro, Bella Fox, and Sarah Fox (from PG Summer Musical) are spirits.

Details are on the Historic Hillsborough web site:

<http://www.visithillsboroughnc.com/calendar/2015-10>

Night at the Wax Museum directed by Wayne Leonard

It's an all kid cast. It's appropriate and fun for the whole family!

The hysterical meets the historical in this comic romp through the wackiest wax museum in history! School's out for summer, but not for six unlucky students who don't know much about history — they have to re-take the class in summer school. Join the hilarious fun as treasure-hungry outlaws, pirates and royalty mount the greatest siege since Vicksburg! Wax historical in this mad-cap comedy adventure where the magic of history comes alive... literally!

Shows are October 9 - 11, 16 - 18, Friday/Saturday shows ~ 7 pm

Sunday Matinees ~ 2 pm, Tickets: \$8 adults, \$7 students/seniors

Paramount Theater in Burlington—128 E. Front Street

Call: 336-222-8497



All are invited!

Please join the Pleasant Greeners on Tuesday, October 13th at 10am for a bus trip to Raleigh!



We will eat lunch at the NC State Farmers' Market Restaurant and then visit the market.

Sign up in the Narthex!

Help Us Fill Shoeboxes for Impoverished Children!



The Afterschool children are continuing the shoebox ministry of "Operation Christmas Child." These boxes will be delivered to children around the world through Samaritan's Purse. Please help us fill more shoeboxes by bringing supplies for children ages 5-14 and dropping them off in the container in the narthex by Sunday, Nov. 1st.

Cash donations of \$7a box also needed

Please help us give these children a special Christmas.

World Communion Sunday Offering on October 4

The 1st Sunday of October is the day set aside each year when Christians across the world gather around the Lord's Table and celebrate Holy Communion. In 1940 the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America established World-wide Communion Sunday as a global, interdenominational event.

YOUR GIFT MAKES A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE !

PGUMC Kid's Worship Volunteers Needed!

Two volunteers, a leader and assistant leader, are needed for each Sunday at 11am. Everyone has an important role in our children's Christian education and spiritual growth.

If you are available to help please contact: andrea.harris68@yahoo.com or

Michelle Baker - mbaker1778@gmail.com



Pleasant Green's Homecoming Celebration of 183 Years!



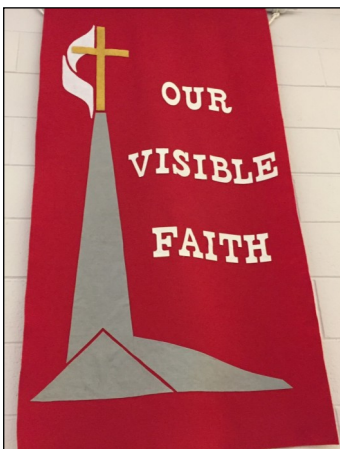
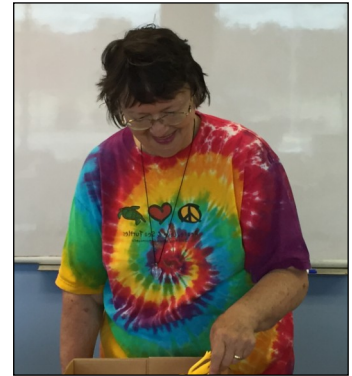


Robeson County Church & Community Center – Going Gideon

When I first started planning the trip to Robeson County, I never really intended to go.. I had a lot on my plate, as far as missions were concerned and was counting on someone else to lead the trip.

As time went on, it became clear that our group was going to be exceedingly small. How could we build a wheelchair ramp? That was a good question. I almost postponed the trip, but encouraging words from Janice made me persevere. And God spoke to my heart, one word, 'Gideon'. I knew exactly what He meant. He meant for me to bolster up my faith and let Him lead the team.

I continued to work with Darlene Jacobs, the executive director of RCCCC, and we came up with a plan. There were shelves to be built at the center and we could accomplish that.



So, we left, Dennis Nicholson, Janice Nicholson, Jim Perry and I.

I have traveled with all of these great folks on mission trips and knew their hearts were true and strong. Our work went exceedingly well. Dennis and Jim did quick work on the shelves and other jobs in the center, while Janice and I packed food, organized items, and packed school supplies. For Janice and I, our best moment was meeting Wendy. Wendy worked at the center and her life was hard. Wendy was in need of help, because she was going to have surgery soon. Janice and I were grateful at

the opportunity to help. As we came to know Wendy we found she had lost 2 brothers in the span of a couple of months, both experienced a violent death.

We prayed and cried with Wendy. Wendy is looking for God, but is having a hard time accepting His grace.

This trip meant a lot to me. Getting to know the team better, and being used to do good work was uplifting.

Support of PGUMC is always right on target. We carried with us t-shirt bags made by Terri Leonard and Becky Brogden. We used the bags for school supplies to be de-



delivered to needy kids. There were also school supplies given by the church, and items from VBS.

Prayer is always welcome, and is a great support. Thanks PGUMC for your big missional heart. And thanks to the RCCCC team that went Gideon! And thanks be to God!

Kathryn Dempsey







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 Durham, NC 27705
 (919) 383-5764

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Website: PleasantGreenUMC.org
Pastor - Rev. Dr. Jesse Brunson (919) 383-2339
Director of Spiritual Formation and Youth Ministry-
Alison DeLeo: alideleo@gmail.com

Address Service Requested

 Please recycle this newsletter. 


Donation: \$1 for opportunity to own a

**New Authentic Amish
 Handmade Quilt
 King/Queen 109 x 95**
Drawing ~ 10/17 at 7pm

Fall Fundraisers ~ Your help is needed!

UMW Silent / Live Auction
October 17th
 at Pleasant Green UMC

5:00 — 7:00 pm
 Silent Auction 5 - 6pm ~ Live Auction
 6- 7pm
**Browse & bid on silent auction items
 while enjoying appetizers/desserts.**
Everyone is invited!
Donations of items are appreciated!!
 Suggestions for donations: gift cards/
 certificates for items/services, pottery, jewelry,
 vacation homes/retreats, baked goods,
 other handmade items
 (please include description of item and value)
****vacation homes/retreats**


UMM's Brunswick Stew
By the Quart Only
Saturday, November 7
*Sign up in the Narthex to pre-order
 Brunswick Stew by the quart. (\$9)*
 ~ ~ ~ ~ ~
Your help is needed!
Friday, November 6 at 6pm
The Potato Peeling Party
in the multi-purpose room
Saturday, November 7
6:30 am - 8:00 pm
*Cutting meat, opening cans, etc and
 stirring, quorting & selling stew.*



Halloween Carnival


 Saturday, October 31 5:30 to 7:30 pm at Pleasant Green Community Center
 Games, Prizes, Cake Walks ~ Inflatable & Trunk or Treat!
 Hot Dogs, Chili, Slaw, Onions, Chips, Drinks and Desserts

Invite friends!

Come have fun!
