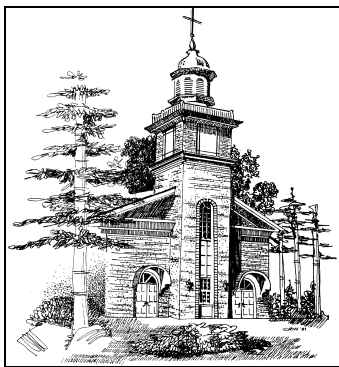


# *The Ambassador*

## *Amity Presbyterian Church*

*Discovering God Through the Community of Faith Since 1882*



Vol. XXIII, Issue 2 February 2012

*Happy Valentine's Day!*

### Inside this issue:

Betsy's Letter	1
Betsy's Book Club	3
Financial Report	3
Beverly Randall	5-6
February Calendar	7-8
Volunteers	9
Birthdays	10
New Member Campaign	12
Session Highlights	13-14

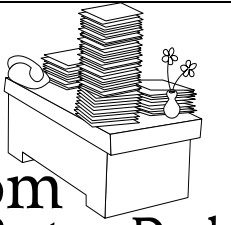
**Amity Presbyterian Church**  
2831 N. Sharon Amity Rd.  
Charlotte, NC 28205  
Telephone: 704-537-3484  
Fax: 704-537-3467  
Email: [amitypc@bellsouth.net](mailto:amitypc@bellsouth.net)  
Website: [www.amitypc.org](http://www.amitypc.org)  
Ambassador Email:  
[amityambassador@bellsouth.net](mailto:amityambassador@bellsouth.net)

**Pastor: Rev. Betsy Williamson**  
**Director of Music: Doug Hughes**  
**Organist: Addie Yandle**  
**Preschool Director: Tammy Miller**  
**Financial Assistant: Karen Nivens**  
**Secretary: Adrian Boyd**

### The Ambassador Volunteers

**Information Coordinators: Adrian Boyd, Karen Nivens**  
**Editor: Pat Wallace, [amityambassador@bellsouth.net](mailto:amityambassador@bellsouth.net)**  
**Publisher: Helen Eubanks**

## "The Full Extent of His Love"



### From the Pastors Desk

February 22 is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. Lent is the forty day period of repentance and renewal that ends on Easter. During this time, all believers are called upon to use meditation, prayer and penitential practices (fasting and self-denial) to focus on our sin and shortcomings. At this time of the year, there is so much talk about what we give up for Lent, but not much is said about the meditation and prayer. Even less is said about using these practices to draw us closer to the Lord, to lead to inner renewal, and to appreciate the great love of God for us.

On the night of the Last Supper, the Scriptures tell us in John 13 that Jesus showed the disciples "the full extent of his love" and how he wanted them to love each other. Just a few days earlier, he had entered Jerusalem triumphantly, riding on a donkey walking on a soft bed of palm branches and coats. The crowds were cheering for him, "Hosanna! Hosanna! Save us!" This was surely the cheer of a crowd who thought he was the Messiah. But by Thursday, the tide was changing. The crowd – maybe a different crowd – was no longer cheering. Jesus and the disciples were gathered together in an upper room in a house. They were sitting around the table, talking and eating.

Sometime during that meal, Jesus quietly got up from his seat. The disciples probably didn't think anything of it, until they saw him take off his outer garments. I am convinced that one by one they began to look at him and their talking dwindled. He wrapped a towel around his waist. Probably some jaws dropped because he was now dressed as a servant would dress, with no outer garments and with a towel wrapped around the waist. He picked up a simple basin, filled it with water, and picked up another towel. Then he sat down on the floor, removed the sandals of one of the disciples, washed his feet, and dried them with a towel. He moved from one disciple to another washing their feet, even the feet of the one who would betray him. Such an intimate act – washing their dirty, smelly feet until they were clean. When he finished, he put up the basin, dried his hands and put up the towel. He put on his robe and sat down at the table.

*(Continued on page 2)*

*(Continued from page 1)*

Jesus showed the disciples “the full extent of his love” by becoming a servant and washing their feet before he bore their sins – and ours – on the cross. All of this was for us to be washed clean of our sin. A parishioner of Bruce Thielemann described it in a slightly different way. In describing “basin theology” this gentleman said, “Remember what Pilate did when he had the chance to acquit Jesus? He called for a basin and washed his hands of the whole thing. But Jesus, the night before his death, called for a basin and proceeded to wash the feet of the disciples.” Pilate washed his hands of the whole thing and Jesus showed “the full extent of his love.”

I am convinced that during Lent we should focus on this picture of Jesus – the picture of the servant showing the full extent of his love for us. All of our meditation, prayer and penitential practices are for nothing if we don’t focus on how we live our lives as recipients of that love. How are we using our basins? Are we showing others that we have received that great love by the way we live our lives? Are we showing the full extent of our gratitude for the great love we have received by the way we live our lives? As one of our great hymns says, “They’ll know we are Christians by our love.” Let’s focus our self-examination for Lent on the great love we have received, rather than on what we are “giving up” for Lent.

Faithfully,  
Betsy Williamson

## ***Prepare Your Hearts for Worship in February***

<b>February 5</b>	<b>Mark 1:29-39</b>
<b>February 12</b>	<b>Mark 1:40-45</b>
<b>February 19</b>	<b>Mark 9:2-9</b>
<b>February 22</b> <b>(Ash Wednesday)</b>	<b>II Corinthians 5:20b-6:10</b>
<b>February 26</b>	<b>Mark 1:9-15</b>



We're on the  
Web!  
[www.amitypc.org](http://www.amitypc.org)

Dear Amity Folks,

Thank you for the cards, calls, visits and food (very good!) during my time on walking stick — which I have now set aside.

My appreciation is more than I have words to say (or write).

I'm continuing to become well and am happy to be a part of the Amity family. Happy New Year.

In Christian Love,  
Helen Eubanks



Dear Amity Family,

Thank you for your prayers, love and support during this difficult time. My mother, Lucille Daumer, was so fortunate to have such a caring church family, and I want all of you to know how much I appreciate all you have done.



Sincerely,  
Carolina Butler



*The Sanctuary looked just stunning this past Advent season thanks to the many volunteer hours provided by the following folks:*

*Carolina Jackson*

*Linda Dorin*

*Bina Chambers*

*Ruth Donaldson*

*Jimmy Messer*

*Norma & Tony Higgins*

*Guy & Barbara Snow*

*Danielle Brassington*

*Faye Castle*

*Evelyn Marion*

*Paul Schimmel*

*Barbara & Tom Phlegar*

*Stephanie & Angelo Polonyfis*

### **Amity Presbyterian Women News and Events:**

Dates to Remember:

Monday, February 6th

Night Circle—7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, February 7th

Morning Circle—10:30 a.m.

Monday, February 27th

Presbyterian Women  
Coordinating Team Meeting  
2:00 p.m., Watson Room

Special Sale on Cookbooks—\$15.00. Stop by the church office and make a purchase for Valentine's Day.

Submitted by Donna Dobson

## Fellowship News and Events

Approximately 50 members, guests and friends joined in for the 1st Sunday Lunch for 2012 on January 8th.

Emmett and Evelyn Marion celebrated, at a "reserved" table, their 65th Wedding Anniversary. Congratulations to our special members!

### Dates to Know:

February 5th    1st Sunday Lunch:

Theme: Love is in the Air

Meal: A Variety of Soups, Cole Slaw,  
Cornbread and a Valentine Cake

Program: Very Special Vocal Entertainment

March 4th        1st Sunday Lunch:

Theme: It's Almost Spring

Meal: Old Fashioned Chicken & Dumplings

Program: To be decided

April 1st        1st Sunday Lunch:

Theme: April Fool's Day

Meal: To be decided

May 6th         1st Sunday Lunch:

June 3rd        1st Sunday Lunch

Everyone make plans to attend the **1st Sunday Lunches** sponsored by the Fellowship Committee.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	We
<p><b>29</b>  <b>9:45 AM</b> Sunday School  <b>11:00 AM</b> Worship Service  <b>12:00 PM</b> Seekers Lunch  <b>3:00 PM</b> Nazarene Church meets  <b>4:00 PM</b> Called Session Meeting</p>	<p><b>30</b>  <b>11:00 AM</b> Arthritis Founda-  tion  <b>8:00 PM</b> Narcotics Anony-  mous - Welcome Home</p>	<p><b>31</b>  <b>8:00 PM</b> Alcoholics  Anonymous - Into Action</p>	<p><b>1</b>  <b>10:30 AM</b>  Works co  <b>10:30 AM</b>  Chapel  <b>5:30 PM</b>  Club Disc</p>
<p><b>5</b>   <b>Boy Scout Sunday</b>  <b>9:45 AM</b> Sunday School  <b>11:00 AM</b> Worship Service  <b>12:00 PM</b> First Sunday Lunch  <b>3:00 PM</b> Nazarene Church meets</p>	<p><b>6</b>  <b>11:00 AM</b> Arthritis Founda-  tion  <b>7:00 PM</b> PW Night Circle  <b>8:00 PM</b> Narcotics Anony-  mous - Welcome Home</p>	<p><b>7</b>  <b>10:30 AM</b> PW Morning  Circle  <b>8:00 PM</b> Alcoholics  Anonymous - Into Action</p>	<p><b>8</b>  <b>10:30 AM</b>  Works co</p>
<p><b>12</b>  <b>9:45 AM</b> Sunday School  <b>11:00 AM</b> Worship Service  <b>3:00 PM</b> Nazarene Church meets  <b>4:00 PM</b> Session Meeting</p>	<p><b>13</b>  <b>11:00 AM</b> Arthritis Founda-  tion  <b>8:00 PM</b> Narcotics Anony-  mous - Welcome Home</p>	<p><b>14</b>      <b>Valentine's Day</b>  <b>9:30 AM</b> Craft Group  <b>8:00 PM</b> Alcoholics  Anonymous - Into Action</p>	<p><b>15</b>  <b>10:30 AM</b>  Works co  <b>10:30 AM</b>  Chapel</p>
<p><b>19</b>      <b>Transfiguration Sunday</b>  <b>9:45 AM</b> Sunday School  <b>11:00 AM</b> Worship Service - Communion  <b>3:00 PM</b> Nazarene Church meets</p>	<p><b>20</b>      <b>Residents' Day</b>  <b>11:00 AM</b> Arthritis Founda-  tion  <b>8:00 PM</b> Narcotics Anony-  mous - Welcome Home</p>	<p><b>21</b>  <b>8:00 PM</b> Alcoholics  Anonymous - Into Action</p>	<p><b>22</b>  <b>Ash Wed</b>  <b>10:00 AM</b>  mittee  <b>10:30 AM</b>  Works co</p>
<p><b>26</b>  <b>9:45 AM</b> Sunday School  <b>11:00 AM</b> Worship Service  <b>3:00 PM</b> Nazarene Church meets</p>	<p><b>27</b>  <b>11:00 AM</b> Arthritis Founda-  tion  <b>8:00 PM</b> Narcotics Anony-  mous - Welcome Home</p>	<p><b>28</b>  <b>9:30 AM</b> Craft Group  <b>8:00 PM</b> Alcoholics  Anonymous - Into Action</p>	<p><b>29</b>  <b>10:30 AM</b>  Works co</p>

<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>
<p>Community Cooking class Pre-school</p> <p>Betsy's Book Discussion</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p><b>Groundhog Day</b>  <b>11:00 AM</b> Arthritis Founda-  tion  <b>2:00 PM</b> Betsy's Book  Club Discussion  <b>6:30 PM</b> Nazarene Church  meeting (room 201)</p>	<p><b>3</b>  <b>12:00 PM</b> Preschool Ex-  ecutive Committee</p>	<p><b>4</b>  <b>8:00 AM</b> Men's Breakfast  <b>9:30 AM</b> Property Com-  mittee</p>
<p>Community Cooking class</p>	<p><b>9</b>  <b>11:00 AM</b> Arthritis Founda-  tion  <b>6:30 PM</b> Nazarene Church  meeting (room 201)</p>	<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>11</b>  Presbytery Meeting -  Hopewell Church, Hun-  tersville  <b>6:00 PM</b> GCANA Narcot-  ics Anonymous</p>
<p>Community Cooking class Pre-school</p>	<p><b>16</b>  <b>11:00 AM</b> Arthritis Founda-  tion  <b>6:30 PM</b> Nazarene Church  meeting (room 201)</p>	<p><b>17</b></p>	<p><b>18</b>  <b>6:00 PM</b> Amiables</p>
<p><b>Wednesday</b> Finance Com-</p> <p>Community Cooking class</p>	<p><b>23</b>  <b>11:00 AM</b> Arthritis Founda-  tion  <b>11:00 AM</b> Friendship Club  <b>6:00 PM</b> Coventry Woods  Neighborhood Assoc.  Dinner  <b>6:30 PM</b> Nazarene Church  meeting (room 201)</p>	<p><b>24</b></p>	<p><b>25</b>  <b>6:00 PM</b> GCANA Narcot-  ics Anonymous</p>
<p>Community Cooking class</p>	<p><b>1</b>  <b>11:00 AM</b> Arthritis Founda-  tion  <b>6:30 PM</b> Nazarene Church  meeting (room 201)</p>	<p><b>2</b>  <b>World Day of Prayer</b></p>	<p><b>3</b>  <b>8:00 AM</b> Men's Breakfast  <b>9:30 AM</b> Property Com-  mittee</p>

# Volunteers

## Extended Session

02/05/2012	Alice Chambers and Rebecca Talton
02/12/2012	Jill Efird; Steve and Taylor Pressley
02/19/2012	Merle Stephenson and Doris Fincher; Debi and Mike McClintock
02/26/2012	Barbara and Guy Snow; Barbara Phlegar
Substitute:	Marie Houston

## Lawn Maintenance

Feb. 6—Feb. 12	Sam Davidson/Steve Pressley
Feb. 13—Feb. 19	Tommie Kiser/Dick Houston
Feb. 20—Feb. 26	Ken Hutchins/Tom Phlegar
Feb. 27—Mar. 4	George Foster/Jack Hudspeth
Mar. 5—Mar. 11	Sam Davidson/Steve Pressley

## Ushers

Volunteers are needed. Please contact Faye Castle at 704-566-4545.

# Happy Birthday



February

- |    |                   |    |                  |
|----|-------------------|----|------------------|
| 1  | Janice Johnston   | 19 | Merle Stephenson |
| 2  | Henry Lowery      | 23 | Reid Johnston    |
| 8  | Sylvia Dubrevil   | 24 | Bill Ross        |
| 8  | Betty Valek       | 26 | Mary Parker      |
| 8  | Janet Ernst       | 26 | Jim Whichard     |
| 8  | Michael Tullos    | 27 | Gina Arroba      |
| 9  | Susan Wyatt       | 28 | Stephanie Tullos |
| 13 | Cheryl Clodfelter | 28 | Taylor Pressley  |
| 16 | Dave Cable        | 28 | Daijah Beck      |
| 18 | Mary Hicks        |    |                  |



## Cards Welcome

Below is the address for Lynne & Ken Hutchins' son-in-law. He is the husband of Lynne & Ken's daughter, Joy. Feel free to send him a card or note.

SFC Wright, William C  
B CO 725th TF Centurion  
FOB Salerno  
APO AE..09314



Thank you to Monica Pittsenberger and all those involved in helping pull together a wonderful Christmas program. We would like to thank all parents of current and past students for sharing your children with us. Thank you to the many children for all of their hard work. Thank you to the teachers for their hard work and patience and dedication. This turned out to be a wonderful production that shared the word of Christ in a wonderful, simple way.

Thank you Amity Church for the lovely reception after the program. Many of our parents and teachers have commented on how meaningful it was to have a wonderful fellowship time. Thank you from all of us.

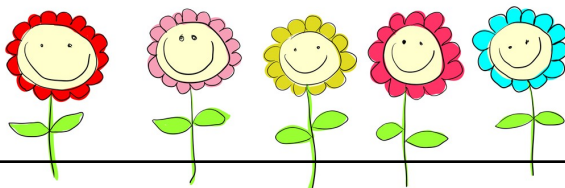
*Ms. Betty*  
*Jackie Simpson*  
*Mrs. Edna*  
*Ms. Jimmy*  
*Miss Vickie*  
*Ms. Debra*  
*Ms. Susan*  
*Ms. Megan*

## New Member Campaign

Want to make another New Year's Resolution? Here's one— Let's keep Amity growing in 2012. Amity has so much to offer and there are so many who are seeking a church home. Contact everyone you can about Amity and invite them to join for a wonderful Religious experience all year long.



Ron Talton and Tony Higgins



### Church Humor

The Rev. Adams spoke briefly, much to the delight of his audience.

Bertha Belch, a missionary from Africa will be speaking tonight at Calvary Memorial Church in Racine.

Come tonight and hear Bertha Belch all the way from Africa.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF STATED SESSION MEETING OF 1/08/2012

Elders Present 10 of 13

Moderator: Reverend Betsy Williamson

### SESSION APPROVED:

1. **By General Consent**, the Docket of 1/08/2012.
2. **By General Consent, the Omnibus Motion**, the Minutes (as amended) of the Stated Session Meeting of December 12, 2011.
3. **By Motion** to approve the wedding of Kelsey Lee Rice and Jon Eric Hymel on August 10, 2012.
4. **By Motion**, to have a Called Session Meeting on January 29 at 4:00 pm.
5. **By Motion**, that the Session meeting be adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

### CLERK'S REPORT:

The average Sunday worship attendance for December, 2011 was 75. The Clerk is working with Betsy and others to complete all the necessary forms for the annual report to Presbytery.

### COMMITTEE/TASK FORCE REPORTS:

1. **Finance:** (Bill Ross, Chair) The Budget for 2012 is being finalized and will be presented to the Session for approval at a Called Session meeting to be held January 29 before presenting to the Congregation on February 5.
2. **Administration:** (Denise Smith, Chair) The newly revised *Manual of Operation* will be reviewed by the Session at the January 29th Called Session Meeting. Pat Wallace has assumed temporary responsibility for putting out the monthly Ambassador newsletter but someone is needed to assume this role on a more permanent basis. Anyone willing to work on the news letter should contact Denise.
3. **Fellowship/Outreach:** (Donna Dobson, Chair) The Committee Report contained a motion to approve the wedding of Kelsey Lee Rice and Jon Eric Hymel on August 10, 2012 from 5:00-6:00 PM. The motion was approved. Donna will be meeting with a new group from Arthritis Services who would like to reserve facilities for an exercise class. Approximately 20 Pastors from South Mecklenburg who regularly meet for fellowship will be having lunch in Johnston Hall, January 19.
4. **Mission:** (Jim Messer, Chair) The Mission Committee will be seeking funds

(Continued on page 14)

to sponsor the furnishing of a room at the Christian Recovery Center.

5. **Property:** (Pat Wallace, Chair) Plans are being made for renovations to the Sanctuary. Estimates are being obtained for painting, re-carpeting and making repairs to the Communion table and Baptismal Font. Pat will be working with members of the Decorating Committee to select colors. Pat reminded everyone to please lock doors when they leave since unlocked doors continue to be a problem. Anyone responsible for a program at the church should also be responsible for locking the doors.

**Pastor's Report:** Betsy included in the Session Packet her report covering the period of December 10, 2011 through January 5, 2012. Major activities included: leading Sunday worship; moderating the Session meeting on December 12; leading a Book club; holding Chapel for the Pre-school; leading weekly staff meetings; visiting sick Amity members; officiating at the funeral of Nancy Childress on Dec. 17; attending the Christmas pageant and Finger Foods Reception on December 11 and Friendship Club on Dec. 15; and providing her weekly schedule to the Clerk of Session, the office staff, and the Pastoral Relations Committee.

**Calendar:**

**Called Session Meeting, January 29, 2012 at 4:00 PM, Amity Session Room**

**Congregational Meeting, February 5, 2012**

**Presbytery Meeting, Saturday, February 11, 2012, Hopewell Church,  
Huntersville, NC**

**Stated Session Meeting, February 12, 2012 at 4:00 PM, Amity Session  
Room**

All congregation joys and concerns should be reported by way of the Church Office (704-537-3484) or by way of the Pastor's cell phone (704-491-7932).

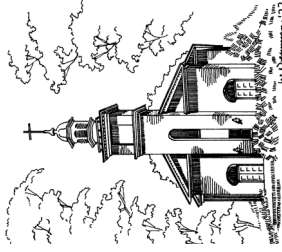
Submitted,

*Rebecca Talton,*

Clerk of Session

**Amity Presbyterian Church**  
2831 North Sharon Amity Road  
Charlotte, North Carolina 28205

Return Service Requested



Non-Profit Organization  
U. S. Postage PAID  
Charlotte, NC  
Permit No. 3

**Discovering God through the community of faith since 1882**

