

March Celebrations

Birthdays:

- 1 - Sydney Benson
- 3 - Tricia Kelich
- 6 - Mary Kay Fredenburg
- 11 - Don McNeil
- 12 - Keegan Hutcheson
- 15 - Berneda Fadely
- 23 - Bob Harmon
- 26 - Danny Hanson
- 28 - Jackie Harris
- 28 - Jennifer Huser
- 29 - Melva Perkins
- 31 - Jim Minnick

Anniversaries:

- 12 - Jim & Joyce Minnick
- 30 - Rob & Cindy Upchurch

Congregational Meeting
March 3rd
After Worship Service

Pastor Michelle's
Bible Study Class
Meets Thursdays at 9:00 a.m.

Serving in March:

Minister:

Reverend Michelle Brown

Music Directors:

Susan Smith & John Doty

Organist/Pianist:

John Doty

Choir Director:

Susan Smith

Elders:

Donnetta Ratliff - Teresa Dennis

Worship Leaders:

- 3rd - Jake Smith*
- 10th - Cheryl Tichenor*
- 17th - Michael Cooper*
- 24th - Donnetta Ratliff*
- 31st - Jake Smith*

Diaconate:

Cindy Hanson - Manford Harris
Ernestine Haynes - Nancy Scott

Communion Prep:

Nancy Scott

Nursery:

Leah & Michael Cooper

*"He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God."
Matthew 16:15-16*

The Sixth Street Messenger

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March

www.sixthstreetchristian.org

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A message from Reverend Michelle Brown is shown below.

Pastor Michelle's New Office Hours

Pastor Michelle now has scheduled office hours. She will be available each Thursday afternoon from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Michelle will also do visitations on Sunday afternoons and evenings, or by appointment during the evening on weekdays.

Christian Women's Fellowship News

CWF will have a regular monthly meeting on **Wednesday, March 6, at 1:00 p.m.**

Church History Committee

Jackie Harris and Jane Young invite everyone with an interest in history or scrapbooking to join them on **Monday, March 4 at 9:30 a.m.** for a scrapbooking session to work on Church history scrapbooks.

"Fat Tuesday" Pancake Supper

Tuesday, March 5, we begin the Lenten season with our traditional Pancake Supper. Pancakes and sausages are served from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

A free-will offering will benefit the Middletown Food Pantry.

Family Game Night

Game Night will be **Saturday, March 16, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.** Games, snacks and fun for all ages.

Church Board Meeting

The March meeting of the Sixth Street Church Board will be **Sunday, March 10**, following Coffee Fellowship. Please plan to attend.

"Souper Bowl of Caring"

Thanks to everyone who attended the "Souper" Bowl this year, with special thanks to our Soup Chefs! Our "Souper" Bowl raised \$81.00 for the Middletown Food Pantry.

Support the Middletown Food Pantry

Please help our church support the Middletown Food Pantry. Your donations of food, household products and money benefit our neighbors who are in need and donations are especially appreciated in winter months. Please give generously.

*"We judge ourselves by what we feel we are capable of doing,
while others judge us by what we have already done."*

--Henry Wadsworth Longfellow 1807 - 1882

We are Disciples of Christ,

A movement for wholeness in a fragmented world. As part of the one body of Christ, we welcome all to the Lord's Table as God has welcomed us.

• Disciples of Christ Statement of Identity



MARCH DATES TO REMEMBER:

- 1st** **World Day of Prayer**
- 3rd** **Annual Congregational Meeting – (Following Worship Service).**
- 4th** **Scrapbook Committee Meeting – 9:30 a.m.**
- 5th** **“Fat Tuesday” Pancake Supper – 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.**
- 6th** **Ash Wednesday**
CWF March Meeting – 1:00 p.m.
- 10th** **Daylight Savings Time begins – *Spring Forward!***
Church Board Meeting – (Following Coffee Fellowship).
- 16th** **Sixth Street Family Game Night - 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.**
- 17th** **Saint Patrick’s Day**

Message from Reverend Michelle Brown

Hello Sixth Street Christian Friends!

I wrote the following meditation in preparation for the February board meeting, and I thought I’d share it here as well. In Paul’s second letter to the Corinthian church, chapter 12, verse 9, he writes, “but [the Lord] said to me, ‘My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.’ So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me.”

In the previous verses, Paul wrote about the fact that he had been given this great revelation from God: that he had been caught up to the third heaven to hear words that were for his ears only. He must have felt on top of the world – quite literally! Yet then he wrote:

“Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated.”

He asked God to make this “thorn” leave him. I wonder if he thought it was keeping him from being as effective as he could have been without it. Yet he said he had been “given” to him for the purpose of keeping him from being too elated – too excited, too happy. Was God the giver of this thorn? Why wouldn’t God want Paul to feel elated? I think this part of his second letter to the Corinthian church is Paul’s answer to that question.

Earlier in the chapter, Paul talks about how he, of all people, had reason to boast – after all, he had been chosen by God, swooped up to Paradise, and listened as the Lord spoke directly to him. Who wouldn’t want to tell about that experience? But Paul also knew that to boast in that would make people concentrate on him and not God’s message through him. I think that’s why Paul thought he “was given” his thorny tormenter.

In the past, I have read this scripture and God’s response to Paul asking for the thorn to be removed, and thought, why would God make Paul suffer in order to show the power of Christ? I wonder now if Paul was trying to figure out the same thing. It’s a common belief that all things happen according to the will of God which leads to the assumption that God causes all things to happen – including great suffering – for some higher purpose. I think Paul believed this very strongly and wrote to the Corinthian church about why he thought that would be. His answer was that the power of Christ could only be shown through weakness.

I think about it differently. As I read Paul telling of his suffering and weakness, I see a man frustrated by his limitations and questioning God. The first part of God’s response to him was, “My grace is sufficient for you,” and what I hear is this, “Your

weakness will not stop what I am doing through you. You will do what you can, and it will be enough. My grace, through you, will be sufficient to my purpose.”

As a person with many weaknesses, I hear love in these words. I am comforted to know that even though I am weak, and stumbling, and imperfect, that these will in no way stop what God will do through me. I will do what I can, and it will be enough. What better way to show the power of Christ?