

# The VISITOR: Gramling United Methodist Church News – February 2012

14941 Asheville Highway, PO Box 58, Gramling, SC 29348 ~ 864-472-2551 ~ [newsletter@gramlingumc.org](mailto:newsletter@gramlingumc.org)

The Rules of Change: It's been said that the golden rule is, "He who has the gold, rules." Of course, Jesus has a better one: "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." Which rule of gold you follow is determined by which you subscribe to.

All too often, Christians live by the first while merely giving the last religious acknowledgment. We live by the one we believe is more realistic. What we believe is realistic is determined by our mental processes. If our mental processes lead us to question the words of Jesus, we must change our minds. But, what are the rules of change?

Paul writes, "And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind..." Sometimes we get caught with our mind showing itself for what it is; sometimes, quite embarrassingly. Have you ever said something, and then said, "I didn't mean that." Sometimes, but not all, what we mean is that we didn't mean for that to slip out. Sometimes, when our censors are caught off guard, we say and do exactly what we really

believe. Oops! At times such as these we must humbly confess that our minds are not as transformed as they should be. We are still a work in progress, with the emphasis on progress! Let us proceed from where we are to where we need to be. Thankfully, the rules of change are not that hard. What's hard are the distractions!

Get into the Bible. "Let this mind be in you that was also in Christ Jesus." "We have the mind of Christ." It's all there in black and white and red. When we actually believe that the rule of Jesus is better AND more practical than the worldly rule, our minds will be transformed. At that point, we won't need our censors. The light of God's word and the presence of the Holy Spirit will guard our hearts and minds, words and actions. What a liberating reality that can be!

Do we give ourselves to the Word, or to the distractions that keep us from it? "A mind is a terrible thing to waste." Let's let ours be transformed. - Ben

Youth Sunday! This Sunday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, the youth are taking over the worship service. Fun for them, fun for us! **And don't forget to bring your change** – this is also "Souper Bowl" Sunday where the youth collect donations for the local soup kitchen.

February 7<sup>th</sup>: Finance Committee, 6:30

February 12<sup>th</sup>: Church Council mtg 7pm



Ash Wednesday: February 22 marks the beginning of Lent. There will be a **service at 7 p.m.** in the Sanctuary, preceded by a **Personal Prayer Time from 6:30 to 7:00.** (No CFN supper or kids' choirs.)



Senior Appreciation Luncheon We are so thankful for our great group of seniors! Just after the worship service on **Sunday, February 26 the entire congregation can gather and treat the Seniors to lunch!** The "young'ns" will do all the cooking and bring plenty of potluck, while our senior members can just show up and enjoy! (Food Group #4)

Welcome New Member! We are happy to have had **Brenda Brown** join our roll on January 15, 2012.

"One in a Million" by Priscilla Shirer: This Bible Study started Monday January 30<sup>th</sup> and meets every two weeks. The book is \$15. **It's not too late to sign up!** Contact Sue Pruitt (415-1816).

Church Fellowship Night: Everyone come to the gym on Wednesdays to enjoy food and fellowship. A delicious meal is served at 6 p.m., (at no charge!) Choir activities will continue for children at 6:30.

## MYF February Calendar

**Feb 4 10:30** Youth Sunday practice in sanctuary

**Feb 5 9:30** Youth Sunday practice in sanctuary

**Feb 5 Youth Sunday and Souper Bowl Collection**

**Feb 5 6:00 p.m.** Super Bowl Party at the Weissenberger's! Bring your favorite snack and a 2-liter.

**Feb 10** Winter Jam! at Bi-Lo Center / **Feb 12** no MYF

**Feb 19 and 26:** Bible Study, Will & Catherine's 6pm

Interested in being a MYF "host family"? Have the youth over to your home one Sunday night for Bible study and/or other activity. The host would be responsible for a snack/dinner and participate in the activity with the group. A great chance for the more "seasoned" church members to get to know these remarkable young people, and for them to get to know you! If you are interested, contact Catherine ([cpgramling@yahoo.com](mailto:cpgramling@yahoo.com)).

wler, Charlene Turner (Pat Keadle's sister), Connie Powell (Lorna Burrell's sister-in-law), Rob Jurgensen (requested by Kenny Griswold), Pearl Alewine, (Cindy Gramling's grandmother), Steven Ruff, Maddy Davis, Brittany Hunter, & Doris Petty, (requested by Jo Willa Lopez), Billy Close, (requested by Carroll Campbell), Mac Dunbar, (requested by Laura Gramling), Bucky Bishop, Jake Taylor, Tyler Phillips, Kathy Bradey, Jeremiah Hinson, Noah Kimbrell, Courtney Trout, Tracy Turner, J.L. Fowler, Sally Hershberger, Angela Lanford, Betty Jean Campbell, Military Service Personnel, Emergency Medical Services, Fire Department, and Law Enforcement: M. Farroll Campbell Jr., Alex Kyzer, Drew Etheredge, Tyrone Edwards



**Request for Prayer Chain:** Call Faye Woodfin (472-8143) or Anne Carroll (472-9434).

**Assisted Living, Nursing Home Residents & Home-Bound:**

- h **Home:** Joyce Evington, Reba Dobbins, Merle Bradey, Barbara Runion, Jean Johnson, & Rebel Brackett
- h **Brookside Healthcare Burnsville NC:** Mollie Quinn
- h **Camp Care:** Corine Donahoo, Betty Pope, & Lucille Rippey
- h **10 Lesley Lane Pelzer SC 29669:** Don Hook
- h **Skylyn Place:** Jane Fisher

*Our deepest sympathy to the friends and family of those who recently passed away:*

**Virginia Hall,**  
*Andrew Clark, son of former pastor Dan Clark*  
*Helen Whiteside, former member who resided in Albany, Indiana.*

**Christian Sympathy:**



2 Jon Bell	8 Hugh Foster	13 Carson Condrey	20 Donna Jackson
2 Sydney Boice	9 Kendall Griswold	13 Diane Martin	23 Troy Gramling
4 Rev. Dr. Russell Goodwin	10 Edie Kirkland	16 Ty Granger	24 Anne Carroll
5 Laura Gramling	10 Lucy Crowley	17 Ava Martin	28 Caroline Dennis
6 Isabelle Nix	11 Bruce Woodfin	18 Peggy Dean	28 Corey Duncan
6 Jerry Wingo	12 Linda Allison	19 Rev. Don Hope	28 Jean Johnson
6 Wade Herlong	12 Tim Pope		

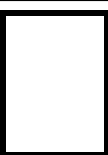
**GUMC Food Pantry:** We collect food every Sunday for our food pantry. Please bring items and leave them in the Narthex. Bags are packed to help families in our church as well as Operation Hope in Landrum.



**Bags of Kindness:** As part of the Gifts-in-Kind program, we have access to household items from paper goods to bed comforters and more. We then can deliver bags of helpful items to "shut-in" members and our Mobile Meals route once a month. If you or someone you know needs a bag, contact Will or Catherine Gramling or the church office.

Join us Sundays! > Sunday School: 10 a.m. > Worship Service: 11 a.m.  
 Wednesdays: Church Fellowship Night: ~6 p.m. supper ~6:30 kids' choirs ~Adult Choir 7 p.m.

**Gramling United Methodist Church**  
 PO Box 58  
 Gramling, SC 29348  
 Address Service Requested



*Rev. Ben Herlong, Pastor*

( want electronic copy only? e-mail [newsletter@gramlingumc.com](mailto:newsletter@gramlingumc.com) )