

# The PRESSbyterian

February 2010

## Dates to Remember

Feb. 7: Souper Bowl of Caring  
Feb. 14: Congregational Meeting  
Corporation Meeting  
Feb. 16: Prime Time Lunch  
Feb. 17: Ash Wednesday Service  
Mar 19-20: Church Retreat  
April 4: Easter

## From the Pastor

**Romans 8:38 - 39** For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Dear Friends,

As we move into February, everyone is aware that Valentines Day is right around the corner. It is the day of love. It is the day where we celebrate that we are loved and that we love others. It is a day of joy and festivity as we remember our loved ones.

As we approach this secular holiday, let us remember that no matter your station in life, no matter what tragedy or crisis is upon you, no matter how unworthy you feel, those who have been claimed by Christ and are in Christ are loved. One of the greatest passages in the Bible is Romans 8:38-39. It states, "For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

This can be a difficult verse for many. Although we may mentally assent to this verse, that Jesus Christ does love us, the truth is that our hearts may tell us a much different story. We are flooded with the images and things that we have done in the past, the lack of prayer and study we may have, or the problems in our lives that we just cannot shake. These things have a way of reminding us that we are not good enough or that we will ever be. They may make us think that we need to "clean ourselves up" before we are able to be loved by God.

The problem with this kind of thinking is that we are applying a human understanding of love to God. Humanity tells us that if we love and develop a relationship with someone and they continue to fail us, then after so many let-downs, we should give up on that person. It is easy to apply this human understanding to a relationship with God. But the gospel message proclaims a much different message. It claims that God loves with a divine love, not a human understanding of love. That means that God, because He is God, is able to love us despite all the wrong we do. That is grace. It came in the form of Jesus Christ who died on the cross taking away all the failings of our past, present and future. He did it because He loves us and that love can never be taken away. God's love is better, stronger and more durable than any human love. It is a love in which nothing can separate us from him, especially the things we do.

If you approach Valentines Day feeling unloved, remember, God loves **you** and nothing **we** do can take that away. That should make every day a Valentines Day for the Christian.

In Christ,

Jud

Church Office  
534-0088

Church/Fellowship Hall  
533-1235

Congregational Care  
534-0041

Presbyterian Centre  
534-1353

FAX  
534-1242

# Help For Those on the Front Lines!

## New Guinea! Africa! Mexico! Central Asia! Central America! Peru!

The 2009 Faith Promise Pledge response fell far short of our \$40,000 commitment and it was the gift of unpledged Faith Promise contributions that allowed us to support fully: Jeffrey and Sissy D'Jernes - New Guinea; Dr. Sue Makin - Malawi, Africa; Don and Martha Wehmeyer - Mexico; Dr and Mrs. Salvador de la Torre - Kenya, Africa; Ron and Betsy Manila - Central Asia; Medical Missions - Central America; Good Shepherd Hospital - Congo, Africa; Amazon Medical Mission - Amazon River, Peru, through Faith Promise.

Jesus calls us to serve and help those in all facets of need whether it is sharing the word, providing Bibles, medical help, clean water, or shelter during turmoil. 2 Corinthians chapter 8 offers encouragement to give generously:

8:1 We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia, 2 for in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. 3 For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own accord, 4 begging us earnestly for the favor of taking part in the relief of the saints— 5 and this, not as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us. 6 Accordingly, we urged Titus that as he had started, so he should complete among you this act of grace. 7 But as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all earnestness, and in our love for you—see that you excel in this act of grace also.

Our **FAITH PROMISE 2010** pledge year will begin March 2010 and you will be receiving important information about how you can be involved this year sending help to our missionaries on the front lines. We ask that you give this prayerful consideration and answer the call to go over and above in support of our Faith Promise missionaries.

## Healing Music II

On Sunday afternoon, February 14, Sylvia Trimmier and friends will present a concert in our sanctuary to benefit Orangeburg County Relay for Life. The 4:00 p.m. concert will feature the "Little" *Fugue in G Minor* by Bach and *Carillon de Westminster* by Vierne for organ, and *Brahms Intermezzo in A Major, Op. 118, No. 2* for piano. Arrangements of favorite hymns by contemporary composers will also be presented.

Soprano Eden Graves will sing songs made popular by Amy Grant and Mandy Moore. She will be accompanied by cellist Bryan Gibson, formerly with the band INine, who grew up in Orangeburg and now resides in Atlanta.

An offering to benefit the American Cancer Society will be received at the conclusion of the concert. A reception provided by the Orangeburg Country Club will follow the concert in the Presbyterian Centre.

Sylvia Trimmier

## Prime Time Lunch



**Tuesday, February 16**  
12:00 noon - Centre

Come join your friends for delicious food and great fellowship.  
Reservations: 534-0088

## Sanctuary Flowers

Several Sundays are open on the 2010 flower calendar. If you would like to place flowers in the sanctuary on one of these days, please call Katherine Patterson (536-5340).

April 11	August 29
April 18	September 12
June 13	October 10
July 25	October 31

## G.T.F.

Elective classes detailed in the January 2010 newsletter continue through April, except for selected Wednesday nights when everyone comes together for fellowship and celebration of important events.

- February 3** Choose between NOOMA, ALPHA, or Faith Lessons Courses
- February 10** *Valentines Celebration*  
*Honoring 80 year old and plus members*
- February 17** *Ash Wed Service*  
*Gathering of several churches in the Community - held at First Pres*
- February 24** Choose between NOOMA, ALPHA, or Faith Lessons Courses

## “Souper” Bowl Sunday

### February 7, 2010

### Soup, Chili, and Cornbread

*Immediately following Worship*

There is no set charge for the meal, but donations will be accepted. All donations will benefit *Meals on Wheels*.



If you would like to volunteer to bring tea or dessert, please let Ann Edwards (531-3943) or Phyllis Buie (516-0701) know as quickly as possible.

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## From Advent to Easter

During Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany, you were given information to help you prepare for the remembrances of Jesus' birth and His second coming. Soon, we will be in the Lenten Season preparing for the remembrances of Christ's death and resurrection. There are at least two questions we need to ponder and answer during this time.

- ❖ In Luke 9:18-20, Jesus asked his disciples, “Who do you say I am?” We know Peter's answer. How would you answer Jesus if he asked you this questions?
- ❖ And secondly, Why am I here? What is God's plan for me?

The *Family Nurture Team* is busily preparing information and activities for each household and other Christian education teams have selected literature for you for Lent. It is our prayer that you will use the material to help you answer the above questions and draw nearer to God. We are asking you to spend a little more time with God and to make this a family time. How can we expect different results if we do not change our actions?

Let's intentionally, individually, and as a family, spend more time with God during Lent. Maybe by Easer this time will have become a “normal” part of our lives! We have nothing to lose and everything to gain.

Kaye Borgstedt,  
CE Coordinator

P.S. Come to GTF on February 17 and find out why we are collecting egg cartons.

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## Save the Date!



## Church Retreat

**March 19-21, 2010**

Buckridge Plantation and  
Presbyterian Centre  
Activities for all ages.

Guests: Olin and Ruth Ann Whitener

Watch for more information coming soon.

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## Youth and Children's Director Search Team Update

The search team is in the interview process. We appreciate your continued prayer support.

# Our Father's Closet

The ladies of Circle One would like to thank all those who have donated coats to our coat ministry this year. In November 2009 we distributed over 225 coats to local schools and agencies in Orangeburg! As always we would like to thank Mr. Robert Bruner of *One Hour Martinizing* for graciously cleaning the coats we have collected.

We continue to collect coats throughout the year. Please help spread the word to your friends and relatives outside First Presbyterian of our ministry and help us with our coat collection. A box is located in the Fellowship Hall for dropping off your donations. Coats should be in good condition and can be for children or adults.

Circle One has received many notes of thanks from the community and we would like to share one with you from Mellichamp School:

*Dear Circle One,  
Bless you and First Presbyterian for the generous supply of children's coats this year. We are so grateful to have them. This year we have seen such financial hardship facing our families so the mission of Our Father's Closet is extra special to us. Once again, First Presbyterian is making a Christian impression on our school and we are so thankful.*

*God bless you.  
Angela Burroughs,  
Mellichamp Elementary School*

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# United in Marriage

Loez Kuck, III  
and  
Gina Goodwin  
January 16, 2010

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# Community of Character

February Trait: Respect

# Outreach Opportunities

## Local Service Opportunity

Carpenters for Christ is scheduling wheelchair ramps for the upcoming months. These ramps are built for people who need a ramp but cannot afford one. Here is your chance to do some local mission work! Call Preston Walter at 803-539-5886 for more information.



## PW Local Mission Reminder

During the months of January and February Presbyterian Women are asking for school and craft supplies for Three Crosses Outreach. The box for the supplies is under the table in the Centre Lobby.



## Math Volunteers Needed

Do you have some hidden talents??? If so – Sheridan Elementary is looking for you!

We are in need of people who would be interested in coming to volunteer with a group of 3-4 children twice a week for 45 minutes in the area of math. Nothing too difficult, it's only grades 1-5 ☺.

If you or someone you know might enjoy doing this, please contact Stacey Walter @ 531-5099.

# Welcome New Members

Mrs. Terri Rash  
1286 Dogwood Drive  
Orangeburg, SC 29118

Mr. and Mrs. Larry (Joyce) Wannamaker  
1015 Sharon Church Road  
Swansea, SC 29160



## Moments for Missions

### Thanks for 35 years of support

First Presbyterian Church supports Dr. Sue Makin in Malawi and Dr. and Mrs. Salvador de la Torre in Kenya as well as Good Shepherd Hospital in DR Congo through the *Medical Benevolence Foundation*.

In response to our latest support, the director of MBF wrote, "Thank you for 35 years of partnership for medical missions. In those years you as a church have donated \$145,398.10! We are very grateful!"



First Presbyterian Church has long been a mission oriented church reaching out to those in need with gifts of compassion, hope, healing and witness - all in the name of God's love given to us in Jesus.

Becky Smith

## Loving Our Neighbor

The Livingston family lives in the house adjacent to the Centre. We have helped them individually and as a church body through some of the hardships they have faced in the past few months. Even though they are still in financial need, they have expressed their appreciation in a letter addressed to the entire church body.

To: First Presbyterian Church

We would not have been able to get out of the most difficult times if you were not there with us providing all the love, care, and the support. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Love always,  
Roland Livingston and family

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## Notes of Thanks

- Yesterday, as I received my last chemo treatment, I was thinking how wonderful the members of First Presbyterian Church have been to our family during my illness. We want to thank you all for all the prayers, concerns, visits, phone calls, cards, food and gifts. May God bless each of you.

Sincerely,  
Cheryl Baugh

- Dear Church Family,  
Many thanks for the beautifully flowers, the delicious food and especially the prayers during my recent illness.

Sincerely,  
Gladys Byers

- Thank you for your prayers, cards, and food during my brief stay in the hospital and recovery at home. It is comforting to know that you are a part of such a loving and caring family. Thanks again.

Shirley Meredith

- To our First Presbyterian Church Family,  
At times, it is difficult being so far away from our "blood family," who are scattered from Texas, to Florida, to Georgia, to Pennsylvania, to Ohio, and West Virginia. When misfortune strikes, as it did to us on December 12, 2009, that separation becomes even more acute. But what

a wonderful feeling it is to realize that you are surrounded by a living and caring Christian Family at First Church. We have been over whelmed by the almost endless outpouring of prayers, cards, food and offers of every type of support and assistance from a basket of fruit to transportation. We were even blessed with a private performance of our Adult Choir under the direction of Sylvia Trimmer. Rather than risk missing naming someone's thoughtfulness, I wanted to address this to the Church Directory, but I was told that would require a special supplement to *The PRESSbyterian*.

We can assure you that God has heard your prayers and has caused me to heal quite rapidly, as only HE can do.

God's Grace and Peace to each one of you,  
Lee and Judy Shroads

- Dear Church Family,  
Words cannot possibly express the overwhelming love and support that Jimmy and I have felt during my surgery and recovery. Your care, concern, cards, and food have made my healing progress faster than we thought possible. Thank you for being such a blessing to us. We thank God daily that we are members of First Presbyterian.

Susan Smoak

# Youth Corner

In January, youth at First Presbyterian enjoyed kicking off our youth events for the winter. The Junior Highs had a fantastic lock-in - we pretty much stayed up and fellow-shipped with one another all night. We enjoyed Chick-fila at the mall, glow bowling, movies, games, and a devotional that took place at 2 A.M about judging others. In addition to planning our Youth Sunday service we have been going through the NOOMA curriculum. We've talked about making a difference in the world using the time God has given us and how to remember that God always has our back during the storms of our lives. Youth also enjoyed a little friendly competition as we brushed up on our Bible knowledge by playing Bible Jeopardy. Our weekly youth GTF Bible lessons started out as we talked about how we can defend our faith as well as something that is hard for most Christians to do - share their faith. In February we will start a new Bible study entitled, "Minor Prophets, Major Message." We will look at some of the not so well known prophets in the Old Testament and discover how God used them to get His message out.

We have a lot to look forward to during February as well. Along with our regular Sunday night meetings we will have our special Youth Sunday service, Super Bowl party, ski trip, and much more.

Look forward to seeing you at youth soon!

Amanda Maguire

# Sunday School News

## Thanks For Your Support!

The ASAP (A Savior As Promised) 9th - 12th grade class would like to thank church members for supporting the renovation project of its classroom by purchasing the Christmas ornaments in December. All 100 ornaments were sold! The class is continuing its project with plans to stain the newly installed bar, finish it with a nice, shiny countertop and purchase bar stools. We hope you enjoyed the new addition to your Christmas tree this year! May you know the peace of God through the Savior's love throughout the new year!

Harris Murray

## Busy Bees - 5th and 6th Grade Class

Thank you for attending your Sunday School Class and special thanks to those parents who faithfully bring their children to Sunday School.

Our elected officers are as follows.

- President ..... Donna Roberts
- Vice President ..... Morgan Clark
- Treasurer ..... Sarah Paige Bozardt
- Secretary ..... Riley Frierson
- Assistant Secretary ..... Adison Walter

Vic Meredith

# Memorials

## Given in memory of:

- |                   |                  |                 |               |                 |
|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Bob Harrison      | Grace Harrison   | Joe Nagle       | J. C. Pace    | Dree Pace       |
| Richard McCormick | Leslie McCormick | L. S. McCormick | Mary Williams | Grady Patterson |
|                   | Bill Davis       | Frances Willard | Drake Johnson |                 |

## Given by:

- |                                       |                              |                                  |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Mrs. Madeline Salley                  | Dr. and Mrs. Lawton Salley   | Mr. and Mrs. Frank Farnum        |
| Mr. and Mrs. Charles Felkel, Jr.      | Mrs. Ruth McCormick          | Jean F. Sandel                   |
| Dr. and Mrs. Randolph Smoak, Jr.      | Andy and Stacy Nix           | Mrs. Audrey Pace                 |
| Mrs. Clara Robinson                   | Mrs. Geraldine Zimmerman     | Mrs. Elizabeth Davis             |
| Mrs. Jewell Booth                     | Mr. and Mrs. John Baugh      | Dr. Vivian Porter                |
| Mr. and Mrs. W. N. Thomas             | Mr. and Mrs. Billy Kelley    | Mrs. Mary Catherine Horger       |
| Brickleymer, Smolker and Bolves, P.A. | Mr. and Mrs. Dwight Frierson | Dr. and Mrs. Leland Cropper, Jr. |
| Dr. and Mrs. Steven Patterson         | Ms. Pauline Gramling         | Hoe 'n Hope Garden Club          |
| Rob and Susan Johnson and Terry Hoke  | Mrs. Helen Culler            |                                  |

# Presbyterian Women

Dear Readers,

Just a short column this month, OK?

Don't forget Saturday, March 13, 2010:

**Charleston Atlantic Presbytery  
PW Gathering**  
at Palmetto Presbyterian  
in Mount Pleasant.  
Save the date and plan to go!!



The Birthday Offering in the Spring is an exception, for we do bring cash and/or checks to that but the total, again, is determined by you rather than being budgeted. The same is true for our Thornwell child's allowance money.

## MISSION PROJECT FOR JANUARY/FEBRUARY

School supplies and craft supplies for Child Evangelism Fellowship and Three Crosses Outreach; box is under the table in the Centre entrance hall **OR** bring to Circle meeting.

Is there anything anybody wants written about or do you have questions you want me to try to find answers to? Let me know.

More later,  
*Dina*

## FYI FEATURE OF THE MONTH

More about our contributions/gift giving as we promised last time. The items that are included in your yearly budget that we did not refer to last time are:

- ❖ The Presbyterian Home Endowment; and
- ❖ Our Newborns.

We also have designated funds for "Local Missions." I think I have explained the difference between "Missions" (directly related to projects as recommended by the Churchwide/Presbytery PW) and "Local Missions" (those within our own area which we decide on ala our Coordinating Team). Now, you may wonder why we ask for contributions to be brought to Circle meetings when we also designate funds in our budget?

Well, there are at least two reasons:

- ❖ The budgeted amount is money that goes toward a decided-upon local mission and is a limited amount of \$100;
- ❖ We usually bring gifts-in-kind to our Circles to go specifically to a selected variety of projects, the value of which is determined by you as individuals and which then totals an indefinite amount.



## **February Circle Schedule**

- Circle 1:** Tues., February 9 11:30 a.m. Presbyterian Centre
- Circle 2:** Tues., February 9 10:00 a.m. Conference Room Presbyterian Centre
- Circle 3:** Tues., February 9 6:00 p.m. Emilie Sanders 351 Brookside
- Circle 4:** Tues., February 9 7:00 p.m. Jeneal Huddleston 1012 Sheffield Dr.

## **Children's Church and Nursery Schedules**

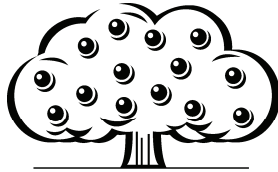
	<b>Nursery</b>	<b>Two-to-Four Year-Olds</b>	<b>Children's Church</b>
February 7	Lessie Gayle Dickson	Chris and Debbie Gramling	Robbie and Tracy Myers Erin Buie Kate Edwards
February 14	Sarah Coggins	Kim and Ken Panitt	Ben and Karen Davis
February 21	Maggie Robertson	Tripp and Melissa Plummer	Bill and Cindy Clark
February 28	Cindy Clark	Ann and Kate Edwards	Dee Anne and Logan Miller

**First Presbyterian Church**  
650 Summers Avenue  
Orangeburg, SC 29115

**Return Service Requested**

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Orangeburg, SC

**Permit No. 401**



And may the Lord  
make you increase  
and abound in love  
for one another  
and for all ...

1 Thessalonians 3:12

February 2010

## February Birthdays

2/01 Stuart Dudley	2/15 Betts Marsch
2/02 Wallace Mims	Harry Ulmer
2/03 Margaret Barnwell	Ann Williams
Rebecca Shirer	Michael Borgstedt
2/06 Theresa Bramblett	2/16 Ewart Irick
Matt Coggins	Laura Irick
2/07 Mandy Mims	2/17 Douglas Hollingsworth
2/08 Jewell Booth	2/18 Thomas Cook
Jud Jordan	2/19 Vic Meredith
Morgan Clark	Brady Johnson
Benjamin Journey	Emory Myers
2/09 Kristen Minnich	2/20 Jack Dudley
2/10 Jack Johnson	2/22 Cassie Nance
Brian Barnwell	2/23 Lawton Salley
2/11 Elly Welsh	Edwin Smoak
2/12 Ted Byers	2/24 Janet Fogle
Katalin Bramblett	Tiffany Hunter
Nathan Welsh	2/25 Steven Carr
2/13 Allison Nagle	2/26 Landon Gramling
Phillip Buie	2/27 Will Irick
2/14 Pam Clayton	2/28 Jeneal Huddleston
Hillary Thackston	Richard Garick