

# The PRESSbyterian

February 2011

## Dates to Remember

- February 6:** Souper Bowl of Caring  
**February 15:** Joint Meeting of  
Diaconate and Session  
**February 15:** Primetimer Lunch  
**March 6:** Sunday School  
Breakfast  
**April 17:** Palm Sunday  
**April 24:** Easter

## From the Pastor

Friends,

I am always in awe of God when I see Him working. I am constantly reminded that the God we serve is not distant and removed from humanity but one that is always working in the life of His creation. I saw Him work in a mighty way December 30-31, 2010. We talked about this at GTF but it is of such note that I want to highlight God's action again.

As Lynn Axson, our financial secretary, was "closing the books" for 2010, we watched three major financial actions occur. First, the Centre debt went from roughly \$39,000 to \$0. The Centre contributions rolled in from you, the members of First Presbyterian. Second, at the beginning of December we had a \$38,000 shortfall. By the end of the year we had a surplus of \$478.00. Third, we received a special, undesignated gift of \$90,678.28 from Mrs. Barbara Merchant, a faithful member of this church, who passed in 1998. Upon her passing she established a trust fund. It took 12 years for the trust to execute. What made this special, unsolicited gift so awe inspiring is that the Session began discussion just two months prior about purchasing the house next to the church office. The house was available for \$90,500. This special gift was the right amount and was received at the right time. So within 48 hours, we watched this church pay off the Centre, cover all 2010 expenses and have the ability to purchase a house without going into debt. Some have said we were lucky. Many have implied it was coincidence. I know this – I have been in ministry long enough to have seen that God makes things happen for a reason. Let us always remember that Christians have a different word for coincidence. That word is "providence." Providence declares that nothing happens arbitrarily but that God acts in our lives guiding us toward His intended purpose.

Jesus says in Luke 12:48, "From everyone who has been given much, much will be required." Remember Jesus' words as we recognize the financial blessings bestowed upon us. I believe we have been given much and therefore much will be required. Speaking specifically to the purchase of the house, I believe we received the \$90,678 for a reason. Although the Session has not specifically discerned its use yet, its uses are limitless. One use the Session has agreed upon is to "nest" a Hispanic congregation, an outreach ministry of Charleston Atlantic Presbytery. Currently our evangelism team is coordinating with Pastor Henry Alferro, a Hispanic minister. Pastor Henry needs space so his small, but growing, number can conduct Bible studies, Christian education classes and a worship service. This will be on Saturday evenings. The house is perfect for this launch, literally being a "house church," because it offers an intimate space and will not infringe on any of our current activities. The house also will be used for classroom space, meetings and various other activities.

I am proud of what God has accomplished through us. I am proud that God is continually using this church to help others. I am excited about what God has in store for us, now that we are debt free. I look forward to how God will now use the blessings He has provided. As we look to these new things, let us always remember "to whom much is given, much will be required."

In Christ,  
Jud

Church Office  
Congregational Care  
Prayer Chain  
534-0088

Church/Fellowship Hall  
533-1235

FAX  
534-1242

[www.1stpresbyterian.org](http://www.1stpresbyterian.org)



Growing Through Fellowship  
First Presbyterian Church, Orangeburg, SC

Discover how the early Christian church, on fire with the message of Jesus, literally changed the world. Filmed on location in Israel and Turkey, *Faith Lessons* is a unique video series that brings God's Word to life with astounding relevance. By weaving together the Bible's fascinating historical, cultural, religious, and geographical context, teacher and historian Ray Vander Laan reveals keen insights into Scripture's significance for modern believers. These illuminating "faith lessons" afford a new understanding of the Bible that will ground your convictions and transform your life.

- Feb. 2** Faith Lessons – Where Satan Lives  
**Feb. 9** Faith Lessons – The Mark of the Beast  
**Feb. 16** Valentine's Day Special Program/Dinner  
**Feb. 23** Faith Lessons – Hot or Cold

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## "Souper" Bowl Sunday

### February 6, 2011



**Chili Lunch in the Centre**  
*Immediately following Worship*

There is no set charge for the meal, but donations will be accepted to feed the hungry in our community.

## Waiting

Have you ever been sitting in the sanctuary when the bells are waiting on the table? They are flat and positioned in such a way that all you can see is the inside--not a very pretty sight. The sun shining or the light on makes them look a little better but all you see is dark space and an inert clapper. The bells are waiting to serve their purpose of making beautiful music. Each has its own note and place but needs a "ringer." When they are picked up by human hands and played, we hear beautiful music. The director has selected the compositions and musicians have been taught and have practiced. We, then, hear the results. The bells have changed. They are no longer empty but are serving the purpose for which they were created.

Aren't we like those bells until Jesus fills us? We were made in His image and created for His purpose. We are empty without Jesus---just waiting to be filled by the Holy Spirit. Then and only then can we follow the plan He has for us.

Are we waiting for another Advent season to worship a baby or a Lenten season to prepare our hearts for remembering His walk to the cross and resurrection? Like the musicians ringing the bells, we need to spend time in "practice" with constant prayer, Bible study, worship and with an open heart/mind to hear what Jesus wants of us today. Then, individually and corporately, we can be the witnesses and servers we were designed to be. Why wait?

**NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS:** A new class is meeting in the room next door to the Salt Shaker class. DeeAnn Miller and Cathy Jordan are facilitating this class. If you are looking for a class, please join them on Sunday mornings at 9:45. They will begin with a 6-week study of Romans 12.

**REVIVAL 2011:** It is time now to start planning for our fall revival. If you are interested in being on the planning team, please let Kaye Borgstedt know (534-0088 ext. 108).

**INTERGENERATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL and BREAKFAST:** Our next event is scheduled for March 6 in the Centre at 9:45. The Presbyterian Players will present our lesson. Stay tuned for more information.

**CHALLENGE:** Continue to take your Bible to Sunday School and Worship. Learn and be able to find the next 10 books of the Bible--1st Kings through Proverbs.

**THOUGHTS for the Month:** Pledge to keep your eyes open for all the reminders of God's presence--a hug, a sunset, a visitor, etc. Ask yourself, "What does the way I am spending my time have to do with Jesus?"

Kaye Borgstedt

## Youth Update

The youth of First Presbyterian were busy during the month of January. On January 8, we held our first fundraiser yard sale. We could not have done it without the hard work of our youth and parent volunteers. Also, thank you for all of the donations from our church members. With everyone's help, we were able to raise over \$1800! Over \$450 will be donated to the Connie Maxwell Children's Home, and over \$450 will be kept in the youth group to be used for special projects. Over \$900 was raised to defray the cost of the mission trip for the youth who participated in the sale. On January 30, the youth visited the Connie Maxwell Home and presented the check. We also took a tour of the home and learned more about it and also learned more about the children that live there. We are planning to go back in the spring and complete a service project.

- ❖ The \$50 deposit for the **YOUTH MISSION TRIP** (July 10-15) is due on February 2. The total for the trip is \$275, and the balance will be due on April 6. After I have received deposits, I will let the yard sale participants know how much money they can deduct from their trip. The youth will be selling stock to fundraise for their mission trip; please consider supporting them on their trip. This summer we will be participating in the CROSS Mission through Myers Park Presbyterian Church in Charlotte. Please visit their website to learn more details about CROSS.

<http://www.myersparkpres.org/www/docs/10714>

- ❖ On February 6, the youth will be raising money for the **SOUPER BOWL OF CARING** through a chili lunch. We are asking for a donation for the lunch, and all money received will go to feed hungry people in our area. Last year we raised \$1337, and I know we can raise even more this year. We are asking church members to donate canned goods, too. Youth will be collecting them after church in front of the sanctuary, in the parlor, and in the Centre. There will also be boxes for canned goods in the Fellowship Hall and the Centre the week of January 30-February 6.
- ❖ On February 25-27, the youth will be going to Winterplace, WV, for their **ANNUAL SKI TRIP**. This year, we have nearly thirty youth and adults participating in the trip. Please pray for them to have a safe journey and a fun time fellowshiping with one another.

### Upcoming Youth Dates

- |                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| <b>February 2</b>     | Mission trip \$50 deposit due.   |
| <b>February 6</b>     | <i>Souper Bowl of Caring</i> chili lunch and canned good drive (after 11:00 worship)<br><i>Youth Super Bowl</i> party (6:00 in the Centre). Bring your favorite food to share. |
| <b>February 25-27</b> | Youth ski trip   |

Sarah Coggins

## Prime Time Lunch



**Tuesday, February 15**  
12:00 noon - Centre

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

## Sunday Greeters

Many church members have recently mentioned how they remember being asked to serve as a Sunday Greeter and being stationed at the front entrance on a Sunday morning to greet the congregation as they arrived and how they enjoyed doing this and seeing so many friends and finding new ones. The Evangelism



Unit wants to reestablish this Sunday Morning Greeter program. Starting this month we will have members serve as Greeters at the front door so be ready to say "Hi" to an old friend or introduce yourself to a new one when you come to church.

## News from the Nursery: 0-4 year olds

Thanks to Sarah Coggins for taking over the scheduling for the Infant/Toddler rooms and 2-4 year old room. It has been a great help to Melissa Plummer, Tracy Myers, and Jennifer Turner. If you are interested in becoming a part of our team, please let us know. If you are not able to be on our team, but you would like to help - it would be a tremendous help if you could donate any of the following items: snacks and juice, paper, crayons, markers, wipes, hand soap, hand sanitizer, disposable changing pads, tissue, paper towels, diapers, disinfecting wipes, and gently used or new toys. Any donations would be appreciated by our youngest members. Thanks!

Jennifer Turner

## Note of Thanks

Dear First Presbyterian,

Thank you so much for remembering me and my family after the recent death of my father. The cards, prayers, food and expressions of sympathy reminded me and my family of the special people at First Presbyterian. Thank you again for being a loving church.

John O. Hutto

## Presbyterian Women

**CIRCLE 3** will be collecting school supplies and craft supplies for Child Evangelism Fellowship and Three Crosses Outreach. There is a box in the lobby of the Centre for these items.



### CIRCLE SCHEDULE-FEBRUARY 8

<b>Circle 1:</b>	11:30 a.m.	Presbyterian Centre
<b>Circle 2:</b>	10:00 a.m.	Conference Room Presbyterian Centre
<b>Circle 3:</b>	6:00 p.m.	Jane Shuler 250 Keitt
<b>Circle 4:</b>	7:00 p.m.	Jeneal Huddleston 1012 Sheffield

## February Birthdays

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

## Needed ...

Sunday School classes are in need of a TV/DVD/VCR for some of our classrooms. If you feel called to donate, used or new, please call 534-0088, ext. 108. Thank you.

Kaye Borgstedt

## Community of Character

February Trait: Self-Respect



**FOR ALL AGES – YOUNG AND OLD, BOY OR GIRL, MAN OR WOMAN**

Will YOU be one of the first 200 First Presbyterian Church Congregation members to sign up for:

- FUN,**
- TRAVEL,**
- ADVENTURE,**
- EXOTIC PLACES,**
- INTERESTING PEOPLE**



Come join us as we form our party and you will become an active part of awesome opportunities, fantastic journeys, majestic tours, spellbinding conversation and a GREAT COMMISSION!!

Be prepared to apply soon as we are counting on YOU to GO WITH US!

Watch your mail and the bulletin for application details.

## Children's Church and Nursery Schedules

	Nursery	Two-to-Four Year-Olds	Children's Church
February 6	Virginia McCully	Dee Anne and Logan Miller	Craig and Bonnie Cook
February 13	Sandra Borgstedt	Peg and Abby Lee	Earl and Lillian Whalen
February 20	Erin Buie	Andy and Tiffany Hunter	Lawrence and Joni Thackston
February 27	Margaret Frierson	Robbie and Tracy Myers	Ben and Karen Davis

### Welcome to The Nursery!

**Cameron Taylor Gramling**

born December 23, 2010

son of

Mr. and Mrs. Chris (Debbie) Gramling

### The Sacrament of Baptism

was administered to

**Alexander Dixon Richardson**

son of

Mr. and Mrs. Robert (Erin) Richardson

on Sunday, January 16, 2011

## Save the Date

Vacation Bible School

June 6-10, 2011

# Memorials

## Given in memory of:

Mr. Joseph Nagle  
Mr. Rick Keeney  
Mr. Harold Clinge  
Mrs. Mary McConnell

Ms. Adina Allen  
Mr. Allen Dominick  
Mr. Robert Bruner

Mrs. Harriet Gillespie  
Mrs. Margaret Sanders  
Dr. Hugh Smith  
Mr. Ligon Hutto, Sr.

## Given by:

Mrs. Karen Schweizer-Nagle  
Mr. Keith Byers  
Dr. Henry Frierson  
Mrs. Elizabeth Davis  
Mrs. Jane Agnew  
Mr. and Mrs. John Adden, Jr.  
Mr. and Mrs. William Cox, Jr.  
Mr. and Mrs. C. David Biswell  
Joe and Penny Shell  
Mrs. Janet Whitaker  
Meredith Underwood  
Kim Gross  
Leah Shell  
Mrs. Jewell Booth  
Mr. Paul Miller  
Sandy and Caroline Bryant  
Joe E. Burns  
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Busby  
Dr. and Mrs. Jack Johnson

Mr. and Mrs. John Worley, Jr.  
Mrs. Gladys Byers  
Mr. and Mrs. Dwight Frierson  
Mr. and Mrs. J. William Douglas  
Dr. and Mrs. Marion Caughman  
Dr. Robert H. Belding  
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Felkel  
Mr. and Mrs. John A. Baugh, IV  
Mr. and Mrs. Harry Bryant  
Mr. and Mrs. William Wooten  
Stacey Van Valkenburgh  
Summer Vacarella  
Freddy and Carol Riley  
John and Jane Shuler  
Mr. and Mrs. Dane Murray  
Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Bull  
Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Tourville  
Bill and Cindy Rich  
Dr. and Mrs. Rocco Cassone

J. Boyd Chewning  
Mrs. Ruth McCormick  
Mr. and Mrs. Herb Bradley  
Mr. and Mrs. Bill Cuttino, Jr.  
Mr. and Mrs. Kurt von Besser  
Robin Campbell  
Dr. and Mrs. David Gillespie  
Emily and Brook Mallory  
Dr. and Mrs. J. R. Williamson  
Billy and JoAnn Kelly  
Charity Jones  
Natalie Covert  
Mrs. Frances Lytch  
Mr. and Mrs. John Windley  
Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Byrd  
Nan B. Cadenhead  
Mr. and Mrs. J. Ralph Culp  
Jerry and Lynda Denton

**First Presbyterian Church**

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February 2011