

# The PRESSbyterian

February 2012

## Dates to Remember

February 5: Souper Bowl of Caring  
February 21: Prime Time Lunch  
April 1: Palm Sunday  
April 8: Easter

## From the Pastor

**Luke 12:35-40** "Be dressed ready for service and keep your lamps burning, like men waiting for their master to return from a wedding banquet, so that when he comes and knocks they can immediately open the door for him. It will be good for those servants whose master finds them watching when he comes. I tell you the truth, he will dress himself to serve, will have them recline at the table and will come and wait on them. It will be good for those servants whose master finds them ready, even if he comes in the second or third watch of the night. But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him."

Jesus speaks these words to His disciples in order to proclaim a very important aspect of the Christian faith – being intentional with our faith walk in the present moment. We see this principle of present intentionality in everything we do. To have a retirement tomorrow, we need to intentionally save today. To complete a future project, we must intentionally plan out the steps and execute them today. Remembering that Jesus will return tomorrow means we need to intentionally prepare for that return today. We look to His return so that our present moments are shaped by growing deeper in our faith so when He does return, He finds us ready. Despite Jesus' instruction however, I will admit that I have found this a challenge at times. Intentionally conditioning our present moment outlook for His future return is not always easy. Perhaps these three observations from the above scripture will help.

First, we must notice that Jesus implies we are men and women waiting for their *master* to return. In ancient times, a master had many slaves that ran his household. A hierarchal relationship, not peer-to-peer relationship, was in effect. Let us accept that same relationship is in effect with God - we are the servants and God is our Master. Assuming that, we must acknowledge, not just give mental assent to, that everything we have is not ours, it is God's. All the resources that we typically and unconsciously think of as ours: our time, talents, skill, house, money, kids, grandkids, car, etc. are not ours, they are the Master's. We are simply slaves entrusted with the management of those resources. How they are used reflects on the Master. Slaves do not take undue liberties with the owner's property. We always use them with His interest in mind.

Second, Jesus claims the Master will return at any time, without a moment's notice. In ancient times it was not uncommon for the master of the house to go on a journey and put his servants in charge of his possessions. Because there was no mail system or phone, the servants did not know when the master would return home. He could return at anytime, day or night. This meant the servants must live in a constant state of preparedness so as not to be taken by surprise. If the master found his slave taking undue liberties with his possessions and not ready to do their job of waiting on him, it could bring repercussions like a severe beating and even death! In contrast, to be ready to wait on the master and give account for his household would be met with praise. Let us remember the hierarchal relationship and always be ready to receive our superior, at anytime and anyplace.

Church Office  
Congregational Care  
Prayer Chain  
534-0088

Church/Fellowship Hall  
533-1235

FAX  
534-1242

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

(continued on page 3)



Growing Through Fellowship  
First Presbyterian Church, Orangeburg, SC

February 1<sup>st</sup> **Darkness to Light**

Dr. Juliette Stoute-White

An introduction to this nationally acclaimed program that's mission is to empower people to prevent child sexual abuse. EVERY parent and grandparent should be aware of the prevalence and consequences of child sexual abuse. The Darkness to Light program educates adults about the steps they can take to prevent, recognize and react responsibly to the reality of child sexual abuse.

8<sup>th</sup> **Getting Healthier Together in the New Year**

Are you interested in a path to a healthier YOU??

Whether you are in perfect health, or maybe managing a medical condition, you will learn the benefits of healthy eating, physical activity, and stress management from Ramsey Makhuli, a professional health educator. This will be an informal and interactive program. Dress to MOVE!!

15<sup>th</sup> **Valentine's Day Dinner**

The congregation is invited to spend an evening together to celebrate Valentine's Day. This includes COUPLES, SINGLES, and YOUTH!!! We will have a special dinner and program you won't want to miss. Mark your calendars now!

22<sup>nd</sup> **Ash Wednesday Program / Service**

29<sup>th</sup> **Rev. Jud Jordan**

## Prime Time Lunch

Tuesday, February 21  
12:00 noon - Centre



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

## Youth

On January 13-16, 23 youth and 10 adults participated in Faith in 3D at Walt Disney World. This event was hosted by the PCUSA, the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. A few thousand youth from across the country attended this fantastic event. The theme was "Imagine, Create, Animate," and we participated in worship services that made the theme really come to life. We heard inspiring sermons from ministers representing each denomination. Worship music was provided by Lighthouse, which is a band of young people from Miami. Our group particularly enjoyed the dramas, which were performed by the Many Voices drama team.

We also spent time at Faith in 3D exploring other cultures during exploration activities at Epcot. And, since we were at Disney World, we of course made time for fun!

This trip was possible because of all of the support we received from our friends and family at First Presbyterian. Thank you all so much for buying doughnuts and coffee and participating in our lunch. Also, we really appreciate the many generous donations we received. This was an amazing youth trip, and I know the messages we received will stick with our young people.

## "Souper" Bowl Sunday February 5, 2012

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



On Sunday, February 5, 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 help to feed hungry people in our area. 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 29- February 5.

Sarah Coggins

## Sanctuary Flowers

If you wish to place flowers in the sanctuary on July 8 or December 30, please call Katherine Patterson (536-5340).

# Christian Education

Have you ever had your time planned out with a “to do” list? The list included what you needed to do, how and when---a plan of action if you will. The success of the plan depended on getting things done as planned and then, wham! An interruption. What to do? Fume, be frustrated, lose patience, ignore, etc. Think about Mary, the mother of Jesus. Her life was planned when an angel interrupted her plan and her very life. Moses had a plan and he got interrupted with a call from God. Paul was on the road with permission to murder Christians when Jesus, Himself, interrupted Paul’s plan. Each of these people and many more Biblical characters had their lives interrupted and what did they do? They, as you know, followed God’s plan and as Paul said, “The Lord can make our plans of no effect.” (Psalm 35: 10). So, can we look at the interruption in our “to do” list as opportunities from God? These interruptions could be God’s “to do” list for us as they were for Mary, Moses, Paul and others. Instead of frustration, anger, etc. when we are interrupted, let’s look for God’s purpose in the interruption.

Have you ever felt a nudge to visit someone, call someone or take some action and thought, I don’t have time for this now? So, you put it off and suddenly it was too late. I have. When my granddaddy was gravely ill in the hospital, one day I kept getting a nudge/feeling that I needed to visit him but I kept putting it off, saying, I’ll go after lunch. When I walked in after lunch, the bed was empty. He had died that very morning. I’ll never forget that feeling or my regrets. I wish I could say that ever after when I got such a feeling, I followed thru with the action but I can’t. I have gotten better but have still missed many opportunities that God gave me to work for Him. Maybe the interruptions mentioned above were opportunities from God. Opportunities I needed to do immediately instead of postponing. Maybe the feeling is a reminder of the importance of living every day as though it were our last. Do we need to act more quickly on the Holy Spirit’s nudge for us

to show God’s love and compassion to others? Should we act on the interruption with kindness, love, compassion and humbleness? As we look for God’s purpose in the interruption and for the nudge from the Holy Spirit, the big question is: What can we do today to make God smile?

What does growing deeper in our relationship with God look like? To me it means when someone looks at me and my behavior, instead of saying, you look/act like your (substitute a relative’s name here), they say they see God in me.

## Answer to last month’s question.

The 5 major sections in the Old Testament are: law, history, poetry/wisdom literature, Major Prophets and Minor Prophets.

## This month’s questions.

Who are the Major Prophets?

Who are the Minor Prophets?

What are the major categories in the New Testament?

## Challenge for 2012:

Take on one of the 6 endeavors (“I was hungry and you fed me. I was thirsty and you gave me drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me. I was sick and you took care of me. I was naked and you clothed me. I was in prison and you visited me.) that Jesus talks about in Matthew 25 and practice it for the year. See where God takes you and uses you. This endeavor will cause you to see some dark and desolate places and people. When this happens, respond in a Christ like manner and see how God responds in your life.

With Christian Love,  
Kaye Borgstedt

---

## From the Pastor

(continued from page 1)

Third, we must know the Master’s will. For the servant in ancient times to properly receive and best serve the master, he needed to know the Master’s particular tastes and proclivities. So do we. A servant that is going to excel is one that knows the mind of the Master. Know the Master’s will.

Jesus calls us to intentionally remember that we are stewards of God’s resources, that we must intentionally remain prepared for His return at any time and we must intentionally seek His will. When we intentionally pursue these things in order to shape our present outlook, let us be careful. Jesus may just show up on the door of your heart sooner than you think commanding us to get up and serve Him.

In Christ,  
Jud

## Welcome to The Nursery!

**Frank Tourville Sterling**

born October 4, 2011

son of

Mr. and Mrs. Jason (Courtney) Sterling



**Sophia Alana Kuek**

born December 27, 2011

daughter of

Mr. and Mrs. Lee (Gina) Kuek

## United in Marriage

**Daniel Felder**

and

**Ashley Goss**

October 15, 2011

## Presbyterian Women

### CIRCLE SCHEDULE-FEBRUARY 14

<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.	Sarah Porter Sanders 351 Brookside
<b>Circle 4:</b>	7:00 p.m.	Shirley Westbrook 1181 Huntington Dr.

## Note of Thanks

To the pastor and members of First Presbyterian Church:

Thank you for your prayers, cards and calls during and after our surgeries. Your concern is heartfelt.

We truly appreciate how you have welcomed us into your church family.

Yours in Christ,  
Ruth and Jim Harvey

## Prayer Ministry Opportunities

First Presbyterian has a number of opportunities for you to be a prayer warrior for our congregation and community. They are:

**Prayer chains.** We have an e-mail and a telephone prayer chain. For the e-mail chain, you will receive a prayer request on your e-mail at which time you would stop and pray. The telephone chain process is you will get a list of names and telephone numbers which you need to keep, along with a prayer notebook and pen, by your telephone. When you are called with a request, write the request exactly as given to you. Do not add any additional information. Then call the next person on the list and read them the request. You may leave the request on an answering machine but should call the next person on the list until you reach someone at home. Then pray fervently for the request and that God's perfect will be done. If you are interested in joining either of these groups, contact one of the coordinators below.

Leslie Robertson, 308-0404, [lovelace@mail.chem.sc.edu](mailto:lovelace@mail.chem.sc.edu)  
Earl Whalen, 533-6177, [ewhalen@orangeburgcounty.org](mailto:ewhalen@orangeburgcounty.org)  
Bob Crane, 534-1321, [craneb@orangeburg4.com](mailto:craneb@orangeburg4.com)

**Good News Club.** The children and volunteers who participate in the club we sponsor at Mellichamp make prayer requests which are sent to you by e-mail. You will get the child's first name only because of confidentiality requirements. These requests are to be kept strictly confidential and not discussed with anyone. You will get these requests from October through May. Contact: Geni Gillespie, 531-1321.

**Intercessors** meet year round on Thursday mornings in the Centre Conference Room from 9:30 until 10:15. The prayers are for concerns of the congregation and community. We pray aloud for each person and send them a note. This is also the group who receives confidential prayer requests which are not on the prayer chains or congregational care list and not shared with anyone. Contact: Kaye Borgstedt, 534-2585 or 534-0088, ext. 108.

**Monday Morning Prayer Group** meets in the sanctuary from 9:45-10:45. This is a focused prayer group praying specifically for our congregation, denomination, families and pastor. We pray separately and then meet for feedback and closing prayer. Contact: Kaye Borgstedt, 534-2585 or 534-0088, ext. 108.

Please prayerfully consider joining the FPC prayer warriors.

Kaye Borgstedt



# WANTED

Men, Women or Youth

**To assist with  
FPC Audio Visual  
needs!**

**Sanctuary & Center**

Contact Leslie Lovelace at  
[lovelace@chem.sc.edu](mailto:lovelace@chem.sc.edu)

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

**Return Service Requested**

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

**Permit No. 401**



February 2012

## Memorials

### Given in memory of:

Mr. Tommy Langford  
Mrs. Lessie Lee  
Mr. Bill Cuttino

### Given by:

Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Bryant	Mrs. Janet Whitaker
Mr. and Mrs. John A. Baugh, IV	Mrs. Frances Lytch
Dr. and Mrs. Lawton Salley	Mrs. Omega Clinge
Mr. and Mrs. Dwight Frierson	Mr. and Mrs. Jim Turner
Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Runager	Mrs. Allen Dominick
Mr. and Mrs. Dean Flansburg	Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Fogle
Mr. Harry T. Cone	Mr. Hubert Shuler, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Huddleston	Clyde and Des Burns
Burnsie Thomas	Floy S. Parris
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Harrison	Mrs. Martha Smith
Mrs. Margie Wannamaker	Mrs. Jewell Booth
John Knox Sunday School Class	

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