

The PRESSbyterian

July/August 2010

Dates to Remember

July 11: Communion
July 11-17: Youth Mission Trip
July 14: Summer GTF Cookout
August 2: Youth Mission Dinner
August 15: Wholeness and Healing
August 28: S.T.E.P.S.

Church Office
534-0088

Church/Fellowship Hall
533-1235

Congregational Care
534-0041

Presbyterian Centre
534-1353

FAX
534-1242

From the Pastor

Dear Friends,

The Holy Spirit is crucial to our spiritual growth and faith. If we are honest with ourselves, however, many of us would confess that we do not understand Him as well as we would like. For some, the Spirit may feel more like an abstract idea rather than a concrete, real person living inside of us. He may seem more like a distant, removed concept rather than the operating core of our faith. Why is this so?

Humans are created as relational beings and only truly thrive in some kind of relationship with another. These relationships are based on tangible and physical interactions where we get to know the personality and identity of the other person. We cannot, however, physically interact with the Spirit as we would our spouse or a friend. The Spirit is hard to imagine especially with a personality and identity. This point is proven when we look at religious art. Art history has provided numerous works depicting God the Father and Son. Two of the most prominent examples are God the Father with his outstretched finger on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel and Jesus sitting at the table with his disciples having the first communion. But the Holy Spirit? How many works of art have you seen illustrating God the Holy Spirit? He is hard to depict because we cannot put a face, personality or identity on Him. Images of the Spirit as fire, wind and water are surely evocative but they do not connote a personality or identity in which we can easily establish a relationship as we would a person. Perhaps not being able to mentally picture the face, identity and personality of the Spirit is why we sometimes find Him challenging. Perhaps this is why he is mysterious and hard to comprehend.

Maybe that is intentional. Perhaps the Holy Spirit intentionally remains unidentifiable and mysterious because He does not want to be restricted. If He were to have a face, character, identity or personality, like the Father and Son, we would expect Him to act and react a certain way. Take a loved one for example. Because you know their personality and likes and dislikes associated with their identity, you have learned how they are going to act or react in a given situation. You may find yourself being able to, on occasions, speak for them. You probably will even be able to answer the question posed to them by another before they answer. Who has not done that with their spouse at a party? But by remaining mysterious, the Holy Spirit frees himself. Suddenly we are not able to speak for Him. We are not able to answer questions how we think He might. We are not able to say He would react a certain way to a given situation like we would with a spouse. We are not able to place boundaries and restrictions upon Him and dismiss Him when he challenges our view of the world. By remaining mysterious, the Spirit is free from the mental limitations and stereotypes we would naturally place upon Him. When He is free from the stereotypes we place on Him, there are none to violate when he acts inconsistently with the way we think He should act. Perhaps He remains mysterious to truly help us live the first commandment, "You shall have no other gods before me," the gods being defined as those false images, stereotypes and expectations that we have of Him. Maybe He does not want us to fully understand Him because it forces us to rely on Him in faith. What do you think?

In Christ,
Jud

Summertime GTF

It's time for our Summer GTF Cookout!

Wednesday, July 14 ■ 6:00 p.m. ■ Centre



Join your friends for hamburgers, hotdogs, and an ice cream bar. The meal will be free but donations will be accepted. Please sign up by using forms found in the pew racks or by calling the church office (534-0088).

Fellowship Programs

July 21 - August 25

Join us from 6:00 until 7:00 p.m. for our summer Wednesday night fellowship programs scheduled for July 21 through August 25. Additional information will be printed each week in the bulletin..

Christian Education Corner

How much time each day/week do you spend just waiting in line? How do you use this time? Fuming? Doing nothing? Have you thought about using this time in a constructive manner? Use this opportunity to read, pray, and meditate. We may think we do not have time to just wait but the fact of the matter is, we all do a lot of it. So, let's be more concerned about what we do while we wait than about the actual waiting. Remember Isaiah 40:31, "Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength." Turning to God during these periods of waiting will refresh our inner selves. We know God is always present in our actions and in our quiet times so let's increase our strength as we rest in His presence. May our prayer be, *God, help us any time we have to wait, to wait with you. As we spend time with you, renew our strength. Amen.*

Make a list of all your worries and concerns. Put this list in your Bible as a symbol of giving them to God. Pray, read and study your Bible daily, remembering that spending time with God renews us in our daily walk. Then watch out, God is always using us.

Bible Quiz

1. Name two things God cannot do.
2. Which Psalm is the only one attributed to Moses?
3. How many one-chapter books are in the Bible?
4. Where is the shortest short story?

{Answers can be found on the back page.}

Children and Parents

Children through fifth grade meet in the Fellowship Hall at 9:45 on Sunday mornings for our summer Sunday School.

Sunday School Teachers and Youth Advisors

We will pay your registration fee to STEPS if we have your completed registration form by July 16. Information is in the church office, fellowship hall, and the Centre foyer.

Transportation via the church bus to STEPS in Mt. Pleasant will be provided if we have 15 people to sign up. Please call the church office (534-0088).

Calling All Members and Friends for Sunday, August 29, 2010.

Churchwide Breakfast: Meet in the Centre at 9:30 for food and fellowship and praising God.

Home Bible Studies

Several people are beginning home Bible studies in the fall. Stay tuned for more information.

Presbyterian Women

Dear Readers,

Your new **Coordinating Team** met on June 1st to review changes/additions to the 2010-2011 Handbook and to review our program for the coming year. New officers were listed for you in the June column and they are also listed every Sunday in the bulletin.



Our Fall Gathering

has been set for Tuesday, August 31st
at 6:00 p.m. in the Centre.

You will be advised a bit later about what to bring but mark that date down already! Again, we want to emphasize that all women are invited, as newer members of the congregation may not have heard the invitation before! Hold the date--watch for more info.

Again, the **Synod of South Atlantic** (our Synod) is having its every-third-year Gathering at Sea Island, Georgia, in October. I had hoped that brochures would be out by now but when they come in, copies will be made available on the display table in the Church Office. Keep a watch, OK?

FYI FEATURE OF THE MONTH

We want to call attention again to the Fellowship of the Least Coin, a year-long project that is spearheaded for us by Becky Smith. It is a new program for us and we want to keep it before you as we catch on to its importance.

A Christian woman from India, Shanti Solomon, thought of this in 1956. She was a member of an International Goodwill Mission to Korea which was sponsored by Presbyterian Women (Women of the Church then) in the USA. Shanti, a native of India, was denied entrance to

Korea because at that time India and Korea did not have diplomatic relations. The other women in the group went on to Korea at her urging but she remained in the Philippines and while she was there, she thought about the war-torn countries in Asia and all of the economic and national barriers that kept women apart. She wondered how women could unite and be a part of a mission for peace.

She thought about the Biblical widow and her mite and she imagined women from all over the world and from all economic levels joining in missions through prayer and the contribution of the least coin in their possession at that moment of prayer.

The idea caught on and now women from 80 (!) countries contribute. The amount from each country is kept secret (it's not to be a contest) and the money is disbursed by the International Committee of the Least Coin to selected Projects and Grants. Examples are the East Timor Women's Project and/or Ecumenical Organizations such as All Africa Conference of Churches.

In 2009 total block grants amounted to \$120,000 and total project grants amounted to \$141,000. See [Horizons](#), Nov/Dec 2009, pp16 and 17 for details. All you have to do is offer a prayer and the least coin in your pocket and you can forward this to Becky privately or you can have this contribution be a part of your Circle experience. Becky acts as our bookkeeper and she knows how to remit the funds to the appropriate office at the appropriate time! Remember, it is voluntary but it is also powerful.

Since this is a two-month column, have a cool-as-you-can Summer and we'll talk again in September!

More later,
Dina

Service of Wholeness and Healing

August 15, 2010
7:00 p.m.

PRESSbyterian Deadline

September Issue: August 16, 2010

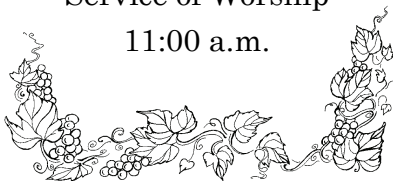


Sacrament of The Lord's Supper

Sunday, July 11, 2010

Service of Worship

11:00 a.m.



S.T.E.P.S. Event

August 28, 2010

This Presbytery event is a great opportunity for all educators, parents, committee members, Session members, really anyone who is interested in cultivating one's own faith or involved in cultivating the faith of others. It is an opportunity for personal growth, for learning new ideas, and for preparing to take the next steps in your life and within our congregation.

The STEPS event will be held at Mt. Pleasant Presbyterian Church on Saturday, August 28th. We encourage you to take advantage of the great workshop leaders and topics, and plan to attend as much of the event as possible.

We are excited that the wonderful drama troupe *Friends of the Groom* will be with us this year, leading workshops, and our worship! *Friends of the Groom* is a unique theater group committed to proclaiming God's Word through a blend of humor, story, challenging content, and scenes that are hard to forget. You do not want to miss the chance to both see and learn from these marvelous performers.

Full details of each workshop are listed in the STEPS brochure found in the church office or online at www.chas-atpresbytery.org. Just go to the site, click on the link that says STEPS and you'll be able to see all the information regarding the event. Early registration deadline is July 26th. Cost is \$25 before July 26; \$35 thereafter.

Sunday School Teachers and Youth Advisors: We will pay your registration fee if you submit your completed registration form to the church office by July 16 at noon. **If we have 15 people we can take the bus.**

July Birthdays

7/01	Stacey Walter	7/18	John Arant
7/05	John Kammerer	7/19	Pearl Langford
7/06	Helen Culler		Michelle Arant
7/07	Karen Ferry	7/20	Tracy Myers
	Mikee Johnson	7/21	Annette Jones
7/08	Arnie Smith		Elise Myers
	Nick Johnston		Harry Mims
7/09	Ann Edwards	7/22	Nancy Hudson
	Weston Bull		Cindy Clark
7/13	Marcia Wood	7/24	Sloan Moore
	Julianne Shuler		Kaitlin Nagle
	Emily Wofford	7/25	John Shuler
7/14	Sylvia Trimmier		Wendy Dudley
	Logan Miller	7/26	Sherry Newnam
7/15	Shirley Westbrook		Carol Cassone
	Nancy Nance		Andrew Hunter
	Robin Mims	7/28	Evelynn Myers
7/16	Donna Roberts	7/29	Peggy Clanton
7/17	Steven Patterson	7/30	Sandy Price
	Katherine Patterson		
	Ryan Welsh		

August Birthdays

8/01	Mary Ann Cannon	8/17	Phyllis Buie
	Gene Wilkes		Jason Gregory
	Cole Price		Tanner Whalen
8/02	Ryan Cuttino	8/18	Adina Allen
8/04	Preston Walter		Ches Wood
8/05	Estelle Dominick	8/19	Mark Trimmier
	Spencer Dixon		Laura Kammerer
	Bowen Turner	8/20	Joyce Wannamaker
8/07	Judy Shroads		Rebekkah Brailsford
	Tripp Plummer	8/21	Gordon Huddleston
8/08	Vivian Stamps		Beck Robertson
	Ferrie Axon	8/23	Sandra Smoak
	Olivia Strickland		Billie Alexander
8/09	Luna Cuttino	8/25	Sarah Johnstone
	Curt Campbell		Walker Whalen
	Adam Clayton	8/26	Ed Dickson
8/10	Robbie Myers	8/27	Robbie Gillespie
8/11	Jill Davis	8/28	George Johnston
8/13	Erin Richardson		Gerald Myers
8/15	David Bull		Bill Clark
8/16	Cheryl Laing		
	Florie Brailsford		
	Laura Hewitt		
	Parker Kuck		

Book Review

Fresh Wind, Fresh Fire

By Jim Cymbala

It's summertime and the word "fresh" comes to mind. Fruits and vegetables fresh from the garden (or local produce stand) fill our plates and tummies. Vacations from work and routine "re-fresh" us in mind, body and spirit. When it's summertime and the "livin' is easy," perhaps it's wise to spend time re-freshing our prayer lives as well.

When Jim Cymbala took over leadership of Brooklyn Tabernacle in 1971, the church had 30 members that met in a run-down building in New York City. Jim and his wife, Carol, began a Tuesday night prayer meeting to seek God's power and grace in their work. The results are astounding. Today, over 10,000 attendees worship at Brooklyn Tabernacle on Sunday morning. The church preaches the Gospel and reaches out in mission to the cross-cultural environment of New York. And the Tuesday night prayer meeting? It still continues, faithfully, though now with thousands attending to call upon the name of the Lord.

In his book, *Fresh Wind, Fresh Fire*, Cymbala tells the story of the Brooklyn Tabernacle Church through the eyes of intentional, fervent and committed prayer. It is at once inspirational and practical, a compelling example of the power of prayer and a challenge to the individual reader to rekindle, refresh or renew personal prayer life.

Cymbala relies on multitudes of scripture to provide evidence of the importance and value of a committed prayer life on the part of Jesus' followers. The first "corporate" relationship in the Bible was indeed a prayer meeting (Genesis 4:25-26). Cymbala helps the reader address the real issues that attack our commitment to pray, to seek God's heart, and to follow Jesus. Before that, however, he describes the very real challenges we face: we have to "tear down the accumulated junk in our souls" and stop rationalizing away our lack of faithful prayer.

Instead, he writes, we need to "stand in the gap" and move toward being more spiritually sensitive people. "Sitting safely in the shelter of Bible discussions among ourselves or complaining to one another about the horrible state of today's society does nothing to unleash the power of God," says Cymbala.

The lack of a strong and committed prayer life delights the enemy. Relying on ourselves, we fail to call upon God, to ask God and to depend upon God to do great things. We lean toward our own understanding rather than trusting God; we rely upon our own resources instead of reaching for and yearning for the powerful resources that God provides.

Prayer is the means by which we praise God, confess to Him, thank Him and seek His will for the needs in our lives and the lives of those He has entrusted to our care. Prayer is a relationship with our Creator. For deep insight into what hinders us from pursuing this relationship, *Fresh Wind, Fresh Fire* will not disappoint: it will encourage you, inspire you and draw you to develop a closer prayer life with the Father.

Harris Murray

{This book is available in the Congregational Care/Christian Education Office if you want to check it out.}

Mother Goose on the Loose

Mother Goose on the Loose is a thirty-minute nursery rhyme program created by Dr. Betsy Diamant-Cohen for children from birth to age three. Although everything is age appropriate, a specific structure is followed for each lesson. All children attending participate with a parent or other caregiver.

The benefits of this program aid speech development and motor coordination, develop attention span, provide exposure to musical instruments, and encourage a love of books and music. Sarah Coggins, Julianne Shuler and Cheryl Smith would like to offer *Mother Goose on the Loose* weekly to our First Presbyterian families and also to our community, beginning August 25. There is no cost to the participants.

Sarah Coggins

News for Children

Many of First Presbyterian's children started the summer off with a week of fun by participating in Vacation Bible School. Children ranging in ages from three years old to rising sixth graders participated in a week of songs, games, and activities.

The children ages four and younger participated in a water play day on June 22 and had a great time playing in sprinklers, slides, and pools. We'll have another water play day on July 27 from 10:00 – 11:30 on the playground. The children will need a caregiver, bathing suit, towel, and sunscreen.

On June 28, fifteen rising 3rd – 5th graders and chaperones had a fun day at Carowinds. Thank you to Jud Jordan, Marty Journey, Kim Panitt, and Jennifer Turner for chaperoning. Also, thanks to Marty, who drove the bus.

Mark your calendars for Tuesday, July 20, for a trip to Columbia for rising 2nd – 5th graders. We are going to the **Columbia Marionette Theatre** to see a performance of Puss and Boots. We will then be spending the afternoon at the zoo. The cost for the show and the zoo is \$11.25. If your family is a member of the zoo or you have a free pass, then your cost will be just \$4. Also, please send a bag lunch. Sign up with Sarah by July 8.



King's Kids

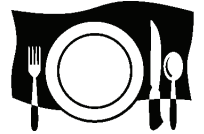
King's Kids will continue on Mondays through August 9, except for July 5 and 12. Rising 5K – 2nd graders will meet in the Centre from 9:30 – 11, and rising 3rd – 5th graders will meet from 2:00 – 3:30. Come join us for the fun!

Sarah Coggins

Youth News

The Youth of First Presbyterian have been enjoying a busy summer. Several of our Youth served as helpers during Vacation Bible School, assisting with the younger children, snacks, and games. On June 8 and 10, six of our recent high school graduates participated in a Confirmation Refresher with Jud. They reviewed topics that they covered in seventh grade confirmation and also explored deeper religious topics. Twenty Youth participated in a trip to Carowinds on June 15, and everyone had a fun day riding roller coasters and spending time in fellowship. Many thanks to Dwight Frierson for driving the bus and chaperoning and also to Preston Walter for chaperoning. Also, we are thankful to Dwight for getting us tickets through Coca-Cola, which allowed both the Youth and King's Kids to get into Carowinds for free.

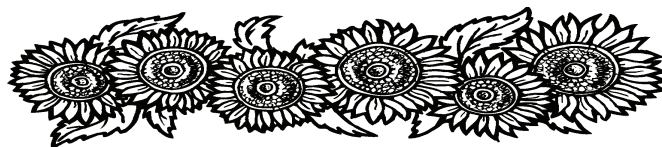
On July 11- 17, twenty Youth will be taking part in a mission trip in Tampa, Florida. Jimmy Guthrie, Curt Campbell, and I will be chaperoning the trip. We are looking forward to our trip and also look forward to sharing our experiences with our church family. Thank you to everyone who bought stock to support our Youth in their mission experience. **Our missions dinner will be held on Monday, August 2 at 6:30 in the Centre.**



The Youth will be going to Charleston to see the Riverdogs play on July 28. If you plan on going, please sign up with me by July 20. It's going to be a fun evening, and I hope everyone joins us.

Senior High Youth will continue on Tuesdays from 3:00 – 4:30 in the Centre, and **Junior High Youth** will meet on Thursdays from 3:00 – 4:30 in the Centre. We will meet every week until August 12, except for the week of the Youth mission trip.

Sarah Coggins



Lost and Found

Two rings have been found. If you think one may be yours, please see Kaye Borgstedt.

Congratulations, Graduate!

Rebecca Shirer: College of Charleston

Notes of Thanks

- ❖ Thank you church family for all of the cards, letters, phone calls, food, and prayers that you extended at the time of my mother's death. The support and love from our church was overwhelming.

Thank you,
Jimmy, Retta, and Renn Guthrie

- ❖ Members of First Presbyterian Church,
I want to thank you for remembering me with your cards of encouragement. Also your calls to help pass the time and enjoy your company and especially your prayers during my recent eye surgery. May God continue to bless our wonderful congregation.

Margaret Rickenbaker

- ❖ Dear Friends,
Raymond [Murphy] has finished his radiation treatment and is continuing to do physical therapy. He is recovering his left arm function which is really good news. Thanks to all those in the church for their continuing support and caring.

Sheila and Raymond

- ❖ Thank you for the many cards and messages the First Presbyterian Church congregation sent to me when my dad died in June. Your kindness and compassion, and most of all your prayers, are helping me through a difficult time.

Denise Seymore

Books, Books, Books

Below you will find a list of new books in the CE Office. Come, browse, and check out!

Children

When Pete's Dad Got Sick (chronic illness)
With My Mom, With My Dad (divorce)
The Day Scooter Died (death of a pet)
My Baby Sister is a Preemie
The Easter Story
Jesus Wants All of Me

Others

Faith Training: Raising Kids Who Love the Lord
How Did We Get The Bible?
Who's Who and Where's Where in the Bible
Parenting from Your Strengths
Stories Behind The Traditions and Songs of Easter

Video

The True Story of Easter

Community of Character

July Character Trait: Good Manners
August Character Trait: Cooperation

Memorials

Given in Memory of:

Mrs. Mary Wright Williams
Mr. Harry W. Whitaker
Rev. Leamon L. Cagle

Mrs. Lou D. Guthrie
Mrs. Betty A. McMichael
Mrs. Frances T. Roberts

Given by:

Mr. and Mrs. Whitmarsh Smith, III
Mr. and Mrs. George Perrow
Cox Broadcasting (WSOC-TV)
Dr. and Mrs. Randolph Smoak
Mr. and Mrs. John Shuler

Mrs. Gladys Byers
Mrs. Marjorie M. Gamston
Mrs. Salley Johnson
Mrs. Frances Lytch
Mr. and Mrs. Harold Clinge

Mr. Keith Byers
Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Buecher
Mr. and Mrs. Kurt von Besser
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Byrd
Mr. and Mrs. Geb Runager

First Presbyterian Church
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Orangeburg, SC 29115

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July / August 2010

Children's Church and Nursery Schedules

	Infant Nursery	Two-to-Four Nursery	Children's Church
July 4	Emily Cook	Craig and Bonnie Cook	Peg and Abby Lee
July 11	Abby Lee	Chris and Debbie Gramling	Tripp and Melissa Plummer
July 18	Erin Buie	Tripp and Melissa Plummer	Marty and Edde Journey
July 25	Amy Delaney	Ann and Kate Edwards	Bonnie and Craig Cook
August 1	Laura Irick	Keith and Laura Hewitt	Margaret Frierson
August 8	Jane Shuler	Robbie and Tracy Myers	Sarah Frierson
August 15	Lessie Gayle Dickson	Andy and Tiffany Hunter	Tiffany Hunter
August 22	Sarah Coggins	Michael and Amy Delaney	Sallie Covington
August 29	Lauren Bramblett	Michelle and Lauren Arant	Bill and Cindy Clark
			Robbie and Tracy Myers

Answers to Bible Quiz

1. God cannot fail nor can He lie.
2. Psalm 90
3. Five—Obadiah, Philemon, II and III John, Jude
4. Ecclesiastes 9:14-15