

# The PRESSbyterian

May 2010

## *Dates to Remember*

- May 2:** Homecoming  
**May 5:** May-Mester Begins  
**May 6:** National Day of Prayer  
**May 17:** Newsletter deadline  
**June 6:** Sunday School  
Meet and Greet  
**June 7-11:** VBS

## *From the Pastor*

Friends,

On April 17, 1952, President Harry Truman signed a bill proclaiming a National Day of Prayer. His intent was for the country, her citizens, and the world to seek God's direction and blessing. The bill mandated that subsequent presidents hold the Day of Prayer on a day of their choice. In 1982 a National Prayer Committee was formed to coordinate and implement a fixed day of prayer. In 1988, the law was amended directing the National Day of Prayer to be held on the first Thursday in May. On April 15, 2010, a Federal District Court judge ruled that the statute establishing the National Day of Prayer was unconstitutional as it is "an inherently religious exercise that serves no secular function." However, the judge stayed her ruling pending the completion of appeals.

Prayer is the foundation of the Christian calling. Without prayer, there is no growing closer to God and furthering His will. Without prayer, our listening for God's direction for our personal lives, church, community and nation, is nothing but our own opinion and conjecture upon which to guide ourselves. When this happens, the judge is correct - it serves no secular function. For the Christian, our job is to pray for God's reign in the secular.

**May 6<sup>th</sup>** is the National Day of Prayer. On this day First Presbyterian will observe its second annual 24-hour National Day of Prayer vigil in our sanctuary. This year's theme is "Let us pray together." We will begin and end at midnight. At 12:15 p.m. I will lead a 15 minute directed prayer service. I encourage you to come and individually pray at some point in the day. This will not be a formal prayer service, just a time to individually and silently pray for ourselves, our community and our nation. During the night hours of prayer, there will be several people present to ensure security.

Whether you are good at prayer or need help, I encourage you to come. God is not concerned with how well we pray, only that we do and invest our hearts. This is an excellent opportunity to intertwine your prayers with others around the country. Who knows – God may honor our prayers and change the secular!

In Christ,  
Jud

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

Church Office  
534-0088

Church/Fellowship Hall  
533-1235

Congregational Care  
534-0041

Presbyterian Centre  
534-1353

FAX  
534-1242

## *Homecoming*

*Sunday, May 2, 2010*  
*175th Anniversary*

Guest preacher: Rev. Don Frampton

Homecoming begins with Sunday School and 11:00 a.m. worship, followed by lunch and fellowship. Make plans now to bring your favorite covered dishes to share. The meal will be served in the Centre.



## National Day of Prayer



Please mark your calendars for May 6 to come join with our church and others for 24 hours of prayer. Our country, our community, our troops and families, are just some of the many concerns to pray for. We also

don't want to forget to thank God for all our many blessings.

Our sanctuary will be open for 24 hours and we encourage each of you to participate by inviting your neighbors, co-workers, friends and even the different clubs you are in to come pray with you. We will have someone available to guide you and you may come and leave as your time permits.

Come help us make this a special day. For more information call Carol Ware, 534-0257.

Carol Ware

## Sunday School News

### Summer Sunday School for Children

An exciting new Sunday School adventure for children 4K through 6th grade will begin on June 6 and continue through August 22nd. All children should report to the Fellowship Hall.

### Calling All Sunday School Teachers

You are invited to an Appreciation Breakfast on Sunday, May 16, at 9:00 a.m. Stay tuned for more information.

*Promotion Sunday:*  
August 29, 2010

## Prime Time Lunch

**May 18**  
12:00 noon - Centre

Don't miss this chance to fellowship with your friends! Please call the church office to make reservations (534-0088).



## Wednesday Nights: May and June

### May-Mester

May 5  
May 12  
May 19  
May 26

**How To Study The Bible**  
**Stories Behind Favorite Hymns**  
**More Ways to Study The Bible**  
**Prayer**

•••••

May 5-June 2 **Making Love Last a Lifetime**  
This series that began in April will continue through June 2 in the Fellowship Hall.

There will be a light supper (\$5 for adults, \$2 for children) at 6:00 p.m.; a nursery is provided. There will also be activities for children through 5th grade.

## State of the Presbytery

*Save the Date*  
*June 2, 2010*

Join us for a light meal at 6:00 p.m. (\$5 for adults, \$2 for children) and at 6:30, Dr. Donnie Woods, Charleston Atlantic's Executive Presbyter, and Pie Mikell, Associate for Congregational Nurture, will remind us of available resources. Nursery and activities for children through fifth grade provided.

## Summer Wednesdays at First Presbyterian

June opportunities include:

June 9 **Conversations with the Pastor**  
June 16 **Ice Cream Social** (Summer GTF)  
June 23 **Family Night**  
June 30 **Vespers** (Sanctuary)

We look forward to seeing you: 6:00-7:00 p.m.

## Presbyterian Women

Dear Readers,

- ❖ Gentle reminder ... Circle Leaders, please give names of **2010-2011 Circle Officers** to Denise by June 1st! The new Handbook depends on you.
- ❖ A **luncheon at The Oaks** is open to anyone interested but we also want to alert you in this column. Judy Shroads is arranging a second luncheon with Jud and our Oaks residents for **Monday, June 7th**, at 11:30 a.m. in The Oaks Dining Room. The March luncheon was such a success that more are called for! The Oaks needs at least ten days advance notice; therefore, to make a reservation, please call Judy at 268-9714 by May 25th at the very latest. Come. It's fun.
- ❖ This is being written before our April Gathering so we will announce new officers and thank our out-going ones in the next column. We can also include our Birthday Offering total for 2010.

### FYI FEATURE OF THE MONTH

We will conclude our 2009-2010 Bible Study, that rich *Journey of Faith* written for us by Dr. Mary Mikhael of Beirut, Lebanon, at our May Circle, so let me introduce the 2010-2011 Study. It is *Journeys Through Revelation: Apocalyptic Hope for Today* by Dr. Barbara R. Rossing, a Lutheran pastor and professor of New Testament at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago. She has written extensively, been on TV (including *60 Minutes*), and traveled and lectured all over the world. And she still has time for hobbies: hiking and cross-country skiing.

Let's face it, the idea of studying Revelation is a bit daunting but be reassured by Dr. Rossing's own words, "It is important for readers to know that the message of Revelation is, most of all, one of hope." It is rich in songs and praise and takes us on a journey into the heart of God's

dream for our world and we are encouraged to embrace its message of hope instead of fear. Dr. Rossing says to remember that it is a letter written by John to churches in Asia Minor (now modern Turkey) nearly 2000 years ago. As she explains, we are really reading somebody else's mail, mail which has been included in our New Testament as a book that speaks to the lives and circumstances of the original Christian Church.

So without fear but with lots of curiosity, let's follow Dr. Rossing's lead and look at her thoughts and interpretations of some of Revelation for, as she says, the book is a long one and we only have nine lessons available. Remember, hope, not fear! Looks like a fascinating study.

### MISSION PROJECT FOR MAY

We are to bring a contribution for Circle Four to use for "goodie bags" for Claflin and State students to munch on while they study for finals. Remember those days—Whee.

More later,  
Dina



### May Circle Meetings

<b>Circle 1:</b>	Tuesday, May 4 11:30 a.m.	Presbyterian Centre
<b>Circle 2:</b>	Tuesday, May 11 10:00 a.m.	Conference Room Presbyterian Centre
<b>Circle 3:</b>	Tuesday, May 4 6:00 p.m.	<i>Amporn's</i> —Elloree Meet in the church parking lot at 5:30.
<b>Circle 4:</b>	Tuesday, May 11 7:00 p.m.	Sara Turner 1811 Taylor Blvd.

## Thank You Note to Presbyterian Women

Dear Members of Presbyterian Women,

On Sunday, March 21, 2010, I received my diploma for the Lay Pastor track from the South Carolina Lay School of Theology. I have successfully completed the eight required courses, including Old Testament, New Testament, Church Polity, Church History, Pastoral Care, Preaching, Reformed Theology, and Worship and Sacraments.

For four years, you have supported this calling with your prayers and with financial resources from your scholarship fund. Please accept my deep and sincere gratitude for your willingness to provide spiritual and practical support to my endeavors. I will never forget the evening that I believe God called me to this task; like-

wise I will never forget the gift of financial support you offered in support of my answering this call.

I share with you that I have grown in numerous ways, both through the knowledge I have gained and also through the friendships I have made with fellow Presbyterians across the state of South Carolina. The challenges of examining the history and theology of our faith have provided me the opportunity to grow personally and spiritually.

Thank you again for your constant support. May God continue to bless you all as you serve Him.

Blessings,  
Harris Murray

## Memorials

### Given in Memory of:

Mrs. Mary Wright Williams	Mr. Clay Bruner
Mr. Gene Walter	Harriett Salley Slade
Mrs. Emilie C. Caughman	Mr. Ashby "Pat" Kelley

### Given by:

Mr. Keith Byers	Dr. and Mrs. Steven Patterson
Mrs. Helen W. Culler	Mrs. Karen Schweizer-Nagle
Mrs. Frances Lytch	Mrs. Nancy Hudson
Mr. and Mrs. Austin Salley, Jr.	Janet and Johnny Brailsford
Mr. and Mrs. John Shuler	Mr. and Mrs. Dwight Frierson
Dr. and Mrs. David Gillespie	The John Knox Class
Mr. and Mrs. Billy Cox	Mr. and Mrs. Sandy Bryant

## Notes of Thanks

◆ To our loving Church Family,  
You wrapped your arms around us and upheld us during our heartbreaking time. We are truly grateful. Each and everything that you did was much appreciated. May the Lord bless each of you.

Sincerely,  
Gladys, Ted, Jr.  
and Keith Byers

◆ Dear Church Family,  
Thanks for the prayers, cards, calls, and food during my recent recovery. I'm truly blessed to have a wonderful and caring church family at First Presbyterian.

Sincerely,  
Donna Rigden

◆ Preston and I and the girls would like to thank each and every one for the phone calls, food, cards, and prayers that continued during "Em's" illness and passing. I cannot begin to tell you how much it meant for our church family to always be there.

Thank you again for your kindness and concern.

Sincerely,  
Emilie Sanders

---

## May Birthdays

5/01 Julie Mobley	5/15 Jay Hutto
Dee Anne Miller	Andrew Dudley
Gordon Weigle, III	Benjamin Davis
5/02 McGill Hutto	5/16 Raven Yonemura
5/03 Edith Davis	Bennett Weigle
5/04 Donna Medders	5/17 Michael Delaney
McCrary Johnstone	Abby Lee
5/05 Randy Smoak	5/20 Carla Keener
Retta Guthrie	Aaron Strickland
Paul Trimmier	5/21 Graham Journey
5/06 Audrey Pace	Vivi Banish
Janet Gilchrist	5/22 Danny Fogle
5/08 Johnny Baugh	Bonnie Cook
Betsy Davis	5/23 Rebecca Crane
Joshua Keener	5/25 Maggie Robertson
5/09 Webbie Davis	5/26 Ruth McCormick
Caroline Marcus	Sue Thomas
Susan Shirer	Susan Smoak
5/10 Rob Miller	5/27 Clay Price
Sarah Coggins	5/28 Erin Buie
5/12 Lessie Gayle Dickson	5/29 Mary McConnell
5/13 Mike Keeney	Andy Hunter, Sr.
Barbara Shirer	5/30 Ann Ji Salley
Thomas Gue, Jr.	Larry Jordan
Matthew Mobley	Thurston Murray
5/15 Joe Belcher	Karen Davis
Gordon Weigle, II	Daniel Felder
Libby Ridgeway	5/31 Yuri Davis

---

## The Sacrament of Baptism

was administered to

**Morgan Sims Gue**

daughter of

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas (Ashton) Gue, Jr.  
April 11, 2010

---

## Are You Graduating?

Will you graduate from high school or college in May? If so, please call the church office (534-0088) by May 14 so that we can update our records and acknowledge this accomplishment in an upcoming *PRESSbyterian*.

## Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School is "just around the corner" in June. It is scheduled for June 7-11, 2010. This year Bethel Woods Bible School in a Van will be coming to our church to hold Bible School.

The theme for this year is BLAST. Look for clues around the church to discover the meaning of BLAST! As you make this discovery take your answer to Sarah Coggins. See who can be the first to figure it out. Bethel Woods staff will bring a staff of five and we are asked to provide some support for activities that they direct.

If you feel that you would like to be part of this wonderful experience and can provide some help, please add your name to the list posted in Kaye's office. A representative from Bethel Woods will visit soon to share more information with us. We will let you know more details after the visit. In the meantime circle your calendar for the morning hours of June 7-11. Help us make this one of the best Bible Schools ever!

Jeneal Huddleston

---

## Christian Education

- What struck me anew as I watched some of the Olympic events were the years and years of dedication and training of the athletes. And how in seconds a mistake could nullify all their efforts and how it would be four years before they could redeem themselves at the next Olympics.

Have you ever thought about earning gold if God had Olympics? What if we put as much time and energy and dedication to reading and learning God's Word, in prayer and living for Him, as Olympic athletes do in their training? Our "gold" is eternal life and is much more precious. If we make a mistake, we do not have to wait four years for forgiveness and redemption. We need but "ask and we will receive."

- Prayer Focus:** You may have noticed we have again started putting a weekly prayer focus in the Sunday bulletin. As we know prayer is a powerful tool and if you have a focus you would like to include, please call the CE office, 534-0041, and leave a message.
- VBS - Save the Date:** June 7-11 for a B.L.A.S.T.

In Christ,  
Kaye Borgstedt  
CE Coordinator

## Youth and Children

Spring has sprung, and the youth of First Presbyterian have been busy. On Sunday evenings, we have been learning about prayer and where God is when we grieve. The youth also spent a Sunday evening making plans for the summer and for the next school year. Nine of our seventh graders have been participating in Confirmation on Wednesday evenings, and they have been learning more about their faith and God's role in their lives. This process culminated with the confirmands writing their Statement of Faith, which they presented to the Session on April 20. On May 9, the confirmation class will be presented to the congregation, and several of the confirmands will be baptized, too. I am so proud of their hard work and hope you'll be there on May 9 to celebrate their accomplishments.

On April 17, several of the youth and children joined Harris Murray on a trip to Thornwell Home for Children in Clinton, and the Senior High Sunday School class presented a check of money they had raised for Thornwell. We spent the day touring Thornwell and learning about the important work that goes on there. Members of Ferguson Cottage, which includes elementary school boys, served as our tour guides. We were so impressed with our young guides and hope to develop a lasting relationship with Ferguson Cottage.

We are busy planning our youth mission trip to Tampa (July 11-17). It is going to be a great time of hard work, fun, and fellowship. The nonrefundable deposit of \$75 is due by April 28, and the \$325 balance is due on May 26. This price also includes a day of fun at Universal's Island Adventure! We're selling stock, which will defray the cost of your trip. There are still a few spaces available, so sign up soon!

There are several important youth events coming soon. We invite the youth and their parents to join us on Sunday, May 16, at 6:00 for a supper in the Centre. May 23 is Senior Sunday at First Presbyterian, and there will be a breakfast for the Seniors and their parents before church. Also, the Seniors will be honored during church.

I am looking forward to a fun summer for both the youth and children of First Presbyterian!

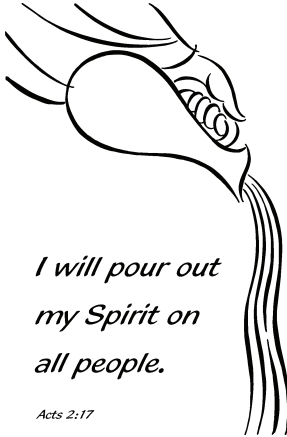
Sarah Coggins  
Director of Youth  
and Children

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

**Return Service Requested**

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

**Permit No. 401**



*I will pour out  
my Spirit on  
all people.*

Acts 2:17

May 2010

*Save the Date!*

S.T.E.P.S. - August 28, 2010

*Community of Character*

*May: Cleanliness*

*Mother's Day Offering*

*Presbyterian Communities Of South Carolina*

Presbyterian Communities of South Carolina serve over 800 residents in five retirement communities throughout the state. For the last several years, the cost of charitable care has exceeded the total benevolences, gifts, and endowment distribution.

On Mother's Day, May 9, our annual offering will be received to help those residents of Presbyterian Communities whose financial resources no longer cover the cost of their care.

## *Children's Church and Nursery Schedules*

	<b>Nursery</b>	<b>Two-to-Four Year-Olds</b>	<b>Children's Church</b>
May 2	Theresa Bramblett	Paul and Lisa Banish	Marty and Edde Journey
May 9	Abby Lee	Michelle and Lauren Arant	Bonnie and Craig Cook
May 16	Erin Buie	Ken and Kim Panitt	Margaret Frierson Sarah Frierson
May 23	Amy Delaney	Andy and Tiffany Hunter	Jane Holladay Sallie Covington
May 30	Jane Shuler	Keith and Laura Hewitt	Bill and Cindy Clark