

The PRESSbyterian

May 2011

Dates to Remember

- May 1:** Homecoming
May 5: National Day of Prayer
May 15: Wholeness and Healing Service
May 18: Primetimer Lunch
May 21: Presbytery Meeting
June 6-10: VBS

From the Pastor

Friends,

Prayer is the foundation of the Christian calling. 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.

May 5th is the **2011 National Day of Prayer**. There are two events of importance.

- ✠ First, the **Mayor's Prayer Breakfast**, an annual community breakfast and time of prayer for the community, begins at 6:45 a.m. with the opening of the breakfast line. The Claflin Choir will perform at 7:30 a.m. This is held at the Cinema Room and tickets are available for \$10.00 at the church office.
- ✠ The second event is First Presbyterian's third annual 24 hour **National Day of Prayer** vigil in our sanctuary. 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 at any time during the 24 hour prayer vigil and pray. It is a time to individually and silently pray for God's direction concerning ourselves, our community and our nation. This 24 hour period will not be a formal prayer service except from 12:15-12:30 p.m. During the night hours of prayer, there will be several people present to ensure security. This is an excellent opportunity to intertwine your prayers with others around the country. So 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 invest our hearts.

In Christ,
Jud

Church Office
Congregational Care
Prayer Chain
534-0088

Church/Fellowship Hall
533-1235

FAX
534-1242

www.1stpresbyterian.org

Congregational Meeting

May 1, 2011

At the request of our Officer Nominating Committee the Session has called a Congregational Meeting for Sunday, May 1, 2011, immediately following the service of worship. Purpose of the meeting is to elect Elders and Deacons to the Class of 2014. Nominations from the floor will be accepted if the nominees have given their prior approval.

Homecoming

May 1, 2011



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.

PrimeTime Lunch

Tuesday, May 17
12:00 noon - Centre

Residents of the Presbyterian Village in Summerville will be our guests at this month's Primetimer Lunch. Please call the church office (534-0088) to make reservations so that adequate plans can be made to accommodate our regulars as well as our special guests.



MayMester Plus

From Wednesday, May 4, through Wednesday, June 8, we have some exciting programs and tasty meals planned and are inviting you to join us in the Centre at 6:00 p.m. for supper and 6:30 p.m. for the program.

Come learn some more about your favorite hymns and their composers; prayer; some little and some well-known facts about the Bible; and lots more. Some of our meals will be sub sandwiches, pizza, chicken tenders, and a fish fry, and maybe even an ice cream social. There will be a nursery and programs for children through 5th grade. Centre programs are appropriate for all others.

Discipleship Unit

- May 4** **Partners in Faith: The Family and the Church:** Pie Mikell
- May 11** **Everything You Wanted to Know About Your Favorite Hymns:** Sylvia Trimmier
- May 18** **The Prodigal God:**
Kaye Borgstedt and Harris Murray
- May 24** **Prayer:** Bonnie Keeney
- June 1** **Ice Cream Social**
- June 8** **Putting The Pieces Together:**
Bethelwoods Staff

Community of Character

May: Generosity

Youth News!!

- May 9 will be **Youth Sunday** at First Presbyterian Church, and the theme will be "Celebrating God's Family." We hope you will join us as the youth lead worship and share their talents.
- On May 15, we will have our annual **Parent/ Youth Supper** at 6:00 p.m. in the Centre. This is our way of thanking the parents for the meals they provided this year during youth fellowship. We are appreciative of the support they have given to the youth program throughout the year.
- On May 22, we will be celebrating First Presbyterian's graduating high school seniors with a breakfast and a special presentation during worship. We look forward to celebrating our seniors and their accomplishments.
- Please be on the lookout for upcoming information about summer youth activities. We have trips, Bible studies, and other exciting adventures planned. I hope you'll join us for a fun summer of growing closer to God and growing closer as a group!

Sarah Coggins

Vacation Bible School

Mark your calendars for
Vacation Bible School, which will be held
June 6-10.



We are pleased to announce that staffers from Camp Bethelwoods will be leading VBS again this year. Join us for a week of fun, games, arts and crafts, music, and more as we learn about Jesus. This year's theme is "Putting the Pieces Together," and we will learn more about God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. More details and signup sheets will be available soon. Come and bring a friend!

Sarah Coggins

Challenge

Those of you who have accepted the challenge have spent several months learning and finding the first 30 books of the Bible. Let's just add the 9 last books of the Old Testament.

Faith Promise 2011-2012 Season Continues!

As our Faith Promise and pledge amount grows, *The Excitement is Building! The World is Waiting* so please join in, put your name down to feed, clothe and care for our missionaries/missionaries' flocks and help us reach our goal of \$40K for the year!!!

Please join the excitement and be a part of the celebration. Thank you.

Evangelism Committee

Memorials

Given in memory of:

Mr. Harold C. Clinge Mr. Alex Kelley

Given by:

Mrs. Mary Catherine Horger
Mrs. Nancy Hudson
Mr. and Mrs. James Turner

The Sacrament of Baptism was administered to

Campbell Hardin Bowers

son of
Erin Bowers
April 3, 2011

and

Moultrig Thomas Brailsford Coggins

son of
Mr. and Mrs. Matt (Sarah) Coggins
April 10, 2011

Sunday School Teachers at First Presbyterian Are Building On the Foundation of Jesus Christ

When excavations were begun for the Historic Arcade Building in St. Louis built in 1917 -- a bed of quicksand was discovered and no solid foundation could be built on it. The problem was solved when caissons were driven 50 feet below the sub-basement.

Jesus was not a building contractor in a physical sense. He built human life and character based on faith in his Word and redeeming work.

In the parable in Matthew 7:24-27 he calls attention to the folly of a man who built his house on sand. He declares the rains came down, the streams rose and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash. The man who built his house on a rock had a foundation that could withstand the elements.

The sayings of Jesus are like this Rock. What our Lord said and taught was the Eternal Truth. What he said about the Love of God was true.

He so loved the world that He gave His only son Jesus Christ to save it by giving His blood.

The Word of God is the Only Foundation on which we can build to experience eternal life.

Christian Education is based on the truths of the Law and the Gospel. It is started in the home, continued in Christian churches and applied everyday in our world.

As Teachers you are part of the Foundation of First Presbyterian Church in Christ. You educate our youth and members in Christian teachings. I know that you spend much preparation time for your Lessons---sometimes things don't always go as expected but you stick with it!

Thanks for being part of our Foundation in Christian Education! Your Church Loves You and your work in Christ!

Discipleship Unit

Ref.--With Jesus Everyday -R. Norden

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.

On Mother's Day, May 8, our annual offering will be received to help those residents of Presbyterian Communities whose financial resources no longer cover the cost of their care.

Local and Foreign Mission News

First Presbyterian Missionaries Salvador and Irma de la Torre - Nairobi, Kenya

Dr. Salvador and Irma de la Torre are a husband and wife doctor-nurse team who have extensive teaching and clinical experience at hospitals and universities in Mexico, Haiti and Kenya. Sal is a consultant to the Christian Health Association of Kenya (CHOK), the overarching agency for all Christian hospitals, including three hospitals of PC(USA)'s partner church, the Presbyterian Church of East Africa (PCEA). He helps medical institutions improve their management systems.

Sal is also the project manager for the U.S. government-sponsored aid program for people with HIV/AIDS, which is called PEPFAR, the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief. In this role, Salvador makes sure that the 9,000 patients with HIV get the drugs and the equipment necessary for anti-retroviral therapy for HIV.

Irma helps the PCEA set up primary schools and builds community leadership.

During their prior appointment the de la Torres were on staff at Kikuyu Hospital in Kikuyu, Kenya, a mission hospital of the PCEA. Kikuyu Hospital is the oldest mission hospital in Kenya, established in 1908, and currently has three units: the General Hospital, the Eye Unit and the Orthopedic Rehabilitation Unit. It is located about 20 kilometers from Nairobi in an agricultural area. The de la Torres have served in mission with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) previously in Haiti from 1977 to 1982 and in Zambia from 1986 to 1996.

Salvador was born in Mexico and educated at the National University Autonomous of Mexico. He earned his undergraduate degree in chemistry, biology and science from the Escuela Preparatoria, a medical and surgery degree from the Faculty of Medicine and a degree as specialist in administration of institutions of higher education from the division of postgraduate studies at the Business Administration School. Irma is also a native of Mexico, born in Yajalon, Chiapas. She earned a nursing degree at La Luz Hospital in Morelia, Michoacan, which is associated with the University of Mexico.

Irma and Salvador have three adult children, Jesus Salvador, Ana Rosa and Rodrigo. The de la Torres are members of the Presbyterian Church of Yajalon, Chiapas, Mexico.

(Birthdays: Irma - April 10, Salvador - January 15)

The Samaritan House of Orangeburg

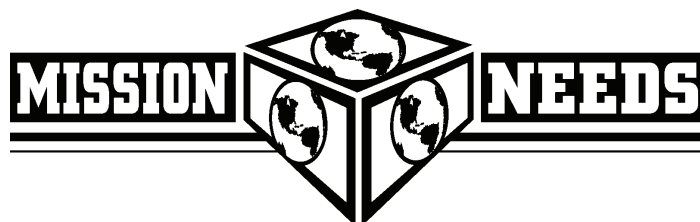
Samaritan House of Orangeburg, Inc. located at 1580 Middleton Street, Orangeburg, is a non-profit organization established in 2001. Its mission is to provide emergency shelter/transitional housing to homeless men, women and children in Orangeburg County and surrounding counties. Its vision is to reduce homelessness. Samaritan House opened its door to the homeless in 2002 and began providing transitional housing June 2004.

The Samaritan House is an emergency shelter and transitional housing facility. The facility has been arranged to provide 16 units of emergency shelter and 25 units of transitional housing. Vertelle Pondexter-Jamison is Director of Samaritan House.

Samaritan House Program Goals are to help program participants (a) obtain and remain in permanent housing; (b) increase their skills and/or income; and (c) achieve greater self-determination. The Samaritan House assists in meeting residents' needs and health issues using referrals to various government and community agencies, counselling and guidance from an on-staff social worker, and donations of time and resources from volunteers and churches within the community.

Residents are referred through local agencies, law enforcement, Probation, Parole and Pardon Services, Dawn Center, Mental Health, hospital, street outreach, walk-in, Social Services, churches, etc. The Samaritan House has an effective outreach program due to its strong relationship with referring service providers and people who encounter those who are literally homeless. This is more than just a shelter, its home, and within this home they are a family. The Samaritan House rewards residents who have demonstrated responsibility and initiative by giving them duties and responsibilities in exchange for wage.

Assistance needs include services such as childcare, mentors, tutors, GED preparation, job preparation, health awareness, and educational activities. Samaritan House could not exist without the support of individuals, churches, businesses, civic organizations, and dedicated people that believe in and want to help the homeless. Samaritan House is an IRS 501(c)3 organization. All contributions are welcome and are tax-deductible.



Notes of Thanks

May Birthdays

► First Presbyterian family is a working family that never forgets its other members. Prayers, calls, cards and food continue to arrive. Betty and I find it difficult to find the appropriate words. Our God lives in the lives of so many. Thanks be to God.

Betty and John Cruise

► Thank you so much for all the prayers, gifts, cards, well wishes, visits, and delicious food you so graciously gave us during the weeks following Cameron's birth. God has not only blessed our family with two precious boys but has also lead us to the most amazing church family. We are truly grateful!

In God's Love and Ours,
Chris, Debbie, Landon, and Cameron Gramling

► Thank you all so much for the cards, calls, food, and especially the prayers before, during, and after my surgery. Thanks to God, everything was normal and I'm doing great. I'm so thankful that my family and I are members of such a loving and devoted church family. God bless each of you.

Rachel Lorick

► Thurston and I would like to thank you all for being the church to us during my stepbrother's illness and death. We appreciate all the expressions of compassion, concern and love during this difficult time.

Blessings,
Harris Murray

► Dear First Presbyterian Family,

Thank you all for standing beside me again with my hip replacement surgery. As in the past my church has stood beside me with help and love that makes me feel so humble. The prayers, food, cards, and calls have made this time for Tom and me so much better to bear.

I'm still having physical therapy but am doing well.

Love,
Shirley Westbrook

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	5/28 Erin Buie
Sarah Coggins	Nolan Yonemura
5/12 Lessie Gayle Dickson	5/29 Andy Hunter, Sr.
5/13 Mike Keeney	5/30 Ann Ji Salley
Barbara Shirer	Larry Jordan
Thomas Gue, Jr.	Thurston Murray
Matthew Mobley	Karen Davis
5/15 Joe Belcher	Daniel Felder
Gordon Weigle, II	5/31 Yuri Davis
Libby Ridgeway	

Lunch With The Pastor at the Oaks

May 3, 2011 ❖ Methodist Oaks Dining Room

Lunch is at 11:30. Tickets may be purchased at the desk in the reception area. Call Judy Shroads, 268-9714, if you are able to come.

Children's Church and Nursery Schedules

	Nursery	Two-to-Four Year-Olds	Children's Church
■ May 1	Maggie Hughes	Ann and Kate Edwards	Paul and Lisa Banish
■ May 8	Amy Delaney	Dee Anne and Logan Miller	Vicky and Aaron Strickland
■ May 15	Lauren Bramblett	Peg and Abby Lee	Earl and Lillian Whalen
■ May 22	Erin Richardson	Andy and Tiffany Hunter	Lawrence and Joni Thackston
■ May 29	Julie Bruner	Jason and Sheila Gregory	Ben and Karen Davis

First Presbyterian Church
650 Summers Avenue
Orangeburg, SC 29115

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May 2011

Hello to all of my First Pres. Family

On May 13 through the 28th, I will be in Ecuador on a Maymester study abroad trip provided through USC. The trip is a service learning trip, and my classmates and I will be working at an orphanage and the Centro Del Muchacho Trabajador, the Working Boys Center. I am collecting items to take with us to the orphanage and the Center. Any donations would be greatly appreciated. Some of the items they need are baby shampoo, conditioner, wipes, lotion, and powder; disposable surgical masks; latex gloves; children's toothpaste and toothbrushes; cotton balls; diaper rash cream; fly catchers; Lysol spray/wipes; children's combs; and small children's toys (new) such as sidewalk chalk, Legos, bubbles, etc. I will need the items by May 5 so I can drop them off with the professor and graduate student leading the trip. There will be a box in the Fellowship Hall for you to drop off donations. Thanks so much in advance!

Sincerely,
Evan Campbell

Presbyterian Women

CIRCLE SCHEDULE - MAY 10

Circle 1:	11:30 a.m.	Presbyterian Centre
Circle 2:	10:00 a.m.	Conference Room Presbyterian Centre
Circle 3:	6:00 p.m.	TBA
Circle 4:	7:00 p.m.	Sara Turner 1811 Taylor

Save the Date

S.T.E.P.S.
August 27, 2011
Revive Renew Inspire