

The PRESSbyterian

June 2010

Dates to Remember

- June 6:** Sunday School
Meet and Greet
June 7-11: VBS
June 22: Session meeting
July 11: Communion
July 14: GTF cookout

From the Pastor

Matthew 16:21-23 From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life. ²² Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. "Never, Lord!" he said. "This shall never happen to you!" ²³ Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men."

Friends,

Why would Jesus say such a thing to Peter!? Why would Jesus make such an awful comment to one of his closest disciples and friends!? I can imagine Jesus saying such a thing to the Pharisees and Sadducees for they opposed him at every turn, but Peter!? Peter was not an enemy, he was a staunch supporter! Calling him Satan, the equivalent of cursing at him, is not something I would expect Jesus to do.

I do not accept that Jesus called Peter "Satan" because Peter, a "subordinate," rebuked him. To assume this assumes that Jesus was filled with such pride and self-superiority that he had a defensive reaction leading him to "snap" at the slightest bit of criticism. Plus, Peter was acting with good intentions. He did not want to believe that the one that he had come to know as the Son of God was going to die. For Peter, Jesus' death would have meant that everything Jesus taught was irrelevant. For others to hear this self-defeatist talk spring forth from the Son of Man's mouth would mean that these disciples placed their faith and trust in one who did not have the courage, strength and divine backing to bring his teaching into fruition. Peter "rebuked" Jesus with honorable intentions. Surely Jesus could see that. So why did Jesus "snap" at him?

Peter couldn't see the bigger picture. Jesus could. Peter operated on human reasoning, having in mind the things of men, not the things of God. Jesus, however, recognized that the pain and grief associated with his death would later be turned into joy as his disciples realized God's plan of taking away sin through the cross. Peter did not want to lose Jesus. Jesus had to die so he did not lose Peter. It all had to do with perspective – human or divine.

When Peter reacted from his human perspective as opposed to taking a moment and seeking the divine perspective through Jesus' eyes, no matter how good or honorable his intentions, Peter became a pawn of Satan. I do not believe Satan entered into Peter but I believe that he was standing right behind him grinning from ear to ear, using Peter's well intentioned human understanding to tempt Jesus into not taking the road to the cross. But Jesus saw right through it. He saw Satan using Peter without Peter's realization. He saw right through the crafty manipulation of the evil one and screams at him, "Get behind me Satan! I see what you are doing. You are trying to use one that I care about, my friend, as a stumbling block for me! But it won't work. May God's will be done, not yours! And Peter, you need to change your perspective. Stop looking at the world and situations through your feeble human perspective but instead seek to view it through mine."

(Continued on page 6)

www.1stpresbyterian.org

Church Office
534-0088

Church/Fellowship Hall
533-1235

Congregational Care
534-0041

Presbyterian Centre
534-1353

FAX
534-1242

Christian Education

Summer G.T.F.

- June 2 **State of the Presbytery**
Join us for a light meal at 6:00 p.m. and a program at 6:30 p.m. with Dr. Donnie Woods, Charleston Atlantic Executive Presbyter, and Ms. Pie Mikell, Presbytery's Associate for Congregational Nurture.
- June 9 **Conversations with the Pastor**
Take a folding chair, something to drink, and bug spray to 212 Doc Elliott Retreat (home of the Jordans) and participate in "Conversations With The Pastor" (6:00-7:00 p.m.).
- June 16 **Ice Cream Social**
Centre, 6:00-7:00 p.m.
- June 23 **Vespers** (Sanctuary, 6:00 p.m.)
- June 30 **Fun the Presbyterian Way**
The Family Nurture Team is planning fun activities. Come see how Presbyterians have fun (6:00-7:00 p.m.).

Kaye Borgstedt

How many times have you said, "Not now, I'm busy," "Later," "Can't you see I'm doing something?" "Wait," or "I just don't have time right now"? What are these words saying? Aren't they telling the person to whom you are speaking that what you are doing is more important than them? Tasks are important but more important are people. God never says, "not now" or "come back later." Can we do less? Sometimes interruptions may be God's way of getting our attention.

SUMMER WEDNESDAYS: Please see box on this page for exciting summer opportunities on Wednesday nights.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: JUNE 6-AUGUST 22

4K through 6th grade will meet in the Fellowship Hall. Come see all the new and exciting activities being planned. If you have not been in Sunday School, this is a great time to begin attending. Look for a new Sunday School class late summer or early fall. This will be a class on developing spiritual gifts and will last 8-10 weeks.



PROMOTION SUNDAY IS AUGUST 29.

BIBLE QUIZ

1. How many books are in the Bible?
2. What is the shortest chapter in the Bible?
3. What is the longest?
4. What chapter is in the center?

{Answers are on page 7.}

Did you accept the May challenge of learning all the Books of the Bible? It's never too late! Remember the Bible needs no additions or subtractions. It may be old but its truths are ageless.

Summer Choir Opportunity

If you are unable to make a full-time commitment to the Chancel Choir, please consider singing with us during the summer months. This is a great time to try out the choir with no pressure and no strings attached! We will rehearse during the months of June and August; we traditionally take the month of July off. Rehearsals are on Wednesday nights at 7:00 p.m. in the choir room. Please let me know if you are interested.



WANTED: The Kindergarten Sunday School Class needs a train table for a magnetic train. If you have one you are not using and would like to donate it, please call the CE office (534-0041).

Blessings,
Kaye Borgstedt
CE Coordinator

Presbyterian Women

Dear Readers,

At the April 27th Spring Gathering, we elected new officers! They are as follows:

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Moderator: | Margie Cantley |
| Vice-Moderator: | Donna Medders |
| Secretary/Historian: | Rebecca Battle-Bryant |
| Treasurer: | Lyn Byrd |
| Moderator - Search: | Susan Smoak |

Congratulations to all! And thanks to our out-going officers for your past services!

You will notice that the positions of Secretary and Historian have been combined. This was a result of a recommendation from Sandra Borgstedt, former Historian, who thought that the two jobs dove-tailed so nicely that to combine them would be advantageous. It has been done at other PW groups, including at the Presbytery level. We amended our By-Laws at the Gathering to permit this and the change will be reflected in the new Handbook.

Our Birthday Offering has totaled \$387.00 thus far. If you would still like to contribute, just contact Lyn Byrd.

We will be on Circle break for the summer but remember, Circles do continue their "Personal Touch" rotations throughout the summer. So, depending on need, Circle contact people may continue to be called on.

The Synod PW Gathering is scheduled for October 2010 at Sea Island, Ga. As details and brochures come in, we will alert you. As I have said before, it is well worth attending! Just ask Billie or Kaye or Phyllis or me.

FYI FEATURE OF THE MONTH

On Saturday, April 17, Margie and I went to the Presbytery PW Gathering at Palmetto Presbyterian Church in Mount Pleasant. There were about 125 in attendance at the Gathering which began with a business meeting and concluded with a worship service and communion.

At the worship service, each PW group acknowledged the loss of several of its members who had died during the preceding year through the calling of their names and the placement of flowers in vases at the altar. Margie and I placed roses for Grace Harrison, Liz Duckworth, Mary Williams, Fran Willard, and our most recent loss, Betts Marsch.

It is a tender ceremony with appropriate music and pretty flowers.

Our speaker was Alice Wyatt, an old friend, who is Vice-Moderator for Missions on the Churchwide Coordinating Team and, by vocation, a nurse in Columbia. Alice is recently back from a three-week mission trip to the Congo, a trip which was announced to be a "hard trip." Alice acknowledged that it was indeed with scarcities in, among other things, electricity and running water. She spoke of the continual hardships suffered by those who live there in that war-torn land. In the area in which she and the group visited, there was no active warfare at the time although fighting continues in the land.

As usually happens, to hear of the travails of the people, especially the women and children, (many of whom do not reach their 5th birthdays), evokes astonishment at the resiliency, courage, and strength that the people fall back on.

Alice spoke to us of the help the Presbyterian Church and Presbyterian Women have given and continue to give to the people of the Congo. PW has built (and helps maintain) a hospital, provided food and medicines, supported schools, to mention a few ways.

Alice's theme was "Never Underestimate the Power of PW When It Comes To Missions." She, on behalf of Churchwide, thanked us for past gifts and asked us to never forget needy persons and/or to underestimate the importance of what we give, which in combination with the gifts of others amounts to a great deal.

The Gift Offering at this particular Gathering was designated for the Haitian Women's Micro Finance Project. As you see, PW gifts are spread all over the world. When we left, they hadn't finished counting the offering!

Next month more about the Fellowship of the Least Coin.

Have enjoyable summers, stay cool and

More later,
Dina

CIRCLE LEADERS

Please take a moment to update your Circle's information in the handbook. This includes the name roster (plus addresses, phone, e-mail), the Shut-Ins list, and the Circle Officers. Send to Denise in the church office at dseymore@1stpresbyterian.org or drop it by the office. The editorial committee needs this by **June 1**.

STEPS

Cultivate Your Faith is this year's theme for the annual STEPS (Studying, Teaching, Equipping, Praying and Serving) event. Come and join us and live, learn, grow, and "lead lives worthy of the Lord ... as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God." (Colossians 1:10)

This year's STEPS event will be held at Mt. Pleasant Presbyterian Church on August 28th. There will be something for everyone, as well as a creative worship led by the unique Christian drama troupe Friends of the Groom. The event as always will be filled with workshops for everyone in the church, so no matter if you fill a formal role, or think that you still need to find your place there is something for you at STEPS. Please check the church office and Centre for a brochure or go on line at www.chas-atlpresbytery.org and click on STEPS—you'll find all the workshops, leader information, and registration information. If 15 people register, we can take the bus.

Sunday School Teachers and Youth Advisors: We will pay your registration fee if you submit your complete registration form to the church office by July 19 at noon.

Sunday School Meet and Greet

June 6 - 9:30 a.m.

Join us for juice and coffee
in the Fellowship Hall.



Three Adult Classes Combine for the Summer

The Explorers, Headliners, and Saltshaker Sunday School Classes have combined for the summer months. The joint class will meet in the Saltshaker room at the end of the hall upstairs in the Fellowship Hall building. Any adults not currently attending another class are invited to participate.



High School

| | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Blake Boltin | Katalin Bramblett |
| William Brant | Evan Campbell |
| Sallie Covington | Anna Frierson |
| Laura Irick | Kayla Mims |
| Jenna Odom | Andy Trimmier |
| Annie Westlund | Rylee Wofford |

Known College Graduates

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Cally Patterson | Wofford |
| Mary Grey Branan | USC |
| Emily Ann Wofford | College of Charleston |

June Birthdays

| | |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| 6/01 Hugh Smith | 6/17 Sam Roberts |
| Will Hutto | Marston Smoak |
| 6/03 Jimmie Paul | 6/18 Shirley Meredith |
| Lillian Whalen | 6/19 Shawn Boltin |
| 6/05 Dorothy Harper | 6/20 Bette Bronson |
| Martin Gilchrist | 6/21 Cal Bruner |
| Lyn Byrd | Anne Griffin Patterson |
| 6/06 Raymond Murphy | 6/22 Bill Cuttino |
| Joel Cannon | "Sug" Hill |
| 6/07 Vivienne Hutto | Cody Roberts |
| 6/08 Jamie Smith | 6/23 Herb Bradley |
| Caroline Smoak | Sherry Johnson |
| 6/09 Lauren Arant | Beth Rickenbaker |
| 6/10 Haigler Bozardt | 6/24 Eva Baroody |
| 6/13 Wright Smith | 6/25 Gail Tourville |
| 6/14 Reuben Ridgeway | 6/27 Kathy Johnson |
| 6/15 Blake Boltin | Vicky Strickland |
| Morgan Gue | Clay Price |
| 6/16 Lessie Lee | 6/29 Rob Roberts |
| Katherine Haigler | |

Youth and Children's News

Youth

May marks the end of the school year and is an especially busy time for the youth of First Presbyterian. On May 9, nine seventh graders completed Confirmation and were presented to the congregation. I'm so proud of their hard work over the past few months and pray that they continue growing in their faith. The Youth celebrated the end of the year with the annual Parent Dinner on May 16, and this was a time for us to thank all of the parents for their support. We really appreciate all of the meals and other assistance they have provided during the past year. During the dinner, we also watched a slideshow with highlights from the year and three of the youth spoke. On May 23, we celebrated First Presbyterian's twelve high school graduates with a breakfast before church. The graduates were also honored during worship and were presented a gift. We are so proud of their accomplishments and look forward to their future successes.

We are busy preparing for the summer and have many fun events planned. I hope you'll join us!

- ❖ Beginning June 1, the **senior highs will meet every Tuesday at 3:00** for Bible study and fun.
- ❖ The **junior highs will meet on Thursdays at 3:00**, beginning on June 3. I hope to see everyone there!
- ❖ Also, there will be a **Confirmation refresher course** for recent high school graduates on June 8 and 10 from 1:00-4:00 in the youth room.
- ❖ Mark your calendars for June 15 for the youth trip to **Carowinds!!**

Children

I hope the kids of First Presbyterian are ready because we're going to have a fun summer! **King's Kids** will begin again on Monday, June 14. Rising 5K-2nd graders will meet from 9:30 - 11:00, and rising 3rd - 5th graders will meet from 2:00 - 3:30. On June 28, rising 3rd - 5th graders will be going to Carowinds. We also have a trip planned for July 19 to the Columbia Marionette Theatre. Parents, please let me know if you're willing to chaperone for either trip.



Vacation Bible School

Get ready! Vacation Bible School is almost here! VBS will be held June 7-11, and Camp Bethelwoods is providing a special program for those children who are rising 5K - 6th grade. We will also have a fun program designed for our 3 - and 4-year-olds. Come on out and "Sail the High C's" for a fun-filled week of learning about Jesus, playing games, making crafts, singing, and having fun with your friends!



Sarah Coggins
Director of Youth and Children

2010 Confirmation Class

Chandler Lawrence Boltin
Robert Blake Bruner
Andrew Kyle Dudley
Logan Elizabeth Miller
Clayton Ryan Price



Benjamin Rivers Ridgeway
Margaret Rebecca Robertson
James Ray Shepherd, Jr.
Aaron Calhoun Strickland

From the Pastor (continued from page 1)

I propose that we are often like Peter. We often have good, honorable intentions when it comes to being ministers of Jesus. But our best ministering intentions, when viewed through a human perspective, allow Satan to stand right behind us grinning from ear to ear. Conducting ministry using a human perspective furthers what we want. It is a perspective that lulls us into spiritual complacency and ultimate death for it seeks to maintain what we think is right and often contrary to God. That is what Satan wants. Had Peter had his way, Jesus would not have gone to the cross. In fact, I would surmise that when conflicts arise in our individual spiritual lives or in any church, those conflicts probably stem from humans looking through the human perspective instead of examining ourselves and seeking the divine perspective through the eyes of Jesus. Let us ask ourselves the next time the Spirit challenges us, "Am I seeking this from Jesus' perspective or mine?"

In Christ,
Jud

Memorials

Given in Memory of:

Mrs. Mary Wright Williams
Mrs. Betts Marsch

Mr. Gene Walter
Mr. Theodore "Ted" Byers

Mrs. Emilie C. Caughman
Mrs. Lou D. Guthrie

Mr. Ashby "Pat" Kelley
Mr. Harry W. Whitaker

Given by:

Dr. and Mrs. J. Richard Williamson
Mr. and Mrs. Allen Dominick
Mr. and Mrs. John A. Baugh, IV
Mr. and Mrs. Dwight Frierson
Mrs. Frances Lytch
Ms. Gayle Sheriff
Mr. and Mrs. J. Edward Byrd
Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Guthrie
Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Smith
Orangeburg County Library Staff
Earle and Lyn Bethea
Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Till
Mr. and Mrs. Abbott Best
Ms. Mary Ann Heaton
Dr. Henry Frierson
Mr. and Mrs. Rex Johnson
Dr. and Mrs. Steve Patterson
Mr. and Mrs. Steve Bickel
Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Cleveland, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Marion Garris
Mr. and Mrs. John Adden, Jr.
Rickie Bolen
Dr. and Mrs. Ray Griffith
Mr. and Mrs. Joe McComb
Division of Human Resources, SC Dept. of Corrections

Dr. and Mrs. Randolph Smoak
Mr. and Mrs. Roger McGuirt
Prince of Orange Miniature Society
Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Cuttino, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. John Shuler
Mrs. Audrey Pace
Dr. and Mrs. James Brunson
Mrs. Mickey Stanton
Mr. and Mrs. Dwight Frierson
John Knox Sunday School Class
Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Davidson
Mr. and Mrs. David Adden
Ms. Peggy Smith
Mrs. Peggy Crocker
Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Huddleston
Mrs. Mildred Warren
Mrs. Elizabeth Davis
Mr. and Mrs. William C. Brown
Hunter and Associates
J. W. Hunt and Co.
Mr. and Mrs. Drake Perrow
Mr. and Mrs. Dean Flansburg
Rev. George B. Salley, Jr.
Dr. and Mrs. Hugh E. Smith

Janet and Johnny Brailsford
Mr. and Mrs. Julian Stroman
Mrs. Jewell Booth
Mr. and Mrs. James Jackson, Jr.
Mrs. Kay Stroman
Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Cox, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Dean Flansburg
Mr. Bob Sharpton
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Keeney
John and Kriston Evans
Mr. and Mrs. Bob Utsey, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. William Tyler
Mr. and Mrs. James F. Walsh, Jr.
Mrs. Karen Schweizer-Nagle
Kimberly Baker and Sabrina Baker
Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Weathers
Mr. Thomas Edens, III
Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Fairey, III
Mr. and Mrs. William C. Kelley
Mr. and Mrs. Rusty Brodie
Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Bryant
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Watson
Mrs. Nancy W. Hudson

Decals for Sale!



Show your pride by buying a First Presbyterian Church decal! The youth are selling the decals for \$2, and the money will be used to support mission projects, including local missions. To purchase a decal, you can contact a member of the youth group or call the church office.

Sarah Coggins

Notes of Thanks

◆ "Thank you" can not adequately express my gratitude to all you wonderful caring friends, for all you did for my family and me at the time of Harry's death. The road has been bumpy, but your support has been overwhelming and the love you have extended makes me so grateful to be a part of this family of God.

Sincerely,
Janet Whitaker

◆ Thank you, Gerald and Elise Myers and family. The chicken was absolutely delicious and the hospitality was fantastic. We really appreciate your giving of your time and talent to provide us with such a wonderful time. Thanks again.

The Prime Timers

Community of Character

June: Courtesy

Children's Church and Nursery Schedules

| | Nursery | Two-to-Four Year-Olds | Children's Church |
|---------|------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| June 6 | Sandra Borgstedt | Walt and Jennifer Turner | Robbie and Tracy Myers |
| June 13 | Dee Anne Miller | Harry and Wallace Mims | Jennifer and Walt Turner |
| June 20 | Lisa Boltin | Kim and Ken Panitt | Jane Holladay |
| June 27 | Erin Richardson | Jason and Sheila Gregory | Tim and Julie Mobley |

Bible Quiz Answers

- 66
- Psalm 117
- Psalm 119
- Psalm 118 - There are 594 before and after Psalm 118 for a total of 1188 chapters.

PRESSbyterian Deadline

July/August Issue: June 15, 2010

Please note that the July/August issue will be mailed the last week of June. The next newsletter will not be received in homes until the last week of August. Please plan accordingly when submitting articles.

First Presbyterian Church
650 Summers Avenue
Orangeburg, SC 29115

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I WAIT FOR THE LORD,



MY SOUL WAITS,
AND IN HIS WORD

I HOPE.

Psalm 130:5, NRSV

June 2010

