

the Epistle

First Presbyterian Church, Wadesboro, North Carolina 28170

May 2011

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From the Pastor's Heart

“He is risen!” we joyfully proclaim, and with this amazing gift of the resurrection, we have new life in Christ and the assurance of God’s great and endless love. The season of Easter is a time to truly reflect on God’s good news of grace, life, and love and it’s a time to seek out ways to share these truths, too.

Theologian and author Frederick Dale Bruner points out that “the resurrection always leads to mission.” Every time you have a story about the resurrection in the Bible, it always ends with God’s people being given a job to do. Once you know that Christ has been raised, the appropriate response is to go and tell others, and to live as witnesses for the risen Christ.

One way we will share and celebrate the gift of new life together is in witnessing the sacrament of baptism. On Sunday, May 22, we will joyfully baptize Brady Shepherd Hyatt. We will promise as a congregation to guide, nurture, and encourage Brady and all the children of the church with love and prayer, and to share with them the good news of Jesus and his love. The sacrament of baptism uses Easter language about dying to sin and rising to new life and, like the resurrection of our Lord, it reminds us we have a job to do.

I encourage all of us to remember this in the month ahead as opportunities open up to teach, encourage, and support our young people through Vacation Bible School and the Montreat Youth Conference this summer.

VBS is a special week in which we live out our responsibility to teach and nurture our young ones in the Christian faith. It’s a week full of fun, learning, singing, crafting, eating, playing, and growing. And as you know from past years of service, Vacation Bible School is a week that

requires full participation from the congregation to make it happen and make it special.

Plans are also getting in place for some of our youth to participate in a week full of worship, play, reflection, sharing, making new friends, and learning more about God’s love and God’s plan for their lives. This is sure to be a life-shaping time for our young people and one that will be enriched by your support. Please say yes when an elder or leader asks for your help in making these opportunities possible and meaningful for our children and youth. And please feel free to contact your Christian Education/Worship committee members to volunteer now.

Resurrection Blessings,

Heather

Team of Elders Planning for Transition

At our April session meeting Heather announced that she will be leaving at the end of June so she can be at home with her boys full-time this summer and explore new ministry opportunities closer to the Matthews area. The Session has asked Foyle Hightower (CE/Worship), Jeanne Price (Member Care), Bob Stowe (Finance/Admin/Property), and Kaye Ratliff (Missions) to meet, discuss, and guide the session and congregation through transition details regarding pastoral leadership possibilities and plans for the future. Please keep this team and the session in your prayers as they lead and serve.

SESSION

The next stated meeting of Session will be
Sunday, May 15, after Worship.
Minutes are posted on the bulletin board for your
information.

MEMBER CARE NOTES

MEMORIAL FUND DONATIONS

In Memory of Estelle Shelton by
Linda Jones
Nat & Candy White
Legrand Bennett, Jr.
Leila Bennett Doughton
Kathy B. Ainsworth
Steve & Kay Cameron Conner

MEMORIAL GARDEN DONATIONS

In Memory of Herb Hildreth by
Ken & Becky Goins
Jane & Brown Gardner
Linda Jones
Cameron & Kim Keith
David & Peggy Trexler
Nat & Candy White
Wallace & Dora Trexler
Pauline "Pete" Lewis & Family
Frances Landen
Pam Vernon
Henry & Shirley Harward
Frances Vernon

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Honor your friend or loved one with a contribution
to First Presbyterian Women of the Church.

Presbyterian Women Fund Contributions

In Honor of Gloria Cameron by
Kay Cameron Conner

EPISTLE MAILING

In an effort to reduce the cost of mailing our *Epistle*, if you have an email address on file with the church, we would like to email the *Epistle* to you. (If you have an email address and are not currently receiving emails regarding church concerns, please notify the Church Office.) Additionally, please be aware that Member Care posts the *Epistle* on our website as soon as Jan finishes preparing it. You may find it under the heading "Newsletter" at www.fpcwadesboro.org. This gives our members two opportunities to view the *Epistle* electronically. If you prefer reading from a hard copy, you will be able to print the document yourself from either electronic source.

WORSHIP NOTES/ CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

SACRAMENT OF LORD'S SUPPER



The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
will be observed during morning
worship on Sunday, May 1st.

UPCOMING PRESBYTERY VOTING AND AMENDMENTS

The Presbytery of Charlotte will be meeting on
Tuesday, May 17, and the elders and pastor
representatives from First Presbyterian will join other
elders and pastors present in voting on several
important changes to our Book of Order and Book of
Confessions. Study resources that look closely at the
proposed changes have been shared with the session
and are also available to the congregation at large.
Please talk with or email Heather if you would like to
find out more information. You can also visit these
helpful websites that address the important issues
before our Presbytery and the Presbyterian Church
(U.S.A) www.gahelp.net www.pcusa.org

BAOBAB BLAST VBS
June 12-16, 2011

Mark your calendars now for June 12-16. God's Great Get-Together won't be the same without YOU! All children are invited and all adults are needed to make it an amazing week of fun and learning.

TRUST LOVE FOLLOW CARE SHARE

The great baobab tree in the expansive African savannah is the setting for this year's VBS. This exciting get-together has something for everyone in the community to LOVE. Kids will be creating, crafting, jumping, and FOLLOWing with action-packed games; moving to and singing new songs; and SHARE-ing the good news with everyone they meet.

TRUST us, this is a week you don't want to miss! It's all about being part of a community, CARE-ing for others, learning about the Bible, and having fun, of course!

Sign up today!

Pre-registration begins: Sunday, May 1, 2011

Registration cards are available in the Bell Room. Adult volunteer sign-ups are in the Bell Room. For more information, talk with Pam Vernon, Jeanne Price, Bonnie Morgan, Anne Hyatt, or Heather Koontz.

Sign up soon and bring a friend to share in the fun. It's going to be a BLAST!



NOTES FROM JANICE



Many thanks to our choirs for their Lent/Easter programs:

Our handbell choir presented two beautiful and somewhat difficult pieces on April 10. Often bells were being "borrowed" between ringers and some were playing a larger number of bells which resulted in smooth transitions between notes.

Our thanks to the handbell choir of First United Methodist Church in Mt. Gilead for lending us a bell that is not currently in our set.

The Cherub Choir presented special songs and a fingerplay for the Palm Sunday program and Emma Trexler sang a beautiful solo! Thanks to their parents for all of their help. The Young Adult contemporary songs were great, too!

Our Chancel Choir presented a beautiful cantata at Easter! The vocal blend, solos, monologues, narration were all excellent. The whole performance was beautiful and I felt great being in front of this wonderful group of people! I could just feel how much they were enjoying the singing of this music.

Thanks to Holly Ratliffe for her beautiful offertory solo and my special thanks to her for having to work the CD player herself while I was down at the piano!

I have a new cabinet for my organ music in the pass-through room between the library and the sanctuary. This beautiful new furniture was built by Emmett Patterson and I appreciate it so much. Now I will be able to find what I need without searching through stacks of music! It is really very special. Stop by and see it when you can!

Rehearsal Times:



Handbell Choir: Wednesdays at 6:00 PM
Chancel Choir: Wednesdays at 7:00 PM
Cherub Choir: Sundays at 9:45 AM

MISSION



SALAD LUNCHEON

May 6, 2011

**The Salad Luncheon date is Friday, May 6th.
What will you do to help with this fundraiser?
Volunteer to bring a salad, ham biscuits, desserts,
etc., sell tickets, and also consider volunteering to
help serve. Thanks for your support!**

11:00 AM until.... Tickets: \$7.00 each
All proceeds will go to fund local, state, national,
and world mission outreach.

BE A SALAD LUNCHEON SPONSOR

We will also have sponsorships for this event and for a mere \$100.00 you can get two tickets and your name and a picture put on our table placemats. We really need your support for this event and we count on you to come forward and help. You can join together with someone else to do a sponsorship to help. **Sponsorships are due Sunday, May 1st.**

BELK CHARITY DAY SALE

Thanks for your help with the Belk Charity Day Sale. To date, \$280 was raised for FPC with the sale of tickets.

ANSON CRISIS MINISTRY NEEDS

May is the month that we are to provide Anson Crisis Ministry with vegetable oil and shortening. These items may be left in the provided container as you enter the church.

RELAY FOR LIFE

June 17, 2011, 6:00 PM – Anson High Stadium

Luminaries are due May 10th.

Plan to walk or make a donation.

We'll accept donations right up to the event.

FOOD PANTRY: WACOM

We welcome volunteers of all ages.

May Food Pantry:

Set-Up – May 13th 4:00 PM

Distribution – May 14th 8:30-10:00 AM

OFFERINGS

The \$2 offering per family for the **Mission Fund** will be taken on Sunday, May 1st, during the worship service.

The **10¢-A-Meal** offering will be taken on Sunday, May 29th, during the worship service.

10¢ a Meal, 30¢ a day, \$2.10 a week, \$9.00 a month



PROPERTY/FINANCE/ ADMINISTRATION

FINANCIAL REPORT

Each week, we need \$3,264.00 to meet budget for the General Account. Below is a list of the amounts we have received in past weeks:

March 27 \$3,013.00

April 3 \$2,398.15

April 10 \$2,737.50

April 17 \$ 902.00

April 24 \$2,142.00

\$16,320.00 was needed for this period and we received \$11,192.65 – shortage of \$5,127.35.

Shortage since January 1, 2011 is \$17,280.05.

COMMUNITY NOTES

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE



Wednesday, May 25

1:30-6:00 PM

First Presbyterian Fellowship Hall



Happy Mother's Day! - May 8th



**Church Office will be closed Monday, May 30th,
in observance of the Memorial Day holiday.**



ACOLYTE/GREETER SCHEDULE

FLOWER CALENDAR

May 1 Ellen & Eddie Huntley
May 8 Dianne Deese
May 15 OPEN
May 22 OPEN
May 29 OPEN

May 1 Emma Trexler
May 8 Katie Paige Huntley
May 15 Mary Catherine Boylin
May 22 Grace Morgan
May 29 Luke Hyatt

(You have the option of using the silk flower arrangement for a donation of \$25 to the Mission Fund or you can make arrangements to have fresh flowers delivered from a florist. Call the Church Office for details.)

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS

May 1 Anne & Luke Hyatt
May 8 Pam Vernon & Bob Stowe
May 15 Ross Huntley & Ginger Trexler
May 22 Ellen & Eddie Huntley
May 29 Peggy & David Trexler

Note: Please be at the church at 9:45 AM when you are scheduled to keep the Nursery.

USHER SCHEDULE

May 1

Bryan Trexler
Alex McLeod
Calvin Catoe
Ashe Ratliff

May 8

John Edwards
Danny Deese
Glenn Trexler
Bob Stowe

May 15

Luke Hyatt
Jerry Ridenhour
Foyle Hightower
Hugh Wallace

May 22

Bryan Trexler
Jim Strayhorn
Alex McLeod
Calvin Catoe

May 29

Eddie Huntley
Ashe Ratliff
John Edwards
Danny Deese

Note: Ushers need to be at church by 10:45 AM. If you cannot usher, it is your responsibility to get a replacement.

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