

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

October 15, 2006

11:00 A.M.

WELCOME AND INVOCATION.....The Rev. Dr. Clay J. Brown, Pastor

PRELUDE: O God Our Help in Ages Past..... Lasky/Callahan
Joanne Daykin, Organist

CALL TO WORSHIP: From Psalm 24:8 and Colossians 3:16-17 (ESV)..... Anne Telford

Leader: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

People: Who made heaven and earth.

Leader: Let the word of God dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom,

People: Singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your heart to God.

Leader: And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus,

People: Giving thanks to God the Father through him. Let us worship God!

*HYMN: Joyful, Joyful, We Adore TheeNo. 59

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION..... The Rev. Dr. Fred Coates, Associate Pastor

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: . . . Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

*HYMN: What a Friend We Have in JesusNo. 473

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

THE PROMISE-DRIVEN LIFE TESTIMONYJulie Morrow

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY: Those Who Wait On the Lord..... Courtney
Chancel Choir

*RESPONSE: Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow.....No. 34

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION.....Mary Fortanbary

SCRIPTURE READING: 2 Corinthians 9:1-15 Insert

SERMON: *The Promise-Driven Life: The Spiritual Adventure of Giving*..... Dr. Brown

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: *Heidelberg Catechism*, Questions 1 and 2

Leader: What is your only comfort, in life and in death?

Unison: That I belong—body and soul, in life and in death—not to myself but to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ, who at the cost of his own blood has fully paid for all my sins and has completely freed me from the dominion of the devil; that he protects me so well that without the will of my Father in heaven not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, that everything must fit his purpose for my salvation. Therefore, by his Holy Spirit, he also assures me of eternal life, and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

Leader: How many things must you know that you may live and die in the blessedness of this comfort?

Unison: Three. First, the greatness of my sin and wretchedness. Second, how I am freed from all my sins and their wretched consequences. Third, what gratitude I owe to God for such a redemption.

*HYMN: *Here I Am, Lord* (Verses 1 and 2)No. 559

*INVITATION AND BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE: *Here I Am, Lord* (Verse 3) 559

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame. I will set a feast for them, my hand will save. Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied. I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

POSTLUDE *Agincourt Hymn*..... Dunstable

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* Those who are able will please stand.

If you are our guest today, welcome to First Presbyterian! We’re so glad you’re worshiping with us. For more information, please indicate your interest on the Friendship Pad and speak with one of the pastors following the service. God bless you! Please return to worship with us again.

You can become part of the FPC community today by your profession of faith, transfer of church membership, or reaffirmation of faith. The Session meets after every service to receive new members. Please speak with Fred Coates, our associate pastor, following today’s service.

Recordings of the 11:00 a.m. service are available at the sound console at the back of the sanctuary.

The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are given to the glory of God and in memory of the W.B. Harris, Sr. family who loved this church – W.B. Harris, Sr., Sallie, Henry, W.B. Harris, Jr., Mary, Barbara, Patricia, Kristin and Rachel and John Allred by their family.

Next Sunday’s sermon by the Rev. Dr. Clay J. Brown will be on Matthew 6:25-34, *All These Things*, the second in *The Promise-Driven Life*, a two-part sermon and study series on Christian stewardship as an adventure of faith with our time, talents, and treasure.

Announcements

Want to learn more about living a Promise-Driven Life? Bring the family and join us for the Stewardship Banquet and Fair today from 5:00 to 7:30 at the Charles Mack Citizens Center. The Rev. Clay Brown will be our speaker. Enjoy food and fellowship, and learn about opportunities to serve. Please call the church office to make your reservations. Donations will be accepted for dinner. We will receive pledges and Time and Talent cards not yet returned to the church on Sunday, October 22.

Volunteers for “Step Two”: Our new “ Pathway for Membership” includes “ Step Two,” a one-time, one-hour conversation with new members about how they may become involved and “plug in” to our life at FPC. These conversations will normally take place during the Church School hour at the church. We need caring, relational friends to help our new members become connected to our church community. If you sense God’s leadership, please contact either Clay Brown or Gene Vaughan, chair of the Membership and Evangelism Committee. Training will be provided by Dr. Brown.

The next *Discover First Pres* class is scheduled for Sunday, November 12, 6:00-9:00 p.m. We will begin at the Manse with a dessert reception hosted by Cathy and Clay Brown, take a tour of the church facilities, and conclude with a short class on all things Presbyterian with Clay. Child care will be available if requested in advance. It is not too early to register for this upcoming class. Please contact the church office at 704-664-5275 or secretary@moorvillefirstpres.org.

Sign Up for *Thursdays with Clay: Discover the Book God Wrote*. *Thursdays with Clay* is our new Bible study time with our senior pastor, the Rev. Dr. Clay Brown.. A morning session convenes from 11:00 a.m. to noon, and an evening session from 7:30-8:30 p.m. The next *Thursdays with Clay* offering promises to be most helpful. **For four Thursdays, November 2, 9, 16, and 30, Clay will lead us in *Discover the Book God Wrote*, based on the book by the late Bill Bright.** *Discover the Book God Wrote* is an introduction to the Bible, but it’s also much more than that. The course will focus how to read and study the Bible for ourselves and how reading, knowing, and applying the Bible can transform our walk with Christ. Prior Bible knowledge isn’t necessary! You can register by contacting the church office at 704-664-5275 or secretary@moorvillefirstpres.org. Books are \$16 each, and checks may be made payable to the church. You will be able to pick up your book at the church beginning Sunday, October 29

Gathering of “Constitutional Presbyterians” Nov. 3-4 at First Presbyterian, Greenville, SC: Targeting Presbyterians in the Southeast, the meeting will focus on how we may affirm, support, and encourage the PCUSA’s Constitutional provisions of fidelity in marriage and chastity in singleness for all ordained ministers, elders, and deacons. Speakers include **Howard Edington**, senior pastor of Providence Presbyterian, Hilton Head, SC; **Ron Scates**, senior pastor of Highland Park Presbyterian, Dallas, TX; **James Logan, Sr.**, elder from Charlotte; and **Samuel Moffett**, professor emeritus of mission at Princeton Theological Seminary. The program begins Friday at 7 p.m. and concludes Saturday at 4 p.m., with an overnight stay in Greenville. **Your pastoral staff and members of the Session will attend. You are invited to attend also.** If you’re interested, please contact Clay or Fred for more details.

Saints Alive Luncheon: The monthly Saints Alive luncheon (\$4) will be held on Tuesday, October 17, at 12:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. This month’s program will feature a hands-on project to pack shoe boxes for needy children. The shoe boxes will be sent to Operation Christmas Child, and will be distributed to children around the world. Everyone is encouraged to bring an empty, standard size shoe box and small items to pack inside the shoe box, such as small toys, school supplies, hygiene items, candy, gum, and socks. Please do not bring the following: used items, war-related items, chocolate or food, liquids, lotions, or breakable items.



11:00 A.M. Order of Worship

First Presbyterian Church

249 West McLelland Avenue

Mooreville, North Carolina 28115

(704) 664-5275 www.moorevillefirstpres.org

The Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth be silent before Him...

Habakkuk 2:20

SERMON NOTES ♦ OCTOBER 15, 2006

The Promise-Driven Life: The Spiritual Adventure of Giving ♦ 2 Corinthians 9:1-15

1. THE PURPOSE: YOU GIVE TO MAKE MINISTRY HAPPEN (2 CORINTHIANS 9:1-5)

¹Now it is superfluous for me to write to you about the ministry for the saints, ²for I know your readiness, of which I boast about you to the people of Macedonia, saying that Achaia has been ready since last year. And your zeal has stirred up most of them. ³But I am sending the brothers so that our boasting about you may not prove vain in this matter, so that you may be ready, as I said you would be. ⁴Otherwise, if some Macedonians come with me and find that you are not ready, we would be humiliated--to say nothing of you--for being so confident. ⁵So I thought it necessary to urge the brothers to go on ahead to you and arrange in advance for the gift you have promised, so that it may be ready as a willing gift, not as an exaction.

2. THE RULE: THE MORE YOU GIVE, THE MORE YOU RECEIVE (2 CORINTHIANS 9:6)

⁶The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.

3. THE ATTITUDE: YOU GIVE HILARIOUSLY (2 CORINTHIANS 9:7)

⁷Each one must give as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

4. THE METHOD: YOU GET IN ORDER TO GIVE (2 CORINTHIANS 9:8-10)

⁸And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. ⁹As it is written,

"He has distributed freely, he has given to the poor; his righteousness endures forever."

¹⁰He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness.

5. THE RESULT: GOD RECEIVES THE GLORY (2 CORINTHIANS 9:11-15)

¹¹You will be enriched in every way for all your generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God. ¹²For the ministry of this service is not only supplying the needs of the saints, but is also overflowing in many thanksgivings to God. ¹³By their approval of this service, they will glorify God because of your submission flowing from your confession of the gospel of Christ, and the generosity of your contribution for them and for all others, ¹⁴while they long for you and pray for you, because of the surpassing grace of God upon you. ¹⁵Thanks be to God for his inexpressible gift!

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Calendar

- Sunday: **Stewardship Sunday**
8:30 a.m. - Early Worship
9:45 a.m. - Church School
11:00 a.m. - Worship Celebration
12:00 p.m. - PYF to Corn Maze
3:00 p.m. - Handmaidens of the Lord (No. 6) at the home of Ginny Swedenberg
5:00 p.m. - **Stewardship Fair & Dinner at the Charles Mack Citizen Center**
- Monday: 9:30 a.m. - “Moms in Touch” in the Session room
7:30 p.m. - Bible study at the home of Fred & Jean Coates
- Tuesday: 10:00 a.m. - *Exploring Our Reformed Faith* in the library
12:30 p.m. - Saints Alive
5:30 p.m. - PYF Supper Club at Bojangles
7:00 p.m. - Exaltation Ringers
- Wednesday: 11:00 a.m. - Bible Study at the home of Fronnie Gardner
4:00 p.m. - Logos/MSM – *Crazy Tie Night*
5:00 p.m. - Kairos
7:30 p.m. - Chancel choir
- Thursday: 9:30 a.m. - Bible Study with Peggy & Harding Rogers
- Friday: 5:00 p.m. - Pancake Supper in the Fellowship Hall
- Saturday 7:00 a.m. - Pancake Breakfast and Silent Auction in the Fellowship Hall
- Sunday 10/22: **Pledge Sunday**
8:30 a.m. - Early Worship with the Logos Choir
9:45 a.m. - Church School
11:00 a.m. - Worship Celebration
1:00 p.m. - Choir Recording Session (Christmas CD)
4:15 p.m. - Alpha PYF
5:15 p.m. - Omega PYF
7:00 p.m. - Session Meeting

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