

**SERMON NOTES ♦ AUGUST 23, 2009**  
**“Spiritual Horticulture”**

**SERMON TEXT**

Romans 11:13-24 (ESV)

<sup>13</sup>Now I am speaking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch then as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I magnify my ministry <sup>14</sup>in order somehow to make my fellow Jews jealous, and thus save some of them. <sup>15</sup>For if their rejection means the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance mean but life from the dead? <sup>16</sup> If the dough offered as firstfruits is holy, so is the whole lump, and if the root is holy, so are the branches.

<sup>17</sup>But if some of the branches were broken off, and you, although a wild olive shoot, were grafted in among the others and now share in the nourishing root of the olive tree, <sup>18</sup>do not be arrogant toward the branches. If you are, remember it is not you who support the root, but the root that supports you. <sup>19</sup>Then you will say, "Branches were broken off so that I might be grafted in." <sup>20</sup>That is true. They were broken off because of their unbelief, but you stand fast through faith. So do not become proud, but fear. <sup>21</sup>For if God did not spare the natural branches, neither will he spare you. <sup>22</sup>Note then the kindness and the severity of God: severity toward those who have fallen, but God's kindness to you, provided you continue in his kindness. Otherwise you too will be cut off. <sup>23</sup>And even they, if they do not continue in their unbelief, will be grafted in, for God has the power to graft them in again. <sup>24</sup>For if you were cut from what is by nature a wild olive tree, and grafted, contrary to nature, into a cultivated olive tree, how much more will these, the natural branches, be grafted back into their own olive tree.

**NOTES**

**1. An Unusual Calling...**

**2. An Unusual Technique...**

**3. An Unusual Combination...**

**Leadership of First Presbyterian Church**

**SESSION**

Clay Brown, Moderator

Fred A. Coates • Tyler Domske • CP Chappell, Clerk

**Class of 2009**

Christine B. Ahearn  
Karen O. Brawley  
F. Michael Campbell, MD  
Philip L. Heilman  
Weldon M. Hitchcock  
Thermond E. Thompson  
J. Scott Vaughn

**Class of 2010**

David W. Brooks, II  
Donald L. Fair  
Donald F. Howie  
Joyce S. Johnson  
Thomas R. Kirkland, Jr.  
W. Smith Kirk  
Mark E. McNeely

**Class of 2011**

Mark E. Auten  
Allen M. Brawley  
W. Brent Curtis  
Mary H. Fortanbary  
Karen A. Shore  
Paul S. Trimble  
Harry Weyer

**DIACONATE**

Kathleen H. Irwin, Moderator

**Class of 2009**

Dale W. Brawley  
John G. Donelson  
Judy L. Cole  
Eric H. Estes  
C. Marshall Horsman, Jr.  
Kathleen H. Irwin  
Julie R. Morrow

**Class of 2010**

Kathy B. Ballard  
Laura E. Bates  
Lynn T. Brooks  
Rebecca B. Deal  
Janice S. Puer  
J. Patrick Stutts  
Eric R. Puer

**Class of 2011**

Bryan G. Cole  
James N. Davidson  
Thomas B. McMillan  
Beth B. Sink  
Mary Beth Stutts  
Gene E. Vaughan  
Lucinda Weyer

**PASTORS**

The Rev. Dr. Clay J. Brown, Pastor/Head of Staff  
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The Rev. Dr. Fred A.H. Coates, Associate Pastor for  
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The Rev. Tyler J. Domske, Associate Pastor for Youth  
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**PROGRAM AND SUPPORT STAFF**

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Ellen Auten, Director of Christian Education  
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Nancy Kortright, Director of Preschool  
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LuAnne Sledge, Treasurer  
luanne@moorevillefirstpres.org

Nellie Goodman, Secretary  
nellie@moorevillefirstpres.org

Billy Black, Sexton

Jerilyn Fair, Hostess

Christy Floyd, Organist  
christy@moorevillefirstpres.org

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

249 West McLelland Avenue  
Mooreville, North Carolina 28115  
704-664-5275 ♦ www.moorevillefirstpres.org

**Loving God, Loving People, and Making Disciples**

**August 23, 2009 ♦ 9:00 A.M.**

**WELCOME**

Clay Brown

Please complete the Friendship Pad and pass it down your pew for all to sign.

An asterisk (\*) marks when those who are able will please stand.

Please turn off your cell phones or place them on "vibrate."

**INVOCATION**

**PRELUDE:** "Meditation"

Franck

Christy Floyd

**\*HYMN 581** "Called as Partners in Christ's Service"

BEECHER

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

Fred Coates

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

Tyler Domske

**UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Sovereign God, we confess to you that our perspectives and actions are twisted by pride. We see ourselves as pure when in reality we are stained, and mighty when in reality we are weak. We have failed to live in your love. We have neglected to be just. We have turned away from your truth. God of mercy, forgive our sin, so we may serve you joyfully and fearlessly. Through Jesus Christ we pray...**

**SILENT CONFESSION**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**\*GLORIA PATRI 734**

GREATOREX

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, World without end. Amen. Amen.**

**COMMISSIONING OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS**

Leader: Jesus said to go and make disciples of all nations, not only baptizing but also teaching them to obey his commands.

**All: This is why we are called to the ministry of Christian education—to make disciples of Jesus Christ.**

Leader: For those serving in this vital ministry, we ask you, "Do you respond to the call of Christ to teach, love, support, and make disciples?"

**Christian Educators: Yes. We hear God's call, and we respond. We will teach, love, support, and make disciples in the name of Jesus Christ.**

Leader: Will we as a church body support and pray for those engaged in this ministry?

**Congregation: Yes. We will support and pray for everyone involved in this vital work. Thanks be to God!**

Leader: Let us pray...

**\*HYMN 653:** "I Will Call Upon the Lord"

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**FIRST LESSON:** Isaiah 56:3-8

Pew Bible, p. 651

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

**SERMON LESSON:** Romans 11:13-24

Sermon Notes

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

**SERMON:** "Spiritual Horticulture"

Clay Brown

### PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE AND 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.**

### GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

**OFFERTORY:** "In Times Like These"

Linda Ervin

Jones

**\*DOXOLOGY 34**

OLD 100TH

**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

**\*HYMN 566:** "Your Servant Comes This Hour" (vv 1-3)

FESTAL SONG

### \*OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE AND INVITATION

### \*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

**\*RESPONSE 566:** "Your Servant Comes This Hour" (v 4)

FESTAL SONG

**\*POSTLUDE:** Postlude on "Old 134th"

arr. Jones

**If you are our guest today, welcome!** We're so glad you're here. For more information on FPC, please indicate your interest on the Friendship Pad and/or take home a "Welcome Home" folder from the Parlor. **You can become a FPC member TODAY** by your profession of faith, transfer of membership, or reaffirmation of faith. Please speak with the pastor in the chancel area following the service.

**Large print bulletins** are available from the ushers. **Assisted listening devices** are available from the sound console at the back of the sanctuary.

**The flowers in the sanctuary** are given to the glory of God and in honor of all Christian Education volunteers, for their commitment and dedication to leading and assisting in the educational programs of this congregation.

**Recent Prayer Requests:** Paul Trimble; Willie Allison; Richard Holshouser; the family of Nancy Baker; Clayton Davidson; George Brawley; Becky McIntyre's mother; Pam Winters' sister, Reaves Geist; Jan and Caroline Hampton; Suzy Brawley; Bill Raffety's father, Mick Raffety; Mary Voils Aven; Tip McGee; EO2SW Laban Thompson; Scott Knutsen; 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Ben Peacock, USAF; all those who have recently lost loved ones; those who are looking for jobs.

**Worship Orientation:** All rising first graders and their parents are encouraged to attend a Worship Orientation class this morning, immediately following Promotion Sunday activities. The class will be held in the sanctuary.

**Church School Promotion Sunday:** Everyone is invited to attend special Promotion Sunday activities this morning at 10:00 a.m. in the fellowship hall. Activities include introduction of church school teachers, information about the new church school year, and presentation of Bibles to second graders. Biscuits and breakfast refreshments will be served.

**Catechism Club:** The 2009-2010 Catechism Club, offered to children in third through sixth grades, will begin Sunday, September 13, from 5:30-6:15 p.m. Children in Catechism Club will be encouraged to memorize the 150 questions of the *First Catechism*, and will have weekly instruction in basic Bible truths. Registration will take place in the church parlor this morning.

**Camp Grier Congregational Retreat:** Everyone in our church family is encouraged to attend the annual congregational Labor Day Retreat at Camp Grier in Old Fort, NC, scheduled for Friday, September 4 through Sunday, September 6. You may come for all or part of the weekend. Informational brochures may be found at the rear of the sanctuary, in the parlor, and in the church office. Registration forms and payments are due by Friday, August 29.

**Lost and Found:** Please check the Lost & Found table in the fellowship hall for items you may have left at the church. All items not claimed by August 31 will be donated to the Christian Mission.

**A report on the church survey** taken earlier this year will be presented by the Personnel and Administration Committee on Sunday, August 30, 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is invited. Make your plans to attend.

**Logos/Middle School Ministry (MSM):** This year marks the beginning of the 31<sup>st</sup> year of our congregation's participation in the Logos Program. Our Logos program is a mid-week (Wednesdays, 4:00-7:15 p.m.) program for youth in first through eighth grades, and consists of Bible study, worship skills,

recreation, and dinner. Logos is for children in first through sixth grades, while MSM is for seventh and eighth graders. The primary goal of the Logos Program is to develop genuine and lasting relationships between young people and Jesus Christ, their ministers, parents and other adults in the congregation, as well as their peers. Parents may register their children for the program at one of the following required Parent Meetings:

**Sunday, August 23 – 10:15 a.m.** – Room 301

**Sunday, August 23 – 7:00 p.m.** – Fellowship Hall

**Wednesday, August 26 – 7:00 p.m.** – Fellowship Hall

**Saturday, September 5** – at the Camp Grier Retreat (TBA)

**The registration deadline is Wednesday, September 2.** Fees include a \$30 registration fee and a \$50 per semester tuition fee. Scholarship help is available upon request. Please contact program director Gretchen Little (704-528-9796), assistant director Lisa Davidson (704-662-9393), or Ellen Auten (704-664-5275) with questions about the program. The 2009-2010 Logos year begins Wednesday, September 9.

**From the Budget and Finance Committee:** January – July 2009:

YTD Budget - \$440,354.00; Deficit – (\$15,468.00)

### Calendar for August 23-30, 2009

Sunday: *Christian Education Sunday*  
9:00 a.m. - Early Worship  
10:00 a.m. - Church School Promotion  
10:15 a.m. - Worship Orientation for 1<sup>st</sup> Graders  
10:15 a.m. - Logos/MSM Parent Meeting  
11:00 a.m. - Worship with Baptism  
7:00 p.m. - Session Meeting  
7:00 p.m. - Logos/MSM Parent Meeting

Monday: 7:00 p.m. - Boy Scouts

Wednesday: 11:00 a.m. - Bible Study at the home of Fronnie Gardner  
7:00 p.m. - Logos/MSM Parent Meeting  
7:00 p.m.\* - Just Desserts at Dairy Queen (\*New time)  
7:30 p.m. - Chancel Choir

Thursday: 9:30 a.m. - Bible Study at the Rogers' home

Friday: - Camp Grier Retreat Deadline

Sunday 8/30: 9:00 a.m. - Early Worship  
10:00 a.m. - Church School  
11:00 a.m. - Worship



*You are warmly invited to the marriage ceremony  
uniting Neely Curtis and Jack Purcell  
on the 29<sup>th</sup> of August, 6 o'clock in the evening,  
in the sanctuary.*

*We would love your presence and your prayers.*