

The Bulletin Board

✠ A Monthly Publication of First Presbyterian Church, Mooresville, NC

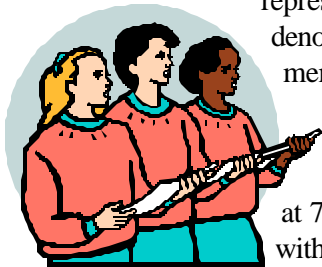
May 2003

Testify to perform

youth choir to sing here on May 18

Testify, a local youth community choir, will present a concert here at First Presbyterian Church on Sunday, May 18. The event marks the close of our 2002-2003 Concert Series. The choir, under the direction of Susan O'Keefe, will present a program of contemporary Christian music that promises to be a blessing to all those who attend. First Presbyterian Church is well

represented in this non-denominational choir with members, Ashlin Streetman, Kenley Streetman, and Jared Parnell.



The concert will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary with a dessert social to follow in the fellowship hall. As with all

of our concert series events, admission is free and a free-will offering will be taken to help with the choir's expenses. A nursery will also be provided, so plan on attending this event and hearing the message through the music of *Testify*.

High School graduates to be recognized

Following a tradition of about forty years, we will recognize our high school graduates at a worship service prior to their graduation ceremony. The recognition this year will be at the 11 a.m. service on Sunday, May 18, when the graduates will wear their caps and gowns and sit together as a group. During the service, the Men's Bible Class will present each graduate with a Bible engraved with his or her name.

It is suggested that the graduates assemble in the parlor at 10:45 a.m., where their can put on their commencement regalia and from which they can enter the sanctuary during the processional hymn.

Immediately following the worship service, our Presbyterian Women will host a reception in Turlington Court in honor of the graduates as well as Delores Spielman, who will be ordained to the ministry during the 11 a.m. worship service on May 18.

Ann Manning resigns

Search begins for new hostess

After serving for the last ten years, Ann Manning has submitted her resignation as our church hostess, effective May 31, for reasons of health. She faces surgery this summer, and is uncertain of the time needed for recovery. Rather than put the church in a bind for the 2003-04 year if she is unable to fulfill the hostess duties, she felt that this is "right time" to retire.

In her letter of resignation, she states, "To have been allowed to contribute and participate in these various activities [church gatherings with meals] through these years has given me reward beyond measure." After expressing her appreciation for the support of volunteers and staff, she assures us, "I will still be here. Please let it be known that I will help in any way I can, should any church activity have need."

The Session accepted Ann's resignation with regret, and expressed its profound appreciation for her dedicated and faithful service to our church. She has not only provided delicious sustenance for our bodies, she has enabled us to grow in fellowship and has modeled for us the Christ who serves with love and joy. Thank you, Ann!

The Session is now beginning the search for a new hostess. If you are interested in or know of someone who is interested in serving as our hostess—supervising the kitchen, purchasing food and kitchen supplies, preparing and serving meals, and working with volunteers—please inform Phil Heilman, chair of the Personnel Committee, or the church office as soon as possible.



Delores Spielman to be ordained

Delores Spielman, who served our congregation as a DCE and an elder, will soon serve the larger church as a Minister of Word and Sacrament. She is a member of our congregation and a candidate for the gospel ministry under the care of our presbytery.

Following the successful completion of her studies at San Francisco Theological Seminary and written ordination examinations, she was received by Salem Presbytery on April 29 as a minister, pending her ordination at the 11:00 a.m. worship service on Sunday, May 18. Eddie Nelson and Ed Lewis are members of the commission which will ordain her to the ministry, as are Rick Spielman, Delores' husband, and Dick Boyd, Liz Rader's father.

Following the worship service, our Presbyterian Women will host a reception in Turlington Court in honor of Delores, as well as our high school graduates who will also be recognized at the 11 a.m. worship service on May 18.

Delores currently serves as chaplain at Davis Regional Medical Center in Statesville. She will continue to serve that position as well as be available for supply preaching in area churches.

Members are married

Ashley Clark and Jon Lee Morris were united in marriage in our sanctuary on April 12. They are making their home at 14900 Forest Mist Way, Charlotte, NC 28273.

Denny Dyckes and Betty Ball were united in marriage at First Baptist Church of Statesville, NC, on April 19. While for now they will keep their two homes, when in Mooresville they will be at home at 184 Oates Road, Mooresville, NC 28117.



Prayer Chain coming together Fifteen and counting...

In response to the notice in last month's newsletter, fifteen persons have indicated that they would like to be part of a prayer chain within our church family. Perhaps there are others...? If you would like to participate in a prayer chain—praying for other members of our congregation as well as the needs of our community and world—please indicate you desire on the friendship pad or call the church office (704-664-5275).

The group will be organized soon so that it can get started and requests can be communicated to all the participants.

Please inform the church

Because of new regulations (HIPPA), hospitals are now unable to let the church or anyone else know if you are a patient. Therefore, if you are going to be hospitalized and want the pastors or someone else from the church to visit you and/or to pray with and for you, please call the church office (704-664-5275) and inform us of your plans. In case you are unable to call, please have another member of your family or a friend call for you. Another possibility is to request the hospital (perhaps the chaplain, a nurse or the admitting office) to call the church for you. We will treat the information you provide confidentially.



Related to that, most of you know that we pray for members and friends with special concerns (illness, bereavement, etc.) during our Sunday worship services. While the pastors lead that prayer, the whole congregation joins together in praying for those persons. We believe that God delights in our prayers, that he hears and answers our prayers. Please let the church office know if and when you want to be included in the prayers of the people on Sunday. On the other hand, if you want the pastors and/or others to pray privately for you, but not in public, we are happy to honor that request as well.



"It's only for a day or two.
Mother's Day present."

Happy Mother's Day

May 11, 2003

Session receives confirmands

Reviews membership rolls; accepts resignation of hostess

Highlights of the Session's work last month included:

- Heard statements of faith from members of the Confirmation Class and received them into the active membership of the church, pending their profession of faith (and baptism if needed) before the congregation on May 4, and hosted a reception for them and their parents.
- Accepted with regret the resignation of Ann Manning as church hostess, effective May 31, and expressed appreciation for her dedicated and faithful service the last ten years.
- Authorized the Evangelism Committee to purchase refrigerator magnet prayer list pads to be given to our members as well as potential members.
- Contracted for a church listing in *The Newcomers' Guide*.
- Extended the Mwandu computer fund to include telecommunication equipment, and contributed \$750 (15% from a \$5,000 bequest) to this special fund.
- Purchased a new color laser printer for the office from the memorial fund.
- Named Mary Barnette and Mimi Dobbins as coordinators of the Lake Norman Children's Relief clothes closet this summer.
- Reviewed the membership rolls of the church as required by the *Book of Order*—placed 74 persons on the inactive roll ; encouraged twelve families who have moved from the Mooresville area to become active members of a church in their new communities; removed 83 names from the inactive roll; and identified persons and families who will be encouraged to become more active in the worship and work of our congregation.
- Named Jennifer Boger as assistant of our 2003-04 Logos/MSM (Christina McElroy will serve as director).
- Approved the Children in Action (CIA) schedule this summer from June 10-July 22.
- Set the church picnic following the 11:00 a.m. worship service on Sunday, July 6.
- Approved the Weekday Preschool schedule for the 2003-04 year, beginning with orientation on August 14 and 15 and concluding with graduation on May 26.
- Took action to facilitate previous congregational action to return the church-owned lot on Beech Mountain to the Town of Beech Mountain, NC.
- Designated the Jane Davidson and Lois Thompson bequests for the Building Fund for the purchase of property.
- Requested an appraisal of the parking lot (fronting on Board Street, between our parking lot and the old auto

- parts building) owned by the Town of Mooresville, which the town has declared surplus property.
- Prayed for church activities, as well as members and friends with special needs.

Weekday Preschool

Where has the year gone? I cannot remember a year that went by this quickly, but as I stroll (or run, in my case) through the halls that sentimental feeling in my heart is all too familiar. We'll be saying "So long" soon, and the wonderful things that have happened here this year will become special memories for us. We can't tear up yet as we still have much to do and a fun-filled month of May ahead of us. More on that in just a minute, but first some highlights from April.

Our Preschool garden is in bloom and a **big** thank you to our preschooler Philip and his mom, Maria Heilman, for her help with bringing us the beautiful flowers and her hours of labor. Most of our preschoolers got to participate in the planting, and a big hug to our wonderful teachers for their hard work. This will be an on-going project and labor of love. The timing was perfect for everyone to watch the planting progress as our Egg Hunts were held just before our break on two gloriously sunny days. Our children are so good at hunting that most of our classes got to do their hunt twice; that is, we rehid our eggs and found them again!



Please watch for May's activity-filled calendar coming home with your child. Our Spring Sing kicked off the month, and just practicing with the children brought tears to my eyes. We'll be ordering in pizza, having a hot dog cook-out, playing baseball, cooling off on water day, walking for ice cream, and finishing up with a picnic at the park complete with a safari. Our 4-year-olds will graduate on Wednesday, May 21, at 9:30 a.m. in the church fellowship hall, complete with caps and gowns. It's sure to be a sentimental time for parents and teachers, but we are confident and proud of our little graduates, and we know they will do great things. Our prayers will be with them as they begin kindergarten in August. Thank you, parents, for making this a wonderful year, and for allowing us to have this special time with your child. Truly, it has been a pleasure to have such precious "treasures from the Lord."



With love,
Mrs. Nancy

Looking ahead to summer

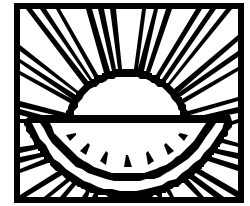
Church Picnic

Put Sunday, July 6, on your summer calendar for the annual Independence Day celebration picnic. The picnic will be held on the church grounds immediately following the 11:00 a.m. worship service. Once again, hamburgers and hot dogs will be provided for a cost of \$1, and participants are asked to bring a side dish to complete the picnic. More details to follow!



College-age fellowship

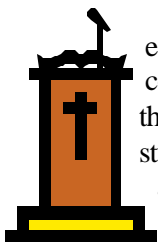
Attention college-age young adults: Be on the lookout for information regarding social activities and opportunities to renew acquaintances with your Mooresville church friends during summer vacation. Even with summer jobs and a wide variety of summer activities, it's always great to reconnect with those you've known from home, so be looking for a mailing with information about some fun activities with your Mooresville friends!



Combined adult church school class to be held in July

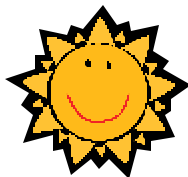
All adult church school classes are encouraged to attend a special series of combined classes during the month of July in the fellowship hall from 9:45-10:40 a.m. The study this summer will be led by Smith Kirk, and is entitled, "Theology 101 for Dummies: Reflections on the Doctrine of God." Following is a schedule for the series:

- July 6 - "God Denied"
- July 13 - "The True God"
- July 20 - "Three in One, the Sovereign God"
- July 27 - "The Holy One: How Shall We Then Worship Him?"



Children in Action

"Children in Action" (CIA) is a weekly program of summer activities for children in rising first through sixth grades. Participants in CIA enjoy a variety of activities and fellowship with children in their age group, along with group devotions at each activity. Parent chaperones are needed for each event, and siblings are welcome to join the group, provided the parent is chaperoning the event. Activities this summer will be held on Tuesdays. A letter will be sent to parents later this month with details concerning specific events, cost, meals, chaperones, and registration information. Following is a list of scheduled activities:



- Tuesday, June 10 - Sloan Park outing
 - Tuesday, June 17 - No CIA (Bible school week)
 - Tuesday, June 24 - Carolina Raptor Center outing
 - Tuesday, July 1 - Swimming at the Kidwells
 - Tuesday, July 8 - CPCC Summer Theatre, "Dorothy and the Planet Oz"
 - Tuesday, July 15 - Swimming at the Carpenters
 - Tuesday, July 22 - Reed Gold Mine outing
- Please contact Ellen Auten (704-664-5275) if you have questions about CIA activities.

Camp Grier: The Place to Be in 2003

Camp Grier summer camping sessions begin in a little over a month, but it's not too late to register for a week at camp, either as a camper or as an adult volunteer. Weekly summer camping sessions at Camp Grier in Old Fort, NC, begin Sunday, June 15, and conclude August 1. Camping opportunities are available for children in rising second through twelfth grades.



Camp Grier is hosting a "Discover Camp Grier Day," an open house opportunity on Sunday, May 18, at 2:30 p.m., when parents and campers can tour the camp, meet camp director Bart Shaw, ask questions about the camping program, and enjoy a hot dog lunch. Please call Camp Grier to make a reservation for the open house (828-668-7793).

Adult volunteer opportunities are also available. Volunteers should be at least 19 years old and stay free of charge and receive a free Camp Grier staff t-shirt. Use of volunteer staff helps keep the camper fees affordable.

Following is a list of campers who have already registered for 2003 summer camping sessions:

- June 15-18 **Rising Sun:** Bailey Abernathy
- June 15-20 **Cherokee Lodge:** Dylan McIntyre, Jordan Sledge
- Pioneer Rustic:** Hunter Crawford, Marshall Horsman, Graham Sledge, Neil Trimble
- July 13-16 **Rising Sun:** Maclean Bridges, Finn Paramore
- July 13-18 **Cherokee Lodge:** Carson Bridges, Taylor Jordan, Lauren McElroy, Grace Paramore, Sarah Paramore

In addition, David Lackey, a student at UNC-Chapel Hill, will be working on Camp Grier's full-time staff this summer.

S.C.U.B.A. Bible school

Super Cool Undersea Bible Adventure

We're bubbling over with excitement as we prepare to "dive" into the S.C.U.B.A. Vacation Bible school this summer. Make sure you sign up for Bible school, using the registration form below. Bible school is scheduled for June 15-18, from 6:00-8:30 p.m. at the Mooresville ARP Church.

We will once again be joining our friends from Mooresville ARP, Fieldstone, and Prospect churches as we work, study, and play together this summer in Bible school.

This year's theme is S.C.U.B.A., which stands for **Super Cool Undersea Bible Adventure**. The S.C.U.B.A. program will provide fun, memorable Bible-learning activities for children of all ages, including a class for adults. Each evening children will sing catchy songs in "Sing and Play Splash," play teamwork-building games in "Splish Splash Games," experience hands-on Bible adventures in "Deep Bible Adventures," create Bible crafts in "Undersea Crafts," and enjoy daily video visits from

Chadder Chipmunk on his "Undersea Bible Adventure." S.C.U.B.A. is an exciting way for children to learn about Bible characters who went **deeper** in their faith.

Each church is responsible for providing adult volunteers for activities. Volunteer needs are listed on the registration form (see below). Please indicate your interest, or contact Ellen Auten (704-664-5275) if you are available to help.

Please fill out the registration form and turn it in to the church office.

S.C.U.B.A. Vacation Bible School

Place: Mooresville Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, 659 Carpenter Avenue, 704-664-1273

Dates: Sunday, June 15 - Wednesday, June 18

Time: 6:00-8:30 p.m.

Snack supper served at 6:00 p.m. each evening

Ice cream social: Wednesday, June 18-8:00 p.m.



Vacation Bible School Registration

Child's name _____

Birthdate _____

Last grade completed _____

Purchase t-shirt (\$7) Yes No t-shirt size _____

Known allergies or medical concerns: _____

Parent's name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Volunteer Registration

Volunteer Name _____

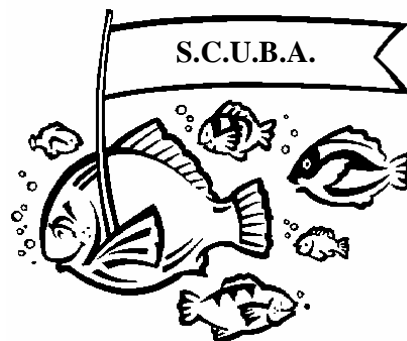
Address _____

Phone _____

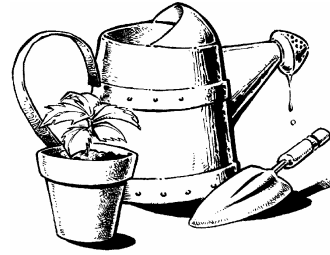
Purchase t-shirt (\$7) Yes No t-shirt size _____

I am willing to help in the following areas:


- Nursery (under 3 years)
- Preschool class helper (3-5 year olds)
- Craft helper
- Leader/helper for grades 1 & 2
- Leader/helper for grades 3 & 4
- Leader/helper for grades 5 & 6
- Middle school/senior high leader
- Help with dinner preparation (Tuesday, June 17)
- T-shirt coordinator



May 2003



MAY

<p align="center">3rd Sunday of Easter 4</p> <p align="center">Communion</p> <p>8:30am Early Worship 9:45am Church School 11:00am Worship - Confirmation 12:15pm Confirmation luncheon 5:30pm PYF 7:00pm Evangelism Committee</p> 	<p align="right">5</p> <p>7:15am Men's Prayer Breakfast 10:00am Staff meeting 1:00pm Library Committee 7:00pm Boy Scout Troop 166 7:00pm Small group "Breaking Free" with Liz Price 7:30pm Bible Study with Fred and Jean Coates</p>	<p align="right">6</p> <p>5:30pm PYF Supper Club at Kyoto 6:15pm Exaltation Ringers</p>
<p align="center">4th Sunday of Easter 11</p> <p align="center">Mother's Day</p> <p>8:30am Worship, Presbyterian Men Breakfast 9:45am Church School 11:00am Worship 6:30pm Personnel Committee 7:00pm Commitment Committee 7:30pm Finance and Worship Committees</p>	<p align="right">12</p> <p>7:15am Men's Prayer Breakfast 6:30pm Junior Troop 735 7:00pm Boy Scout Troop 166 7:00pm Small group with Liz Price 7:30pm Bible Study with Fred and Jean Coates</p>	<p align="right">13</p> <p>10:00am Circle of Faith-(No. 4) in the Parlor 5:00pm Brownie Troop 591 5:30pm PYF Supper Club at Quizno's 6:15pm Exaltation Ringers</p>
<p align="center">5th Sunday of Easter 18</p> <p>7:15am Diaconate Meeting 8:30am Early Worship 9:45am Church School 11:00am Worship - Recognition of Graduates & ordination of Delores Spielman 2:30pm Discover Camp Grier Day at Camp Grier in Old Fort, NC 3:00pm Handmaidens of the Lord Circle (No. 6) at the home of Lucile McClure 7:00pm Testify concert and dessert reception 7:30pm Witness and Service Committee</p>	<p align="right">19</p> <p>7:15am Men's Prayer Breakfast 7:00pm Boy Scout Troop 166 7:00pm Small group with Liz Price 7:30pm Bible Study with Fred and Jean Coates</p>	<p align="right">20</p> <p>12:30pm Saints Alive luncheon 5:30pm PYF Supper Club at Salserita's 6:00pm Blessed in Christ Circle (No. 3) at Kudzu 6:15pm Exaltation Ringers 7:30pm Circle No. 5 at the home of Sandra Harris</p>
<p align="center">6th Sunday of Easter 25</p> <p>8:30am Early Worship 9:45am Church School 11:00am Worship 7:30pm Session</p>	<p align="center">Memorial Day 26</p> <p>7:15am Men's Prayer Breakfast 7:00pm Boy Scout Troop 166 7:00pm Small group "Breaking Free" with Liz Price 7:30pm Bible study with Fred and Jean Coates</p>	<p align="right">27</p> <p>5:30pm PYF Supper Club at What-A-Burger 6:15pm Exaltation Ringers</p>

Weekday Preschool ends

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

June 2003						
M	T	W	T	F	S	
2	3	4	5	6	7	
9	10	11	12	13	14	
16	17	18	19	20	21	
23	24	25	26	27	28	
30						

National Day of Prayer 1

2

3

9:00am Through the Bible study in the Library
 9:30am Weekday Preschool Spring Sing
 7:00pm Workshop Rotation teacher meeting in the Library

9:30am Weekday Preschool Spring Sing

8:00am Promise Keepers at Buttery & Beanery
 9:30am Brownie Troop 778
 11:00am Port-A-Pit BBQ and Silent Auction in the fellowship hall

7

8

9

10

m Saints Alive to First Presbyterian Church in Gastonia
 m Chancel Choir

9:00am Through the Bible study in the Library
 6:00pm **Fun & Fellowship at Captain's Galley**

7:00pm Small Group "Exploring Our Reformed Faith" at the home of Smith and Lois Kirk

8:00am Promise Keepers in the Library

14

15

16

17

m Chancel Choir

9:00am Through the Bible study
 6:30pm Girl Scout Troop 619
 7:00pm Sisters-in-Christ (No. 2) in the Parlor

7:00pm Cub Scout Pack 166

8:00am Promise Keepers in the Library
 9:30am Brownie Troop 778
 4:30pm Church School teacher appreciation picnic

21

22

23

24

n Weekday Preschool graduation
 n Chancel Choir

9:00am Through the Bible study
 6:30pm Girl Scout Troop 619

7:00pm Small Group "Exploring Our Reformed Faith" at the home of Smith and Lois Kirk

Newsletter Deadline

8:00am Promise Keepers in the Library

General Assembly convenes, Denver, CO

28

Ascension of the Lord 29

30

31

m Chancel Choir

9:00am Through the Bible study

8:00am Promise Keepers in the Library

General Assembly ends

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Summer begins June 3

Summer Tuesdays for PYF (and some are not!)

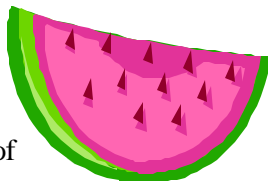
Well, actually it's the summer schedule that begins on June 3. The actual season of Summer doesn't arrive until June 21. As summer meets us though, we will already be meeting on Tuesdays again this year. All of you Supper Club regulars won't have to change your schedules, but those of you who are in our Sunday crowd will need to adjust a bit. We will be traveling to different locations throughout June and July, so look for an updated listing next month and on the Youth Page on the web...

www.moorevillefirstpres.org/youth.htm

Special Summer Events

Denver Mission Trip

We've repeated it a number of times, but it bears repeating again. Two BIG events are planned for this summer. The first is the Mission Trip to Denver, Colorado. We'll be leaving on Saturday morning, June 28. Traveling by commercial airliner, we will arrive in the Mile High City and spend the night in a hotel. We will travel to our mission site on Sunday for a 5:00 p.m. orientation by our Youthworks leadership team. The week will find us participating in a variety of urban ministries (we'll get all the specifics when we arrive). One thing is certain. Those who participate in the trip will have an unforgettable week. We will be returning home on Sunday, July 6, "tired but inspired." Shouldn't you be a part of this trip?! There are only two (2) spots still available...is it yours? We need to know by May 12 in order to get our airline tickets.



The second BIG deal is the Montreat Youth Conference. It's July 13-19. Cost for Montreat is \$350 (includes practically everything...including bribes for the advisors). Ask anybody who has been and you'll quickly discover that Montreat is absolutely THE BEST conference around!

We'll be traveling by church van to Montreat (only a two hour trip) and staying in the Jordan House once again with our friends from Sharon Presbyterian Church in Charlotte. Our meals will again be served in the Assembly Inn Dining Room.

This year's theme is "Set Your Compass" keynoted by Julie Mercer-Kidd, a campus minister in Branson, MO. The music leader, Robert Alexander, hails from Bradenton, FL. Robin Valdez, from Bedford TX, will preach and the recreation leader, Hugh Donnelly, will arrive from Toronto, Canada!

As you can see, folks will be coming from all directions to get to Montreat. Why don't you come get your bearings with us! Let Fred Coates know you want to go...send an email to:

montreat2003@moorevillefirstpres.org
or call him at the church (704-664-5275).



Yes, you May ...

The regular Sunday schedule is a bit amiss this month (but "Summer Tuesdays" are coming!). We've still got some good stuff happening, so come share the fun with us.

May 3 - Port-a-Pit Chicken BBQ & Silent Auction (we need your help!), 10:00 a.m.- 6:00 p.m.

4 - PYF, 5:30 p.m.

6 - Supper Club (Kyoto), 5:30 p.m.

11 - NO MEETING (Mother's Day)

13 - Supper Club (Quizno's), 5:30 p.m.

18 - Brief meeting at 5:30 p.m. before the *Testify!* concert at 7:00 p.m.

20 - Supper Club (Salsarita's), 5:30 p.m.

25 - NO MEETING (Memorial Day Weekend)

27 - Supper Club (What-a-Burger), 5:30 p.m.

Music Notes by Alan Sledge

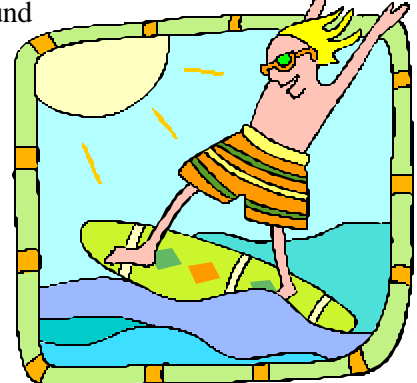
Since Jesus is my friend and I to Him belong, it matters not what foes intend however fierce and strong. Paul Gerhardt (1606-1676)

Middle School beach trip a sunny success

Even though a little rain fell Saturday morning, nothing could keep the Middle School Handbell Choir from having a great time at the beach. After a late Friday night arrival at the Garden City Chapel and Retreat, the group awoke to a pancake breakfast and a morning on the beach. The early morning weather was great and the gang played in the ocean, walked on the beach and strolled around the shops and arcade in Garden City. Lunch time brought the only shower of the weekend, but the timing was perfect. While we were inside eating lunch and rehearsing for Sunday's worship service, the rains came and went.

The afternoon was spent back on the beach or hanging out at the arcade. The behavior of our group was outstanding. They went out of their way to include one another in their activities, and to get along with each other in close quarters. After dinner, it was off to Broadway at the BeachSM. The largest venue of its kind in South Carolina, it has shops, attractions, restaurants, and much more! We ended the evening watching a fireworks display over the lake.

On Sunday morning we traveled to Trinity Presbyterian Church in Surfside Beach, where we rang the offertory anthem. The experience was terrific. Their minister, Lewis Johnson, went out of his way to make us feel welcome, speaking with the kids, even calling them by name. They rang the anthem with great confidence and the congregation was truly moved. Many worshipers came to tell the choir how much their presence meant to the service. I was very proud of the choir and of our Logos/Middle School Ministry program. The seventh graders are already planning for next year and several of the eighth graders wanted to know how they could become chaperones. Speaking of chaperones, many thanks to Jerilyn Fair, Will McIntyre and LuAnne Sledge, for all their work throughout the weekend.



Thanks to all our choir members

Week after week, our choir members assist in making the worship service an experience that helps bring people closer to God. Often times music can affect like no other medium. Whether it is an anthem sung by one of our choirs, rung by one of the handbell choirs, or a solo at the early service, these "ministers of music" give of their time and their talents.

Special thanks go to the participants of:
Logos Choir
Middle School Handbell Choir
Chapel Ringers
Genesis Ringers
Exaltation Ringers
Chancel Choir

Hymns and their uses thoughts of theologian Dr. Jim Sydnor

Get a hymnal in every house: Encourage the private ownership of hymnals so that hymns can be read, played, and sung at home.

One of the purposes of hymns is to enable as many Christians as possible to identify with the faith experiences...and to experience the sustaining reality of God's love.

When Dietrich Bonhoeffer (1906-1945) was in solitary confinement in a Nazi prison camp, he wrote, "During this time Paul Gerhardt was a wonderful help, more than I could have dreamed of." Gerhardt had been dead for over 250 years and yet through his hymns he enabled this isolated Christian to experience the presence of the love of God revealed in Jesus Christ.

Smawley enters Church Triumphant

Belus Smawley, age 85, died on April 24 following an extended period of declining health. He was an outstanding athlete and educator. He played basketball at Appalachian State University, then at the Naval Air Station in Norfolk, then professionally in the NBA and its predecessor, primarily in St. Louis and Baltimore. He was a member of three sports halls of fame, including the NC Sports Hall of Fame. He



was one of eight pioneer basketball players featured in *The Origins of the Jump Shot: Eight Men Who Shook the World of Basketball*, a book by John Christgau. After teaching three years at Mooresville High, he was principal at Mooresville Junior High School for 24 years, until his retirement in 1983. He served our church as a deacon and elder. We express our Christian condolences to his wife Joyce, daughter Joy and her husband Steve, and other members of his family.

Christian sympathy is also extended to others who have recently been bereaved, including:

Joyce Johnson and family in the death of her father on April 17.

Vivian Combs and family in her son's death on April 22.

Congratulations, new citizens

Congratulations are expressed to Bruce and Anne Telford, 425 South Magnolia Street, on becoming naturalized citizens of the U. S. A. on April 14.



The Telfords moved from South Africa to America 17 years ago, living the last seven in Mooresville. Their oldest son Struan, born in South Africa and now a student at N. C. State University, hopes to receive his American citizenship soon. Because their youngest two, Sarah and Michael, were born in this country, they have been American citizens since birth.



Babies are baptized

Three children of our congregation were baptized last month, two on Easter Day:

Meredith Grace Burton, daughter of Scott and Melanie Burton, 112 Lockerbie Lane; Charlie and Janet Bittinger are serving as sponsors.

Ailey Kaitlyn Nelson, daughter of Nick and Kathy Nelson, 411 Glenwood Drive; Steve and Debby Speaks are serving as sponsors.

A week later, on April 27, Duncan Cabell Jordan, son of Andy and Jennifer Jordan, 855 East Center Avenue, was baptized. Frank and Liz Rader are his sponsors.

The next time baptism is scheduled at our church is June 1 (a week earlier than the date printed in the 2003 directory). June 1 is the 7th Sunday of Easter and a week before the Day of Pentecost—an appropriate time for baptism since the sacrament symbolizes our death and resurrection with Christ as well as the gift of God's Spirit. If you would like baptism for yourself or your children on June 1, please notify the church office as soon as possible.

Presbyterian Men

Attention all First

Presbyterian Men! You are invited to attend our breakfast meeting on May 11 at 8:30 a.m. We will have an informative program this month with Doug Patterson of Patterson farms!



Patterson farms is a local independent supplier in the strawberry industry. Doug will be telling us about the history of his operation, methods and prospects for the future. As this is Mother's Day, you are asked to bring your wives/girlfriends and children for this special event. Come and enjoy a delicious breakfast and fellowship with us.

Babysitter wanted

A church member is looking for an older high school student or college student to supervise 12 year old twin boys this summer from fifteen to twenty hours a week. If you are interested, please call the church office at 704-664-5275.



Saints Alive

April luncheon feature covered dish, carillon program

The April Saints Alive luncheon meeting was held a week later than usual, on Tuesday, April 22, and featured a covered dish luncheon. The group enjoyed the many tasty dishes prepared by the talented cooks in the group. Thanks also to Ann Manning and her wonderful helpers for their part in providing the meat, bread, and drinks, as well as all the preparations they did for the luncheon. The group enjoyed wonderful mealtime fellowship, followed by devotions, led by Ellen Hinson.



The program was presented by Mary McFarland, Music Director at First Presbyterian in Gastonia, who related a complete history of bell-playing in general, and the carillon in particular. It was a most interesting program, with a thorough look at the use of bells, particularly in our worship experience. The group plans to visit Gastonia on May 7 to hear the carillon at First Presbyterian (see article below). Thanks to Tom Johnston for arranging this wonderful program.

Saints to travel to Gastonia May 7

The Saints Alive group plans to travel to Gastonia's First Presbyterian Church on Wednesday, May 7, to enjoy lunch together and hear the carillon, played by Mary McFarland, the luncheon program speaker in April. The group plans to leave at 10:15 a.m., and return by 3:00 p.m. While in Gastonia, the group is scheduled to eat lunch at First Presbyterian's weekly prayer luncheon (\$3), and hear the carillon immediately following lunch. Please contact Ellen Auten by Monday, May 5, if you plan to attend.

May Saints Alive luncheon to feature Scottish heritage

Join the Saints Alive group on Tuesday, May 20, for a "visit" to Scotland, via the Rev. Jeff Lowrance. Mr. Lowrance will present a program on our Scottish heritage, with special emphasis on researching family tartans. Plan to join the group for a wonderful time of fellowship, a delicious lunch, and an interesting program. This program was originally scheduled for February, but had to be rescheduled

because of icy weather. Hopefully, we won't have any icy weather on May 20!



Palm Sunday coat drive

Approximately 125 coats were collected at the Palm Sunday coat drive. The children were particularly thrilled to carry a coat in the palm procession, and then to lay them at the cross. Thanks to everyone who participated - it is wonderful to think how our church family's participation in this project may be used to warm many needy children and adults in the cold country of Belarus this winter. Thank you for your generosity. It is still not too late to add your coat to the rest - just bring them by the church office.



A page from the Library

"The wise woman builds her house" (Proverbs 14:1). In recognition of May's celebration of Mother's Day, the books featured this month include:

The Power of a Positive Mom, by Karol Ladd. This book features seven power-filled principles for building your home with encouragement and love.

The Focus on the Family Complete Book of Baby and Child Care, by Dr. James Dobson. This book is a biblically based medical and spiritual guide for raising children according to Christian principles.

Bringing up Boys, by Dr. James Dobson. This book is the resource you need to be a difference-maker in the life of a boy.



Ellie Den Bleyker

Teacher appreciation picnic

The Christian Education committee is hosting a church school teacher appreciation picnic for all church school teachers and their families on Saturday, May 17, from 4:30-8:00 p.m. at the lake home of Liz Rader's parents. Supper will be served at 6:00 p.m., and other activities include swimming, fishing, canoeing, and general outdoor fun! Teachers: please RSVP by Friday, May 9, to Liz Rader: 704-664-1772 or EBRader@aol.com.



Older adult month

The first week in May is designated as "Older Adult Week" on the church calendar. To honor and recognize the efforts of our church family, particularly our members in nursing homes and retirement homes. You may wish to remember them with a card or a visit. Please notify us of any corrections or omissions.



Abernathy Retirement Center, Newton

Frances Powell

Aldersgate, Epworth Place, Charlotte

Rheba Thomasson

Brian Center, Mooresville

Kathryn Brawley

Mary Chappell

Brighton Gardens, Greensboro

Edith Krier

Churchill Assisted Living, Mooresville

Helen Brandien

Genesis Eldercare, Mooresville

Frances Hunter

Jeddy Johnson

Belcourt Terrace, Nashville, TN

Thele Gilladette

Piedmont Center, Thomasville

Charlie Crowell

Plantation Estates of Matthews

Anne Pleasants White

Summit Place

Ken Bolton

Jim Good

Katherine Mack

Helen McCullough

The Pines at Davidson

Margaret Mayhew

Onice McCachern

Caroline McLaughlin

Trinity Oaks, Salisbury

Bob and Dot Baker

Asa and Miriam McNeely

Thurston McNeely

Well Springs Retirement Center, Greensboro

Madeline Mack

A poet's perspective

Marilee Emerson of our congregation has written and shared poetry for many years. Last month she reflected on the war in Iraq in light of Easter's message of love and hope.

Easter Love and Beauty - April 2003

This Easter, Americans need God's healing love, and prayer.

Brave loved-ones miss God's panorama of beauty, this year!

This war leaves many broken homes, while fighting Satan's greed,

We should work together to help supply their family needs!

May adults with doubt - find faith in God's Son, from within,

Easter music and joy may help children comprehend!

Christians may seek wisdom from God's Holy Word, May children's cries for loving care, from you and me, be heard!

by Marilee Raulston Emerson

Special Offering: past and future

Our One Great Hour of Sharing Easter offering totaled \$1,492.

The next special offering will be received on Mother's Day, May 11. It will go to the Salvic Gospel Association to provide food parcels for needy persons in Russia. The loose offering on Mother's Day as well as designated gifts will be our special offering for food parcels in Russia.

Graduate information needed



Please notify the church office of members who will graduate from high school, college or graduate school this spring. We want to include their names in the bulletin on May 18, as well as print information about them in the newsletter next month.

First Presbyterian Church
249 West McLelland Avenue
Mooresville, NC 28115-3132

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"If you have faith as small as a mustard seed...nothing will be impossible for you."

Matthew 17:20