

# The Bulletin Board

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

August 2008

## Camp Grier Labor Day Retreat

It is time to make your reservations for the annual Labor Day weekend retreat at Camp Grier, located in Old Fort, NC. The retreat will be held Friday, August 29, through Sunday, August 31.

The beautiful, rustic setting of Camp Grier is an ideal place to enjoy the gift of God's creation, as well as a great place to get to know some of your church family in the relaxed, pleasant (hopefully cooler!) surroundings of the NC mountains. You'll discover things about yourself and others as you enjoy swimming, boating, campfires, singing, Bible study, rock sliding, creek walking, rope bridges, rock skipping, hiking, ring swinging, rock collecting, wildlife observations, napping, eating, and talking. Hope you can join the fun for all or part of the weekend. You will find a brochure (with registration form included) with this newsletter and extras are in the church office or at the rear of the sanctuary.



Please note Camp Grier's registration policy: We are required to make a firm reservation one week prior to our retreat weekend. Please help all involved in the reservation process by turning in your reservation form with payment prior to Friday, August 22. All reservations require pre-payment, and all reservations must be made by August 22.

## Logos/MSM Begins Its 30th Year at First Presbyterian

The Logos/Middle School Ministry (MSM) program is set to begin its 30th year at FPC on Wednesday, September 10. 30 years is a huge milestone in our program - 30 years of ministering to children, families, and the community through a mid-week nurture program. We have children attending our program now who are children of children who attended 30 years ago! In fact, our new director, Gretchen Little, is a Logos grad from Waldensian Presbyterian Church in Valdese, NC.

While September 10 may seem like a long way away, there is much to be accomplished in our Logos year that happens before the year actually begins. Most importantly are the parent meetings, registration, and staff training. All of these dates are listed below - please add them to your calendars.

The Logos/MSM program is for youth in first through eighth grades, and consists of Bible study, worship skills, recreation, and dinner. The MSM program is open to children in seventh and eighth grades. The primary goal of the program is to develop genuine and lasting relationships between young people and Jesus Christ, between young people and their ministers, parents, other adults in the congregation, and their peers.

An essential part of the Logos/MSM program is parent participation. All parents are required to volunteer in some capacity each semester their child is enrolled in the program, usually performing kitchen duties, although opportunities are available to assist in Bible classes, recreation, nursery and music. A fee is also charged for participation in the program - a \$30 registration fee and a \$50 per semester tuition fee. Scholarship help is available upon request; please contact Ellen Auten or Gretchen Little to request scholarship assistance.

This year's program director is Gretchen Little (704-528-9796); assistant director is Lisa Davidson (704-662-9393). Please feel free to call Gretchen or Lisa with questions.

### Logos/MSM Registration

In order to register your child for the program, parents are required to attend a mandatory parent meeting, even if you have attended a meeting in previous years. Please note that you only have to attend one meeting. Meetings will be held in the church parlor on the following dates:

**Sundays, August 24 & 31 - 10:00 a.m.; Wednesday, August 27 - 7:00 p.m.; Wednesday, September 3 - 7:00 p.m.**

One additional meeting will be held on **Saturday, August 30**, at Camp Grier during the Labor Day retreat, with the place and time to be determined. The first semester registration deadline is **Wednesday, September 3**.



## *From the Pastor*

### COMMENTS ON THE 2008 GENERAL ASSEMBLY

During my first years in pastoral ministry, I struggled with preaching on Christmas and Easter. The scripture passages were so familiar to everyone. How do you preach on something everyone hears and rehearses annually? But then I discovered that usually during the Christmas and Easter seasons, at least one of the major news outlets (print or TV) produces something quite provocative that contradicts a primary teaching of the Christian faith. The story then serves to prime my sermonic pump and to give me a venue for talking about the “old, old story” in a fresh way. I’ve gotten to be quite dependent on

the heresy and apostasy of those in the media, and the professors and ministers relied upon for supporting quotes, to get me thinking.

In much the same vein, it has become axiomatic to me that something distressing will happen during the biennial meeting of the Presbyterian Church (USA) General Assembly. Some resolution will be passed, or an amendment to our constitution proposed, that causes great dissension in the ranks and works against the growth of the gospel.

The 2008 General Assembly has been no different. While much good was accomplished through some of the business before the body, the GA also managed to act in three ways against what I believe to be the faith “once for all delivered to the saints” (Jude 3, ESV).

**First, the Assembly has gone on record as encouraging such interaction between Christian, Muslim, and Jewish congregations as to tear at the integrity of each faith.** For example, Christians and Muslims are encouraged to worship with one another. But how can this happen? We believe Jesus is the Son of God, the One worthy of our worship. But Muslims believe that while Jesus was a prophet, he is not the Son of God and did not die on the cross. I agree that there are actions in the community that may transcend our usual theological boundaries—feeding the hungry, for example—but I do not believe that Christians and Muslims are worshiping the same God, and thus we cannot worship together without violating someone’s conscience. Worshiping a generic God simply will not work. Our theological muddiness on this issue, directly related to the identity of the God we worship, bothers me.

**Second, the Assembly threw out a number of judicial actions and interpretations about the ordination process for church officers and instead reinstated an “Authoritative Interpretation” of our constitution that opens the door for the legal ordination of self-professed, practicing gays and lesbians.** Ordaining bodies (sessions and presbyteries) now have the privilege of hearing a candidate’s “scruples” (which are ways a person may disagree with the theology and practice of the church) about either theology or behavior and may decide these scruples are non-essential, thus clearing the way for ordination. While those proposing this change most likely saw this as a means of allowing gay and lesbian ordination—and no doubt this is how the procedure will first be used—it also has the unfortunate consequence of potentially allowing any departure from our faith and practice, regardless of how far removed it may be. One may conceivably scruple the bodily resurrection of Christ, and if the ordaining body consents, still be ordained as a minister, elder, or deacon. The decision may be appealed, but I predict it would be difficult to overturn, given the latitude given to ordaining bodies here. Furthermore, this has happened without any recourse other than marshalling forces and getting a new Authoritative Interpretation passed in 2010. This change did not have to be approved by any other body to take effect, thereby making an end run around the usual amendment process. Such an end run strikes me as an unfair and unprincipled use of our polity.

**Third, the Assembly has proposed an amendment to our constitution that would strike out the references in G-6.0106b in our *Book of Order* to fidelity in marriage between a man and woman and chastity in singleness as being ordination requirements.** This must be voted on by our presbyteries and approved by a simple majority of them. If it goes into effect, then the need for scrupling referenced above will no longer be necessary, as the constitutional requirement being scrupled will have been removed. While I am vehemently against this amendment, at least this attempt is going through the appropriate legal means to become church law if passed.

If these actions hold up under scrutiny, I predict even rougher days ahead for the PCUSA. It will be hard indeed for many who hold what they describe as a traditional, conservative, or evangelical perspective to maintain their connection with the denomination. These actions of the Assembly open the door for greater dissension, mistrust, and disunity within the PCUSA and may create a deeper, more permanent split than already exists in our denomination.

Please know that the Session, pastoral staff, and other church leaders are keeping themselves informed, seeking insight from others of similar viewpoints, and praying for wisdom and discernment. As things happen, we will keep you informed as well.

I do not know the future of the PCUSA. But I do know Who holds the future in His hand—our sovereign God. He will lead, guide, and direct our paths. We will continue to be faithful to our calling and our Lord.

God bless. As always, it is an honor to serve as your pastor.

Grace and peace,

*The Rev. Dr. Clay J. Brown*

## PRESCHOOL NEWS

Well, the summer just flew by again, and I thought about all of you and your little ones putting your toes in the sand, swimming, eating ice cream, playing T-Ball and relaxing these last 2 months. I hope it was a happy and memorable family time for everyone, and that you are anxiously anticipating the start of Preschool. Your teachers have been busy preparing the classrooms and all the fun activities for the coming year.



You should have received my letter indicating your child's class assignment and the dates of "Sneak-a-Peek". The orientation is as follows:

<b>Monday, August 18<sup>th</sup> 9:30</b>	
M, W, F	4 yr. old Bunnies and Bears
*M, T, TH	4 yr. old Bunnies and Bears
M, W, F	2 and 3 yr. old Fish, Ducks and Lambs
<b>Tuesday, August 19<sup>th</sup> 9:30</b>	
T, TH	2 and 3 yr. old Fish, Ducks and Lambs
T, W, TH	4 yr. old Bunnies and Bears
<b>*M-F &amp; M, T, TH</b>	
4 yr. old Bunnies and Bears and 5 yr. old Frogs <b>may attend either day.</b>	

As I mentioned in my letter, this is an opportunity for your child to see his/her classroom, teachers and new friends. The parent meeting, which is mandatory, is a chance for us to go over the school policies and hopefully answer any questions you may have. I am, of course, available to you anytime either at the Preschool (704 664-2701) or at home (703 664-3069). The Preschool email address is: [preschool@moorsvillefirstpres.org](mailto:preschool@moorsvillefirstpres.org).

Our first full day of school will begin **Wednesday, August 20<sup>th</sup> from 9:00-12:00.**

I do have a request for something you can do to help the Preschool. If you shop at Harris Teeter please register with the *Together in Education* program for First Presbyterian Preschool with the number **4317**. You only need to register once and then we automatically benefit each time you shop. Also, please save and bring in any used inkjet cartridges so that we may recycle them.

We look forward to seeing you and your little one(s), and we share your hopes and dreams and will work hard to make this a wonderful year.

With love,  
Mrs. Nancy



## CATECHISM CLUB

### BEGINS A NEW YEAR

Catechism Club is scheduled to begin a new year in September, with classes held during fall 2008 and spring 2009. Children in third through sixth grades are encouraged to participate.

For those unfamiliar with catechism, it is a book which gives a brief summary of the basic principles of Christianity in question and answer form. Children will learn basic theological vocabulary and gain an understanding of the Christian faith that will lay a foundation for their belief and trust in God through Jesus Christ. 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.



Parental participation and attendance at Sunday meetings is essential; if parents are unable to attend, an adult sponsor will be matched with the child wanting to attend.

The class will be held from 5:30-6:15 p.m. This fall's schedule is as follows: **Sundays, September 14, 21, 28, October 5, 12, 19, 26, November 2, 9, 16.**

Adult mentors are an integral part of Catechism Club. They will "sponsor" a child through the process of catechism memorization and instruction, meeting frequently with the child. Following successful completion of catechism instruction and memorization, the children will be recognized in a worship service.





Registration will take place in the church parlor on August 17 and 24, before and after the worship services, or you may call Ellen Auten (704-664-5275) in the church office to register.

### Logos Staff Training

All Logos/MSM staff are encouraged to attend an orientation/training session on Wednesday, September 3, from 6:00-7:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. A light supper will be served.

**Congratulations** to Benjamin and Stacy Vaughan on the birth of a son, Vincent Randall, who was born on July 17. The proud grandparents are Mark and Thelma Vaughan. Please keep this young family in your prayers as they begin life as new parents.

# AUGUST

<p style="text-align: right;"><b>3</b></p> <p>9:00am Early Worship 10:00am Church School 11:00am Worship</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>4</b></p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>5</b></p> <p>10:00am CIA Swimming at Kidwell's pool</p> 
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Communion</b></p>  <p>8:00am Men's Breakfast 9:00am Early Worship 10:00am Church School 11:00am Worship 5:00pm Church School Teacher Meeting 6:00pm Deacon's Meeting 7:00pm Budget &amp; Finance Committee</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>10</b></p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>11</b></p>	<p>10:00am CIA goes bowling</p>  <p style="text-align: right;"><b>12</b></p>
<p style="text-align: right;"><b>17</b></p> <p>9:00am Early Worship 10:00am Church School 10:00am Worship Workshop 11:00am Worship 7:00pm Committee Meetings</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>18</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px; text-align: center;"> <p>9:30 am Preschool Orientation in FH</p> </div> <p>7:00pm Executive Committee</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>19</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Christian Education Sunday</b></p> <p>9:00am Early Worship 10:00am Church School - Promotion Sunday 10:15am Worship Workshop 10:15am Logos/MSM Parent Meeting 11:00am Worship 4:00pm Tyler Domske's Installation Service 7:00pm Session</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>24</b></p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>25</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Public School Starts</b></p> 	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>26</b></p>
<p>9:00am Early Worship 10:00am Church School 11:00am Worship</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>31</b></p>		

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

# 2008

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10:30am Prayer Group in the library  
11:00am Bible Study at the home of Fronnie Gardner

9:30am Bible Study at the Rogers' home  
  
7:00pm PW Coordinating Team  
7:30pm Chancel Choir  
7:30pm Mooresville User's Group - room 310


13

14

15

16

11:00am Bible Study at the home of Fronnie Gardner  
  
7:00pm Church School Teacher's Meeting

9:30am Bible Study at the Rogers' home  
  
  
Fun & Fellowship  
  
6:00pm Fun & Fellowship at Golden Corral

Preschool Starts 20

21

22

23

11:00am Bible Study at the home of Fronnie Gardner

**Newsletter DEADLINE**

9:30am Bible Study at the Rogers' home  
  
7:30pm Chancel Choir

27

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29

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9:30am Bible Study at the Rogers' home  
  
7:30pm Chancel Choir



Labor Day Retreat at Camp Grier....

## New First Pres Members 2008

We are happy to introduce you to the newest First Pres family members. Please give them a hearty Mooresville welcome!

No picture available

Tara Steger

Tara and her twin daughters, Paige and Mackenzie, transferred their membership from First Presbyterian Church, Glen Cove, NY. They reside at 133 Grayland Road, Mooresville, NC 28115; 704-644-1471



Dick & Dot Nelson

Dick and Dorothy are longtime residents of Mooresville and transferred from First Baptist Church. They make their home at 167 Heywatchis Drive, Mooresville, 28115; 704-662-8560.



Jason & Jennifer Price

Jason, Jennifer and Lilliam united with FPC by Reaffirmation of Faith. Jennifer is a homemaker and Jason works for a plumbing company. They live at 246 Indian Paint Brush Drive, Mooresville, 28115; 705-662-9556.



Chris & Piper Whittington

Chris is the son of Shirley Whittington Morrow and has moved back to Mooresville with his daughter, Piper. He is living at 625 South Magnolia Street, Mooresville, 28115; 704-662-6615. He transferred his membership from Trinity Presbyterian in Charlotte.



The Washburn family

Dean and Michelle, along with sons, Andrew and Preston, joined First Pres by Reaffirmation of Faith. Their residence is located at 228 Laurel Glen Drive, Mooresville, 28115; 704-660-6840



David & Barbara Nelson

David and Barbara came to us from First Presbyterian in Kernersville, NC, where they were both held leadership positions. They are residing at 223 April Road, Troutman, NC 28166; 704-528-6891.



Paul Brown

Paul is the father of our pastor, Clay Brown. He is a recent transplant from Texas and is residing at the manse with Dr. Brown and his family. We welcome him to our family by his profession of faith.

# Welcome New Members!

## Life Management 101:

### NEW SERMON SERIES FOR LATE AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER

Beginning on Sunday, August 24, the pastors will preach a six-week sermon series in worship titled "Life Management 101." The concept is that we all are stewards, or managers, of the gifts God gives to us. So it behooves us to learn all we can about the best ways to manage God's blessings in our lives.

Here are the sermon dates, titles, and scriptures:

- August 24, "Managing Your Time," Luke 12:13-21.
- August 31, "Managing Your Abilities," 1 Corinthians 12:4-7.
- September 7, "Managing Your Growth," Romans 10:17.
- September 14, "Managing Your Vocation," Colossians 3:17.
- September 21, "Managing Your Witness," John 13:34-35.
- September 28, "Managing Your Generosity," Acts 20:35.

Please read and pray over the passages before the Sunday they are preached to prepare your heart and mind for what God may tell you through this series.

## From the Mouse Corner

Just a note to remind you that college students will be going back to school in August. We do need their address so we can send the information on churchmice and their questionnaire. We would like to start the program by September and we look forward to placing each student with a churchmouse. Again this year, to receive a churchmouse, the student questionnaire (letting us know what you like and a little more about you) will have to be returned in the stamped, addressed envelope that we provide. They will then receive a churchmouse.



If you are new to FPC, the churchmouse program is designed to keep in touch with college students living away from home. Each student is placed with a *SECRET* friend...”the Churchmouse”...and will not know their identity until May when school is out. Each month the mouse will send either a card, letter, gift, or a goodie treat to their student signing it, “YOUR CHURCHMOUSE.”

Instructions on how to keep in touch with them and ideas for things to do will be included in your letter on Churchmice. If you would like to be a churchmouse this year please call Eleanor Templeton 704-987-1309 or Carolyn Poteat 704-663-2992. We all enjoy the program and great friendships have been made through the years. Please consider being a mouse this year as a gift to your church. Thanks...*Carolyn and Eleanor*

## Children in Action

All rising first through sixth graders are invited to attend the final two Children in Action (CIA) outings. On Tuesday, August 5, the group is planning to go to Mark and Mary Kidwell’s pool from 10:00 a.m - 1:00 p.m. We will walk from the church, and enjoy a picnic lunch and devotions beside the pool. The last outing for the summer will be a bowling outing on Tuesday, August 12, from 10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Cost is \$9, plus any additional spending money. Please contact Ellen Auten (704-664-5275) to make reservations for these events.



Thank you to the parent chaperones, drivers, and pool hosts for helping make CIA so fun and enjoyable this summer! We appreciate you!

## Thank You

Thanks to all for your warm and loving expressions of care and concern on the death of my mother, Madeline. I can not express in words the comfort that all of your prayers, cards, and personal expressions of sorrow have meant to me and my family. We are truly blessed to be members of such a loving and caring community of faith. May God continue to bless you all!

*Bob Campbell and Family*

## Church School Promotion

### Promotion Sunday/Christian Education Sunday scheduled for August 24

Church School Promotion Sunday will be held on Sunday, August 24, at 10:00 a.m. in the fellowship hall. All church school classes are invited to attend the special activity, which should last approximately fifteen minutes. Bojangle’s biscuits and breakfast refreshments will be served, beginning at 9:50! Come enjoy fellowship together as we begin a new church school year!

In addition, Christian Education programs and workers will be recognized during the 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. worship services on August 24.

## Church School Teachers

### Training Meeting

All adult, youth, elementary and preschool teachers are encouraged to attend a Teacher Training Meeting on either Wednesday, August 13, from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. or Sunday, August 17, from 5:00-6:00 p.m. We will be using materials from Howard Hendricks’ book, *Teaching to Change Lives*. In addition, teachers will receive schedule information, class rosters, and other important information as we begin the new church school year. Please make every effort to attend one of the meetings.

## Worship Workshop

### To be held August 17 and 24

At First Presbyterian, children join their parents and our church family for the worship service once they are in first grade, and the church offers a Worship Workshop for first graders and their parents as a way of preparation and introduction to worship. This class is a wonderful opportunity to introduce children to our church’s worship service, and to help parents explain various aspects of the service to their children.

The worship orientation class will be led by Ellen Auten, and will be held in the sanctuary on Sunday, August 17 at 10:00 a.m. and August 24, immediately following Promotion Sunday activities. Parents may attend either date; rising first graders will have their church school class in the sanctuary on both of these dates.



## Thanks a Bunch!

Many thanks to the ladies who graciously donated the lovely table for the 2nd floor vestibule by the elevator. It is just what was needed.

## Saints Alive Beach Trip

The Saints Alive group is busy making plans for their fall trip to Island Vista in Myrtle Beach, SC. The trip is scheduled for Wednesday, October 21, through Saturday, October 24. Please contact Ellen Auten if you are interested in the trip. For those who have already registered, you will receive information soon about plans for the trip, including transportation, final payments, and possible shows you may want to see during the trip.



## Presbyterian Men

After taking the month of July off, Presbyterian Men are ready to get back together August 10, 2008. Our program will be John Koppelmeyer, Director of Barium Springs Home for Children. John has spoken to us before and we look forward to hearing about the impact Barium Springs is having on the lives of children in our area. Our congregation has supported Barium Springs for many years.

We invite everyone interested in Barium Springs to join us for breakfast and fellowship. Please call John Neely at 704 663 2592 if you are not a regular attendee. Also, we invite everyone to bring a friend.

**Remember our NEW STARTING TIME- 8:00 a.m.**

## Presbyterian Women

It will soon be time for circles to “get back in the swing of things.” It is with the Coordinating Team’s delight that we announce the addition of another circle. We have been approached with the request that a new afternoon circle be started. The new circle will meet at 2:00 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month. The moderator will be Corky Simmons. With the new addition, we have five other circles that meet. They are as follows:

- Circle #1 - second Monday at 2:00 p.m. in the parlor
- Circle #2 - first Thursday at 7:00 p.m. in the parlor
- Circle #3 - second Monday at 6:15 p.m. in the Session Room
- Circle #4 - second Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. in the Parlor
- Circle #5 - second Tuesday at 12:00 p.m. in the Parlor or in member’s home
- Circle #6 - second Tuesday at 2:00 p.m in the Parlor

If you already belong to a circle, then we hope you will continue to be involved. If not, we hope that you will find one out of the six that fits your schedule and personality and become involved. Please feel free to try several until you find the right fit. Just because you join one circle doesn’t mean you are forever assigned to one. Remember, the goal is for you to be happy and involved.

The Horizon’s Bible Study for this year is the study of Luke.

If you have any questions or would like to change to another circle, please let me know as soon as possible. You can contact me at 704-662-8225.

**Karen Brawley**, PW Moderator



### First Presbyterian Church

249 West McLelland Avenue  
Mooresville, NC 28115-3132

**Tel:** 704-664-5275 **Fax:** 704-664-7526

**Email:** [secretary@moorevillefirstpres.org](mailto:secretary@moorevillefirstpres.org)

**Web:** [www.moorevillefirstpres.org](http://www.moorevillefirstpres.org)

To be added to or subtracted from our mailing list, email:  
[secretary@moorevillefirstpres.org](mailto:secretary@moorevillefirstpres.org) or phone: 704-664-5275.

### Sunday Services

**9:00 a.m.** Early Worship

**10:00 a.m.** Church School

**11:00 a.m.** Morning Worship

# AUGUST 2008

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