



First Press

A Monthly Publication of First Presbyterian Church, Mooresville, NC

July 2009

Celebrate our Independence

Don't Miss the
Church Picnic!
Sunday, July 5

following
11 a.m. Worship Service

Dress casually - Relax with
family & friends!

The church provides:
Pork Barbeque - \$2 per person
Deluxe Ice Cream

You bring:
1 Side Dish
(chips, salad, fruit, etc.)
Chairs or blankets
(if you plan to eat outside)

Combined Church School Begins Sunday, July 12

All adult, senior high and middle school church school classes are invited to attend a combined class on four Sundays this summer, beginning Sunday, July 12. The class will be held in the fellowship hall from 10:00-10:45 a.m., with refreshments and fellowship prior to each class session.

This year's class topics are as follows:

Sunday, July 12 - PYF Mission Trip

PYF members, along with their adult advisors, will report on their summer mission trip to Washington, DC with the Center for Student Missions organization.

Sunday, July 19 - Mooresville Christian Mission

Valerie Chamberlain, Director of the Mooresville Christian Mission, will present a program on the important ministry of the Mission in the Mooresville community.

Sunday, July 26 - John Calvin: His Life and Legacy, Part 1

As this year marks the 500th anniversary of John Calvin's birth, a 60-minute documentary DVD has been produced, highlighting the important contribution John Calvin has made in the Reformed tradition. The class will watch the DVD in two class sessions.

Sunday, August 2 - John Calvin: His Life and Legacy, Part 2



From the Pastor...

Appreciation for Our Freedom to Worship...

It's not unusual in July for thoughts to run toward our nation's birth. We celebrate the July 4th holiday with fireworks, parades, picnics, and water sports. Our traditional church picnic is set for July 5, the Sunday following the 4th of July. This picnic is a high-water mark in our congregation's life every year.

It's also not unusual in July to be focused on all the trappings of the 4th of July to the exclusion of thoughts about the freedoms we enjoy. We've grown used to these freedoms and often take them for granted.

The freedom to worship is a foundational freedom we enjoy, it seems to me. We have the ability to attend any house of worship of any denomination, group, doctrine, or religious sentiment we desire. We may not desire many of the options available. After all, we're Presbyterians and fiercely proud! We may not wish to participate in a Methodist congregation, a Baptist gathering, a Pentecostal celebration, a Catholic mass, an Islamic time of prayer, a Hindu festival, or a Buddhist time for meditation. But in our country, you can attend and support any of these religious bodies freely. The state has not established one above the other. The police are not hiding out in the alleyway, ready to raid the building and haul everyone to jail. No one can be arrested or otherwise persecuted for their religious convictions within an enormous range of beliefs and practices. Conversely, you can choose not to join any religious body. If your convictions so warrant, you can worship God in a natural setting. You can even choose not to worship God at all. You can be an atheist or be an agnostic.

Most of the time, we don't give this freedom to worship a second thought. We are quite accustomed to it. It is often when you travel to other places where the freedom to worship is not acknowledged that you become aware of what a rare gift it is. My awakening began nearly 20 years ago when visiting the People's Republic of China as an editor for a missions magazine. Outside of Guangzhou, I interviewed an older man who spent time during the Cultural Revolution in a euphemistically named "re-education" camp undergoing deprivation and torture because he would not renounce Christ as Lord in favor of Mao. As I talked with him through an interpreter, I slowly became aware I was standing on holy ground. I was in the presence of a saint in the very best meaning of that word.

Historically speaking, relatively few locales have practiced such religious toleration. The first Christians often met in secret locations because they would not simply drop a pinch of incense on the imperial altar, say "Caesar is Lord," and go on their merry way. Today many nations and regions of our world do not allow the freedom to worship. For example, much of the Islamic world does not allow Christians and practitioners of other faiths to worship except only under the most restricted terms, and conversion to Christianity (or any other faith) is prohibited by law.

Today many become pariahs for the sake of their convictions on who and how to worship—alienated from and disowned by their parents, friends, and neighbors. I know a Japanese Christian who, when he became a Christian in the late 1980s, his livelihood disintegrated. The local community would no longer shop at his store owned by a Christian. The shop closed. But he didn't give up. A few years later, he became the pastor of a mission church in the same community.

We don't realize how good we have it.

Praise God for the freedom to worship we enjoy. Worship with God's people this coming Sunday.

Grace and peace,

The Rev. Dr. Clay J. Brown



Budget & Finance Forum



As of May 31, 2009

YTD Budget	\$319,767.00
YTD Receipts	\$336,155.00
Surplus	\$16,388.00

Children in Action

All rising first through sixth graders are invited to "Children in Action" (CIA), a program of summer activities. Parent (and/or grandparent) chaperones are needed for each event, and siblings are welcome to join the group, provided the parent (or grandparent) is chaperoning the event. Following is a list of scheduled activities:

Tuesday, June 30 - Swimming at Janie and Jimmy Carpenter's pool - 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Tuesday, July 7 - CPCC Summer Theater - "Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory," 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Cost: \$7.

Tuesday, July 14 - Trip to Historic Gold Hill, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Cost: \$6.

Tuesday, July 21 - Swimming at Mary and Mark Kidwell's pool - 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Tuesday, July 28 - Lazy 5 Ranch, 9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Cost: \$7.50.

For more information, or to make a reservation, call Ellen Auten in the church office, 704-664-5275.



2009 Scholarships

The Scholarship Committee of FPC is proud to announce the names of the students who were awarded this year's scholarships. We offer our sincere congratulations to these fine young people.

Agnes Neel Scholarship

Graham Sledge - Mooresville High School

Cora Freeze Scholarship

Alexa Martin - Mooresville High School

James Drye Scholarship

Jonathan Talbert - South Iredell High School - \$2000

Graham Sledge - Mooresville High School - \$2000

Kimberly Wilson - UNC-G - \$1000

Congratulations to Our New Eagle Scouts

Brandon Abernathy received his Eagle badge at the 11:00 a.m. worship service on Sunday, June 14th. Brandon is a member of Troop 171 of Williamson United Methodist Church in Mooresville, N.C. He is the 51st scout to earn his Eagle badge from the troop. He has been in scouting for 11 years, joining the Boy Scout troop in February 2003. His Eagle project consisted of refurbishing and cleaning up the court yard area at Brawley Middle School. He repaired 19 picnic tables, removed brick pavers and lava rock, replacing them with landscape timbers and pine bark mulch. After the project was completed he cleaned and washed the picnic tables and area. The staff and students at Brawley Middle School now have a place to hold classes and to eat lunch. Congratulations, Brandon.



Neil Trimble received the rank of Eagle Scout on December 15, 2008 before the Troutman Eagle Board of Review and held his Eagle Court of Honor Ceremony at the 11:00 a.m. worship service on March 29, 2009. Neil follows his brothers, Ryan (Eagle '06) and Jay (Eagle '07) in attaining scouting's highest rank. Neil is a member of our own Troop 166 here at First Presbyterian Church with Darrin Bridges as Scoutmaster. Neil refurbished our church's corner lot by building four new picnic tables, three benches, a planter box, and handrail. Congratulations to Neil for his successful completion of all requirements for Eagle Scout.



Looking Ahead....

Camp Grier Labor Day Retreat

The annual congregational Labor Day Retreat is scheduled for Friday, September 4, through Sunday, September 6, at Camp Grier in Old Fort, NC. Make plans to attend this church-wide retreat in the beautiful NC mountains. Come for all or part of the weekend!


The Stork Has Landed!

We are pleased to announce that Andrew and Katherine Coates are the proud parents of twin babies. Chloe McCall and Ian Michael arrived early on June 19. Grandparents, Fred and Jean Coates, were able to spend some time with the happy family in Wisconsin immediately after the babies were born. We extend our heartiest congratulations to all!



July 2009

<p style="text-align: right;">5</p> <p>9:00am Early Worship 10:00am Church School 11:00am Worship 12:00pm Annual Church Picnic on the grounds</p> 	<p style="text-align: right;">6</p> <p>Church Office Closed</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">7</p> <p>8:30am CIA to CPCC Summer Theater - "Willie Wonka"</p> 
<p style="text-align: right;">12</p> <p>8:00am Presbyterian Men's Breakfast 9:00am Early Worship 10:00am Combined Church School 11:00am Worship 5:00pm Deacon's Meeting 7:00pm Committee Meetings</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">13</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">14</p> <p>9:00am CIA to Historic Gold Hill</p> 
<p style="text-align: right;">19</p> <p>9:00am Early Worship 10:00am Combined Church School 11:00am Worship</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">20</p> <p>NewsLetter DEADLINE</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">21</p> <p>10:00am CIA- Swimming at Kidwell's</p>  <p>7:00pm Executive Committee</p>
<p>PYF New Wilmington Missions Co</p>		
<p style="text-align: right;">26</p> <p>9:00am Early Worship 10:00am Combined Church School 11:00am Worship</p> <p>7:00pm Session</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">27</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">28</p> <p>9:30am CIA to Lazy 5 Ranch</p> 

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																								
<p>1</p> <p>11:00am Bible Study at the home of Fronnie Gardner</p> <p>7:30pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9:30am Bible Study at the Rogers' home</p> <p>6:00pm Fellowship Committee set-up for picnic</p> <p>7:30pm Mooresville User's Group in room 310</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>JULY 4, 1776</p> <p>CELEBRATE OUR INDEPENDENCE</p> 																																																								
PYF Mission Trip to Washington, DC																																																											
<p>8</p> <p>11:00am Bible Study at the home of Fronnie Gardner</p> <p>6:00pm PYF Just Desserts @ Sonic & Mission Trip Wrap-up</p> <p>7:30pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9:30am Bible Study at the Rogers' home</p>  <p>Fun & Fellowship</p> <p>6:00pm Fun & Fellowship at Golden Corral</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>																																																								
<p>15</p> <p>11:00am Bible Study at the home of Fronnie Gardner</p> <p>6:00pm PYF Just Desserts @ Cookout</p> <p>7:30pm No Chancel Choir</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9:00am Saints Alive to SC on Peach Pickin' Trip </p> <p>9:30am Bible Study at the Rogers' home</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>  <p>PYF</p>																																																								
<p>22</p> <p>11:00am Bible Study at the home of Fronnie Gardner</p> <p>7:30pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p>23</p> <p>9:30am Bible Study at the Rogers' home</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>																																																								
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Saints Alive

South Carolina Peach Trip



The Saints Alive group is planning to make its annual "peach trip" on Thursday, July 16. The group plans to leave at 9:00 a.m., to visit The Peach Tree in York, SC, where we always find wonderful peaches and other delicious fresh summer produce. Visit their website to learn more about their orchards at www.thepeachtreeorchards.com.

Following our "peach-picking," we'll enjoy lunch together in the area, and head back to Mooresville to can, freeze, or eat our peaches!

Thanks to Mary and Dick Fortanbary for their faithful assistance in the details of this trip.

Please contact Ellen Auten if you are interested in the peach trip.

Luncheon Reminder:

No luncheon in July and August

Next Luncheon: Tuesday, September 15

October Beach Trip

The annual Saints Alive beach trip is scheduled for Tuesday, October 27, through Friday, October 30, at Island Vista in Myrtle Beach, SC.

All payments will be made directly to the church this year, rather than to Island Vista, with checks made payable to First Presbyterian Church. It will not be necessary for individuals to call Island Vista to make their reservation. Deposits are due by **Wednesday, July 29** - the deposit amount is the first night's room rate. Another payment will need to be made by September 30, with final payment upon arrival.

Room rates are listed below, and include three nights' lodging, three breakfasts and dinners and taxes.

1 bedroom suite, single occupancy - \$411.12

1 bedroom suite, double occupancy - \$546.12

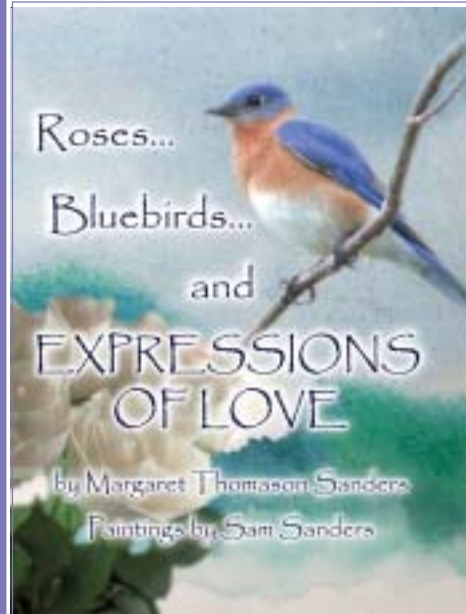
2 bedroom suite, triple occupancy - \$277.78 per person

2 bedroom suite, quad occupancy - \$242.08 per person

3 bedroom suite, six occupancy - \$227.63 per person

Please contact Ellen Auten (704-664-5275) to make reservations and find out more information. Please indicate if you have special facility needs.

You may find information about the facility at www.theislandvista.com. The beach is a wonderful place to visit in the fall, and Myrtle Beach offers many opportunities for relaxation and exploration. Hope you can join us on the beach trip!



Years ago, Margaret Sanders began compiling her best poems with the intention of one day publishing them in a book. Margaret mentioned to her husband, Sam, that she would like for him to illustrate some

of her poems and nothing more was said about it. Sam died on February 9, 2007 and months later Margaret discovered he had left a last gift for her – a collection of watercolors for her poems.

Roses... Bluebirds... and Expressions of Love is a celebration of beauty, nature, and love that is everlasting.

Roses, Bluebirds, and Expressions of Love

by Margaret Thomason Sanders

Warren Publishing, Inc.

Publication Date: June 30th 2009

Hard cover: 8x10, 52 pages

ISBN: 978-1-886057-99-9

\$18.00

To Place an order, please visit: www.warrenpublishing.net

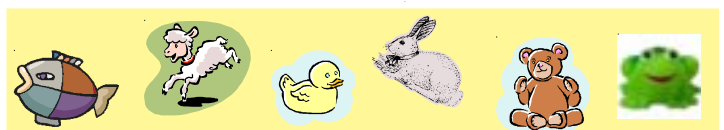
Preschool News

I hope you are all having a wonderful, fun-filled summer. We are thinking about all of you and are anxiously anticipating the opening of Preschool in August. The teachers are busy planning all of the wonderful units, art projects and activities that will fill the year and thrill the children. We will all be back to welcome you on our **Orientation Days of August 17th and 18th**. Please watch for a letter to arrive in early **July** with all the details and your child's class assignment for the year.

Bless all the little Fish, Lambs, Ducks, Bunnies, Bears, Frogs and our new friends about to arrive.

With Love,

Mrs. Nancy





Congratulations to Our Graduates



High School

Matt Abele

Matt is graduating from Mooresville High School with honors in Academic Excellence and the A/B Honor Roll. He belongs to the National Honor Society, Beta Club, Marching Band, Cross Country Track and Testify. He will be working at Showmar's Restaurant this summer and heading off to Appalachian State University this fall.

Abby Ahearn

Abby is graduating from NC School of Science and Mathematics in Durham. She worked on the yearbook and was president of the Student Activities Board. In the fall, she will attend the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, VA. Her plans this summer include babysitting.

Logan Bates

Logan is graduating from Mooresville High School where he was active in the Marching Band. He will be attending Appalachian State University, majoring in Music Education at the Hayes School of Music.

Cody Brown

Cody is graduating from Mooreville High School and has been a part of the MHS Band. He will be going to Washington, DC with PYF and working at Fratelli's Pizzeria this summer. Next fall he will attend UNC Charlotte working on a BS in Chemistry in their Honors Program.

Brandon Corolla

Brandon's activities at Mooresville High School included the Marching Band, 1800 Club, the German Club, Health Occupation Students of America and the National Technology Honor Society. After graduation, he will work at Hardee's this summer before going to Appalachian State University in the fall.

Hunter Crawford

Hunter has been involved in the German Club, Indoor & Outdoor Cross Country Track & Field (4 years) and STAND during her high school career at Mooresville High. She plans to take a trip to San Francisco, to go on the PYF Mission Trip to Washington, DC and work to earn money for college this summer. She will be attending the University of North Carolina - Greensboro in the fall.

Donovan Fair

Donovan is graduating from Mooresville High School where he was involved in Cross Country Track & Field and DECA. After going to Washington, DC this summer with PYF, he will be attending UNC Charlotte this fall.

Trey Gandy

No information available.

C. Marshall Horsman, III

Marshall is graduating from Mooresville High School where he was a member of the National Honor Society. He is planning a trip to San Francisco, CA this summer and then will attend UNC Chapel Hill this fall.

Caroline Ladd

Caroline has been busy at Mooresville High School with the Student Council, JV & Varsity Cheerleading, Younglife, and Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Upon graduating, she received the Meredith Merit Scholarship which she will use at Meredith College in Raleigh this fall. Her plans for the summer include a trip to the beach and the PYF Mission trip to Washington, DC.

Graham Sledge

Graham has been very active at Mooresville Senior High with his Cross Country Track & Field, MHS Band and membership in the National Honor Society, Beta Club and the Spanish National Honor Society. He received the USMC "Semper Fidelis" Award for Musical Excellence and the MHS Cross Country Outstanding Career Award as well as the following scholarships: J.J. Morse College; Agnes Preston Neel; James Michael Drye; and the BB&T. After working as a Counselor in Training at the Nike Running Camp in Asheville this summer, he will be heading to UNC at Chapel Hill in the fall.

Neil Trimble

Neil's years at Mooresville High have included involvement in the National Honor Society and the Beta Club, as well as earning his Eagle Scout Award from Boy Scout Troop 166. He was an All-Conference Tennis player and was a runner-up in the Western Regional Doubles. He was awarded the Mooresville-South Iredell Chamber of Commerce Junior Leadership Scholarship, the Brad Baity Patriotism and Nancy Bagwell Gabriel Scholarships. Late in June, he was named to the 3A West Regional Tennis Team. He will be going on the PYF mission trip to Washington, DC and working at Trax Automotive this summer, then will be attending Appalachian State University next fall.

College

Alex Ahearn

Alex graduated from Duke University with a BS Degree in Biology, a minor in Chemistry and a certificate in Global Health. While at Duke, Alex served as President of the university's chapter of NOURISH International and was chairman of the Community Service Committee of the Phi Delta Theta Fraternity. He was also active in the project, WILD, an outdoor experimental learning program. He is currently working at the Austin Diagnostic Clinic in Austin, TX as he applies to medical school.

Mary Margaret (Maggie) Harrington

Maggie graduated from UNC Charlotte with a BA in Elementary Education. She, like many other new grads, is looking for a teaching position.



Christian sympathy is expressed to Christine Davidson, Beth Davidson Reifner, Clayton Davidson and the rest of the Davidson family in the passing of Robert (Bob) on June 15, 2009. Also, to Lynda and Steve

Robinson, Richard and Sheri Mack and families in the untimely passing of their sister's husband, Dr. Jim Knight.

Presbyterian Men

In the past we have not had Mens breakfast in July....now things have changed! We will have the breakfast July 12 at the regular time, 8:00 a.m. We are blessed that Mark and Gene Vaughn, along with a gentleman from the Lance Corp, will be presenting an interesting program about past times and stories of some of the men and women of the church on a fishing trip in Canada. No big tales - just pictures and talk of the big one that got away. So please come to the July meeting as we continue to worship God every month.



PYF Calendar

- June 28-July 4** Mission Trip to Washington, D.C.
- July 8** Just Desserts @ Sonic & Mission Trip Wrap Up, 6-8
- July 15** Just Desserts @ Cookout, 6-7
- July 18** July 26 North Wilmington Missionary Conference
- July 29** Just Desserts @ Kerrigans, 6-7



VBS Thanks

Thanks to the many volunteers who provided loving and dedicated leadership at this summer's Lord's Prayer Safari Vacation Bible School. The volunteers gave 100% effort before, during and after Bible School! There are so many people who participated and helped, and we send a big thank you to all of the wonderful VBS volunteers!

The word safari means journey, and we certainly took a wonderful journey during VBS, as we discovered many new insights into the Lord's Prayer. It is a journey that will continue, as we put into practice all that was learned and experienced in our summer week of fun and study.



Special thanks to Sherry and Donnie Alexander who loaned us some fantastic jungle decorations - an adorable rhinoceros, giraffes, and all sorts of African-themed decorations. Their generosity turned our fellowship hall into an African jungle, and we appreciate their sharing in the fun with us.

Finally, thanks to VBS director Susan Kendall, who put in countless hours as she turned our fellowship hall into a jungle village, and handled the endless details that are part of hosting 100+ children, ages 3-12, in a week of fun and learning. Her creativity, organization, and hard work helped make this year's VBS such a success! Thanks for everything!

See you next summer at VBS!

First Presbyterian Church

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To be added to or subtracted from our mailing list, email:
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

JULY 2009

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