



First Presbyterian Church

PresbyNews

March, 2010

Gifts of Women Sunday

Sunday, March 7

Gifts of Women Sunday will be celebrated during morning worship, March 7. Gina Goddard will deliver the sermon on this special day. Other women will participate in the service and communion will be served.



David Nagel, Bron Long, & Dan Tillman
at the Ephesians Event.

At Ease Lunch

March 2, 12 noon

At Ease will have its monthly lunch on Tuesday, March 2, at 12 noon. The group will gather for a delicious meal which includes roast pork, mashed potatoes, broccoli salad, and more. Hidden Treasures is preparing the meal for a cost of \$7.00 per person.

Invite a friend and sign up no later than **NOON, MONDAY, MARCH 1**. You will not want to miss this great meal and we certainly want to have a place at the table for you.

Lenten Suppers & Services Continue

The Wednesday evening suppers and services for Lent will continue through March 24. The suppers, prepared by various groups of church members, begin at 6:00 pm. The Lenten Services begin at 6:45 pm. You are encouraged to come out and participate in these meaningful services during this special season.

Community Lenten Lunches and devotionals are taking place each noon at First Baptist Church. Consider attending both.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Phone: 843-537-7474

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Permit #3

Dear Church Family,

Ever since I was very young, I have had a fascination with trains, big ones and model sized ones. Our family went to Tweetsie Railroad one time in the mountains of North Carolina, and I loved it (we still go each year!). There's something marvelous, almost magical, to see a large locomotive begin to chug forward, picking up speed, displaying great energy, going faster and faster. My eyes seem to stare in disbelief...could that heavy object really be going forward like that? In my childhood, I also had a toy train set which I enjoyed tremendously. Little did I understand the physics of electric current, but I knew that something powered the black locomotive and the cars; boy, could they go fast!

Trains seem to give a delight to my senses. Perhaps it's to hear the rhythmic exhaust of the steam, the clicking of the cars, the shrill of the whistle, all of which contributes to a delightful symphony. Maybe it's the combination of colors, the different liveries associated with rail companies, the blacks and blues, the reds and greens that make up each identity. There are also the smells of coal, oxidized electric rails, greased fittings, and even fresh paint. I simply enjoy watching it all work together.

But I think what captures my imagination the most is the feel of a hidden force producing great energy. With the fire producing steam in the inside of the boiler, one cannot see what's happening, yet out comes the movement of the cylinders and wheels. When some engines gulp their diesel fuel, (poof!) they move down the tracks. Or a French Train reaches for an electric wire overhead, a spark or two, and eventually, the whirl of cars at 200 mph whisking through the *campagne*.

The Church has a hidden source of energy, too – God through the Holy Spirit. Interestingly, the word for Spirit in both Hebrew and Greek for Spirit can also be translated as “wind,” another hidden force. The church actually moves best when she is powered by God's Spirit, working in our lives. How do we know the Spirit?...when our ideas are in accord with the Bible, when our ideas are good and true, wholesome and pure. The Spirit empowers us to go forward down the rails of our lives.

March Calendar

March	16	6:00 Christian Education
1	9:00 Mothers Morning Out	17 9:00 Mothers Morning Out
	12:00 At Ease Deadline	10:00 Staff
	1-4:30 Pastor's study time	12:00 Lenten Lunch
	6:00 Community Out. Com.	2:30 Fun Program
2	12:00 At Ease Lunch	6:00 Lenten Supper/Service
	1:00 At Ease Committee	7:30 Adult Choir
	5:30 P. W. Coord. Team	18 12:00 Satellite Lunch
3	9:00 Mothers Morning Out	6:00 Session
	10:00 Staff	20 8:00 Church Work Day
	12:00 Lenten Lunch	10:00 V. B. S. preview
	2:30 Fun Program	21 Children & Youth Sunday
	6:00 Lenten Supper/Service	9:30 Coffee/Fellowship
	7:30 Adult Choir	10:00 Church School
7 Communion		11:00 Worship
Gifts of Women		5:15 Youth Bells
9:30 Coffee/Fellowship		6:00 Presbyterian Youth
10:00 Church School	22	9:00 Mothers Morning Out
11:00 Worship-Gina Goddard		1-4:30 Pastor's study time
4:00 Cong. Planning Team	23	10:00 Staff
5:15 Youth Bells	24	9:00 Mothers Morning Out
6:00 Presbyterian Youth		12:00 Lenten Lunch
8 9:00 Mothers Morning Out		2:30 Fun Program
1-4:30 Pastor's study time		6:00 Lenten Supper/Service
9 10:00 Circle 1		7:30 Adult Choir
4:00 Circle 2	28	9:30 Coffee/Fellowship
10 9:00 Mothers Morning Out		10:00 Church School
10:00 Staff		11:00 Worship
12:00 Lenten Lunch		5:15 Youth Bells
2:30 Fun Program		6:00 Presbyterian Youth
6:00 Lenten Supper/Service		6:00 Community Worship
7:30 Adult Choir		Service
12-14 Youth Retreat	29	9:00 Mothers Morning Out
14 9:30 Coffee/Fellowship		12:00 Newsletter deadline
10:00 Church School		1-4:30 Pastor's study time
11:00 Worship	30	10:00 Staff
4:00 Cong. Planning Team	31	9:00 Mothers Morning Out
5:15 Youth Bells		2:30 Fun Program
6:00 Presbyterian Youth		7:30 Adult Choir
6:00 Deacons	April	
7:00 Circle 3	1	10:00 Newsletter assembly
15 9:00 Mothers Morning Out		7:00 Maundy Thursday Ser.
10:00 Staff	2	7:00 Tenebrae Service
1-4:30 Pastor's study time		

Presbyterians Given over \$2.8 Million to Haiti Relief

In a recent article by Jerry Van Marter of the Presbyterian News Service it was reported that Presbyterians have given over \$2.8 million to Haiti Relief. Of that amount, over \$500,000 has already been sent for immediate relief efforts.

In addition, there are churches putting together kits of bandages and other necessary items for people to survive.

We, through our special offerings, have contributed over \$1750.00 toward this relief effort. You may continue to give. The need will not soon diminish.

Keeping Up With Mark Hare

Mark Hare is a Presbyterian Church (USA) mission worker to Haiti we help support. He keeps his friends and supporters updated through a blog and periodic newsletters.

If you have internet access, you may access his blog through the link, <http://markandjenny--pcusa.blogspot.com/>. If you do not have internet access, we try to post his newsletters in a convenient place. In any case keep Mark and Jenny in your prayers.

A Special Note..

To my church family:

I am so grateful to God and to you for your friendship, kindness, and prayers during my recent illness. I am doing much better now and hope to be able to rejoin you in worship soon.

Sincerely,
Liz Newsom

Vacation Bible School

The week of Vacation Bible School will be Sunday, June 13 - Thursday, June 17. Please place these dates on your calendars now.

There's an old gospel song entitled, *Life is Like a Mountain Railroad*. The lyrics, while admittedly a little hokey, paint a picture of faith in Jesus as our conductor, as we drive our trains through life. Lent is a time to reflect on the way Jesus is leading you to drive your train. God's force is often hidden; but when we act on it, people can see God's movement in our lives.

Part of Jesus' story is visible to us through the gospel accounts of his death and resurrection. We can be stoked a little more by hearing again that portion of our Bible describing Jesus' love for us on April 2, Good Friday, here at the church. Come and listen to the movement of the Spirit in Jesus' life, and pray how God can move you forward in your life.

May God's blessing be upon you on your journey in life,
Kyle

Postponed Youth Retreat

March 12-14, Camp Pee Dee

The youth retreat, which was postponed from February will be held March 12-14, at Camp Pee Dee. Youth who did not register for the event in February, but are available to go in March are encouraged to see a youth advisor.

The cost of the event is \$64.00 per person.

Know Someone Looking...

for a special place that their child, between the ages of 9 months and 3 years, can grow in a caring, Christian environment two mornings a week. If so, have them get in touch with the church office (537-7474).

Mothers Morning Out offers a great opportunity for young children to begin the socialization process with other children. It also gives mothers an opportunity to get some things done while they know their children are being safely cared for by qualified leaders.

The Census is Coming! The Census is Coming!

The US Census for 2010 is just a few weeks away. You are encouraged to be on the lookout for the census mailing sometime in mid-March.

For every form not returned, a census worker will have to go to that address. Even with all that, 10 years ago, our county was undercounted by thousands. Estimates vary but the county and the state lost millions of dollars over the last 10 years by not having more accurate figures.

Please make sure you are counted and encourage others that you know to participate.

Holy Week Services at First Presbyterian

Two special worship services will be held at First Presbyterian Church during Holy Week. First, the annual Maundy Thursday Worship and Communion Service will be held at 7:00 pm, April 1, in the Fellowship Building. This services, conducted around tables, visually and spiritually reminds us of the last meal Jesus had with his disciples.

Second, a Tenebrae Service will be held in the Sanctuary, Friday, April 2, at 7:00 pm. For those who have not attended before, this is a very different and meaningful services during which the lights of the sanctuary are dimmed at various points. At the close of the service, the congregation leaves in darkness. Not only is this service in itself meaningful, it also adds to the experience of worship on Easter morning.

Make your plans to attend both of the special services during Holy Week.

**Ministerial Association Sponsoring a
Community Easter Service**

Sunday, March 28, 6:00 pm, Cheraw Family Worship Center

The Cheraw Ministerial Association invites you to attend the Community Palm Sunday Service, March 28, 6:00 pm, at the Cheraw Family Worship Center. The Rev. Travis Bond will be preaching.

Presbyterian Women Mission Project

The 2010 mission project for the Presbyterian Women is to assist the McArn Food Bank in providing financial assistance emphasizing those who cannot pay their utility bills. This year’s mission project is going to stay local due to the economic needs here.

The Sound of Music

Do you remember the first time you saw “The Sound of Music?” Whether it was on the big screen in Panavision and glorious Technicolor or on video, it was memorable!

We all have our favorite scene. Mine was when the beautiful daughter Leisel danced with her beloved Rolph in the gazebo during the thunderstorm... I couldn’t WAIT to be sixteen. In contrast, the most boring scene (for this twelve year old) was when Maria sang (in the same gazebo) “Somewhere in my miserable childhood, I must have done something good.” Stangely enough, THIS is the scene that has stayed with me a lifetime.

Not a day goes by that I don’t question why am I so blessed? Did I do something “good” in my earlier life? Taking this question further, why are there so many good people, much better than I could ever be, having it so tough? We will never understand the “why’s” of life. The best way I deal with my blessing is to help those who are less fortunate whenever I can.

The sound of the food bank clients saying “thank you” and “bless you” as they walk out the door with just enough food to get them by is truly music to my ears. Last year the food bank fed 2,296 applicants with 135,260 pounds of food. This figure nearly doubled from the 1,378 applicants in 2008 and the situation is NOT getting better. If you’d like to have some “music” in your life, please give generously and often to the McArn Food Bank. We are currently in need of canned goods, personal items, and paper goods.

Thanks You and Bless You!

Marianne Crawford

Prayer List

Iraqi and Afghanistan situations, Mary Reagan, Charles DuBose (friend of Ervin and Connie Funderburk), Bill Finison (Helen Hamden's nephew), Leila Oliver (mother of Teresa Adams' friend), World Situation and Local Economy with hurting families, Carzell Chapman (former church sexton), Gene Brymer (Gina Goddard's father), Brenda Talbert (friend of Gina Goddard), Charles Harvey (Charlene Tillman's father), Bo Stokes (Teresa Adams' co-worker's grandson), Bill Ranson (Ginny Nickles' friend), April Chappell (granddaughter of Teresa's uncle), Rosalind Brymer (Gina Goddard's mother), Sara Lundie (Barbara Dickson's aunt), Lena McCoy (friend of Debbie Toler), Martha Bouknight (friend of Anne Bryan), Peggy Assef (community), Capt. Ken Furtick (Mike and Cathy Chapman's son-in-law), Dr. Gary Maynard (former member), Jan Gregory (Teresa Adams' relative), The earthquake victims in Haiti, June McDaniel (friend of Bennie Moore), Barbara Ledbetter (friend of Bennie Moore), Jim Murray (community), Richard Pierce, Charles White (former member), Farris Short (Carolyn West's uncle), John Fisher, Sr. (John Fisher's father), Ruth Pace, Marnie Howiler (niece of Elizabeth Cox's teacher), Mary G. Gullede (Tommy Gullede's mother), Jeff Yarborough (friend of Debbie Toler), Officer Maurice Merritt and the Cheraw Police Dept., Eddie Meek Robinson (Becky Childers' father).

Nursing Home residents (Cheraw): Ruth Pace

Nursing Home residents (away): Mary G. Gullede (Tommy's mother) & Gloria Overstreet (Judy White's mother), and Honey Holman (Betty Davis' mother).

Presbyterian Home Residents: Ruth Leggett, (Columbia), Margorie Osborn (Summerville), Eleanor Anderson (Florence), and Betty Dickson (Avery's mother).

Congratulations to...

- Atticus Simpson on earning a graduate certificate in high education leadership from the University of South Carolina.
 - Emily Johnson on achieving all A's at Cheraw High School.
 - Savannah Funderburk, Jacob Goddard, Jackson Ledbetter, Catherine Henderson, Jack McLeod, and Jackson Goddard on achieving all A's at Cheraw Intermediate School.
 - Sallie McLeod on achieving all A's at Long Middle School.
 - Christian Hainey, Rachel Marsh, and Rebecca Marsh on achieving an A average at Cheraw High School.
 - Kristopher Little on achieving A's & B's at Cheraw Intermediate School.
 - Katelyn Evans, Catherine Funderburk, Paige Thompson, and Andrew Truett on achieving A's & B's at Long Middle School.
 - Jackie Pierce on achieving a B average at Cheraw High School.
 - Rylie Thurman on achieving a B average at Long Middle School.
 - Isabelle Adelia Burton, daughter of Grady and Elizabeth Burton of Charleston, SC, on her baptism, February 21, 2010. Isabelle was born September 22, 2009.
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Sympathies to...

- Riley and Cooper Thurman upon the death of their uncle, Dennis Dean Thurman of Cheraw, SC. Mr. Thurman died January 27, 2010.
 - Heather Ralston Greenisen, a former member of this congregation, and her family upon the death of her husband Charles Jacob Greenisen of Atlanta, Georgia. Mr. Greenisen died January 19, 2010.
 - John Fisher and his family upon the death of his sister, Frances Hastings of Kingstree, SC. Mrs. Hastings died February 1, 2010.
 - the family of Maxcy McCown upon his death. Mr. McCown died February 12, 2010.
 - Carolyn West and her family upon the death of her uncle, Farris Short of Ruby. Mr. Short died February 12, 2010.
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Work Day Planned for March 20

A church work day has been planned for Saturday, March 20. Workers will gather for a day of improving the grounds and facilities of First Presbyterian at 8:00 am. Make your plans to contribute in a physical way to the betterment of First Presbyterian.

Presbytery of New Harmony meeting at First Presbyterian Church

Saturday, February 27, 2010

First Presbyterian Church will host the winter meeting of the Presbytery of New Harmony, Saturday, February 27. The meeting begins with registration at 8:30.

Children & Youth Preparing for Worship Service

March 21, 11:00 am

Children in Fun Program and youth in Hand Bell Choir and Presbyterian Youth Fellowship are preparing for the annual Celebrating the Gifts of Children & Youth Sunday, March 21.

Lindsay Bennett is busy with bell and chime ringers. Barbara Dickson is working with the children's choirs and the youth advisors, David & Shelley Morgan, Mary Anderson, and Dan Tillman, are preparing the youth for their parts.

All they will need is you to be present and participate with them. Won't you join them on March 21, 11:00 am, for this service of worship.

March Birthdays

4-Kim Cauthen; 7-Haven Owens; 8-Debbie Watson; 10-Robert Moffat, Chloe Moore; 11-Richard Pierce, founding of First Presbyterian Church; 14-Mary Reagan, Cooper Thurman; 15-Marion Murphy; 18-Mary Jane Evans; 19-David Brabham, Jr.; 21-Robbie Cauthen, Elaine Grant; 22-Andy Beck, Alexandra Evans; 23-Reba Brooks, Holley Hamden; 25-Craig Goddard; 27-Rob Owens; 30-Madison Nagel.

Session Highlights

In its recent meeting the Session of First Presbyterian Church:

- Heard the report of Administrative Committee which included their
 - Requesting the Finance Committee, with help from Building and Grounds, prepare a report showing the Endowment Fund expenditures for 2009.
 - Prioritizing a list of projects recommended by Building and Grounds for 2010 for 1) repair leaking roof in education building, 2) replace the manse roof, 3) repair the church steeple, and 4) repair and upgrade manse windows. Quotes will be obtained for the four projects.
 - Requesting the Finance Committee to report monies expended for each community outreach project in 2009.
 - Moving \$10,500 surplus from the 2009 year end budget to the Contingency Fund of the church.
 - Set the dates of Vacation Bible School as June 13-17.
 - Set the date of Graduate Recognition Sunday as May 16, pending review of the Christian Education Committee.
 - Set the date for the Send a Child to Camp Pee Dee Dinner as Wednesday, April 28, 6:00 pm.
 - Approved pulpit supplies for May 23 - Rev. Dr. Sue K. Arledge, June 27 - Elder Julie Cox, July 4 - Elder Lola Faye Craig (without communion), July 11 - Rev. Dr. Dick Andrews (communion), and July 25 - Rev. Lonnie Richardson.
 - Moved Mr. Tom Brewer to the active membership roll of the congregation.
 - Approved actions of the Board of Deacons which included:
 - Using net income (\$7,572.27) from Matheson Bohannon Poston Fund to fund the educational expenses of the Stephen Ministries Program.
 - Setting the Stewardship theme for the year as "Stewardship of the Home" and to set Consecration/Commitment Sunday on November 14, 2010. The Rev. Sue K. Arledge will preach.
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