



Tidings

Bringing News of the
Clover Presbyterian Church

Sister Congregation of Larne First Presbyterian Church
Larne, Northern Ireland

June-July, 2009

Things You Need to Know:

- **Congratulations!** Our offerings through the end of April have amounted to \$120, 530. (\$500 more than last year.) In these difficult economic conditions the congregation has indeed been faithful in much. This has enabled us to provide much needed funds for our mission partners both locally, in our Presbytery, and around the world!

But...keep your checkbooks handy. The Summer is coming!

- Our friend **Ed Kilbourne** singer, songwriter, storyteller, and herald of the good news, will be with us for a special day, celebrating the love and peace of Christ, **Sunday, June 21**. Celebrate Father's Day with Ed, in worship at 10:00 am and in concert at 4:00 pm.
- The **Seekers Sunday School Class** is planning a **fall retreat** for August 28-30 at Montreat! The retreat leader is Rev. Nell Green who will be helping us learn how to "Experience God" in our lives. If you are interested in joining the Seekers, please contact Paula Clayton 222-8382 or jclayton15@carolina.rr.com.
- The Youth will be at the **Montreat Youth Conference** from June 7-13. We have 13 youth and four adults going to discover how the "World's On Fire!"
- It's time to register for CAMP! **Bethelwoods** has a full schedule of summer camps available for children from rising 1st grade through senior high! Check it out at www.bethelwoods.org; or pick up a brochure from the church office.
- **Say your name!** Help us support our Seminary intern Marty Simmons by introducing yourself to her. There's a couple hundred of us and only one of her!
- **Vacation Bible School Team** meets this Tuesday, June 2, at 7:00.
- **Summer Sunday School** starts June 21st. This year's voyage is "Destination Discipleship." Come learn and grow in your knowledge of God's love—all summer / all ages!
- **Bethelwoods Camp-In-A-Van** is coming to Clover Presbyterian Church on **July 27-31** so that our kids can experience the music, art, Bible, crafts, and recreation of camp right here! Parents, watch your mailbox for more information! Visitors: please contact the church office if you would like to also receive the informational letter!
- **Vacation Bible School** is planned for **June 14-17!**
- **Happy Birthday John Calvin!** The great articulator of the Reformed Faith was born 500 years ago in Noyon, a village in the Picardy region of France. Celebrate his birthday with us as we learn more about his life and legacy at VBS!

Things You Need To Know Continue on Page 4



Keynotes: What's Cookin'?

*⁴As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him—⁵you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.
(1 Peter 2:4-5)*

There's an old story, versions of which circulate in lots of different settings, but all involving a old farmer, we'll call him John, who has stopped attending church on Sundays with his wife, let's call her Mary.

One week after the service Mary speaks to the parish minister about her concerns that John has fallen away from the church and his faith. She is very distraught, not just about the stress this places on their home, but for the state of John's soul. Please, she begs the minister, come and talk to him about coming back to church with his family.

So one night the next week while Mary is cleaning up from dinner and John is warming himself beside the fireplace, the parson calls at the front door. John is surprised to see him standing in his doorway on a cold and blustery night like this, but he welcomes him into the house and pulls a chair up beside his next to the hearth. As the two men talk about the weather and the flock and the crops, the minister reaches out with the tongs and removes a glowing coal from fire and places it between them on the hearth. The conversations drifts along for the next hour or so, Mary keeping her distance in the kitchen strains to overhear some mention of the church, or wrath, or salvation. She listens intently, but the subject never comes up. They just make small talk about the village and the state of the world.

As the conversation winds down, the minister gets up to leave, never having broached the topic that Mary had invited him over to discuss. Before rising out of his chair, though, he reaches over and gets the broom from beside the fireplace. He sweeps the now grey, dead coal back into the fire, where it quickly catches flame again and the ash glows red.

He thanks John for the visit, bids farewell to Mary in the kitchen and makes his way back to

the parsonage. Point made, John is back in worship the following Lord's Day and each week thereafter.

Like I said it is a common story, with simple point. We can't do this alone. When we remove ourselves from the fire, our faith burns out; it is extinguished and we lose touch with the God who gives us life. Insofar as it goes, I guess, it's a harmless enough tale. It's hard to stay faithful when you aren't around faithful people. Though it might be possible for that coal, under certain circumstances, to burn by itself, it's not likely. A coal removed from the fire is snuffed out. So get back in the fire so that you can stay alight for Christ!

The problem with the story is that nobody builds a fire because the wood needs to burn. The problem with the story is that it doesn't tell us anything about the fire starter, or show us enough of the fireplace. See, I think there's a pot hanging over that fire, or a child reading by the light of the fire, or an old woman, John's elderly mother perhaps, warming herself by it. I think that fire was kindled for a purpose and the story is not over until we find out what that purpose is.

If the moral of the story is that it is good for us to be in the fellowship of the church because it keeps us faithful, because it is good for us, helps us be better people - then we have missed the point of our baptism. It's not enough for us to sit in church and be reignited for Jesus. We have not been gathered together and set aflame by the Holy Spirit just so we can each burn our brightest. That's not why fires are built. That's not why churches exist - to keep us all glowing in the love of Jesus.

We have been called into the disciple community and gathered together for a purpose. God has done this among us for a reason. There's a pot hanging over our fire and I want to know what's



Keynotes: What's Cooking (Con't)

cooking. I want to know what God is up to with us. I want to know what God hopes to accomplish though us. God feeds hungry hearts with this fire. God sheds the light of the world in dark places with this fire. God's love is kindled around this fire. This fire draws the lost, hurting, alienated and distressed to the light and peace of Christ's presence. It also keeps our faith alive, nurtures and strengthens us in the gospel, but the reason the fire is here is the first place is God's mission, God's intention, for all humankind to know and love the God who created and redeemed them.

The church is God's work, God's act, for the world. Yes, we keep each other alight, but we are God's fire, set to serve God's vision for the future of human community - we exist for the advancement and prosperity of the gospel, for the increase of the knowledge of his love in the world. That's what God is cooking on our fire. That is the purpose for which we have been gathered. That God might be known, worshipped, served, and adored. Whether it keeps us burning or not.

Douglas



Seekers Class Retreat

Montreat, NC

August 28 – 30, 2009

Times: Begin Friday evening; end Sunday mid-day

Leader: Rev. Nell Green, International Ministries Network Coordinator for Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Internationals Cluster

Topic: Experiencing God

Cost Estimate: \$50 per person plus \$66 per child
\$100 per couple (no children)
\$232 for a family of four

Costs include Child Care during Bible Study sessions

Please contact Paula Clayton ([jclayton15@carolina.rr.com](mailto:pcclayton15@carolina.rr.com)).
\$50.00 deposit due by June 15th.

June-July, 2009

People Who Need Your Prayers:

The one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church; The leaders of our world and nation, the men and women in the military, our President – Barack Obama, our Governor–Mark Sanford, our Mayor–Donnie Grice, our missionaries: Jim & Jodi McGill, Mark & Miriam Adams.

For all those vulnerable to economic uncertainty:

The unemployed, the homeless, those whose health and safety depend upon the charity of others, those in the financial services industry, the construction trades, contractors and other sectors currently under pressure, public policy makers, those facing foreclosure, those who are worried about their savings and anxious about their future.

Our Known Sick:

Grant McLean, Taze Bennett, Ruby Bennett, Nona Beamguard, Mary Sifford, Gene Sifford, Ann Wright, Rodney McAninch, Tina McAninch and Jim Westmoreland.

Those unable to worship with us:

Mary Alice McCarter, Beth Hinshaw, Dean Miller, Ruth Ramsey, Mary Anne Hall & Mary Lou Sifford.

Friends and Relatives:

JoAnn Barnes – mother of Lois Talbert, Rush Smith—dad of Andy Smith, Lee Killian, Alice Fowler— aunt of Julia Smith, Jake Pritchard—grandson of Bill & Pat King, Terry Florence—friends of Don & Donna Hartsoe, Harold Dickson, friend of Harry & Ann Hogue, Al & Mary Jauregui—grandparents of Jacqui Marquez, Mack Falls—cousin of Dick Jackson, Carrie Reese—niece of Janet Owings, Anne Futch—sister of Bear Owings, Elizabeth Barnett—mother of Tom Redmond, Helen McCain, mother of Billy McCain, Sharon Fitch, John & Madison Kaneklides, friends of Travis & Christine Newsom, Mary Eddie Doss—friend of Don & Donna Hartsoe, Paul Timms, father of Paula Clayton, Mackenzie DeCuir, Alex VanEtten, mentor student of Libby Sprouse, Earl Sprouse, uncle to Julie Preston and Scott Sprouse, Tom Warrick, father of Dawn Dawes, Caroline Hogue, grand-daughter of Harry & Ann Hogue, Dan Hartsoe—father of Don Hartsoe, Anne Fishburne, Vanessa Henkel—sister of Julie Preston, Gail Windell—friend of Tommy & Susie McLean, Vesta Shaver—

*Charity & Bucky's days are filled and their schedules too,
so they are running off to Jamaica to say "I do!"*

*You are cordially invited to a reception in honor of
Jackie Ray "Bucky" Hughes, Jr.
and
Charity Grace Westmoreland*

*June 7, 2009
3 o'clock*

*Clover Presbyterian Church
202 Kings Mountain Street
Clover, SC 29710*

They are making a promise for life...please join us as we share their joy as husband and wife!

Mr. & Mrs. David S. Westmoreland

Serving the church in July

Closing - Charles Ford

Worship Leaders ~ 8:45am

05 Bruce Elliott
12 Mike Crowe
19 Georgia Westmoreland
26 Greg Rowland

Worship Leaders ~ 11:00am

05 Sherer Hopkins
12 Jane McCall
19 Wes Spurrier
26 Dick Jackson

Greeters

05 Kay Gordon, Gene Bowman
12 Adelle Edmunds, Ann Goode
19 Pat Lowe, Marge Woods
26 Sally Mann, Evelyn Pendleton

Offering

05 Don Hartsoe
12 Bob Mann
19 Jack Scott
26 Dick Jackson

Acolytes 11:00

05 Jay Rowland
12 Jon-Michael Brinkley
19 Thomas Key
26 Brittney Brinkley

Nursery Volunteers (11:00)

05
12
19
26

Children's Church 11:00

3 & 4 year olds

05 Buddy & Paula Clayton
12 Carl & Mary Adams
19 Phyllis & Allison Maynard
26 Greg & Kristy Rowland

K-2nd grade

05 Paula Brinkley & Brittney Brinkley
12 John & Julie Preston
19 Marc & Dawn Dawes
26 Mark & Martha Spurrier

Sunday School

Ladies Bible Class—Ladies Classroom

05 Kay Gordon
12 Willie Westmoreland
19 Pat Lowe
26 Myrna Kosko

Men's Bible Class—Rec. Building

05 Alice Thompson
12 Charles McLean
19 J.S. Edmunds
26 Don Westmoreland

Adult 1 Class—Church Parlor

05 Greg Rowland
12 Kathy Key
19 Donna Hartsoe
26 Jane McCall

The Seekers Class—Church Library

05 Bruce Elliott
12 Jack Scott
19 Class member
26 Lisa Hall

Flower Calendar for July

05 Circle 2
12 Circle 2
19 Circle 2
26 Circle 2

June-July, 2009

Things You Need to Do:

- **Worship** is at 10:00 on Father's day!
- **Register** for Vacation Bible School.
- **Give!** Consistently throughout the summer months, give your time, your energy and your money to the work of Christ for which we have been gathered.
- **Celebrate** Calvin's 500th birthday by learning more about his contribution to Presbyterian faith and practice during Vacation Bible School, June 14-17.
- **Go to Camp** ~ at Bethelwoods this Summer. The church provides a \$65 discount for members and their children.
- **Review** your covenant of membership with the congregation. Consider the ways you contribute to the mission and ministry of our congregation and renew your commitment to common witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ.
- **Thank** a Sunday School Teacher, on teacher appreciation Sunday, June 7th.
- **Welcome** our new members and our visitors who worship with us and join us in fellowship every week.
- Worship every week—here at 8:45 or 11:00; or wherever your travels take you over summer vacation. Join with Christians in shared mission and ministry, glorifying God and proclaiming the gospel.
- **Join an Adult Sunday school class** (if you are not already involved): Adult 1 (Church Parlor), The Seekers (Church Library), Ladies Bible Class (Ladies Classroom), and Men's Bible Class (Recreation Building).
- **Bring your children** to Sunday school EVERY Sunday at 10am. Journey toward our Destination Discipleship all Summer long.
- **Read** your Bible.
- **Tell** someone about the exciting things we share together as a congregation and **Invite** them to come be a part of our community.

Worshiping ~ Praying ~ Reading ~ Welcoming ~ Serving ~ Giving

June-July, 2009

Places You Need to Be:

- **Worship:** 8:45 and 11:00 every Sunday.
- **Ed Kilbourne** in Concert, Sunday, June 21 ~ 4:00 pm.
- **Vacation Bible School**, June 14-17 ~ 5:30-8:00 pm. All Ages!
- **Destination Discipleship** ~ Summer Sunday school starts June 21.
- **Sunday School** ~ classes available for all ages. Sunday morning 10:00 a.m.
- **Seekers Retreat**—SC Home at Montreat, August 28-30.
- **Youth Group** (Grades 7-12) on Sunday evenings at 6pm. Supper will be served.
- **Choir and Praise Team** rehearsals.

Serving the church in June

Closing - Charles Ford

Worship Leaders ~ 8:45am

07 Jennifer Johnson
14 Terry Swanner
21 Melanie Wall
28 Doug Westmoreland

Worship Leaders ~ 11:00am

07 Dave Cyphers
14 Jim Kosko
21 Jeff Sanders
28 Brian Boling

Greeters

07 Adelle Edmunds, Gene Bowman
14 Millie Jones, Marge Woods
21 Evelyn Pendleton, Linda Henry
28 Sally Mann, Lillian Lawrence

Offering

07 Bob Mann
14 Jack Scott
21 Dick Jackson
28 Neel Cyphers

Acolytes 11:00

07 Brittney Brinkley
14 Mackenzie Dawes
21 Alyssa McCain
28 Dominique Perez

Nursery Volunteers (11:00)

07 Heather McCarley
14 Libby Sprouse
21 Sammy Ann McCarley
28 Kellie Graham

Children's Church 11:00

3 & 4 year olds

07 Buddy & Paula Clayton
14 Carl & Mary Adams
21 Phyllis & Allison Maynard
28 Greg & Kristy Rowland

K-2nd grade

07 Paula Brinkley & Brittney Brinkley
14 John & Julie Preston
21 Marc & Dawn Dawes
28 Mark & Martha Spurrier

Sunday School

Ladies Bible Class—Ladies Classroom

07 Kay Gordon
14 Willie Westmoreland
21 Pat Lowe
28 Myrna Kosko

Men's Bible Class—Rec. Building

07 J.S. Edmunds
14 Charles McLean
21 Dave Cyphers
28 Don Westmoreland

Adult 1 Class—Church Parlor

07 Greg Rowland
14 Kathy Key
21 Donna Hartsoe
28 Jane McCall

The Seekers Class—Church Library

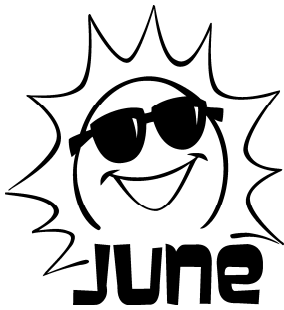
07 Bruce Elliott
14 Jack Scott
21 Class member
28 Lisa Hall

Flower Calendar for June

07 Circle 2
14 Circle 2
21 Father's Day
28 Loving Memory of T.M. Thomas by his family

June 2009 at Clover Presbyterian Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 5:30pm AA	3 7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal	4 8:00pm AA	5 8:00pm NA	6
7 8:45am Worship 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 6:00pm AA	8	9 5:30pm AA	10 7:00pm Chancel Choir	11 8:00pm AA	12 8:00pm NA	13
			MONTREAT YOUTH CONFERENCE			
14 8:45am Worship 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Deacon Meeting 11:00am Worship 3:00pm Session Meeting 6:00pm AA	15	16 5:30pm AA	17 7:00pm Chancel Choir & Praise Team Rehearsal	18 8:00pm AA	19 8:00pm NA	20
		5:00pm ~ VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL ~ 8:00pm				
21 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship 4:00pm Ed Kilbourne Concert 6:00pm AA	22	23 5:30pm AA	24 7:00pm Chancel Choir	25 8:00pm AA	26 8:00pm NA	27
		MONTREAT WORSHIP & MUSIC CONFERENCE				
28 8:45am Worship 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 6:00pm AA	29	30 5:30pm AA				



01 Patsy Smart
04 Jane McCall
Wesley Edmunds
05 Antonio Perez
Bill Lowe
Doug Westmoreland
Savannah Anderson
06 Bill Uzzell
Bub Hall
07 Mark Adams
Candy McCain
08 Jim Kosko
09 Nona Beamguard
Willie Westmoreland
10 Emily Smith
11 Amelia Sinclair
Ruby Bennett
13 Rea Campbell
14 Marge Woods
Max Craig
Megan Davis
17 Chad Westmoreland
Courtney Lucas
18 Josh Hogue
19 Sam Bowman
20 Alisa Johnson
Neel Cyphers
Vance Stine
21 Jay Rowland
23 Buddy Clayton
24 Mary Anne Hall
25 Dominique Perez
26 Paula Clayton

28 Cindy Westmoreland
John Shirley
29 Jeannie Edmunds
30 Charlotte Spurrier
Ed Jones
Judy Eibel



02 Gary & Lillian Lawrence
Will & Gwen Baker
03 Wes & Brantlee Spurrier
07 Buddy & Paula Clayton
08 Jim & Myrna Kosko
09 John & Julie Preston
10 J.C. & Teeny Hall
11 Ted & Sammy Ann McCarley
14 Bear & Janet Owings
18 Skott & Nancy Smith
19 Paul & Susan Joyner
26 T & Karen Cox

THE GRATEFUL ED

June 21st 10:00 & 4:00



Class of 2009:
Justin Allran
Andy Bolin
Julie Lawrence
Grace Miller
Drew Smith
Georganna Westmoreland



Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit 14
Clover, SC

Clover Presbyterian Church
202 Kings Mountain Street
Clover, SC 29710

June-July, 2009
Volume 18, Number 6 & 7

Tidings

