



# Tidings

Bringing News of the  
Clover Presbyterian Church

Sister Congregation of Larne First Presbyterian Church  
Larne, Northern Ireland

*May, 2009*

## *Things You Need to Know:*

- **No 8:45 service Sunday, May 3!** At least not in Clover. The Early service will be held at the retreat on hunting Island.
- **The Fish Fry raised \$900** to support mission causes chosen by the seekers Sunday School class. Thanks for a GREAT event for a GREAT cause!
- **May 31 is a Fifth Sunday!**
- 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 or Alisa Johnson!
- **Marty Simmons** will begin her service with us on Sunday, May 10. Be sure to welcome her to the Clover Presbyterian Church and make every effort to help her time here be a joy and delight.
- **The youth group** will be biking down the Virginia Creeper trail in Damascus, Virginia, on Saturday, May 9th. We will leave from the church parking lot at 5:00 on Friday, May 8, drive to the trailhead, and rise on Saturday morning ready to enjoy the day riding down this converted rail line. For more details contact Douglass in the church office or Sherer Hopkins @ 222-0110.
- The **National Day of Prayer** observance in Clover will be on May 7, in front of the First Baptist Church.
- May 31 is **Youth Sunday!** We will recognize our High School graduates and be led in worship by our youth. Don't miss it!
- **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 Alisa Johnson if you would like to also receive the informational letter (akjohnson@bellsouth.net or 631-1876)!
- **Presbytery at Presbyterian College:** Providence Presbytery will meet with the other four SC Presbyteries on May 29-30 at Presbyterian College in Clinton, SC. This meeting will begin on Friday evening with a Worship celebration presided over by the five Presbytery Moderators with Bruce Reyes-Chow, moderator of the 218th General Assembly of the PCUSA preaching! **Everyone is invited to travel to Clinton for this service and celebration of our Presbyterian life.** Elder Jack Scott will be our elder commissioner to the meeting on the 30th.
- **Vacation Bible School** is planned for **June 14-17!**

*Things You Need To Know* Continue on Page 4



## Keynotes: Changing Seasons

*Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth;  
give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name.  
(Psalm 86:11)*

It is with a combination of sadness that this season of shared ministry is drawing to a close; appreciation for the thriving educational programs that she has established here; excitement for what lies next for her and a healthy dose of anxiety over what comes next for us; that we prepare to bid farewell to Alisa Johnson this month as our DCE.

Four years ago our collegial relationship began with the annual Church camping trip – at that time held at the primitive campground at Huntington Beach State Park. It was quite an introduction for us to the congregation and its high energy, enthusiastic and clearly beloved Christian Educator. I watched as she captivated the children around the campfire, making familiar Bible stories come alive with drama. When she kept Thomas in her gaze and made sure he was made to feel welcome in this new place, I knew she had a heart for Christian education. Later that summer I walked into the fellowship hall and saw, for the first time, a 19 foot tall giraffe standing next to the stage. “It’s for Vacation Bible School,” I was told. “A giraffe? In the Bible?” That seemed curious. When VBS opened that summer I learned that this was a Christian Education program that was capable of anything it decided to do. Then the Wednesday night program started in the fall. The church was filled with families who made space in their crowded calendars to spend time together, nurturing children, studying the Bible, making friends and journeying together down the paths of faithful living.

These established programs testify to the effort, creativity and skill that Alisa Johnson has brought to the Christian education programs of the Clover Presbyterian Church. Through the years her kindness and compassion for the members of this church, her devotion to their spiritual formation, her love of the Bible and the faith of the church, have driven the educational goals of this congregation forward.

This church has been immensely blessed by her service here for the past 12 years. Our ministry has been strengthened and our knowledge of God’s love deepened on account of her tireless efforts. We are sorry to see this chapter closing. God’s call is not

always convenient; it interrupts our lives when we least expect it and beckons us into unfamiliar territory. Answering God’s call to go to a new place necessarily requires us to leave the old place behind.

It was true for Abram. When God called he said, “Leave your country, your people and your father’s household and go to the land I will show you.” (Gen 12:1) In order to live into the promise of God’s everlasting covenant, to be blessed by him, and established by him, and through him to be a blessing to all the nations and peoples of the earth, Abram first had to go. So it is with vocation. In order to embrace God’s future, in order to receive the full measure of God’s blessing, sometimes we are called away from the things that are most familiar and comfortable and reliable.

So though we are sad for this ending, and anxious for our own future, we rejoice with Alisa over this new beginning, this new journey of faithfulness, this new chapter of service to the Kingdom of God. For these 12 years have taught us much about her determination and tenacity, and we have every confidence that whatever future God has in store, it will be met with energy, intelligence and creativity. Her shadow here will be long and her unfilled shoes will loom large in the coming months. But this is not my church or your church, or even her church, it is God’s Church – the body of Christ – and as long as God has a purpose for us our life will go on.

We wish every blessing and extend our deepest, most sincere thanks for life and ministry shared with Alisa, Robert, Mariah and Braden as they embrace this new chapter and stride boldly into God’s future.

For a grateful congregation I wish you all every blessing and peace.

*May, 2009*

## ***Things You Need to Know (con't):***

- **The Men's Fellowship** is on hiatus and is no longer meeting regularly on Tuesday mornings. A heartfelt thanks to Bruce Elliott and Mike Crowe for their efforts in sustaining this ministry for the past several years.
- **The Stated meetings** of the Session *and* the Board of Deacons in May will be held on Sunday, May 17th starting at 6:00 pm.
- Thanks to Lisbeth Carpenter, Faith Shirley, Brenda Jackson, Kathy Key and everyone who made our **Relay For Life** Team such a great success.
- Our Next Churchwide **MOVIENIGHT** is Friday, May 15th. Join us in the Fellowship Hall at 6:00 for a covered dish dinner followed by a special presentation of the movie *Fireproof* on the big screen.

# **By the time you read this...**



# **...the retreat will be here!**

*May, 2009*

## ***Things You Need to Do:***

- **Express** your gratitude, appreciation and respect to Alisa for her years of ministry as our DCE.
- **Come** to Movie Night on May 15th at 6:00.
- **Worship** with the General Assembly Moderator and your Presbyterian brothers and sisters on Friday, May 29th at Presbyterian College in Clinton.
- **Give!** Your time, your energy and your money to the work of Christ for which we have been gathered.
- **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.
- **Welcome** our new members and our visitors who worship with us and join us in fellowship every week.
- Sign up for the **VBS Ministry Team** to make this summer's VBS the best YET! Contact Alisa Johnson, Kimberly Sanders (222-6616) or Jack Scott (831-8455) to join!
- **Support** the PW Birthday offering on May 31st.
- **Come** to Youth Sunday and support our youth, their leaders and families.
- Contact the church office if you know of a **high school senior** who should be recognized during our **High School Senior Recognition Sunday** on May 31, 2009. Congrats to all our Seniors!
- Worship every week—here at 8:45 or 11:00; or wherever your travels take you over Spring Break. 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 (classes toddlers through Senior High).
- **Welcome** Marty Simons, our seminary intern.
- **Support the Mother's Day offering** for the benevolent funds of the Presbyterian Communities of South Carolina.

Worshiping ~ Praying ~ Reading ~ Welcoming ~ Serving ~ Giving

*May, 2009*

## ***Places You Need to Be:***

- **Worship:** 8:45 and 11:00 every Sunday.
- **Movie Night**—May 15th.
- **Youth Sunday/PW Birthday offering**, May 31st.
- **Sunday School** ~ classes available for all ages. Sunday morning 10:00 a.m.
- **Session/Deacons Meetings** May 17th.
- **Youth Bike Trip**—May 8-9.
- **Youth Group** (Grades 7-12) on Sunday evenings at 6pm. Supper will be served.
- **Presbyterian Women Circle meetings** every month.
- **Choir and Praise Team** rehearsals.

May, 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, Nancy Ford, Gene Sifford, Ann Wright, Mary Anne Hall, Rodney McAninch, Tina McAninch, Jack Westmoreland, Jim Westmoreland and Lib Thomas.

### **Those unable to worship with us:**

Mary Alice McCarter, Beth Hinshaw, Dean Miller, Ruth Ramsey & 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, Steve Lunsford—brother of Mike Lunsford, 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—

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## *Presbyterian Women*

**Council- Monday, May 4** at 7:00pm at the home of Lisa Hall.

Circle #1 will meet **May 13** at the church at 11am to go out to eat.

Circle #2 will meet **May 11** at 7:00pm at the home of Adelle Edmunds.

Circle #3 will meet **May 11** at the home of Lisa Hall at 7:00pm

### *Flower Calendar for May*

03	Circle 2
10	Mother's Day
17	Circle 2
24	Circle 2
31	Jimmy Thompson

May, 2009

## News and Notes:

Dear Friends,

Jack & I want to thank you for everything that has been done for us. The food, flowers, cards & visits are over whelming. You are all so special. May God bless each of you.

Thank you,  
Betty & Jack Westmoreland

If anyone would like to donate their children's plastic eggs for re-use in the future, please leave them in the basket in the Atrium. This would cut down on future costs and be a great gift to the environment.

# MAY

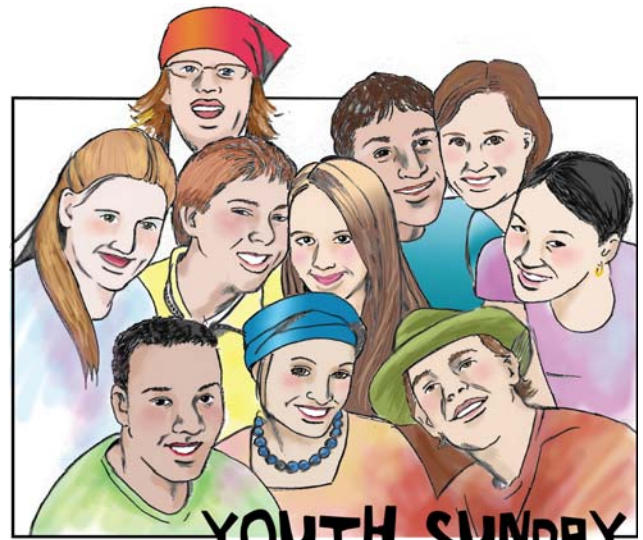


## Mother's Day



## Pentecost

## MEMORIAL DAY



## YOUTH SUNDAY

# *Serving the church in May*

*Closing* - Charles Ford

## *Worship Leaders ~ 8:45am*

03 Bruce Elliott  
10 Mike Crowe  
19 Melanie Wall  
24 Greg Rowland

## *Greeters*

03 Kay Gordon, Millie Jones  
10 Sally Mann, Charles Ford  
17 Pat Lowe, Evelyn Pendleton  
24 Linda Henry, Lillian Lawrence  
31 Barbara Corson, Jane McCall

## *Acolytes 11:00*

03 Alyssa McCain  
10 Dominique Perez  
17 Jay Rowland  
24 Jon-Michael Brinkley  
31 Thomas Key

## *Worship Leaders ~ 11:00am*

03 Janet Owings  
10 Betty Westmoreland  
17 Pat Lowe  
24 Brantlee Spurrier  
31 Will Baker

## *Offering*

03 Jack Scott  
10 Neel Cyphers  
17 Jane McCall  
24 Don Hartsoe  
31 Barbara Corson

## *Nursery Volunteers (11:00)*

03 Sara Bolin  
10 Jane McCall  
17 Evelyn Edmunds  
24 Janelle Brackett  
31 Emily Nason

## *Children's Church 11:00*

### *3 & 4 year olds*

03 Buddy & Paula Clayton  
10 Carl & Mary Adams  
17 Phyllis & Allison Maynard  
24 Greg & Kristy Rowland  
31 TBA

### *K-2nd grade*

03 Paula Brinkley & Brittney Brinkley  
10 John & Julie Preston  
17 Marc & Dawn Dawes  
24 Mark & Martha Spurrier  
31 Alisa Johnson & Sally Mann

## *Sunday School*

### *Ladies Bible Class—Ladies Classroom*

03 Kay Gordon  
10 Willie Westmoreland  
17 Pat Lowe  
24 Myrna Kosko  
31 Alice Thompson

### *Men's Bible Class—Rec. Building*

03 Charles McLean  
10 Dave Cyphers  
17 Douglass Key  
24 Don Westmoreland  
31 Alice Thompson

### *Adult 1 Class—Church Parlor*

03 Greg Rowland  
10 Kathy Key  
17 Donna Hartsoe  
24 Jane McCall  
31 TBA

### *The Seekers Class—Church Library*

03 Bruce Elliott  
10 Jack Scott  
17 Class member  
24 Lisa Hall  
31 TBA

## *Youth Suppers*

03 Buddy & Paula Clayton  
10 no youth  
17 Antonio & Heather Perez  
24 Terry & Shirley Swanner  
31 TBA

# May 2009 at Clover Presbyterian Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>3 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 6:00pm Youth Fellowship AA</p>	<p>4 7:00pm PW Council— <i>at the home of Lisa Hall</i></p>	<p>5 5:30pm AA 7:00pm Worship Ministry Team Meeting</p>	<p>6 3:30pm Cub Scouts 6:00pm Intern Lay Committee Meeting 7:00pm Chancel Choir &amp; Praise Team Rehearsal</p>	<p>7 5:30pm Girl Scouts 8:00pm AA</p>	<p>1 8:00pm NA</p>	<p>2</p>
<p>10—<i>Mother's Day</i> 8:45am Worship 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 6:00pm AA</p>	<p>11 7:00pm Circle 2—<i>at the home of Adelle Edmunds</i> 7:00pm Circle 3—<i>at the home of Lisa Hall</i></p>	<p>12 5:30pm AA</p>	<p>13 11:00am Circle 1— <i>meet at the church to go out to eat</i> 3:30pm Cub Scouts 7:00pm Chancel Choir &amp; Praise Team Rehearsal</p>	<p>14 8:00pm AA</p>	<p>15 6:00pm Covered Dish/ Movie Night 8:00pm NA</p>	<p>16</p>
<p>17 8:45am Worship 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 6:00pm Youth Fellowship AA Deacon/Session Bible Study 6:30pm Deacon Meeting Session Meeting</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19 5:30pm AA</p>	<p>20 3:30pm Cub Scouts 7:00pm Chancel Choir &amp; Praise Team Rehearsal</p>	<p>21 5:30pm Girl Scouts 8:00pm AA</p>	<p>22 8:00pm NA</p>	<p>23 Hope Smith Wedding Reception—Fellowship Hall</p>
<p>24 8:45am Worship 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 6:00pm Youth Fellowship AA</p>	<p>25 Memorial Day— <i>Church Office Closed</i></p>	<p>26 5:30pm AA</p>	<p>27 3:30pm Cub Scouts 7:00pm Chancel Choir &amp; Praise Team Rehearsal</p>	<p>28 8:00pm AA</p>	<p>29 8:00pm NA</p>	<p>30</p>
<p>31—<i>PW Birthday Objective</i> 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship 11:30am Covered Dish Lunch 6:00pm Youth Fellowship</p>						

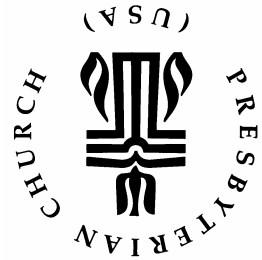
# MAY

- 05 Skottowe Smith  
09 Don Westmoreland  
Chuck Jackson  
10 Taylor Stewart  
Ann Marie Frisk  
11 Lynn Campbell  
15 Karl Kosko  
Miriam Adams-Maldonado  
18 Meagan Love  
Ryan Nelson  
Marc Dawes  
20 Holley Rowland  
24 Britt Dickerson  
Linda Lunsford  
25 Faith Shirley  
Janelle Brackett  
27 Kelly Crowe  
Nancy Smith  
29 Betsy Shealy  
Charles McLean  
Laney Preston  
Alyssa McCain  
Hannah Brooks  
30 Paula Brinkley  
31 Alice Thompson  
Mark Hopkins  
Max Burrell  
Skylar Redmond



- 06 Ed and Millie Jones  
07 Max and Sarah Burrell  
08 Brad and LeeAnne Robinson  
14 Mike and Kelly Crowe  
15 Pat and Evelyn Pendleton  
19 Wesley and Mary Edmunds  
20 Don and Donna Hartsoe  
Jack and Patti Scott  
21 James and Laura Johnson  
Roy and Paula Brinkley  
22 Allen and Emily Nason





*Tidings*

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More information about events and activities available online:  
[www.cloverpres.org](http://www.cloverpres.org)