

Tidings

Clover Presbyterian Church

Sister Congregation of Larne First Presbyterian Church
Larne, Northern Ireland



May, 2011

Things You Need to Know:

- **New!!!** Keep up with what's happening around the church by subscribing to our newsfeed:
http://www.cloverpres.org/mod/news/syndicate.php?category_id=1
- Lets make this a **May to Remember!** We have lots of opportunities to share in ministry and fellowship together this Month:
- **May 29 is a Fifth Sunday Blend! Come Early ~ Bring Food.**
- May 29 is **Youth Sunday!** We will recognize our High School graduates and be led in worship by our youth. Don't miss it!
- **WE NEED YOU:** (or your portrait, actually) to be in our new church pictorial directory. There are still lots of appointment times available for each day of photography—May 24-28. Sign up sheets are in the atrium. Everyone who sits for a portrait will get a copy of the directory when it is complete. Don't get left out, sign up Today!
- Save the Date: **Bethelwoods Night at the Charlotte Knights**—Saturday, June 4. Enjoy a night out with your Church friends and portion of the ticket revenue will fund Camp scholarships at Bethelwoods. Tickets are \$12 per person. Our ticket order is due May 22, so get your name on the list soon!
- **Teachers Needed:** Summer Sunday School starts Sunday, June 5 @ 9:00 am. During the summer months we like to give our regular teachers a break without compromising our commitment to year-round quality Christian Education. To keep that promise to our children and their families we need volunteers who will teach a week or two during the summer. See Debbie for more information about the lessons, dates, and classes that are available.
- **Summer of LOVE:** Youth in grades 6-12 don't miss Sunday School this Summer. Douglass, Debbie, and Andrew Swanner will be leading a conversation about two different understandings of God's love and our place in it. First we will be sharing the thoughts of Francis Chan from his book / video series *Crazy Love*. Then we will turn to Rob Bell's new book, *Love Wins*. Join us every week, we promise it will be lovely! ☺
- **Vacation Bible School** is right around the corner. We need YOU—to bring your children, to volunteer your talents and time, to join us in class, to enjoy your church family at the beginning of summer. June 12-15.
- **Summer Worship:** Beginning on Sunday, June 5, our worship services will be combined at 10:00 in the sanctuary for the duration of the summer. Some weeks music will be provided by the choir and organ, other weeks it will be provided by the Praise team and bongos! Join us each week, regardless of which style you prefer—you might learn and <gasp> grow a little in the process!
- **The CPC Open Returns!** Golfers mark your calendars for Saturday, May 14 and join us for the third annual CPC Open. We will shotgun start the captains choice festivities at 1:30 pm at Carolina Crossings Golf Club. Entry fee is \$50 per golfer or \$200 per team. Holes (tees and greens) can be sponsored for \$50. Proceeds support our youth trip to the Montreat youth Conference in June.

Things You Need To Know Continue on Page 7



Keynotes: A TIME FOR WAR AND A TIME FOR PEACE

*He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.*

Isaiah 2:4

*Then Jesus said to him, "Put your sword back into its place;
for all who take the sword will perish by the sword.*

Matthew 26:52

The roots of Christian reflection on the subject of War and Peace run deep. "When war is undertaken in obedience to God who would rebuke, or humble, or crush the pride of man," Augustine wrote in 397 AD, "it must be allowed to be a righteous war." (*Reply to Faustus the Manichaeon*)

Ever since the Christian faith was legalized by the empire, then established as its primary sponsor, believers have struggled to maintain appropriate boundaries around their responsibilities as citizens. Where do the demands of the Prince compromise our loyalty and devotion to Christ? Under what circumstances might Christian disciples commit themselves to the cause of race and nation while remaining faithful to the vision of God's kingdom?

This conversation has been most vigorously engaged and clearly articulated around questions of war and peace. We are the heirs of a long tradition of moral thought, well developed and carefully constructed, to help us discern those conditions under which armed conflict is justified. Every generation since Augustine has revisited his categories and conclusions, and made revisions, clarifications, and corrections appropriate to their context. As warfare has changed, as social structures have changed, Just War theory has had to adapt and respond.

Not all Christians, it must be said, are Just Warriors. There are still Christian communities that can make a compelling biblical case for Christian Passivism and abstain from all military engagements as a matter of conscience. There are others, though far fewer, who maintain a Crusader ethic – insisting on the Christian's Divine right to wage holy war in the name of the state. The vast majority of us, though, when we think deeply about the issue and its implications, find ourselves somewhere along the Just War continuum. Passivism is

easier to describe than it is to practice. The passivist has not only to abstain from military service in the interest of the nation, but also somehow to abstain from the benefits of the willingness of others to take up arms in defense of the passivist's freedom not to. Crusaders eventually have to deal with the preponderance of Biblical evidence against the imposition of the Christian faith on unwilling populations by violent force.

Consequently, when Christians think deeply and talk seriously about the prospect of war, most of us hold to some standard of justification. We are Just War Christians and as Presbyterians we come from a Just War tradition (We may love the Quakers, but when Napoleon starts marching toward St. Petersburg, somebody has to come out and stop him; and they better bring more than a well-reasoned argument.)

Our problem, as just war Christians, is that we don't know the tradition. We have never seriously considered how our faith informs our decisions as citizens when threats to our security arise. We cannot articulate Christian criteria for what makes armed conflict just. We want to know, I think. We want to be able to engage in a public conversation about warfare from within our Christian commitments – we want to be able to articulate things like Just Cause; Last Resort; Proportionality; and Discrimination – but we have never been given the chance to become proficient in the resources of this part of the Christian tradition.

As a result Christian thinking and preaching about war is too often undisciplined and uninformed by the tradition. We abdicate the responsibility to engage the issues of war and peace critically and find ourselves endorsing or protesting armed conflict on the basis of entirely erroneous assumptions or loyalties. We allow the Christian witness to be co-opted by political or economic interests that have no enduring Christian identity or commitment.



Keynotes:
A TIME FOR WAR AND A TIME FOR PEACE

Just War theory is vitally important for Christians to know. Additionally, it is fascinating and elegant to learn. Our best thinkers in every generation have contributed to what we believe to be essential about this doctrine. From Augustine's attempts to preserve some sense of Christian integrity within the Roman empire; to Luther's struggles with the Peasants' revolt, through the religious wars of the 17th century; the world wars of the 20th; the Holocaust and the advent of nuclear deterrents; this doctrine has been the subject of faithful conversation and debate. Our generation now struggles for the first time with the prospect of asymmetrical warfare, with states battling non-state military actors. This changes the game significantly and puts things previously held to be non-negotiable unjust – like first strike and pre-emption – back on the table.

These are difficult and sometimes controversial issues but they are not bigger or stronger than Christian faith and doctrine. They can be understood in the light

of the gospel. Together we can live in this age and avoid the hypocrisy of claiming to be a just war people without really knowing what that means.

So I invite you join this conversation; to become familiar with the terms of the debate; to engage the tradition and hold your presuppositions and loyalties up to it. We will spend the four nights of Vacation Bible School in June unpacking the rich treasure of Just War Theory – not as the lesser of two evils, or as a justification for anything we want to do – but as Christian discipline. We will seek to reclaim the right to speak about Justice in warfare from the state and place it within the context of our greater loyalty to God's kingdom.

Peace,

May, 2011

Things You Need to Do:

- **Play Golf**—The Youth Golf tournament needs teams to compete. Round up your friends and enjoy the fellowship on the links!
- **SMILE!** Get your portrait taken for the new Pictorial directory!
- **Teach:** find a week that you can teach the children this Summer during Sunday School.
- **Bring Food:** for the covered dish lunch after Youth Sunday on May 29th!
- **Volunteer:** to help with Vacation Bible School, June 12-15.
- **Join an Adult Sunday school class:** Adult 1 (Church Parlor), The Seekers (Church Library), Ladies Bible Class (Ladies Classroom), and Men's Bible Class (Recreation Building).
- **Learn:** About the Christian Doctrine of Just War @ VBS in June.
- **Save the Dates:** CPC Open, May 14; Bethelwoods Night at the Knights, June 4.
- **Cans Cans Cans!** Aluminum funds youth ministry. Bring us your cans.
- **Give:** We need \$7,067 per week in order to fund our operations inside the church building. There is no where else to cut the church budget without eliminating valuable ministry.
- **Subscribe** to the CPC Newsfeed.

May, 2011

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 - Nikki Haley, our Mayor - Donnie Grice, our missionaries: Jim & Jodi McGill, Mark & Miriam Adams and Tony & Connie Johnson.

Our Known Sick: Grant McLean, Taze Bennett, Ruby Bennett, Robin Davis, Ollie Robertson, Gene Bowman, Kimberly Sanders, Brad Robinson, Carolyn Thomas, and Julia Smith.

Those unable to worship with us: Mary Alice McCarter, Beth Hinshaw, Dean Miller, Ruth Ramsey, Mary Anne Hall, Mary Lou Sifford and Gene & Mary 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—friend of Don & Donna Hartsoe, Elizabeth Barnett—mother of Tom Redmond, Eddie Doss—friend of Don & Donna Hartsoe, Earl Sprouse, uncle to Julie Preston and Scott Sprouse, Tom Warrick, father of Dawn Dawes, Anne Fishburne, Vanessa Henkel—sister of Julie Preston, Gail Windell—friend of Tommy & Susie McLean, Debra Good—friend of Jeannie Edmunds, Bruce Clark—friend of Kathy Key, Ernest Cagle—grandfather of Mike Carpenter, Dian Timms, mother of Paula Clayton, Cam Robinson, brother of Brad Robinson, Joan Blalock & Jennifer Brown—friend of Hartsoe family, Ronnie Bell— uncle of Terry Swanner, David Stanton, Jr.—friend of Harry & Ann Hogue, Mickey Gordon—sister-in-law of Joe & Kay Gordon, David Patterson—friend of Jessica Swanner, Kristin McDonough— friend of Scott & Holly Frisk, Jim Carroll—nephew of Ann Goode & Barbara Beamguard, Don Dawes—father of Marc Dawes, Sara Anderson—sister-in-law of Tammie Anderson, Rex Pritt— cousin of Lois Talbert, Sharon Fitch—friend of Alisa Johnson and Dan & Mildred Hartsoe—parents of Don Hartsoe.

Worshipping ~ Praying ~ Reading ~ Welcoming ~ Serving ~ Giving

May, 2011

Places You Need to Be:

- Choir Practice ~ Wednesdays @ 7:00.
- Praise Team Rehearsal ~ Wednesdays @ 7:00.
- Session and Deacons Meetings ~ May 15
- Golf Tournament ~ May 14
- Youth Sunday ~ May 29
- Knight's Castle ~ June 4
- Vacation Bible School ~ June 12-15

June 4



\$12
per
person
(\$4 supports
Bethelwoods)

Serving the church in May

Closing - Ted McCarley

Ushers ~ 11:00am

- 01 Ann Goode, Jane McCall, Ted McCarley, Bill King, Gary Love, Garrison Love
- 08 Lillian Lawrence, Sally Mann, Ted McCarley, Bob Mann, Tommy McLean, Bill Brooks
- 15 Pat Lowe, Linda Henry, Ted McCarley, Mack Henry, Jack Scott, Eric Scott, Wes Spurrier
- 22 Millie Jones, Peggy Adams, Ted McCarley, Bill King, Tommy McLean
- 29 Barbara Corson, Ann Goode, Ted McCarley, Bill King, Bob Mann, Tommy McLean

Worship Leaders ~ 11:00am

- 01 Janet Owings
- 08 Betty Westmoreland
- 15 Pat Lowe
- 22 Will Baker
- 29 Brantlee Spurrier

Worship Leaders ~ 8:45am

- 01 Terry Swanner
- 08 Melanie Wall
- 15 Doug Westmoreland
- 22 Bruce Elliott

Acolytes 11:00

- 01 Mary Mason Carpenter
- 08 Alex Owings
- 15 Laney Preston
- 22 Sean Clayton
- 29 Sophia Sprouse

Nursery Volunteers (11:00)

- 01 Linda Henry
- 08 Sara Bolin
- 15 Evelyn Edmunds
- 22 Heather McCarley
- 29 Sammy Ann McCarley

Children's Church 11:00

3 & 4 year olds

- 01 Buddy & Paula Clayton
- 08 Carl & Mary Adams
- 15 Phyllis & Allison Maynard
- 22 Greg & Kristy Rowland
- 29 Scotti & Libby Sprouse

K-2nd grade

- 01 Paula Brinkley & Brittney Brinkley
- 08 Bill & Libby Brooks
- 15 Alice Aiken
- 22 Katie Benton & Evelyn Pendleton
- 29 Scotti & Libby Sprouse

Sunday School

Ladies Bible Class ~ Ladies Classroom

- 01 Kay Gordon
- 08 Douglass Key
- 15 Pat Lowe
- 22 Myrna Kosko
- 29 Jim Kosko

Men's Bible Class ~ Rec. Building

- 01 Charles McLean
- 08 Dave Cyphers
- 15 w Ladies BC
- 22 JS Edmunds
- 29 Jim Kosko

Adult 1 Class ~ Church Parlor

- 01 Lynn Edmunds
- 08 Candy McCain
- 15 Donna Hartsoe
- 22 Jane McCall
- 29 Mary Edmunds

The Seekers Class ~ Church Library

- 01 Bruce Elliott
- 08 Jack Scott
- 15 Class member
- 22 Terry Swanner
- 29 TBA

Youth Suppers

- 01 Billy & Candy McCain
- 08 No Youth
- 15 Douglass & Kathy Key
- 22 Chuck & Brenda Jackson
- 29 Lake Party at the Swanners

Things You Need to Know (con't):

- **THANKS:** The Third Annual Seeker's Fish Fry for mission was a huge success! We raised over \$1,000 for mission and youth ministry while enjoying great food and fellowship. Thanks to the congregation for supporting this fund raiser and to all the youth and seekers class members who worked so hard to make it a success.
- The **Board of Deacons** will meet on Sunday, May 15 at 5:30 in the parlor.
- The **Session** will meet on Sunday, May 15 at 6:00 in the conference room.

Presbyterian Women

The PW Council will meet on **Monday, May 2** at the home of Lisa Hall at 7pm.

Circle 1 will meet on **Monday, May 9** at Courtney's at 10:30am.

Circle 2 will meet on **Monday, May 9** at the home of Pat King at 7:00pm.

Flower Calendar for May

01 Available

08 Mother's Day

15 Available

22 Available

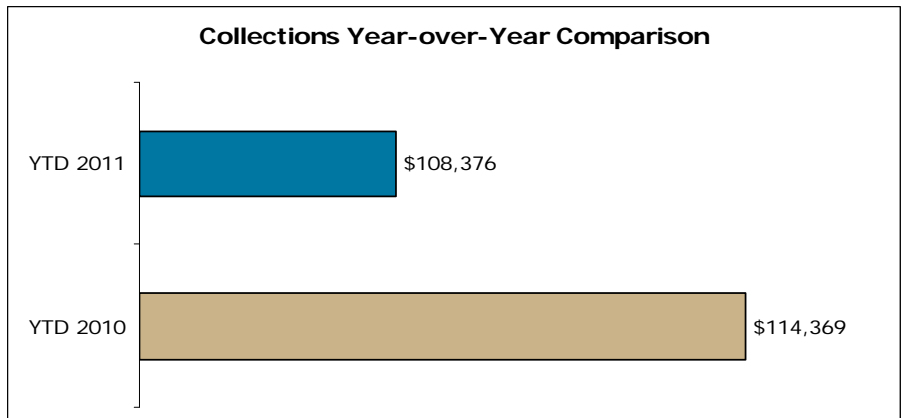
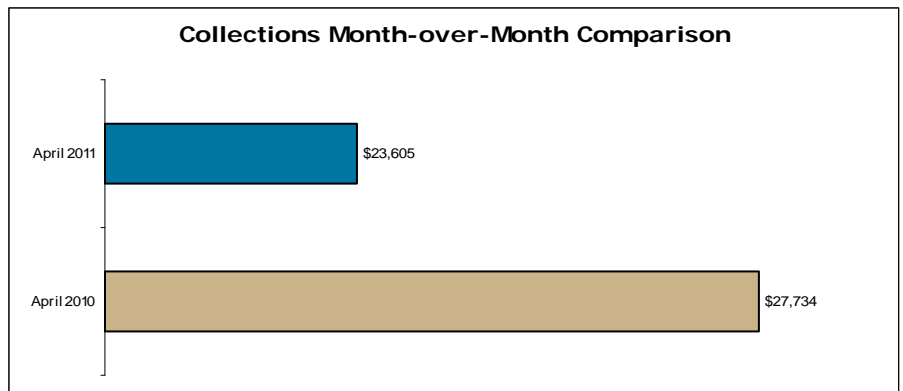
29 Available

Worshiping ~ Praying ~ Reading ~ Welcoming ~ Serving ~ Giving

Financial Update May, 2011

Analysis of Financial Report:

- Collections dropped \$4,129 from April 2010 to April 2011. This represents a -15% change for the month-over-month comparison.
- In comparing Year to Date 2011 with Year to Date 2010, we see a drop in collections of \$5,993, or a -5% change.



May 2011 at Clover Presbyterian Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>1</i></p>	<p><i>2</i> 7:00pm ~ PW Council ~ <i>at the home of Lisa Hall</i></p>	<p><i>3</i> 5:30pm AA</p>	<p><i>4</i> 7:00pm Chancel Choir Practice/Praise Team Rehearsal</p>	<p><i>5</i> 8:00pm AA</p>	<p><i>6</i> 8:00pm NA</p>	<p><i>7</i></p>
<p><i>8</i> 8:45am Worship 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 6:00pm AA</p>	<p><i>9</i> 10:00am Circle 1 7:00pm Circle 2</p>	<p><i>10</i> 5:30pm AA</p>	<p><i>11</i> 7:00pm Chancel Choir Practice/Praise Team Rehearsal</p>	<p><i>12</i> 8:00pm AA</p>	<p><i>13</i> 8:00pm NA</p>	<p><i>14</i> Golf Tourna- ment</p>
<p><i>15</i> 8:45am Worship 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 5:30pm Deacon MT Meeting 6:00pm Deacon/Session Bible Study Youth Fellowship AA 6:30pm Deacon Meeting Session Meeting</p>	<p><i>16</i> 6:30pm ~ PW Birthday Party</p>	<p><i>17</i> 5:30pm AA</p>	<p><i>18</i> 7:00pm Chancel Choir Practice/Praise Team Rehearsal</p>	<p><i>19</i> 8:00pm AA</p>	<p><i>20</i> 8:00pm NA</p>	<p><i>21</i></p>
<p><i>22</i> 8:45am Worship 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 6:00pm Youth Fellowship AA</p>	<p><i>23</i></p>	<p><i>24</i> 5:30pm AA</p>	<p><i>25</i> 7:00pm Chancel Choir Practice/Praise Team Rehearsal</p>	<p><i>26</i> 8:00pm AA</p>	<p><i>27</i> 8:00pm NA</p>	<p><i>28</i></p>
<p><i>29 ~ Youth Sunday</i> 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship 11:30am Covered Dish Lunch 6:00pm Youth Fellowship AA</p>	<p><i>30</i></p>	<p><i>31</i> 5:30pm AA</p>				

MAY

04 Sara Warlick
05 Skottowe Smith
09 Don Westmoreland
Chuck Jackson
10 Taylor Stewart
Ann Marie Frisk
11 Lynn Campbell
James Shive
14 Dana Partin
15 Karl Kosko
Miriam Adams-Maldonado
17 Aiden Nichols
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 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 Roy and Paula Brinkley



www.cloverpres.org

More information about events and activities available online:

Director of Preschool: Wanda Whitesides <i>wandawhitesides@yahoo.com</i>	Organist/Choir Director: Barbara Quinn <i>barbq@carolina.rr.com</i>
Secretary: Pam Fowler <i>Pamtfowler@gmail.com</i>	Director of Christian Education: Debbie Dixon <i>bluehose1@yahoo.com</i>
	Pastor: Douglas Key <i>preacherdkey@gmail.com</i>

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