



# Tidings

Bringing News of the  
Clover Presbyterian Church

Sister Congregation of Larne First Presbyterian Church  
Larne, Northern Ireland

*October, 2009*

## *Things You Need to Know:*

- On Sunday, October 18, **Darwin Shaver** will bring his term of service as our organist to an end. For nine faithful and gifted years he has led us in song, lifted our hearts, provided the sound track for our celebrations and sorrows, moved us with his virtuosity and talent. This month we pause to express our gratitude to Darwin for all that he has contributed to our worship life. For his friendship and good humor we will be always thankful.
- Join us in wishing a happy 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary to **Frontera de Cristo**—our bi-National Presbyterian Border Ministry with the Presbyterian Church of Mexico. Mark and Miriam Adams will host the celebration worship service in Agua Prieta on October 17<sup>th</sup>.
- The 2nd annual **Youth Golf Tournament** is coming up Saturday, October 10. The field will be sent off by a shotgun start at 8:00 am at Carolina Crossing Golf Club. If you would like to register a team (4 players @ \$50 per player) or sponsor a hole (\$50 per hole) call Douglass in the church office. Fun, fellowship—no actual golf skill required—it's captain's choice!
- **The Fall Festival** will be held on Saturday, October 24, here at the church from 10:00-12:00. Join us for fun, fellowship, and Magic! That's right... **MAGIC!**
- **Consecration Sunday** is coming up on **October 25<sup>th</sup>**. We will welcome the Rev. Art Gatewood to worship and lunch that day as we dedicate ourselves to the work of Christ in this congregation for the upcoming year. Worship that morning will be at **10:00 am** and will be followed by a catered celebration luncheon.
- The **Elementary Lock-in** for the Fall is coming up on Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup>! Grades 1-5 are invited to meet at the church at 5:00 to be locked-in (well, in a supervised, totally safe way...) until 9:00 Saturday morning. The cost is \$7.00 to cover food. There will be a cookout, campfire, songs and stories, a movie on the big screen. Call the church and sign up (We NEED an accurate head count!!)
- **The Confirmation class** will meet on October 11<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm at the church. The following Sunday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, they will be attending the opening events of the Providence Presbytery meeting at Bethelwoods.
- **Underwear for Haitian Orphans.** Thanks to everyone who has responded to our call for children's underwear, size 2-18 for the orphanage in Haiti that Tammie Anderson is returning to this month. You still have a couple of weeks to make a contribution if you have not already. This is such an accessible way to restore basic human dignity to these who lack so much of the necessities of life, sheltered in an orphanage in the poorest nation in our hemisphere. Thank you for your help.

*Things You Need To Know* Continue on Page 7



## Keynotes: Things I Learned at Pagan Pride Day

As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them,  
because they were like sheep without a shepherd;  
and he began to teach them many things.

*(Mark 6:34)*

How it happened that we found ourselves, the Confirmation class and I, sharing in the festivities of Charlotte Metro Pagan Pride day is a funny story. See, we were supposed to be going to the Greek Festival down the street - talking about the *filioque* clause and iconography, touring the Byzantine room, eating baklava, spanakopita, and souvlaki, experiencing a Christian tradition far removed from our own. You know, doing Confirmation-type stuff. But we arrived an hour before the Festival opened that morning and needed to kill time with 16 sleep-deprived middle schoolers, so we headed for the park. The park, where soccer games were being played; a Pilates class was gathering in the shade; a corporate picnic was being laid out under the shelter; and families were playing on the playground. The park... where displays and exhibits were being set up on the front field, and vendors were showing forth their wares. We took them to the park, on Pagan Pride day.

The first thing I learned at Pagan Pride day is my deep and abiding love for the First Amendment. Where else in the world, I ask you, could this group of people assemble and practice their religious rituals, free from government interference or suspicion? The freedoms of the First amendment - speech, assembly, press, religion - these are freedoms granted only by the most self-confident of societies. Even the worst hate speech is not threatening to a free people. And so a field filled with proud pagans is profoundly untroubling to the kid's soccer game across the road, or the Pilates class meeting in the shade of a large oak tree. Untroubling also to the 16 Presbyterian confirmands who were unwitting tourists in their world for an hour or so that morning.

I also learned that what passes for *Pagan* today is nothing at all like the classical Pagans of antiquity. Nobody at Pagan Pride day looked sincerely afraid that some war was about to break out among the gods of the pantheon that would bring down fire or pestilence on the earth. No one was truly anxious that their measly offerings would anger the gods and cause the heavens to withhold the rain and bring famine or devastating

plagues. I saw no one who looked capable of an actual human sacrifice.

Contemporary Pagans are a much more benign bunch than the ones who threw those first Christians to the Lions, or offered the still beating heart of their immolated victim as a gift to the Sun god. They are a curious mixture of witches, wizards, earth religions and new age spiritualities. They like to wear black. Native American stuff is big, too. Anything that is not mainline monotheism is sheltered under the umbrella of paganism these days. Nothing too specific; nothing too rigorous.

Mixed into the crowd at Pagan Pride day were some true believers I'm sure. One guy, who had a fine assortment of magic wands for sale, was convinced that Harry Potter was a documentary, not a novel. As if he was on semester break from Hogwarts, slumming it with the muggles. For the most part, though, they looked like a harmless band of misfits who shared a common narrative of rejection and so had taken refuge with each other.

They are the rejected, the outcast. They are what becomes of those kids who never get invited to the dance, or to go to the mountains with Young Life, or to hang with FCA in the high school cafeteria. They were never *that kid*; the one we call, and write, and text, and e-mail, begging her to come to youth fellowship because we know she is the key to attracting 15 more kids, who will bring a dozen more, which will make our youth program popular and therefore a success. We never intended to exclude anyone, it's just that we are being evaluated by how many kids show up, so...

They are the ones who found no hospitable place among us when we had the chance. Theirs is a narrative of rejection, not solicitation; of exclusion, not invitation. Paganism has become a refuge for them from the popular.

So, the most important lesson that I learned at Pagan Pride day is that our quest to be popular - which defines so much of what has passed for evangelism in my lifetime - leaves collateral damage in its wake. The world is filled with those we have stepped over or



## Keynotes: Things I Learned at Pagan Pride Day

around in order to establish our credibility with the successful. We have built a community that witnesses more to who we are, who we like, who we find attractive, valuable and desirable, than who Christ is and seeks to save: the lost, the lonely, the outcast and forgotten. Look at the congregations sheltered in our pews and see that we have been ruthlessly efficient at this process of self-selection. The misfits and outcasts have gotten the message. They know where they are not wanted. So now, for them, "Pagan" means "not Christian." Demonstrably, intentionally, proudly, persistently, not one of us. A community that didn't

want them, while paradoxically, following a Christ who does.

Pagan Pride day. I think I might go back next year.

Peace,



**It's Coming: October 25, 2009**

*October, 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 and Tony & Connie Johnson.

**Our Known Sick:** Grant McLean, Taze Bennett, Ruby Bennett, Nona Beamguard, Mary Sifford, Gene Sifford, Ann Wright, Jim Westmoreland, Mildred Elliott and Marge Woods.

**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, 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, Sharon Fitch, 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, Dan Hartsoe—father of Don Hartsoe, 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, Libby Claire McGarity, Ida & Ernest Cagle—grandparents of Mike Carpenter, Miriam Snyder—mother of Kelly Crowe, Vernon Feiler—grandfather of Chris Rice, Carly Bennett—granddaughter of Don & Kay Westmoreland and Jennifer Newsom—sister of Travis Newsom.

**Marge Woods** is rehabilitating after her illness:

Willow Brook Court at Park Pointe Village  
2993 Van Valin Drive  
Rock Hill, SC 29732

*October, 2009*

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

- **Sunday School** ~ classes available for all ages. Sunday morning 10:00 a.m.
- **Worship** ~ every Sunday, here at 8:45 or 11:00.
- **Bible Study** ~ Wednesday nights, 6:00 pm.
- **Junior/Cherub Choir** ~ Wednesdays, 4:45pm.
- **Handbells** ~ Wednesday, 6:00 pm,
- **Golf Tournament** ~ October 10, 8:00 am.
- **Beach Retreat** ~ Sign up now for next May!
- **Consecration Sunday Worship** ~ October 25; **10:00 am.**
- **Darwin's Farewell** ~ October 18
- **Elementary Lock-In** ~ Friday night October 30.
- **CROSSFIRE!** ~ November 18. 5:30 pm.

*October, 2009*

## ***Things You Need to Know:***

- The **Presbyterian Women's Annual Spiritual Retreat** will be held on Saturday, October 3rd at Bethelwoods. The retreat will be led by the Rev. Elizabeth McGregor Simmons, pastor of the Davidson College Presbyterian church who will invite the participants to re-engage the words of the Lord's prayer from Matthew 6. Lunch and child care provided free of charge.
- **Crossfire**—five young adult musicians spending a year in mission with Youth Encounter, will be with us in concert on Wednesday, November 18<sup>th</sup>. After spending the fall touring and singing in churches in this country, they will head to Africa for four months beginning in January. Elliot Cox, son of Karen and t Cox is a member of Crossfire. We are looking forward to sharing this evening with them and learning more about their mission work in Africa.
- The **Hunting Island Church Camping Trip** is scheduled for April 30—May 2, 2010. Please make your reservations by completing a reservation form (located in the Atrium) and returning it with your \$60 deposit to Tammie Anderson. If you have questions, please contact Tammie (684-5594).
- The churches of Providence Presbytery ranked 7<sup>th</sup> in per member **Validated Mission Giving** for 2008! That's out of 173 Presbyteries nationwide indicating our strong commitment to the shared ministry and mission of our Presbyterian partners around the world. As we consider our Stewardship commitments for the coming year, remember the great work that your dollars make possible!
- Please remember **Jacqui Marquez** in your prayers this month as she and other members of her congregation in Atlanta leave on a mission trip to **Bogotá, Colombia**. Part of this trip will return Jacqui to the FANA orphanage where Jacqui was placed with her family 32 years ago. Now she completes the circle, returning to share her faith with the children now awaiting a permanent home.

*October, 2009*

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

- **Welcome** our new members and our visitors who worship with us and join us in fellowship every week.
- **Bring Tammie Underwear!** For the Haitian orphans.
- Send a note of congratulations and gratitude to Mark Adams at **Frontera de Cristo**.
- Attend the **PW Spiritual Retreat** Saturday at Bethelwoods.
- Make your stewardship commitment to the ongoing work of the church at **Consecration Sunday** on October 25th.
- **SING!!!** Make a joyful noise with one of our worship leading vocal ensembles. The Fall is a great time to join or rejoin the Choir or Praise team and put those latent musical gifts and abilities to the service of worshipping the Lord!
- **Volunteer:** to help in our Nursery; on Wednesday nights; at Children's church; anywhere you see a need.
- **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. New Curriculum, New classes, New teachers this Fall.
- **Sponsor a hole** at the Second Annual Youth Golf Tournament, coming this month!

**Frontera de Cristo**  
thanks  
**YOU**  
for your participation in the ministry

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*YOU are invited to the  
25th Anniversary Celebration!*

*October 17, 2009*

*Agua Prieta, Sonora*

*Bi-national Worship 5:00pm*

*Dinner and Fiesta 6:00pm*

*Optional Immersion Experience 10:00am-4:00pm*



## *Presbyterian Women*

**Council- Monday, October 5** at the home of Kay Gordon at 7:00pm.

**Circles- Monday, October 12**

#1 meets at the church at 10:00am.

#2 meets at the home of Betty Westmoreland at 7:00pm.

#3 meets at home of Lisa Hall at 7:00pm.

### *Flower Calendar for October*

- 04 Loving memory of Mr. & Mrs. D.A. Westmoreland given by the Westmoreland family.
- 11 Loving memory of Benjamin McLean Bolin given by his parents, Brian & Blakely Bolin and his grandparents, Tommy & Susie McLean.
- 18
- 25 Loving memory of Frank & Mabel Baker given by Gwen & Will Baker.

# *Serving the church in October*

*Closing* - Charles Ford

## *Worship Leaders ~ 8:45am*

04 Jennifer Johnson  
11 Terry Swanner  
18 Melanie Wall  
25 Doug Westmoreland

## *Worship Leaders ~ 11:00am*

04 Sherer Hopkins  
11 Jane McCall  
18 Wes Spurrier  
25 Dick Jackson

## *Greeters*

04 Ann Goode, Peggy Adams  
11 Linda Henry, Marge Woods  
18 Evelyn Pendleton, Lillian Lawrence  
25 Gene Bowman, Millie Jones

## *Offering*

04 Neel Cyphers  
11 Don Hartsoe  
18 Bob Mann  
25 Jack Scott

## *Acolytes 11:00*

04 Alyssa McCain  
11 Sean Clayton  
18 Alex Mcleod  
25 Jon-Michael Brinkley

## *Nursery Volunteers (11:00)*

04 Millie Jones  
11 Mary Adams  
18 Sherer Hopkins  
25 Linda Henry

## *Children's Church 11:00*

### *3 & 4 year olds*

04 Buddy & Paula Clayton  
11 Carl & Mary Adams  
18 Phyllis & Allison Maynard  
25 Greg & Kristy Rowland

### *K-2nd grade*

04 Paula Brinkley & Brittney Brinkley  
11 John & Julie Preston  
18 Marc & Dawn Dawes  
25 Mark & Martha Spurrier

## *Sunday School*

### *Ladies Bible Class—Ladies Classroom*

04 Kay Gordon  
11 Willie Westmoreland  
18 Pat Lowe  
25 Myrna Kosko

### *Men's Bible Class—Rec. Building*

04 Alice Thompson  
11 Charles McLean  
18 Dave Cyphers  
25 J.S. Edmunds

### *Adult 1 Class—Church Parlor*

04 Greg Rowland  
11 TBA  
18 Donna Hartsoe  
25 Jane McCall

### *The Seekers Class—Church Library*

04 Bruce Elliott  
11 Jack Scott  
18 Class member  
25 Lisa Hall

Worshiping ~ Praying ~ Reading ~ Welcoming ~ Serving ~ Giving



- 01 Sonya Diaz
- 02 Jacqui Marquez
- 04 Carl Adams  
Linda Baxter  
Brenda Jackson
- 05 Ann Hogue
- 06 Don Hartsoe  
Billy McCain
- 07 Dick Jackson  
Janet Hopper
- 10 Everett Nason
- 11 Mildred Elliott
- 12 Martha Davis
- 13 Mackenzie Dawes
- 14 Terry Swanner
- 16 Butch Hicks
- 18 Katrina Frisk
- 20 Christopher McCall  
Gary Lawrence  
Gene Bowman  
Allen Nason  
Cherye Boling
- 21 Christopher Hall
- 22 Andy Bolin  
Wylie Glenn McCarter
- 23 Garrison Love
- 26 Brooklyn Thomas  
Lily Mcleod  
Nathan Adams-Maldonado
- 28 Buddy Bolin
- 29 Nancy Ford
- 31 Evelyn McCarter  
Taylor Black



- 05 Marc & Dawn Dawes
- 06 Dick & Charlotte Jackson
- 13 Mark & Miriam Adams
- 21 David & Neel Cyphers
- 31 Chris & Molly Stewart

# October 2009 at Clover Presbyterian Church

4:45am  
5:30pm  
6:00pm  
Rehearsal

**Wednesday Activities:**  
Music Garden, Cherub & Jr. Choir, Youth Drama Team  
Supper  
FW Friends, Youth Group, Adult Bible Study, Handbell Choir

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
4 8:45am Worship 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 6:00pm Youth Fellowship AA	5 7:00pm PW Council	6 5:30pm AA 6:00pm Girl Scouts 7:00pm Worship Ministry Team Meeting	7 Wednesday Night Activities	8 8:00pm AA	9 8:00pm NA	10 Golf Tournament
11 8:45am Worship 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 4:00pm Confirmation 6:00pm Deacon Bible Study Youth Fellowship AA	12 10:00am Circle 1 7:00pm Circle 2 Circle 3	13 5:30pm AA 6:00pm Girl Scouts	14 Wednesday Night Activities	15 8:00pm AA	16 8:00pm NA	17
18 8:45am Worship 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 2:30pm Presbytery Meeting 6:30pm C.S. Officer Dinner Youth Fellowship AA	19	20 5:30pm AA 6:00pm Girl Scouts	21 Wednesday Night Activities	22 8:00pm AA	23 8:00pm NA	24 10:00am—12noon Fall Festival
25 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship 11:30am Cared Lunch 4:00pm Confirmation 6:00pm Youth Fellowship AA 6:30pm Session Bible Study Session Meeting	26	27 5:30pm AA 6:00pm Girl Scouts	28 Wednesday Night Activities	29 8:00pm AA	30 8:00pm NA 5:00pm— Elementary Lock-In	31

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More information about events and activities available online:

[www.cloverpres.org](http://www.cloverpres.org)