

Tidings

Clover Presbyterian Church

Sister Congregation of Larne First Presbyterian Church
Larne, Northern Ireland



September, 2011

Things You Need to Know:

- **Congratulations! Sara Bolin** is our 2011 **Older Adult of the Year!** She was the unanimous choice of the Session this year because, as our nomination form to the Presbytery says:

She has taught young children in Sunday School for years & years. She has worked many hours in the church kitchen at various jobs, takes care of our communion cloths, waters and cares for all plants in the church. Sara has served as circle chair and treasurer many times. She helps with Vacation Bible School, works in our toddler preschool class and was one of our first women elders. Sara is always willing no matter the task!

Join us in honoring Sara at the Older Adult Luncheon at Bethelwoods. This is always a good time! This year's luncheon will be on **Tuesday, September 20, starting at 10:30.** Call the church office to put your name on the list and reserve your place at the table.

- **Regular Sunday Schedule Returns!** On Sunday, September 4, we will resume our regular schedule on Sunday morning. Contemporary worship will return to the Fellowship Hall at 8:45, followed by Sunday school at 10:00, and Traditional worship in the Sanctuary at 11:00.
- Thanks to everyone who made this such a great Summer. It was great to see everyone together at worship for a season, getting to know each other better, and praising God with one voice. Special thanks to the musicians, choir members, and especially the **ushers**, who had to adapt to whatever innovation to the order of worship was included on the day.
- 3rd - 5th graders who would like to serve as **acolytes** during the 11:00 worship service are encouraged to attend acolyte orientation after worship on Sunday, September 11.
- Our **Wednesday Night Program** will be returning this Wednesday, September 7! Make plans to join us for dinner at 5:30 and Bible study programs for all ages.
- **Adult Bible Study** on Wednesday nights this Fall will concentrate on the teaching ministry of Jesus in Jerusalem from Matthew 20-25. This includes great parables like the Laborers in the Vineyard, the Wicked Tenants, the Wedding Banquet, the Ten Bridesmaids, the Talents, and the Sheep and the Goats; and teachings like the Greatest Commandment and the exaltation of the humble. Join us as we discover God's expansive love for us in Christ together.
- **Confirmation Lock-in:** The 2012 Confirmation journey will kick off with our Lock-In and Faith Review event on September 9 - 10 at the church. Your prayers for our confirmands, their families and covenant partners are always coveted.
- **CAAC immediate canned goods needs:** Canned goods, tomato sauce & paste, black eyed peas, etc.
- **Youth Group:** Middle and High school youth are invited each week to join us from 6-7:30 for dinner and fellowship. We have a great schedule planned for the fall. Contact Debbie Dixon (bluehose1@yahoo.com) for a schedule.

Things You Need To Know Continue on Page 7



Keynotes: DISTINGUISHED ELDERS

*Listen, children, to a father's instruction, and be attentive, that you may gain insight;
for I give you good precepts: do not forsake my teaching.*

Proverbs 4:1-2

I never would have guessed that it would become one of my favorite events of the year. In fact, the first couple I went to were so tedious I considered intentionally scheduling a dentist appointment on the same day so that I would have an excuse to be absent in the future. Better to have a root canal than suffer through another bout of amateur musical entertainment and endless tributes.

I do not know when my appreciation for the thing first started to change, but this year will be my seventh Older Adult Luncheon, I can't wait. Not because the food is especially good; or the chairs at Bethelwoods are particularly comfortable, or I expect the entertainment to be memorable (in a good way).

So much of what we do as church officers and staff involves trying to wring as much ministry as we can out of the scarce resources we have available. How can we make the most of what we have? How can we employ the gifts and skills gathered in the congregation to the best benefit of the Kingdom work assigned to us? Will we find enough talented musicians to fill the choir loft; and dedicated teachers to instruct our children; and willing volunteers to maintain our facilities; and quiet servants to do the thousand thankless and invisible tasks that we depend upon to continue operating from one week to the next? We ask and we offer and we challenge and we invite. If we do our jobs well we get told NO a lot. No, I can't teach Sunday school this year. No, I can't chaperone the Confirmation retreat next weekend. No, I can't sing. No I can't serve as an officer this term.

You don't know if you don't ask. And, sometimes you don't know until you are asked. So we ask a lot and consequently hear NO a lot.

The Older Adult Luncheon is a celebration of Yes in the midst of that life of NO! It is an opportunity to say thanks to those we too often overlook and take for granted. These are the people who have put in the long hours doing the thankless work that keeps the church open and vibrant. One by one their record of service is

highlighted and their contributions to the life of the church held up for long overdue appreciation. We hear about Mary who has taught the 3rd grade Sunday school class for 25 years; Bill who sings in the choir, chaired the building campaign, painted the manse, and works with the Boy scout troop; Elizabeth who served as session clerk, treasurer, Sunday school superintendent, Moderator of PW, and almost single handedly kept the church open in the 1970s and 80s; John who was at the church the day after hurricane Hugo, rebuilding the picnic shelter while his own house still had a tree through the garage, and who also started the after-school mentoring program for at risk youth in the community; Lily who always provided flowers for the sanctuary on Sunday, made sure the candlesticks stayed polished, and welcomed every visitor to worship for 40 years. On and on it goes, until every congregation has put forward one of its own for recognition. Not their only one of course - for every honoree we know there are a score more just like them moving through the halls of every congregation, making ministry and mission possible.

By the time the last tribute is read out, it is impossible not to be astounded at the devotion, the faithful dedication and hard work, of this generation of Christian disciples. It is their work that makes the work of others possible. In many ways I wish we could get the confirmation class out of school and take them to the Older Adult luncheon instead of making them sit through a Presbytery meeting on a Sunday afternoon. These people show us what it means to devote your life to the building up of the church. We can all learn from them what our profession of faith really commits us to. Listening to their record of service reminds us of the great richness of the faith communities which we have inherited from them.

These congregations did not happen by accident. They were built. They have been lovingly tended. They have been at the center of people's lives for generations. If they are to be sustained, they will require continued attention and devotion. Someone in the next generation



Keynotes: DISTINGUISHED ELDERS

will have to step into these rolls, fill these shoes, take up these burdens, so that we will have a community to pass on to the next generation of believers. At the same time that we appreciate the efforts of our elders, we wonder who that "someone" will be. We can only hope that when the time comes, the church will still be important enough to be worth the effort and sacrifice to those who come next as it has been to those who have gone before.

But that's not the best thing about honoring these elders for the service they have rendered. If it was merely a tip of the hat for a job well done, we could do that at home, each in front of their own congregation.

What makes this litany of service so impressive is its variety. No two Older Adult honorees has been called upon to do exactly the same thing. Each has rendered unique and individual service. Each has responded, I believe, to the needs of their own congregation in ways that are particular to that time and place. This is not an endless list of people who fit themselves into the organizational chart of a generic Presbyterian church for the past four decades. They are innovative and discerning souls.

They not only loved the church and offered themselves to its life and work - but they had the vision to see what needed to be done next, and then the industry and skillset to get it done. The challenge that these remarkable people lay before the next generation is not - "who is going to make sure the table cloth gets ironed

after I'm gone" - but rather, "who is going to find new ways to put their gifts to work for the kingdom of God around here in the future?"

Brian McLaren writes, "We are part of a long tradition of pioneers who blazed their own trails in the past, **making possible the future we know as the present.** Seen in that light, suddenly it matters very much [how] we help the church become a creative agent for a better future - the world that will be the present for our great-grandchildren."

That is what remarkable people in every generation do. They see how the church can be a creative agent for a better future. This generation of older adults steered the church through the anxiety of the post-war nuclear build up; the tumult of civil rights, the moral ambiguities of warfare and terror, and the acceptance of women as ordained leaders.

Rather than finding people who will preserve the church of the past these elders of ours challenge us to find people who will reimagine our future. That is who they have been throughout their lives - faithful stewards of the body of Christ, navigating it through storms and turmoil and transformation from one generation to the next. That's who we seek to become, people who will be agents of the future our children will know as the present.

Peace,

September, 2011

Things You Need to Do:

- **Return** to Wednesday Night Fellowship, 5:30, September 7.
- **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.
- **Cook** a meal for the youth. Our regular Sunday meetings have started and we would love for you to provide a simple meal and meet our middle and high school youth!
- **Paint** a ceiling tile. The middle and high school youth will be painting ceiling tiles to decorate the downstairs youth room on September 11th at 6pm.
- **Order** your JUST COFFEE! If you are out of coffee or want to order for the first time, now is the time to fill out your form and return it to Debbie. Forms can be found in the atrium.

September, 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, Tony & Connie Johnson and Billy and Sara Turner in Mozambique.

Our Known Sick: Sam Bowman, Bill King, Kimberly Sanders, Joe Gordon, Joe Thomas, Jean Jackson, Brad Robinson, Gene Bowman, Ollie Robertson, Taze & Ruby Bennett and Grant McLean.

Those unable to worship with us: Mary Alice McCarter, Beth Hinshaw, Dean Miller, Ruth Ramsey, Mary Lou Sifford, Gene & Mary Sifford and Jim Westmoreland.

Friends and Relatives:

JoAnn Barnes – mother of Lois Talbert, Rush Smith—dad of Andy Smith, Lee Killian, 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, 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, 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, Addy Nelson—Paula Brinkley's mother, Dan & Mildred Hartsoe—parents of Don Hartsoe, Anna Adams—niece of Katie Bowman and Frankie Walker—friend of Susie McLean.

Worshipping ~ Praying ~ Reading ~ Welcoming ~ Serving ~ Giving

September, 2011

Places You Need to Be:

- Older Adult Luncheon @ Bethelwoods. Tuesday, September 20, 10:30 AM!
- Confirmation Lock-In for 7th and 8th graders. September 9-10.
- Acolyte Orientation for 3rd-5th Graders. Sunday, September 11, 12:00 pm.
- Choir Practice ~ Wednesdays @ 7:00.
- Praise Team Rehearsal ~ 4th Sunday every month @ 4pm.
- Wednesday Night Fellowship ~ Wednesdays beginning @ 4:45 with choir for the Kindergarden thru 5th grade. Dinner will begin at 5:30 followed by Bible studies from 6-7pm for all ages (2 thru 102)!
- Worship: 8:45 and 11:00 every Sunday.
- Youth Rally: Sunday, September 25, 3:30 pm.
- Blood Drive: Friday, September 30, 2:30-7:00.
- World Communion Sunday October 2, 8:45 and 11:00.

Serving the church in September

Closing - Ted McCarley

Ushers ~ 10:00am

- 04 Ann Goode, Jane McCall, Ted McCarley, Bill King, Gary Love, Garrison Love
- 11 Lillian Lawrence, Sally Mann, Ted McCarley, Bob Mann, Tommy McLean, Bill Brooks
- 18 Pat Lowe, Linda Henry, Ted McCarley, Mack Henry, Jack Scott, Eric Scott, Wes Spurrier
- 25 Millie Jones, Peggy Adams, Ted McCarley, Bill King, Tommy McLean

Worship Leaders ~ 8:45am

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

Worship Leaders ~ 11:00am

- 04 Jim Kosko
- 11 Jeff Sanders
- 18 Don Hartsoe
- 25 Jane McCall

Nursery Volunteers (11:00)

- 04 Sherer Hopkins
- 11 Linda Henry
- 18 Sara Bolin
- 25 Lillian Lawrence

Children's Church 10:00

3 & 4 year olds

- 04 Buddy & Paula Clayton
- 11 Carl & Mary Adams
- 18 Phyllis & Allison Maynard
- 25 Scott Frisk, Garrison and Sue Love

K-2nd grade

- 04 Paula Brinkley & Brittney Brinkley
- 11 Bill & Libby Brooks
- 18 Alice Aiken
- 25 Katie Benton & Evelyn Pendleton

Sunday School

Ladies Bible Class ~ Ladies Classroom

- 04 Kay Gordon
- 11 Alisa Johnson
- 18 Pat Lowe
- 25 Myrna Kosko

Men's Bible Class ~ Rec. Building

- 04 Douglass Key
- 11 Charles McLean
- 18 Dave Cyphers
- 25 Meet with Ladies Bible Class

Adult 1 Class ~ Church Parlor

- 04 Lynn Edmunds
- 11 Candy McCain
- 18 Donna Hartsoe
- 25 Jane McCall

The Seekers Class ~ Church Library

- 04 Bruce Elliott
- 11 Jack Scott
- 18 Class member
- 25 Terry Swanner

Youth Meetings

- 04 No Youth
- 11 Decorate Ceiling Tiles
- 18 Dinner/Discussion
- 25 Bethelwoods Youth Rally & Worship ~ 3:30pm – 7:30pm

September, 2011

Things You Need to Know (con't):

- We had a great turnout for **Rally Day** on August 28. Now that the program year is off and running, it is a good time to find a Sunday school class that meets your needs and interests and share your faith with your brothers and sisters in Christ.
- Give the gift of **LIFE** at our **Fall Blood Drive**, Friday, September 30, from 2:30 - 7:00.
- The Town of Clover has planned its 2011 **Springmaid Beach Retreat** for November 14—16. The trip is senior citizens oriented and will consist of two nights accommodations, breakfast each morning, two Christmas shows at the Palace Theater and Carolina Opry Theater. If anyone would like more information, please call Josh McCarter at 222-9493 or email at jmccarter@cloversc.org.

PW Council will meet Monday, September 5 at 7:00pm at the home of Betty Westmoreland.

*Presbyterian
Women*

Flower Calendar for September

04 ~ Available

11~ Available

25~Available

18~Loving Memory of Sonny Davison given by Sandra and his family

FINANCIAL UPDATE

DO YOU GET TIRED OF WRITING CHECKS? Ever feel like you're getting behind on your financial commitment and pledge to the ministry of the Church? A few months ago, you may recall hearing that the Stewardship & Finance ministry team was considering offering automatic draft payments. Although it's been a while since this was first mentioned, the Session has continued to pursue and research this convenient option for our members.

In case you didn't hear about the automatic draft option, here is how it would work. After signing up, members would establish a weekly or monthly draft amount that would be securely processed accordingly. These weekly or monthly drafts could be modified at any time. Again, the main benefits include no more writing of checks and being able to stay current on your commitment even in times when you're unable to make it to church on Sunday.

Are there other options if I'm not comfortable with an automatic draft? Yes! Some alternatives include, but are not limited to the following.

- Set up scheduled bill pay payments through your online banking account.
- Mail your checks in the provided stewardship envelopes to the church office.
- Continue to contribute to the mission of the church through your dedicated attendance on Sunday mornings and/or Wednesday nights.

The next step in offering automatic drafts is to gauge the interest in order to justify the resources required to set up, process, and maintain the payments.

If you'd like to participate in this convenient option, please e-mail Pam Fowler at pamfowler@gmail.com or call the church office at 222-9108. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Stewardship & Finance ministry team members Buddy Clayton (yclayton15@carolina.rr.com) or Wes Spurrier (wspurrier@carolina.rr.com).

Thank you,

Buddy Clayton & Wes Spurrier

September 2011 @ Clover Presbyterian Church

Wednesday Activities:

4:45am Children's Choir 5:30pm Supper
6:00pm Bible Study for all ages 7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<i>1</i> 8:00pm AA	<i>2</i> 8:00pm NA	<i>3</i>
<p>4</p> <p>8:45am Worship 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 6:00pm AA</p>	<p>5</p> <p>7:00pm PW Council ~ <i>at the home of Betty Westmoreland</i></p>	<p>6</p> <p>5:30pm AA</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Wednesday Activities</p>	<p>8</p> <p>8:00pm AA</p>	<p>9</p> <p>8:00pm NA</p>	<p>10</p>
<p>11</p> <p>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</p>	<p>12</p> <p>10:00am Circle 1 ~ <i>meet at the church</i></p> <p>7:30pm Circle 2 ~ <i>meet at the home of Donna Hartsoe</i></p>	<p>13</p> <p>5:30pm AA 7:00pm Worship & Music MT Meeting</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Wednesday Activities</p>	<p>15</p> <p>8:00pm AA</p>	<p>16</p> <p>8:00pm NA</p>	<p>17</p>
<p>18</p> <p>8:45am Worship 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 6:00pm Youth Fellowship AA Session Bible Study 6:30pm Session Meeting</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>5:30pm AA</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Wednesday Activities</p>	<p>22</p> <p>8:00pm AA</p>	<p>23</p> <p>8:00pm NA</p>	<p>24</p>
<p>25</p> <p>8:45am Worship 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 4:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal 6:00pm Youth Fellowship AA</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>5:30pm AA</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Wednesday Activities</p>	<p>29</p> <p>8:00pm AA</p>	<p>30</p> <p>2:30pm— 7:00pm Blood Drive 8:00pm NA</p>	

September



- 01 J.S. Edmunds
Jim Wylie
- 02 Barbara Quinn
Millie Jones
Matt Johnson
- 03 John Gordon
- 04 Alex Owings
Brantlee Spurrier
- 05 Annave McWaters
- 06 Bebe Stine
- 07 Madalyn Thomas
Myranda Thomas
Barry Benton
- 08 Barbara Beamguard
Elizabeth Edmunds
- 09 Michaela McAninch
Georgia Westmoreland
Grant McLean
Lani McLean
Jana Redmond
Mattie Johnson
- 10 Catherine Smithson
- 12 Josephine Mills
Alice Aiken
- 14 Janet Owings
- 16 Zach Wall
Allison Jackson
- 18 Ben McCall
Cheryl Miller
Colleen Davis
Darwin Shaver
- 21 Katie Bowman
Mary Lou Sifford
Joe Zeibel
Tiffany Nichols
- 23 Paul Joyner

- 24 Sally Mann
- 26 Betsy Johnson
- 27 Taze Bennett
- 29 Brian Boling
- 30 Julia Barnett



- 02 Mack & Linda Henry
- 06 Gene & Frances Bowman
Tyler & Nicole Lowe
- 07 Don & Kay Westmoreland
Tommy & Suzanne McCall
- 09 Scotti & Libby Sprouse
- 12 Brian & Lisa Hall
- 16 Harry & Ann Hogue
- 19 Dean & Tory Campbell
- 22 W.J. & Cheryl Miller
- 26 Ken & Darrell Graham



www.cloverpres.org

More information about events and activities available online:

Director of Preschool:
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Organist/Choir Director:
Barbara Quinn
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Secretary:
Pam Fowler
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Debbie Dixon
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