

Graves Memorial Presbyterian Church Newsletter

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Dr. James A. Moran, Pastor

Volume XXXVIX, No. 6

June - July, 2016

OUR KNOWN ILL:

Barbara Kerr
Frances Hubbard
Jean Parker
Martha Dunn
Connie Williamson
Alice Lockerman
Brenda Nordin
Bonnie Barr

Doc Fields—Southwood; Rm. 109
Fay Gaddy—Rolling Ridge, Newton Grove
Peggie Lindsay— Chapel Hill

Others:

Angie Prucha -(Daughter of Edwin Danford)
Lucille Sessoms-(Mother of Deborah Hall)
Robert Mertz-(Brother of Stan Mertz)
Lib Creech-(Sister of Lou Johnson)

SYMPATHY TO:

Stan Mertz and family on the passing of his sister-in-law, Myra Evelyn Mertz Mertz.

Lectionary Text for July:

**03) Ps. 30; 2 Kings 5:1-14;
Gal. 6:(1-6) 7-16;
Luke 10:1-11, 16-20;**
**10) Ps. 82; Amos 7:7-17;
Col. 1:1-14; Luke 10:25-37;**
**17) Ps. 52; Amos 8:1-12;
Col. 1:15-28; Luke 10:38-42;**
**24) Ps. 85; Hosea 1:2-10; Col.
2:6-15 (16-19); Luke 11:1-13;**
**31) Ps. 107:1-9, 43;
Hosea 11:1-11; Col. 3:1-11;
Luke 12:13-21**

UPCOMING CHURCH EVENTS/ NEWS:

The **GMPC Wednesday Night Summer Picnics (Covered Dish)** are always a delightful treat! Bring your favorite dishes - enough for your family plus one. Dates are as follows (all at 6:30 p.m.) ~ **July 6th**: co-chairs Trish Sessoms & Mary Aycok; **July 20th**: co-chairs: Mac Spell & Peggie Lindsay and **August 3rd**: co-chairs: Ann Johnson & Allison Brock.

GMPC Summer Sunday School: (Every Sunday morning at 9:45 a.m.)

Adults: (Adult class members have three options)

1. "What's So Amazing About Grace" by Philip Yancey (Fellowship Hall)
2. "Feasting on the Word" curriculum (Memorial Room)
3. "The Shack" by William P. Young (Upstairs Education Bldg.)

Youth: Questions of faith & how our faith impacts us... (Youth Room)

K-5th: "Fruit of the Spirit" curriculum (Worship Readiness Room)

It's Time to Update Annual Directories/Service Lists ...

(PW Yearbook) ~ Any changes/request for the social committees should be called in to Crystal Faison/592-3990, for the flower committee assignments contact Mac Spell/592-8838, and for PW Circles contact the current Moderators: Circle No. 1 Amelia Surratt/592-6569, Circle No. 2 Amelia Surratt/592-6569 , Circle No. 3 Neal Sinclair/592-6797;

(Church Directory) ~ Any changes to address, phones, emails, etc., can be submitted to the church office through July 31st;

(Nurseries and Educational Opportunities Lists) ~ Any changes or request will be received through July 31st. Thank you for your support and commitments to the ministries of our church!

Greetings to the GMPC Family!

On behalf of the GMPC Session & Board of Deacons partnership, we are launching an initiative referred to as "the GMPC July 4th Half and Half Ticket" fundraiser. Please understand that one-half of the proceeds will be given to the winner and one-half of the proceeds will be returned to the "General Operating Budget". The purpose of the initiative is to supplement funds in the general budget that was created from additional unexpected expenses.

Tickets will be going on sale immediately until July 20, 2016. The drawing will be held on the evening of Wednesday - July 20, 2016. This activity will take place at the summer covered picnic. Tickets are \$5.00 dollars per/ticket and/or 5 tickets for \$20.00 dollars.

If you are interested in purchasing a "Half and Half Ticket", please contact a Deacon and/or Elder. In addition, we, humbly, ask for help with selling the tickets at your work place and throughout the community. If you have an interest to participate in the sale of the tickets, please contact Trey Fetterman 910-214-2354.

Sincerely...

Lewis M Fetterman III (Trey), Stewardship Committee

WORDS FROM DR. JIM MORAN:

My friends in Christ,

The Apostle Paul wrote to the Galatian churches: “Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow. If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh; but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit.” (6:7-8) Paul sounds a lot like the Old Testament prophets when he writes about reaping what you sow. In other words, if we don’t live like we are the people of God, then there will be judgment. There are days when everyone needs a reminder about what it means to be a Christian: to follow Jesus. Maybe we need a clear reminder that God did not call us to be comfortable and happy, to live our own way without regard for our neighbor, or to choose how and when we worship and serve God. We belong to Christ. Sundays come every week. People are hungry without food every day. In July, the prophets Amos and Hosea give us clear cues to what God requires of us as Christians so that we may faithfully follow Jesus.

Both Amos and Hosea prophesied in the eight century B.C. in the Northern Kingdom (Israel, or Samaria). The people of Israel had broken covenant with God. They sinned by oppressing the poor, crushing the needy, and worshipping other gods. (Amos 4:1; 5:21-24) In tolerating the worship of Baal, the Canaanite fertility god, Israel “played the harlot” (Hosea 4:15) before God, a key theme in Hosea’s preaching. (33, The Hebrew Prophets, Newsome) The prophets tell us that God calls the people of God to be faithful, to care for the poor and needy, and to obey God. To obey God for Christians means to follow Jesus Christ and to conform our lives to His life. The Apostle Paul encourages us in the family of faith to do so with this charge:

So, let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith. (Galatians 6:9-10)

If we can answer Paul’s charge, then we will answer the voice of the prophets of old today, the very voice of God.

Peace, Jim

A note of thanks from Ellen Tew...

When I said “yes” to an interim position as choir director one summer, I never imagined that it would develop into over two decades of work, worship, change, challenge and inspiration here at Graves Memorial. The success of the music ministry depends always on “the people” – the choir*, the organists, the session (for providing facilities, equipment, materials and continuing education), the church staff (our un-sung heroes) and our congregation – the true church choir. Thank you all for your support, love, and encouragement...and for always being willing to try new things (well, *almost* always...)! I’ve worked with Bill Hawkins, Neal Baines, Louie Andrews, David Walker, Elizabeth Forrester, Rick McDuffie, Jim Moran, Neal Sinclair, Pam Langston, Jean Hatch, Lara Capparuccia, and various supply ministers and substitutes who have each taught me unique lessons about worship and teamwork. Personally, I am most grateful for the many years I worked with Neal Sinclair whose graciousness, talent, dedication, wisdom and knowledge of church music was an inspirational role-model for me...and I also thank Melissa Griffin for being such a dedicated, enthusiastic problem-solver and help to me with scheduling and worship planning. I’ve had a “church job” in various towns since I was in high school – now, NOT having one is a bittersweet (but welcome) experience! Thank you all for making this last one a special memory.

Ellen (*I cannot “thank” the choir because there simply aren’t enough words...*they know!*)

FOR OUR CHILDREN:

~ The **VBS closing program** combined with **GMPC’s Summer Picnic #1** was absolutely spectacular. We thank you all for sharing what you learned with us. A special thank you to Summer Picnic #1 Co-chairs, Katie Brown & Diane Barwick and their wonderful committee and volunteers for making it extra special for everyone! Thank you!

~ **PresbyCrew**—is taking the Summer off but we will be back in September. Don’t forget that there is Sunday School, and for some of you Worship Readiness, every Sunday Morning. See you in Church!

Deep Sea Discover - VBS was a huge success with 32 children participating and tons of wonderful volunteers! You know that Vacation Bible School was fantastic when your youngest participant cries "crocodile tears" when the final program is over and begs her daddy not to leave! Thanks Emma Paisley for letting us know how much you enjoyed VBS this year!!! The children's enthusiasm for this week was truly contagious and it showed on Thursday night as they performed for their parents and the congregation.

A special **"Thank You"** goes out to Amelia Surratt and Linda Williamson for leading the Bible story each day, to Nancy Dozier (Lou's friend) for the snacks, Beth Bryan for the cute fish and crab aprons, Charlotte Harrell and Mac Spell for teaching and causing the WOW factor in Science and Crafts, and to Samantha Pope, James Carr, Gabriel Capparuccia and Tucker Fox for leading recreation daily and especially to Sean, Lara, Larisa Capparuccia and Holly Weaver for sharing their musical gifts and providing wonderful sounds all week long with bass guitar, drums and electronic piano which provided wonderful music each day. A great week was had by all who taught and participated! We are truly grateful to all the Crew Leaders because none of this would have been possible without you and your team effort to lead the kids each day to their classes... Natasha Capparuccia, Bridget Capparuccia, Mary Aycok, Penny Horne, Diane Visser, and Jan Tart! You all were wonderful volunteers and facilitated making this a special memory for all the children and workers!

THANK YOU! Joni Fay and Lou



PRESBYTERIAN MEN OR PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN NEWS:

~We are always so appreciative of the PW Committees and the assistance of the PM for our social events.

The remaining **Wednesday Night Summer Picnics @ 6:30 p.m.** are as follows:

July 6th (Chairs: Trish Sessoms & Mary Aycok): Ardella Boyette, Robin Sink, Susan Bristow, Laurie Vreugdenhil, Lauren Perry, Linda Carr, Edna Faye Boone, Susan Tucker, Kathryn Jackson, Annabelle Fetterman, Beth Bryan, Jr., Beth Stewart, Mary Lou Faircloth, Betty Heaton, Lisa Green, Allison Driver;

July 20th (Chairs: Mac Spell & Peggy Lindsay): Doris Hollingsworth, Tamara Peterson, Joni Fay Fetterman, Janie Faircloth, Amelia Surratt, Betty Blue Packard, Erma Faircloth, Geneva Matthis, Charlotte Harrell, Susan Fox, Ashleigh Johns, Glenice Webster, Alice Lockerman, Nita Aiken, Wanda Coleman, Mary David Morris, Jennifer Bradley; and

August 3rd (Chairs: Ann Johnson & Allison Brock): Debbie Sinclair, Diane Westerbeek, Lisa Spell, Hollis White, Deborah Hall, Carol Wilson, Debbie Martin, Melissa Nimmo, Vicki Pope, Shannon Sinclair, Susan Westerbeek, Mary Stephenson, Ellen Tew, Joan Carr, Margaret Carter, Joan Lee, Lou Johnson

OTHER NEWS AND NOTES:

~ Copies of **These Days** (July - August - September) are available in the narthex.

~ **Thank You to GMPC's Helping Hands and Hearts coordinator, Stan Mertz, and all our amazing volunteers.**

Despite the heat, they began construction on their latest project, a 55' wheelchair ramp, Saturday, June 25, 2016.

~ **2016 Summer Camp Information:** Please visit the following links for camp details/dates:

Camp Kirkwood: <http://www.campkirkwoodnc.org/summer-camps.html> (910)251-9622, ext. 223 or

Monroe Camp & Retreat Center: <http://www.monroecamp.org/> (910)276-1654.

~ **We invite everyone to take part in the Community Garden sponsored by GMPC**, located at Clinton Crossing, 105 Royal Lane. To learn more and/or volunteer your time, please contact Community Garden Coordinator, Sharon Funderburk or Community Service Chair, Anne Price. **Next Organized Opportunity:** July, 2, 2016 at 4:30 p.m.

~ **Mission Opportunity: Diaper Bank of Sampson County.** Donations of diapers (all brands and sizes, to include adult diapers), diaper wipes and diaper rash cream are collected. A collection bin is located in the GMPC fellowship hallway for your convenience. **Diaper Distribution Totals:** Since supplying the Sampson County Health Dept. with diapers, over 30,000 diapers have been distributed to over 1,200 families in need and all of this has been accomplished in just eight short months of distribution. The Diaper Bank truly appreciates your continued support.

*For more info. contact Chris Driver: cdriver82@gmail.com, cell #990-7436.

~ **The First Baptist Soup Kitchen (408 College Street) will not be held during July and August.**

~ **Backpack Buddies Program:** Food items will continue to be collected throughout the summer in preparation for the new school year. A collection bin is located in the GMPC fellowship hallway for your convenience.

~ **Mintz Baptist Church invites you to attend** their 17th annual Dinner Theater, "Cricket County Blizzard" on July 29th & 30th and August 5th & 6th at 7:00 p.m. and August 7th at 5:00 p.m. Cost: \$20.00 per person. For more info. please visit: www.mintzbaptist.com

~ **First Baptist Church (408 College Street) invites you to attend the Campbell University Divinity School Festival Choir Concert** that they are hosting on Sunday, July 17, 2016 from 3:00—4:00 p.m.— *Cost: Free

It has been such a pleasure serving with GMPC, and we look forward to getting to know more of you as time passes. There is always room for more in the choir, so if you would like to join us - even if only for a 'season' - please come. Also, if you play an instrument, yes, even that dusty one in the attic, we would like to incorporate you into the music ministry. Are you a kid? Or... do you have children or grandchildren? Anyone interested in a children's choir please let us know. You may contact us at 910.324.5540 (h) or 910.548.0505 (c) or worship-nmusic@yahoo.com. If you would like to know more about us please visit our website: kingsfriendmusic.com.

In Him, Sean & Lara Capparuccia

EDUCATIONAL / SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES FOR JULY 2016:

<u>03</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>31</u>
Toddler/Crib Nursery Combined Summer Schedule: (Nancy & Lauren Perry) 9:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.				
Lisa Green	Allison Brock	Nancy Cowand	Jennifer Bradley	Deanna Weaver
Jewel Carr	Rebekah Bryan	Melina Matthews	Holly Weaver	Addie Sessoms

Acolytes: (Brenda Nordin)

Olivia Williford	Ruthie Brock	Addie Sessoms	Melina Matthews	Walker Spell
Isabella Faison	Holly Weaver	Bailey Spell	John Barwick	Shawn Matthews

Worship Readiness: Summer Leader: Darby Scott

Pre-K—5th Grade Class (Summer Schedule):

Lou Johnson	Lucy Lockamy	Diane Viser	Darby Scott	Mac Spell
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Sr. & Jr. High Youth: (Lou Johnson)

Memorial Room & Care Class Combined Summer Schedule: (Brenda Nordin)

Bill Scott	Amelia Surratt	Paul Viser	Lee Howard	Fifth Sunday
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Cornerstone Class Summer Schedule: (James Dodson)

Jim Moran	Boyde Bistrow	Joel Coleman	Anthony Sessoms	Melvin Weaver
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Literature Class: (Denise Moran)

Meals-on-Wheels: (Anne Price)

- 07/05 Beth Bryan, Sr. & Joan Carr
- 07/19 Molly Held & Ann MacGill

Ushers: (Richard Bryan) Note: A yearly list is posted on the bulletin board outside the office
Richard Bryan, James Dodson, Logan Dodson, Curtis Lindsay, Neal Matthews, John Surratt, Whit Tart, Lawton Eure

Flower Committees: (Mac Spell)

- 07/03 (Communion)
- 07/10 Memorial for Mr. and Mrs. William Powell Peterson, Sr. and Mr. Mike Peterson & Capt. Tom Clark by the family
- 07/17 Memorial for William Timothy "Little Bud" Matthis and Tim Matthis by Mrs. William T. Matthis, Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Lee, Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Hampton, and Mr. and Mrs. Don Hollingsworth
- 07/24 In loving memory of Katherine McMillan Fulton by the family
- 07/31 Memorial for Mr. and Mrs. Carl H. Peay, Sr. and Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas A. Joseph by Mr. and Mrs. Carl H. Peay, Jr. and family

MISSION OPPORTUNITY for GMPC: Christian Food Bank of Salemburg. Every 3rd Saturday, monthly, bags of food are given to those in need beginning at 9:00 a.m. **What you can do to help: Volunteer Your Time!** Youth meet on the Wednesday prior to the third Saturday at 6:45 p.m. and Seniors meet on the Thursday prior to the third Saturday at 9:00 a.m. to help sort and pack food bags. Volunteers are also needed to help distribute the food bags on the third Saturdays, arrive prior to 9 a.m. **Donate Food Items!** Dried Beans, Peanut Butter, Breakfast Items, Can Soup, Can Vegetables, Rice/Pasta, Can Fruit. (A box for food donations is placed in the Fellowship Hallway for your convenience.) *Recycled grocery bags in bundles of 50 are also greatly needed!
Next Food Bank: July 16, 2016.

Happy Birthday During July:

01) Mariana Sanderson, Sara Rosario, Alexandra Cowand;
03) Addie Sessoms; 04) Michael Bradley, Ashley Webster, Stephanie Prestage, Benjamin Bristow; 05) Melvin Weaver;
06) Crystal Faison, Ashleigh Johns, JohnAnna Barnhill;
07) Betty Heaton, Anne Faircloth; 08) Bill Scott;
09) James Register; 11) Tyler Jania; 13) Michelle Dunn, Field Palmer; 14) Donnie Dudley, Chris Aman;
15) Louis Held; 16) Joshua Combs; 18) Gene Freeman, Kermit Williamson, Art Apolinario, Margaret Register;
19) Bill Register; 20) Joan Lee, Scott Martin;
21) Ty Williamson; 23) Steve Stefanovich, 24) Bailey Spell;
25) Brad Webster; 27) Hunter Dalby; 28) Cecil Martin, Amy Lamb; 30) Jane Langston; 31) Mary Stephenson, Jonathan Surratt