

# FPC NEWS

*First Presbyterian Church, Toccoa, GA*

## From the Pastor

I know that we aren't supposed to be "proud" of things, but I can't help but believe that when we do things that are intended to help the lives of those who live in our community, that we should feel a healthy sense of being a part of the solution instead of ignoring the problems. Over the past few months, we have done so many things which directly impact the lives of those who live in Toccoa.

During the past two years we have provided approximately nine thousand dollars through three offerings where one hundred percent of the monies raised by our church remain in our local community. The "Kickin' It" Walk, started by Jennie Clifton and Connie Worley; Leap for Literacy; and the Super Bowl offerings have all benefitted the lives of local people. With both the "Kickin' It" Walk and Leap for Literacy, First Presbyterian Church was the second largest donor for each of the past two years. And, with over four thousand raised for this year's walk, we were within ten dollars of giving the most.

We have no statistics, but almost certainly some young mother who wouldn't have been able to afford the test to detect breast cancer, would have waited until symptoms occurred, has now had a mammogram and received the bad

news that she has cancer. But, because of the work done in the name of Christ, she has received this desperate news EARLY enough to be cured.

And, just as certainly, there are young children who are receiving books, who

might not have without our participation, who will have the opportunity to learn to read; and adults who have gone back to school because programs were available to teach them to read as well.

Added to these three special offerings has been the gift basket program started by our Presbyterian Women and supported by so many of you, with baskets delivered to needy families near Christmas. Again, the less fortunate of our community, along with the Hill family whom we are supporting toward ministry in the name of Christ, received a great blessing by receiving these baskets.

"I'm only one person and I can't do everything. But I can do something. I will not let the fact that I can't do everything prevent me from doing what I can."

Helen Keller



**Rev. Keister, Jamie Rades and other prior to their Leap for Literacy.**

I have seen this quote credited to many different people other than Helen Keller. But, no matter who said it, the words most certainly align themselves with God's call to us as disciples of Jesus Christ. And, I think, they are appropriate not only to us as individuals, but to us as a church. For, in fact, "We are not many, and we cannot do everything; but we can do something, and we are not allowing the fact that we cannot do everything to prevent us from doing what we can."

And so, today there is a little bit of healthy pride in me about the work that we are doing in the name of Christ. Thank you for supporting our community by seeking to do those things that bring hope to "the least of these, sisters and brothers" for Jesus Christ.!"

Pastor David

Volume 25, Issue 3

March 2010

### *Special points of interest:*

- The Presbyterian Women's Morning Circle will meet on Tuesday, March 2nd at 10 am. The meeting will be held in the church parlor and will be co-hosted by Margit Adams and Mona Keister
- The Presbyterian Women's Evening Circle will meet on Thursday, March 4th at 7 pm
- March 4 and 18, Prayer with Pastor, 11 am
- Wednesday, March 10, 5:15 pm Worship Committee Meeting
- Thursday, March 11:  
10 WOC Council Meeting  
6 pm CE Meeting
- Tuesday, March 16, 5:30 pm Stewardship Meeting
- Thursday, March 18, 6:30 pm Session Meeting

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## Session Notes of February 18, 2010

The Session met on Thursday, February 18 for the regular monthly meeting. All elders were present except Erik Bolstad.

### The Session Approved:

- Changing all Fellowship Dinners to 6pm to give ample time for programs without interfering with choir rehearsal;
- A Yard Sale for Saturday May 8th with 6-12th graders having a lock-in on May 7 to prepare for the sale. All proceeds will go toward the youth programs;
- Payment for a recent five year recertification on elevator for \$1088 from Major Maintenance Funds;
- January 2010 Financial Statement, and,
- April Communion to be held on 10th instead of Easter Sunday, April 4th.

### The Session Learned That:

- Confirmation Class meets each Tuesday and will attend the morning session of Presbytery on February 27. Those participating in the class will join the church on Easter Sunday, April 4;

- April 21 Fellowship Dinner will be hosted by the Parlor Class;
- Annual Corporation notice has been sent to State of GA Secretary of State;
- Annual 2009 Statistical report has been reviewed and electronically submitted to Presbytery;
- A statement regarding the lack of a 2008 audit was received. The 2008 audit is now underway and when completed an audit will begin on 2009;
- The Christian Education Ministry is starting a puppet ministry and preparing to start a Sunday School class for youth;
- March Care List Dinners with Pastor, March 11, Elder Jane Ann Quartel, March 25, Elder Wiley Winters;
- Evangelism is responsible for after-worship Fellowship Coffee each week;
- A recent Congregational Care survey indicates that FPCT likes to eat and travel! Dinners for Eight will begin this fall, Young at Heart Luncheons will begin soon and trips to nearby places are being organized;
- Alfi Mikhail Library refurbishing is continuing;
- Recently, while making roof repairs, a major problem was discovered. The roof of the Education Building needs to be removed and resurface. The anticipated cost is about \$20,000. The Building and Grounds Committee will be receiving bids;
- In a recent fire marshal inspection it was determined that the exit signs should remain on anytime anyone is in the building;
- Friday, March 5 is World Day of Prayer;
- Communion will be served Sunday, March 7;
- Hymn of the Month will be used every other month;
- A Wedding Policy was tabled for a vote in March, and,
- Vacation time in Music Director and Organist job descriptions is tabled for a vote in March, to affect future hires.

## Missions and Evangelism

### Your Giving

Thank you for your faithfulness in giving!

Over \$750 was raised for the February 20th Leap for Literacy!

You also gave \$158.24 on February 7 for the Souper Bowl Offering which was then given to the Toccoa Soup Kitchen!

\$125 in donations toward PDA's Haiti Relief has also been received.

Thank you!

### Volunteers Are Needed!

Volunteers are needed to prepare refreshments for the Fellowship Coffee. March 14 and 28th are available. If you can help, please sign up on the bulletin board near the Pond Street entrance

Many thanks to Donna Good and Frances Buchanan for the wonderful job they did preparing refreshments to enjoy following the February 21 Youth Service.

### March Fellowship Dinner

Missions and Evangelism will host the March Fellowship Dinner on Wednesday, March 17 at 6 pm. (Please note the new time.) The meal will be potluck. Following the meal we will play games. Don't miss this time of fun, food and fellowship!



### Upcoming...

On Easter Sunday, April 4th we will receive the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering.

## From the Children and Youth Director

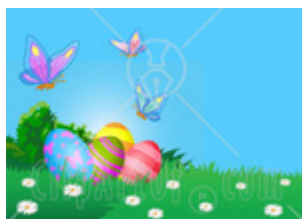
### Donations Are Needed!

We are in need of items (candy, new toys, etc.) that are small enough to fit into a plastic Easter eggs. A basket will be available in the fellowship hall where you may drop off your donated items. Thank you for your donations!

From an Ann Landers article including interpretation of the Lord's Prayer:

My son, who is in nursery school said, "Our Father, who art in Heaven, how didja know my name?"

### Easter Egg Hunt



The church will host an Egg Hunt for children, ages 2-18, on Saturday, March 27, at 10 am. Join us for this time of fun!

### Upcoming...

A Yard Sale is being planned for Saturday, May 8 with all proceeds to go into the children and youth fund.

Why not take the time to do a little spring cleaning? Items you no longer need can be placed on the fellowship hall stage and used to raise money for the children and youth fund. Thank you in advance for your donations! If you have questions please contact Cathy Rades at 706-344-2634.

## Congregational Care

### Elder Care List for dinner with Pastor.

On March 11, 2010 at 6:30 pm, Elder Jane Ann Quartel and her Care List group will meet in the Pastor's home for dinner.

On March 25 at 6:30 pm, Elder Wiley Winters and his Care List group will meet in the Pastor's home for dinner.

### Souper Supper

Please join us on Sunday, March 7, 2010 at 6:00 pm for an evening of food, fun and fellowship followed by a Hymn Sing. The soup and beverages will be provided. All we ask for you to do is come with sandwiches, salads or desserts to share. We guarantee you'll have a good time.

### FPC Hosting

On Saturday, March 13, 2010 a group of bicyclists from Maryville College, Maryville, TN will be spending the night in our church. They are a part of the Mountain Challenge Group. If you would like to bake a batch of cookies or supply soft drinks for this group, please phone Lynn Newsom at 706-754-1510.

## An Exciting Trip

Another exciting trip is offered by your Congregational Care Committee. This time we will travel to historic Madison, Georgia, "The town that Sherman refused to burn" to visit the Madison-Morgan Cultural Center. There we will view an incredible collection of Andy Warhol art. There are 39 Warhol's in the collection.

After our visit in Madison it is off to Social Circle for lunch. We will be able to savor the southern delicacies offered by the Blue

Willow Inn. The Blue Willow is an all-you-can-eat anti-bellum restaurant and is listed in the top ten in the USA.

We plan to leave our church at 9:00 am on Thursday, March 11 for Madison and should return to Toccoa no later than 4:00 pm. There is an admission charge of \$3 per person for the Andy Warhol collection. Mr. Goding has coupons for



twenty percent off your meal at the Blue Willow Inn.

Anyone interest in going on this trip should contact Duane Goding at 706-886-7817 **no later than Tuesday, March 9th,**

as reservations will be needed for the restaurant. Come join us for this fun trip!

# Lent and Repentance Easter Lilies

Lent is a season of repentance. But for many of us, "repentance" is an offensive word. It sounds so remorseful. In reality, it is not remorseful at all. The root word for repentance is "metanoia," from which our word "metamorphosis" comes. The great image of this is the butterfly emerging from the cocoon; the caterpillar being transformed into new life. No one is remorseful about that! Nor should we be with repentance, which is the leaving of the past and the emergence of new life!

First Presbyterian Church  
Redlands, CA

The Presbyterian Women will purchase lilies to place in the sanctuary for Easter. If you would like to make a \$10 donation to the Presbyterian Women the names of your loved ones will be included in a special bulletin.

Yes, I'd like to have a lily to take home.

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_



Please observe **Sunday, March 21** as the deadline for submitting information.

## Music Notes

Our hymnal, like many others, has several indexes in the back, one of which is called the Metrical Index of Tues. If you look at it, you will see that the tune names are listed under a sequence of numbers, letters, or words. The numbers indicate how many syllables are in each phrase of the song. Hymns can often be sung to other tunes with the same metrical sequence, though not always. This depends on where musi-

cal and textual accents fall. For example, our hymnal list thirty-three tunes under CM (or Common Meter) with a total of forty-nine hymns with its 8,6,8,6 pattern of syllables. All the ones I checked out had texts that were interchangeable—very handy if you're tired of an old tune or don't care for a particular one!

In some circles, tune names are as familiar

as the titles of hymns. In our church bulletin the tune name is listed on the line along with each hymn. This month the choir will be using and unfamiliar tune in CM, Dunlap's Creek, for our choral introit. In April, we'll be singing a hymn #399, using this tune. By then, it should sound at least a little familiar. I hope you will like it.

## From the Secretary

### Bulletin Information

Please submit all information for the weekly bulletin by 8am on Wednesday mornings. Thank you.

### Newsletter Information

Please submit all information for the April Newsletter by Sunday, March 21st. Thank you.

### Office Hours

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 8am—3:30 pm.



**Daylight Savings Time Begins March 14!**

### Financial Information:

2009:	Budgeted Receipts \$175061.86
	Budgeted Expense \$191026.40
	Total Receipts \$243355.36
	Total Expense \$254178.83
January 2010	Budgeted Receipts \$15383.85
	Budgeted Expense \$17752.23
	Total Receipts \$18532.91
	Total Expense \$21552.86

