

# S P C Spotlight



FEBRUARY 2013

*"The Church At The Bridge"*

Volume XIII, Issue 2



*Happy February, friends! I enjoyed this column by author, speaker, and humorist Phil Callaway, and hoped you might, too.*

## The Fruit of the Spirit Is Not Lemons

Yesterday a gentleman phoned to tell me he did not like my sense of humour. "What does laughing have to do with being a Christian?" he asked.

"Is that you, Dad?" I replied, joking.

He was not amused. So I got his address and stuffed a potato in his exhaust pipe. Not really. But the thought did occur to me.

My son Jeffrey seems to think laughter is a good idea. His laugh is contagious. One that spills out of his room, down the street, and even into the church. When he was very small, he took to screaming during a sermon, so I whisked him out the back. As I did, he yelled over my shoulder, "Pray for me!" He's been making us laugh ever since.

I am convinced that few weapons are more important in fighting discouragement and difficulty these days than a good sense of humour. Laughter, stress, and worry cannot co-exist for long. Stress inflates our balloons to the popping point; laughter slowly releases the pressure. Laughter is cholesterol free, contains no MSG, no fat, and no negative side effects. Although it got me into a ton of trouble in fifth grade, laughter never committed a crime or started a war, and there is no record of anyone who died laughing. I have seen laughter disarm, revive, motivate, encourage, and cheer. It is the shortest distance between two people, and one of the few things the government does not yet tax.

But laughter is not always easy to come by, is it? Life is difficult. Times are tough. While speaking at a retreat, I noticed one couple

sitting in the front row at each of my sessions (speakers don't forget such things). The wife was a brilliant and witty woman who laughed at all of my jokes! But her husband merely glared at me. For three days he did this. His lips were puckered. He looked like he'd been sucking rivets off a skateboard. After the final session, his wife approached me with a smile and an extended hand. "I just want to thank you," she said. "I haven't seen my husband laugh this hard in years."

My wife's sister Miriam provides a startling contrast. Miriam suffers from Huntington's disease, a rare genetic disorder causing rapid mental and physical deterioration. Doctors who treat thousands of Huntington's patients are amazed at how slowly this awful disease is growing in her body. The reasons are numerous: a loving husband and family, a positive attitude never ceasing to amaze us, and perhaps most noticeably, an easy laugh. Those who have every reason to cry and yet choose to laugh seem to have a jump-start on life. A doctor told her husband Jim, "Miriam's attitude has reduced the symptoms of Huntington's by 50 per cent."

"It seems your belief in a higher power has helped you," a psychologist said to Miriam and Jim one day. Miriam smiled. "That would be God," she said.

Hers is the laughter of one who has discovered the art of Christian living: giving thanks for what we can see and not complaining about what remains in the dark. At the very core, Miriam knows that she is loved by God, held in His arms, and promised the eternal joys of heaven. She has learned that God gives us enough light for the next faltering step, so she rejoices in the little light she's given, not asking for some great spotlight to take all the shadows away.

For Miriam, laughter has plugged the springs of bitterness, put a permanent cork on tension, and soothed the crippling pain of disappointment. She could be pinned to the mat, but instead she pins this magnet to her fridge: "In the world you will have trouble, but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." Just below it is another one: "If you can't make me thin, make my friends look fat."

Children who see such an attitude are changed forever.

As a humourist, it is my privilege to speak to thousands of people each year. Many are Christian groups; some are not. But I've made a surprising discovery lately—Christians laugh harder. I have seen them fall off benches, ask for oxygen, and hyperventilate. Perhaps the world laughs to forget, but Christians laugh because we remember. We remember that the most serious issues were dealt with at the cross. Death was swallowed up. Eternity was promised. Surely the greatest punchline in all of history is this: that a holy God could love the likes of me. This truth bids me live life with thanksgiving. And sometimes you may see me laughing. It is the laughter of one who deserves the worst and is offered the best. It is the laughter of the forgiven.

Speaking of forgiveness, the next time that gentleman calls about my sense of humour I won't put a potato in his exhaust pipe. But I may consider stuffing fiberglass insulation into his pajamas.

See you in church –  
Susan

*When life gives you lemons and for some reason you can't make lemonade, find a recipe for a lemon cake. The secret is to turn bitter into sweet and darkness into light.*



## SERMON SCHEDULE

**February 3:** Psalm 71:1-6; I Corinthians 13:1-13. "Sounds Like a Lot of Work!"

**February 10:** Scout Sunday

**February 17:** Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16; Deuteronomy 26:1-11  
"So Heavenly-Minded"

**February 24:** Psalm 27; Luke 13:31-35  
"It's a Love Without End. Amen!"





**Christian Education**  
 Mary Thompson  
 Coordinator

## Amazing Grace

"Amazing Grace, How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me". Like many other people, that's my number one, all time favorite hymn. No doubt about it. There are many others that I really like a lot as well but we can compare notes about that another time. Lately I've just been thinking so much about grace. You know...it truly is amazing isn't it? In my own family the year 2012 was filled with many dangers, toils and snares as the hymn says, but by the end of the year we had come through them all safely.

One of my very favorite authors, Frederick Buechner, writes about the way some "religious words" have been so over used that they have lost their impact. Not so with grace he tells us. Even words like gracious and graceful still have some of the bloom left on them.

Some of the preachers I see on TV from time to time assure us that the lives of Christians are problem free. They assure us that if we are a Christian our health will be perfect, our families will be perfect and that we'll have more money than we ever dreamed we would so we can just send it to them. I can't find that in my Bible however. Jesus never said it; the scriptures don't show examples of it and our own experiences show us that it's just not true. What Jesus promised is that He would be with us...good times, hard times, regular times, all the time and that's the most important thing. Buechner says it much better than I do. He says it this way: "The grace of God means something like: Here is your life. You might never have been, but you are because the party wouldn't have been complete without you. Here is the world. Beautiful and terrible things will happen. Don't be afraid. I am with you. Nothing can ever separate us. It's for you that I created the universe. I love you".

So I'm thinking that in 2013 I want to continue to trust God more and more, to seek His will, to remember that He is everywhere, all the time, and that we are in His most powerful and capable hands in this life and forevermore. "Tis grace that's brought me safe thus far and grace will lead me home." Now that's amazing!

God bless,  
 Mary



**Easter Egg Hunt**  
 Saturday, March 23rd  
 12 noon

Easter comes early this year and that means so does our annual Easter Egg Hunt for our preschoolers and elementary school age children. We hope each and every one will be here along with their families for an afternoon of fun together. We will serve lunch at noon, have some fun games and activities followed by the hunt for the eggs. As usual we are requesting candy donations from the congregation and want to thank you in advance; you are always so generous!



**June 10 - 14, 2013**

Did you know VBS planning starts in January? Well, it really does and plans are well underway at this point. The Christian Education Committee is so happy that Linda Roberts has agreed to be our director this year, assisted by Aaron Roberts, Mary Thompson, and the Christian Ed Committee. We are planning a trip to Cokesbury to review VBS material and recommend this year's theme and will let you know as soon as we know what the fun will be about this year. Just go ahead and mark your calendars for June 10 - 14 and be ready to join the fun!

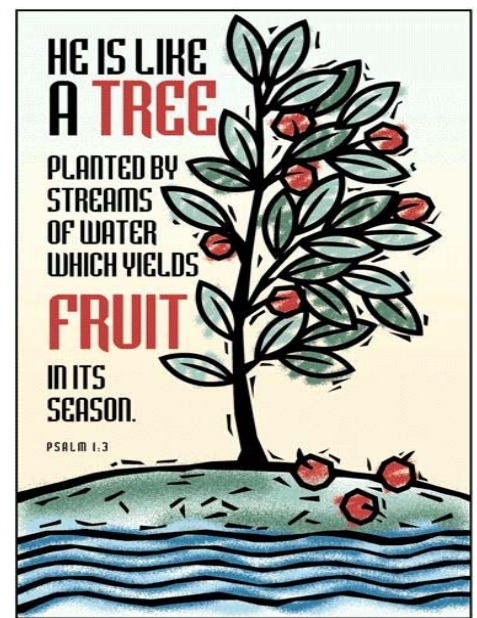
*Grace is what God gives us  
 when we don't deserve it ...  
 Mercy is when God doesn't  
 give us what we do deserve.*



**Bible Study for Women**

Thursday Morning Women's Bible Study  
 Thursday Mornings at 10 am  
 Conference Room

We have only three chapters left in our current study, *Receiving God's Goodness*. They are titled "One of the Family", Friends of God", and "Extending Grace". Each lesson stands on its own and getting the most from it does not depend on whether or not you've studied the earlier chapters. Even if you haven't attended recently, we hope you will join us for these last few lessons. Our next study will be on a book titled "Experiencing Spiritual Intimacy" Please let Mary Thompson know if you would like for her to order a book for you. The cost is \$10 and you may pay for your book when you order it.



**Join the Flock at Sunday School!**  
**EVERY SUNDAY AT 9:45 AM**



# Hello to all,

Hello to you all, I hope that you are all doing and feeling well. I have noticed that a lot of my family and friends have been getting sick with the crud lately. If you are one of them I am praying for your speedy recovery. I guess it's just that time of the year. I sit here this month of Lent and I am wondering what it is I can sacrifice this year...maybe you already know what you will give up. I have always admired those of you who give up chocolate, caffeine, TV or red meat for 40 days...wow, what will power! I have tried and failed many times to do that. I think it is the whole "CAN'T have it for 40 days" thing that makes me crave it even more. Then one year I was saved—my quite intelligent mother-in-law shared with me this statement. She said "Instead of giving something up, add something. Something that will strengthen your relationship with God and do that everyday for 40 days." What a wonderful idea. Well, that sounds easy enough, right? Sure, unless you get the flu! I started off great! I picked a book in the Bible and read a chapter every day. I prayed and studied each morning before work during my 'quiet time'. It was going really well and then the flu hit me, hard. I was soooo sick. I have only had Influenza one time as far as I can remember and let me just say that there is nothing like it. I was in the bed for an entire week. I had no choice. I couldn't get up and if I did really bad things would happen. So, I couldn't even begin to read my Bible. I did continue to pray; however, mostly prayers were like "Dear God I feel like I am about to die so will you please make me better, right now, I don't have time for this!!" Well, I have to say that God did finally make me better but not right then, it took 5 to 7 days before I could actually function again. And when I was starting to feel better again I resumed my reading and praying. I don't know why I was stricken with the flu during that time, maybe it was the devil tempting me to fail or maybe it was God saying, "Hey, I appreciate what you are doing Stephanie, but why are you counting on only 40 days of this?" The lesson may not have taken that particular year, but I did finally get it. Jesus spent 40 days and nights in the wilderness, being tempted and also preparing for his ministry - 40 days preparing...hmmm! Ohhhh, I get it! 40 days being tempted and 40 days to prepare—to prepare for a life time of service to God. This year when you are in the midst of your preparation, try and make it something meaningful, something that you

can continue on even after Easter is over. Continue it through out the rest of your life. It may be hard and it may seem impossible because temptation is out there and it seems to be even more powerful when we are trying to do good; but we are all works in progress so if you mess up, miss a day or two, pick yourself back up and continue onward. Matthew 4:1-4 says, "Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. The tempter came to him and said, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.' Jesus answered, 'It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

God's peace and blessings with you all,  
Stephanie



## SPY Sponsorship:

Please help support a youth for this summer's mission trip. We will travel to Westmoreland, TN for Mission Discovery Mission Trip. Our youth will help the community of Westmoreland with home repairs, visiting the elderly and helping with various outreach programs. Dates: June 17-22, 2013 Cost: \$275 You know we work hard on our mission trips and even though we are worn out, we come back renewed in mind and spirit. So if you ask yourself "why or how do they do it year after year?" It's because it is the absolute best kind of worn out we can be. It motivates us to live our lives better and to look at others in a different light. We come to realize how thankful we are for our families, our homes, our community, our church and that we are blessed everyday by the grace of our wonderful God! "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." (Philippians 4:13) So, If you are interested in joining us, please contact me ASAP! If you can't join us, your prayers are very important to us as well. Prayers as we prepare over the next couple of months, prayers while we are gone, and continued prayers as we return home. Our church is very blessed to have such a wonderful youth group and our youth group is very blessed to have such amazing support from our church family. Thank you for your continued support.

cell: [770-630-1231](tel:770-630-1231)  
email: [steph.dunn007@yahoo.com](mailto:steph.dunn007@yahoo.com)



### YOUTH EVENTS

- Feb 3:** Super Bowl Snack Sale after church in fellowship hall.
- Feb 10:** New Members lunch then youth meet for games 1:30 to 3:00
- Feb 17:** Bridging the Gap Fellowship 2:30 to 4 Fellowship hall
- Feb 24:** TBA



### WNL BIBLE STUDY

has resumed for the youth.

We will meet at 6pm on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month. I know so many of you have tons of homework but I am hoping and praying that you can put aside 2 nights a month and come back to Bible study. Feb. 13 and 27, 2013~Wednesday night bible study 6-6:25. Goodness and Groceries begins at 6:30 in the fellowship hall. See you then!



### SUPER BOWL SNACK SALE Feb 3

Immediately following worship on Sunday, February 3rd, snacks will be available for you to purchase for your Super Bowl activities later that day. Proceeds from the sale of the snacks will go toward the SPC Relay for Life Goal. If you would like to provide snacks for the sale, please let Stephanie Dunn know. Your support for this outreach effort is greatly appreciated.

*Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. Point out anything in me that offends you, and lead me along the path of everlasting life.*  
Psalm 139:23-24

**BRIDGING THE  
GAP  
FELLOWSHIP**Stockbridge  
Presbyterian

Church is engaged in new and vital outreach activities with more planned in the future. While these endeavors are very important, we as a congregation need to find ways to relate to each other in a positive manner. We need to celebrate our similarities. Bridging the Gap Fellowship (BGF) will give all of us (adults, youth, and children) the opportunity to do something for ourselves, and it won't cost anything except our time. Participation is not mandatory, but it is hoped that each of you will give it a try just once.

**Purpose:** To offer the opportunity for SPC members and regular attendees to meet once a month outside of a regular Worship Service or other normal SPC "get together" events and to participate in various pursuits which might include:

Games (board, cards, etc)-there would be games available for all ages  
Puzzles

Crafts (probably would be seasonal but not necessarily so and would be chosen by the group)

Packing visitor bags

Assisting with writing cards to shut ins, soldiers, etc.

Assisting with writing notes for GNG bags

Packing parcels for soldiers

Visiting home-bound members

Watching movies which could include a group discussion about movie's content

Just conversing with and enjoying each other's company

Other activities as desired by participants

**Particulars:**

Meet once a month (suggest 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month from 2-4:30)

Once a quarter prepare a meal that BGF could enjoy together

Provide nursery for members with small children

BGF would not interfere with regular SPY activities but SPY may wish to participate in some BGF activities

Perhaps provide space for school age participants to do homework



spcusa7777@gmail.com

**A Good Conversation With God!**

Me: God, can I ask you a question?

God: Sure.

Me: Promise you won't get mad?

God: I promise.

Me: Why did you let so much stuff happen to me today?

God: What do you mean?

Me: Well, I woke up late.

God: Yes.

Me: My car took forever to start.

God: Okay.

Me: At lunch they made my sandwich wrong and I had to wait.

God: Hmm.

Me: On the way home my phone went dead just as I picked up a call.

God: Okay.

Me: And on top of all that, when I got home I just wanted to soak my feet in my new foot massager and relax, but it wouldn't work!!! Nothing went right today! Why did you do that?

God: Well, let me see. *The Death Angel was at your bed this morning and I had to send one of the other angels to battle him for your life. I let you sleep through that.*

Me: (humbled): OH...

God: *I didn't let your car start because there was a drunk driver on your route that would have hit you if you were on the road.*

Me: (ashamed)

God: *The person who made your first sandwich today was sick and I didn't want you to catch what he has. I knew you couldn't afford to miss work.*

Me: (embarrassed): Ok...

God: *Your phone went dead because the person who was calling was going to give false witness about what you said during that call. I didn't even let you talk to them so that you would be covered.*

Me: (softly) I see, God.

God: *Oh, and that foot massager had a short that was going to throw out all of the power in your house tonight. I didn't think you wanted to be in the dark.*

Me: I'm sorry God.

God: *Don't be sorry, just learn to trust me in all things, the good and the bad.*

Me: I will trust you.

God: *And don't doubt that MY plan for your day is always better than your plan.*

Me: I won't, God. And let me just tell you God, thank you for everything today.

God: *You're welcome, child. It was just another day being your God, and I love looking after my children.*

**"BRIDGE FAMILY  
BASKETS"**

We are so excited about the accomplishments made by our first gathering of the "Bridge Family Baskets" team. Lots of ideas were discussed, prayer blankets were started and baskets were organized. This all took place in addition to some wonderful fellowship for everyone attending.

God, in His Grace, has given each of us unique talents and if you are looking for a way to share your talent, we need you. What ever you have been gifted with will be treasured not only by us, but your family church members. We need sewers, cutters, knot tiers, bow makers, bakers, talkers and fellowship planners. In other words "We Need You."

Come join the fun, the 3rd Thursday of each month, at 10:00 AM in the fellowship hall. The next session will be Thursday, February 21st. If you have any questions, concerns or names to add to our growing list of basket recipients, please call Sue Scheer or Linda Roberts.

**THANK YOU PW CIRCLE #1**

A great big thank you for your generous donation to the "Bridge Family Baskets" fund. Because of your caring and sharing more supplies for prayer blankets will be purchased.

We hope that any of you not attending our 3rd Thursday of the month gathering will be able to join us soon. Your help and input are so appreciated and we would love to share our fellowship with you.



Dear SPC Family,  
I delivered the Goodness and Groceries bins to Smith Barnes early on January 17th and had wonderful conversation

with the counselor. She asked me to let our congregation know how much the children and their families appreciate the extra food. She said that when she made parent phone calls to get permission to send the food home the stories she heard brought tears to her eyes. She also wanted me to let the note writers know how much the written words of kindness and encouragement mean. She said it was just what the students need. Further, she said for everyone to keep working because we are making a real difference in the lives of the families. Can I get an amen?

Thanks so much to all of you who support this program!

Betsy



### Presbyterian Women Update

Circle #1 meets 1st Tues - 10:00 am  
Fellowship Hall (Sept-June)  
Circle #2 meets 1st Wed - 6:15 pm  
Parlor (Sept-June)

#### PRAYER CONCERNS FEBRUARY 2013

**\*MEMBERS:** Gerrelldine Addy, Joyce Andrews, Harold Cochran, David & Mabel Craig, David Dillard, Rick Holcombe, Allison & Bob Johnson, Pat Martin, Charles & Sara Moseley, Jim & Thelma Newsome, Gene Park, Ruth Pope, Doug Richardson, Jane Rutledge, Doug Sewell, Hallie Shumate, Anne Watson

**\*FRIENDS & FAMILY:** Pete Bernard, E. C. Burnett, Brandy Conner, Candice Dawkins, Family of Pat Doyle, Families & Children of Newtown CT, Cheyenne Fischer, Barbara Fuller, Richard Haney & Family, Vince Lowe, Magel Family, Leland Mauney, Linda Menieur, Teneashi Moore, Travis & Gregory Pearce, Family of Shaun Ransom, Don Rawls & Family, Miranda Robinson, Gloria Roseberry, Debra Scott, Regan Tucker, Marilyn White

**\*ONGOING:** Shad Austin, Carol Baggett, Melissa Bailey, Sarah Barr, Judy Belvin, Dorothy Bromenshenkel, Cindy Brown, Tillie Bundy, Carmen Butler, Larry Campbell, Myrtis Carter, Kenneth Cleveland, Teresa Cooper, Jemal & Prilinda Davis, Leslie Moseley DeSimone, Jason Ellis, Beanie Essex, Lilly Feathers, Lori Fisher, Paula Goddard, Barbara Goss, Carol Harris, Nick Hart, Amy Huber, John Kellerman, Mark Kellogg, Rebecca Langford, Hannah Layfield, Lisa Lohr, Greg Martin, Kim McCantti, Shane McDonald, Bernice & Claude McGee, Dale McGee, Nikki McGee, Linda Menieur, John Newman, Sam Osborne, Olivia Quigley, Bill Ratliff, Ione Lanford Ring, Vicky Rodgers, Lara Rogers, Vicki Rosenblatt, Laurie Sansbury, Ray Shrader, Shirley Slaughter, Abby Smith, Jack & Grace Soucie, Keith Sorrells, Marge Spikes, Sarah Starzer, Donna Sundren, Jennifer Thomas, Richard Thomas, Ed Thompson, Diane Tricklely, Jack & Bonelle Turner, Fred Unger, LuAnn Worley

**\*MILITARY TROOPS:** Tyler DeLoach, Lucas Freeman; Iraq: Don Bradley, Doug Caldwell, Joel Forsyth, Jeremy Hopfe; Afghanistan: Brian Bavano, James Chapman, Chad Duffey, Mark Freeman, Ricky Fyffe, Kyle Gaylor, Gary Lawrence, Josh Ogle, Zachary Pallock, Ryan Richey, Ryan Tewell; El Salvador: Darrious Austin; Huntsville: Jack Shedd; Hawaii: Brianne Gaylor; Washington, D.C.: David Brown

**\*HOMEBOUND:** Peggy Campbell, Johnny Hinton, Evelyn Hughes, Sarah Belle Lee, Georgia Silvey, Nancy Stikeleather, Carolyn Waits



Colossians 3:14

And over all these virtues,

put on **LOVE**, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

#### UPCOMING GRG EVENTS



#### Attention Church Members 50+ GRG February Event Valentine Luncheon & Entertainment

Tuesday, Feb 12th, \$15 per person  
Church Fellowship Hall, 12:00 n

*Roses are red, violets are blue,  
I enjoy eating, and I bet you do too!  
Well, Betty and Chef,  
Have something cooking for you!  
It's the annual Gold Rush Gang  
Valentine Luncheon.*

*You'll enjoy a great meal, and then some!*

*So come, give us your heart,  
At the end of the event, you won't want to part.*

*Delicious food, entertainment and good friends,  
You'll enjoy the way all the sweet blends!*

Let Joan Scott know by Sunday, Feb 3rd, to make your reservation.



#### GRG March Event Spivey Hall Concert Tues, March 26th, 11:15 am

Just a note to remind you of the notes we will be hearing at Spivey Hall when we go to hear the Emory Concert Choir Tuesday, March 26th. Remember that the 4th Tuesday of March, a change from the 2nd Tuesday of the month.

Make your reservation soon, only 20 tickets and 13 of these are already taken. See Carolyn Francis to reserve your ticket.

*"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."  
Matthew 28:19,20*



*Ash*  
**Wednesday**  
Service  
February 13th, 7:00 pm



Buildings & Grounds  
Safety & Security



**I love the house where you live, O Lord, the place where your glory dwells.  
- Psalm 26:8**

HELP US KEEP HIS HOUSE CLEAN,  
NEAT AND WELL KEPT.

#### Fellowship Committee



**Every Sunday Morning:**  
Breakfast is served beginning at **9:00** every Sunday morning. Come and enjoy the fellowship. Use your hospitality and cooking skills to bless others...signups for cooking are on the refrigerator door in the Fellowship Hall.

#### CHURCH STAFF DIRECTORY

<i>Pastor</i>	Susan Bennett	770-474-7777
<i>Office Manager</i>	Levena Hemmle	770-474-7777
<i>Interim Music Director</i>	Cary Castellaw	770-715-2471
<i>Youth Director</i>	Stephanie Dunn	770-389-3197
<i>Christian Ed Coordinator</i>	Mary Thompson	770-474-4252
<i>Clerk of Session</i>	Jim Beisner	770-227-2410
<i>Asst. Clerk of Session</i>	Sue Scheer	770-957-2475
<i>Custodian</i>	Tom Francis	770-474-8737
<i>Sun. Sch. Superintendents</i>	Jason & Phyllis Howard	770-957-9922
<i>PW Co-Moderators</i>	See Circle Chairs/Co-Chairs	
<i>General Fund Treasurer</i>	Doug Scott	770-474-8226
<i>Asst. Gen. Fund Treasurer</i>	Doug Richardson	770-914-5676
<i>Memorial Fund Treasurer</i>	Mabel White	770-474-7777
<i>Nursery Staff:</i>	Stephanie Phillips	678-788-3965
	Abigail Jenkins	678-689-3063



**JANUARY SESSION REPORT**

**Buildings and Grounds Committee:** Jason Howard, Chair and Carlton Smith, Co-Chair. No issues or recommendations.

**Christian Education Committee:** Aaron Roberts, Chair. No issues or recommendations.

**Fellowship Committee:** Doug Richardson, Chair and John Dunn, Co-Chair. No issues or recommendations.

**Stewardship Committee:** Jim Beisner, Chair. Jim presented the December 2012 financial statement. The church is still on the minus side for available funds but the amount is much less than in November. Jim also distributed the 2012 financial statement which indicated that what was budgeted for the year was not spent.

Jim distributed a time sheet to be used to record volunteer hours for use in the annual missional budget.

A letter from Carolyn Francis requesting a change to a policy on employment eligibility will be reconsidered by the Session. The request will go to Stewardship for a recommendation to be presented at the February Session meeting.

**Witness Committee:** Judy Simmons, Chair and, Sue Scheer Co-Chair. No issues or recommendations.

**Worship Committee:** Arlene Lathrop, Chair and, Kim Seal Co-Chair. No issues or recommendations.

**Pastor's Report:** Susan reported several people indicated interest in joining SPC after worship on January 13, 2013. Elders will meet at 10:30 am on January 27, 2013 to examine the potential members.

Susan reported on the search for Music Director. Two candidates were interviewed. Susan posted a new advertisement for the Accompanist this week. A decision on the Music Director should take place shortly.

**New Business:** Jim introduced a motion to establish a separate bank account for Goodness and Groceries. The main reason is to meet accountability standards dictated by organizations providing grants for the mission. This is a similar arrangement that was used for Community Christmas for the Needy in the past. The Session approved the motion. Doug Richardson will manage the account with Jim co-manager.

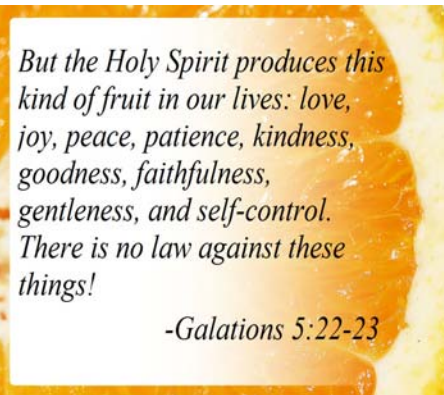
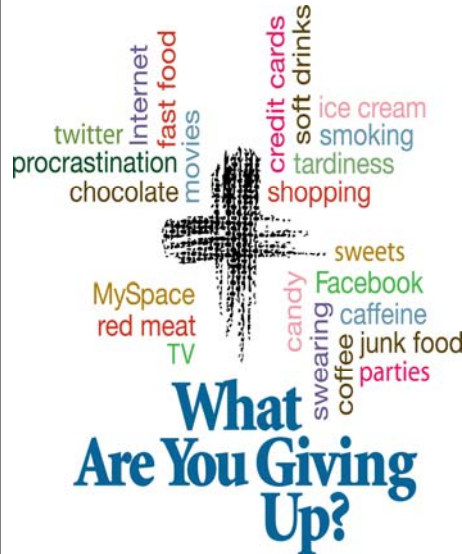
Stephanie Dunn informed the Session of the need for fundraisers for the church Relay for

Life effort. She will provide dates at a future meeting.

Jim Beisner,  
Clerk of Session



**Lent begins February 13th with Ash Wednesday ....**



**STEWARDSHIP**

*The act of organizing your life so God can spend you.*



**Give thanks to the LORD and proclaim his greatness. Let the whole world know what he has done. Psalm 105:1**



Pledge packets (pledge card, envelope and Stewardship letter) are available in the Narthex and church office. Your faithful support is greatly appreciated and needed.

**Lent is a Crash Course in Stewardship**

During Lent, we are called to make sacrifices. How should we prepare our hearts, minds and souls to celebrate Easter? We are called to deepen our spiritual lives through prayer and reading the Scriptures. We should seek forgiveness and reconciliation with God through our genuine repentance.

During Lent, we should examine how we are using our talents and skills in the service of others. We are also called to give sacrificially to the poor, that is, not giving what we happen to have in our pocket or after all our wants and needs are satisfied. During Lent and every day of our lives for that matter, God is calling us to live as true disciples of Christ and stewards of his gifts. Throughout the year, we are called by God to use our time to build our relationship with God through prayer. We are called to use our talents and skills in the service of others.

Finally, we are called to share our material possessions, returning a portion of our treasure back to God in gratitude. Lent is a 40-day crash course in how to live a life as a steward of God's gifts — giving sacrificially of our time, talent and treasure.



# OPPORTUNITIES

## LITURGISTS:

- Feb 3 Aaron Roberts
- Feb 10 Lee Hart
- Feb 17 Jeffrey Cochran
- Feb 24 Adam Dunn

## HEAD USHER—FEBRUARY

Christian Education Committee

## COMMUNION SERVERS—FEB 3, 2013

- |                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Allison Johnson | Diana Taylor   |
| Ken Roberts     | Linda Roberts  |
| John Dunn       | Stephanie Dunn |

## CHILDREN'S WORSHIP WORKERS

- Feb 3 Diana Taylor/Stephanie Dunn
- Feb 10 Lynn Andrews/Allie Dunn
- Feb 17 Greg Lathrop/Adam Dunn
- Feb 24 Keller Family

## ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

- Feb 3 Justin Stanley
- Feb 10 Carly Keller
- Feb 17 Elle Roberts
- Feb 24 Peyton Lewis

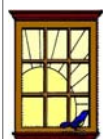
## BEADLE SCHEDULE

- Feb 3 Terry Holmes
- Feb 10 Cooper Keller
- Feb 17 Tony Williams
- Feb 24 Sherry McGee

## FRIDAY OFFICE VOLUNTEERS

- Feb 3 Sue Scheer
- Feb 10 Lynn Pack
- Feb 17 Annie Laura Kelly
- Feb 24 Nancy Bryant

THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR SERVICE TO  
SPC AND GOD'S KINGDOM



### Early Risers

- Feb 19: Biscuit & Brunch
- Feb 26: Chick-fil-a



### SANCTUARY FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS

If you wish to place a floral arrangement in the Sanctuary, please call the Church office to see if a particular Sunday is available and so an appropriate notation can be made in the announcement sheet.



## 2013

- Mar 3 Youth Fundraiser Lunch
- Mar 5 PW Circle #1
- Mar 6 PW Circle #2
- Mar 6 Worship Comm Mtg
- Mar 7 B&G Committee Mtg
- Mar 9 Boy Scout Pancake Breakfast
- Mar 12 Early Risers @ B&B
- Mar 13 Fellowship Comm Mtg
- Mar 13 Youth Bible Study
- Mar 14 CE Committee Mtg
- Mar 14 Stewardship Comm Mtg
- Mar 16 Youth Challenge Testing
- Mar 17 Annual Corporation Meeting
- Mar 18 March Newsletter Items Due
- Mar 19 Early Risers @ CFA
- Mar 19 Stated Session Mtg
- Mar 21 Bridge Family Basket Comm
- Mar 23 Easter Egg Hunt
- Mar 24 Palm Sunday
- Mar 24 Healing Service
- Mar 26 GRG Spivey Hall Concern
- Mar 27 Youth Bible Study
- Mar 28 Maundy Thursday
- Mar 29 Good Friday
- Mar 31 Easter Sunday
- Mar 31 One Great Hour of Sharing
- Apr 1 Office Closed (Easter Monday)
- Apr 2 PW #1
- Apr 3 PW #2
- Apr 3 Worship Comm Mtg
- Apr 4 CE Comm Mtg
- Apr 4 B&G Comm Mtg
- Apr 9 GRG IMAX & Lunch
- Apr 10 Fellowship Comm Mtg
- Apr 11 Stewardship Comm Mtg
- Apr 13 Youth Challenge Testing
- Apr 14 Youth Fundraiser Lunch
- Apr 16 Stated Session
- Apr 21 BGF Fellowship
- Apr 26-27 Relay for Life



## INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP?

If you've been considering calling Stockbridge Presbyterian "home," contact the church office to receive a membership packet. Many of you have been attending as visitors for a while, and we'd love to consider you family! Call Susan at 770-474-7777 if you need further information.



## February Birthdays

- |                    |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 2/2 Nick Strong    | 2/17 Doug Scott     |
| 2/4 Sydney Clipper | 2/18 Allie Dunn     |
| 2/6 Arlene Lathrop | 2/19 Jim Beisner    |
| 2/6 Meagan Seal    | 2/21 Ursula Keyes   |
| 2/13 Jason Howard  | 2/24 Carol Turk     |
| 2/14 Mary Trammell | 2/26 Harold Cochran |



*We always thank God for all of you, mentioning you in our prayers.*  
— 1 Thess 1:2

*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.— Romans 15:13*



## 2013 PER CAPITA DUE NOW

Over the past several years your support in paying the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta per capita has been greatly appreciated. The Session is again asking your support with per capita in 2013 with a gift of \$22.00 per SPC member. We are starting our per capita campaign earlier this year and will provide periodic reminders in order to give you ample time to consider your gift.



## Per Capita Offering

Questions? Contact Doug Scott or Jim Beisner. And thanks for your help!





## FIVE ON THE FIRST ~ JOSEPH'S PANTRY



# February 2013



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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
<b>Communion Servers:</b> Allison Johnson Diana Taylor Ken Roberts Linda Roberts John Dunn Stephanie Dunn		<b>Acolytes:</b> Feb 3 Justin Stanley Feb 10 Carly Keller Feb 17 Collin Roberts Feb 24 Peyton Lewis		<b>Beadles:</b> Terry Holmes Cooper Keller Tony Williams Sherry McGee		(Sue Scheer) 1	2 5:30 New Glory C.C
(Aaron Roberts) 3 Communion 	4	10:00 5 PW Circle #1	6:00 Worship 6 Comm Mtg 6:15 PW Circle #2 6:30 G&G 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	7 10:00 Women's Bible Study 6:00 CE Meeting 6:30 B&G Mtg	(Lynn Pack) 8	9:00 9 Presbytery Mtg Pleasant Hill 1:00: Youth Chall 5:30 New Glory C.C.	
(Lee Hart) 10 11:00 Scout Sunday 12:00 New Member Luncheon 2:00 Bridging The Gap Fellowship	11	12:00 12 GRG Valentine Luncheon	5:30 Fellowship 13 Comm Mtg 6:00 Youth Study 6:30 G&G 7:00 Ash Wed Service	10:00 14 Women's Bible Study 4:00 Stewardship Comm Mtg	(Annie Laura Kelly) 15	16 5:30 New Glory C.C.	
(Jeffrey Cochran) 17	18 March Newsletter Items Due	9:00 19 Early Risers @ B&B 7:00 Stated Session	20 6:30 G&G 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	10:00 21 Bridge Family Basket Comm	(Nancy Bryant) 22	23 5:30 New Glory C.C.	
(Adam Dunn) 24 Healing Service 	25	9:00 26 Early Risers @ CFA	27 6:00 Youth Study 6:30 G&G 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	28 10:00 Women's Bible Study	<b>Children's Worship</b> Feb 3 Diana Taylor/Stephanie Dunn Feb 10 Lynn Andrews/Allie Dunn Feb 17 Greg Lathrop/Adam Dunn Feb 24 Keller Family		

**J**ust then a woman of the village, the town harlot, having learned that Jesus was a guest in the home of the Pharisee, came with a bottle of very expensive perfume and stood at his feet, weeping, raining tears on his feet. Letting down her hair, she dried his feet, kissed them, and anointed them with the perfume... Then turning to the woman, but speaking to Simon, he said, "Do you see this woman? I came to your home; you provided no water for my feet, but she rained tears on my feet and dried them with her hair. You gave me no greeting, but from the time I arrived she hasn't quit kissing my feet. You provided nothing for freshening up, but she has soothed my feet with perfume. Impressive, isn't it? She was forgiven many, many sins, and so she is very, very grateful. If the forgiveness is minimal, the gratitude is minimal." Luke 7:36-50

**WEEKLY SCHEDULE**  
(Unless noted otherwise on the above calendar.)

**Sunday**  
9:00 am Fellowship Breakfast  
9:45 am Sunday School  
10:30 am Choir Rehearsal  
11:00 am Worship

4:30 pm Youth Fellowship  
5:00 pm Haitian Christian Fellow.

**Monday**

7:00 pm AA

**Tuesday**

9:00 am Early Risers  
7:30 pm Boy Scouts

**Wednesday**

6:30 pm Goodness & Groceries  
7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday**

10:00 am Ladies Bible Study  
7:00 pm AA

**Saturday**

5:30 pm New Glory Christian Church