

S P C Spotlight



JANUARY 2013

"The Church At The Bridge"

Volume XIII, Issue 1



I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers.

It was true when Paul wrote to the Ephesians, and it's true today!

In all my years of ordained ministry, I've never known a congregation like you all, of Stockbridge Pres. When I arrived here four years ago, the first thing that struck me was your deep love for one another. I saw immediately that you're a close-knit, caring group who care for each other in good times and bad. I took note of the Bible studies, Presbyterian Women, the choir, the Gold Rush Gang, and other groups who both fellowship and serve together. And I was so thankful to hear that you all are a congregation that welcomes visitors, too. You know, I've talked to folks who've visited in other churches who told me not one person greeted them or made them feel welcome. Not Stockbridge Presbyterian! Here, visitors are warmly greeted at the door and have told me that probably four or five people come up and shake their hands and welcome them to the church. I'm so thankful that's the kind of congregation you are!

There are also a bunch of amazingly gifted folks here, aren't there? Children's ministers, teachers of all ages, vocalists and musicians, great cooks, gracious hosts, carpenters, and more! Lately I've begun to see Stockbridge Pres as a church that has truly made a ministry of the Biblical mandate of hospitality. We extend hospitality to each other with group meetings, covered dish dinners, breakfast every Sunday, the Gold Rush Gang, Bridge Family Baskets, and lots of different events. And we extend hospitality to our community: the

Muffin Brigade, Joseph's Pantry, Goodness and Groceries, Community Christmas Outreach, the Live Nativity – and every single Sunday morning, our doors and hearts are wide open to whosoever will come in and worship. We're a church!

There's so much to give thanks for: Sue Scheer and the seventy or so people who put together the Live Nativity; Linda Roberts and at least thirty volunteers who served coffee and muffins to over 800 voters on election day; Bill Holmes and the hard-working Witness Committee that coordinated the Community Christmas Outreach; Betsy Sierra and all the baggers, note-writers, "quality control specialists", and bin-haulers who serve in Goodness and Groceries on Wednesday evenings; Annie Laura Kelly and others who coordinate the Joseph's Pantry food bank; John and Carol Abbott, who've resumed leadership in the Gold Rush Gang; and the Thursday morning Women's Bible Study, who are in the process of making Bridge Family Baskets into a strong outreach ministry to our congregation's homebound members.

It's dangerous to start naming names, because you know I can't possibly list everybody. So let me apologize in advance! I also know that there are many, many folks around here who serve faithfully and do it all out of sight, in the background – and they prefer it that way! So I'll respect their privacy, but I want you to know that all of us do not cease to give thanks to you, as we remember you in our prayers.

We had some losses in 2012, and some deep hurt as a result. We've struggled financially, and we still are struggling. And there's been some change – in our vision and in our mission – and change is never easy. But you've hung together and there's been some healing and reconciliation, and that always makes God smile. And there's more hope than ever! We're making a real difference in the lives of folks in our own community – the "Church by the Bridge" is becoming known as a place

where children are treasured and helped, a place that partners with schools and Food Depot to help the kids who need it most. Eight hundred voters will never forget the people here who offered coffee and muffins and a warm welcome. Over 80 visitors saw the Live Nativity and most stayed for cocoa and cookies. Henry County is our mission field, and every time we reach out with food or warmth or welcome, our neighbors are catching a glimpse of the love of Jesus through the love that we offer them. What a calling we have, and what a privilege!

Yes, I do pray for you, and I know you pray for me and for one another. Every outreach, every ministry, every worship service, and every everything around here is bathed in prayer. With a foundation like that, 2013 can't help but be a wonderful year!

See you in church –
Susan



SERMON SCHEDULE

JANUARY 6: I Samuel 2:18-20;
Luke 2:41-52. "Growing in Grace"

JANUARY 13: Installation of New Elders
Isaiah 43:1-7; Acts 8:14-17.
"Growing in Courage"

JANUARY 20: Isaiah 62:1-5;
I Corinthians 12:1-11.
"Growing in Faith"

JANUARY 27: Luke 4:14-21;
I Corinthians 12:12-31a
"Growing in Service"





Christian Education

Mary Thompson
Coordinator

I always enjoy driving by our church and seeing what our sign outside says. Right now it very appropriately says New Year, New Beginning and I started thinking about what a new beginning would look like for me and whether I have my priorities in order. Maybe you do that too. If so, when we think about those priorities for 2013 let's not forget to put coming to Sunday School and bringing the children on our list. We know God's word is a "lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path" and learning God's word in a group is the very best way to get that word into our heads and our hearts.

We have classes for all ages each and every Sunday. Here's an update on what they are up to.

Our youngest children are not only cared for but have a Sunday School class in the nursery area. Stephanie Phillips continues to teach them along with her helper, Abby Jenkins. The children love the class and their leaders and come into the class saying "I want to hear a story about Jesus". Of course, Stephanie and Abby are more than ready to lead them. What could be better?

Children in grades K – 5 are in the Golden Rulers class. When attendance grows a bit we will divide this class into younger elementary and older elementary children. We're ready whenever the time is right. The literature for this class doesn't follow the church calendar for a very good reason. They had lessons about the birth of Jesus in July, when the whole emphasis was about just that, with no thoughts of all of the other things that go on around Christmas time. They are about to start a series of lessons about Holy Week and Easter now for the same reason. The lessons are lively with the story about what happened plus a lot of fun activities, crafts, and games for emphasis. The class is led by Mandy Robertson, Amy Roberts, Phyllis Howard and Mabel White on an alternating basis.

Middle School and High School students are taught by Diana Taylor with assistance from Lee Hart, Sue Scheer, and Mary Thompson. Their focus for the next weeks will cover much of Paul's letter to the Philippians, one of

the most popular of the New Testament Epistles because of its emphasis on the joy found in living as faithful followers of Jesus. The sessions explore four key Bible passages in detail and attempt to give students an appreciation of those texts within the overall letter. By the end of the fourth session, students will have worked through an appropriate acronym – PHIL – that should help them remember and apply Paul's major teaching in this letter to their personal discipleship.

We offer three adult classes.

The Walter Lee class has just finished a series of lessons on the book of Ephesians and is ready to begin a unit titled Exalting Christ, based on scripture found in Phillippians. Chapter headings are Proclaiming Christ, Jesus' Humility and Exaltation, Gaining in Jesus Christ, and Stand Firm. In February they will move on to the book of Colossians in a series titled "Imitating Jesus" which sounds like something we all want to learn more about. Tom Francis is the teacher for this class.

The Parlor class will be continuing their study of the "Bad Girls of the Bible" a lively and informative book about situations in the Bible as compared with situations we all face today. The class is taught by Laura Richardson and includes a lot of interesting and fun discussion.

The Pastor's Bible Study will start a new study of the Old Testament book of Judges. Not only does this ancient book have a fascinating cast of characters including Samson and Delilah and Gideon, it's full of real and honest lessons that are still relevant to us today. As its name implies the class is taught by our Pastor, Rev. Susan Bennett and combines interesting and informative lecture with lots of lively discussion.

So...if you don't currently attend Sunday School please try making it a priority. All classes meet at 9:45 each and every Sunday. In fact, if you come at 9:00 you can enjoy a delicious breakfast and the good company of your church family. Hope to see you Sunday!

God Bless & Happy New Year!
Mary



Thursday Women's Bible Study Update

Thursday Women's Bible Study will resume January 10. We are continuing our book "Receiving God's Goodness." If you have questions or comments please call Mary Thompson 770-474-4252. I can't wait for this group to get together again after a break of several weeks. I also can't wait to see you there!

IF For Children Author Unknown

- If children live with criticism,
they learn to condemn.
- If children live with hostility,
they learn to fight.
- If children live with fears,
they learn to be apprehensive.
- If children live with pity,
they learn to fee sorry for themselves.
- If children live with jealousy,
they learn to feel guilty.
- If children live with encouragement,
they learn to be confident.
- If children live with tolerance,
they learn to be patient.
- If children live with praise,
they learn to be appreciative.
- If children live with acceptance,
they learn to love.
- If children live with approval,
they learn to like themselves.
- If children live with recognition,
they learn to have a goal.
- If children live with fairness,
they learn what justice is.
- If children live with honesty,
they learn what truth is.
- If children live with friendliness,
they learn that the world is a good place in which to live.





Hello to all,

As we get ready to start 2013 I pray for each of you. Please be safe, take care of you and your loved ones. I know that sometimes it's hard to continue on, keep that smile pasted on your face and trudge through another day. We all know those who have that undying ability to do so and it's a little bewildering. Maybe those people know a secret, maybe they have just always had a wonderful life, or maybe they just have that faith that makes them strong, no matter what. I plan to work on that part of my faith, I always try to keep it front and center. Sometimes I have faith that everything will turn out ok, and sometimes my faith is shaken. But even when it's shaken, I pray for the strength to keep my faith strong in God. We have all been taught through the years that "You can't always get what we want but if you try, sometimes you just might find, you get what you need"! God knows what we need and I have faith in that and that's all I need! Now I know that it isn't always just that easy, I know that it involves conscious decisions and making efforts towards living a positive and happy life. But it sure is wonderful knowing that God is on my side and working with me, not against me! I look forward to this brand new year and all the exciting new things we will do here at SPC.

Happy New Year
and God Bless you all,
Stephanie



IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR!

Time to start thinking about next summer and if you will be going on the mission trip. Don't miss out on this wonderful experience. Maxwell Street Presbyterian in Lexington, Kentucky has been on my mind. Think about it, ask questions, talk to those who have been in the past. It's not something to enter into without knowledge or prayer. Call me if you have questions.

All interested persons, please contact Stephanie Dunn
cell: [770-630-1231](tel:770-630-1231)
email: steph.dunn007@yahoo.com



YOUTH EVENTS

- Jan. 6: Meet at church 4:30 to 6:00
- Jan. 13: Movie (time to be announced)
- Jan. 20: TBA
- Jan. 27: Game Night 4:30 to 6:00

Happy New Year Stockbridge Presbyterian Church

"May Light always surround you;
Hope kindle and rebound you.
May your Hurts turn to Healing;
Your Heart embrace Feeling.
May Wounds become Wisdom;
Every Kindness a Prism.
May Laughter infect you;
Your Passion resurrect you.
May Goodness inspire
your Deepest Desires.
Through all that you Reach For,
May your arms Never Tire."



Youth Happening

Dear Youth Group,
As you know, Goodness and Groceries is every Wednesday night starting at 6:30. I have heard so many wonderful things from the schools about the students we are helping and I have heard from you wonderful things about being able to participate in this ministry. I have also heard that you'd like to meet at 6pm for 30 minutes and do a bible study, devotion or something together as a youth group before we head down to the fellowship hall. On Jan 16 @ 6pm lets meet in the youth room and start the new year right.

Love, Stephanie

IN MY FATHER'S HAND...

"Those who accept my commandments and obey them are the ones who love me. And because they love me, my Father will love them. And I will love them and reveal myself to each of them." John 14:21 NLT



If a dog was the teacher you would learn things like:

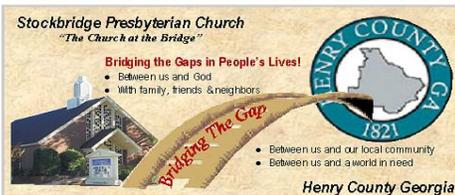
- * When loved ones come home, always run to greet them;
- * Never pass up the opportunity to go for a joyride;
- * Allow the experience of fresh air and the wind in your face to be pure ecstasy;
- * Take naps;
- * Stretch before rising;
- * Run, romp, and play daily;
- * Thrive on attention and let people touch you;
- * Avoid biting when a simple growl will do;
- * On warm days, stop to lie on your back on the grass;
- * On hot days, drink lots of water and lie under a shady tree;
- * When you're happy, dance around and wag your entire body;
- * Delight in the simple joy of a long walk;
- * Be loyal;
- * Never pretend to be something you're not;
- * If what you want lies buried, dig until you find it;
- * When someone is having a bad day, be silent, sit close by, and nuzzle them gently.



Three Things

I don't know much,
But three things I do.
There is a God,
His Word is true,
Stay close to Him,
He'll see you through.

(c) 2002 David Whitehead, Jr.



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 3rd 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



THANK YOU LETTERS ...

December 21, 2012

Dear Congregation:

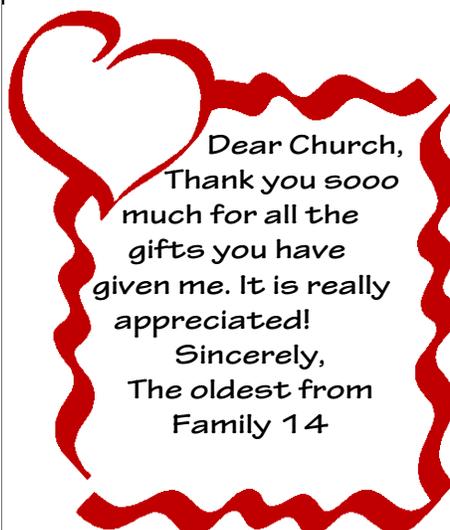
I am the Graduation Coach at Stockbridge Middle School and want to thank you for your kindness and generosity to our students. The Goodness and Groceries program has provided 16 students with meals during the weekend. Your Christmas generosity helped four families celebrate Christmas morning as well as providing them with a scrumptious Christmas meal.

We are in the midst of a time when we wish each other the best and help those who are not as fortunate. This time of year always reminds me of something I already know; however, it is highlighted and gives me a renewed sense of belief: first that life is a gift and second, it is better to give than receive. You, at Stockbridge Presbyterian Church, know this and your spirit sings from your beautiful church as you put into action what the baby in the manger grew up to teach us – compassion. You don't have to do what you do; however, you continue to demonstrate compassion by your actions and for that we-are-forever-grateful.

You have taught our children, our students, their families this life lesson that compassion is not words, it is in the doing of kindness, good deeds, and gratitude that we are reborn and renewed which is what this beautiful season is about.

Please accept my heartfelt thank you and know you make a difference.

Merry Christmas,
Mrs. Ronda Kustick



"BRIDGE FAMILY BASKETS"

With all the hard work and dedication each of you are doing on our new church missions, we have become aware that sometimes the builders of missions (you, our church family) may need a little TLC also. Several of us would like to experiment with an ongoing care basket project. These personalized baskets would be for any of our members or regular attendees that are home bound or undergoing long term illnesses. Each basket would include useful items personally selected for each individual, some of which may be: devotionals, books, cross word puzzles, lotions, teas, games, mints, gum, crayons, coloring books, cards etc.

In addition to these items, a home made blanket, especially designed for our family member would be included with the expressed meaning, that this person is a cherished member of our family and is being prayed for with the warmest thoughts. We will then make plans to visit and deliver each basket as needed. Some blankets will be sewn, some tied, and some knitted or crocheted. Each will be unique and made by as many of you that wish to help. We will need anyone that can sew, cut out patterns, tie knots, purchase materials and anything else the Holy Spirit leads you to do. This means "all of us can do something".

We will meet the third Thursday of each month in the fellowship hall at **10:00 AM, beginning the 17th of January**. Now, the next time you are shopping and come across something that catches your eye, your donation will be greatly appreciated by one of your family members. Nothing expensive, it is the thought we are looking for. And if you want to experience a wonderful fellowship, join us on the 17th of January. This will be a mission in training, so your thoughts and ideas are very important to its success.

If you have any questions, comments or suggestions, please call or email Sue Scheer or Linda Roberts.



The closer we walk with God,
The clearer we see His guidance.





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 JANUARY 2013

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

***FRIENDS & FAMILY:** Pete Bernard, E. C. Burnett, Brandy Conner, Candice Dawkins, Kids at Sandy Hook (Conn), Barbara Fuller, Magel Family, Leland Mauney, Travis & Gregory Pearce, 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 Rattliff, 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 Trickle, 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

GOLD RUSH GANG SPONSORSHIPS

\$10 per person -
due the end of January

*Remember all those cards and memorials
you sent to the sick and sad?*

*Well they wouldn't have been able to be
sent if you had
Not given your dues
To be used*

*To send those cards of comfort and love
So remember 2013 we'll need all of the
above!*

UPCOMING GRG EVENTS



ATTENTION
CHURCH
MEMBERS 50+
Gold Rush Gang
January Event

Chili Luncheon & Video
January 8th, 12:00 PM, Fellowship Hall

*The weather could be frightful,
But the Gold Rush Gang will be delightful!*

*The food will be good,
Just like you knew it would!*

*The day will be relaxing,
No stress no mind taxing!*

*The video will be funny,
And it won't cost any money!*

*You'll enjoy being with friends the whole
time.*

But now I have run out of rhyme!

So I'll close this little note,

With you all being there is our vote!

Let Carol or John Abbott know you'll be
there!

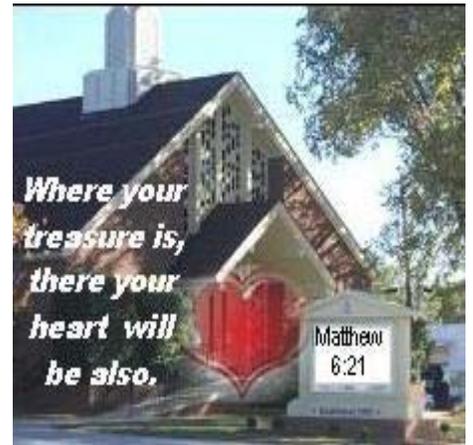


PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR

When I think of the wisdom and scope of God's plan, I fall to my knees and pray to the Father, the Creator of everything in heaven and on earth. I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will give you mighty inner strength through his Holy Spirit. And I pray that Christ will be more and more at home in your hearts as you trust in him. May your roots go down deep into the soil of God's marvelous love. And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love really is. May you experience the love of Christ, though it is so great you will never fully understand it. Then you will be filled with the fullness of life and power that comes from God. Now glory be to God! By his mighty power at work within us, he is able to accomplish infinitely more than we would ever dare to ask or hope. May he be given glory in the church and in Christ Jesus forever and ever through endless ages. Amen.

— Ephesians 3:14-21

B&G Buildings & Grounds
Safety & Security



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



DECEMBER SESSION REPORT

Buildings and Grounds Committee: Jason discussed a request from AARP to use the Fellowship Hall for free all day each Friday from February 1 to April 12 for the purpose of assisting seniors with their income tax preparation. He related that the committee was very concerned regarding the increased cost of electricity and the need for extra cleaning measures. There was also concern expressed regarding the security of the building. Because of these concerns, the committee was not recommending approving this request. Session concurred. Jason will contact AARP with the decision.

Susan expressed her appreciation for the installation of the old church sign on the back outside wall of the church.

Christian Education Committee: No issues or recommendations.

Fellowship Committee: The committee's recommendations for the disbursement of the proceeds from the 2012 Golf Tournament are as follows:

Christmas Outreach (Christmas Baskets)	\$ 900
Vacation Bible School	\$1,000
Prayer Card Ministry	\$ 100
Haven House	\$ 150
Hands of Hope Clinic	\$ 200
Friend's House	\$ 100
Phillip's Tower	\$ 200
Thornwell Children's Home	\$ 300
Goodness and Groceries	\$3,000
Postage for 2013 Golf Tournament	\$ 100
Administrative Costs of Tournament	<u>\$1,000</u>
Total	\$7,050

Session approved the Committee's recommendation and also approved May 16, 2013 as the date of the 2013 Golf Tournament.

Linda proposed starting a program called Bridging the Gap Fellowship. (See article titled Bridging the Gap Fellowship in this Newsletter.) She stated that this would be an activity that would involve individuals of all ages and would hopefully allow participants to discover and celebrate their similarities through mutually enjoyed activities. Session approved. The first "meeting" will be held on Sunday, January 20, 2013 from 2-4:30. Information will be available in the January Newsletter and in the bulletin starting the first Sunday in January.

Stewardship Committee: Kim reported on the November financial statement. She told the Session that not all of the monies in the receipt column were earmarked for the General Fund which skews the numbers a bit. She is hoping that a better system for reporting the financial status of the church can be made in the coming year. This would allow a better understanding of just where funds are held. Betsy expressed concern regarding grant monies which must be held for the fund for which the money was granted. Kim said that she hopes that separate accounts can be used for funds held for designated causes.

Kim announced that the total amount pledged so far this year is slightly more than \$105,080 which is about \$40,000 less than last year and \$70,000 less than the year before last.

Kim and Jim reviewed the church rolls and recommended that 23 individuals be removed due to non participation in the life of the church. Kim remarked that she had not been able to obtain information on whether any of the individuals had contributed to the church in 2012. Therefore, Session approved the list pending information received regarding any donations. It was agreed that Kim and Jim will report back to Session at the January 2013 meeting.

Witness Committee: Sherry reported that Christmas Baskets for 25 needy families (a total of 67 children and 61 adults) will be distributed from 8 AM-1 PM on Saturday, December 15. The grocery baskets will be packed on Wednesday, December 12. Sherry told the Session that she was informed that there was a \$500 anonymous cash donation for Christmas Baskets in the plate on Sunday, December 9.

Session approved Saturday, September 14, 2013 as the date for the Annual Church Yard Sale.

Betsy reported that since Goodness and Groceries was the recipient of \$3,000 from the Golf Tournament proceeds, the program will be able to adopt 50 children from Smith Barnes School starting in January. This will bring the total number of children in the program to 120.

Betsy described a new program called Ready, Set, School which is designed to assist children entering kindergarten with some simple tasks such as numbers, letters, colors, how to write their name, how to use scissors, how to act appropriately in groups, and other necessary tasks that are needed to succeed in school. These children will have been identified through the readiness assessment that all pre K children take and will be for children entering Cotton Indian Elementary School in the fall of 2013. Betsy stated that the funding for this program would come from the Smith Grant and envisions the program would be for 2 days a week for 6 weeks and would be open to 15 students. Volunteers would have to be trained and there would be the possibility to get some assistance from the local retired educators group. Kim expressed concern regarding liability to the church and safety issues. Aaron asked that there be clarification regarding the primary language in the home. Betsy agreed to research the areas of concern and report back to Session in January. Session tentatively approved pending clarification of the concerns and the receipt of the Smith Grant.

Worship Committee: Betsy related that the application for the Smith Grant has been submitted and that the amount requested was \$10,000. Applications will be reviewed at the foundation's January board meeting and the results should be available after that. Grant monies would be

designated as operating expenses for the 2013-2014 school year for Goodness and Groceries and for Ready, Set, School.

Pastor's Report: Susan reminded the Session of Elder Training on January 11, 2013 from 7-9 PM and from 9 AM-3 PM on January 12. She asked that each committee chair and co-chair plan to get together during the training session in order to set goals for the coming year. Installation of Elder elect Arlene Lathrop, John Dunn, and Doug Richardson will take place on Sunday, January 13, during the Worship Service.

Susan reminded Session members of the CPR training session that will be held on Thursday evening, January 24, at 7 PM at Piedmont Henry Hospital. Aaron, Sue, Jim, Jason and Susan will attend.

Susan told the Session that Sherry, Tony, and John will assist with Communion on Christmas Eve.

Susan told the Session that SPC will be the church in the AJC's Church Spotlight on Sunday, January 13.

The Session approved Jim Beisner as Clerk of Session and Sue Scheer as Assistant Clerk of Session for 2013.

Session approved Doug Scott and Doug Richardson as Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer respectively for 2013.

The Stewardship Committee was tasked with the audit of the Financial Records of Youth Group, Presbyterian Women, and the Memorial Fund. Jim will notify the respective treasurers of the date in January when the audit will take place.

Linda Roberts,
Clerk of Session



2013 Session Committee

BUILDING & GROUNDS:

Jason Howard; Carlton Smith

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:

Aaron Roberts

FELLOWSHIP:

Doug Richardson; John Dunn

STEWARDSHIP:

Jim Beisner

WITNESS:

Judy Simmons; Sue Scheer

WORSHIP:

Arlene Lathrop; Kim Seal

OPPORTUNITIES

LITURGISTS:

- Jan 6 Jason Howard
- Jan 13 Allison Johnson
- Jan 20 Allie Dunn
- Jan 27 Cindy Strong

HEAD USHER—JANUARY

Building & Grounds Committee

COMMUNION SERVERS—JAN 6, 2012

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| Jason Howard | Cooper Keller |
| Darin Clipper | Tracey Clipper |
| John Abbott | Carol Abbott |

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP WORKERS

- Jan 6 Keller Family
- Jan 13 Phyllis Howard, Kim & Maegan Seal
- Jan 20 Clipper Family
- Jan 27 Wendy Wells, Mary Thompson

ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

- Jan 6 Elle Roberts
- Jan 13 Allie Dunn
- Jan 20 Alex Seal
- Jan 27 Grace Robertson

BEADLE SCHEDULE

- Jan 6 Doug Richardson
- Jan 13 John Elliott
- Jan 20 Annie Laura Kelly
- Jan 27 Carlton Smith

FRIDAY OFFICE VOLUNTEERS

- Jan 4 Sue Scheer
- Jan 11 Lynn Pack
- Jan 18 Annie Laura Kelly
- Jan 25 Nancy Bryant

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



Early Risers

- Jan 22: Biscuit & Brunch
- Jan 29: 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

- Jan 1 Office Closed
- Jan 3 Bldg & Grnds Comm Mtg
- Jan 8 PW Circle #1
- Jan 8 GRG Chili Luncheon
- Jan 9 PW Circle #2
- Jan 9 Goodness & Groceries r
- Jan 10 CE Comm Mtg
- Jan 10 Stewardship Comm Mtg
- Jan 11-12 Elder Training
- Jan 13 Elder Installation
- Jan 13 Membership Class Begins
- Jan 15 Stated Session Mtg
- Jan 17 Bridge Family Basket Comm
- Jan 21 Office Closed MLK Day
- Jan 22 Early Risers @ CFA
- Jan 29 Early Risers @ B&B



INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP?

If you've been considering calling Stockbridge Presbyterian "home," come and get more information about membership on Sunday, January 13th, 2013, immediately following the 11:00 A.M. worship service. Susan will meet you by the communion table and spend a few minutes exploring what membership means, and answering any questions you've got. 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 ahead of time. See you on January 13th!



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



JANUARY Birthdays

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1/3 Marie-anne Baxter | 1/16 Betsy Sierra |
| 1/4 David Craig | 1/17 Greg Lathrop |
| 1/7 Peggy Campbell | 1/18 Mabel Craig |
| 1/8 Justin Wells | 1/20 Joanne Donaldson |
| 1/10 Jane Rutledge | 1/20 Suzie Wharton |
| 1/10 Quinton Phillips | 1/25 Brad Richardson |
| 1/10 Alex Seal | 1/26 Chris Groce |
| 1/11 Peggy Chase | 1/26 Bob Strong |
| 1/11 Deborah Rosenfeldt | 1/28 Marshall Hembree |
| 1/14 Denese Rodgers | |
| 1/14 Rick White | |



*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

Per Capita Offering

As you know, every year our church is required to donate \$22.00 per member to the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta.



We're very grateful that so many of you have responded to this need, but we're coming back and asking for more of you to step up to the plate! If you haven't yet sent in your 2013 Per Capita check, could you please do so as soon as possible? The check should be made out to Stockbridge Presbyterian Church, with "Per Capita" in the memo line. This annual payment to the Presbytery is mandatory, and your help in covering the expense is more appreciated than you know. Questions? Contact Doug Scott or Susan. And thanks for your help!



FIVE ON THE FIRST ~ JOSEPH'S PANTRY



January 2013



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		 Office Closed 1	2	3	(Sue Scheer) 4	5 5:30 New Glory C.C
SCHOOLS ARE OUT until Jan 7						
(Jason Howard) 6 Communion 	7	10:00 8 PW Circle #1 12:00 GRG Chili Luncheon	9 6:30 G&G 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	10 10:00 Women's Bible Study 4:30 Stewardship 6:00 CE Meeting	(Lynn Pack) 11 7:00 Elder Training	12 9:00 Elder Training 5:30 New Glory C.C.
(Allison Johnson) 13 11:00 Elder Installation 12:00 New Member Class 	14	15 7:00 Stated Session	16 6:00 Youth Study 6:30 G&G 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	17 10:00 Bridge Family Basket Comm	(Annie Laura Kelly) 18	19 1:00 Youth Chall Test 5:30 New Glory C.C.
(Allie Dunn) 20	Office 21 Closed for MLK Day February Newsletter Items Due	9:00 22 Early Risers @ B&B	23 6:00 Youth Study 6:30 G&G 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	10:00 24 Women's Bible Study 7:00 CPR Training	(Nancy Bryant) 25	26 5:30 New Glory C.C.
(Cindy Strong) 27	28	9:00 29 Early Risers @ CFA	30 6:00 Youth Study 6:30 G&G 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	31 10:00 Women's Bible Study		

For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live NEW LIVES. Romans 6:4 NLT ☞ But now we have been released from the law, for we died to it and are no longer captive to its power. Now we can serve God, not in the old way of obeying the letter of the law, but in the NEW WAY of living in the Spirit. Romans 7:6 NLT ☞ He has given me a NEW SONG to sing, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see what he has done and be amazed. They will put their trust in the LORD. Psalm 40:3 ☞ Sing a new song to the LORD, for he has done wonderful deeds. His right hand has won a mighty victory; his holy arm has shown his saving power! Psalm 98:1 NLT

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