



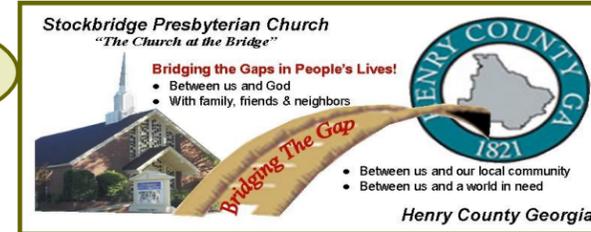
APRIL 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 10:00 PW # 1 6:00 CE Comm. Mtg.	2 6:00 Worship Comm. Mtg. 6:15 PW #2 6:30 G&G 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	3 10:00 Women's Bible Study 7:00 A.A.	4 Girl's & Mom's night out @ Stephanie's house	5 8-12 PM Church Work Day 4:00 New Glory
6 COMMUNION 12:00 Annual Corp Mtg. 12:30 Spaghetti Fundraiser - Youth 5th Sunday in Lent (Jim Beisner)	7 7:00 A.A Meeting	8 10:00 GRG	9 5:30 Fellowship Comm. Mtg 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	10 10:00 Women's Bible Study 4:00 Stewardship Comm. Mtg. 6:30 Bldg & Grnds Comm. Mtg 7:00 A.A. Meeting	11	12 12:00 Easter Egg Hunt 4:00 New Glory
SPRING BREAK - SCHOOL'S OUT						
13 PALM SUNDAY No Youth Group (Jeffrey Cochran)	14 7:00 A.A. Meeting	15 9:00 Early Risers @ B&B 7:00 Stated Session Mtg.	16 5:30 Witness Comm. Mtg. 6:30 G&G 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	17 10:00 Bridge Family Baskets 7:00 Maundy Thursday 7:00 A.A. Meeting	18  7:00 Good Friday Svc.	19 4:00 New Glory
20 EASTER SUNDAY Youth- Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser (Aaron Roberts)	21 7:00 A.A. Meeting	22 9:00 Early Risers @ CFA	23 6:30 G & G 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	24 10:00 BFB 7:00 A.A. Meeting	25	26 4:00 New Glory
27 4:30-6 PM 1st Youth Evening Service (Stephanie Dunn)	28 7:00 A.A. Meeting	29 9:00 Early Risers @ The Plaza	30 6:30 G&G 7:00 Choir Rehearsal			



- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 4/4 Kaitlyn Clipper | 4/22 Phyllis Howard |
| 4/4 Jack White | 4/22 Sarah Mott |
| 4/5 Cole Hembree | 4/22 Savannah Sewell |
| 4/9 Annie Laura Kelly | 4/23 Cindy Strong |
| 4/9 Zachary Smith | 4/25 Joel Bryant |
| 4/10 Hallie Shumate | 4/27 Lee Hart |
| 4/12 Charles Moseley | 4/27 Megan Wells |

*I AM THE Resurrection
AND THE Life,
HE THAT
Believeth
IN ME, THOUGH HE WERE DEAD,
YET SHALL HE
Live.*
~JOHN 11:25



The Church At The Bridge

Rev. Susan Bennett, Pastor

You know the old saying: "God gave us two ears but only one mouth, so we should listen more than we should talk!" I can't really argue with that and often regret, in fact, that I didn't say less and listen more. Scripture warns us again and again about the damage we can do with our words – how we can hurt people, discourage them, make them feel small. (On the other hand, kind words can do tremendous good!) But if we're supposed to spend more time listening, what should we be listening to?

Author and theologian Frederick Buechner wrote a wonderful book called *Listening to Your Life*. It's actually a collection of daily devotions that remind us to pay attention to ourselves and our lives; God will teach us every day from our experiences, our encounters with others, our pain, and our joy. Of course, it's very easy not to pay attention: we're busy, we're distracted, we're paying attention to a hundred different details but we forget to look for God and to listen to what he's teaching us through our lives. Buechner says, "Listen to your life. See it for the fathomless mystery that it is. In the boredom and pain of it no less than in the excitement and gladness, (listen) to the holy and hidden heart of it because in the last analysis all moments are key moments, and life itself is grace." Imagine! God does not call us to stay on the surface of our lives. God calls us to look deep, to be aware, to listen closely for the truths and tenderness he has for us daily.

When someone we love is in trouble or in pain, what we most want is to help them to feel better. Where are the magic words that will lift their spirit and rescue them from their grief? We're in a hurry, and one of the reasons for that is that as soon as they feel better, we can feel better, too. But you know there are never a bunch of easy answers, and hardly ever a quick fix. The greatest gift we can give is simply to have the courage to be there, and to listen. Listen while they tell the same stories over and over, while they ask "why?", while they wonder what will happen to them in the midst of this difficulty. Attentive, caring listening helps people to heal, because they know they're loved and cared for. And listening to others certainly isn't just for sad times! Listen carefully anytime others speak. Possibly you'll learn something; definitely you'll learn to know the speaker better, and perhaps learn to love

them more. Listen when an exciting thing happens to someone and they just have to tell you; listen while someone ponders a decision they have to make; listen when you'd really rather be the one doing the talking. To really listen to someone is to give them a huge gift of love. And good listeners are hard to find.

Maybe I should have put this last one first ... but of course, we must listen to God. He speaks in scripture, in stillness, often when we least expect it. And he's rarely all that dramatic! I believe God wants to be heard and understood; we just have to be willing to listen and really hear him. And the thing to remember is, while we may be waiting for a burning bush or for the heavens to open, God is likely already trying to get through to us by the experiences of our lives and the voices of those around us. We just have to pay attention! If we go through our days aware of God's presence and listening for his Spirit, he won't disappoint us. He does want to speak to us! And if we're listening, we'll hear his voice in so many simple, down-to-earth ways. We just have to be willing to listen.

God bless us all as we take this journey of discipleship together.

See you in church –
Susan

UPCOMING SERMONS

- Apr 6 Psalm 130
Romans 8:6-11
"What's On Your Mind?"
- Apr 13 Palm Sunday
Matthew 21:1-11
Matthew 27:11-54
"The Power of Humility"
- Apr 17 Maundy Thursday
1 Corinthians 11:23-26
John 13:1-7; 31b-36
"A New Commandment"
- Apr 18 Good Friday
Tenebrae Service
- Apr 20 Easter
Jeremiah 31:1-6
Matthew 28:1-10
"Forever and Ever, Hallelujah!"
- Apr 27 Psalm 16
1 Peter 1:3-9
"Brother, Are You Saved?"



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

Jellybeans. Not just ANY jellybean. Starburst jellybeans. You're thinking, Hey, Starburst makes those yummy fruit chews, but what do they know about jellybeans? Oh, they know plenty. You'd think a one pound bag of these tiny gems would last a family of four a week, at least. Nope. If I buy them on a whim and have more than 1 hour before I'm set to arrive home, the only thing that makes it to the house with me is an empty bag and a very satisfied look on my face.

Peeps. Those charming and now multi-colored marshmallow treats that used to only be available at Easter. Now you can get them almost year round and the processing plant shapes them into nearly any animal or imaginary creature. I recall when they were just yellow and they were just baby chickens. The "sugary goodness" that covers them is a bit gritty, but that's forgiven when you taste that fake chicken and immediately tear off the next one from the row.

Cadbury eggs, Hershey's eggs, Nestle eggs, Russell Stover marshmallow eggs, Reese's eggs, and huge, hollow, milk chocolate bunnies. Heck, this is why we have egg hunts for the kids. There's always too much candy for them and SOMEBODY has to finish that stuff off. It's just a bonus that the kids can get a little time to run around and enjoy the spring weather. They more than make up for that small dose of activity by ingesting roughly 2000 calories of sugar immediately afterward.

Despite my obvious sugar addiction, Jesus is my focus when Easter arrives. Holy Week is the most important time of the year for our church. (Yeah, yeah, I've heard of Christmas. Don't even compare the two.) His sacrifice for us can still be hard to comprehend, so it's good that we have a whole week to concentrate on how special Jesus truly was. The spring weather (hopefully it'll be less sporadic by Easter) is a reminder of new beginnings, which is what all of us were given by Jesus on Good Friday. Follow that bittersweet day with the celebration of His resurrection on Easter and of course you should celebrate by decimating your Lenten diet with the various confections I've already mentioned. What? You didn't observe Lent by dieting? Well, let's sit next to each other in church to find out what else we have in common.

Give Holy Week the attention it deserves and keep Jesus in your thoughts in these days leading up to Easter. Our sacrifices seem miniscule next to His suffering, but He loves us anyway. And that is even more comforting than the candy I'll be buying very soon to kick off my Easter holiday. You can enjoy some yourself at our annual Egg Hunt on April 12. Even though I'll be there and surely sneaking many pieces into my own pockets, there'll be plenty for everyone.

Happy Easter.
Aaron Roberts

YOUTH NEWS

HAPPY EASTER EVERYONE!

It's the best time of the year, a time to rejoice in God's beautiful splendor. Everything is coming back to life. Trees and flowers are blooming, people are out playing with their families. The ball fields and soccer fields are full every day! I love this time of year and it puts a little "spring" into my step!

I know several of you have been taken down with allergies. Years ago, when I was younger, I suffered terribly, so I can sympathize. I have been very fortunate because for years now, I haven't had too many issues with it. It's like it just went away and I rarely ever sneeze. I hope you all feel better and can enjoy this beautiful time of the year anyway!

There is a poem of the Dogwood Tree and everywhere I look it seems that's all I see this year. They are in full bloom and they are everywhere! I think this is my favorite sign of the season~

The Dogwood Tree
by Anonymous

When Christ was on earth, the dogwood grew,
to a towering size with a lovely hue.
Its branches were strong and interwoven
And for Christ's cross its timbers were chosen

Being distressed at the use of the wood
Christ made a promise which still holds good:
"Not ever again shall the dogwood grow
To be large enough for a tree, and so

Slender and twisted it shall always be
With cross-shaped blossoms for all to see.
The petals shall have bloodstains marked brown
And in the blossom's center a thorny crown.

All who see it will think of Me,
Nailed to a cross from a dogwood tree.
Protected and cherished this tree shall be
A reflection to all of My agony.

I pray for all of you the ability to wake up every-day and see how precious this life is and the wonderful things God has to offer you. I know if you look at the BIG picture, things can look bleak...but don't stop there...look at the even BIGGER ONE and see all the wonders of God in every nook and cranny.

Have a wonderful Easter Season!

Love to you all,
Stephanie

I would like to wish a very Happy Anniversary to my husband! 30 years ago on April 14, 1984, we were married in this sanctuary. We are very blessed!

2014 SPY'S SUPPORT

Become a SPY Sponsor! Our Mission Trip this year is to Urban Mission Camp at Baytreat - Mobile, AL, June 21-27, 2014 Cost: \$300.00 per person. Any designated amount is greatly appreciated.

Sign up for:	Given
<input type="checkbox"/> Cydnee Keller	
<input type="checkbox"/> Collin Roberts	
<input type="checkbox"/> Alex Seal	
<input type="checkbox"/> Maegan Seal	
<input type="checkbox"/> Savannah Sewell	
<input type="checkbox"/> Katie Southern	
<input type="checkbox"/> Justin Stanley	
<input type="checkbox"/> Mitchell Stanley	
<input type="checkbox"/> Grayson Wages	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bryan Wharton	
<input type="checkbox"/> Stephanie Dunn	
<input type="checkbox"/> John Dunn	
<input type="checkbox"/> Aaron Roberts	
<input type="checkbox"/> Mary Carol Stanley	

Youth Events for April 2014

- Apr 4** Girl's & Mom's night out @ Stephanie's house
- Apr 6** Spaghetti Luncheon Fundraiser
- Apr 12** Easter Egg Hunt-Youth are encouraged to help
- Apr 13** No Youth group
- Apr 20** Easter Sunday Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser
- Apr 27** 1st Youth Evening Service 4:30-6 PM
- May 2** Relay For Life at Union Grove High School

GRG NEWS & EVENTS

Attention: Church Members 50 +
GRG April Event—Tuesday April 8th
Gone with the Wind Museum & Home Tour in Jonesboro
Meet in the Church Parking lot at 9:15 AM
Cost: \$14.95 per person Transportation: \$3.00 per person (cash, please)
Lunch at Butch's on your own

The wind does blow,
The time does go.
The Civil War was a long time ago.
The war was fought, sometimes kin against kin.
And now it's all Gone with the Wind.

The book was written to help keep memory of the war.
And now in the museum we'll see lots more.
Jonesboro was a town with an important part.
For this was where the end of the war would start.

The houses there play a part of this story.
We'll see them as they still stand in their glory.
First, the museum, the home tour,
now we'll even offer you more!
Lunch at Butch's, a good place to eat.
It should really be a real treat!

For 51 years they have been serving good food,
So that should put you in a good eating mood.
We'll all be together and enjoying the day.
With good times, good friends,
good food, you couldn't spend
your time a better way!

Please contact Carolyn Francis by Sunday, April 6th
if you would like to go.

WORSHIP/WITNESS NEWS

Listen, Listen, Listen

Do any of you hear the soft calling of a voice saying "spread my word"? We all hear a hint of this whisper. What would happen if we amplified this voice to the fullest?

We are meeting every third Thursday and will begin every last Saturday of each month, to work together on items to fund the Church Bazaar being held in October. What does this have to do with spreading the word?? All items that we are making by hand, will be sold at the "Festival at the Bridge" in October, and the funds will be used through the Witness Committee, to "SPREAD THE WORD". We need your help. We need ideas, workers, helpers, in one word, we need YOU. Please join us every third Thursday at 10:00 AM and/or every last Saturday at 10:00 AM in the fellowship hall. A couple hours a month will help spread the love of Jesus through our Witness programs, and give you a warm feeling of love, fellowship, and a job well done.

Any questions, please contact Sue Scheer or Linda Roberts.



Saturday, April 12, 2014 at 12 Noon

Thankfully spring is almost here and that means it will soon be time for our annual Easter Egg Hunt for pre-schoolers and elementary school age children. We hope each and every one will be here along with your families and any friends you want to invite for an afternoon of fun together. We will serve lunch at noon, have some games and activities followed by the hunt.

Once again we are requesting donations of candy from the congregation and have placed a basket in the Narthex. Any candy that is individually wrapped and small enough to fit inside a plastic egg will be greatly appreciated. Thank you in advance for your donations – you are always so generous!

PRAYER CARD MINISTRY

Members of Stockbridge Presbyterian Church:

I wanted to express my gratitude to every one who took time out of their busy Christmas season to send me and my fellow soldiers cards for the holidays.

Receiving all of those cards was a beautiful surprise. I hope you will continue to surprise men and women like myself for many Christ-mas to come.

With appreciation for what all of you do,
Merry Christmas, Pvt. Tyler Zutell

SESSION/STEWARDSHIP NEWS

MARCH SESSION REPORT

Clerk's Report: The Consent Agenda was approved with the following corrections. (Attachment III)

(1) Building and Grounds
Approval of the pavilion on May 3, 2014 by Woodland High School Band is contingent on their "Proof of Insurance".

(2) Christian Education
Youth Spaghetti Luncheon Fundraiser for Mission Trip changed to 4/6/14.

Car Wash Fundraiser for Mission Trip changed to 5/10/14.

Addition of Youth Mission Trip scheduled for the week of 6/21/14 through 6/27/14.

Buildings and Grounds Committee:

Jason Howard, chair
No issues or recommendations.

Christian Education Committee:

Aaron Roberts, chair
No issues or recommendations.

Fellowship Committee:

John Dunn, chair; Betty Pickren, co-chair.
No issues or recommendations.

Stewardship Committee:

Jim Beisner, chair.
No issues or recommendations.

Witness Committee:

Sue Scheer, chair; Lee Hart, co-chair.
No issues or recommendations.

Worship Committee:

Arlene Lathrop, chair; Darin Clipper, co-chair.
No issues or recommendations.

Pastor's Report: Susan opened discussion of feedback, problems or issues of our Under Shepherd Lists. No problems were noted.

New Business:

No new business.

Jim Beisner
Clerk of Session



**Vacation Bible School
June 9 - 13, 2014
9 - 12:00 Noon**

Please go ahead and block out the week of **June 9 – 13**, so you and your family will be sure to be here to enjoy Vacation Bible School.

Watch for more details but for now just be sure to be here. You don't want to miss all the fun, excitement, and learning that go on during VBS every year!

FELLOWSHIP/BUILDING & GRNDS

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.

PER CAPITA GIVING

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 2014 by providing a gift of \$22.00 per SPC member. We are again starting our per capita campaign earlier this year and will provide periodic reminders in order to give you ample time to consider your gift.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

BEADLE

- Apr 6 Allison Johnson**
- Apr 13 Aaron Roberts**
- Apr 27 Carol Abbott**

ACOLYTE

- Apr 6 Collin Roberts**
- Apr 13 Lexie Buchan**
- Apr 27 Cydnee Keller**

LITURGISTS

- Apr 6 Jim Beisner**
- Apr 13 Jeff Cochran**
- Apr 20 Aaron Roberts**
- Apr 27 Stephanie Dunn**

HEAD USHER—APRIL 2014

Stewardship Committee

- Apr 6 Sue Scheer**
- Apr 13 Mary Carol Stanley**
- Apr 20 Betsy Sierra**
- Apr 27 Wendy Wells**

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP WORKERS

- Apr 6 Greg Lathrop/Adam Dunn**
- Apr 13 The Keller Family**
- Apr 20 Allie Dunn/Nancy Bryant**
- Apr 27 The Roberts Family**

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



BRUSTER'S and NATHAN'S RELAY SPIRIT DAYS!

Visit Bruster's and Nathan's on Jodeco Road in McDonough on **Wednesday, April 9** or **Wednesday, April 23**. Write SPC Friends team on the back of your receipt and 10% of the purchase total will be donated to our Relay for Life team!! Please spread the word!

**Relay for Life Event - May 2, 2014
@ Union Grove High School**