



JULY 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 9:00 Early Riser @ The Plaza	2 6:00 Worship Comm. Mtg.	3 7:00 A.A. Meeting		5 4:00 New Glory
6 COMMUNION (Darin Clipper)	7 7:00 A.A. Meeting	8 11:30 GRG - B&B/Bingo	9 5:30 Fellowship Comm. Mtg.	10 4:00 Stewardship Comm. Mtg. 6:30 Bldg & Grnds Comm. Mtg. 7:00 A.A. Meeting	11	12 1-2:30 Youth Challenge Testing 4:00 New Glory
13 Youth/Mission Sunday (Youth Group)	14 7:00 A.A. Meeting	15 9:00 Early Risers@ B&B 7:00 Stated Session Mtg.	16 5:30 Witness Comm. Mtg.	17 10:00 BFB/Crafters 7:00 A.A. Meeting	18	19 4:00 New Glory
20 (Allie Dunn)	21 7:00 A.A. Meeting	22 9:00 Early Risers @ CFA	23 5:30 Witness Comm. Mtg.	24 7:00 A.A. Meeting	25	26 10:00 Church Bazaar Work Day 4:00 New Glory
27 11:00 (Cindy Strong)	28 7:00 A.A. Meeting	29 9:00 Early Risers @ The Plaza	30	31		

	7/1 Amy Roberts	7/13 Stacie Smith
	7/4 Peyton Lewis	7/15 Carolyn Francis
	7/5 Laura Mott	7/18 Abigail Newsome
	7/5 Crandall Smith	7/18 Mary Thompson
	7/8 Elizabeth Fuqua	7/20 Carol Abbott
	7/8 Mandy Robertson	7/24 Darin Clipper
	7/10 Krimson Mani	7/25 Mike Seal
	7/10 Jo Price	7/28 Wendy Wells
	7/13 Josh Howard	

Save the Date!
Appointments for pictures for the SPC Directory are on August 5th, 6th, 7th.
More Information to follow.



SPC SPOTLIGHT

The Church At The Bridge



It's only the end of June, and we're already complaining about the heat! I do it, too. Some of these really hot days make me feel like I've been "rode hard and put away wet." I only hope I'll remember this when January comes and I'm complaining about the cold! But this morning I was driving near Rock Quarry Road and noticed the county landscape crews, mowing, weed-whacking, kicking up all kinds of dust ... and then I remembered how spoiled I really am. Imagine having to work outside on days like these!

Hot or not, it's going to be a good summer at SPC. The Fellowship Committee and Session have voted to begin taking photographs and compiling information for a brand new pictorial directory. We'll be working with a company called LifeTouch, which, as far as we can tell, is one of the last companies to do a church directory the "old-fashioned" way. (Well, old-fashioned up to a point ... some of their technology is pretty modern!) There's no charge for this service to individuals or to the church. Photographs will be taken of all members and regular attendees, and the directories will be created and provided to us at no cost. If some of you decide you'd like to purchase pictures for yourselves, LifeTouch will be happy to help you with that. (Although the sales rep has guaranteed there'll be no pressure applied!)

Photographs will be taken August 5-7, and you'll be contacted to set up an appointment time. (Evening appointments will be available for those who work during the day.) There's lots more information to give out about this project, so you'll be kept informed every step of the way. IMPORTANT: Please update your contact information if needed. Many of us move, or change phone numbers or email addresses, and never think to let the church office know. Now's the

Rev. Susan Bennett, Pastor

time to catch up! If you even suspect that your contact information may not be current, please call or email the office. Thanks!

I'm looking forward to seeing all your lovely faces in alphabetical order in our brand new directory! This will also be helpful to our newer members and regular visitors who are still trying to connect faces and names. As I said, more information is on its way, but if you have questions in the meantime, please contact Linda Hodges or Susan.

I'm also looking forward to July 13, which will be Youth/Mission Trip Sunday here at SPC. As I write this, our youth are in Mobile doing hands-on ministry with children, seniors, and the homeless. Their question every evening is: "Where did I see God today?" On July 13, they'll tell us how they each answered that question. AND ... there will be special music every Sunday in July! The choir takes a well-deserved break from regular rehearsals and different, wonderful music is planned for each Sunday. How blessed we are to have Ward, Zach, the Sanctuary Choir, and so many other individuals who are gifted and ready to share their gifts.

Please keep praying for our church, for each other, and for your pastor ... and know I'm praying for each one of you.

See you in church!
Susan

UPCOMING SERMONS

- Jul 6 Psalm 13
Romans 6:12-23
"How to Tell if You're Growing Up"
- Jul 13 Youth/Mission Trip Sunday
- Jul 20 Psalm 119:105-112
Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23
"Growing Pains"
- Jul 27 Romans 7:15-25a
Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30
"Peace In the Valley"



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

I'm positive we live in the greatest country on Earth. There are other nations that have higher test scores and cleaner streets, but we seem to do more things right than everybody else. I have a limited amount of space for this column so it'd be hard to debate if the world needs one country to be its police (but let the record show that I think it does and we're the best candidate for that job) or if we really like to stick our nose in others' business (I think nowadays we look for every reason NOT to intrude but sometimes have no choice).

What other destination is so revered by others that they are willing to float across 90 miles of ocean on inner tubes just to reach its shore? Where else is there a place so great that people are eager to walk hundreds of miles through a punishing desert amongst corrupt law enforcement officials and drug cartels to cross the border for a better life? I tell my kids often that no one is going the opposite way. There's no mass exodus of people from the United States flooding Central America, the Caribbean, Canada, Cuba, or Europe with American immigrants.

We attend a patriotic church, and this probably goes without saying, but we should be happy to live in this country and proud to raise our children here. Life is never easy and hard work is still required to be successful, but the United States gives us the best chance at that success. And, if you disagree with my opinion, our country also gives you the opportunity to do that and let everyone know about it. Happy Independence Day and God Bless the U.S.A.

Aaron Roberts

YOUTH/MISSION SUNDAY

JULY 13, 2014

YOUTH NEWS

Hello to all,

As I write this article for the newsletter, we are in the midst of our Mobile mission trip. Our group is heading out at 6 AM this Wednesday morning to serve at the coffee club. We will be serving breakfast to around 150 homeless men, women, and children.

This has been an emotionally hard week for many of us, so far. Reality hits hard...the reality that there are so many in need, adults and children. The children's part is especially the hardest. Seeing hundreds of children living in chaos at a day camp, just fighting literally for any kind of attention. One couple we have met had lived in their car with their 15 month old son. He has stolen all of our hearts, but especially that of Savannah and Mary Carol, who went out and purchased diapers, wipes, clothes, and a toy for him in hopes of seeing him the next day.

Emotions run high and it can be hard, but it's great to be doing God's work, and remembering that if we do unto the least of these, we also do unto Him.

Please join us July 13 as we share our stories.

And, thank you all for your support, love, and prayers. See you Sunday!

Love,
Stephanie

July Youth Events:

Lake date and swimming party to be determined. Also, we will have a car wash sometime soon.



Chief Warrant Officer Larken Reese is currently deployed to Kabul, Afghanistan. He is a resident of Stockbridge and is a member of the GA Army National Guard's 48th Infantry Brigade Combat Team. He is on our military prayer list.

GRG NEWS & EVENTS



Attention: Church Members 50+
Gold Rush Gang - July Event
Tuesday, July 8th
Meet at B&B at 11:30 AM
Bingo After at the Church
Bring a \$5 Wrapped Gift
Lunch on your own.

B & B is where we'll eat.

In this place you'll have a delicious treat.

Now is the time to say you'll go.

Gold Rush Gang wants you to know.

Of the fun you'll have eating lunch and then playing BINGO!

Please let Betty Pickren know if you plan to attend by Sunday, July 6th.

HOUSE BILL 60

House Bill 60, which expands the number of venues where firearms are permitted, was signed into law by Governor Deal and goes into effect July 1, 2014. Under House Bill 60, places of worship are listed as unauthorized locations for carrying firearms. However, the governing authority of the place of worship may approve the carrying of firearms in the place of worship. The Session of Stockbridge Presbyterian Church initiated discussion on this matter at its May 2014 Stated Session meeting. It was decided at that meeting to take time to research House Bill 60 and pray for understanding and God's guidance. The Session decided at its June Stated Session meeting to keep the sanctuary, Fellowship Hall, offices and the Education Building as unauthorized locations to carry firearms. This decision does not change previous policy at Stockbridge Presbyterian Church.

Jim Beisner
Clerk of Session

WORSHIP/WITNESS NEWS

A WORD FROM WARD

This column is being submitted the day after the June 23 Agape Youth Choir Concert. The group was conducted by my new friend and colleague, Tim Moe, and assisted at the piano by his learned father, Dr. Don Moe. Dr. Moe is a retired music professor from Roanoke College, VA. His lovely wife Gloria is a former oncology nurse. We also had the pleasure of hosting them overnight in our home in Conyers after the event. We were at no loss for words as we talked shop, recognizing common feelings and attitudes about church music, family, and mutual friends. It was akin to "old home week."

Music professor Dr. Don Moe and I shared a common relationship with one of my greatest mentors, Prof. Eric Dalheim, who passed away over a year ago. He knew Eric in Germany while in the army. Eric was my voice coach at the University of Illinois.

But enough about the adults, the kids were marvelous. With only 12 singers, eight girls, four boys, we heard a tonal clarity and musicality rarely found in many choirs nowadays, much less in youth choirs which are uncommon anyway. These kids were talented, well-trained, and blessed with spiritual maturity. I really had a difficult time letting the kids, especially the boys get on the bus to leave, as they made such a fine expressing, singing adeptly in 4 part harmony. The event was enhanced by adept usage of hand-bells, acoustic guitarist Natalie Black, along with our own Stephanie Hyatt on clarinet. Older versions of Josie and Maggie Hyatt also featured in the choir. Conductor Tim Moe appropriately decided to forgo using microphones at all as the choir projected well, never overbalanced by the drums, winds, and guitars. The Moe's thankfully share similar attitudes with me about church music. It is so gratifying to see good work continuing in our day and time.

I am gratified that so many of our people showed up. Having an audience is so very important, and we had a good one. Also, my thanks to the hosts and those who helped with the food arrangements, and publicity.

Finally, I want to share with you the success of our newly created singing assembly which occurs every Sunday morning in the choir room for children and youth. Although the idea started off slowly, it has taken hold, thanks to leaders Diana Taylor and Aaron Roberts. Please parents, bring your kids to Sunday School which starts for them in the choir room at 9:45 a.m. You and your children will be blessed by making the effort of getting them there. We sing songs old and new, from "Do Lord" to "Every Praise." No one is expected to be a great singer, just participate and see where God takes us.

Devoted,
Ward Gailey, Music Director

SESSION/STEWARDSHIP NEWS

Clerk's Report: No communications were received since the last Stated Session meeting. The Consent Agenda was approved. Jim reported on the Presbytery meeting held on May 1, 2014.

Buildings and Grounds Committee:

The following items were approved: Boy Scouts request the use of the upper parking lot, by the pavilion, on May 24, 2014 from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm to work on automotive merit badges.

Tim Chaney's request to use the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall on Sunday, June 8, 2014 starting at 2:30pm for a Pastor celebration..

Christian Education Committee: The Session approved the following:

A Confirmation Class to be held on Sunday, May 25, and Sunday, June 1, 2014. Confirmands will join Stockbridge Presbyterian Church Sunday, June 8, 2014.

Fellowship Committee: John had no issues or recommendations.

Stewardship Committee: The Session reviewed the April 2014 financial statements.

Witness Committee: Sue had no issues or recommendations.

Worship Committee: Arlene had no issues or recommendations.

Pastor's Report: Susan had no report.

New Business: The Session approved retaining Doug Richardson as a member of the Stockbridge Presbyterian Church per G-2.0405, Dissolution of Membership.

The Session discussed Georgia House Bill 60 which allows churches to have concealed weapons on its premises with church approval. It was decided to take the next month for Session members to pray about this issue and vote on the matter at the June Session meeting.

Jim presented a church statistics tracking system approved by the Presbytery to track member growth. The Stewardship committee discussed the pros and cons of the tracking system and recommends to Session that Stockbridge Presbyterian Church not adopt at this time as there are no real benefits for our church. The Session agreed.

Jim lead a discussion to clarify the definition of volunteer hours which Sue through the Witness committee questions. It was agreed that if time devoted to achieving the strategic plan objectives along with preparation time for Sunday School and children's church will be considered volunteer time



Thursday Women's Bible Study Update

Thursday Women's Bible Study will not be meeting during the summer break. It will resume on August 7th.

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 moving into the second half of the year and will provide periodic reminders in order to give you ample time to consider your gift.

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.



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OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

BEADLE

- Jul 6 Kim Seal
- Jul 13 Arlene Lathrop
- Jul 20 Linda Roberts
- Jul 27 Ron Scheer

ACOLYTE

- Jul 6 Lorren Huggins
- Jul 13 Elora Newsome
- Jul 20 Monica Andrea Coutin-Baxter
- Jul 27 Justin Stanley

LITURGISTS

- Jul 6 Darin Clipper
- Jul 13 Annie Laura Kelly
- Jul 20 Allie Dunn
- Jul 27 Cindy Strong

HEAD USHER—July 2014
Building & Grounds Committee

CHILDREN'S SERMON

- Jul 6 Sue Scheer
- Jul 13 Youth Group
- Jul 20 Mary Carol Stanley
- Jul 27 Betsy Sierra

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP WORKERS

- Jul 6 Kim Seal/Phyllis Howard
- Jul 13 Greg Lathrop/Adam Dunn
- Jul 20 The Clipper Family
- Jul 27 Stephanie Dunn/ Diana Taylor

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