#### Stockbridge Presbyterian Church

4740 North Henry Blvd. Stockbridge, GA 30281 Phone: 770.474.7777 Fax: 770.474.7775

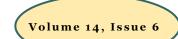
Email: spcusa7777@gmail.com

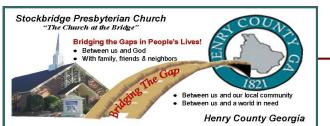


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# JUNE 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 COMMUNION	7:00 A.A. Meeting	6:00 CE Comm. Mtg.	4 6:00 Worship Comm. Mtg. 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	7:00 A.A. Meeting	6	7 4:00 New Glory
(Arlene Lathrop)  8 PENTECOST SUNDAY	9 VBS	10 vbs	11 VBS 5:30 Fellowship Comm. Mtg	12 VBS 4:00 Stewardshp Comm. Mtg.	13 vbs	14 4:00 New Glory
	7:00 A.A Meeting		7:00 Choir Rehearsal	Bldg & Grnds Comm. Mtg 7:00 A.A. Meeting		
(Linda Roberts)		Vacation Bible Schoo	l - Monday thru Fri	day 9:00 a.m Noon		
15 Happy Fathers Day! (Laura Richardson)	7:00 A.A. Meeting	9:00 Early Risers@ The Plaza	18 5:30 Witness Comm. Mtg. 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	19 10:00 BFB 7:00 A.A. Meeting	20	21 4:00 New Glory
22 (Sherry McGee)	7:00 Agape Youth Choir 7:00 A.A. Meeting	24 9:00 Early Risers @ B&B	25 5:30 Witness Comm. Mtg. 6:30 G &G 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	7:00 A.A. Meeting	27	28 10:00 Church Bazaar Work Day 4:00 New Glory
SPY MISSION TRIP—JUNE 21 - 27						
11:00 God & Country Service (John Dunn)	7:00 A.A. Meeting					
6/1 Scott Maccombie John Wells 6/1 Danny Sierra 6/6 Danny Sierra 6/6 Mary Carol Stanley 6/7 Brandy Conner 6/7 John Elliott 6/8 Thelma Newsome 6/10 Charles Fisher 6/11 Lazaro Benitez 6/13 Carly Keller 6/14 Isabella Newsome 6/15 Sandy Smith 6/23 Sarah Belle Lee 6/24 Alice Elliott 6/24 Harper Oglesby 6/25 Betty Pickren 6/20 Setty Pickren 6/20 Betty Pickren 6/21 Denny Sierra 6/22 Sarah Belle Lee 6/23 Sarah Belle Lee 6/24 Harper Oglesby 6/25 Betty Pickren 6/26 Betty Pickren						EDLY, ME.





June 2014

#### **Stockbridge Presbyterian Church**

## The Church At The Bridge

Dear Friends.

The other day I read an article called, "5 Ways the Church Will Change." I don't agree with it 100%, but that's all right -it's certainly worth a look. We're printing it here for you to read and think about. You'll see right away that Stockbridge Presbyterian has already implemented some of the changes described in the article. So here it is, word for word. Let me know what you think!

Is the American church fading away? Will the losses in membership and attendance lead to a marginalized church presence such as that in present-day Europe? What will the American church look like in ten years?

Church leaders, denominational executives, and religion researchers gathered in Colorado recently to examine the church's health and prognosis. The Future of the Church Summit was sponsored by Group Publishing.

After evaluating current trends, Summit members predicted a number of likely scenarios for the American church in the next ten vears:

- 1. Emphasis on relationships. Whereas the church and congregational worship today are largely spectator-oriented, the new coming trend will prioritize spiritual growth through personal relationships.
- 2. **Return to Jesus.** The current church is preoccupied with the "ABCs"—attendance, buildings and cash. A Summit pas- | ture. tor said, "We need to deal with the idols of the church." The coming church will highly focus its mission, goals, measurements and message on Jesus.
- 3. **Community focus.** The church of tomorrow will be much more engaged in addressing the needs in the community. The church will be known more for its members' relational acts of compassion outside of church walls, taking ministry out rather than waiting for outsiders to come in and sit.
- 4. Conversationally oriented. The current church relies primarily on one-way messaging—from the preacher/teacher at the microphone. The new church will rely more on personto-person conversation, sharing messages of God's love with Jun 1 John 10:1-10 one another. Churches will begin to trade pews for conversa-
- 5. Rise of the laity. Shrinking resources will trigger fewer paid ministry positions—and more reliance on unpaid ministry work. The concept of "the priesthood of all believers" will reemerge.

Scott Thumma from the Hartford Institute for Religion Research shared data showing waning church attendance, the aging of congregational membership and the exodus of young people. The churches that are bucking the downward trends tend to be either small (fewer than 200 members), or Jun 22 Genesis 2:1-21 very large (more than 2,000 members).

Thumma also cited that congregations' financial health has declined significantly over the past decade. In 2000 31 percent of congregations exhibited excellent financial health. By

## Rev. Susan Bennett. Pastor

2010 only 14 percent showed excellent financial health. Congregations with high spiritual vitality dropped from about 43 percent in 2005 to 28 percent in 2010, according

To transition to the future. Thumma suggested congregations take a number of actions: create a listening team; get rid of the concept of church committees: learn how to be the church outside of Sunday morning.

Neil Howe, author of "Millennials Rising" and "The Fourth Turning," told Summit attendees that aging Boomers are shaping churches in a direction that young adults in the Millennial generation reject. He said Millennials are looking for environments that emphasize a sense of authentic community, variety of experiences, doing good deeds together, and student-centered learning (not teacher-focused).

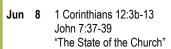
Summit participants heard author Reggie McNeal predict that no one model of ministry will characterize the church of tomorrow. Rather, several different models will emerge to connect with the diverse American culture.

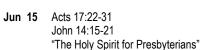
And British church leader and consultant Mike Breen doubted that the American church would go the way of Europe, where the church has withered. He indicated that America's entrepreneurial spirit will provide the drive and the flexibility for the church to survive and thrive in the fu-

Please note: There's not one word in there about worship style or worship music! These are the things we worry most about, and it turns out that they're not the issue we thought they were. I especially like the hopeful last paragraph, and I believe with all my heart that Stockbridge Presbyterian WILL survive and thrive in the future. Keep on praying, and keep on loving one another. God is in control! See you in church -- Susan

## **UPCOMING SERMONS**

Psalm 23 "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner





Romans 6:1b-11 "A Matter of Life and Death"

Jun 29 GOD AND COUNTRY SERVICE



Fathers are wonderful people too little understood, And we do not sing their praises as often as we should.... For, somehow, Father seems to be the man who pays the bills While Mother binds up little hurts and nurses all our ills... And Father struggles daily to live up to "his image" As protector and provider and "hero of the scrimmage"... And perhaps that is the reason we sometimes get the notion That Fathers are not subject to the thing we call emotion, But if you look inside Dad's heart, where no one else can see. You'll find he's sentimental and as "soft" as he can be... But he's too busy every day in the arueling race of life. He leaves the sentimental stuff to his partner and his wife... But fathers are just wonderful in a million different ways, And they merit loving compliments and accolades of praise, For the only reason Dad aspires to fortune and success is to make the family proud of him and to bring them happiness... And like Our Heavenly Father, he's a quardian and a quide, Someone that we can count on

Helen Steiner Rice

to be always on our side.

Happy Father's Day!

#### YOUTH NEWS

Hello to all.

I would like to say thank you for all the cards, prayers, thoughts, and love you have given to me and my family during this very difficult time. It is comforting to know I have such a huge family, and that y'all are here for us.

This is the month we've been working hard to get to. First, on June 8 @ 6pm, we will have our first Youth and Young Adult Service. Cydnee Keller has worked hard to make her vision come to life. I'm very excited about this.

On June 21, we'll leave around 9:30 AM to head to Mobile for our mission trip. If you are free and would like to join our prayer circle for our send off, please join us. We also ask for continued prayers during the week. We will all be launched out of our comfort zone for the week and some days are going to be overwhelming. Pray, pray, pray for us all. And make sure you join us on July 13 for our youth Sunday and hear our stories.

I hope you all have a safe and healthy sum-

Love to you all, Stephanie



## Youth Events for June 2014

Mission Trip meeting @ 6 PM to go over forms and lists. Please attend if your children are going.

Jun 5 Six Flags (Thursday)

Jun 8 Youth & Young Adult Service @ 6 PM Jun 15 Father's Day

Jun 21 - 27 SPY Mission Trip



#### OTHER ACTIVITIES



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



## **Thursday Women's Bible** Study Update

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

#### **AGAPE YOUTH CHOIR**

Remember Stephanie and David Hyatt and their girls? Well, they are coming for a visit along with the entire Agape Youth Choir from their church, Oakland Presbyterian Church in Rock Hill, SC on Monday, June 23. They will be presenting a concert in our sanctuary that evening at 7:00 p.m. We need your assistance in putting up the choir and leaders overnight after the event, provide them breakfast, and then get them back to the church the next morning. The group includes 12-15 youth and 6-8 adults. Already, several choir members have volunteered, but we need more. I know we can do it and it would greatly encourage our young people to

If you can assist, please tell me at church, call(678-414-7381), or email me at wardgaileyiii@gmail.com.



## **GRG NEWS & EVENTS**



Annual ATTENTION: CHURCH MEMBERS 50+ Gold Rush Gang Annual Picnic Tuesday, June 10th at 12:00 PM **Church Picnic Pavilion** Menu: BBQ & all the good picnic stuff provided

What is that wonderful aroma in the air? Smells like a picnic is happening somewhere. Picnics are always so much fun, You get to eat and fellowship with everyone! I love a picnic, there is always so much to do. And should you not get there, we'll sure miss you! So, be sure to mark the date. Come to the picnic and fill your plate! Good friends, delicious food, The most delightful way to gain weight!

Let Joan Scott know if you're coming by Sunday, June 8th.

#### WORSHIP/WITNESS NEWS

The Witness Committee will be gathering items during the month of June to make a gift basket for the "Mr. & Miss Special Henry County Pageant" to auction at their annual silent auction held during their "Special Prom Night" in July.

We have decided to do a large "New Baby" basket and have some items already in our Bazaar inventory. We do need small items as fillers. We would appreciate any donation of diaper pins, rattles, baby tissues, powders, lotions, or any item related to an infant.

Anyone interested in participating in this donation, please bring and place your items in the basket in the church narthex. The money raised during this auction helps the "Special" children, and adults in Henry County continue their education and activities in our community. Last year, this organization welcomed 44 participants from ages 7 months to 67 years and we at SPC had several recipients.

Please call Sue Scheer with any questions.

Luke 14:13-14, "But when you give a reception, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind. and you will be blessed since they do not have the means to repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

#### **Crafters**

Looking for something to do during summer vacation????

Join the "Crafters" of the "Church Bazaar" and "Bridge Family Basket" teams. We meet every third Thursday and every last Saturday of each month to share ideas, talents, and fellowship in making items for our witness program. We need you! There is something for each and every one to do to continue the success of our mission. Call Linda Roberts or Sue Scheer with questions.



Can't believe that Relay is behind us. What a great job everyone did to raise money for The Cure. We had a wrap up meeting last night and we raised \$6560.00. Money is still coming in!!!

I enjoyed our time that evening, when our survivors were able to walk their special lap. This is why we Relay. Thank you Cooper for driving your van for our survivors to ride.

I heard that we had about 30 people at our campsite, at one time, that night!! WOW, It would be awesome to get those people to register for next year.

Again, thank you all for allowing me to be your team captain and be ready to join our team in October.

Love and hugs, Sherry

#### SESSION/STEWARDSHIP NEWS

Clerk's Report: The Session received a letter from Thornwell Home for Children providing an update on their services, an announcement on available General Assembly Mission Restricted Funds for 2014 and an update on the Prayer Card Mission for March

The Consent Agenda was approved. Jim reported the Session minutes for 2013 were reviewed with no exceptions by Presby-

**Buildings and Grounds Committee:** Jason had no issues or recommendations.

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 March 2014 financial state-

The Session approved the following special

One Great Hour of Sharing Offering Pentecost Offering Peacemaking Offering Christmas Joy Offering

Witness Committee: Sue had no issues or recommendations.

Worship Committee: The Session approved an Acolyte Training class on Sunday, April 27, 2014 immediately following worship.

Pastor's Report: Susan initiated a discussion of the church's ongoing support of the Goodness and Groceries mission. She distributed a letter from Betsv Sierra in which she expressed her concern on the reduced congregation support. Jim will prepare a response to Betsy Sierra concerning the Session's interest for the mission and invite her to meet with the Session if she desires to look at the future of Goodness and Groceries.

New Business: The Session approved moving the May 2014 Stated Session meeting from May 20, 2014 to May 13, 2014 due to Susan being on vacation the week of May 19.

The Session approved the purchase of 6 banners at a cost not to exceed \$300.00. Funds will come from the Memorial Fund.

#### **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.

## FELLOWSHIP/BUILDING & GRNDS

## **Every Sunday Morning:**

Breakfast is served beginning at 9:00 every Sunday morning. Come and enjoy the fellow-

Use your hospitality and cooking skills to bless others...signups for cooking are on the refrigerator door in the Fellowship Hall.



spcusa7777@gmail.com

## **OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE**

BEADLE

Carlton Smith Jun Jun Cooper Keller

Jun 15 Terry Holmes

Jun 22 Tony Williams

Sherry McGee Jun 29

Jun 1 Lexie Buchan

Svdnev Hollowav Jun 8

Cvdnee Keller

Jun 15

Jun 22 Elle Roberts

Alex Seal Jun 29

#### LITURGISTS

Arlene Lathrop Jun 1

Linda Roberts Jun 8 **Jun 15** Laura Richardson

Jun 22 Sherry McGee

Jun 29 John Dunn

> **HEAD USHER—June 2014 Worship Committee**

#### CHILDREN'S SERMON

Mary Carol Stanley

**Betsy Sierra** Jun 8

Wendy Wells Jun 15

Jun 22 Aaron Roberts

Jun 29 Stephanie Dunn

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP WORKERS

Stephanie Dunn/Diana Taylor Jun 1 The Keller Family

Jun 15 Allie Dunn/Nancy Bryant

Jun 22 The Roberts Family

Jun 29 Wendy & Megan Wells

THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR SERVICE TO SPC AND