



JUNE 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 COMMUNION (Arlene Lathrop)	2 7:00 A.A. Meeting	3 6:00 CE Comm. Mtg.	4 6:00 Worship Comm. Mtg. 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	5 7:00 A.A. Meeting	6	7 4:00 New Glory
8 PENTECOST SUNDAY (Linda Roberts)	9 VBS 7:00 A.A. Meeting	10 VBS	11 VBS 5:30 Fellowship Comm. Mtg 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	12 VBS 4:00 Stewardship Comm. Mtg. 6:30 Bldg & Grnds Comm. Mtg 7:00 A.A. Meeting	13 VBS	14 4:00 New Glory
Vacation Bible School - Monday thru Friday 9:00 a.m. - Noon						
15 Happy Fathers Day! (Laura Richardson)	16 7:00 A.A. Meeting	17 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 SPY MISSION
22 (Sherry McGee)	23 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	26 7:00 A.A. Meeting	27	28 10:00 Church Bazaar Work Day 4:00 New Glory
SPY MISSION TRIP—JUNE 21 - 27						
29 11:00 God & Country Service (John Dunn)	30 7:00 A.A. Meeting					

HAPPY birthday to you	6/1 Scott Maccombie	6/11 Lazaro Benitez
	6/1 John Wells	6/13 Carly Keller
	6/5 Danny Sierra	6/14 Isabella Newsome
	6/6 Levena Hemmle	6/15 Sandy Smith
	6/6 Mary Carol Stanley	6/23 Sarah Belle Lee
	6/7 Brandy Conner	6/24 Alice Elliott
	6/7 John Elliott	6/24 Harper Oglesby
	6/8 Thelma Newsome	6/25 Betty Pickren
	6/10 Charles Fisher	



SPC SPOTLIGHT

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 years:

- 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 pastor 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 person-to-person conversation, sharing messages of God's love with one another. Churches will begin to trade pews for conversation tables.
- 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 re-emerge.

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 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 Thumma.

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 future.

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

Jun 1	John 10:1-10 Psalm 23 "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner"	
Jun 8	1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 John 7:37-39 "The State of the Church"	
Jun 15	Acts 17:22-31 John 14:15-21 "The Holy Spirit for Presbyterians"	
Jun 22	Genesis 2:1-21 Romans 6:1b-11 "A Matter of Life and Death"	
Jun 29	GOD AND COUNTRY SERVICE	

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

Fathers Are Wonderful People

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 grueling 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 guardian and a guide,
Someone that we can count on
to be always on our side.

Helen Steiner Rice

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 summer.

Love to you all,
Stephanie



Youth Events for June 2014

- Jun 4 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



WomenLivingWell.org

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 resume 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 sing!

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



GRG NEWS & EVENTS



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 2014.

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

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 statements.

The Session approved the following special offerings:

- 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 Betsy 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, 2014.

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 fellowship. 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

- Jun 1 Carlton Smith
- Jun 8 Cooper Keller
- Jun 15 Terry Holmes
- Jun 22 Tony Williams
- Jun 29 Sherry McGee

ACOLYTE

- Jun 1 Lexie Buchan
- Jun 8 Sydney Holloway
- Jun 15 Cydnee Keller
- Jun 22 Elle Roberts
- Jun 29 Alex Seal

LITURGISTS

- Jun 1 Arlene Lathrop
- Jun 8 Linda Roberts
- Jun 15 Laura Richardson
- Jun 22 Sherry McGee
- Jun 29 John Dunn

HEAD USHER—June 2014
Worship Committee

CHILDREN'S SERMON

- Jun 1 Mary Carol Stanley
- Jun 8 Betsy Sierra
- Jun 15 Wendy Wells
- Jun 22 Aaron Roberts
- Jun 29 Stephanie Dunn

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP WORKERS

- Jun 1 Stephanie Dunn/Diana Taylor
- Jun 8 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 GOD'S KINGDOM