

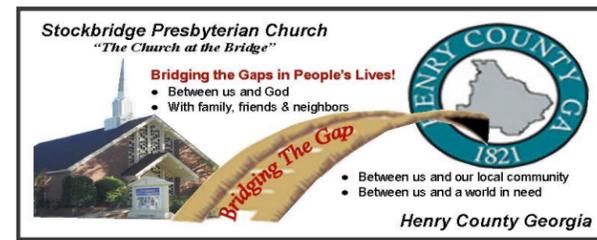
goodbye, august  
hello, september

SEPTEMBER 2015

| Sun  | Mon  | Tue  | Wed   | Thu   | Fri                      | Sat  |
|--|--|--|---|---|--------------------------|--|
|  |  | 1<br>10:00 - PW#1 Circle<br>7:00 - Boy Scouts  | 2<br>7:30 AM - AA Mtg.<br>6:00 - PW#2 Circle<br>7:00 - Choir Rehearsal                                  | 3<br>10:00 - Women's Bible Study<br>7:00 - AA Mtg.  | 4<br>7:00 - Girl Scouts  | 5<br>1 - 2:30 Youth Challenge Testing                                |
| 6 Communion<br><br>(Doug Richardson)                               | 7<br>LABOR DAY<br>(Office Closed)<br><br>12:00 - OA Mtg.<br>7:00 - AA Mtg. | 8<br>7:00 - Boy Scouts   | 9<br>7:30 AM - AA Mtg.<br>9:15 - GRG - Cannonball House<br>5:00 - G&G Resumes<br>7:00 - Choir Rehearsal | 10<br>10:00 - BFB<br>7:00 - AA Mtg.                 | 11<br>7:00 - Girl Scouts | 12<br>8 - 1:00 Annual Church Yard Sale & Boy Scout Pancake Breakfast |
| 13<br><br>(Jeffrey Cochran)  | 14<br>12:00 - OA Mtg.<br>7:00 - AA Mtg.                                    | 15<br>9:00 - Early Risers @ The Plaza<br>7:00 - Stated Session Mtg.<br>7:00 - Boy Scouts | 16<br>7:30 AM - AA Mtg.<br>5:00 - G&G<br>7:00 - Choir Rehearsal   | 17<br>10:00 - Women's Bible Study<br>7:00 - AA Mtg. | 18<br>7:00 - Girl Scouts | 19<br>8 - 1:00 Church Work Day                                       |
| 20<br>12:00 - Annual Budget Meeting<br><br>(John Dunn)             | 21<br>12:00 - OA Mtg.<br>7:00 - AA Mtg.                                    | 22<br>9:00 - Early Risers @ CFA<br>7:00 - Boy Scouts                                     | 23<br>7:30 AM - AA Mtg.<br>5:00 - G&G<br>7:00 - Choir Rehearsal   | 24<br>10:00 - Women's Bible Study<br>7:00 - AA Mtg. | 25<br>7:00 - Girl Scouts | 26   |
| FALL BREAK - SCHOOL'S OUT  |  |  |   |   |                          |  |
| 27<br>12:00 - Reception for Zachary Smith<br><br>(Carolyn Francis) | 28<br>12:00 - OA Mtg.<br>7:00 - AA Mtg.                                    | 29<br>9:00 - Early Risers @ The Plaza<br>7:00 - Boy Scouts                               | 30<br>7:30 AM - AA Mtg.<br>5:00 - G&G<br>7:00 - Choir Rehearsal   |   |                          |  |



- |                         |                        |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Sep 3 Terence Ojong     | Sep 22 Valerie Atong   |
| Sep 4 Tami Pass         | Sep 24 Mike Bailey     |
| Sep 6 Richard Maccombie | Sep 24 Jason Strong    |
| Sep 6 Linda Roberts     | Sep 26 Noah Clipper    |
| Sep 11 Matt Howard      | Sep 26 Jason Stanley   |
| Sep 11 Vivian Maccombie | Sep 27 Lee Watson      |
| Sep 12 Sue Scheer       | Sep 28 Doug Richardson |
| Sep 13 Ron Scheer       | Sep 29 Erin Freeman    |
| Sep 13 Linda White      | Sep 29 Sara Moseley    |
| Sep 14 Tom Francis      | Sep 30 Gene Ingram     |
| Sep 17 Emiliano Freeman | Sep 30 Chris Mott      |
| Sep 21 Alisa Newsome    | Sep 30 Cathy Wegner    |



The Church At The Bridge



Even though we knew we couldn't keep him forever, it's still going to be very hard to say goodbye to Zach Smith, our gifted Musician here at SPC. Zach came to us a few years ago and we've all learned to appreciate him very much: first as a breathtakingly talented organist and pianist, but also as a delightful person whom we've come to love. Not only is Zach's playing technically impressive, but he has a way of putting heart and soul into his music that touches each of us and helps us feel closer to God. He's been just wonderful.

But there's another side to Zach's nature which is also a gift from God and also needs to be trained and nourished. He's a high-tech wizard! Zach's on his way to San Francisco for a "boot camp" experience, rigorous training in computers and software programming, which will help him land (Lord willing!) one of those fascinating, high-paying jobs in places like Silicon Valley or the like. When you hear Zach play piano or organ, it's hard to imagine that he'd ever want to do anything else, but he also loves computers and has a definite gift in computer technology. So we send him off regretfully, but also with understanding and our very best wishes for an exciting, fulfilling career and life.

Zach's last Sunday with us will be September 27th, 2015. He'll assist with Wednesday evening rehearsals and play every Sunday morning till then, so you'll have plenty of time to see and appreciate him before he leaves. After worship on the 27th, the Worship/C.E. Committee is hosting a reception for Zach in Fellowship Hall. The committee will provide the meat dishes and beverages, and you're all requested to bring a side dish and/or a dessert to share. Do plan to attend! We want Zach to know how much he's loved and will be missed, and to have a chance to thank him formally for the goodness he's brought to SPC.

Interviews are underway for a new musician, and the hope/plan is to have the new person begin on Wednesday, October 7th. It's at moments like these that we're especially blessed to have Ward with us! With his help, we're hoping this will be a smooth transition. We'll all miss Zach, but we believe God will send us just the right person, a gifted musician who loves traditional worship and is looking for a group of folks to serve and fellowship with. Keep praying!

In other news ... the new SS class, taught by Laura Richardson, is going strong! Topics so far have

SPC SPOTLIGHT

Stockbridge Presbyterian Church

Rev. Susan Bennett, Pastor

included Cecil the lion and the Planned Parenthood controversy. Remember that this class has scripture and discussion as its foundation. And I hear folks have lots to say!

THE YARD SALE IS SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12th. It's time to scour your garage, attic, closets, and cupboards for items that may be trash to you but treasure to someone else. Plus, bring your homemade baked goods for the bake sale! Check the announcement sheet and/or call Arlene (770-362-9082) for details. Help is needed on Friday, September 11th for setting up and pricing, and for sales shifts and clean up on Saturday. Proceeds help fund our SPC mission ministries. It's a huge community event. Don't miss it!

Finally ... 78 children from Cotton Indian Elementary, Smith Barnes Elementary, and Stockbridge Middle School will be receiving weekend food from our Goodness and Groceries ministry, beginning September 9th at 5:00. The work is quick and easy and it's fun to be together! Come and help.

Even though January 1st is months away, September always feels like a time of new beginnings, doesn't it? So let me tell you again how much I love you all and what a joy it is to serve God with you here at SPC. You're a great congregation, and it's a privilege to be with you.

See you in church --

Susan

UPCOMING SERMONS

- |        |   |
|--------|---|
| SEP 6  | Rev. Al Myers<br>Guest Preacher                         |
| SEP 13 | James 1:1-7<br>1 Kings 3:3-14<br>"Ours For the Asking"  |
| SEP 20 | Theological Education/Seminary Sunday<br>Guest Preacher |
| SEP 27 | Guest Preacher  |



**GOLD RUSH GANG**

**Attention: Church Members 50 + Gold Rush Gang - September Event Wednesday, September 9th The Cannonball House & Lunch at Molly's (Lunch on your own) Cost: \$4.00 Transportation: \$4.00\*\* Meet in the church parking lot @ 9:15 AM**

A cannonball went up in the air,  
And hit the house right there.  
Where is the "there" you say to me.  
Well, come along on the Gold Rush Gang trip  
And you will see!  
You'll also see a beautiful home,  
And even lovelier gardens to roam.  
There was a battle from a war we all know.  
This war of the states had so much sorrow.  
After Sherman's army marched  
On their path through Atlanta  
On their way to Savannah  
There was a town called Macon on the way  
And during the battle the cannonball  
hit the house, so they say.  
So on Wednesday, September 9th,  
We'll be on the way!  
We'll also be able to stroll  
The garden ground  
And see the artifacts from  
the battle that were found.  
Then there is lunch,  
For this great Gold Rush Gang bunch!  
Molly's is the place  
Where we will say grace,  
Then we'll all proceed to eat.  
Trust me the whole trip  
Will be a fun treat!

Let Carolyn or Tom Francis know if you plan to attend by Sunday, August 30th.

\*\* Day of trip cost could be an extra \$2.00.

 Are you ready? Goodness and Groceries will resume **September 9th at 5:00 pm** in the Fellowship Hall. We continue to partner with Smith Barnes Elementary, Cotton Indian Elementary, Stockbridge Middle School, and Food Depot to provide food for students who need it over the weekends. This is such a blessing to these families, and the schools wanted me to relay their appreciation to all of you. This will begin the third year of this ministry which keeps children in our community from being hungry on the weekends. Come help us as we pack groceries, write notes of encouragement, load bins of groceries into cars, and enjoy each other's company.

**Matthew 25:40** tell us: "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'"  
**\*\*Please Note Date Change\*\***

**ADVENT CRAFT SALE**  
November 29, 2015  
In the Fellowship Hall, immediately following the Worship Service.

**YOUTH NEWS**

Hello to all,  
For some reason, the words "Be the light" keep appearing in my daily life. Last month I challenged you all to be "the light" in some form or fashion and I'm just wondering how you did. I want to share with you the mini sermon I did on July 19th. I want you to read my words and hopefully understand what God's light has done in my life. I pray that each one of you has the opportunity to feel this light and share this light with others.

*"I want to be in the light as YOU are in the light  
I want to shine like the stars in the heaven,  
oh Lord be my light and be my salvation,  
all I want is to be in the light..."*

Do those words ring as true to you as they do for me? When I'm driving in my car, I always listen to Pandora, I love Pandora, modern technology. My new favorite station is that of the cover group called Anthem Lights. I really enjoy their music, acoustic remakes of popular and older songs.

One day the song "Into the Light" came on and I instantly knew I wanted Savannah and Cydnee to sing it. I guess this song hit me because the words seemed personal to me. In the very first line it says, *"I keep trying to find my life on my own apart from you."*

I myself have practiced this for many years until I discovered that I just couldn't do it. I needed to be in that light, I needed God's light to survive my life.  
So, I fought hard to find that light...I tried doing things, changing things and being someone that really wasn't me and still, I felt like I was in the dark. My life was in turmoil, I wasn't really happy. Maybe on the outside it appeared that way, but not in my heart.

Another line, *"Tell me what's going on inside of me, I despise my own behavior"*. I to despise my own behavior...I was so busy trying live up to everyone's expectations of me that I lost who I was... I was in the dark! I was lost! I was weighted down and was getting tired. I needed something.

Next verse, *"This only confirms my suspicions, that I'm still a man in need of a savior"* I've always known I've had a savior from as far back as I remember. I had been saved and saved again, altar call, after altar call. I was raised Baptist and as a young teenager, I re-affirmed my faith many times...but I never really got it, or understood what God's light is. Several years ago I went on my first mission trip to Mobile, Alabama. I did something I had never done or ever even thought about doing. I went to a strange town, with a bunch of teenagers, to a new church and worked with numerous homeless men and women, special needs adults, and a bunch of wild little children starving for attention and affection. Year after year I traveled with the youth to several states and worked hard helping in so many different settings. I've watched our little church's youth spread their arms open wide and leave their mark on that town. I've watched a lot these young kids grow into remarkable adults and hope that in some way these mission trips helped to make

**YOUTH NEWS**

them the people they have become.  
Then the revelation hit me...Is this it? Is this the light I've heard about? Is this God's light shining through us to others we encounter or Is this God's light shining from the ones we encounter on to us? God's light is in every one of us...even when we feel that darkness has consumed us.

The week before our trip the horrible church shootings in SC happened. Nine members were shot and killed after a Bible study by a young man they welcomed into the group without a second thought...Our hearts were heavy. The week went on and we lost 3 members of our own church family; Allison Johnson, Jim Newsome and Carolyn Waits. When the news came of Jim Newsome's passing, it was especially hard because I knew we had to let Alex and Maegan know that their grandfather was gone. They were heartbroken and many tears were shed. I know it's never easy losing your loved ones. I knew that Maegan and Alex wanted to be with their family. I also knew that God put them and us right where we needed to be. That night was a hard night and I prayed for guidance, how was I going to handle this, how was I going to help Maegan and Alex get through this...but as I watched it unfold, I knew that God's light was shining in the midst of that darkness. The group gathered together, sat quietly with Maegan and Alex, no words were needed, just each other's presence. Then one by one the words came, the tears came, more words and then the laughter came...and then God's light was shining bright because the Love we all felt for each other was so powerful that night! I hope Maegan and Alex realize how much we all love them.

Scripture says: "God is light; in him there is no darkness at all." Did you hear that? "God is light and in Him there is NO DARKNESS AT ALL..." With God there is no darkness...AT ALL! Amen.

Love to you all,  
Stephanie



**September Events**

- SEP 6 No Youth
- SEP 13 Lunch and a movie at Church
- SEP 19 or 26 White water rafting



**Circle #1** meets the 1st Tuesday @ 10:00 AM in the Parlor, September - June  
**Circle #2** meets 1st Wednesday @ 6:00 PM in Parlor, September - June

**WITNESS**



**SPC Yard Sale  
September 12, 2015  
8:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

It is time to start cleaning out your closets, attics, and sheds to prepare for the yard sale. We are a little over a month away, so you have plenty of time to get your items together.

We also need your delicious baked goods for the bake sale, as well as volunteers to set up and to work the yard sale. The proceeds from this fundraiser help to fund the many SPC Community Outreach programs.

Please contact Arlene Lathrop at 770-362-9082 to put your name on the volunteer schedule, or via email [alathrop@kslaw.com](mailto:alathrop@kslaw.com) or [aalathrop@yahoo.com](mailto:aalathrop@yahoo.com)



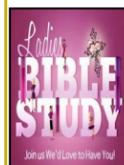
Boy Scouts Annual Pancake Breakfast  
September 12, 2015  
8:00 AM - Noon

Did you know Joseph's Pantry has been part of our outreach missions here at SPC since 1983? It has been funded mostly by your generous donations, with some food drives from our local schools, and help from fellow churches on occasions.

When it first opened, there were very few requirements passed if anyone came to the church and was hungry, they were served with whatever we could supply. As time and quantities of families needing help increased, we had to limit the food to emergency needs only. We currently supply enough can foods and perishables to help recipients while waiting for government assistance once every six months, serving Henry County residents only.

We assist approximately 14 families per month, or a total of 50 to 60 individuals. The "5 cans on the First Sunday" program our church family provides helps with the food that is distributed. Canned items purchased to supplement those donated and vouchers for perishable items cost between \$15 and \$20 per family, or between \$4,000 and \$5,000 per year. You have all been very faithful in your support of this mission, and we hope you will continue. We are seeing more and more families in need, and we find it very difficult to deny our help to anyone. So, don't forget your cans on the first Sunday of each month, and earmark your checks to Joseph's Pantry, whenever possible.

Feed my Sheep is only one of Jesus' request to us, but it is one we can easily do. It is extremely hard for someone who is hungry to see God's love. Let's keep helping God's love shine through this hunger by this mission.



The Women's Bible Study group meet on the 1st, 3rd, 4th, and 5th Thursday of the month at 10:00 AM in the conference room.

**SESSION/STEWARDSHIP NEWS**

**Clerk's Report**

The Session received no correspondence in June.

**Resources Committee**

The Session approved the Boy Scouts to use Fellowship Hall on 11/14/15 from 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

**Witness Committee**

No issues or recommendations.

**Worship and Education Committee**

The Session approved Carly Keller to deliver the sermon on Sunday, August 15, 2015.

**Pastor's Report**

Susan had nothing to report.

**New Business:**

The Session elected Aaron Roberts and Arlene Lathrop to chair of the Elder Nominating Committee.

Darin presented a request from AA to hold meetings on Friday evenings from 9:00—10:00 PM. Discussion ensued with Lee presenting why AA wants to add a Friday meeting. The Resources Committee recommends denying the request because the Girl Scouts meet from 6:00 - 8:00 PM and the time between the 2 meetings would not be sufficient to tear down and set up. There are also late night security issues. The Session voted to deny the AA request with one abstention.

The Session approved Laura Richardson to teach an adult Sunday School class focused on current events during regularly scheduled Sunday School time.



**LIST OF ITEMS NEEDED**

- Adult-size backpacks
- 1" and 2" 3-ring binders in any color
- Sharpie thin black markers
- 4"x6" and 3"x5" index cards
- Expo Markers
- Pencil pouches, the kind that clip right into binders, flat with a zipper
- CRAYOLA markers
- CRAYOLA colored pencils
- Glue sticks

Where a specific brand is indicated, please just purchase that particular brand. The backpacks should be plain in different colors, as they are for middle & high school students.

The collection point for your donations will be in the left rear corner of the Fellowship Hall. This will be a year round drive, with items being taken to the Henry County Schools Homeless Liaison, Lynn Moses, periodically.

If you have any questions, please contact John Dunn, Arlene Lathrop, or the church office.

**FELLOWSHIP**



Every Sunday morning at 9:00 AM a delicious breakfast is served in the Fellowship Hall. This is a wonderful time of fellowship. Please consider signing up to prepare a breakfast one Sunday. The sign up sheet is located on the refrigerator in the fellowship hall.



Jackie Hoffmeier and her family would like to thank the members of Stockbridge Presbyterian Church for the many prayers during the loss of her husband Paul.



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2015

8:00 - 1 PM  
Light breakfast and lunch provided.

**OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE**

**BEADLE**

- Sep 6 Tony Williams
- Sep 13 Annie Laura Kelly
- Sep 20 Carlton Smith
- Sep 27 Cooper Keller

**ACOLYTE**

- Sep 6 Marie Anne Lafaye Coutin-Baxter
- Sep 13 Elle Roberts
- Sep 20 Lorren Higgins
- Sep 27 Collin Roberts

**LITURGISTS**

- Sep 6 Doug Richardson
- Sep 13 Jeffrey Cochran
- Sep 20 John Dunn
- Sep 27 Carolyn Francis

**HEAD USHER - SEPTEMBER 2015**

Darin Clipper - Resources Committee

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

- Sep 6 Aaron Roberts
- Sep 13 Tami Pass
- Sep 20 Sue Scheer
- Sep 27 Stephanie Dunn

**CHILDREN'S WORSHIP WORKERS**

- Sep 6 Diana Taylor
- Sep 13 Tami Pass & Alisa Newsome
- Sep 20 Phyllis Howard & Kim Seal
- Sep 27 Cathy Rasar