



THE WINDOW



THE NEWSLETTER OF FORT HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH * CLEMSON, SC 29631 * (864) 654-2061

Holy People! Holy Place! Holy Ground!

When the Lord saw that Moses had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush; he looked and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And Moses said "Here I am." Then God said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." God said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob."

(Exodus 3:3-6)

In the Bible Moses removes his shoes when he encounters the Holy One, God. He knows that through this experience he is standing on holy ground for God is speaking to him. Moses hears a call upon his life, and responds, "Here I am."

On August 16, 2009 I was installed as Pastor of Fort Hill Presbyterian Church. I knew I was standing on holy ground. I have never done this before in worship, but I took off my shoes. Through the music, the prayers, the preaching, and your presence, I was moved. Serving God makes us do "foolish" things as our preacher, Chuck Campbell, reminded us. I was so moved by the story of the barefoot preacher in Korea, who preached a message of salvation to his hearers. "Jesus Saves. No more two Koreas. No fear." I was so moved by the example of such a foolish message that we carry into the world. We proclaim a cross. Weakness is power. In dying we know life.

I decided that I did not care if I looked foolish. I was surrounded by so many old and new friends. Friends who have encouraged me in my faith walk. I am called to serve and servants are humble and sometimes barefoot. We follow the one who calls us friends. He washes our feet, taking the form of the servant. He offers his own body and blood to us to nourish and sustain us as we seek to follow. We are baptized into a foolish faith.

So I will continue to do foolish things. I hope you will, too.

Dance in the face of sorrow.

Sing in the face of fear.

Follow in the footsteps of Jesus....

...doing your part as a bit player in this unfolding drama where God stands center stage.

Laura Conrad

September 2009

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THE WINDOW

Fort Hill Presbyterian Church

399 College Avenue

Clemson, SC 29631

864-654-2061

www.forthillchurch.org

Laura Conrad, Pastor

Bill Gause, Associate Pastor for University Ministry

Mary Gause, Associate Pastor for Christian Education

Rodney Norris, Associate Pastor for Youth and Young Adults

Pansy Duke, Parish Visitor

Jack Stevenson, Pastoral Counselor



September Circles of Care Luncheon

Deacons Janet Bean, Debbie Collins, Audrey Thompson and Suzan Simmons along with Shepherds Anne Cash, Arlene Cheatham, Tommi Jones, Sue Limber, Joy Newton, and Marty Winters invite their Circles of Care members to a potluck luncheon immediately following the 10:30 am service on Sunday, 20 September, 2009, in Tartan Hall. Each family is asked to bring one covered dish – enough to feed 8 people. That dish could be a main dish, vegetable, salad, sandwiches or dessert. Expect a phone call from your shepherd or deacon inviting you and yours to lunch!



Second Sunday Suppers (S³)

The Fellowship Ministry invites you to mark your calendars for the first Second Sunday Supper (formerly First Sunday Night Dinners) of the 2009/10 year. Join us on Sunday evening, September 13th at 5:30 pm in Tartan Hall for an evening of catching up, reconnecting, and enjoying our church family. Please bring a covered dish to share (BBQ and drinks will be provided). Tartan Hall and the courtyard will be open for your dining pleasure!!! We hope you will come and help us kick off our S³ Season (Second Sunday Suppers – get it?).

October 2009 WINDOW DEADLINE

The deadline for articles, announcements, and features for the October 2009 issue of *The Window* is Friday, September 18. Please email your item as a Microsoft WORD document (.doc) to Amy Elrod at window@forthillchurch.org. or type the item directly into your email and send. If you don't have access to a computer, please leave the item in *The Window* mailbox in the FHOG office.

To learn more about our denomination
go to www.pcusa.org



Church Mouse

Hi Fort Hill Folks!

My! August turned out to be such a busy month. I missed the Ice Cream Social that PASTOR MARY had at the end of August but I know it was great. Be sure to thank those who helped her make it great success.

I saw those nice ladies DONNA CRADER and PHYL STEVENSON working on getting communion ready to be served at the beginning of August. Did you know that PHYL STEVENSON bakes the loaf of bread used in our communion? Also helping were BOB and NAN JONES, JAY JONES, RAENOTA MERRILL, PANSY DUKE, BOB MIXON, JOHN SPRAGINS, CHRIS BANDY, ROBIN DENNY, and ALICE THALHEIMER.

Then the next Sunday the youth (both Junior and Senior highs) prepared and performed the service. It takes a lot of preparation to be all ready and PASTOR RODNEY did a great job helping the youth. Give a special bit of thanks to these talented youth: MARY COURTNEY NORRIS, KRISTINA BECKER, ROSS DAVIS, FINELY WILES, MADISON POTTS, SAM BURCHFIELD, ELIZABETH HAWTHORNE, ASHLEY JARRETT, EMILY MARTIN, COLIN PETTIGREW, MIMI BORICK, WILLIAM SPITLER, COREY MCCUBBIN, JAKE CROWTHER, MEGHAN HOLLAND, MICHAEL BLACKWELL, REEL ADAMS, AUSTIN ADAMS, JONATHAN MUDGE, BEN and ANNA WOFFORD and SAMANTHA YOUNG.

The week following that PASTOR MARY had the Camp at the Fort for children in grades 2 to 6. They worked on mission items and did various crafts. Those who helped were PASTOR MARY, KAREN SAWYER, KRISTIN MCINNIS, CHRYSSA RUTLAND, BRYAN YOUNG, MAGGIE BANDY, MIMI BORICK and VIRGINIA ELLIS. It was so much fun running between Bethlehem Hall and the Youth Room. I certainly wore my little legs off running here and there to see just what they were doing.

Then the very next Sunday was a special day for PASTOR LAURA. She was installed as the 11th senior pastor at Fort Hill. Many contributed to making this a memorable day for her. The ELDERS and the DEACONS provided the food for the breakfast and then for the reception that followed the service with ROSE ROSS directing. The following from Fort Hill were in the service: TOM SCOTT, WILLIAM SPITLER, HAZEL SPARKS, BETH TUMBLIN, PASTOR MARY, PASTOR BILL, PASTOR RODNEY and BRUCE WHISLER, who played beautiful songs on his trumpet. Then towards the end of the service a lot of elders came forward for the "laying on of hands" when asked to come up by my old friend PASTOR STEVE who used to be down at the PSA Center.

Wow! That's over 50 people to thank. That ought to keep you busy for a while.

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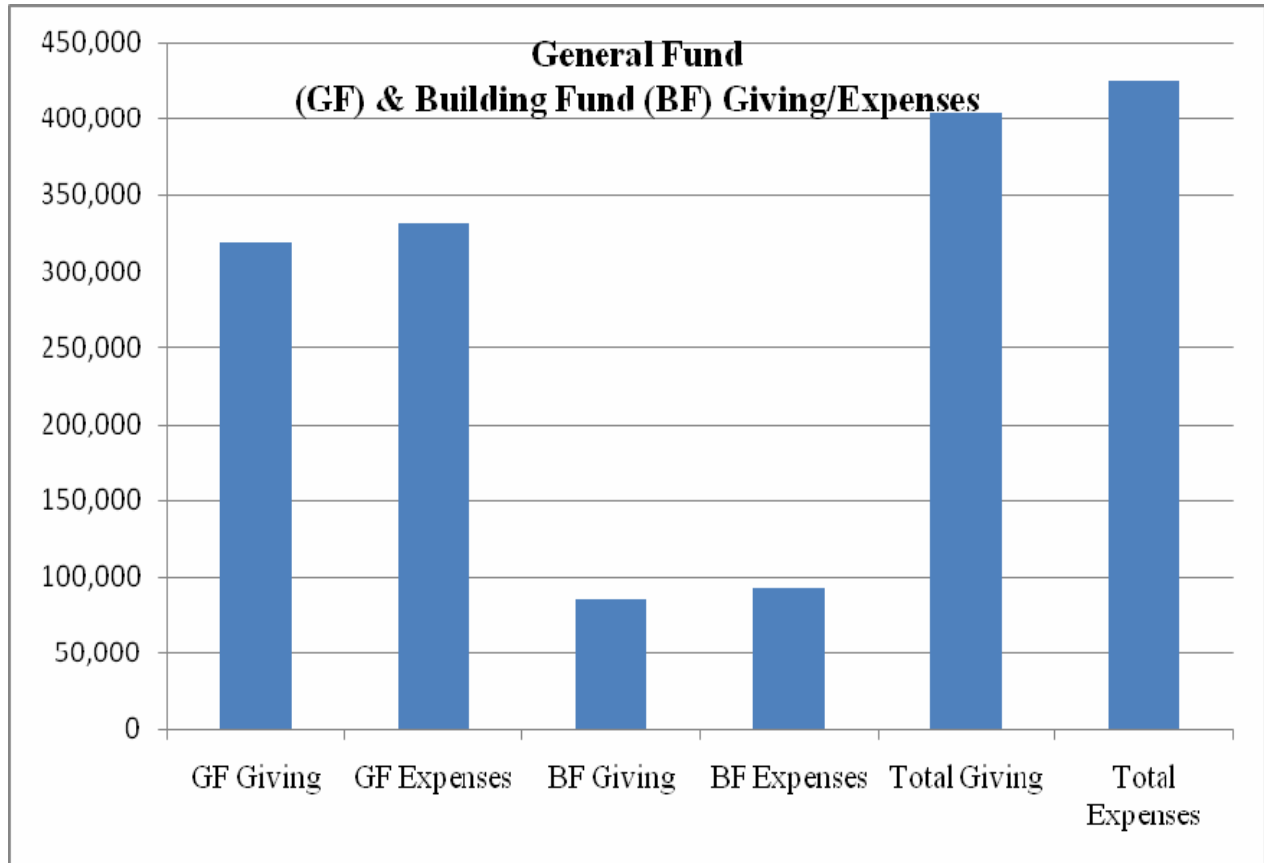
Attention Fort Hill Presbyterian Church Members:

25, yes, twenty-five families in our church are now Presbyterian Partners (PP) to new members! What do PPs do? They call the new members and invite them to their circle or men's breakfast or to the Welcome Back Picnic on August 23rd or to their Sunday School class or to Choir practice or to brunch after church or to help weed or to just say welcome. Well, you get the picture.

We have many folks joining the church and not enough Presbyterian Partners. Would you please lend a hand by volunteering to be a Presbyterian Partner? It's easy! Just call or e-mail Alice Thalheimer at 944-5450 or brambles15@bellsouth.net.

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From the Finance Ministry – Through the first six months of the year, General Fund (GF) income is below expenses by \$12,970. The Building Fund (BF) giving is \$8,594 below expenses. Combined shortfall for the year to date is \$21,564. The BF budgeted pledged income is \$17,753 per month with a monthly payment of \$15,500, but for the first half of the year the average monthly income was \$14,067. Please review your support to the GF and BF to avoid shortfalls..



Finance Ministry - Stewardship

**Watch this space for exciting information our
Stewardship Drive.**

Kickoff will be Sunday, October 18th.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL OPTIONS

Bible Sojourners

Continues their study of the New Testament (focusing on the Epistles) using a book by Celia Brewer Marshall, a lecturer in Religious Studies at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. Led by various class members, this class meets in the Club room.

Collegiate Coffee Hour

Created just for college students, this group meets to discern God's Word as it applies to collegiate life. Meets at Presbyterian Student Center at 9:30am.

Contemporary Issues Class

Come explore the Bible, its nature and purpose, and how it speaks directly and indirectly on some contemporary moral issues. Beginning in September, this class will discuss Jon Meacham's American Gospel. Meets in the Library.

Cooper Class

Using the denomination curriculum *The Present Word*, class participants explore Jesus' life and ministry through Scripture and discussion. Meets in the Cooper Classroom.

Net Menders

Through reflection and discussion, class members explore a balance of Bible study, contemporary issues, and life situations. The fall topic is God's Tapestry: Reading the Bible in a World of Religious Diversity by W. Eugene March. Meets in Bethlehem Hall, room 2.

Seekers

Geared towards couples, this class explores discipleship through the lens of marriage, family, and careers. The Seekers begins the fall with *Nooma*, a Biblically based video series that explores how faith impacts everyday life. Meets in room 205, 2nd floor education building.

Video Discussion Class

Using various videos led by collegiate and seminary scholars, class members view a presentation on a Biblical topic then discuss their impact on Christian faith and life. This fall the class will study *Jesus and the Gospels* by Luke Timothy Johnson. Meets in the Conference Room (Upstairs between the staff offices).

For more information, please contact Mary Gause, Associate Pastor for Christian Education at 654-2061 or mary.gause@forthillchurch.org.

Do you know what Christian Action Ministry does?

You may recall that Christian Action Ministry (CAM) is trying to increase its communication with the congregation so that you will have more opportunities to learn not only what CAM does, but also how you can help us serve our communities. As part of this effort, we are publishing brief articles in *The Window* and bulletins to highlight various mission activities, and to let you know how you can get involved.

This month, the focus is on **Clemson Community Care (CCC):**

You probably know that CCC serves as our local food pantry, providing food to the less fortunate in our community. But this is only a small part of the portfolio of services that CCC offers local residents to help them get back on their feet during these difficult economic times. CCC's mission is "To assist persons in difficult circumstances with necessities such as food, shelter and utilities, and to help them to become self-sufficient through educational programs and advocacy." CCC helps its clients receive temporary aid in paying heating and cooling bills, offers home repair assistance, and offers on-site access to job opportunity research through the "One Stop" program. A new "Earth Box" program that CCC has been involved in provides qualified clients with a garden in a box and a gardening mentor so that they can become more self-sufficient by growing their own produce. In August, CCC hosted its annual "School Success Workshop" where client families could meet with local teachers, learn about how to help their children succeed in school, and sign-up to receive free school supplies and back-packs.

This is just a sampling of the many ways in which CCC serves our community, but they could not offer these services without the invaluable help provided by people like you! CCC is so appreciative of the volunteer hours, food donations, and monetary donations that they receive from the members of FHPC. To learn more ways you can help, please visit their website at www.clemsoncommunitycare.org, or see the article about CROP Walk 2009 in this month's issue of *The Window*.



FACT: One third of Clemson residents live below the poverty line, and 20% of those live at 1/2 poverty-level income.

FACT: 25% of funds raised stay local and go to Clemson Community Care. 75% goes to aid poverty worldwide.

FACT: YOU can make a difference!! Last year, CROP Walk earned over \$4,000 for CCC and over \$12,000 to fight hunger worldwide!

SAVE THESE DATES!

Sunday, September 6th from 7 - 8 pm

CROP Kick-off Rally

Games, Music, Information – & the CLEMSON TIGER CUB!
Sign up for the walk, start a team, get help setting up a web page,

or just learn about hunger and how you can help fight it.

Catherine Smith Plaza

Edgewood & College Ave.

Rain location: First Baptist Church Family Life Center

Sunday, October 4

24th Annual CROP Walk for Hunger

Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty

2:30pm (registration at 2:00pm)

Starting at Fort Hill Presbyterian Church

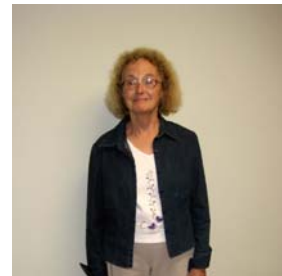
Questions? Email cccare@bellsouth.net

or call 864-653-4460

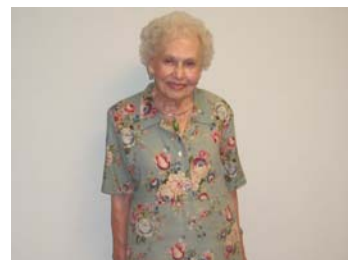
FHPC New Members



Zachary, Robin and Claire Ashcraft met with the session on August 20. Robin transfers from Seven Oaks Presbyterian in Columbia, SC. Zachary and Claire will be baptized in September. They are currently living in Pendleton.



Ette Ruppert joins by reaffirmation of faith. She has lived in Clemson for 31 years and taught biology at Clemson University.



Caroline Dawson transferred from Purity Presbyterian Church in Chester, SC. Caroline was a member of Purity for 64 years where she served as Deacon, Elder and Clerk of Session. She and her husband wrote a history of Purity church.

FHPC New Members



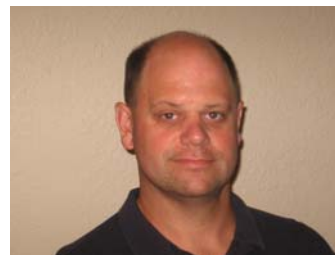
Welcome to the Holmes family! **Nick and Amy Holmes** joined the church on August 2nd. They have two children, **Julia** will be 2 in December and **Mason** is 3 months old. Nick and Amy live at 615 Windy Oaks Lane, Seneca 29678. Amy is a full time Mom for now and Nick is a family Practice Resident with Seneca Lakes Family Practice. Nick and Amy enjoy hiking, skiing and traveling. We are delighted to have Nick, Amy, Julia and Mason in our church family.



We welcome **David and Veta Finch** to our church family. The Finch's joined the church on August 2nd. David's career was in banking and Veta was an owner/manager of a beauty salon. The Finch's moved to the Clemson area from Chicago when they retired. David and Veta live at 224 Summit Drive, Seneca 29672. David is an avid golfer, and enjoys fishing and hunting. Veta is also an avid golfer who enjoys reading and playing bridge.



Jerry and Beth Chapman transferred from First Presbyterian Church Greenville. Jerry is a native of Easley, is a Clemson graduate and an avid tiger football fan. Beth grew up in Anderson.



We welcome **Chuck Conrad** to our church family. Chuck is the husband of Pastor, Laura Conrad. Chuck joined the church on August 2nd. The Conrad's have two children, **Avery** who is 11 years old and **Hallie** who is 9 years old. Chuck will be teaching Science at Easley High School this fall. Previously he taught in The Rock Hill School System. Chuck enjoys tennis, swimming and loves to eat! We are delighted to have Chuck as a member of Fort Hill.



Kathy McGee returns to Fort Hill after a seven year membership at the Clemson PCA church. Kathy and her husband were responsible for the original planting of the rose garden in our courtyard. She has plans to improve the looks of that garden.

September 2009 Fort Hill Church Activities

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Sunday Schedule 8:30 am Worship-TH 9:15 am Sunday school 10:30 am Worship-Sanctuary 4:30 pm MS youth group 6:00 pm Sr. high youth	Every Monday at 7:00 pm Boy Scouts-LCR, TH, dungeon Wednesday 6:15 pm Handbell rehearsal-Choir Room 7:30 pm Chancel Choir rehearsal-Choir Room	1 7:00am MOC breakfast-TH 6:00pm Folk Dance - CR 6:00pm B&G mtg-Conf.Rm.	2 5:30pm Music Committee mtg-Library	3 2:15pm OLLI-Library	4	5
6 2:30pm NAMI-CR	7 Labor Day Church Office closed	8 10:00am OLLI-CR 6:00pm Folk Dance - TH 7:30pm Circle 2-Library	9 5:30pm Worship mtg-Library	10 FHPC Preschool begins 10:00am Pre-school Tea-TTH 10:30am OLLI-CR 2:15pm OLLI-Library	11 10:00am Pre-school Tea-TTH 5:30 pm Cub Scouts-TTH	12
13 1:00pm CAPS-TH 2:30pm NAMI-CR 3:00pm AED class-Conf.Rm. 5:30pm 2nd Sunday Suppers-TH	14 9:30am Circle 3-CR 3:30pm Circle 5-CR 7:00pm Finance mtg-Library	15 9:30am PW Coord. Team-CR 6:00pm Folk Dance - CR 7:00pm Bible study-Library	16 10:30am Bible study-Library	17 10:30am OLLI-CR 1:00pm OLLI-CR 2:15pm OLLI-Library 7:00pm Session-CR	18	19
20 11:30am Circles of Care lunch (Bean, Collins, Thompson, Simmons) TH 2:30pm NAMI-CR	21 5:30pm Christian Action mtg-Lib.	22 10:00am OLLI-CR 6:00pm Folk Dance - CR 7:00pm Bible study-Library	23 10:30am Bible study-Library	24 10:30am OLLI-CR 1:00pm OLLI-CR 2:15pm OLLI-Library	25	26
27 1:00pm CAPS-TH 2:30pm NAMI-CR	28	29 6:00pm Folk Dance - CR 7:00pm Bible study-Library	30 10:30am Bible study-Library			<u>Key to abbreviations:</u> CR-Club Room TH-Tartan Hall Conf. Rm.-Conference Room CCR-Cooper classroom BH-Bethlehem Hall

September 2009 Birthdays & Anniversaries

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Katie Blondeau Linda Mann Mary Rutter Anna Wofford	2 Emily Burchfield Bill Gause Julie Newman Bridget Sehorn	3 Stan Yarborough Josh Young	4 Susan Nunamaker Luke Turner Diana Walter Emma Worley	5 Libby Hendricks Jayne Horne James Kwist Lydia Marcum Joanna Nisonger Allen Pettigrew Lou Ann Pursley Tom Shealy
6 Harvey Hobson Jordan Weir Carter Wilson	7 Kristin McGinn	8 Bob Mixon Eldon Voigt	9 Rob McGinn Walt Owens	10 Lib Fowlkes Joy Van Daele	11 Jere Ross Louis Stone	12 Mike McLeod Danny Pressley Lee Rice
13 Reagan Blondeau Wes Koch	14 Lisa Britt	15 Emily Bartels Al Littlejohn	16 Jordan Bolger Jim Van Senus	17 Mark Kwist Elliott Stewart Mary Stuart Turner	18 Emma Fowler Betty Shealy	19
20 Robin Denny	21 Jay Jones Denny Sherrod	22 Carol Pollock Michael Sehorn Buss Sherrick	23 Amy Holmes John McRoberts	24 George Alexander Gabby Bailey Buck Buchanan Abby Martin Mary Kate Turner	25 Cile Dunkelberg Brittany Shealy	26 Mary Dusenberry Ron Trenholm
27 Mark Dahill Bruce Jarrett	28 Addison Sanders	29 Alyssa Howard	30 Gerald Bitzer Craig Homan Phyl Stevenson	Anniversaries: 9/1 George & Cile Dunkelberg 9/2 Jerry & Edmee Reel 9/5 Derick & Beth Durham 9/5 Mark & Kristen McInnis	9/10 George & Sally Mitchell 9/11 Bill & Mary Gause 9/13 Bob & Carol Stout 9/15 Walt & Rameth Owens 9/16 Leland & Grace Hawthorne	9/22 Lin & Kay Dearing 9/26 Tom & Betty Shealy 9/27 Bruce & Terri Jarrett 9/29 Jason & Stacy Sanders 9/30 Mark & Kerri Kwist

August Sunday Servants

Pastor on Call

Aug. 31 - Sept. 6 Rodney Norris
Sept. 7-13 Laura Conrad
Sept. 14-20 Mary Gause
Sept. 21-27 Rodney Norris
Sept. 28- Oct. 4 Laura Conrad

Elder on Duty 8:30

Sept. 6 Ethel Pettigrew
Sept. 13 William Spitler
Sept. 20 William Spitler
Sept. 27 William Spitler

Elder on Duty 10:30

Sept. 6 Bob Folsom
Sept. 13 Charles Barron
Sept. 20 Bob Folsom
Sept. 27 Alice Thalheimer

8:30 nursery

Sept. 6 Cyndi Davis and Elizabeth Hawthorne
Sept. 13 Bolger family
Sept. 20 Bob and Carol Stout
Sept. 27 Lauren Young

Infant Nursery

Sept. 6 Sally and John Martin
Sept. 13 Megan and Eddie Chavis
Sept. 20 Susan Pressley
Sept. 27 Lou Phillips

Toddler Nursery

Sept. 6 Joan Dixon and Lauren Young
Sept. 13 Ellen Torrence
Sept. 20 Bolger family
Sept. 27 Ann Howard

2 & 3 Year Old Nursery

Sept. 6 David & Debbie Collins and Amy Worley
Sept. 13 Audrey Thompson and Janet Johnson
Sept. 20 Elizabeth Bost & Mary Courtney Norris
Sept. 27 Emily Bartels and Kristy MacRae

4 & 5 Year Old Nursery

Sept. 6 LeAnne Greene and Corey Norris
Sept. 13 Chryssa Rutland and Barbara Madison
Sept. 20 Need a volunteer!
Sept. 27 Karen and Cal Sawyer

Announcements and Concerns

Christian Sympathy is extended to Ann Gilreath upon the death of her sister-in-law, Mim Fowlkes, on July 24 in Atlanta.

Congratulations to Kevin and Sara McFall on the birth of their son, Gabriel Thomas, on June 23 in Pennsylvania. Grandparents in our congregation are Jacquie and Dean McFall.

Congratulations to Michael Peters and Sarah Key on their marriage on July 18 in Pennsylvania. Grandmother in our congregation is Polly Peters.

Congratulations to Helen and Michael Steele on the birth of a son, Harrison Michael Steele, on July 31st.

Christian Sympathy is extended to Fran Moll upon the death of her brother, Alfred Freisem, in July in Michigan and upon the death of her son-in-law, John Stout, on Aug. 3 in Shelby.

Christian Sympathy is extended to Cleo Gregg and Danny Gregg and family upon the death of Cleo's husband and Danny's father, FHPC member, Otis Gregg on August 16.

Christian Sympathy is extended to Mark and Linda Pollard and family upon the death of his mother, June Pollard, on August 13 in Mt. Pleasant.

We welcome Kerin Watts as our new University Ministry Intern. Kerin is a 2008 graduate of Presbyterian College and most recently served as Program Intern at Camp Bethelwoods.

Christian Sympathy is extended to Shirley and Mario Muzii upon the death of their son, Mark, on August 25th in Bloomington, Indiana.

*Joining together on a journey of Christian faith, we seek to be Disciples of Christ
and to share God's love in our community and around the world.*



Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

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