



CHRIST CHURCH PRESS

The Monthly Newsletter of Christ Church, Presbyterian
4201 Southern Pines Drive, Evans, Georgia, 30809

Volume 10, Issue 6

June 2014

The Pastor's Pen...

Birthdays

01..... Grant Kimbrell
03Brooke Marter
07.....MacKenzie McDaniel
09 Laura Nabholz
11..... Loulie Driggers
13..... Diane Dunsmore
Joanna Miller
Don Townsend
16.....Grey Steed
18.....Betty Stacy
20Julie Dey
21.....Ruth Ann Fliermans
22 Nichols Parish
24.....Barbara Bowen
Debra Hatcher
26Barry Smith
27..... Linda Jones
Brent Steed

Anniversaries

03 Yvonne & John Clark
04Anne & Bill Alston
Monica & Mike Boyd
05 Frances & Tom Loughran
06 ... Stathia & Rick Hammond
Jenn & Josiah Jones
07..... Margaret & Joey Johnson
08Pat & Don Lewis
Susan & Mark Walters
10..Ruth Ann & Carl Fliermans
13..... Barbara & Paul Volpitto
18..... Jenny & William Jewett
19..... Jenny & Don Townsend
21..... Catie & Will Boyd
25 Cherry McPherson &
Joe Wittemann

Power through Prayer

Without a doubt, there is a clear connection between prayer and power in the Christian life. This is true for individuals, as it is for a local body of believers. To be sure, the connection between prayer and the power of God is not mechanical. It is not as though one might say, "X amount of prayer produces X amount of power." Prayer is, after all, connecting to a personal Being and not an electrical force. Nevertheless, the connection between prayer and power is a reality that no biblically-minded person can deny. We consider that connection and how it compels us to renew our commitment to prayer.

A Definite Connection

"But you will receive *power*," Jesus promises His disciples, "when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." Here in Jesus' final words to His disciples before ascending to the Father, He promises them power that they will desperately need to carry out the great task of spreading the Gospel to the ends of the earth. This is a power that will be granted by the person and ministry of the promised Holy Spirit.

But Luke, under the inspiration of the Spirit, labors to show in his account of the life of the early church that the Spirit's power for the church comes through the prayer of the church. He tells us that "all these were devoting themselves to prayer" (Acts 1:14a) before he recounts the powerful move of the Spirit at Pentecost, resulting in the conversion of about three thousand on that day. It was as the new believers "devoted themselves to ... the prayers," Luke makes clear, that the Spirit worked mightily in the church through signs and wonders, radically transformed the hearts of believers, "and the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved" (Acts 2:42-47). When Peter and John were arrested, threatened, and commanded not to speak in Christ's name, they did not call a strategy meeting but a prayer meeting. Luke reports, "When they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness" (Acts 4:31). The message couldn't be clearer: the power the church needs to carry out the task her Lord has given her comes by the Spirit through prayer.

(continued on page 2)

A Desperate Need

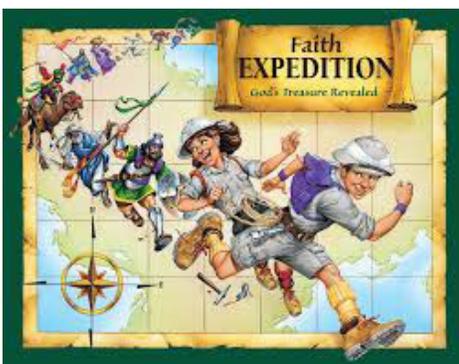
Once we see the connection between the church's prayer and the church's power, it becomes abundantly clear that prayer must have a central place in the life of the church. It is absolutely impossible for us to be the people God has called us to be or carry out the mission our Risen Lord has given us in our own power.

We have no power in ourselves to live the life of faith, obedience, and radical commitment to which our Lord has called us. We cannot see the wonders of God's Word and ways or feel the weight of His glory and grace in personal devotion or corporate worship. Our eyes become dim and our hearts dull. In ourselves, we cannot walk in the "holiness without which no one will see the Lord" (Heb. 12:14), putting to death the deeds of the flesh and putting "on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness" (Eph. 4:24). In our own power, we will never forsake all and pursue Christ as our supreme and all-satisfying treasure. On our own, we are powerless to be who we are called to be.

Beyond that, we have no power in ourselves to reach the lost. We cannot open their eyes to the glories of Christ: His love, His power, His grace. We cannot open their ears to hear His sweet voice. We cannot open their hearts to receive Christ and all that God promises to be for us in Him. Surely we cannot raise the dead to life. In ourselves, we are utterly powerless to rescue the perishing who walk into our sanctuary, live in our community, or are spread across the globe. We are powerless to carry out our mission.

To be who we are called to be and do what we are called to do as the church, we desperately need power from on high—and so desperately need our lives individually and corporately saturated with passionate and persevering, fervent and faith-filled prayer that connects us to God and His power. A church with a beautiful facility, friendly members, reverent and reformed worship, and orthodox teaching and preaching, with little prayer is like a race car with an eye-catching paint job, a perfectly engineered body—built for speed—that is connected to a dinky lawnmower engine. It has all the outward appeal in the world, but no power to perform the task it was built to perform. There is only one Source that has sufficient power to enable the church to run as she was made to run. That Source is God Himself—and prayer is the wire that connects us to Him and His power. Well did A.C. Dixon say, "When we depend upon organizations, we get what organizations can do; when we depend upon education, we get what education can do; when we depend upon man, we get what man can do; but when we depend upon prayer, we get what God can do."

Brothers and sisters of Christ Church, it is my earnest prayer and plea that we renew our commitment to prayer—both individually and corporately. If we would be and do what Christ has called us to, we must. Oh, may God deliver us from perfunctory prayer and spare us from living and ministering in our own power! May He stir us up by His Spirit to be mighty men and women of prayer, who, like Jacob, wrestle with their God in prayer until He blesses us! Join me in earnest and expectant prayer. We know what man can do. What we desperately need and want at Christ Church is what God can do!



FAITH EXPEDITION – GOD'S TREASURE REVEALED

June 16–20, 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m.

It's almost here! June 16 is fast approaching. Everyone is busily preparing to greet and welcome children to Christ Church to seek God's treasure. Please be in prayer for workers and children at this time. Pray for many to come to know Jesus and to deepen their faith. Our expedition begins June 16 at 9:00 a.m., and our closing program is Friday, June 20, at 7:00 p.m. Register now! Registration forms are on the Welcome Table, or you can register online at www.christchurchpres.org.

Welcome!

Christ Church
welcomes into membership
Miss Angela Murro
482 Falcon Dr.
Martinez, GA 30907

Christian Sympathy

Christian sympathy is extended to
Emily and Lanier Adams
on the death of his mother,
Catherine Adams, on May 4 in
Covington, Georgia

2014 Graduates

Congratulations to our Graduates!

High School

Lex Bailey
Homeschool

Grace Lanier Goodell
Westminster Schools of Augusta

Undergraduate

Julianne Elizabeth Norkus
Georgia Southern University
B.A., Theatre

Young Adults

Mark your calendars and plan to
attend!

June 22

Lunch following Morning Worship

June 28

Lake Day

Work Day

All hands on deck Saturday, June
14, for a church work day to do
much needed building and grounds
maintenance! Men are encouraged
to attend the Men's Prayer Breakfast
that morning at 7:45 in Covenant
Hall, and ladies are encouraged to
join them at 9:00 to begin our work!

Missionary Prayer

Please pray for these missionaries throughout the month of June.

Darlene & Clay Quarterman, Ukraine

Darlene is, at present, a "refugee in Mississippi" after she and Clay fled Ukraine amid the political turmoil and bloodshed in the streets. Their hearts are heavy for that land. Clay recently returned to Kiev for two weeks.

Keep these young people associated with our congregation in prayer as they head to various locations this summer through Teen Missions International:



Grace Cornelison, Malawi, East Africa

Focus: digging a well for an AIDS Orphan Rescue Unit, teaching Vacation Bible School, clearing a soccer field, and constructing a community toilet building

Boot Camp (through June 15)
& *Debrief* (July 13-21)
Teen Missions Team 14010
Grace Cornelison
871 East Hall Road
Merritt Island, FL 32953

In Malawi
(June 16 through July 12)
Teen Missions Team 14010
Grace Cornelison
Private Bag 3
Chipoka, MALAWI



Will Nabholz, Tacloban, the Philippine Islands

Focus: aid in rebuilding the city after the devastation of
Typhoon Haiyan and sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ

Boot Camp (through June 27)
& *Debrief* (July 20-29)
Teen Missions Team 14026
Will Nabholz
871 East Hall Road
Merritt Island, FL 32953

Philippines (Send mail until July 20)
Teen Missions Team 14026
William A. Nabholz
Tacloban Free Methodist Church
208 p. Burgos Street
Tacloban City
8500 PHILIPPINES



John Self, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia; Seoul, South Korea

(Mongolia): building a toilet block for a new Teen Missions
Bible and Work Training Center and witnessing to nationals
(South Korea): witnessing to children using puppetry and
drama

Boot Camp (through June 27)
& *Debrief* (July 20-29)
Teen Missions Team 14026
John Self
871 East Hall Road
Merritt Island, FL 32953

Mongolia (Send mail until July 20)
Teen Missions Team 14026
John Self
P O Box 2124
Ulaan Bataar
211213 MONGOLIA

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June

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship 6 p.m. Worship 7:30 p.m. Youth Gathering	2	3	4 6:30 p.m. Youth Gathering 7 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 8:30 p.m. Brass Ensemble	5	6 7:45 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast	7
8	9	10 7 p.m. Joint Session & Diaconate meeting	11 6:30 p.m. Youth Gathering 7 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 8:30 p.m. Brass Ensemble	12	13 5:30 p.m. Young Marrieds/ Young Couples, Dinner & Putt-Putt	4 7:45 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast 9:00 a.m. Church Work Day
15 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship 6 p.m. Worship 7:30 p.m. Youth Gathering	16	17	18 6:30 p.m. Youth Gathering 7 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 8:30 p.m. Brass Ensemble	19	20 7 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast 7:00 p.m. VBS Closing Program	21
<i>Vacation Bible School - 9:00 a.m. until noon daily</i>						
22 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship 12:30 p.m. Young Adults Lunch 6 p.m. Worship	23	24	25 6:30 p.m. Youth Gathering 7 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 8:30 p.m. Brass Ensemble	26	27 7 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast	28 Young Adults at the lake
29 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship 6 p.m. Worship 7:30 p.m. Youth Gathering	30					