



CHRIST CHURCH PRESS

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

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April 2017

The Pastor's Pen

Birthdays

- 04 Lanier Adams
Paul Volpitto
- 07 Daniel Campbell
Mark Walters
- 10 Grace Goodell
John Norkus
- 13 Lee Self
- 15 Martha Folley
Kimberly Rackley
- 16 Nancy Parks
- 19 Mel Jewett
- 21 Erin Lammie
- 24 Ora Parish
- 25 Ben Robeson
- 26 Margaret Doss
- 27 Margaret Johnson
- 30 Rick Hammond

Out of them shall come songs of thanksgiving, and the voices of those who celebrate. I will multiply them, and they shall not be few; I will make them honored, and they shall not be small.

Jeremiah 30:19

Anniversaries

- 04 Baylee & Jim Avery
- 05 Ruth & Richard Frain
- 26 Laura & Adam Doss
- 30 ... Jennifer & Charles Kimbrell
Cathy & Ken Moody

One Last Word

What can a pastor say to a congregation he has had the privilege of serving for almost five years as he sees his time with them in God's providence drawing to a close? There are many things, I suppose. But if I were given just one last word to express to this flock entrusted to my care, there is no question what that word would be. What wells up in my heart as I think about you, your reception of us and God's ministry through us, as well as your love and care for me and my family over these past several years is thanksgiving. My heart is full of thanksgiving to God for you!

As I have thought how I might express my gratitude to God for you, my mind and heart were drawn to that marvelous expression of gratitude by the Apostle Paul for the church at Philippi. I take my cue for this final Pastor's Pen from the Apostle's Pen, found in Philippians 1:3-11. So, I thank God for ...

Fellow Partners in the Gospel

"I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now" (Philippians 1:3-4). Paul could call them partners in the gospel because, from the moment they themselves responded to Paul's ministry of the gospel among them, their hearts were united with his in the supreme passion of his life, namely, proclaiming Christ and Him crucified. Thus, they were not ashamed of his imprisonment for the gospel. They stood with him. They prayed for him. They went to great lengths to minister to his practical and financial needs so that he could fulfill the work Christ had given him. And they did it "from the very first until now."

My family and I have no less cause than Saint Paul to remember you with thanksgiving for your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. From the beginning you warmly embraced us into the fellowship of Christ Church. You more than provided for our financial and practical needs, so that I could give my full attention to that which is the passion of my heart, namely, spreading the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. You have prayed with and for me. You have often spoken timely words in response to the ministry of the Word to encourage me to continue to proclaim the unchanging gospel of grace with passion and purity. And I have had the joy of seeing and hearing personally many of you embrace the biblical challenge to give yourselves to spreading that same gospel through word and deed. You have been fellow partners in the gospel, and I thank God for you.

Fellow Partakers of Grace

Paul goes on in his thanksgiving to say, "I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel" (v. 7b-c). Here Paul seems to be referencing again how they stood with him and supported him in spreading the gospel—even in his imprisonment. But he says it in different words. Instead of speaking of them as fellow partners in the gospel, now he speaks of them as fellow partakers of grace. Why? It seems here Paul is getting to what lies beneath their partnership in the gospel, namely, their partaking of grace. But for the grace of God, Paul would not be preaching the gospel he once sought to destroy. So Paul says in Ephesians, "Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God's grace, which was given me by the working of His power. To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ." And it was only because the Philippians received of the riches of this grace (think of the Philippian jailor) that they were so

(continued on page 3)

Holy Week Worship

You are cordially invited to join us during Holy Week for a heart-renewing time of reflection and honor of Christ's loving passion and glorious resurrection. Join us for the following:

Maundy Thursday Communion

April 13 at 7:00 p.m.

Speaker: Rev. Evan English



Rev. Evan English



Dr. J. W. P. Oliver

Good Friday

April 14

Noonday Service

Dr. John W. P. Oliver, *Missioner*

Evening Service at 7:00 p.m.

Speaker: Rev. Evan English

Easter Sunday

April 16

Dr. John W. P. Oliver, *Missioner*

Morning Worship at 11:00 a.m.

Evensong: An Easter Celebration

at 6:00 p.m.

Easter Egg Coloring & Hunt • Saturday, April 15

Come one, come all to the second annual
Easter Egg Coloring and Hunt Eggstravaganza at Martha Folley's

Time: 10:30 a.m.
Place: 2703 Downing Street
Augusta, GA 30909



Victoria Hulsebus and I will provide the egg dye so bring your hard boiled eggs to dye and take home for Easter. We will have filled, plastic eggs hidden when you arrive and will start the hunt once everyone's eggs have been beautifully dyed.

Similar to last year, there will be chicken strips, sandwiches, and water (maybe lemonade also) to drink after the activities.

We will have a few chairs available, but ask that if you have any folding or umbrella-type chairs, that you bring them so that there will be enough seats for all. Looking forward to seeing everyone!

Vacation Bible School • June 12-16 • 9 a.m. until noon



Our Scottish sleuths are getting ready to solve another Bible case. . . *The Case of the Puzzling Parables* will be unveiled and solved the week of June 12-16. Thank you to many who have volunteered to step forward and participate. Needs yet to be met include: photography, sound, teacher assistants (pre-school, and 2nd-3rd grades), crafts, set decorations, and registration.

Please prayerfully consider where you are needed and fill out the volunteer form located on the Welcome Table in the narthex and place it in the basket, also on the Welcome Table. For more information, please contact Fay Deal at 803-278-1176 or via an e-mail to runningdeal@gmail.com.

**"That you may tell the next generation that this is God, our God forever and ever, He will guide us forever."
Psalms 48:13-14**

Trail Life Trek

February and March brought great opportunities for Trail Life at Christ Church. On February 11, we had a STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) day where the boys made towers, flew paper airplanes and made a non-Newtonian fluid, commonly known as slime. Then on February 24-26, we stepped back in time to 1865 at the Battle of Aiken. The Navigator patrol camped out, attended a period worship service on Sunday morning and provided cleanup detail for the vendor area at the site. The troop then participated in the church service project to Icebox Urban Farm on March 11 where they weeded, turned compost, organized seedlings and worked on making a large compost bin behind the Kroc Center.



passionate to spread the gospel. Only those who drink freely and frequently of the grace of God will be driven to declare freely and frequently the gospel of God.

I thank God for the evidences that I have seen over these past five years of men and women, young and old, who have drunk freely and frequently of the grace of God in gospel. Many of you with tears in your eyes have let me know how God has ministered His grace to your hearts. Others have written notes and e-mails. Still others have simply said, "Thank you, for speaking God's Word to us. You will never know how I needed to hear that." Oh what an incredible gift to a pastor to see the grace that God has ministered to me in preparation be ministered to you in the pew. I thank God for you, fellow partakers of grace.

Fellow Pilgrims for Glory

For Paul, clearly what intensified his gratitude and affection was his assurance that these with whom He had shared what was most precious to him, the grace and gospel of Christ, were people with whom he would one day share glory in Christ's presence. By God's grace, they were pilgrims headed for the same destination. Paul expresses confidence in this, "And I am sure of this, that He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ" (v. 6). And with great affection He urges them on in their pilgrimage, "For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God" (vv. 8-11).

It has been a great blessing to me and my family to walk together with you on this pilgrimage through triumphs and trials, sharing joys and sorrows. I know we have been strengthened and encouraged along the way. And it has been a privilege to be used by our Lord in some small way to give support, encouragement, and direction to fellow pilgrims. Indeed, it has been one of my highest privileges to walk with some dear saints at Christ Church all the way to Jordan's edge. While in God's providence it seems our paths on this pilgrimage part, I give great thanks for this leg of the journey we have shared—and greater thanks still for the glory yet to come. This too I am confident we shall share, because of the One who has promised to walk us not only to Jordan's edge, but safely through to the other side. So shall we ever be with the Lord. I give thanks for you, fellow pilgrims for glory!

*And I am sure of this, that He who began a good work in you
will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.*

Philippians 1:6

Joiah

Missions Matters

Our first **Community Service Team** assembled at Icebox Urban Farm on March 11th and was a great success. Members from our congregation and several families from our Trail Life troop spent a beautiful morning digging, planting, weeding, mulching, and even doing some repairs around the campus. We learned about the many opportunities Icebox offers for residents of the Harrisburg community to enrich their lives by learning and practicing good nutrition, right down to growing their own vegetables. We even enjoyed a delicious lunch together afterwards. We look forward to serving with the folks at Icebox in the future and in growing our relationship with them.



Our next Community Service Opportunity is planned for April at the Master's Table Soup Kitchen. Please watch the bulletin for announcement of the date and time, as well as the foyer for a donation box if you are unable to participate on site. Contact Emily Adams (706-627-9430) or Julie Dey (706-294-2436) with any questions or to sign up. We look forward to serving our community with you!

Missions Prayer Bands in March was a huge success with Greg and Julieann of Global Serve. We are excited to host Chris & Cary Drinkard of Campus Outreach on Sunday, April 23, at 5:00 p.m. in Covenant Hall. This will be an exciting time of prayer for our supported missionaries and missions. Each month will include missionary reports and/or videos. For more information, please contact Ken Moody at 706-854-7977 or via e-mail to kjmcfm@gmail.com.

Ministry thru Music

Evensong: An Easter Celebration is Sunday evening, April 16, at 6:00 p.m. Come celebrate the Easter story, the story of resurrection, the very core and fabric of our faith with music from Christ Church's Sanctuary Choir and Orchestra, along with a message from Dr. John Oliver. Vibrant congregational hymns, great soloists, powerful anthems from Handel's Messiah, "Hallelujah," and "Worthy Is the Lamb," as well as wonderful spirituals: "I Got a Robe" and "When the Saints Go Marching In." This will be a marvelous time to invite family and friends to come celebrate with you.



*Christ has died!
Christ has risen!
Christ will come again!*

Christ Church Press

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 4201 Southern Pines Drive
 Evans, GA 30809
 706-210-9090

Address Service Requested



April

Weekly Sunday Schedule: 9:45 a.m. Sunday School • 11:00 a.m. Worship • 6:00 p.m. Worship

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
5:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting					6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer	
Palm Sunday 9	10	11	12	Maundy Thursday 13	Good Friday 14	15
5:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting	6:30 Session Prayer & Meeting	10:00 a.m. Women's Daytime Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Diaconate Meeting	6:15 p.m. Brass Ensemble Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Communion	12:00 p.m. Good Friday Noonday Service 7:00 p.m. Good Friday Evening Service	
Easter 16	17	18	19	20	21	22
5:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting 6:00 p.m. Evensong: An Easter Celebration	7:00 p.m. American Heritage Girls 7:00 p.m. Trail Life	7:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study, Evans	7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	6:00 p.m. Young Couples & Young Families Bible Study	6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
12:30 p.m. Fellowship Luncheon 4:30 p.m. AYC Rehearsal 5:00 p.m. Missions Prayer Bands	7:00 p.m. American Heritage Girls 7:00 p.m. Trail Life	10:00 a.m. Women's Daytime Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study, Augusta	6:15 p.m. Brass Ensemble Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	6:45 p.m. Women's Evening Bible Study	6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer	
30						
4:30 p.m. AYC Rehearsal 5:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting						