



# CHRIST CHURCH PRESS

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

Volume 13, Issue 5

May 2018

## Birthdays

- 02 .....Carter Boyd
- 08 .....Amy Bailey
- 10.....Joseph Doss
- 11..... Gary Cowart  
Seth Doss
- 12.....Flavia Gutierrez
- 14.....Tammy Hendrick
- 15 ..... Jim Avery  
Joey Johnson  
Linda Pentecost
- 16..... Brian Marter
- 17.....Maddie Bailey
- 18.....Esther Doss
- 21..... George Bowen
- 25 ..... Chris Nabholz  
Julianne Norkus
- 28 .....Helen Caldwell  
Maria Emerson  
Jenny Jewett
- 29 .....Baylee Avery  
Kathryn Noblett

## In Search of Home

A strip of road unwound toward a nondescript town that neither of us had ever visited. He hailed from rural Kenya, where he taught neighbors about the Bible among plots of maize and rust-colored earth. I knew only the concrete and white clapboard of the northeastern US – its coffee mugs, felt coats, and snow-gray skies. An ocean separated the daily trappings of our lives.

For one hour on a highway, however, we conversed with the easy tenderness of a brother and sister, of two strangers made close through Christ. We talked about calling, about service, and about hearing God. As telephone poles slid past the windshield in a dark grid, I asked how his seminary studies in the US had influenced his life in Kenya.

“It’s hard,” he sighed. “Being here has changed me. I’ve never completely belonged here, but I don’t fit in there anymore either.”

### Tangled Memories

I recognized in his voice the same forlorn tone with which other friends had spoken of this straddling between worlds. Psychologists and sociologists give it a name – acculturation, the merging and modification of cultures. As is often true of theory and statistics, journal articles seldom capture the flesh-and-blood nuances of the struggle: the creases upon a brow, the eyes misting from the sting of tangled memories. The photographs that suddenly seem out of place. The drifting.

My friend drew a breath, and with it seemed to take hold of the New England tree line, to anchor himself in that craggy horizon. When he finally spoke, his words were taut, his voice barely holding together, the foundation cracking. “It’s like I don’t really have a home,” he said. “But then again, what home does any of us have, before heaven?”

The words hung in the air, their weight pulling upon my heart. I could not know the intricacies of his suspension between cultures, the raw wounds that struggle tore open. But everyone on this lush earth knows the yearning for home. I could palpate the longing, could feel the emptiness twisting my stomach as I reached into my own memory for places that seemed to flicker and vanish, fragile lights snuffed out.

### Wanderers on the Earth

Home is a word we brandish casually, its colors weathered, its edges frayed from careless use. It connotes stability, rest, belonging. Yet with all its familiarity, how often does the peace of home elude us?

How many of us return to a childhood home to find the enchanted gardens overgrown with weeds, and cracks and ivy climbing the walls? How often do we return to beloved spaces to find the people who shaped us gone, their voices and scent vanished from the empty, unswept rooms? How do we grasp home when families break and scatter? How do we cling to it, when its definition forever shifts, its location constantly changes? How do we admit that wherever we go, we don’t really belong? That when we stroll boulevards fringed with skyscrapers, and lose ourselves in a sea of people, we still feel so alone?

Places leave imprints upon us that persist for a lifetime. Our own marks upon our surroundings, however, are ephemeral. Homes in this life change us, then forget us. They mold our hearts, but eventually our fingerprints fade from their surfaces. With each cycle of the earth about the sun, cherished walls wither and crumble. This side of the fall, every soul stumbles about the planet in search of home. Wrenched from God, none of us entirely belongs. We yearn to be at rest with the Lord, but we all remain wanderers, lost in the desert.

Our heritage as nomads began when Adam and Eve, trembling, skulked away from the garden with their eyes averted from God (Genesis 3:21–24). Our displacement has continued since then, driving us into shackles (Deuteronomy 6:21), into the wilderness (Numbers 32:13), into a constant restlessness as we strive to become whole again. To be gathered and led, finally,

*(continued on page 3)*



FOR EVERYTHING THERE  
IS A SEASON, A TIME  
FOR EVERY ACTIVITY  
UNDER HEAVEN.  
ECCLESIASTES 3:1, NLT

## Anniversaries

- 11..... Debra & Billy Hatcher
- 14..... Laci & Whit Foster
- 16.... Karleigh & Noah Stephens
- 20 ..... Diane & John Dunsmore
- 24..... Kirsten & Stan Pylant
- 26 ..... Laura & Charles Caruso

## Children's Chatter: Let's Talk about . . .

### VBS & Fellowship Dinners

#### Introducing Our VBS Super Bible Sleuths



Angela  
McTavish  
&  
Professor  
Darla Thornwell

We welcome our Scottish Sleuths to Christ Church VBS. They will assist in solving *The Case of The Cardiac Crusader*, June 11-15<sup>th</sup>. Sign-up for VBS will begin Sunday, May 6, and Sunday, May 13<sup>th</sup>. Feel free to register online at [www.christchurchpres.org](http://www.christchurchpres.org).

**COME JOIN THE FUN!**

#### Supervised Childcare During Fellowship Dinners

##### EXCITING NEWS!

Beginning on May 6<sup>th</sup>, we will provide supervised child care during fellowship dinners. Our wonderful nursery staff will stay until 1:30 p.m. to supervise children from age 2 through 6<sup>th</sup> grade. This time should be a time of fellowship for adults while providing a safe, supervised environment for children.

A special corner in the room has been set up and designated for fellowship dinners. It contains various activities for inside and outside activities; weather permitting.

**“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.**

### DEUTERONOMY 6:4-7

## Missions Matters

### Kurt and Pat Nelson, Plano, TX, East-West Ministries, International

As Chief Executive Officer of East-West Ministries International, Donald “Kurt” Nelson provides leadership and oversight to all worldwide ministry endeavors in the 50+ countries in which East-West Ministries currently operate. After serving with East-West for 15 years, Kurt assumed the role of CEO in June 2010 and has served with East-West for a total of 21 years.

Kurt assisted in launching the Institutes for Emerging Itinerant Evangelists in Russia, Central Asia, and India, and he currently serves on the Board of Directors and the Executive Leadership Team. Kurt also personally leads East-West short-term trips to Russia, Latin America, South Asia, Central Asia, and East Asia.

Prior to East-West, Kurt served as Vice President of Global Missions Fellowship, where he directed the Russia Field and the Marketing/Communications Department. Also, while at GMF, he led evangelistic teams to many countries including Russia, Haiti, Ukraine, Latvia, Japan, and Latin America.

Kurt and his wife, Pat, have been married for 30 years and have nine children (three of whom were adopted from Russia), six grandsons and one granddaughter.

Prayer:

- Beginning in January 1, 2018, East-West launched a new ministry vision, “unReached” in which we are praying for the Lord to accomplish the following:
  1. Mobilize the Body of Christ. Goal: Engage 1,000 churches to partner with East-West.
  2. Evangelize the Lost. Goal: Reach 90 million people with a clear presentation of the gospel.
  3. Equip Local Leaders. Goal: Equip 300,000 local believer and church leaders in evangelism and church planting.
  4. Multiply Churches. Goal: Plant 125,000 churches with at least 50% beyond the 1<sup>st</sup> generation.
- Please pray for my preparation to speak at Christ Church, Presbyterian Bible & Missions Conference in 2019.
- Pray for Kurt and Pat’s health and strength as they move forward in their ministry.

## Trail Life Trek

On March 16-17, Trail Life GA-2215 ventured to Elijah Clark State Park for an overnight campout. Despite some early morning rain, the troop hit the trail on a ranger-led hike, learning about the natural history of the area, as well as its Revolutionary War history. After the hike, they toured a replica of Elijah Clark's cabin. General Clark was a leader of the Georgia patriots during the Revolutionary War. The troop also found several geocaches.



## Church Office News

The church staff will establish new email addresses in order to develop a more personal atmosphere. Beginning on Friday, May 11, please update your contacts' list with the following addresses:

Robbie Hendrick, *Pastor* – RHendrick@christchurchpres.org  
Stan Pylant, *Director of Music* – SPylant@christchurchpres.org  
Fay Deal, *Director of Children's Ministries* – FDeal@christchurchpres.org  
Shirley McBride, *Secretary/Bookkeeper* – SMcBride@christchurchpres.org

## Augusta Care Pregnancy Center

WALK 4 LIFE • May 5, 2018  
Two Locations

The walk to support the Augusta Care Pregnancy Center will be held at the 9<sup>th</sup> Street Plaza at the Augusta Riverwalk. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. and the walk will begin at 9:00 a.m.

The walk to support the Waynesboro Care Pregnancy Center location will be held at 500 Park Drive, Waynesboro, GA. Registration will begin at 9:00 a.m. and the walk will begin at 9:30 a.m. If you wish to participate in the Waynesboro walk, please contact the Waynesboro CPC at 706-554-3713.

The addresses for all our locations and information on the walks are available at our website: <http://www.augustacpc.org>.

## Ministry thru Music

Christian churches around the world celebrate the Easter season of the Christian Year. Easter is our highest celebration and is a model for all our worship as we celebrate Christ's birth, life, death, and the promise of His return!

The early church found Easter too much to celebrate in one day and the Easter season reflects this. Ascension Sunday celebrates Christ's rising to a place of honor and becoming our High Priest. The season ends with Pentecost Sunday celebrating the coming of the Holy Spirit and the commissioning of the Church to go and tell.

Here are upcoming dates for our music ministry teams, other than our Sanctuary Choir, leading in worship:

- Children's Choir: Sunday evening, May 20
- Christ Church Brass: Sunday mornings, May 20 and June 10
- Augusta Youth Chorale: Sunday evening, June 3

### The King's Brass

returns to Christ Church Wednesday evening, June 13, at 7:00. They are a delight and this will be a wonderful time to invite family and friends. A love offering will be collected in support of their ministry.

We also need your help! We will again be housing them the evening of their performance, providing breakfast the next morning, and having them back at the church on Thursday morning for their departure. If you would be willing to open your home to one or two of these gentlemen, please call the church office: 706-210-9090.



*Jeremiah 30:19*  
"celebrate"

Blessings, and let's celebrate!  
Stan Pylant, *Director of Music*,  
[music@christchurchpres.org](mailto:music@christchurchpres.org)

## In Search of Home

(continued from page 1)

completely, by the patient, loving arms of the good shepherd (Zechariah 10:2; John 10:11).

In the meantime, our souls stir in discontent. Restlessness grips our bones. "How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!" we inwardly cry. "My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts of the Lord; my heart and flesh sing for joy to the living God" (Psalm 84:1-2). While we seek, strive, and pine for belonging, we know the rust-colored roads and white clapboard are only shadows of the home for which we all yearn.

### Heaven's Walls

Yet even in our most desperate longing, we have hope. As C.S. Lewis writes, "If I find in myself a desire which no experience in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that I was made for another world" (Mere Christianity, 138). While photographs grow yellow and roots from trees push through the decaying sidewalk, we remain God's beloved. We bear His image (Genesis 1:27). He knows every wind-torn hair upon our heads (Matthew 10:30).

Christ offers us, at long last, the promise of home, and peace, and belonging for which we all thirst (Psalm 42:1, Matthew 11:28). While we struggle through cultures and memory to discern our place, we cling to the hope that this sojourn on earth is transient. As Paul writes, "For we know that if the tent that is our earthly home is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this tent we groan, longing to put on our heavenly dwelling" (2 Corinthians 5:1-2).

We serve a God Who hears our cries, Who knows the fracturing of our hearts as we wander the earth. Through Christ's sacrifice, He welcomes us into respite (Psalm 107:4-7). As the father embraces his prodigal son, so God rushes to us with open arms, welcoming us to His table, inviting us to enjoy the communion possible only through the healing power of redemption (Luke 15:20) — through the forgiveness of our sins, which at long last restores us to God and makes all things new (Revelation 21:5).

In Christ, we find belonging. Through Him we revel in a joy without boundaries, a joy that never fades, a joy whose walls will never crumble to dust. As the road unwinds, Christ's resurrection draws us into the perfect communion for which our souls ache. He restores us. He renews us. He finally, gently pulls us weary and dust-covered from our wanderings, and at last calls us home.

— Kathryn Butler, *Desiring God*

*John 14:2*

In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?



# Christ Church Press

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*Address Service Requested*

## MAY

**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
		6:00 p.m. Session Prayer & Meeting 7:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study, Augusta	6:15 p.m. Brass Ensemble Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Missions Committee Meeting	7:00 p.m. Diaconate Meeting	6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
11:00 a.m. Holy Communion 12:30 p.m. Fellowship Luncheon 3:45 p.m. AYC Parent's Meeting 4:30 p.m. AYC Rehearsal 5:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting	7:00 p.m. Trail Life Flag Retirement Ceremony	7:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study, Evans	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	
Mother's Day 13	14	15	16	17	18	19
4:30 p.m. AYC Rehearsal 5:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting	7:00 p.m. Trail Life	7:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study, Augusta	6:15 p.m. Brass Ensemble Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal		6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
4:30 p.m. AYC Away 5:00 p.m. Missions Prayer Bands	7:00 p.m. Trail Life		6:15 p.m. Brass Ensemble Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	6:45 p.m. Women's Evening Bible Study	6:30 p.m. Men's Prayer	
27	28	29	30	31		
4:30 p.m. AYC Rehearsal 5:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting	7:00 p.m. Trail Life					

**Trail Life Camp Out & Court of Honor**