



# CHRIST CHURCH PRESS

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

Volume 8, Issue 7

July 2012

## The Pastor's Pen...Why Pray?

### Birthdays

- July 01..... Jennifer Kaminstein
- 03 ..... Bob Frantz
- 05 ..... Sandra Brown
- 06 ..... Linda Fleming
- 06 ..... Betty Gene Lovingood
- 11 ..... Joe Dey
- 12 ..... Jenny Townsend
- 13 ..... Kelly Caruso
- 14 ..... Elizabeth Seward
- 15 ..... Billy Hatcher
- 18 ..... Margaret Fields
- 21 ..... Warren Jones
- 21 ..... Dale McPherson
- 22 ..... Will Nabholz
- 23 ..... Sheryl Alba
- 30 ..... John Dunsmore

### Anniversaries

- July 11 ..... Joanna & Tony Miller
- 16 ..... Helen & Wade Caldwell
- 21 ..... Natalie & Ora Parish
- 25 ..... Ilona & McDonald Law
- 30 ..... Andrea & Daniel Denis

Why pray? Sure, the Bible is full of commands to pray, and that in itself should be reason enough. Yet, we still might ask, “Why pray?” After all, what is accomplished in prayer? We have heavy demands upon our lives and limited time for family and friends. Why pencil in the time to pray? Shouldn’t we be out there “doing something” with our limited resources of time and energy? These questions are worth considering, and so we take a moment to ponder why we should pray. As we reflect on this question, we do so by addressing two matters:

#### 1) What Prayer Does not Do

Prayer does not inform God of what He does not know. Unlike the idols made with men’s hands that cannot see, cannot hear, and cannot know, the living God sees all, hears all, and so knows all. Thus, our prayer is not to make up for some lack of knowledge or insight on His part; nor is it to inform Him how He might best manage His universe. With Elihu we affirm that God is “perfect in knowledge” (Job 37:16). He knows every square inch of this universe, every need, every circumstance, every act, every thought, and every heart—perfectly. Whatever we do in prayer, one thing is certain: we do not inform God of anything that He does not know.

Neither does prayer change God. It does not twist His proverbial arm until He gives us our way. It does not make Him more loving or kind. Sometimes the picture people have of prayer is something like that of a child nagging his grumpy, indifferent, absent-minded father until finally he is worn down and gives in. But the God to whom we pray is perfectly good and loving—and has no need to be worn down until He will do the right thing. He is “the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.” Thankfully, being perfect, He does not change. Thus, prayer does not change God.

#### 2) What Prayer Does

Though prayer does not inform or change God, it does work. Indeed, it does effect change. In the first place, it changes circumstances and lives. Scripture is full of examples of how prayer brings such change. Because of Abraham’s prayer, Lot’s family (minus his wife) was spared (Gen 18-19). Because of Moses’ prayer, God did not utterly destroy His idolatrous, stiff-necked people in the wilderness (Exo 32-33). Because of Hannah’s prayer, her womb was opened and a son was born who would deliver God’s Word to the people and be instrumental in the coming of a king after God’s own heart (1 Sam 1). Because of Hezekiah’s prayer, Israel was spared from being destroyed by Sennacherib and the Assyrian army (1 Kings 19), and Hezekiah was healed of illness and had fifteen years added to his life (1 Kings 20). Because of the Lord Jesus’ prayer, Peter’s faith did not fail, and he was restored (Luke 22:32). And because of Jesus’ high priestly prayer, all whom the Father has given to the Son (including you and me) come and are kept in His name (John 17). These examples of prayer changing circumstances and lives barely scratch the surface of what is recorded in Scripture. To be sure, in each case prayer brought change according to God’s plan. But make no mistake about it: God accomplished His plan through prayer—as he always does. Let us be clear, then: prayer changes circumstances and lives.

The most important thing that prayer does, however, is not that it changes circumstances, nor even necessarily that it changes the lives of others for whom we pray—though it does both. The most important thing that prayer does is change us, as we cry out to God in prayer. It brings radical,

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# Ice Cream Social

# Church Lake Property



*Come join us for an Old-Fashioned Ice Cream Social on Sunday, July 1, following evening worship. We'll enjoy homemade ice cream, themed desserts, and a great time in fellowship!*



Christ Church, Presbyterian is blessed with the use of a property at Clarks Hill Lake.

Church members and their guests are able to use the property for fellowship and group meetings.

Members may contact the church office for access keys. A deposit of \$25.00 is required and will be refunded upon return of the keys.

If you have any further questions about the lake property, please contact the church office.

Church Office  
706-210-9090  
[secretary@christchurchpres.org](mailto:secretary@christchurchpres.org)



## Notes from the Session, Diaconate and Committee Meetings

### Building Update

- The Administrative Building restrooms have been repaired and will be painted during the month of July. We are very thankful to Charles Kimbrell for restoring the restrooms to service and to Mark and Will Nabholz for volunteering to apply a much needed fresh coat of paint!
- We have a fleet of three, fully operational riding lawnmowers to keep the grass on the property trimmed. We express our Thanks to the 9 men who volunteer to mow the church property! We are still in need of volunteers to assist in mowing the church lawn. Our current rotation enables volunteers to assist in mowing the property one time per month. If you are able to assist, please contact Charles Kimbrell at (706) 738-6065.

### Treasurer Update

- The committee working on the Church Property Loan Refinance and the Session met two weeks ago and voted to approve the next steps in refinancing the church's property loan. The next step is for an appraisal to be conducted within the next week which is the only step remaining prior to signing the loan documentation. Once we have the final terms such as interest rate, monthly payment, and time frame finalized, a financial update will be mailed to all members of the church providing the details. Praise be to God for His provision during the process of refinancing the church's property loan!

### Mercy & Hospitality Update

- We are so appreciative of the Nursery Volunteers who serve in this ministry to our children! There remains a significant need for volunteers to assist in the Toddler Nursery. The nursery is staffed for all worship services, so assistants from our Youth Ministry are also needed. Those who volunteer, whether for both of the Sunday services or for evening worship only, are asked to provide care just one Sunday per month affording children a Christ-centered environment in which they can learn and play. Please consider serving in this vital ministry of the church by contacting Helen Caldwell at [hcaldwell@georgiabankandtrust.com](mailto:hcaldwell@georgiabankandtrust.com).



"Looks like the new pastor's met everybody."

## Why Pray *(continued)*

sin-breaking, life-transforming change to us. And how could it not? Prayer, after all, brings us into contact with the living God. This is the God whose x-ray vision sees through to the very core of our being. He sees our true needs and in His love and by His mighty power meets them, effecting the change that we so desperately need as we lie on the operating table of prayer. Prayer, as it connects us to God, changes us.

Why should we, the people of Christ Church, Presbyterian, pray? It's not because we need to inform God of what our needs are. He knows them far better than we. It's not so that we bug God until He has a change of heart and reluctantly blesses us. No, we are His people.

He loves us and thus desires to bless us. The gift of His Son settles that matter eternally. The reason we should pray is because our God delights to hear the prayers of His people and respond to those prayers by changing circumstances and lives. Indeed, as we lay our hearts and lives before Him in prayer, He loves to change us—wonderfully and powerfully. So I plead with you, as your pastor, for the sake of Christ's Kingdom, for the sake of Christ Church, Presbyterian, and for your sake, please pray. God works through prayer.

Your Pastor,

## AYC in DC



As you read this, the Augusta Youth Chorale and their chaperones are in Washington, D.C. participating in the Nation's Capital Festival of Youth Choirs. The Grand Concert will be held in the National Cathedral on Monday, July 2, at 7:30 p.m., accompanied by members of the National Symphony. The concert is free and open to the public. If you have family or friends in the D.C. area, please let them know about the opportunity.

As the Featured Choir at this year's festival, the 30-voice Augusta Youth Chorale will perform a set of 6 selections by themselves, and then the massed choir of approximately 250 voices will sing 10 more selections combined. On Sunday morning, July 1, the AYC will be singing at the 11 a.m. worship service at Our Savior Lutheran Church (LCMS) in Laurel, MD.

In addition to an extensive rehearsal each day, the students and chaperones are looking forward to visiting the Smithsonian museums and national monuments. Chaperones for the trip are Mark and Fran Nabholz, Charles and Cathie McClure, Grady and Gloria Taylor and Michelle Britton. Please pray for safety as they travel in the city and during their return trip on July 3.

## Missionary Spotlight

### Missions Update – July, 2012

Please be in prayer for these missionaries and agencies, and as you pray this month, put yourself in their place and pray for the needs you would have such as:

- Trusting the Lord in all things,
- Spiritual and physical strength to complete the task set before them,
- Patience, kindness and gentleness,
- That they would courageously demonstrate the love of Christ.

### Missionaries Prayer Focus

- Rick and Betty Aschmann, Mission to the World (PCA), Ecuador
- Dick and Nancy Baggé, Wycliffe Bible Translators, Kenya
- Bob and Andrea Burnham, Mission to the World (PCA), Ukraine
- Louis and Anne Carter, SIM, Kenya and Papua New Guinea
- AGAPE Ministry, Augusta, Georgia

### Praise and Prayer Requests

Clay and Darlene Quarterman, Mission to the World (PCA), Ukraine

- Seven ERSU students went to a church planter assessment organized by the Ukrainian church planting committee;
- Max, a successful church planter in Kyiv and graduate of the seminary, says his church is ready to stand on its own. He wants to plant a third church in Kyiv;
- The L'viv church plant finally blossomed to life, reaching many young families and students in western Ukraine;
- The Odessa church is maturing. They've planned an arts ministry center on the ground floor of the building, and they are doing a lot of outreach and mercy ministry on their own;
- ERSU Seminary needs sponsors and prayer. They just completed a new 10-year plan with the Staff, Board, Dutch and American sponsors. Since Clay just turned 60, they are also praying for replacement professors and the president in this next phase, including the training of Ukrainian professors;
- The Quarterman family is doing well, but Erin, their daughter-in-law in Seattle, had emergency abdominal surgery, so she and Matt are recovering. The Quarterman's granddaughter, Kendra, begins kindergarten in Jackson this fall! Ty and Irene bought a house in Virginia. And, did you see the Quarterman's actor son, Lex, in the graduation scene on "Glee"?



The Quartermans

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## JULY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
11 a.m. Worship 6 p.m. Worship 7:15 p.m. Ice Cream Social		7 p.m. Diaconate Mtng	No Choir Rehearsal	7 p.m. - Adult Bible Study Moncrief Home	7 a.m. Men's Prayer Meeting	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
11 a.m. Worship 6 p.m. Worship		7 p.m. Session Mtng	No Choir Rehearsal		7 a.m. Men's Prayer Meeting	5:00 p.m. Kimbrell/ Almon Wedding Rehearsal
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
11 a.m. Worship 6 p.m. Worship			No Choir Rehearsal	7 p.m. - Adult Bible Study Moncrief Home	7 a.m. Men's Prayer Meeting	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
11 a.m. Worship 6 p.m. Worship			No Choir Rehearsal		7 a.m. Men's Prayer Meeting	
29	30	31				
11 a.m. Worship 6 p.m. Worship						