EDUCATION SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9!
A special day in the life of this congregation!
Included in the day:

Normal worship and Sunday School schedule!
8:30 Traditional Service in Sanctuary
9:40 Sunday School for all ages
11:00 Traditional Service in Sanctuary
11:00 Contemporary Service in Morris Hall

Sunday School kick-off of new studies and promotion of students & kids
Third Grade children receive their Bibles in worship
All teachers are commissioned in worship

THEN:
Join us at 4:00 p.m. in Morris Hall for these events that feed school children and workers both around the world and locally:

Stop Hunger Now meal packaging event
Weekend Food Kits for Local School Kids
Teacher Appreciation Snack Bags

Donations will be accepted at the door for the Stop Hunger Now event.
We will be packing 10,000 SHN meals, 1200 Weekend Food Kits, and lots of Teacher Snack Bags.
Nursery provided for infants and small children. These events are family-friendly.

New Sermon Series at all Sunday Services!
“HIMcomplete”
Join us for this exciting new series as we explore these topics:

- A MIND transformed by the Word
- A VOICE to speak the good news
- ARMS of love
- A HEART for Christ alone
- A SPIRIT of servanthood and stewardship
- KNEES of prayer
Stitches of Love (formerly “Pillows of Love”)

We are looking forward to another successful year as we move forward with a new name for our sewing mission which is expanding. We will continue to make pillow cases and will add another project, Treasure Pockets, to the items we make to distribute to women and children in crises. Last year we delivered 230 pillow cases with Psalm 4:8 - “The LORD will give you sleep, peace and a safe place to dwell” printed on the cuff and a New Testament or a Bible story book included. The Treasure Pockets will have Bible verses placed on cards and tucked inside the pockets. We would like to expand our recipient list which includes: Coastal Women’s Shelter, Eastern Pregnancy Information Clinic, Kingswood, RCS and Garber mission trips.

The first work session is Friday, Sept. 14 in the Ministry Center’s room 223 from 9am - 12pm. Yes, this is a sewing mission, and we invite participants with all levels of sewing as well as support people willing to help with non-sewing needs. We will be selecting Bible verses and making the cards for the Treasure Pockets using donated scrapbooking materials. There is an activity for everyone. We meet 5 times a year on Sept. 14, Nov. 9, Jan. 11, March 8 and May 10. Mark your calendars for STITCHES OF LOVE, Sept. 14. For more info, contact Jan Williams at 638-4076.

Matthew’s Minute

We are very excited to roll out the new Garber web-site! Our new web-site address will be: www.connect2garber.com. We appreciate your patience as this web-site is a work in process. I believe the web-site is more user friendly and most important, more guest friendly. Most people browse a church’s web-site before attending a Sunday morning worship service.

As we kick-off the fall at Garber, let me encourage you to be intentional about reaching out to others before and after worship. A simple, "Hello, my name is ..........", or "I don't believe I have met you, my name is......." goes a long way in creating an atmosphere of welcome and hospitality.

Our Connect Team recently met, and I am excited about the passion and excitement to welcome guests to Garber. We are currently recruiting new Connect Team members. If you would like to be a part of this team, please email me at: matha@garberumc.com

If you are newer to Garber, let me encourage you to make reservations to join us at our Connection Sunday scheduled for Sunday, September 16 at 12:15 p.m. in Room 123 of the Ministry Center. We do need for you to make reservations so we can make proper food preparation. Please email Beth Hicks at: bhicks@garberumc.com or call the church office at 637.4022. This will be a great time to meet some of the church staff, lay leadership and connect with others.

Our next ACCESS membership classes begin Sunday, September 16 at 9:40 a.m. or the Wednesday classes begin Wednesday, September 12 at 6 p.m. Both classes will meet for six weeks. If you want to learn more about the mission, values, and ministries of Garber, ACCESS is for you! Please email or call Beth in the church office.

“As we enter into the middle of hurricane season this year, it brings memories of the 2011 hurricane season back to mind. My parents live in Lowland, and I was blessed to have grown up there. In August of last year their home, like most others on Goose Creek Island, was flooded during Hurricane Irene. The day after the hurricane we left my home in New Bern to survey the damage in their home. That day and for months to follow, we were blessed to be remembered by numerous individuals, organizations and churches. I remember the National Guard coming around handing out bags of ice that first day. For the next several months meals, non-perishable food, clothing, household items, etc. were donated and delivered to the residents of Goose Creek Island. It was so nice to have a hot meal provided when we were in the process of repairing their home. I just want to express my belated thanks for your part in helping the citizens of Goose Creek Island.”

Wendy Fulford
Mosaic News
Motivated Seniors Active in Christ!

Mosaic is back in full swing for the fall! Several activities and exciting lunch programs are coming up! Be sure to put the following dates on your calendar now – you don’t want to miss any of these happenings!

Wednesday, September 19 – Tour of Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point

MCAS Cherry Point has a rich heritage in the history and development of eastern North Carolina, as well as our country. Cherry Point has trained aviators and deployed squadrons for every war and conflict since World War II. Many Cherry Point Marines and Sailors are currently deployed to Afghanistan and the surrounding region.

Let’s show our support for the vital work that goes on at Cherry Point while enjoying a guided tour of the facilities! Our trip will conclude with lunch at Miller’s Landing overlooking the golf course and the Neuse River.

RSVP by Friday, September 14.

Monday, September 24 – Noon, Mosaic Luncheon, Room 123

Welcome Back! This is our kick-off meeting of 2012-2013!

Members of Garber’s Russian Mission Teams will be sharing their experiences with us. For many years dedicated volunteers from Garber have made the long journey to Russia to share the love of Christ through Bible Schools, and through medical, vision, dental and building teams in the three orphanages that we support.

We will also have an opportunity to welcome our new senior pastor, David Banks. Let’s make sure he receives a warm welcome!

Lunch will be catered for $6. Please RSVP by Thursday, September 20.

To RSVP for any Mosaic event e-mail bhewlette@garberumc.com or call 637-4022.

Looking Ahead to October….

October 15: Two hour scenic tour of the Neuse and Trent Rivers on the Lookout Lady followed with lunch in downtown New Bern.

October 22: Monthly luncheon with a program by John A. Cole, Warning Coordination Meteorologist, NOAA/NWS Newport/Morehead City.

SPECIAL NEEDS REGISTRY…

Craven County Department of Social Services is compiling a Special Needs Registry of citizens who need special medical attention during a disaster. If you or someone you know would benefit from having a team of professionals assess your medical needs and help create a life-saving plan for disasters, pick up a Special Needs Registry Form in the church office, or contact Bobbie Hewlette at 637-4022.

“RCS gratefully acknowledges Garber’s gift of $4,681 towards its ecumenical social service ministry in New Bern and the surrounding area. Generous gifts such as yours are a vital part of this life-giving ministry. Peace and Blessing to you as we work together in service. Thank you for helping RCS during the $10,000 challenge!”

We will soon have a memoir by a Russian orphan who was abandoned by his mother in a St. Petersburg dumpster when he was three days old. Alex Krutov should not have survived. But God had something else in mind. You will enjoy this book “Infinitely More” by Alex Krutov and Jack Davis. We have many books to process and want to thank Tom and Pam Brinson for their donations recently received. We have a few more labels to print and then can finish processing and get the books to you. Meanwhile, check out our shelves for good reading! Coleen Brock
The zigzagged brick wall marked both our back yard and the beginning of our section of Navy housing. To me, a second grader, the wall seemed tall and long. In reality, it was probably five or six feet tall and no more than 20 feet long. At two points along the ground there were small, brickless rectangles sized perfectly for elementary boys to crawl through.

My brother and I gathered boards for posts, string for form, and weeds – tall, South Carolina rag weed – to weave between the strings. That brick wall became a superior fort. Assembling several friends, a club was formed. Authority was assigned: First President, Second President, Third President, Fourth President, etc. The criteria for authority was age, but none would be less than president. Each was accorded a proper status.

Maybe we were anticipating life in the church. In the church, all of us have status in Christ, and because of our baptism each is a minister of the Gospel with authority to represent, to re-present Jesus Christ everywhere, at all times, in every place.

I once heard a professor of psychology declare that most “counseling” is not professional but “friend to friend.” Church families who have eyes to see, recognize that most ministry offered by the church is similar. Fellow church members call each other, speak with each other, help each other. Little, if any, of such contacts are organized by a committee. However, these contacts minister grace to one another as the body of Christ. In the Book of Acts chapter 8, the Apostles are settled in Jerusalem while the disciples (the laity) are scattered because of the persecution arising with Stephen’s death. The majority ministry of the people which brings the Good News of Jesus to new people and across boundaries into Samaria.

We might ask, what would help us to recognize such opportunities or such contacts? What would help us to believe that each of us in our casual and informal contacts are none-the-less genuine representatives of Jesus Christ? Maybe we need more often to be reminded that Jesus has commissioned us as his ministers. Maybe if we took the initiative to offer a short, simple prayer with our friend, our visit would be seen in Christian context. Maybe we need more often to hear that every Christian, in every place, at every time is a minister of Jesus Christ.

You have authority. Go forth and re-present Christ.

Blessings, David