



2013

August Visitor

ANNUAL BACK TO SCHOOL PROJECT!

In August, as children are getting ready to go back to school, we are asking again this year, that you donate back-to-school items. Any school item would be appropriate—notebook paper, pencils, spiral notebooks, erasers, backpacks, etc. Also, because teachers often pay (from their own pockets) for common classroom supplies such as hand sanitizers and Kleenex, these items would be greatly appreciated. Need more suggestions? There are lists of back-to-school items in several department stores (Target, Wal-mart, Dollar Tree, etc). Please bring your items to church and put them in the receptacle just outside the Narthex.

Items need to be at the church NO LATER than Sunday morning, August 18! On that Sunday during the Morning Worship Service, we will dedicate these items and ask God's blessings to be with children everywhere as they begin a new year of learning! These items will be taken to some of our local elementary schools the next morning so that they may be distributed to the many children in need of these items as school begins on Friday, August 26.

This congregation is always very generous in making this a very successful project. Thank you!

—The Outreach/Mission Ministry

Coming in October —A GREAT DAY OF SERVICE!

This is an event the Outreach/Missions Committee of our church is planning for a Saturday in mid-October. There will be opportunities for all ages of persons in our church to participate in community service through various projects that day. We will meet for breakfast in the Downstairs Fellowship Hall at the church and then divide into groups as needed to perform various projects. This is an idea from our Outreach/Missions committee to better involve our entire congregation in helping others in need. We are in the planning stages of coordinating this service project we will provide more details in the September Newsletter. We hope you will be able to help as we share God's love with others in our community.



Vacation Bible School August 4-7

At *Everywhere Fun Fair*, our VBS participants will experience the love of Jesus, meet great Bible friends, and learn about neighbors from around the world. We will share experiences that demonstrate God's welcoming love, and we will enjoy fun, games, and excitement at the same time. Each day we will find ways to love and share God with others and be neighbors to the world.

Rita Bennett, VBS coordinator, along with many teachers and volunteers, will make this a truly spiritual learning experience for our children. If you would like to volunteer to teach or assist, please call Rita.

Go to our website www.pfafftownchristian.org to register your child or children for *Everywhere Fun Fair*. Invite your neighbors and friends to be a part of this exciting and enjoyable adventure.

Notes From Tim

*Jesus loves me this I know
For the Bible tells me so.*

The very first Christian song that most of us learn as children is "Jesus Loves Me." As we prepare for Vacation Bible School in the coming week, I decided to share the story behind this very inspiring song that we have known since our childhood.

Anna Bartlett Warner (1827-1915) and her sister Susan were the unmarried daughters of a prominent New York attorney who lost his fortune during the 1837 depression. After Mr. Warner moved the family to an old house across the Hudson River from West Point, the sisters opened their home to the cadets and held Sunday School classes. Both sisters were buried with military honors in recognition of their spiritual contributions to the lives of the young military officers. Anna loved writing hymns, and she wrote a fresh one each month for her students. Eager to supplement the family income, the sisters turned to writing novels and children's books. Among the 18 books that they wrote together was Say and Seal, the book in which "Jesus Loves Me," written by Anna, first appeared in 1859. In the story, one of the characters comforted a dying child by singing "Jesus Loves Me." Later, Anna published this hymn in her first hymnbook.

In 1862, William B. Bradbury stumbled across the song's words and wrote his own tune, the one we sing today. He also added his own chorus: "Yes, Jesus loves me so." Within months this song was known across the United States and eventually all over the world. It has been translated into more languages than any other song! Yet, had it not been for Bradbury's music company publishing his arrangement in 1864, the song might have been forgotten.

Today, children all around the world grow up knowing this special hymn. How many children have sung this hymn in Sunday School, VBS, during family devotions, or mothers singing these words while rocking their children to sleep.

Jesus loves me! He will stay
Close beside me all the way;
Thou hast bled and died for me,
I will henceforth live for Thee.

Jesus is always with us, through our joys and sorrows. He is there guiding us along the way. Please pray for our Vacation Bible School, that our children will encounter the living Christ and that His Holy Spirit will be with them as they strengthen their faith and enrich their lives.



Coming Each Thursday in September: *A Brief History of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)*

Whether you were born into the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), or are a later arrival, here are some questions for your consideration:

- Can you name at least two of the leaders who started our church?
- Can you comfortably explain to a stranger what we believe (and why)?
- What's the difference between a church called a **Christian Church** and another one called a **Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)**?
- How long have we been ordaining women?
- What's the difference between a sacrament and an ordinance? Does it matter?
- Why do we have communion every Sunday? Who may participate?
- What does baptism mean for Disciples of Christ?
- Who was the only preacher to become a U.S. president?
- And why do we have that X-shaped cross on a chalice as our symbol?

Perhaps you have wondered about questions like these, or perhaps you've never really thought about them. Well, we are going to gather together next month to consider these and other interesting questions about who we really are.

Each Thursday evening in September, starting at seven o'clock, we will spend an hour or so exploring the history, beliefs, and practices of our church. During these four sessions, we will travel rapidly through time and look at how and why we became who we are today.

Consider this your personal invitation to join us as we start at the beginning and move rapidly into the present day. We'll look at the faith, turmoil, disagreements, and opportunities that led to the beginnings of our church on the American frontier. We'll also look at the development of our church over time until we became who we are today.

Mark your calendar for the four Thursdays in September. We will meet in the Lower Fellowship Hall, and the coffee will be on. Bring your own questions, and we will enjoy digging into the heap of history for some answers! Feel free to call me if you need more information.

—Bob

Church Council Dinner & Planning Session

The Church Council will meet on Tuesday evening, August 27, in the downstairs Fellowship Hall. A light meal will be served beginning at 5:40 p.m. followed by our Planning Session at 6:15 p.m. It is imperative that all Nurture/Program Ministry Chairs be present as we make some exciting plans for the coming months.

We will reflect on our Church Mission and Vision statements as we set goals and objectives. I have already met with some of the committee chairs and will be meeting with all chairs in preparation for this session. All Chairs will be scheduling a meeting with their nurturing/program committees prior to the Council Planning Session. Program worksheets and planning calendars are available for each chairperson. Please remember to bring these with you to the planning session.

My wish is for this to be a very productive meeting for the Council as we together lead our church congregation in meaningful nurturing and mission ministries that exemplify the living Christ; honor and glorify God by creating settings, activities, and events where children, youth, and adults can enter into a life-changing relationship with our God, and as Disciples reach out into our community sharing the Good news of Christ and his love.

As members of the congregation, if you have any ideas for programs or events, that you think would be helpful in our planning for the coming year, please let me know and I will forward them on the appropriate committee chairs for consideration!

Grace and peace,
Tim

Welcome New Members!

On Sunday, July 28, these two friends transferred their memberships to PCC. Give them a warm welcome! We'll give you more information about them next month.

- Abby Catoe
- Rick Johnson

Children's Corner

Wouldn't you like to be "ahead of the class" in knowing a little more about this year's theme at VBS!

Well, you can, if you fill in the blanks using these **vowels (a, e, i, o, u)** to reveal the following scripture verses. For extra credit memorize all of these verses!

God l__ves a ch__ __ rful giver. -2 Corinthians 9:7

I was h__ngry and you g__ve me f__ __ d to eat.
I was th__rsty and y__ __ gave me s__meth__ng
to drink.

I was a str__nger and you w__lc__med me __n.
-Matthew 25:35

Therefore, you sh__ __ld tre __ t p__ople in the
same w__y that you want p __ __ ple to treat you.
--Matthew 7:12

Pr__ise the L__rd! All y__u n__tions!
W__rship Him, all you pe__ples! -Psalm 117:1

Kids, be sure to invite all your friends to join you at VBS's
Everywhere Fun Fair for a great time of learning and fun!

See you there,
TIM



NEWS FROM THE GARDEN

Thanks to all the members, the CWF, and the Scouts, we have frozen 91 pints of corn to sell at the Bazaar, and we shared over 5300 pounds with the Food Bank, Soup Kitchen, and Salvation Army Boys' and Girls' Club, and we had a lot of fun doing so.

—Chip Lanier

Address Changes

Art Boulware's new address:
3800 Shamrock Dr.; Apt 517
Charlotte, NC 28215



Donna Emmary's new address:
118 Hunters Lane
Huntersville, NC 28078
Phone: 336-486-1413



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**JOIN US FOR
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!**

Rev Bob Parvin,
Pastor

Rev Tim Shoaf,
Minister of Music & Director of Programs

Debbie W Parvin,
Secretary

**Spiritual Nurture and Enrichment Sunday
September 8th**

Spiritual Nurture and Faith is an important ministry within the life of our church. Jesus commanded that we "make disciples" and one of the ways this takes place is through teaching and learning. Teaching and nurturing the faith of our children, youth and adults takes dedication, lots of planning, effort, love, and support.

On Sunday, September 8th, we will be celebrating the beginning of a new year of Christian education. We will meet for Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. followed by a special worship service at 11:00 at which time we will consecrate our teachers and all persons who will be taking an active role in nurturing the faith of our church family through church school and age-level programs for the 2013-14 year. Mark your calendars now and plan to join us!

Christian Women's Fellowship News

Summer started with a wonderful trip to Cody Creek for lunch following worship on Sunday. The ladies made plans for a Green Bean Workshop working around a rainy season that produced a lot of canned green beans for the bazaar. Still in the 'Worker Bee' mode, the ladies (with the help of our wonderful men) were able to put up 91 pints of corn for our bazaar. Then, once again, they were on the road to Daniel Boone Inn for a wonderful breakfast and a day of shopping and laughter.

Please come and join us as we begin fall with lots of fun and hard word for our bazaar. We need you and your ideas and laughter.

Thanks to all who worked so hard. Know that you are loved and appreciated.

—Jennie Peacock & Susie Lanier

HOLD IN YOUR PRAYERS
Church Family

Rex Cline, Art Boulware (at the death of his sister), Irene Hussey, Polly Archie, Fred Muetzel, Dick Flynt, Betty & Bud Barker, Doris Spaugh, Ludie Blakley, the Search Committee



Others

Shubha Range (sister-in-law of Frank; diagnosed with cancer), Kris Abshire (friend of the Alan Fletchers; serious cancer); Jim McClure (Megan Downing McClure's father-in-law), Clive & Opal Miller (neighbors of the Clodfelters), Linda Rephan (friend of Frank & Kay Range), Mark Depew (friend of Kent Doub), David Tuttle, Cassie Mackie (Mary Timmon's sister), Carolyn Bennett, Bill Showers (brother of Dan), Barbara Hester (Jill Robertson's aunt), Jonathan Schaffer, Joy Beck (Jo Stanley's mother), Emma Woodard (Lauren Range's niece)

Loved Ones in the Military

PRAN Joshua Hughes/Norfolk, VA
1LT Hope Tucci/Texas
Sgt. Samantha Goliat/Egypt
Specialist Victor Sechrist/Alaska
1LT John G. Van Hoy, IV/ WA
Chase Lee/Guam; USS Key West

SERVERS for August
ELDERS: Lynda Bryant, Susie Lanier
DEACONS: Jill Robertson, Betty Barker
Chip Lanier, Bob Faircloth
COMMUNION: the Worship Committee
OPENING/CLOSING: Craig Bracken
SUNDAY SCHOOL
No Sunday School in August



August 2013



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Crisis Control Donation item for this month: <i>Grits & Oatmeal</i>				1 Michael Flynt and Hannah Pfaff's birthdays	2	3
4 David Wood's birthday VBS dedication of staff & volunteers	5 Art Boulware's birthday	6 Jim Nelson's birthday	7	8	9	10
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 5:00-8:00						
11	12 Katherine Hunt's birthday The Brackens' anniversary	13 Al Luper and Gennie Sinclair's birthdays The Stanleys' anniversary 7:00 Elders meet	14 The Millsaps' anniversary The Safrits' anniversary	15	16	17
18 Deadline for back-to-school items 3rd Sunday Fellowship The Lanes' anniversary	19 Gene Conrad's birthday	20 Allen Maine's birthday	21	22 Donna Emmary's birthday The Barkers' anniversary	23	24
25 David Staples and Sarah Ingram's birthdays	26 The Maines' anniversary	27 Connie Edward's birthday 5:40 Council Planning Dinner & Meeting	28	29	30 Paul Shropshire and Sue Terry's birthdays	31