



MAY 2017

APRIL SHOWERS...BRING MAY FLOWERS...

Thoughts of MAY have lyrics of a beloved hymn running through my mind so I want to share them.

ALL THINGS BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL (Hymn No. 20 in our *Glory to God* hymnal)

Refrain: All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small, all things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.

1 Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings, God made their glowing colors, God made their tiny wings. [Refrain]

2 The purple-headed mountain, the river running by, the sunset, and the morning that brightens up the sky: [Refrain]

3 The cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun, the ripe fruits in the garden, God made them every one. [Refrain]

4 God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell how great is God Almighty, who has made all things well. [Refrain]

In his book on hymns, **Albert Bailey** writes of this particular one, "For once Mrs. Alexander has forgotten her theology and lost herself in the beauty of nature" (*The Gospel in Hymns*, 354). Many of us, if not all, have had these moments. Whether we're in a park, on a mountain, at the sea or a lake, or simply driving down the highway with a glorious sunset behind us, it is not difficult to find ourselves lost in the beauty of God's creation. These scenes should bring to mind Genesis 1:31: "And God saw all that he had made, and it was very good." Albert Bailey is perhaps mistaken when he claims that Alexander forgot her theology in the writing of these verses. For when we are in the midst of God's creation, are our ideas of who God is not being shaped by all that we see? God made a good creation, and God loves it. Our God is a good God, who gives us good things, and then tasks us with taking care of them. Our God is imaginative, and God's creation is both whimsical and sometimes startlingly majestic. Let us lift our voices in praise to our maker, the creator of all things bright and beautiful.

MAY ALSO BRINGS MOTORCYCLES, MOTHER'S DAY, GRADUATE RECOGNITION AND MEMORIAL DAY!

BIKE AND BIKER BLESSING - Saturday, May 6, (10 a.m. -12 noon) Ruling Elder Terry Baker, Pastor Tom Dendy, Rev. Becky Kiser, Ruling Elder Nancy Resnick, and the Blue Knights Motorcycle Club will help Celebration host a BLESSING FOR MOTORCYCLES AND RIDERS. This event is open to any and all motorcycle enthusiasts, church members, friends and neighbors. Help spread the INVITATION to share in this time of fellowship, worship/blessing, and a free hot dog luncheon provided by our church and the Blue Knights. So rev your motorcycles, raise your kickstands and cruise on in for a BIKE AND BIKER BLESSING. (*Saturday, May 20 is our RAIN DATE.*)

Sunday, May 14 is Mother's Day -- Honor your MOM by worshipping (11:00 a.m.) at Celebration!

Sunday, May 21 is Graduate Recognition Sunday at Celebration for Jade Bender and Michelle Rashid during morning worship (11:00 a.m.)

Monday, May 29 is MEMORIAL DAY - Honoring Our Armed Services and Ushering in the Tourist Season. MAY - GOD BLESS US ALL! Pastor Tom



Pastor Tom Dendy

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SESSION UPDATE

By Nancy Torcivia

Holy Communion will be served
May 7, 2017

Next Session Meeting is Sunday,
May 21, 2017 at 12:30 pm.

The Session met on April 17, 2017.

Approved a request to the Presbytery of
New Harmony for \$2,000 in financial
support for April.

Elder Joe Alexander presented the
financial statements for the month of
March. The Session is very happy to
report we are in the black!

Elder Cecelia Evans made business cards
with church information and Elder
Priscilla Mulligan gave them out at
the Relay for Life. They included a
QR code linked to Celebration's
website.

Elder Nanette Kelly has been hard at
work planning our participation in the
Relay for Life walk benefitting the
American Cancer Society. Raffle
tickets have been on sale and two gift
baskets will be the prizes.

Elder Cecilia Evans is exploring the
possibility of a mission trip. The
group discussed joining in on a
Presbytery planned trip, or a trip
planned by another church.

A Blood Drive is planned for June 7 from
12-5 pm.

Adult Bible study classes continue. Elder
Ken Krenzer appreciates any input on
topics for Sunday school.

Elder Rick Thornburgh continues work
on property issues: dumpster

enclosure, repairing the water
fountain, and installing a donated TV
monitor in the hallway to display
information about church events.

Please continue to support the Fifth
Sunday offering that helps us pay for
bush hogging and maintaining church
property.

The youth will be attending Camp Pee
Dee. Two of our high school students
are graduating and will be recognized
during worship on May 21, 2017.

Elder Butler is hard at work planning
Vacation Bible School. This year the
theme is "Super Heroes".

The 5th Annual Blessing of the Bikes is
planned for Saturday, May 6 from
10am-12pm. A free hotdog lunch will
be provided.

The Session thanked Pastor Tom and
Pastor Becky and Sarah for the
meaningful Maundy Thursday service.

The Preschool is moving forward with
Summer Camp for six weeks this
summer. We are excited to see this
program get started. There are still a
few openings if you have family or
friends who are interested in
attending. Each child must be 3-5
years old, potty-trained, and have an
up to date SC shot record. Call the
Preschool at 843-903-3211 for more
information.

Preschool registration for the fall is also
underway. There are still openings in
afternoon classes. Graduation will be
May 25.

The Strategic Planning process continues
with two small group meetings
completed, and one more to go!
Rev. Elliott has worked hard with
Rev. Dendy, Elder Terry Pettijohn
and the Strategic Planning Team. The
Session reviewed the preliminary
results of the church-wide survey.
Results will be shared with the
congregation once they are finalized.

Rev. Kiser continues with Tool Time and
the study of World Religions. Anyone
who would like to join in is welcome
to attend.

Clerk of Session Nancy Torcivia had
letters sent out with the help of Linda
Berry to members who are no longer
attending church. This process of
"cleaning the roles" is done
periodically so we have an accurate
membership role. Some folks have
moved, and some are now attending
another church. A total of twenty
members were removed from the
roles.

Elder Bernadine Lamar is working on
repairing Pastor Tom's microphone.

For the Generative Discussion, the
Session read an article entitled "Size
Matters", which discussed the
different characteristics of various
sizes of churches.

Let's all strive to be Easter People. Love
your neighbors and bring them to
church. Welcome our visitors warmly
and volunteer to help whenever you
can. Blessings to you all!

YOUTH

By Cecilia Evans and Jackie Sinnet

The Youth and choir visited Reflections Assisted Living on April 2. What a great way to give back to the community. The residents enjoyed a trio singing some seasonal musical favorites. Then the youth and residents joined in to sing inspirational hymns. A skit on the meaning of Easter was shared and treat bags were given to the residents. It was nice to see some of the same people from prior visits and provide musical selections so they could sing along.

Thank you for the support of Belk Charity Days the funds raised help send our youth to camp and provide other youth programs. Currently, we have four youth planning to attend Camp Pee Dee this summer. This year instead of the group attending one camp, the individual camper selects the one that fits their camping criteria. Three different camps were chosen: Mission Camp, Mountain Adventure Camp and Adventure Camp. In addition to four campers, we will have Michelle Rashid join the Camp Pee Dee staff this summer as a counselor this summer.

On Sunday, May 21, we will celebrate the graduation of two Celebration Youth from high school, Michelle Rashid and Jade Ikahihifo Bender. Michelle will graduate from Socastee High School's International Baccalaureate Program and will attend Coastal Carolina in the fall. Jade will graduate from the Scholars Program and has been accepted to several colleges but is still deciding on the best fit for her academic pursuits. Congratulations to both of you!

The Youth meet on the second and third Sunday of each month during worship for their He~Brews Café.

MEET YOUR ELDERS



Name: Priscilla Mulligan

Family: I come from a long line of farmers and coal miners from Northeastern Pennsylvania. The valley where I grew up was settled by my third great grandfather. He helped build the first church on land he donated. That little white church just celebrated its 200th anniversary. I still have family involved in the church and every year they hold a reunion with family coming from all over the USA. This past year was the 101st reunion. Through the generations my mother's family have been involved in the life of the church.

Church Background: I was confirmed in the Evangelical and Reformed Church that became part of the United Church of Christ.

Career Background: I was a graduate of a three-year diploma school of nursing run by the State of Pennsylvania. I started in a men's medical ward and moved to Critical Care which became a medical/surgical Intensive Care Unit. After 20 years of hospital work I started in a doctor's office. Over the next 20 years I worked with Gastroenterologists, an Internist, a Nephrologist and a Physiatrist/Pain Management. I retired in 2007.

Hobbies/Activities: My husband and I loved to fish but after his first heart attack we had to abandon the boat. And then we discovered golf! And that's what brought us to Myrtle Beach, along with getting sick and tired of shoveling snow and raking leaves.

Celebration Activities: I enjoy the Adult Sunday School and Tool Time Bible Study. I have learned so much since coming to Celebration.

Committee Assignment as Elder: I am the elder of Christian Education for Adults.

My favorite things about Celebration: I am so impressed how everyone is concerned about everyone else. And how much support there is to those in need. I see folks working with each other to get the job done. Many hands make light work.

VOLUNTEERS SERVING THIS MONTH

Elder of the Week

May 7—Priscilla Mulligan
May 14—Terry Pettijohn
May 21—Nancy Resnick
May 28—Rick Thornburg

Liturgist

May 7—Carol Butler
May 14—Carla Baker
May 21—Daniel Watson
May 28—Nancy Torcivia

Visitors Table/Greeter

May 7—Barbara Barranco
May 14—Carol Lagassee
May 21—Sharon Hills
May 28—Betsy Hughes

Nursery

May 7—Donna Woodard
May 14—Vicki Simon
May 21—Betsy Hughes
May 28—Nanette Kelly

Pre K –Kindergarten Children's Church—

Tonja Paolini

Children's Church Grades 1-5

Trudy Miller

Sound Board

May 7—Nicklaus McIlrath
May 14—Carol Butler
May 21—Carol Butler
May 28—Nicklaus McIlrath

Media Shout

May 7—Bernadine Lamar
May 14—Katrena White
May 21—Bernadine Lamar
May 28—Katrena White

Ushers for the month of March

Beth Bruton, Barb Johnson, Bob and Linda Miller

Communion — Nanette Kelly,
Bernadine Lamar, Barbara Barranco, Bob Miller, Katrena White

IF YOU CANNOT SERVE ON YOUR ASSIGNED DAY, PLEASE CONTACT SOMEONE IN YOUR GROUP TO CHANGE WITH YOU. AFTER YOU HAVE CHANGED, PLEASE LET LINDA IN THE OFFICE KNOW OF THE CHANGE. THANK YOU FOR SERVING AT CELEBRATION!

MISSION/OUTREACH

By Cecilia Evans

Reminder Church-wide Bowling on May 7, at 2pm at Myrtle Beach Bowl/Waccamaw Lanes.

On-going mission: The church will collect **Socks for Santa** in July and sneakers in December. So, if you see a good deal shop early for this worthy cause.

Relay for Life

Thank you for the participation in Relay for Life. We had great support from the congregation from donations to the raffle baskets, fundraising efforts, walkers, etc. The team raised over \$1700 for the American Cancer Society.

Next-up: Red Cross Blood Drive on Wednesday, June 7 from 12-5pm

Celebration will host a Blood Drive on June 7 from 12-5pm. The Red Cross from Carolina Forest will be supporting this effort. All donors are needed and double red donations will be available. Nanette Kelly will have sign-up sheets in the narthex.

Shepherd's Table Teams for 2017

Team A: Nancy Torcivia, Dom Torcivia, Margaret Reeder, Beth Bruton

Team B: Roy Andrews, Laurie Andrews, Dot Crissey, Nancy Thornburg, Rick Thornburg

Team C: Kathy Wechter, Mike Wechter, Bob Stepanek, Carol Butler, Ken Krenzer

Team D: Anne Brallier, Sara Bamrick, Donna Woodard, Gerri Byrne, Mike Resnick

Team E: Jerry Rashid, Rosie Rashid, Leslie Eckert, Tom Dendy, Paul Youngblood, Patty Youngblood

THANK YOU FOR SERVING THIS YEAR.

Your dates will be listed on the calendar each month.



BIRTHDAYS FOR MAY



Take a moment to wish those who have a birthday this month birthday wishes or send them a card.

If your birthday is not listed, please let Linda Berry in the office know.

May 3—Glorianna Belyski
May 5—Jean Markiewicz
May 8—Mark Hills
May 13—Joey Bruce
May 14—Carol Lagassee
May 15—Vicki Jacobs
May 15—Joseph Mehalick
May 17—Ken Krenzer
May 18—Mike Wechter

May 21—Maria Rivera
May 23—Dot Crissey
May 23—Alana Sinnet
May 24—Scott Sinnet
May 26—Lois Krone
May 27—Nancy Galloway

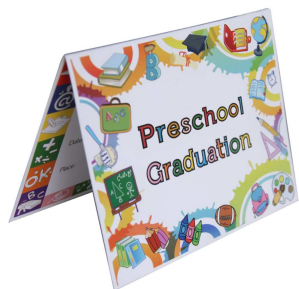
BLESSING OF THE BIKE AND BIKERS



The 5th annual **Blessing of the Bikes** is Saturday, May 6, from 10 am-12 noon. Ruling Elder Terry Baker, Pastor Tom Dendy, Rev. Becky Kiser, Ruling Elder Nancy Resnick and the Blue Knights Motorcycle Club will help Celebration host a BLESSING FOR MOTORCYCLES AND RIDERS. This event is open to any and all motorcycle enthusiasts, church members, friends and neighbors. Help spread the INVITATION to share in this time of fellowship, worship/blessing, and a free hot dog luncheon provided by our church and the Blue Knights. So rev your motorcycles, raise your kickstands and cruise on in for a BIKE AND BIKER BLESSING. (*Saturday, May 20 is our RAIN DATE.*)

PRESCHOOL

By Susan Spraker



It is hard to believe that another year of preschool is coming to an end. It seems like just yesterday was the first day of school and everyone was trying to get settled in. Now, we are preparing for our largest class of 4K children to graduate and move on to “big school”. This is always a very exciting time at the preschool.

I would like to take this opportunity to invite all of you to our preschool graduation. This year’s graduation will be Thursday, May 25. Due to the size of our 4K program we will hold two different graduation ceremonies. They will be at 9:00am and 12:30pm. If you are free on this day, please stop in and share in our special day.

The last day of preschool will be May 26. We will end our school year with a “CPP large play date at the beach”. We will all meet at Myrtle Beach State Park and spend the morning playing in the sand with all of our school friends. This has become an annual event enjoyed by everyone.

Everyone is very excited about our first Summer Camp this summer. We have been busy getting everything ready for all our campers. If you know someone who is interested in sending their child to any of the weeks of camp, have them call the preschool office. Summer Camp will run for 5 weeks starting June 12, with the exception of the week of July 3.

The teachers will return in mid-August to begin setting up classrooms for the fall. We hope everyone has a great summer.



MAY 2017

PRAYER OF JABEZ —“Oh that You would bless Celebration, indeed, and enlarge our territory, in your name. That your hand would be with us and that You would keep us from evil, that we may not cause hurt to others.” I Chronicles 4:10 (Adapted for Celebration)

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 Choir Rehearsal 7pm	4 LadyBug Luncheon at Ducatis 12noon	5	6 Blessing of the Bikes and Bikers 10am-12pm
7 Adult SS 9:15am Fellowship /Choir Rehearsal 10:15 Worship 11am Communion Bowling 2pm	8 Tool Time Bible Study 10:30am	9 Quilters 10am	10 Choir Rehearsal 7pm	11 Team B cooks at The Shepherd's Table 2pm	12	13
14 Adult SS 9:15 am Fellowship /Choir Rehearsal 10:15 Worship 11am Youth He~Brews Café Mother's Day	15 Tool Time Bible Study 10:30am	16 Quilters 10am	17 Choir Rehearsal 7pm	18	19 Breakfast Buddies at Blueberry's Grill 9am	20 Rain date for the Blessing of the Bikes and Bikers
21 Adult SS 9:15 am Fellowship /Choir Rehearsal 10:15 Worship 11am Youth Youth Graduation STATED SESSION MEETING 12:15	22 Tool Time Bible Study 10:30am	23 Quilters 10am Team E cooks at The Shepherd's Table 2pm	24 Choir Rehearsal 7pm	25 Preschool Graduation 9am and 12:30pm	26 Preschool Field Trip	27
28 Adult SS 9:15 AM Fellowship /Choir Rehearsal 10:15 Worship 11am	29  MEMORIAL DAY OFFICES CLOSED	30 Quilters 10am	31 Choir Rehearsal 7pm			

Elder Pettijohn reports information about the Bible and its importance from the Presbyterian Website, presbyterianmission.org.

What is the Bible? Part 1

"The Bible is a collection of 66 individual books that together tell the story of a group of people bound by a common faith in God. It is divided into two main sections: the Old Testament containing 39 books originally written primarily in Hebrew and the New Testament containing 27 books originally written primarily in Greek. For Presbyterians the Bible is the means by which Christian believers come to understand how God has been present with humanity since the beginning of time and is present in our world today. By studying the scriptures we can begin to know of God's faithfulness, constant love and eternal goodness.

Testaments

"The Old Testament tells the story of God's covenant with the Hebrew people. It is regarded as sacred scripture by both Jews and Christians. The New Testament contains four accounts of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the account of the earliest Christian churches, and other writings from the early Christian era. It is considered sacred scripture by Christians.

Translations

"The Bible has been translated from its original languages into the languages of people throughout the world. The first translation into English was by John Wycliffe in the 14th century. Since that time, there have been many English translations.

"One of the most familiar, the King James Version (KJV), was commissioned by James I of England and published in 1611. Although the language of the King James Bible reflected the everyday speech of England in the 17th century, changes in speech patterns and the meaning of certain words have made it more difficult to understand than more modern translations.

"Since the 1950s, there have been many translations of the Bible into contemporary English. Translations frequently used by Presbyterians in worship services include the Revised Standard Version (RSV) and the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV). Both are considered excellent translations that are faithful to the original texts insofar as scholars can determine.

Presbyterian practice

"The church confesses the Scriptures to be the Word of God written, witnessing to God's self-revelation. Where that Word is read and proclaimed, Jesus Christ the Living Word is present by the inward witness of the Holy Spirit. For this reason the reading, hearing, preaching, and confessing of the Word are central to worship. The Session shall ensure that in public worship the Scripture is read and proclaimed regularly in the common language of the particular church. (Book of Order, W-2.2001)

"Leaders in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) can be expected to affirm that "... the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments ... [are] ... by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God's Word to [them]." (Book of Order, W-4.4003b)

[From: <http://www.presbyterianmission.org/what-we-believe/bible/>]



2300 Carolina Forest Boulevard
Myrtle Beach, SC 29579

Phone: 843-903-0308

Fax: 843-903-0345

celebrationpresbyterianmb@gmail.com

www.celebrationpresbyterianchurch.org

Facebook—

Celebration Presbyterian Myrtle-Beach

Dr Tom Dendy—Pastor

Dr Rebecca Kiser, Temporary Supply Pastor

Sarah Abushakra—Music Director

Linda Berry—Office Administrator



The beautiful red choir robes that the choir wore on Easter were donated to Celebration by First Presbyterian Church in Bennettsville, SC. They recently purchased new robes.

There is room in the choir for you if you would like to join us. We practice at 7pm on Wednesday evenings and again at 10:15 on Sunday mornings. Come help us “make a joyful noise unto the Lord.”

Celebration will hold a **blood drive** on Wednesday, June 7 from noon to 5:00. The Red Cross from Carolina Forest will be supporting this effort. Soups will be provided. There will be sign up sheets in the Narthex.

