



OCTOBER 2017

### PASTOR'S ARTICLE

By Tom Dendy

**15 Years of Faithful Living and Giving** is our stewardship theme this year. As we celebrate our first fifteen years as a church and community of Christ here in Carolina Forest, we will do some looking back and looking forward together. Surely, we stand on the shoulders of many unseen supporters throughout the Presbytery of New Harmony who, since early in the year 2000, have given generously to support the founding of a NEW CHURCH in the rapidly growing community of Carolina Forest in Myrtle Beach. It will be our privilege and honor to show our gratitude to the generous men and women of our presbytery as we open our hearts and our doors to host the 90th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of New Harmony on Tuesday, October 10, 2017. This hosting day will require a generous outpouring of help from our entire congregation to share in setting up, parking, greeting, welcoming, serving, directing, feeding, cleaning up, and resetting our facilities for return to preschool classes and regular church activities. If you are willing to help, please notify Linda Berry in the church office (843) 903-0308 and she can clarify times folks are needed to help in all these various areas of hosting presbytery.

As we prepare to enter 2018 and our sixteenth year of **Faithful Living and Giving**, we carry the legacy of all the presbytery's love and generosity forward as we shoulder the financial support needed to sustain the ongoing ministry and mission of Celebration Presbyterian Church. Throughout our first fifteen years Celebration has been blessed with support from all levels of our Presbyterian Church (USA) that has helped undergird and stabilize our congregation. Even our current mortgage is through the **Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program (PILP)** which is a cooperative approach to financing church building programs with investments from individual members and others across the larger church helping provide resources for building loans to churches like ours. **To be Presbyterian is to be connected** and our congregation's life story celebrates our denominational connections across the PCUSA that have brought us into being and by God's grace have stabilized us for the ongoing work and worship we share today and will continue for the foreseeable future.

We have so much to be grateful for at Celebration! God has provided for us every step of our journey and we are truly blessed with a creative and caring and faithful congregation of gifted members and regular attendees (whom we fondly refer to as *Friends of Celebration*) who help through generous giving of their TIME, TALENTS and TREASURES to support the Ministry and Mission of Celebration Presbyterian Church. Together we seek to make GOD'S LOVE known among us, throughout our Carolina Forest Community and across the broader PCUSA and throughout the world as we share in the larger mission of our denomination.

THANK YOU - EACH AND EVERY ONE - FOR YOUR FAITHFUL LIVING AND GIVING TO GOD AND TO CELEBRATION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA) OVER THE YEARS. I can't wait to see the wonderful opportunities that await us in shared Ministry and Mission in 2018. Be looking for your STEWARDSHIP PACKET to arrive mid-October by mail. Please prayerfully consider the information enclosed and extend your gratitude through generosity as you **estimate your giving for 2018** to help our leadership team to adequately budget for the Ministry and Mission needs of Celebration!

**Remember - God loves a cheerful giver... and Love and Gratitude are the greatest motivators for GENEROUS LIVING AND GIVING! Thanks be to GOD for Fifteen Years of Faithful Living and Giving!**

(Continued on Page 4)



Pastor Tom Dendy

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Session Update	2
Youth	3
Game Night	3
Blood Drive	3
LadyBug Luncheon	3
Volunteers	4
Shepherd's Table	4
Pastor's Article Cont.	4
Birthdays	5
Special Offerings	5
Financial Update	5
Preschool	5
Celebrating the Reformation	6
Session Continued	6
Calendar	7
An Invitation to Give	8
Times of Need	8

## SESSION UPDATE

*By Pastor Tom*

Holy Communion will be served October 1, 2017. Next Session Meeting is Sunday, October 15, 2017 at 12:30pm.

Following are the actions from the September Session meeting:

- ♦ Movie night was a success and another one is planned for October. This time the movie will be “War Room”.
- ♦ Elder Mulligan will begin contacting the various HOA’s in Carolina Forest to get permission to put items on their community bulletin boards about our church. She is also working on an article that will be circulated and church members are asked to use “Next Door” in their neighborhoods to promote the church.
- ♦ Funds were transferred from savings to checking to cover expenses during the summer months which are traditionally a time of lower offerings and the Preschool is not in session. Elder Alexander is closing watching all church spending and is optimistic that the Stewardship Campaign will help to bolster the church budget. If you’ve missed a few pledge payments over the summer due to missed Sundays from vacation and other activities, it is greatly appreciated if you catch your pledges up to date. Thanks!
- ♦ The Preschool Summer Camp budget had a small loss overall. The Session will review results to consider if it will be offered again.
- ♦ The Mission and Ministry Planning Group has reported results of their work during worship services during September. We hope that you have enjoyed hearing about their work.
- ♦ A celebration for the fifteen-year anniversary of CPC continues to be worked on. We are excited to host the Presbytery of New Harmony meeting on Tuesday, October 10. We will be calling for “all hands on deck” as we have approximately 175 folks attend the meeting at Celebration.
- ♦ A blood drive is planned for Wednesday, November 1, from 3-7pm.
- ♦ It’s the time of year for signing up to be on a cooking team for Shepherd’s Table. If you have three hours of time to give, once each quarter, please volunteer. See Cecilia Evans for details.
- ♦ Adult Sunday School has resumed and all are welcome to join in their study of the gospel of Matthew.
- ♦ Belk Charity Days coupons will be sold by the youth Sunday, October 22 and 29. Funds raised will be used to send youth to Camp Pee Dee next summer.
- ♦ The Youth are also planning a church-wide Game Night for October 20, and they have invited our friends from Kingston Presbyterian Church to join us.
- ♦ Elder Evans is participating in a task force that is examining the future viability of Camp Pee Dee. A goal of sending 60 kids from the Grand Strand area has been set by the group. Please advocate for Camp Pee Dee and share the news of this wonderful camp that can be used for family reunions, events, and of course youth camping trips. Unless usage of the facilities increases, the camp may no longer be able to be sustained. Please pray for the camp and encourage its use. A motion was passed that Celebration have a “Camp Pee Dee Day” in January.
- ♦ In lieu of Breakfast with Santa, this year the Hospitality Committee will work with the Youth to host a “Polar Express Night”. It will be in the evening, and light refreshments will be served. It will include games and activities and pictures with Santa.
- ♦ The latest Pasta with the Pastor was attended by 18 people. We are excited to welcome new members and hope other folks who have been attending will consider joining the church.
- ♦ The ladies of the church will have their annual Christmas Luncheon on December 9 at Pine Lakes. Sign ups are coming soon.
- ♦ A new tile floor was installed in the kitchen through a generous donation by a church member.
- ♦ All the light fixtures and bulbs in the church have been changed to LED. We have received a rebate from Santee Cooper and expect a substantial reduction in our monthly power bills.

*(Continued on Page 6)*

# Youth of Celebration

THE SECOND AND  
THIRD SUNDAY

OF EACH  
MONTH IS OUR  
HE~BREWS  
COFFEE BAR!

## YOUTH

*By Cecilia Evans and Jackie Sinnet*

He~Brews Café has kicked off with a study on "Sticky Faith"—what do we take with us into the world. The youth will be continuing with the study to see how faith lasts beyond their junior high/high school years to branching out as young adults.

Belk Charity Days is November 4. The Youth will be selling tickets Sunday, October 22 and October 29. For a \$5.00 donation, which you get back off your first purchase, you are able to take advantage of this special sale. All tickets sold benefit our Youth programs. Pre-sales can be picked up on or after November 4.



Game Night, Friday, October 20, 6:30 –9:00 pm. For ages 10 and up. There will be light refreshments provided. Come on out and join the fun and fellowship.



## BLOOD DRIVE

There will be an American Red Cross Blood Drive on November 1, from 3:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. We will be providing soup, snacks and drinks. Please help us collect 25 units of blood. A sign-up sheet will be in the hallway before and after church. Please try to give.

## LADYBUG LUNCHEON

*By Carol Butler*

THE NEXT  
LADYBUG  
LUNCHEON WILL  
BE AT  
CALIFORNIA  
DREAMING  
OCTOBER 5  
12NOON



Our September luncheon saw us eating at T-Bonz once again. Our hostess was MaryAnn Bowie. Unfortunately, MaryAnn could not be there as she and hubby Larry decided to evacuate north in anticipation of impending Hurricane Irma.

There were 15 Ladybugs in attendance. We were delighted to have with us Carol (#3) Mitchell. Carol came for a two-week visit and stayed with yours truly, Carol (#4) Lagassee and another friend in Murrells Inlet.

We collected \$130.00 for charity and it went directly to the Salvation Army earmarked for Texas residents to aid in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey.

Needless to say, there was much hurricane talk. We were spared the brunt of Hurricane Irma, but unfortunately the Caribbean, Florida and Georgia were not.

As always, the fellowship and conversations going on gives us great pleasure. We all look forward to these monthly luncheons.

The next luncheon will be Thursday, October 5, noon, at California Dreaming, located at 2657 Beaver Run Blvd (just off of Bypass 17) in Surfside. Carol Stepanek will be our hostess. If you plan to attend, the sign-up sheet will be in the Narthex. Let me know if you need a ride. All Ladybugs, their friends and family (female of course) are invited....hope to see you there.

## VOLUNTEERS SERVING THIS MONTH

### Elder of the Week:

Oct 1—Bernadine Lamar  
Oct 8—Priscilla Mulligan  
Oct 15—Terry Pettijohn  
Oct 22—Nancy Resnick  
Oct 29—Rick Thornburgh

### Liturgist

Oct 1—Daniel Watson  
Oct 8—Kathy Wechter  
Oct 15—Nancy Torcivia  
Oct 22—Elizabeth Wills  
Oct 29—Peg Speidel

### Visitors Table/Greeter

Oct 1—Linda Miller  
Oct 8—Priscilla Mulligan  
Oct 15—Betsy Hughes  
Oct 22—Heidi Cherry  
Oct 29—Margaret Reeder

### Pre K –Kindergarten Children's Church— Tonja Paolini

### Children's Church Grades 1-5

Trudy Miller

### Nursery

Oct 1—Leslie Eckert  
Oct 8—Donna Woodard  
Oct 15—Vicki Jacobs  
Oct 22—Leslie Eckert  
Oct 29—Vicki Simon

### Media Shout

Oct 1—Bernadine Lamar  
Oct 8—Katrena White  
Oct 15—Katrena White  
Oct 22—Bernadine Lamar  
Oct 29—Katrena White

### Sound Booth

Oct 1—Nicklaus McIlrath  
Oct 8—Carol Butler  
Oct 15—Bernadine Lamar  
Oct 22—Nicklaus McIlrath  
Oct 29—Nicklaus McIlrath

### Ushers for the month of October

Nancy Thornburgh, Jesse Wallace,  
Donna Woodard

### Communion for October —

Nancy Resnick, Nancy Torcivia, Larry Dowd, Ken Krenzer, Scott Sinnet

**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!**

## SHEPHERD'S TABLE

*By Cecilia Evans*

Shepherd's Table is a longstanding mission and outreach of our church. Currently, we have 25 people who serve on a team to prepare meals at Shepherd's Table once a quarter. Food preparation is between 2-4pm. The food, fun and fellowship enriches not only the people served but those who prepare the meals. I hear stories of cooking 40 pounds of frozen chicken for dinner or making chicken bog.

There is room for you if you would like to join a team to cook or to help wash dishes. Please call or email Cecilia Evans 843-520-6069 or [cebevans@aol.com](mailto:cebevans@aol.com).

### *(Pastor's Article continued from Page 1)*

God's Best Blessings Be Ours as We Serve the Lord Together! *Pastor Tom*

The October hymn of the month is *Dona nobis pacem*, number 752 in our Glory to God Hymnal. The hymn *Dona nobis pacem* has three Latin words that form the conclusion of the *Agnus Dei* ("Lamb of God"), a short anthem sung during the celebration of the Mass. When introduced, perhaps in the 7th century, only one wording was used, "Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis" (Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.) and it was repeated multiple times. By the 9th century, the total number of repetitions was fixed at three, and the final petition became "Dona nobis pacem" (Give us peace).

The composer is Anon.; arr. Eric T. Myers (b. 1962). The origin of this music is unknown. Estimates of its age range from the 15th to the 17th centuries. The musical style, however, suggests that it probably dates from the 18th or 19th centuries.



## BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

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.

Oct 2—Kris Zillioux

Oct 4—Anna Vaupel

Oct 5—Riley Resnick

Oct 9—Mike Dunn

Oct 12—Paula Jansson

Oct 15—Peggy O'Neil

Oct 17—Betsy Hughes

Oct 19—Pat Teal

Oct 20—Shirley Moore

Oct 29—Dana Zillioux

Oct 30—Mary Ann Bowie

## SPECIAL OFFERINGS IN OCTOBER

We will be receiving our Peace and Global Witness Offering on October 1. This offering is split between 25% for Helping Hand, 25% to the Presbytery/Synod and 50% to the General Assembly. For more information you can go to <http://specialofferings.pcusa.org/peace-global.html>.

October 29 is a fifth Sunday so we will be receiving our Fifth Sunday Offering. This offering is used to allow care, upkeep and improvement of our property. Please prayerfully consider your giving to these special offerings this month.

## FINANCIAL UPDATE

*By Joe Alexander*



August total income received was \$15,559 vs total expenses of \$30,620 for a loss of \$15,061. This was covered by moving \$22,000 from our savings account into our checking account.

The first eight months (January-August) YTD total income was \$317,552 vs YTD total expenses of \$344,982 for a net loss YTD of \$27,430. These net losses should be reduced with Preschool back in session along with the elimination of Pastor Becky's salary since she has taken a position as Interim Pastor at Indiantown Presbyterian Church in Hemingway.

## PRESCHOOL

*By Susan Spraker*



What a fantastic start to the new school year. Ms. Kristin, our newest teacher, has adjusted well and is already making an impact in our 3K MWF/TTH classroom.

October will be full of activities to celebrate Fall. Our annual trip to Thompson Farm will be on Tuesday, October 10. The children will enjoy a hayride, playing in corn, feeding animals and much more. On October 30 and 31, our students will celebrate Halloween with parties filled with games, food and spooky fun.

I hope everyone has a great kickoff to this fabulous Fall Season!



Reformation Sunday is October 29, 2017. Five hundred years ago, Martin Luther started the Protestant Reformation by nailing 95 theses on the door of the Castle Church. Elder Terry Pettijohn found this article in the August 2017 *Presbyterians Today*, and obtained permission of Joseph Small to reprint it in our newsletter. Dr. Small served as director of the Presbyterian Church (USA) Office of Theology and Worship from 1989-2011. He is author of many books for Presbyterians, including *Conversations on the Confessions* (2005).

### **Celebrating the Reformation** by Joseph D. Small

In late October 1517, an obscure Augustinian monk teaching in a minor German university offered a set of propositions, inviting an academic debate. Many Presbyterians can picture Martin Luther nailing his 95 Theses on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, but we are hard-pressed to say what the theses were about, and why they sparked a movement that both reformed and divided the church.

Luther's post was titled "Disputation on the Power and Efficacy of Indulgences." It condemned the use of indulgences, a practice based on the assumption that guilt is forgiven by God but punishment for sin can be reduced through prayers, good works or alms (monetary donations) as directed by a priest.

Luther's attack on indulgences began by turning to the gospel: "When our Lord and Master Jesus Christ said, 'Repent,' he willed the entire life of believers to be one of repentance" (thesis 1). The theses proceeded to deny that priests have power to forgive sins, and to attack the practice of selling certificates of forgiveness: "It is vain to trust in salvation by indulgence letters" (thesis 52). Instead, "The true treasure of the church is the most holy gospel of the glory and grace of God" (thesis 62).

Luther's harsh critique of indulgences could not be dismissed as abstract theological quibbles, for it assaulted the ecclesiastical apparatus, denying the church's power to grant remission of sins for the purchase of a piece of paper.

This was a critique anyone could understand; the pope and bishops understood it all too well. The church responded to Luther by demanding his silence. Luther refused, the conflict escalated, and soon reached the point of no return. It was not anyone's intent to divide the church, but Luther's combativeness and the intransigence of the leadership produced a schism that has led to 500 years of continuing church divisions.

Although Luther posted his 95 Theses 500 years ago, 2017 does not mark the anniversary of the idea of reformation, and Luther was not the first reformer. There were plenty of reformers before and after Luther. Popes Leo I, Gregory the Great and Gregory VII accomplished major church reforms hundreds of years before Luther was born. Benedict, Francis, Jan Hus, John Wycliffe and many more sought church reform, some successfully, some not. Beyond Luther, distinctive church reforms were initiated by Zwingli, Calvin, Cranmer, Wesley and others. Catholic reforms undertaken in the Council of Trent continued through the 20th century's Second Vatican Council.

The enduring accomplishment of the 16th-century Protestant Reformation is the continual recall-ing of the church to its true treasure, "the most holy gospel of the glory and grace of God." Its enduring heartbreak is the continual fragmentation of the church. The Reformed motto, *ecclesia reformata semper reformanda secundum verbum Dei* — the church reformed always to be reformed in accord with the word of God — is testimony to the continuing necessity of reformation, including reform of Protestantism's tendency toward persistent division.

### **(SESSION UPDATE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2)**

- ◆ Plans are in place to have the property bush hogged prior to the Presbytery meeting. You may have noticed our own lawn cutters are cutting deeper into the weeds with each mowing. We appreciate their hard work!
- ◆ The worship committee is working on a proposal to have scholarship singers from CCU sing with the choir.
- ◆ The Nominating Committee is in the process of preparing a slate of officers for the coming year. A called congregational meeting was approved for Sunday, October 8 to elect new Elders at the close of worship..
- ◆ The Session approved the baptisms of Jenny and Rainee Taylor. We are delighted to welcome their family to our flock.
- ◆ The Session acted on a motion to change meeting dates to the third Sunday of each month instead of alternating between Sunday and Monday evening meetings.
- ◆ The Session continues to consider what to do about our current sign. A banner was approved for purchase for the Presbytery meeting which will also highlight our fifteen-year anniversary to passersby.
- ◆ Special prayers were offered for Elder Thornburgh as he will undergo surgery. Please remember to pray for all of our church family.

# October 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> Adult Bible Study 9:15 am Choir Rehearsal 10:00am Fellowship 10:15 <b>Worship 11am</b> Children's Church <i>Communion</i> <b>WORLD COMMUNION DAY</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Quilters 10am	<b>4</b> Choir Rehearsal 7pm	<b>5</b> LadyBug Luncheon California Dreaming 12pm	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> Adult Bible Study 9:15 am Choir Rehearsal 10:00am Fellowship 10:15 <b>Worship 11am</b> Children's Church He~Brews Café <b>Elder Election</b>	<b>9</b> <b>Columbus Day</b> <b>Preschool closed</b> <b>church offices open</b>	<b>10</b> <b>Hosting New Harmony Presbytery Meeting 8:30am</b> <b>Preschool closed</b>	<b>11</b> Choir Rehearsal 7pm	<b>12</b> Team A Cooks at The Shepherd's Table 2pm	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> See October 8 <b>STATED SESSION MEETING 12:15pm</b>	<b>16</b> <b>Stewardship Packets will be mailed</b>	<b>17</b> Quilters 10am	<b>18</b> Choir Rehearsal 7pm	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Breakfast Buddies Olympic Flame 9am <b>Game Night 6:30-9pm</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> Adult Bible Study 9:15am Choir Rehearsal 10:00am Fellowship 10:15 <b>Worship 11am</b> Children's Church <b>Relay for Life Organizational Meeting 12:15pm</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Quilters 10am Team D Cooks at The Shepherd's Table 2pm	<b>25</b> Choir Rehearsal 7pm	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> See October 22 <b>STEWARDSHIP DEDICATION SUNDAY</b> <b>FIFTH SUNDAY OFFERING</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> Quilters 10am	<b>Nov 1</b> Blood Drive 3-7:30pm			



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Celebration Presbyterian Church

Dr Tom Dendy—Pastor

Sarah Abushakra—Music Director

Linda Berry—Office Administrator



## CELEBRATION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

### OUR IDENTITY STATEMENT

*We are Christ followers who are open, accepting, loving and welcoming to all!*

## 2018—AN INVITATION TO GIVE

*"Giving not getting, is the way. Generosity begets generosity."— Luke 6:38 (The Message)*

## FIFTEEN YEARS OF FAITHFUL LIVING AND GIVING

All that we have, the air we breathe, the food we eat, the people we love, are gifts from God. What portion of God's generosity to you are you willing to give back to God in generous gratitude?

### **Your time? Your heart? Your money?**

October is Stewardship Emphasis month. We will be mailing out your stewardship packet around October 16. In the packet will be a brochure explaining how we arrived at our proposed operating budget of \$266,678 for 2018. The pamphlet has a note from Pastor Tom, the narrative budget, a breakdown of income versus expenses and various ways for you to contribute. There is also an Estimate of Giving form for you to complete and return to the church on Commitment Sunday, October 29.

If you have any questions regarding the budget or stewardship, please see Elder Joe Alexander.

## TIMES OF NEED

*By Nancy Thornburgh*

**There is a new "team" at Celebration Church! It's called "Times of Need". Terry Baker, Sr. and I (Nancy Thornburgh) will be coordinating it**

Our main goal will be to reach out to people in need---whether it is illness, new babies, disabilities, whatever the need, we will try to help. We have a wonderful list of volunteers ready. If you know of someone who needs meals or assistance, please let me or Terry know so we can contact them and start helping. If you would also like to help, please let us know. We would be honored to put you on our list also. God Bless you all for your help.