



VOLUME 123

SEPTEMBER 2015

PASTOR'S ARTICLE

By Pastor Tom



Pastor Tom Dendy

BOMBS AWAY...YES and they went out with a BANG not a fizzle!

The contractors clearing our property of UXOs completed their work with a blast day on Monday, August 24, 2015. With oversight from Federal Defense employees active ordnance were staged on site and safely exploded as the work drew to a close here at Celebration. The equipment and cargo containers will be hauled away in the coming days and we can say a resounding THANKS BE TO GOD for long-time prayers regarding the clearance of our property being answered. We also extend our SPECIAL THANKS to the clearance team from SERES, Inc. and to The Presbytery of New Harmony for their full support in this clearance effort. And THANKS to each of you for your devoted prayers throughout this BOMBS AWAY clearance project! NOW WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN IN PRAYING *WHAT NEXT GOD?* as we seek to discern how best to utilize our wonderful land and facilities here at Celebration. Larry Dowd has maintained all along that we are clearing the way for "explosive growth!" Let's be open to the future and the possibilities unfolding before us!

SEPTEMBER IS STEWARDSHIP EMPHASIS SEASON AT CELEBRATION!

As we look forward to 2016 and prayerfully plan for meaningful mission and ministry here at Celebration, we recognize that it "takes a village" or in our case, "a congregation," to build a church and to sustain its worship and its works of service and outreach to the larger community and world around us. The Session and I invite you to consider living and giving with a theology of abundance rather than practicing a *theology of scarcity* as we work together to build up Celebration and extend our outreach in 2016. Scarcity says "there is never enough" time, money, people, or resources to accomplish God's work. Abundance invites us to believe in the limitless resources of GOD who is our provider and says, "with God we will have enough" time, money, people and resources to accomplish God's work here and now!

We also invite you to consider God's generosity as a model for your own living and giving. Generosity extends beyond merely the use of money, although it most definitely includes that. There are generous spirits; generous souls; people who are generous with their time, with their teaching, with their love. Generosity finds many biblical sources, and it is a fruit of the Spirit listed in Galatians 5:22-23. I admire and respect people who are generous and I want to become like them and generosity is a spiritual attribute acquired only by the practice of giving. Together, let us trust God's abundance and practice giving like God gives, generously and continually as we follow God's lead going forward!

FALL BACK INTO WORSHIP AND SERVICE AT CELEBRATION

Fall is on the way and we encourage each of you to FALL INTO ACTIVE INVOLVMENT at Celebration. We have a new Adult Sunday School Class beginning September 13 at 9:15 a.m. on Handel's MESSIAH. This 10 session class will explore the background and Bible connections to the beloved composition by George Frideric Handel. Children's Church will continue to offer our young disciples Christian learning opportunities during worship. Celebration Choir extends and OPEN INVITE to any and all who love to sing to join us Wednesday evenings at 7:00PM for rehearsal and Sunday mornings at 10:15AM for pre-worship warm up. (Continued on Page 8)

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SESSION UPDATE

By Nancy Torcivia

Holy Communion will be served
September 6

Next Session Meeting is Sunday,
September 20 at 12:30pm

The Session met for their monthly stated meeting on August 23. Following are actions and activities of your session:

The Session reflected on the loss of beloved Elder, Sally Herstine. She was remembered for her tireless work in the area of Missions. Sally was a founding volunteer at Shepherd's Table, and a long time supporter of SOS Healthcare, and Helping Hand. She organized the Santa's Sneakers drive and added a sock drive just this past month. A memorial service is planned for September 6 at 4:00pm at Celebration. Volunteers are needed to provide food for the reception and support in setting up the church. Email the church office to volunteer.

Entertainment coupon books are available for 2016 for a cost of \$20 and can be used starting now.

The Personnel Committee is continuing to work on annual evaluations for church staff.

A Leadership Forum was held on August 5 and all ordained elders, deacons, and clergy from the congregation were invited to an evening of fellowship and discussion about plans for Celebration. A presentation by Pastor Tom highlighted the Session's commitment to prayer for God's direction, and all were invited to join the effort. The group was also invited to join the Session in reading **"Sailboat Church: Helping Your Church Rethink Its Mission and Practice"** by Joan S. Gray. The book suggests that there

are two kinds of churches: Sailboat Churches and Rowboat Churches. What are the qualities of Sail Boat churches? Leaders know that what they have or lack in the way of human and material resources is not the decisive factor in what they can accomplish... They look at church as a continuing adventure with a God who leads and empowers them to do more than they ever could have dreamed. The key question is not "What do we have?", but "What is God leading us to be and do now in the place where we find ourselves?" They believe that the God who calls is the God who provides, and that if they are invested in doing what God wants the church to do, God will provide the resources. With the Holy Spirit in their sails, away they go! What are the qualities of Rowboat churches? God has given the church a basic agenda and then left it up to the church to get on with it. Progress depends on circumstances like the amount of money in the bank, the number of volunteers available, the charisma and skill of its leaders, and the demographics of its community. They ask the question, "What can we do with what we have?" Presence or absence of resources largely determines what can be done. What the sea is like and how willing and able people are to ROW makes the decisions. Let's Sail on together! **Books are available to "check out" for anyone interested in reading with us.**

September is Stewardship Season at Celebration! Guest pastor Dr. Bruce Ford will deliver the morning message on September 13, as Pastor Tom will be away at his oldest daughter's wedding. Stewardship Packets with

Estimate of Giving Forms and Narrative Budget projections for 2016 will be mailed to each household in the congregation on Monday, September 14. Please give prayerful consideration to your stewardship support for Celebration in 2016.

Stewardship Dedication Sunday will be Sunday, September 27 during worship. Please bring your completed Stewardship Forms to worship or return them to the church office by Thursday, October 1, 2015. Thanks for your faithful giving and living!

Adult Sunday School resumes on Sunday, September 13, with an exciting ten-week class entitled "Hallelujah—The Bible and Handel's Messiah." Class begins at 9:15am.

Vacation Bible School was a hit with an average of 55 kids attending each night. Kudos to Elder Butler and the Andrews for the outstanding props and a fun-filled and meaningful experiences for the children.

With the ordinance clearing almost complete (can we get another AMEN!), the Property Committee is meeting with the Planning Office to determine what landscaping and drainage work will have to be done.

The Endowment Committee is finalizing brochures for the kickoff in October.

Work continues on the website! If you have a group or organization, please email Nancy for an informational form that you can fill out so we have all the details needed for the website. (torcgriif@sccoast.net). We also need pictures of church activities, so email those to me, too!

Meetings with sign vendors continue next week, with two companies providing detail and bids.

(Continued on Page 4)

THE NEXT
BREAKFAST
BUDDIES WILL BE
HELD ON
SEPTEMBER 25,
9AM AT
DEAD DOG
SALOON

BREAKFAST BUDDIES

By Pat Teal

As always our breakfast at IHOP this month was another successful one. We had about 16 that attended, and of course they were happy go lucky, laughing and having a great time enjoying the company of each other. This is what it is all about, with the fellowship we share, getting to know one another better, and being able seek out friendship with those

we only see one day a week at church. Laurie Andrews led us in prayer, and the service is always great with our favorite waitresses, Erica and Ricky.

Next month our breakfast will be September 25, 9:00 a.m. at Dead Dog Saloon, in Murrells Inlet. Bob Stepanek is our host.

Please sign up in the Narthex. The more the merrier!



CELEBRATION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OUR IDENTITY STATEMENT

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

NEW
MONDAY
MORNING
BIBLE STUDY
AT 10:30AM
STARTING
SEPTEMBER 14

“TOOL TIME” — DECONSTRUCTING THE BIBLE BEGINS SEPTEMBER 14

The Rev. Becky Kiser will be facilitating this class that will examine the Bible and tools that can help us in studying the Bible. The ten-session class will begin Monday, September 14, 10:30am—12noon in the quilting/conference room. This class is open to anyone interested in learning more about Bible study. The sessions will finish by noon. Bring your Bible and a notepad and come ready to learn.

THE NEXT
LADYBUG
LUNCHEON WILL
BE AT
LONGHORN
STEAKHOUSE
ON THURSDAY,
SEPTEMBER 3
12NOON

LADYBUG LUNCHEON

By Carol Butler

Our August luncheon was held at the Grumpy Monk, another first for us. Yours truly was the hostess for this lunch.

There were 14 Ladybugs in attendance. We were so happy and surprised to have Cecilia Evans join us. Come back again, Cecilia. Sadly this was the last lunch for Cheryl Dulin as she will be going back to teach at Socastee High School and won't be able to come to lunch until next summer.

The food and the service were very good. It also happened to

be Gloria Flowers' birthday and we all sang to her and she got a great big piece of chocolate cake which she generously shared with us.

There was a lot of talk about how Vacation Bible School was going. There was no talk from Pat Teal as she was under strict orders from her doctor not to talk, as she had a great deal of hoarseness after her recent surgery.

We collected \$55.00 for charitable needs, which will be add-

ed to the kitty until we decide on our next charity.

The next lunch will be Thursday, September 3rd at noon at Long Horn Steakhouse in front of the Coastal Grand Mall. Carol Stepanek will be our hostess. Sign up in the Narthex if you know you can make it. Let me know if you need a ride. All Ladybugs, their friends and family (female of course) are invited....hope to see you there.





YOUTH NEWS

By Cecilia Evans and Jackie Sinnet

Youth Fall Kick-off/ Hot dog Social

Sunday, September 13, 2015

2:00 PM

Join us for our planning session for the 2015-16 year

Parents and Youth Grades 6-12

Agenda topics

Movie Night

Game Night

Lock-in

He-brews Planning

Inquirers Class 2016

Present Wrapping

Breakfast with Santa - December 5, Saturday

Hot dogs, drinks, and pickles to be provided

Please bring a side dish to share

“Give to God what’s right—not what’s left.”

SESSION UPDATE CONT.

By Nancy Torcivia

(Session Update continued from page 2)

A congregational meeting was approved for September 20 immediately following the worship service. The purpose of the meeting is to elect three members at large from the congregation to the Nominating Committee. The Session has appointed Elders Nancy Torcivia and Terry Baker, who together with Pastor

Tom and the three members elected by the congregation, will make up the committee that will nominate Elders for election to the Class of 2018 and to fill vacancies in the classes of 2016 and 2017.

If you order through Amazon, please go to smile.amazon.com when you place your order and select Celebration

Presbyterian Church and Amazon will make a donation to the church every time you make a qualifying purchase.

Rally Sunday is next week and we look forward to sharing our excitement with the congregation and kicking off the school year.

Remember – pray for your church. It makes a difference!

VOLUNTEERS SERVING THIS MONTH

Elder of the Week

Sep 6—Carol Butler
Sep 13—Jan Coulter
Sep 20—Cheryl Dulin
Sep 27—Mary Ann Bowie

Liturgist

Sep 6—Kathy Wechter
Sep 13—Paula Jansson
Sep 20—Nancy Torcivia
Sep 27—Elizabeth Wills

Visitors Table/Greeter

Sep 6—Jade Bender
Sep 13—Nanette Kelly
Sep 20—Margaret Reeder
Sep 27—Cindy and Chelsea Bramble

Ushers for September

Bob and Linda Miller, Barb Johnson

Nursery Melanie Mosley and

Sep 6—Vicki Simons and Donna Woodard

Sep 13—Vicki Jacobs
Sep 20—Betsy Hughes
Sep 27—Nanette Kelly

Pre K –Kindergarten Children's Church Mary Kait Jones and

Sep 6—Mary Ann Bowie
Sep 13—Karen Williams
Sep 20—Sharon Hills
Sep 27—Cindy Bramble

Children's Church Grades 1-5

Rick and Deborah McIlrath

Sound Board

Sep 6—Neil Carter
Sep 13—Neil Carter
Sep 20—Harvey Dulin
Sep 27—Neil Carter

Media Shout

Sep 6—Katrena White
Sep 13—Bernadine Lamar
Sep 20—Katrena White
Sep 27—Bernadine Lamar

Communion—Bernadine Lamar, Roy Andrews, Nancy Torcivia, Jeanne Bredbeck

"ABUNDANT
GIVING"
BEGINS ON
SEPTEMBER 6

Stewardship Is...



Love in Action

STEWARDSHIP

By Jan Coulter

Our "Abundant Giving" Stewardship Season will begin Sunday, September 6. We encourage all of you to participate by generously supporting Celebration and "Sailing" forward with us.

There are many new and exciting possibilities awaiting us as a congregation, and we need the support and participation of each one of you. Together, we can do

more than "... We ever dared to ask or imagine".

It's time to collect SANTA'S SNEAKERS for male and female teens. Our goal is to collect 150 pairs of athletic shoes by Sunday, December 13. The Salvation Army will distribute the shoes, along with the Socs for Santa that collected earlier this year.



ATTRACTIONS BOOKS ARE HERE!!!!

Celebration is once again selling the Attractions Dining and Value Guide for 2016. They are available now. Stop by the church office to get

yours. You can begin using the coupons when you purchase them and through 2016. These make excellent gifts also. The cost is \$20 per book.

The Grand Strand 2016 book contains **\$6,756** in savings!



BIRTHDAYS FOR SEPTEMBER

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 in your month, please contact Linda in the office to be included.

Sep 1—Paul Youngblood
 Sep 1—Michael Resnick
 Sep 19—Sandy Wallace
 Sep 20—Gretchen Deubler
 Sep 21—Jennifer Baker
 Sep 22—Katrena White
 Sep 22—Heide Cherry
 Sep 23—Carol Stepanek
 Sep 23—Cecilia Evans

Sep 24—Larry Dowd
 Sep 21—Linda Miller
 Sep 25—Jack Bamrick



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

By Carol Butler



It was another great year for our VBS. The G-Force – God's Love in Action theme really got the children and adults movin' and groovin'!!! Pastor Tom was "tie-dyed" with excitement every night. We started and ended each evening with fast-moving music. We had Chess the Cheetah skateboarding across the stage

and a 'real' traffic light to let the children know when it was time to sit, be quiet or get moving. There were eggs flying through the air, puppets helping to tell the Bible stories, fast-paced games and much more. The children made masks, planes, Pastor Tom hats and SNOW.....yes SNOW!!!

Many, many thanks to all who volunteered their time and talents. VBS would not be possible without our Celebration family giving of themselves. Thanks to all the children who participated and to their parents, grandparents, etc. who even got into the movin' and groovin' the last night.

PRESCHOOL

By Susan Spraker



It is hard to believe that I am starting my 9th year at the preschool! I know I say this every year but my how time flies! It amazes me every time I sit back and think about how much our school has grown since my first year. At the beginning of the my first year as Director we started the year with 88 out of 102 spots filled and this year we are opening with 118 children. We are not only full to capacity but even after adding an additional

afternoon class we are still bursting at the seams. We are going to have a very busy school year.

Our staff returned the end of August rested and ready to start setting up for the new school year. It is always nice to get together and catch up after the summer. There is such excitement in the building when everyone first returns.

The children will return on September 8. Stop by and say hello if you can. I am sure it will be a little crazy in here the first couple of weeks.

We are all looking forward to another fun and successful year!

If you ever have any questions or concerns about our program please do not hesitate to call me at 843-903-3211.

SEPTEMBER 2015**Sunday Schedule:****9:15 am—Adult Sunday School Begins on September 13**

10:30am - Fellowship and Coffee

11:00 am Worship—Nursery and Children's Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Quilters 10am	2 Men's Breakfast IHOP 8am Choir Rehearsal 7pm	3 LadyBug Luncheon at LongHorn Steakhouse 12noon	4	5
6 Worship 11am HOLY COMMUNION Memorial Service for Sally Herstine 4pm	7 LABOR DAY OFFICES CLOSED	8 Quilters 10am PRESCHOOL OPENS	9 Choir Rehearsal 7pm	10	11	12
13 Adult Sunday School Begins 9:15am Worship 11am He~Brews Café for Youth and Fall Kick-off/ Hog dog social	14 New Bible Study “Tool Time” 10:30am	15 Quilters 10am	16 Choir Rehearsal 7pm	17	18 Breakfast Buddies at Dead Dog Saloon 9am	19
20 Adult Sunday School 9:15am Worship 11am He~Brews Café for Youth SESSION 12:15pm	21 Bible Study “Tool Time” 10:30am	22 Quilters 10am	23 Choir Rehearsal 7pm	24	25	26
27 Adult Sunday School 9:15am Worship 11am	28 Bible Study “Tool Time” 10:30am	29	30 Choir Rehearsal 7pm			



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Facebook—

Celebration Presbyterian Myrtle-Beach

Dr. Tom Dendy—Pastor

Ms Sarah Abushakra—Music Director

Mrs. Linda Berry—Office Administrator

Friend us on Facebook at
Celebration Presbyterian Myrtle-Beach

PASTOR'S ARTICLE CONTINUED

(Continued from Page 1)

Tuesday Quilters will be quilting and invite interested folk to come join in the fun and fellowship as they make free quilts for mission and ministries of compassion. Speaking of Mission...fall is a great time to become involved as a volunteer with HELPING HAND and to bring donations of food and toiletries each Sunday to share with the less fortunate of Horry County. Meal Teams will be cooking up meals at Shepherd's Table on a rotation with other churches teams. Youth Group is putting out an all call to youths to join in the faithful fun and fellowship and service projects and He~Brews Café and leading TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES. The YOUTH GROUP is having a KICK OFF HOT DOG SOCIAL on Sunday, September 13, immediately following worship. Youths and their parents are invited to participate in the meal time and planning meeting for the upcoming year's youth activities. So join in regular worship and service here at Celebration because WORSHIP AND SERVICE ARE ALWAYS IN SEASON at Celebration!

WEDDING BELLS WILL BE RINGING IN THE DENDY/DAHLSTROM FAMILY...

I welcome your prayers for our extended family as we will be gathering together with friends and soon-to-be new relatives for the wedding of my oldest daughter Mary Ellen Dendy and her fiancé Aaron Ross Dahlstrom. The wedding destination is near Gatlinburg, Tennessee, in the Great Smokey Mountains National Park on Saturday, September 12, 2015.

NEW HARMONY PRESBYTERY EXECUTIVE TO LEAD IN WORSHIP AT CELEBRATION

Sunday, September 13, 2015, The Rev. Dr. Bruce Ford, Executive Presbyter and Stated Clerk of New Harmony Presbytery, will help lead in morning worship and preach on stewardship as part of our September "Abundant Giving" Stewardship Season at Celebration. Please welcome Bruce as he returns to our pulpit!

Save your **IHOP** Restaurant receipts and turn them in to the church office. IHOP is giving back to the church a percentage of your total bill. Eat at IHOP and in turn support Celebration. Thank you in advance.