



SEPTEMBER 2017

PASTOR'S ARTICLE

By Tom Dendy



Pastor Tom Dendy

With the return of professors and students to area colleges and teachers and students to area public schools, the freer days of summer are giving way to the more regimented and scheduled school days of September and fall begins on September 22, 2017. Things here at Celebration Church and Preschool are also picking up pace as preschool staff are readying their rooms and lesson plans for new and returning students who will begin their classes on Tuesday, September 5. Adult Bible Study of Matthew's gospel will begin again on Sunday, September 10 at 9:15 A.M. The Session will be sharing ministry and mission vision emphases developed from the Strategic Planning Process that everyone contributed to earlier this year. Celebration is celebrating 15 years of faithful ministry and mission in the Carolina Forest Community. We hope to let our ministry and mission vision emphases shape our ongoing outreach and service to our community over the coming years. We are so blessed with a wonderful church and we don't want to keep it a secret. In fact, we want to spread the news and extend our welcome to newcomers and long-timers here in the growing neighborhoods surrounding Celebration. Please do your part to invite a friend or neighbor to join us at Celebration. Our church will grow in strength and service as we share the love of Jesus and the joyous fellowship of Celebration with others. Thanks for spreading the word that CELEBRATION IS A LOVING CHURCH and a WELCOMING CHURCH. Truly folks will know we are Christians by our LOVE. So, give it a try because if each one of us reaches one other person for Christ our congregation will multiply week by week. ALSO – I will be hosting a PASTA WITH THE PASTOR LUNCHEON on Sunday, September 10, immediately after worship. I invite all of our regular attenders and newcomers who want to know more about Celebration Presbyterian Church. We will share an overview of our Presbyterian Church (USA) denomination and give insights to our local mission activities and ministry opportunities that may be of interest to you. We want to encourage folks to learn more about Celebration and to consider JOINING CELEBRATION as an ACTIVE MEMBER. This luncheon will be a time to ask questions and share our lives together, so please plan to be my guest on Sunday, September 10 for the PASTA WITH THE PASTOR LUNCHEON. Please RSVP to Linda Berry in the church office (843-903-0308) by Wednesday, September 6, to help us plan food accordingly.

HYMN OF THE MONTH - For September I have another favorite hymn of mine to share. *God of Grace and God of Glory* is number 307 in our GLORY TO GOD hymnal. Harry Emerson Fosdick (1878-1969) is the author and it was first published in the *Praise and Service: Hymns with Tunes for Christian Worship*, ed. H. Augustine Smith (New York, 1932). As an exercise "to see whether or not it was possible for [him] to express some of [his] attitudes in singable hymns," Harry Emerson Fosdick wrote several of them while summering on Mouse Island in Boothbay Harbor off the coast of Maine in 1930. This text was among them, and it "turned out to be a hymn that was adaptable for the dedication service of the Riverside Church [February 8, 1931], and it was so used." Especially when considered in the context of that magnificent New York City edifice, this hymn is a stirring reminder that "church" primarily denotes people and only secondarily a building.

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SESSION UPDATE

By Pastor Tom

The Session of Celebration met on Thursday, August 24, 2017 and offer the following report

- We approved the Consent Agenda which included minutes of our July 16 Stated Meeting, the Financial Reports for July 31, and the Monthly Presbytery Support (\$2,000) request for August 2017.
- Received reports from the Evangelism Committee that celebrated 27 participants at the recent movie night that featured THE SHACK, and outreach to new families at the Carolina Forest Elementary School open house on August 17.
- Received Financial updates through July and learned that giving has been down through the summer but this is traditionally the pattern. Preschool tuition will resume shortly and worship attendance and weekly giving will be on the rise as folks return from summer travels.
- Stewardship emphasis will have a special focus during September and October culminating in our Stewardship Commitment Sunday which is scheduled for Sunday, October 29. Thanks to everyone for your generous support of Celebration and for staying current in your giving.
- We received a report on Adult Education that Sunday Adult Bible Study will resume Sunday, September 10, at 9:15am and continue with the study of the Gospel of Matthew.
- We received a report on Christian Education for children and learned that VBS went extremely well and we averaged 46 children per night. Thanks to everyone who volunteered and helped make VBS 2017 a SUPER HERO SUCCESS.
- We received a report on Christian Education for our youth and learned that they will once again host sales for the Belk Charity Day discount coupons as a fund raiser for youth events through the year. We also heard a report on our youth who attended summer camp and one who worked as a camp counselor and had a very life-changing experience. Thanks to everyone who helped support our youth attending summer camp.
- The Hospitality report included notice of the Pasta With the Pastor Luncheon for Newcomers and Inquirers will be held on Sunday, September 10, following morning worship. Anyone interested in learning more about Celebration and how to become a member or just more involved, are welcome to RSVP by Wednesday, September 6, by calling Linda Berry in the church office at 843-903-0308. Hospitality is also planning for the hosting of The New Harmony Presbytery Meeting on Tuesday, October 10. This will involve feeding all the presbyters a boxed lunch and food prep ahead of time for those lunches and snacks to be served during registration. Please offer to help because we will need many volunteers to share in the hosting of this big day. Thanks. Hospitality will provide food for the upcoming Red Cross Blood Drive at Celebration on Wednesday, November 1, from 3-7:30pm.
- Property Committee reported that ALL lighting in the church has been changed to LED lighting and Rick Thornburgh will be meeting with Santee Cooper representatives to process the necessary rebates offered for making this energy saving investment. The Session wishes to THANK Mike Guarino (friend of Nancy Resnick) for sharing his expertise, LED bulbs and helping with the installation. There will be a church-wide work day on Saturday, September 23 (RAIN DATE Saturday, September 30). We will be cleaning up the grounds, garden and facilities in preparation for hosting the Presbytery meeting on October 10. Please bring yard tools, gloves and a cheery disposition and join us for WORK DAY beginning at 9:00am.
- Worship committee reported that Sarah Abushakra will be seeking some additional Coastal Carolina Music students to be stipend-supported singers with our choir. This has proven to be a wonderful experience with Chris Wright who is sadly having to give up his regular involvement with our choir due to senior year responsibilities at Coastal.
- Endowment Committee reported that the current balance of the Endowment Fund is \$28,652.00. The Committee encourages everyone to consider a gift to the Endowment Fund in support of our future at Celebration.
- Communication and Technology reported that elders are helping with promotional videos for the many areas of our ministry and mission. These will be used on our website and some in worship as minutes for mission. A TV monitor is now mounted in the hallway (THANKS PROPERTY COM) it and will be used to visually promote church and preschool activities. If you have an event to promote please contact the church office or Cecilia Evans to ask about having a slide created to promote the upcoming event. SPECIAL THANKS to Celebration member **Charles Schmidt** for donating the TV Monitor, to Tom Dendy and Rick Thornburgh for installing the wall bracket, and to electrician and preschool parent, **Steve Favreau** for installing the electrical outlet needed to power the TV monitor.
- Beginning Sunday, September 10, Terri Pettijohn and others involved with the Strategic Planning Committee will begin sharing the outcomes and vision gained from our recent Congregational Survey and the overall Ministry and Mission Planning Process report.
- Pastor Becky Kiser gave notice of ending her Temporary Supply ministry relationship with Celebration in early September. Beginning September 10, she will be serving as Interim Pastor of the Indiantown Presbyterian Church in Hemingway, SC. The Session expressed deep appreciation to Becky for her leadership in worship, help with pastoral care and for initiating and teaching the Tool Time Bible Study. Pastor Tom asked that we share a special time of Appreciation, Blessing and Sending for Pastor Becky in worship on September 3.
- Received a written report from the Preschool Board and acknowledge that Bernie Pettijohn has agreed to Chair the Preschool Board for the 2017-18 school year.
- Received a verbal report from the Nominations Committee that they will have a first meeting Sunday, August 27, to orient members and prayerfully begin their work.

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Youth of Celebration



YOUTH

By Cecilia Evans and Jackie Sinnet

He~Brews Cafe will have a kick-off for youth 6th-12th grade on September 10. He~Brews is held on the 2nd and 3rd Sundays each month during the worship service. It is a great way for our youth to connect and grow in their spiritual journey. Additional youth activities are planned throughout the year.

BLOOD DRIVE

There will be an American Red Cross Blood Drive on November 1, Wednesday, from 3:00 pm to 7:30pm. More information will follow.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Adult Bible will resume on Sunday, September 10, at 9:15am. They will be continuing the journey through the book of Matthew. It is led by Ken Krenzer and all are invited.

PASTOR'S ARTICLE (Continued from Page 1)

Almost every line is a prayer for the congregation; there is no celebration of the structure or its ornaments. As a result, this text has proved usable by a wide range of congregations gathered in any sort of building (or none). Because of the broad sound and corporate focus of this hymn, it serves better as an opening or closing selection than at other points in the service. Since it is essentially a prayer that the assembly who sings it may be empowered by the outpouring of God's Spirit, it makes a fitting and moving final hymn for a service.

This information comes from the *Glory to God, A Companion* by Carl P. Daw Jr.

THE NEXT
LADYBUG
LUNCHEON WILL
BE AT
TBONZ
SEPTEMBER 7
12NOON



LADYBUG LUNCHEON

By Carol Butler

Our August lunch took us to Capriccio's Italian Restaurant where we have dined before. Many thanks to Linda McCaskill for making the arrangements.

There were 16 Ladybugs in attendance. We collected \$60.00 for charity. Thank you, ladies, for your generosity.

There was mostly Italian fare ordered, including pizzas, manicotti and other pasta-type dishes. The food was delicious and the service was very good.

As always we laugh a lot and the fellowship brings us close together. These luncheons are truly special to all of us Ladybugs.

The next lunch will be Thursday, September 7th at TBonz located on 17 Bypass across from Broadway at the Beach. MaryAnn Bowie 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:

Sep 3—Carol Butler
 Sep 10—Cecilia Evans
 Sep 17—Nanette Kelly
 Sep 24—Ken Krenzer

Liturgist

Sep 3—Kathy Wechter
 Sep 10—Priscilla Mulligan
 Sep 17—Carol Butler
 Sep 24—Carla Baker

Visitors Table/Greeter

Sep 3—Priscilla Mulligan
 Sep 10—Priscilla Mulligan
 Sep 17—Barbara Barranco
 Sep 24—Carol Lagassee

Pre K –Kindergarten Children's Church—

Tonja Paolini

Children's Church Grades 1-5

Trudy Miller

Nursery

Sep 3—Vicki Simon
 Sep 10—Donna Woodard
 Sep 17—Betsy Hughes
 Sep 24—Nanette Kelly

Media Shout

Sep 3—Bernadine Lamar
 Sep 10—Katrena White
 Sep 17—Bernadine Lamar
 Sep 24—Katrena White

Sound Booth

Sep 3—Nicklaus McIlrath
 Sep 10—Carol Butler
 Sep 17—Carol Butler
 Sep 24—Nicklaus McIlrath

Ushers for the month of September

Kerry and Nanette Kelly, Terry Baker

Communion for September —

Terry Pettijohn, Rick Thornburgh,
 Barbara Barranco, Bob Miller,
 Joe Alexander

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!

CHURCH-WIDE CLEAN-UP DAY



When you have company you spruce up your home and yard. Well, Celebration is having company in October. We are hosting the New Harmony Presbytery on October 10 and need to spruce up our grounds.

A church-wide clean-up is planned for Saturday, September 23, 9am, with a rain date of September 30. Thank you in advance for coming and helping get ready for company.

SESSION UPDATE

By Pastor Tom

(Continued from Page 2)

- Pastor Tom invited elders to share in the Pasta With the Pastor Luncheon on Sunday, September 10, following worship.
- Session approved two baptisms: **Jeremy Sawyer Bird** on Sunday, August 20, (grandson of Elder Carol Butler) and **Savannah Ann Steffen** on Sunday, September 17, (daughter of Jonathan and Jordan Steffen).
- Prayer Joys and Concerns were shared and the meeting was closed in prayer by Elder, Joe Alexander.
- NEXT STATED SESSION MEETING WILL BE HELD SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, AT 12:15pm.
- COMMUNION WILL BE SERVED ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3.



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, please let Linda Berry in the office know.

Sep 1—Michael Resnick
 Sep 1—Paul Youngblood
 Sep 9—Sam Mason
 Sep 19—Sandy Perry
 Sep 20—Gretchen Deubler
 Sep 21—Jennifer Baker
 Sep 21—Rick Thornburgh
 Sep 22—Heidi Cherry
 Sep 23—Cecilia Evans

Sep 23—Carol Stepanek
 Sep 24—Larry Dowd
 Sep 24—Linda Miller
 Sep 24—Bernie Pettijohn
 Sep 25—Jack Bamrick

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

By Carol Butler

Another year of Vacation Bible School has come and gone. This year's theme was "Hero Central – Discover your Strength in God". It was a rousing success with an average attendance of 46 children per night. The games were lots of fun; the crafts were awesome with hero masks and shields; discovery was bubbling over; the snacks were yummy; the music and dancing had us rockin' and rollin' and the Bible stories were mesmerizing. Many, many thanks go out to all those children and families who participated, those who volunteered and those who just "showed up" to see what was going on. The children truly went away each night feeling like SUPERHEROES!!!

FINANCIAL UPDATE

By Joe Alexander



July income showed a loss of \$7,196 while YTD there is a loss of \$19,919. These losses have been covered by a transfer from our savings account. CPC has been without the Preschool monthly rental income of \$2,500 for the months of June, July, and August. CPC's first Summer Camp ended in July with income generated of \$8,580, and expenses of \$9,022 for a loss of \$442. There should be some improvement in our financial condition as we enter into the fall.

PRESCHOOL

By Susan Spraker



It is hard to believe that I am starting my 11th year at the preschool! I know I say this every year, but my how time flies! The excitement to start the new school year is humming through the halls. The teachers have been preparing new activities and setting up incredibly inviting classrooms to welcome our students on September 5.

We are all looking forward to another fun and successful year! Classes are in session from 8:15-11:15 and 12:15 to 3:15 if you want to pop in for a visit.

If you ever have any questions about our program, please do not hesitate to call me at 903-3211. There are still a few afternoon spots available, if you know of anyone that is looking for a preschool send them our way.

This month Elder Pettijohn reports on a brief history of the Apostle's Creed. The constitution of the Presbyterian Church USA has two parts, the Book of Order and the Book of Confessions. We will cover many of the confessions in future newsletters, but we start with the first one, the Apostle's Creed.

The History of the Apostle's Creed

The Christian church went from Jerusalem into Judea and to the end of the earth (Acts 1:8). It had many obstacles to overcome. It had to take the Jewish gospel into Greek and Roman society. The church had to develop strategies for worship, education, administration, evangelism, and social action. It had to compete with other religions.

Early creeds helped to define the mission of the church. The Apostle's Creed is the earliest, most rugged, and best known of the documents that make up the creeds and confessions of the Presbyterian church. It was first formulated in Rome between 160 and 180 AD.

At that time a man by the name of Marcion arrived in Rome, intent on forcing the Christian church to accept his ideas. Marcion did not believe God was the creator, since why would a creator create snakes and make life so miserable? He tried to erase from scripture all Jewish ideas, and said the only scripture necessary was Paul's letters.

The Apostle's Creed was developed partly as a response to Marcion. The original was brief: *I believe in God, the all-sovereign Father. And In Jesus Christ, His Son, the One born of Mary the Virgin, the One crucified under Pontius Pilate, and buried; the third day risen from the dead, ascended into the heavens, seated at the right hand of the Father, whence He will come to judge the living and the dead. And in the Holy Ghost, resurrection of flesh.*

The Apostle's Creed's structure may be based on Jesus' command to make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Most early Christians were illiterate, so oral repetition of the Apostles' Creed, along with the Lord's Prayer and the Ten Commandments helped to preserve and transmit the Christian faith.

The Trinity was emphasized. When baptized, people stated their faith, "I baptize thee in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." When baptized, on the night before Easter in 180 AD, they repeated the Apostle's Creed, and then they celebrated Lord's Supper on Easter.

Between 150 and 300 AD, the Church experienced major persecution, often requiring Christians to make sacrifices to the emperor at Rome (place incense on an altar to the emperor). If Christians refused, they were tortured or killed. When the persecutions ended, a debate arose as to who should come to church services, only the true ones or also the ones who were weak. It was decided that everyone should be welcome, and the phrase was added to the Apostle's Creed: *I believe in the forgiveness of sins.*


Another controversy arose in the early 5th century in North Africa when Augustine was the bishop of Hippo. How universal was the church? Some argued only those who were faithful in Rome, others argued all Christians. Augustine insisted it should be everyone. Eventually the phrase was added: *I believe in the Holy catholic Church.* 'Holy' refers to morally firm, and 'catholic' refers to universal.

Two other phrases were added in 5th century. *He descended into hell* was added in Gaul, referring to the Lord entering the region of darkness upon His death and bringing the light of life there. *The communion of saints* was included to describe the constituency of the church: the 'saint' is one who has been sanctified by the death and resurrection of Christ. The Church is a community of those who have been set apart by the call of God in Christ to share fully in the life of faith. The Apostle's Creed was completed in its present form in the 8th century.

The Apostle's Creed states our faith in the triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. It teaches about Christ by a series of verbs: was conceived, born, suffered, crucified, dead, buried, rose again, ascended, will come to judge. Communion of saints is an antidote to life's isolations and alienations. We receive forgiveness of our sins. We are promised resurrection of the body, and life eternal.

September 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)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Preschool open house 9:30am	2
3 Choir Rehearsal 10:00am Fellowship 10:15 Worship 11am Children's Church Communion	4 LABOR DAY OFFICES CLOSED	5 Quilters 10am First Day of Preschool	6 Choir Rehearsal 7pm	7 LadyBug Luncheon TBonz 12pm	8	9
10 Adult Bible Study 9:15am Choir Rehearsal 10:00am Fellowship 10:15 Worship 11am Children's Church He~Brews Café Pasta with the Pastor 12:15pm	11	12 Quilters 10am	13 Choir Rehearsal 7pm	14 Team C cooks at The Shepherd's Table 2pm	15 Breakfast Buddies Dead Dog Saloon 9am	16
17 Adult Bible Study 9:15am Choir Rehearsal 10:00am Fellowship 10:15 Worship 11am Children's Church He~Brews Café STATED SESSION 12:15pm	17	19 Quilters 10am	20 Choir Rehearsal 7pm	21	22	23 Church work day 9am
24 Adult Bible Study 9:15am Choir Rehearsal 10:00am Fellowship 10:15 Worship 11am Children's Church	25	26 Quilters 10am	27 Choir Rehearsal 7pm	28	29	30 Rain date for Church work day 9am



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Celebration Presbyterian Church

Dr Tom Dendy—Pastor

Dr Rebecca Kiser, Temporary Supply 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!

From Priscilla Mulligan, Evangelism Elder

Psalms 9 “I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, I will tell of all your wonderful deeds.”

Psalms 66:16, 19 “Come and hear all you who fear God, and I will tell you what he has done for me.” “But truly God has listened, he has given heed to the words of my prayer.”

Most people do not feel very comfortable speaking publicly about their personal faith. The Bible is full of stories of faith. The stories we have heard are from a distant past and they seem so far away.

Growing up my family never talked about their moments when they felt the power of God in their lives. And they were God fearing people who went to church, read the Bible faithfully and said “grace” at every meal.

Stories of faith and the faithful have never stopped just because the Bible was assembled and printed. That was not the end of the stories! I’ll bet every family has had moments when the power of God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit were felt! These stories need to be passed from one generation to the next, they are every bit as important as the Bible stories.

I know that these stories are very personal to the person having them. But we need to pass them along to others so that they know that it is not something that only happened in Bible times. But that God’s Power and Grace is continuing each and every day.

We can share our stories to family and friends. We can listen as family, friends, even total strangers share their stories. We offer to share the knowledge of God’s Grace by our own experiences. Start talking to family members, adults and children.

Plant the seeds early in the younger generation. This will hopefully give them strength in difficult times. Because when the time of difficulty comes to them (as it comes to all of us), they will need to draw on the knowledge of God’s Grace and Love.



The 2018 Attractions Dining and Value Guide Books are here. They are \$20 per book and can be used starting now. They are available in the church office. They make excellent gifts!