



# First Press

*The First Presbyterian Church Newsletter*

July 2005

Rev. Dr. Conrad Sharps - Senior Pastor  
Rev. Hope Lee - Associate Pastor  
Rev. Dr. John R. Harland - Parish Associate



## One Child of God

In the early nineteenth century a pastor in England was reprimanded by his superior for adding only one person to the congregation in a year — and that person "was a boy!" The pastor was so crushed that later that day he got on his knees to pray. While he was praying someone came into the church and walked up behind him. It was the boy — his only new member that year. The boy had come to ask the pastor if he could become a minister or a missionary.

The boy was Robert Moffat, who was destined to be the missionary who opened up Africa to the gospel of Jesus Christ. During one of his furloughs at home, Moffat accepted a speaking engagement at which a young doctor by the name of David Livingston was present. Livingston ended up marrying Moffat's daughter, as well as becoming one of the greatest medical missionaries in the history of humanity, laboring for more than three decades in the jungles of Africa.

Obviously success does not lie in numbers, as God can change the course of history with "only one — and him only a boy!" Consider the impact we as a community of faith

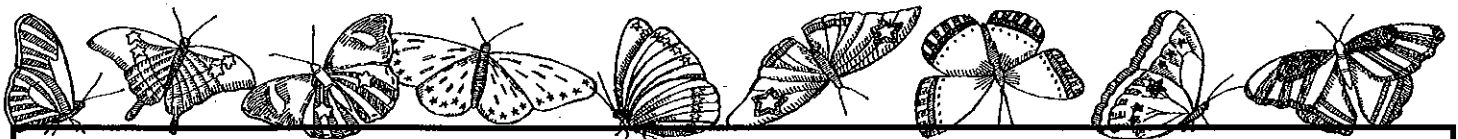
could have on God's plan for our world if each of us invited "just one" to come and be a part of the church.

In the modern world we have many high tech methods of communication. We have e-mail, satellite, FAX, cell phones, television, radio and internet video capabilities just to name a few. The most important and effective way to communicate the good news of Jesus Christ however, remains sharing the gospel and the love of God one person to the next.

In one of Paul's letters to the Christians in Corinth he writes: "All of this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation... We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us." (2 Corinthians 5:18, 20)

In each of our spheres of influence, I would imagine that there is at least one person who needs to know of the love of God — the reconciliation possible in Jesus Christ. Perhaps today is the day God would have you reach out and communicate with that particular child of God the good news of the gospel.

Be prayerful and just imagine what great potential God desires for every human life. In the scope of God's Kingdom there is no such thing as "just one." Thanks be to God!

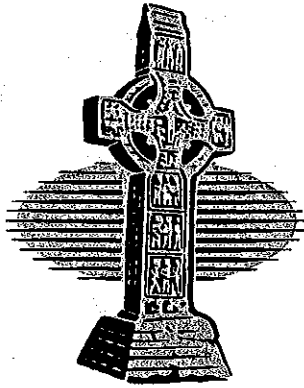


Please submit articles for the newsletter as early as possible, but no later than the 20th of each month.

## Choir Trip in 2006 to Ireland

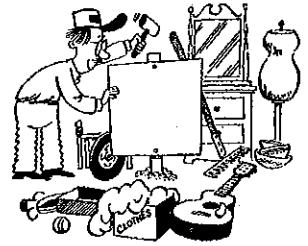
The Chancel Choir has scheduled an eleven-day musical mission trip to Southern Ireland in 2006. Plans are under way with a departure set for May 24<sup>th</sup> from Jacksonville, through Atlanta and arriving in Dublin the morning of the 25<sup>th</sup>. The trip will include four church services plus one dinner theater performance with stops in Cobh, Tralee, Killarney, Ennis, Galway and Shannon plus sights along the way.

We currently have 60 people signed up and have space available for 15 more enthusiastic supporters of our trip. Last year, when we went to the UK, we enjoyed all the support of our groups at every concert and the opportunity to meet people from all over Europe visiting these concerts. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Bob or Jane Lindberg, and they will fill you in on all the details.



## Annual Garage Sale

It's time for the 2005 church garage sale! Saturday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> is the date, Jim Thomas Hall is the place, and we need lots of help. You can help in several ways:



- ♥ Set up – Tuesday evening, 7/19 6:30 – 8 p.m.; Wednesday, 7/20, 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m.; Thursday, 7/21, 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m.
- ♥ Work the Sale – Saturday, 7/23, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- ♥ Clean up – Saturday, 7/23, 1:30 to 3 p.m. Trucks are very helpful.

This is a wonderful way to meet new people in our fabulous church family. As always many hands make very light work, especially on Tuesday evening. Last year, we had a crew of ten that night and were finished in one hour. Call Nancy or Carol to sign up.

Please clean out those nooks and crannies in your home and garage; bring your old treasures to Jim Thomas Hall that week, then help out and come back on Saturday to shop for new treasures. No clothes please.

Call Nancy Scofield at 277-3760 or Carol Whitman 261-0524 if you have questions.

## Nursery News



We are in need of volunteers over the age of 21 to assist Sarah Jane in our nursery during the 11 a.m. service. We are looking for volunteers who love children and would be available to rock babies and play with our toddlers.

Please call Shirley Owens @ 261-5375 if you would like to help out (even one or two times over the summer would be greatly appreciated).

## Barnabas Center

Barnabas Center is in need of two types of volunteers:

- ♥ Volunteers are needed at the New-to-You store to sort and display items donated for resale.
- ♥ Volunteers are also needed to work at the Crisis Center at the Hilliard office on Mondays as receptionists and intake interviewers who deal with clients.

Training for these two positions will be provided on site. Please contact Ann Myers at Barnabas Center at 261-7000 for more details.

## Presbyterian Women's News

Thank you to all of the women who helped to make our June Birthday Tea a wonderful time of fellowship and commitment to mission as we gave our birthday offering to help those in need throughout the world. The women's Chancel Choir Ensemble, under the leadership of Jane Lindberg was inspiring. Linda Laine's reflection on the Bible study we've completed was thought provoking and so well presented. And the food was delicious.

Circles do not meet in July and August although our mission outreach continues. Personal items for Barnabas can be left in the basket in Fellowship Hall in July and August.



PRESBYTERIAN  
WOMEN

## Fate of the Revolutionaries

We call them heroes. The British called them traitors. Many of them turned out to be martyrs. Here is what happened to some of the 56 men who signed the Declaration of Independence:



- Five were captured and tortured as traitors.
- Nine joined the revolutionary army, fought and died.
- Eight men had property looted by the British army or by vandals.
- One signer's home was taken over by a British general. The owner, Thomas Nelson Jr., asked General Washington to burn the home down. The general did.
- The home of Francis Lewis was destroyed and his wife put in jail. She died shortly thereafter.
- Three men had their fields and mills destroyed.



**Carl and Mary Hunt** moved to the island from Massachusetts. His wife Mary is already a member of FPC. They have four adult children who have given them seven grandchildren and one great grandchild. None of them live in the area. Carl has retired twice: once from the Navy and last year from General Dynamics. He now spends his time working with computers especially alternative software systems, gardening, and home improvement.

**Ralph and Linda Proctor** have four adult children who live in Jacksonville, St. Mary's, and Brunswick. Their five grandchildren range in age from one three-year old to two college students. They have returned to Fernandina after spending five years in DeFuniak Springs, Florida. Both Ralph and Linda are retired from the Federal Aviation Administration, and they both enjoy fishing, golfing, and traveling.

**Nick and Mary Beth Burke** came to the island last year from Reidsville, Georgia and belonged to a small Methodist Church. Nick works part time as a pharmacist in Georgia, and Mary Beth works full-time in Waycross as a Training Coordinator for the Southeast Health District. They have two adult children and love to travel.

**Tammy Schaeffer** is from Sault Ste Marie, Michigan. She works in Brunswick, Georgia as an instructor at the Customs and Border Protection Academy. Terri enjoys reading and traveling. She is also interested in dogs and the Spanish language and culture.

**Mary Rose Gladney** retired after 35 years in education. Her last 29 years in teaching were spent in the American Studies Department at the University of Alabama. She has a daughter and three grandchildren living in Miami. She moved from Tuscaloosa, Alabama last year and sings with our church choir and the Island Chamber singers.

# July 2005

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>3</b> Baptism MS Great Escape, Mars Hill, NC	<b>4</b> Independence Day MS Great Escape, Mars Hill, NC	<b>5</b> 3:00 PM Men's Coffee Klatch 4:00 PM Gen. Soc. 7:00 PM Property MS Great Escape, Mars Hill, NC	<b>6</b> 6:00 PM Com. & Evang. MS Great Escape, Mars Hill, NC	<b>7</b> 8:00 AM Prayer 9:30 AM DAR 4:00 PM PW CT MS Great Escape, Mars Hill, NC	<b>8</b> MS Great Escape, Mars Hill, NC Pastor's Day Off	<b>9</b> MS Great Escape, Mars Hill, NC
<b>10</b> 1:30 PM Youth Suns' Game & Concert MS Great Escape, Mars Hill, NC	<b>11</b> 4:00 PM MS Girls Bible Study, YC 5:30 PM Christian Ed. 6:00 PM Pink Ribbons 7:00 PM-8:00 PM HS Girls Bible Study, YC	<b>12</b> 3:00 PM Men's Coffee Klatch 4:00 PM MS Girls Bible Study, YC 5:00 PM Mission 7:00 PM-8:00 PM HS Girls Bible Study, YC 7:00 PM Worship	<b>13</b> 4:00 PM MS Girls Bible Study, YC 7:00 PM-8:00 PM HS Girls Bible Study, YC	<b>14</b> 8:00 AM Prayer 4:00 PM MS Girls Bible Study, YC 7:00 PM-8:00 PM HS Girls Bible Study, YC	<b>15</b> 7:00 PM Youth Comedy Night, YC Pastor's Day Off	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> Baptisms Communion	<b>18</b> 4:00 PM ETF-Library 5:30 PM Finance Garage Sale Set-up	<b>19</b> 3:00 PM Men's Coffee Klatch Garage Sale Set-up Session	<b>20</b> 2:00 PM Membership Care Garage Sale Set-up Youth Wild Adventures	<b>21</b> 8:00 AM Prayer Garage Sale Set-up Youth Wild Adventures	<b>22</b> Garage Sale Set-up Pastor's Day Off	<b>23</b> Garage Sale
<b>24</b> 12:00 PM HS Girls Day Out 6:00 PM Nassau Halfway House 7:00 PM Youth Boys-Video Games-VC Min. for Mission	<b>25</b> 7:00 PM CBS, JTH	<b>26</b> 3:00 PM Men's Coffee Klatch	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 8:00 AM Prayer	<b>29</b> 4:00 PM HS Youth Ronald McDonald Pastor's Day Off	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b>						

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# It's been WILD!

Last week, Maxwell Hall at the Methodist Church was transformed into an African Safari Animal Preserve, and our adult classrooms were active safari camp sites. 150 wild monkeys, giraffes, rhinos, zebras, crocodiles, elephants and lions in the form of children traveled in Safari jeeps to five different campsites where they learned Bible stories about Jesus and the meaning of the Lord's Prayer.

What a week it was; filled with music, fun and creative crafts, huge animal inflatables for jumping, climbing and exploring and plenty of ice pops, animal crackers, & fruit snacks to fill those hungry beasts! Everywhere you could hear the sounds of joy, laughter, singing and one special word-Jambo! which means hello in Swahili. The sheer pleasure of the week was obvious in the pictures and video displayed on the big screen Friday evening when the audience was wowed by the concert presented by the children complete with an instrumental number performed with the instruments they had made.

It would be impossible to name all of the wonderful, generous people who contributed to making a special memory for all of these children last week! You know who you

are and so does God. He blesses you for caring and giving to make a difference in a child's life. You have answered His call and been true to your covenant to nurture and love these children.

Our mission projects for this year included the Mascingine Children's Home in Cape Town, South Africa. VBS children brought in money each day to total \$1190.46. The offering taken on Friday evening raised our gift to \$1,179.37! We also collected needed items for Jeannie's Jungle, a wild life rehab facility in Yulee. Jeannie was able to attend our closing program to receive the boxes of donated goods and show off a six week old bobcat. Finally, framed praying hands foil art crafted by the children will be sent to wounded soldiers in a veteran's hospital. It was wild, but it was wonderful! It was the vision of our Ministers, Conrad and Bruce Jones, to engage in cooperative ministry and it has been a blessing to both churches and our community each year. Thank you again for all of the physical help, donated snacks, volunteers and financial support you have provided. To God be the Glory!!!



## Session Notes

The session did not meet in June.

### Middle School Ministry

Be a special part of our Middle School Youth's Great Escape. All members are invited to send cards and/or care packages to our youth at FPC, Fernandina Beach

% The Great Escape  
P.O. Box 6785

Mars Hill College  
Mars Hill, NC 28754

Put your packages in the mail between July 1<sup>st</sup> and July 5<sup>th</sup> to make sure it reaches us on time.

## Flower Calendar

- ♥ July 3 - Karen and Don McFaden in celebration of their first date in 1955.
- ♥ July 10 - Scott and Nancy Inboden.
- ♥ July 17 - Ann Bass to the Glory of God and in honor of her family.
- ♥ July 24 - Susan, Thomas, Steven and Erica Rodriguez in memory of James Thomas Hahne and in honor of Erica's 14<sup>th</sup> birthday.
- ♥ July 31 - Marilyn Showalter to the Glory of God and in honor of Nelson's birthday on August 1<sup>st</sup>.



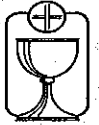
## Summer Sunday School Teachers

Sunday School teachers are still needed for Children's Church for ages 3 and 4. Please sign up in Jim Thomas Hall or call the church if you are interested in helping.



## July Communion

Communion will be served on July 17<sup>th</sup> at both services.



## Wild Adventures Trip

The youth will be taking an overnight trip to Wild Adventures in Valdosta on July 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. The cost is \$50, and the deadline to sign up is July 10<sup>th</sup>. Friends are always welcome.

First Press is published monthly as part of the ministry of First Presbyterian Church.

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**THE PRAYER  
OF THE  
RIGHTEOUS  
IS POWERFUL  
AND  
EFFECTIVE.**

J A M E S 5 : 1 6

**Sunday Worship Hours: 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.**  
**Sunday School: 9:55 a.m.**  
**Thursday Morning Prayer Group: 8:00 a.m.**