

## Spring Hill Messenger

Vol. 63

August 2007

No. 8

### From the Pastor...

**A**s I write this note, summer is nearing an end. The Festival of Faith has concluded. Lay Sunday has come and gone. Dr. McCrummen will shortly walk through the doors of the church having had a time of rest. So quite naturally we begin to turn our thoughts toward August and September. Those two months mark the start of a number of calendar events. School begins for students. Classes convene for those in college. Cooler weather is on the horizon. Football games and their associated chatter become more apparent.

In the church, August and September have a newness about them as well. Officer training begins. Confirmation classes are held. The new Christian Education offerings for the fall are published. With this in mind then, now is a wonderful time to pray and discern how God is calling you to grow deeper spiritually.

Spring Hill Presbyterian Church has a number of wonderful Christian Education opportunities for a person who wants to go deeper with God. Unlike many churches, SHPC has many capable teachers and numerous course offerings. If you are a young family, your children will be cared for as you explore your faith and they explore their faith. If you are retired, you can be in a class with people just like yourself, retired. If God has called you to lead, teaching spots are available.

At Spring Hill Presbyterian, there is no excuse for not being involved in Christian Education. I think it better to consider where you feel the tug of God's Spirit to grow deeper in the Lord. Sensing this tug involves prayer and discernment.

In the book *Engaging Benedict*, Laura Swan writes, "Discernment recognizes that God is intimately interested in the quality of and direction for our life, and that we were created with passions, interests, and gifts for particular purposes. When we are in an intimate relationship with God, we are interested in what God desires for us."

And so, as August and September approach, what is God "intimately interested in" for you in the area of Christian Education at Spring Hill Presbyterian Church?

May God bless you as you pray and discern the promptings of the Holy Spirit.

Love,  
Mark



The Lord's Supper will be  
celebrated during worship on  
Sunday, August 5.

## **Music Notes**

### **Randy Sheets, Director of Music Ministries and Organist**

#### ***Sing and Play in a New Season!***

In September our new musical season will begin and we are eager to invite all persons to explore how they might get involved in music ministries. Participating in music at our church provides unique opportunities that cannot be duplicated elsewhere, simply because they are rooted not only in the Christian faith, but in the traditions and theology of our own church. You are invited to investigate the opportunities at SHPC in music!

Also, we need leadership HELP in several areas--- please take note and prayerfully consider these opportunities. To find out more—or to indicate your willingness to serve, please call, email, or use the tear-off below.

**1. Needed--Children's Church Music Leaders**

Would you like to teach our children some great new music during children's church on Sunday? The only requirements are that you are a Youth or older and enjoy singing! You may pick the Sundays that are convenient for you. We will provide you with training and everything you need to know at a meeting on Sunday, August 19 at 5:00 p.m. Come to the choir room and enjoy the fellowship as we teach you some great new tunes to use for the coming year. HEARTFELT THANKS to last year's helpers; Alexandra and Samantha Fry, Brooke Barnes, Katie and Leigh Hoitt, Lindsay Sheets, and Ashley Wikle. "Make a Joyful Noise!" contact Susan Hoitt @ 342-1550, ext. 12 or 675-1044.

**2. Pianist needed for a Children's Choir.** You don't have to be Van Cliburn! If you are interested, please contact Susan Hoitt @ 342-1550, ext. 12 or 675-1044.

**3. Sound System Staff Needed.** Persons are needed to staff the sound booth for worship services and special events. Interested senior high youth and adults are encouraged to contact Randy Sheets. One or more training sessions will be provided.

**Group Voice Lessons for Adults.** If you like to sing and would like to strengthen your voice and learn basics of music reading, this short-term class taught by Randy Sheets may be for you. The schedule of this pilot program, dependent on the membership of the class, is projected to consist of four one-hour sessions, beginning as soon as it can be organized. Contact Randy Sheets at the church if you are interested.

**Chancel Choir** begins its new season with rehearsal on **Wednesday night, August 1, at 7 pm** in the choir room. Advanced high school singers through adults who can carry a tune and can learn harmony parts are welcome.

**Auditions for Mobile's Singing Children** are being held now for children from grade 3 through high school. Contact Susan Hoitt at the church.

**Moving Music for Youth** is a pilot program offered by Randy Sheets for youth in grades 8-12 who are seriously interested in developing their musical abilities. A projected schedule is one hour a week in August. This program will be based on the comprehensive music learning approach of Dalcroze eurhythmics, where mind, body, and emotions are integrated in group activities that help the individual develop skills needed for high-level, expressive musical performance in voice or any instrument. For information, contact Randy Sheets (a certified instructor in Dalcroze eurhythmics) and see [www.dalcrozeusa.org](http://www.dalcrozeusa.org).

**Choirs for Children and Youth** begin on Sunday afternoon, September 9. Singing and ringing groups for children who have turned 4 by Sept. 1, through grade 12.

**Spring Hill Ringers.** An auditioned group of advanced youth and adults who practice handbells on Wednesday nights at 6:00 p.m., beginning Sept. 12. Positions are open. Contact Randy Sheets.

**Please see tear-off on next page to sign up!**

**Tear-off for Responses**

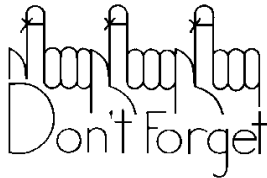
**Return to Randy Sheets at the church or call 342-1550, ext 15 or email:  
[rsheets@springhillpresbyterian.org](mailto:rsheets@springhillpresbyterian.org)**

**Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_**

**email address: \_\_\_\_\_**

**I am interested in: (check all that apply)**

- Helping with music for Children’s Church
- Playing piano for a children’s choir
- Sound system / audio recording
- Chancel Choir
- Mobile’s Singing Children
- Moving Music for Youth
- Spring Hill Ringers
- Group Voice Lessons for Adults



Donald and Laurie Marsden, our missionaries to Russia, will be here August 5<sup>th</sup>. They will speak to all the Adult CE classes on that morning in the Terry Room in the Edington Building. Reverend Marsden will also preach at the 10:00 service on that day. A reception will follow worship in the Fellowship Hall.



The summer schedule will continue through **Sunday, September 2**. We will return to our regular schedule on **Sunday, September 9**:  
Worship at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.  
Christian Education classes at 9:30.

**Mother’s Day Out news**



Spring Hill Presbyterian Mother’s Day Out will be hiring several teachers for the 2007-08 school term which begins in September. The program runs four days per week – Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. If you or someone you know is interested in working with our wonderful little ones and their parents, please contact Susan Schlichting, Director, at 344-2070 or come by the Mother’s Day Out office in the Bullard Building and submit a resume. Mother’s Day Out generally has an enrollment of 60 to 65 children and a staff of 8 to 12 teachers. The work is rewarding and the children are delightful. Come and be a part of this program.

**Molly's Musings**  
**Can I say what really needs to be said?**

I attended the Service of Ordination for Reggie Weaver this afternoon. It was an incredibly touching worship experience – full of people and recollections from Reggie’s past and wonderful expressions of hope for Reggie’s future. I sat in the pew and marveled at the assembly of people that had gathered for the celebration. Most of them, possibly all of them, played some role in Reggie’s life and thus in some way, no matter how small or large, are a part of all that took place in front of me. Today was the culmination of many years of love and nurture on behalf of many people. Today was a glimpse of the body of Christ in its finest hour.

So many of the people who gathered and participated in Reggie’s ordination were people who loved him, taught him, and nurtured him spiritually while he was a young person at Spring Hill. I have no idea who taught Reggie Sunday School when he was a 7<sup>th</sup> grader. I have no idea who stayed up with him for hours on a summer trip to Montreat. I have no idea who answered his questions when he had doubts. I do know that when the call was issued for 7<sup>th</sup> grade Sunday School teachers, someone answered. I do know that when adults were recruited to take the youth to Montreat, someone said “Yes.” I do know that when he needed to be directed and encouraged, someone was there to do just that. In many ways, today was a reward for all those who have answered “yes” to the call to serve as Sunday School teachers, youth leaders, choir directors, and members of the body of Christ. Today was evidence that when you listen to the leading of the Holy Spirit, you can make a difference for Christ.

I have spent the summer planning and preparing for the fall. On September 9<sup>th</sup> we will kick-off another year of Christian Education programs at Spring Hill. As I pray for and over the programs that are beginning to take shape, I have one burden for the church on my heart – that no one miss these opportunities to make an impact for Christ. You see, Sunday morning CE is about so much more than programs. It is really about the body of Christ gathering together as a community to grow in relationship with Christ and with each other. As we learn and study together, the body of Christ is built and lives are impacted. We have been called to be in relationship with one another, to stand shoulder to shoulder to do His work in the world, and CE offers each of you opportunities to grow those relationships and discover His purpose and calling for each day of your life. Please don’t miss those opportunities. What could possibly be more important?

My burden is especially for the children. If you are a parent, please take these words of love to heart. Children and youth come to Sunday School mostly because of their parents. The opportunities they have to learn and build relationships are crucial to their faith journey. You can never underestimate the impact the body of Christ will have on their lives. When you expect their participation, you are putting them in situations to be influenced, shaped, and molded into the image of Christ. I’m sure there were days that Reggie complained about going to Sunday School or PYC or choir or church, but he had parents who communicated to him the importance of being involved in the life of the church. They took their responsibility to raise him in church to heart, and today I saw the difference it has made in his life. Every Sunday is an opportunity for each of us. May we see each one as a chance to impact the lives of our children and each other others for the Christ’s Kingdom.

In Him,  
Molly

Reason is our soul’s left hand, Faith her right;  
By these we reach divinity.

*--John Donne, 1572-1631*

**Pentecost offering**

The total received from the Pentecost Offering for Presbyterian Home for Children in Talladega was \$1,654.39.

# Stewardship Committee Report

It is clear when trying to find a seat at the combined summer service that our church is growing by leaps and bounds. The demographic mix of new members is indicative of a thriving, vibrant church. We are all deeply grateful for the addition of the thoughtful, skilled leadership of Mark Mueller.

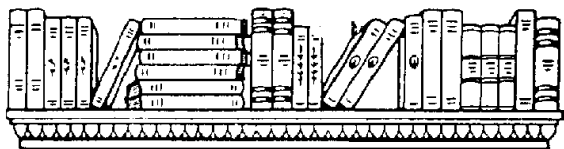
It is also evident to members of the Session that with this growth comes rising expenditures. We must be clear, the financial obligations needed to fund our church operations and its programs are increasing. We have had recent increases in our insurance costs, the update of equipment and furnishing and construction costs. All of these had to be addressed in a timely basis and have added to our deficit. A growing church faces a need to increase revenue to fund expansion of our programs.

We as a church, both new and established members, must all be prayerful in the evolution of our understanding that we must give back more. We should all strive to give to God our tithe. This has been stated clearly in Scripture. It is a small sacrifice in light to what continues to be given to us in such abundance. It is crucial in this time of church growth that we increase our commitment. This can be done through increasing our financial support, or if that is no longer possible, through our time and talent.

As of June 30<sup>th</sup> we are 6% behind where our collections should be at this time of year. We have received \$480,650 out of our total pledged dollars of \$1,093,597. Our budget deficit is currently \$47,061.

I believe we can still finish this year in good financial shape. It is important for us to recognize the changing needs of our church now, when they can be addressed in a timely, productive manner.

Respectfully,  
R. Gordon Mowry



## Library News

PW Circles at Spring Hill will want to check the special shelf in the Library devoted to their resource material for 2007/08 on Ruth and Jonah.

New items to help include the following books in addition to others already part of the collection:

Sakenfeld: *The Meaning of Heseb in the Hebrew/Bible*, Davis: *Who are You My Daughter?*

More are ordered, arriving daily. Please check the designated shelf for PW study aids for each class.



The latest class of Stephen Ministers completed their 50 hours of training and were commissioned during the Sunday service on June 3, 2007. Corinne Atkinson, Dick Bradley, Jane Bulwinkle, Sissy Crowe (Overlook Church) Ruth Fitzgerald, Betty Minto, Cassie Steele and Loretta Turner join nine other active Stephen Ministers at Spring Hill Presbyterian Church in providing one-to-one care to individuals experiencing difficulties in life.

The skills our Stephen Ministers learn and practice prepare them to provide a very high level of Christian care giving. If you or someone you know could benefit from the care of a Stephen Minister, please call our Stephen Minister Leader, Margaret Miller, 344-3937.

# Service Committee

The following is a letter from Sr. Beth Marie, the new director of the Service Center



“Dear Friends of the Service Center,

As we near the end of this present fiscal year we grapple with less resources available to us in assisting our clients. Looking to the new fiscal year our Advisory Board is hard at work planning a major fund raiser, the “Wine Festival at Five Rivers”. We are finding that about half of the clients who come to us in need of financial assistance cannot be helped due to limited funds. In an effort to join us in generating more funds for direct assistance, I ask that you mark October 6, 2007 on your calendars.

Consider becoming a donor for the event and, of course, do plan to join us for an afternoon of wine tasting, delectable food, shopping and education at the newly opened Five Rivers Delta Resource Center. Our staff and board are looking forward to meeting you. We welcome this opportunity to share more about what we do at the Service Center. Fliers and announcements will be forthcoming soon.

The Assistance League will be collecting “tools for school” items in July. At the Service Center we will be signing up families with children in need of school supplies for the beginning of school. Please support that project with contributions of school supply items.

Jesus has warned us that “the Poor you will always have with you” (Matt. 26:11). Please make a difference in the lives of those who come to us in their time of need. Join us on October 6<sup>th</sup> at Five Rivers.

Thank you for your support. Do keep all of us at the Service Center in your prayers.”

## Barrels of Love

Ever wonder what happens to the gently-used items that you place in our barrels marked Penelope House, The Haven, and the Service Center? Women are provided with work wardrobes, children are dressed for school and given winter coats, and families who have lost their homes are given furniture, linens, and kitchen utensils. Nothing is wasted! Leftovers are sold in the thrift shops that each agency runs, and doing this produces much-needed revenue. So you see, in addition to the generous financial support that SHPC offers the less fortunate, we stretch those dollars by the hundreds just by keeping those barrels full. Thank you from the Service Committee.

The barrels are now located in the Bullard Building.

### ***The Young and the Rest of Us***

Plan to join the Young & Rest of Us at our next outing. We will gather between 4:00 & 5:30 p.m. on Sunday, July 29<sup>th</sup> at the Blue Gill Restaurant (on the Causeway). The Band (Tip Tops - \$10.00) starts at 5:30. Call Meagher Whigham for further information. (344-4202).

### **Spring Hill Pinetreat Campers – 2007**

Campers who have attended Camp Pinetreat this summer are:

Mia Milne  
Mary Catherine Kreider  
Mary Alden Wing  
Wilder Wing

## New Deacons and Elders Elected

The following elders and deacons were recently elected by the congregation to the Class of 2010:

**Elders:** George Barton, Dick Coats, Bobby Crow, Jimmie Hatcher, Mac Otts, Pat Scheu, Judy Stout, Amy Walton

**Deacons:** Trey Bennett, John Bell, Chris Broders, Brian Campbell, Amanda Dexter, John Dukes, Laura Hastings, Kelly Lamberth, Marty O'Gwynn, Kelly Sessom, Robbie Turnipseed, Meager Whigham, Tad Wikle, Michael Wing

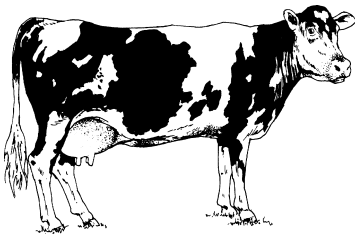
**Trustee:** Ben Rowe

## Global Missions

### Heifer Project

#### Congratulations:

Good mooos!



The Global Missions Committee congratulates the congregation on their support of our church's financial commitment to Heifer International. Heifer supplies animals to the poor and under served peoples around the world and are used in providing labor, food and economic benefit to these families.

To recognize our commitment to Heifer International, Heifer has presented to our congregation two (2) very attractive framed prints that have been hung in the hallway near the Fellowship Hall. These prints represent the very substantial financial assistance given by our congregation to Heifer over the past 2 years during our annual fund raising.

## Honoraria

#### *Honoraria have been received for the following:*

Dick and Sherry Coats  
Bob Callahan  
Reggie Weaver

#### *From the following:*

Allen and Lexie Jones  
Karen Myrick  
Lisa Dahle  
Paul and Eva Macon  
Bill and Nancy Oppenheimer  
Manson and Marietta Murray  
Morris and Nena Smith & Family  
Charles and Linda Langston



We rejoice with Burns and Sammie Moore in the celebration of their 69<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary on June 24.



We rejoice with Jonathan and Kim Moore in the birth of a daughter, Lily Grace, on April 3; with Bruce and Sylvia Weinard in the birth of a granddaughter, Louisa Grace Weinard, on June 27 in Durham, NC; and with Chad and Patricia Brown in the birth of a daughter, Frances Chandler Brown, on June 28 (Grandparents are Kay and Gordon Korb).



death shall  
no longer  
have  
dominion

The prayers and sympathy of the congregation are with Walter and Madge Rody in the death of his son, Walter Wayne Rody, on June 11 in Baton Rouge, LA; with Dick Pennington in the death of his mother, Lucille Pennington, on July 1; with George Saul in the death of his wife, Marjorie, on July 4; with Metha Schlich in the death of her sister, May Boyle, on July 10 in Atlanta.

## Memorials

*Memorials have been received for the following:*

Jim Lees  
Grace Wilson  
Lucille Pennington  
Sylvia True  
Lew Curry, Sr.  
Wayne Rody  
Tommye Miller

*From the following:*

Bethel Christian Services  
Mountain Brook Elementary Faculty  
Price and Becky Oliver  
Janet Lees Lambard  
Bunny Cannon  
John and Susan Wible

Child Health Insurance Program  
Alabama Department of Public Health  
Virgil B. McCain  
Pat and Amelia Daugherty  
Sara Long  
"The Golf Group"  
Dan and Sue Curry  
Billy and Sue McLean  
Ruby A. Rash  
Roy and Sheila True  
Bachelor's Mechanical Contractors, Inc.  
Kent and Noel Curry  
Louis and Jane Williams  
Richard and Kim Busby  
Ken Reid  
Sam and Judy Strada  
Charles and Linda Langston

Faith is an excitement and an enthusiasm: it is a condition of intellectual magnificence to which we must cling as to a treasure, and not squander on our way through life in the small coin of empty words, or inexact and priggish argument.

--George Sand

## Lectionary for the Lord's Day

### August 2007

- 5 *18<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
 Hos. 11:1-11; Ps. 107:1-9, 43  
 Col. 3:1-11; Luke 12:13-21
- 12 *19<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
 Isa. 1:1, 10-20; Ps. 50:1-8, 22-23  
 Heb. 11:1-3, 8-16; Luke 12:32-40
- 19 *20<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
 Isa. 5:1-7; Ps. 80:1-2, 8-19; Heb. 11:29-12:2  
 Luke 12:49-56
- 26 *21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
 Jer. 1:4-10; Ps. 71:1-6; Heb. 12:18-29  
 Luke 13:10-17

August 2007						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

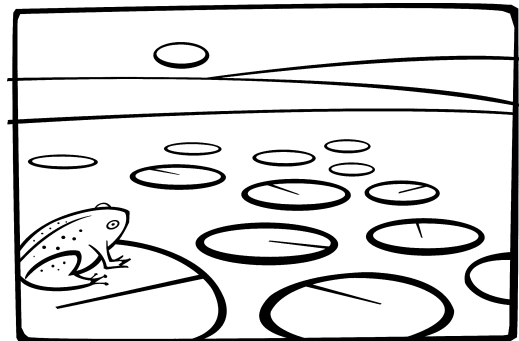
## Church Calendar

### August 2007

- 2 Officer Training – 7:00 p.m.
- 5 Lord's Supper  
 Donald Marsden – teaching Adult CE and preaching at 10:00 a.m. service
- 7 Committees
- 9 Officer Training – 7:00 p.m.
- 14 Diaconate – 7:00 p.m.
- 16 Officer Training – 7:00 p.m.
- 20 Newsletter Deadline – 9:00 a.m.  
 CE Children's Ministry – 9:15 a.m.
- 21 Session – 7:00 p.m.
- 23 Officer Training – 7:00 p.m.
- 30 Officer Training – 7:00 p.m.



### Book of Timothy



**He leads me beside still waters**

Editors: Dan and Laura Sellers and 8 paws-a-swattin' flies for the summer.

