

Spring Hill Messenger

Spring Hill Presbyterian
Church

Vol. 65

No. 5

May 2009

From the Pastor's Desk...

The month of May holds for our church many celebrations.

I believe you will want to mark on your calendars the following:

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| Sunday, May 3 | Youth Sunday observed at the 11:00 a.m. service |
| Sunday, May 17 | Confirmation and the participation of Mobile's Singing Children in the 11:00 a.m. service. |
| Sunday, May 24 | We return to one service at 10:00 a.m. for the summer. Reggie Weaver, Lena and Robert Weaver's son, will preach, again, at 10:00 a.m. |
| Sunday, May 31 | Pentecost. With Christmas and Easter this is one of the church's greatest celebrations. Remember the color is Red. |

Let us give thanks for what the Holy Spirit is doing among us and let us look forward to every Sunday as a time to offer to God our gratitude.

Yours in Christ,
Norman



*The Lord's Supper will be celebrated
in worship on Pentecost Sunday,
May 31.*

Molly's Musings

A Father Carries his Son

I can't remember the last time my family vacationed together. In fact it's been so long that when my parents rented a house in Grayton Beach for the week of Spring Break, Chris commented, "I don't think we've ever spent this much time with your family." I guess the last time I spent an entire week under the same roof with my mom, dad, and sister, I was in high school.

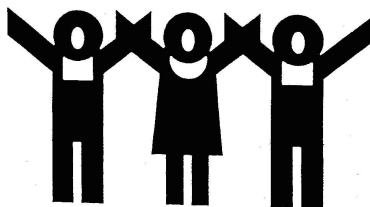
Almost every day this past week we would load everyone up with sunscreen, gather all the beach gear and children and head down to the beach for a spell. We quickly discovered, however, a problem exists when the beach in April meets an energetic two year old little boy: it's too cold to swim but little boys do not have enough sense to stay out of the water. Needless to say, our trips to the beach only lasted until Hampton's teeth were chattering. Then Chris would wrap him up in a warm, sun baked towel, scoop Hampton up into his arms, and carry him back to the house for a warm shower. It amazed me how quickly Hampton went from freezing and chattering and crying miserably to complete contentment. In a matter of moments, he would nestle his head into Chris' neck and settle in for the journey home. In his daddy's arms he found the warmth and security and peace he needed.

Then my Bible study took me to a reading in Deuteronomy, chapter 1. In this passage the Israelites stand poised to take over the Promised Land. Moses' leadership is drawing to a close and it is time to remind the nation once more of everything God had done on their behalf (and would do) and everything He had commanded them to do. In Deuteronomy 1: 29 – 31, Moses reminds the Israelites they have nothing to fear on their journey to conquer the land God has promised to give them, "Do not be terrified. The LORD your God, who is going before you, will fight for you, as He did for you in Egypt, before your very eyes, and in the desert. There you saw how the **LORD your God carried you, as a father carries his son.**" As I read these words, the tender image of Chris carrying my baby boy with his face nuzzled in his daddy's neck came so vividly to mind.

Oh, how I cherish the precious work of the Holy Spirit. Had I read that passage on any other day, I'm sure I would have skimmed over these words and missed the heart of my heavenly Father revealed to me in those short verses. Do you ever need to know that Your God will fight for you? Do you ever need to know that He carries you as a father carries his son? I do! My friends, **THIS** is our God. I **wish** you could've walked beside Chris and Hampton as Chris carried him in from the beach. I **wish** you could've witnessed the change in Hampton's demeanor once he was in his father's arms. God reveals Himself to us in His word, and I am so grateful for this picture He has given us in Deuteronomy. Are you terrified? Don't fear. Your God will fight for you. Is the road ahead uncertain? No need to be anxious. The Creator of the Universe goes before you. Are you miserable, tired, weary, broken? Your heavenly Father is waiting to scoop you up and give you the warmth, security and peace you need. Whatever you are facing, you can be sure of this: run to His arms. He still carries His children as a father carries his son!

In Christ,
Molly Broders

**The Concert Choir of
Mobile's Singing Children (Susan Hoitt, Director)**



Will Present Music during our 11:00 am Worship Service
On May 17

The four choirs of Mobile's Singing Children, which rehearse at our church, are holding auditions for the 2009-2010 season. To arrange an audition, contact director Susan Hoitt at 342-1550, ext. 12 (leave a message) or email her at mobilesingingchildren@gmail.com.

Help us host a visiting Youth Choir---from Athens, Georgia
(First United Methodist Church; the church where Ryan Sheets sings in adult choir)
Sunday night, June 7. Host homes needed for that night.
Concert at 7:00 p.m.
Contact Randy Sheets for more information.

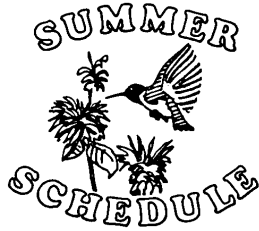
The Chancel Choir is open for new members.

We will be rehearsing at 7:00 pm on Wednesdays through the middle of June and will take vacation in July. The choir is a community of committed persons, bound together in singing and Christian fellowship through faith. Though not required, music reading skills and experience in a band, chorus, or in playing a musical instrument is helpful.

Contact Randy Sheets at the church for more information or to join. (342-1550, ext 15; rsheets@springhillpresbyterian.org)

Our other choirs and bell choirs will be on vacation until the new season begins in September.





Sunday Summer Schedule Begins on
 May 24 (Memorial Day Weekend)
 Christian Education Classes at 9:00 a.m.
 One morning worship service at 10:00 a.m.
 Our own Reggie Weaver, son of Robert and
 Lena Weaver, will preach on May 24.



Dr. Gill Campbell is retiring from service with Boy Scout Troop 85 after approximately 25 years of leadership, most of them as Scout Master. We are grateful to Gill for his dedicated service to the young men of our community through SHPC's troop and wish him and his wife Martha the best in their retirement living in Montreat, NC. Thank You, Gill!

Troop 85 meets in our Edington Building on Monday evenings and is always open to new scouts. Contact Scoutmaster Howard Horne (666-7490; horne@earthlink.net) or liaison Randy Sheets at the church for more information.

**Current Issues
 Sunday School Class**

- May 3 Out of Horror, Hope: A Biblically Based Study of Torture's Ravages and Potential Responses. Pat Ray
- May 10 TBA
- May 17 Class Picnic

First Thursday Lunch

First Thursday Lunch for May 7: Nora Dawood will continue her discussion on living a Christian life in a Muslim society before coming to America. How fortunate we are to have her insight on her faith and that her family is now part of our church family.

Come early for coffee and chat. Lunch is served at 11:45 a.m.; cost is \$6.00. Remember to call the office to reserve a seat for yourself and a friend or neighbor. Need a ride – call Janie Sims – 340-6534.

Welcome to our new members:

Jennifer and Barry Porter
 7342 Glenmoor Court
 Mobile, AL 36695
 639-2143

The total received for the One Great Hour of Sharing was \$1,010.

From the Stewardship Committee

The following are a few of “25 Promises From the Bible for Financially Tough Days” taken from the premier issue of the *Purpose Driven Connection* magazine, a joint venture of *Reader’s Digest* and Rick Warren’s *Purpose Driven Life*.

To help you deal with what happens today... “Give your entire attention to what God is doing right now, and don’t get worked up about what may or may not happen tomorrow. God will help you deal with whatever hard things come up when the time comes.” Matthew 6:34 (MSG)

To lift you up... “Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.” 1 Peter 5:6-7 (NCV)

To give you peace... “Don’t fret or worry. Instead of worrying, pray. Let petitions and praises shape your worries into prayers, letting God know your concerns. Before you know it, a sense of God’s wholeness, everything coming together for good, will come and settle you down. It’s wonderful what happens when Christ displaces worry at the center of your life.” Philippians 4:6-7 (MSG)

To grow your faith... “Dear brothers and sisters, whenever trouble comes your way, let it be an opportunity for joy. For when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be strong in character and ready for anything.” James 1:2-4 (NLT)

To meet all your needs... “And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4:19 (NIV)

To give you something to look forward to... “However, as it is written: ‘No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him.’” I Corinthians 2:9 (NIV)

To answer your prayers... “Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.” Matthew 7:7-8 (NIV)

To comfort you, and comfort others through you... “Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God.” 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 (NIV)

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

To reward your faith... “I tell you the truth, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there’ and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.” Matthew 17:20 (NIV)

To give to those who give... “Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.” Luke 6:38 (NIV)

To direct your decision... “Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek His will in all you do, and He will show you which path to take.” Proverbs 3:5-6 (NIV)

To be with you... “When you go through deep waters, I will be with you. When you go through rivers of difficulty, you will not drown. When you walk through the fire of oppression, you will not be burned up. The flames will not consume you. For I am the Lord, your God.” Isaiah 43:2-3 NLT)

I found these to be comforting and hope you will, too.

Yours in Christ,
Rick True

Discovery Bible Class

Discovery Bible Class has completed the viewing of the DVD “Walking the Bible.”

In April and May, we will be studying and discussing three passages in Luke and one from Acts, with the focus being on “The Path to New Life.”

For May, we will be studying Ephesians, also in the New Testament, with the focus being on “The Way of New Life.” We always have a lively discussion and ask more questions than we can give answers; however, we believe that you will find in this quarter of study and discussion some answers which will help you (and us) on our Journey of Faith. Come join us... You’ll be glad you did!

Library News

Happy 500th Birthday, John Calvin

In the latest DVD in the library, Scholars and Reformed church leaders tell the powerful story of the sixteenth century pastor, John Calvin.

By combining high definition photography with insightful scholarship and analysis this definitive documentary dispels the myths of and sets the context and conditions for Calvin’s effect on the Church and the whole course of Western Civilization. Calvin was born in July 1509.

When someone sings his own praises, he always gets the tune too high.

– Mary H. Waldrip

Presbyterian Women Activities

Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team will meet on Wednesday, May 6 at 9:30 a.m. in the Conference Room.

**Everybody Loves a Party!!!!
Presbyterian Women's Birthday Dinner**

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

6:30 p.m.

RSVP 342-1550

Meeting and lesson in the sanctuary

Followed by a delicious meal in Fellowship Hall

Childcare provided

New Officers will be installed and all women of the church are invited!

Please come and have fun, Food and fellowship!!!

Need a ride? Call Emily Watson 341-0501



Make plans and reservations for the Alabama Women's Conference on July 21 – 24 in Starkville.

Attention Graduates

Please call the church office if you have a young person in your family who will be graduating from high school, college or graduate school this spring. Our high school graduates will be recognized in worship on Youth Sunday, May 3 (11:00 a.m. service only).

Stephen Ministry

Spring Hill Presbyterian has Stephen Ministers who are available to help those who need a caring listener during difficult times. For more information about becoming a part of the program or contacting a Stephen Minister, call Margaret Miller at 344-3937.

Trip to Egypt

Frank and Sylvia Beall are hosting a trip to Egypt in November, 2009, including a cruise down the Nile. Brochures are available. Deadline for registration is June 1. Please contact them at 850-439-6852 if you have questions.

May the road rise to meet you.
May the wind be always at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face.
May the rains fall softly upon your fields
until we meet again.
May God hold you in the hollow his hand.

– Gaelic blessing

University of South Alabama Children's and Women's Hospital

Those among us who have been 'touched' by the services provided by the USA Children's and Women's Hospital will never forget it! They perform what some will come to call 'a personal miracle in their life'. We *all* have seen or know of miracles to some extent; the birth of a child, a critically ill child becoming healthy once again, a survivor of a serious bout with cancer, or the recovery of a loved one where hope seemed lost. One place miracles happen is at USA Children's and Women's Hospital. Here's some information about this beneficiary of Spring Hill Presbyterian Church.

USA Children's and Women's Hospital is among less than ten freestanding hospitals in the United States dedicated to the needs of infants, children and women. They are uniquely qualified and equipped to provide the highest level of care, therapeutic and surgical services for life-threatening illness, traumatic injury, premature birth or high-risk obstetrical needs. Because they provide care to all children, regardless of ability to pay, philanthropic support plays an important role in the hospitals' financing.

Their level of care for children is unmatched. The Wiseman Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) is a level III unit that offers the most advanced care for premature and critically ill newborns. They also have our area's only neonatal transport vehicle, Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) and PICU transport vehicle. Their award winning USS Hope Pediatric Cancer and Sickle Cell Center provides treatment in a "submarine" environment that uses "distraction therapy" to give children the feeling of traveling in a submarine during a child's long and sometimes painful transfusion- or chemo-therapies.

USA Children's and Women's Hospital provides hope, healing and the best care possible for children and women, and they deserve and need the support of the Christian community. If you ask, I'm sure you can find someone that has been touched by this hospital... and they may have the story of a miracle to tell you. I know I do.

David Ayers

May 2009 Calendar

May 9	Chickasaw Kiwanis Annual Freedom Run
May 16	USA Men's Baseball Game – Golden Corral
May 20	Log a Load for Kids Golf Tournament – Longleaf District
May 22	Under the Tree Newsletter for Spring Hill Presbyterian Church
May 31	Children's Miracle Network Broadcast

For more information please call David Ayers at 251-454-8291 or Cassandra Commings, Development Specialist, USA Children's & Women's Hospital, 251-415-1636.

I have no special revelation of God's will. My firm belief is that He reveals Himself daily to every human being, but we shut our ears to the "still small voice." We shut our eyes to the "pillar of fire" in front of us.

– Mohandas K. Gandhi



VBS

VBS has officially opened to the public! If you have not registered your child for this exciting week, please do so by filling out a green registration form which can be found on the tables in the main hallway. You can turn forms into the box hanging on Molly's office door.

VBS Shepherds still needed! If you would be willing to give of your time three mornings, June 1-3, we are still in need! Just fill out an orange form on the hallway table. These forms can be turned into the box on Molly's office door.

Table Grace

We thank you, God,
for milk and bread
and all our daily food.
These gifts remind us day by day,
that you, O God, are good. Amen.

Morning's at seven;
The hill-side's dew-pearled;
The lark's on the wing;
The snail's on the thorn;
God's in his Heaven –
All's right with the world!

– Robert Browning

Camp Pinetreat – Summer 2009

"Love to Serve!"

June 21-26	Night Owls I	(7th - 9th)
June 28 - July 3	Teen Leadership	(10th - 11th)
July 1 - 3	Footsteps	(1st - 3rd)
July 8-10	Kindermusik Camp	(NEW!)
July 12 - 17	Journey 1	(4th - 6th)
July 19 - 24	Journey 2	(4th - 6th)
July 26 - 31	Night Owls II	(7th - 9th)



Pinetreat

Editors: Dan and Laura Sellers and a bouquet of catnip flowers
for Mom from Ti Amo and Al E. Cat on Mother's Day.





We rejoice with Joe and Pam Green in the marriage of their son, Matt, to Mary DeRamus on March 21 in the sanctuary.



We rejoice with Daniel and Nickelle Stoll in the birth of a son, Spencer Ross, on March 27 (Grandparents are Jeff and Pat Stoll).



death shall
no longer
have
dominion

The prayers and sympathy of the congregation are with Nancy McCrummen in the death of her mother, Ruth Diehl Rhodes, on April 18 in Lynchburg, VA.

Memorials

Memorials have been received for the following:

John B. Waterman II
John Bowen
Priscilla McGill
John and Elizabeth Gilbert
Ruth Diehl Rhodes

From the following:

Lane Carleton
Ann Turner Gaillard
O'Charley's Inc.
Larry & Claudia Brock
Camille & Happy Luscher
Dr. & Mrs. Leon V. McVay III
Bill & Betsy Hafner
Cooper & Helen Thurber
Jean & Arthur Williams, Jr.
Bob & Jimmie Hatcher
Robert & Mary Ann Donnell
Billy & Sue McLean
Janie Sims
Edith Cox
Ruth Fitzgerald
Charles & Linda Langston
Jim & Nancy Adams
SHPC Circle #3
Nancy Rounsaville

Lectionary for the Lord's Day

May 2009

- 3 *4th Sunday of Easter*
Acts 4:5-12; Ps. 23; 1 John 3:16-24
John 10:11-18
- 10 *5th Sunday of Easter*
Acts 8:26-40; Ps. 22:25-31;
1 John 4:7-21; John 15: 108
- 17 *6th Sunday of Easter*
Acts 10:44-48; Ps. 98: 1 John 5:1-6
John 17:9-17
- 24 *7th Sunday of Easter*
Acts 1:15-17m 21-26; Ps. 1;
1 John 5:9-13; John 17:6-19
- 31 *Pentecost*
Acts 2:1-21 or Ezek. 37:1-14;
Ps. 104:24-34, 35b
Rom. 8:22-27 or Acts 2:1-21
John 15:26-27, 16-4b-15



May 2009						
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31						

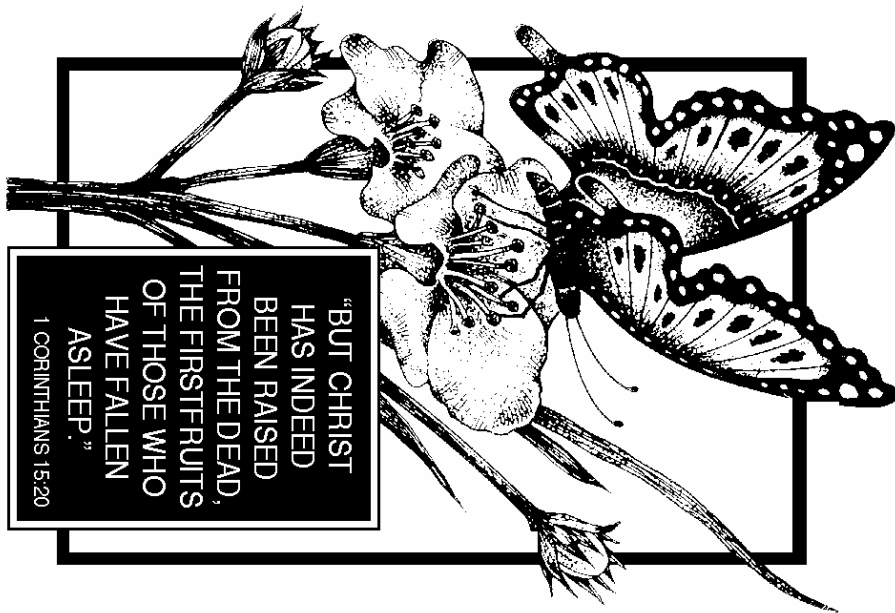
Church Calendar

May 2009

- 2 Young and Rest of Us Party on the Bay
- 3 Senior Breakfast
Youth Sunday – 11:00 a.m.
- 5 Committees
- 6 Presbyterian Women Coordinating Committee – 9:30 a.m.
- 7 1st Thursday Lunch
- 12 Men's Breakfast – 7:00 a.m.
Diaconate – 7:00 p.m.
Session – 7:00 p.m.
- 13 Presbyterian Women's General Meeting and Dinner – 6:00 p.m.
- 14-15 Mother's Day Out and Weekday School Music Program – Noon
- 15 Meals-On-Wheels – 10:30 a.m.
- 17 Confirmation – 11:00 a.m. service followed by reception
Teacher Appreciation
- 24 Summer Schedule begins – Worship at 10:00 a.m.;
Christian Education Classes at 9:00 a.m.
- 31 Celebration of the Lord's Supper
- 31-June 3 VBS

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www.shpc.us
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**"BUT CHRIST
HAS INDEED
BEEN RAISED
FROM THE DEAD,
THE FIRSTFRUITS
OF THOSE WHO
HAVE FALLEN
ASLEEP."
1 CORINTHIANS 15:20**

*May
Newsletter*