

A community of faith!

Church Staff:
 Thomas E. Bishop,
 Organist/Director of Music
 Vicki S. Grady,
 Secretary
 Michael Jones,
 Custodian
 Lori Todd,
 Program Director

Sunday Schedule
 9:45 am
 Sunday School
 11:00 am
 Worship Service



Clinton Presbyterian Community Residents



For some time now, every year at Christmas, our Clinton Presbyterian Community residents receive a special Christmas bag filled with gifts at the annual Christmas dinner and party. These gifts are provided by the families of Presbyterian churches. The gifts are simple and most are inexpensive. We are asking you to continue this tradition and contribute.

Please bring the items and place in the box provided in the Vestibules (beginning in November) or send them to the Clinton Presbyterian Community at 801 Musgrove St. Clinton, SC, 29325, no later than Monday, December 5th. The gifts should be **unwrapped**. Please be sure to put the name of your church on your gift boxes.

Some examples are: postage stamps, post-it-notes, large print word search puzzles, 2012 calendars, picture frames, paperback books, pens, pencils, small umbrellas, men's caps, men's gloves, men's handkerchiefs, neck ties, shower caps, rain caps, hair brushes, combs, lip stick, pressed powder compacts, nail polish, nail clippers, mesh laundry bags, small hand towels, soap, flashlights, all occasion cards, lotion, Kleenex, batteries, mouthwash, toothbrush, toothpaste, disposable razors, shaving creams, socks, hose (ankle length or knee high or thigh high), scratch pads, denture grip or cleanser, note cards or stationery.



Stewardship Emphasis — November 13th

On November 13th you are encouraged to bring your commitment pledge info. you received in the mail for 2012. Anyone can fill out and mail the commitment pledge card below. We encourage 100% participation.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 101 WEST SOUTH STREET, P.O. BOX 672, UNION, SC 29379 – (864)427-8319

In gratitude for God's many blessings, I/we renew my/our membership vow to "participate actively and responsibly in the worship and mission of the church." I/We commit to support the work of First Presbyterian Church, offering my/our time and talents as God strengthens me/us, and supporting its ministry with my/our financial resources.

An estimate of my/our giving for the year 2012 is:

\$ _____ Weekly \$ _____ Monthly \$ _____

Signature/s _____

(If you wish to perpetuate your giving, see Treasurer Mike Todd concerning estate planning.)

Tower Talk

November 2011 Online at www.fpcunion.com



"In Everything, give thanks, for this is the will of God"
 (1 Thessalonians 5:18)

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 101 West South Street
 Union, SC 29379

Return Service Requested

1st Presbyterian Music Notes!

Tommy Bishop



In the year 1636, Martin Rinkart wrote these words from my favorite Thanksgiving hymn: "Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices, Who wondrous things hath done, in Whom this world rejoices; Who, from our mothers' arms, hath blessed us on our way with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today." November is the month for Thanksgiving, and we are reminded of God's many blessings and "countless gifts of love." I am especially thankful for the wonderful gift of music and for all those in our congregation who give of their time and talents to support our music program by which we can joyfully glorify God in divine worship!

The Chancel Choir is now working on music for the Christmas season and is in need of additional voices for each section, especially tenor and bass. If you would be willing to share your time and talent to help the choir during November and December, please let me know as soon as possible.

The Handbell Choir will be playing during the worship service on Sunday, November 20th.

There are two musical events coming up within our community which may be of interest to the members of our congregation. The Union Music Club will be sponsoring Ryan Smith in a piano recital at USC-U on Thursday, November 10th at 7pm, and the USC Choir will be presenting a concert of holiday music at USC-U on Sunday, November 20th at 6pm.

The community Thanksgiving service will be held this year at the Episcopal Church of the Nativity on Tuesday, November 22nd at 7pm.

During this Thanksgiving season, remember (as the old hymn says) to "count your many blessings, name them one by one!"

"Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits!" – (Psalm 103:2)



Belated Thank You Note:

Thank you for the Shower Gifts for Jeffrey Burgess, III, son of Courtney Blitchington.



Wednesday Night Bible Study: 6:30-7:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall

The group concluded the study of Spiritual Gifts midway through October. Members are taking the lead for the weeks before the beginning of Advent. Each week, a different member will lead the lesson. Join us for a time of sharing and prayer! A special Advent study will begin the last week of November.

Advent

Beginning November 27, Advent is the time for preparing our hearts and minds to celebrate the birth of our Lord. The color of this liturgical season is purple.

Advent Devotion Booklets:

Members are asked to provide devotions for our booklets again this Advent season. "Experiencing the Miraculous" will be the focus of the devotions as we wait through Advent to celebrate the miraculous birth of our Lord and help us remember that, with God, "all things ARE possible" (emphasis added).

More information on how you can help is available in the vestibule. Deadline to submit devotions is November 13th and booklets will be available on November 27th.

October Sunday School offerings were added to the Dimes for Hunger offering. In November, the money collected in Sunday School will be donated to the Angel Tree program to provide gifts for children of incarcerated parents.

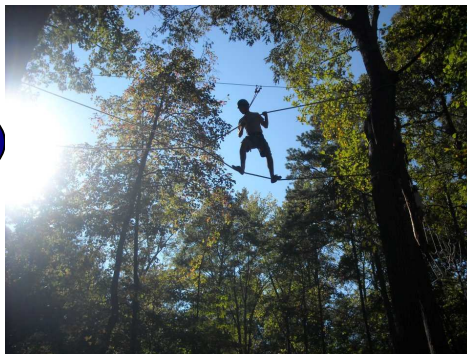
Methodist - Presbyterian Fellowship (MPF)

Sundays at 5 pm at Grace UMC
Ages 4 through 6th grade

Our children continue to study Bible "Superheroes," with time for singing and crafts. In addition, they traveled to a pumpkin patch for a hayride and the chance to pick their own pumpkin. The group gathered in the sunflower circle for a devotion to conclude the outing.

Children & Youth:

**Partners
in
Christ
(Youth Group)**



November dates:
6th—5 pm at FPC
 Mystery destination! Wear boots or old shoes and bring a flashlight!
19th— Youth Day at PC
 Meet at 9 am at FPC!

In October, ten youth took on the challenge of the high ropes course at Bethelwoods. Everyone agreed that the course looked easier than it was! Strapped into a harness and hooked to guide wires, the guys and girls faced the tasks of crossing from tree to tree on various rope configurations while about twenty-five feet off the ground. The “zip wire” was the only way down and definitely the quickest element completed—just jump and slide! After the course was done, the group discussed how the course compared to their spiritual lives. The idea of being connected to the guide wire was related to their connection to God and the security of being “tethered” to God no matter where life takes them.

This fall, the topic discussed each week in our regular meetings has been about overcoming adversity. The trip to the ropes course helped everyone build confidence in his or her ability to finish a task even when it was difficult. Having people to give advice and to provide encouragement also made a huge difference in getting through the course, reminding us that we need people around us we can trust when facing difficult and/or important situations in life. At one point or another along the course, the phrase, “I can’t do this!” or “I’m stuck!” rang out from almost every person. Still, they hung in there and finished the course. Paul talks about finishing the course in his letter to Timothy and reminds us in Philippians that we “can do all things” through Christ. Adversity will come in many forms. Our youth are being reminded that staying connected to God will provide the strength needed to meet and overcome whatever challenges life brings.

Session Highlights:

The Session met on , October 9, 2011 at 6:30pm in the Conference Room. The Reverend Sanders Read served as moderator for the meeting.

The following items were discussed and approved:



- Noted concerns about the budget and expenses.
- Approved a request from Mark Barnado and Judy Massey to use the sanctuary and Fellowship Hall for their wedding on February 24th & 25th, 2012.
- Discussed the Community Outreach Ministry and volunteers would like to have more participation by the congregation and Session members. A Saturday outreach may be offered on November 12, 2011.
- Approved a 2012 Challenge Budget.
- Approved Trudy White as our delegate to the presbytery meeting on October 16th.

September 2011 Financial Report:

More info in report on office bulletin board:

	(MTD actual)	(YTD actual)
Income:	\$15,309.71	\$164,121.82
Expenses :	16,581.09	169,388.17
Variance :	(\$1,271.38)	(\$5,266.35)



Presbyterian Women:



Circle 1 meets the 2nd Monday of each month at 4:00 p.m.

Circle 2 meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m.

Mrs. Sue Gregory is the Moderator for the Presbyterian Women.

Community Outreach

Saturday, November 12th at 8:30am

We’re having this important ministry on a Saturday morning for the congregation members who work. You may come and join us, the ones who are retired and who are now working with this program, and receive a blessing for being a part of this ministry.

Italicized names are the daily prayer names


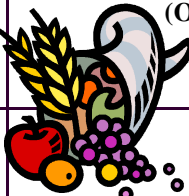
* Denotes Birthdays

Sanctuary Flowers - Circle 2

MPF—Methodist-Presbyterian Fellowship

November 2011

First Presbyterian Church
101 West South Street or
Post Office Box 672
Union, SC 29379
Office: (864) 427-8319
Fax: (864) 427-8342

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p>Don't forget about the Hygiene Kits:</p>		<p>1 Carlisle White Family All Saints' Day 7:30am-Prayer 1pm-Staff Meeting 5:15pm-Admin. Comm. 6pm- Cong. Life Comm.</p>	<p>2 Caitlin White 10:15am- Oakmont 5:15-8:45pm-WNL</p>	<p>3 Kelsey White 12pm-Comm.Prayer (USC-U) 6pm-Open AA Meeting</p>	<p>4 Thom White Family</p>	<p>5 Billy Whitney Family *Charles Blitchington</p>
<p>6 Tommy Wilburn *Darla Love Communion Nurs: Mike Fowler Family Meals: Marilyn & Bill Stoddard Greeter: Betty Davis 5pm—Youth at FPC (cookout) / MPF at Grace Daylight Saving Time Ends-(fall back)</p>	<p>7 Meghan Willard</p>	<p>8 Steve Willard Family *Meredith Baker Election Day! 7:30am-Prayer 10am- Circle 2</p>	<p>9 Mickey Adkins Family *Sandra West 5:15-8:45pm-WNL</p>	<p>10 Robert Alexander Family *Dylan Kendrick *Doris Stoddard 8:30am—Comm. Outreach 6pm-Open AA Meeting 7pm—Ryan Smith piano recital- USC-U</p>	<p>11 Keith Bailey Family Veterans Day </p>	<p>12 Susan Bailey 8:30am- Community Outreach</p>
<p>13 Cynthia Baker Family Stewardship Sunday Nurs: Windy Boyd Meals: Sandra & Gary West Greeter: Mike Fowler 3pm-Youth Rake & Run / 5pm MPF at Grace 6:30pm -Session Meeting</p>	<p>14 Bruce Barnado Family *Linda Lamb 4pm-Circle 1 w/ Bennie Giles</p>	<p>15 Tim Barnado Family 7:30am-Prayer 10:30am- 3rd Tuesday Together 1pm- Staff Meeting</p>	<p>16 Marvin Bettis *Dan Husser 5:15-8:45pm-WNL</p>	<p>17 Dee Blackwell *Beth Fleming *Bill Howell 12pm-Dec. & (Jan. calendar only) Tower Talk Due 6pm-Open AA Meeting</p>	<p>18 Mary Virginia Blackwell *Anne Alexander *Madalyn Alexander</p>	<p>19 Charles Blitchington 9am—Youth leave for Youth Day at Presbyterian College</p>
<p>20 Patricia Blitchington Family *Ricky Harris Thornwell Offering 9:30am-Handbell Choir Meals: Anne & Keith Bailey Greeter: Deborah Flint 5pm—MPF at Grace/ No Youth Minute for Mission (Bethelwoods guest) 6pm- USC Choir Concert at USC-U</p>	<p>21 Wilma Blue *Carol Creach</p>	<p>22 Steven Broadbent 7:30am-Prayer 7pm- Community Thanksgiving Service @ Episcopal Church</p>	<p>23 Martha Buckner *William Holcombe No WNL</p>	<p>24 Field Cantey *Peggy Duncan *Lori Todd Thanksgiving Day! (Office Closed) </p>	<p>25 Lee Cantey (Office Closed)</p>	<p>26 John Carson Family</p>
<p>27 Kim Carson Family 1st Sunday of Advent Nurs: Windy Boyd Meals: Ray Robbins Greeter: Mike Todd No Youth or Children Activities 2pm—Witness & Service Committee</p>	<p>28 Leigh Chesno-Vallejo Family 6pm—Congregational Care Comm.</p>	<p>29 Rose Chewning 7:30am-Prayer 1pm- Staff Meeting</p>	<p>30 Joe Chibbaro Family 5:15-8:45pm-WNL</p>	<p>WNL Schedule: 5:15-6:00 Hand Bell Choir 6:30-7:30 Bible Study 7:45-8:45 Chancel Choir</p>		