

The Epistle

ST. PAUL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, GREENSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA

May, 2014

Volume 14, Number 5



FROM THE PASTOR

The month of May brings us many things to celebrate – warm weather, beautiful flowers and other plants among them. But perhaps the most valuable thing we have to celebrate this month is – mothers!

We have all sorts of people in our church. One thing we have got a lot of is mothers. For most of you, your children are long grown up. But you have the experience of having been a mother. So? Well, every mother lives her life for another. And that is what the church is meant to be like. As former Archbishop of Canterbury William Temple put it, "The Church is the only society that exists solely for the benefit of its non-members."

Every Mother lives her life for another. Those of you who have been mothers - for the love of your child you have been through the excruciating pain of labor. For the love of your child you had your sleep broken as you wake to feed your baby and change diapers. For the love of your child, you massively reduced your social life - think how much more you did before you had your child than you did when your child was young. For the love of your child, you structured your entire day around things like school drop off and school pick up times. And on top of all the practical things you did for your child, you spent your time constantly thinking about what would be best for her or him. Every mother lives her life for another.

Now, obviously not all of us at St. Paul are mothers. I, for example, have never been a mother. And of course there are other forms of self-sacrifice too. But the mothers here are an inspiration to the rest of us. Every mother exists not for her own benefit but for the benefit of her children. And that is a valuable lesson for our church! We need to learn more and more to exist not for our own benefit but for the benefit of our non-members.

Of course - it's easy to romanticize being a mother. I'm sure you have often thought, "I don't want to do this", "I don't want to do that", "Do I have to?" - especially when it comes to having your sleep broken in the middle of the night. "Do I have to?" Yet for love of your child, you got out of bed, comforted, fed and changed him or her. For love of your child you did not what you wanted but what was best for him or her.

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From the Pastor (continued from page 1)

As a church too, there will frequently be times for each one of us when we say "I don't want to do this", "I don't want to do that", "do I have to?" Yet, if as parents we can do things we don't want because we love our child, then as Christians, for love of God and love of those who haven't yet come to faith, we will do not what we want but what is best for them.

Thanks, Mothers, for all you do and have done for us, and particularly for giving us a great lesson in what Jesus meant when he said, "feed my sheep."

See you in church.

Jay



MAY HYMN OF THE MONTH - #332, "The Right Hand of God"

The "right hand of God" is used in Biblical imagery to refer to or imply God's power or God's favor. This 1980 hymn text, set to a lively Caribbean tune begins with an allusion to the "handwriting on the wall" as recorded in the 5th chapter of the book of Daniel, and proceeds to point out many ways in which God continues to act today.



Birthdays This Month

- May 4 – Rosalee Brewer
- 5 – Michelle Saunders
- 7 – Bronda Coleman
- 12 – Margaret Tewes
- 15 – Jack Brewer
- 23 – Phyllis Watkins
- 27 – Paul Walker
- 28 – Jim Tewes
- 29 – Bob Berthold



Anniversaries

- May 4 – Dale and Nita Holder
- 12 – Jamie and Sonia Metzler
- 31 – David and Gayle Lancaster
- 31 – Ben and Carol Parke

"We have the greatest pre-nuptial agreement in the world. It's called love."

-Gene Perret



**** OUR APRIL RECORD ****

	<u>Worship Attendance</u>	<u>Stewardship</u>
April 6	43	\$ 2,898.00
13	48	\$ 1,687.00
17	31	-
18	38	-
20	57	\$ 2,259.00
27	43	\$ 1,684.00



FOOD CART

St. Paul members continue to do a super job in giving food to help the community. May’s featured food cart item is canned meat. Thank you for all your support!



THE WORD PROCLAIMED

	<u>Sermon topics</u>	<u>Scripture Readers</u>
May 4	“Seeing Jesus” Text: Luke 24:13-35	Rosalee Brewer Reading: Acts 2:14a, 36-41
May 11	“Smart Sheep” Text: John 10:1-18	Dana Reece Reading: Acts 2:42-47
May 18	“Trust-And Pay Attention!” Text: John 14:1-14	Kathy Carroll Reading: Acts 7:55-60
May 25	Dialogue, Q&A Gospel: John 14:15-21	Eb Hancock Reading: Acts 17:22-31



IN HIS SERVICE

MAY USHERS

Jim Tewes
Margaret Tewes
John Watkins
Phyllis Watkins

MAY COMMUNION SERVERS

Sunday, May 4 – Lane Bauserman
Jim Tewes
Margaret Tewes
Phyllis Watkins

TEST YOUR BIBLE KNOWLEDGE

Who was given his choice of any gift from God, and chose wisdom?



PRAYER CONCERNS: ☩ Luke Finison, Barbara Carter, Marjorie and Jack Herndon, Andy Bristow and family, Emily Bristow, Lucy Smith, Aiden and Jeanetta French, Bob Berthold, the families of Myrna Stell, Earney Walker and Joe Herndon, Katie Williams, Chuck Adams, Ron Ervin, Dale and Nita Holder, Ruby Whitley, Jane Lochbaum, John Perkins, Joe Miles, Edith Taylor, Gary Houglan, Roger Coleman, Mark Griffin, Ed and Becky Taylor, Rick Fulp, Jim Anderson, Luke Neal, Carl Hollman, Carolyn Davis, Kevin Tewes, Terri Battle, Zachary Reavis, and our own family members in the military: James Lochbaum, Andy Bristow II, Shane Finison, Brian Fountain, Rob Salka, Brandy Zehr, Brett Slate and all who serve in our armed forces.

ANSWER TO APRIL BIBLE KNOWLEDGE QUESTION

Which apostle was stoned but survived (Matthias, Phillip, Steven or Paul)? It was Paul. See Acts 14:8-20. Congratulations to Janice Woods, who was first with the correct answer.

OUR MONTHLY "REGULARS"

Sunday School – Sundays, 9:45am

Worship – Sundays, 11:00am

Session meets at 12:15pm on the 2nd Sunday of each month (except July)

Good News Ringers – Sundays, 5:00pm

Men's Fellowship – Mondays, 7:30am

Bell Tones – Mondays, 6:15pm

Alanon – Mondays, 7:00pm

Circles normally meet on the 1st Tuesday, times and places announced

Gad-A-Bouts normally meet on the 4th Tuesday, times and places announced

BYO Bag Supper – Wednesdays, 5:30pm (through May 14)

Bible Study – Wednesdays, 6:15pm (though May 14)

Choir Rehearsal – Wednesdays, 7:30pm



The Presbyterian Women's Birthday Dinner will be held on Tuesday, May 6 at 6:00pm in McCann Hall. Bring your favorite salad to share. A birthday offering will be collected.

GAD-A-BOUITS



The Gad-A-Bouts will be going to the World War II Memorial in Bedford, VA on Tuesday, May 27. They will be spending the night at the Peaks of Otter and return home on May 28.



Sunday, May 11 is Mothers' Day, and we will have our traditional "Muffins For Mom" fellowship in McCann Hall at 9:15 that morning. Even if you are not a mother, come by and share some time with us and have a treat before going to Sunday School.



Our handbell groups will be playing for two worship services this month – the St. Paul Bell Tones on May 4 and the Good News Ringers on May 18.

