

THE Disciple

'If you hold to my teaching, you

are really my disciples.' John 8:31



Volume XVI, Number 2
February 8, 2010

The Parson's Page, by Dr. Rob Blumer

As I understand it, Punxsutawney Phil – the groundhog whose weather prognostication is at least as accurate as that of a global warming climatologist – has predicted six more weeks of winter. I don't mind the cold and gray days, because I know that soon the air will warm and color will burst from the ground.

There are certain elements of life we come to rely on that help us "make it through" tough times; looking forward to Spring is one of those for me. Some individuals, certain groups of people, and a few key activities do that for me, too.

At our Session Retreat held one Saturday in January, the elders explored strengths and weaknesses of Sharon Church, with the intent of shoring up a couple of our strengths and building up one of our weaknesses. The weakness the Session selected has to do with Relational Groups – people connecting with people whether for fun, study or support.

Some of the discussion centered on the need to be certain everyone knows the nature and number of groups we already have at Sharon; some of the discussion focused on the need to develop new groups.

One of the six great ends of the church cited in the first chapter of our Book of Order is: "The shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship of the children of God." I think it is often the most neglected of the great ends of the church.

I'm glad the Session is making plans to address this important part of church life. For me, fellowship in the church is one of those life elements in which I

find comfort and strength, especially when my zeal sags...like Spring!




Ash Wednesday Service
February 17
6:30 p.m.
Sanctuary



In Memoriam

Mary Bishop Davis
January 23, 2010

We express our sympathy to her daughter, Nancy Davis, their family and friends.

Gifts to Sharon Presbyterian Church

Gifts in Memory

Mary Davis, by Ronald and Sharon Orlowski, William and Virginia Seitz, Doris Campbell, Robert Blackwelder, Sara Jackson, Nancy Martin, Mary Owensby, Tom and Janis Wilkes, Edward and Dorothy Shanklin, Margaret Prendergast, Jeanne and Lewis Bullard, Jim Shrader, Eloise Garrison, Patricia Perrine
U.S. Allee, by Bonnie and Mike Barker, Guy and Sally Allee, F.H. Lemonds, Richard and Peggy Graham, Lula Ashley, Thelma Porter, Bob and Jean Cottom
Jeffrey Williams, by Sarah Beamon

Gifts in Honor

The Kromer family, by Neale and Deborah Johnson

We express our sympathy

Sympathy is expressed to Beth Addis in the death of her father, Dwight Wagoner, on January 24, 2010; to Eleanor Lockwood in the death of her sister, Dolores S. Howey, on January 26, 2010.

Thank you

Dear Church Family,
 My grandson, Josh DuMond, has returned home to Wisconsin from Iraq. Thank you for your prayers and concerns during his year there. This was his second tour; Josh is with a National Guard Unit in Richland Center, WI.
 Kaye DuMond

Attendance Statistics

January 17, 2010

9:00 a.m. Worship	109
11:00 a.m. Worship	277
Church School	196

January 24

9:00 a.m. Worship	131
11:00 a.m. Worship	259
Church School	228

January 31

services canceled due to weather

February 7

9:00 a.m. Worship	160
11:00 a.m. Worship	339
Church School	221

We remember in our prayers

Please remember in prayer *those in the hospital*: Beth Parker, Presbyterian; Mary Jo Alley, Presbyterian Orthopaedic; Dot Deck, Carrington Place; Mo Ehen, Aldersgate Care Center; *those discharged*: Robert Pegram to Sardis Oaks; Marvin Ward, Barbara Ritchie, Barbara Nicewonger; *those at home*: Becky Edwards, Ruthie Gibson, Candy Lee, Doug Allen, Bill Chiles; our homebound members and their families; Connie Keith, mother of Tara Christensen; our neighbors in Haiti; Frank and Nancy Dimmock, our missionaries in Africa; the people of the Presbytery of Huanta, Peru; those who have lost jobs and are seeking new opportunities; *servicing in the military overseas*: Cheng Vang; Bert Puckett, nephew of Trish and Pete Bleynat; Mike Kamin, brother-in-law of Mike Young; Jason Pearce, son of J.D. Pearce.

Needed for Room In the Inn

Our Room In the Inn guests enjoy playing Bingo and appreciate the prizes. If you can help with the prizes, please place them in the RITI box in the hallway outside the choir room. Bingo prizes could include: gloves, socks, umbrellas, deodorants, men's boxer shorts (medium and large), book bags, gift cards (Burger

King, Bojangles, McDonald's, etc). We have been asked not to give out outer garment clothing - shirts, sweaters, etc.



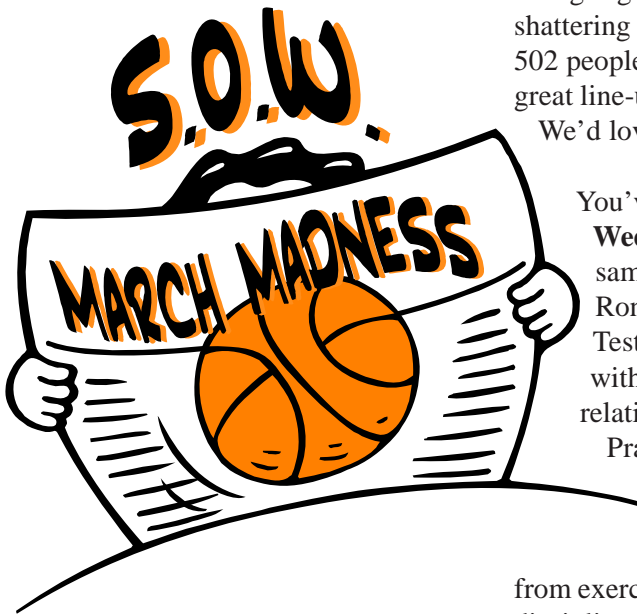
Community LENTEN SERVICES

Thursdays in Lent
 February 25 – April 1
 12:15 – 12:45 p.m.
 Sharon Presbyterian Church
 Sanctuary
Light lunch available at 11:45 and 12:45



Sharon On Wednesdays - *SOWing Seeds of Faith and Fellowship*

January is the month of change for most people; new year's resolutions are made, houses are organized, new things are tried. Well, there were certainly changes going on at Sharon on Wednesday this January! We had record-shattering attendance, with each week surpassing the previous week. We fed 502 people in January, and February's off to a great start as well! We've got a great line-up of classes and activities for all ages. Won't you come join us? We'd love to see you!



You've been teased about it for weeks and now – **Sharon On Wednesdays March Madness is near!** The schedule remains the same for children. The Pastor's Bible Study will continue, led by Rev. Ron Nelson, taking "A Left-Handed Look at Lent" by using Old Testament lectionary passages for Lent. Special Topics will continue, with Rev. Brant Piper leading a study on "Relationships," looking at the relationship with self, parents/family, friends, work colleagues, and God. Prayer Shawl/PAT Ministry continues to provide wonderful service opportunities. New for March is "Mixed Nuts," an experiment to see what types of adult options you most want in your midweek program. Each week two extra adult options will be offered, ranging from exercise to movie discussions to games to one-time studies to spiritual discipline to practical seminars to basketball game fellowship. Your choices will help us develop the Sharon On Wednesdays program for Fall. Wear your team colors and join us for faith, fellowship, and fun!

DCE's CORNER,

by Sharon Vanpelt, Director of Christian Education

Perhaps you made a New Year resolution to be kinder or more caring or to be more conscious of the needs of others. Children benefit greatly from serving others. Through service activities they can learn responsibility, leadership, critical thinking and problem-solving skills, self-respect, self-discipline, self-motivation, and tolerance. Volunteerism begins in childhood. Over two-thirds of adult volunteers began serving when they were children. Do you want your child to be less focused on material things? Help them give of themselves, their

abilities and talents, to serve others at school, in the community, and in the church. Let them see you in areas of service. One way to begin is through our Lenten Prayer Boxes. Discipleship is a lifelong process that benefits everyone.

Vacation Bible School

Plans are being made for Vacation Bible School the mornings of June 21-25. **High Seas Expedition** is the name of the week, with a sailing theme that helps children experience the deep, rolling waters of God's love. Watch for registration to begin soon.



New for this year – Lenten Prayer Boxes

You are invited to unite with your church family in a Lenten experience. You will have the opportunity to create a **Lenten Prayer Box** to help your family follow a simple discipline of prayer and service that can help lead you to greater discipleship for Christ during this contemplative season. These Prayer Boxes are suitable for all sizes and ages of families. Pick up a Lenten Prayer Box kit, available in the narthex or in the church office beginning with Ash Wednesday, February 17th. Follow the instructions, and by doing these simple acts with love, you may be led to experience Lent in a more meaningful way as we seek to follow the steps of our Lord to the cross.





Sharon Presbyterian responds to disasters in Haiti and Peru

Haiti: It has been a month since an earthquake devastated the fragile country of Haiti. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA), working in collaboration with partners, continues to provide basic humanitarian aid for those most impacted by this disaster and to assess ongoing recovery needs.

The Ministry of World Service of Sharon Church approved a motion to provide \$1,000 from the **Eloise Rushforth Mission Fund** to the Charlotte Presbytery for the **Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA)** for **Haiti Relief** efforts. Additionally, a total of \$1,210 from church members has been forwarded for Haiti. Donations for the fund are still being accepted as the needs continue to be so great; checks should be written to Sharon Presbyterian Church designated for Haiti Relief and mailed to the church office, 5201 Sharon Road, Charlotte, NC 28210.

Peru: Several provinces in the Andes Mountains of Peru were declared disaster areas during the week of January 25, 2010, due to several days of torrential rains and the resulting floods and mudslides. In the province of Huanta several hundred homes were destroyed or severely damaged. Many families have lost what few possessions they had. The Ministry of World Service has responded to this disaster by sending a donation of \$2,500 to The Presbytery of Huanta.

Please keep these people in your thoughts and prayers as they recover from these natural disasters.

Rotation Sunday School reaching out to others

The 5th Grade Rotation Sunday School Class had a bake sale Sunday, February 7, with all proceeds going to Heifer International. Parents donated baked items and hot chocolate and the children helped with selling the items. More than \$160 was raised, which will be added to the total the entire Sunday School is raising. Thank you to all who participated and supported this worth-while effort.



Fifth graders worked hard to earn money for their service project

Welcome to new members



Ted and Diane Hill
1330 East Barden Road
Charlotte, NC 28226
704-364-6695

Enjoy a pot of vegetable soup!

The Presbyterian Women Soup Supper is Monday, February 15, at 6:30 p.m. in the Charles Little Activity Building. The menu is homemade soup and cornbread. The program will be presented by Rev. Pinky Bender. All ladies of the church are invited to attend and bring friends and neighbors.

Learning to make old-fashioned church dolls

On January 18 twenty-eight ladies and girls gathered for the church doll making party. Following a salad supper Patti Proctor (in full colonial dress) taught everyone how to make old-fashioned church dolls from ribbons and handkerchiefs like those that were used years ago to help amuse children during the long church services. Champion doll makers were Grace Droppelman and Meg Osowski, but there were many cute dolls to share!



Celebrating a

March Birthdays

- 1 Ashley Allen, Emily Henderson, David Osowski, Robert Pegram, Donna Streicher, Eleanor Zelinski
- 2 Henry Cooper, Claire McGarity
- 3 Russell Ash, Isabel Ferber, Sue Roberts
- 4 Terry Moore
- 6 Drew Kromer, Ty McBride, Lisa Nelson
- 7 Mike Everson, Dawn Grier, Carolyn Lovejoy, Jack Nowaczewski
- 8 John Burgess, Blair Griffin, Nancy Walker
- 9 Jennifer Blake, Taylor Dries, Joseph Gill
- 10 Catherine Crocker, Elgerine Elliott, Elizabeth Pickens
- 11 Jo Jenkinson
- 12 Susan Alley
- 13 Kathy Casey, Gary Christian, Michael Elliott, Kelly Young
- 14 Haley Everson, Jeremy Nelson
- 15 Daniel Stanford, Ken Sumner
- 16 Evan Hulighan, Kandi Jackson
- 18 Diane Fisher, Tracy Jenkins, Marilyn Wright
- 19 Tammy Bagyi, Warren Lapp, Kristen Moore, Dan Shartle
- 20 Will Owens
- 21 Greg King, Mike McGarity, Darrell Shealy
- 22 Wendy Holton, Battle Wall
- 23 Sherry Meacham, Jill Newton
- 24 Robin Harrill, Kristen Jones, Carolyn Ledford, Blake Marler, Shawn Muenow
- 25 Art Boelke, Susan Grady
- 26 Charles Charnock, Connor Dilsworth, Martha Furr
- 27 Lillian Harley, Norris Parker, Glenn Shea, Preston Streicher
- 28 Chip Corley, Paul Osowski, Adam Tibbals

- 29 Candy Lee, Jake Nesbitt, Kathleen Ronek
- 30 Mary Beaty, Kristen Esposito, Sharon Garfield, Harris Milkey, Wanda Towler
- 31 Nita Baisey, Betty Johnson

March Anniversaries

- 1 Art and Rosemary Boelke
- 2 Bob and Gloria Senn
- 5 Ken and Lillie McAfee
- 8 Will and Cindy Burch
- 12 Elmer and Ginny Dawson
- 16 John and Ann West
- 22 Rick and Beth Addis
- 24 Don and Reese Presson
- 25 Jim and Donna Appleton
- 27 John and Becky Burgess
- 28 Ty and Shannon McBride

Enjoy a meal and program with the 55 Alive Group

Join the 55 Alive Group for a delightful luncheon and program on Tuesday, February 16, at 11: 30 a.m in the Charles Little Activity Building. Lunch at noon will be by Rising Roll Gourmet, with the entertainment at 12:30 provided by Alvina Durite, a comedian with a special testimony. To make reservations or for more information, contact Ray Shrum at 704-523-8049.

Souper Bowl update

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the Souper Bowl of Caring offering on Super Bowl Sunday. Your contributions will be forwarded to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

Do we have your email address?

Please send your email address to jane@sharonpcusa.org so that you can begin receiving the weekly email update with information about upcoming events. Also, please let us know if you'd like to receive the Disciple by email.



Our boys' basketball team is having a great time playing together. The SPC Crusaders players are (front left to right): Jacob Price, Will Harvey, Brannon West, Harris Milkey; Second: Andrew Parker (assistant coach), Lee Kromer, Denton Clark, Jordan McGee, Tyler Witt, Buck Stukey, Nick Stukey, Holden Parker; Back: Ken Parker (assistant coach), John Harvey (head coach)



What's happening with the Chapel?

by Jenny Pusser, Chapel Restoration Project,
and Terry Dawson, Chapel Restoration Fund

Each day brings more progress on the Chapel Restoration. Gary Foard and crew have been working diligently to keep the project on time. To see the history of that old building come alive is a joy to behold! The old pine floors, now barren and worn from years of people coming to worship, are soon to be repaired and restored. The stained glass windows, which have been boarded up for protection while the plasterers repair all of the cracks and imperfections in the walls, will be cleaned and repaired. The original bead board ceiling will be replaced; the electricians are in the process of cleaning the old pendant lights and adding new lighting in the ceiling. Fresh furnishings and pew pads will be added and a new audio-visual system is to be installed.



Walls damaged by years of leaking water are being carefully repaired.

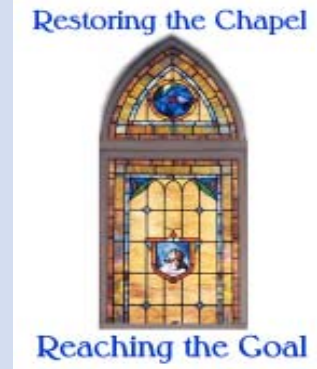
The whole building – Chapel and Annex – will be off limits to everyone the week of February 15 when Duke Power will turn off our antiquated electrical system to switch over to our brand new electrical system. These restorations and changes give this wonderful old building a renewed spirit with endless possibilities for future use.

This chapel is part of our history on which we can build our future. Completion date will be the middle of April if all goes well. What a joy!

Consider the future uses that are possible with the newly restored Chapel. God's presence is with Sharon Presbyterian Church as evidenced by our dreams for expanding our Christian ministry in our own community and beyond. Would you enjoy attending Community Music Programs, a Christian Retreat Center, Mothers' Morning Out Worship, or Guest Speaker Series? How about a Christian Playhouse, anniversary celebrations, art shows, join Toastmasters, Senior Scholars, or attend a Media Culture and Youth Workshop?

The Chapel Renovation Fund has already received \$159,948 and we need an additional \$200,000 to fund the projected costs of the renovation. This amount includes approximately \$40,000 to cover unexpected construction overages and will be placed in the Sharon Presbyterian Building Fund if not needed.

Please pray for the success of the Chapel Renovation Campaign and join us by making a financial commitment to the Campaign. Pledge cards will be made available in the next week. To make a pledge or donation to the fund, contact the church office, 704-553-0869, office@sharonpcusa.org.



Chapel Budget

General Conditions	\$19,903.00
Scaffolding	5,375.00
Trash Removal	1,500.00
Exterior Masonry	
Tuck & Point	24,688.00
Bead Board & Misc	
Millwork Repair	4,500.00
Pew Removal, Touch Up, Reinstallation	2,800.00
Pew Storage	2,150.00
Level Choir Loft	2,500.00
Door Hardware	3,088.00
Plaster Repair	14,155.00
Acoustical Ceiling	22,076.00
Insulate Chapel Ceiling	1,011.00
Paint Interior	14,700.00
Paint Exterior	11,600.00
Carpet Demolition	1,369.00
New Carpet	4,800.00
HVAC	7,500.00
Electrical	38,929.00
Asbestos Removal (Floor, Ducts)	5,292.00
Replace Ductwork	7,632.00
Hardwood Floor	
Repair and Refinish	12,785.00
Overhead & Fee	22,885.00
Permit & Review Fees	3,500.00
Architect	3,500.00
Engineering	2,600.00
AV System, organ, chairs, tables	48,800.00
Total Chapel Cost	\$289,638.00

Annex Budget

General Conditions	\$6,250.00
Exterior Masonry	
Tuck & Point	12,700.00
Electrical	9,345.00
Overhead & Fee	\$2,971.00
Total Annex Cost	\$31,266.00

Total Project Cost \$320,904.00



Cub Scout Pack 34, sponsored by Sharon Presbyterian, held their annual Pancake Breakfast Saturday, February 6, in the Charles Little Activity Building. Thanks to all who came out to support the Pack!

Scouting for Food very successful!

Thanks to the generosity of the congregation of Sharon Presbyterian Church and local neighborhoods, Boy Scout Troop 34 and Cub Scout Pack 34 collected 2,024 pounds of food for the Loaves and Fishes through the annual Scouting for Food campaign. The combined efforts of Sharon Presbyterian Church, Troop 34, and Pack 34 this year provided many meals for the Charlotte area working poor and folks in need; each pound of food is roughly equal to one meal.

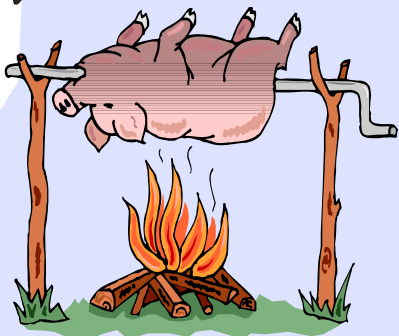


Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow!

A little snow was not going to keep the youth of Sharon Church from their destination the last weekend of January! This year's SPY Ski Trip to West Virginia was made even better by the great snow. They were especially thankful for such a great bus driver who safely delivered them to and from their destination.



Sharon Presbyterian Youth (SPY)
 Silent Auction and BBQ is
 February 21
 beginning at 11:00 a.m. in the CLAB



Get some of that great SPY BBQ and support our youth at the same time! While you wait on your plate, peruse the Silent Auction and place a bid or two. Help the youth make their fundraising goal for their mission trip to Canada!

\$7 for Adults, \$3 for Children, \$8 per pound



Donation suggestions:

- Gently-used sports equipment, furniture, toys, games, etc. for Kids' Corner
- Weekend getaways

Event tickets
 Services (house-cleaning, tax preparation, photography, etc.)
 Gift certificates

• Homemade wares
 • Books, Movies, Music for Media Corner
 • Baked goods for the Bakery Corner

We need your stuff!
 Contact Sarah and Tim Brown, 704-554-1740, about donating any of the above items.

THE Disciple

Sharon Presbyterian Church
 5201 Sharon Road
 Charlotte, North Carolina 28210
 704-553-0869

Fax: 704- 553-0471

Email: office@SharonPCUSA.org

Web-Site: www.SharonPCUSA.org

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.



Dr. Rob Blumer, Pastor
Rev. Ron Nelson, Associate Pastor
Sharon Vanpelt, Director of Christian Education
David Mayo, Director of Music
Linda Mayo, Assoc. Dir. for Children's Music
Sandy Breaux, Organist
Jane Crutchfield, Admin. Assist.
Scottie Trapp, Fin. Secretary
Karen Haynes, Secretary/Receptionist
Bill VanDeBogart, Church Sexton
Carolyn Adams-Teal, Anna Finichenko, and Nataliya Timoshchenko, Nursery Caregivers

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 Missionaries supported in part by Sharon Presbyterian

Weekday School: Beth Merchant, Director, 704-554-0882