

TO MAKE KNOWN THE LOVE OF GOD IN JESUS CHRIST

FOCUS

Albemarle Road Presbyterian Church

6740 Albemarle Road • P. O. Box 25903 • Charlotte, NC 28229-5903 • Telephone 704-537-1204
Fax 704-537-1284 • www.arpusa.org • Email: newsletter@arpusa.org

8:45 am - Sunday School

10 am - Morning Worship

Volume 44, No. 6

June 2009

WELCOME HOME, RON AND THANK YOU, MIKE POTTS!

On Tuesday, June 2, Ron Tippens returns to ARPC from sabbatical. Yay! Welcome back, Ron! You may all rejoice, but my responsibilities will change significantly. I will have to restrain myself to not run up and hug his neck.

While I have tried to fill in, in small ways during Ron's absence, the Rev. Mike Potts did the lion's share by preaching most Sundays and supervising me. I don't believe any of us had the impression that Mike was a fill-in preacher. Mike proclaimed the gospel with faith, power and authenticity. It is obvious Mike enjoys preaching and has years of experience. (He is nearly as old as Ron Tippens, bless his heart.) By agreeing to preach and be my supervisor, Mike afforded the opportunity for Ron's sabbatical and my internship as student pastor. Mike was a wonderful supervisor, sharing guidance and wisdom, and yet giving me enough room to do things on my own and learn from my own mistakes. Mike did all this while struggling with significant health issues of his own and of family members.

More than proclaiming the gospel from the pulpit in a powerful and inspiring way, Mike shared his life and his struggles with us. Mike shared his ups and his downs, his fears and his faith.

Ron Tippens will preach Sunday, June 7, and that will be a time of rejoicing. Please join me in thanking Mike Potts as he preaches Sunday, May 31. Mike is an excellent preacher, an authentic Christian, and a man of God. It has been a pleasure for me to work with him. What a gift he has been to ARPC.

- Rob Chambers



High School Graduates

	High School	Plans Next Year
Kelly Booher	Butler	University of North Carolina, Charlotte
Rhyn Harris	Hickory Ridge	Fullsail University, Winter Park, FL

College Graduates

Alicia Ballard	Appalachian State University	Bachelor of Science, Healthcare Management
Matthew Ballard	Appalachian State University	Bachelor of Science, Social Works
Matthew Brown	University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill - School of Medicine	Clinical Laboratory Science, major; Chemistry, minor
Kelley Daoust	Louise Harkey School of Nursing	Associate of Science, Nursing

Graduate Degrees

Jennifer Allen Crotts	Missouri State University	Masters of Science, Education
Rob Chambers	Union Seminary, Charlotte	Master of Divinity

Sympathy

The congregation of ARPC extends love and sympathy to:

- Bob, Candi, Brad & Morgan Mizell, former ARPC members, on the death of Bob's father, Ken Mizell of Charlotte. Ken joined ARPC in 1993.
- Ron Hill on the recent death of his aunt. She was 101 years old and was a very special person in Ron's life.
- Kay, Tim & Emily Thomas on the death of Kay's father, Dewitt Batten, of Charlotte on Wednesday, April 29, 2009.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Adam and Amy White on the birth of their son, Archer Dobson White, on Sunday, May 17, 2009, in Durham, NC. He weighed 9 pounds, 9 ounces, and was 22 inches long. Archer's big sister is Addison and delighted grandparents are Jim & Martie White.



Congratulations to Shay Harrelson Dunn who was named Nurse of the Year for all of the Presbyterian Hospitals. Shay received the award on May 12, 2009, and was honored to be the unanimous choice. She has worked in the Neonatal Intensive Care unit of Presbyterian Hospital, Charlotte, for the past 20 years. Shay's parents are Ray and Jean Harrelson.

Address Changes

Myrt Lambert
Willow Grove Retirement Center
10043 Idlewild Road, Apt. 110
Matthews, NC 28105
Phone (same) - 704-573-2789

Chris and Mindi Gerrard,
Megan, Harrison, and Beau
9314 Scorpio Lane
Charlotte, NC 28227
Phone (same) - 704-573-9838
(This address will be valid after June 17)

Serving ARPC in June

NURSERY

Sunday School

- June 7 Katie Blackwelder, Jane Hutchko
- June 14 Nancy Parker, Susan Culbreth
- June 21 Ginger Blackwelder, Robin Silipigni
- June 28 Nancy McLemore, Martha Blackmon

Worship

- June 7 Jenks Mackay, Jeni Carder
Erik and Maggie Blackwelder
- June 14 Ronnie and Margie White
Cam and Maria Harne
- June 21 Bill and Diann McGuirt
Rick and Darlene Penninger
- June 28 Dan and Lee Shearer
Tony and Bonnie Nodine

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

- June 7 Polly & Jason Rowell
- June 14 Maggie & Erik Blackwelder
- June 21 Kim & Adam Jackson
- June 28 Robin & Joe Silipigni

There will be no Children's Church during July.

HEAD USHERS AND ASSISTANTS

- June 7 John Walls, Don Blackmon
 - June 14 John Walls, Don Blackmon
 - June 21 Rick Williams, Adam Jackson
 - June 28 Eric Troutman, Adam Jackson
- Deacon of the month: Rick Williams
Elder of the month: Adam Jackson

FOCUS DEADLINE

Items are due on the
20th of each month at 10 a.m.
Mark this on your calendar
for each month.

Our Faithfulness for May 2009	05/03/09	05/10/09	05/17/09	05/24/09
Budget to date	\$167,928.30	177,257.65	186,587.00	195,916.35
Received toward Budget to date	129,830.57	139,276.82	144,697.55	149,920.30
Received on Budget per Sunday	9,795.71	9,446.25	5,420.73	5,222.75
Needed per Sunday	9,329.35	9,329.35	9,329.35	9,329.35
Church School Attendance	108		121	96
Worship Attendance	217	191	197	173
2009 Building Maintenance Fund:				
Received toward pledge to date	\$13,675.46	13,983.96	14,162.46	14,440.96
Received per Sunday	867.50	308.50	178.50	278.50

May 5¢-a-Meal Offerings (thru May 24) total \$219.13

June 2009 5¢-a-Meal Offerings will be collected Sunday, June 7, 2009.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

by Rob Chambers

DON'T FORGET THE GRACE

There is within Rob Chambers, a runner, who is still in high school, running for Coach Lovett. I feel compelled to go, to do, to be in motion, to be at work. Yes I can be lazy or distracted, but mostly my motor runs. There is also a coach within me. I feel the need to exhort, to encourage, to say "Yes you can do it! Yes you can pray daily! Yes you can read the Bible daily! Yes you can serve the church faithfully!"

That is all well and good, but I risk losing sight of the gospel. The gospel is the good news that we are saved by grace, by what God did in Jesus Christ on the cross, not from anything we do. If you are in the Confirmation-Commissioning class that I help lead, you may find it hard to believe that we are saved by grace. You may be tempted to believe that we are saved by memorizing, reading, writing and studying. You may be tempted to believe we are saved by completing all of our assignments. I think we are all tempted to believe that we are saved by being good church members.

Being a disciple of Jesus Christ does in fact involve plenty of doing. Growing in faith, and becoming a more mature Christian does involve work. But there is nothing that we can do to change God's love for us one way or the other. There is nothing we can do to justify ourselves in God's eyes. We are justified because of the death of Jesus Christ on the cross.

This is a reminder that the Gospel is good news. We can absolutely put our salvation and eternal life in God's hands. We can trust God to keep us, regardless of what we do. We can take a deep breath and relax, and enjoy the life of discipleship God has called us to. It is a difficult life, but it is a life full of blessings and joys. Don't let a DCE with some personal issues rob you of your joy in Jesus Christ. Enjoy your discipleship. Live a life of gratitude for the One who saved you on the cross. Face the challenges of living and dying for Jesus Christ, safe in the knowledge that our faith is in a loving God that we can trust to see us through any situation. Remember that God wants to bless you with abundant and eternal life. Amen.

Upcoming Events

Sunday, June 7 - Graduation Sunday

- Graduate Breakfast in Calvin Hall from 8-9 a.m.

Sunday, June 7

- MYC meets for kickball and a ceremony to recognize our 8th graders moving up to Sr. High. This will begin after Ron's welcome luncheon; done by 2:30.
- JYC celebrates with a pool party at the Silipigni's.
- SYC celebrates with Movie Night from 5 - 7 p.m.

Sunday, June 14

- **Rising 6th graders and 9th graders** move up to their new groups during Sunday School.
- **Great Escape** preparation meeting during Sunday School. **Middle Schoolers** and parents meet in FLC.
- **Senior High Mission trip** preparation meeting from 4 - 5 p.m. in the FLC.

Sunday, June 21

- **Senior Highs** leave for **mission trip**.

Monday, June 22

- **Middle Schoolers** leave for the **Great Escape**.

Sunday, July 12

- **Montreat** preparation meeting.

July 13-16, 6:30-8:30 PM

- **Vacation Bible School** - The Great Bible Reef; Dive Deep into God's Word

Sunday, July 19

- **Senior Highs** leave for **Montreat**.
- **JYC** leaves for **Camp Grier**.

ARPC Youth Mission Statement: Our mission is to pursue a growing relationship with God daily as we pray, worship, study, fellowship, serve and witness.



Youth News

Our Middle Schoolers rolled up their sleeves and did some yard work for a family unable to do their own. After cutting grass, trimming shrubs, cutting weeds, etc, they got to relax at the park for a bit. Our Senior Highs led us in worship and exhorted us not to just go through the motions, a timely message.

As we finish the school year we look forward to the summer schedule. Many thanks to volunteer counselors, parents who provided suppers on Sunday nights, and youth who participated in our programs. You all participated in the effort to call young people to be disciples. That is truly a high calling.

Youth do not have regular Sunday night meetings in the summer, but we do have trips, we can help with Vacation Bible School, and special events will be planned. So keep reading your newsletters and stay in touch. We also have Sunday School and Sunday morning worship every Sunday this summer. Plan to be there. Plan to be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ



Presbyterian Women Circle Meetings

Circle #1 will meet on Monday, June 8 at 10:30 in Calvin Hall. This will be their final meeting until fall.

Circle #5 will not meet in June or July. Our next circle meeting will be on August 11 at 7 p.m. for our annual salad supper. Have a wonderful summer!

Ladies of **Circle #6**, our year has come to a close. Please join us for a cook-out on **Thursday, June 11 at 6:30 p.m.** at the home of Jane Hutchko, 12630 Cedar Post Lane. Please bring a side dish to pass. We will introduce our new book for next year, "Total Forgiveness." We will take a count of those who already have the book and who plans to order. Look forward to seeing you there!

I am happily home after two months in hospital and rehabilitation! This affliction has been the greatest challenge of my life. You people of ARPC have given me the strength to survive. The prayers, cards, calls, flowers, and visits by beautiful and caring friends would lift my spirits whenever I felt I was sinking so low.

The caring continues with delicious food, cleaning, construction for wheelchair access, etc.

It is a wonderful blessing to be a part of the ARPC Christian family.

God bless you all,
Carolyn Tansey

Thank You!

Dear Friends at ARPC,

Thank you again for all of the love and support you continue to show toward us while we are here in the USA. We received the gift from you in April, and want you to know how much we appreciate it!

It has been a busy time, with Chuck and Jackie working different schedules, and with Claire and Lauren in school and working too. Someone is always coming and going from the house, from daylight until dark.

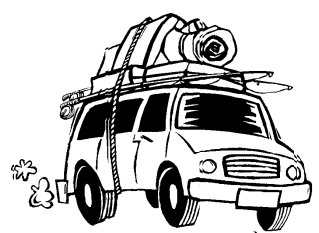
Chuck continues to work as research coordinator for Central Asia. Jackie is still working at Mercy Hospital on Tuesdays to Fridays. Claire is in exam week at CPPC in the Physical Therapy Assistant program, and working part time as a transporter at Mercy. Lauren works at Bath and Body Works in Gastonia and is preparing to take the GRE this summer. Brandon is happily married in Mobile and teaching guitar at FBNB. He and his wife, Pamela, plan to spend the summer working with their church mission in Guatemala.

Chuck and Jackie are planning to return to Istanbul in September of this year, and value your prayers in these days as schedules are worked out and plans finalized. Leaving is never easy, with family separation and so many details to be taken care of. Thank you for praying for us and for our family, and for all the support and love you show for us.

Sincerely yours,
Chuck and Jackie Baker

CHILDREN'S CHURCH TAKING A BREAK

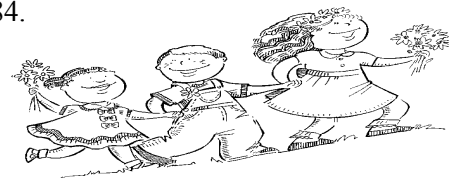
Children's Church will not be held during the month of July. The new year for Children's Church will begin August 2. Children's Church is for children 4-6 years old.



WEEKDAY SCHOOL GRADUATES 13

On Friday, May 22, the Weekday School held their End-of-the-Year Program and Graduation with 13 children graduating from our 4-year-old program. We thank the Church, Reverend Ron and Rob Chambers for supporting the Weekday School. The school celebrated its 31st year.

Our summer sessions start June 1 and July 6 for four weeks each. Our summer session is for 1-year-olds through those children finishing 2nd grade. If you are interested in summer sessions, please call Nancy Parker at 704-536-3384.



Now registering for Summer Session and Fall 2009

PLEASE HELP FEED THE HUNGRY!

On July 19, the Mission Committee will be sponsoring a food drive for Second Harvest Food Bank. Children often go hungry during the summer months without the meals provided daily at school. As a result, the food banks become drained very quickly. Please share some easily prepared foods such as peanut butter, macaroni and cheese, soups, canned meals, cereals, canned fruit, etc. Help us feed our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Thank you!
The Mission Committee

Albemarle Road Presbyterian Church
P. O. Box 25903
Charlotte, NC 28229-5903

Non Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Charlotte, NC
Permit No. 1381

Address Service Requested



Let's celebrate his favorite way - Covered Dish

**Bring your delicious offering
of food
(and plenty of it)
on Sunday, June 7.**

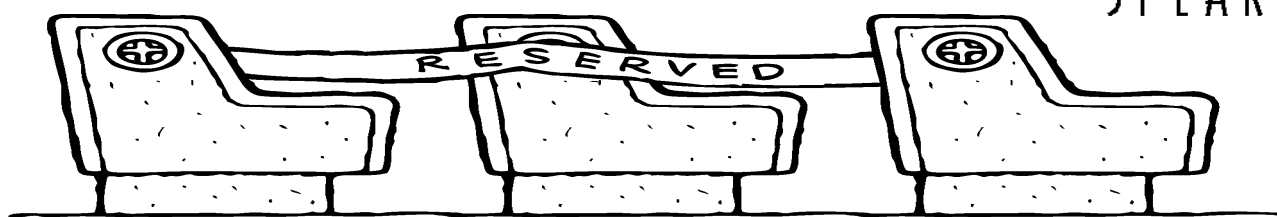
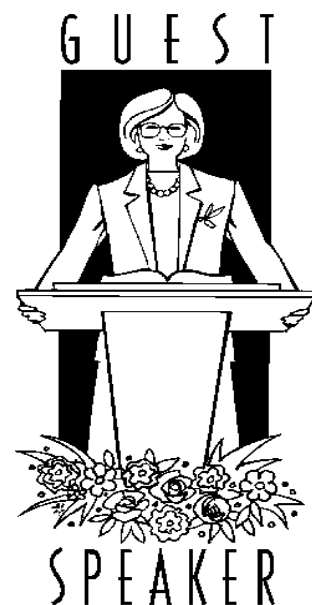


**We will enjoy the food and fellowship after the
Worship Service.**

Food can be dropped off in the Family Life Center anytime before 9:45 in the morning. There will be warmers for food that needs to be kept heated.

ATTENTION ALL WOMEN!

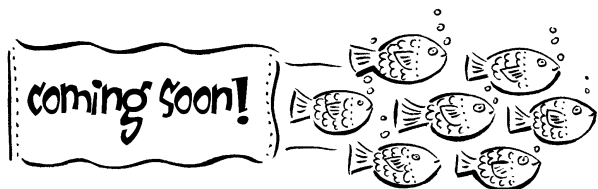
The Presbyterian Women invite all of the women of the church and friends to a delightful afternoon to listen to Leslie Hand, our guest speaker for the annual "Passing of the Gavel" general meeting. Leslie is a very gifted inspirational speaker and author of Movieglimpse - a website designed to connect people to the gospel through the movies that touch their heart. Many of you will remember Leslie as she received rave reviews as the speaker at the recent women's retreat at Apple Hill Lodge in Moravian Falls. This promises to be an event you will not want to miss! We are very excited about this special women's meeting and hope you plan to attend and bring a friend. Mark your calendars for Sunday, June 14, 2009, at 2:30 p.m. We will meet in Calvin Hall.



We're Saving a Seat
for You

The Great Bible Reef; Dive Deep into God's Word!

Your kids will swim with delight at this summer's VBS. They will be engaged in lively worship, kid-friendly Bible stories, crafts, songs and a meaningful mission project. They will learn how God's people cared, helped, trusted, believed, and listened to God.



Join us for Vacation Bible School Monday, July 13 through Thursday, July 16 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center

VBS is for children who have finished 3-year-old preschool or who have turned 3 by December 2008 through those who recently finished 5th grade. You will find the registration form on the back of this announcement.

Please think about how you can contribute to the strengthening of our children's faith and discipleship by volunteering as a greeter, grade leader, crafts leader, song leader or worship leader.



Let's Dive In!



VBS

We're so glad you can join us for Vacation Bible School this year! However, we do need a little bit of information so that we can ensure we all have a safe and happy time together.

Childs Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Names: _____

Address: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Phone Numbers: (Home) _____ (Cell) _____ (Work) _____

Age Information:

Date of Birth: _____ Age at time of VBS: _____

Last Grade Completed: _____

Home Church: _____

Allergies/Medical Information: _____

Is you child allowed to have his/her photo taken? _____

Emergency Contacts:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Dismissal Information:

Name(s) of persons who may pick up your child from VBS each day: _____

Other Information (VBS volunteer use only)

Great Bible Reef Group child is assigned to: _____

Are the parents helping with Great Bible Reef VBS? _____