



**PRESBYTERY OF WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA
INFORMATION PACKET
JUNE 2008**

Please distribute the enclosed information to the appropriate members of your congregation. To discontinue receiving this mailing, please notify the Presbytery Office by e-mail (rbuchanan@presbyterywnc.org), fax (828/437-8655), phone (828/438-4217) or mail (114 Silver Creek Road, Morganton, NC 28655).

PRAYER CALENDAR

- June 2008 ~ July 2008
- Prayer Concerns

GENERAL PRESBYTER

- What's Happening in the Presbytery

STATED CLERK

- Session Records Review - Next Review
Saturday, June 7, 2008
Shelby Presbyterian Church

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

- Let Us Help You Continue Your Education!!!
- "LET'S CELEBRATE" ~ Side by Side
August 9, 2008 - Mark Your Calendar

CARE OF CHURCH PROFESSIONALS

- "Journey of Faith" ~ September 29-30, 2008

YOUTH

- Time to Mark Your Calendars! Events for 2008-2009
- What is a Youth Group Leader?
- Youth Leader's Connection ~ October 17-18, 2008
- Try Cooking with your Youth Group!

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

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Presbytery Meetings - 2008

July 29, 2008 - Third Street

October 24-25, 2008 - Lake Junaluska

Presbytery Meetings - 2009

January 31, 2009 - Asheville, First

April 28, 2009 - Montreat Conference Center

July 28, 2009 - Banner Elk Presbyterian Church

October 23-24, 2009 - Lake Junaluska



The Presbytery of Western North Carolina

114 Silver Creek Road, Morganton, NC 28655 Phone: (828)438-4217 Fax: (828)437-8655

TO: *Churches of the Presbytery of WNC*
FROM: *Bobbi White, General Presbyter*
DATE: *May 15, 2008*
SUBJECT: *Prayer Calendar for June and July*

Many of our churches include the following paragraphs in their bulletins and newsletters each week. This encourages their members to pray for these congregations on the designated Sundays.

* *Consider sending the churches a card telling them they were held up in prayer.* *

June 1st - Spruce Pine First (P.O. Box 764, Spruce Pine, NC 28777)

sppres@bellsouth.net

Please pray for our focus on children and families as we reach out into the Mitchell County community and beyond. We continue to host an after school program on Wednesdays, have started a senior high youth group, have planned a mission trip to Johnson City, TN, to renovate a women's shelter, and will try our first camping trip in mid-May. We have also started a Wednesday lunch-time Bible study with soup and sandwiches, and are in the midst of planning for our Vacation Bible School in June and our annual church picnic on July 6th. We recently completed our pictorial directory and are forming shepherding groups to nurture our sense of community. Our youth are excited about raising money to support the hospital in Malawi as an extension of our Christian witness and responsibility beyond where we live. Pray for our Pastor, Bill Sweetser.

June 8th - Swannanoa First (P.O. Box 216, Swannanoa, NC 28778)

swannanoapres@gmail.com

Give thanks for one adult Profession of Faith and Baptism and the Baptism of three children on April 13th. Pray for our PNC as they search for a part-time pastor; for the church's efforts to find its niche in the Swannanoa community; and for members to increase their spiritual energy during this transitional time. Remember our Interim Pastor, Stratton Peacock.

June 15th - Sweetwater (500 21st Street, SE, Hickory, NC 28602)

No information available.

June 22nd - Sylva First (46 Presbyterian Drive, Sylva, NC 28779)

sylvapres@hotmail.com

The First Presbyterian Church of Sylva would like to give praise to God for our exceptional music program, both in the traditional and contemporary service. We are also especially grateful for the excellent work being done by David Cathcart, our Family Life Director. We ask that the Lord help us find ways to minister to the unusually large number of young children we now have in our church. We also ask that we clearly teach God's Word in all areas of our church. Remember our Pastor, Bill Serjak.

June 29th - Third Street (605 North Highland Street, Gastonia, NC 28052)

thirdstreetc@bellsouth.net

Please pray for Third Street Presbyterian Church as it goes through a time of revitalization and spiritual discernment. Especially we ask for prayers for our Pastor, Eddie Deas, elders, deacons, and ministry team members.

July 6th - Trinity (900 Blythe Street, Hendersonville, NC 28791)

trinity@trinitypresnc.org

We would like to ask prayers for our newly elected Associate Pastor Nominating Committee as they begin their important work. We invite prayers for the unusually large number of persons who have lost loved ones during the past year. We thank God for Gene Carman, who at age 90, graduated from the School for the Laity. We celebrate all those who have joined us in the past year and our ongoing children's ministry. Remember our Pastor, Mark Stanley.

July 13th - Tryon (430 Harmon Field Road, Tryon, NC 28782)

tpreschurch@alltel.net

Please include Tryon Presbyterian Church in your prayers: pray that the Spirit of God remains with this church as it deals with the loss of its Pastor, Dr. David R. Hosick, who accepted a call to another church. His departure (May 11th) has already left a huge void - if not a vacuum - in this church family. Pray that divine wisdom and guidance will carry TPC ahead as it goes about the lengthy process of identifying new spiritual leadership. Also, pray for Dr. Hosick in his new ministry.

July 20th - Union (5615 Union Road, Gastonia, NC 28056)

unionpc@bellsouth.net

As we complete our new addition and move into the new accommodations, we covet our Presbytery's prayers for discernment and direction. We continue to thrive and grow and pray that we can be attractive to our neighbors in the immediate area who are searching for Jesus Christ to be in their lives. In order to fulfill God's command to "Go therefore and make disciples," we look for His direction in our mission and purpose. Please pray for our pastor, Joan Martin.

July 27th - Union Mills (2400 Centennial Road, Union Mills, NC 28167)

ksward@blueridge.net

Union Mills Presbyterian Church is a small struggling church who has had many blessings this past year. We were successful in reaching our goal for stained glass windows, which are beautiful. We were blessed with having land donated to the church and now have a wonderful handicap ramp, thanks to the wonderful volunteers that gave their time, and hard work. The ramp was used immediately by a man in a wheel chair who had been unable to attend and now has access to come inside. We are looking forward to having a revival this fall. Where we are really struggling is with members. We have lost many older members and so want to grow in numbers. We continue to pray and have faith that God will allow our church to grow and prosper so we may further fulfill His will. We are also going to be losing our pianist who had been such a blessing to the church with her beautiful music. We are so small, we don't have a choir, so her music has been such a blessing. We don't know how to replace her. We ask everyone to please pray our church will grow and that our dilemma for finding a replacement for our pianist be resolved. We give thanks for Betty Shaw and Sharon Decker, Commissioned Lay Pastors, and for Franklin Jones, Student Pastor.

MISSION PRAYER CALENDAR: *Even as we pray each week for specific churches in our Presbytery, we can also remember our missionaries and mission activities as a reminder that our family extends into all the world.*

Joys & Prayer Concerns.....



May 20, 2008

- **Rev. Richard “Dick” Shelor and wife, Florence.** Dick has been transferred to the Health Care Unit at Highland Farms and Florence is recovering from surgery for a broken shoulder at the Health Care Unit at Highland Farms.
- **Rev. Andy Parker,** *pastor at Quaker Meadows Presbyterian Church,* caring for his parents who have serious health concerns.
- **Dr. Barbara Nagy and family,** *PCUSA Missionary in Malawi.* Barbara’s father, William Nagy, died Friday night, May 2, 2008 at his home in Edison, NJ.
- **Ridgeview Presbyterian Church,** Bakersville, NC ~ as the congregation deals with concerns and emotions following a robbery during worship service on April 13.
- **Wayne Tipton,** *Clerk of Session at Ridgeview Presbyterian Church,* recovering from surgery.
- **Beth Gunn,** *Associate for Youth Ministries,* Beth’s mother, Evelyn Bannerman, recovering from knee replacement surgery on Monday, April 7.
- **Rev. Mark Watson and family,** *Pastor at Newton, First.* Mark’s wife, Leah, will have surgery for thyroid cancer on June 10 at Duke Hospital.
- **Midge Mack,** *elder at Trinity Presbyterian and reporter for Presbytery Meetings,* serious health concerns.
- **William Wright,** *6 month old infant son of candidate Nathan Wright,* as he recovers from another surgery.
- **Mary Hill,** *wife of Rev. Fred Hill, retired minister,* congestive heart failure.
- **Marion Walker,** *daughter of James and Margaret Aydelotte,* health concerns.
- **Ruth Zeto,** *daughter of Katherine & Tom Parker,* cancer treatments.

Commissioners to the 218th General Assembly June 21-28, 2008 ~ San Jose, California

Rev. Maggie Lauterer

Ms. Lois Camp

Ms. Elizabeth Hill, Youth Delegate

Rev. Laura Long

Ms. Kathy Parse

Rev. Luke Harkey

Mr. J. D. Waldrop

ORDINATION/INSTALLATION SERVICE

Tee Gatewood will be ordained and installed in a service at the Arbor Dale Presbyterian Church, on Sunday, May 25, 2008, at 5:00 p.m.

Michael Sears will be ordained and installed in a service at Olney Presbyterian Church, on Sunday, June 1, 2008, at 4:00 p.m.

CHURCH CELEBRATIONS

Black Mountain Presbyterian Church is celebrating their 100th Anniversary this month.

First Presbyterian Church, Newton will be celebrating their 150th Anniversary in June.

New Hope Presbyterian Church in Asheville will be celebrating their 25th Anniversary in June.

MISSIONARIES and MISSION TEAMS

Missionaries:

- ▶ Ellen Dozier, as she prepares for retirement the end of May.
- ▶ Barbara Nagy, as she continues her work in Malawi and prepares for mission teams
- ▶ Becca Young, as she continues to adjust to her new ministry
- ▶ John McCall, as he continues his teachings at the Seminary in Taipei, Taiwan
- ▶ Frank and Nancy Dimmock and their family, who are in Lesotho
- ▶ Rachel Brown, Young Adult Volunteer (YAV), from Mills River Presbyterian Church going to Kenya

Guatemala Missions Teams:

- ▶ End of June: Congregational teams from Brevard-Davidson River and Grace Covenant

Malawi Mission Team:

- ▶ May 20-June 3: Team #2 (nine people)

All prayer requests will be listed for 4 weeks. If you would like to add to the list, change a listing, or keep a request for a longer period of time, please call 828/438-4217, ext 13 or send an e-mail to rbuchanan@presbyterywnc.org.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE PRESBYTERY OF WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA JUNE 2008



Session Records Review

REVIEW OF SESSION RECORDS

The Clerks of Session within our Presbytery review each other's Session minutes annually. So far this year, a total of 49 records have been read. The last scheduled meeting for the review of 2007 Session Records will be Saturday, June 7th at the Shelby Presbyterian Church. Clerks who have not submitted their 2007 Records should make plans to attend on June 7th.

Along with bringing your 2007 Session Records, you will need to bring a copy of the 2007-2009 *Book of Order*.

The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. with refreshments, includes lunch, and should conclude by 2:00 p.m. All Clerks should attend, and any Assistant Clerks are welcome. **Call** the Presbytery office with the number of attendee(s). Directions can be obtained by going to www.mapquest.com and keying in your beginning and ending location.



THE PRESBYTERIAN HERITAGE CENTER AT MONTREAT

Grand Opening - Saturday, May 24, 2008

The Presbyterian Heritage Center (PHC) at Montreat will hold its Grand Opening on Memorial Weekend — at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, May 24, 2008. Please make plans to attend this historic event! There will be a Scottish piper, a choir from the Korea Presbyterian Church of Asheville and more!

Saturday evening, there will be a Ceilidh and Appalachian music program open free to the Montreat community and anyone else, cosponsored by the Presbyterian Heritage Center and the Montreat Scottish Society. The evening will begin at 7:30 p.m. with a Ceilidh and Barn Dance, featuring Glenn Bannerman and the Stoney Creek Boys.

We offer interactive computer kiosks, an innovative museum and research facility (onsite and online) presenting Presbyterian history and Reformed heritage, the church's tradition of worldwide mission, and the interesting role of Montreat. For more information visit their website at: <http://www.phcmontreat.org/>

PRESBYTERIAN HERITAGE SUNDAY ~ May 25, 2008

Presbyterian Heritage Sunday has been set aside by the General Assembly of the PC(USA) as an annual day to celebrate, reflect upon, and learn more about the long and rich history of the Presbyterian movement in America. It falls on the Sunday closest to May 21, the date of the opening of the first General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America in 1789.



The Presbyterian Historical Society supports Heritage Sunday by preparing study and worship suggestions for distribution to congregations throughout the United States. The 2008 theme is *"For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."* For additional information, visit the Presbyterian Historical Society web site at: <http://www.history.pcusa.org/cong/heritage.html>. For tips for celebrating Presbyterian Heritage Sunday, visit <http://www.pcusa.org/oga/perspectives/may05/heritage.pdf>.



YOUTH COUNCIL APPLICATION ~ Due by May 30, 2008

The Youth Council can help strengthen many gifts that God has given you. Among a few of these are: leadership skills, communication skills and strengthening your faith. A few attributes that will help you to flourish while on the Youth Council are: willingness and availability, good listener, creativity, flexibility, open-mindedness, individuality, and a sense of humor. There are three teams that make up the Youth Council. They are recreation, worship and music. So, what are you waiting for? APPLY TODAY! Download your application from the Presbytery website:
http://www.presbyterywnc.org/content/youth_council/Youth_Council_Application.pdf

MISSION TRIP:



Pray for the following team:

May 8-19 and May 20-June 3: Two teams to Malawi to work at Nkhoma Hospital. Look for prayer flyer at www.presbyterywnc.org. Teresa Locke, Tom Kilgore, and Pastor Michael Bailey, leaders. Pray also for Barbara Nagy, Jodi McGill and Reynier ter Haar, as they work on arrangements in Malawi.



218th GENERAL ASSEMBLY ~ JUNE 21-28, 2008

San Jose, California

The 2008 theme is "Do justice, love kindness, walk humbly with your God" (Micah 6:8). Many important issues will be considered by commissioners and advisory delegates as they seek to discern and to represent the will of Christ for the PC(USA). Commissioners attending from the Presbytery will be: Rev. Maggie Lauterer, Rev. Laura Long, Rev. Luke Harkey, Elders J.D. Waldrop, Kathy Parse, and Lois Camp. The youth advisory delegate will be Elizabeth Hill.



2008 Presbyterian Peacemaking Conference

Sowing Mustard Seeds: Working for God's Justice - Confronting Poverty

July 15-19, 2008, Orange, California

Today globalization creates new forms of poverty with more extreme disparities between the rich and the poor. The annual income of the richest 1 percent is equal to that of the poorest 57 percent, and 24,000 people die each day from poverty and malnutrition. The majority of those in poverty are women and children. The number of people living in absolute poverty on less than one dollar per day continues to increase (Accra Confession. World Alliance of Reformed Churches, 2004). In 2006, as many as 36.5 million people in the United States lived in poverty (U.S. Census Bureau).

Jesus calls us to be aware of the systems that impoverish people and, through the parable of the mustard seed, teaches us of the power of small acts of peaceful resistance to crack those systems open.

To learn more about the conference visit: <http://www.pcusa.org/peacemaking/conferences/2008.htm>.

To download a conference brochure: <http://www.pcusa.org/peacemaking/conferences/2008/brochure.pdf>

To download a registration form: <http://www.pcusa.org/peacemaking/conferences/2008/register.pdf>



BRAAKSMA’S, MISSIONARIES TO SUDAN, VISIT PWNC IN JULY

Del and Debbie Braaksma, will be in WNC July 24-29, speaking in various parts of the Presbytery and completing their time with us at the Presbytery meeting on July 29. Del works with the "goat project" supported by Nickel a Meal funds and Debbie is involved with the process of reconciliation among Southern Sudanese. There will be three or four other opportunities to hear these wonderful people. Their schedule should be on the web site and e-mailed to churches next month. Read about them at <http://www.pcusa.org/missionconnections/profiles/braaksmad.htm>.

PRESBYTERY SEVENTY-SEVENTH STATED MEETING

Tuesday, July 29, 2008

**Third Street Presbyterian Church
605 North Highland Street, Gastonia, NC**



Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. along with elder orientation and a time for prayer. The meeting will convene at 9:00 a.m. Del and Debbie Braaksma, Missionaries to Sudan, will be speaking at the Presbytery Meeting about his works with the “goat project.” Mark your calendar now.



RETIREES RECEPTION ~ July 30, 2008

A reception for retired professionals, who are members of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina, will be held on Wednesday, July 30, at 3:00 p.m. The event will be held at the Black Mountain Presbyterian Church. Helen Locklear, BOP representative, will be speaking at the reception and available to talk and answer any questions you may have.



LET’S CELEBRATE! ~ “Side-by-Side” - August 9, 2008

(“What are you looking?...Come and see.” John 1:38a and 39a)

First Presbyterian Church, Morganton

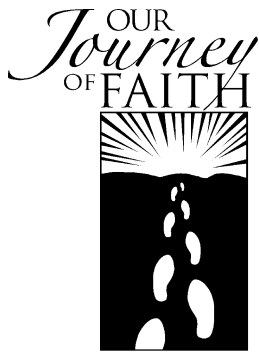
An all-day event filled with worship, workshops and fellowship for youth and adults. J. Herbert Nelson will lead worship and two workshops. The theme for this year will be: *Evangelism, Revitalization and Transformation*. Mark your calendar and watch for the brochure the first of June, which will include a full list of workshops and registration information.



SENIOR HIGH RALLY - September 28, 2008

Montreat, NC

Adrian McMullen, Associate for Youth, PCUSA, will join our youth at Montreat as Rally Leader. Senior High Youth are encouraged to attend and bring a friend. The rally is FREE.



JOURNEY OF FAITH (formerly *Journey to Bethlehem*)

September 29-30, 2008

Montreat Conference Center

This annual event, sponsored by the Presbytery's Care of Church Professionals Committee, invites all Ministers, Commissioned Lay Pastors, Directors of Christian Education, and Musicians to a time of REFLECTION, RENEWAL, and FELLOWSHIP on September 29-30, 2008, in Assembly Inn's Convocation Hall.



MIDDLE SCHOOL RETREAT - November 21-23, 2008

Camp Grier, Old Fort

The Middle School Retreat will be November 21-23, 2008 at Camp Grier. Retreat leader will be Robert Alexander plus youth enablers. Watch your email and the youth page of the Presbytery website for more information. You will want to register early.



CHURCH CELEBRATIONS

Black Mountain Presbyterian Church celebrated their 100th Anniversary during May.

Newton Presbyterian Church will be celebrating their 150th Anniversary in June.

New Hope Presbyterian Church in Asheville will be celebrating their 25th Anniversary in June.



Session Records Review

ATTENTION ALL CLERKS OF SESSION

All Clerks of Session and/or Assistant Clerks in Cluster D and in Cleveland, Lincoln, Polk, and Rutherford Counties should attend the Session Records Review on Saturday, June 7, 2008. The meeting will be held at the Shelby Presbyterian Church, 226 East Graham Street, Shelby, NC. **Please put this date on your calendar and notify the Presbytery office of your attendance. (rbuchanan@presbyterywnc.org)**

Review Meeting III

Date and Time: Saturday, June 7, 2008 - 9:00 a.m.
Location: Shelby Presbyterian Church, Shelby, NC
Who Should Attend: All the congregations in Cluster D and in Cleveland, Lincoln, Polk and Rutherford Counties

Belmont, First	Forest City, First	Lowell	Shiloh, Grover
Bessemer City, First	Gastonia, First	Mount Holly, First	Southminster
Brittain	Good Hope	New Hope, Gastonia	Spindale
Cherryville, First	Ironton	Olney	Third Street
Columbus	John Knox	Pine Street	Tryon
Dallas, First	Kings Mountain, First	Robinson Memorial	Union Mills
Dixon	Lincolnton, First	Ryburn Memorial	Union
Duncan's Creek	Long Creek	Saluda	Unity
Ellenboro	Love's Chapel	Shelby	West Avenue

In addition to the congregations listed above, the following churches should also make arrangements to attend the **last scheduled review** of records for this year.

*Brevard-Davidson River	Glen Alpine	Mills River	Ridgeview
Bridgewater	Grassy Creek	*Montreat	Sweetwater
Brittains Cove	Green Mountain	New Hope, Asheville	Sylva, First
*Calvary	Jack's Creek	Oakwood	Trinity
Estatoa	*Kenilworth	Old Fort	Vians Valley
Etowah	Korean Pres Church	*Reems Creek-Beech	Walnut

**-indicates that you will be in attendance*

The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. After a period of training, Clerks will review each other's Session minutes. Lunch will be provided. Please notify the Presbytery office of your attendance, 828/438-4217 or rbuchanan@presbyterywnc.org.

Review of Session minutes is an important activity. It enables our Presbytery to become aware of how it can better support the mission work of the congregations. Your role in this service will be greatly appreciated. Many thanks and blessings on your continued work in Christ's Church.



**SESSIONAL
RECORDS
REVIEW**

ATTENTION EDUCATORS . . .

Need \$\$\$\$?

Let us help you continue your education!

In an effort to strengthen faith development in the local churches, the Christian Education Committee of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina is offering limited scholarship assistance to help individuals attend conferences, classes or continuing education events.

Scholarship assistance will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis, until funds are depleted. Preference will be shown to individuals serving in Christian Education positions, volunteer or salaried, and particularly those in small churches.* Presbytery-sponsored events will also be given priority.

If you are interested in applying, send your request, along with the cost and a brief description of the event, to:

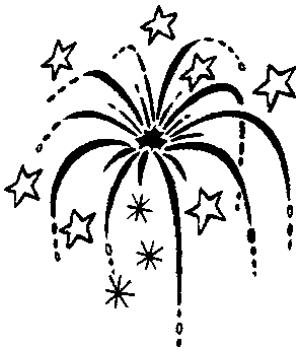
Presbytery of Western North Carolina
Christian Education Assistance
114 Silver Creek Road
Morganton, NC 28655

or email twilliams@presbyterywnc.org

Consideration will be given at the committee's next scheduled meeting.

**Ordained Ministers of the Word and Sacrament are not eligible.*





Let's Celebrate!



"Side by Side"

("What are you looking? ... Come and see.")

John 1:38a and 39a)

A Leadership Training Event

for Adults and Youth

August 9, 2008

9:00 AM—3:30 PM

First Presbyterian Church,
Morganton



Dr. J. Herbert Nelson, Worship

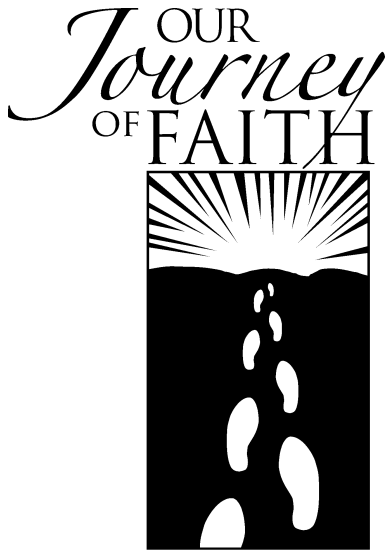


Morning Sessions

- When John the Evangelist Speaks: Everybody Listens
- "What's Out There" for School of the Laity Graduates?
- "Enough for Everyone" (fair trade products, etc.)
- "The Gift of Conflict" (non-violent communication)
- "Youth" (**Youth Focused**)
- Growing More Fully Into the Image of Christ
- "Becoming a Vital and Faithful..."
- "Connections" (A New Program)
- SDOP Community Workshop!
- The Beloved Community: "Let's Talk About It"
- The *Book of Order* Conquered!!
- "What, So What, Now What" (**Youth Focused**)
- "HELP! I am in charge of C.E. in the Small Church"

Afternoon Sessions

- When John the Evangelist Speaks: Everybody Listens
- "What's Out There" For Currently Serving CLP's
- Joys and Challenges of Ministry with Latinos in WNC
- "It's Not Easy Bein' Green" (becoming a "green church")
- "Helping Hands" and Disaster Prep. in the Local Congregation
- "A Horse of a Different Color!" (Being Presbyterian)
- "Pastoring the Pastor and Family"
- Stories of Hope, Ideas for the Future (**Small Church Focused**)
- "Looking for Jesus In an iPod World" (**Youth Focused**)
- "Small Groups, Big Impact" (**Youth Focused**)
- "C.E. in a Post Modern World"
- "Looking at Curriculum—Side by Side"
- Crossing Cultures, Centuries, and Miles on a Nickel A Meal



Join us

**Monday & Tuesday,
September 29 & 30, 2008**

**at
Montreat Conference Center
Montreat, NC**

for a time of REFLECTION and RENEWAL . . .

Plan to be present as we take a new spin on "Journey to Bethlehem." Our "Journey of Faith" will be revealed as the following four topics are discussed and presented, with interaction and experiential learning for participants:

Expectancy - Great Expectations in Mark (Led by Charles & Betty Davenport)

Royalty - The Royalty of Jesus in Matthew (Led by Dick Ray)

Mystery - The Mystery of the Incarnation in John (Led by John Rogers)

Humanity - The Humanity of Jesus in Luke (Led by Edyth Pruitt)

Margaret LaMotte Torrence and Eric Wall will prepare meaningful worship and music for this inspirational retreat.

This special event, to be held in Assembly Inn's Convocation Hall, is open to all Ministers, Commissioned Lay Pastors, Directors of Christian Education and Musicians. Registration is \$20 per person, payable to the Presbytery of Western North Carolina. Lodging reservations can be made by calling William Black Lodge at (828)669-6314.

Watch your mail for a detailed brochure, with schedule and reservation card included, announcing more about the retreat and its leadership. Deadline for responding is September 12, 2008.

Come experience the peacefulness of Montreat, while reconnecting with yourself, your colleagues, and most importantly, God!

This relaxing opportunity for spiritual refreshment and personal renewal is sponsored by the Care of Church Professionals Committee of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina.



Time to Mark Your Calendars!!
Events for 2008 – 2009

Retreats
Rallies
Leadership Opportunities

August 9th

Let's Celebrate



Worship Leader: J. Herbert Nelson
Bring your youth and adults to this event for a great one day event. You will enjoy a time of worship, choice of workshops (take two) and fellowship.
1st Presbyterian, Morganton, NC

September 28th

Senior High Rally

Rally Leader: Adrian McMullen – Associate for Youth, PCUSA

Bring a friend, no registration, FREE
Montreat, NC



October 17th - 18th

Youth Leaders Connection

Overnight retreat for Youth Advisors and Leaders
A time for leaders to enjoy each other and participate in an event programmed with you in mind.

Holston Camp, Banner Elk, NC

November 21st – 23rd



Middle School Retreat

Speaker: **Robert Alexander plus youth enablers**

Register early and be sure you bring someone new to camp!

Camp Grier, Old Fort

January 16th – 19th 2009

Faith in 3D exists to invite young people of 3 faith groups to explore our common faith in Jesus Christ through worship, education, and community building. Youth from [The Presbyterian Church \(USA\)](#), [The Episcopal Church](#), and the [Cooperative Baptist Fellowship](#) will meet at *Walt Disney World*® in Orlando, FL for Faith in 3D. Check it out www.faithin3d.org



Interested in working with other youth groups in our Presbytery to share in travel and housing? Contact Aimee Buchanan at abuchanan@gcpcusa.org
Walt Disney World, Orlando, FL

February 20th – 22nd

SARW – Southern Annual Recreation Workshop

Why not plan to bring a few of your KEY youth in your church to this event where they can explore the arts, dance, games, creative worship and more.

Camp Bethelwoods, Rock Hill, SC



March 1st

Middle School Rally

Rally Leader: Adrian McMullen – Associate for Youth GA Staff, PCUSA

Bring a friend, no registration, FREE

Montreat, NC



Senior High Mission Week Summer of 2009

Details To Be Announced!!

What is a Youth Group Leader? Written by Lisa Diedrick

I think the most important thing I have learned is that adult leaders need to be a significant adult friend who accepts youth unconditionally. **Acceptance** is the universal need of a teen. There are many ways we can demonstrate our love and acceptance...

- ◆ Be interested in what the youth does
- ◆ Keep in touch outside of church
- ◆ Be willing to share your own life with the youth
- ◆ Listen without feeling you have to fix everything
- ◆ Give advice from that older perspective – but only when asked!
- ◆ Help young people put things in perspective – tell them it is OK to mess up and then help them identify their strengths and use those strengths to their advantage

We must also focus on becoming **partners** with the youth. We need to learn to

- ◆ Share leadership
- ◆ Share power
- ◆ Share patience
- ◆ Be willing to let the youth fail

My biggest fear in my first experience of being a youth leader was that I felt every youth leader had to be a perfect role model...know the Bible backwards and forwards, know every game, be filled with ideas, like every child. Luckily, that isn't the case. Being a **Role Model** doesn't mean you have to be perfect. The best ways we can be role models for our youth are to:

- ◆ Be caring
- ◆ Be generous
- ◆ Respect them...for if you respect them first you are much more likely to garner respect from them
- ◆ Have a gentle spirit
- ◆ Take a stand – once the relationships is formed you can take a stand and not seem like a nag
- ◆ See Christ in people
- ◆ Be open and honest – this doesn't mean you have to reveal personal information that you feel is inappropriate. We always allow both youth and adults to pass in any situation or question that they wish.

Actually, the best youth leader is one who can **relax and be themselves**. If you can get in touch with the youth inside of you, it really helps. You don't need to act like a teen, just think back to the insecurities and painful experiences you had as a teen. Remember also the joys and the excitement of new experiences during those times. This helps us relate to the experiences our youth are going through today, and allows us to become more empathetic and compassionate.

Finally, where does **discipline** fit into the picture? I think we have to set boundaries and think of ourselves as the boundary keepers. Sometimes we need to take time out and talk about guidelines and expectations. If you develop a Covenant and post it in the Youth Room, then you can all help each other live by the covenant. As adults, we do have to handle behavior problems. If we can handle them quietly, we'll get the best results overall. Modeling appropriate behavior and positioning yourself as a barrier to diffuse potential disturbances are great ways to quietly discipline. If you are the adult present who is not primarily responsible for the programming, you should be helping to facilitate and dealing quietly with the discipline issues. That way, the focus doesn't shift from the leader to the "instigator" and we minimize the reinforcement of negative behavior as an attention getter.



The Four Corners of Youth Ministry

The Youth Leader's Connection
An Overnight Retreat

for

EVERYONE IN YOUTH MINISTRY:

Youth Advisors
Youth Volunteers
Youth Ministers
Christian Educators
Pastors

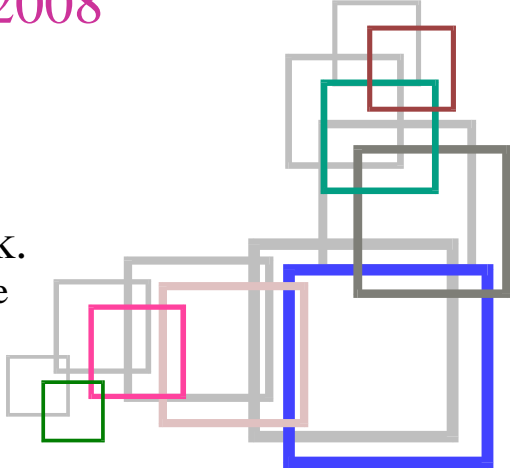
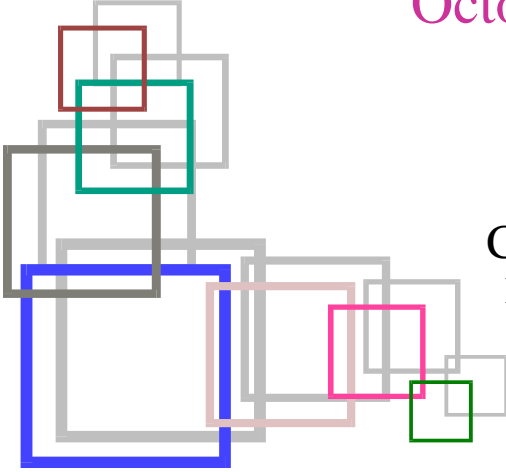
Are you just starting out in Youth Ministry and
feel like you are making it up all on your own?

Are you someone who needs a bunch of new ideas?

Have you been in youth ministry since before time and need some inspiration and
nurture from folks like you?

Come to this event!!!

Friday-Saturday
October 17 - October 18, 2008
(ending with lunch)



We'll meet at the beautiful
Camp Holston in Banner Elk.
Look for more information to come

TRY COOKING WITH YOUR YOUTH GROUP!

Why not try cooking with your youth group this summer? Chances are you will have smaller numbers to work with and this provides a great opportunity for you to really get to know each other.

Here are two recipes that are EASY and hopefully instant successes!! Make a loaf of bread and a batch of muffins – eat them and then your second time making both plan on giving away your baked goods to folks who are home bound, just out of the hospital, grieving, celebrating the birth of a child. Or give these baked goods away “just because” – you’ll feel great!

Enjoy – and share the recipes.

Banana Chocolate Muffins

Makes 18

Mix dry ingredients together:

2 cups of flour (one of bread flour and one of whole wheat flour)
2 cups of oatmeal
1 cup of sugar
1 Tbsp of cocoa
2 tsp each of baking soda and baking powder
1 tsp of salt
1 cup of chocolate chips

Mix the wet ingredients and then add to the above:

2 cups of mashed bananas
1 cup of sour cream
4 eggs
1 stick of butter, melted

Stir well and put into muffin tins that have been sprayed with cooking spray or greased with butter OR line with paper holders. Bake at 400 for 20-25 minutes.

The Easiest 100% Whole Wheat Bread Ever

Makes one 8 1/2 x 4 1/2-inch loaf, 16 servings

Baking Temperature: 350 degrees F Baking Time: 45 minutes

- 1 1/4 cups (10 ounces) lukewarm water
- 1/4 cup (2 ounces) orange juice
- 3 tablespoons (2 1/4 ounces) molasses
- 3 cups (12 ounces) traditional whole wheat flour
- 1/4 cup (1 ounce) nonfat dry milk
- 1 1/4 teaspoons salt
- 2 teaspoons instant yeast

Thoroughly grease an 8 1/2 x 4 1/2-inch pan. It's important to grease the pan well, as this bread tends to stick if you don't.

Combine all the ingredients in a large bowl. Beat the mixture vigorously for about 3 minutes; an electric mixer on medium-high speed works well here. Scoop the batter into the prepared pan.

Cover the pan with lightly greased plastic wrap or a proof cover, and let the dough rise for 1 hour; it won't fill the pan. It also won't dome as it rises, but will remain flat across the top. While the batter is rising, preheat the oven to 350 degrees F.

Uncover and bake the bread for about 45 minutes, tenting it with foil after 20 minutes. Remove it from the oven, and after 5 minutes use a table knife to loosen the edges, and then turn it out onto a rack. Brush with melted butter, if desired; this will keep the crust soft. Cool the bread for 30 minutes before slicing.