

New Covenant News

A publication of

CHURCH of the NEW COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH U.S.A.

Volume 7, Issue 8

www.cncdoraville.org

August 2008

Journey in Faith

In our worship services these several Sundays (through August 17th) we are examining the Lord's Prayer in a series of sermons. We are looking closely at this beloved prayer in order to learn more about what Jesus is giving disciples in response to the request, "Lord, teach us to pray." Concurrently, I am offering ideas in our newsletter that all of us can use to go deeper in our prayer life.



Last month I wrote in these pages about the church being "Open for Business," and that business being prayer. I invited you to engage in a particular practice with this cue from Psalm 46: "Be still, and know that I am God."

I hope you have been doing exactly that for at least a few minutes a day. Thomas Merton, an American Trappist monk, employed the practice of *being still* as the most important component of his prayer life. In his book, *Thoughts in Solitude*, he wrote, "Prayer is then not just a formula of words, or a series of desires springing up in the heart – it is the orientation of our whole body, mind and spirit to God in silence, attention, and adoration."

Doing this is very simple. All you have to do is find a place to sit (or stand, or kneel, or even lie on the floor), close your eyes (this helps minimize distractions), take one good deep breath, and be quiet. Just be quiet. Just be.

There you are. You are open for prayer.

Christ's peace,
Rick

Fall Leadership Event!

Saturday, August 16, 2008

8:00am-3:30pm

Trinity Presbyterian Church

The Fall Leadership Event is a combined effort by Cherokee, Greater Atlanta, and Northeast Georgia Presbyteries to offer an annual educational experience to our membership. This Event is inspired by and draws on the strengths of the PCUSA's connectional nature to share the diverse talents the Body of Christ has to offer in Christian education for children, youth and adults as well as to equip members for evangelism, new church development, congregational transformation and officer training.

This year's keynote presentation is by **Barbara Brown Taylor** -- "**Wedding Spirit and Flesh: What the Body Knows**"

This is a great opportunity for CNC to participate in workshops for small churches, Bible studies, children and youth ministries, and many more exciting opportunities.

Please sign up ASAP! For further information see the bulletin board, or www.presbyteryofgreateratl.org then click on the fall leadership event. and let Rev. Rick Neale know if you are interested in attending.

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Presbyterian Church
(USA)**

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Session Members

Class of 2009

Scott Holton (Stewardship & Finance)

Jeannie Jones (Spiritual Growth)

Richard Russ (Building & Grounds)

Stephanie Dodunski, Youth Elder (Fellowship)

Class of 2010

Ashley DeVore (Worship)

Curt Schroeder (Witness)

Gretchen Turner (Worship)

Class of 2011

Scott Pieper (Building & Grounds, P.R. Team)

Mina Grier (Evangelism)

Jeff Davis (Fellowship)

Newsletter Submissions

New Covenant News is a monthly publication printed by Church of the New Covenant, PC U.S.A, Doraville, Georgia. If you have news you would like to share of upcoming events, please email or call the church office:

newcovenantpcusa@bellsouth.net,

770-455-8117. The deadline for monthly submissions is the **third Wednesday of the month.**

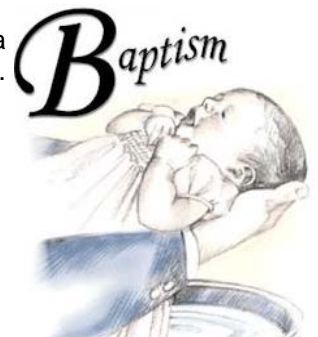
50 Years of Ministry!



The Rev. Dr. Milt Riviere celebrated 50 years of ordained ministry Sunday, July 20th. Milt and Marty are seen here with the flowers that were given by their children in honor of the occasion. Thanks, Donna Altman, for the great photo!

Welcome to the Church Family

On August 10th we will be welcoming Deleena Rose Davis through the sacrament of baptism. She was born on April 20th and is the lovely daughter of Ben and Ridhi Davis, and granddaughter of Jeff and Jocelyn Davis. We are honored to also have joining us Ridhi's mother, Varuna Sharma, from India.





Presbyterian Women

Newly-installed, returning and former Coordinating Team members will meet for a planning session on Tues., Aug. 5th 7-9 PM. It is our time to look ahead, set goals and start the year rolling for our Presbyterian Women at Church of the New Covenant! The meeting will be held at **Suzanne Mikalsen's** home, 4035 Brockett Oaks, Tucker. Call **Suzanne or Jan** for instructions or more information. We will plan our next year's budget, talk about Mission and Valentine Box mailings, and share ideas for leadership over cool, refreshing desserts! Talking Points will be distributed on Aug. 3rd, so the group will be ready to join the discussions with prayer and praising! Past Moderator, **Joan Clemens**, who led us so capably last year, will also offer guidance in this meeting. Thanks, **Joan**, for all you have done in leadership with Presbyterian Women!

Rosemary Glenn, Pauline Weaver and Suzanne Mikalsen are so excited about the new Bible study for next year on the Book of Luke, they are taking the workshops for leaders! If you are interested in attending the August 8-9 workshops, please let one of us know, so we can carpool to Columbia together on Friday night and Sat. This is an easy schedule to manage with our busy calendars, so come on along! **Rosemary** attended at Alpharetta Pres. with Rebecca Parker, one of our favorite leaders of our studies.

Louise Holladay Circle will be benefiting from the lessons she leads, with all this preparation! This year's study opens up Luke's 'Gospel for the Poor', very special to those of us who believe in reaching out with Second Mile Giving, missions and study, through our Presbyterian Women's Circles. We will enjoy relating Luke to issues we face today and be enriched with the art in the workbook. Anyone is invited to attend our Bible study, every 2nd Tues., morning or evening, at Circle meetings. Please contact Circle Leaders, **Judy Cook, Marty Riviere or Sandy Bond** for more information about Circle groups!

It is in Luke where we find the wonderful parable of the Widow and the Unjust Judge, who is "worn out" by her continually coming to him for justice. (See the quote above) I am reminded of the faithfulness of the women in this group, who continually go to God in prayer through their work and study in PW, and who won't give up on their belief in God's higher power of love and justice. As our faith increases yearly, with God's inspiration, we welcome a Jubilee Year!

—*Suzanne Mikalsen*, PW Co-Moderator, '08-'09

"And the Lord said, 'Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them.' And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?" Luke 18:6-8a

Vesper Service

**August 3, 2008
7:00 pm**



We have "busy" souls. Much of our modern personal desire is for entertainment, but our real need is for spiritual refreshment. A Taizé style of worship service is comprised of meditation, reflection, readings and music. Through repetition in the words of the songs, periods of silence, and scripture passages that are read meditatively, all of us have an opportunity for a deep quiet grow in our hearts.

Meeting of the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta July 15, 2008

Report from Mimi Carroll

Pastor Rick Neale, Pastoral Intern Paula Couch and Elder Mimi Carroll attended the July Presbyterian meeting, held on July 15th in LaGrange and hosted by the "Southern Cluster" of the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta. LaGrange College provided their student auditorium, a beautiful and very comfortable site for a gathering known for lengthy agendas. A break midway through the meeting let us gather under the trees on the beautiful campus-this meeting did not include the customary luncheon.

Worship was led by a powerful sermon by Margaret Aymer-Oget, and enhanced by a trio of two flutes and piano. Dr. Aymer-Oget co-incidentally, is one of Paula's professors at I.T.C. The offering was dedicated to the Interfaith Disability Connection. There was a report on the General Assembly; and an expression of appreciation to Joan Gray for her leadership in the position of Moderator. In possible deference to the distance from the Atlanta area, the leadership managed the meeting so expertly with all agenda items covered and required votes taken, adjournment too place three quarters of an hour before the scheduled time! Mimi enjoyed a brief visit with Larry Owens, who sent greetings to all at CNC!

Highlights from the Meeting

July 15, 2008

Gathering on a beautiful sunny day at LaGrange College, we were warmly greeted by the many volunteers from the churches of the Southwest Cluster (Dallas, Ebenezer, Greenville, First Church LaGrange, Loyd, Newnan, First Church Manchester-Warm Springs, South Highland and West Point).

In our worship service, Dr. Margaret Ayer Oget preached a sermon entitled "Meddlin". The Presbytery was challenged to look at the call of Jesus (mark 2:1-12; Luke 5:17-26) for *access* and *inclusion* by digging holes through roofs and "meddlin" for the Gospel. The offering was received to benefit the Interfaith Disability Connection.

Here are the highlights of the meeting:

- Tania Easley, Chair of the Committee on Representation addressed the Presbytery lifting up in recognition and special welcome persons who may be physically challenged or disabled
- Adopted a new Sexual Misconduct Prevention Policy for the Presbytery. This policy will soon be available for viewing on

the website.

- Welcomed three inquirers into candidacy: Patrick Jinks, Jeffrey Meyers, and Catherine Schreiber.
- Commissioned Marluca Damaceno Crispim as a Lay Pastor for the fellowship housed at Good Shepherd Church
- Welcomed eight new clergy into the presbytery: Andy Chambers, Soon Kang, Jaehong Kim, Simone Kim, Bobby Lippert, Shelvis Smith-Mather and Ollie Wagner.
- The Rev. Tom Tewell gave an update on the process for three different ways that churches and pastors of small churches may be involved in the pilot project funded by the Cousins Foundation
- Outreach Ministry Team presented four speakers on the issues of health concerns: Rev. Guy Pujol spoke from the AIDS Alliance for Faith and Health, Mark Crenshaw from the Interfaith Disability Connection discussed ways that congregations can be more inclusive, Brenda Gales spoke to the issue of Mental Illness and Leslie Prince from the Clifton Sanctuary Ministries spoke about homelessness.
- The Thornwell Home for Children Georgia proposal was given the green light.
- Based on an action by the General Assembly, the Presbytery endorsed a portion of the General Assembly Council's Mission Funding Task Force report. Our Presbytery will use its guiding principles in developing our own plans for mission funding.
- The General Assembly commissioners gave us an overview of their experience at GA.
- The Christian Education Ministry Team presented Rebekah Abel Lamar who addressed the Presbytery on the Stewards of Children Program.
- Charles Easley was recognized for his service on the General Assembly Council with a plaque of thanksgiving.
- Joan Gray was recognized for her service as the past Moderator of the General Assembly with a commissioned hymn, prayer and words of thanks.

We hope you will join us for the **next meeting of Presbytery to be held on September 27, 2008** at Clairmont Presbyterian Church in Decatur, GA.

-- Carol A. Johnson, *Presbytery Staff*





Session Highlights

Session meet on July 13, 2008 and discussed a number of topics and issues with a number of motions made, seconded and approved.

- On September 28th from 3 – 7 and on November 9th from 4 – 10 some folks from the SDA church will be using the church building for a birthday party and a wedding, respectively.
 - Save the date for April 18, 2009, as Scott Pieper and Ashley DeVore have been approved to use the building for their wedding.
 - With regret we approved the transfer of membership of Vicki Castleberry and Patrick and Laura Lesley. But we are happy for them as they continue to stay connected to the Body of Christ.
 - Rick informed us about the Ministry of Renewal to Pastors and Congregations. As a session we made a commitment to church growth and signed a covenant agreeing to a number of spiritual disciplines for the coming year.
 - We also have put a team together consisting of Bill Bower, Jeff Davis, Jeannie Jones and Richard Russ to look into selling a part of the CNC property to Montessori School.
 - We hired George Tatro as our Community and Witness Ministry Coordinator from August 1, 2008 to May 31, 2009.
 - Stephanie Dodunski will be working with the Fellowship Committee and Mina Grier will be working with our new Evangelism Committee.
- For the next month our mission statement will be
 We are ...
 Praying for our community
 Praising God for the large percentage of our members who serve our community
 Practicing new ways to reach out to our neighbors
 -Ashley DeVore, Clerk of Session

August Lectionary Readings

August 3	Gen. 32:22-31; Psalm 17:1-17; Rom. 9:1-5; Matt. 14:13-21
August 10	Gen. 37:1-4, 12-28; Psalm 105:1-6,16-22,45b; Rom. 10:5-15; Matt. 14:22-33
August 17	Gen. 45:1-15; Psalm 133; Rom. 11:1-2a, 29-32; Matt. 15 (10-20) 21-28
August 24	Exod. 1:8-2:10; Psalm 124; Rom. 12:1-8; Matt. 16:13-20
August 31	Exod. 3:1-15; Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45c; Rom. 12:9-21; Matt. 16:21-28

Service for Healing & Wholeness



A Service for Healing and Wholeness will be held every Wednesday at 6:30 pm in the sanctuary. All are welcome to join us for dinner after the service at a near by restaurant.

Clifton Outreach!

The Clifton Night Hospitality volunteers for August are:

August 9	Ted and Suzanne Mikalsen
August 13	Frank Wright
August 16	Bob and Pauline Weaver, Jan Kepic, Sandy Bond
August 30	Rick and Tedd Meinersmann



The Spiritual Growth Committee

The Spiritual Growth Committee is looking for individuals who would be willing to serve on the committee. Our core responsibility is to heighten the spiritual growth experience and awareness of our church members, non-members and friends who attend and/or visit CNC. If you have an interest in helping CNC grow, the Spiritual Growth Committee, eagerly invite you join us and help us fill the spiritual needs of this congregation. Please speak to either Jeannie Jones or Scott Johnson if you are interested in participating. Together in Christ,
 Scott Johnson and Jeannie Jones

Chamblee Centennial Celebration August 8, 2008

August 8, 2008 is the Centennial of the incorporation of the City of Chamblee! The Mayor and Council would like to invite business owners, residents, non-profits and charitable groups, artists, restaurants, developers, and any other interested parties, to form a committee to develop a calendar of events around the Centennial theme that would celebrate the City's heritage, diversity, and future. The City expects the Celebration will attract new customers and visitors, new business, and new residents while reflecting its history. If you are interested in participating, please contact the City Clerk, Becky Craven. (770) 986-5013 or bcraven@chambleega.com

Doraville Days

The City of Doraville is asking for your input.

On October 18 the city will be hosting "**Doraville Days**" which will include the return of the Doraville 5K road race.

The city is looking to identify a beneficiary from the proceeds of the road race and wants your input in helping to select an appropriate non-profit organization.

You can vote at www.doraville-ga.com.

The top vote getters will be reviewed and a beneficiary selected based upon their stewardship of donations and services offered.

Your input is valued and appreciated.
For more information, contact Brian Bates at 770-451-8745

Movie Under the Stars 8/2/2008 at 7:30 PM

Watch GOONIES on the big screen on the soccer field at Keswick Park. The movie is free but be sure to visit the concessions for popcorn! Trivia contest before the movie begins for great prizes!
3496 Keswick Dr.
Chamblee

ALL MAY WORSHIP: BEYOND THE RAMP

Sunday, August 3: 12:30—6:30 pm
Shepherd Center

A Discussion of Acceptance and Inclusion
Sponsored by First Presbyterian Church, Interfaith Disability Connection, and the Shepherd Center, topics go beyond eliminating physical barriers and discuss creating programs in which all members can easily participate.
For more information, visit www.interfaithdisability.org or call 678-365-0071.

Beauty for Ashes

~ a group for Women overcoming childhood sexual abuse, provided by Ezer Counseling and Consulting.

10 weeks, beginning September 14th, on Fridays at 7:00 pm, with Free Assessment, \$35/group.

4319 Covington Highway, Decatur

www.ezercounseling.com or 770-933-5317
for more information

August 2008

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

Sunday Morning Schedule 10:15 am Choir Rehearsal 10:30 am Coffee Fellowship 11:00 am Morning Worship					1 SDAC 8 pm	2 SDAC 9-2 & 5-7
3 Worship Comm 12pm Vesper Service 7pm	4	5 Crochet 1pm PW coordinating meeting 7pm SDAC 7 pm	6	7	8 SDAC 8 pm	9 Clifton Shelter SDAC 9-2 & 5-7
10 Session 7pm	11	12 Crochet 1pm SDAC 7 pm	13 Clifton Shelter	14	15 SDAC 8 pm	16 Clifton Shelter SDAC 9-2 & 5-7
17	18	19 Crochet 1pm SDAC 7 pm	20 Submissions for Sept. newsletter due	21	22 SDAC 8 pm	23 SDAC 9-2 & 5-7
24	25	26 Crochet 1pm SDAC 7 pm	27	28	29 SDAC 8 pm	30 Clifton Shelter SDAC 9-2 & 5-7
31						



August 6—Jacque Wedd
 August 7—Mary Ellen Shore
 August 8—Gretchen Turner
 August 10—Zoe Cook
 August 20—Chris Meinersmann
 August 22—Jessica Riviere
 August 25—Bennie Smith

August 12—Susan Johnson
 August 13—Martha Clay
 August 14—Curt Schroeder
 August 20—Annabelle Cook
 August 22—B.J. Jordan
 August 22—Jeanne Wright
 August 27—Steven Holton