

in the KNOW

The weekly communication of Providence Presbytery

| Lancaster | Union | Chester | Kershaw | York |

Guided by the Holy Spirit, our mission is to equip, support, and connect our congregations as they faithfully serve Jesus Christ in a changing world.

July 5, 2010

Volume 6, Number 25

“Bolbach Elected in Four: After four rounds of voting and some worry about technical difficulties with the electronic voting keypads, the 219th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) elected as its moderator Cynthia Bolbach, a lawyer and the only elder in a six-person field. Bolbach - tall, plain-spoken, with a crisp sense of humor - brings to the office decades of experience in church life, from the congregational to the national levels of the denomination.”

[Read the Presbyterian Outlook Article](#)

General Assembly is Ongoing in Minneapolis

Please continue to pray for the leadership of the Presbyterian Church (USA) during the General Assembly being held in Minneapolis this week. Find out more about each day's events at <http://www.pcusa.org/news/>. You can also find many stories on the happenings at General Assembly on Presbyterian Outlook's site www.pres-outlook.org.

General Assembly Devotions (NOW AVAILABLE!)

These [nine devotions](#) provide prayer and reflection on one of the lectionary readings for each day of the 219th General Assembly (2010). These short, timely devotions are written by a variety of Presbyterian leaders from across the country. The commissioners and delegates will use them each day, and we encourage you to use them as well, wherever you are!

Order 2011 Mission Yearbook by July 30

Now is the time to place your order for the 2011 *Mission Yearbook for Prayer & Study*. Providence Presbytery will be placing a bulk order to enable churches and individuals to purchase this resource at a discount. The discount price of \$10.50 includes shipping from the distribution center to the Presbytery office only. If we have to ship or mail the books from the office, those charges will be invoiced to the church or individual. [Order form](#), with pre-payment, must be received in the Presbytery office by July 30, 2010.

Share your Stewardship Best Practice with us by THIS THURSDAY

We are looking for churches that have great stewardship ideas to share. Send us a brief description of something you have done to teach children about stewardship, a creative program you've used with youth, or a catchy way you share stewardship info with adults in your church. Please email a brief description of the idea with your church name and contact information to Kathryn McGregor at kmcgregor@providencepres.org by July 8. We'll put these ideas in the presbytery stewardship packets that each church will receive at the August presbytery meeting. Thanks for sharing your great ideas with us!

The Presbyterian Leader offers Reduced Rates

Pastors, educators, musicians, and other PC(USA) leaders who subscribe to [The Presbyterian Leader](#) by August 31, 2010 will enjoy a reduced subscription rate of \$75, the online resource center recently announced. The reduced rate is nearly a 25% discount from the standard rate of \$99. Current subscribers to the site will receive a free extension through August 31, 2011, as a "thank you" for their loyalty, feedback, and patience.

Union-PSCE is now Union Presbyterian Seminary

Please be aware that Union-PSCE is now Union Presbyterian Seminary. The new web address is www.upsem.edu.

Drama Teams... Help with Dimes for Hunger Video!

The Hunger Action Team is looking for you and 2 or 3 of your church friends to be featured in the short 2010 Dimes for Hunger video. The theme of this year's video is 'Love in Action and Truth' and includes a group of friends discussing what God's mission really means. The video will require no more than 4 hours daytime filming commitment and has very few lines of dialogue plus some voice-over taping. We are an "equal opportunity" mission opportunity: diversity is welcomed in age, race, and sex. Please contact Fred Powell, Mission Consultant at phledd@truvista.net.

Are You Coming to the Baby Shower?

Mothers, Daughters, Grand-Daughters, Grandmothers and friends, join us August 29th at 2PM at Purity Presbyterian to Shower Haitian Moms and their Babies with God's Love. Anyone interested in helping relieve some of the suffering of Mom's and Babies in Haiti is welcome. Many churches are beginning to collect their gift items this summer. (CLOTH diapers, baby t-shirts, diaper pins, gowns, sleepers, washcloths, baby sweaters and receiving blankets.) We'll have refreshments, games and will "bundle" baby kits for Haitian Bundles of Joy! *(Want to Knit? See [Around the Presbytery below to Join Oakland Avenue's Knitting Group](#))*

KEEP ON CLIPPING

Clip Campbell's Soup labels and General Mills Box Tops for Education and Send them to Chandra Coleman, P.O. Box 60, Clinton, SC 29325-0060. They are used by Thornwell Home for Children to buy school supplies and athletic equipment. This school year they earned more than \$3,000 from turning in donated box tops and soup labels!

Educational Opportunities

Interested in helping your congregation become more missional, more faithful, or imaginative?

That's a complex endeavor for most congregations and their leaders. Join us for one of two workshops to be held in your area this fall. [Find out more and register online.](#)

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You are Invited to the **2010 Friends & Family Carnival** Saturday, July 31, 2010 11am – 4pm at *Hermon Presbyterian* in Rock Hill. Enjoy live entertainment from various local groups and churches, PLUS: Food (low, low prices), Giveaways (\$1 Donation), Face painting, Hay rides, Water slide, Balloon Toss, Horseshoes & Egg Race, ---FUN, FUN, FUN! COME JOIN US! [Find out More.](#)

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Positions Available

Oakland Avenue Presbyterian Church Rock Hill is now seeking its next **Associate Pastor for Member Care and Involvement**. The CIF is now available [online](#). Suggestions, nominations and self referrals can be sent to the APNC at ap.search@oapc.net.

Central Steele Creek Presbyterian Church has determined its desire to hire a **Director of Christian Education**. If interested, please submit the [attached application materials](#) and general personal information. Submission address is included in the application materials.

Check out the events below on the [Presbytery Calendar](#)--for event details, click on the event!

2010 Presbytery Meeting Schedule

8/15 Called Presbytery Meeting at Clinton College (Hosted by Hermon)
10/17 Presbytery Meeting—2:30PM (Grace-Lancaster)

Happening This Week

7/3-10 219th General Assembly (Minneapolis, MN)

Mark Your Calendars

7/24 Prayer Fellowship—9:15AM
7/27 [Second Harvest Partners](#) (Unity, Fort Mill)
8/15 Called Presbytery Meeting at Clinton College (Hermon Presbyterian Hosting)
8/29 [Shower Haitian Mom's and Babies with God's Love](#)
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July 12, 2010

Volume 6, Number 26

“We must remember the past, define the future, and challenge the present -- wherever and however we can. It will take the rest of our lives even to begin. But then, what else have we to do?”

- Jane O'Reilly, *American feminist and humorist*

Welcome...

We are thrilled to join the community of *Riverview Presbyterian* in welcoming its new pastor, Jason Davenport. Jason and his wife, Angela, joined the Riverview community on July 1.

General Assembly News

The PC(USA) made headlines last week in its actions at General Assembly. Read the [letter from the PC\(USA\) Moderator and Stated Clerk](#) to find out more about the actions taken by the General Assembly and the next steps required. This letter includes links to FAQ's on the actions requiring a vote from presbyteries across the country.

Our Iraq Overture Approved by General Assembly

Providence Presbytery's Overture Concerning Iraq was approved by General Assembly with a vote of 525 to 80 with 8 abstentions on July 9, 2010. Read the Overture as it passed at <http://www.pc-biz.org/Explorer.aspx?id=3235>.

Presbyterian Times is Online

Read the current issue of Presbyterian Times Online at <http://presbyteriantimesonline.wordpress.com/> Click here for a double-sided [Bulletin Insert](#) to include in your church bulletin any Sunday this month.

PC(USA) Website Re-design is Complete

Check out the new website at www.pcusa.org. It looks Awesome!!!

Two ways You can Help SoSA Feed Hungry People

1--If you have farmers in your congregation or if you know farmers who may be interested in donating produce, please tell them about Society of St. Andrew and give them our information ([see attachment](#)). We can talk to them about how our organization works, and how they can receive a tax credit from their participation. We would also love to hear about farmers in your congregation who may already be donating produce to SoSA.

2--You are invited to participate in ***Feed Your Neighbor Sunday***, which will be held on **Sunday, August 29th 2010**. At the end of the summer growing season, gardeners always have too many tomatoes, zucchinis and okra. On ***Feed Your Neighbor Sunday***, everyone can bring that extra produce to church, and Society of St. Andrew will find people in need in your community who can use

that food. ***Feed Your Neighbor Sunday*** includes a worship guide and activities for kids. Please email Marilyn Marks at sosawnc@endhunger.org for details.

South Carolina Home to Renovate Apartments this Fall

In the recent South Carolina Home Capital Campaign, the inn raised enough money for phase one of the proposed improvements. This winter the apartments will be renovated with one of the apartments to be completely handicapped accessible! Find out more about your home in the mountains at www.schomemontreat.org.

Want to see some Creative Youth?

Check out the Presbyterian Foundation's www.ymilive.org to see the top ten videos from the Youth Video Challenge! You are sure to be inspired.

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Presbytery Wide Baby Shower will Shower Haitian Moms and Babies with God's Love

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Thornwell Uses Soup Labels and Box Tops

THORNWELL HOME FOR CHILDREN uses Campbell's Soup labels and General Mills Box Tops for Education to buy school supplies and athletic equipment. More than \$3,000 was earned this year. Place them in the designated jar in the fellowship hall. Send them to Chandra Coleman, P.O. Box 60, Clinton, SC 29325-0060.

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Around the Presbytery

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July 19, 2010

Volume 6, Number 27

Please pray for our Triennium Youth Conference and Montreat Middle School Students and Counselors Attending Conferences this week.

Don't Miss the Middle East Mission Trip!

There is still time to apply for the trip to Beirut, Lebanon, November 5-19, to meet leaders from the Presbyterian Churches in Iraq, Syria, and Lebanon and to visit Presbyterian partner churches there. Information about this unique opportunity is available on the [Presbytery website](#) or you may contact Larry Richards at lrichards@comporium.net.

Capital Campaign Update

Wondering how the Life for Today...Faith for Tomorrow Capital Campaign is progressing? Check out the [June 2010 Update](#).

Looking for a mid-week children's curriculum that connects Bible stories and mission?

Heifer International has created 10 FREE downloadable lessons entitled "Feeding 5000." These lessons could be used with elementary aged children for a mid-week program, intergenerational event, Sunday School or VBS. There is also a preschool component. Check it out at:

<http://www.heifer.org/site/c.edJRKQNiFiG/b.6067229/?msource=kwg556>

South Carolina Home Board Approves Kirk Apartment Renovations

This winter the apartments will be renovated, updating kitchens and bathrooms as well as making TWO of the apartments completely handicapped accessible! [See the architectural drawings](#). Find out more about your home in the mountains at www.schomemontreat.org.

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baby kits for Haitian Bundles of Joy! (*Want to Knit? See **Around the Presbytery** below to Join Oakland Avenue's Knitting Group*) See more information at www.providencepres.org.

Stansell Stepping Down as Thornwell President

President Robert W. (Skip) Stansell announced his plan to retire from Thornwell at the end of this year. Stansell has served as president of Thornwell since February of 2001. He said he and his wife, Peggy, made the difficult decision after a period of prayerful consideration. He expressed his profound gratitude to the Board of Trustees for the honor and privilege of serving as the seventh president of Thornwell. [Read the letter.](#)

Success Stories

Van Wyck Presbyterian Church created its own 2010 VBS theme--"Up, Up, and Away, Lifted By God's Love". The week focused on stories of Jesus healing a paralyzed man, the Ascension of Jesus, and a traveler's Psalm, Psalm 121. They enjoyed playing games with a huge colorful parachute and cooling off by the breeze it created, creating balloon themed crafts and "lifting others up" by bringing canned goods for H.O.P.E. On Saturday morning they visited Cauthen Farm for a tethered hot air balloon launching demonstration by Ray Smith of Tega Cay. On Sunday evening, after a sudden thunderstorm subsided, they went outside for each child to release a helium balloon and were amazed to see a beautiful rainbow in the sunset sky, a sign of the promise of God's eternal love. Many of the children said that this was their "first rainbow ever". "We thank God for this wonderful learning opportunity for the whole church."

*Please share your unique mission, ministry or programs by sending an email to [Jill](mailto:jill@itk.org) marked **ITK Success Stories**.*

Educational Opportunities

If we believe God yearns to turn the church loose to be a Gospel force in the world, how can we partner in what God is doing? Differences – of culture and color, gender and generation, political perspective and theology – are gifts to be explored and celebrated as we live into a Church Unbound. The [2010 Church Unbound Conference](#) at Montreat is August 11-14.

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Happening This Week

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|---------|---|
| 7/20-24 | Senior High Presbytery Youth at Purdue for Triennium |
| 7/21-25 | Presbytery Youth at Montreat Middle School Conference |
| 7/24 | Prayer Fellowship—9:15AM |

Coming Next Week

| | |
|------|--|
| 7/27 | Second Harvest Partners (Unity, Fort Mill) |
| 7/27 | E3 Planning Meeting—9:30AM (Presbytery Office) |

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“If you're going to be great in God, you must be full of the Holy Spirit,” Rev. Debra Matthews said at Youth Triennium this week. “And this fullness can make others attack. When other people see your strengths, it makes them realize their own weaknesses. I think we call them haters,” Matthews said, to cheers from the youth.”

[Read the Article by Bethany Furkin](#)

Welcome! Tirzah Presbyterian Church in York has selected Rev. William (Bill) Johnson as their interim pastor. He began his ministry there on July 11.

Presbytery Meeting Coming August 15

Get the Handbook Online at www.providencepres.org. The August Presbytery Meeting will be held at Clinton College in Rock Hill and hosted by *Hermon Presbyterian*.

Older Adult of the Year Luncheon Nominations due in August

Has your church chosen the Older Adult that you will be honoring this year at the Presbytery's Annual Older Adult of the Year Luncheon? Please send your [nomination form](#) to [Inez](#) before August 31. The Luncheon will be held on September 21st—10:30AM-Noon at Bethelwoods. Watch In the Know for more information about the event.

Don't Miss the Middle East Mission Trip!

There is still time to apply for the trip to Beirut, Lebanon, November 5-19, to meet leaders from the Presbyterian Churches in Iraq, Syria, and Lebanon and to visit Presbyterian partner churches there. Information about this unique opportunity is available on the [Presbytery website](#) or you may contact Larry Richards at lrichards@comporium.net.

Nominations Committee Beginning its Work

Please let the Nominations Committee know if you would like to nominate someone or volunteer for one of the Presbytery's Ministry Teams in the coming year. Submit the [Nominations Form](#) by August 17.

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Faith Seeks Understanding Features Eugene Peterson

Union Presbyterian Seminary in Charlotte announces the annual Faith Seeks Understanding series on October 10-11, 2010. This year the two-part series will be co-sponsored by Covenant Presbyterian Church and will feature the Reverend Eugene Peterson, internationally known writer and Presbyterian minister. Sunday, October 10 at 5:00p.m., Covenant Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall (1000 East Morehead St., Charlotte, NC 28204) Reverend Peterson will speak on the topic, "The Jesus Way: What Is It? And Why Should I Care?" This event is designed for the entire church community and will be followed by discussion and a reception Monday, October 11 at 10:00 a.m., Covenant Fellowship Hall. Dr. Peterson will speak on the topic, "What Are Pastors Good For?" This opportunity for deeper conversation and reflection is designed primarily for pastors and church leaders, although all are welcome. You are invited to stay for lunch. Sunday's events are free and open to the public. Please reserve a place for Monday's session by calling 704-337-2450 or emailing Nadine.moran@upsem.edu. A freewill offering for lunch will be accepted.

2010 Transformation Conference to be held in Fort Worth

The 2010 Transformation Conference is an event that will bring together pastors, elders, and other church leaders to talk about, dream about, learn about congregational transformation in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). We are pleased to announce that the event will take place at **First Presbyterian Church, Fort Worth, Texas, October 18-22**. [Find out More Online](#).

Around the Presbytery

Covenant Presbyterian Church invites the community to **Baobab Blast Vacation Bible School**. Bible stories, music, crafts, games and snacks are planned each evening July 25 – 29 from 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM for children preschool age through 6th grade. A nursery will be provided.

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| 8/15 | Called Presbytery Meeting at Clinton College (Hosted by Hermon) |
| 10/17 | Presbytery Meeting—2:30PM (Grace-Lancaster) |

Happening This Week

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| 7/27 | Second Harvest Partners (Unity, Fort Mill) |
| 7/27 | E3 Planning Meeting—9:30AM (Rock Hill First) *** Please note change |
| 8/1 | Hunger Action Team—6:30PM (Presbytery Office) |

Mark Your Calendars

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| 8/15 | Called Presbytery Meeting at Clinton College (Hermon Presbyterian Hosting) |
| 8/29 | Shower Haitian Mom's and Babies with God's Love |
| 8/31 | Second Harvest Partners (Ebenezer Baptist, Rock Hill) |
| 9/19 | Youth Rally—5-7:30PM (Bethelwoods) |
| 9/21 | Older Adult of the Year Luncheon—10:30AM-Noon (Bethelwoods) |

Please submit articles to jill@providencepres.org with **In the Know** and the date you would like your article to run in the subject line by Friday at 5 PM for the following Monday's issue.