



Words of Friendship

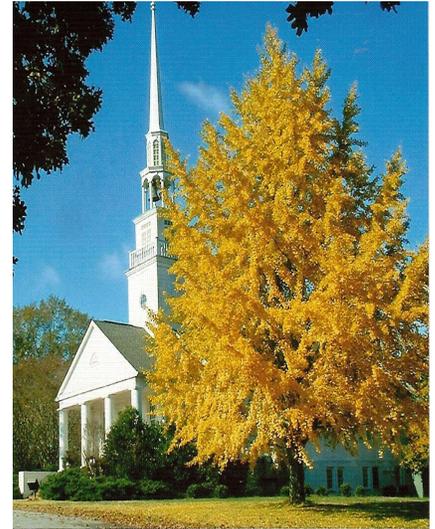


September 2014

Friendship Presbyterian Church
(USA)

8531 Macon Highway
Athens, Georgia 30606
(706) 543-6077

www.gotofriendship.org



Sunday School 9:45 am

Sunday Worship 11:00 am

A Word from the Pastor

Dear friends,

There is a fable about a hippo who fell in love with a butterfly. He sought the advice of the wise old owl. 'You must become a butterfly,' the owl told the hippo, 'and do it right now.' The hippo was delighted. He plunged back into the jungle, only to return shortly. 'How do I become a butterfly?' the hippo inquired of the owl. The bird of great wisdom responded, 'That's up to you. I only set the policy. I don't implement.'

We, as a church, understand our task. We understand who we are to be as the church and we know what the Great Ends of the church are. But knowing and living it out can be two different things. In order to live into the future, we need a vision of what we are working toward. And in addition to that vision, we need steps to implement, to get us where we are going to go.

These next few months, in worship, in small groups and in our church session we will be crafting a vision of where we want to go and what is required to get there. We will be thinking of Christ's vision of a kingdom and asking how we each can live that out and how we can live out that kingdom-vision corporately too. Prayer for Friendship is essential and I ask that we each pray for this church.

The *Book of Order*, part of the constitution of our church, reminds us that, **“Christ calls the Church into being, giving it all that is necessary for its mission in the world, for its sanctification, and for its service to God. Christ is present with the Church in both Spirit and Word. Christ alone rules, calls, teaches, and uses the Church as he wills.”** So while we are dreaming and visioning and planning, let us rest too in the knowledge that Christ has given us, His church, all that we need. Christ is with us in every way. There is no need to be anxious about this place or our future—Christ is near!

It is a joy to be church with you friends. I can't wait to live into our future together!

Grace and Peace to you,
Rev. Tara



Women's Circle 1



On September 9th join the ladies of Circle One as we begin our new year of Bible study on the second Tuesday of each month: September – May at 9:45am at the church. Rev.

Tara Bulger will be leading the Bible study for a few months. Visitors are always welcome!



The Men's Club will resume their regular monthly meetings on Thursday, September 4th at 7pm in the Friendship Room. All men are invited.



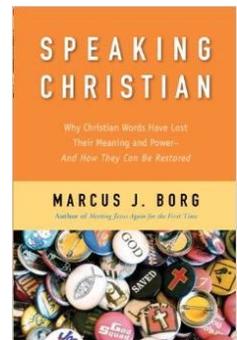
Youth Group

Youth Group Get-Together!

All youth, grades 7-12, and any friends they would like to invite are welcome at Tara's house on Sunday, September 7th, from 6-7p.m. We'll have some food, a devotion and talk about our plans for the coming year. Hope to see you there!

Sunday School Class to Begin

On Sunday, September 14, a new book study will begin in the Friendship Room during the Sunday school hour. Join us as we begin a study of Marcus Borg's *"Speaking Christian: Why Christian Words Have Lost Their Meaning and Power-And How They Can Be Restored."* Come join us as we look at the words that share our belief and how they have been distorted and how we can reclaim them. The class plans to meet on an every-other-week basis. All are welcome.



Report of Congregational Meeting



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

On August 17, 2014 a called congregational meeting was held for the purposes of determining pastoral leadership for the future. After a unanimous vote, the church agreed to call and install the Reverend Tara Bulger as our next pastor. This was only one step in the process that leads to installation. Next, the Presbytery's Committee on Ministry must approve the request in a September meeting and then the Northeast Georgia Presbytery will vote to approve the request in October. If the way be clear, the installation would take place in January. Prayers are appreciated as this process moves forward!



Thank You!!



PAUL MATTHEWS WAS HONORED FOR HIS FIRST 20 YEARS AS SCOUTMASTER OF TROOP 149 ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 17, 2014, AT OCONEE VETERAN'S PARK

ON SEPTEMBER 28, 2014 FRIENDSHIP PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WILL HONOR HIM DURING OUR WORSHIP SERVICE



	Liturgist	Lead Offering Counter	Rocker MOM
7	Olivia Bennett	Linda Kelly	Anne Lee
14	Kathie Shinholser	Barbara Remmers	Linda Kelly
21	Monica Graham	Ted Walker	Donna McGinty
28	Nan McMurry	Marks Towles	Amy Ivy



THE SINGING OF PSALMS

by Kevin Kelly

The Psalms have from their beginning been associated with music. Of the 150 psalms in the Bible, 116 have individual superscriptions, ranging from lengthy comments to single words. Over a third of these are musical directions, addressed to “leader” or “choirmaster” and include such phrases as “with stringed instruments” or “song,” and may refer to occasions for their use (“worship” or “dedication of the temple”). Some of these superscriptions bear names of individuals (David being the most frequently cited, in 73 psalms).

The Psalms were composed over a span of at least five centuries; the majority originated in the southern kingdom of Judah and are associated with the Temple in Jerusalem. In traditional Jewish worship, Psalms are presented throughout the service either by reading, chanting or singing. The recitation of Psalms is viewed in Jewish tradition as a means of gaining God’s favor, for both private and national salvation; thus they are especially recited in times of distress. In Christian churches, Psalms have always served as part of worship, usually assigned a cycle of recitation. Their importance in worship may be demonstrated by the fact that, in early centuries of the Church, it was expected that any candidate for bishop would be able to recite the entire Book of Psalms from memory.

In the Roman Catholic Church, the Liturgy of Hours centered on chanting of Psalms, using fixed melodic formulas known as psalm tones. In addition to chanting, there are these other modes of Psalm singing:

- Directly (all sing in unison)
- Antiphonally (2 choirs or sections of the congregation alternate verses)
- Responsorially (cantor or choir sings verses while the congregation sings a given response)

Following the Protestant Reformation, the Psalms were translated as metrical verses to be used for hymn texts. In Germany, Martin Luther translated certain Psalms into the vernacular for congregations to sing (eg, Psalm 46 became “Ein feste Burg” or “A Mighty Fortress”). In France, John Calvin made some French translations of Psalms for use in worship, but the majority of the of the so-called Genevan Psalter was translated and versified by Clement Marot and Theodore Beze, and set to music by various composers (eg, Louis Bourgeois, who composed our “Doxology”). Mention should be made too of the Scottish Psalter, approved for use in churches in 1650 and in continuous use since its publication. To its devotees, the Scottish Psalter is the only one acceptable, as its goal was to be as close as possible a representation of the original Hebrew. One of the sources for the Scottish Psalter was the Bay Psalm Book (1640), noteworthy for being the first book to be published in North America.

As in the Catholic Church, the Anglican Church employs psalm tones for chanting. When the King James Bible was introduced in the early 17th century, metrical translations of Psalms by Thomas Sternhold and John Hopkins became popular and were provided with printed tunes. Their version, in addition to another by Nahum Tate and Nicholas Brady in the late 17th century, remained the staples for congregational worship in the Church of England well into the 19th century.

(continued on page 7)

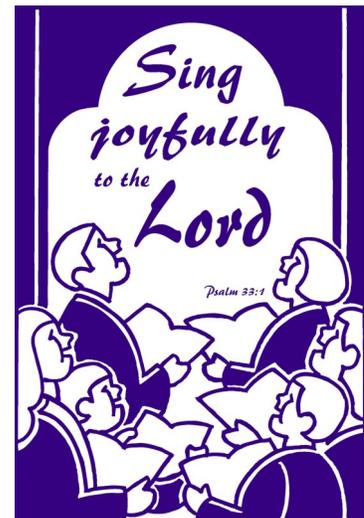


THE SINGING OF PSALMS (continued from page 6)

Reformed and Presbyterian churches have always felt strongly about psalm singing, so much so that churches have split over the issue. During the 1750s members of a Presbyterian congregation in New York City argued continually among themselves about whether to replace their Scottish Psalter with Watts' hymns. A century later other groups were unsettled over the issue; Dutch immigrants in Michigan separated themselves from their denomination because of their using a collection of hymns, "introduced contrary to church order." Much of this strong feeling stems back to Calvin, who believed that metrical Psalms constituted the only proper texts for congregational singing; the Genevan Psalter was the grandfather of most later Presbyterian and Reformed psalters. In churches such as the Dutch and Hungarian Reformed churches, the Genevan Psalter cast a long shadow; psalm singing was equally tenacious in the Scottish Presbyterian church, although there the Genevan tunes often were supplanted by English melodies.

The Presbyterian Church in North America (PCNA) has remained true to Calvin not only by singing exclusively Psalms but also by banning instrumental accompaniments. The Presbyterian Church USA has experienced a more complex history in this regard. Until the Civil War the various Presbyterian bodies used Psalms predominantly, singing hymns only at informal meetings, but after the Civil war the use of hymns greatly increased. No doubt the reason for Presbyterians' departure from the psalter was the popularity of hymns by Watts and Wesley and the whole English hymn tradition, not to mention the influence of the great revivals in the later 19th century. However, psalm singing is not a thing of the past. Our hymnbook after all is titled Hymns, Psalms, and Spiritual Songs and contains musical settings of all 150 Psalms.

Outside the context of worship, the Psalms have proven to be fertile ground for settings by composers too numerous to mention here. Musical settings may be found in all styles, from classical to pop, spirituals, reggae and Broadway.



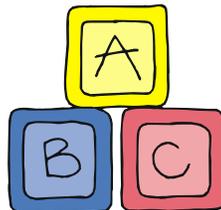


Preschool Happenings

By: Kelly Jones,
Preschool Director



The 2014-2015 School Year has begun. This year we started the year with 104 students and 19 staff members. We are looking forward to great year!



The Preschool Staff thanks the Preschool Committee and Shirley Harris for the delicious luncheon served during the week of Pre-planning.



Scouting at Friendship

By: Scoutmaster Paul Matthews

With the start of the school year, many of our Boy Scouts are also involved in marching band, fall sports, and other activities which sometimes make the scheduling complicated for activities. But, there's still plenty going on, including:



Scouts providing service at the Northeast Georgia Food Bank

- **Camping:** At the beginning of August, the Scouts took part in waterskiing and lifesaving merit badge activities at Lake Chatuge. Despite cool and rainy weather, everyone enjoyed being on the lake! Each of our four patrols is currently planning an activity or trip for the next month or so, and we have also just completed our annual program calendar planning for the year. We have a trip each month, ranging from Orienteering (September) to Cooking (next August), plus a lot in between, including another likely sailing adventure in the Bahamas in June!
- **Service Projects:** In this month alone, projects have ranged from meal preparation for Our Daily Bread, to cleaning/repairing/painting fences and rain barrels at Oconee Veterans Park, to sorting food at the Food Bank, with more still being planned.
- **Advancement:** We have our semi-annual Court of Honor coming up on September 16, and our Scouts will be recognized for over 100 merit badges, as well as special awards and ranks. In August, J.J. Murtha also completed his district Eagle Board of Review, becoming our newest Eagle Scout! And at meetings, our Scouts have been working on Personal Fitness, Woodworking, and Pulp and Paper merit badges, as well as Scout skills relating to knot tying, fire building, fitness, and map/compass skills.

Celebrations: In addition to an Eagle court of honor for Nathan Iyer, the troop also held a celebration for Scoutmaster Paul Matthews in recognition of 20 years of service as Scoutmaster. Thanks!

Several additional members have signed up to be part of the Venturing Crew, which hopefully will return to regular meetings soon. The Cub Scout Pack held its "Back to the Pack" meeting at a pool party on August 21, and is putting in place its plans for monthly meetings, fall family camping, and a winter trip. The "round up" season of recruiting new members in the local schools is underway, adding to the rosters. The Webelos II (5th grade) group will also be invited to take part in the district camporee doing catapult construction with the troop in October. Both the Troop and the Pack will be taking part in the annual fundraiser of selling popcorn products, beginning in early September, so be on the lookout for those salesmen!

Thanks for your continued support of the Boy Scout Troop, Venturing Crew, and Cub Scout Pack.



The troop camping at Lake Chatuge



Worship Attendance & Giving in August				
	Aug 3	Aug 10	Aug 17	Aug 24
Attendance	42	50	56	51
General Giving	\$5457.00	\$3944.00	\$320.00	\$1845.00
Sanctuary Window Fund		\$200.00		

Friendship Presbyterian Church				
Year-To-Date Through July, 2014				
			Over / (Under)	
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Budget</u>	
Receipts				
Receipts from Congregation	84,929	79,083	(5,846)	65%
Dye House Rent	5,653	5,653	-	5%
Support from Preschool	25,584	35,818	10,234	30%
All Other Income	-	321	321	
Total Receipts	<u>116,165</u>	<u>120,873</u>	<u>4,708</u>	
Expenses				
Administration	43,064	43,430		
Personnel	62,080	62,882		
Discipleship	570	2,969		
Membership Development & Care	-	2,042		
Mission/Bldg & Grounds	6,750	7,595		
Worship	<u>960</u>	<u>2,217</u>		
Operating Expenses	<u>113,423</u>	<u>121,135</u>	<u>7,712</u>	
Net Income / (Deficit)	<u>2,743</u>	<u>(261)</u>	<u>(3,004)</u>	
Cash in Bank July, 2014				
General Fund	9,506.73			
Restricted Fund	5,213.34			
Total Cash in Bank		14,720.07		
Kerry Hill Educational Fund		6,541.54		
Savings July, 2014 -- New Covenant Securities		53,060.63		
Mortgage Debt July, 2014		73,259.55		



SEPTEMBER 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 9:40 AM Adult Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Service 12:00 PM Friendship Time 2:00 PM Friendship Community Choir Rehearsal	1  Church Office Closed	2 <i>Pino Moron</i> 7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 149	3 11:00 AM Bible Study	4 5:30 Stated Session Meeting 7:00 PM Men's Club 7:00 PM Pack Committee Mtg	5 <i>Chester Lee</i> Church Office Closed	6 <i>Gail Wiley</i> <i>Ryann Bulger</i>
7 9:40 AM Adult Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Service 12:00 PM Friendship Time 2:00 PM Friendship Community Choir Rehearsal 6:00 PM Youth Group	8 <i>Swanton Jr. & Pattie Ivy</i> 5:30 PM Children's Choir 7:00 PM Recorder Ensemble Rehearsal	9 <i>Pino & Mery Moron</i> 9:45 AM Circle One 7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 149	10 11:00 AM Bible Study	11	12 Church Office Closed <i>Leon & Doris Allen</i>	13
14 <i>Don & Kathy Roberts</i> 9:40 AM Adult Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Service 12:00 PM Friendship Time 2:00 PM Friendship Community Choir Rehearsal	15 5:30 PM Children's Choir 7:00 PM Recorder Ensemble Rehearsal	16 7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 149	17 11:00 AM Bible Study	18 7:00 PM Cub Scout Meeting	19 Church Office Closed <i>Wynn Ivy</i>	20
21 <i>Maurice & Caren Snook</i> 9:40 AM Adult Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Service 12:00 PM Friendship Time 2:00 PM Friendship Community Choir Rehearsal	22 5:30 PM Children's Choir 7:00 PM Recorder Ensemble Rehearsal	23 <i>Ron Bowie</i> 7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 149	24 <i>Blake Wiley</i> <i>Garrett Hibbs</i> 11:00 AM Bible Study	25 7:00 PM Troop Committee Meeting	26 Church Office Closed	27 <i>Hannon Bulger</i>
28 9:40 AM Adult Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Service 12:00 PM Friendship Time 2:00 PM Friendship Community Choir Rehearsal	29 <i>Don Harris</i> <i>Ken Swindle</i> 5:30 PM Children's Choir 7:00 PM Recorder Ensemble Rehearsal	30 <i>Amy Ivy</i> <i>Linda Kelly</i> 7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 149	1 11:00 AM Bible Study	2 <i>David Coons</i> 7:00 PM Men's Club 7:00 PM Pack Committee Mtg	3 Church Office Closed	4



Friendship Presbyterian Church (USA)

The Great Ends of the Church:

- *the proclamation of the gospel for the salvation of humankind;*
- *the shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship of the children of God;*
- *the maintenance of divine worship;*
- *the preservation of the truth;*
- *the promotion of social righteousness;*
- *and the exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the world.*

Church E-mails:

Rev. Tara Bulger: tbulger@gotofriendship.org

Church Office: office@gotofriendship.org

Please check out our website @
www.gotofriendship.org for our online calendar



Please submit news for October's
Words of Friendship
to the church office no later than
Sunday, September 21, 2014.

Due to office schedule submissions after this date
may not appear in next month's newsletter. All
submissions are subject to editing.

FRIENDSHIP PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

As followers of Jesus Christ, assured of God's unconditional love for everyone, we strive to be an accepting and joyful community that centers upon worship, encourages personal growth, celebrates diversity, nurtures individual gifts, and moves beyond boundaries to share, through service, Jesus' love, compassion, and justice in an uncertain world.

Grace to you and peace, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Friendship Presbyterian Church

8531 Macon Highway

Athens, GA 30606



Friendship Presbyterian Church ♦ 8531 Macon Highway ♦ Athens, Georgia 30606

Phone: (706) 543-6077 ♦ Website: www.gotofriendship.org ♦ Email: office@gotofriendship.org