

# South Plains Reflector



**South Plains Presbyterian Church**  
Corner of Black Cat & Louisa Roads  
P.O. Box 277  
Keswick, VA 22947-0277  
(434) 293-4112  
southplainspc.org

**May 2010**  
**Vol. XX, No. 5**

## **DR. DAVID K. GARTH, PASTOR**

### **Sunday Worship**

**1st Service 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM**  
**2nd Service 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

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**Christian Education**  
Classes for all ages meet from  
**9:45 AM to 10:30 AM each Sunday**  
September through May

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**Childcare for infants through 2nd grade**

## **CALENDAR**

**2 Session Meeting, 9:45am**  
**5 Choir Practice, 7pm**  
**10 Presbyterian Women, 9:15am**  
**12 Choir Practice, 7pm**  
**16 Mission Crafters**  
**18 Session Meeting, 7pm**  
**19 Choir Practice, 7pm**  
**21 Ungroup, 6pm**  
**23 Cents-ability Offering**  
**Reflector Deadline**  
**26 Choir Practice, 7pm**  
**30 Rev. Dale Dealtrey Preaching**

## **REFLECTIONS FROM THE PASTOR'S STUDY**

This spring Debby and I made another successful attempt at climbing Humpback Rock. We had tried a year or so ago with the same companions, but failed because darkness and fatigue overtook us. This time the cool weather and daylight savings time gave us the edge we needed. "Failure" is a relative term for hiking since any time in the Blue Ridge Mountains is a glorious exposure to God's handiwork. It occurred to me that the words "failure" and "success" in the life of faith have that same ambiguous character.

We do not always achieve the goals we set for ourselves as individual Christians or as the church. Not only does our sinfulness get in the way, our limitations also prevent us from doing what we set out to do. On that previous hike, we simply did not plan well. Strangely, God has a habit of redeeming our frustrations with grace to make them much more than we could have imagined. Our role is to keep listening and looking for the way ahead.

*(Continued on page 3)*

## Prayer Matters



Construction Committee for Kirk Hall	
Family of Jim Brown in Scottsville	
Cecil Shifflett	Diagnosed with cancer
Janet Riddle	Recovering from surgery
Eleanor Dickerman	Healing
Janis Hampton	Marge's daughter-in-law
Barbara Quarles	Betsy Douglas' sister-in-law
George Wells	Lyn Johnson's father
Bikos	Knee replacement, home
The people of Chile and	Haiti
Beverly Little	Severe back pain
Elza Ramirez	Don's mother, in The Laurels
Dreama Travis	Cancer, Lucille Campbell's friend
Willie Claus	Hospice Residence House
Jim Kettrick	Friend of Higginbothams
Oscar Keplinger	Recovering from treatment
Dan Hudak	Cain's friend with cancer
Juanita Pugh's Family	Lucille Campbell's sister-in-law
Barbara Ann Rehrig	Kuhn's cousin with cancer
Anne Millstead	Friend of Keatons, myeloma
Becky Silver	Hyder's friend, leukemia recurrence
Marge Riley	Prayers for good health
Marge Hampton	Prayers for good health
Carol Brown	Friend of Kellee Goldmann, treatment
Gail Bowers	Hordyke's friend with cancer
Josie Blackburn	Anorexia
Erika Stuart	Mother of Andrea and Laura
Doris Richards	Marge Hampton's sister
Peggy McCormick	Bettie Mohler's sister
Alf Dane	Lyn Johnson's uncle
David Drucker	Friend of the Chronisters with cancer
Robert James	UVA Hospital, cancer treatment

**Prayers are important in our lives.  
Please review your prayer matters from  
time to time and keep our  
bulletin and newsletter up to date.**

## SESSION RECAP

Opened with a time of sharing concerns and prayer.

- Approved a contract with Martin Horn for the construction of Kirk Hall at a cost of no more than \$1,075,000 after discussing modifications in the plan.
- Approved the pastor's vacation June 21-27
- Elected Lyman Drake commissioner to Presbytery June 15
- Approved a VBS curriculum on the Lord's Prayer July 12-16
- Approved a format for vendor contracts
- Approved Mary Howard, Mike Lee and Doug Valentine to sign checks for the operating budget
- Approved Warren Cain, Amy Creamer and Mary Howard to sign checks for Kirk Hall
- Heard plans for the Ungroup at the Keplinger's May 21, plans for worship May 30 and for groundbreaking refreshments TBA.

Meeting closed with prayer

## *Military and Government Service*

Travis McDaniel	National Guard
Ralph Pruitt	Deployed to Iraq
Charles Jones	USN, Pensacola, FL
Eric Bergquist	Kristen's brother
Josh Sobotincic	Gil and Carole Milks' grandson in USA
James Webb	Georgia, automobile accident
Bradley Smith	Alaska
Marshall Baughman	Mosul, Iraq
Michael Kolton	Addotta's grandson, U.S.
Mark Little	Recovering well with prosthesis
Doug Fenton	PCUSA chaplain-PTS
Rudy Mukendi	Iraq
Andrew Scogna	Rehabilitation

**REFLECTIONS** (continued from page 1)

Perseverance in prayer does not mean asking for the same thing over and over while expecting a different result. Sometimes it means adjusting our expectations to a better plan and making changes in ourselves to fit a new reality. The planning process with our architect for Kirk Hall illustrates that flexible perseverance. Most of us liked what he first sketched as our new building. But, other considerations prevented us from proceeding with those drawings. I've lost count of the revisions he made. When it was all over, he admitted that the final product was a better building.

It's humbling, but true that most of us are better Christians because some of the hopes and dreams we once treasured were frustrated and had to be changed. We are not masters of our own destiny. We're pilots on a sea that gives us both rough and smooth sailing. At our best, we don't jump ship; we keep tacking and adjusting and praying for better weather.

*David*

South Plains Financial March 2010	Year to	
	Date	Budget
<b>Income</b>		
Offering	44,168.75	174,080.00
Interest/Dividends	1.87	10.00
Other		
Total Income	44,170.62	174,090.00
<b>Expense</b>		
Ministerial	19,854.08	81,425.00
Administrative	2,505.00	14,340.00
Utilities	1,501.98	7,070.00
Buildings and Grounds	1,894.60	13,150.00
Worship and Music	2,274.35	14,210.00
Christian Education	97.19	3,100.00
Congregational Care	88.00	1,000.00
Fellowship	140.81	1,500.00
Long Range Planning		50.00
Finance		1,220.00
Evangelism	190.00	1,450.00
Benevolence and Mission	4,171.87	16,600.00
Trustees	70.00	2,650.00
Other	85.00	2,040.00
Total Expense	32,872.88	159,805.00
Net Gain/(Loss)	11,297.74	14,285.00

**CHURCH DIRECTORY**

A new church directory will be published in June. Please review your information in the June 2009 directory and give Dana any changes/additions.

**MAY BIRTHDAYS**

- 3 Les Fink
- 5 Lyn Johnson
- 8 Georgia Grissinger
- 15 Bill Clapp
- 16 Christina Eaton
- 21 Donald Ramirez
- 22 Art Ordell
- 25 Elsie Norford
- 30 Frank Kurtz



Do you have good pictures of South Plains people and activities? We are seeking to update the pictures on our website. Please email your digital pictures to Dana in the church office: [southplainspc@gmail.com](mailto:southplainspc@gmail.com).

**FACE LIFT FOR THE WEB PAGE**

**Deadline for the  
JUNE  
issue of *The  
Reflector* is  
MAY 23**

## Local Hunger Agencies Receive CROP WALK Support

The CROP WALK Committee is pleased to announce that a total of \$30,594 was raised by last fall's Charlottesville Albemarle CROP WALK. Both the Community Meals on Wheels and the Emergency Food Bank have received checks for \$3,824.25 to support their very important work in our community.

The balance of the funds raised is being used to combat hunger and to provide disaster relief through the various programs of Church World Service, such as those that help families to improve their health by gaining access to clean water, learning about basic health and better nutrition, and improving sanitation in their communities. For example, in Cambodia, CWS is emphasizing mother/child and community health. "My people have gained a lot of knowledge about health care--especially in growing a variety of vegetables for better nutrition for pregnant women and under-five children," says Cheng Srey Ni, a village health volunteer. "Now families go to health clinics," she adds. "They benefit from the advice provided to ensure safe delivery and care for their newborn babies."

The CROP WALK Committee wishes to thank the many volunteers from our community who worked so hard last fall to raise this money. In particular, we thank the 251 individuals who walked the CROP WALK last fall.

Sunday, October 10th will be the date for next fall's CROP WALK. Please plan to participate with us in this very important service project. This will be our 39th annual CROP WALK in Charlottesville and Albemarle.

Taylor Beard, Leader

### WORSHIP SERVICE INFORMATION FOR MAY

#### Celebration of the Lord's Supper Sunday, May 2

**Communion elements preparation** Sandy and Larry Day,  
June Mueller, Linda Makranczy  
and lower elementary students

**Elders serving communion**  
(1<sup>st</sup> service) Sandy and Larry Day  
(2<sup>nd</sup> service) Dana Lee, Mary Howard  
Doug and Pat Valentine

**Greeters / Ushers**

May 2	(1 <sup>st</sup> service)	Ted and Linda Makranczy
	(2 <sup>nd</sup> service)	Phil and Bea Keaton
May 9	(1 <sup>st</sup> service)	Julie and Frank Keplinger
	(2 <sup>nd</sup> service)	David and Carolyn Hordyke
May 16	(1 <sup>st</sup> service)	Reitsma Family
	(2 <sup>nd</sup> service)	Chad, Leah and Sophia Wayner
May 23	(1 <sup>st</sup> service)	Warren and Barbara Cain
	(2 <sup>nd</sup> service)	Kellee Goldmann and Bill Eastwood
May 30	(1 <sup>st</sup> service)	Linda Harrison and Don Ramirez
	(2 <sup>nd</sup> service)	Jean Wardell and Linda Makranczy

#### Officer of the Week

**May 2** June Mueller **May 9** Travis Taylor **May 16** Jay Chronister  
**May 23** Warren Cain **May 30** Lyman Drake

We are now sending the *Reflector* to our members and friends by e-mail. Copies are also available in the sanctuary foyer and in the Manse.

If you do not receive a copy by e-mail, and would like to, please make sure the church office has your e-mail address. Also please indicate if you would like the e-mail address published in our church directory.

If you do not have e-mail and cannot pick up a copy of the Reflector any month, please call the church office and one will be mailed to you.

"Have you remembered your church in your estate plans?"

## ***UNGROUP GATHERING***

Frank and Julie Keplinger are hosting our **Ungroup** gathering on Friday, May 21, 6pm.  
3191 Wallingford Lane, Glenmore  
(Rt 250 to Glenmore, go through gate and take 2nd right, house is 5th on the left)

**This gathering is open to all adult members of South Plains, and we hope you will join us.**

Sign-up sheet is in the Manse hallway OR  
Contact Julie (977-0189) as to what dish you'll bring to the pot luck supper



Synod of the Mid-Atlantic  
Presbyterian Women

# Summer Gathering

**Massanetta Springs Conference Center  
Harrisonburg, VA  
June 10-13, 2010**



## ***CAMP HANOVER***

Camp Hanover is pleased to announce that [registration for Summer Camp 2010](#) is now available online: [presbytery of the james.org](http://presbyteryofthejames.org)

A [full range of Summer Camps](#) for all ages (one long list).

Not sure which camp to choose? [Get in touch with the office](#) and we'll chat you through the options.

**Come to our [Open House](#) on Sunday April 25 2-6pm. Bring family and friends for a fun day, and see camp for yourself!**

## MISSION CRAFTERS

Mission Crafters will meet on May 16 following worship and work until 4pm. Bring your project—knitting, cross stitching, crocheting, sewing—or come and assist with projects already in process.

Please bring (or deliver to the Manse) any items you have made for mission hospitals. We will soon prepare for the Dedication of the year's substantial yield of baby caps, blankets, quilts, baby gowns, stuffed bears, and more. The "**Spring Harvest**" will be dedicated on June 20 at both services.



Letter from Darien Hall, LCSW  
Family Preservation Services

Dear South Plains Presbyterian Church sewing volunteers,

We wanted to thank you for your efforts in helping to create drawstring bags for the children in our community. Because of your efforts, they will be provided with wonderful bags for their belongings that they can keep as they go through the incredibly difficult process of being removed from their homes. They will be spared the sometimes unavoidable image of their belongings being put into trash bags, and the message that this sends to them. We greatly appreciate your creativity, time and energy in this project. Thank you for your efforts for the community.



Family Preservation Services  
Mission Statement

In recognition of how difficult it is for children to be removed from their family homes, and the frequently limited resources of the community, an idea was created to volunteer time and create drawstring bags that social workers could provide for these children to put their belongings in and keep as they relocate.

This has been a community effort, started initially by staff at Family Preservation Services and their friends and family, and then carried out into the community. Bags have been created by JABA, South Plains Presbyterian Church members, Region Ten's Meadowcreek Center and various other individuals in the community. We have had the support of fabric stores including Les Fabriques and Fabrics Unlimited, as well as many individuals who have donated fabric, notions and time.

We hope that these bags make the process easier for children at such a difficult time. Thank you for your efforts and hard work.