

The Presbytery of Coastal Carolina

CONNECTIONS Newsletter



Vol. 14—
Summer Issue
Jun/July/Aug
2011

807 W. King St., Elizabethtown, NC 28337

www.presbycc.org

General (Presbyter) Ponderings:

What is Shared Mission?!

When the annual pledge letter comes from Presbytery to individual congregations, it features a fill-in-the-blank entitled, **Shared Mission**.

So, what exactly is that?

Glad you asked that. Let me tell you, in a round about sort of way.

Let's say, your pastor is moving or retiring. Has your church ever called the Presbytery office to ask, "So now what did we do?" Or if you are a pastor who is retiring or has retired, and you call the Presbytery office and ask, "I'm intending to retire, now what do I do?" Or your church (PNC) has settled on a final candidate for pastor, and the PNC chair calls the Presbytery office, or the COM liaison, and says, "Now what do we do?"

And assuming that the required answers to those questions are forthcoming, that all comes to you or your church courtesy of **Shared Mission**.

Have you or anyone from your church ever called the Presbytery Resource Center, and asked for a certain Sunday School lesson, or ideas for stewardship, or video on evangelism. Those materials are provided courtesy of **Shared Mission**.

Maybe a student from your congregation has heard the call to ministry, and wants to enroll in seminary. When that person is referred to the Committee on Preparation for Ministry, is "taken under care", and is guided through the process to readiness for ordination, that support and guidance comes courtesy of **Shared Ministry**.

Perhaps you have attended a class at the annual *Leadership School*, or *Equipping the Saints*. As a new church officer, hopefully you have gone to one of the officers training seminars conducted in various places around the Presbytery. Guess what pays for those activities... You guessed it, **Shared Mission**.

I wonder if your church treasurer has ever called the presbytery office with questions about taxes, or book-keeping, minimum salary or Board of Pension computations, or if your Clerk of Session has called with questions about the Book of Order, or if your youth have ever attended a middle school or high school retreat, or if one of your church members have ever served on a Presbytery committee, or if the Mission Coordinator in your Community has ever sat with your session to help brainstorm a solution to a problem, or if one of your college students has even been ministered to through the chaplaincy program at UNCW or Cape Fear CC, and I could go on, and on, and on... because all of those resources, human and otherwise, are provided under that category on the pledge sheet: **Shared Mission**.

And if your congregation is already *well fixed* and not really in need of any of those services, there are surely other congregations within the Presbytery – probably very near to your church – that may be less fortunate, and perhaps even less able to contribute to **Shared Mission**, and thus they are counting on your congregation's support of **Shared Mission** to help make up the difference.

In short, Shared Mission is the category that includes the **entire Presbytery operation**: all of the programs, all of the material resources, all of the staff, all of the travel vouchers for all of the committee members, the telephone bill, everything! So when your session is asked to support that category with a pledge, it's really based on the assumption that your congregation values, appreciates and benefits from these services, and/or that you believe in our connectional system within which our sister congregations are willing to support one another.

David Walker

Now we are the people of God...and it does not yet appear what we shall be. (1John3.2)

Presbytery of Coastal Carolina's

LEADERSHIP SCHOOL & LEARNING FAIR

Called to Hope

Saturday, September 17, 2011

NEW LOCATION—Sampson Community College—1801 Sunset Ave., Clinton, NC 28329



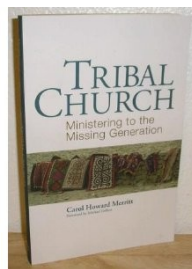
KEYNOTER: Rev. Carol Howard Merritt—pastor at Western Presbyterian Church, Washington, DC, author of two books and co-host of God Complex Radio
REGISTRATION FEE—\$20; Walk-ins—\$30

Join us for Workshops, Displays, Bookstore,
Day Camp for K-5th graders (Cost \$10)
Find the [brochure/registration](#) form online at
www.presbycc.org.

You are invited to join an

All Presbytery Read...

In preparation for Carol Howard Merritt's Leadership School keynote and workshops, we ask you to read



Tribal Church: Ministering to the Missing Generation

The book can be ordered from Amazon.com or Alban Institute.

Opportunities for discussion—

- ◆ You are encouraged to form groups in your congregations and/or neighboring churches for discussing the book.
- ◆ Online discussion on Presbytery's Facebook page will follow the reading schedule below.

Reading Schedule: Suggested dates for completing the reading of each chapter:

- Chapter 1—May 19
- Chapter 2—June 2
- Chapter 3—June 16
- Chapter 4—June 30
- Chapter 5—July 14
- Chapter 6—July 28
- Chapter 7—Aug. 11
- Chapter 8—Aug. 25

**JOIN IN AND SHARE WITH OTHERS
AS WE READ AND DISCUSS**



2011 PENTECOST OFFERING

The Pentecost Offering is traditionally received on the day of Pentecost (June 12, 2011). It provides a direct way to meet the needs of children at risk, youth, and young adults. Congregations are encouraged to keep 40 percent of the Offering to support ministry with children at risk in their communities.

The General Assembly's portion (60 percent) provides leadership development opportunities for Presbyterian youth and young adults and supports children-at-risk programs at the national level. Since 1998, Presbyterians of all ages have raised more than \$8 million for these ministries that benefit younger members of God's family.

Each of the stories in the [four bulletin inserts](#) can be used for presentation the same Sunday that the insert is in the bulletin.

Church Finance Workshop & Music Exchange

JUNE 11, 2011—9:30—12:00—

**First Presbyterian Church, 400 N. Bayshore Blvd.
Jacksonville, NC**

Church Finance Workshop—Gayle Boykin, Presbytery treasurer, will offer information to assure that your church's finances are in order, helping avoid costly and aggravating mistakes. Church treasurers, pastors, stewardship leaders, and elders are encouraged.

Music Exchange—Here's an opportunity to share music you no longer use or acquire some new music. Bringing music is not required, but is welcomed.

To register, contact nancygladden@presbycc.org

Events are held concurrently.

Looking for **NEW Curriculum?** Try this one...



Lectionary-based Curriculum (for all ages)
Workshops at two locations—

JUNE 18—(Sat.) 1pm-3pm at First Presbyterian Church, 1604 Arendell St., Morehead City 28577. Register by contacting Suzy Edwards—sse@clis.com ; 252-247-2202

JUNE 20—(Mon.) 6pm-8pm at First Presbyterian Church, 1002 Chestnut St., Lumberton 28359. Register by contacting Charlotte Allbright—charlotte@fpclumberton.net; 910-739-7581.

2011 Summer Camps— Monroe Camp & Retreat Center—

The camp experience is loaded with active participation in swimming, crafts, canoeing, horseback riding, cooking out, nature studies, group games, ropes course and more.

- ◆ Day Camps
- ◆ Rookie Camp
- ◆ Dance Camp
- ◆ Mission Camp
- ◆ Explorer Camp
- ◆ Horse Camp
- ◆ Family Camp

Find the brochure and application form at www.MonroeCampandRetreatCenter.org



A Celebration of Life Well-Lived! The Presbytery of Coastal Carolina sponsored a luncheon on May 21st at the Elizabethtown Presbyterian Church to honor some outstanding older adults. The Presbytery proudly acknowledges the following nominees who have in love of God and neighbor, produced a positive impact upon others in their church and community.



James Bartlett—Mt. Horeb PC, White Plains
 Frances Brooks—Cape Carteret PC
 Laura Shaw Cameron—Barbecue PC, Sanford
 Bill Coggins—Shalotte PC
 Alberta Creagh—Pollocksville PC
 Ann Pharr Elks—Beth Car PC, Tar Heel
 Jack Harper, Sr.—Jonesboro PC, Sanford
 Bryant Holmes - Westminster PC, Fayetteville
 Louise Hord—Philippi PC, Raeford
 Elizabeth Kemp—Bethany PC, Lumberton
 Pauline King—Pink Hill PC
 Jim Kirkland—First Presbyterian PC, Lumberton
 Peggy Magnum—Faison PC
 Faye S. Marks—Acme, PC Riegelwood
 Olivia McCoy—Mars Hill PC, Hope Mills
 Ruffin McNeill—Bethany PC, Lumberton
 Katie Meshaw—Clarkton PC
 Billy Murphy—Burgaw PC
 Joan Oakley—White Hill PC, Sanford
 Linda Schaub—Peace PC, Fayetteville
 Barney Treneman—MacPherson PC, Fayetteville
 Diane Westerbeek—Graves Memorial PC, Clinton

How to Locate a PC (U.S.A.) Mission Worker to Support



1. Go to www.pcusa.org .
2. At the bottom of the homepage, find "General Assembly Mission Council."
3. Under "General Assembly Mission Council," click on link "World Mission."
4. On "World Mission" page, scroll down, find "World Mission Ministries," and click on "Mission Connections."
5. There you will find the information below:

Mission Connections

- Creates the web pages of all Presbyterian mission co-workers.
- Runs a mission speakers service.
- Publishes dozens of missionary newsletters every month.
- Helps churches connect to Presbyterian mission co-workers.
- Is a program of Presbyterian World Mission.

Find a mission worker

Presbyterian missionaries are teachers, church planters, doctors, public health specialists, chaplains and human rights advocates. They teach theology, church history, Greek, Hebrew and English. They preach and evangelize. They organize and host mission teams from the United States. They accompany, they listen, they work in partnership with the Body of Christ in 71 countries.

For more information, contact Mission Connections staff

Bryce Smith
(800) 728-7228, x 5373
bryce.smith@pcusa.org
Or write to
100 Witherspoon Street
Louisville, KY 40202

Continuing the Mission—First Presbyterian Church of Jacksonville Celebrates Centennial.



First Presbyterian Church pastor John Kerr, left, elder Jim Wayne, and elder and Director of Pre-school Barbara Krause look through memorabilia together.

The public was invited to help the church celebrate its centennial on Sunday, June 5, 2011. The service was not only a tribute to the past and present achievements, but an opportunity to extend an invitation to future members and attendees for worship and fellowship.

A special choral arrangement composed by Jeff Story the Minister of Music, Jeff Story was shared by the chancel choir and several pieces of were performed by the hand bell choir.

The church library featured a special display of pictures and memorabilia from the history of the church dating back to 1911. First Presbyterian Church was organized by Wilmington Presbytery and founded by 10 members.



Welcome to the Presbytery—

At the June Presbytery meeting, the following will be welcomed:

- ◆ **Rev. Jerry D. Bron**—Honorably Retired
- ◆ **Rev. Johnie Bennett**—Honorably Retired
- ◆ **Rev. Jeremy Wilhelm**—member-at-large with validated ministry of Director of Camp and Programming at Monroe Camp and Retreat Center.
- **Candidates Robbie Phillips and Tyler Williams** will be examined.
- **CLPs—Charles Smiley** commissioned to Chinquapin Presbyterian Church and **Julie Carriker** to Oak Plain Presbyterian Church.



2011 Stewardship GIVING Magazine—

Order your copy of the 2011 Giving magazine by calling Presbyterian Distribution Services at (800) 524-2612. (Shipping charges apply.) This year's magazine contains helpful articles as well as planning resources for

the 2011 Stewardship Theme: **Saints Alive: Living Generously,**



Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery of Coastal Carolina 2011 PW FALL Gathering—will be held at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 2505 Village Dr., Fayetteville, NC **Registration begins at 9am;** worship at 10am.

Keynote Speaker—Ann Ferguson is Program Coordinator for Presbyterian Women in Louisville, Kentucky.

Register to enjoy workshops, lunch, PW /Horizons resource area and other displays.

Workshops:

- ◆ Moderators & Vice Moderators
- ◆ Treasurers, Secretaries & Historians
- ◆ Circle Leaders
- ◆ Justice & Peace
- ◆ Introduction to Bible Study
- ◆ Creative Way to Enliven Bible Study
- ◆ Prayer for the Heart & Body
- ◆ PW Leaderships

Registration online at www.presbycc.org.



What's NEW with YOUTH - by Jennifer Maffia

Congratulations Seniors!

On behalf of the Presbytery I would like to Congratulate ALL of our outstanding High School Seniors that will be graduating this year!! It is a joyous and sad occasion to say goodbye to the wonderful Seniors who have served so faithfully on the Presbytery Youth Council. Caleb Day – Calypso, Nathan Miller – Burgaw, Shannon Potter – Community, Emma Dendy – Trinity, Laurinburg and Morgan Dudley – Westminster Fayetteville have all served this Presbytery, their communities and Jesus Christ with love for many years.

We wish all of you the best of luck “For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.” Jeremiah 29:11

Plans are in the works for another amazing year of youth ministry within the Presbytery!! Be watching for more information and dates for upcoming events!!

We ask for your prayers as the youth from our Presbytery experience this year's Youth Conference—**MONTREAT YOUTH CONFERENCE—July 17—25, 2011—Contact jenniffermaffia@presbycc.org for more information.**

Ministry Evaluation—

An important task for congregations is ministry evaluation. Whether assessing participation in Sunday school or determining overall strength of the congregation, churches thrive when they intentionally ask questions about their ongoing ministries. Where have we been and where are we going? What do we value in our life together? Taking stock is part of planning and dreaming. Evaluation helps churches establish worthy goals.



Tools to assist your congregation in ministry evaluation can be found at the PCUSA's "[Discovering Best Practices](http://www.pcusa.org/Discovering-Best-Practices)" web page which shares:

- ◆ Reformed Faith form
- ◆ Thank you letter
- ◆ Covenant form
- ◆ Letter of invitation

Your Presbytery's Resource Center also has several good resources you can borrow by contacting kayebledsoe@presbycc.org.

Looking for Innovative Christian Education Ideas—Send your successful Christian education events/programs/practices to be considered for the **SPICE AWARD**. The Committee for Christian Education and Stewardship Development will present the **SPICE Award** at the September 17, 2011 Leadership School at Sampson Community College, Clinton, NC.

Send submissions to Kaye Bledsoe—kayebledsoe@presbycc.org at the Presbytery office. **Deadline is June 30th.**

2011 Disability Inclusion Resource Packet

Presbyterians for Disability Concerns (PDC) is offering our 2011 Inclusion Sunday resources to equip churches for inclusive ministry. The ideas and suggestions for worship and theology, confirmation and models of ministry come from actual experiences of writers who are committed to inclusion of children and youth of all abilities. It is our prayer that this packet will assist you in your ministry with all of God's children. To download the packet [click here](#).

CHURCHES SHARING GOD'S LOVE—

Winter Park PC has Successful Food Collection—Their April food drive collected 99 bags of food and \$109 for Mother Hubbard's Cupboard.

Westminster PC, Wilmington's Bread for Life ministry served 60 seniors twice monthly at the regularly scheduled food drops, and breads, bakery products, and daily necessity items were delivered to another 100 seniors weekly.

Windermere PC, Wilmington prepares and delivers approximately 95 meals on the fourth Saturday of each month for Meals on Wheels.