



***United in Christ's love,
we glorify God through
worship, nurture, and
service to all people.***

VISION: Start dreaming for God

By Marlene Beaty

"Where there is no vision, the people perish." (Proverbs 29:18 KJV)

The National Air and Space Museum of the Smithsonian Institute is incredible. In the huge lobby hangs the airplane flown by the Wright Brothers on that momentous day at Kitty Hawk. Below it stands one of the capsules from the Gemini flights used in the infancy of the space program. Charles Lindbergh's "The Spirit of St. Louis" is close at hand, boasting its first transatlantic nonstop flight. A sleek, orange plane that looks like a rocket with a few stubby wings hangs in a nearby room. Its silence betrays its astounding accomplishment of being the first plane to break the sound barrier.

People do not talk at the Smithsonian Institute, they whisper. They whisper because they are overwhelmed by the accomplishments of the brave, pioneering spirits that occupy this space. They whisper because the dreams of these creative and persistent few have become reality and convict the weakness of a doubtful public. The former pessimism and jeers of a world that said space flight was impossible lay quietly, but heavily, on the floor. In little more than half a century, history had been flipped on its ear; *people could fly*. Thanks to a few brave souls who dared to dream, space flight was a reality.

Dreamers are never very popular. We'd rather be realistic. But the danger of realism is that it is often an excuse to be safe. It is an excuse to be comfortable with things that neither challenge nor confront nor offer us an opportunity to grow. At times, being safe means stagnation and retreat. Like the turtle, it's hard to go anywhere when we are pulled safely within our protective shells.

We have the opportunity to dream dreams as God's people. We have the possibilities of letting the Spirit of God work powerfully in our midst. We have the abilities to turn our communities upside down with our gifts of generosity, caring, and concern. We've had plenty of time to be realistic, now we need a chance to dream. We need the chance to believe in the power of Pentecost in order to risk something to proclaim the gospel in new ways. We need the opportunity to step out in the light of the cross and take God at His word. Remember: *Where there is no vision, the people perish*.

The definition of vision is the power of seeing; sense of sight: the power of perceiving something not actually present to the eye, whether by supernatural insight, imagination, or by clear thinking: something seen in the imagination, in a dream, in one's thought, or the like.

We can see all around us where people have had insight, imagination, or dreams to make our church where it is today. Examples are the Children in Worship programs, youth programs, mission and outreach programs (like Living Waters and Interfaith Hospitality Network) and events like the mother-daughter luncheon.

In March, the church officers held a retreat at Bethelwoods. The purpose was to help us think about the direction that we need to go to serve our Lord, our congregation and our community. A new sanctuary is part of the vision for our future – a vision that will start to become a reality on May 31 when the Groundbreaking is held at 10:00 am.

As the people of God, we need to take time to dream. We need to share ideas and dreams. Every idea may not be a great, but it may plant the seed for us to think in new dimensions. *What is your dream of faith? What part will you add to the ongoing ministry of Unity? What can you offer that will challenge others to grow?* Go ahead, start dreaming. It's the beginning of greater things to come.

Sunday May 31

8:45 am	Worship Service
10:00 am	Groundbreaking
11:00 am	Worship Service

Groundbreaking

Sunday, May 31 at 10:00 am

***On the lawn between the walkway
and the new sanctuary site***

Past, Present, Future

Plan to be a part of Unity's Groundbreaking Ceremony, which will include a look at our past, present, and future.

Highlights

- The children of the church will be our official "groundbreakers" so please have them dress accordingly.
- Every family is asked to bring a sample of soil from places that are special to the family.
- That soil will be added to soil collected from places where Unity's former sanctuaries have stood, and they will be poured on top of a line of sand near the future Narthex entrance of our new sanctuary.
- After the groundbreaking, this soil will be collected and used in the concrete for the entrance to the new sanctuary, as a symbolic gesture of the sacrifices that have been made to keep our church prospering for over 220 years.

Special guests

With the help of bagpipers and members of the Mint Hill Scottish Society, we will take a look back at the importance of the founders of our church, and the significance they have played in the history of our church.

VBS

Summer is just around the corner, and at Unity Presbyterian Church, we are planning an exciting VBS adventure for your kids! We are inviting all children to be a part of the excitement at our Vacation Bible School, *Camp E.D.G.E.: Experience + Discover God Everywhere*.

At *Camp E.D.G.E.*, your children join an extreme camp adventure, where they will come to know that their strength comes from God. The adventure begins Sunday evening, June 21, with Family Night, featuring Opening Worship, followed by dinner for the entire family. *Camp E.D.G.E.* continues Monday (June 22) through Thursday (June 25) between 9:00 and noon. This fun-filled Vacation Bible School is for youth between the ages of three (must have turned 3 by September 1, 2008) and fifth grade. Youth who attended sixth grade or higher in 2008-2009 can also join in the fun by volunteering at VBS. Childcare for children 3 and under will be provided for children of adults who volunteer.

VBS is for Adults, too! Join the Adult VBS class as we move a little closer to the edge by studying familiar Bible stories with a new perspective on God's ways. From 10:00 - 11:30 am, June 22-25, we will journey on four trips to the E.D.G.E. as we explore our faith in God's character, the incarnate life of Jesus on Earth, His message, His death, and His resurrection.

Registration is going on now until May 31. To register or find out more about *Camp E.D.G.E.*, visit the church website at www.unityfortmill.org (scroll to the bottom of the home page), or complete a registration form and drop it off in the church office or in the "*Camp E.D.G.E.*" envelope located on the large bulletin board in the Sunday school hallway.

We hope you will join us for an extreme adventure at
Camp E.D.G.E.!

Adult Sunday School Classes—Summer Quarter

Summer Sunday School begins on Sunday, June 7. All adult classes will join together to form one class which will meet in the Fellowship Hall. The Christian Education Ministries Team is excited about the topics and teachers scheduled to teach this summer. This is the schedule for June. We look forward to seeing you there!

Sunday, June 7

Introduction To Spiritual Disciplines

Throughout the centuries, committed Christians who have been interested in becoming more Christ like and deepening their relationship with God have turned to spiritual disciplines for guidance and encouragement. *But what are spiritual disciplines? And of what relevance are they for twenty-first-century Christians?* This study introduces and explores spiritual disciplines, including the disciplines throughout Christian history. Common misperceptions about spiritual disciplines will be discussed, and new understandings of spiritual disciplines will be achieved. Led by Ann Neel

Sunday, June 14

Worship 101 (Session 1)

Why do Christians worship differently? This two-session study examines Christian places of worship and religious practices. This session examines what the Bible teaches Christians about worship and proceeds to explore church space and its contents, including tables or altars, stained glass windows, pews, and pulpits. Led by Jeannie Bickett

Sunday, June 21

Worship 101 (Session 2)

Why do Christians worship differently? This two-session study examines Christian places of worship and religious practices. The second session looks at worship practices and where they originated. These include practices such as the offering, music, passing of the peace, and prayer. Participants will discuss their own church worship and what might make it more meaningful. Led by Jeannie Bickett

Sunday, June 28

Mary Magdalene

Mary Magdalene has been the most read-about follower of Jesus in all the Gospels. Yet down through history there has been a curious variety of understandings—or misunderstandings—of just who Mary was. Does the Bible present a unified picture of Mary Magdalene? What is it? How has the church understood the character of Mary Magdalene through the centuries, and how should we see her now? Finally, what light does the *Gospel of Mary* shed on her? This session examines what we think we know about Mary Magdalene and what her story means to us. It looks at what the Bible actually says about her and how tradition evolved to create her popular image as a penitent prostitute. The Gospel of Mary, a Gnostic text, will also be discussed. Led by Laura Jamison

SAVE THE DATE

September 18-20, 2009

7th Annual Women's Spiritual Retreat
William Black Lodge
Montreat, NC

We hope you will join us as we explore all the ways God can
"Restore My Soul".

Look for additional information and registration details in upcoming "Unity News" articles and on the Church Website at www.unityfortmill.org

Sunday Morning Service May 31, 2009

Nursery Coordinator: Linda Bunge

8:45 am
 Infants Stephanie Nix
 2's & 3's Donna Diedrich
 11:00 am
 Infants Wyndie Havnaer, Julie Hooper
 2's & 3's Doris Ussery

Greeters

8:45 am Ashton Wolfe
 11:00 am Mott Hutchison

Welcome Center

8:45 am Jackson Windell
 11:00 am Karen Wright

Children in Worship

8:45 am
 4's Mary Shouse, Taylor Brown
 K & 1st Amanda Masters, Bailey Masters
 11:00 am
 4's Jennifer Bowman, Melanie Sharpless
 K & 1st Tammie Welch, Ashley Schemine, Caroline Welch

Ushers

8:45 am Jeff Shouse, Ron Godfrey, Bo Palmer,
 Susan Palmer, John McManus
 11:00 am Mike Mistler, Lou Wylie, Jackson Windell,
 Greg Greemon, Brynne Fisher, Layne Fisher,
 Cleve Fisher

Happy Birthday!

June	5	Emma Doughty, Madison Gregory, Maggie Keenum, Doris Ussery, Jill Washam
	6	Gail Ellison, Jad Griffin, William Reigel, Karen Stewart
	7	Laura Jamison, Lauren Lochel, Daniel Rossman, Bob Woodson
	8	Jordan Helms, Joshua McCabe, Reagan McCabe, Vera Reid
	9	Tommy Hardwick, Linda Hollandsworth
	10	David Macaulay, Travis Weldon

Attendance & Offering May 24, 2009

8:45 am:	122	Regular Offering:	\$17,830.97
11:00 am:	163	Building Fund:	\$22,811.67
Unity Hall:	0		
Total:	285		
Sunday School:	132		

Newsletter Publication

Note the next deadline: **Deadline: Sun. May 31 at 6 pm for Issue date: June 4**
Start of Summer Schedule: *Unity News* will begin a summer schedule of every other week publication beginning publication date June 4 through August 13. Note the deadline for upcoming issues of *Unity News* for the summer:

Deadline: Sun., June 14 for issue date June 18	Deadline: Sun., Aug. 9 for issue date Aug. 13
Deadline: Sun., June 29 for issue date July 2	Deadline: Sun., Aug. 16 for issue date Aug. 20
Deadline: Sun., July 12 for issue date July 16	Deadline: Sun., Aug. 23 for issue date Aug. 27
Deadline: Sun., July 26 for issue date July 30	

Please submit information to: **Brynne Fisher via email at brynne@yourcardsolution.com**

Reception

In celebration of the recent marriage of Lucille and Albert White, the congregation is invited to attend a reception on Sunday, May 31, 2:00 to 3:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Extended Nursing Care

Ethel Clarke — Alterra Sterling House, Rock Hill
 Anne Elliott — Laurel Crest, West Columbia
 Paul & Rosemary Ellis — Westminster, Rock Hill
 Dot Hill — Westminster, Rock Hill
 Pug & Dot Hollis — Presbyterian Communities of SC- Clinton
 Alice Horten — Presbyterian Communities of SC- Clinton
 Sis Moredock — Presbyterian Communities of SC- Summerville
 Trudie Robertson — Presbyterian Communities of SC- Clinton

Prayers of Concern

- Nanette Altman's niece
- Tom and Jane Culp's daughter
- Cindy Epps' sister
- Toni Rush's mother
- Bill Stroup
- Sam Wood's father

Please continue to remember those with special needs.

Living Waters Fund Honorariums

<u>In Honor of:</u>	<u>Given By:</u>
Jerry Brady	Disciple II—
Bob Hudspeth	Monday Morning class
Zeta Sistare	
Bob Sullivan	



Summer is just around the corner! Have you registered for camp yet? Plans are well underway for another great summer at Bethelwoods, and we want YOU to be a part of the fun. Programs this summer have something for everyone—outrageous games, creative worship, fun in the pool, new friends, cookouts, campfires, and conversations that will help you discover what God has done and is doing in your life. For the more adventurous camper, Bethelwoods offers several programs that emphasize having fun in the outdoors. Adventure camps this summer include *Riverwalkers*; *Woodwise*; *Trailblazers*; *Rock, Roll, and Raft*; and *Mission Adventure*. Many camps fill early so register today! Camp brochures are available in the church office, or online at www.bethelwoods.org. You may also email info@bethelwoods.org or call (803) 366-3722 for additional information.

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Visit our web site
www.unityfortmill.org

Return Service Requested

May 28, 2009

Dear Friends,

In advertising, we often hear the phrase, "You won't want to miss this opportunity." Sometimes that phrase is just a come-on, but when it comes to this coming Sunday, ***"You won't want to miss this Sunday."***



Rev. Dr. Dan Holloway

We will break ground for our new sanctuary at 10 am.

We will need to use the inner part of the circle for parking. Ushers will be out front to assist you with this.

We will also celebrate Pentecost at both worship services, and encourage you to wear red, the color for Pentecost. We will also recognize our graduating high school seniors in the worship services and share the sacrament of communion. There's something for everyone, and I look forward to sharing this historic occasion with you.

In Christ's Service,
Dan