



AIDS Walk



On Saturday, May 3, an estimated 2,000 people will gather in Charlotte's Historic Fourth Ward for this year's AIDS Walk – the largest HIV/AIDS awareness and fundraising walk in the Carolinas. They will walk to honor those who have lost their lives to this disease, as well as in recognition of the thousands of individuals in the Carolinas who are struggling to overcome the challenges that this illness presents daily. Unity has two RAIN (Regional AIDS Interfaith Network) teams, who provide assistance to a handful of families in our area who face the many obstacles of living with HIV/AIDS. Once again, we will be walking this year; once again, we welcome your support and sponsorship, and would like to extend an invitation to walk with us. You can sponsor the team online at www.aidswalkcharlotte.org, or contact Debbie Butler in the church office directly. Above all, thanks for your help in supporting this mission!

Mother's Day

Presbyterian Communities of South Carolina is celebrating 50 years of ministry to South Carolina families this year. The Mother's Day offering is an opportunity for us to honor past generations and make a commitment to future generations. We will again take up a special offering on Mother's Day to provide benevolent care to our older church members who have nurtured their faith and shown us the joy of being disciples of Jesus Christ. Presbyterian Communities is home to 830 residents and about 7% of the residents will need financial assistance. Resident aid is currently given to approximately 60 residents at a cost of about \$6,000 per day, or an estimated \$2.2 million in 2008. As you celebrate Mother's Day this year, please consider prayerfully your gift that will reach out to others in Christian love. Envelopes will be provided in the backs of the pews on Mother's Day (May 11) for this special offering.

Blood Drive Tuesday, May 20 Donors Needed

Blood saves lives—and it is always needed. Did you know that every 2 seconds in America someone needs blood? But only 5% of the eligible US population donates blood in any given year. Healthy donors are the only source of blood, and giving blood is simple and convenient.

Unity's blood drive is scheduled for **Tuesday, May 20, 2008 from 3:00 pm to 7:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall**. There will be a sign up sheet available after worship on May 4, 11, and 18, or contact the church office (803) 547-5543 to schedule an appointment. Appointments are not required but recommended. Walk-ins are always welcome. Our goal is 50 pints, and with your help we can make our goal!

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

Sunday Mornings

8:45 am	Worship Service
9:55 am	Church School for all ages
11:00 am	Worship Service

Peanut Butter and Jelly May 4

Sunday, May 4 is Peanut Butter and Jelly Sunday for the Fort Mill Care Center, sponsored by the YANSY Circle. Everyone is encouraged to bring a jar of peanut butter and/or jelly to the collection boxes in the Narthex and the Fellowship Hall. This is a great way to help those in need right here in Fort Mill.

A Celebration of Unity May 4

Please join us for "A Celebration of Unity," an informal worship service on Sunday evening, May 4, at 5:00 pm in the Sanctuary. This service will be led by our Cherub, Junior, and Chancel Choirs, and will include hymns, prayers and songs. It will be followed by a snack supper in the Fellowship Hall at 6:00 pm. Everyone is invited to participate in this special worship service and fellowship meal.

Capital Campaign Corner

Using Resources for God's Glory
By Susan Benfield

Psalm 24:1-2: The earth is the Lord's, and all its fullness, The world and all who dwell therein. For he has founded it upon the seas, And established it upon the waters.

Psalm 24 is one of the royal psalms. According to the Nelson Study Bible, it "describes the Lord's entrance into the holy city, and may have been sung when David brought the ark of the covenant into Jerusalem." The Study Bible further notes that this psalm is often linked with Psalms 22 and 23, as all three speak prophetically of the Lord Jesus.

Verse 2 of Psalm 24 "draws on the language of Genesis in which God calls the dry land to rise from the watery abyss." As I read this, I was immediately reminded of the striking photographs sent back to Earth from astronauts. The images are breath-taking. The pictures leave me in awe of the vastness of space, as well as the miracle of life on this planet.

A few years ago, after teaching line dance classes at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church in Charlotte, I took a few minutes to admire their new sanctuary and the artist's renderings for the rest of the campus. I told one of my dancers that I was impressed with the depth and breadth of the church's future building plans. Brenda looked a bit surprised, looked me straight in the eye, and stated, "We are a missionary church. Mission and outreach are what we do. These changes will help us to do more. We believe that is what God wants us to do." She said this in such a matter-of-fact way that I was taken aback. Why, of course! I was looking at the beautiful new buildings and seeing the benefits for members, while the members were envisioning the opportunity to further their outreach.

At Unity, we can see a new sanctuary as a building for us or as a resource to serve others. We want to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ, and glorify His name with our worship, works and service. A new sanctuary and additional space for classrooms will allow Unity to continue to serve God in these ways.

Ted and I invite you to reflect on this scripture and think about how the earth and everything in it belong to God. Think about how we, as a congregation, can gather strength from this scripture and how we can use the resources that we have been given for God's glory.



Vacation Bible School



Summer is just around the corner and here at Unity Presbyterian Church, we are planning an exciting VBS adventure for your kids! Are you looking for a safe, friendly, and fun environment for your kids? Then sign up today for Rainforest Adventure VBS! This fun-filled vacation Bible school is for everyone between the ages

of 3 and 100. The adventure begins Sunday, June 22, 2008 and continues through Thursday, June 26, 2008. Sessions run from 6:10 pm to 8:00 pm each day, with an optional dinner at a nominal cost between 5:30 pm and 6:10 pm.

Set in the canopy of a vibrant and exciting rainforest environment, this lively VBS program will engage your kids as they discover that everyone can do their part to care for God's creation. Through kid-friendly Bible stories that emphasize stewardship, combined with a jungle of hands-on, fun-filled activities, at Rainforest Adventure kids will learn that it is fun and faithful to share the good news of Jesus' love with everyone! At Rainforest Adventure kids will hear stories about Jesus, make cool crafts, learn catchy rainforest tunes, play zany games, eat yummy snacks, and make many new friends!

This year, adults and youth can also enjoy the fun by either volunteering at VBS or attending one of the Bible Study programs that will be offered. Specific information will be available shortly. Childcare for children under 3 will be provided for volunteers or those who attend an adult VBS class.

Registration is going on now **until June 1**. For more information or to register for VBS, visit Unity's website www.unityfortmill.org (scroll to the bottom of the home page) or complete the registration form which will be mailed soon and drop it off in the church office or in the Rainforest Adventure" box located in the Sunday school hall by the large bulletin board. Sign up today!

We hope to see you in the Rainforest!

Cookies and Snacks on May 20

We are in need of cookies and other snacks (such as trail mix) on Tuesday, May 20 for people who are giving blood during our Blood Drive. Would you be willing to help out? This is a great way to help our blood drive if you are not able to give blood. Please contact the church office 547-5543, or there will be a sign up sheet available after worship on May 4, 11, and 18.

Eyes and Ears

Do you have eyeglasses or hearing aids that you don't use anymore? We are collecting eyeglasses and hearing aids to take with us on our mission trip to Honduras this summer. We would love to share the gifts of better eyesight and better hearing with others in the community in Honduras we visit this summer. A collection box is located right outside the church office. Thank you for your support!

Building Fund Memorials

In Memory of:

Given By:

Louesta Henry

Murray and Joyce White
John and Jessie Little
Jimmy and Aggie Jones
Hoss and Maxine Nesbitt
Bob and Dot Hill
Bob and Joan Martin

Building Fund Memorials

In Memory of:

Given By:

Harry M.
Miller, Sr.

Mr. and Mrs. J.H. Nesbitt



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. The 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, as well as two special programs called Paddle Explorers and Mission Adventure. Many camps fill early so register today! Camp brochures are available at the church, or go online to www.bethelwoods.org, or via a link on www.unityfortmill.org. You can also contact Bethelwoods at info@bethelwoods.org or (803) 366-3722 for information.

**Come One, Come All
To the Tent of the Lord**

Please join us for the
Capital Campaign Commitment Service
on **May 18 at 10:30 am** under a tent
at the site of the proposed new Sanctuary.

Come dressed casually – jeans and tennis shoes are fine!
We will be outdoors and will walk through the mulch!
A picnic lunch will be served in the Fellowship Hall.
Bring lawn chairs, blankets, bug spray too
and gather with friends and family out on the lawn.
(Tables available inside too.)

Y'all Come on May 18 at 10:30
To Worship and Answer God's Call to Commitment
Building Unity with God

Sunday Morning Service May 4, 2008

Nursery Coordinator: Linda Bunge

8:45 am
Infants Tracy Young
2's & 3's Denise Fox
11:00 am
Infants Michelle Meyer and Kim Price
2's & 3's Kim Anderson

Children in Worship

8:45 am 4's Michelle Kuhn and Katharyne Tedford
5's / 6's Emelia Howell and Beth Windell
11:00 am 4's Lorie Lower and Kathy Choate
5's / 6's Brynne Fisher, Layne Fisher and Renee Stokes

Greeters

8:45 am Beverly Cramer
11:00 am Leanne Mace

Ushers

8:45 am Mike Brown, Bo Palmer, Susan Palmer, Ken Brown,
Jean McManus
11:00 am Kearns Little, Debbie Hathaway, Lisa Swinford,
Chris Wolfe, Jacquelyn Wolfe, Ashton Wolfe,
Bayles Mack

Welcome Center

8:45 am Mary Sue McGrath
11:00 am Brenda Marshall

Happy Birthday!



May 12 Jessi Bullard, Brad Fox, Leslie Martin,
Keith Smiley, Murray White
13 Lauren Bates, Megan Gregory, Reece Keenum,
Zach Lowe, Beth Windell
14 William Bradner, Larry Huntley
16 Stephanie Lawhon, Gayle Parker, Rick Shannon, Elizabeth Sheets
17 Barbara Ennis, Tom Ferrara, Mason Hunter, Kristain McCabe
18 Tyler Cross, Michelle Meyer

Newsletter Publication

Next Issue: Thurs., May 8
Deadline: Sunday, May 4, 6 pm
Submit information to: Brynne Fisher
via email at:
brynne@yourcardsolution.com.
Please note the following deadlines for up-
coming issues of Unity News:
Deadline is Sun., May 11 for issue date May 15.

Extended Nursing Care

Ethel Clarke — Alterra Sterling
House, Rock Hill
Anne Elliott — Laurel Crest,
West Columbia
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

**Attendance & Offering
April 27, 2008**

8:45 am: 112
11:00 am: 201
Unity Hall: 12
Total Worship Attendance: 325
Sunday School: 200
Regular Offering: \$7,774.87
Building Fund: \$1,170.00

Unity has no debt as of October 10, 2007.

Prayers of Concern

- Chauncey Bower
- Regina Bryson's brother
- Billy Hannon
- Tim McCrary
- Steve Simpson
- Bill Vierstra

*Please continue to remember those with
special needs.*

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Non-Profit Organization
U S Postage
Fort Mill, SC 29715
Permit #23

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Dan Holloway (803) 548-7215
Jeannie Bickett (704) 588-4809
Megan Watson (803) 396-0732

Visit our web site
www.unityfortmill.org

Member address label

Return Service Requested

May 1, 2008

Worship

May 4, 2008

Jeannie's Sermon:

*"Hope for the Future,
Power for the People"*

1st Lesson:

Acts 1:1-14

2nd Lesson:

Ephesians 1: 15-25

Dear Friends,

You are invited to *A Celebration of Unity*, a very special musical program in our sanctuary this Sunday afternoon, May 4, at 5 pm. The program will feature music by both children's choirs and by our Chancel Choir. Following the program, everyone is invited to come to the Fellowship Hall for a snack supper.



Rev. Dr. Dan Holloway

Also this Sunday, the pledge packets for our Capital Campaign **BUILDING UNITY WITH GOD** will be distributed. You are asked to pick yours up from the table in the Fellowship Hall. They will be available both Sunday morning and Sunday night after *A Celebration of Unity*. Any that are not picked up will be mailed on Monday, May 5.

Finally, all past and present elders and deacons are reminded of the Leadership Dinner on Tuesday, May 6. We are asking our elected church leaders to be the first to make their commitments to our campaign. Any others who wish to set the pace in this campaign are also welcomed to be a part of this dinner. Please call the office for reservations.

*In Christ's Service,
Dan*