

# GAP

## Gaston Area Presbyterians



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### EDUCATIONAL TRAINING ON CURRICULUM

#### GAP-CE Subcommittee holds CE Resource Seminar

The GAP-CE subcommittee invited resource specialist Ann Knox, Director of the Resource Center at Union-PSCE in Richmond, Virginia to lead a CE Resource Seminar on Saturday May 17<sup>th</sup> at the First Presbyterian Church in Dallas. Registration began at 8:30 am and the seminar lasted from 9am until noon. Initially, Ann gave an overview to 36 interested people about how a CE committee would go about the process of selecting its Christian Education resources for its church use. The presentation was a beautiful informative power point presentation.

Following that presentation, all the participants were encouraged to look at and review all types of materials directed toward children, youth, and adult age groups. Ann answered questions, discussed materials, showed videos, showed internet sites, and a host of other options.

Many favorable comments were made, and many new ideas generated. The seminar was clearly needed, and judging by the response and comments, it was a great success.

## GAP BUILD

After months of work and waiting, GAP Build is ready for the Fall Build. GAP has 13 of the 16 Gaston Area Presbyterian Churches involved along with two churches from other denominations.

The 2008 Build will be on McArver Street in Gastonia and our new homeowner will be Selina Jones and her three children.

The project is moving quickly now as we anticipate the groundbreaking for September 14 at 3:00 pm at the McArver Street site.

The First Build will be September 20 and for the following eight Saturdays ending on November 8. Tentatively, the Dedication will be held in mid-to late November or early December.

Each Church has a Representative on the GAP Habitat Build Committee. Later in the summer the newsletter will provide the detailed list of which churches will be working on which Saturdays. Remember, you are welcome to help any Saturday.

We are truly blessed when we respond to God' call to serve. Each of us who have responded know the joy of being a faithful servant.

**Make plans now to join the 2008  
GAP BUILD**

**NEXT GAP MEETING\*\* June 16 \*\*7:00 PM\*\* Dallas First Presbyterian Church**

**VISION:**

**Gaston Area Presbyterian Congregations working together to serve God.**

**MISSION:**

The purpose is to support and facilitate the efforts of congregations in Gaston County in their work to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Our hope in doing so is that we transform churches so that their members may find new life and new energy to respond to God's call and others will be attracted to them and their work.

**FOCUS ON  
YOUTH**



# CLERGY CORNER

Plans continue to progress on preparation for a Youth Mission Rally to be held in early Fall 2008. We need interested volunteers who will help serve on the planning committee for this project. If you are willing to help or need more information, contact Rose Brooks, Union Presbyterian at [rbrook16@bellsouth.net](mailto:rbrook16@bellsouth.net).



Dr. Joan Martin, currently pastor at Union Presbyterian Church, received her Doctor of Ministry degree on May 17, 2008 from Columbia Theological Seminary. She had previously received her Master's of Divinity in 2000 and served the First Presbyterian Church of Bonita Springs, FL as Associate Pastor for 5 years prior to coming to Gastonia in January, 2005. She says, "I am looking forward to the future with great joy at what the Lord will bring to Union and to Gaston Area Presbyterians!" Congratulations Dr. Martin.

GAP welcomes The Reverend Jason Bryant who joins the GAP family as minister at Mt. Holly First Presbyterian Church. GAP also welcome The Reverend Michael Sears who joins us as minister at Olney Presbyterian Church.

Congratulations to George Ratchford, new Certified Lay Pastor at West Avenue Presbyterian.

*But when the Holy Spirit  
controls our lives, he will produce  
this kind of fruit in us:  
love, joy, peace, patience,  
kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness,  
and self-control.  
Here there is no conflict with the law.  
Galatians 5:22-23*

## NOTES OF INTEREST

Summer is Coming and so is **Vacation Bible School**. Here are some of the dates from GAP Churches

- **June 16-20**, Union, Theme: "Rainforest Adventures"
- **June 23-27**, Belmont First, Theme: "Beach Party – Surfing through the Scriptures"
- **June 16-20**, Third Street, Theme: "In God's Big Back Yard"
- **June 16-20**, Union, Theme: To Be Announced
- **July 10-13**, Southminster, West Avenue and First Presbyterian, Theme: The Marketplace
- **July 13, 14, & 15**, Dallas First, Theme: "Beach Party – Surfing through the Scriptures"

**CONTACT ANY OF THESE CHURCHES FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT VBS**

### Dallas-First Presbyterian Celebrates its Women

The congregation at First Presbyterian Church in Dallas set aside Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup> as a day of celebration for the Women of the Church. New Presbyterian Women officers were installed during the worship service. We also recognized one of our outstanding women, Grace Blanks, with the Presbyterian Women Honorary Life Membership. Most of Grace's family was present during the service, and a special cover dish dinner followed with each table decorated in a different theme. A special offering for the Presbyterian Women was taken. The day was a great success, the food outstanding, and the fellowship warm and friendly.