



In The Know

A Weekly Communication of Providence Presbytery

Guided by the Holy Spirit, the mission of Providence Presbytery is to equip, support, and connect our congregations as they faithfully serve Jesus Christ in a changing world.

April 6, 2009

Volume 5, Number 13

"Grace is like grits. You don't have to do anything to get it, it just comes."

Dr. Charles Wellborne in "Grits, Grade and Goodness," *Christian Ethics Today*, June 1988

[\(read the entire article\)](#) –

Quote offered by Barbara Kurz

Our Condolences...

Please keep Edgar McCall, pastor at Doby's Bridge Presbyterian, and his family in your prayers. Edgar's mother, Drane McCall passed away Sunday afternoon in Charlotte. A celebration of her life will be held at [First Presbyterian Church in Winston Salem](#) on Wednesday (April 8th) at 2PM.

Register Today for Leading Healthy Change

Is your church in the midst of change or transition? Then you will benefit from the second in the Providence Leadership Seminars entitled "**Leading Healthy Change**". Led by Rev. Mark Tidsworth who draws on Pastoral and Consulting Experience, Family Systems Theory, Leadership Coach Training, along with failures and successes, this workshop is for clergy and church staff who want to lead congregations forward, joining in God's mission. The Workshop will be held at Bethelwoods on April 23rd from 9:45-4pm. Lunch will be served. Cost is \$18. Registration Deadline is April 13th. [Register online today](#), email or phone [Kathryn Mcgregor](#) at the Presbytery Office. For more information about the Providence Leadership Seminars, [see our brochure](#).

What is your Church Doing to Meet Increased Need in Your Community?

In response to the economic difficulties in our nation, many of our churches are reaching out to those in need like never before. We would like to feature some ways you are working to meet the increased need in your own communities in the next issue of the Presbyterian Times. Please [email Jill](#) this week to let her know the ways your church is responding to the needs of congregants and your community. Do you have a great idea that just needs a few more people on board to make it happen? This would be a good opportunity to share that idea, too. We'll feature "best practices" and help you link up with others who would like to join your efforts.

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Racial-Ethnic Weekend is only Two Weeks Away

Join with the seven African American churches of Providence Presbytery to worship and learn on April 18th and 19th at the annual Racial-Ethnic Weekend to be held at Hermon Presbyterian Church in Rock Hill. The event focus will be "Growing the Smaller Membership Church." All Providence Presbytery churches are invited to attend this celebration and educational event. [A bulletin insert and schedule is available online.](#)

Bethelwoods Work Camp Scheduled for April 25

Enjoy great fellowship and the camp experience while you help us get ready for summer camp season! All ages and abilities are welcome to join with other church members from across the presbytery on Saturday, April 25th as we work on various projects around Bethelwoods. Come and go as you are able. Meals will be provided for all who volunteer AND lodging will be provided for those who wish to spend Friday night at camp. Email [Kat Ward](#) to register or by phone at 803-366-3722. [A bulletin insert is available online.](#)

Mark your Calendar for May 3rd!

Vision Infuzion is a technique for teaching Lay Persons to lead in your congregation. This third seminar in the Providence Leadership Seminars is ideal for laypersons and staff leadership in your congregation. The cost for this course is only \$10 and it will be held at Unity Presbyterian in Fort Mill on Sunday, May 3rd from 2:30-5:30PM. All types of church lay persons will benefit from this exciting program taught by lay leader and program developer, Helen Porth. [Registration Online.](#)

Volunteers Welcome for Second Harvest Partners First 2009 Mobile Food Pantries

This ecumenical effort sponsored by Providence Presbytery and St. Mary's Catholic Church promises to meet the needs of folks in our area like never before. You can volunteer to help at one of the [10 mobile food pantries](#) by emailing Dot Killian or calling the presbytery office. The first one is scheduled for April 30th at Mount Zion Baptist in McConnells, SC. Volunteers are asked to arrive by 9:30AM.

Calling all Quilters!

In an effort to raise funds to meet the immediate needs of Faith New Church Development and Bethelwoods, the Capital Campaign Committee has announced that they are making a queen size Presbytery Quilt and will accept a \$1 donation for each ticket. The drawing for the quilt will be held at the Fall Presbyterian Women meeting. This is a great way to connect our churches in a project that will benefit parts of our Presbytery. Let's join together to make this project a success. The goal for this fund-raising project is \$5,000. [Read more online.](#)

One Great Hour of Sharing Marks 60th anniversary

Moderator Bruce Reyes-Chow has put a challenge before our churches to double their offering this year in light of the 60th anniversary of the One Great Hour of Sharing. Now, more than ever, those who are most vulnerable in our communities and around the world are counting on us to help them make a difference in their lives. To find out more, visit the One Great Hour of Sharing Web site www.pcusa.org/oghs. Tools that will help you promote the offering, including ads for newsletters, a moving video you can embed in your Web site, minutes for mission, and more are available at www.pcusa.org/oghs/promote.htm. If you have not received your offering materials, contact [Alan Krome](#).

What's Going on at Presbyterian College?

Presbyterian College along with all colleges and institutions of higher learning, as well as all churches, agencies and charities, has been facing up to and responding to the challenges presented by the recent economic turmoil. Across campus, students, faculty and staff are focused on doing everything possible to maintain and develop our tradition of offering every student an excellent, values-based, whole-person education. Exactly what is needed today, more than ever. Check out their one page [update](#).

Maryland Church develops a Lenten Observance focusing on Energy (Carbon) Fasting

The world can change a lot in 40 days. Biblically, this period takes on huge significance as a time to repent, reflect, sacrifice and hear from God. This 40-day (or *seven-day if that better suits your lifestyle*) carbon fast as a wake-up call to consumption and an opportunity to rethink the way our lifestyles impact people living in poverty. St. Mark's Presbyterian in Rockville, MD developed this Carbon Fast for use during the Lenten season. [See their calendar.](#)

Free and Legal Online Books

Wowio.com offers legal online copies of all kinds of books and printed materials from classics to graphic novels. You can read them online for free. To download the .pdf's so you can read when not connected to the internet, the cost starts at 99 cents. www.wowio.com. (They utilize sponsorships to pay the publishers for the book use.)

Honor God by Taking Care of Your Body

Join in National Start! Walking Day. Wednesday, April 8th, don't forget to wear your sneakers and get 30 minutes of walking into your day. Don't have 30 minutes? Don't worry. You can get the same benefits by doing three 10-minute walks. Visit go.heart.org to download free walking plans and find a walking path in your area.

Around the Presbytery

4/11/09—Faith Presbyterian Church, Fort Mill invites the folks of Providence Presbytery to "Music of the Cross...and Beyond." The event will occur on the Saturday before Easter Sunday, one of the two days during our Christian year where our reflections on Jesus bring his suffering and death quickly to our minds and hearts. On that Saturday, April 11 at 4:00 pm, we will welcome The Riverside Boys, a renowned Southern Gospel Band from Lockhart, SC, to offer for us, in their unique and meaningful style, songs of the cross and maybe even some that prepare us toward the miracle of the resurrection. They event will occur at our church office site, 7520 Charlotte Hwy, Indian Land, SC 29707. We'll also host a hot dog dinner following the singing.

4/26/09--First Presbyterian Church-Lancaster will have their annual Kirkin of the Tartan service on April 26, 2009, at 11:00 AM. Put on your Scottish plaids and come join us at 700 North Main St. Lancaster SC. A catered lunch will follow the service. Cost is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children (the per-family cost is \$12). Contact the church office at 803-283-3329 to make reservations for lunch by April 22nd.

Opportunities in the Presbytery

Bethelwoods is seeking college-aged or responsible high school-aged volunteers to help out with its monthly Kids Night Out program. This is a great opportunity to gain experience working with children, have fun, and spend some time at camp! Please contact Kerin Watts for more details at 803-366-3722 or by emailing kerin@bethelwoods.org.

Please Note: Next week's In the Know will be published on Saturday, April 11th. Submission deadline for next week's "In the Know" remains 5PM on Friday. Please note the dates you wish your article to be published on the Subject line.

Check out these and other events on the [Presbytery Calendar](#)--for event details, click on the event!

This Week in Providence Presbytery

4/6	Preparation for Ministry--11AM (Presbytery Office)
4/9	Maundy Thursday
4/9	Preschool Bookmobile—11:15AM (Allison Creek)
4/10	Good Friday

4/11 Holy Saturday
4/12 Easter—He is Risen!

Next Week

4/13 Easter Monday
4/16 Administrative Ministry Team-5:30 (Presbytery Office)
4/17 Kids Night Out 5:30-PM-10:30PM (Bethelwoods)
4/18-19 Racial Ethnic Weekend (Hermon) (Worship 3PM on 19th)

Mark your Calendar!

4/21 Third Tuesday Together –10:30AM (Bethelwoods)
4/23 [Leading Healthy Change-Providence Leadership Seminar](#) 2-9:45AM-4PM
(Bethelwoods)
4/30 Third Tuesday Together goes to Park Seed and Garden Co. 10AM (Bethelwoods)
5/3 [Vision Infuzion-Providence Leadership Seminar 3](#)-2:30PM-5:30PM (Unity)
5/6 Administrative Professionals Luncheon-Noon (Oakland Ave. Pres.) (rescheduled from 4/22!)
5/9 Bethelwoods Open House—10AM-2PM



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“Let every man and woman count himself immortal. Let him catch the revelation of Jesus in his resurrection. Let him say not merely, "Christ is risen," but "I shall rise."

[Phillips Brooks](#)

Leading Healthy Change Registration Deadline is This Week

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Mark your Calendar!

The next disaster preparedness coordinator training will be held in Trinity Presbytery at Saxe Gotha Presbyterian Church in Lexington, SC on June 20, 2009, 9AM-3PM. More information is available [online.](#)

Twitter, Anyone?

Our culture is bathed in new technologies. Every month it seems there is something new to learn. Have you wondered how you can use some of the new technologies to help you stay connected with your congregation during the week? Check out this [article](#) by Sunday Resources.net's Neil MacQueen to find out how you can use Twitter in your ministry.

Around the Presbytery

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“Every tomorrow has two handles. We can take hold of it with the handle of anxiety or the handle of faith.”

[Henry Ward Beecher](#)

Our Condolences...

Please remember Rev. Susan Denne and her family in your prayers. Susan's mother passed away Easter Sunday after a fall the week before.

Don't Miss Dave Ramsey's Town Hall Thursday Night at Bethesda

Bethesda Presbyterian Church in York is a host church for Dave Ramsey's Town Hall for Hope this Thursday Night! Join money-management expert, national radio personality and best-selling author Dave Ramsey for a nationwide town hall meeting and discover what's happening with the economy, how we got here, and where we're going. Town Hall for Hope is your opportunity to sit down with people in your community for Dave's live presentation. In the opening half hour, Dave will offer straight talk about the economy, recession, foreclosures and more. He'll carefully explain where we've come from, where we are now, and what we should be doing with our money during this time. Then, Dave will spend an hour answering questions live. Join us in the Fellowship Hall for this free event on April 23 at 8:00 p.m. www.townhallforhope.com

Mission Opportunity for Churches, Youth Groups

Join the Honduran Medical Team in assembling and packing hygiene kits at a "*Hygiene-Kit Prep Party*", Thursday evening, May 7th at 6PM at the Presbytery Office in Rock Hill. Youth Groups, Sunday School Groups, Women/Men of the Church groups are especially invited to come and help. We will give an overview and short presentation on how these kits will be used, then we will prepare approximately 800 kits. Supper will be provided. Please RSVP to [Fred Powell](#) so he knows how many to expect.

Need to Make a Curriculum Change?

Drop by the Resource Center at the Presbytery office Tuesday, May 5--10AM - 1PM or Thursday, May 7 --2PM - 6PM to preview curriculum for all ages, including the new [We Believe curriculum](#), available beginning Fall 2009. Kathryn McGregor, Associate for Education & Resourcing for Providence Presbytery, will be on hand to answer questions and provide you with information to help you choose the right curriculum for your class and church. Can't come during the drop-in days? Contact Kathryn at 800-922-1609 or kmcgregor@providencepres.org to schedule a time for her to bring materials to your church.

Faith Build Groundbreaking Scheduled

Habitat for Humanity Faith Build is an ecumenical effort of twelve local churches, including several Providence Presbytery churches. We are pleased to announce that our team will build a home for a family in Rock Hill. Here are some important dates: **Monday, April 20, at 7PM** an organizational meeting will be held at the Habitat office at 1034 Charlotte Ave, Rock Hill 29732. Please plan to attend or have someone from your church represent you. We will finalize the work schedule and

explain volunteer responsibilities. Please email [Steve Hardy](#) if you will be attending this meeting. **Sunday, May 10 4PM** will be the groundbreaking ceremony for the new home. Details will be sent later. Please plan to participate in this event. **Saturday, May 30** will be the first day of work. Work will continue on Saturdays through August 29, 2009.

Order Your Presbyterian Planning Calendar Today

The Presbyterian Planning Calendar is a 19-month calendar containing many planning aids for pastors and other church leaders. The 2009-10 Calendar begins with June 2009. Providence Presbytery will place a bulk order for the 2009-2010 Presbyterian Planning Calendars in order to receive the volume discount. The discounted price for each calendar is \$7.00. If it is necessary to ship the calendar(s) to you from the Presbytery office, your church will be invoiced for those shipping charges. Please place your order now along with the other churches in the Presbytery so that we all may receive the discounted rate. [Order form](#), with pre-payment, must be received in the Presbytery Office by May 13, 2009.

Mission Accomplished!

Many thanks to the Churches and individuals who contributed the hundreds of soaps, lotions, shampoos, stuffed toys, eyeglasses to the Presbytery's Medical Mission to Honduras. *The only need we currently have is washcloths.* If you have any extra **new** facecloths you would like to donate please drop them by the Presbytery Office this week: they will be most appreciated!

DID YOU KNOW...

Did you know that your Mission Partnership Giving joins you with Christians in 13 other South Carolina denominations in a ministry of Christian Unity and justice through the South Carolina Christian Action Council? The Council currently advocates on the following issues:

- Stronger Payday lending regulation
- Fully and equitably funding public schools
- Amending the State Constitution so that a "high quality education" is required not just – as the courts have ruled – a minimally adequate one
- Increasing the state Cigarette Tax so that funds are available for healthcare
- Moral Tax reform

For more information about the South Carolina Christian Action Council, go to www.sccouncil.net

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Mother's Day Offering Reminder

Mother's Day Offering is May 10th. This offering taken in your church goes entirely to fund benevolent care at our Presbyterian Communities of South Carolina. PSCS has given over \$27 million in resident aid over the past 20 years. Last year \$2.2 million was given to help residents remain in our communities. Please give generously to your ministry for older adult church members.

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Resources of the Week:

Servant or Sucker, a five-part DVD series on "wise and compassionate ways to help the poor, helps viewers discern appropriate, Christ-centered actions when it comes to addressing poverty on a personal or organizational level. Each segment is 10-15 minutes long and there is a leader's guide on the DVD. *Loving Our Neighbor, A Thoughtful Approach to Helping People in Poverty*, is written by Beth Lindsay Templeton, a Presbyterian minister who serves United Ministries, a non-profit organization in Greenville. Chapters contain worksheets, exercises, and questions to help you learn how to practice wise compassion. These two resources would work well together for a Sunday School class or small group study and are available in the [Providence Presbytery Resource Center](#). Contact [Kathryn McGregor](#) if you have questions about these or other resources you would like to review or borrow.

PC Breaks Ground on School of Pharmacy

On April 14th PC celebrated an important milestone with a groundbreaking ceremony at the location of the new School of Pharmacy at Presbyterian College. The addition of the School of Pharmacy is in response to an expected shortage of more than 150,000 pharmacists by the year 2010. "This shortage will affect our communities, our neighbors, our health. If we are to help, we have to start now. It is the right thing to do," Pharmacy dean Dr. Dick Stull said.

Get Money for College—Apply by June 15

College juniors and seniors: [Apply now for the Student Opportunity Scholarship](#) for a chance to receive up to \$3,000 towards your studies. You may be eligible if you are seeking a bachelor degree with emphasis on the missions of PC(USA) in the following disciplines: Education, Health Service/Science, Religious Studies, Sacred Music or Social Service/Science.

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- 4/25 Bethelwoods Work Day—*Come and go as you are able.* (Bethelwoods)
- 4/26 CAT meeting—2:30PM (Presbytery Office)

Next Week

- 4/27 PW Coordinating Team—6PM (Presbytery Office)
- 4/28 Resource Center Preschool Bookmobile 10:25-11:15AM (Unity)
- 4/30 Third Tuesday Together goes to Park Seed and Garden Co. 10AM (Bethelwoods)
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Mark your Calendar!

- 5/5 We Believe Curriculum Review Drop-In—10AM-1PM (Presbytery Office)
- 5/6 Administrative Professionals Luncheon-Noon (Oakland Ave. Pres.)
- 5/7 We Believe Curriculum Review Drop-In—2PM-6PM (Presbytery Office)
- 5/7 Hygiene-Kit Prep Party—6PM (Presbytery Office)
- 5/8 Third Tuesday Together to Charlotte Symphony—5PM (Bethelwoods)
- 5/9 Bethelwoods Open House with lunch—10AM-4PM
- 5/22-29 Honduran Medical Mission Trip
- 5/29-30 Presbytery Meeting at Presbyterian College in Clinton, SC (Dinner and Convocation at 4PM Fri.)