

Words of Friendship

March 2011

Friendship Presbyterian Church (USA)

*8531 Macon Highway
Athens, Georgia 30606
(706) 543-6077
www.gotofriendship.org*



English Adult Sunday School 9:45 am

Spanish Sunday Worship 1:00 pm

English Sunday Worship 11:00 am

From Our Pastor:

The season of Lent is a time of prayer, fasting and self-examination in preparation for the celebration of the resurrection of the Lord at Easter. It is a period of 40 days — like the flood of Genesis, Moses' sojourn at Mount Sinai, Elijah's journey to Mount Horeb, Jonah's call to Ninevah to repent and Jesus' time of testing in the wilderness. (The Sundays in Lent are not counted in this reckoning of the time between Ash Wednesday and Easter, as every Lord's Day is a celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.)

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, a day of solemn assembly that is built right into the church year. It is a fast day, a day of mourning for our sin and the sin of all humanity before God, recognition of our mortality save for the grace of God and a request that the Lord remember our creation and breathe new life into our burned-out, dusty lives once more. Ash Wednesday will be observed at Friendship on March 9 with a worship service at 7pm in our Sanctuary (preceded by a light supper served from 6-6:45). The service will include a celebration of the Lord's Supper in acknowledgement of God's grace and mercy as well as the imposition of ashes in recognition of our own mortality and dependence upon God. The weeks of Lent will follow with elements of worship specifically focused on our Lenten Observance, especially our corporate confession and pardon.

*Grace and peace,
Mari*



Women's Circle 1



Circle One will meet March 8th at 9:45am at the church. We will be on Lesson Five of *Journeys Through Revelation*.

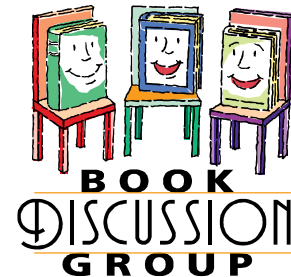
The Friendship Men will have their regular monthly meeting on Thursday, March 3. All men are invited.



The Annual Gathering of Northeast Presbyterian Women will be Saturday, March 19th at First Presbyterian in Cleveland, GA with registration beginning at 9am and Worship Service at 10am. The meeting will conclude after lunch.



The Book Group will meet again Monday, March 14 at the home of Linda Bennett. Each member will bring a review of a favorite book to share with the group. For more information contact Mari Turner at pastor@gotofriendship.org.



YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE

The March schedule is as follows:

March 6 – no meeting

March 13 - 5-7pm—Destination Unknown (see instructions coming soon)

March 20 - 4:30-6pm—Putting together our Service Project

March 25-27 – Presbytery Youth Retreat (registration deadline March 9)





ASH Wednesday

The Season of Lent will begin Wednesday, March 9 with an Ash Wednesday worship service, preceded by a light supper. Supper will be served between 6 and 6:45 in the Friendship Room (donations will be accepted to cover the cost), and the Worship service, which will include communion and the imposition of Ashes will be held at 7pm in the Sanctuary. Please plan to participate in this important beginning to the Lenten Journey.



Coffee with the Pastors

Do you have questions about your congregation? Are you looking for an opportunity to get to know your pastors better in an informal setting? Do you just want an opportunity to drink coffee and visit with friends? Then join us for the first monthly **Coffee with the Pastors** on Wednesday, March 16th at 10:30am in the Friendship Room. Mari Turner and Jose Torres will be available to visit with church members and friends.

For those who are not able to visit during the day time, a **Dessert with the Pastors** will be held on Thursday, March 17th at 7:30pm in the Friendship Room.

Dessert with the Pastors





In the past month the Session of Friendship...

Received into membership upon his profession of faith Chris Giddens.

Prayed for members and friends of our congregation.

Adopted the 2011 budget.

Heard about the new proposed Form of Government for the Presbyterian Book of Order.

Approved an exciting new service project by the youth of Friendship

Approved changes to the Friendship Wedding policy in hopes of attracting more weddings at Friendship.

Called a Congregational Meeting for March 13 at 12:15pm.

Heard about the new Acts 16.5 Initiative from the Presbytery to help churches with spiritual and membership growth.



MARCH VOLUNTEERS

| Communion Servers | |
|----------------------------|--|
| March 9 (Ash Wednesday) | Walt & Emily Sanders |
| March 13 | Ted Walker, Dori Allen, Judy & Henry Hibbs |

| | Liturgist | Acolytes | Lead Offering Counter |
|----|---------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| 6 | David Ivy | Wynn Ivy | David Ivy |
| 13 | Ted Walker | Garrett Hibbs | Pattie Ivy |
| 20 | Beverly Davis | Maggie Ivy | Charlotte Trice |
| 27 | Don Roberts | Katie Roberts | John Trice |



by Kevin Kelly

Nikolaus Decius and the Lutheran Chorale

As part of our Lenten music, on March 13 we will be singing Hymn 82, “O Lamb of God,” written by the German composer Nikolaus Decius (c. 1485-1546). Therefore it might be of interest to know how Decius fits into the context of German hymnody of the mid-16th century.

Before the Reformation, singing in church services was restricted to a small group of trained singers (schola cantorum) who performed in Latin florid polyphonic (multi-layered) hymns based on Gregorian chants. An important aspect of Luther’s Reformation was his involvement of the congregation in singing, for which he and contemporary composers such as Walther, Nicolai and Decius provided simpler hymns (chorales) with texts in the vernacular. These chorales were sung in unison and unaccompanied; the use of the organ to accompany congregational singing did not become an established practice until about a century later.

For their chorale texts, Luther and others translated Latin church hymns into German; in addition they wrote their own texts, and even appropriated secular songs for their purpose by substituting new (sacred) texts, a technique called contrafactum. In addition to hymns, composers provided Lutheran congregations with vernacular settings of the liturgy, such as metrical psalms, the Nicene Creed, Lord’s Prayer, etc.

In this regard, Decius was an important contributor. He composed German versions of the Gloria, Sanctus and Agnus Dei that are probably the earliest in existence, preceding Luther’s own settings of these liturgical texts by a year. Decius’ Glory is found in our hymnbook as #133 (“All Glory be to God on High”) and his Agnus Dei as #82 (“O Lamb of God”).

Chorale texts and melodies proliferated with the spread of Lutheranism, especially throughout Germany, Scandinavia and some Slavic countries. While these texts were translated into many languages, their melodies became the common musical language, in essence trans-cultural expressions of faith.



Show yourself in all respects a model of good works.

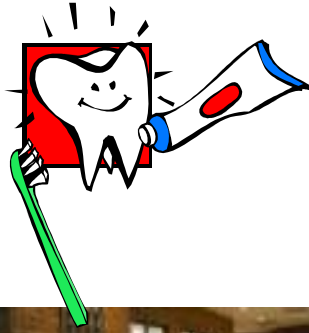
Titus 2:7

Thanks to Robert & Margie Summerfield, and Margie’s brother, Mark Jones, for providing and serving the meal at the **ATHENS AREA HOMELESS SHELTER** on February 14th.

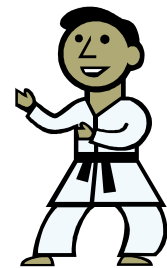
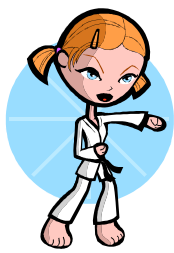


Preschool Happenings

By: Kelly Jones,
Preschool Director



During February the Preschool children enjoyed a visit from the Tooth Fairy.



Borders Taekwondo provided an "Anti-Bullying Workshop"





Scouting at Friendship

By

Scoutmaster Paul Matthews

The Scouts enjoyed being with the congregation for this February's annual celebration of Scout Sunday. During February, Troop 149 has been working on activities ranging from emergency preparedness to communications to first aid skills and knots. We have also enjoyed hosting Webelos not only from Pack 149 but from other local Packs getting ready to cross into Boy Scouting. In early March, the district Advance-a-Rama offers more merit badge opportunities, too, on site at UGA.



Scouts from Troop 149 had a fine weekend canoeing and kayaking at the Okefenokee Swamp, including seeing many good-sized alligators (who kept their distance, fortunately!). Our Patrols each did a specialize activity, like photography and hiking, this month. We are also getting geared up for this summer's sea kayaking, for our week at Camp Rainey Mountain, and looking into sign-ups for Philmont Scout Ranch for 2012 already. Venturing Crew 149 had an exciting trip in February to WinterFest, a regional Venturing/Exploring event in Gatlinburg, and the Pack is gearing up for its annual weekend at Scoutland, at which the Webelos will receive their Arrow of Light award and cross into Boy Scouting. Also in March, the Troop will take part in a Climbing, Rappelling and Geocaching trip, and those Scouts elected into the Order of the Arrow will go through their Ordeal weekend to become OA members.

Also in March, we will have our semi-annual Troop Court of Honor on Tuesday, March 15—all are invited to attend to see our Scouts get recognized for their hard work on advancement! Our Scouts will also be holding a chicken barbecue fund-raiser on the 26th; we'd be glad to sell you a ticket for your plate at Harris Shoals.

Thanks for your continued support of the Boy Scout Troop, Venturing Crew, and Cub Scout Pack.





| Worship Attendance & Giving in February | | | |
|--|--------------|---------------|----------------------|
| | Feb 6 | Feb 13 | Feb 20 |
| 11 am Attendance | 72 | 53 | 39 (Joint Service at |
| 1 pm Attendance | 11 | 15 | 21 |
| General Giving | \$5625.00 | \$1915.00 | \$1190.00 |
| ACTS Offering | \$114.75 | | |

| Friendship Presbyterian Church | | | | |
|---|----------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|-----|
| Year-To-Date Through January, 2011 | | | | |
| | | | Over / (Under) | |
| | <u>Budget</u> | <u>Actual (1)</u> | <u>Budget</u> | |
| Receipts | | | | |
| Receipts from Congregation | 10,058 | 13,319 | 3,261 | 67% |
| Dye House Rent | 808 | 808 | - | 4% |
| Support from Preschool | 5,050 | 5,050 | - | 25% |
| Multicultural Grants | 2,007 | 833 | (1,174) | 4% |
| All Other Income | <u>21</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>(21)</u> | |
| Total Receipts | 17,943 | 20,009 | 2,066 | |
| Expenses | | | | |
| Ministry | 10,766 | 10,240 | | |
| Administration | 10,008 | 14,717 | | |
| Outreach | <u>308</u> | <u>357</u> | | |
| Operating Expenses | <u>21,082</u> | <u>25,314</u> | <u>4,232</u> | |
| Net Income / (Deficit) | (3,139) | (5,304) | (2,166) | |
| Cash in Bank January 2011 | | | | |
| General Fund | 7,165.71 | | | |
| Restricted Fund | 4,905.65 | | | |
| Total Cash in Bank | | 12,071.36 | | |
| Kerry Hill Educational Fund | | 5,911.32 | | |
| Savings January 2011 | | 64,000.29 | | |
| Mortgage, January 2011 | | 157,842.82 | | |



MARCH 2011

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|--|--|---|--|---|
| 27 <i>Garrett Stancil</i> 9:45 AM Adult English Sunday School 11:00 AM English Worship Service 1:00 PM Joint Worship Service 3:00 PM Friendship Community Choir | 28 <i>Herb Bennett</i> | 1 6:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 149 7:30 PM Athens Chamber Singers | 2 <i>David & Amy Ivy</i> 7:00 PM Friendship Choir | 3 7:00 PM Men's Club | 4 | 5 <i>Doris Walker</i> <i>Pattie Ivy</i> <i>Peggy Frantz</i> |
| 6 <i>Richard Williams</i> 9:45 AM Adult English Sunday School 11:00 AM English Worship Service 1:00 PM Spanish Worship Service 3:00 PM Friendship Community Choir | 7 12:45 PM Preschool Board Meeting | 8 9:45 AM Circle 1 7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 149 7:30 PM Athens Chamber Singers | 9  6:00 PM Lenten Dinner 7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Worship Service | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13  9:45 AM Adult English Sunday School 11:00 AM English Worship Service 12:15 PM Congregational Meeting 1:00 PM Spanish Worship Service 3:00 PM Friendship Community Choir 5:00 PM Youth Group | 14 <i>Elizabeth Graham</i> 5:30 PM FPC provides and serves meal @ Homeless Shelter 7:00 PM Book Club (home of Linda Bennett) | 15 6:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 149-Court of Honor 7:30 PM Athens Chamber Singers | 16 10:00 AM Coffee with Pastors 7:00 PM Friendship Choir | 17  7:30 PM Dessert with Pastors | 18 | 19 9:00 AM Annual Gathering of NE GA Presbyterian Women |
| 20 <i>Bill & Debbie Ross</i> 9:45 AM Adult English Sunday School 11:00 AM English Worship Service 1:00 PM Spanish Worship Service 3:00 PM Friendship Community Choir 4:30 PM Youth Group | 21 <i>Suzanne White</i> 7:00 PM Session Meeting | 22 7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 149 7:30 PM Athens Chamber Singers | 23 9:00 AM Preschool Art Show 7:00 PM Friendship Choir | 24 9:00 AM Preschool Art Show 7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop Committee Meeting | 25 Presbytery Youth Retreat | 26 Presbytery Youth Retreat |
| 27 <i>Nan McMurry</i> Presbytery Youth Retreat 9:45 AM Adult English Sunday School 11:00 AM English Worship Service 1:00 PM Spanish Worship Service 3:00 PM Friendship Community Choir | 28 <i>Austin Nix</i> <i>Philip & Martha Courie</i> | 29 <i>Richard & Evelyn</i> <i>Montgomery</i> 6:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 149 7:30 PM Athens Chamber Singers | 30 7:00 PM Friendship Choir | 31 | 1 <i>Emily Sanders</i> | 2 <i>Shirley Harris</i> |



*Friendship Presbyterian
Church (USA)*



The Annual
Congregational Meeting
and
Meeting of the Corporation
will be
March 13, 2011
at 12:15pm
in the Sanctuary.

Church E-mails:

Church Office: office@gotofriendship.org

Mari: pastor@gotofriendship.org

Jose: jose@gotofriendship.org

Please check out our website @
www.gotofriendship.org for our online calendar

Please submit news for April's
Words of Friendship

to the church office no later than

Friday, March 25, 2011.

Due to office schedule submissions after this date may
not appear in next month's newsletter.
All submissions are subject to editing.

FRIENDSHIP PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

As followers of Jesus Christ, assured of God's unconditional love for everyone, we strive to be an accepting and joyful community that centers upon worship, encourages personal growth, celebrates diversity, nurtures individual gifts, and moves beyond boundaries to share, through service, Jesus' love, compassion, and justice in an uncertain world.

Grace to you and peace, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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