

Words of Friendship

May 2011

Friendship Presbyterian Church (USA)

*8531 Macon Highway
Athens, Georgia 30606
(706) 543-6077*

www.gotofriendship.org



English Adult Sunday School

9:45 am

English Sunday Worship

11:00 am

From Your Pastor:

What now?

That is the big question on many people's minds following the announcement of Jose's departure. The good news is that I have an answer (or at least a vision). We will go on being a church of believers, called to worship and serve God. We will still have a culturally diverse congregation. We will still continue to build our relationships with God and with each other. We will simply do it in a slightly different way.

Here's what I think things will look like come May 8 and following...

Worship will take place at 11:00 with a service that looks pretty much like it did on May 1, except that there will be someone in the narthex speaking into a microphone to provide translation for our Spanish speaking members.

We will have fellowship events and Bible studies and Sunday School classes. Our Hispanic members and friends will continue to be encouraged to participate as our Anglo members and friends are.

We will have one Pastor who will seek to meet the worship and pastoral needs of the church, caring for English and Spanish speaking members.

We will continue to welcome new friends into our midst, English and Spanish speakers and all those whom God sends to us.

This is the model that we have been working toward, and now the time has come to move forward with this way of being a unified church. We are so blessed to have had Jose's work in getting us to this point in our church's life.

It will be a transition – more difficult for some than others, but we will adjust. We need to be in prayer for each other as we adjust to life as a church without our Parish Associate, and be in prayer for Jose and Assbelli as he discerns his next step in ministry.

*Grace and peace,
Mari*



Women's Circle 1



Circle One will conclude their Bible Study on Revelation on Tuesday, May 10, at 9:45am at the church. After the Bible Study all ladies are invited to a Ladies Luncheon. Call Pattie Ivy for more information.



The Men's Club will have their monthly meeting on May 5 at 7:00 p.m. in the Friendship Room. All men are invited to come for good food and fellowship.

YOUTH GROUP

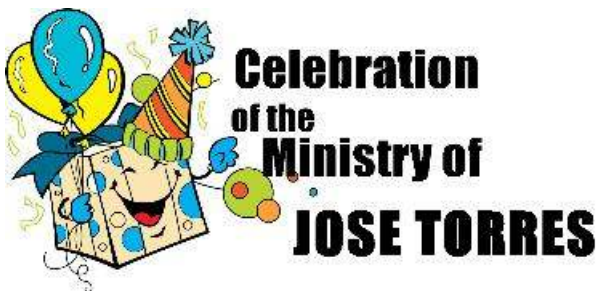
SCHEDULE



- May 1 – High School Night at the Presbyterian Student Center at UGA. Meet at church at 6 or PSC at 6:15, and we will return around 8:15.
- May 8 – no youth group – spend the afternoon telling your mom how much you love her (and showing her, too!)
- May 15 – no youth group
- May 22 – meet 4:30-6 to prepare for our service project

NEW WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Beginning May 8, Friendship will have one worship service at 11am in the Sanctuary. Translation will be provided for our Spanish speaking members.



Celebration of the Ministry of **JOSE TORRES**

During the worship service on May 8 we will take a moment to recognize Jose's ministry with us for the past 4 ½ years. Please join us as we celebrate our time together.



Three members of Friendship helped build the first house in 1989.

(Doris & Ted Walker and Bill Ross)

HOUSES STILL NEEDED – When Northeast Georgia Presbytery volunteers built their first three houses in Mexico in 1989, no one guessed that this ministry would still be active 23 years later. As a result of our toil, contributions and prayers, around seventy needy families have been able to move from dirt floored hovels into sturdy descent houses. Many from Friendship have been a part of this success story. Over fifty volunteers have gone from our church. Each year we have supported this mission financially and with our prayers. Many have heard of the violence on the border and wondered if we should continue to go there. We have gotten regular reports from Piedras Negras through our representatives from Presbyterian Border Ministry and Constructores Para Cristo all feel that it is safe to continue this house building ministry. You will be asked later this month to contribute toward this effort. Contributions can be made any time to our church marked “Mexico Mission”. Every gift will help answer the prayer of some very needy family. Your prayers for the three families and for our volunteers and their safety will be deeply appreciated.

Mother’s Day Offering To Benefit

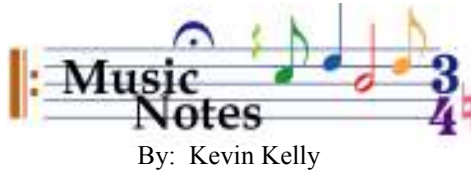
Presbyterian Homes’ *Caring Hands Fund*

On Sunday, May 8, Presbyterians throughout Georgia will show their support for the elderly residents of Presbyterian Homes in a special offering for the *Caring Hands Fund*. This fund provides exceptional care and health services to frail, aging residents who have outlived their financial resources. Throughout its history, Presbyterian Homes has never asked a resident to leave due to lack of funds. More that 1,000 seniors reside at Presbyterian Homes’ four Georgia communities. The annual *Caring Hands Fund* Offering, received on Mother’s Day, is the single largest fund-raising activity to support more than 400 residents who now find themselves in need financially.

This years’ theme, *It’s Your Call*, focuses on the One who obeyed his call to live generously, even sacrificially, for the sake of others, and on our calling to do the same.

The current economy is testing Presbyterian Homes’ mission like no other time in its history. For many years, the sum required to provide charitable care remained approximately \$3 million. In 2008 the figure jumped to \$3.5 million. This year we are praying for \$4 million. Your gifts are needed now more than ever to support this vital ministry. Seize this opportunity to live God’s limitless love. Give generously to the *Caring Hands Fund* Offering this Mother’s Day (May 8th).





"All Things Bright and Beautiful"

Sunday May 8 is Mother's Day, and while not an official Holy Day on the Church calendar, we take the occasion to honor the women who have played an important role in the lives of our families and church. Thus it is appropriate that one of the hymns we will sing on that day will be #267, "All Things Bright and Beautiful," with text by Mrs. Frances Cecil Alexander (1818-1895).

Frances Cecil Humphreys was born in Dublin and married the Anglican bishop of Ireland, William Alexander. In her efforts to promote children's education in the Christian faith, she became a prolific writer of hymn texts for children, penning nearly four hundred in her lifetime. "All Things Bright and Beautiful" first appeared in 1848 in Hymns for Little Children and went into a hundred editions; its profits went to a school for deaf mutes in Londonderry. In writing "All Things Bright and Beautiful," Alexander most likely drew inspiration from Genesis I ("and God saw all that he had made, and it was good") and from the Apostles' Creed ("Maker of heaven and earth"). It may be described as a catalog text, enumerating various parts of the natural world God has created: flowers, birds, mountains, rivers, times of day and seasons. Inspiration may also have come from a verse in Coleridge's famous poem The Rime of the Ancient Mariner (1798): "He prayeth best, who loveth best/All things great and small/For the dear God who loveth us/He made and loveth all."

(As a footnote, another of Alexander's hymn texts appearing in the Presbyterian Hymnal is #49, "Once in Royal David's City.")

The hymn tune most commonly associated with Alexander's "All Things Bright and Beautiful" text bears the name "Royal Oak." This melody is a 17th-century folksong, whose original text celebrated the restoration of the monarchy under Charles II in May, 1660. Presumably the tune name "Royal Oak" derives from a tree in Shropshire, England, in which King Charles hid during the Battle of Worcester in 1651. Martin Shaw, an English composer and organist in London, adapted this tune for Alexander's text and published it as such in 1915.



**HAPPY
MOTHER'S DAY**



Remember those nights playing Trivial Pursuit? Our own Barbara Remmers thought up another way to bring the congregation together: Board Games with Friends. She is willing to host on an early Saturday evening. For those interested, a sign-up sheet is available in

Thanks to Anne & Chester Lee for preparing and serving the meal at the Athens Homeless Shelter in April.



Thanks to Kevin Kelly for the creation and presentation of the *Stations of the Cross* program and to Nan McMurry and the Friendship choir for performing the beautiful music.

Thanks to Charlotte Trice and Betty Forbus for helping to set up for the Maundy Thursday dinner.

Thanks to Chester Lee for obtaining the Easter Lilies.

Thanks to Brett Turner for replacing the amp and repairing the sound system in the Sanctuary

Thanks to Charlotte Trice, Betty Forbus, Dori & Leon Allen, and Mery Moron for putting together the Easter Breakfast.

Thanks to Dave & Karen Coons and Brett & Mari Turner for coordinating Relay for Life and to ALL those who volunteered and helped help with this event.

Worship Attendance & Giving in April				
	April 3	April 10	April 17	April 24
11 am Attendance	50	41	40	70
1 pm Attendance	3	6	10	combined
General Giving	\$2494.00	\$4920.00	\$533.50	\$1628.00
Building Fund		\$300.00		
Memorial Fund			\$25.00	
OGHS Offering				\$30.00
ACTS Offering			\$100.00	\$93.00



Preschool Happenings

By: Kelly Jones,
Preschool Director



Our 2nd
Annual Earth
Day
Celebration.



 Preschool Summer Camp
 May 16-20 and May 23-27
 9am until noon.

Classes are available for children age 18 months to 4 years old. The child does not have to be currently enrolled in the Preschool to attend. Cost is \$130 per week and includes a t-shirt.

Please call the Preschool office at 706-546-1693 to register.

Scouting at Friendship

By
Scoutmaster Paul Matthews



Troop 149 has welcomed 18 new Scouts this spring, including crossovers from Cub Scouting and others—we are glad to have the energy and enthusiasm of these new members and parents! 12 of the new Scouts, as well as 8 older Scouts, took part in our annual Wilderness Survival camping trip in April. The younger Scouts and adults worked on Scouting skills and camped in “base camp,” while the older Scout teams built their own shelters, survived with minimal resources, and competed in activities ranging from signaling to fire-building to primitive marksmanship. In May, the Troop will hold its annual swim check and end-of-school-year party, in advance of our whitewater rafting campout. At the end of May, Scoutmaster Paul Matthews will again be the course director for the Scout Council’s National Youth Leadership Training program, a week-long course for Scouts on applied leadership, held in Gainesville.

Cub Scout Pack 149 is holding its year-end Blue and Gold Banquet on Friday, May 6, to recognize the hard work and awards earned by the Cubs and the adult leaders. They are also transitioning new adult leadership in many key roles, and are beginning to plan next year’s schedule.

Members of Venturing Crew 149 are also keeping busy this Spring with a service project at Oconee Middle School and Rafting on the Nantahala in mid-May. Scouts and adults from Troop 149, as well as Crew members from the Venturing Crew, have signed up for Philmont Scout Ranch for Summer 2012.



Our Scouts continue to work on service projects for the community, including helping build a bottle prayer-labyrinth at the Presbyterian Center; work on the butterfly garden at Colham Ferry Elementary, and with a work-day at our troop shed to organize and maintain our equipment and infrastructure. At our troop meetings, now that Wilderness Survival has concluded, our Scouts are working on Traffic Safety, Citizenship in the World, and a number of basic Scouting skills.

On behalf of the Troop, Crew and Pack, thanks for your continued support of our programs.





Communion Servers	
May 8th	Henry & Judy Hibbs, John Trice & Kathy Roberts

	Liturgist	Acolytes	Head Money Counter
1	Wynn Ivy	Maggie Ivy	Charlotte Trice
8	Brett Turner	Jon Forbes	Beverly Davis
15	David Coons	Will Turner	Charlotte Trice
22	Beverly Davis	Maggie Ivy	Henry Hibbs
29	David Ivy	Wynn Ivy	Ted Walker

Friendship Presbyterian Church				
Year-To-Date Through March, 2011				
	Budget	Actual (1)	Over / (Under) Budget	
Receipts				
Receipts from Congregation	30,173	32,441	2,268	58%
Dye House Rent	2,423	2,423	-	4%
Support from Preschool	15,150	15,150	-	27%
Multicultural Grants	6,022	5,708	(314)	10%
All Other Income	63	320	258	
Total Receipts	53,830	56,041	2,211	
Expenses				
Ministry	32,298	31,520		
Administration	30,025	36,257		
Outreach	924	947		
Operating Expenses	63,246	68,724	5,478	
Net Income / (Deficit)	(9,416)	(12,683)	(3,266)	
Cash in Bank March 2011				
General Fund	-212.48			
Restricted Fund	5,501.15			
Total Cash in Bank		5,288.67		
Kerry Hill Educational Fund		5,911.32		
Savings March 2011		65,578.83		
Mortgage, March 2011		154,108.90		



MAY 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:45 AM Adult English Sunday School 11:00 AM English Worship Service 1:00 PM Spanish Worship Service 4:00 PM Athens Chamber Singers Spring Concert 6:00 PM Youth Group	2	3 6:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 149	4 7:00 PM Friendship Choir	5 7:00 PM Men's Club	6 6:00 PM Cub Scout Ceremony	7 <i>Bill Ross</i>
8  9:45 AM Adult English Sunday School 10:50 AM Congregation Meeting 11:00 AM English Worship Service	9 5:30 PM FPC provides and serves meal @ Homeless Shelter	10 <i>Caren Snook</i> 9:45 AM Circle 1 7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 149	11 <i>Elmer Stancil</i> 10:00 AM Preschool Graduation 7:00 PM Friendship Choir	12	13 6:00 PM Bear Den 2	14
15 9:45 AM Adult English Sunday School 11:00 AM English Worship Service 3:00 PM Session Retreat	16 <i>Aiden Elliott</i> <i>Anne Lee</i>	17 7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 149	18 <i>Kevin Kelly & Nan McMurray</i> 7:00 PM Friendship Choir	19 <i>Brett & Mari Turner</i>	20	21 <i>Jose Torres & Assbelli Hernandez-Sandana</i>
22 9:45 AM Adult English Sunday School 11:00 AM English Worship Service 4:30 PM Youth Group	23	24 <i>Maggie Ivy</i> 7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 149	25 <i>Frank White</i> 7:00 PM Friendship Choir	26 7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop Committee Meeting	27	28
29 <i>Bobby & Kathie Shinholser</i> <i>Julie Hill</i> <i>Karen Coons</i> 9:45 AM Adult English Sunday School 11:00 AM English Worship Service	30  MEMORIAL DAY CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	31 7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 149	1 7:00 PM Friendship Choir	2	3	4



The Session has called a meeting of the Congregation for 10:50am on Sunday, May 8 for the purpose of electing the nominating committee. Nominees for the Nominating committee are Elder Bev Davis (chair), Elder Henry Hibbs, Deacon Dori Allen, Dave Coons, and Emily Sanders.



Friendship Presbyterian Church (USA)

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 the June edition of
Words of Friendship

to the church office no later than

Monday, May 23, 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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