

# THE PATHFINDER

*A Publication of West Haven Presbyterian Church for our Members and Friends in Christ*

Volume XXXI, Issue 9

September, 2011

Dear Friends,

As I write this I can hardly delete the pictures of Lake Susan that sit in the next column from last month. To erase them seems a sacrilege, such beauty and such powerful memories. Yet, the memory part is the real power. I have in my mind's eye the beauty of Montreat that I can conjure up anytime I want. I can hear the creek that feeds Lake Susan bubbling on its way over rocks and fallen trees. I can smell the pungent pine of the forest floor. No, I will not lose the memory of Montreat.

The same can be said of our remembrance of our faith story. We may not have a hard copy picture of us when we first knew God's presence, or a particular sanctuary in which we felt God's presence, or any of the things that remind us of our God and our faithful Savior Jesus the Christ. Yet, we do not forget the grace, mercy and peace, that come to us through him.

As we begin our fall opportunities for mission and ministry, remember Christ who calls us to this wonderful life given for others in love. Consider ways you may be able to strengthen your faith through study of Scripture in Sunday School and Presbyterian Women, or in opening yourself to discover more about your faith through mission beyond the walls of West Haven.

I have been looking for something to read recently. I went to the Braswell Library for a particular book that was not available. The only copy was listed as "lost." So I browsed the church library. My goodness, the wealth of great books on every imaginable topic that can be found there! We have had many new additions, so please visit soon. Special thanks to Tanner Inscoe and Alex Broomell who have helped to reorganize the books, enter them in the electronic card catalog on the computer in the library and generally make the library more inviting. I have chosen a book entitled Ordinary Resurrections Children in the Years of Hope by Jonathan Kozol. The underlying message is of schoolchildren from the South Bronx who attend PS 30 and St. Ann's who are sustaining themselves in spite of society's neglect. I will review this book when I finish. Mr. Kozol has written several books and has been awarded the National Book Award and the Robert F. Kenney Award.

Addendum: When you get this we will have weathered the storm Irene. Many of you lost power for several days, trees down, lawns full of debris, but so far as I

know, while there certainly may have been loss of property, there has been no loss of life. I have come again to the realization that things are just that – things – and can be replaced or stored in our memories. But the most important "thing" is life itself. Doing without power, cable, internet, and even phone service reminds us that ultimately we are not in control. We can face our adversities with hope that the sun will rise and life will go on, peace in the sure and certain knowledge that we are never alone, and a renewed love of life and recognition that Christ calls us to salvation and service.

Peace, Connie

## ~ CONGREGATIONAL LIFE ~



### SHAWL MINISTRY

**September 3 9:30 a.m.**  
**Pemberton Bldg.**

If you need yarn or patterns, contact Lyn Stephens. Please join us! If you do not know how to knit or crochet, we will teach you!  
We have received a large donation of Red Heart Yarn from My Sister's House!!

### Prayer Circle

Mondays 11:00 am

Join us as we pray for concerns of the church and the world. Fill out a Prayer Request and give it to the Pastor or Trudy Martin. All prayers and concerns are confidential.

### Presbyterian Women News



**Circle 1**  
**Monday, September 12**  
**6:30 p.m.**  
in the home of  
Patty Shearin

**Circle 2**  
**Tuesday, September 13 at 10:00 a.m.**  
Pemberton Conference room

The study this year is entitled "Confessing the Beatitudes" and is written by Margaret Aymer, Associate Professor of NT at Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta, GA. She is ordained Minister of Word and Sacrament in the PCUSA.

All women are invited to participate in the life of Presbyterian Women. Join us for Bible study, fellowship and service.

**GEMS LUNCH**



**Wednesday Sept. 14, 2011**  
12:30 PM

All retired and 55+ folks are invited to join us for a delicious meal and fellowship all for the cost of \$3.00!

*RSVP on Sunday in the Friendship Register*

**MEN OF WEST HAVEN  
BREAKFAST**



**Sunday, Sept. 18 8:30 a.m.**

All men are invited to come for good eats and great conversation!

**Sunday School to Begin  
September 18 9:45 a.m.**

Classes will resume for all ages!  
We are growing. We have added a class for our children!

Nursery (Birth – 2)  
Pre-K (Ages 2-4)  
K-Grade 1(Ages 5-6)  
Grades 4-8  
Young Adults  
Jane Parker Class

Volunteers  
Starr Pearson  
Nancy Adkins  
Patty Shearin  
Connie Button  
Class Members

Join Us!

There will be **NO** Sunday School on Labor Day weekend.

**RESCHEDULED DATE!!!**



**CELEBRATION SUNDAY**

**September 11 9:30 a.m.**

**Rinehart Fellowship Hall**

**RESCHEDULED DATE!!!**

**ICE CREAM SOCIAL**

**SEPTEMBER 11**

**5:00 p.m.**

**Rinehart Fellowship Hall**



**Growing Together  
September 17  
9:00 am – 3:30 pm  
White Memorial Pres  
1704 Oberlin Rd, Raleigh**

Worship Leader - Rev. Marcia Mount Shoop

Deadline: September 8 Cost: \$20.00

Make plans to attend the presbytery's one-day leadership event. There are courses for your own spiritual development, to help with PW lessons on Beatitudes, or to learn something new. You will see old friends and make new ones. Pick up a brochure in the back hall of the sanctuary.



**Sign up NOW!**  
**Women's Retreat  
September 23 - 25  
Figure Eight Island, NC**

Call the church office 446-5226.  
We have room for 18 women.

~ **WORSHIP & MISSION** ~

**2011 Sanctuary Flower Calendar**

The new **Flower Calendar for 2011** will remain the same as this year, unless you wish to change your date. Call church office, 446-5226 to make changes.

*Outreach Sunday September 4*

Please bring your gift of canned goods for United Community Ministries and ethnic hair care products for My Sister's House. Also collected on this date are Labels for Education UPC labels from Campbell and Franco-American products for Barium Springs Home for Children and our Pennies for Hunger for hunger relief through the PCUSA.



**Worship by the River**  
 Sunday, September 18  
 Sunset Park  
 Shelter A at the foot of Taylor St.

Lunch by Parker's BBQ  
 Cost: \$8.50 per person.  
 RSVP on Sunday in Friendship Register or call the church office, 446-5226. Deadline to register is September 11.

**Community Service of Prayer for Peace**  
**September 11 7:00 p.m.**  
**Trinity Lutheran Church**  
**233 Winstead Ave**

2010 Report from Edgecombe County and FIGS  
 \$8,950 Total amount received  
 181 Number of Families aided

**My Sister's House**

Fund raiser Dinner  
 Thursday September 29  
 Chick-fil-A in Golden  
 East Mall



Tickets must be purchased at 462-0366 by September 28

~ **FINANCE & PERSONNEL** ~

~**FINANCIAL UPDATE**~

Treasurer's Report as of 7-31-11



	<b>This Month</b>	<b>YTD</b>
Where we should be (pledges made)	\$ 12,942	\$ 90,594
Where we are (pledges received)	<u>13,330</u>	<u>93,965</u>
Over (Under)	\$ 388	\$ 3,371
Budgeted Expenses	\$ 16,573	\$116,011
Actual Expenses	<u>14,581</u>	<u>98,642</u>
Over (Under)	\$ (1,992)	\$ (31,951)

**OTHER GIFTS**

Two Cents a Meal [July]	\$	.74
Gifts & Memorials	\$	70.00
West Haven Endowment	\$	25.50
Local Benevolence	\$	86.00

**Remember the West Haven Endowment – the gift that keeps on giving!**

Check out our website! You will find all sorts of up-to-date lists, the latest letter from Becca Young, missionary in Indonesia and other helpful information. Thanks, John Stratton!

[www.westhavenpresbyterian.org](http://www.westhavenpresbyterian.org)

~ STEWARDSHIP ~

Save the Dates

All Congregation  
Small Group Gatherings  
Sunday October 16 4:00 pm

Consecration Sunday  
Sunday November 6th  
Worship 11:00 a.m.  
Catered Luncheon 12:00 p.m.

~ SESSION ~



*Session Digest*

*August 16<sup>th</sup> Digest*

- Heard report of July Presbytery meeting
- Adopted Book of Order 2009-2011 until such time as we can prepare proper documents and procedures for West Haven
- Called Congregational Meeting for Sept 11 immediately following Morning Worship for the purpose of electing Officer Nomination Committee 2012
- Approved pulpit supply for Women's Retreat Weekend
- Approved building use for Eye Care Center to host a fund raising dinner for American Heart Association
- Approved Consecration Sunday for stewardship season to be held November 6
- Approved sponsoring American Heritage Girls Troop #11 to begin in September
- Approved support for 3 local agencies to apply for grants from 2c a meal offerings
- Approved Sunday School teachers and curriculum

*Congregational Meeting*  
*Sunday September 11*  
*11:55 a.m.*

For the purpose of electing a Church Officer Nominating Committee for 2012 Elders who have agreed to serve if elected are Candice Davis and John Stratton. Three members at large will be elected to service. If you feel led to serve Christ in this way, please contact Pastor Connie.

**NOTICE!! NOTICE!!**

Technology keeps pushing us to see things differently! A Phone Tree message was sent about canceling worship on Aug. 28, which I assumed everyone would get. I did not take into account that many of you have bundled services through the cable company and other forms of phone service which were out for much of the storm. We can add a second phone number so you can be reached about information on a timely basis. If you have a second number such as a cell number, please call the church office.

**THANK YOU . . .**



**Marsha & Tanner Incoe and Mark Whitley** for processing the Newsletter.



**Jim Baldinger** for installing a fresh sill to repair the back door in the main kitchen.



**David Pearson** for replacing the emergency Exit light in gym

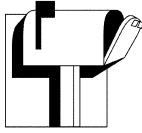


**Troop 11** for trimming tree limbs over fire escape stairs from second floor of Pemberton Bldg to get us in compliance with fire codes



**David Pearson** for replacing bulbs in Exit sign in Choir room to get us in compliance with fire codes

## We Get Letters . . .



Dear Friends,

Your recent gift in support of the mission and ministry of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) makes it possible to be a visible presence of God's redeeming love for all people. As partners in Christ, we covenant with you to use it to display the promise of God's continuing presence in the world through the new humanity revealed in Jesus Christ.

Your generosity is a true witness to the community of faith, to shared hope in the Resurrection, and to the commitment that the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) will continue to participate in God's mission in the world.

Gratefully, Karen L. Schmidt

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Dear Connie,

Please extend my thanks to the congregation of West Haven Presbyterian Church for the recent donation of \$260 to My Sister's House. I hope everyone is enjoying the yarn. If you should ever need additional information from My Sister's House please do not hesitate to give me a call.

Your gift truly makes a difference for the families we serve.

Warmly, Meredith

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To: West Haven Presbyterian Church  
Scholarship Committee and Congregation,

I would like to thank you all so very much for the scholarship that will allow me to finish my pursuit of a Paralegal Technology degree. There is a saying; *"the difference between a dream and a goal is a timeline"*. With help and a lot of encouragement from members of West Haven Presbyterian I have only two semesters left, my *goal* is in sight!

Sincerely  
Lyn Stephens

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Amy Dawes recognized as Older Adult Nominee on  
Sunday August 21



**Thank you for all the school supplies you gave  
for Conetoe MBC**



**A whole truck load!**

If you have digital pictures to share, email them to  
[office@westhavenpresbyterian.org](mailto:office@westhavenpresbyterian.org)