

The Messenger

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Nursery Attendant: Terri McCall
Custodian: Sheila Thornburg
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Purpose: To keep the congregation informed of church functions, program, and other news, and to inspire to fulfill its mission, through publication of a monthly bulletin.

Deadline for copy: The 20th of each month. The Messenger will not print any articles that promote a personal position on issues that are political or controversial in the public arena.

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The Messenger

Newsletter of The Walhalla Presbyterian Church and The West Union Chapel
Volume No. 142 Issue No. 5
May 2010

Vince's View



Dear Family & Friends of Walhalla Presbyterian Church and West Union Chapel,

Dallas Willard observes:

The multitudes of man-made materialistic theories, facts, and techniques that have emerged in recent centuries have not the least logical bearing upon the ultimate issues of existence and life. **They only serve to distract and confuse modern people who are already harassed witless** by empty advertising slogans, accelerating scientific advances, over-abundant 'labor-saving devices,' and a media blizzard of promises about when and how "happiness" is going to be achieved. Yet this kind of thinking dominates most of our minds and lives at present.

The absolute truth is that God has given us Good News in Jesus Christ. The challenge of our Great Commission from God is how to convey this Great News to a culture steeped in the confusion of materialism. Central to our understanding and effective proclamation of the Christian Gospel today is to see God's absolute life more clearly. We must be still long enough to gain a new awareness of how the physical and material cosmos fits into the absolute Life of Almighty God.

To begin with, God has revealed to us that He is full of joy. God's joy is deeper than mere happiness. Joy is the absolute essence out of which happiness is sometimes briefly and fleetingly experienced by us humans. Joy is eternal, never ending, constant, and abiding because joy is part of God's very nature. God is full of joy. The abundance of His love and generosity is inseparable from God's infinite joy. All of the good and beautiful things from which we occasionally drink tiny droplets of soul-exhilarating joy, are continuously experienced by God in all their breadth and depth and richness. God's Kingdom is the Kingdom of Love, Peace and Joy.

Jesus Himself was and is a joyous, creative Person. He does not allow us to think of our heavenly Father Who fills and overflows space as a morose and miserable monarch, a frustrated and petty parent, or a policeman on the prowl. We simply cannot think of God in such ways while confronting Jesus' proclamation: "He who has seen Me has seen the Father," because one of the most outstanding features of Jesus' personality is precisely an abundance of overflowing joy.

This is the marvelous inheritance Jesus gives to all of us when He promises: "I have said these things to you so that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be made full." (John 15:11) It is one of the deepest truths of true Kingdom living-- that the steady joy of Jesus Christ is never ruled out by His, or our, very real experiences of sorrow and grief.

Jesus offers all of us the ultimate alternative. He directs us to absolute value. Jesus calls us to "...lay up for ourselves treasures in heaven..." (Matt. 6:20). He offers us the joyous opportunity to direct our actions toward making a difference in the realm of spiritual substance sustained and governed by the Almighty and everlasting God. Jesus calls us to invest our lives in what God is doing, which cannot be lost.

Let the joy of the Lord be your strength. Invest everything you have and are in God. Rejoice in the Lord always.

With Joy in Jesus Christ,

Rev. Vincent S. Alig

The Messenger

May 2010 Edition

A publication of Walhalla Presbyterian Church and
West Union Chapel



**Rejoice in the Lord always;
and again I say
Rejoice!
Philippians 4:4**

From Your Session

by Rosemary Bailes

At their Stated Meeting on March 24, 2010, the Session:

Heard a devotion by Rosemary Bailes, in the form of a litany of prayer for our community and praise for ministry opportunities.

Prayed for ill and bereaved members, family and friends. Added to prayer list the name of Bob Tinsley.

Approved motions for:

- approval of the 2009 church membership rolls and the Annual Church Report to General Assembly.
- regretful acceptance of resignation of John Hostetler from the Session Class of 2011.
- a Minute for Mission at morning worship services at WPC and WUC on May 30 to present the Compassion International Program

Approved by consensus:

- assignment of Lamar Bailes, Lynda Alexander, and John Lay as audit committee to review the 2009 financial books of the church.
- assignment of Annette Morrah, Lynda Alexander, and Deb Wickliffe to the Stewardship Team.

Heard a report from Elder Commissioner Lamar Bailes on the February 16 meeting of Foothills Presbytery.

Heard announcements that:

- the next opportunity for WPC/WUC to serve Lunch for Life will be on April 24.
- commissioning ceremonies for Xpujil mission team members will be held at WUC and WPC on Sunday, March 28.
- Lamar Bailes will be the designated Elder Commissioner at the April 25 meeting of Foothills Presbytery to be held at Fountain Inn Presbyterian Church.
- the next stated Session meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 28, 2010.

**YOUR SESSION PRAYS FOR YOU;
PLEASE PRAY FOR YOUR SESSION**

Family Night Supper

Our final Wednesday Night Supper of the year will be on May 12. This is our annual salad supper, so please bring a generous dish of your favorite salad. Your Fellowship Team will provide crackers, drinks, and dessert (birthday cake and ice cream!!). The program will feature a brief presentation of the Presbyterian Women's 2010 Birthday Emphasis and a report from our Xpujil, Mexico, mission team. We hope to see you there!



Spring Gathering

Submitted by: Annie Brown

There will be a Spring Gathering at Old Pickens Presbyterian Church on May 22, 2010 from 10am until 2pm. This is a free event, but hotdog plates will be sold. There will also be gospel/bluegrass music, a quilt raffle, a cake and pie auction, and guided tours of the church and cemeteries. Dr. Charlie Dougherty will give a brief talk as will Jerry Alexander and Jay Pence. Visitors will be free to come and go as they please.

Please come for a visit and enjoy this historic old church and grounds.

For more information call Joyce Brickett 944-5112.

Walhalla Presbyterian Church Rosters May 2010

2nd	Flowers in the Church— Communion Sunday Prep—M. Macaulay & S. Neal Lay Reader—Germaine Shick Head Usher—Art Shick Counters—Gene Nix & Annette Morrah
9th	Flowers in the Church— Phyliss Elder Lay Reader—Robert Owens Head Usher— Annette Morrah Counters— Gene Nix & Annette Morrah
16th	Flowers in the Church— Kathy Darnell Lay Reader— Gene Nix Head Usher—Bob Tinsley Counters— Gene Nix & Annette Morrah
23rd	Flowers in the Church—Available Lay Reader— John Palmer Head Usher— Lamar Bailes Counters – Gene Nix & Annette Morrah
30th	Flowers in the Church— Nettie Keys Lay Reader— Lamar Bailes Head Usher— Gene Nix Counters— Gene Nix & Annette Morrah

More History....

By Annie Brown

After the arduous campaign and election of 1824, newly elected Vice President John C. Calhoun was anxious to return to his beloved home and family in South Carolina. Many people, who knew him as a brilliant, hardworking, and ambitious government official, would have been shocked to know that he was, at heart, a family man and a farmer. According to Sally Edwards, Calhoun was “one of the first Americans to apply scientific principles to farming. His farm at Pendleton was an agricultural laboratory for studying cross-breeding and fertilizing methods. His neighbors marveled at the diversity of crops Calhoun coaxed from the red-clay soil.”^[1] Even greater than his love for Fort Hill and its 1100 acres was his love for his large family. Because he was a very private man, we know of his closeness to his family primarily from his correspondence with family members. For example, in 1823, he wrote his brother-in-law John Ewing Calhoun that he found his “children the great solace of life.”^[2] By May, 1823, John was the proud father of four children: Andrew, a “stout, hearty boy,” Anna Maria who was said to be his favorite because she had “her father’s mental grasp and quick perception,” Patrick, the “picture of beauty,” and a new baby christened John Caldwell Calhoun.^[3] In April, 1824, another daughter, Martha Cornelia, was added to John and Floride Calhoun’s growing family. Calhoun wrote one of his relatives that he regretted being unable to raise his children in South Carolina because he felt those surrounded by an extended family were “more disposed to a virtuous life.”^[4] In all, John and Floride had ten children, seven of whom lived to adulthood.

Not only was Calhoun devoted to his wife and children, but his relationship with his in-laws was also close. His mother-in-law had befriended him when he was a young college student. Ten years younger than John, Floride was still a young child when Mrs. Calhoun entertained John at her home in New Port as well as at her various homes in South Carolina. John’s relationship with Floride’s mother remained close throughout their lives. Mrs. Calhoun was an interesting and unusual character who embraced her Calvinistic faith with all of her being. Blessed with wealth, she cared little for possessions and gave away most of her holdings; “she spent money recklessly, mostly on others, without concerning herself seriously as to where it was coming from.”^[5] She depended on her son (John Ewing) and her nephew (J.E.Bonneau) to find ways to pay the bills. Wiltse writes that Mrs. Calhoun was a “tough-minded and strong-willed” Calvinist^[6] who knew how to appeal to the common man in the same ways that Andrew Jackson did.

The religious beliefs of the Calhoun clan were diverse. Old Mrs. Calhoun was of Huguenot descent, and she remained an active, devout Presbyterian her entire life. Her daughter Floride preferred the more formal “ceremonious Episcopal ritual.”^[7] Although John often attended the Episcopal church with Floride, he had become attracted to the “more philosophical Unitarian faith”^[8] while he was a student at Yale in New England. “Convinced by the logic of Unitarianism, he assumed that others must likewise be convinced, and that this faith must ultimately prevail throughout the world... (thus revealing) his profound belief that truth is absolute and all men are rational.”^[9] Calhoun was one of the founders of the first Unitarian church in Washington, D.C., and he was a major contributor to the spacious building dedicated on June 9, 1822. This church was designed by Charles Bulfinch, who had also designed the Capitol, and it was located only a few blocks from Calhoun’s home in Washington.^[10] In spite of Calhoun’s strong feelings, he was never able to convince any of his family to join the Unitarian Church. Calhoun himself often attended either the Presbyterian or the Episcopal church with members of his family.

Although John C. Calhoun arrived at Fort Hill following the election of 1824 feeling optimistic about his political future, by the time he returned to Washington, much tension had already developed with President Adams. Adams and Henry Clay blamed Calhoun for anything that went wrong in the administration. In reality, the campaign for the 1828 election had already begun. As time passed, it became apparent to Calhoun that Andrew Jackson’s popularity with the people was not to be denied. In 1828, for the second time, John C. Calhoun had to postpone his dream of being president and settle for being the vice presidential candidate. Still a young man, Calhoun found himself hoping that at the end of Jackson’s presidency, it would—at last—be his time to run for president. If all went well, he, as vice president, would be in an excellent position to move on to the highest office.

More of the political developments in the next More history...

(1) Edwards, Sally; *South Carolina States of the Nation*; pp.73-74

(2) Wiltse, Charles M; *John Ck. Calhoun Nationalist 1782-1828*; p. 264-265

(3) Wiltse; p. 265

(4) Wiltse; p. 265.

(5) Wiltse; p. 268

(6) Wiltse; p. 268

(7) Wiltse; p. 269

(8) Wiltse; p. 268

(9) Wiltse; p. 269

(10) Wiltse; pp. 268-269

Hymn of the Month

Submitted by: Doug Keel

For the Beauty Of the Earth

1864

*Therefore You are great, O LORD God. For there is none like You,
nor is there any God besides You, according to all that we have heard
with our ears.. 2 Samuel 7:22*

F

olliot Sandford Pierpoint—that's the unlikely name of the author of this great hymn. Folliot was born October 7, 1835, in Bath, England. After graduating from Cambridge, he taught at Somersetshire College in his home area of Bath.

One day when he was 29, Folliot found himself walking in the countryside on a beautiful Spring day. He saw the ocean of green, the blue dome of heaven, and the winding Avon River cutting through the flowery landscape. Overwhelmed with God's creative brilliance, he wrote this poem. He intended it primarily for Communion services in the Anglican Church, but when it jumped the Atlantic, it quickly became associated with the American Thanksgiving holiday.

In Folliot's original version, each verse ended with : "Christ, Our God, to Thee we raise / This our sacrifice of praise." That line was eventually changed to, "Lord of all, to Thee we raise / This our hymn of grateful praise."

Little else is known about Folliot Sandford Pierpoint. He resigned from his position at Somersetshire, and apparently moved from place to place, teaching some, writing hymns, and publishing his poetry. He died in 1917.

"For the Beauty of the Earth" is one of only a few songs devoted purely to giving thanks. One of the strange things about the "attitude of gratitude" is that we tend to exhibit it in reverse proportion to the number of blessings received. The more we have, the less thankful we are.

Among the lessons Viktor Frankl learned in the Nazi death camp, Auschwitz, was to take time to be thankful and to count your blessings. He wrote that prisoners in the camp dreamed at night about certain things more than others. Bread, cakes, and nice warm baths—the very things we take for granted every day.

Ralph Waldo Emerson observed that if the constellations appeared only once in a thousand years, imagine what an exciting event it would be. But because they're there every night, we barely give them a look.

One of the evidences of the Holy Spirit's work in our lives is a gradual reversal of that twisted pattern. God wants to make us people who exhibit a thankfulness in proper proportion to the gifts and blessings we've received.

Why not take time to sing his hymn to the Lord right now?



West Union Chapel

By Edgar Bryant

The combination of Churches on the mission trip to Mexico have returned and all were well and happy to have made the journey. We are glad that all returned safely and the earthquakes in Mexico were a great distance from where they were. We do thank the ones that made this trip for a great cause.

The Chapel continues to have our Sunday school at 9:45am for one hour each Sunday morning. We also have the men's (Old Joe's breakfast) each Friday morning at 7:50am at the Kountry Kupboard in Walhalla. We have a devotional and prayer before we have the great food that is served. We would like to invite more to attend as this is a wonderful get together.

Our Bible study group is beginning to grow and we do welcome others to this great in-depth study at 4:30 each Sunday afternoon. I love this time we spend in study, and only an emergency would prevent me from attending. Come and join us; we welcome all and will find a place for everyone.

The third Sunday in May will be our last luncheon before the summer months. We welcome all to attend. Bring a side dish of your choice. If you do not have something to bring, please don't let this keep you from attending. All are welcome.



Brynn DeHay, daughter of Fynn & Brenda DeHay, will be graduating from William and Mary Law School in Williamsburg, VA on May 16th.

Alisa Alig will be graduating with a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Maryland Institute College of Art in Baltimore, MD on May 17, 2010. Anna Alig will be graduating from Walhalla High School on June 5th, 2010 and will be attending Wheaton College in Chicago, Fall 2010. Alisa and Anna are the daughters of Vince and Ruthie Alig.

Julia Carpenter will be graduating from Walhalla High School on June 5th, 2010; and the college she will be attending has yet to be announced.

Michael & Allison Hunter, twin grandchildren of Becky and Leroy Drew, will be graduating from Leavitt Area High School in Turner, Maine this June.

Dohnia Owens Galloway was awarded her Masters of Media and Information Services at the University of South Carolina's December 2009 commencement. This degree certifies Dohnia to work as a media specialist in South Carolina's public schools. Dohnia is currently completing her sixth year teaching first grade in Darlington, SC where she lives with her husband Ryan. Dohnia is the daughter of Robert and Carolyn Owens and the granddaughter of Bob and Vivian Owens of our congregation.

Danielle Bickford, daughter of John Bickford, will be graduating from Hunter College in N.Y. with a major in Political Science. John is very proud as Danielle also made the Deans list.

James Houtzer, son of Alan & Debbie Houtzer, will be graduating from Walhalla High School on June the 5th. He will be attending Western Carolina University in the fall.

Gongratulations



ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Dates: July 19-23 Time: 5:30-8:30pm

Volunteers Needed:

Group Leaders * Kitchen/Snacks * Recreation * Decorating * Crafts *

DID YOU KNOW...

Kids in our congregation can lead the way as stewards of the earth? This summer they will participate in "ReNew: The Green VBS". ReNew is about hope, opportunity, and service. Kids will serve their community and demonstrate that being green can be easy, faithful and fun!



SAVE THE DATE....

Join us for Vacation Bible School at St. John's! Our dates are set for **July 19-23** for ages 4 through 11, beginning at **5:30 the first night** and **5:45 all other nights**. We will end at **8:30**. We hope to see you there; bring a friend! Registration begins June 1st. Call St. John's for further information- **638-6363**.

Walhalla Church Services
 9:45AM Sunday School
 11:00AM Sunday Worship

May 2010

West Union Chapel Services
 9:45 AM Sunday School
 11:00AM Sunday Worship
 4:30 PM Sunday Bible Study

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
*Every Sunday 4:30pm Bible Study at West Union Chapel Fellowship Hall	*Mon-Fri 6am-7am - Guidance & Prayer time at West Union Chapel 		*Choir Practice Wednesday nights 7:00pm at WPC & WUC 		*Every Friday 8:00am Old Joe Men's Break- fast—Kountry Kupboard 	1
2 Communion Sunday/ WPC	3 Oconee Presb. Svc. Fund Meet- ing 7pm/Seneca Presbyterian	4	5 Christian Educa- tion Team Mtg. 5pm at WPC	6	7	8
9 Mother's Day Of- fering 8:30am WUC Board Meeting 12:15pm Called Con- gregational Mtg/WPC	10 9:30am— *Carolyn Rogers Meyers Cir/WUC 7pm—Norton Dendy Circle Meeting/WPC* 5:15p Mission Team mtg/WPC	11 7pm Evangelism Team Mtg/WPC	12 6:00pm Family Night Supper**	13 3pm—Nettie Long Circle*	14	15
16 12:15pm—Third Sun- day Luncheon at WUC***	17	18	19	20 The Messenger Deadline 6:30pm WHS Senior Awards	21	22
23 Pentacost	24 7pm New Sign Team Meeting at WPC	25	26 6:30pm Session Meeting at WPC	27	28	29
30	31					
Note: *These will be the last Women's Circle Meetings until September	Note: **This will be the last Family Night Supper until September	Note: ***This will be the last WUC 3rd Sunday Luncheon until September		Coming up: June 2nd—last day of SDOC schools		

RELIEVE EDITORIAL STRESS:
 TURN IN
 YOUR ARTICLES
EARLY!
 REMINDER:
**DEADLINE FOR
 NEWSLETTER
 ARTICLES IS
 May 20th**

OUT FROM A DARKSIDE MORNING

by Donna Riggs

The serendipity of the moments during which the “sunrisers” flowered the cross at the Chapel April 4, Easter Sunday, was soul-pleasing. Ed Bryant’s wonderful axe—hewn cedar cross was being covered; out of the purple then black, now white draped. Forsythia, camellias, flower almond, palms, olive branches, daffodils and narcissus, bridal-veil, tulips, all beautifying the symbol of Christ’s sufferings and death—turning sadness into joy.

Following this, four sincere Christians, Ruthie, Sharon, Marcella and Daniel, each shared her/his testimony of faith with the congregation. It was with pleasure and a spirit receiving their joy that I sat alone, feeling also my guilt. I had turned the pastor down days before, to share my faith in this way on Easter morning. I was certain that my song, my writings and my living were witness enough, that my faith was constant and strong. But the words of these four, spoken aloud, were an intimate sharing I had not realized would be beneficial to me, the person in the pew. I thank them for this realization, for their stories and for the willingness.

Easter 2010 was a blessing. Later that evening, as I watched my newest granddaughter cooing and smiling, so innocent of the tempests of life to unfold, I was thankful she has Christian parents who cherish her as the Lord does. Knowing you are loved is so important, growing up. Thus, I’m starting with my baby-steps here and someday I’ll answer yes when called upon to share aloud my coming to faith in my Christian life.

*“There is a fountain filled with blood
 Drawn from Emmanuel’s veins;
 And sinners, plunged beneath that flood,
 Lose all their guilty stains.”*

*“And since, by faith, I saw the stream
 Thy flowing wounds supply,
 Redeeming love has been my theme,
 And shall be ‘til I die.”*

William Cowper

Presbyterians in the Kitchen

Chew Bread

Rosemary Bailes

This is a very easy one-bowl recipe and a very rich, delicious blond brownie-type cookie. Warning: Chew bread is addictive!

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 box light brown sugar | 3 eggs, beaten |
| 1 stick margarine, melted | 1 tsp. vanilla |
| 2 cups self-rising flour | 1 cup nuts,
chopped |

Mix all ingredients and bake in a 9”x13” greased pan for 30-40 minutes in a pre-heated 350° oven. Let cool thoroughly before cutting into small squares or bars.

Notes: 1. For easy clean-up, you can microwave margarine in a glass bowl and add & mix other ingredients in the same bowl.

2. Don’t overcook this cookie because it will become dry and hard. Remove from oven as soon as edges brown slightly and start to pull away from pan (just like cooking brownies).

...BIRTHDAY...

- | | |
|------|---------------|
| 5/2 | Wayne Garland |
| 5/4 | Fay Watson |
| 5/9 | Vida Thrasher |
| 5/12 | George Odoms |
| 5/22 | Shawn Ivey |
| 5/27 | Kathy Darnell |
| 5/28 | Wes Coon |
| 5/28 | Jami Darnell |

...ANNIVERSARY...

- | | |
|------|-----------------------|
| 5/22 | Hugh & Fay Watson |
| 5/26 | John & Martha Harper |
| 5/31 | Gene & Mary Belle Nix |