

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CHEROKEE MISSION TRIP:** Aug 1–Aug 8; We have three families going so far and would welcome more. We need to plan in advance for this trip as there are many details that the team leaders need to address. We have many opportunities for service on this family mission trip: sports clinics, painting, VBS, senior care, etc. See Joe Dell’ Arena or Dale Underhill for more details.

**MISSIONS DINNER** immediately following the worship service **TODAY**. Donations will help support the Cherokee Mission Trip. Suggested donation \$5 per adult, \$3 per youth age 4 and up, \$20 family plan. Additional donations are appreciated.

**ACE BIBLE STUDY** is an opportunity to get to know others and dig deeper into the previous week’s Adult Sunday School lesson. ACE meets on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm at the building.

**MEN’S BREAKFAST** is next Saturday, May 2 from 8-9am in the fellowship hall. Bring a friend!

**KINKLINGS (aka Kernersville Inklings)** meets on May 4 at the home of Don Bechtold. See Don for details.

**COMMUNITY GARDEN** is in the final stages of planning. If you would like to reserve a plot, it is important that you contact Randy Edwards this week.

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** is scheduled for May 31st following the worship service for the purpose of electing officers who are rotating back into office from their sabbaticals.

**CARDBOARD BOX CITY** Thanks to all those who helped make the Cardboard Box City a great success!

The Kernersville Family YMCA will be hosting the **NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER BREAKFAST** on Thursday, May 7 at 7:00 am with a light breakfast being served at 6:45 am. Carl Tacy, Former Head Basketball Coach for the WFU Demon Deacons will be the speaker and the local sensation Glory Street, will provide music. All are invited to join in this celebration.

**KING’S THRIFT**, a mercy ministry thrift store started by Tim Brieaddy is opening. Tim is in need of donated goods to stock the store and volunteers to help. Tim can be reached at 336-817-5229.

**GRACE HOUSE PRESCHOOL** is now accepting registration for the 2009-2010 school year. Registration forms are in the preschool office and or on the preschool website ([www.gracehousepreschool.org](http://www.gracehousepreschool.org)). Please call Carla in the preschool office if you have questions.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!** Katlyn Overstreet (4/26); David Collins (4/30); Trisha Coleman (4/30); Caitie Ann Banks (4/30); Sadie Ogburn (5/2); Alyssa Coleman (5/2).

## CHILDREN’S MINISTRY

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT CHILDREN’S PROGRAM:** Wednesday Night Kids meets each Wednesday night from 6:30-7:30 here at the building.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:** June 22-26. The theme for this year will be “Movin’ Straight Ahead.” There is a preschool program and an elementary program: children 2 years old through 5th grade are welcome (nursery will be provided for children of volunteers). Dinner will be served at a nominal cost. For more information, see flyers. To volunteer, talk to Carla.

## YOUTH MINISTRY

**SN@G:** HS Youth meets tonight at 6:00 pm in the Youth Room.

**VERTICAL:** Middle School Youth Group meets each Wednesday night from 6:00-7:30 pm in the Youth Room.

**HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS:** Mark your calendars for a Lake Getaway on June 26-27. Details coming.

**YOUTH LEADERS MEETING** on May 4, at the church building. See Randy for details.

## OUR SUNDAY SERVANTS

NURSERY SCHEDULE				
Date	Infants	Walkers	2 Year Olds	Children’s Church
Today	Doug and Beth Burkhardt	Kevin & Melanie Patton	Jim and Claudia Plybon	<b>April</b> <b>3</b> Mark and Terrica Smith <b>K</b> Beth and Julie Collins <b>1st</b> Jennifer Edwards and Martha Larson <b>2nd/3rd</b> Darlene Clagett and Catherine Edwards
5/3/09	Rick and Maria Reeves Victoria Goode	Laura Devonmille Sean Goode	Jack and Amanda Goode	
5/10/09	Judy Young Jodi Pardue	Doug Jewell Ryann Lievens	Matt and Janice Lievens	<b>May</b> <b>3</b> Mike Lis <b>4</b> Kevin & Brea McClain <b>K</b> Mike & Jen Rhoades <b>1st</b> Joe Dell’ Arena and Bryan Pardue <b>2nd/3rd</b> Ted & Amy Mead
5/17/09	Barry and Pam Ingram	Jeremy & Jennifer Spitzer	Dave and Jackie Crowe	
<b>Ushers</b>		<b>Greeters</b>		
Hugh Smith Dave Collins Matt Lievens		Ben Banks Mike Pellerin Doug Sonnenburg		
		<b>Rapid Visitation</b> April: Kristi Maier May: June:		
<b>Worship Team</b>				

### Our Church Officers

**Session:** Wynn Baum, Don Bechtold, John DeBoer, Randy Edwards, Doug Jewell, Jim Plybon.

**Diaconate:** David Collins, Karl Freeman, Jim Dougherty.

### Church Staff and Contact Extensions

*The church office is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 am until Noon.*

Randy Edwards, Pastor/Teacher • ext.11

Carla Collins, Accountant/Children’s Ministry Coordinator/Preschool Director • ext.12

Deacon and Mercy Ministry Voicemail • ext.22

## WEEKLY FINANCIAL SUMMARY REPORT

2009 General Fund Budget						\$356,185
Contributions		Budget		Expenses		
MTD Apr 20	Year to Date	April	Year to Date	MTD Apr 20	Year to Date	
\$ 22,996	\$ 102,406	\$ 29,682	\$ 118,998	\$ 13,781	\$ 95,979	
2009 Building Fund Contributions			2009 Missions Fund Contributions			
MTD Apr 20	Year to Date	MTD Apr 20	Year to Date			
\$ 380	\$ 7,905	\$ 588	\$ 1,749			



*Grace Presbyterian Church exists to focus attention on God’s grace as He transforms us into a community that delights in his worship, is marked by a selfless care for others, and proclaims the gospel of Jesus Christ with gospel-transformed words, relationships, vocations, and lifestyles, resulting in the transformation of the communities of the Triad and the world.*

**APRIL 26, 2009**

## For Reflection

“When I took a closer look...I realized that I was caught in a web of strange paradoxes. While complaining about too many demands, I felt uneasy when none were made. While speaking about the burden of letter writing, an empty mailbox made me sad. While fretting about tiring lecture tours, I felt disappointed when there were no invitations. While speaking nostalgically about an empty desk, I feared the day on which that would come true. In short: while desiring to be alone, I was frightened of being left alone. The more I became aware of these paradoxes, the more I started to see how much I had indeed fallen in love with my own compulsions and illusions, and how much I needed to step back and wonder, “Is there a quiet stream underneath the fluctuating affirmations and rejections of my little world? Is there a still point where my life is anchored and from which I can reach out with hope and courage and confidence?”

Henri Nouwen, *The Genesee Diary*

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRAYER

If you have a prayer request which you would like to have offered during the Pastoral Prayer, please speak with the pastor during the break.

**Elder Prayer.** If you would like prayer, Elders are available after the service.

**Men’s Prayer** meets every Friday morning at 6 am in the Fellowship Hall. **WE HAD SEVEN IN ’08, BUT WE WANT TEN IN ’09.**

**Tuesday Prayer.** We meet weekly on Tuesday from 10 am till Noon in the church office to pray for the church and the needs of the congregation. Join us for all or part of the time, or take time wherever you are and pray for your GPC family.

## PREPARATION

### PRELUDE

*Come, Now is the Time to Worship*

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Pew pads are located along the inside aisle. Please take a moment to let us know that you were with us this morning and to tell us how we can help you today.*

### OUR HISTORIC FAITH

*Heidelberg Catechism, Lord's Day 17*

**Q45** • How does Christ's resurrection benefit us?

**A** • *First, by his resurrection he has overcome death, so that he might make us share in the righteousness he won for us by his death. Second, by his power we too are already now resurrected to a new life. Third, Christ's resurrection is a guarantee of our glorious resurrection.*

### CALL TO WORSHIP

selections from Psalm 103

## PRAISE

### MINISTRY OF SONG

*Awake My Soul*

*His Love Can Never Fail*

*Hear Our Praises*

### GIVING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*All I Have is Yours*

### WELCOMING ONE ANOTHER

*Nursery is available for two years old and under. Children ages three years old through kindergarten are dismissed for Children's Church.*

## RENEWAL

### PASTORAL PRAYER and LORD'S PRAYER

Don Bechtold

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever.

Amen.

### SCRIPTURE READING

Ephesians 5:15, 16

### SERMON

Randy Edwards

Stewardship: Making most of the time"

## RESPONSE

### THE APOSTLE'S CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

### LORD'S SUPPER

*More Love to Thee, O Christ*

*How Deep the Father's Love for Us*

### MERCY MINISTRIES OFFERING

*Let Your Kingdom Come*

### BENEDICTION

## CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Today we receive the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Grace Presbyterian Church welcomes all Christians who: profess faith in Jesus Christ for their salvation and who are members of congregations that proclaim the gospel, to participate and to receive the Lord's Supper. If you are unable to receive the Lord's Supper today, please use this time to reflect on the following prayers. Regardless of whether you are able to receive the elements today, you are invited forward to be prayed for by the elders who will be stationed on either side at the front of the sanctuary.

### Prayer for Those Searching for the Truth

Blessed Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. I realize that no human mind could have conceived or invented the gospel. Impress the gospel on my soul as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is indeed true, please grant the virtue of the gospel to diffuse every faculty so that it may be heard, acknowledged, professed, and experienced. Help me to see the reality of who you are, and give me an understanding of you that is coherent and convincing which can lead me to the life that you promise. Amen.

*Adapted from a Puritan prayer, Arthur Bennett, The Valley of Vision*

### Prayer of Belief and Commitment

Most merciful Father, we render to you all praise, thanks, and glory, for that it had pleased you, of your great mercies, to grant unto us, miserable sinners, so excellent a gift and treasure, as to receive us into the fellowship and company of your dear Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, whom you have delivered to death for us, and have given him unto us as a necessary food and nourishment unto everlasting life. And now, we beseech you also, O Heavenly Father, to grant us this request, that you never suffer us to become so unkind as to forget so worthy benefits; but rather imprint and fasten them sure in our hearts, that we may grow and increase daily more and more in true faith, which continually is exercised in all manner of good works; and so much the rather, O Lord, confirm us in the confession of the same, to the advancement of thy glory, who art God over all things, blessed for ever. So be it. Amen.

*Baird, Presbyterian Liturgies*

## SERMON NOTES

### FOR REFLECTION

"Sandor Ferenczi, a disciple of Freud's [in early 20th Century Budapest], once identified a disorder he called Sunday neurosis. Every Sunday,...the Sunday neurotic developed a stomachache or an attack of depression. After ruling out purely physiological causes, including the rich food served at Sunday dinners, Ferenczi figured out what was bothering his patients. They were suffering from the Sabbath. On that weekly holiday observed by all...not only did drudgery give way to festivity, family gatherings and occasionally worship, but the machinery of self-censorship shut down, too, stilling the eternal murmur of self-reproach. The Sunday neurotic, rather than enjoying his respite, became distraught; he feared that the impulses repressed only with great effort might be unleashed. He induced pain or mental anguish to pre-empt the felling of being out of control."

Judith Shulevitz, "Bring Back the Sabbath"

### OUTLINE

### TABLE TALK

*Much of Martin Luther's theology was clarified, distilled, and applied around the dinner table with his friends. The informal discourse of two friends pursuing the same truth does more to work into one's life an understanding of that truth than all the talk of great speakers. Take some time this week to discuss these questions over coffee or a meal.*

### QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. To what areas of work do you feel enslaved? How might the freedom of the Sabbath-rest be applied?
2. Have you experienced the "eternal murmur of self-reproach"? What does it say to you?
3. How is your joy this morning? What is keeping you from entering into God's joy?
4. Which of the points of today's sermon do you need to apply to your Sabbath-keeping? Lordship? Joy? Freedom? or Discipline?

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