

# In the Pines

St. Pauls Presbyterian Church

January 2014

Vol. IV, Issue I

## COME AND SEE!



Dear Sisters and Brothers  
in Christ,

I am profoundly grateful for the privilege of being your pastor! This is our fourth year together and the time has flown by! For those of you who were not present in worship on Sunday, January 5th, the congregation has received a “Summons” to follow in Christ’s footsteps, by letting go of our own individual agendas so that we can **“come and see”** what God is asking us to do in 2014 for the good of our community.

On Friday evening, January 17th, anyone and everyone is invited to attend a brief “Spiritual Retreat” beginning at 7:00 p.m. in

the Fellowship Hall. Our gathering will conclude promptly by 9:00 p.m. Dress in comfortable clothing and bring a blanket, pillow and/or a mat as we will spend some time in silence and personal reflection on Scripture, using “Lectio Divina” — a practice of listening to Scripture and allowing God to speak to us. It will be a night of prayer, silence, and sharing. Hot and cold drinks will be provided, but no food will be served.

On Saturday morning I invite you to volunteer at St. Pauls High School, as the Second Harvest Food Bank will distribute food to needy families in St. Pauls. Our Christmas Eve offering was collected to support this annual day of service. Volunteers will assist people picking up the food and also help distribute the food.

Come and feed your soul with Scripture on Friday night and then use your hands to serve others on Saturday morning for the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.

Grace and Peace!

*Pastor Sue*

### **Ordination and Commissioning Service**

Sunday, January 12, 2013: 11:00 a.m.

Four new elders:

Duncan Mackie, Michelle Packard,  
Laura Powers & Bryan Rountree

### **Spud-o-Rama!**

**Lunch on Jan. 12th**

Youth Serving...

30-Hour Famine  
Fundraiser

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[A Summons]

Birthdays & 2  
Marriage Class

Joy Gift & 3  
McNair  
Monument

R.C.C. 4  
Partnership

*English as a  
Second Language  
Classes...*

*Beginning  
Saturday, Jan. 11*

*Robeson  
Community  
College will be  
providing FREE*

*ESL classes from  
9:00—12:00*

*noon in the  
Fellowship Hall.*



## Birthdays

- 1 Margaret McCormick
- 1 Mary B. Klinikowski
- 2 Faye W. Madden
- 2 Luanne K. Caudell
- 3 Virginia Johnson
- 3 Benjamin Canady
- 4 David Hudson
- 5 Lisa Brisson
- 5 Sharon Dean
- 8 Patricia Douthit
- 13 Elijah Rea Butler
- 14 Lewis McNeill
- 16 Ann Clewley
- 18 Harvey Mundy
- 19 Susan Usher
- 21 Juanita Hogan
- 22 Patricia Usher
- 24 Jenny Hollingsworth
- 26 Hannah Hollingsworth
- 27 Justin Monroe



## Ushers for January

Randy Foley, Bobby Evans, Marvin Rea

## Lay Readers

- 5 Vivian Millar
- 12 Duncan Mackie
- 19 Angus McCormick
- 26 Bryan Rountree

## SUNDAY SCHOOL... Really?

That's so.... \_\_\_\_\_ [passé]

(fill in the blank with what comes to YOUR mind)

Every Sunday morning a group of committed church members meets to sing a few hymns with Sarah Louise McNeill's fine accompaniment and we lift up the prayer concerns of our congregation. There are classes for children and adults with excellent leadership and curriculum. We also have coffee, juice and refreshments. Would you like to invest in your spiritual growth, nurture friendships with other church members, and be a life-long learner? We need you... consider yourself INVITED!!!!

- 9:30 coffee & refreshments
- 9:45 singing & prayer
- 10:00 classes
- 11:00 worship



## The Marriage Course?



Last year the Alpha Team ran 2 ALPHA courses for adults. This fall Adam Packard and Blake Hester requested that we run a Youth Alpha Course, which is currently finishing up their first class with the middle school youth of our church.

The Alpha Team feels that it would be beneficial to run *The Marriage Course*, also produced by Alpha USA, which is a 7-Session Course for engaged or married couples. It is a DVD-based course covering the following topics: Building Strong Foundations, The Art of Communication, Solving Conflict, the Power of Forgiveness, The Impact of Family—Past and Present, Good Sex, and Love in Action. There is an extra session called, Coping with Times of Separation.

At this time we have not scheduled the class, but we have the curriculum in hand. The course would include a dinner together and a time frame from 7:00—9:00 p.m. If this course interests you or anyone you know, please call Rev. Sue Hudson at 910-633-8620. Based on the interest and availability of couples, we will schedule the class as soon as possible.

## HOMECOMING 2014????



May 11, 2014

Wait a minute!

Isn't this only January 2014? Isn't this a little EARLY to be thinking about this event? Not at all. Vivian Millar has agreed to chair this committee to prepare for the 175th Homecoming. Tommy Hall and Mary Alice McCormick have also agreed to serve, so they are inviting ANYONE who is interested in joining the group to brainstorm and plan this event with them for the Second Sunday of May. Please call Vivian (or text her!) Her number is 734-7524.



***These Children Stole Our Hearts!***

Amy Godwin and Jill Rountree are leading a Sunday night program for preschool and elementary age children, called **KidsTime**, which meets from **5:30—7:30 p.m.** The children presented our annual Joy Gift Program on Sunday morning, Dec. 8th, during the regular 11:00 a.m. worship service. The attendance in worship that week was 90+ which exceeded every other week this fall. We also enjoyed a Fellowship Luncheon after church. A gift of thanks was given to ALL who are teaching our children in Sunday School (Tiffany Walters and Jill Rountree) as well as Children's Church (Terrie Evans and Amy Godwin). Thanks to Amy and Jill for stepping up!

*Starting in the Back Row from the Left:*  
 Amrie, Johnnie, Lauri, Gavin  
 Alexis, Alex, Ian, Katie  
 Hamp, William (Josh, not in the picture)

**COME AND SEE!**

**McNair Monument Update**

On Saturday, Dec. 28th, 2013, eight able-bodied men descended upon the McNair Monument site with four leaf blowers, two chain saws and one heavy duty edger. After about 3 hours, this multi-racial group had given a complete face lift to the monument premises. This endeavor included 1) blowing and scattering a massive amount of leaves into adjacent fields and 2) expanding the site itself by removing eight smaller trees along with the accumulated dense undergrowth. The firewood from the trees will be put to good use by local Indian families.

A sizeable mound of small tree limbs and brush is piled next to the field so that immediately upon combining the wheat in May, the debris can be handily tossed into the field and burned thereby providing quality potash which the tenant, Talton Locklear, appreciates. Mr. Locklear has left both a substantial amount of parking area at the site along with a more than adequate road for cars to access the site from Great Marsh Church Road.

We hope that not only out-of-town McNair descendants, but also other interested parties and church members will now be more inclined to visit our Founding Father's Memorial Monument constructed in 1935. It will certainly be a showpiece for our 175th Homecoming in 2014!

[submitted by Tommy Hall]



**ANNOUNCEMENT TO THE SESSION!!!**

Our first Stated Meeting for 2014 will take place on Sunday Evening, January 12, beginning at 6:30 p.m.  
 We will NOT meet on the 4th Tuesday.

# St. Pauls Presbyterian Church



Box 283  
228 North Old Stage Road  
St. Pauls, NC 28384  
910-865-5147  
www.sppresbyterian.org



***“Love yourself, whatever faults you have, and love the world, however bad it is.”***

[Robert Lawrence Smith, *A Quaker Book of Wisdom*, p. 185]

## Other S.T.E.P. Initiatives....

Some of the other strategies approved by the town include a community garden and food forest (contact Marvin Rae), improving the appearance of main street (contact Julia Odom-Rzonca) and publicity/technical workshops (contact Anna LaRue). It is encouraging to see so many church members and friends volunteering to help improve our community.

## Partnership with R.C.C.

Many members of St. Pauls Presbyterian Church participated in the monthly meetings of the S.T.E.P. Leadership Team (Small Town Economic Prosperity). A number of strategies were developed, with the help of a great coach, Ms. Chilton Rogers, from the Rural Institute in Raleigh, to help us focus our energies in certain areas that would improve the economy and quality of life in St. Pauls. One strategic focus is on improving the skills of the workforce in our town, which has a youthful population (an asset); but they are not equipped for jobs that could come to St. Pauls in the future (a liability). Rev. Hudson headed up the group which is focusing on improving the skills of

the workforce. She is working closely with Mr. Rocky Peterkin, who administers many of the off-site campuses for R.C.C.

In partnership with St. Pauls Middle School, the town of St. Pauls and St. Pauls Presbyterian Church, as well as Robeson Community College, classes for ABE and GED are being offered at the Middle School every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday night from 5:00—8:00 p.m. and ESL/Family Literacy classes will be offered at our church every Saturday morning from 9:00—12:00 noon beginning January 11. The church has signed a contract with RCC for the first six months and we ask our members to be supportive and mindful of this commitment.