



# The Church Mouse



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## Chatting with Charlie – January 2014

I am writing this month with only one intention – to give thanks. The reason I quite often say in my prayers that we should be thankful and grateful is because there is no one I know who has more to be thankful for.

As I look back on my life I realize that I had no earthly idea where I was headed when I finished college in 1971. Facing the draft and uncertainty God sent me to Quantico Virginia to become a Marine Officer. By the time I was trained the Marines had left Vietnam and I was part of the post Vietnam Marine Corps. Along the way I learned that once a Marine always a Marine and that Marines always take care of their own. I met a quiet little girl from North Georgia at Camp Lejeune during the summer of 1972 who thought a certain second lieutenant looked good in his dress whites. Elaine and I celebrated 39 wonderful years of marriage last month.

In 1975 I entered the MBA program at the University of South Carolina on the way to becoming of all things a CPA. At Carolina, with the help of others, I led the resurgence of the honorary accounting fraternity and later led the formation of the accounting alumni association, the Friends of the Accounting Department.

From 1977 – 2003 I worked for 3 international accounting firms in the Carolinas and Tampa. I was blessed to have a great boss in Charlotte who mentored me and taught me what serving others was all about. I always strived to mentor those who worked directly for me and to build relationships of trust with my clients and those I worked with in the firms. By the grace of God I worked my way up the ranks and served as a partner in 2 of the firms for 16 years during my 27 year career.

In 2003 God called me away from the career he had given me to finish the seminary education I begun in Tampa. After graduating from Dallas Theological Seminary in 2006, we moved to Jacksonville where I worked on a few things before entering the Ordination process of the PCUSA in 2009. Along the way I grew from briefly serving as a hospital chaplain, an intern at a local church, pulpit supply and interim pastor.

I am convinced that all along God was preparing me to do one thing – to be the Pastor of Weirsdale Presbyterian Church. For me as your interim pastor to become your permanent pastor, God had to change the longstanding rules against that and He did.

Our 16 months together as your interim pastor flew by but the never ending process started to wear me down at the end. But it is effectively over. Steve Lytle, Cathy Skoff, Betty McEuen and I have to tell our story to the Presbytery at its meeting on Saturday February 1<sup>st</sup> in St. Augustine.

Again I want to thank our Triune God for: loving me for over 64 years and sending me to you; giving me a loving partner in life in Elaine; for your love and support and for not only calling me as your pastor, but allowing a Big Kid like me to be himself and to lead and serve with a group of characters like you. Indeed I am eternally grateful to our Triune God for holding me in his loving arms and always being there for me. Thanks again.

Charlie, Elaine & Streeter (we are thankful for him too!)

## HIGHLIGHTS OF SESSION MEETING-----JANUARY 12, 2014

1. Painting and pressure washing have been completed. Lester's will be back to add grit to the steps that lead into the Parlor.
2. The new sound system was installed in the Church.
3. The 4th Sunday of each month will be designated as Pot Luck for Fellowship.
4. Rev. Al Hanner will be our Supply Pastor for February 9th.
5. The new website should be working within a month and will have the capability of holding 3 weeks of Church services on it.
6. Year end reports were finalized for the Congregational Meeting to be held on January 26, 2014.
7. Church officers and representatives were elected as follows:

Treasurer

Assistant Treasurer

Commissioner to the Presbytery

Clerk of Session

Elaine Morris

Sara Jane Vincent

Betty McEuen

Sue Cordle

Respectfully Submitted by Sue Cordle, Clerk of Session



# BOY SCOUT SUNDAY

February 2, 2014

## It' Almost Here!

Sunday, February 2, the Boy Scouts will be serving spaghetti (all you can eat) beginning right after church and going until 3:30 p.m. Tickets are \$5.00 each, available from any of the Scouts or the leaders before Sunday, or you may also purchase tickets at the door.

The Scouts will also be conducting the worship service that Sunday. We hope you will attend and be blessed during this service. The boys have many talents and work hard to make this a special day for all of us. You wouldn't want to miss this event—this year is the 31st anniversary for this spaghetti dinner. The troop is very appreciative of the congregational and community support given over the years.

Holy Communion will not be served this week. It will be served Feb. 9th.



# Installation *of* Pastor Charlie

On January 19th, we installed Charlie as our permanent pastor at Weirsdale Presbyterian Church with a wonderful reception prepared by the Fellowship Committee afterwards.

We are all pleased that Charlie will be with us permanently and look forward to working with him and Elaine in spreading God's Word, bringing people to Christ and developing our Discipleship.

CONGRATULATIONS, Pastor Charlie!!



## SCALLOPED PINEAPPLE

40-50 Minutes in a 325° Oven

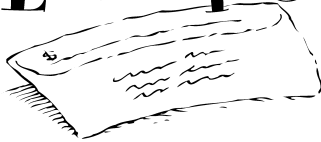
A frequently requested recipe  
from Betty McEuen.



4 C fresh Bread Crumbs  
1 #2 can crushed Pineapple & juice  
1 C Sugar  
1 C melted Oleo  
3 Eggs  
1 C Milk

Combine bread crumbs, sugar, oleo, eggs and mix well.  
Add pineapple to milk; then combine all together.  
Bake at 325° for 45-50 minutes or until well browned.  
Can be used as a vegetable or a dessert.

## Offering Envelopes



## OFFERING ENVELOPES

There are about 6 boxes of pledge envelopes still sitting in the Narthex. If you haven't picked yours up yet, it is waiting for you.

### SENIOR SINGLES

The Senior Singles met for a fine dinner at The Ivy House in Ocala on January 15th. Th Ivy House has been voted amongst the top 500 in the state and we can vouch for that!

### CHORAL DIRECTOR

We are sorry to announce that Deanna Carr-Woodall has resigned from her position as choir director. We wish her well in her future endeavors.

In the meantime, we will be looking for a new director for our music groups.

### GIFTING THROUGH THE NEW YEAR

1. There is a sign-up sheet in the kitchen for anyone willing to help with Fellowship during the new year. Fellowship is something everyone looks forward to after the worship service, and you could be a real hero by serving!
2. The green forms for Altar flowers are in the Narthex. What a lovely donation to the worship service when you pick a week and remember or honor a loved one. Still only \$25.00!
3. The Community of Gratitude Food Pantry and Love Inc Gas Cans can always use a refill. Bring non-perishable food and personal care items and place them in the basket in Douglas Hall. These items are being placed in the Narthex. Then drop some of that heavy change in your pocket into the gas cans. Your generosity has been overwhelming and both missions look forward to your continued assistance.

## ART CLASSES BY DIANA HARRIS

Diana is teaching a variety of art classes for all who are interested--experienced and non-experienced. Classes will meet from 9:30 AM to noon once a month and will feature various types of media such as canvas, stone and glass. All supplies will be furnished for a \$10.00 fee per class or \$5.00 per class if you have your own supplies.

It is important that you call Diana at 352-425-4351 to register for each class in order for her to have enough supplies for everyone. Her schedule is as follows:

February: Stone Painting with acrylic paint. Stones and paint furnished.

March: Oil Painting on canvas with sponge & palette knife. Old Mill in Spring.

April: Glass Etching. You bring mirror or glass. All other supplied furnished.

May: Acrylic Painting on black canvas. Prepared canvases available. Waterfall and Mountains

June: Watercolor on watercolor paper. Golden Birches

July-August: NO CLASSES

September: Seascape Painting Acrylics

October: Flag Painting Flags supplied, bring acrylics

November: Acrylics Painting on canvas. Covered Bridge

December: Reverse Glass Painting on framed glass. Frames & glass available.

Diana says, "Come on! This will be fun!"





community association information

### RESIDENTS OF THE MONTH

#### **One Last Look Back on 2013:**

#### Arts and Crafts League "Elves" Push Past the Goal for Operation Shoebox.

It was barely past 8:30 a.m. on a chill December morning. The Craft room of the Horizon Center was already humming with activity. Sewing machines whirled; bolts of colorful cloth filled tables. Production momentum accelerated. The Arts and Crafts League was on a mission—and a very important one.

Volunteers set to work to help Monarch Resident Carol Dalbeck and members of the Weirsdale Presbyterian Church to reach their goal of sewing 2000 Christmas Stockings for Operation Shoebox. In spite of an intricate, multi-step process, members never lost their craftsman's "touch" nor their sense of humor. They matched fabric designs with templates, and used contrasting red or gold fabric to produce a beautiful product. These stockings were the medium that would send a message to soldiers in various parts of the Middle East that the folks back home care about them. However, as deadline approached, piles of stockings remained unfinished. No stranger to challenges, the League reserved another morning for work on December 4. Many members took work home. On the second work day, seven machines hummed; workers ironed and trimmed. Even fabric scraps that fell to the floor were gathered for use at the local Humane Society. Finished items were counted and recounted. Would they do it?

What Carol thought to be a final count of 2,223 grew into 2,248 when an "Elf" made a surprise delivery to her house. The stockings were then delivered to a local receiving center for Operation Shoebox, filled with toiletries, candy, snacks, paperbacks and a note from the volunteers. Many soldiers write back with their thanks. With any luck, some of those notes will make it to the Craft Room.

Did anyone count her hours or her effort? It's doubtful. Take your bows, Elves, knowing that a soldier's holiday was a bit brighter, thanks to you. Indeed, service is measured in many ways, so do celebrate your achievement as we welcome in the New Year.





*Praise  
the  
Lord!*

Cathie Vibber has announced that as of her 3 month post-transplant appointment, her doctor believes her **cancer is in remission!**

## REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

1. Marie Oille has chemo treatments.
2. Neal Patterson is undergoing cancer treatments.
3. Sara Jane Vincent is recovering from surgery.
4. Sue Rice is recovering from hip surgery

For further prayer requests, contact the following:

Alice Ralph	347-6647
Linda Spence	653-8835
Marie Oille	750-6452



Remember our friends who are homebound or in a care facility by sending them a card to brighten their day:

Al Bunce  
1626 Bay Meadows Lane  
Lady Lake, FL 32159

Gene Pratt  
3131 TCU Blvd.  
Orlando, FL 32817

Eleanor Redding  
16161 SE 117 Ave.  
P.O. Box 96  
Weirsdale, FL 32195

Marilyn Smith  
15020 SE 140th Ave. Rd.  
Weirsdale, FL 32195



*A Loss in  
Our Church Family*

Ruby Suty Tanner went home to be with the Lord on January 6 of this year. Please keep her family in your prayers.

**WEIRSDALE  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH**

16303 SE 137th Court  
P. O. Box 269  
Weirsdale, FL 32195

Phone: 352-821-2757  
Fax: 352-821-3554  
E-mail: [weirsdalepres@yahoo.com](mailto:weirsdalepres@yahoo.com)



**Our Mission:**  
**Bring People to Christ**  
**Develop our Discipleship**

***Dates to Remember***

Feb. 1, DEACONS Meet, 9:00AM

Feb. 2, NO Small Groups Study THE SHACK, 9:00AM  
Feb. 2, BOY SCOUT Sunday Worship Service, 10:30AM  
Feb. 2, NO Holy Communion this week; postponed Feb. 9th.  
Feb. 2, BOY SCOUT Spaghetti Dinner, 11:30AM  
Feb. 3-10, Pastor Charlie & Elaine on Vacation  
Feb. 4, NO Small Group Study THE SHACK, 10:00AM  
Feb. 4, Tuesday Time Out, Noon  
Feb. 5, Boy Scouts, 7:30PM  
Feb. 6, Women's Bible Study, 10:00AM

Feb. 9, NO Small Groups Study THE SHACK, 9:00AM  
Feb. 9, Sunday Worship Service w/ Rev. Hanner, 10:30AM  
Feb. 9, Holy Communion will be served  
Feb. 11, Small Group Study THE SHACK, 10:00AM  
Feb. 11, Tuesday Time Out, Noon  
Feb. 12, Boy Scouts, 7:30PM  
Feb. 13, Women's Bible Study, 10:00AM

Feb. 16, Small Groups Study THE SHACK, 9:00AM  
Feb. 16, Sunday Worship Service w/ Pastor Charlie, 10:30AM  
Feb. 16, SESSION Meets, 11:45AM  
Feb. 18, Small Group Study THE SHACK, 10:00AM  
Feb. 18, Tuesday Time Out, Noon  
Feb. 19, Sr. Singles, Douglas Hall, 5:00PM  
Feb. 19, Boy Scouts, 7:30PM  
Feb. 20, Women's Bible Study, 10:00AM

Feb. 23, Small Groups Study THE SHACK, 9:00AM  
Feb. 23, Sunday Worship Service, 10:30AM  
Feb. 23, POTLUCK SUNDAY, 11:30AM  
Feb. 25, Small Group Study THE SHACK, 10:00AM  
Feb. 25, Tuesday Time Out, Noon  
Feb. 26, Boy Scouts, 7:30PM  
Feb. 27, Women's Bible Study, 10:00AM

Mar. 1, DEACONS Meet, 9:30  
Mar. 2, Sunday Worship Service, 10:30AM

**IT'S COMING!  
WATCH FOR THE ANNOUNCEMENT!!**

Our new website is almost ready to be published online! We have worked long and hard on it and are very excited about the results. We hope you will be also.



**CHURCH EMAIL ADDRESS**  
We are at: [weirsdalepres@yahoo.com](mailto:weirsdalepres@yahoo.com)



Did you know that United Way has a free resource & referral helpline?

Available 24 hours a day/7 days a week, confidential, and multilingual. Callers link to local resources ranging from: FOOD, RENT, UTILITY ASSISTANCE, ELDER HELP, and much more.

Keep our troops in your prayers and pray for a safe return of all who are on foreign soils.

