

April, 2014

Volume 36 No. 4



The Church Mouse



Chatting with Charlie – April 2014

Yesterday morning we celebrated the most glorious day of the year, Easter Sunday. During Holy Communion I asked those in attendance to take the opportunity to (1) reflect on the sacrifice that Christ made on the Cross for them and (2) give thanks to God for graciously enabling them to place their faith and trust in Him as their Lord and Savior and to be united with our Triune God and our fellow believers for eternity. Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

The meaning of Easter is twofold. First, Jesus lives; and second, Jesus is Lord. "Jesus lives." He is not simply dead and gone. God has made Jesus both Lord and Christ, has raised Him to God's right hand and has made Jesus one with God. This meaning is expressed in John's gospel when the risen Jesus appears to Thomas, who exclaims "My Lord and my God!" "Jesus is Lord" is the constant affirmation of the New Testament. God has vindicated Jesus, said "Yes" to Jesus and "No" to the powers that killed him.

Easter celebrates not only the resurrection of one man, but the resurrection of the whole human race. Jesus is the new perfect humanity. By proclaiming his resurrection now, the whole human race is invited to walk in newness of life with him. We can all put our old sinful, selfish humanity behind us and put on Christ's new humanity.

Paul lists its characteristics as love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, faithfulness and self-control (Gal 5:22-23). He echoes Christ's list of poor in spirit, remorseful, humble, hungry and thirsty for justice, merciful, pure in heart, peaceable and willing to suffer for what's right (Mt 5:1-10).

It has been written, "You won't find Jesus in the land of the dead. He is still with us. The powers killed him – but they couldn't stop him. They crucified him and buried him in a rich man's tomb. But imperial execution and a tomb couldn't hold him. He's still loose in the world. He's still out there, still here, still recruiting people to share his passion for the Kingdom of God – a transformed world here and now. It's not over."

Easter is about participating in what we see in Jesus Christ, our living Lord and Savior. May we focus on being His new creations as we seek to obediently glorify God and walk by faith as guided by the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Your brother in Christ,
Charlie

HIGHLIGHTS OF SESSION MEETING April 13, 2014

*National Day of Prayer is May 1st. Charlie will be participating in a service at Polo Field in The Villages.

*The Deacons are evaluating and developing a new “friendship outreach” program.

*Diana Harris who volunteers with Hospice, was selected as their Employee/Volunteer of the month for April.

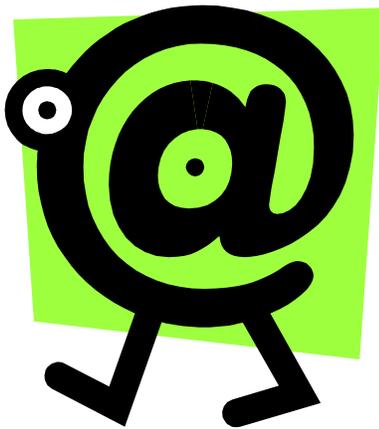
*The blinds that were removed from Douglas Hall have been installed in the rooms downstairs.

*Quotes are being accepted for the new roof needed for Douglas Hall.

*The Choir will be singing through the second Sunday in June, then will take a break for the summer.

Respectfully submitted by Sue Cordle, Clerk of Session

www.weirsdalepresbyterianchurch.org



We hope you are taking time to visit the new church website. It is continually being updated. You can check the calendar for upcoming events, read the newsletters (in color) and see the most current worship services.

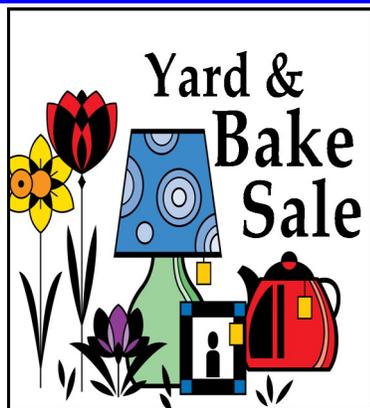
It is especially great for the snowbirds who will be so far away from their Weirsdale family. You can feel closer by keeping up on the current events and tuning in to the Sunday morning services. Those videos are uploaded by the Wednesday after each Sunday--sometimes even sooner.

Let us know what you think!

Memorial DAY

Monday the 26th is Memorial Day. While you are barbequing and welcoming the official beginning of summer, do not forget to give thanks and pray for those who have served our country.

The church office will be closed on this day.



YARD & BAKE SALE

The Yard & Bake Sale was a huge success. The crowds came and spent \$1673.74 which will go toward a new roof for Douglas Hall.

The project also allowed us to get the downstairs cleaned out. Any items not sold were donated to Love INC and Goodwill.

A Big "THANK YOU" from the Membership Committee

The Membership Committee wants to thank all who helped in the kitchen with soups on Maundy Thursday! The committee appreciates the faithful friends who help do the things that the Fellowship Committee provides for the church.

Many thanks to the following for soups and sides:

Bobbi Lytle
Marie Beeler
Diane Harris
Jan Woody

Jane Sands (Cornbread)
Linda Spence (Potato Salad)



THE Josties

The Jost family of musicians have toured extensively throughout the US and Canada. They shared their talent with our TTO "lunch bunch" on April 22. Pastor Dale Jost, wife Lisa and some of the nine children made Douglas Hall ring with a blend of acoustic country, folk and light contemporary music.



As our friends head back up North for the summer, know that you will be missed, and we will pray for your safe return in the Fall.



Spring Clean Up Day

Church Clean-Up Day was a great success and many tasks were completed thanks to so many volunteers and the boy scouts!

Outside, the roses at the front were weeded, trimmed and mulched--240 bags worth! while weeds in other areas were pulled and hedges were edged.

Inside the church, the girls cleaned and dusted and the guys repaired some cabinetry and doors that were not working properly.

Douglas Hall kitchen and cabinets were thoroughly cleaned upstairs while another crew worked downstairs organizing the classrooms and cleaning out accumulated junk. It has been a long time since we have been able to actually enjoy using those rooms, and now we have a set up for computer classes and Bible studies, and the toddler classroom is absolutely adorable!

After the work was completed, everyone was treated to a delicious lunch.

I am sure there were a lot of sore backs and chapped hands at the end of the day, but the results were worth it!



Rosie the Riveter



Had a lot of fun with a visit from Rosie the Riveter along with some WWII memorabilia. Such was the theme for Fellowship on April 6th.

Carolyn Harrison brought her mother Olive Doll-Brasted who was a genuine WWII lady welder from the Rosie era.

Everyone enjoyed hotdogs and humongous ice cream sundaes!



SIGN UP FOR ART CLASS!

Acrylic painting on black canvas will be the activity for the May 24th art class with Diana Harris. Prepared canvases will be available. Be sure to let her know if you will be attending. \$10.00 furnishes you with all needed supplies.

Call Diana at 352-425-4351 to reserve your place in this class.



CONTACT INFORMATION

Though the Church directory has been recently updated, we know that people continue to change addresses and phone numbers. Please remember to take a Contact Update Form (in Narthex), fill it out with any updated information and turn it in so the church records are always current.



Operation Shoebox

This month our Operation Shoebox sewing group was presented with a framed American Flag to be hung in Douglas Hall. We received the flag and accompanying certificate from our troops stationed in Afghanistan as a Thank You for the Christmas stockings we made for them. They were so appreciative of the thoughtful handmade gift from us and the items stuffed inside by Operation Shoebox. Stop by Douglas Hall and view the flag and certificate and feel proud of our church and the members participating in this wonderful mission. The certificate reads as follows:

OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM

908th Expeditionary Air Refueling Squadron

This Flag Was Flown In Honor Of

Weirsdale Presbyterian Church

On December 20, 2013, this flag flew over Afghanistan in support of OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM on a KC-10 "Extender", call sign "Whistler 85", of the 908th Expeditionary Air Refueling Squadron from Al Dhafra AB, U.A.E. This flag represents the commitment of the men and women of the Armed Forces, The Global War on Terrorism, and honors the thousands who died in the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and the fields of Pennsylvania on September 11, 2001. Let all who look upon this flag be reminded of their accomplishments and steadfast devotion to protecting the freedoms our flag represents.

The certificate is signed by: Robert C. Klingensmith, Capt., USAF, Aircraft Commander; Mona E. Alexander, Lt Col, USAF, 908th EARS Commander; Joshua B. Schiffer, 1 Lt, USAF, Co-Pilot; Alexander M. Doe, SSgt, USAF, Flight Engineer; and Willie R. Long III, SSgt, USAF, Boom Operator.

The bottom of the certificate reads:

To honor those who served at home and abroad. We will never forget September 11, 2001.



REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Continued prayers are needed for the following:

1. Dottie Jones who is at home recovering from a fall.
2. Sarah Mangum's fiancé Jeff who is in Afghanistan for another 6-9 months. Please pray for him and his troop.
3. Marie Oille's brother George who passed. Keep his family in your prayers.
4. Pat Stone's son and his children. Pat's son has recently been sent to jail and the custody of his children has been up in the air. Praise the Lord for their being placed with an aunt and a grandmother. Though the siblings are separated, they are still with family rather than in a foster home with strangers.



Prayer Requests

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

Community of Gratitude, Inc. Emergency Food Center Report

The Community of Gratitude thanks you for your continued support. Your donations help to feed hundreds of adults and children each month.

Right now, the Food Pantry is requesting a few specific things. They are short on peanut butter and jelly, canned fruit of any kind, spaghetti and sauce; also they need toilet paper and items for personal hygiene. Community of Gratitude welcomes checks for donations to purchase much needed items. They will issue a tax receipt for monies received.

REMEMBER: The first Sunday of each month is Food Pantry Sunday!

Thank you.

GIFTING THROUGH THE YEAR

1. The green forms for Altar flowers are in the Narthex. There are a lot of Sundays coming up in the next couple of months that have openings for anyone moved to sponsor the altar flowers. They are only \$25.00 for such beautiful bouquets.
2. The Love INC gas cans are always conveniently located in the Narthex and Douglas Hall so you can drop your change in them as you are coming or going. The little amounts that you leave are make such a big difference to those who need it.

Thank you.

**WEIRSDALE
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

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Website: www.weirsdalepresbyterianchurch.org



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

Dates to Remember

May 1, Women's Bible Study, 10:00 AM
May 1, National Day of Prayer, 2:30 PM Villages Polo Grounds
May 3, DEACONS Meeting, 9:00 AM

May 4, Small Groups THE SHACK, 9:00 AM
May 4, Sunday Worship with Holy Communion, 10:30 AM
May 6, Choir Rehearsal 10:00 AM
May 6, Tuesday Time Out, 11:30 AM
May 6, Small Group THE SHACK, 5:00 PM

May 7, Boy Scouts, 7:30 PM
May 8, Women's Bible Study, 10:00 AM

May 11, Mother's Day
May 11, Sunday Worship, 10:30 AM
May 13, Small Group THE SHACK, 10:00 AM
May 13, Choir Rehearsal, 10:00 AM
May 13, Tuesday Time Out, 11:30 AM
May 14, Boy Scouts, 7:30 PM
May 15, Women's Bible Study, 10:00 AM

May 18, Small Groups THE SHACK, 9:00 AM
May 18, Sunday Worship, 10:30 AM
May 18, Session Meeting, 11:45 AM
May 20, Tuesday Time Out, 11:30 AM
May 20, DEADLINE for Newsletter announcements to office
May 21, Sr. Singles, Dinner Out—Stumpknockers, 5:00 PM
May 21, Boy Scouts, 7:30 PM
May 22, Women's Bible Study, 10:00 AM

May 25, Sunday Worship, 10:30 AM & Potluck
May 26, MEMORIAL DAY Office will be Closed
May 27, Choir Rehearsal, 10:00 AM
May 27, Tuesday Time Out, 11:30 AM
May 28, Boy Scouts, 7:30 PM
May 29, Women's Bible Study, 10:00 AM

June 1, Sunday Worship with Holy Communion, 10:30 AM
June 3, Choir Rehearsal, 10:00 AM
June 3, Tuesday Time Out, 11:30 AM
June 4, Boy Scouts, 7:30 PM
June 5, Women's Bible Study, 10:00 AM
June 7, DEACONS Meet, 9:00 AM



Email us at:
weirsdalepres@yahoo.com

Check us out at
www.weirsdalepresbyterianchurch.org

Love INC

Help with bills, housing, clothing and food
Monday—Thursday: 9 AM to Noon
352-245-8774 or 352-245-5632

Community of Gratitude

Emergency Food Pantry
Tuesday 10AM to Noon
Thursday 1PM to 3PM
Saturday 10AM to Noon
352-288-3499

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

