



PresbyPress

*"Every day is the day the Lord has made —
Rejoice! And be glad in it!"*

July/August 2011

Christmas in July

Come and worship with us in the spirit of the true meaning of Christmas, without the cultural distractions. This worship service comes in the summer at a time when the usual associated frenzy of preparing for a holiday is not a factor. In July, there is no glitter, no commercialism, no twinkling lights, no tree, no reindeer, no fruit cakes.

We are able to focus solely on the birth of Jesus and what this means for you and me.



For the first three hundred years of the church, the birth of Christ was celebrated in the spring. In 354 AD Bishop Liberius decreed that Christ birth would be remembered on December 25. This would coincide with the Feast of the Unconquered Sun, a pagan feast in honor of the sun god Mithra, and with an earlier-established Roman celebration of the rebirth of the sun at the solstice, also on December 25. By placing Christmas in December, Bishop Liberius wanted to counteract these pagan festivals. Instead of worshipping the sun, the Christians proclaimed that they worshipped the **Son**. Ironically, today our December secular customs, many full of good intentions, threaten to keep us from celebrating the true and important meaning of the birth of Jesus Christ.

Come and worship!

Come and worship!

Worship Christ the new-born King!

July 31



Thank You! To all the Vacation Bible School leaders and helpers who made this week such an enjoyable and meaningful event!

***VBS – The Movie* was a summer box office blockbuster!**

Executive Producers

Kim Cobb & Wendy Nelson

Directed by

Mark Nelson

All-Star Cast

Marchetia Bailey	Gary & Paula McGrew
Nancy Bennett	Bill & Marsha Miller
George Brown	Sarah Miller
Lisa Calderwood	Amanda Nelson
Jan Cole	Collin Nelson
Chris Cobb	Bill Oldani
Maggie Cobb	Tory Parker
Katie Gillispie	Amy Powell
Shawn Hawkins	Becky Smith
Amy Little	Jack & Malissa Smith
Dave Long	Greg & Susan Smith
Judy Lowe	Jaelyn Smith
Sandy Melton	

SPECIAL THANKS!

To Chefs and Kitchen Crew that fed us each night!



***Youth Mission Trip Team
Hits the Road!***

The 2011 Youth Mission Trip Team departs July 9
For our work camp in Keansburg, New Jersey

Please pray for us as we travel and serve on this mission trip:

Lisa Calderwood	Bryce Johnson	Sarah Miller
Maggie Cobb	Dave Long	Amanda Nelson
Aaron Johnson	Mallory Long	Collin Nelson
Bailey Johnson	Zack Long	Tory Parker

If you would like to contact any or all of our campers during camp week, please follow the directions below. We love to hear some words of encouragement from our church family and friends! Campers rush to the “Mail Board” each day after returning from a hard day of work to look for e-mails. Your e-mails mean a great deal to us!

To Contact a Mission Tripper

Go online at: www.groupworkcamps.com

Click on: **E-mail a Participant**

Scroll to: **Select a Camp**

Click on: **Keansburg, NJ: 7/10 to 7/16**

Complete the Fields:

Camper Name (include first & last name)

Your Name (you)

Enter your Message

Click on: **Send**

*Your last opportunity to e-mail a camper will be
Thursday, July 14, before 5 pm.*

News from the Pews

Our Christian Sympathy and Support to

Mary Sue Smalley & her family at the loss
of her mother, **Audra Thompson**

Pauline Camp & her family at the loss
of her sister, **Evelyn Maddy**

Barbara Cruickshank & her family at the loss
of her son's wife, **Carol Newcomer**

Steve & Bill Cain and their families at the loss
of their father, **Guy Cain**

Graham Shook & his family at the loss
of his sister, **Marjorie Benton**

The Dews Family at the loss of the **Rev. Thomas Dews**
Former Pastor, the Reverend Tom Dews, served
First Presbyterian Church of South Charleston 1965-70

Thank You

We would like to thank our church family for the many expressions of love and concern we received following the death of our mother, Audra Thompson. Your cards, calls, visits, and gifts of food were so greatly appreciated.

Mary Sue Smalley and Gary Thompson

Congratulations

Collin Nelson is the 2011 Bible Scholar at the First Presbyterian Church of South Charleston. He answered questions on the Old and New Testament and also the Study Catechism. Runner Up was Maggie Cobb. Also competing, Sarah Miller, Amanda Nelson, Jaclyn Smith.

*Don't Miss these
Exciting Events that benefit Bluestone*

*Car Wash
Saturday, Aug 20th
8:00 am – 2:00 pm*



There is no cost for the CAR WASH, but donations will be received to benefit our cabin at Bluestone. Hot dogs and baked goods will also be sold. We continue to work on the cabin. A new roof adorns the place. New heaters were installed last fall; and updated sinks and showers are next.



*Do Not Miss This One!
Sunday, Aug 21st*

Mark Miller from Bluestone Camp will be here with us. During worship and the lunch, we will have some Bluestone camp music.

There is no cost for the meal but donations will be received to benefit our cabin at Bluestone.

You are invited to come to **Bluestone on October 28** for the amazing 3-days, 2-nights, Church-Wide Weekend Retreat.



Let's go to a Power Park BALLGAME!

Friday, July 29

\$22.⁰⁰ per person
for buffet and game

Make reservations by
calling the church
304-744-2333

Christmas Basket Luncheon

We hope everyone will join us in Fellowship Hall following our Christmas in July worship service on July 31 for a delicious lunch prepared and served by the Missions Committee.



There is no charge for the luncheon, but donations will be accepted to help provide food baskets this Christmas for less fortunate families within our community.

Presbyterian Women

Council and Circles
are not meeting July/August

Please mark your calendars now for the Women Fall Gathering which will be held Saturday, September 17, at the John XXIII Pastoral Center in Charleston.

We give thanks to God for those who placed flowers in the sanctuary in June on Sunday

Flowers were given by **Graham Shook** to the glory of God and in honor of his 50th wedding anniversary with **Leona**

Flowers were given by **Mickey Rector** to the glory of God and in loving memory of her husband, **Jim**, on his birthday

Flowers were given to the glory of God and in honor of **Kim Cobb & Wendy Nelson**, Executive Producers of Vacation Bible School

Flowers were given to the glory of God as the **Davison family** celebrated the birthdays of **James Morgan Davison** (great grandfather), **Madison Lee Roush** (great granddaughter), and **Lee Morgan Davison Roush** (granddaughter)

All Choirs Cookout! **August 27th**



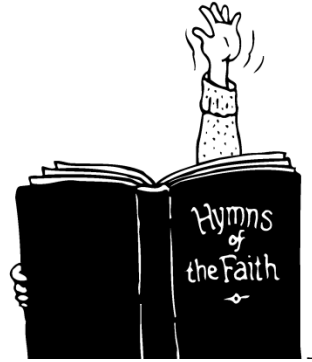
You are warmly invited to make a joyful noise unto the Lord and join the exciting new fall choir season. No previous experience necessary, just a genuine joy of music. If you love to sing in the shower, then you qualify!

The season will kick off with a picnic Saturday, August 27, 4:00 pm, at the home of Dwight & Marilyn Sherman (319 Oak Tree Lane, South Charleston) with spouses, children, bell ringers, praise band, and committee members invited, too. Meat provided, but please bring a covered dish to share! Come join us.



July 1 Carl Heidenreich
July 2 John Melton
July 9 Sarabeth Wickert
July 10 Stephen B. Smith
July 11 Drew McIlwain
July 13 Malissa Smith
July 14 Gary McGrew
Merrell McIlwain
July 15 John Neubert
July 19 Jan Cole
July 24 Lindsey Cobb

Aug 2 Joan Eads
Aug 6 Doug Calderwood
Aug 7 Maxine Hamilton
Aug 10 Katherine Tucci
Aaron Johnson
Aug 15 Ron Bryant
Aug 17 John Starr
Jeremy Calderwood
Aug 18 Tom Sweeney
Aug 22 Tom Titus
Aug 27 Ellen Bush



**Sunday
August 28**

**Seventh Annual
Old-Fashioned
HymnSing
Worship Service
10:55 am
Ice Cream Social to follow**

Please Invite a Friend!

includes

**Standing on the Promises
He Leadeth Me
He Touched Me
Victory in Jesus
Sweet Hour of Prayer
I Come to the Garden
*and so much more . . .***

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN 2010 HIGHLIGHTS

Even though their membership has decreased substantially the past few years, the Presbyterian Women continue to contribute to many benevolences and mission projects.

\$400 Mission Pledge to PW of the Presbytery

\$ 25 was given to each of the following:

Church Family Mission Fund

Sojourners

Hike for Hunger

Manna Meals

Ringing of the Bells for Heart & Hand

\$ 80 Gifts for Missionaries

\$150 Davis-Stuart

\$100 Heart & Hand

\$100 Child Development Center

\$100 Christmas Gifts for Girls at Davis-Stuart

\$100 Christmas Gifts for Shut-ins

\$100 Bluestone repair and maintenance of our cabin

The PW hosted bereavement dinners or receptions for several families of deceased church members.

A baby shower was held at our picnic in June with all items donated to Heart & Hand.

Our mission projects during the Christmas season included the Mitten Tree, Stocking Stuffers, and gifts bags for the girls at Davis Stuart. A total of 18 large gift bags were filled and delivered to the girls. A total of 24 goodie baskets were assembled and delivered to shut-ins and musical cards were sent to those out of town. We rang bells for Heart & Hand, collecting over \$600.

Three of our members attended the Presbyterian Women Fall Gathering at Clarksburg.

First Presbyterian Church
508 Second Avenue
South Charleston, WV 25303

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