

The Culdee Connection Newsletter



Culdee Presbyterian Church

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AUGUST 2015

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916 Hwy 73, West End, NC 27376
Phone: (910) 295-6685 email: culdee@embarqmail.com

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AUGUST WORSHIP INFORMATION

AUGUST 2, 2015

Scripture: Philippians 4:10-13, 19
Sermon: "Knowing True Wealth"

AUGUST 9, 2015

Steve & Kathy Amar leading worship
- Worship will be in Fellowship Hall

AUGUST 16, 2015

Scripture: Romans 9:1-5
Sermon: "A Believers' Heart"

AUGUST 23, 2015

Scripture: Romans 15:1-7
Sermon: "Beautiful Feet"

AUGUST 30, 2015

Rev. Russ Ward leading worship

CD's of the worship service are available on the table outside the office
or by calling/e-mailing the church office.

From the Pastor's Desk...

One of the important truths about the Church is that WE are the Church. While we often use the word "church" to refer to the property and buildings located at 916 Highway 73 in West End, the truth is that that address is not the location of the church...because the building is not the Church, WE are the church. We, the Church, gather at a particular location in certain spaces in order to study God's Word, worship our creator, and take part in fellowship activities in an effort to build up this particular body of Christ.

Whether you are a lifelong member of Culdee or a recent member...or even if you are not a member but are a part of our community of faith...we all share a common goal of being committed to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. How do we demonstrate and strengthen this commitment? Participation. Our participation is an outward/visible sign of an inward reality...our participation reflects our level of faith commitment. But, the truth of the matter is that we all lead busy lives with a lot of things, people, places, and events competing for our time. Recently, while we were on vacation, I read a short little article by Thom Rainer that spoke to what we, as individual believers, can do to become more committed to the corporate body of Christ. So, let me offer you a summary of the four steps he suggested...

1) Attend worship! It is a simple step really...make a commitment to make worship a priority in your life. One of the things Thom spoke of in this article is that rather than fitting worship in to our schedules around various activities, we should make worship such a priority that we schedule our activities around our times of worship!

2) Pray before attending worship. Whether it is the night before or the morning of the worship service, pray for your own attitude of worship. Pray that God would speak to you during the worship service. (And then enter worship EXPECTING God to speak.) Pray for those taking part in the service as well as for those attending the service.

3) Pray as you enter the worship space. Pray for your heart and attitude as you enter into the holy place of God's presence...whether it is the Fellowship Hall, the Sanctuary, besides a lake, on the side of a mountain, or wherever God's people gather for worship. Pray for those present who may be going through difficult circumstances which may prevent them from focusing on God's presence and Word. Pray for unbelievers who may be present that they will hear the gospel and that God's Spirit will convict them of their sin and the need for salvation.

4) Lastly, pray (yes, once again) that you will be a worshipper and not a judge. All too often, (and I have had to fight this a lot of times whenever we are on vacation and visiting another church) it is too easy to enter worship as if it were an Olympic event or some other form of entertainment. We might want to grade the pastor's sermon...was it a "5" or maybe a "7"?...or the music that the choir shared or even the hymns we sang. But may we all remember that we are there to enter into God's presence. Worship is not about being entertained. It is not about having our wishes and desires met...it is about worshiping and praising God. That is why we gather...to give God the glory!

A question we should all continuously ask is this, "Is worship a priority in my life?" My prayer is that we can all answer yes...or that we are seeking to make it a priority!

Look forward to seeing you in worship!

- Pastor Joe

Worship times in August:

- ◇ August 2nd & 9th: One service of worship at 11:00
 - ◇ August 2nd we will be in the sanctuary
 - ◇ August 9th we will be in the Fellowship Hall
- ◇ August 16th, 23rd, & 30th: 8:20 & 11:00



Visit us online at www.culdeechurch.net

OUTREACH MINISTRY NEWS

Christar
Steve and Kathi Amar

The Great Commission (Matthew 28:16-20)

“Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.’”

At Culdee, one of the ways we fulfill the Great Commission is by partnering with Steve and Kathi Amar through Christar. The mission of Christar is to “glorify God by establishing churches, primarily within least-reached communities worldwide, and partnering with churches to send out missionaries who proclaim the gospel and equip the body of Christ.” The missionaries we have selected to support are Steve and Kathi Amar. Steve and Kathi have been serving with Christar among the Iranian population in the Washington, D.C. area since 2001. The population of Iranians in the DC Metro area is believed to be as high as 250,000. With many Iranians disillusioned with Islam and turning to Christ, the Amars’ goal is to help them come to Christ, disciple Iranian believers, and facilitate a church planting movement among them in the D.C. Metro area and beyond—including Iran.

Culdee will be hosting the Amars on August 8-9. On August 8th we will have a dinner and program with the Amars. The evening will begin at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The Amars will update us on their ministry and provide time to get to know them. On August 9th we will have two opportunities to learn more about the ministry we help provide through the Amars. First, Steve and Kathy will be leading Sunday School in the Fellowship Hall beginning at 9:45. Then, they will be helping lead our 11:00 service of worship. Please note that we will have one service at 11:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall where the Amars will share their ministry. We invite all to come out and support the Amars and share in the fellowship.

- Bruce Sandness

UPDATE FROM HAITI

Dear Pastor Joe and the Culdee families,

In particular, my staff and I wanted to thank Culdee church for the \$2000 contribution. For the past three weeks we have been working on the new school building construction. The goal is to put the school together in one location this coming September. And by faith, we believe it will happen.

Once again, thank you for your financial support and prayers. And keep praying for us so God can keep bringing new faithful partners and friends to this great ministry.

Have a blessed Sunday and may God keep pouring His blessings upon you, your family, and the Culdee families.

Sincerely,

Pastor Sidor

**PLEASE SEE THE OUTREACH BULLETIN BOARD IN FELLOWSHIP HALL
FOR PHOTOS OF THE CONSTRUCTION PROJECT!**

CONGREGATIONAL CARE NEWS

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I can hardly believe that there is only 11 more weeks until the big day of the Harvest Festival on Saturday, Oct 17!

Rest assured that we have been working hard on this important event for a long time. I just want to say "thank you" to all the brothers and sisters that have already stepped up and agreed to be the "go to person" in a particular area for this day. We still need a "go to person" for **Take Out Plates**, and **Set Up and Clean Up**. We would love to have someone agree to organize an area(s) for the younger children to have their face painted, create their own finger painting, and maybe do some other "hands on crafts". If the Lord is leading you to head up one of these areas, please let me or Mrs. June know or just come to the next Congregational Care meeting on **August 23 at 4: p.m.**

We have a couple of great events going up in August, **BOTH** will be held on **Sunday, August 30th**. The first starts at **1 p. m.** Mrs. Donna Parsons will be heading up a cooking class on preparing dumplings for the chicken and dumplings supper. If you have always wanted to know how to fix dumplings like our "seasoned" sisters and brothers do; plan to attend **Dumplings 101** and have fun getting all floured up.

The second event is **BINGO! BINGO! BINGO!** The games will start at **4 p.m.** If you would like to play, just bring three items from home to be used as prizes. We will play until 6 p.m. All the items that are left over will be put away for the Harvest Festival. After all the cooking and bingo fun, we will have a chicken and dumpling dinner and try out the wonderful dumplings that were made in class. So come and have fun and fellowship with your brothers and sisters; it is shaping up to be a **Blast!!!**

In the Sunroom you will find a sign-up sheet for both the "Dumplings 101" and the BINGO! This will help us insure that we have enough food and supplies for all who attend. We request that if you plan on attending either of these events that you take the time to sign up in the Sunroom.

May our Lord bless you in all that you do in His name. I will see you all in church.

Karen F. McKenzie,
Chairperson

Christian Education News

Rally Day is fast approaching. It is scheduled for Sept 13th. We will be kicking off a new Sunday school year with breakfast. Please mark your calendars!! If you feel God is calling you to use your spiritual gift of teaching, please talk with Pastor Jo, Vickie Blue, or Mark Thompson.

Hannah Washburn is with us this summer completing an internship. She is teaching a series during Wednesday night Bible study titled "Faith of Our Fathers". We are blessed to have this talented young lady helping us this summer. Please join us Wednesday nights at 6:00. Thanks Hannah for a great job!

Please include Sunday worship, Sunday school, and Wednesday nights in your weekly activities!

Hope to see you all! If you are interested in joining the Christian Ed Committee, we would love to have you. We usually meet 1st Sunday of the month at 6:00 in Children's Church room.

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Eileen Spatz	01
Sadie Cuff	01
Jackie Thamm	04
Sarah Cuff	05
Jani Lea	07
Tracy Vest	09
Eli Black	09
Tammy Parsons	11
Vickie Mehta	11
Wayne Vest	11
Gail Meeks	11
Zach Marks	11
Anna Cameron	11
Richard McKenzie	12
Shelia Blue	12
Nelson Blue	12
Ray Barber	13
Tony Rouse	15
Eve Williamson	18
Andrew Craven	19
Max Whitesell	20
Grace Bowen	22
Deelie Whitesell	23
Nancy Howle	25
Norman Harris	25
Dana Vest	26
Slylar Lilly	26
Jacob Washburn	26
Wendi Craven	27
Anthony Romeo	29
Beth Black	30
Sharon Cuff	30
Jed Black	30
Lisa Huffines	30

CULDEE FINANCE MINISTRY NEWS

The Finance Ministry continues to address the matters that are of monetary concern for the church. At each monthly meeting, members review the past month's income and expenditures in relationship to the yearly budget. The income throughout the year has consistently been below the amount needed to meet the proposed budget for 2015. As Mark Thompson so eloquently stated last month, "tithing and giving are an important part of our church life." As of this article, income remains about \$5,000 below the amount needed for a balanced budget.

Any questions concerning our church finances can be given to your Elder Shepherd, any Elder, or a member of the Finance committee. The Session makes ALL decisions regarding expenditures; this committee makes only recommendations. Our members, like the members of all the ministry committees, give of their time and talents to serve GOD and their church family. Thanks to all of you for your help and suggestions. Please continue to keep us in your prayers!

In Christ,

Jim Stewart

PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S NEWS

Culdee Presbyterian Men will meet on Thursday, August 27th at 7:00 pm. All men are invited to attend for dinner and fellowship.

Wade Garner, President

CEMENTERY NEWS

We appreciate all of our veterans, present and past, and certainly thank all the people that helped place the flags on each veteran's grave for the May Memorial Day Service. Also, we thank all who helped with the service.

All discolored flowers will be removed by August 15th.

Any questions about the cemetery contact Wade Garner at 295-6990.

**Newsletter
deadline:**

August 20!

August 2015

August 2015							September 2015						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
30	31						29	30					

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Jul 26	27	28	29	30	31	Aug 1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Congregational Meeting Finance Ministry 6 pm 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship			6:00pm Bible Study	9:00am Quilting		6:00pm Outreach dinner & program
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Observe Communion The Amars share 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 6pm, Session Meeting			6:00pm Bible Study	9:00am Quilting		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
8:20am Reach Service 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship				9:00am Quilting		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
8:20am Reach Service 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 4:00pm HFMeeting				9:00am Quilting 7:00pm Presbyterian Men		
30	31	Sep 1	2	3	4	5
8:20am Reach Service 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 1:00pm Dumppling 101						