

# The Culdee Connection Newsletter



*Culdee Presbyterian Church*

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**FEBRUARY 2017**

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[www.culdeechurch.net](http://www.culdeechurch.net)

## FEBRUARY WORSHIP INFORMATION

### **FEBRUARY 5, 2017**

1 Corinthians 2:1-12  
“Claiming Weakness and Fear”

### **FEBRUARY 12, 2017**

Matthew 5:13-20  
“Ready or Not!”

### **FEBRUARY 19, 2017**

Guest Preacher  
- Pastor Joe on Study Leave

### **FEBRUARY 26, 2017**

Matthew 17:1-9  
“Standing in the Gap”

CD's of the worship service are available on the table outside the office. Audio, video, and word versions available at [www.timewithpj.blogspot.com](http://www.timewithpj.blogspot.com)

## *From the Pastor's Desk...*

- ◆ Let me begin by saying “Thank You!” During the Christmas holidays, and also when we celebrated the anniversary of our ministry together a couple of weeks ago, many of you shared wonderful cards, thoughts, prayers, and gifts. My family and I are deeply humbled and grateful...grateful for your love and support as well as the opportunity God has given us, all of us, to minister and serve His Kingdom together. While I am thankful for where God has brought us I also look forward to where He is leading!
- ◆ Some have noticed that for the past couple of months the beginning of worship has been different...ever so slightly. You will notice that usually around 10:55, or shortly thereafter, we come in and I greet you and invite you into a time of prayer and reflection. Now, admittedly, in order to extend this invitation I have to interrupt your conversations. My intent is not to interrupt...but to help you faithfully prepare for the worship of God. We start the prelude at this time in order not to feel rushed with the other elements of worship. So I hope you will engage in conversations prior to the start of worship...it is a great time to learn about people, what is happening in their lives, how they are doing, etc...but then I want to invite you into a time of silence, prayer, and reflection...as we enter into the presence of the One who has brought us together.
- ◆ Lent is the liturgical season leading up to Easter and it focuses our minds on our need to repent of our sins. On Wednesday, March 1, we will observe the beginning of Lent with a traditional Ash Wednesday service at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. With prayers, hymns, scripture readings, and the imposition of ashes, this service reminds us of our fragile human nature and as well as our reliance on God. We are reminded that we cannot save ourselves. While we may be looking forward to Easter, and the joy it brings, we must first pass through the ashes with a spirit of repentance. Come...and enter into a holy season of Lent.
- ◆ Last month I encouraged you in your journey of faith...encouraged you in your commitment of faith and your participation here at Culdee. This month I want to encourage you in your role in growing God's Kingdom...including the part known as Culdee Presbyterian Church. All of us have a role in this...so here are some things I encourage you to do in an effort to help grow the Kingdom of God.
  - ⇒ Think of people that you know that do not have a church home;
  - ⇒ Take a few days to pray for them and ask God for guidance;
  - ⇒ Share with them the ministry of Culdee Presbyterian Church and invite them to join you one Sunday morning for one of our services of worship!

In Christ,

Pastor Joe

Visit us online at [www.culdeechurch.net](http://www.culdeechurch.net)



**SESSION NOTES...**  
**Meeting of January 8, 2017**

Culdee began the year with an Active Membership Roll of 287.

The Elder Class of 2019 (Ryan Bailey, Bob Beddingfield, Amber Clayton, Janie Taylor). On January 15...Ryan, Bob, and Amber were ordained and installed; Janie was installed since she has previously served as an Elder.

Ann Savage was elected to serve as Church Treasurer for 2017.

Ryan Bailey was elected to serve as Vice-Clerk for 2017.

The Session received the Quarterly Report of the Endowment Committee. By vote of Session Bob Beddingfield was elected as the second Elder on the committee; no other changes were made to the committee's membership. Tim and Danny reminded the Session that even with our conservative approach to investing, patience with the ups and downs of the stock market is necessary.

By motion and approval, the Session meeting was temporarily suspended so the Board of Trustees could convene to elect the Corporate Officers for 2017.....President, Dannie Jackson; Vice-President, Amber Clayton; Secretary, June Stewart; Treasurer, Danny Aldridge

Items from the Ministry Reports:

Finance Ministry reviewed the Finance Report for the period ending 12.31.16.

The Session approved Phase 3 (upstairs hallway, offices, classrooms, and stairway in sanctuary building) of the church painting project. Phase 4 (sanctuary, narthex) has been completed. Phase 5 (fellowship hall building) is in progress. The total cost is \$34,225.00. The funds come from the Vanguard Building and Renovation Fund; the Designated Building and Renovation Fund; and the Designated Paint and Wallpaper Fund.

Christian Education is seeking a Vacation Bible School Director(s).

\*\*Pastor Joe will be on Study Leave the week of February 13...Edna Anne Loftus, Certified Ruling Elder, will be leading both services of worship on Sunday, February 19.

## **FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS**

Vicki Heileman	01
Kathy Harris	01
Pryor (Jr.) Moon	03
Jonathan Aldridge	06
Nathan Pate	06
Patrick Howle	07
Danny Aldridge	08
Kristen Balboni	08
Pete Bullard	08
Pat Bullard	10
Alex Patterson	11
Carolyn Lea	12
Rhonda Shields	12
Cathy Marion	12
Gavin Washington	12
Philip Parsons	12
Betty Black	12
Chasity McKenzie	15
Joseph Washburn	16
Linda Bryson	17
Taylor Ferguson	17
Sylvia Pusser	17
Martha Mathews	19
Don Williamson	20
Brooke Kemp	20
Daniel Jackson	20
Emma Ferguson	21
Gerald Wright	24
Bryan Fields	24
Diann Fortune	25
Madison Adams	25
Forrest Cox	25
Austin Aponte	27
Sarah Cox	28
Kathleen Black	29

## **PRESBYTERIAN MEN**

All men are invited to join the Presbyterian Men on Thursday February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 pm for fellowship and a meal. Men, sons and grandsons are welcome.

Wade Garner, PM President

## **CROPWALK 2017**

These pretty days we have been having really make us think Spring can't be too far away! Put on your walking shoes and let's get ready for this year's walk on April 2. It is such a good time to get healthy, enjoy good fellowship, and raise money to help feed people right here in our community and around the world!! Mark your calendars!

## **CEMETERY NEWS**

Please remove any Christmas items from graves by March 1<sup>st</sup>. Any questions about graves, contact Wade Garner at 910-295-6990.

- Wade Garner

## **SERMONS & BIBLE STUDIES**

Visit [www.timewithpj.blogspot.com](http://www.timewithpj.blogspot.com) for recordings of sermons, and Bible Studies, that you can listen to on-line or download to your computer to listen to later.

## **5x5 BIBLE READING PLAN**

<b>1/30</b> Acts 5	<b>2/6</b> Acts 10	<b>2/13</b> Acts 15	<b>2/20</b> Acts 20	<b>2/27</b> Acts 25
<b>1/31</b> Acts 6	<b>2/7</b> Acts 11	<b>2/14</b> Acts 16	<b>2/21</b> Acts 21	<b>2/28</b> Acts 26
<b>2/1</b> Acts 7	<b>2/8</b> Acts 12	<b>2/15</b> Acts 17	<b>2/22</b> Acts 22	<b>3/1</b> Acts 27
<b>2/2</b> Acts 8	<b>2/9</b> Acts 13	<b>2/16</b> Acts 18	<b>2/23</b> Acts 23	<b>3/2</b> Acts 28
<b>2/3</b> Acts 9	<b>2/10</b> Acts 14	<b>2/17</b> Acts 19	<b>2/24</b> Acts 24	<b>3/3</b> Hebrews 1

**5 minutes a day! 5 days a week!**

## CONGREGATIONAL CARE MINISTRY

The new year is already flying by! Thanks to everyone for helping with and attending the Pastor Appreciation Luncheon on January 15. It was a fun time of good food and fellowship to mark the beginning of Pastor Joe and Angela's sixth year of ministry here at Culdee. Keep them and our entire church family in your daily prayers!

Mary Ruth and Connie met with the Visitation Teams on January 17. Thanks to all who are taking part in this vital ministry. If you are interested in joining, give them a call!

Applications for the Doris Moore Scholarship will be available March 1 outside the church office. Please join Robin and I on Sunday, February 12 at 4:00 to share your thoughts and ideas on how this ministry can better serve our congregation.

- Blessings, June Stewart and Robin McKenzie

## BLANKET+ PROGRAM

Just letting you know that February is the month that Culdee collects for the Blanket Fund. Please look in the bulletins for weekly information. The offering will be collected on Sunday, February 26<sup>th</sup>.

At this time, I would like to thank Peggy Gibbs for all that she has done in the past years to support and help others in need.

Culdee is truly blessed to have you as a member!

- Robin McKenzie

## “iMPACTS” TEACHING VIDEO SERIES

I invite you to check out an online educational opportunity whose focus is helping you grow in your faith. iMPACTS (Ministry, Practice, Action Christian Teaching Series)

This is a video based teaching series offering practical help, ideas, and tips in various aspects of your faith journey. Each week I record a brief video...I try to keep them in the 3-5 minute range...and upload them to YouTube. New videos are posted on Tuesdays. Links to the videos are then posted on FaceBook (and other Social Media) and e-mailed. You may also go to my YouTube channel directly. The easiest way to find my channel is to go to YouTube and search either *Rev. Joseph Washburn* or *Culdee Presbyterian Church*.

Check it out...and feel free to share them with others!

## FINANCE MINISTRY NEWS

The Finance Ministry met January 8, 2017 at 4:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

The December expense report reflects that Culdee remains in a financially stable position to date. Overall, each Ministry performed a sound job at controlling its own budget during the 2016 calendar year.

The legally restricted funds had a balance of \$83,826.10 with \$292.14 yielded in interest as of December 31, 2016; The Vanguard investments had a balance of \$232,764.36 and \$256.42 generated in growth as of December 31, 2016. As of Friday, January 6, 2017, the Vanguard investments had generated growth to over \$660.00.

As approved by the Session, the Vanguard Harvest Festival line item on the Finance report, has been changed to Building & Renovation Fund. Also, under Designated Funds, 35% of the Harvest Festival monies have been transferred to Missions, and the remaining balance moved to the Building & Renovation Fund.

In addition, the monies over and above the \$30,000.00 needed for the stained-glass window project were also moved into the Building & Renovation fund. The overage transfer was generously approved by its contributor.

Based on the 2017 budget, we have approximately 4 months of Church Liquid Asset funds available for unexpected occurrences. The Session's goal is to have at least 6 months in reserve monies, hence, the reserve funds will be closely monitored by the Finance Ministry, with an intent to raise the reserves to 6 months.

The new Offering Procedure for the collection and counting of contributions went into effect January 1, 2017, and the first Sunday under these new procedures went well. As the policy continues to be put into place each Sunday, changes will be recommended and considered; also, we are working on an attachment to the procedure with detailed instructions and tips.

The Church Road Paving Project remains on hold, as the asphalt companies are not open currently, due to cold weather. The bad cracks are to be repaired by Horner Paving, the same company that completed the original paving. Once repair work is completed we will have an additional 1 ½ inches of asphalt applied over all of the existing asphalt, at no charge to Culdee.

Also, we are pleased to announce that our Stained-Glass Window Project is complete. Ministry members are very pleased with the results and thank each and every one of you for your support. The results of this project that will last for many years to come, and be enjoyed by many.

Finally, the Finance Ministry would like to extend a huge and heartfelt show of gratitude to our Chairman, Tim Lea. Tim has been a steadfast leader, a visionary, a collaborator, a mediator, and a true asset to the Finance Ministry and Culdee Presbyterian Church in his role as Finance Ministry Chairman. Under his leadership and guidance, we have accomplished a vast array of projects. Thank you Tim, for your selfless service during your tenure in role as Chairman. Tim will remain on the Finance Ministry, as one of its members.

The new role of Finance Ministry Chairman will be transferred to Danny Aldridge. We are very happy to have Danny accept and assume this important role. Finance Ministry members look forward to leaning on Danny's leadership and wisdom as we continue to seek His will in making financial decisions for Culdee.

*"Wisdom is a shelter as money is a shelter, but the advantage of knowledge is this: that wisdom preserves the life of its possessor." Ecclesiastes 7:12.*

If you have any comments, questions, or concerns, please feel free to direct them to a Finance Ministry member. Finance Ministry members are as follows: Tim Lea, Chairman, Danny Aldridge, Vice Chair, Jene Bowen, Art McKenzie, Mark Thompson, Jim Dalton, Ann Savage, Jim Stewart, Pastor Joe Washburn, and Cate Short Frederick.

As always, thank you for your continued support of the Finance Ministry.

The next Finance Ministry meeting will be held on Sunday, February 12, 2017 at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted in Christ,  
Cate Short Frederick

## ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE NEWS

The Endowment Fund Committee held its first quarterly meeting of the New Year, on Sunday, January 8, 2017.

The Culdee investments in Vanguard through the Endowment Fund Committee continue to yield a profitable return. The Vanguard investments have a balance of \$232,764.36 and \$256.42 yield in growth as of December 31, 2016. As of Friday, January 6, 2017, the investment had yielded growth to over \$660.00.

These funds include the Church Liquid Asset; Parking Lot Paving; Cemetery; Flower Garden; Doris Moore Scholarship; Mission; Youth; and Sarah Ann Fortune Fund. In addition, the line item on the monthly finance report under Vanguard investments for Harvest Festival, has been changed to Building & Renovation Fund. The Building and Renovation Fund currently has just under an \$18,000.00 balance. Five thousand dollars of this balance was approved by the Session to use toward replacing the shed roof over the basement steps, as well as the roof over the administration building entrance. The Vanguard Funds are easily accessible, and subject to change of investment if so recommended by the Fund's chair, and approved by the Session. All Vanguard Funds continue to be invested conservatively, and each account continues to have a separate account number. Hence, any growth accrued in a specific fund, is applied to that same account number.

We are reminded of the purpose of Culdee's Endowment Fund from a recent Presbyterian Foundation News Article:

“Endowment gifts are theological statements which demonstrate one's belief that we are never ultimately proprietors, owners, but only stewards, lifetime guardians entrusted by God to use wisely what God has placed in our hands. When an individual creates an endowment gift for the church during or beyond their lifetime, it declares to the present and future generations the importance of our faith and trust in God. We have each drawn water from the wells we have not dug; we have sat under shades trees we did not plant and we each have a wonderful opportunity to provide the means for the church to have a strong and empowering ministry for generations to come.” *Matthew 2:11b* – “*Opening their treasures, they offered him gifts*”

We, the members of the Endowment Fund Committee express our sincere gratitude for the trust you have placed in us to manage the generous gifts we as a church have been bestowed. We welcome your input, as we eagerly seek to fulfil His purpose.

The next tentative quarterly Endowment Fund Committee meeting will be held on Sunday, April 9, 2017 at 3:30 p.m.

Questions, comments, or information on opportunities for investment may be addressed by contacting any of the Endowment Fund Committee Members: Tim Lea, Chairman, Teresa Cole, Jim Dalton, Cate Short Frederick, Dannie Jackson, Ann Savage, Mark Thompson, Danny Aldridge, Diane Aldridge, and Pastor Joseph Washburn.

Respectfully submitted in Christ,  
Cate Short Frederick

# February 2017

February 2017							March 2017						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>Jan 29</b> 8:20am Reach Service 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 4:00pm Cong. Care Min. 4:30pm Finance Ministry 6:00pm Session Meets 6:00pm Youth Meet	<b>30</b> 9:00am Knitting 10:30am Prayer Group 1 meets in Ladies Parlor	<b>31</b> 6:30pm Handbells 7:00pm Circle 3 --E. Aponte	<b>Feb 1</b> 10:00am Day Circle 6:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Choir Practice	<b>2</b> 9:00am Quilting 12:00pm Men Of God 7:00pm Circle 1 - Church 7:00pm Circle 2 Eileen Spatz	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> 8:20am Reach Service 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 4:00pm Cong. Care Min. 4:30pm Finance Ministry 6:00pm Session Meets 6:00pm Youth Meet	<b>6</b> 9:00am Knitting 10:30am Prayer Group 1 meets in Ladies Parlor	<b>7</b> 6:30pm Handbells 7:00pm Circle 3 --E. Aponte	<b>8</b> 6:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Choir Practice	<b>9</b> 9:00am Quilting 12:00pm Men Of God	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>13</b> 8:20am Reach Service 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 4:00pm Cong. Care Min. 4:30pm Finance Ministry 6:00pm Session Meets 6:00pm Youth Meet	<b>13</b> 9:00am Knitting	<b>14</b> 6:30pm Handbells	<b>15</b> 6:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Choir Practice	<b>16</b> 9:00am Quilting 12:00pm Men Of God	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> 8:20am Reach Service 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 6:00pm Youth meet	<b>20</b> 9:00am Knitting	<b>21</b> 6:30pm Handbells	<b>22</b> 6:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Choir Practice	<b>23</b> 9:00am Quilting 12:00pm Men Of God 7:00pm Presbyterian Men	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> BLANKET OFFERING COMMUNION 8:20am Reach Service 9:45am Sunday School 11:30am Worship	<b>27</b> 9:00am Knitting	<b>28</b> 6:30pm Handbells	<b>Mar 1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>