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THANK YOU LORD FOR:

THE CULDEE CONNECTION

MAY 2022

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The Culdee Bulletin is now on our website. This allows those not attending to access the weekly prayer list, scheduled events and to follow along with the service when watching online.

To view the bulletin:

Go to: culdeechurch.net

On the top tab: tap news

And the bulletin will be available.

Come To the Garden



In these warming days of May, we look at all the beauty in nature and wait in eager anticipation for the bounty of fruits, vegetables, flowers, and herbs that are now coming and will continue to come over the next months! Our own garden or the gardens and farms that we frequently visit truly bless us physically and emotionally. With the same sense of anticipation and joy, we should daily frequent a “garden” that nourishes us spiritually. The BIBLE is the precious revelation of GOD, HIMSELF, to each one of us. It is where we learn about our past, present, and future as believers. It is where we will grow and mature and learn to live before others a more CHRIST-like life each day, empowered by the HOLY SPIRIT. What a blessing indeed!



NOTES FROM THE SESSION MEETING OF APRIL 11, 2022

June Stewart, Clerk

The meeting was held in the Room A in the Fellowship Hall at 6:30 p.m. with all elders in attendance. Rev. Rick Martindale served as moderator.

The Building and Grounds committee recommended that the HVAC Unit serving the sanctuary be replaced by Carolina Air, Inc. using Trane equipment (5 tons). The unit will have a warranty of 1 year labor allowance, 1 year parts, and 1 year compressor. The cost will be \$5,257.38. The motion to accept the committee's recommendation was approved.

Motion was made and approved to schedule a congregational meeting for Sunday, April 24 to hear a report from the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC).

A motion from Building & Grounds committee was made to schedule a Work Day at Culdee for Saturday, April 30 from 8 – 12. The motion was approved.

The pulpit will be filled on May 1... Pastor Kevin Gregory; May 8...Cathy Haynes; May 15...Rev. Linn Fisher; May 22...Sandy Stewart

Elders approved a new church brochure and a "Connect with Culdee" handout.

Elders approved a motion from committee to restart passing the offering plate during worship service beginning in May.

The next Stated Session meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 9, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

SANDHILLS CROPWALK 2022

June Stewart

This past Sunday , 21 adult walkers, two energetic young folks, two adult bike riders , one "stroller cutie", and a "supervisor" restricted by a "walking boot" gathered for this year's CROPWALK event! The day was sunny, very warm, and there was a breeze.....thank goodness!! Thanks to all the walkers and others from our congregation, we were able to turn in \$1230.00!! We also gathered quite a few cans of food for our local Food Bank and hygiene kits to send to Church World Services (CWS).

Because of such a great need locally, nationally, and world-wide for food and hygiene kits, let's keep collecting!! Just bringing one food item and/or hygiene kit item each week will add up quickly!! There will be collection boxes in the sun room and in the narthex. Thanks so much for making a difference in people's lives!!



Worship News

Holy Week was certainly a busy week!

On April 14, Maundy Thursday service was held jointly at Union Presbyterian Church. Rev. Dr. Douglas Kelly held the service that was well attended. On Easter Sunday, Sunrise Service was held jointly at Culdee with Sandy Stewart leading the service. A delicious breakfast followed and was attended by approximately one hundred people. A special thanks to those who prepared and served the breakfast!



The "Scottish Heritage Easter Service" was well attended with approximately 136 in attendance. Quite a few of these were visitors. Rev. Dr. Douglas Kelly held the service. Peter McArthur of Fayetteville served as bagpiper. Thank you to all who assisted in planning, setting up and tearing down the stage.



As of May 1, we will return to passing the plate for receiving offering.

Pastors for May:

1 Kevin Gregory
6 Cathy Haynes
15 Tom Currie
22 Sandy Stewart
29 Joe Robinson

Elder for May: Diann Fortune

Congregational Care News

Sunday, April 24, was certainly an exciting day for Culdee! The congregation voted to call **Rev. Connie Weaver** to become the next installed Pastor for our church. Her biographical information and her statement of faith are here in the newsletter for information as we begin our journey together.

She will begin her pastoral duties on Sunday, June 5, so mark your calendars and help us welcome Rev. Weaver to Culdee.

Sunday, May 15 will be our Family Day at the Park in Pinehurst. It is really nice to be able to get back to some of our former special days that have not been possible for the last couple of years!

Connie S. Weaver



Connie Weaver is coming from Virginia, where she has served for four years as pastor of Hebron Presbyterian Church in Manakin-Sabot, just west of Richmond. Prior to that call, she served as the Associate Pastor at First Presbyterian Church in Asheboro, North Carolina; and as the Associate Pastor for Congregational Care at Fort Hill Presbyterian Church in Clemson, South Carolina. Connie is a graduate of Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia; and is presently pursuing a Doctor of Ministry degree through Pittsburgh Theological Seminary.

She is a native of Blount County, Tennessee, and earned her undergraduate degree from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. While her father's family were Presbyterians, she was raised a Southern Baptist in her mother's family's church in Maryville. While she deeply appreciates her Baptist upbringing, Connie felt led to the Presbyterian Church as a young adult while living in Morganton, North Carolina. She and her husband joined First Presbyterian Church and Connie was ordained as an elder there.

Connie's professional background prior to entering seminary included radio news at WSJS/WTQR in Winston-Salem, and a brief stint as the assignments manager at WGHP-TV in High Point. She also worked in marketing and public relations at two North Carolina hospitals, and she and her husband ran a business together in Morganton. They are the parents of three young adult sons, all of whom are married; and they have two grandchildren living in Greensboro. Connie's husband, Joe, is a CPA in Asheboro.

Connie feels it is her privilege and joy to serve as a Presbyterian pastor. In addition to her work in previous congregations, she has served on committees at the presbytery and national levels of the Presbyterian Church (USA). At present, she is a member of the steering committee of the Belarus-Ukraine-Russia Mission Network of the PCUSA; and she serves as a member of the Presbyteries' Cooperative Committee on Examinations (PCCE), which produces and oversees ordination exams for pastoral candidates. Connie is grateful to be presented by the Pastor Nominating Committee, to the membership of Culdee Presbyterian Church.

Connie S. Weaver

Following are excerpts from Connie's Statement of Faith, presented to Culdee's Pastor Nominating Committee and to the Presbytery of Coastal Carolina.

"The guiding principle of my theology and of my life is my belief in the sovereignty of God. Unless and until we embrace the knowledge of God's sovereignty in the happenings of our lives, we are doomed to be dependent upon ourselves; this leads us to be anxious, fearful, strident, and ultimately, leads us to despair. To say that God is sovereign is not to say, however, that God denies us our agency as human beings. Our agency is a gift from God that frees us to love God purely. A wise and thoughtful person once explained it to me this way; 'God's sovereignty does not depend on God's ordering of every event and decision in human life, but on God's ability and willingness to redeem and bring good out of every bad thing that happens, as we are willing to surrender these things to God, seeking forgiveness and healing.' This understanding of God's sovereignty is attested throughout the Scriptures and is central to my practice of ministry and to my personal journey of faith."

"There are many biblical images used to describe and explain the redemptive power of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. A most powerful image for me is that of 'first born.' (Romans 8:29; Colossians 1:15, 18; Hebrews 1:6; Rev. 1:5). It says to me that because Christ came, I may live. He paved the way, he cut the path, he opened the door so that I may go in...more symbolically, he opened the womb of God's new creation. I believe that God's love for us led God to enter the human condition through the person of Jesus, effecting our salvation and redemption through God's own suffering. If God is not limited by the bounds of human time, then it is possible that each time I sin, I place a greater burden upon Christ on the cross. This leads me to seek to live faithfully, even as I rest in God's forgiveness and grace."

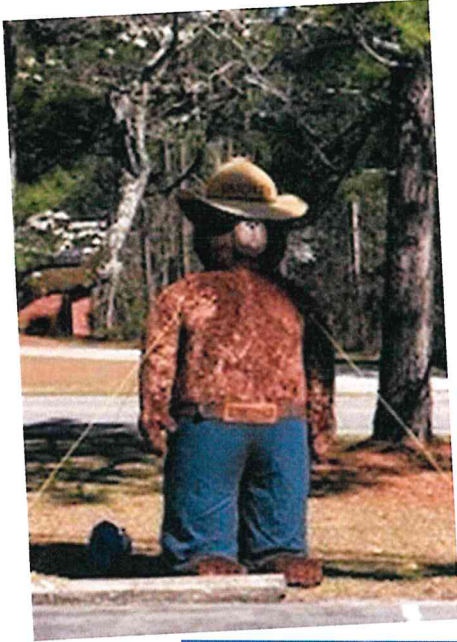
"The Holy Spirit is God moving and working in our minds, our lives, and the life of God's creation. My understanding of the Holy Spirit is informed by my belief in the sovereignty of God. If God is truly sovereign, then God's Spirit cannot be limited; it moves and works as God wills. God's Spirit cannot be conjured by our actions, nor can it be bound by our limited understanding of the nature of God (1st Corinthians 13:9-12). The Scriptures tell us that the fruits of God's Spirit are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (Galatians 5:22-23). Wherever these are found then, they must be of God. While we cannot control God's Spirit, we can choose actions that either alienate us from God's Spirit or which bring us into closer communion with God's Spirit so that we might better hear what God has to say to us, and better see what it is that God would have us know."

Presbyterian Women's News

The 2022-2023 PW/Horizon's Bible Study will be "Celebrating Sabbath: Accepting God's Gift of Rest and Delight" by Carol Bechtel.

On Saturday, April 30, all interested PW will travel to Raeford First Presbyterian Church for our first Spring Gathering since the pandemic started.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTRY



Approximately one hundred people attended the Family Fun Day at Culdee. The event targeted young families with small children. The children enjoyed the Fire Trucks, EMS Transport vehicles, Smokey the Bear, sack races, Darrell's barrels, and finally the Easter Egg Hunt complete with the Easter Bunny. Lunch included hot dogs, chips and dessert accompanied by live music! It was a day of fellowship and smiles! The project was led by Josh and Ashley McKenzie, supported by the Christian Ed ministry and Culdee congregation. We appreciate their initiative and are excited to begin plans for a Summer Splash Event. Each family attending was given a list of upcoming events at our church and invited to join us. Thank you to the Culdee family for contributions of time, work, and food. It truly takes a village.





CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTRY cont'd

On **May 21st**, volunteers from Culdee will travel to **Camp Monroe** to participate in their service day. We will assist in final preparations for this year's summer camp. Jobs will range in difficulty, but there is a place for everyone. Some of our men will use chain saws to build more benches for this year's campers. Please call the church office if you plan to attend. Camp Monroe will provide lunch. We will meet at the church at 8:30 am and return by 2 or 2:30 pm.

Culdee will partner with Camp Monroe to provide our **VBS June 27th through July 1st**. Monday – Wednesday from 9 until 1, campers will meet at Culdee for activities and worship led by Camp counselors. On Thursday, the group will travel to Camp Monroe for the overnight camping experience. Campers will return on Friday afternoon. Camp Monroe is adding high ropes and a climbing wall this year! Available slots are filling up quickly. Call the office (910-295-6685) or text/call Patti Burke (336-803-3278) to add your name to the list.

Next **Funday Sunday** is tentatively set for **June 5th!!**

Marshall Sweat and Patti Burke

BIRTHDAY IN MAY

Dwight Parsons	3	Anna Gallant	13	Brian Gribben	19
Shirley Shields	6	Larry Koster	13	Evan Rivas	21
Johnie Marion	6	Ella Vest	14	Aidan Palmerton	22
Josh Aldridge	8	JoAnn Cameron	14	Rick Mathews	22
Diane Aldridge	9	Emily Adams	15	Mike Marion	23
Reece Parsons	9	Will Cuff	15	Layton Barber	24
Samuel Blue	10	Duncan Fowler	15	H.W. Frye	26
Parker Sims	10	Emily Craven	16	Stan Shields	26
Rebecca Willcox	11	Gail Farmer	18	Matt Gribben	26
Alston Willcox	11	Griffin Clayton	18	Lauren Stone Garner	28
Mark Nuzzo	11	Adrian Parsons	19	Dennis Fortune	31
Alex Prince	13	Darrell Cole	19		



Joyful Noise Performs at Culdee

The Joyful Noise Choir will be sharing their beautiful music with Culdee on May 22nd at the 10:00 am worship service. Please join this group of musicians with developmental disabilities as they share their music. They will be joining in along with our very own Chancel Choir for a special anthem.

Carnegie Choir Concert in May

The Carnegie Choir has been hard at rehearsing getting ready for their “sendoff” concert on May 15th at 4:00 in the Brownson Memorial Sanctuary. This concert will also include a chamber orchestra of local musicians from Moore County who are funded by First Bank. Please plan to join this once in a lifetime concert and support our church choir in this endeavor. You won’t be disappointed! It sounds amazing!

The choir members participating will fly out NYC bound on Wednesday May 25th and return on Sunday May 29th. The concert in Carnegie will be on Saturday evening at 7:00 followed by a harbor dinner tour of the Statue of Liberty immediately following the concert. Please pray for these choir members health and safety as they travel. We are so proud of each one of them.





Finance Ministry: Chairman Danny Aldridge & Vice Chair Diann Fortune

Proverbs 21:20 *In the house of the wise are stores of choice food and oil;
but foolish man devours all he has.*

Financial Status:

The Financial Report from Sandhills Accounting Services for March 2022 showed Year-to- Date contributions are \$1,943.78 over budget needs which is good news! Thank you! For the month of March, though, the monthly contributions did not meet the budget. The good news here is that the monthly expenses were much less than what was budgeted. Please keep in mind that a pastor's salary will be added to monthly expenses at some point.

Thanks be to God, Culdee's investments and savings continue to grow. Savings and CDs at Truist and Live Oak Banks have gained \$161.99 of interest included in the balance of \$188,491.42 through March. January through March earnings under Stifel's management total \$1,106.51 included in the balance of \$346,991.98. Thank you for your support of Culdee! Culdee continues to be in good shape overall.

Additional Tidbits:

Thornsbury's Body Shop in Pinebluff (formerly Williams Body Shop) has completed the repair work on the church van that was hit by a deer in December. The insurance claim with Farm Bureau has been settled.

Carolina Air, which has changed ownership since Culdee first began contracting with them, has been generous in honoring a warranty made with the former owner. Culdee is appreciative of their support and there will be a new HVAC system located behind the Sanctuary building to replace the one in which the compressor recently blew. Building and Grounds will oversee the installation now that the financial aspect is resolved. Funds for the new system will have to come from Liquid Assets due to depletion of Building & Ground funds. The Fellowship Hall HVAC has been completely repaired so all rooms in that building should be comfortable and ready for use.

Finance Ministry members are always available to answer questions.

The Finance Ministry meetings are held monthly, usually the second Sunday evening.

Thank you for your continued support.



Building & Grounds Ministry: Chairman Richard Blue & Vice Chair Lonnie McKenzie

Colossians 3:23 *Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, ...*

If you've visited Culdee since Palm Sunday, you may have noticed improvements to the parking lot. With the generous donation of several tons of gravel screenings from Johnny Harris of Harris Trucking, the driving pathways have been beefed up. Fess Underwood then came and donated his time, expertise, and equipment usage to pack the gravel screenings making it even firmer. Building and Grounds appreciates the generosity of these gentlemen.

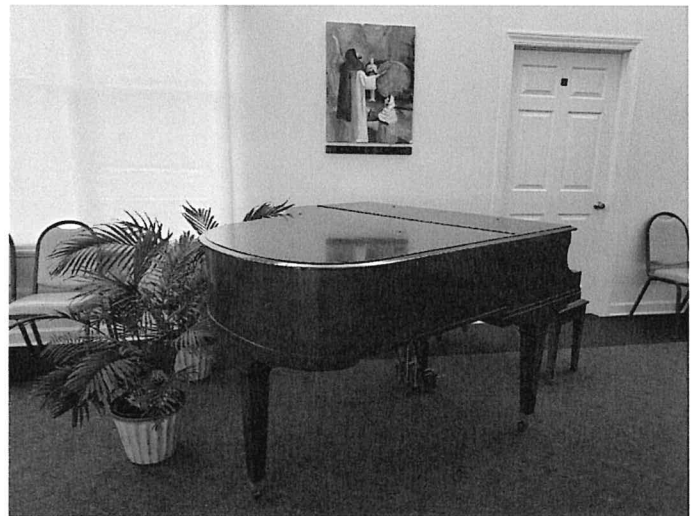
The HVAC system behind the Sanctuary building that had the blown compressor has been replaced by Carolina Air. They worked with Culdee honoring conditions of the 2014 warranty when several units were installed. The new 5-ton Trane system ended up costing \$5,257.38 which Finance Ministry moved from Liquid Assets funds. The offices and downstairs rooms under the office areas should now be comfortable.

The older Fellowship Hall HVAC system has been repaired, also. It required a couple of new parts including a compressor and several visits from Carolina Air. The repair work totaled \$5,339.00 with funds coming from Liquid Assets. Hopefully everything will be working and comfortable from now on.

If you notice something that is not working properly, please be sure to notify Richard Blue or Lonnie McKenzie as soon as possible. Thank you.

Gift to Culdee

Culdee Presbyterian Church was the recipient of the very generous donation of a Baldwin Baby Grand Piano housed in the Fellowship Hall. It was part of the recent Johnson Family estate sale in Aberdeen conducted by K. Stuart Fulghum & The Team. Tim Lea contacted Stuart Fulghum to inquire if the family would consider donating the piano to Culdee Presbyterian Church if it remained at the conclusion of the sale. The family graciously agreed. Letters of appreciation have been provided.



CAUTION: Please do not push the piano. The piano is designed to sit on hard surfaces, not carpet. The wheels on the piano work beautifully and without damage to the piano when moved on hard surfaces. The professional movers have cautioned that the piano's legs will not withstand the weight of the piano against the force required to push it against the pile and nap of the carpet. To be moved while on carpet, the piano must be lifted so the legs aren't weakened. Please be respectful of this gift.

Coded Words for The People Honored Jesus

Each number stands for a letter of the alphabet. Write the correct letter in the blank to find the coded words and phrase.

16 1 12 13

15 12 9 22 5 19

4 15 14 11 5 25

2 18 1 14 3 8 5 19

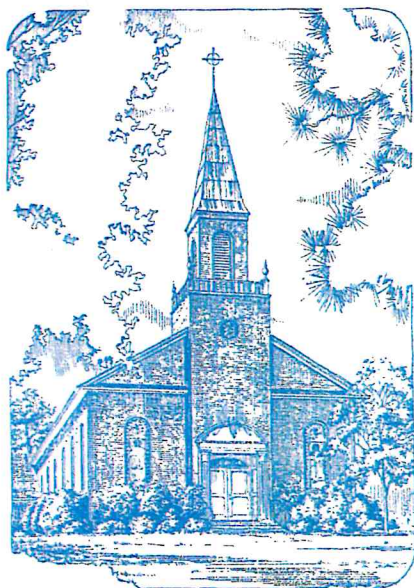
10 5 18 21 19 1 12 5 13

Code key

A 1	J 10	S 19
B 2	K 11	T 20
C 3	L 12	U 21
D 4	M 13	V 22
E 5	N 14	W 23
F 6	O 15	X 24
G 7	P 16	Y 25
H 8	Q 17	Z 26
I 9	R 18	

8 15 19 1 14 14 1 20 15 20 8 5

19 15 14 15 6 4 1 22 9 4 !



Culdee Presbyterian Church

916 HIGHWAY 73, WEST END
NORTH CAROLINA

Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name; make known among the nations what He has done. 1 Chronicles 16:8

Culdee Presbyterian Mission

Culdee Presbyterian Church will build caring relationships with our local and global community while proclaiming the Word of God and building up our faith community.

Filling the pulpit at 10:00 am for Indoor:

May 1	Kevin Gregory
May 8	Cathy Haynes
May 15	Tom Currie
May 22	Sandy Stewart
May 29	Memorial Day Service with Joe Robinson

Weekly Worship Services

Sundays:

Online Service-At your convenience

Drive-In Service – 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday Evening:

Brief weekly devotion and prayer



Contact Us: Phone (910) 295-6685 www.culdeechurch.net culdeepresbyterian@gmail.com