

# The Culdee Connection Newsletter



*Culdee Presbyterian Church*

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**OCTOBER 2015**

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**PASTOR:** Dr. Joseph D. Washburn  
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[www.culdeechurch.net](http://www.culdeechurch.net)

## **OCTOBER WORSHIP INFORMATION**

NEW SERMON SERIES BEGINS OCTOBER 4: "THE GREAT I AM..."

### **OCTOBER 4, 2015**

Scripture: Exodus 3:13-15  
Sermon: "The Great I Am!"

### **OCTOBER 18, 2015**

Scripture: John 8:12, 9:5  
Sermon: "...the Light of the World"

### **OCTOBER 11, 2015**

Scripture: John 6:35, 48  
Sermon: "...the Bread of Life"

### **OCTOBER 25, 2015**

Scripture: John 10:9  
Sermon: "the Door"

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...

- **Small Group Prayer Teams:** Failed churches share many common traits and experiences. One trait that many churches that have closed share in common is a lack of an intentional prayer ministry. Sure these churches, like all churches, prayed a lot...at the beginning and end of worship, following the offering, before meetings began and when they ended, and of course they always prayed before meals! But many have no on-going, intentional prayer ministry. When discussing this in a recent study group it became clear that we, like many churches, also do not have an intentional prayer ministry. Now, I'm not suggesting we are a sick or dying church, but I do believe that we can be an even stronger church with a prayer ministry in place. So, I have an invitation for you!

I want you to consider joining one of our new Small Group Prayer Teams. Over the past weeks I have shared some conversations with some folks about this and have approached a few people about being a part of this ministry. I am pleased to say that we are able to provide at least 3 different options for you to become involved in this new ministry. We have two "in home" groups and one that will be meeting at the church. Times and days have not been set because we want the groups to be able to set their own schedule.

Outside my office there is a bulletin board with sign-up sheets where you can sign-up for a particular Small Group Prayer Team...or put your name on one of the lists in order to get more information. We will seek to kick off these groups by the end of October and continue them into December. Then, after a break for the holidays, we will seek to regroup and rebuild these teams when we enter the new year. I encourage you to stop by the bulletin board outside my office and sign-up today!

- **Recharge Bible Study:** The first Wednesday of October we will kick off a new year of Recharge Bible Study. This fall we will explore the book of James. I hope you will make plans to join us each Wednesday evening at 6:00...or go ahead and make plans to come at 5:30 and enjoy a lite meal.
- **"Men of God"** is a gathering of men at Culdee Presbyterian Church which meets each Thursdays at 12:00 in the Fellowship Hall. Why do we gather together? To encourage one another in our journeys of faith and to pray for one another. During the week we are reading in Oswald Chambers, "My Utmost for His Highest" and then on Thursdays we spend some time talking about that week's readings. I want to extend an invitation to all men in the church to join us. Don't worry if you can't make it each week...that's fine...come when you can. If you come feel free to bring your lunch if you would like to eat.
- **Sunday morning schedule!** Hope you will plan to join us on Sunday mornings! Whichever service of worship you attend we hope you will be sure to plan to be with us for the time of fellowship beginning around 9:30.
  - 8:20—The REACH Worship Service (in the Fellowship Hall)
  - 9:30—Coffee & fellowship
  - 9:45—Sunday School
  - 11:00—Worship (in the Sanctuary)
- **Multi-tasking:** If you find yourself waiting in line following worship, don't just stand there...greet and talk to that visitor that is waiting in line with you!



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

## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Jerry Aponte	01
Danielle Cox	01
Bethany Palmerton	02
Anya Aponte	03
Mitchell Garner	04
Evan Vest	06
Rachel Lea	07
Shannon Bullard	07
Tim Bailey	08
Dennis Sullivan	09
Keith Black	09
June Stewart	09
Taylor Norfleet	10
Celeste Washington Marino	13
Ellen Black	14
Luke Black	14
Suzie Adams	14
Casey Blue	16
Johnathan Kemp	16
Lisa Rouse	18
James Craven	19
Donna Parsons	20
Lance Caddell	22
Matthews Powers	23
Ryan Bailey	24
Jon Preyor Moon	25
Palmer Samson	25
Lionel Bryson	27
Brandon Blue	27
Emma Dennis	29
Hannah Washburn	30
Dean Frye	31

## CULDEE QUILTERS

TIME IS RUNNING OUT! Our beautiful quilt this year is a King/Queen size and will fit either a king or queen size bed. We have made it longer to accommodate a pillow tuck. The pattern is called "Country Flowers" done in earth tones with pops of red.

We are back to \$1.00 tickets, or books for \$10.00. Tickets are available from the church office, see one of the quilters, or they can be purchased the day of the Harvest Sale, October 17<sup>th</sup>.

In celebration of our 11<sup>th</sup> year quilting, help us do a ticket "SELL-OUT"!

Culdee Quilters...Using our talents for God's work,

Ann, Connie, Joan G., Joan A., Judy, Lib, Linda, Nancy, Patsy, and Sharon



## PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S NEWS

Hope everyone will join us at the Harvest Festival on October 17<sup>th</sup> to help in any way needed, and fellowship with each other. Remember to sell and buy tickets for prepaid Visa cards to benefit the men's group. Let's make the 2015 Harvest Festival a great one!

On October 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 pm the men will meet in the fellowship hall for dinner and fellowship. Men, sons, and grandsons are all welcome.

Wade Garner, PM President

## CEMETERY NEWS

Just a note..... With the holiday season quickly approaching, please secure your arrangements when placing them on the graves.

Any questions or concerns about the graveyard please contact Wade Garner at 295-6990.

## CONGREGATIONAL CARE NEWS

Dear Sister and Brothers in Christ,

WOW!! What a great time we had at BINGO! Everyone seem to be having fun while laughing and fellowshiping with each other. Not only that, we enjoyed the Chicken Dumpling Dinner that the first 101 dumpling making class mixed for us. Great Job!!!

Now that September is coming to a close we are looking at October and the Harvest Festival. The signup sheets are in the Sunroom. The contact person's name and phone number is on the top of the sheets. Feel free to call them if you have any questions. Please, keep in mind that it is our Harvest Festival, and it can only be a great success with a lot of help. Let us all pray and ask our Lord to put us where He has called us to help out.

Congregational Care will meet Sunday the 27th at 4 pm to start the finishing touches on these Harvest festival activities.

Your Sister in Christ,

Karen F. Mckenzie, Chair

### It's Coming! It's Coming!!!

The Harvest Festival is coming! And with the Harvest Festival comes the AUCTIONS...the Silent Auction and the Live Auction. You have made the auctions a tremendous success in past years, and we are looking forward to this year with great anticipation.

We are now taking donations of quality items for the auctions -

pottery	appliances	jewelry	gift baskets
sporting goods	hardware	artwork	golf packages
furniture	gift certificates	lawn/garden items	antiques

Items can be delivered to the church or special arrangements can be made for pick-up of items.

**For more information call the church office: 295-6685 or Janie Taylor at 947-3326**

### **EACH SUNDAY...FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST!**

**9:30 A.M. IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL**


**COME JOIN US FOR A TIME OF FELLOWSHIP AND FOOD  
WITH OUR CULDEE FAMILY EACH SUNDAY MORNING!**

**EVERYONE IS INVITED!**

# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

**On Rally Day**, we kicked off a new Sunday school year! We are thankful for our teachers for the upcoming year and their commitment to lead us in studying God's word. We also thank those who rotated off for their work and dedication last year. Thanks to Jim Dalton and his helpers for the delicious pancake breakfast! Good food, music, and fellowship was had by all!!

**Sunday School** - We have Sunday school classes for *everyone!* A variety of adult studies are being offered, so please come join us and see which one is right for you! Our classes and teachers are listed below:




**3 Adult Classes - each offering a different curriculum**

<b><u>Joy Class</u></b> "Christian Life Series" Teachers: June Stewart & Lionel Bryson	<b><u>New Experience Class</u></b> Various multi-week DVD studies Teachers: Patti Burke, Robert Barber, Mary Ruth Whitaker & Sylvia Pusser	<b><u>Friendship Class</u></b> "The Present Word" Teachers: Scotty Pate, Danny Aldridge & Dannie Jackson
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**Youth Classes**

**Ages 4 - 7: Kingdom Kids** - Teachers: Michelle Seawell & Kristen Lilly  
**Ages 8 - 12: R.O.C.K.** (Reaching Out to Christ's Kids) - Teachers: Leann Bailey & Jennifer Cuff  
**Grades 6th - 12th:** DVD studies with Pastor Joe

Sunday School classes begin at 9:45 a.m.  
Come early and join us for light refreshments  
at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.



## **Wednesday Night J.A.M Coming Soon!!!**

Come JAM with us on Wednesday nights! This is a church wide time for Jesus and Me (JAM)!

Beginning Oct. 7, we are planning a family evening on Wednesday nights for another opportunity in the week to study God's word together. JAM will run 7 - 8 weeks and then break for the holidays before resuming in January. **Supper will be served at 5:30.**

Pastor Jo is teaching an **adult study** on the book of James. Mark Seawell is teaching a Bible study for **the youth**. Beverly Dunlap will have a **music program for our kids**. The kids will also have a Bible lesson.

Come join us for Wednesday Night J.A.M  
Beginning Wednesday, October 7!

## CULDEE FINANCE MINISTRY NEWS

I was very fortunate to be able to attend our revival services in September and appreciate the messages Dr. Coker brought to us. One particular statement that he made was particularly interesting to me and I have spent a lot of time thinking about it. He said that churches do not have financial problems, they have spiritual problems. Quite frankly, when he said that, I disagreed. But after careful deliberation, I believe he is correct. Where I grew up, most of the people attended one of the four big churches in town - Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian and Episcopal. Collectively, these large churches were the focal point of the town. Likewise, the communities outside of town were built around churches. Over decades of time, people have become so intolerant within the church. People or small groups get upset about changes within a church, or the lack of changes in a church. Issues can range from idle gossip to national policy. This has resulted in fractured congregations that split off from traditional, brick and mortar churches and form little 'shopping center', 'main street' or 'butler building' churches. These small, scattered churches have very little influence in society. Evidence of this is all around us, and is especially true in our politics.

So how does this affect Culdee Presbyterian Church? The same issues that I describe above are also active within our own church. Some people have become intolerant to change; others do not believe we are changing fast enough. The Reach service was started to offer something new and different in hope of bringing new people into our church. No changes were made to the traditional service yet some people have been less than happy. The answer to any of these concerns is discipleship. We should be doing everything we can to bring people into God's house. We struggle with decisions made by our denomination's General Assembly, yet those decisions have not changed anything about our church values and the way we operate. The answer is to unify our voices and seek spiritual guidance. Bringing Dr. Coker's words back around, spiritual problems would seem to be the cause of our financial problems within our church.

The Finance Ministry is constantly monitoring the income and expenses of our church. There is a monthly financial report available in the church office and we provide a quick reference number each week in the church bulletin. As of the end of August, we are projecting a shortfall on income for the 2015 budget at \$14000. This number could actually become worse based on the most recent week collections. The ministries are working to reduce expenditures each month to match our current income levels. One interesting note on giving is that we have received \$11842 towards designed funds such as painting and paving. These funds are outside of our operating budget and cannot be used to pay bills. While we do not wish to discourage anyone from following their heart and designating their tithes to these funds, we hope that everyone will understand the need to pay our bills first. The Finance Ministry has also been working on a new budget for 2016. Because of the income shortfall, we are currently working on a budget reduction of \$14000 for 2016. Reducing a budget is always a very difficult task. We cut our budget in 2014 by \$13275 and that was not a pleasant experience. It is very important that everyone understand that tough choices must be made when cutting a budget and we ask for your prayers as we continue.

In Christ,  
Mark Thompson

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:** If you have items you would like to submit for the Newsletter, please have them into the office by October 20. You may drop items off in the office or submit them electronically via e-mail at [Culdee@embarqmail.com](mailto:Culdee@embarqmail.com). Thank you.

**NEWSLETTER FORMAT:** Many people prefer to do their reading electronically...via their computer or smart phone. If you would prefer to receive your newsletter electronically please contact the church office (910-295-6685) and we will be happy to send you your newsletter as a PDF attachment in an e-mail rather than through the postal service.

## **PEOPLE IN THE NEWS...CELESTE MARINO!**

When I tell people that I lead a gang prevention task force called ACT Moore (At-risk Community Team of Moore County) they often ask me, “are there really gangs in Moore County?” And when I reply, “yes,” even though I have worked in many at-risk communities in our beautiful little utopian-like town and have worked with gang members, I usually get the look of “yea right.” Fortunately for most, you aren’t exposed to the culture of poverty, drugs, and crime like social workers and police officers are every day.

Gangs use writings, tattoos, colors, symbols and hand signs to identify themselves. They use these things to create a sense of unity within their groups. You may see these symbols spray painted on stop signs or abandoned buildings in some Moore County at-risk communities. For example, the Bloods, which was formed in the 1970s in Compton, CA, uses the color red, a five pointed star, and even sports apparel (Chicago Bulls, Philadelphia Phillies, and San Francisco 49ers) to identify themselves. There are approximately 15,000-20,000 members of the Bloods in the United States. The Crips was also formed in the 1970s in Los Angeles, CA. The Crips use the color blue and a six pointed star to identify themselves. There are approximately 35,000 members of the Crips in the United States. Surenos, also known as Sur 13 identifies themselves with blue and white. There are identified gang members of these three gangs living in Moore County.

There are several levels of gang involvement ranging from “fantasy” to “hard core gang member.” Some youth may think it is cool to know someone in a gang and fantasize about that lifestyle, some may be a member, only associate with other gang members, and will do anything when directed by a higher ranking gang member, including commit crimes. This is an extremely vague explanation of the complex world of gangs but gives you a general idea.

Should you be afraid? The answer is to be aware, not afraid. Gang members are usually involved in selling drugs and engulfed in their own situations within their gang and rival gangs. Life in a gang unfortunately always results in two paths for those who choose that life, death or prison. So what does this all mean for you? What happens as a result of awareness? You can volunteer your time mentoring at risk youth here in Moore County. There are several organizations where you can get started! The Boys and Girls Club of the Sandhills (692-0777), Communities In Schools’ Moore Buddies (295-1072), Sandhills Coalition (693-1600), and Community Learning Center at Pinckney (947-2603 and ask for Celeste Marino, School Social Worker). The best way we can prevent youth from being involved in gangs is to show them that there are other people who care about them and a different, more meaningful path in life. We have amazing Christian leaders in our church and I pray that God may lead you to helping our community by mentoring at-risk youth!





# October 2015

October 2015

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

November 2015

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Sep 27	28	29	30	Oct 1	2	3
World Communion 8:20am Reach Service 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 6:00pm Finance Ministry	9:00am Knitting	6:30pm Circle 3 --Jewell Vest 7:00pm Circle 1 meets at Church Donna Parsons Hostess	10:00am Day Circle 6:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Choir Practice 7:45pm Christmas Choir	Host Family Promise 9:00am Quilting 6:00pm Handbells	Host Family Promise	Host Family Promise
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
8:20am Reach Service 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 6:00pm Session Meeting	9:00am Knitting	6:30pm Circle 3 --Jewell Vest 7:00pm Circle 1 meets at Church Donna Parsons Hostess	10:00am Day Circle 6:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Choir Practice 7:45pm Christmas Choir	9:00am Quilting 6:00pm Handbells		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
8:20am Reach Service 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 6:00pm Session Meeting	9:00am Knitting	6:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Choir Practice 7:45pm Christmas Choir	6:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Choir Practice 7:45pm Christmas Choir	9:00am Quilting 6:00pm Handbells		10 am, Harvest Festival /Crafts/food/Silent/Live Auction 4 pm, Chicken & dumpling Supper
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
8:20am Reach Service 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship	9:00am Knitting	6:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Choir Practice 7:45pm Christmas Choir	6:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Choir Practice 7:45pm Christmas Choir	9:00am Quilting 6:00pm Handbells 7:00pm Presbyterian Men		
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Barnabas Offering 8:20am Reach Service 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 6:00pm Bring Food,	9:00am Knitting	6:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Choir Practice 7:45pm Christmas Choir	6:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Choir Practice 7:45pm Christmas Choir	9:00am Quilting 6:00pm Handbells		