

Missionary of the Month:

Judy Buis
Missionary to Scotland



Judy Buis was commissioned as a World Witness missionary to Glasgow, Scotland, in partnership with Child Evangelism Fellowship of Britain in 2008. As ministry developer, her goal is to help facilitate a stronger outreach ministry to children. This focus includes teaching nationals how to evangelize, helping church staff establish discipleship and evangelism programs, and working with college interns during short-term mission trips. Her cross-cultural experience has covered Saint Lucia, Romania, Pakistan, Moscow and a year in the Ukraine under CoMission. Judy has two children, Regina and Chad, and two granddaughters, Katie and Rebecca.

- Please continue to pray for Cameron's speedy recovery, a seven yr. old battling Leukemia. *(Pictured above, read full article in ARP Magazine)*
- Pray for two clubs being planned in Dunfermline and Glasgow.
- Pray for the scheduling of a thirty-hour course, Teaching Children Effectively, in Dundee.
- Pray for planning of a training course for children and youth at a local church in Glasgow.
- Pray for new workers and volunteers to help with the ministry in Scotland and England.

Judy Buis
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UK
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Please pray for Judy and take a moment to send her an e-mail or card just to say "I'm praying for you today."

Anne McAllister - Foreign Missions Committee

Sunday Morning Greeters

October 30—(8:30) TBA (11:00) Morris & Marsha Keeter
 November 6—(8:30) TBA (11:00) Charlie & Loretta Horne

Sunday Morning Coffee Servers

October 30 — Max & Brenda Garretson
 November 6 —Beth Craig

Sunday Morning Worship Attendance

| | 8:30 | 11:00 | Total |
|------------|------|-------|-------|
| October 16 | 210 | 316 | 526 |
| October 23 | 161 | 333 | 494 |

Sunday Morning Ushers -11:00 Service

October— Kyle Hobson, Tim Daniels, Chip Ferguson, Mark Ferguson
 November—Mark Hamm, Bill Kelly, Wes Morris, Dan Willis

Wednesday Night Supper Menus 5:30pm - Fellowship Hall

November 2— meatloaf, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, corn, roll, dessert

November 9 — chicken tenders, barbecue beans, coleslaw, french fries, tossed salad, dessert

Wednesday Prayer Luncheon Menus 12:00 Noon - Fellowship Hall

November 2 — chicken pot pie, green peas, carrots, salad, dessert, rolls

November 9 — salmon patties, mashed potatoes, slaw, beets, dessert, cornbread

Wednesday Prayer Luncheon Helpers

November 2 — Ernie & Jo Summey, Suzanne Riley, Michelle Winn

November 9 — Barbara Sanford, Peggy Starr, Gayle Goodrich, Michelle Winn

Boy Scout Troop #4 SPAGHETTI SUPPER!!!

November 10, 2011
 First A.R.P. Fellowship Hall

Beginning at **5:00 p.m.** **Tickets are \$7.00**

Also, you can purchase a complete spaghetti supper for **4 people for \$25** (to go only).


Purchase your tickets in the fellowship hall after services, from a scout member or Jim Todd.



Wishing You a
Happy Birthday!

Tommy Brawley—11/8
 Wade Clark—11/8
 Mac Crouch—11/8
 William Kirkpatrick—11/8
 Mercedes Furr—11/9
 Barbara Hargrove—11/9
 Fred Morrow—11/9
 Tari Williamson—11/9
 Gretchen Best—11/10
 Leonard Walls—11/10
 Kaylee Bostick—11/11
 Rhonda Craig—11/11
 Chuck Duncan—11/11
 Elizabeth Reaves—11/11
 Gwynne Blair—11/12
 Brad Hurst—11/13
 Betty Martin—11/13
 Locke Bigger—11/14
 Jim Brown—11/14
 Richie Fretz—11/14
 Elly Keuthan—11/14
 Jim Lovell—11/14
 Sam McDaniel—11/14
 Susan Morris—11/14
 Dan Willis—11/14

Ruth Cauble—10/30
 Jim Crisp—10/30
 Ben Jordan—10/30
 Zeb Jenkins—10/31
 Bogey Wingfield—10/31
 Jo'Dare Crawford—11/1
 Howell Keiser—11/1
 Cora Kuiken—11/1
 Jessica Mazariegos—11/1
 Brandon Barker—11/2
 Kelli Hamm—11/2
 Jeff Jordan—11/2
 John David Morris—11/2
 Wade Newman—11/2
 Lee Crawford—11/4
 Madison Duffie—11/4
 Bet Pearson—11/6
 Jacob Shell—11/6
 Patty Birt—11/7
 Tammy Hubbard—11/7



Serving Our
Country

Remember Our Military


Timothy & Sharon McPeters' son is serving our country in Afghanistan. Please remember him in prayer. If you would like to show your support by sending a card or letter, below is his mailing address.

David McPeters
HHC, - STB, - 4ID
TF - Lonestar, - FOB - Farah
APO - AE - 09382

If you have a friend or family member in the military that you would like to be included in the next issue of The Link, call or email Wanda in the church office (704-864-3468) whenderson@firstarpchurch.org.

CELEBRATING AN

Anniversary



| | | |
|--------------------------------|----------|----------|
| Nancy & Danny Peeler | 10/30/64 | 47 years |
| Roxanne & Eddie Spencer | 11/3/84 | 27 years |
| Rebecca & Brice Maney | 11/7/92 | 19 years |
| Lorene & Tom Bumgarner | 11/8/53 | 58 years |
| Kristen & Joey Hedrick | 11/8/97 | 14 years |
| Loretta & Charlie Horne | 11/12/62 | 49 years |
| Debra & Dale Starnes | 11/13/82 | 29 years |
| Kelly & John Davidson | 11/15/03 | 8 years |
| Penelope & Zack Stroupe | 11/19/94 | 17 years |
| Libby & Eric Riley | 11/20/99 | 12 years |
| Jeanette & Pat Evans | 11/22/58 | 53 years |
| Debbie & Randy Watson | 11/22/80 | 31 years |
| Mary Alice & Johnny Holland | 11/24/81 | 30 years |
| Jamie & Greg Christopher | 11/27/82 | 29 years |
| Norma Jean & Brice Huffstetler | 11/27/65 | 46 years |

Small efforts can produce
BIG RESULTS!

Just a reminder! **November is Crisis Assistance Month at First ARP Church.** This year, we got a head start on November. We kicked off our campaign last Sunday, October 23rd to collect items for CAM. The need is great for financial and food contributions as well as volunteers to staff the CAM office.

Please take a bag that will be distributed as you leave the sanctuary on Sunday. Let it be a reminder that each of us should help others in their time of need. If you would prefer to write a check, make it out to First ARP Church and indicate it is for CAM. Thank you for your assistance.

Please bring your filled bags on or before the last Sunday of November.



Dear First ARP Church Family,
Thank all of you for the love and support you gave us during Carlton's recent knee surgery and recuperation. All the visits, calls, cards, food and most especially the prayers were very much appreciated. You are such a loving and caring church family and we feel so blessed to be a part of such a wonderful group of people.

Love in Christ,
Carlton & Paula Dixon

Dear Church Family,
John and I just wanted to say thank you so much for your thoughts, prayers and well wishes on the birth of our daughter, Liza Gwynne. We have been overwhelmed with kindness and thoughtfulness and are so humbled. We feel so blessed bringing our daughter into such a strong and caring church family. We can't wait to introduce her to everyone!

Love,
Gwynne and John Wharton

Dear Church Family,
Thank you to everyone for all the prayers, sympathy cards, donations and concerns you extended to me and my family for the loss of my father, Bud Barger. My father would be very thankful to all of you for the support you have provided during this difficult time of his life. Thank you Pastor Eddie and Matt for the prayers of encouragement/strength to our family bringing us happiness for a new beginning that my father will now have in the hands of God. Thank you First ARP Church and thank you for letting us be a part of your family.

Carroll Barger and Family

Nuts and Bolts

By Jean Stewart

"In three words I can sum up everything I've learned about life: it goes on."

Robert Frost

- Megan Pearson, who attends Gaston Christian School, is one of six area students in the running for a national scholarship because of her high test scores. Meggie is competing to become a National Achievement Scholar.

She will be notified in February if she has made the final round. We are so proud of you. Go for it girl!

- Thank you Chris, the Women's Ministry Board, and all the circles for filling our church cupboard to overflowing. We use this food to feed the homeless who come to our doors. We have a great supply. My cup runneth over! We will be able to meet the needs of many.

- Do you have any idea how many volunteers it takes to staff CAM each day? It takes 14! We can always use YOU. Do you have a few hours a month you could help? The people in our church serving are: Ruth Boyd, Chuck Duncan, Mary Alice and Johnny Holland, Sherry Huss, Matt Kuiken, Charles Pearson, Mary Lou Pearson, David Smith and Jean Stewart.

- If you didn't see the play, "And Then There Were None," this past week end at Gaston Christian School, you missed a hoot!. Megan Pearson directed it and also played a part in it. The big surprise was Grady Pearson-a budding young star. We saw another one of his many talents. He stole the show! Way to go, Grady.....

- Scripture for memory: "He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust." Psalm 91:1-2



Great Marriages

By Eddie Spencer

How do we attain a great marriage? How can we glimpse the ecstatic union between a husband and wife that God fully intended for us to enjoy? A part of the answer lies within the biblical principle of “mutual submission.”

Marriage is one of God’s great gifts to humanity; it was one of His original institutions in the world. God has purposed the oneness between a husband and wife to reflect and anticipate the beatific vision of union and eternal pleasures with Him.

The Bible’s portrait of marriage is glorious. Consider the majestic picture of marriage painted in these words, *“This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh. The man and his wife were both naked and they felt no shame”* (Gen. 2:23, 25). A picture of a life-giving oneness, mutual transparency and soul-satisfying intimacy. Yet, equally the Bible is so realistic. It reveals God’s glorious ideal and then calls us to the hard work of realizing more and more of God’s ideal for this picturesque union.

Marriage is glorious, but it can be gut-wrenchingly glorious. A Christian marriage calls for sacrifice and selflessness. There is hardly the sentimentality of a quaint Hallmark card as we seek God’s desire for marriage. The Bible verse that sometimes comes to mind after a long day of marriage is, *“Marriage is a profound mystery...”* (Eph. 5:32). So, how do we develop the kind of marriages that give a glimpse of God’s glorious ideal?

Mutual submission — *Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ*” (Eph. 5:21). Ironically, many Bibles that feature topical headings do not even include this verse in the traditional marriage passage (5:22-33). Yet this verse, while not the relational foundation, lies at the heart of the spiritual foundation of a marriage. Mutual submission is the spiritual fruit of the power of the Holy Spirit in the heart of a godly husband and wife.

A cursory look at the context of this verse gives clear insight into a great marriage. Previous to verse 21 is a passage dealing with being filled with the Holy Spirit. Following verse 21 is a passage on marriage that hearkens back to God’s original ideal of marriage (Gen. 2:18-25). Verse 21 is a cause and affect verse. The cause of a great marriage, one that is seeking the joy that God intends, is the affect of God’s Spirit on the character and attitude of the Christian husband and wife.

God’s Spirit produces the character and attitude of Jesus Christ in a Christian husband and wife. What does this look like? An attitude of selflessness instead of selfishness; a spirit that seeks the best in another instead of his/her own rights; a character willing to sacrifice instead of demand.

Think about it. What is the root cause of most marital pain? In most instances, it is a pride-producing, rights-demanding selfishness. The antidote is mutual submission.

How do we learn mutual submission? The answer is right in the verse — *“...out of reverence for Christ”* (Eph. 5:21). The word, “reverence” means “in awe of”, “amazed by” or “controlled by” Christ. We become Christians because we see our need, our sin, our insufficiency and we turn from ourselves to Jesus Christ in faith. As God’s Spirit works in us, we see the amazing grace and gospel of Christ.

As we live the Christian life, we grow in our reverence for Christ. The closer we grow in relationship with God, we begin to see God, His perfect way, and ourselves sometimes painfully clear. Consider the call of the husband. Husbands are called to love our wives as Christ loves the church... (Eph. 5:25). How did Christ love His church? Oh, *“...how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ”, “and to know this love surpasses knowledge”* (Eph. 3:18-19). How humbling is that?

What should our response be to such an imperative? “Oh God, I cannot love this way. “Forgive me for loving myself so much and my wife so little. Grant me, O Lord, more of your love that I may love my wife more deeply.” Out of awe of Christ, amazed by His forgiveness and grace and a desire to be more controlled by Him, we seek Him. His spirit shows us our sin and insufficiency and we more deeply revere Him. It is a glorious cycle. It is the power of the gospel paradox. We see how frail and sinful we are. Christ fills us with His grace and power.

The power of the gospel produces in us a gentle, but strong heart of a servant. It does not take much strength to demand our own rights. It does not take much spiritual character to be selfish and self-centered. These come remarkably natural. But to be a husband seeking to love his wife with a Christ-like love and to be a wife seeking to value her husband, creating esteem in him, takes spiritual power.

Therefore, how do we seek to have great marriages, pursuing the joy and intimacy that God intends for marriage? Before we are husbands and wives, we would be sons and daughters of the Heavenly Father, daily meeting and relating to Him. In the spirit of petition and surrender, ask God to produce a gentleness and strength of character to serve one another and the Christ-like love to love and esteem one another.

Weekly Events

Sunday

8:00 a.m. Officers' Prayer Time
 8:30 a.m. Blended Worship
 9:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship—FH
 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
 9:50 a.m. Inquirer's Class—FH
 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
 2:00 p.m. Ultimate Frisbees at Martha Rivers—Youth & Adults
 5:15 p.m. Youth Choir
 6:00 p.m. MSG & MSB—YB
 6:30 p.m. HSG—Court's
 6:30 p.m. HSB—Andy D's

Monday

11:30 a.m. Intercessory Prayer Group
 7:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 4
 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting—Lobby of Education Building

Tuesday

10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting—FH
 10:00 a.m. Ladies Bible Study—home of Mary Alice Holland
 6:45 p.m. Cub Scouts—Chapel

Wednesday

12:00 p.m. Prayer Luncheon
 5:00 p.m. Junior Choir
 5:30 p.m. Supper—FH
 6:00 p.m. Prayer for Muslims—Reid/McDill Bible Class
 6:15 p.m. Children's Ministry
 6:15 p.m. Cherub Choir
 6:15 p.m. Celebration Ringers
 6:15 p.m. Youth Ministry
 6:30 p.m. Early Worship Choir
 6:30 p.m. Adult Elective Classes
 7:00 p.m. Combined Adult Choirs
 7:00 p.m. Joyful Noise
 7:30 p.m. Praise Team
 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

Thursday

6:30 a.m. Men of Panera Bible Study
 6:30 a.m. Mingle & Montage (Alfred & Charlie's)
 9:30 a.m. Pastor Matt's Bible Study on Daniel—Chapel

Friday

6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast —FH
 7:00 a.m. Men at Chick-Fil-A
 7:00 a.m. Bible Daddies—Tony's
 4:00 p.m. Bible Club at Boy's & Girls' Club (1st & 3rd Friday of each month)



| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--|---|---|--|---|--|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| | | | Women's Ministry Board Meeting 6:00 p.m. 3rd floor | | West Gastonia Boys and Girls Bible Club 4:00-6:00 p.m. | Pastors' Prayer Partners 7:30 a.m. FH |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| Junior Choir Sings 8:30 Cherub Choir Sings 11:00 | Knit One, Pray One 10:00 a.m. Infant Room | ELECTION DAY Rebecca Carson Circle 12:30 p.m. Suzanne Allers Circle 6:30 p.m. FH Lillian Whitesides Circle | LINK Ministry 1:00 p.m. FH Wednesday Night Circle 6:30 p.m. Chapel | Session Meeting 7:00 p.m. Chapel Boy Scouts Spaghetti Supper 5:00 p.m. FH | | |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| Communion Last Inquirer's Class Youth Colossal Event at the home of Mark & Betsy Forbes | Kate Dale Circle - 10 a.m. home of Jo Ann Sytz Elhelda Hanna 10 am FH Janet White/Minnie Alexander Circle 3:00 p.m. FH Juanita Garrison Circle 6:30 p.m. FH | Single Saints 12:00 Noon in FH | | Last Bible Study on Daniel in church library 9:30 a.m. Jo Ann Griffith Circle 10:00 a.m. Parlor | West Gastonia Boys and Girls Bible Club 4:00-6:00 p.m. | |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| Youth Parent Advisory Board Meeting 7:00 a.m. Jr. Youth Choir sings at 11:00 worship Community Thanksgiving Service 7:30 p.m. at First | Birthday Party Girls 10:00 a.m. 1st floor lobby Tele-Care 6:45 p.m. Alan Tate Office | | No Noon Lunch No Supper, Electives, Youth or Children's Programs | Thanksgiving | | Hanging of the Greens 10:00 a.m. |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | |
| First Sunday of Advent | Titus II 10:00 a.m. Library Ladies Book Club 10 a.m.—Parlor 7 p.m.—home of JoAnne | | LINK Ministry 1:00 p.m. FH | | Church Office Closed | |

Control Issues

By Matt Kuiken

Despite appearances, God is in control. It is the big idea of the book of Daniel. Daniel is not the hero of the book, God is. Israel is destroyed and its best youth are taken prisoner, but God is still in control. Foreign kingdoms worshipping pagan gods call all the shots, but God is still in control. Fiery furnaces and lions' dens, but God is still in control. Despite appearances, God is still in control. We need this truth tattooed on our souls. Here are three ways the Holy Spirit applies this message in Daniel:

- 1) Despite appearances, God is in control of human government. It often looks like regarding world leaders, God never got His vote. But Scripture is clear, *"The Most High is sovereign over the kingdoms of men and gives them to anyone he wishes"* (Dan. 4:17). This is Daniel's message to Nebuchadnezzar and to Belshazzar. On the one hand this serves as some humble-pie for politicians. "Don't think you got this position simply by your own charisma and talent, I could raise up Fido to your position if I wanted." But on the other hand, it gives hope and peace to God's people as world kingdoms ebb and flow. The king, president, dictator and diplomat are simply instruments for God's purposes. We do not need to live in fear of election results or rising world powers; God is in control.
- 2) Despite appearances, God is in control of future events. Most of us are familiar with the stories of Daniel 1-6, but chapters 7-12 get pretty weird. Yet in these latter chapters God is comforting his people with his knowledge of the future. And here is the essence of Daniel's visions: *"In the time of those kings, the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed, nor will it be left to another people. It will crush all those kingdoms and bring them to an end, but it will itself endure forever"* (Dan. 2:44). In the end of the beginning, God's kingdom will stand alone. This may seem like a vague and abstract comfort for our futures, but think of it. In the victory of the kingdom of God, every sin and sorrow will be wiped away and all of creation, including us, will be turned right side up again. And this will last forever! Even though the worst nightmares for our future may seem all too real, God is delivering a kingdom in which our wildest dreams are coming true.
- 3) Despite appearances, God is in control of our personal health and safety. In the beginning of the book, Daniel and his friends refused the finery of the King's table and lived on a limited diet, yet they flourished. Daniel and his friends learn that their health is not simply based on their living conditions, but on God's will. There is the fiery furnace and the lion's den, both surely spelling doom for God's faithful followers. But no, these men are just as safe as if they are lying in their beds. God is in control of our health and our safety, even when our circumstances seem to tell a different tale. He has a purpose and a plan for all of His son's and daughter's and He is not going to let anything get in the way of that.

So who appears to have the control in your life? Most likely it appears that you do! But don't be fooled, despite appearances, God is in control.

Children's Ministry Update

G. L. O. W. Sunday

October 30—Sunday School
Fear not! God's Love Shines Bright!



Would You Like to Teach Kindergarten Sunday School?

We need a winter quarter (Dec, Jan, Feb) teaching team for our Kindergarten Class. Please contact Rebecca Maney if this is an area of ministry for YOU!!

Club 45 Masquerade Party Sunday, October 30

5-7:30p.m.

Meet at the Hook's House.

2005 Donegal Court, 28054

Bring \$2.00 for pizza.

Pick-up at the Mitchell's House

1709 Clubview Circle, 28056



Costume Party for Kids!

Gold Rush News!!! Wednesday Nights Continue!

Meet Jesus!

Discover His Bold Claims.

Treasure Jesus!

Discover His Miraculous Birth.

Follow Jesus

Discover His Radical Life.

Believe Jesus!

Discover His Unique Death and Resurrection.

Share Jesus!

Discover His Life-Changing Power
John 14:6, Matthew 6:21, Matthew 4:19-20,
Matthew 16:15-16, 2Corinthians 5:17



We have weekly "Cool Contests"! Earn "gold" by bringing back contest sheets, memorizing Scripture verses, working Bible puzzles, wearing "Names of Jesus" bandanas! Miner Maney and Gold Finger Farrar are always full of surprises!! Don't miss Gold Rush Assembly!

Bible Truths!

Compared to all others, only Jesus can rightly claim to be God.

Compared to all others, only Jesus fulfills many prophecies.

Compared to all others, only Jesus has radical power and teaching.

Compared to all others only Jesus offers an empty tomb and eternal life apart from works.

Compared to all others, only Jesus has the power to transform lives.

Who Do You Say That I Am?

Nursery News!

Our 0-6 month Room is Available!

A 0-6 month nursery is available again for our littlest members. During the SS hour and 11:00 a.m. service, these babies are under the supervision of loving caregivers and away from the curious touches of young crawlers.

Our private nursing station for the mothers of newborns is also located in this room.

Please take advantage of this wonderful option during SS and worship.



Join our Smile Campaign!

Bring dollars to Sunday School to put in our Smile Face Banks!

Each dollar will be used to purchase copies of "The Life of Christ in Pictures" in Creole! It's all a part of our

Haiti Project!



Hats for Haiti!!

Send new/gently used ball caps with your child to Gold Rush Assembly on Wednesday nights! We will be sending these "Hats to Haiti" in March!



Quarterly Teachers' Meeting—Sunday, October 30

9:40 a.m. —First Floor Lobby

Children's Sunday School Teachers!

Volunteers will be in your classrooms until 10 a.m.

Church Library

Check out our Children's Section!

If you have not visited the children's section of our church library, please take some time to check it out!

We have children's classics, Bible story books, family devotional books, picture books, chapter books and a nice selection of family DVDs.

New Christmas Titles:

"Listen to the Silent Night"

Dandi Daley Mackall

"Song of the Stars"

Sally Lloyd-Jones

"The Little Shepherd's Christmas"

Carol Heyer

"Drummer Boy" - Loren Long



Little Things

By Dan Rankin



I happened to hear that one of the local home improvement stores was offering a class for children to build a planter from a kit. It came complete with flowers. It happened that my budding 5 year old engineer/architect grandson, Donovan and my granddaughter, Reagan were coming with my daughter, Kristy (their Mom) for a visit.

I asked Donovan if he would like to build a flower planter for his Mommy. Donovan replied an enthusiastic "Yeah!" He was highly motivated. He loves to build things and to figure out how they work and He loves his Mommy.

Donovan, whom I affectionately call "D-Man" under the tutelage of the "Grampy", completed the planter. We were returning home to present Mommy with her flowers and planter. I was listening to the radio news. The announcer told of a group of thirty or forty kids who ran amuck in an Indianapolis mall, pushing over displays, throwing goods and breaking many items in store after store. Before the overwhelmed security could react, the kids disappeared before the police arrived. I thought this was a sad commentary on our times. During the broadcast, I asked Donovan if he was listening. It occurred to me that this might make a good teaching moment. I told him, "Hey D, you know there are two types of people on this earth. There are builders and there are destroyers. You are a builder, aren't you D-Man?" "Yes, I'm a builduh" he answered in his own unique little accent.

Long forgotten, or so I thought! Six months later, now six years old, he and I were building an airplane mobile from scratch. D had come upstairs and discovered that his 5 year old cousin, Titus, had demolished a Lego project D had built. Donovan, upon seeing the destruction of his two hour project said, "Titus is a destwoyer and I am a builduh, aren't I Gwampy." I was stunned. One tiny 30 second segment had impacted a small child with an adult sized understanding. Many adults never grasp this. That one sentence had helped me understand that little things can mold a young man's perception of the world and more specifically his perception of himself. Little things sometimes turn out to be big deals!

How can you and I offer young kids other opportunities, possibly tiny, but earthshaking to make the giant leap that Donovan made. In this world of secularism and this world of me, me, me, one island of hope is Covenant Community Preschool. D-man is D-Proof that learning is our hope for a better world, but the learning cannot be the negative sort offered by the "street" or offered by Hollywood. In the coming months, you and I will have an opportunity to help the 44 children in the school with books, video equipment, chairs and scholarships for those in need and less fortunate. This will help give the children an education with a Christian foundation. We have the opportunity to help hundreds, yes, even thousands of kids get a Christian education. As the old hymn says "On Christ the solid rock I stand, all other ground is sinking sand!" I offer a telling quote from one of the most powerful secularists and most successful enemies of Christianity of all time, "Give me children to teach for four years and the seeds I have sown will never be undone." Vladimir Lenin is credited with this quote. He and his followers nearly eradicated Christianity from whole nations.

Our school board and Director Lynda Williams have a vision of what kind of seeds we want to sow. Lynda and I, with the approval of the school board, are planning a "Fun-raiser". Yes, we will be raising money, but we plan to have a fun event. Have I piqued your curiosity? Good. More details to follow!

Faith Promise Update from Tat & Patty Stewart

A new website, in English and Persian, opens new doors for ministry. Many of the sermons Tat Stewart preached at the Church of Atonement and conferences are available.

After starting with only two hours a week on Arabic Sat. 7 channel, today millions across the Middle East can watch Christian programs from our own channel. SAT-7 PARS is now one of the most popular channels with children and youth programs, devotionals, sermons and teaching programs. Please pray that these programs will have an impact on thousands of young people.

Tat was the keynote speaker for two nights at the Belgium conference in August. He is planning to have the same conference in Holland next year. He has just completed 96 programs on Discipleship Training for Satellite Television. Pray for good results of these programs and for divine protection for all of those on television. Pray also for Patty's parents who have moved into assisted living.

By Gene Hanna



First Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church

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Church email: whenderson@firstarpchurch.org

Pastor Eddie's email: espencer@firstarpchurch.org

Pastor Matt's email: mkuiken@firstarpchurch.org

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In God We Trust

Return Service Requested



IT'S THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR.....



No, I'm not talking about football season like a recent commercial implied. Christmas is coming, which means that it is time to remember Jesus and what HE has done for us! One way that we can celebrate His birth is by helping others. That is one of the reasons we have the Angel Tree which helps us to support our Community Christmas Store. Angels are put on the tree with different dollar amounts and some have items listed such as "3 basketballs". Any individual or group (circles, Sunday School classes, families, etc.) can pick up one or more angels and return the money to Tammy Baker or the balls to the floor under the Angel Tree. In the meantime, parents who want to participate in shopping for their children fill out an application which lists sizes and "wishes". This year, ten families from the West Gastonia Boys and Girls Club, ten families from York Chester Middle School and five families from our Preschool Program will be selected and we will buy clothes and other things for them according to the sizes that they have submitted. The parent pays \$10 for the first child and \$20 for the second child, if there is one. If there are more than two children, they are "free". If we have enough funding, we also provide a food box for each family.

VOLUNTEERS are needed!! Some of our store shoppers have already volunteered. Shopping will begin in early November. We still need two shoppers for the 6-12 year old girls. During the week of December 12 - 15, we set up the store. There are three rooms, one for infant to 5 year olds clothing, one for older boys and girls' clothing and a game/toy room. **VOLUNTEERS** are needed to help set up these rooms and to help on Thursday night, December 15 in the store from 5:30 - 7:00. **YOUTH VOLUNTEERS** are needed to help the parents shop in the store. **MEN VOLUNTEERS** are needed to escort the parents and to help them get the bags of gifts to the car. **VOLUNTEERS** of various ages are needed to help with the Birthday Party for Jesus that will take place in the fellowship hall for the children whose parents are shopping. Please contact Rebecca Maney or Vicki Marsh if you would be willing to **VOLUNTEER** for any of these jobs associated with our Community Christmas Store. If you ask anyone who has helped with our store in the past, I think that they will say that after this experience, it's the most wonderful time of the year! **VOLUNTEER** and find out!

Vicki Marsh