

## June 2008 Newsletter

# Fellowship Presbyterian Church

1105 Old Spartanburg Road ~ Greer, SC 29650

Rev. Martin D. Martin, Pastor

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### “Summer—A Change of Pace”

by Martin H. Martin



So are you ready for the summer yet? As the May schedule and pace causes me to fight to stay awake at the keyboard, I am reminded of the phrase I heard from a friend once, “We have learned to love May because it means that June is coming!” The succession of year-end soccer parties, school programs and graduations is dizzying and exhausting; but it also reminds us that we only have a few weeks to go until summer. Then the pace can change a little bit. So what do you plan for this summer? Let me make a few suggestions for a change of pace and a little variety in the routine.

Celanie and I were just talking the other night about how we look forward to having more time to read as a family. With the beginning of June, the kids have an end to homework for a while. It stays light later and the wake-up time is not as crucial as it is during the school year (well, maybe it is for Dad and Mom!). The weather is more pleasant than much of the year and the pollen has been washed off the porch. Let it be a time to sit down after dinner as a family and read some of the things you have not had the chance to read during the school year.

For those with little children, it is a good occasion to read some of the kid’s classics or perhaps a good children’s bible. Older kids (and parents too!) might enjoy something from the *Chronicles of Narnia*. With the release of *Prince Caspian* in May, you might be interested in reading more from the series. Other things from C.S. Lewis, like *The Screwtape Letters*, might appeal to high school and college students.

But this isn’t just an idea for those with young ones at home. For those of you with “empty nests”, you can still sit out on the porch or deck after dinner and enjoy the evening closing the day with Scripture or just talking about how the Lord has worked in your life that day.

Finally, for those of us who can “flex” the schedule a bit, the longer days make it possible to get in a full day and still have hours of light left to do little excursions. Personally, I like to get into work earlier in the summer; but that also means I can get in a full day and still knock off around four o’clock, which gives me several hours to meet the family at the pool or rendezvous at home to head out for an evening picnic.

I know that many of us have been running a very busy pace, and that’s good – God made us to be busy! But God also gave His people seasons of rest and built-in “changes of pace” throughout the year. I hope the summer season, not just with its vacations but with its regular weekly schedule, is a time of refreshment and renewal for us all.

Pastor Marty

### MEN’S FELLOWSHIP & PRAYER BREAKFAST:



**Saturday, June 28<sup>th</sup>, 7:00—9:00 AM**

Sign-up sheet in narthex.

A Session meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 10<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 PM.

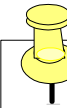
### SERVING IN JUNE:

Elder of the Month: Lafoye Mooney (877-8585)

Deacon of the Month: Sam Stubbs (968-9555)

Greeters of the Month: The Way Family

Ushers: Troy High & Bill Wilder



## Church Notes:

*The sacrament of the Lord’s Supper will be celebrated Sunday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, during morning worship.*

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER AND ACTIVITIES WILL RESUME ON SEPTEMBER 10<sup>th</sup>!**

**FAREWELL RECEPTION IN HONOR OF EMILIO & ANELISE GAROFALO**



**SUNDAY JUNE 22<sup>ND</sup>**

(following evening worship)



**PLEASE SIGN-UP TO BRING A TRAY OF HEAVY HORS D’OEUVRES OR YOUR FAVORITE DESSERT.**

Sign-up sheet is in the narthex; thank you!

**Nursery Help Needed:** If you are not currently on the nursery rotation, please contact the church office ([office@fellowshippres.org](mailto:office@fellowshippres.org) or 877-3267) or Kathy Way ([inmanways@yahoo.com](mailto:inmanways@yahoo.com) or 864-814-1908).

~Thank you!!

**Ladies’ Tuesday Morning Bible Study: Shepherding a Child’s Heart**



**Meets Tuesdays; 9:30-11:30 AM**

(at the church; nursery provided)

**Sign-up sheet is in the narthex.**

The June edition of **TABLETALK** is available (free of charge) to all members and visitors; pick up your copy (in the narthex) today!

**JULY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS THURSDAY, JUNE 19<sup>th</sup>.**



**FROM THE DIACONATE:** for everyone’s safety and the security of our facilities, please keep all exterior classroom doors shut/ locked at all times (except in case of an emergency), enter/ exit the building through the front or side doors only, and please **do not prop open/ block the side door.**

~Thank you for your cooperation!



**FPC LIBRARY—COMING SOON!**



## Family and Youth Corner:

by Breno Macedo

### “Attributes of God”

*The LORD has established His throne in the heavens,  
and His kingdom rules over all. (Psalm 103:19)*

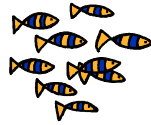
In 1859 a young lad from Pennsylvania, after his graduation in Princeton under Professor Charles Hodge, was ordained and sent to Brazil as a missionary effort of the PCUSA to preach the gospel and the Presbyterian standards in that country. His name was Ashbel Green Simonton. In 1860, Rev. Simonton preached his first sermon in the Portuguese language and in 1862 founded the First Presbyterian Church in Brazil, located in Rio de Janeiro.

This just reminds me of God’s providence, His control over history, His absolute dominion. No one living in the Roman Catholic country of Brazil during the 19<sup>th</sup> century would have believed that the Lord would bring a foreigner (who would learn the local language in two years!) and enable him to preach His Gospel in such a powerful way that, 146 years later, that single church (First Presbyterian Church in Brazil) would become 2304, distributed among 236 presbyteries.

Since my wife and I arrived here, we have been learning a lot on that matter. We have found demonstrations from our Lord of His mercy and care not only in the Seminary but brothers and sisters individually have been used by Him to bless us with love, attention, prayers and gifts.

The knowledge of this biblical truth must find a special place in the hearts of faithful believers and must cause a great impact in the way they live and see the world. The Christian ought to exercise his dependence on God by struggling against the thought that he can solve problems or live his life by himself and by spending time in private prayer as advised by our Lord Jesus.

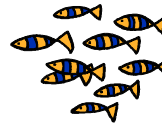
~Breno



MISSIONARY MISSIVE

## James & Bonnie Buckner

by Carolyn Root



James Buckner has been enjoying God’s “spring gallery” during his travels to visit many supporting churches, including Fellowship. He has appreciated the shared homes, delicious meals, dogs, and even work gloves (for a Habitat for Humanity project one Saturday with Christ Community Church in Simpsonville).

Bonnie and Ruth have been “holding down the fort” in Arden, NC. They report that the mountains of western North Carolina are once again filled with an array of vibrant green with dogwoods in bloom and birds singing. Ruth’s visit to Covenant College (March 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>) resulted in a positive closure with friends and faculty. Many of those same friends will be graduating in a couple of weeks. Ruth is ready for a part-time job with more hours. Let’s continue to ask the Father to give her continued healing, a suitable part-time position, and a driver’s license. David just finished his first year at Covenant and plans to find a job and spend the summer with James and Bonnie in Asheville. Joseph suffers from poor health, but continues to work long hours in Hong Kong. “O Lord, have mercy on Joe, and gift him with good employment!”

The Buckners are thankful for many new prayer supporters, who are greatly needed to support the challenge of planting churches in Hong Kong and beyond. Please pray that enough financial support is raised, as they cannot return to Hong Kong until adequate pledges are in hand. Thanks for your partnership in the Gospel “to Hong Kong and beyond.”

### James and Bonnie Buckner and Family

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