



Words of Friendship



March 2015

Friendship Presbyterian Church (USA)

8531 Macon Highway

Athens, Georgia 30606

(706) 543-6077

www.gotofriendship.org



Adult Sunday School 9:40 am

Sunday Worship 11:00 am

A Word from the Pastor

Dear Friend,

Have you read Kayla Mueller's letter? Kayla Mueller was the young, American woman who was held captive, and eventually died, by the terrorist group ISIS. Prior to her death, she wrote an incredibly moving letter to her family. The letter is full of concern for her family and her thoughts in that most dire of situations. Her letter includes this passage:

"I remember mom always telling me that all in all in the end the only one you really have is God. I have come to a place in experience where, in every sense of the word, I have surrendered myself to our creator because literally there was no one else...and by God and by your prayers I have felt tenderly cradled in freefall. I have been shown darkness, light and have learned that even in prison, one can be free. I am grateful. I have come to see that there is good in every situation, sometimes we just have to look for it. I pray each day that if nothing else, you have felt a certain closeness and surrender to God as well and have formed a bond of love and support amongst one another..."

Her prayer for those she loves most dearly was that they would feel "a certain closeness and surrender to God." As we go through this Lenten period of self-examination, that is my prayer for us all too—a certain closeness and surrender to God. Lent is a time when we intentionally pause and ask ourselves how we are doing in this walk of faith. Looking at ourselves can sometimes be hard. It can be painful to be honest with who we are and how far we have strayed from God's will for our lives. But knowing that Jesus is there with us, praying and strengthening us, we can make real changes in our lives and others.

Grace and peace to you, during this Lenten journey,
Rev. Tara Bulger



Women's Circle 1



Circle One will meet on Tuesday, March 10th, at the church at 9:45am. We are continuing our Bible study of selected Bible passages with

Tara Bulger leading our study. Each month is a separate study so visitors are always welcome! Come and see!

The Friendship Men will have their regular monthly meeting on Thursday, March 5th, at 7pm. All men are invited.



Session Retreat

Please pray for our session as they meet on Friday, March 6th for a day of planning together for the future of our church.

Youth Dinner



Let's get together for dinner on Sunday, March 15 at 6 pm at La Parilla in Watkinsville! Contact Tara to let her know if you can be there. Friends always welcome.



MARCH VOLUNTEERS

	Liturgist	Money Counters	Rocker MOM
1	Kevin Kelly	Alan White	Donna McGinty
8	Elizabeth Graham	Barbara Remmers	Linda Kelly
15	Nan McMurry	Bev Davis	Amy Ivy
22	Ryann Bulger	Pattie Ivy	Evelyn Montgomery
29	Rebecca Hill	Linda Kelly	Melody Cartledge

Communion Servers

1	Linda Kelly, Kathy Roberts, Marks Towles, Ted Walker
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Letters from our Members



Dear Friends,

Regardless of all indications to the contrary, Walt and I are still around! We have returned to Athens twice since our move on account of pre-arranged doctor's appointments. All is well and we're in the process of getting new doctors up here. Even though it's only an hour between here and there the time isn't too far off when we won't be able to drive, so..... Every day seems to bring with it a multitude of "chores"...new bank, new Driver's Licenses and car registration, insurance policy adjustments, address change notifications, multitudinous papers to sign and learning to deal with an electric stove. Not to mention diddleydoos ad infinitum!

Aside from the diddleydoos, life here is really great. The apartment is very nice...two bedrooms, two baths, one large central room which we have arranged in halves.... dining room and living room, an ample kitchen in which to bang enough pots and pans fixing breakfast and lunch to make Walt cringe and look forward to a peaceful dinner in the main dining room, a den which we have designated as "the office" where Walt has begun writing his book and a delightful screened porch. We've met a lot of interesting people as we are seated randomly with different couples every night. We can also make up tables of our own choosing. The food is quite enjoyable with enough choices to keep the residents basically happy.

There's always a lot going on but Walt and I have been using the word sabbatical to keep us at least at arms' length from those kind souls who invite us to join in their classes, card groups, barbershop singers, in-house choirs or church choirs (Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian...pick one!) We have been trying to keep from atrophying when we sit down for a respite from unpacking by going to the workout room. All the cartons have been duly emptied, the contents artfully placed in some semblance of order or unceremoniously stuffed under the beds. So we are now able to see one another across less crowded rooms and can think "out of the box". We're pretty pooped when we get to bed, early, and sleep well till the dawn breaks outside our east facing windows all glowing golden, rosy, red and orange. We're on the third floor so we look out and over the landscaped trees and gardens which someone (hmmmm) has weeded, clipped and mulched with pine straw. Very attractive. We don't see the mountains from our apartment because we didn't want the hot western afternoon sun like we'd had in the old house so we enjoy the eastern morning rays and look at the mountains from other vantage points in the complex.

There are birds outside our bedroom windows but not in the profusion we'd enjoyed in Athens. Sorrowfully, we cannot encourage their presence with feeders...the porch is screened in.

We are happy here but we miss you. Please know that the door is always open for visits from old friends and since we are retired you can come any day of the week!

Emily & Walt

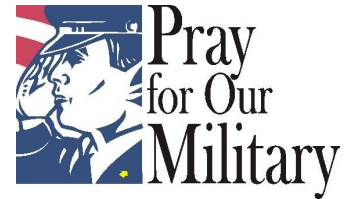


Walt and Emily Sanders
We're migrating a bit north

Lanier Village Estates
4211 Misty Morning Way, Village East #2325
Gainesville, GA 30506
(678) 943-8141
wsanders3@charter.net, emilysanders@charter.net



Congratulations to Grace Hawn
and her son Tom who was recently promoted to
Colonel in the U. S. Army.
Grace traveled to the Pentagon to see the special ceremony.



Pictured: Col. Tom Hawn and wife, Christine; Grace, proud Mom; Grace's brother Navy Captain (ret) Hollis Holen and wife, Jeannette; and Ethan (Tom and Christine's son)

Thanks to FPC Food Committee

A special thanks to the Food Committee for all your hard work. It is a pleasure to work with everyone on this committee. You are dependable and work hard at each of our dinners or special occasions. Serving on the Food Committee are Melody Cartledge, Nancy Graham, Amy Ivy, Linda Kelly, Carol McKillip, Jane Towles and Rosemary Salter, our newest member. Not only does this committee work hard, but we enjoy working together and we have a lot of fun.

Shirley Harris, Chairman





Thomas Tallis

by Kevin Kelly

During the season of Lent, for our Doxology we will be singing a hymn tune by Thomas Tallis, hence this biographical sketch.

Despite his stature as one of the great composers of English church music, little is known about Thomas Tallis. He was born about 1505, towards the end of the reign of Henry VII. Tallis' musical education as a youth is not known either, though it is believed he served as a choirboy of the Chapel Royal at St. James palace.

The first definite date marking the start of Tallis' musical career is 1532, when he was appointed organist of Benedictine Priory in Dover. Five years later Tallis went to London to be organist at St. Mary-le-Hill in Billingsgate, then at Waltham Abbey. After the Abbey was dissolved during the reign of Henry VIII in 1540, Tallis found employment a year later at Canterbury Cathedral as a lay clerk. Finally, he settled into the King's service, singing in the Chapel Royal, playing the organ, helping to lead the choir, and composing. With his music student William Byrd, Tallis in 1575 secured a 21-year monopoly on printing both music scores and music paper, one of the first such arrangements in the country. Tallis remained with the Chapel Royal until his death in 1585, having served four monarchs during his lifetime – Henry VIII, Edward VI, Mary Tudor and Elizabeth I.

During this succession of monarchs, Tallis was successful in keeping himself aloof from the volatile religious controversies that were so prevalent in those times. As the pendulum of the national faith swung from Catholic to Protestant to Catholic and back to Protestant again, kings and queens demanded different liturgical music. For the Catholic Church Tallis set Latin texts to music of an elaborate, polyphonic style; for the Anglican Church he provided settings of English texts that were in a simpler and more clear-cut style. An example of the latter is the so-called "Tallis Canon" which is still sung today; it is the tune for Hymn 542 in the Presbyterian hymnbook, whose fourth verse comprises the Doxology that we are singing.



Preschool Happenings

by: Kelly Jones,
Preschool Director



Meet our Preschool Teachers



First Friends Teachers
Kim Danner, Julie Jenkins,
Heidi Jaeger



2/3 Year Old Teachers
Amanda Garmon, Emily Cropp, Christina Williamson,
Sherry Anderson, Sharon Townsend, Carol Bolden



3 Year Old Teachers
Susanne Hayes, Christy Anderson, Salinda Huff,
Stacy Middlebrooks



4 Year Old Teachers
Suzanne Graves, Amanda Camp
Not Pictured: Chris Burr, Gail Kay

THANKS

The Preschool Staff thanks the Preschool Board (Linda Kelly, Bev Davis, Jane Towles, Nancy Graham) and Shirley Harris for providing lunch at their February Staff Meeting.



Scouting at Friendship

By

Scoutmaster Paul Matthews

The Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, and Venturers appreciated the opportunity to take part in worship with the congregation during this year's Scout Sunday in early February. We felt very welcomed, and again want to express our appreciation all year 'round for

helping support our Scouting activities! One upcoming event we'd like to invite you to is our annual Chicken Barbecue fundraiser, which will be on Saturday, March 7 at Harris Shoals Park, serving chicken dinners late afternoon. This helps our Scouts earn money for the active program that we undertake; we'd be glad to sell you a ticket or two!

The Boy Scout troop went skiing, along with Troop 7 (the newest Scout troop in Oconee Co.) at Wolf Ridge in North Carolina, working on the Snow Sports merit badge, on February 6-7. Given the colder weather, we were glad to have enough snow to allow everyone time on the slopes to work on their skills. Our four patrols are each also planning and carrying out their own trips, integrated across their six-month leadership term; one group went to the Tennessee Aquarium in Chattanooga, where they camped out in the actual aquarium overnight! The Scouts are also getting to do some follow-ups from prior trips, including completing the Oceanography merit badge (started at the USS Yorktown) with a session at UGA; finishing out Rifle and Shotgun shooting and Snow Sports requirements started on those trips; and also getting ready for this summer's Bahamas sailing adventure, with a BSA Snorkeling training session at the Athens YMCA. Our March camping trip will take us to the coast, for a long weekend at Cumberland Island's pristine setting.

The Cub Scout Pack had the annual Pinewood Derby in February, and in early March the Webelos II's (5th graders), who have been visiting each of the local troops, will receive their Arrow of Light award and officially cross over into Boy Scouting at a weekend event at Scoutland on Lake Lanier. The Venturing Crew attended Winterfest, a regional gathering of Venturers and Explorers, in Gatlinburg, TN in early February.

At meetings, Troop members have been focused on merit badges including Citizenship in the Community, Space Exploration, and others, as well as focusing on map and compass, first aid transportation, and other skills. Service projects have included trail and park clean-ups at Southeast Clarke Park, as well as marking and clearing a bike trail for Oconee Veteran's Park (see photo). About a dozen of our Scouts attended the district "Advance-a-Rama" in late February, earning merit badges from instructors at UGA. And, four of our Scouts were elected by their peers to be eligible for the Order of the Arrow, Scouting's honor camping and service society. Overall, our Scouts are working on finishing out their goals for ranks and badges in order to be recognized at our upcoming "Court of Honor" on March 24. Please feel free to come by if you'd like to see our Scouts being recognized!



Thanks for your continued support of the Boy Scout Troop, Venturing Crew, and Cub Scout Pack.



Worship Attendance & Giving in February				
	Feb 1	Feb 8	Feb 15	Feb 22
Attendance	60	52	43	37
General Giving	\$5649.00	\$5406.00	\$1541.00	\$1743.00
Building Fund		\$100.00	\$155.00	\$100.00
Music Fund			\$100.00	

Friendship Presbyterian Church			
Year-To-Date Through January, 2015			
Selected Assets and Liabilities			
Cash in Bank -- General Fund	30,650		
Cash in Bank --Restricted Fund	2,980		
Total Cash in Bank	33,630		
Kerry Hill Educational Fund -- Oconee State Bank	6,746		
Savings -- New Covenant Securities	54,267		
Mortgage Debt	60,015		
Income Statement Summary			
	Year to Date (Actual)	Year to Date (Budget)	Actual vs. Budget
Receipts from Congregation	7,360	11,563	-4,204
Dye House Rent	808	808	0
Support from Preschool	10,234	4,617	5,617
All Other Income	55	46	9
Total Receipts	18,455	17,033	1,422
Administration Expenses	6,331	6,877	546
Personnel Expenses	9,318	9,928	610
Discipleship Expenses	0	33	33
Membership Development & Care Expenses	0	158	158
Mission/Bldg & Grounds Expenses	175	1,517	1,342
Worship Expenses	154	208	54
Total Operating Expenses	15,978	18,722	2,744
Net Income / (Deficit)	2,477	-1,688	-1,322



MARCH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:40 AM Adult Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Service	2 <i>David & Amy Ivy</i> 5:30 PM Children's Choir 7:00 PM Recorder Ensemble Rehearsal	3 7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 149 7:30 PM Athens Chamber Choir Rehearsal	4 11:00 AM Bible Study 7:00 PM FPC Choir Rehearsal	5 <i>Doris Walker</i> <i>Pattie Ivy</i> <i>Peggy Frantz</i> 7:00 PM Men's Club 7:00 PM Pack Committee Mtg	6 Church Office Closed <i>Richard Williams</i> 9:30 AM Session Retreat	7
8  9:40 AM Adult Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Service	9 5:30 PM Children's Choir 7:00 PM Recorder Ensemble Rehearsal	10 9:45 AM Circle One 7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 149 7:30 PM Athens Chamber Choir Rehearsal	11 11:00 AM Bible Study 7:00 PM FPC Choir Rehearsal	12	13 Church Office Closed	14 <i>Elizabeth Graham</i>
15 9:40 AM Adult Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Service 6:00 PM Youth Dinner	16 5:30 PM Children's Choir 7:00 PM Recorder Ensemble Rehearsal	17  7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 149 7:30 PM Athens Chamber Choir Rehearsal	18 11:00 AM Bible Study 7:00 PM FPC Choir Rehearsal	19 7:00 PM Cub Scout Meeting	20 Church Office Closed	21 <i>Suzanne White</i>
22 9:40 AM Adult Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Service	23 5:30 PM Children's Choir 7:00 PM Recorder Ensemble Rehearsal	24 6:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 149-Court of Honor 7:30 PM Athens Chamber Choir Rehearsal	25 11:00 AM Bible Study 7:00 PM FPC Choir Rehearsal	26 7:00 PM Troop Committee Meeting	27 Church Office Closed <i>Nan McMurry</i>	28 <i>Austin Nix</i> <i>Philip & Martha Courie</i>
29  <i>Richard & Evelyn Montgomery</i> 9:40 AM Adult Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Service	30 5:30 PM Children's Choir 7:00 PM Recorder Ensemble Rehearsal	31 7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 149 7:30 PM Athens Chamber Choir Rehearsal	1 <i>Emily Sanders</i> 11:00 AM Bible Study 7:00 PM FPC Choir Rehearsal	2 Maundy Thursday <i>Shirley Harris</i> 7:00 PM Men's Club 7:00 PM Pack Committee Mtg	3 Church Office Closed Good Friday <i>Linden Crossley</i>	4 <i>Robert & Margie Sumnerfield</i>





Friendship Presbyterian Church (USA)

Church E-mails:

Church Office: office@gotofriendship.org

Tara Bulger: tbulger@gotofriendship.org

Please check out our website @
www.gotofriendship.org for our online calendar



Palm Sunday, March 29

Maundy Thursday Service, April 2 at 7pm

*Presbytery Good Friday Service
Oconee Presbyterian Church, 7pm
The Rev. Tara Bulger preaching*

*Easter Sunrise Service, April 5 at 7am
(breakfast to follow)*

Easter Worship Service, April 5 at 11:00am

Please submit news for April's

Words of Friendship

to the church office no later than

Sunday, March 29, 2015.

Due to office schedule submissions after this date
may not appear in next month's newsletter.

All submissions are subject to editing.

FRIENDSHIP PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

As followers of Jesus Christ, assured of God's unconditional love for everyone, we strive to be an accepting and joyful community that centers upon worship, encourages personal growth, celebrates diversity, nurtures individual gifts, and moves beyond boundaries to share, through service, Jesus' love, compassion, and justice in an uncertain world.

Grace to you and peace, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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