



Meadows Presbyterian Church

2200 Angus Road
Charlottesville, VA 22901
Phone: 434-296-2791
Fax: 434-296-3391
Email: Meadowspc@hotmail.com

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MEADOWS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MESSENGER



Spring 2007 Adult Sunday School Offerings

Beginning in May, two new Adult Sunday School classes will begin. We hope that you will take advantage of these exciting opportunities to learn more about who we are as Christians and Presbyterians and why the Bible is central to our faith. The offerings are as follows:

Where Does the Bible Come From? - This course will be taught by Rev. Tim McConnell and will continue through the end of the Sunday School year in early June. The course will cover the origins of Holy Scripture and why we believe God uses the Bible to convey His Word. We will look at (1) the Hebrew Scriptures, how they became the Old Testament, (2) the New Testament, (3) the "canon" (why we have the books we have today in the Bible), and (4) why the Bible is important to us and how it guides us in our life and faith. This class will meet in the Fellowship Hall and **will begin on May 13th**.

Meadows & Me - This course is offered twice a year and covers many aspects of what it means to be Christian, what it means to be Presbyterian, who we are at Meadows, and how we fit into the larger body of Christ and within our denomination (Presbyterian Church USA). Rev. Tom Goodrich will be teaching the course. While the course is geared toward those who are current visitors at Meadows, it is open to any who would like to attend, but all are asked to contact Danielle in the church office to let us know if you plan to be part of "Meadows and Me." This class will meet in the Conference Room and **begins May 6th**.

The class on John's epistles, taught by Wendell Bonham, will continue to meet through the end of the Sunday School year in the Dogwood Room.

We invite you to join us during the Sunday School Hour between services as we seek to learn more about what it means to be Christian and to grow spiritually in our knowledge of the saving grace offered through Jesus Christ.



A MINISTRY COMMITTED TO PASSION FOR CHRIST,
COMPASSION FOR ONE ANOTHER,
AND
GOD'S WORD FOR ALL

Meadows Scholarship Program

Luke 2:52 - And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and Man.

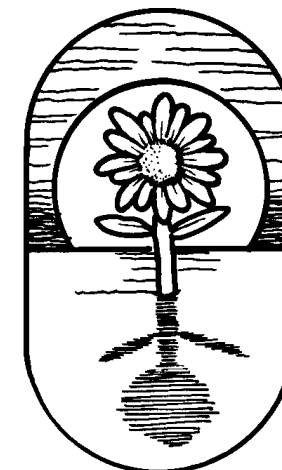
It is the desire of Meadows Presbyterian Church to support our youth who are attending college. We believe that education is an important component in preparation for service.

To this end we offer a modest scholarship to undergraduates who are in good standing and to graduate students who are pursuing a career in full-time Christian service.

Applicants must be members of Meadows Presbyterian Church or be active participants in the life of the church. Undergraduate students may apply for scholarship assistance two times during their four years of school. If there are funds still available after all of those eligible students have been addressed, then a notice will be published in the Church's newsletter, and those students who have previously received two awards may apply for some of the remaining funds.

Applications may be picked up at the church office during regular office hours throughout the month of May.

The completed applications should be returned to the office and placed in Sandy Reese's mailbox by May 31, 2007. The Nurture Committee will review all applications.



Session Highlights April 2007

1. Cameron Seay is chairing the committee to search for the ADULT and FAMILY MINISTER. Other members are Betty Hicks, Peggy Shupe, Sandy Reese, Summer Thompson, Bo Jones and Tom Goodrich. The search is actively underway.
2. Kendall Cox (letter of transfer from Trinity Presbyterian (PCA), Charlottesville) and Stephen Hitchcock (letter of transfer from First Presbyterian Church, Augusta, Georgia) were accepted in membership of Meadows WITH JOY. Both shared their faith journeys with the session. Stephen has a Master of Divinity degree and intends to pursue ordination in the future. Kendall will start studying at UVA in the theology curriculum at the PhD level.
3. Kaye Lauffenberger was accepted into membership of Meadows WITH JOY by letter of transfer from First Presbyterian Church, Charlottesville, VA. Kaye shared her faith journey with the session.
4. Jay Sanderford and Mark Martin came to present the progress of Blue Ridge Presbyterian Church. Jay expressed thanks for the financial and spiritual support from Meadows specifically and from the other District 1 churches who have been so supportive. Attendance is approximately 80 per Sunday with an average of 3 + visitors. He shared much other information with us. Mark is a member of less than a year and talked about the Grace of the church and his very positive experiences to date. As treasurer, he described the financial situation. Currently, they are not self sustaining. Pastor Goodrich closed this portion of the meeting with prayer for continued success of the Blue Ridge Church.
5. Approved the Summer schedule of single services starting with a Contemporary Service on June 17th and then alternate until September 9th when two services commence.
6. Approved the wedding service of James Atchison and Cheryl Carr on October 20.
7. Approved Pastor Goodrich performing the wedding of Jesse Beichner and Gwen Medic off site on September 15th. Jesse and Gwen are currently completing the Alpha Marriage course at Meadows.
8. Approved the Gospel Light curriculum for Bible School.
9. Approved the Peter McConnell baptism on May 20, early service.
10. Tim McConnell will be teaching a Sunday School class in May. A Meadows and me class will run concurrently.
11. June 17th is the date of the annual Picnic.
12. A long and emotional discussion of care and support of Elizabeth Mallard, a Meadows member, took place. It was well established that the Nurture Committee has gone far beyond the call of duty in administering caring support. It has been amazing to see the dedication involved. This problem is apparently beyond Charlottesville area governmental and institutional control. God alone can resolve this issue. Session established and approved a policy to control and restrict people from the facility for health and safety reasons on a case by case basis after prayerful consideration.
13. Approved JABA request for a June 14 meeting for 150 people including use of the kitchen. Community Bible Study use was renewed for use of the conference room by the leadership team.

Clerk of the Session, Bill Stackhouse

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

National D-Day Memorial In Bedford, Virginia

Join us for a day's outing to the National D-Day Memorial in Bedford, Virginia, on Saturday, May 19th. Lunch following at the Peaks of Otter. All are Welcome!

- Departure:** 8:00 am from the church parking lot (by bus or by van-pool, depending on size of group)
Return: 4:00 pm
Cost: Entrance: \$5.00 for adults
 \$3.00 for ages 6-16
 free - for children under 6
 Guided Tour: \$3.00 (free for groups of 15 or more)
 Lunch: a la carte

Sign up with Cameron Seay, 973-9466, or call Danielle Oakes at the church, 296-2791. Deadline is May 10th.

MEADOWS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENSES
03/31/07

	Budget	March	Year to Date	Remaining	Percent of Budget
REVENUE					
Pledges, Envelopes	\$339,182.00	28,522.44	89,072.81	250,109.19	26.26%
Loose Plate	30,000.00	\$3,451.86	\$10,782.56	\$19,217.44	35.94%
Building Use	10,000.00	50.00	5,375.00	4,625.00	53.75%
Interest Income	<u>10,000.00</u>	<u>879.52</u>	<u>3,387.66</u>	<u>6,612.34</u>	<u>33.88%</u>
TOTAL REVENUE	\$389,182.00	32,903.82	108,618.03	280,563.97	27.91%
CHRISTIAN OUTREACH/EVANGELISM					
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	\$61,950.00	\$4,792.00	\$11,460.02	\$50,489.98	18.50%
WORSHIP	20,050.00	2,218.44	7,745.11	12,304.89	38.63%
FELLOWSHIP	5,950.00	614.38	990.25	4,959.75	16.64%
FACILITIES	2,900.00	117.19	206.19	2,693.81	7.11%
OFFICE ADMINISTRATION	102,723.00	4,838.90	15,137.06	87,585.94	14.74%
NURTURE MATERIALS	16,000.00	1,623.60	5,523.86	10,476.14	34.52%
NEW MEMBER	13,700.00	399.15	511.46	13,188.54	3.73%
PERSONNEL	3,850.00	94.63	188.85	3,661.15	4.91%
TOTAL BUDGET	<u>\$500,759.50</u>	<u>18,497.87</u>	<u>57,466.14</u>	<u>216,170.36</u>	<u>21.00%</u>
TOTAL REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	(\$111,577.50)	(\$292.34)	\$9,389.09		

Youth and Children's Ministry

Fond Farewell

We are very sad this month to say goodbye to Andrew Gardner and Beth Abel. **Andrew** has quietly and faithfully been serving as a middle school leader at Meadows for the last three years. He has built strong relationships with many of our kids and they are going to miss him greatly. He will graduate from UVA this spring, marry his lovely fiancé' this summer, and move to New York to start a new job in July. **Beth** has also served quietly and faithfully with the children's ministry over the last three years. She has gotten to know all of our elementary school students well and they all love her. Beth graduates from her Master's program this month and will be starting a job in Richmond this summer. Please make sure to seek out Andrew and Beth this week and thank them for their good work sharing Christ's love our kids. May God bless them both in their next stage of life.

WOMEN'S CORNER

The annual Meadows Presbyterian Birthday Tea will be held on Saturday, May 12 from 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. This is always a fun event and we are hoping for a record number of women this year. This is a time of fellowship, good (finger) food and to celebrate the birthday of Presbyterian Women. A variety of hot and iced teas will be available and dessert will also be provided. Just bring you favorite tea-party food to share (finger foods). If you have a favorite tea cup you would like to use or if you have tea cups you would like to share feel free to bring them also.

After our tea party we will hold our election of officers. Our slate is: Vice-Moderator, Mary Alice Green and Secretary, Rose Williams. We will also be taking up our Presbyterian Women Birthday offering which will benefit five very deserving mission projects. A description of each recipient will be read prior to the offering. Please make plans to attend this very special day.

If you have any questions about the Birthday Objective of the Spring Tea please call Linda Powell, 977-7357.

There are still five tickets available for the Women of Faith Conference. We will be leaving for Washington, D.C. the evening of July 12 and return the evening of July 14. If you have been undecided about going, now is the time to make that commitment to attend this very fun and inspirational weekend.



From the Heart

Dear Meadows,

Many, many thanks for welcoming us to your Diane Bish concert Friday evening. We did not know that you were also dedicating your splendid new organ so it was especially wonderful.

I can't recall if I told you but I am a Presbyterian and my home church is the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church in Washington, DC. I sing in the choir and have been a member for 30 years!

You are doing wonderful things at Meadows Presbyterian and I offer thanks and congratulations. How wonderful to have that new instrument to lead you through Holy Week.

Sincerely, Judith P. Roach

Dear Meadows Family,

I wish to thank you and our Pastor for your many cards, calls and expressions of sympathy and support during the loss of my mother. This has been a difficult and sorrowful time; still your thoughts and prayers have made the load easier to bear for my family and me. Words seem inadequate to convey my heartfelt appreciation. I'll close with a tribute to Mother's example; she placed the day in the Lords' hand each morning and looked forward to tomorrow.

With loving gratitude, Anne Hobson

Dear Meadows Family,

Thank you so much for the Valentine goodie box you sent me. I especially enjoyed the home made cookies! I always appreciate your thinking of me and keeping me in your prayers. Thanks again! Sincerely, Bradley Joyce

From the Desk of Danielle Oakes

~ **Newsletter Deadline for the June newsletter will be Friday, May 25th and will be assembled and mailed on Thursday, May 31st.**

~ **Weekly Deadline for the Bulletins will be every Wednesday.**

~ **Items intended for the Newsletter or Bulletin are preferred via email or written.**

~ **May Office Work Days - May 15th and May 23rd. If you are interested in assisting with a few projects on these two days please call me at the church office. Thank you!**

With Many Thanks

Alliance for Interfaith Ministries:

The contribution that arrived this week from Meadows to the Alliance for Interfaith Ministries was received with gratitude and appreciation. On behalf of the Board of Directors, thank you very much! Your continued strong support for the important work that AIM is doing is appreciated! We appreciate your confidence in us as we continue to prevent homelessness and loss of heart, stabilize families, and assist households to maintain their financial independence. Sincerely, Drene DeGood, Director



Presbyterian Children's Home of the Highlands:

Dear Friends, Thank you for your support of the Presbyterian Children's Home of the Highlands. Your gift helps us continue to change the lives of children in need as they come into our care. The celebration of the Easter season speaks directly to the work we do at the Children's Home. Our children are in pain from the years of abuse and neglect they have experienced. They blame themselves for being removed from their homes and for the dysfunctional family situations they have experienced. When they hear about the unconditional love Christ provided for them through His death on the cross and his glorious resurrection, it offers them hope and a chance to follow a different path. We want our children to feel the comfort of God's love and see their time with us as a chance for a new beginning.

Thanks again for your gift to the Presbyterian Children's Home of the Highlands. Your generosity helps make our mission, "giving children hope and purpose for the future", a reality. May God's blessings be with you always. Our Children continue to reap the benefits of your congregation's love and generosity. God Bless You! With hope, Billy Rice, Executive Director

CHRISTIAN OUTREACH

MISSION TRIP TO APPALACHIA

We are planning to send a contingent of Meadows members to McClure River in Dickenson County, Virginia during the week of October 13 through 19. Our mission will be to perform any construction, plumbing, electrical, or winterizing projects that they may require based on the skills set we are bringing while also continuing to share the love and hope we all experience everyday in our walk with our Lord.

The trip will cost \$200 per person (which includes use of equipment and cost of building materials) with possibly \$6 per evening for dinner if the team chooses to make use of this option. Partial-week participation would also be considered depending on personal schedules. If this is an opportunity in which you may feel led to participate, please do not consider the financials to be a barrier, as we'll work together to try to make this trip possible for all interested.

Please contact Keith Johnson at 978-7584 or e-mail at johnson665@comcast.net or contact the church office, Danielle Oakes, 296-2791.

"Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. For even the Son of man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

- Mark 10: 43-45

This summer Meadows is sending sixteen high school students to Cranks Creek, KY, in the heart of Appalachia, to spend a week working in the heat, sleeping on the floor, and bathing in a lake. All for the purpose of working on the houses of people they've never met. These days, students have an endless number of opportunities they can take part in during their summers. These students have chosen to use their vacation serving other people. As Christians we are called to follow Christ. As he himself said in the verse above, he came to serve and not to be served. For a week this summer, these teenagers will be laying down their lives for others in a very tangible way. Please pray that God will use this trip to change the hearts of these students to live lives of humble service, to others and ultimately Christ.

The Deep

-High School

Mission Team meetings will be held May 6th, May 20th, and June 3rd from 5:00 – 6:15 at the church building. All participants are expected to attend all meetings.

Please keep an eye out for our fundraising events coming soon. We are all ways thankful for your support!

-Middle School

The Great Escape is coming soon! The dates are July 2nd – 7th. Flyers are available now. Sign up soon as spots are limited.

The Water's Edge

- The last **Kids Connection** of the 2006 – 2007 school year is on May 9th! Make sure to be there for this great time of fun and fellowship. 5:45 – 7:15 at the church.
- Friday, May 18th we are having **Boys and Girls Nights Out!** This will be for our 2nd – 5th grade students to just have some fun together for a few hours that night. More details coming soon, but go ahead and mark your calendars!
- **VBS** - Come join us for **SonForce Kids!**
June 18th – 22nd, 9:00 a.m. – Noon, Pre-K – 5th grade

VBS Help – As always we need plenty of support to make VBS successful. Please consider joining us for this important ministry opportunity in the lives of our young children.

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YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S MINISTRY