

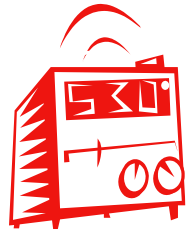
South Highland Presbyterian Church

2035 Highland Avenue South
Birmingham, AL 35205

Phone: 205-933-0790
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www.shpcbhm.org

Editorial Staff: Jan Kimble, Editor

SHPC is On the Air



If you can't join us
Sundays in person,
listen to us on the
radio.

**WXJC-AM 850 &
FM 92.5 at 11
AM**

Listen online at
www.850wxjc.com/



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Reserve your special date to sponsor a radio broadcast in 2011. Choose the date now and pay later. This assists in planning the cost of the radio broadcasts. Fill in the form below and put it in the offering plate. List in the check memo area “Radio” or call the office at (205) 933-0790 to confirm a broadcast sponsorship.



I/We _____

commit to underwrite all or part of a 2011 Sunday morning radio broadcast. ___\$300 for full cost of a Sunday Broadcast ___\$150 for half of a Sunday Broadcast

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Bulletin listing: In honor of /or In memory of : _____



SOUTH HIGHLAND
PRESBYTERIAN

HIGHLIGHTS

Serving with the passion of Christ.

July 26, 2011 Volume 44 Number 10 August Issue



The Pastor's Perspective ...

Dearest South Highlanders,
The week following Memorial Day, a group from South Highland traveled to Mexico and “lived ministry” among the people of Piedras Negras. We built a house, worshiped, cared for the sick, ate together and learned new dimensions of hospitality. The Aguilar family (Luis and Lupe and their four children) was a joy to know and work with. One day, as Don Miley and I were taking a break on the shady side of the house, the youngest Aguilar son, Jesús, offered Don a piece of gum. I could see Don's uneasiness. Here was a child with nothing offering, as Don said, “a man with everything” a gift. To Don's credit, he received the gift and ate it. Jesús then pulled another piece out of his pocket and with boyish smiles they chewed together in the shade.

As Don and I talked, we wondered together, why is it that we think that only the rich have something to give? We know the joy, power and beauty of serving others in the name of Jesus. We have a sense of the mysterious divine presence when we serve others because it is as if we are serving Jesus himself. “Just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.” Should the poor, because of their poverty, be denied the privilege and joy of serving others?

What if we flip this story upside down? Maybe Don and I are the least of these. Maybe Jesús, in the giving of gum, was being obedient to the call of Jesus. Maybe when Jesús comes into the kingdom the Lord will say, “Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world, for I was wealthy and you gave me a piece of gum.”

“Evangelistic hospitality, accordingly, is never to be understood merely as an act of offering or helping but as a willingness to receive and discover.” (Bryan Stone Evangelism after Christendom: the theology and practice of Christian witness.) When we serve others our willingness to receive and discover is a sign of evangelistic hospitality.

We've seen lots of evangelistic hospitality at South Highland this summer. We led vacation Bible school at the Lovelady Center, and the women and children there performed a dance at the end of the week. We offered assistance to the poor through the Good Samaritan fund, and the poor pray with and for us. We celebrated communion with the people at the Trade Towers, and one of the residents gave me a gift.

Make no mistake. We don't glorify poverty and we don't serve because of the benefits we receive. But, as we practice evangelistic hospitality, let's remember to be willing to receive and discover what God might teach us through the lives of those we serve.

Jim

Remember...

- ◆ August 3—Stars Fell on South Highland Center
- ◆ August 12-13—Main Event
- ◆ August 28—Rally Day

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South Highland Presbyterian Church

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Dr. Edwin Gray Hurley

Senior Pastor

Rev. Jim Truesdell

Associate Pastor for Discipleship

Rev. Susan Laney

Pastor of Adult Ministries

Rev. Molly Clark

Parish Associate

Doug Barr

Director of

Youth Ministries

Rachel King-Barr

Director of Children's

Ministries, 1st-5th Grade

April Harrell

Director of Children's

Ministries, Birth-Kindergarten

Dr. Philip Copeland

Director of Music

Eleanor Garner

Administrative Assistant to

the Congregation

Dina Glass

Executive Assistant

to the Pastors

Jamie McLemore

Organist

Dan Hermany

Handbell Director

Charles Rountree

Director of Finance

Suzanne Cornett

Communications Coordinator

James Copeland

Interim Director of Operations

Joe Whitley

Director of Food Services

Jami Parker

Director Child Development Center

Mel D. York, III

Dir. South Highland Center

Dear Ed,

I want to thank you and the mission committee for your \$10000 gift for the work in Tete Province. I see the hand of God in this generous and loving gift. Just two weeks ago, today, I preached in a small church in the village of Mameme 2, just down the road from Mawira, where South Highland has been so involved. The small church was bursting at the seams, and a grass thatched structure had been added overnight to accommodate the visitors. The congregation proudly showed us the stones that had been gathered for the foundation and the bricks that they were making for their dream of a new church building. During the worship service we prayed for the new church building and the means to help construct it. After the service, this congregation, that was poor in assets but rich in spirit, presented us with a live goat and a wonderful meal, as a means of extending their warm hospitality. We were humbled. No one could ever recall such a generous gift from such a poor village. As we left them, they sang good-bye and followed us on foot, praising God for our visit. We prayed that a way would be found to help them achieve their dream of a new church.

Imagine my surprise and delight when I returned home to the US and got an email about SHPC's wonderful gift. As we discussed ways to use the gift, it was very clear that the idea of building a church in Mameme 2, near Mawira, would appeal to SHPC, and it was also a priority for the work in Tete Province. Thanks be to God for His wonderful providence!

I am enclosing some photos of the current church in Mameme 2 and the stones and bricks that are being accumulated by the congregation for the new building. Your gift will be used to provide the cement, roofing materials, and supervision of the construction. As an aside, "Billy" the goat was given to Carlos, one of the two pastors in Tete Province, along with enough funds to purchase 3 female goats in order to start a herd and provide some much needed income. The balance of the gift will be used for valuable leadership seminars to enable elders to lead churches in an environment of 2 pastors and over 60 churches.

I continue to see the Lord at work in Tete Province, and I am deeply thankful for the partnership with South Highland that helps to make this vibrant Holistic Evangelism Project possible.

Blessings,
Berry



POWER OF Prayer

Please Pray for These Members and Friends . . .

Please note: Due to space constraints, we list only MEMBERS and IMMEDIATE Family below. There is a full, up-to-date printed list (including military) available in the hallway by the Sanctuary.

Hospital

Vodie Hopper - St. Vincent Hospital.
Please, no visitors at this time.

Gaynell Moore - St. Vincent's Hospital.

Member Prayer Requests

Frank and Grayson Alexander
Don Baird
Heather Batey
Sandy Bergeron
Jon Thomas Black
Judy Black
My Boney
Allen Borden
Martha Bottomley
Mai Brown
Nick Cataldo
Charlotte Daly
Dori DeLuca
Joe and Judy Dolce
Jan Hatchett
Mary Head
Ruth Hobson
Anne & John Homer
Frank and Charlotte Lankford
Ida Mae Mason
Isabel McCormack
Billy Mills
Amy Nance
Susie Parker
Jerry Powell
Carol Runnels
Claire Sizemore
Wedonna Saxon
Ruth Seadler
Molly Slaughter
Dayton & Mary Virginia Sorsby
Dana Waters
Mary & Ellis Wanninger
Harvey Watson
Randy Wilson
Dewey White

Family Prayer Requests

Brother and family – **Al Hill**
Jaxton Holly – Jarrod Bazemore and family
Mother of – **Richard Barr**
Benton Flynt – **grandson of John & Suzanne Benton**
Christine Boswell – **Heather Batey's sister**
Gwen Bottoms – **Janet Perry's sister**
Caregivers and Elderly – **Gayle Hurley**
Lillian Champion – **Richard Champion's mother**

Amy Crews – **cousin to Dr. Hurley**
Walter Dana – **Pat Woody's brother**
Eric David – **Bob and Linda David's son**
Dylan David – **Bob and Linda David's grandson**
Eleanor Davis – **mother of Glenn Davis, Jr.**
Lee Davis – **Nancy Coffey's brother-in-law**
Tammy Deleon – sister of **Katie Livingston**
Mary Dison – Relative of **The Dison and Marchant Family**
Tiffany Dowdey and newborn twins—great niece of **Barbara Camp**
Betty Farnell, **Janice Hay's mother**
Mary Ann Flaskerud – **Amanda's aimt**
Sandy Folmar – **Jackie Presley's neice-in-law**
Harrell Fooshee – **Chad Fooshee's father**
Kim Fredrick – **Allen Borden's sister**
Billy Kitchens – **nephew-in-law of Martha Foster**
Bonnie Runnels Hassler – daughter of **Carol Runnels**
Helen Hudgens – **Prayer for Eric a nephew**
Liliana Ide – **neice of Christopher Davis**
Virgil & Ruth Jensen – **King family – Mary Alice – Diana's mother**
Jean Jones – **Susan Glover's aunt**
Lester Keith – **Sue Keith's brother**
Judy King – **Brian King's mother**
Wilson and Sarah King – **Ham and Margy Perkins' family**
Allen Kyzar – **Becky Smith's brother**
Former member, Jeff Larson, son of Al Larson – very ill in Georgia
Ken Lewis – **brother of Ethan Lewis**
Don Littrell – **Debbie Perkins' father**
James Manley – stepfather of **Mary Baker Tom Marshall, grandfather of Stephanie Magnus**

Mother – **Wende Berryhill**
Keith Leitner Roberts – **Carol Leitner's son**
Julie Robertson – **Jackie Presley's cousin**
Peggy Runnels – **Carol Runnels' daughter-in-law**
Brenda Sager – **Robyn Nichols' mother**
Mr. & Mrs. C.W Slaughter – **Terry Slaughter's parents**
Steve Slaughter – **Terry Slaughter's brother**
Asa Smith – **loss of parents**
Gary Spain – **Relative of Jackie Presley**
Marlys Stariha – **Jim Stariha's mother**
Jerome Turner - **Clorietta Thomas' brother**
Harvey Watson, Jr. – **son of Harvey Watson, Sr.**
James Weems – **brother-in-law of Cheryl Weems**
Ruth West – **Jan Monroe's mother**
Bob Whitley – **Joe Whitley's father and Dee Whitley's husband.**
Emma Jean Willis – **Nancy Deason's mother**

Armed Forces

Joseph Adams – **Dean Vandegrift's nephew** (Iraq) Marines
John A. Smith Buck, Special Tactics Naval Training, San Antonio, TX, **grandson of Darthula & Gray Buck**
Maxwell Falkner, in the U. S. Army in Ft. Benning, Georgia
Grandson of **Barbara & Andy Straynar**
Richard Gilchrist, Jr. – Iraq
Franklin Helms – marine deployed to Afghanistan – friend of **Christopher Ross Davis**
Todd Henry, Iraq, friend of **Scott Crocker**
Wilbur Lee Holaday, III – in D.C.
Matthew Lloyd – nephew of **Bart & Lesley Lloyd** (Basic Training)
Captain Eric McCall – Family of **Ethan Lewis**
Lila McClintoc – Air Force, daughter of **Quita McClintoc** (Iraq)
Aaron Straynar – (in Kuwait) Grandson of **Barbara & Andy Straynar**
Mike Wright, brother of **Tim Wright** (Kuwait)

Sympathy to

—**Robert and Dena Moye** in the death of Robert's mother, Irene Moye, on July 1, 2011.

If you have prayer concerns, please call
August Deacons
Janet Perry and Lu Mahon

Dear South Highland,

We would like to hear from you about the condition of your friend or relative on the prayer list. Would you please call or e-mail and let us know when our prayers have been answered. If we have not heard from you with-in six weeks of receipt of your request, the name will be removed to give space for others.

Love,

Prayer Request Committee

Church Office: (205) 933-0790

Mary Joyce Ponder (205) 870-7174 or jmjponder@aol.com

Mel Robinson (205) 870-7881 or gigirob@bellsouth.net



AUGUST 1-6

August 1, Monday

5:30pm - Coordinating Council

August 2, Tuesday

7pm - SHIP's Dance Lessons (DFH)

August 3, Wednesday

10am - Ladies Bible Study Group (Parlor)

12pm - AlaNon Group (G-14)

2pm - Sharing Group (Builders)

4-6pm - Youth Suite Open

6-8pm - Stars Feel on South Highland Center (DFH)

August 5, Friday

2pm - Sharing Group (Builders)

August 6, Saturday

8:15am - AA (Builders Classroom)

AlAnon (G21)

AUGUST 7-13

August 7, Sunday

8:30am - Worship Service (Chapel)

9:30am - Sunday School

11am - Worship Service (Sanctuary)

1:30pm - Kenyan Youth Group (Chapel)

2pm - Sunday Club (DFH)

6pm - Sharing Group (Builders)

6pm - Youth Group (Youth Suite)

6:30pm - Brick @ Nite (G-22)

August 9, Tuesday

10am - Committee on Ministry

7pm - SHIP's Dance Lessons (DFH)

August 10, Wednesday

10am - Ladies Bible Study Group (Parlor)

12pm - AlaNon Group (G-14)

2pm - Sharing Group (Builders Class)

4-8pm - Youth Suite Open, Jr High meet 6-7:30pm

5pm - Dinner & WNL

August 11, Thursday

9:30am - CPM (G-15)

August 12, Friday

2pm - Sharing Group (Builders)

5pm - Main Event

August 13, Saturday

8am - Main Event

8:15am - AA (Builders Classroom)

AlAnon (G21)

AUGUST 14-20

August 14, Sunday

8:30am - Worship Service (Chapel)

9:30am - Sunday School

11am - Worship Service (Sanctuary)

1:30pm - Kenyan Youth Group (Chapel)

2pm - Sunday Club (DFH)

6pm - Sharing Group (Builders)

6pm - Youth Group (Youth Suite)

6:30pm - Brick @ Nite (G-22)

August 16, Tuesday

10:30am - Highlander's Meeting (DFH)

11:30am - Children's Committee Meeting

7pm - SHIP's Dance Lessons (DFH)

August 17, Wednesday

10am - Ladies Bible Study Group (Parlor)

12pm - AlaNon Group (G-14)

2pm - Sharing Group (Builders Class)

4-8pm - Youth Suite Open, Jr High meet 6-7:30pm

5pm - Dinner & WNL

August 19, Friday

2pm - Sharing Group (Builders)

6pm - ShiPS Dance

August 20, Saturday

8:15am - AA (Builders Classroom)

AlAnon (G21)

AUGUST 21-27

August 21, Sunday

8:30am - Worship Service (Chapel)

9:30am - Sunday School

11am - Worship Service (Sanctuary)

1:30pm - Kenyan Youth Group

(Chapel)

2pm - Sunday Club (DFH)

6pm - Sharing Group (Builders)

6pm - Youth Group (Youth Suite)

6:30pm - Brick @ Nite (G-22)

August 23, Tuesday

7pm - SHIP's Dance Lessons (DFH)

August 24, Wednesday

10am - Ladies Bible Study Group (Parlor)

12pm - AlaNon Group (G-14)

2pm - Sharing Group (Builders)

4-8pm - Youth Suite Open, Jr High meet 6-7:30pm

5pm - Dinner & WNL

August 26, Friday

2pm - Sharing Group (Builders)

August 27, Saturday

8:15am - AA (Builders Classroom)

AlAnon (G21)

AUGUST 28-31

August 28, Sunday

Rally Day

8:30am - Worship Service (Chapel)

9:30am - Sunday School

11am - Worship Service (Sanctuary)

1:30pm - Kenyan Youth Group (Chapel)

2pm - Sunday Club (DFH)

6pm - Sharing Group (Builders)

6pm - Youth Group (Youth Suite)

6:30pm - Brick @ Nite (G-22)

August 29, Monday

5:30pm - Session Meeting

August 30, Tuesday

7pm - SHIP's Dance Lessons (DFH)

August 31, Wednesday

10am - Ladies Bible Study Group (Parlor)

12pm - AlaNon Group (G-14)

2pm - Sharing Group (Builders)

4-8pm - Youth Suite Open, Jr High meet 6-7:30pm

5pm - Dinner & WNL

SOUTH HIGHLAND MISSIONS

Greater Bham Ministries

Peanut Butter and Jelly Drive

The Peanut Butter and Jelly collection for Greater Birmingham Ministries (GBM) was a big success. Kelly Ross Davis delivered a trunk and backseat full of PB& J to GBM!

Thanks to all who contributed!

Birmingham Hospitality Network

6/26-7/23

I was stunned at how easy it was to find volunteers to stay overnight with the Washington family! I guess I had just heard how difficult it was and I expected it to be especially with the holiday weekend. Thanks to Chris Brakefield, Steve Ashworth, Joey Miller, the Clevelands, Gary Harden and Jim Price for volunteering. Thanks also to Laura Chapman who took over the recruiting for dinner hosts and we had so many new people volunteer- Liz Mullins, Jennifer Coggin, and to the tried and true-Pam Buck, Elizabeth Ezell and Melinda Harden. Janet Perry and Carolyn Hunter took responsibility for the laundry and very little was left for me to do except two trips to the grocery store and the dreadful task of moving beds from the Temple to SHPC. To volunteer in October, call or email Debbie Perkins, 870-3031 or debbiepi@travelpi.com

Next time we host BHN is October 16-23.

Sunday Club

We are looking for dinner hosts to serve Sunday Club. This is an easy and rewarding hands-on ministry. The meals are prepared in the SHPC kitchen and served to 30-40 people. Most dates are still open for the remainder of the year! Also, we are still searching for a 4th Sunday bus driver and 4th Sunday team leader/s. To sign up to drive or host a meal, email or call Martha Foster, martha@lctplan.com.

Tornado Response

A team from SHPC is meeting with others to organize and provide assistance. We will care for five families but we are still gathering details on the needs. Contact Lu Mahon at (205) 879-4157 or Marty Keller at (205) 871-9255 if want to help.

AIM- (Assisting Inmate Mothers) 7/9

We volunteer to drive children and their guardians from Birmingham to Tutwiler Prison in Wetumpka on the second Saturday of every odd month. This is the only day that the children get to see their mothers every month and the excitement on their faces is both joyful and sad depending on which direction we are driving. We meet the children in the Alabama Power parking lot at 8am, give them breakfast snacks and juice, and arrive at Tutwiler for their 10am visit. We tour Wetumpka, go to Shoney's for brunch, or read a book while the children are having lunch and visiting. Then we pick them up at 1pm and return to Birmingham. This is a simple yet needed ministry to help nurture the children of incarcerated mothers. Thanks to Lu Mahon for driving in July. The next opportunity for drivers is September 10. Call or email Debbie Perkins, 870-3031 or debbiepi@travelpi.com

PAHO/WHO Collaborating Center on International Nursing

The Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization Collaborating Center for International Nursing at the School of Nursing of the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) Announces A Wonderful Opportunity for Cross-Cultural Exchange!

Serve as a Host Family for a Health Care Professional from Zambia or Malawi October 22- November 6 OR November 6-16

The World Health Organization Collaborating Center for International Nursing at the UAB School of Nursing, is coordinating a Global Fellowship program for health professionals (nurses, physicians, pharmacists, and others) from Zambia and Malawi in October/November, 2011. The Fellows will participate in seminars at the UAB School of Nursing, and work with faculty mentors to enhance the training of health workers in their home countries.

We are seeking faculty, students, staff, or community members who would be willing to host one or two students for 2 weeks of the 4-week program. Host families would provide room and board, and help arrange transportation to and from UAB each day.

If you would be interested in this opportunity for cross-cultural exchange, please contact Dr. Lynda Wilson (205) 934- 6787 (lyndawilson@uab.edu) or Lisa Theus (TheusL@uab.edu) (205) 996-7621).

Meeting Locator Key

Builders Classroom = BC

Davis Family Hall = DFH

Elementary Hall # 108, etc.= EH108

Ground Floor # 16, etc.. = G-16, etc.

Ministers Conference Room = MCR

Music Suite = MS

Small Auditorium = Aud

Small Dining Room = SDR

YS = Youth Suite

Deacons of the Month

August Janet Perry

(205-956-2184)

Lu Mahon

(205-879-4157)

FREE VALET PARKING
 from 8:15 AM until after 11 AM



Worship at the Circular Drive on Highland Avenue. Tipping is optional.



Shuttle Service

August 7
Callen Sparrow
(205) 879-4007 or (205) 252-4111

August 14
Frank McDaniel
(205) 631-2235

August 21
Leland Keller
(205) 871-9255 or (205) 414-6420

August 28
John Yeilding
(205) 822-8589

The Main Event

Presbytery of Sheppards & Lapsley North Alabama Presbytery

Leadership Training Event August 12-13

South Highland Presbyterian Church

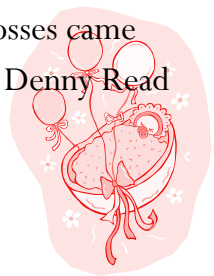
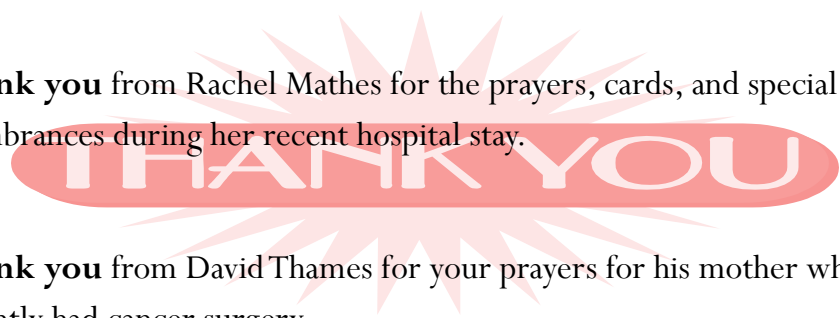
Keynote Speaker **Rev. Landon Whitsitt**,
Vice Moderator of the 219th General Assembly

Seminars on ministry for all ages, worship committees, spirituality, evangelism, officer training, and more!

For full details & schedule, visit www.pslpcusa.org/themainevent.



- ◆ A special **thank you** to all of the men who sang in the choir on Father's Day!
- ◆ **Thanks** to all who made ice cream for the Ice Cream Social and all who came out to enjoy it!
- ◆ **Thank you** from Rachel Mathes for the prayers, cards, and special remembrances during her recent hospital stay.
- ◆ **Thank you** from David Thames for your prayers for his mother who recently had cancer surgery.
- ◆ **Thank you** for the cradle crosses! They mean the world to us and we will, of course, tell the babies their story and where the crosses came from! Thank you for all your prayers! In Christ—Noelle & Denny Read



WELCOME

When Charles Rountree gave notice of his upcoming retirement, members of the Personnel Unit determined a need for certain realignment in staff responsibilities and reporting relationships, and refined the church Organization Chart to include a new position, Director of Administration and Finance. Responsibilities for this new job include oversight of Administrative support/receptionists, Operations and Facilities, Kitchen, Communications, liaison with Child Development Center and Senior Adult Center as well as church financial management. All these functions now report to the Senior Pastor and will be reassigned for oversight to the new position.

Sharon Doggett will be joining the South Highland staff as Director of Administration and Finance on August 1 in time to review financial matters with Charles Rountree prior to his retiring. Currently involved as a financial consultant with Bluff Park United Methodist Church, Sharon until last year was Director of Operations at Brookwood Baptist Church where she was responsible for supervision of personnel, oversight of the kitchen, security of the Early Child-care Center, and management of the budget. While at Brookwood Baptist, she was responsible for managing a \$4 million building renovation and major capital campaign in close coordination with the Finance Committee and official board.

Previous employment included operations and financial management in the Birmingham area at both Discovery United Methodist Church and ClearBranch United Methodist Church.

Following graduation from Mountain Brook High School, Sharon completed degree work at Auburn University at Montgomery and later attained the Certification in Church Business Administration at Candler School of Theology of Emory University in Atlanta. Sharon and her husband, John, live in Greystone and they have two adult children and one grandson, Jake. She is an active member of Highlands United Methodist Church.

Sharon Doggett

Director of Administration and Finance



Drop by her office and introduce yourself to Sharon, welcoming her into the South Highland family.

SHPC CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

The CDC is excited to announce that Phase 2 of the playground project has been completed. We would like to extend a special thank you to everyone who has participated and contributed to this project. We have 3 more phases to complete but we are pleased to state that the playground is now open and available for all South Highland children to enjoy. Thank you for all your support!



Great news! We have openings! If you know of anyone in need of child care (event infants), the CDC now has openings! Contact Jami Norris at (205) 939-1210 or email her at jpark-er4au@gmail.com. You can also visit the CDC page on the South Highland website (southhighland.org) listed under the Outreach section. There you will find forms and more information!



Wednesday Night LIVE!

Senior Adults

WHAT'S IN THE HIGHLANDERS' FUTURE?

DEADLINE REMINDER: Everyone who is going on the Savannah/Jekyll Island/Beaufort trip needs to pay the remainder of your balance by the end of August. The trip is from October 24-28. The cost of the trip is \$450 per person double occupancy and \$550 per person single occupancy. For more information, please contact Susan Laney.

August 3, 6 PM Stars Fell on South Highland Center—Fund-raiser for South Highland Senior Adult Day Care, Davis Family Hall.

Transportation is available for all Highlanders Events—Contact Susan Laney at (205) 933-0790.

August 16, Highlander's Meeting at 10:30am featuring NBC13 Chief Meteorologist Jerry Tracey as the guest speaker.

Saturday, September 24, 2 PM *Les Mis*, Broadway Show at BJCC [Tickets are \$58 apiece and are excellent tickets. Price includes bus transportation from church to BJCC and back and price of ticket. Reservation confirmed upon receipt of check. Make checks payable to SHPC—marked *Les Mis*]

No LOGOS until September.

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

Programming starts back up in August with our Wednesday nights at SHPC! Join us for Stars Fell on South Highland Center on August 3rd. For the remainder of August join us for these other great evenings! Dinner begins at 5:00pm in the Davis Family Hall followed by programming at 6:30pm.

August 10

What We Did On Summer Vacation: Presentation from Mission Trip Teams

August 17

Immigration Panel (see paragraph to the right)

August 24

A Cappella Choir Mini-concert

August 31

Dr. Ed Hurley's trip to Egypt

STAY CONNECTED!

SHPC sends out weekly email announcements on Fridays. To sign up, email Dina Glass at dglss@southhighland.org.

STARS FELL ON SOUTH HIGHLAND CENTER

Wednesday, August 3rd

Dinner at 6pm

Davis Family Hall

Entertainment & silent auction

All proceeds benefit the Senior Adult Day Care – The South Highland Center.

See Susan Laney for tickets!

Habitat for Humanity®

South Highland is sponsoring a Habitat for Humanity house again this fall! The start date is September 3rd. The family is LaKecia Godfrey on Martin Drive in Centerpoint. If you would like to volunteer, contact Bart Morrow at bartmorrow@gmail.com or put your name on the sign up sheet located at the receptionist desk or the table between the sanctuary and Davis Family Hall.

Immigration Bill Discussion

On Wednesday, August 17 we will have two guest speakers discussing key points of the Immigration Bill and how it will affect our community, our ministries, and our economy. This should be an informational and lively discussion about one of the most important and complicated issue of our time. We hope that we will have a good audience. For more information, call or email Debbie Perkins, 870-3031 or debbiepi@travelpi.com

SHPC Kids' News

After months of diligent work and prayer, we are so happy to welcome **both April Harrell and Rachel King-Barr** into the Children's Ministries Director positions! Both April and Rachel will work part-time and serve as Children's Ministries Directors for separate age groups.



April will have responsibility for the spiritual nurture of our SHPC children from birth through Kindergarten and will begin work on August 1st. April has a Master's Degree in Elementary Education and several years of teaching experience. She is a member of our congregation and has served on our staff as the nursery coordinator for the last few years. She will continue to coordinate the nursery as part of her new job.



Rachel will have responsibility for the spiritual nurture of our SHPC children from 1st through 5th grade and will begin work on July 25th. Rachel is a lifelong Presbyterian and has a Master's Degree in Fine Arts with extensive experience working with youth both in theatre and as a church Youth Director in Memphis, Tennessee.

Our hope is that with April and Rachel focused in different areas, SHPC's children's program will continue to grow and expand. Both April and Rachel have a passion for Christ and a passion for working with God's precious children! We would like to thank Kit MacLeod for all she has done to work with the children and families of our congregation and for all the help she has given us during this search process.

The Children's Ministries Director Search Committee

Jay Patton, Chairperson
Carolyn Ashworth
Heidi Messier

Russell Nance
Anne Pratt
Laura Williams

Want to have fun and be blessed while living out your baptismal vows to share God's love with our precious children? Please consider these terrific and currently available opportunities to serve in Children's Ministries: Sunday School Teachers, Enrichment Teachers, Nursery Caregivers, LOGOS Ministry Teams, and someone to help with the KidsPress/Highlights/Website information for the Children's Ministry. If you hear God calling you to serve in ministry to our precious children, or if you just want more information, please contact Rachel at rkbarr@southhighland.org or April at aharrell@southhighland.org or call the church office at (205) 933-0790.

For more information on the SHPC Children's Ministries, check out the enclosed



In The July Issue

The double issue of the July/August *Presbyterians Today* highlights ways that communication technology can impact a church. Check out these articles:

- ♦ **High Tech or High Touch - Finding the Balance** (page 6) Churches are embracing technology as one of God's good gifts. Kathy Wolf Reed, associate pastor of 1st Presbyterian Church, Tuscaloosa explores the benefits and limitations of using technology in communities of faith.
- ♦ **Doing Mission in a Digital Age** (page 18) Technology has affected our work lives and our personal lives - so why not our spiritual lives? Discover how podcats, webinars, and online networks are the new wineskins for sharing the gospel around the world.
- ♦ **Green Technology** (page 20) Let there be light. But let there also be a way for that light to shut off automatically when nobody is in the room. Learn how churches are using electronic motion sensors, programmable thermostats, solar panels, and other innovations to make their building more environmentally friendly and care for God's creation.

Read these articles and more in the July/August issue of *Presbyterians Today*. Pick up your free copy from the table in the gallery on the main level.

Stay Informed - Read PRESBYTERIANS TODAY!



SHIPS



South Highland Presbyterian Singles (of all ages)

Tuesdays, August 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30

7:00pm—8:30 PM

SHIPS-sponsored Dance Lessons

with instructors Ken George and Anne England for everyone each Tuesday—No partner required. \$3 donation at the door.

August's dance focus is on the West Coast Swing.

All are invited!

Sunday Bulletin Announcements Must be received no later than noon on Tuesdays. Call Suzanne at 933-0790 or e-mail scornett@southhighland.org

HIGHLAND HIGHLIGHTS

Deadline for the next issue is August 23 email info to scornett@southhighland.org

You can keep up with PC (USA) denominational news by logging onto:

www.pcusa.org

YOUNG ADULTS

The mission of the Young Adult Ministry is to forge intimate Christian relationships, grow spiritually, and nurture a community of faith through mission.

New Covenant Class

This class filled with mainly parents of children and youth meets Sunday mornings in the Parlor at 9:30am.

BRICK@Nite

(Sunday evenings at 6:30 PM in G22) In an effort to get a comprehensive view of the scriptures, the group is reading large blocks of scripture. Contact Jeff Bonner jbonner@gupeds.net for more information.

For more information on Young Adult ministries and programs at SHPC, contact Jim Truesdell at jtruesdell@southhighland.org.

Wild at Heart Men's Breakfast

Please contact John Huddleston if you plan on attending: (205) 907-2924 or boykinspaniel@gmail.com. http://www.southhighland.org/resources/Wild-At-Heart-ScheduleQuestions.

WOW—Women of the World

This group of women meets Thursday mornings for prayer, mutual encouragement, and study. Please contact Laura Chapman at (205) 969-5843 for more information. It begins again September 8th. Child care is provided.

YOU CAN HELP! Presbyterian Disaster Assistance needs your help with donations to the Scott Center. Please donate mops, brooms, paper towels, general cleaning supplies, hygiene items, summer clothing (especially larger sizes and women's underwear), and canned goods. You can drop these off in the bins near the elevators around SHPC.



PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE

Also, Volunteers are always needed and welcome at Scott Center, particularly 3-6pm.

RALLY DAY!



Sunday, August 28

This year's theme is "Spiritual Gifts"



No Adult Sunday School



Assistance for Inmate Mothers

is hoping to find some people to sponsor a child for school supplies and uniforms. The cost is about \$150 per child and there are 10 children. If you can help, call (800) 679-0246 or email larnetta@inmatemoms.org.



JUNIOR & SENIOR HIGH

From Doug:

Montreat Report

Montreat is in the books!! I have been told by the youth and the leaders that this was the best program, recreation, and worship we have had in years. We call it the trifacta. We had our hiccups on the journey: the van broke down, the plague broke out (strep), and one nearly broke an ankle but for a majority of the 22 students from SHPC it was a great trip. I could relate to each keynote and each worship service. They spoke directly to our circumstance and small groups increased our community, expanding it to include students from all over the United States. One incredible thing about Montreat is the diversity of the leadership. They make it a point to represent a church universal in all areas from worship to small group. Bill and Walrus from Haiti were a huge hit at Montreat and there was a wonderful impact in hearing their story. It is a beautiful and precious place for an escape and I am privileged to experience it.

Sunday Nights:

Is it possible to take your everyday life, including the mundane, and dedicate it to the service of God? The fact is that we are called and specifically gifted for precisely that. It is in our DNA to commune with and worship something; to connect with something deeper and bigger than ourselves. How we understand this truth and live it out in our lives is an important part of our spirituality. Sunday Nights we are going through a series called Spiritual Anatomy. We are looking at how the words we say, the ways we interact, and the things we allow our senses to take in effect our lives for the good or the bad. All Youth and friends are invited to join us 6 -

7:30 as we eat, study, and worship together.

Youth Kickoff Party

August 21st we will have a youth Kickoff party at Terry Slaughter's house. We will gather, swim, play games, and introduce the new leaders and confirmation class for the coming year. Join us at the "Slaughter House" from 5 pm to 8 pm and bring a friend.

Magnets and Stickers displaying the South Highland Logo are now available for purchase. Proceeds go to support the youth group. Stickers are \$3 magnets are \$6. Get yours this Sunday!!

During the Weeks - Throughout July the Senior High and Junior High will meet at separate times and places. The Seniors will gather at Karen Buttler's house after each Softball Game on Tuesday night. The Junior High will meet in the Youth Suite from 6-7:30 on Wednesday. The Suite is open on Wednesdays for all youth to come and play together from 4 - 6, after that it is Junior High only. No dinner is provided so youth will need to bring food or eat beforehand.

Sundays - Regular Sunday nights will be a Worship Circle. A place where your offering is your time, artistry, and gifts. Each one will have a theme with connected Biblical principles. You are encouraged to search your neighborhood, your memory, and your scriptures to present your offering of photos, PowerPoint, stories, poetry, art, theatre, etc. There will be an opening game, feasting, and time for fellowship. Check the calendar for info.

SHPC Weekly Youth Newsletter—We send out a weekly update on youth events, including a calendar. For more information about SHPC Youth, contact Doug Barr at dbarr@southhighland.org or call him at (205) 933-0790 ext 12.

SHPC MEN'S SOFTBALL



Schedule

August 2 @ 9:30pm vs Briarwood

August 9 @ 6:30pm vs Riverchase United Methodist

August 16 @ 8:30pm vs Mt Chapel

All games played at the Hoover East Fields. Come support the team!

Zo Ramamonjariavelo has accepted a position as Assistant Professor in Health Administration at Governors State University in Illinois! She will leave Birmingham on August 31st. We wish her well! Please keep her in your prayers on her new journey! Her email address is zo_smile@yahoo.com .

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mitment he seeks to use his role, where he is responsible bottom line for forwarding U.S. interests, to a “country” that has only a few acres of land but vast worldwide influence, seeking to use his role to help promote interreligious understanding, human rights, elimination of poverty and women’s rights, round the world.

He had just delivered the commencement address at Catholic University in Washington, D.C. on “Building Bridges – God, Diplomacy and the Search for the Common Good – Why Diplomacy Needs Religion and Why Religion Needs Diplomacy.” He noted that God is alive and well in world politics, for good or ill, and the Holy See has become a great gathering place for conversation and bridge building. He noted that the major divide in the world a generation ago, when John Paul 2 was Pope was the wall that divided communism and the free world. Today, he said, it is the walls in between differences in varied religions. His experience of the Divine is working out as he is putting varied groups together for conversation and growth in understanding. He observed that peace thrives when we protect the rights of religious minorities, adding, “We live in an age of interdependence; we need each other. We are interdependent beings. We need and are dependent on each other. “ ‘Nosotros’ is Spanish for ‘other.’ We need the other.” After proudly showing us his bullet-proof State Department issue SUV his last words to us were, “Pray for me.”

There were so many we met along the way whose experiences of the Divine shaped me and stretched me and helped me see how God is at work in many and varied ways. The journey was an intense up-close study of history, from the tombs of the Pharaohs to the birth and division of the Church in the East and West, the Catholic and Protestant. I made some connections about the things held in common of our Christian Faith and its coming out of Egypt, to the Promised Land of Israel and Judea, then spread through the land of the Greek philosophers, seeing where Paul preached on Mars Hill in Athens and where the followers of Jesus made their way on to the heart of the Roman Empire. I learned to appreciate at a new level both those things Christians hold in common with Jews and Muslims, and those religious, cultural and geographic differences that still divide us. I gained a fresh sense of hope through the Good News of Jesus, and saw many examples of the tragic divisions that have come to the Church over the centuries, and the way the Majority Church has persecuted minority religious expressions, like the Jews regulated and forced to live until the end of the 19th in their own ghetto in Rome.

God’s ways are mysterious yet accessible to the willing and open heart. Sister Marcelina, from India, the Superior at the Sisters of Brigida Guest House in Assisi where we had lunch, epitomized the warm Spirit of Christ which can be bridge-building instead of divisive, as she described the ministry of hospitality she and her fellow sisters offer to travelers who arrive at their beautiful hotel, saying, “Theology tells us God is love. We do this Apostolic Hospitality largely that people may experience the love of God. We take people unknown to us, pray that they may receive God’s presence. The moment they approach hopefully they can have created this in their heart. The main thing is to extend love. We sisters are here to give our life joyfully.”

This was one of those “ah ha” moments for me, among many, as I experienced the care and love of these sisters reflective of the world God has made, this world where God who is real and can be experienced, desires to draw all people to himself, this world that has been torn and broken time and again, and yet by God’s grace is again and again being mended.



ICE Journey of the Birmingham Eight

Travels Through the Lands of the Pharaohs, the Kings, the Caesars, the Christ
Egypt, Jordan, Israel, Palestinian Territories, Greece, Italy
June 23 – July 15, 2011

The Birmingham Eight

Ray Dunmyer, Ed Hurley, Bob Hurst, Steve Jones, Jonathan Miller, A.B. Sutton,
Barry Vaughn

By Ed Hurley

How to summarize two and a half weeks immersed in the heart of those ancient and modern cultures that ring the most important parts of the Mediterranean region, from Cairo to Amman, to Jerusalem, to Athens, to Rome, from the Pharaohs to the Kings to the Caesars and the Christ, with stops in between? How to make any sense out of the vast crowded history of god-like rulers and faiths that emerged out of those areas, Judaism, Christianity and Islam, and how the tensions, ancient and modern, have played out and continue to play out within the varied faith communities and upon the world stage?

Those are huge issues with which to try to contend. I wish I could say I have even a portion of it figured out. I don’t. Though I have a much larger canvas than before this journey on which to work, and met some incredible individuals along the way, from church and synagogue leaders, to tour guides and hotel clerks, all in the wonderful if at times taxing on each other company of my amazing colleagues, my friends and teachers, in the Birmingham Eight.

This was the third and final leg of our inter-faith, inter-denominational clergy travel study three-legged stool that over the past three years has taken us to Boston, Bangladesh, India, and now Egypt, Jordan, Israel, the Palestinian Territories, Greece and Rome, all in quest of the Divine. The question we asked of each person we sat down with, be it a Birmingham doctor who has become an Orthodox Jew and moved to Jerusalem, or an Egyptian Presbyterian pastor struggling literally to keep the walls of his church standing in Cairo where the Egyptian government before the revolution had bulldozed the manse and classroom building to uncover an ancient road from antiquities, all amid a vast Muslim majority, the rumblings of the Muslim Brotherhood, in a country in the midst of revolution, or an American theologian, now the American Ambassador to the Holy See in Rome, was “How do you experience the Divine?”

One hopeful foundation piece to build on is that each of them did. We discovered many and varied accounts from our hosts who welcomed us with incredible warmth, openness, and delight that we were there and interested in understanding, often after a few initially tense moments as they sized up who we were and what we were doing in their conference room. Pastor Maruse of the Presbyterian Church in downtown Cairo experienced the Divine in the packed congregation of young people, both Christian and Muslim, who gathered in the sanctuary on Saturday night for the first ever music concert bringing these two groups together. “A sign of hope”, he said. I preached there the following Sunday.

Brother Macarius, a desert Coptic monk at the Monastery of St. Macarius at Wadi Natrun, Egypt, founded 360 A.D., restored 1969 A.D., home of the Dessert Fathers, experiences the Divine in laughter and friendship with his fellow monks of the community, and in the deep regular experiences of prayer and worship, where they share both a monastic rule of life and a degree of freedom and individual autonomy we tend to think of coming more through the Protestant stream.

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Fr. Timothy Lowe, Eastern Orthodox priest from Nebraska, who grew up Baptist, and is Chancellor of the Tan-tur Ecumenical Institute along the road and up against the wall separating Bethlehem and Jerusalem, experiences the Divine and finds some sanity amid the political and religious turmoil within which he lives through silence. "The older I get the more I experience silence as communion," he said. He has found the experience of the Divine is universal to all people, and gets filtered through our own lenses, filters and systems.

Dr. Michael Marmur, Dean of the Hebrew Union College of Reformed Judaism in Jerusalem, led us in an incredible study of the Torah passages from Leviticus, Exodus, and even dipping over into 1 Corinthians, about how Jews experience the Divine, Moses experiencing God face-to-face unlike any of the others, and the prophets experiencing an immediacy with the Divine that put them usually at odds with priests and kings. He threw in a bit of Abraham Heschel "the Prophet is the one who has enough pathos to see from the Divine Perspective."

The sense of intimacy with the Divine is something Arie Mendeviv, a 55 year old Jewish Scholar from Scarsdale, New York, has found through his own journey into deep faith. Quoting James Joyce, "Mr. Duffy lived a short distance from himself," he went on to describe how he had grown closer to God, the importance to him of prayer, having a mentor, and the power of small groups. "Spiritual growth has grown through 10 soul mates", he said. He noted how "living in Israel is like being at a perpetual family reunion of a dysfunctional family." He went on to add that having a sense of intimacy with God is new for modern Judaism, and recounted his experience of worshipping in a California Mega Church where the Pastor talked, "and held us riveted for 30 minutes because he talked from the heart." He also added, "Religion is for people who are afraid of hell. Spirituality is for people who have been there. My interest now is in having a personal relationship with God."



Kenerit Shiryon, a seminary classmate with Rabbi Miller, is the first female rabbi in Israel. It took her 3 cases before the Israeli Supreme Court to be able to start up a ministry. She experiences the Divine as she prays the Jewish morning service while she swims 40 to 60 laps. "I have conversation with the inner voice of God. I talk to God intimately like some talk to Jesus." On the other hand, Mendel Shevim, a black hat Ultra Orthodox leader who came to Israel from New York, and who led us through an extreme Ultra Orthodox neighborhood, experiences God by keeping the rules in fullest sense, all 613 mitzvah found in the Bible.

David Perkins, from South Carolina, a lawyer by profession and dedicated evangelical Christian with the Christian Embassy experiences God through helping European Jewish survivors of the Holocaust in Israel, for whom his organization, which is influential with the highest levels of Israeli government, has built a retirement home for indigent survivors so they can live out their final years with dignity.

Lutheran Pastor of the Christmas Lutheran Church in Bethlehem, Rev. Dr. Mitri Rahib, sees events in Israel and Palestinian Territories through a different lens. (One learning I picked up on this journey is there are contending narratives for virtually every event, be it who was in the Promised Land first, Jews or Palestinians, or which son of Abraham was nearly sacrificed up at what is today the Temple Mount, Isaac or Ishmael, or how the Church is defined, by its Canon Laws or by its proclamation of the Word and the celebration of the Sacraments.) Rahib experiences the Divine through his church-based university that emphasizes Culture, Education and Health,

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teaching Palestinian youth and college students music and art instead of rock throwing. While he contends that Israel is "the most sophisticated apartheid system in modern history," he believe in providing some light and hope amid a bleak situation, helping Palestinians focus on culture instead of victimhood. You can actually tune into their performances via the internet. (see mitriarahib.org)

Rabbi Shlomo Riskin, Phd., Chancellor and Founder of the Center for Jewish-Christian Understanding and Cooperation, has an altogether different alternative narrative which he walked us through. Formerly rabbi of the largest modern Orthodox congregation in New York, he moved to Efrat, Israel, south of Jerusalem in 1966 and has built a town, a school, a series of synagogues for the area and was at one time the mayor. A brilliant and effective religious leader, he and Mitri Rahib, actually do quite similar work and seemed to me of the same compassion in their yearning to transform the younger generations. About experiencing the Divine, Riskin said, "I deal in very close relations with God. I am not at all afraid of God. I feel God very strongly in every place. We can find God all over."

In Rome we met with the Dean of the Waldensian Seminary, New Testament Scholar, Redailia Yanna. A precursor to the Protestant Reformation, Waldensians go back 800 years to the reforms of Peter Waldo, similar in emphasis to St. Francis, whose town of Assisi we also visited. Both emphasized a simple spiritual life of prayer and trusting God, giving up vast amounts of worldly power and wealth. The Waldensians with 35,000 members in Italy, remain a tiny Protestant presence amid a sea of Roman Catholicism. Yanna experiences the Divine these days in Waldensian worship which is transcultural, as their growth is coming through partnerships with African Pentecostal Christians, not with native European Christians, who are vanishing to Secularism. He noted Geneva, where his father was a Pastor, was 100% Christian at the beginning of the 20th Century, and 17% attend Church now early in the 21st Century.

Birmingham native Fr. John Paul Kimes grew up at St. Elias Maronite Catholic Church, an Eastern Rite Church but loyal to Rome and the Pope. A Notre Dame graduate, he is a lawyer as well as a priest and serves in the office of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith." This is the office developed during the Counter-Reformation to determine issues of heresy and safeguarding the faith. This is the office headed previously by the present Pope Benedict when he was known as Joseph Ratzinger. With the proliferation of the sex abuse scandals

across the Roman Catholic Church, all such matters all over the world now come to Kimes' office in Rome. He seemed glad to visit with home town folk. When I asked John Paul about his experience of the Divine, he said how very difficult it is for him sometimes due to memories of these horrible events he must investigate, and he experiences God in trying to empty those mental pictures from his mind when he is at mass as well as remember those persons in prayer.



The last person to whom we brought the question of their experience with the Divine was certainly among the most profound in a series of profound conversations. Through the good offices of Sen. Richard Shelby we were granted a meeting with the U.S. Ambassador to the Holy See, the Vatican, Dr. Miguel Diez. A Cuban American, Dr. Diez is not your typical Ambassador, that is a moneyed supporter of the current President. Instead Dr. Diez is a Roman Catholic theologian who teaches theology in Minnesota and has four young children. He approaches this unique diplomatic post, unlike any other, where our country is connected with a tiny bit of real estate, the Vatican, that is actually the seat of the Roman Catholic Church. As a Christian of considerable understanding and authentic com

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