

New Life in Christ
by Rev. Chris Carrasco



Your Session has done an amazing job discerning God's purpose, core values, and foundational beliefs for Mulberry Presbyterian Church. This covenant, printed in March's Messenger, will become our guiding principles in the months and years ahead as we live into what God would have us be and do in west Charlotte. Your Session has spent several weeks in worship explaining the details in this document, what they mean and why they are important for us as a community of faith.

On May 1st, you will have an opportunity once again to read this covenant, hear additional explanations of it, and ask questions or make comments in a relaxed setting after church with lunch provided. Your Session members will once again be available to discuss with you the details of this covenant.

On May 15th, we will celebrate this new covenant together. During worship, we will commission our six new coordinators who will be guided by this covenant along with Session as they make decisions about the future of our church and live out the ministry God is calling us to do. We as a congregation will also commit to living out this covenant, not just when we are "at church" but as we "be the church" twenty four hours a day, seven days a week.

What does the covenant have to do with our personal lives? Everything! From showing love to our neighbor by offering hospitality, compassion, acceptance, and inclusiveness to forgiving others as we have been forgiven by God to daily prayer to only engaging in conversation that is constructive, respectful and loving, these principles become not just our guiding force for the church, but for each of our lives individually.

We look forward to sharing with you on May 1st, celebrating with you on May 15th, and living out this covenant in the months and years ahead. May God's blessing be upon us as we seek God's will in all we are and all we do!

Chris



Dear Church Family,

I am home after 10 days at C.M.C. and like the little inch worm, I'm getting there. I would like to thank Rev. Chris, Mary Lib Stokes and Patsy Caudle for their visits to the hospital and prayers. Thank you to Ken and Terry for the beautiful Peace Lily, caring words and prayers on my first trip home. Thank you to Doris Springs, the Fellowship Sunday School Class and Patsy Caudle for the delicious food on my second trip home, and to Barbara Campbell for her thoughtful, fun visit. I will also be forever grateful for all of the cards and phone calls. How can one person be so loved?! I'm looking forward to getting back to church. God bless all of you! Annette Pearson



Dear Friends at Mulberry,

We would like to thank you for the many acts of kindness you have shown toward our mother and us over the years. So many of you visited, called, sent cards, and prayed for her during her surgery and long months of recuperation. Thank you to those who called every day to check on her; your friendship will never be forgotten. We are also grateful to those who prepared and served the meal for us before the service. Your love and support have made this difficult time easier to bear. The Family of Rachel Ranson

March Session Highlights

Listening to God

As the Christ Candle was lit, Jana Barnette led us in devotion and prayer then Rev. Chris read from Hebrews 13:1-6 and reflected on hospitality.

Listening to Others

Jana shared her faith journey and we prayed for the church and various members who are hurting or in need.

Listening to God

- Pastor Reported: A Coordinators' meeting is planned for May 1, plans to be away for 2011 were approved, the use of a screen in worship will be discussed at a later date, the task force is working on a recommendation for the front of the sanctuary to come in June, Sign ups were passed around for Easter Vigil and Maundy Thursday, and there are two parties interested in renting the daycare wing.
- Hospitality – A new system for welcoming visitors will be in place on Easter Sunday. Several greeters have been trained to welcome and connect with our first time visitors. The table in the narthex will be our Visitors' Welcome Table. The back room on the right hand side will be our Hospitality room where a reception will be held for our visitors every Sunday after worship. The pastor will meet with the visitors during the reception and will be available to share with the congregation after the reception as well as before worship.
- Evangelism – All were encouraged to attend the Easter Egg Hunt and join the new class starting June 9 "Just Walk Across the Room."
- Jane Guy and Glenda Brown were elected Presbytery Commissioners for May 17th.
- A new logo was approved with a Mulberry Tree and the words "Reaching Out in Love...Because of the One We Love."
- Session will host a lunch after church on May 1 to discuss and share about our new Covenant which will be adopted during worship on May 15.

Going Out Into the World

We ended holding hands in prayer with Jana and will be ready to meet again on May 15 at 8:00 a.m.

Coordinators' Corner

Resource Ministry by Vance Schrum Many thanks to Earl Springs for making sure all the Men of the Church pecans were sold. We are pleased to report that the tree that recently fell in the cemetery has been removed, and that the church's insurance will cover the repair of the damaged fence.

Congregational Care Ministry by Barbara Campbell We've been making lots of visits this month - some to members' homes, some to the hospital. Also, several trips for doctor's appointments and several meals have been provided. Thank you to all who have graciously provided these services. "God is good all the time; All the time God is good."

Service Ministry by Bev Sadler Thanks to everyone who contributed to the MS Walk scheduled for April 16. Your support and donations are greatly appreciated.

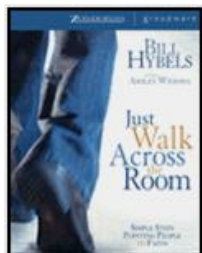
The Presbytery of Charlotte and the Five Cents a Meal program is now called "Ten Cents a Meal" in an effort to reach the growing need in our community. Please remember to give as your blessings allow on the fourth Sunday of each month.

Mulberry allied with Paw Creek and Christ Presbyterian churches for the Room In The Inn project this winter. Those who volunteered to provide food, transportation and overnight supervision can tell you how much this program means to those in need of shelter on a cold winter night, and how thankful our neighbors are to have a delicious meal and warm, safe place to sleep. Please speak to Henry Sadler about how you can contribute to this endeavor in the future.

The Discipleship Corner by Mike Hood This month features the Youth Group. In recent activities, the Youth Group has participated in the Loaves and Fishes Collection, the Souper Bowl ministry, helped with the Pine Needle sale, and been active in Sunday school and worship. This summer the Youth Group will be attending Montreat (July 31 through August 6) and will be doing fundraisers to help defer the cost of attending; there will be upcoming announcements on ways the congregation can support this endeavor. In addition, the Youth Group is planning several fellowship events such as bowling, camping, spending a day at the lake with Vance Schrum, and swimming at Ken and Terry's house. If anyone would like to help with youth fellowship events, Bev requests that you let Kayla Sadler know so she can add the event to the calendar. Lauren Whitely and Adam Hackett have been helping with some these events along with Bev Sadler and Kim Wells. Mark Zagar is now teaching Sunday school for the youth. Bev made a special point of thanking the congregation for supporting the Mulberry Youth, and she encouraged everyone to continue supporting the youth and to keep them in your prayers.



Hospitality Ministry by Linda Sadler We've been busy setting up the Visitor's Reception Room, making new children's bags, creating a bulletin board and putting together visitor's bags, all in time for Easter. If anyone would like to join our Hospitality Ministry, please let me know. We can all practice Christian hospitality to our new visitors. Remember Romans 12:13.



Evangelism on the loose! by Mark Zagar Our covenant says that out of our love for others, our primary mission is to make disciples. That's evangelism. But evangelism means so many different things to so many different people. How do we do evangelism at Mulberry? Rev. Chris will be leading a class solely focused on evangelism based on the book, *Just Walk Across the Room* by Bill Hybels. Two identical classes will be held on Thursdays at 10:00 AM and 6:30 PM beginning June 9 through the end of July. Please make the effort

to come, learn, discuss, grow, and share your thoughts about evangelism. Let's live out Jesus command to "Go and make disciples of all nations." Thank you to everyone who donated eggs and gave of your time and love to make the Easter Egg Hunt such a great success. This event is a wonderful outreach to the community and a great way to connect with our neighbors. When you see a few of them at church on the following Sundays, be sure to greet them warmly in the name of Christ.

May News and Events

Attention Ladies of the Church: We will celebrate our May Birthday Party on May 15 after worship. The WOC Board will serve a light lunch, followed by an enjoyable and informative program. Join us!

Softball season is here again! Teaming up with our sister church at Paw Creek Presbyterian, we are participating in a church men's softball league twice a week through June. We need all our men to come and support this team effort—all men are welcome to play, regardless of their softball ability. This is a great way to get to know not only fellow church members but also those from Paw Creek and get a little exercise too. Please contact Nelio Carrasco for more information at 980-355-3234. Play Ball!

Mulberry Presbyterian Church will have a yard sale on Saturday morning, June 4 from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. We will rent tables for \$10 each, with proceeds going toward the church. Men of the Church will sell sausage biscuits, soft drinks, coffee and orange juice. The Church will also have tables manned by church members. Items can be dropped off at the church starting May 30. Please call the church if you need assistance transporting items.

Congratulations to Elise Collins and Ben Green in the birth of their daughter Audrina Nicole on April 12!



Changing the World by
Serving The Local
Community

Enjoy live music, testimonials and an exciting speaker and learn about ways to share your gifts and talents by participating in local community projects such as knitting, building wheelchair ramps, community gardening, landscaping, yard work and more. Sponsored by Mulberry Presbyterian, Covenant UMC, Christ UMC, Homestead UMC, Moore's Chapel UMC, and Thrift UMC. Details at 704.392.3925, www.covenantcharlotte.com.



Christian Sympathy

Mulberry Presbyterian was saddened by the loss of longtime member and friend Rachel Ranson on April 2, 2011. A service celebrating Rachel's life was held April 15, 2011. Please keep the Ranson family and friends in your prayers.

Mulberry was also saddened by the passing of long time member and friend Robert Stone on April 23, 2011. A service celebrating Robert's life was held April 27. Please lift Robert's friends and family up in prayer.

Ruby Leebrick passed away on April 14, 2011. A former member of McQuay Presbyterian, Ruby considered Mulberry Presbyterian her church home in Charlotte. Please keep the Leebrick family and friends in your prayers.

Keep These Friends In Your Heart:

Annette Pearson, the family of Rachel Ranson; the family of Robert Stone; the family of Ruby Leebrick, Peggy Fuquay (Ken Fuquay's mother), Linda Champion, Hope Cochran, Tim Guy, Curtis Johnson, Lynda Springs, Anna Price, Linda Guy, Ivy and Xander Guy, Lois Andrews, Juanita Holt, Pete Slobodzinski.

May Time and Talents

USHERS

- 1st Sunday** -Jeff Whitley, Jack Guy, Lillian Williamson, Vance Schrum
- 2nd Sunday** -Earl Springs, Nelio Carrasco, Denise Thompson
- 3rd Sunday** - Mack Cochran, Sonny Brown, Brenda Hendricks, Linda Sadler
- 4th Sunday** - Ashley Barnette, Gloria Vereen
- 5th Sunday**—Youth

CHURCH LOCK-UP

- Jeff Whitley
- Earl Springs
- Mack Cochran
- Ashley Barnette
- Jeff Whitley

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP

- May 1:** Jana Barnette
- May 8:** Mike Hood, Nelio Carrasco
- May 15:** Edna Carver
- May 22:** Denise Thompson
- May 29:** Brenda Hendricks

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

- Patsy Caudle
- Jana Barnette
- Denise Thompson
- Patsy Caudle
- Jana Barnette

NURSERY

- May 1:** Nelio Carrasco, Brenda Hendricks
- May 8:** Bev Sadler, Kayla Sadler
- May 15:** Mac & Hope Cochran
- May 22:** Henry & Linda Sadler
- May 29:** Edna Carver, Doris Woody

May Birthdays



- 1st: Henry Sadler
- 5th: Edna Carver
- 6th: Christian Carrasco
- 7th: Michael Thomason,
Lynda Springs
- 15th: Sue Demas
- 19th: Doris Woody
- 20th: Beth Demus
- 21st: Joy Felker, Doris Springs
- 25th: Mitchell Plemmons
- 26th: Julia Clark
- 28th: Denise Thompson
- 31st: Nelio Carrasco



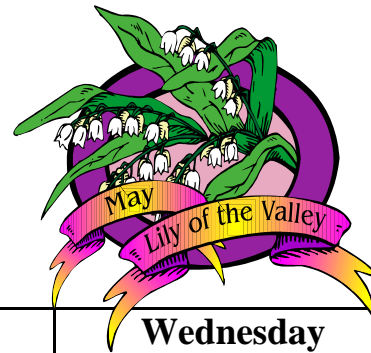
**Mulberry Presbyterian
Church**

(704) 392-1030

mulberrypc@bellsouth.net

www.mulberrypc.com

May Calendar



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Worship 12:00 p.m. Luncheon and Discussion of Covenant</p>	<p>2 9:00 a.m. Sit 2B Fit Exercise Class 8:00 p.m. AIAnon</p>	<p>3 10:00 a.m. Circle 1 11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting</p>	<p>4 6:30 p.m. Mulberry Ringers 7:30 p.m. Mulberry Singers</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6 8:00 p.m. AA</p>	<p>7 5:00 p.m. Impact Community Event</p>
<p>8 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Worship NUTS Meeting after worship Mother's Day</p>	<p>9 9:00 a.m. Sit 2B Fit Exercise Class 8:00 p.m. AIAnon</p>	<p>10 11:00 a.m. Young Heart 6:00 p.m. Friends of Grace, Home of Lynda Springs</p>	<p>11 6:30 p.m. Celebration Ringers 7:30 p.m. Mulberry Praise</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13 8:00 p.m. AA</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15 8:00 a.m. Session 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Worship: Celebration of Covenant 12:00 p.m. Women of the Church Birthday Party</p>	<p>16 9:00 a.m. Sit 2B Fit Exercise Class 8:00 p.m. AIAnon</p>	<p>17 8:30 a.m. Breakfast at Cracker Barrel Presbytery Meeting</p>	<p>18 6:30 p.m. Mulberry Ringers 7:30 p.m. Mulberry Singers</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20 8:00 p.m. AA</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22 TEN CENTS A MEAL 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Worship 2:00 p.m. Sharon Whitley Piano Recital</p>	<p>23 9:00 a.m. Sit 2B Fit Exercise Class 8:00 p.m. AIAnon</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25 10:00 a.m. Knit Wits 6:30 p.m. Celebration Ringers 7:30 p.m. Mulberry Praise</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27 8:00 p.m. AA</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Worship Newsletter Deadline</p>	<p>30 9:00 a.m. Sit 2B Fit Exercise Class 8:00 p.m. AIAnon</p>	<p>31</p>				