

Volunteer Reminders

GREETERS & USHERS

May 7 Steve & Paulette Turner
May 14 Pete & Betty Kiep
May 21 Carole & Donnie Barron
May 28 Ronald & Sandra McDonald
June 4 Ron & Linda Dunivant

CONTACT VISITORS

May 7 Betty Kiep
May 14 Jean Moore
May 21 Carole Barron
May 28 Steve & Paulette Turner
June 4 Mae Todd

WORSHIP ASSISTANT

May 7 Sandra McDonald
May 14 Anita Raby
May 21 Linda Faulk
May 28 Carole Barron
June 4 Brenda Gilmore

Volunteer Reminders

Children's Sermon

May 7 Sandra McDonald
May 14 Tom Lewis
May 21 Linda Faulk
May 28 Anita Raby
June 4 Barbara Lewis

Copeland Logistics

The list has been posted on the bulletin board. Some tasks have question marks which need someone to sign-up to do. Please look at the list and see if there is anything you can help out with.

If you have volunteered for a task, please get with the other people on that task and work out a schedule to help each other out to get the job done.

If you need information or training, please let me know. We know that some tasks will need some explanation. Thanks to all who have volunteered.

The Copeland Chimes



seeking, Serving, Sharing Christ

May 2017
Copeland Presbyterian Church
27085 Copeland Rd.
Athens, AL 35613

FROM TOM'S DESK

On Wednesday morning, as usual, I went to Bible study. The Wednesday morning group is studying I Corinthians and on Wednesday we were looking at Chapter 4. Verse 4 and 5 particularly struck me. "I am conscious of nothing against myself, yet I am not by this acquitted, but the one who examines me is the Lord. Therefore, do not go on passing judgment before the time, but wait until the Lord comes who will both bring to light the things hidden in the darkness and disclose the motives of men's hearts; and then each man's praise will come to him from God."

That got me thinking. One of the problems I have seen within this presbytery in the last year has been the propensity to scapegoat. That word comes from a practice described in the Bible in the Book of Leviticus. On the Day of Atonement, the High Priest would offer three sacrifices. He would offer a bull for his unintentional sins. Then he would sacrifice two goats. One for the unintentional sins of the nation against God (blood sacrifice) and one for the intentional sins (scapegoat). The priest would symbolically write the sins on the forehead of the goat, which would then be released into the wilderness, carrying off the sins of the nation with it. It shouldn't escape our attention that a new scapegoat was chosen by Israel every year.

This is what we do. We tend to assume that when a "problem person" leaves- or is cast out- the problem leaves with them. But the fact is we're only deluding ourselves. The problem may go away, but the emotion the problem sparked remains.

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(continued from Tom's Desk)

When another problem comes along the anxiety will simply attach itself to the new problem and a new scapegoat will likely be chosen. It's as if the problem is a goldfish and the anxiety is a bowl. Our instinct is to throw out the big fish and get a smaller one, but just like a goldfish will grow to fill its bowl, any problem will grow to the level of anxiety. What we need is to address the anxiety. What we need is a smaller bowl.

There's another problem with blaming/ scapegoating. If I blame somebody in your presence and they aren't there to defend themselves, how can you be sure I'm not doing the same thing to you when you aren't there? Short answer, you can't.

Finally, the verse we read above points out that blaming others isn't biblical. I suggest that if we truly wish to follow Christ, we should focus on our relationship with one another. Blaming, shaming and labeling other people is inconsistent with the gospel.

Tom

SESSION MEETING NOTES

- Session meeting was held on April 2, 2017 at Copeland.
- Repairs were made to windows in Sanctuary where there were leaks.
- Linda Faulk is working on getting a director for VBS this year.
- Misty King reported that we have 3 families for summer food program so far.
- Session approved for the church manse to be rented to Presbyterian Home for Children. A clean up day will be scheduled to get items that we are keeping and the rest will be picked up by the Home for their thrift store.
- Our next meeting is May 21, 2017, please see a Session member if you have concerns or comments.

MISSIONS

This school year is quickly coming to an end and 4 of our Backpack Families have asked for our help with food during the summer. We have started a Food Pantry in the Fellowship Hall closet and are now collecting any family sized food items you wish to donate. We will start distributing food a week or so after school is out. These 4 families will come to Copeland Presbyterian Church every two weeks for supplemental food until school begins in August. Some of these families have an adult at home that knows how to cook and some will have children that will need to prepare food for themselves during the day.

A few basic items to send with them are cereal, soup, peanut butter, jelly, juice, crackers, canned vegetables, etc.

We will send fresh fruit, cheese and milk home with them on the day they pick up the food. Please remember these families when you do your grocery shopping.

LCCI is still in need of our help with food and personal items. Please place any donated items in the LCCI basket in the vestibule.

Copeland Day, May 7

Please invite family and friends to our annual homecoming day at Copeland. Please bring your favorite dishes to share and enjoy the fellowship.

Children's Corner

FATHER, WE THANK THEE

Father, we thank thee for the night,
And for the pleasant morning light;
For rest and food and loving care,
And all that makes the day so fair.

Help us to do the things we should,
To be to others kind and good;
In all we do, in work or play,
To grow more loving every day.

-- Rebecca Weston - 1890

Box Tops for Schools

Please save your box tops to help our local schools. A labeled drop off box is in the kitchen. Thank you for your support!

CMMT

CMMT will meet in May date to be announced.

Pastor

Rev. Tom Lewis (256) 468-0383

Session

Class of 2017

Tim Collier (256) 256-233-6126

Brenda Gilmore—Clerk
(256) 603-2899

Class of 2018

Linda Faulk (256) 837-4429
Stephen Guess (931) 308-5201

Class of 2019

Misty King (256) 874-2195
Emily Johnson (256) 232-7700

Ministry Team/

Committee Leaders

Building and Grounds

Tim Collier

Children’s Mission

Susanne Slaten

Christian Education

Linda Faulk & Roger Faulk

Missions

Misty King, Carole Barron

Outreach/Fellowship

Mae Todd & Stephen Guess

Presbyterian Women

Susanne Slaten

Scholarship

Susanne Slaten

Stephen Ministry

Cindy Saseen & Mae Todd

Worship

Emily Johnson & Janice Hutton

Birthdays



- May 5 Langley Redmill
- May 6 Don Kyker
- May 7 Susanne Slaten
- May 10 Jan Kennedy
- May 13 Misty King
- May 13 Nancy Copley
- May 17 Donnie Barron

Anniversaries



- May 1 Carol & Jeff Barts
- May 2 Taylor & Chaz Hardy
- May 22 Jan & Don Kennedy

RADA CUTLERY—FUND RAISER

Ordering on-line is easy and the products will ship directly to you.

www.helpourfundraiser.com

Internet ordering # 506504

Stephen Ministers

The purpose of Stephen Ministry is to show God’s love to others by listening and walking alongside those who are going through hard times. We are all hurting in our own way, and we have all been through hard times. Being involved in the Stephen Ministry does not mean that we are exempt from our own pain, but rather that God in His providence can connect two people who are weathering the storms of life and bring something good out of it, something very good.

Leaders: Mae Todd or Cindy Saseen.

MONTREAT FUND RAISER

Please plan to come for breakfast on Sunday, May 21st from 8:00-9:00 a.m. and donate to the Montreat fund.