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Paul's Ponderings...

A Homecoming Celebration

On September 27th, (my Mom's birthday) 2015 the Chapel in the Pines celebrated Homecomina Sunday for the first time in its thirty-one year history. Perhaps, you might ask, "Why did it take thirty-one years for the Chapel leadership to see the benefits of hosting a special Sunday to acknowledge its heritage, to welcome back former members to the church, and to celebrate with visitors and prospective members the direction of the Chapel going forward into the future?"

Remarkably, there is a simple answer to this question. Church historians tell us that religious Homecoming celebrations were a creation of Southern churches going back to the post-Civil war era and did not become somewhat popular in other regions of our country until the 1960's and 1970's. Now, if you will take a quick peak at the twenty-eight founders of our Chapel you will quickly see that for the most part, their roots are anything but "Southern". With this in mind let me share with you a story about the Chapel's first Homecoming.

In 2015 JoAn Moses was in her second year as President of the Chapel Board of Directors and we had a conversation about the Homecoming celebrations we had both enjoyed in our former churches. We spoke about the joy of welcoming back college students and young adults who lived away and were growing their families. We spoke about the joy we saw in the eyes of the seniors when they experienced so many of their church family reunited with one another on Homecoming Sunday.

JoAn was inspired to quickly choose three faithful women of the Chapel to head up the effort to make plans for the Chapel's first Homecoming that would be held the last weekend in September. These wonderful ladies were Helen Simpson, Ann McClvmonds, and Gerry Moss. These three were anxious to get started so they asked if I would attend their first planning session and I was honored to oblige. Immediately, it became clear to me that these women grew up in churches that did not celebrate Homecoming and, in fact, they had never attended a Homecoming Sunday in their lives. All three had volunteered to make plans for Homecoming out of their love for JoAn and this Chapel, but they had absolutely no clue what they were planning. You see, none of these ladies were Southerners...it simply was not a part

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of their church tradition...and they were looking for some guidance.

So, with a chuckle, I called the most Southern woman I knew...I called my wife, Julie, who up in the grew "Low County" of South Carolina and was a veteran of multiple Homecomings. After explaining the predicament, I asked Julie if she would meet with Helen. and Ann, Gerry.



After Julie led the ladies on many walks down church memory lane and gave a lengthy tutorial on all things Homecoming, the ladies were off and running and just a few months later Homecoming became a part of the many important, yearly traditions of the Chapel in the Pines.

So, on September 23rd and 24th we who are blessed by God to call this Chapel our "home" will celebrate its 9th Homecoming with all our church family and friends. Homecoming is a time when we welcome many back into our loving arms and remind them that no matter where they are on their life journey that they are also welcomed into the loving arms of Christ. Homecoming is a time to speak of our Chapel's history and to renew old friendships, but it is also a time to give thanks to God for the blessings this church brings into our lives and a time to make new friendships. Homecoming is a time to look to the past, acknowledge the blessings of the present, and dream about the future as we continue to worship and serve God in this place.

The Worship Team, the Mission Team, and the Chapel Men's Fellowship will be our hosts for the events of Homecoming Weekend 2023. You will hear more about the details of this special weekend through the bulletin, the Chapel's website, and Constant Contact emails. But, this is where all of you can really help this year's Homecoming be successful.

We are in the process of sending out an invitation letter to those who have moved away, those who are now in senior living facilities, and those whose faces we haven't seen in quite some time. If you have someone who needs to receive this letter about Homecoming and you want to make sure that we have their names and addresses, please check with Susan in the Chapel office to verify that they are on our list. We want to make sure that no one is left out of the celebration and that the love and joy of Homecoming is shared with everyone.

Peace, Pastor Paul



<u>Ch</u>apel Chimes

Prayers for Chapel Friends:



Patty and Jackie Madden, Jack Sealey, Phyllis Mahin, Anthony Tuliano, Janet Hegeman, Evangeline Caliandro, Laurie Stevens, Little Daniel Auman, Koran Sanders, Mary Faas, Olivia Mcdonald, Lerici Racine, Jamie Raskin, Joe Currie, Kevin Carter, Sharon Thomas, Neida Crow, Kerra Paduano, Kathy Steele, Harry Wahlquist, Walter Hundley, Esther Robinson's sister Judy, Cindy Hess, Bob Macdonald, Rev. Bill and Marty

Bruner, Elsie Keeshen, Elaine Bertino, Mary Farley, Abbe Wells, Kitty Price, Kerri Klein, Kay Halus, Nancy Campbell, Jean Schmidt, Watts Auman, Ed Barry, Nell Ostby, Bill Bohl, Bob Lovin, Dwight and Faye Jessup, Little Caroline Matthews, D.J. Kirit, Steve Hall, Allisha Watts, Scarlett Rose Williams, the people of Ukraine, the people of Maui, the people devastated by wind, rain, hail, and tornados in the US and the people in the path of hurricane Hillary.

Prayers for Chapel Family:

Bud Holzerland, Nancee Letter, Dave Westerman, Meta Evans, Charles Hinson, Tamara Lee, Butch and Mary Kay Allen, George Hoffman, Glenda Clendenin, Jane and Jeff Lowe, Jean Lawrence, Bob Dantzer, Mary Tuft, Phillip Thingstad, JoAn Moses, Shirley Percival, Jane and Jeff Lowe due to the death of Jane's son and Jeff's brother Bruce.

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:6-7



Here we are in September already. Summer is over, and school is back in session. The Preschool in the Pines at The Chapel opens next week, and we will have 30-plus little ones downstairs again.

I am happy to say we have many new visitors returning each week, and our attendance has been high every Sunday as we hear the Word of God delivered by Pastor Paul. If you attend the Chapel Service, please try attending Coffee and Fellowship to meet our guests and newest members.

The online service continues attracting members and guests who cannot attend our service due to illness, are homebound, or have moved away but still love the Chapel. We welcome you all.

The August Gathering was once again a great success with a large turnout, and we hope that continues at our next gathering on September 14^{th.}

The new 2023 Chapel Photo Directory pictures will be shot in the Fellowship Hall on September 19 & 20. We need to have **75 Participants** to make the directory a success. To date, we have **Only 46 Reservations** booked. **PLEASE** go online to the Chapel website and make an appointment or call Susan in the office, and she will help you schedule your appointment. Time is running out so **PLEASE DO NOT WAIT, CALL TODAY.**

Stewardship Season

We have entered our traditional Stewardship season. Over the next two months, we will seek your commitments of your time and talents as well as your pledges for 2024.

Stewardship is not just a once-a-year activity. The interest and commitment you provide to us as leaders offer a pool of resources we can draw from for various projects we need to conduct throughout our church year. These projects are critical to our success in broadening our teaching of God's Word and building the fellowship in the



Chapel. The board asks that you open your heart and talent bag and pull out those skills we can use to better the Chapel for all of us.





Time and Talent Sunday was successful, with new members joining many teams. Last Sunday you participated in the Talent Card exercise that identified over two hundred talents in our Chapel community. We now ask you to apply just one of your talents over the next year, working on a team for the betterment of the Chapel.

Our next challenge is completing the Pledge Season. The Finance Team has developed the 2024 budget for consideration at the September Board Meeting on September 17th. Each year, we work from history to build our budget, not knowing what our actual pledge revenue will be, so that when Pledge Sunday arrives, you will have seen the proposed budget for 2024, and you will make your best pledge to support God's ongoing work here at the Chapel. The Chapel Community is our sole source of revenue, so we ask you for your generosity.

As we move into the fall, enjoy cooler temperatures and enjoyable days.

George Norman - President



Team Updates

Fínance Team



The Finance Team has completed the 2024 Budget recommendation to the Chapel Board. If approved at their September Board Meeting, it will be presented to the Congregation for approval at our Annual Meeting.

We are pleased to announce that Peggy Reuter is joining the Finance Team. She is eminently qualified, having served on the finance committee for The Village Chapel in Pinehurst, as well as treasurer for 7 volunteer organizations.



Worship Team

Well, summer is just about over, and we are heading into early fall. Some years, it seems like summer has extended well into October without any cool down. Then we get relief from the high temps and things begin to cool down. We have less daylight, and everyone begins making pots of chili and huge bowls of pasta to ward off the chill of the cool evenings.

Which brings me once again to ask everyone who is capable, please think about signing up to bring meals to those in need.

Some of our members have to have surgery, or get sick, or has had some one who passed away. In times of need, it's nice to know that there are those of us who care to bring a meal that's already prepared and ready to eat. And, we have **all** been there. It is so very appreciated by those whose circumstances necessitates a little assistance. Volunteering is also such a great way to give of yourself and time. Some people need transportation, some just need someone to talk to. There are so many areas in which one person alone can make a difference.

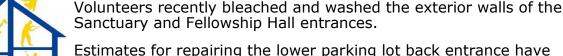
Our Worship Team Meal for the Gathering we had was yet another success! We must be doing something right!

Come September, we will have the next Gathering on September 14, with Holy Communion. AND, it will be a covered dish, so there will be many great meals that people will bring. We will also have a covered dish after Sunday services on September 24, for The Homecoming. So!!! Mark your calendars and bring your family's (or yours) favorite dish, comfort food, side, OR dessert.

Some of us are always looking for a new recipe!

Leslie While Worship Team

Building & Grounds Team



Estimates for repairing the lower parking lot back entrance have been submitted to the Chapel Board for approval.







Míssíon Team

We met on August 8th at 10AM in the Fellowship Hall.

We made \$425 in Change 4 Change! Not bad for the first time. We look forward to Sunday, October 17th and maybe we can beat that total.



Who knows!



Fran's Friends continues to bring the ladies of the Chapel together for wonderful fellowship. As we say, you DO NOT have to drink wine! They have plenty of NON-ALCOHOLIC choices or just bring your own. Snacks are always fun to share, but certainly not required. Please mark your calendars for the FIRST Thursday of every month. We will be changing the time from 2:30 to 3:00.

We have T-shirts sales through Jubilee Printing. Here's the link to place your order. <u>https://chapelinthepinessummer2023.itemorder.com/</u> The



deadline to place your order is Sunday, September 10th. Bunco T-shirts are also available for sale! Place your order today on the same website. All proceeds go to the Mission Team and as always it is wonderful partnering with Jubilee Printing, a local Seven Lakes Company.



Our order for the Chapel in the Pines shelf sitters from the Cat's Meow Village in Wooster, Ohio is ready for distribution! We will give one to anyone who joins the Chapel as a Welcome gift from the Mission Team.





We will donate checks to the Preschool in the Pines, West End Elementary and West Pine Middle in the amount of \$250 each. We will continue our commitment to the Sandhills Food Bank by gifting them \$1000.



Believe it or not, but we are gearing up for Christmas 4 Moore. We are putting together small groups of people to help with

the client intakes that are taking place at various locations throughout the county. After that is complete, we will meet directly with the coordinator of C4M to select the families we will sponsor. More to follow!

Bunco was cancelled for August but we will resume in September. If you know now that you can't play on Tuesday, September 12th, PLEASE email Laura Beth Urie

at <u>laura.urie@yahoo.com</u> or text her at 910-610-3380. I will be out of town. We are asking people to bring back to school items to assist with TeamWorkz Back to School event scheduled for September 23rd. All items brought to Bunco on September 12th will be distributed by Team Workz during their Back to School event on the 23rd. We are all so grateful for what we have and because our mission is

to help others this is a perfect cause. We can help the homeless population through Team Workz by extending our outreach to help those less fortunate.

Homecoming is the weekend of September 23-24th. The Mission Team will host Bunco on Saturday, September 23rd in the Fellowship Hall at 1PM. This will be open to anyone who would like to play (even men). The cost remains at \$10 per person and again, we would encourage

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you to bring items to help the homeless population through Team Workz. A list of suggested items for the homeless can be found on the Team Workz inserts. Once items are collected, we will arrange for delivery.

Cemetery Team

We sold one Niche at the Chapel one at the Cemetery this month. We also had an interment at the Cemetery's Columbarium during the month of August.

On Friday, August 25, 2023 I met lady who buried her Father at the Cemetery a year ago. She and her husband would like to buy two plots next to him.

Custom Monuments Company is still working on our new columbarium's and is looking at delivery in September of one or more of the four units ordered.

Mike Barry

Cemetery Team Chair







Birthdays/Anniversaries



Sunday—September 3 Jimmy McCaskil Thursday—September 7 Rev. Paul James Dorene Tichenor Thursday—September 7 Sunday—September 10 Friday-September 15 Friday-September 15 Friday-September 15 Sunday-September 17 Thursday-September 28 Ralph Olsen Friday-September 29

Sophie Collins Pat Donaldson Rebekah Lee Carol Scantlin **Owen Baker** Bruce Keyser



Celebrating Anniversaries

Monday-September 4 Ed Burke & Thalia Beam **Tuesday-September 5** Bill & Blue Baker Wednesday-September 13 Wendy & Adrien Tetreault **Thursday-September 21** Mike & Sue Barry Friday-September 29 Bart & Peggy Reuter Happy Anniversary



Coffee Fellowship

September

- 3 Katy Swain & Stacey Golzio
- 10 Mary Snead
- **17** Volunteer Needed
- 24 Homecoming Sunday!

To volunteer contact our Church Administrator, Susan Williams by calling 910-400-5188 or email-

ing citp10@7lakeschapel.com. You can also sign up at the podium just outside the entrance to the fellowship hall.





Usher Schedule September—November 2023

Offertory – after you hand the plates back to Paul and he turns to the alter, just turn and go to your seat. If you need a sub, the usher list is below.

September

3	Sun	9 am	Reszka, Zeller, VanHornes
10	Sun	9 am	Beam, Normans, Singletary
14	Thu	5:30	Gathering – Connelly, Tetreault
17	Sun	9 am	Beck, Danielson, McCaskills
24	Sun	9 am	(Homecoming) Peppes, Reszka, Zeller

October

1	Sun	9 am	Connelly, Reuters, Tetreault
8	Sun	9 am	Faas, Normans, While
12	Thu	5:30	Gathering – Danielson, Singletary
15	Sun	9 am 🛹	McCaskills, VanHornes
22	Sun	9 am	Beam, Beck, Peppes
29	Sun	9 am	Reuters, Reszka, Zeller

November

5	Sun	9 am	Peppes, VanHornes
12	Sun	9 am	Connelly, Danielson, Singletary, While
19	Sun	9 am	Beck, McCaskills, Tetreault
26	Sun	9 am	Beam, Faas, Normans

Sanctuary Preparation Teams

September

3	Sun	9 am	Sandy Cifranic, Mary Snead
10	Thu	5:30	Lee Connelly, Marilyn McCaskill
14	Sun	9 am	Daisy Kirit, Kathy Hilton
17	Sun	9 am	Alice McPheeters, Mary Snead
24	Sun	9 am	Sandy Cifranic, Marilyn McCaskill



Flower Schedule

If you are interested in volunteering to provide flowers for the chapel, please contact the office at 910-400-5188 or e-mail Susan Williams at cit10@7lakeschapel.com to have your name added to the Flower Sign-up List.

September	
9-3	Julie James
9-10	Marilyn McCaskill
9-17	Volunteer Needed
9-24	Jon & Dorene Tichenor
October	
10-1	Bart & Peggy Reuter
10-8	Volunteer Needed
10-15	Volunteer Needed
10-22	Wendy & Adrien Tetreault
10-29	Shirley Percival

Back Pack Pals and Matthew 25:40 Programs

We Need Your Help—Please Donate as Often As You Can!

Juice Boxes, any flavor

Pop Tarts, any flavor

Peanut Butter/Cheese Crackers



Capri Sun Juices, any flavor

Pop Tarts, any flavor

Chef Boyardee Micro Cups, in yellow and red

Small Water Bottles

Protein Bars, all flavors

Fruit Cups



Board Members

Board of Directors – 2023

George Norman, President	gngolfer@nc.rr.com	910-987-4664
Jon Tichenor 1st Vice President	tichenorjon@gmail.com	910-466-9148
Jim Beck Treasurer	lotsaoaks@gmail.com	910-673-5682
Ed Burke Secretary	edembr@hotmail.com	910-477-2947
Joyce Singletary	jsingletary31@nc.rr.com	910-673-5554
Dot Macdonald	dotjmac1957@gmail.com	910-673-3866
Bob Donaldson	rhdon138@gmail.com	910-466-9064

Chapel Staff and Contact Info

Pastor Reverend Paul James	pastorpaulchapel@gmail.com	910-690-5529
Chapel Administrator Susan Williams	citp10@7lakeschapel.com	910-400-5188
Financial Secretary Paula Montgomery	citp-treasurer@7lakeschapel.com	910-986-9191
Choir Director Kristen Thompson	kristen.webb@gmail.com	910-220-1979

Sound/Video Tech Dillon Corral

> Church Office: 910-400-5188 Church Email: <u>citp10@7lakeschapel.com</u> Church Website: http://7lakeschapel.com

Homecoming

Golf Outing

Beacon Ridge Golf & Country Club Seven Lakes West

Time: Check in before 2:00pm to join the putting contest and finalize pairings.

Individual Putting Contest, Closest to the Pin **Games:**

Team 9 Holes Step-Aside-Scramble

Game:

Awards/Snacks After Golf, All Are Welcome!

Cost: \$25.00 per person (Payment to Dick Van Horne at Course Day of Tournament)

Contact: Bill Baker 910-783-6486 Email: <u>bill@beaconridgecc.com</u> OR Dick Van Horne 910-673-3123

Email: vanhorne6178@gmail.com





Open Invitation—Men & Women

Saturday, September 23, 2023

At 1:00 pm

The Mission Team will be hosting an All-In Bunco 4 Missions game on Saturday, September 23rd at 1:00 pm. The cost of the event will be \$10 per player and will support TeamWorkz of Moore County. The Mission Team is asking that each player bring items to help support TeamWorkz Back to School Event on September 23rd. Suggested items needed can be found on the Moore County Schools website (<u>https://www.ncmcs.org/schools/</u><u>elementary schools</u>). These lists are individualized by grade-level and may help with ideas.

To sign up for our Bunco 4 Missions on Saturday, September 23rd please call the Church Administrator (910) 400-5188. The Mission Team will need to have a list of players interested in order to best prepare for our afternoon of play.

