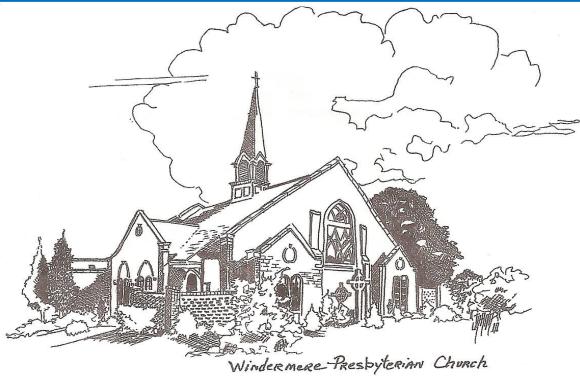


August 2016 Newsletter

Windermere Presbyterian Church
104 Windermere Road,
Wilmington, NC 28405



The Pastor's Pen

What is The Meaning of Life?

"Who is like the wise man? Who knows the explanation of things?"

- Ecclesiastes 8:1

The question has been asked so often throughout human history that it has been relegated to the realm of cliché and speculation, “What is the meaning of life?” But think about your own existence for a few moments, and wonder: Why do you exist? ... There was a time before you existed and nobody knew who you were. And after you die, when enough time passes, once again no one will know who you were. So from the perspective of time, which stretches far beyond our horizons of past and future, what is the significance of your little interval on this planet? Even more, what is the significance of your life among all the other billions of lives that share this moment in history with you? Indeed, what is the meaning of life?

Though this question may not swim at the surface of our thoughts on a daily basis, it is nonetheless our constant unanswered companion in the depths of our psyche. It is the sort of question that emerges in a mid-life crisis. “My God, I have spent half my life with the same spouse, at the same job, in the same routine. Is this all there is?” It is the sort of question that emerges when someone we love dies an untimely death. “Heavenly Father, why did you even give them life if you were going to take it away so suddenly?” It is the sort of question that arises when we face retirement. “Lord I have worked faithfully my whole life, now what do I do? Now what is the point?” And, it is the sort of question we face when prepare to die ourselves. “Did I do everything I was supposed to do? What was the meaning of this life?” I don’t think animals consider life and death, or past and future in a way that tries to attach meaning to them as we do. We are unique in that way. Among all the thinking creatures, God has made us not only to consider *how* things happen... but *why*. And the biggest of those questions is, “Why life at all? What is its’ meaning?”

Starting Sunday August 14th Windermere will begin a new sermon series where we will look at the Old Testament book of Ecclesiastes. It is a book written by King Solomon, who did us a great favor in writing the book. Solomon used his own life as an experiment (which ends up tragic in some ways) to discover the “meaning of life.” Furthermore, he had resources available to him that most of us never will. Most of us think at some point in our life that our meaning and purpose in life would be more fulfilled if we had more money, more power, more pleasure, or more wisdom. Solomon was the richest man alive in his time, he had more power than any other man on the face of the planet, he had over

Continued on page 3

Finance Report for June 2016

Operating Fund	June	Year to Date	Budgeted YTD
Income	\$ 45,943	\$125,107	\$ 77,923
Expenses	<u>18,004</u>	<u>106,479</u>	<u>113,656</u>
Net income (deficit)	\$ 27,939	\$ 18,628	\$(35,733)

Income for June included a bequest \$33,864 from the estate of Nellie Baker. This money was used to help replenish our General Fund, which now stands at \$47,041.

August Ushers—Rodney Oakes, Kathy Oakes, Evelyn Morris, Ranier Moeckel, Paula Moeckel, Jeff Townsend

August Liturgists— August 7, Gary Galloway; August 14, Elizabeth Albritton; August 21, Evelyn Morris; August 28, Janet Casey

Clerk of Session: Paul Albritton 799-4271

Finance: Tom Hebert (chair) 452-5521, Evelyn Morris 799-6808, Fritz Rohde 431-3891

Property & Maintenance: Russ Barker (chair) 392-1376, Mark Mathers 279-9691

Strengthening the Church: Debbie Packer Chair) 712-1535, Sue Stott 799-4701

Mission and Service: Matthew Coleman (chair) 228-9390, Becky Kalnen 799-9612

Worship: Bebe Brewton (chair) 793-1299, Dave Allen 392-1274

Presbyterian Women: Doris Failing 791-4500

Men of the Church: Bud Townsend 395-5097

Elder Nominating Committee for 2016 - Dave Allen, Incoming Elder and Chairman, Carol Pearson, Outgoing Elder, Bud Townsend, Men of the Church, Ellen Allen, Women of the Church, Seth Thomas, Youth, Ben Faircloth, Member-at-large and Nancy Wolfe, Member-at-large

Minister: Rev. John R. Pflug, Jr., 910-617-5200, email: revjohnpflug@gmail.com

Secretary: Fran King, 515-6484, email: windermere@bizec.rr.com

Music Director: Candace Williams, 791-5966, email: towerkat_n_mouse@yahoo.com

Pre-School Director: Leslie Moore, 791-8290, email: windpreschool@att.net

Nursery: Donna Kaiser, 508-2296

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30 am – 2:00 pm

Our Missionaries

Shane & Dorenda Hartley—Campus Crusade, Wilmington

Bret & Mindy Taylor-Wycliffe Bible Translators, Waxhaw

Outreach Foundation, Iran

Dustin & Sherry Ellington—Outreach Foundation, Zambia, Africa

Rev. Gary and Marlene Van Brocklin – PCUSA, India, Pakistan, Bangladesh,

MEALS ON WHEELS August 27th — Please sign up!

Mission Statement:

The mission of Windermere Presbyterian Church is to mutually nurture, support and encourage one another toward spiritual maturity while reaching out to the community in response to God's gift of His Son, Jesus Christ, for the salvation of the world.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S NEWS

PW Council will meet after church August 14 to make plans for the coming year. Our next circle meeting is Sept. 13. Please remember to bring your pennies, your "Labels for Education" and a sandwich for your lunch. Dessert and beverages will be provided. It will be a great time for fellowship and fun.

Don't forget to get your study book from Sue Stott. The books are \$5.00 each. We have an inspiring program on "The Me I Want to Be".

If you are not currently attending circle meetings, please join us on Sept. 13. We would love to have all women of the church for study, worship, service and fellowship.

URGENT NOTICE— Campbell's Labels for Education is doing away with this program in the near future. If you have any labels /UCB codes saved please bring them to church and look for the basket in narthex to deposit them or give them to Elizabeth Albritton or Doris Failing within the next two weeks. Elizabeth will take them to the Fall Gathering on August 20th in Lumberton. If you have any cans of Campbells soups/beans/Swanson broths/ Pepperidge Farms products etc., please remove the codes/labels so we can send as many as possible. I know Barium Homes and other recipients are disappointed

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S PURPOSE - Forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves: to nurture our faith through prayer and Bible study, to support the mission of the church worldwide, to work for justice and peace, and to build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (USA) and witnesses to the promise of God's kingdom.



Windermere Presbyterian Preschool

We are a half day preschool serving Toddlers – Pre-K. We offer a loving environment that allows children to learn through play and teacher-directed activities. We focus on the social, emotional, spiritual, and academic development of young children.

Leslie Moore, Director
910-791-8290 - windpreschool@att.net

Continued from page 1

700 wives from around the world, and God gave him far more wisdom than any mortal person ever had. In his experiment Solomon engages each of these (money, power, pleasure, and wisdom) to see if there is ultimate meaning in any of them. Ecclesiastes represents the results of all his experimenting. The book is Solomon's report on his quest for the "meaning of life." What Solomon discovers will surprise you, I promise.

Grace and Peace, Pastor John

August 14- Ecclesiastes 1:1-11

August 21- Ecclesiastes 2:1-11

August 28- Ecclesiastes 3:9-14

September 4 -Ecclesiastes 4:8-12

September 11- Ecclesiastes 5:10-20

September 18- Ecclesiastes 6:7,12

September 25- Ecclesiastes 7:13-18

October 2- Ecclesiastes 8:14-17

October 9- I will be in South Korea. There will be a guest preacher

October 16- Ecclesiastes 9:13-18

October 23- Ecclesiastes 10:16-20

October 30- Ecclesiastes 11:1-10

November 6- Ecclesiastes 12:9-14

Monday Morning Preacher

You will notice that we will not be covering every single verse from Ecclesiastes the way we did with Galatians. Therefore, in order to get a more robust understanding of this book I will host a Bible Study in the Laura Coley room each Monday morning from 11:00am to 12:00 noon starting on August 15th. The purpose of that study will be to more fully explore the chapter of Ecclesiastes that was covered the day before in worship. You will have an opportunity to ask questions about the sermon, and learn more about the other verses of the chapter that were not covered in the sermon. A sermon is a one-way communication about a Biblical text (The Word preached to the congregation through the preacher), but this class will allow us to dialogue around the book of Ecclesiastes. I hope you will join us.

Thank you for the many cards, prayers, and other kind expressions of caring and love extended to us during the recent weeks following the death of my brother, Larry Harmond. Your concern continues to lift us up and we are very grateful to this congregation for your loving support.

Sincerely, Gayle and Denny Brandon
and Frances Savaree



Dear Family,

Words can not express the gratitude that Debbie and I have for everything you did for us during Pat's journey. He loved this church and everyone. You are family in our hearts! All the calls, cards, visits and prayers lifted his spirits as well as ours. Thank you for being there for us!

Love, Pearl and Debbie

Minute for Missions —Matthew Coleman

"Feed your body, mind, and soul"

One of the Missions & Service Committee's main objectives is to make everyone in the church aware of all the wonderful ways Windermere spreads the love of Jesus Christ in our local community and all over the world. There are several groups, activities, and organizations that we're involved with on a regular basis. Some you may be more familiar with. Others that come up from time to time may be a little less familiar. On November 5th, come join us for the 2016 Missions Fair! The theme this year is "Feed your body, mind, and soul." This is your chance to meet several of the missionaries the church supports regularly, hear their testimonies, learn about the groups they represent, and ask questions. We'll have a dinner, dessert, small talks, exhibits, and our keynote speaker will be Sasan Tavasoli, who's work focuses on building churches in one of the most volatile places on Earth: Iran. More details will be coming in the next few months. If you have any questions, you can always reach out to Matthew Coleman, or contact any member of the Missions & Service committee. In the meantime, mark your calendar for November 5th, and come "Feed your body, mind, and soul" at the 2016 Missions Fair!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that appears to read "Matthew Coleman".



Rally Day, Sunday, August 28th Immediately after Worship!

We will be kicking off the new Sunday School year with hamburgers and hot dogs for lunch! There will be two sign up sheets - one to sign up for bringing a side to go with the hamburgers/hot dogs and one to sign up if you plan to eat and fellowship with us!

STC Committee



Spaghetti Dinner Cook-Off

Join us for the spaghetti dinner cook-off on Wednesday, August 10th at 5:30 pm! If you sign up to bring your special sauce to share, prepare enough for 12 or more people! There will be a sign-up sheet if you would like to volunteer to bring your special sauce and a sign-up sheet if you plan to attend to enjoy supper with us and to hear missionary, Dustin Ellington, speak about his rewards of serving as a missionary. There will be a basket for donations to cover the cost of the extra items! The winner of the best sauce will receive 2 free tickets to a future Wednesday night supper!! We will need volunteers to judge and decide on the best sauce!

STC Committee



August 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 7 pm BST 255	2 9:15 am TOPS 12 noon Ministers Mtg. & Lunch 7 pm Property	3 6:30 pm AA 12 Step 7 pm Choir ?	4 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	5	6
7 9:00 am Sunday School 9:30 am Choir 10 am Worship  6 pm Bible Study	8 2 pm Finance 7 pm BST 255	9 9:15 am TOPS 6:30 pm AA 12 Step 7 pm Choir ?	10 10 am Worship Comm. 2 pm Sewing Circle/L.C. Rm 5:50 pm Family Night Dinner 6:30 pm AA 12 Step 7 pm Choir ?	11 6 pm Strengthening of the Church Comm. 6 pm Meals on Wheels Council 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7 pm Mission & Service Comm.	12	¹³ 8-12 Church Work Day
14 9:00 am Sunday School 9:30 am Choir 10 am Worship 6 pm Bible Study	15 11am-12pm Bible Study / Laura Coley room 7 pm BST 255	16 9:15 am TOPS 6:30 pm AA 12 Step 7 pm Choir ?	17	18 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7 pm Session	19 6-8 pm Youth Group	20
21 9:00 am Sunday School 9:30 am Choir 10 am Worship 6 pm Bible Study	22 11am-12pm Bible Study / Laura Coley room 7 pm BST 255	23 9:15 am TOPS 6:30 pm AA 12 Step 7 pm Choir ?	24 2 pm Sewing Circle/L.C. Rm 6:30 pm AA 12 Step 7 pm Choir ?	25 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	26 8-12 Meals on Wheels prep. in Kitchen	²⁷ 8:30 am Meals on Wheels
28 9:00 am Sunday School 9:30 am Choir 10 am Worship Rally Day 6 pm Bible Study	29 11am-12pm Bible Study / Laura Coley room 7 pm BST 255	30 9:15 am TOPS 6:30 pm AA 12 Step 7 pm Choir ?	31			

PRAYER CONCERNS

Our Body of Christ

Betty Jo Register, Charlene Farrar, Nettie Peterson, Robert and Diane Stevens, Elizabeth Albritton, Irene Gerhartz, Evelyn Morris, Clara Wilson, Dru Farrar, Bob Huntley, Roland Register



Our Extended Body of Christ

Shelia Groves, Carol Bowers, Baby Rogan, Trent and Anjie McCumbee and their son Levi, Mary Summerlin, Melinda Sumrall, Janis Bedsole, Jimmy Steinmetz, Fred Jones, Diane Workman, Ann Kirby, Carolyn Martin, The Pyle's granddaughter, Fiona, Linda Linares, Cathy Weaver, Peggy Powell, Our Missionaries

Operation Christmas Child: Operation Christmas Child: Operation Christmas Child partners with churches worldwide to reach boys and girls with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. After receiving shoebox gifts, many children are discipled through a Bible study course, THE GREATEST JOURNEY, where they learn to become faithful followers of Christ and share their faith with others. We have been collecting items all year to fill extra boxes in October. Now that summer is upon us, many stores will have flip flops, sunglasses, inflatable beach balls and many other items marked down. Please pick up a few items to add to our collection. Every little bit helps. As always, toothpaste and toothbrushes along with soap and washcloths are great items also. A Shoebox Gift + THE GREATEST JOURNEY = A Young Disciple.



Achtemeier's Newsletter (Christmas in July)

Mark and Kat's newsletter arrived recently with 2 pages of news and pictures. Mark was our 2nd pastor and stayed with us for five years leaving to go to Duke University for additional educational opportunities. They have lived in Iowa for many years where Kat has been pastor of a Presbyterian church for 14 years and Mark continues writing books and making speaking engagements. They are now the proud grandparents of three. Daughters Sarah and family live in Ashville, NC, Rachael and family in N.J where she is an Associate Pastor and son Josh just graduated from College. The newsletter is posted on the bulletin board by the choir room. Check it out for the many pictures.



August Anniversaries

Andrew & Jennifer LaGrange	08/09
Jeffrey & Michelle King	08/10
John & Teresa Williams	08/19
Dennis & Gayle Brandon	08/27
David & Ellen Allen	08/28
Bill & Sharon Harris	08/28
Mark & Wendy Clemens	08/29

August Birthdays

Jenny King	08/03
Trenton Williams	08/06
Kevin Brewer	08/07
Memory Brogden	08/11
Brittany Pflug	08/12
Timothy McGuan	08/15
Carol Weaver	08/17
Becky Kalnen	08/18
J.R. (Bud) Townsend	08/18
Roy Brewton	08/19
Linda Carlisle	08/21
Blair Kelly	08/21
Pam Aherne	08/22
Debbie Packer	08/22
Doris Failing	08/23
Ryne Locklear	08/24
Sue Hebert	08/26
Gayle Brandon	08/27
Buddy Locklear	08/27
Tom Beck	08/28
Stephen Brewer	08/28
Allison Sayer	08/30



Assisted Living:

Doris Erkes, 404 Liberty Commons, Wilmington, NC 28405

Nettie Peterson, Brightmore Commons of Wilmington, 2324 41st St., Rm. 16, Wilmington, NC 28403

Session News for August 2016

Approved and welcomed new members Tommy Gill and Jim and Joan Edge.

Letter was received from Rev. Nancy Gladden thanking Windermere for hosting the East Community Gathering in June. Stated that it would be a hard act to follow.

Approved applying for grants to support the quilt project for Coastal Horizons.

Approved formation of a committee to study the possibility of having deacons and elders.

Following a six-months review of the finances, approved continuing with the current budget.

Due to lightning strike that came in on the Time Warner, will have to replace at least one and possibly two computers at a cost of around \$400 each.

Mission Spotlight

My wife and I serve with a ministry of Cru called Faculty Commons. College students are in one of the most critical seasons of life, and professors have a profound influence on them everyday. One of the most discouraging things for Christian students is to have a critical atheist professor who claims it's unreasonable to believe in God or the Bible. But we have many Christian professors on campus who say it's perfectly reasonable to have faith in Christ! A large part of our ministry is to equip and encourage Christian professors to share their faith in appropriate ways on campus.

The first year for any professor is a big time of transition. The stress of this year causes many new professors to be more open to spiritual things. Our ministry tries to meet with every new professor during their first year on campus to get to know how we can support them and to begin spiritual conversations about God and Christ.

It's also very easy for Christian professors to feel isolated on campus. Through monthly luncheons and weekly Bible studies we create opportunities for professors connect to with and support each other as they learn together to follow Christ on campus. And though summer trips to East Asia, we are helping the Asians start their own campus ministries to reach students and professors for Christ!

Thank you for supporting our ministry financially! We could not do this without you.

Shane and Dorenda Hartley

Windermere's Inter-Faith Hospitality Ministry

InterFaith Hospitality, (WIHN) (Family Promise), is a ministry to provide temporary housing for families who are willing to meet the program's criteria and are willing to set goals to solve their housing needs. The program includes necessary counseling to help the families attain the goal of getting into their own housing. The average length of time a family is in the program is about 7-10 weeks. The maximum number of families that can be served in the program at one time is five. The maximum number of persons in those families is 14. As we go to press, there are 2 families with a total of 9 persons. The children range in age from 1 month to 10 years of age.

Windermere has been one of the supporting churches since this ministry was started in Wilmington. You will be glad to know that since the ministry was started here in Wilmington on Easter, 1996, the Wilmington InterFaith ministry continues to have a graduation rate above 90%. (By graduation rate we mean families who have gone into permanent housing). This is the highest percentage of all the Family Promise programs across the country. We are glad to be a part of a ministry which has made a positive difference in the lives of the families who have come to WIHN for help. Our hearts have been encouraged by the reports of how people have been able to move forward because of the help we have given.

Meals on Wheels

Our church has been active in the New Hanover County Meals on Wheels program since 1993. As vice-chairman of the Weekend Meals on Wheels Council and the coordinator for Windermere, I see first hand the great need for this ministry. As we reach out to the community, we provide a much needed service to the elderly.

Please contact Michael Coleman at 910-262-8771 or e-mail at goskins.mc@gmail.com.



This is Nettie and MOW client Jessie Jones, chatting after we delivered her meal on 7/18/2016.

Fun and Fellowship!

Windermere is forming a youth group
to meet from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm
on the third Fridays of each month.

Windermere Presbyterian Church

104 Windemere Road
Wilmington, NC 28405

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**August
Newsletter**

Telephone: 910-791-5966
Email: windermera@bizec.rr.com
Website: www.windermerepres.org.

Presbyterian Counseling Center

CENTERPOINT

The Puzzle of Addiction

When I was a child I touched a hot stove... after my mother had warned me not to. It hurt. I never did it again.

This brief, simple story about the process of leaning illustrates how discomfort and pain, such as that provided by a hot stove, are very good motivators for helping us to learn... what to do, or not to do, as we mature and grow as human beings.

So what do you think about people who repeatedly touch the same hot stove and get burned repeatedly? As we move through life, it soon becomes apparent that there are people who we see on a regular basis (maybe even in the mirror) who repeatedly engage in behavior that is harmful to themselves and/or others. They hurt themselves and/or others and don't seem to learn from their mistakes. What I'm describing is an "addiction".

An addiction is defined by two things: 1) loss of control and 2) negative consequences. Whatever is causing pain — shopping, gambling, over-eating, drugs/alcohol — should have stopped long ago. Promises and vows have been made and broken... because people cannot stop themselves. What is the answer? It's one of the hardest things for most people to do: Get some help.

Call 910-452-7370, and visit the Center: www.presbyteriancounselingcenter.org and www.smhealing.org

Doug Edwards, Counselor