

3rd Chronicles



Summerville Presbyterian Church, Summerville, SC

Dr. Michael Shelton, Minister

843-871-0280

www.summerville-presbyterian.org

Fax: 843-871-0300

WELL DESERVED, FRAN BARNARD

By Frieda Hughey

Special to 3rd Chronicles

In October, Fran Barnard was chosen to represent the state of South Carolina in an exhibit at the Washington, DC Convention Center. The 2011 Leading Age annual meeting was attended by over 10,000 people. The event was also attended by all of her children, the Presbyterian Homes of South Carolina CEO Kathy Ligon and COO Richard Fields. An honoree had to be 65 years old or older and be living their life with "extraordinary zest." Robin Miller, the administrator at the Village of Summerville, nominated Fran Barnard.

Ms. Miller stated her reasons for believing that Fran was deserving of this honor. She has resided at the Village for ten years, initially with her husband, Bob, who recently died, they having been married for 65 years. At age 95, Fran has more energy than others who are decades younger. Every year she bakes over 3,300 cookies so that she can present a dozen to every resident on their birthday with a special card. This she does in an 18-inch oven which she has already had to replace twice! Understandably, Fran is referred to as "The Cookie Lady."

This is only a part of Fran's

see Fran Barnard, page 7

CHRISTMAS LOVE

By Dorie Runyon

Special to 3rd Chronicles

A donkey, a stable,
a mother's treasure,
a babe in a manger.
Love beyond measure.

A Father in heaven,
a Son on earth.
A comforting angel.
The miracle of birth.

A carpenter, Joseph,
an obedient man,
nurturing family,
believing God's plan.

A multitude of host
as shepherds abide.



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Three wise men, a star,
a babe glorified.

The story of Christmas,
a wondrous sight,
as we open our hearts
to God's love burning bright. +



DECEMBER

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Primetimers Trip to Mepkin Abbey 3 Library Work Day, 9:30 a.m. 4 Chili Cook-off, 5:30 p.m., Gym
Children's Christmas Program,
6:30 p.m. 5 Women's Bible Study Group,
3:30 p.m., Dorchester Room
(weekly) 6 Village Worship Service,
10:30 a.m. 7 Kindred Spirits Bible Study Group,
9 a.m., Dorchester Room
(weekly) 8&22 Prayer & Spiritual Renewal,
7 p.m., Sanctuary 11 Breakfast Sunday, 7:45 a.m., Gym
Choir Presents "Messiah," 7 p.m.,
Sanctuary
Reception Afterwards, Lanneau
Hall | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 12 Gracefull Readers Book Club,
7 p.m., home of Liz Demerest 13 Newsletter Deadline
PW Circles Meet 18 Communion Sunday
Caroling, 4-5:30 p.m. 23 Church Office Closed 24 Families and Children. 5:30 p.m.,
Gym
Live Nativity, 6:30 p.m., Front
Lawn
Candlelight Communion, 7 p.m.
and 11 p.m., Sanctuary 25 Christmas Day
HELP Sunday
No Sunday School
Potluck Breakfast, 9 a.m., Gym
Worship Service, 10 a.m.,
Sanctuary 26-27 Church Office Closed |
|---|---|

ALL SAINTS DAY MEMORIAL SERVICE

By Carol Austin

3rd Chronicles Staff

The **All Saints Day Memorial Service** at our Old White Church Cemetery, sponsored by the Cemetery Committee, was held the afternoon of October 29.

Our two ministers, Mike Shelton and Lamar Carney took part in the service, as did the Handbell Choir playing the tone chimes. (These tone chimes were a gift to the church from

Patty Taylor and her brothers in memory of their parents, Bob and Alice Wall.)

Those remembered for their faith and witness were: Bob Barnard, Rachel Salter, Dale Gregg, Bill Austin, Marguerite Carpenter, Martha Palmer, Jack McCollum, Louise Ittig, Elizabeth DeBrosse, Adele Griffin, Margaret Bivens, and Patria Coone.

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Dr. Michael Shelton, Minister
Lamar Carney, Associate Minister

3rd Chronicles Staff

Carol Austin 843-873-5148
Diane Burden 843-771-4404
Frieda Hughey 843-821-4526
Sally Lawson 843-871-2919
Merrilyn Long 843-871-3834
Dorie Runyon 843-821-6138
George Somers 843-851-9449
Neal Menkus Technical Support

Send questions, comments, and news to:

3rd Chronicles
Summerville Presbyterian Church
407 South Laurel St
Summerville SC 29483

You may also call any newsletter staff member or email your news to thirdchronicles@hotmail.com

The deadline for 3rd Chronicles is the second Tuesday of each month.



CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

The church office will be closed Friday, December 23 until the morning of Wednesday, December 28 for the Christmas holiday.

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

3RD CHRONICLES DEADLINE TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13

Wuh-oh!! Once again, less than three (3!) days to put the newsletter together. Anything which arrives after deadline is too late! And, it would be very helpful if you submit articles early ...



MINISTER'S THOUGHTS

By Mike Shelton

Minister

HOW WE SEE THE WORLD ...

The story of Robbie Riesner—a man who spent seven years as a prisoner of war in Vietnam, isolated in solitary confinement, starved and tortured. Then one day he saw a blade of grass emerging from a floor vent. He removed the grate and there it was—a single blade, a hint of green in a colorless world. He was so inspired by the sight that he began each day with his head stuck in the vent—praying and singing God's praise. In less dramatic ways, we awake to the same choice: what will we see or fail to see? What draws your attention or preoccupies your thoughts? The longer I live, the more I notice how our outlook shapes our lives more than our circumstances. Maybe that was why Jesus said, "The **eye** is the **lamp** of the **body**; if it is healthy your whole body will be filled with light."

He wasn't talking about **eyesight** but about **perspective**—not our vision of external things, but our vision of life. If we look hard enough, we'll find grounds for complaint in any situation. What do you see when you look at the world—signs of hope or the harshness of a cruel world? One wise person once said, "We often see the world, not as it is but as we are."

Each day, what we see or fail to see determines if we view that day as a blessing or a burden. Maybe that's why Paul kept writing about "the power of our thoughts."

Whatever things are true, noble, just, pure, lovely; if there

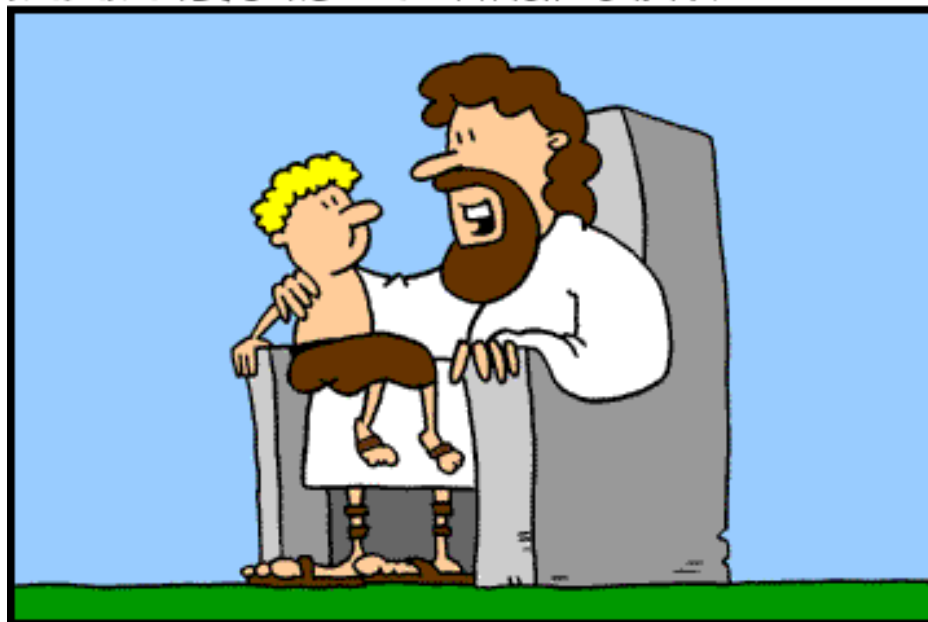
is any virtue, anything worthy of praise, reflect on these things. Why? So that the peace of Christ may be with you!

Paul was not telling us merely to find a silver lining in every dark cloud or to view the cup of life as half full rather than half empty. This was a man who spent his days enduring things that we'd prefer to avoid: traveling the Mediterranean Sea in a leaky boat; settling church fights and debating cynics;

confined in prison and denied companionship. Yet he says to us: Dwell on what is true! Focus on what inspires and not on what depresses. What you see defines who you are!

During Thanksgiving and Christmas, and throughout the year, dwell on what is noble, focus on what is positive, remind others of those things, and see how your world changes. ✚

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Thanks to Christopher Huffman

12-24-1998

HOW ABOUT IF INSTEAD OF GIVING YOU
EVERYTHING THAT YOU THINK YOU WANT FOR
CHRISTMAS I GIVE YOU WHAT YOU NEED?

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JUST A NOTE

By Deborah Styles

Music Director

December is here with all of the preparation, programs, fellowship, food, and fun that accompany the celebration of Jesus' birth. Our church will be decorated and we will sing our favorite songs of Christmas exclaiming hope, peace, joy, and love.

December 4, our Crazy for Christ group will lead in worship at the 8:45 a.m. service, and will help with the music for the children's Christmas program, "Christmas Letters," at 6:30 p.m. in the gym that night. There will be a chili cookoff before the program at 5:30 p.m. Plan to come eat, enjoy watching the "Christmas Story" from a different perspective, and sing carols.

December 11 at 7 p.m., the Chancel Choir will present Part I of Handel's "Messiah" in the sanctuary. Four singers have been invited to sing the solos: Chrissy Welch, soprano, (sister of Rachel Moss); Miranda DiMarco, alto, (daughter of George and Kitty Somers); Johnathan White, tenor, and Nathan Matticks, bass (both students at the College of Charleston). There will be a simple reception in Lanneau Hall after the program.

The Jewel Tones will lead worship for the 7 p.m. Christmas Eve service and will be singing at the Third Thursday Celebration on the Square for Summerville on December 15 at 7 p.m. Come join us and sing Christmas carols on the square.

Handbells will be ringing their prepared Christmas selections on December 11 at

the 8:45 a.m. service. Bell ringing seems to be such an important part of our Christmas experience.

Everyone is invited (families and children especially) to come caroling on Sunday, December 18 at 4 p.m. We will meet at the church and will divide into several groups to travel, visit and sing for our shut-ins and those living in nursing homes and at the Presbyterian Village. Come be a part of this great time of singing and sharing the Christmas spirit together.

Our Christmas Eve services:

- 5:30 p.m., Families and Children's Service in the gym
- 6:30 p.m., "Living Nativity" presentation by the Youth, on the front lawn
- 7 p.m., Christmas Communion Candlelight Service in the sanctuary
- 11 p.m., Christmas Communion Candlelight Service in the sanctuary

There are so many opportunities to come together as a church family and celebrate this wonderful time of year. Let us help you make this a special year for you and your family by celebrating with Summerville Presbyterian Church. ✚



Thanks from Jean Yeaworth and from Kathy and Douglas Whittle for the gifts of prayer, encouragement, beautiful flowers and cards which brightened our lives those months during my illness.

“Great is His faithfulness!”

— Jean Yeaworth



PW CIRCLES MEET TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13

- #1 - 12 noon, in Lanneau Hall
- #2 - 10 a.m., in the home of
Mariola Hammill-Gibbs,
106 Race Club Rd,
Country Club,
843-873-0242
- #3 - 11 a.m., in the home of
Aleatha Howard, 1718
Congressional Blvd., Pine
Forest, 843-486-0351
- #4 - 11:30 a.m., in the CAC at
PV
- #5 - 7 p.m., in the home of
Heather Kemble, 1402
Edmund Ct, Myers Mill,
843-486-8082

Thank you for the cards and caring as I recover from my surgery. When the lovely fall flowers were brought, they further lifted my spirits. Thank you to all at SPC for your prayers and thoughtfulness.

— Marie Taylor Lee

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN HOST WINTER WONDERLAND TEA

Ladies, mark your calendars for Sunday, January 29, at 3 p.m. On that afternoon, the SPC gym will be transformed into a winter wonderland for our annual tea. Come enjoy an afternoon of fellowship, food, and music. You do not have to be a member of a Presbyterian Women's Circle to attend this event—we would love to see women and girls of all ages. Sorry, gentlemen—the only requirement to attend is that you must be a female!

In keeping with the Winter Wonderland theme, we will be collecting winter gear such as hats, scarves, and gloves to give to some of the less fortunate in our area. This is a great opportunity for all you talented knitters to use up any yarn you have lying around!

We hope to see you all at the Tea! If you need childcare, or have any questions, please contact Heather Kemble at 843-486-8082. +

PW MISSION PROJECTS CHRISTMAS

Again this year we will be supporting Dorchester County seniors who are homebound through the Dorchester County Senior Center. The goal is to provide 170 gift bags with identical items.

All items must be at the church office by noon Wednesday, December 14.

Items on the “wish list”: toilet paper, tissues, paper towels, soaps, lotions, powder, men's shaving cream, toothbrushes, toothpaste, lip balm, hair combs and brushes, pens, pencils, and writing tablets, and single serving non-perishable food (applesauce, fruits or fruit juices, etc.)

WINTER

Hats, mittens, and scarves for children will be collected at the PW January Winter Tea to support the Hands of Christ Project which will be held at our church next August.

Your support for these two projects will be greatly appreciated!

H A P P Y  **B I R T H D A Y**

DECEMBER

1 Gail Hyatt
 Dan Williams
 Jim Bowman
 3 Robert Pratt
 Cecelia Bond
 Shane Shaughnessy
 4 Brian Wade
 6 Woodie Thompson
 7 Erin Woodside
 Al Owens
 David Owens
 8 Ann Crockett
 9 Sandra Hunter
 10 Martha Jones
 Anne Fraser
 11 Dickey Dingle

Wallace Evans
 Donna Wagner
 Bo Hamilton
 Amy Broadway
 12 Evelena Webb
 George Somers
 Bob Baker
 14 Lionel Lawson
 Ellen Burns
 15 Wanee Krofta
 16 Matt Legare
 18 Paul Cooler
 Jeff Bowers
 Catherine Eason
 19 Herb Boland
 Dowdy Miller
 Patsy Bowman

22 Jim Moore
 Perry Harris
 Jim Wylie
 23 Mary Bowers
 Matt Simpson
 24 Betty Dauchert
 25 Tom Mercante
 26 Kate Hunter
 Will Hunter
 27 Carol Wylie
 Jade Hill
 28 Don Craver
 Sue Avenel
 Josef Pritchard
 30 Angie Helwig
 31 Doug Hetu

 **NEWS** *from the* **PEWS**

Congratulations to Trey and Lindsay Gantt on the birth of their first child, Allen Theodore "Drew" Gantt. Drew was born October 20.



Blessings to Daniel Christopher Ignacz who was baptized at SPC November 6. His parents are John and Kim Ignacz. ✝

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

PRIMETIMERS

Primetimers Christmas Party will be held at Sweetwater Cafe, in the private dining room, on Thursday, December 15 at noon. There will be five items to choose from. Please bring a white elephant gift to share. See you there. +

FRAN BARNARD

continued from page 1

activities. She hand writes a letter a day, and plays Canasta, Bridge, and Shanghai games on a regular basis. She works on the Communion Committee, provides catered foods for the Village marketing events, and devotionals in the memory-care unit. If this were not enough cooking, Fran also plans, cooks, and hosts an annual luncheon for 40 friends.

Fran is known for her loving nature. Many people get a hug and kind words when she sees them. She has written and published three books and all the proceeds go to the Employees Christmas Fund at the Village. At a young age she was advised to “find some way every day to make somebody happy.” This she does.

Fran’s life has not been without its trials, but she has moved past them to live a vibrant and happy life. South Carolina could not have asked for a better representative in Washington. Congratulations, Fran Barnard! +

think ON *these* THINGS

KING JAMES VERSION

Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

— Matthew 5:6

Blessed are ye that hunger now: for ye shall be filled.

— Luke 6:21a

Woe unto you that are full: for ye shall hunger.

— Luke 6:25a

Hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted in them. Then they cried unto the Lord in their trouble, and he delivered them out of their distresses.

— Psalms 107:5-6

For He satisfied the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness.

— Psalms 107:9

GOD'S WORD

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for God's approval.

They will be satisfied.

— Matthew 5:6

Blessed are those who are hungry. They will be satisfied.

— Luke 6:21a

How horrible it will be for those who are well-fed. They will be hungry.

— Luke 6:25a

They were hungry and thirsty.

They began to lose hope. In their distress they cried out to the Lord. He rescued them from their troubles.

— Psalms 107: 5,6

He gave plenty to drink to those who were thirsty. He filled those who were hungry with good food.

— Psalms 107:9

THE MESSAGE

You're blessed when you've worked up a good appetite for God. He's food and drink in the best meal you'll ever eat.

— Matthew 5

You're blessed when you're ravenously hungry. Then you're ready for the Messianic meal.

— Luke 6

And it's trouble ahead if you're satisfied with yourself. Your self will not satisfy for long.

— Luke 6

Some of you wandered for years in the desert, looking but not finding a good place to live; half-starved and parched with thirst, staggering and stumbling, on the brink of exhaustion. He poured great draughts of water down parched throats; the starved and hungry got plenty to eat.

— Psalms 107

(The Message does not use verses.)

Presbyterian Women will be studying the Beatitudes this year.



NOTES FROM A CHURCH MOUSE

By **Ezekiel W. Mouse, Esq.**
Special to 3rd Chronicles

Rush, rush, rush!
Mary has been enthusiastically cleaning and decorating our mouse hole for Christmas.

Rush, rush, rush!
I had not realized before I married Mary that my activity level during the month of December was going to double.

Now we are planning gifts for her friends and my friends, her family and my family.

When will we eat with her family, when with mine?

Rush, rush, rush!

There are programs to attend at SPC: the choir program of the Christmas portion of "Messiah," the children's pageant.

There are programs to attend at Bethany Methodist so Mary can see her friends and family.

There are Summerville celebrations: Christmas Tree Lighting, Singing Christmas Tree, Bethlehem Village drive-through, a visit to Santa.

Rush, rush, rush!

see Church Mouse, page 9

CHURCH MOUSE

continued from page 8

There are parties to attend at SPC, especially when Big People friends invite us: Presbyterian Women Circles, choir, Sunday Schools, Primetimers, other groups. Again parties at Bethany Methodist.

Parties at members' homes and neighborhoods and places of work!

Rush, rush, rush!

On Christmas Eve there is the joy and excitement of the children at the Family Service.

And then ... the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. "Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright." The wonder of a 2,000-year-old miracle is real again! "Glory streams from Heaven afar, heavenly host sing Alleluia, Christ the Savior is born!"

Mary and I wish you the peace and joy of Christmas. ✚

MILITARY PRAYER LIST

- Jeremiah Ashley (Jim and Paula Strobel's step grandson), Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, D.C.
- Mellisa and Tom Avers (daughter and son-in-law of Tamara Tanner, granddaughter of June Goodson and niece of K.C. Sanders), Air Force — Langley AFB, Norfolk, VA
- Justin Benson (husband of Ashley), Air Force — Charleston AFB, SC
- Derek Bishop, Air Force Reserves — Charleston AFB, SC
- Jonathan Bragg, Army — Germany
- Kyle Field (nephew of Colin Martin) — Navy — San Diego, CA
- Caroline Gehring (Betsy Hehn's daughter), Coast Guard — Clearwater, FL
- Larry Hains II (Martha Honeycutt's grandson), Army — Iraq
- David Hetu, Special Forces — Elgin AFB, FL
- Joshua Hites, Navy — St. Marys, GA
- Brian Hoybach (Maggie's son), Air Force — Wright-Patterson AFB, OH
- Matt Jenkins (Carolyn Eason's cousin), Navy Seal
- Tighe Jenkins (Carolyn Eason's cousin), Army — Texas
- Michael Jones, NCIS — Iraq
- Matt Kitchen (Merrilyn Long's nephew), Coast Guard - VA
- Ed Martin (John and Kathy Lehmans' son-in-law), Air Force — Randolph AFB, San Antonio, TX
- Lance McElhiney (brother-in-law of Peggy), Army — Iraq
- Joel C. Mortimer, Coast Guard — Yorktown, VA
- Wesley Pritchard, Navy — Gulfport, MS
- Elizabeth Rooney (Susan Thomas Seay's daughter), Air Force — Langley AFB, VA
- Shaun Rooney (Susan Thomas Seay's son-in-law), Air Force — Langley AFB, VA
- Jessica and Jarid Sims (Barbara Norris' granddaughter and her husband), Air Force — Kadena AFB, Okinawa, Japan
- Aaron Small (Bill & Snookie Trippe's son-in-law), Coast Guard — Portsmouth, VA
- Jonathan Songer (Patty Taylor's son), Air Force — Holloman Air Force Base, NM
- Eric Stem, Air Force Reserves — Charleston, SC
- Megan Stephens, Air Force — Kadena AFB, Okinawa, Japan
- Scott Tetrick, Navy — Bahrain
- Clay Weathers (Jan Day's nephew), Army — AL
- Christopher Wheeler, Army — Iraq
- Terry Wright, Jr. (Barbara Grube's son-in-law), Air Force — Eglin AFB, FL
- Chaplains of the 1st Cavalry Division
- Chaplains of the 4th Infantry Division

Please let the church office know when changes occur.

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SIMPLE SCRIBBLINGS

By Rachelle Rea

Special to 3rd Chronicles

“I have to be perfect.”

The biggest lesson I have ever learned (drumroll, please) is that this is a lie.

I’m a perfectionist. I want my to-do list checked off at the end of each day. I want all of my projects in order and on time. I want to be the best I can be.

But sometimes it’s not, they’re not, and I’m just not.

So when my to-do list is as long as my arm, when what I long to accomplish proves impossible, and my entire life feels like a tornado has just swept through it, I too often collapse in a pile of tears, and frustration, and worry, and anxiety, and “God, what do I do?”

I stress myself out in the pursuit of perfection. And then I remember ... this is useless.

God doesn’t demand perfection from me or from anyone. But I forget that. Right now, I’m taking a deep breath, and revelling in that truth for a minute.

I don’t have to be perfect.

That’s the truth. I don’t have to fit into a mold that I have spent way too much time trying to crawl into.

God knows my faults. He knows my failures. He is fully aware of the foibles that make me human. He realizes that I’m sinful, I’m flighty, and I’m imperfect.

He loves me anyway.

How awesome is that!

Despite all of my imperfections, God loves me anyway. When I remind myself of just how imperfect I am, He picks me up, wipes away my

tears, dusts me off, and sets me on the straight and narrow once more. He holds my hand and leads me to the life He wants me to have—and He totally blows my mind with what He has planned. What He has envisioned for His children is so much more than we could ever imagine.

It’s wild. It’s daring. It’s romantic. It’s fantastical. It’s amazing. And it’s waiting.

All I’ve got to do is change my course. Stop pursuing perfection ... and start chasing hard after God.

My soul followeth hard after thee: thy right hand upholdeth me.

— Psalm 63:8

*Rachelle is a sophomore at
Trident Technical College
www.rachellereia.com*