

Triangle Presbyterian Tidings

Dear Friends,

In 1925 my great-grandfather and primarily one of his sons built a two story house in a community called Clayton, West Virginia. My understanding is that most of the materials used to build this house were found on the land. Large rocks were hauled up from a nearby stream to serve as the foundation and to build a fireplace and chimney. Lumber was milled from the trees that were cleared to make room for the house and surrounding yard to then build the house. When it was first built they somehow piped water from springs up the mountainside and depended on gravity to bring it to the house which originally had "indoor" plumbing. By the time I came along I guess the springs had dried up and the indoor plumbing was no more.

The house never had electricity as far as I know. When night would begin to fall, the kerosene lanterns would be lit and would provide their gentle glow in each room. There is something about a kerosene lantern that enhances conversation and especially story telling at night.

The old house is still standing with its double-decker porches spanning the front of the house. There is a well on the back porch. In the kitchen there is a large wood burning cook stove and a table on which many meals have been served through the years.

I have seen home movies of me, as a toddler playing in a bucket of water drawn from the well. I also have memories of going to that house when I was a bit older for little vacation getaways with my family. In the yard there is a large granite stone that hundreds of children have climbed up on and jumped off of, and the creek below the house was a favorite place to look for crawdads and salamanders and even a bit further downstream there was a small pool that was used for a bath on occasion. Kids don't "need" those too often you know.

When my great-grandfather died, he left the house to all of his children of which my grandfather was one. He and his siblings have done the same, so the house is now owned by so many people I doubt it would ever be possible to obtain a clear title. Family members still go to the house on occasion. Cousins who live in that area take their tractors up "the hollow" to cut the grass and keep the surrounding yard clear of brush. Recently some new windows were installed. I think some of my relatives still spend a night or two in the old house on occasion although no one in my immediate family has done so for a while. The house is mainly used as the gathering place for the family reunion. Reunions can take place anywhere really, but somehow I think there is something special about having a place. For my family it has always been "up in the country." Everyone in my family knows it by that name. If you talk about "up in the country" all of my relatives will know exactly what you are talking about.

The family reunion for my mother's side of the family is always held on the Sunday afternoon of Labor Day weekend. Not a particularly good time if you are a preacher. In fact it has been 23 years since I have attended this reunion. I know that because I have just completed my 23rd year at Triangle and have not attended since moving to Durham. When I was in Hot Springs Diane and I would load up the children and leave after church and be able to make it there in the early afternoon. It is too far away for us to be able to do that now.

A couple of years ago I had a real yearning to return to that place. I wanted to go "up in the country," and so I did. On a trip to West Virginia, Diane and I, along with Mom and Dad and my sister, made the trek of about two and half hours from my parent's house to see the old place. I walked through the rooms and wandered down to the old creek. I even brought back a rock out of the creek bed. When you come to my house I'll show it to you.

My mind was flooded with memories of that place and what it had meant to our family through the years. I could remember the taste of the cherries that were picked from the tree in the side yard, or the meals that were prepared on the wood stove and served on the big table. And I can tell you, there is nothing like a late evening Chef Boyardee pizza when it is baked in a wood stove. I remembered sleeping in the old creaking beds and on occasion hearing a mouse scurrying above the ceiling. After spending a couple of nights at a resort state park, Diane and I even spent our third night of married life in that house (I'm still not sure how I talked her into that one).

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Adult Education

For info or questions contact CaseyClark@TrianglePC.org

Denominational Debriefing with Pastor Ray

On Sunday, September 12, during the Sunday school hour, Pastor Ray will be sharing more about his time at the General Assembly this summer. All are invited to come to the FLC to learn more about what is going on in our denomination.



Sunday Morning Topical Classes

Hmmm....Don't know yet, but something's coming!

Facilitator: TBA

Location: Family Life Center

What Is A Beatitude?

Facilitator: Casey Clark

Location: Fellowship Hall A (Beginning September 19)

We hear about many of Jesus' sermons, but none as much as his "Sermon on the Mount." In it Jesus encourages the people with blessings, but also surprises them with intense challenges in regards to how we live our lives. This class will focus on the beginning of Matthew 5 where we see nine "blessed are..." statements that are known as the beatitudes, and we'll come away with a clearer understanding of what these familiar teachings mean.

Sunday Morning Fellowship Classes

SALT (Single Adults in the Lord Together)
The Foundations of True Friendship

Facilitator: Donna M.

Location: Room 101

We all need friends to support us in our Christian walks, and this study looks at six essential qualities that we need to be quality friends. With examples from both the Old and New Testaments, this class will have six weeks examining what it means to be a true friend, learning from Biblical examples and teachings.

FELLOWSHIP: Psalms

Facilitator: Jeannie P.

Location: Media Center

This 7-session study on the Book of Psalms reassures us that God is always good, no matter what is happening in our lives. It also points out that God wants to be our Father, to shelter us, to give us peace, to help us avoid panic, to give us confidence, and to keep us near him.

Upcoming ESL Class

Two church members are hoping to start a Sunday School class for our Montagnard refugee adults. It will be a Bible based English class that will help them improve their English with a view to enabling them to read the Bible in English, grow in their faith, and more fully participate in the life of the church.

We would like to have 2 to 6 more volunteers. Prior experience teaching English as a foreign language could be helpful but it is not necessary. Before starting the class there will be a training session on how to use the curriculum. Teachers will teach in teams of two. It will be lots of fun and very rewarding.

Please contact Casey Clark if you are interested in helping with this exciting new ministry. The training workshop will be held at the church on Saturday, September 25. More details to follow.

Everybody Bible Study—1st Samuel
Wednesday Night at 6:00PM in Room 206



Women's Bible Study
Becoming a Friend of the Faithful God (Genesis 12-25)

•Thursday evenings •September 16-November 11 •6:45-8:45PM •TPC Media Center
 Contact the church office for more info.

Men's Bible Study

Thursday mornings beginning September 30
 6:30-7:30AM at Hardees (Hwy 54/Alston Avenue)



TPC Book Club

Join the TPC Book Club to discuss The Space Between Us. Thrity Umrigar's bittersweet novel shows the arrogance of the powerful and the hapless predicament of the "slumdog" in today's India. Sacrifice and similarity unite two women of different status; class and culture divide them. The Book Club meets in the Media Center at 7:00PM on Tuesday, September 14.

Read ahead for the November 9 meeting, Girl Meets God, a coming-of-age spiritual memoir. Lauren Winner of Duke Divinity School shares her often humorous, at times painful, journey from Orthodox Judaism to Christianity.

Join any of our discussions!

**Spend Your Fall Building a More
 DYNAMIC MARRIAGE!**

Sept 19 -November 7 (Pre-session Sept 12) - Sundays 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. at TPC

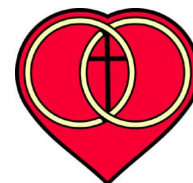
Are you interested in strengthening the most important relationships in your life – your relationship with God and with your spouse?

Couples in the eight-week Dynamic Marriage class discover deeper levels of emotional and spiritual intimacy, build trust and openness, recapture passion and the excitement in their relationships, rediscover how to make marriage a priority, and build a foundation to sustain a healthy marriage that will last.

Class registration is limited to 12 couples--reserve your spot today!

Registration is \$130 per couple and includes all class materials. Childcare is provided.

To sign up or receive more information, contact the church office.



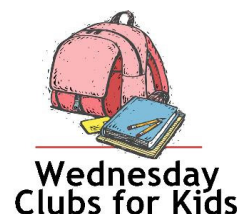
Children's Ministries

For info or questions contact NancyHolton@TrianglePC.org

Wednesday Clubs for Kids begins September 22

Register through September 15 for Wednesday Clubs for Explorers (K-1st), Kids Club (2nd-3rd) and Youth Club (4th-5th). Explorers meet from 4:30-6:45PM with Kids and Youth Club meeting from 4:30-7:30PM with dinner included for all groups. The clubs include Bible study, recreation, dinner, preparation for our Christmas musical, community service projects and more!

Pick up forms for your kids and the neighbors' kids too from the Welcome Center desk or register on our website. Registration is completed upon receipt of the club registration fee for the 10 week program. Youth and Kids Club registration fees are \$50 per child and Explorers fees are \$35 per child. The family maximum is \$100. Dinner will be prepared and served by parents under the direction of our meals team. Each participating family helps with one week's meal. There are many volunteer opportunities during the program. Contact Nancy with questions or to volunteer.



Thank You

Volunteers Around the Church

Did you know it takes a community of faith to provide Christian education for kids and adults? Look at some of the volunteers in action spotted this month! Consider whether you might be able to donate a couple of hours per month to help with these or similar activities. Contact Nancy with your ideas, questions or to volunteer. Our schedule is flexible and will accommodate any spare time you may wish to donate.

Volunteers in Action

- ♥Upward Camp Directors Taylor T. & Warren S. spent many hours praying, planning and preparing coaches and campers
- ♥Volunteers Dusty B. and Jennifer W. prepared bulletin boards, cleaned out supply closets and cabinets and organized teacher/leader materials for youth and children's programs.
- ♥TPC and TPPK staff plus other willing volunteers moved furniture, changed bulletin board displays, and spruced up our children's classrooms in new and appealing ways.
- ♥20 Sunday Bible Club teachers & assistants busily planning, preparing & praying for new and familiar class friends.

Volunteers Needed

- Play Dough makers needed. Many of our programs for children utilize play dough as a fun and therapeutic tool. Play dough is a great calming device for anxious kids (and workers, too!). We need 3 or more batches each month for the nursery classes and our Christian Moms program. Recipe provided. Contact Nancy and pick your color!

Sunday School Offering

Pennies, nickels, dime & dollars

Encourage your child to bring a portion of their "income" for Sunday school offering. Our children's Sunday Clubs offering helps support the children and staff of Agape Corner, a Christian boarding school in east Durham for disadvantaged children whose parents cannot take care of them. The staff salaries and benefits as well as food and clothing for the children is provided by faithful churches and individuals who support this ministry. We have partnered with them for 20 years. Some of you met some of the children during VBS and Upward.

Need offering envelopes for your child? We have purchased undated envelopes with a kid friendly design and placed a box for each child in the Sunday Clubs classrooms.



Upward Basketball Camp 2009

The Children's Ministries Team thanks all the coaches, helpers, registration folks, and photographers for the wonderful job you did in providing a memorable experience for the 61 children who attended UpWard Camp this year. Please note the comments from parents:

"My child enjoyed playing basketball & making new friends."

"He liked learning about the verses and having fun."

"We appreciated interaction with other Christian children and excellent coaches."

Multiple parents highlighted the wonderful leadership and the encouraging coaches. Thank you!

Christian Moms Group

Consider this your official invitation to join (or rejoin) Christian Moms! The first meeting for the fall session is Tuesday, September 14th (and every Tuesday thereafter) from 9:30-11:30AM in Room 206. Christian Moms is like a book club, prayer group and support system for moms all packed into 2 hours! There is quality childcare for a small fee and the moms have time for fellowship, prayers, snacks and thoughtful discussions. This session the group will be reading Making Children Mind without Losing Yours by Dr. Kevin Leman, an internationally known psychologist and Christian author. If you have questions, please contact the church office.



Vacation Bible School Offering

Bibles for Haiti

Thank you for your generous gifts through VBS this summer. You have supported Pastor Leon's Bible Distribution Program at the churches he oversees in Cite Soleil, Blanchard and Repatriote, Haiti in the amount of \$1237.90. While we take for granted the privilege of owning our own Bibles, many Haitians do not. Pastor Leon and his fellow pastors distribute Kreyol Bibles based on regular attendance and bringing visitors.

Family Health Ministries (FHM) directs these funds to Pastor Leon through their Spiritual Support Ministry. TPC supports ministries in Haiti through FHM, Haiti Outreach Ministries and Haiti Fund.



Fellowship

Pathways

Pathways: a Christian journey through life. A place where anyone is welcome.

- 9/7 Tuesday Volleyball—starting at 6:30PM in the FLC
- 9/10 Friday GAME NIGHT starting at 7:00PM
- 9/16 Thursday Volleyball—starting at 6:30PM in the FLC
- 9/19 Sunday Volleyball- starting at 1:30PM in the FLC
- 9/26 Sunday Brunch at Rudino’s —meet following the late service around 12:45.

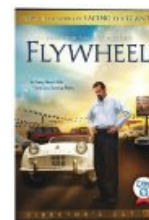


Be sure and watch the weekly tidings for updates and other opportunities. If there are any questions or you would like to be added to the Pathways email list, please contact the church office at 544-2872.

Outdoor Movie & Dessert Potluck

Saturday, September 11 at 7:30PM

Join us for a dessert potluck beginning at 7:30PM. Bring your favorite dessert to share, then relax under the stars with friends and enjoy a truly wonderful story, *Flywheel*. The movie will start at dusk (approximately 8:30PM). In case of bad weather, the event will take place in the Family Life Center.



Flywheel is the first film from the creators of *Facing the Giants* and *Fireproof*. Used car salesman Jay Austin swindles his customers and teaches his assistant salesmen to do the same--but despite the profits, something gnaws at him. When he realizes that his own son doesn't respect him, Austin has a conversion and accepts God into his life. This would be the end of most spiritual stories, but *Flywheel* finds a warm comedy in the obstacles on the path of righteousness; Austin discovers that being right with God means grappling every day with what it means to be honest. Kendrick is just as persuasive as a man struggling to emerge from a joyless life as he is when he's rediscovered his faith but finds it constantly tested. --*Bret Fetzer*

Finance & Budget

For info or questions contact NikkiGoss@TrianglePC.org

Financial Report—June 2010

Pledges	Budget	Contributions	Expenses	Net Gain/Loss
\$84,081	\$90,356	\$65,448	\$76,183	-\$10,735
Year to Date				
Pledges	Budget	Contributions	Expenses	Net Gain/Loss
\$588,570	\$632,490	\$572,844	\$549,091	+\$27,753

Community Outreach



Food Bank

Monthly Collection

September—Peanut Butter October – Canned Fruit
 November—Mac n Cheese December – *Pot Luck!*

Ronald McDonald House Dinners

October 5

December 7

Baby Bottle Blessings

Help a young woman find hope while facing an unplanned pregnancy. Pregnancy Support Services provides pregnancy tests, first trimester ultrasound, post abortion support and abstinence education in the community. All of their services are free. Your CHANGE will help CHANGE minds, hearts and lives.

Take a baby bottle on September 12



Fill it with silver change (check or currency is also welcome).

Return the bottle to TPC by Sunday, October 10.



Help Build a Habitat Home For One of Our Families

Del and his wife Hplih are purchasing a Habitat for Humanity home, and construction is now underway on Moreland Avenue. They have one son, San, and a daughter, Katherine. As a demonstration of our love and support for this family, we have scheduled a TPC work day at their new home.

Mark your calendar for Saturday, October 2, as we will have the opportunity to help complete their new home. Watch the tidings to see what projects will be available that day. Volunteers must be at least 14 years of age. Please sign up to participate by contacting Roy Averette at 383-7542, averette@mindspring.com



Congregational Care

CHAPs Kicks Off Its 18th Year!

You may have heard of **CHAPs** and wondered what it is and what it does? **Christians Helping Aging People (CHAPs)** is a support group unique to Triangle Presbyterian Church and is open to individuals of **all ages** who have an interest in ministry to older adults. These may be individuals who are dealing with parents, grandparents, other relatives, or other older people, as well as those who have some other interest in caring for older adults. CHAPs began at TPC in 1993 as a support group and has continued to provide encouragement, information, and support for those involved with older persons.

Each fall CHAPs holds a kickoff meeting during which the various programs and activities are presented and discussed, giving individuals an opportunity to select an area of interest that suits their particular gifts or talents. This is a great time to learn more about CHAPs. We will meet at 7:00 pm, Tuesday, September 21 in the Fellowship Hall at the church. Upcoming activities and plans for the year will be presented and discussed by the CHAPs leadership and desserts will be shared. Everyone is invited to attend. You are encouraged to bring a dessert to share.

Just Older Youth

Are you 55 or older and proud of it? Then join Pastor Casey for lunch at 11:30AM on September 9th at the Golden Corral on Highway 55. This will kick off the new year of the JOY Group. Come with ideas for field trips. Or, just come and enjoy lunch and fellowship followed by a short devotion. Why sit at home and eat a sandwich, when you can enjoy some great food with good friends.



Mark your calendar for an outing on October 7. The group will travel to Raleigh to visit the Historic Yates Mill County Park. A day at Yates Mill offers visitors an "Escape from the Daily Grind" with unique cultural and environmental experiences that interpret and preserve our agricultural heritage, environmental resources and history through educational programs, including an operable grain mill. Afterwards you'll enjoy lunch at the Farmer's Market Restaurant for some gold southern cooking! Watch the tidings for more details.

Small Groups

For info or questions contact Rachel Clark, rachelclark@trianglepc.org

Joining or Leading a small group

A number of small groups have openings for those interested in joining. Talk to Rachel Clark to find out when and where you can join in. The small group ministry team is always looking for individuals or couples who are feeling called to start and lead a new group. It's great to be able to begin new groups so that there are more options for meetings times and days for more people to get involved.

Church-wide study for January

Believe it or not, we've already begun thinking about and planning for the next church-wide study for January of 2011! The theme for the study is going to focus on being witnesses to the Kingdom of God in our daily lives. Look for more information in the coming months and plan to be in a small group for this study, which will begin in January and will likely go for 6 to 8 weeks.



Triangle Presbyterian Youth Fall 2010 Calendar

September

- 12 6:00 - 7:30 MLY / V Leader Training / Fellowship (Seniors for Dessert at 7:00)
- 15 6:30 - 7:30 Wed Night V Small Group
- 19 4:00-6:00 MLY Bowling Kick off, 6:30-8:00 V Kick off at church
- 22 6:30 - 7:30 Wed Night V Small Group
- 26 4:00 - 5:30 MLY, 6:30 - 8:00 V
- 29 6:30 - 7:30 Wed Night V Small Group

October

- 3 4:00 - 5:30 MLY, 6:30 - 8:00 V
- 10 4:00 - 5:30 MLY, 6:30 - 8:00 V
- 13 6:30 - 7:30 Wed Night V Small Group
- 17 4:00-5:30 MLY, 6:00 - 8:30 V Extreme Night
- 20 6:30 - 7:30 We Night V Small Group
- 24 4:00 - 5:30 MLY, 6:30 - 8:00 V
- 27 6:30 - 7:30 Wed Night V Small Group
- 29 V Holy Ghost Weenie Roast at Agape Corner
- 31 2:00 - 4:00 MLY Pumpkin Smashin, Trunk or Treat

November

- 7 Souper Bowl
- 10 6:30 - 7:30 Wed Night V Small Group
- 14 4:00 - 5:30 MLY, 6:30 - 8:00 V
- 17 6:30 - 7:30 Wed Night V Small Group
- 21 4:00 - 5:30 MLY, 6:30 - 8:00 V
- 24 6:30 - 7:30 Wed Night V Small Group
- 28 Thanksgiving Weekend no Youth

December

- 1 6:30 - 7:30 Wed Night V Small Group
- 5 No MLY, 3:00 V prepare for Chili Dinner
- 8 6:30 - 7:30 Wed Night V Small Group
- 12 4:00 - 5:30 MLY, 6:30 - 8:00 V
- 15 6:30 - 7:30 Wed Night V Small Group
- 17 6:00 - 8:00 MLY Christmas Party
- 18 6:00 - 8:00 V Christmas Party
- 19 TBA



September 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
5 Communion 10:30AM Single Service 12:00PM SALT Brunch	6 Holiday—Office Closed	7 6:30PM Volleyball	8 7:15PM Choir Rehearsal	9 11:30AM JOY Group Lunch 6:30PM Open Basketball	10 9:00AM Mother's Morning Out 7:00PM Pathways Game & Fellowship Night	11 9:00AM Salt to Farmer's Mkt 10:00AM Choir Rehearsal 3-5 Nita Z/FH 7:30PM Dessert & Movie
12 6:00PM Youth Ldr Meeting 7:00PM Varsity Srs. dessert	13	14 9:30AM Christian Moms 7:00PM Session	15 6:00PM Bible Study 6:30PM Varsity Small Group 7:15PM Choir Rehearsal	16 6:30PM Adult Volleyball 6:30PM Prayer Shawl 6:45PM Women's Bible Study	17 9:00AM Mother's Morning Out	18 10:00AM Choir Rehearsal
19 Pennies for Hunger 4:00PM MLY Bowling 6:30PM Varsity 3:30PM Scouts/102	20	21 9:30AM Christian Moms 6:30PM Deacons 7:00PM CHAPS	22 4:30PM Wednesday Clubs 6:00PM Bible Study 6:30PM Varsity Small Group 7:15PM Choir Rehearsal	23 6:45PM Women's Bible Study	24 9:00AM Mother's Morning Out	25 10:00AM Choir Rehearsal
26 12:45PM Pathways Brunch 4:00PM MLY, 6:30PM Varsity	27	28 9:30AM Christian Moms 6:30PM SALT Potluck 7:00PM Session	29 4:30PM Wednesday Clubs 6:00PM Bible Study 6:30PM Varsity Small Group 7:15PM Choir Rehearsal	30 6:30AM Men's Breakfast 6:45PM Women's Bible Study		

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In a world that is so disconnected, I think it is increasingly important that we have such places, or at least we understand what such places represent. Perhaps realizing that comes with age. We need places where we can tap into the root of who we are and know where we have come from. Such grounding somehow also helps us know where we are going and how we are going to get there. I'm sure that a part of who I am was fashioned at that place or maybe it happened through the experiences that such a place represents. "Up in the country," was really just a place that represented family and belonging and faith and the thoughtful exploration of the world in which we live.

I believe the church can and should be such a place. In the midst of our family of faith we can know where we have come from and we can know where we are going. In the church we gain a sense of equilibrium and balance. In the church we can experience the love and acceptance of those who care for us and about us, and together we can explore the world of what it means to be people of faith.

It has been far too long since I have been to one of those reunions. I suppose we sometimes need to be reminded just how important such places are. I know when even on vacation I am away from the church it creates a yearning within me for this place and you the people I have come to love and know as my family of faith. I just can't stay away too long.

By the way, on the Sunday of Labor Day weekend this year you won't see me at Triangle. I'm going "up in the country," where I'll worship with my kinfolk and be reminded again of who I am.

Together with you in Christ's service,



Thank You

From Bonnie H. and Family: The faithfulness of the Triangle Presbyterian Church family throughout the many months of Gene's illness was and is still so greatly appreciated. Your prayers, your visits, the delicious dinners, special treats, and too many offers of assistance to count, truly expressed your faith in action and brightened our lives during difficult times. Your gathering around and taking care of our spiritual and physical needs and comfort upon Gene's death sustained and strengthened us as we grieved and celebrated his life. Thank you and God Bless you!

Holy Infant Craft Fair & Bake Sale

Calling all crafters! Holy Infant Catholic Church is hosting a Craft Fair and Bake Sale on Saturday, October 23 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. as a fundraiser for the Parents Morning Out group. The cost to reserve a table space is \$25. Vendor spaces will be accepted first come, first serve – so request your space now! If you are unable to participate in the Craft Fair, but wish to display business cards, the cost to reserve a spot on our vendor table is \$5. We intend to advertise the event through local media calendar listings, in local preschools, and through various "parent groups" list serves. This is the perfect time to promote your creations before the Christmas rush, with ample time to take orders! If you are interested, please contact Elizabeth Bradford at liz_bradford2003@yahoo.com or 544-6282. We look forward to hearing from you!