



Cross Currents

May 15, 2018

**Blessed by God that we might be
a blessing to others**

**Sunday School 9:30 am
Worship 10:30 am**

Sunday May 20

Pentecost

Testify!

Acts 2:1-21

Romans 8:22-27

FROM PASTOR JEFF

Dear Friends,

It never ceases to amaze me how time can in some ways move so slowly, like when you're waiting for a loved one to come home or for some medical condition to clear up or the next big adventure, like graduation, a wedding, or children. Similarly, time can in some ways move so fast, like when you reflect back on the year so far and realize we are fast approaching the half way point in our year, having completed the long journey of Lent and the Easter Season.

This Sunday (5/20), is Pentecost. The English word "Pentecost" is a transliteration of the Greek word pentekostos, which means "fifty." It comes from the ancient Christian expression pentekoste hemera, which means "fiftieth day."

But Christians did not invent the phrase "fiftieth day." Rather, they borrowed it from Greek-speaking Jews who used the phrase to refer to a Jewish holiday. This holiday was known as the Festival of Weeks (Shavuot in Hebrew). This name comes from an expression in Leviticus 23:16, which instructs people to count seven weeks or "fifty days" from the end of Passover.

Shavuot was the second great feast in Israel's yearly cycle of holy days. It was originally a harvest festival (Exodus 23:16), but, in time, turned into a day to commemorate the giving of the law on Mt. Sinai. This day became especially significant for Christians because, seven weeks after the resurrection of Jesus, during the Jewish celebration of Shavuot/Pentecost, the Holy Spirit was poured out upon his first followers, thus empowering them for their mission and gathering them together as a church.

ASHE COUNTY UPDATE

The truck will be going to Ashe County on June 2nd. We really need some young strong people to come June 1st between 3:00 and 4:00 pm to help load the truck. Many of us are getting too old to lift some of the boxes so we need HELP!

RISE AGAINST HUNGER MAY 19

Once again, we will be packing meals for Rise Against Hunger (formerly known as Stop Hunger Now). This time we will pack 10,000 meals. Start time will be approximately 9:00 am. Remember, there are sitting jobs, standing jobs, and walking around jobs. There is something for all ages. Questions? Call Roger Palmer (704-588-9482).

Thus, Christian Pentecost is the celebration of God's gift of the Holy Spirit to those who believe in Jesus the Christ as the Messiah, their Lord and Savior. Pentecost is often referred to as the birthday of the church, because the indwelling of the Holy Spirit in the Christian Church transforms the church into the Body of Christ. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, the church, both locally and globally, becomes the physical representation of Jesus in the world with Christ as our head, our leader. The Holy Spirit is the Advocate, the Comforter, the one Jesus promised to send when He ascended and returned to heaven to sit at the right hand of God. The Holy Spirit gives the church, guidance, enlightenment, power, and the gifts to carry out the work of Christ in the world. Scripture tells us that all believers in Christ are gifted with at least one gift (some many more) in order to build up the church for service in God's Kingdom. (1 Corinthians 12:7) When we don't participate in church, we deprive the church of our unique "spiritual gift" and in so doing, limit the work and effectiveness of our mission.

So, this Sunday (5/20) as we celebrate Pentecost in worship, you are encouraged to wear red, orange, and yellow signifying the tongues of fire that were seen to touch the followers of Christ on that first Pentecost, empowering the church to serve. (Acts 2) In celebration of this special day in the life of the church, we will be serving the Sacrament of Holy Communion. You are encouraged to spend the remainder of this week in prayerful preparation to receive this Sacrament.

I hope to see you all in church on Sunday as we commemorate Pentecost, the birthday of the church. And remember, if you're not participating regularly in church, you are depriving the church of your unique spiritual gift. For those of you who cannot physically be with us, know that God is working through you as you pray for and support the church family in other ways, such as sending cards and making calls to offer encouragement. We all have a role to play for we have all been gifted the power of God's Holy Spirit and it is the Spirit of God that unites us as brothers and sisters in Christ, the family of God, here at Steele Creek. May God bless you each and every one and may He bless the church through us all!

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Jeff

TODAY IS LAST CHANCE FOR FREE VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL MUSIC CD!

Time to register for the ride of a lifetime with God at *Rolling River Rampage* Vacation Bible School! This adventure takes place June 10-14 (Sunday-Thursday), 5:30 pm - 8:15 pm. Dinner will be served each night, 5:30 pm - 6:15 pm. Go

READ TO ACHIEVE

Once again, we will team up with our area churches for the Read to Achieve project. A project to encourage summer reading among students in the 7 elementary schools in Steele Creek and Berryhill. The objective is to provide select 3rd grade students a book bag with school supplies and books. A follow-up survey of teachers and staff from last year showed that the project was helpful for the students. How you can help:

1) We need to raise \$600 to contribute for supplies. Please consider giving a monetary donation to help with this project.

2) Stay tuned for the packing date to help pack the book bags.

Thanks!

APRIL SPECIAL GIFTS

IN HONOR OF
Pauline Clark
General Fund by
Felicia Peaseley

SCPC Youth Group
General Fund by
Mrs. Lenora Fincher

IN MEMORY OF
Betty Pinkston
Loaves & Fishes
Fund by
Mr. & Mrs. George Davis

Memorial Fund by
Mr. Samuel Whiteside

Sarah Jane Price
Memorial Fund by
Mr. & Mrs.
Leighton Brown

to our [VBS website](#) to check out dinner menus and register for all the fun. Those who register by May 15 will receive a free *Rolling River Rampage* music CD! This white-water rafting adventure includes exciting music, amazing science, creative crafts, fun recreation, and memorable Bible stories that will help children know God is always with them as they ride the rapids of life! Remember to invite your friends, neighbors and grandchildren!

WAYS TO HELP WITH ROLLING RIVER RAMPAGE

Adults are welcome to roll on the river with us, June 10-14, 5:30 pm - 8:15 pm. There are many opportunities that require various skills and time commitments. Contact Kelly Byrum kfbyrum@gmail.com, Ragan Haston, raganhaston@yahoo.com or Lorie Lewis, lorie@steelecreekpres.org for more information on how you can help with our river adventure. In addition to helping that week, we need to collect the following items to help transform Steele Creek into a Rolling River Rampage. If you have any of these items, please mark them with your name and bring to Lorie Lewis' office. They will be returned to you after VBS: tents, life jackets, inflatable boats/rafts, oars & camping lanterns.

ADULT OPTION FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Adults are invited to participate in a Round Table Discussion with The Session on Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday, 6:15 pm - 7:45 pm in the New Fellowship Classroom. Come with your questions to initiate dialogue on a variety of topics and issues in the life of Steele Creek Presbyterian Church. Dinner will be served each night 5:30 pm - 6:15 pm. If you plan to eat dinner before the discussion, please register for dinner at our VBS Website or contact Lorie Lewis, lorie@steelecreekpres.org, 704.927.4293.

MAY FUN BUNCH LUNCH

Please join us for fun, fellowship and food at the Fun Bunch Lunch this Thursday, May 17th, at noon. The star of lunch will be a baked potato bar with lots of "fixin's". We will also be serving pork loin with gravy, slaw and salad bar. A variety of desserts will be available. Please bring your taste buds to the church to share in this time together. Why don't you invite a friend or neighbor to join us because the more folks we have, the more FUN we can have. Call Frances Campbell (704-588-4686) or the church office (704-588-1290) to let us know you are coming.

***Gaye Whiteside
Loaves and Fishes
Fund by
Billie Watt Sunday
School Class***

THIS WEEK

May 15-22

Tuesday

Olympic High School AP
Testing 7:00a
Scripture & Starbucks
Ladies Bible Study 6:30p
NO Men's Basketball

Wednesday

Olympic High School AP
Testing 7:00a
Staff Meeting 10:00a
CDC Board Meeting
11:00a
AA Meeting 8:00p

Thursday

Olympic High School AP
Testing 7:00a
Fun Bunch Lunch 12:00p
Sullivan's Trace HOA
Board Mtg 6:30p
Praise Team Rehearsal
6:30p
Choir Rehearsal 7:00p

Friday

Olympic High School AP
Testing 7:00a

Saturday

Rise Against Hunger
8:00a
Girl Scouts 9:00a
Strings Group Class
10:00a
Moody 90th Birthday
Party 1:00p
Children at The Lord's
Table 2:00p

Sunday

*Communion/Pentecost
Offering*
Ethiopian Evangelical
Church 10:30a
Session Meeting 11:30a
Meck12 GS Awards
Luncheon 1:30p
Port City Project Meeting
3:00p
BASIC Training 4:00p

CHILDREN AT THE LORD'S TABLE BEING OFFERED MAY 19

Children at the Lord's Table will take place on Saturday, May 19, 2:00 - 4:00 pm. This is an opportunity for children to learn what it means to participate in the sacrament of communion and to help prepare the elements for the following day's communion service. This event will be led by Mary Beth Monroe, Jeff Pinkston, and Lorie Lewis and is open to all children in first grade or older who have not previously attended a session, or feel they need a "refresher" on the meaning of communion. A session for parents will take place 2:00 - 2:30 pm. Please let Lorie Lewis know if your child will be attending, lorie@steelecreekpres.org, 704.927.4293.

SENIOR RECOGNITION IS JUNE 3

June 3 will be a special Sunday at Steele Creek as we celebrate Youth Sunday and honor our high school and college graduates. If you have a graduating senior this year, please contact Lorie Lewis, 704-927-4293 or lorie@steelecreekpres.org so we can get the information we need to include them in the service.

PRAYER UPDATE*

Please update your personal prayer list according to the information below.

Family of Alicia Gonzalez (19 Year old former student of Mary Margaret Donato, sudden death 1 day before returning home from studying abroad)

Ann Massey & Family - the death of her son (Annette & John Freeman's friend)

Louise Freeman - CMC Main (Recovering from Back Surgery)

Family of Scott Hahn - unexpected death at 40 years old, leaves wife Vickie and 12 year old daughter (co-worker of Cheryl Simerly)

PRAISE REPORT

Baby Charlie Rebecca Neely is doing well and coming home today! (Ralph & Becky Neely's granddaughter.)

**This update is not intended to be a comprehensive list of all prayer requests, as lack of space prohibits us from doing so. Prayer requests/updates will be listed here for two weeks but should remain on your personal prayer list until informed otherwise. Thank you for your understanding.*

Youth Dinner & Meeting
5:30p
AA Meeting 8:00p
Monday
Boy Scouts 6:00p
Tuesday
Men's Basketball 7:00p

CUB SCOUT PACK 45 YARD SALE

Cub Scout Pack 45 sponsored by the Central Steele Creek Presbyterian Church will be holding a yard sale on Saturday, May 19th from 7:00 to 11:00 am to offset the cost of our program. We are looking to have items donated. If you would like a table to sell your items and keep the proceeds, the cost of a space and table is still only \$20.00 and payable to CSCPC - Cub Scout Pack 45. You will keep any money that is sold from your table/space. The Scouts thank you for your continued support! Info and table applications are available from Allyson at the CSCPC church office. Her contact info is 704-588-1211 or admin@cscpc.org.

Please contact Charlie Bricker at 704-654-0919 if you have any questions. Sign up forms are on the bulletin board outside the church office.

Copyright © 2018. All Rights Reserved
Steele Creek Presbyterian Church
7407 Steele Creek Road,
Charlotte, NC 28217
Phone: (704) 588-1290
Fax: (980) 500-7225
