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THANK YOU LORD FOR:

THE CULDEE CONNECTION

April 2023

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Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us.

Hebrews 12:1

We will soon be in what Christians have long called "Holy Week," the week leading up to Easter Sunday. In order to truly celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus at Easter, we have to first observe the Crucifixion. The Crucifixion and the Resurrection are two parts of a story that go together. That's why the gospel writers tell us about the days leading up to Jesus' death on the Cross, before they tell us about his Resurrection. The writer of John's gospel relates an important story of how Jesus gave his disciples a new commandment to love one another, just as he had loved them. This commandment of Jesus to his disciples is also his commandment to us. No sacrifice of love we are called to make could be greater than the sacrifice of love that has already been made for us in Jesus Christ. When we respond to Christ, we find our heart; and we are able to love one another with a godly love that can only come from the Holy Spirit.

I hope you will make time to attend our April 6th Maundy Thursday service at Culdee Church. The service will be at 7:00 p.m., and we'll share Communion with one another as we remember the days leading up to the Crucifixion of Jesus. Then on Easter Sunday, we'll joyfully celebrate together the Resurrection of our Savior!

Connie Weaver, Pastor

NOTES FROM THE STATED SESSION of MARCH 12th, 2023

The Elders met in Room A of the Fellowship Hall at 6:30 with a quorum of Elders in attendance.

A motion was made and seconded to receive Shannon Bullard as a new member of Culdee by profession of faith and baptism. Motion was approved.

A motion was made and seconded to approve Farm Bureau's higher rate for our 2023 insurance cost (\$7,120 to \$7,750). The coverage will remain the same.

Our Harvest Festival 2023 will be held on October 21

August 13 was approved as a Communion date.

By motion and second, approval was given to spend up to \$1500.00 for a new system to help those who need hearing assistance in our sanctuary.

By motion and second, approval was given to spend up to \$400.00 to purchase a new laptop to help with the Live Streaming of our worship services.

The April Stated Session meeting will be on April 10 at 6:30.

A Congregational meeting was set for Sunday, March 26.

The Monthly Financial Report for February was discussed and received into the record.

*I recently read this quote..... "The best times and the most difficult times in life are made a thousand times better when shared with a friend (brother or sister in CHRIST)"thank you all for the visits, texts, food and supplies, phone calls, cards and wonderful prayers that you showered on Jim and I throughout last year's health journey and most especially at his passing in February. Love and blessings, **June Stewart***

Blanket Fund

Thank you one and all for your generous donation to the Blanket Fund. \$2459.99 was collected that will help wrap someone in need with warmth and love.



Jewell Vest



Have you been missing the **Senior Lunch**? Well it's back!!

Seniors, age 60 and above, mark your calendar for **May 7** for good food and fellowship. See you then.

Martha Mathews

The Presbyterian Men will meet April 27th at 7:00 PM. Men of all ages are welcome to come. If you have any questions, please see Wade Garner.

Wade Garner





Presbyterian Women News Happy Spring



Hello everyone! It has been a while since we have had anything going on. First, I want to thank everyone for your prayers, visits, calls, texts, food and gifts during my recent surgery. Everything was and is greatly appreciated.

Second, it's that time of year when we have our **Spring Gathering** with other PW. The Spring Gathering will be Saturday April 22, at Red Springs Presbyterian Church. The registration is at 9:00 am with the meeting beginning at 10:00 am. We would need to leave church between 8:00-8:15am.



If enough ladies that would like to go, we will take the church van. I would love for our Culdee ladies to be great in number at this gathering. Please let me know as soon as you can if you can go.

Hoping you all have a Happy and Joyous Easter!!

Your Presbyterian Women Moderator,

Gail Farmer

Christian Ed Ministry March 2023

On February 26th, we celebrated the completion of our basketball court project with a ribbon cutting ceremony after church. We expressed thanks to several instrumental people, but more than that we want to thank the entire congregation for their support of this project. It takes us working together to accomplish goals! The court is being used frequently by area youth as well as our youth groups.

That afternoon, we gathered 30 youth for our **first Sunday Funday of 2023**. It was a crazy competition with three teams led by Rosten Barber, Riley Seawell and Alex Patterson. They shot basketball (for a score),



stacked cups using rubber bands and string (no hands),



tied balloons on their feet and stomped each other's balloons,



and lastly had a donut eating contest. We had Wade with his EMS skills available for any choking possibilities!



Team Rosten was declared the winner, but all left wanting a "redo"!

We then had our tailgate food, followed by our worship where we discussed, "What do you want: more or less? Never being satisfied." Danny Aldridge and Marshall Sweat led the group in song. It was a fun day!

Christian Ed Ministry Continued:

Saturday, March 25th, we welcomed the community for a Family Fun Day. Watch for photos in the next newsletter.

The next Sunday Funday will be **April 30th**. We are planning a rematch of crazy events. Please invite others to join us!

Marshall Sweat and Darrell Cole

Project “Faure Requiem”

The Chancel Choir has been invited to join a combined community choir representing several churches throughout Moore County. The combined choir will join together for a spring concert presenting “Faure’s Requiem” on Sunday, May 21st at 7pm. The final concert will be with orchestral accompaniment.

If this is an opportunity that you would like to join in on, we would love to have you. Please contact Beverly for the scores and a Spotify link to the Requiem. This should be a wonderful opportunity for the choir and a beautiful piece of music to work on.

Combined Choir rehearsals (10AM)

April 1

April 22

May 6

**Dress Rehearsal: Saturday, May 20th at 11AM

** Concert: Sunday, May 21st at 7pm



Joyful Noise will present a variety show “Always a Joyful Noise” on **May 23rd** at 6:30 in the fellowship hall of Culdee Presbyterian Church. This performance will include the Joyful Noise students “All Time Favorites” that they have performed throughout the years.

There will even be a few surprises during the evening as

well. Please mark your calendar for this fun filled evening with the Joyful Noise Choir. The students are working hard and would appreciate your support.



UPCOMING EVENTS



April 6th - Maundy Thursday service

7:00 p.m. at Culdee Church

Looking ahead to **Easter Sunday**, April 9th:

7:00 a.m. Outdoor worship in our Culdee cemetery

7:30 a.m. Breakfast in the church fellowship hall

9:00 a.m. Indoor worship in the church sanctuary

Upcoming Sunday sermon texts

Heart to Heart series:

April 2 – Matthew 26:14-35

April 6 – John 13:1-17, 31-35 (Maundy Thursday)

April 9 – John 20:1-18 (Easter Sunday)

April 16 – John 20:19-29

April 23 – Luke 24:13-35

April 30th a new series will begin on the Holy Spirit:

April 30 – Romans 8:1-11

May 21st – Combined Choir Concert

at Brownson Memorial Presbyterian Church

Requiem
Sunday, May 21st – 7:00 pm
Brownson Memorial Presbyterian
Church
330 South May St.
Southern Pines, NC 28387

Featuring choirs from:
Brownson Memorial Presbyterian
Community Congregational
Culdee Presbyterian Church
Southern Pines Methodist Church



In lieu of placement of florist lilies for Easter Sunday this year, you are encouraged to give to the **One Great Hour of Sharing** offering on Easter Sunday, or to contribute to Culdee's **Barnabas Fund** to assist with medical expenses for Erica Black Tolbert. The One Great Hour of Sharing offering supports Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People projects, all of which work in different ways to support communities in need. If you would like to assist Erica Black Tolbert, please write a check with the notation, "Barnabas/Erica," and place it in the offering plate or send it to the church office. Our Session agreed to alternate giving opportunities when they were approached about the problem created by florist lilies in the sanctuary for individuals with allergies.

You are still encouraged to bring flowers from home to place in the chancel area on Easter Sunday, and loose flowers to place on the outside cross.

Haiti Help & Hope

Culdee Church has been a supportive partner for some time, of the Christian work of Pastor Dortul Sidor in Montrouis, Haiti. Due to the ongoing unstable situation in Haiti and increasing gang dominance and violence, the Lahai Roi School has been employing security guards and is constructing a wall around the school property. We continue to receive contributions to assist with this building project, which will help protect the school and its staff and students; and which will also provide employment for local workers.



Pastor Sidor and his wife Lillian are known in their area as humble servants of Christ who often go without in order to help others. In his words, “because we are dwelling in the shelter of the Most High, we are still alive and well; and truly, our ministries are doing well and growing.”

If you would like to contribute to the construction of the protective wall around the school in Haiti, you may do so

by writing a check to Culdee Church and noting that it is for the Lahai Roi School Project.

PRAYERS FOR HAITI, HELP AND HOPE

Thank you, God for sending Pastor Sidor and Lilian back to Haiti to continue the mission work of his mother and uncle.

Please pray for their safety and protection. The gangs are now invading Montrouis, the town where they live.

Please pray for the well-being of students, teachers and staff at the Lahai Roi School. The children walk to and from school each day. The teachers and staff stay at the school for their safety.

Please pray for the four churches and the congregations. They faithfully worship Our Lord every Sunday, in spite of potentially deadly consequences.

Please pray for their health and well-being. Lilian suffers from extreme high blood pressure and cannot get the medication she needs.

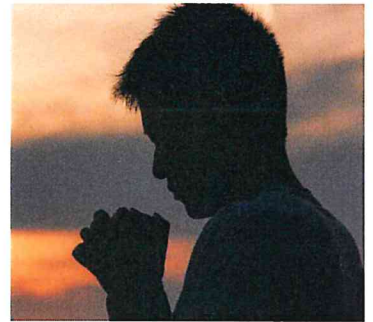
Please pray they can get the food they need. The students have one meal a day of beans and rice. There is little if any meat.

Please pray that God will intervene in Haiti and stop the lawlessness and gang violence.

From Sidor:

Please pray for us. We believe that we are dwelling in the shelter of the Most High. Psalms 91

Thank you, Lord, for Pastor Sidor's faithfulness and his dedication to You. Bless him and keep him. In Jesus name, Amen



Congregational Care

Happy Spring! What a wonderful time of year!



Belated birthday greeting to Ms. Evelyn Welch Caddell, our oldest member, who celebrated her 98th birthday on March 19th! Congratulations, Young Lady! Evelyn resides with her daughter and son-in-law in Banner Elk, NC.

A special day is coming up soon so mark your calendars. Sunday, **May 7**, will be Culdee's Senior Luncheon following the morning worship service. It has been several years since we were able to have this event, so plan to be there.

The Doris Moore Scholarship applications are available on the table outside the church office. There is information on what needs to be included with the application. Individuals who have received the scholarship in the past and are still in school are welcome to apply again. Applications need to be completed and turned in to the office by April 30.



This is the time of year when things really get rolling here at Culdee. Think about joining Congregational Care to help with the things coming up.

And just think-Harvest Festival is only 6 months away!!!

Janie Taylor



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Kelly Curlee	01
Blake Lea	02
Faye Ritter	05
Rhett Cole	05
Hunter Cox	07
Michelle Seawell	09
Larry Sears	09
Asher Shields	09
Susan Jackson	11
Darrell McKenzie	12
Aemon Barber	12
Alston Willcox	14
Steve Carrico	16



Mark Cole	18
Tim Lea	18
Ronald Bowen	20
Robert Barber	20
Joshua McKenzie	23
Margaret Holman	23
Matt Howle	23
Matt Williamson	25
William Nuzzo	26
Anthony Nuzzo	26
Rick Halverstadt	28
Jamie Martin	28
Ian Stewart	28
Heath Caddell	30
John David Cuff	30



Finance Ministry: Chairman Tim Lea

Proverbs 27:23 *Be diligent to know the state of your flocks,
and attend to your herds.*

Appreciation:

On behalf of the Finance Ministry, incoming Chairman Tim Lea expressed appreciation for the leadership and work completed by outgoing Chairman Danny Aldridge and Vice Chair Diann Fortune.

Welcome:

Darrell Cole, Faye Riggsbee and Shannon Bullard, new members to the Finance Ministry, were officially welcomed. The Finance Ministry is looking forward to the ideas and experiences these new members will bring!

Moving Culdee Forward:

The Finance Ministry is beginning work on moving Culdee towards automated financial processes. Bills will soon begin being paid online, freeing up staff time as well as saving on expenses. This is a more secure and efficient process than the cumbersome paper checks and mailings that have been used.



Additionally, information regarding the implementation of direct deposit procedures is being sought to make payroll more secure and streamline the process for everyone involved. Setting up direct deposit will alleviate the need to pre-cut checks in case an employee is out of town on payday or worse, Culdee's office staff has an emergency and is unavailable to generate paychecks. Like online bill paying, direct deposit will be more secure and cost effective.



It is time to begin thinking and preparing for the annual Harvest Festival and Auction! This year Culdee will revert to its usual date of the third Saturday in October which will be October 21, 2023. Also of great relief is the return to the traditional meal of chicken and dumplings, a sure crowd pleaser (although the barbeque was delicious). While the weather is still slightly chilly this next month, folks might want to practice those dumpling rolling skills because October will be here before you know it! To be sure the chickens and yummy broth are kept cool, the refrigerated trailer that Culdee borrowed last year has been reserved for this year's event.

Last year the Finance Ministry was assigned the task of overseeing the annual auction and is anticipating that assignment for this year as well. Because October is very busy with activities from about every organization covering every weekend, the tent for the auction has already been reserved and **Richmond Rentals** has once again been generous to the church with their fees. Also booked is auctioneer **Johnny Owens (and his sidekick Waylon Collins)**, both of whom are volunteers and accept payment for their services in the form of meal tickets. Culdee thanks these gentlemen for their generosity! **Stuart and Debby Fields** have once again agreed

to work with the Finance Ministry to help supervise the auction's operation and volunteers. Many thanks to them for helping with this monumental task!

In order to fund Missions and Building & Grounds at the level that Culdee has in the past, the entire church family's assistance is going to be needed for the Harvest Festival & Auction. To help the auction be more successful, the Finance Ministry is asking each family to procure and provide at least 10 desirable items to be auctioned. If you enjoy it, chances are someone else will too!

As you visit businesses through the spring and summer, please give them the opportunity to have a tax write-off by asking for a contribution or donation. Many businesses allow a certain amount for contributions monthly to help with their taxes. Because autumn is full of fundraisers, now is likely a good time to check with businesses regarding donations.

There is a form available in the church office that can be given to businesses for tax documentation since all donations are tax deductible. The church has a tax ID number on that form businesses may need. Items can be stored at church if need be. Please speak with any of the following members of the Finance Ministry regarding the auction: Tim Lea, Ann Savage, Danny Aldridge, Darrell Cole, Faye Riggsbee and Shannon Bullard.

Culdee needs to be able to advertise an enticing list of auction items ahead of the big day to make the event even more successful. Although chicken and dumplings will bring many folks to the church this year, Culdee has an opportunity to provide a great day of Christian fellowship throughout this entire family event! Please consider how and what you are able to contribute to this year's Fall Harvest Festival and Auction!

Remember, volunteers make up Culdee's various ministry committees.

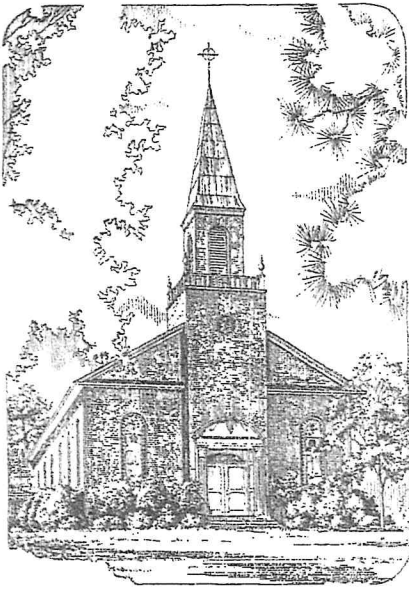
How can you use your talents & interests? Join a committee to help build the body & work of Christ.



Thank you for your support of Culdee!

Finance Ministry & Session members are always available for questions.

The North Carolina Presbyterian Historical Society's Spring Tour will be held this year on Friday and Saturday, April 14-15 at Montreat, Warren Wilson College, and Asheville. On Friday we will explore the resources of the Presbyterian Heritage Center in Montreat. Saturday we'll visit the beautiful Warren Wilson College (Presbyterian) and the historic (1794) First Presbyterian Church in Asheville. Registration is \$25. For details and to register for the meeting, go to www.ncphsociety.org or call Don McLeod at 910-695-5550.



Culdee Presbyterian Church

916 HIGHWAY 73, WEST END
NORTH CAROLINA

*Give thanks to the LORD, call on his
name; make known among the nations
what He has done. 1 Chronicles 16:8*

Culdee Presbyterian Mission

Culdee Presbyterian Church will build caring relationships with our local and global community while proclaiming the Word of God and building up our faith community.

Contact Us: Phone (910) 295-6685

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