

Volume 20
July and August 2021

The Newsletter

New Wappetaw Presbyterian Church

New Wappetaw
Presbyterian Church
635 Pinckney Street
PO Box 460
McClellanville, SC 29458
843 887-3366
newwappetawpc.com
Minister
Rev. Steve Souther
843 327-7950

Minister's Message

I'm sitting here in the morning breeze watching the elm trees waltzing in the air above. This graceful dance of nature brings me to the moment, helping me realize once again how amazing this world really is. The bareness of the past winter was forgotten. Fitted out with the new spring finery, the trees rejoice in the new day, erasing all memory of the Fall that had robbed it of its beautiful canopy. All that was in the past and of no consequence for the moment. Trees do have a memory of lean years. It is hidden away in its' trunk and serves only to strengthen it, not diminish it.

If I listen carefully enough, I will also learn something else from these giants of nature: it is possible to gracefully adapt to changes that come along. When a large limb, for instance, is torn off one side in a storm, the tree knows how to grow sinews (muscles, if you will) to counteract the imbalance caused by the loss. How is this possible? In the forest, far from human interference (and the controlled burning, I might add) that fallen limb will mold into the ground and provide nourishment and cover for future growth.

I wonder how a tree that has no brains can figure these things out when we humans-- with the amazing brain power we've been given-- have such a difficult time with change? We are part of that nature we see all around us. McClellanville is blessed with an abundance of nature, and it's always calling to us, reminding us where we came from and how much there is that connects us. George MacDonald writes, "If honey tastes as good to the bee as it tastes to me, there must be something in the make of the bee that is in the make of me."

All this is to say that we are entering a period of change. This month of June -- coming as suddenly as it seems to have -- should be a time to take stock, to do an inventory and see what our resources are and how to make adjustments. Remember where our strength comes from (God is our refuge and strength), the same source that enables trees to grow and flourish even in adversity and loss.

It would be fitting, therefore, to plant a tree of faith somewhere on the church grounds this month of June 2021. Maybe Sunday the 27th would be a good time to do this.

The Lord Bless you and I love you.

Steve

Christian Sympathy: The congregation extends Christian sympathy to the family of Mary Daniel McClure on her recent death. A graveside service was held on Saturday, May 29th in the New Wappetaw cemetery.

July Birthdays

July 2 – Beatrice “Bootsie” Baldwin
July 5 – Cameron White
July 6 – Annie Jayne McClellan
July 7 – Hayley Culpepper
July 12 – Emily Sexton
July 15 – Aaron McClure
July 16 – Scott Dudley, Townsend Warren

July 17 – Ned Haynie
July 21 – Katherine Jones
July 22 – Malcolm Baldwin
July 27 – Jerry Sexton
July 28 – Glenn Racine
July 29 – Sally Racine
July 30 – Hayward Nettles, Jr.

August Birthdays

August 2 – Thomas Emory Porter, Marlow Small,
Jackson McClellan
August 3 – Drew Allison, Beverly Bonner,
Tommy Morrison
August 5 – Callie Miller, Martha Zierden
August 7 – Thomas Porter
August 8 – Joanna Tisdale McClellan
August 9 – Harry Watson
August 13 – Daisy Marcinak

August 17 – Cody Allen
August 21 – John Horres
August 22 – Pete Kornack
August 23 – Olivia Williams Black,
Penny Bruns
August 25 – Walter Bonner
August 26 – Ellis Sellers
August 27 – Christian Lofton
August 31 – Larry Davis

**Food and Tree Planting Honoring Reverend Steve Souther and His Family
Sunday, June 27th Following Worship**

Reverend Souther will retire at the end of June after having served New Wappetaw for ten years. The session encourages members and friends to be present for his final service in the pulpit and to enjoy food, fellowship, and planting of a tree. Bring covered dish selections – drinks will be provided. Tables will be set up outside.

From the Pastoral Search Committee

We have secured Rev. Dr. Mike Fitze, pastor of Palmetto Presbyterian, to lead our worship services during each Sunday of July and on August 15th & 22nd. He will also moderate session as needed. Mrs. Marcy Carl, Director of Children's and Adult Faith Formation at Georgetown Presbyterian will be leading our August 1st service. We are working on the other two Sundays in August and certainly the months following, wishing to interview candidates for long term/part time minister. With your prayers and support, with God's help and with the Presbytery's assistance, we will be successful. We are now studying the residual funds and interest generated by the manse sale, in early 2001 to the present, to boost our available funding for financial support of our possible call to ministry at NWPC.

Christian Education Plans and Activities

The beginning of the pandemic quickly forced changes in our Christian Education programs. Worship services and church school classes were closed for a while. Worship resumed with care, and the adult Class resumed regular meetings while the youth class meets once a month. It is now hoped that classes for all age groups can be scheduled every week starting in September. More teachers will be needed – contact Elder Lynn Godwin. She will be on a seven-week vacation trip but can be reached by telephone or email.

Our Presbyterian church has developed a new curriculum, called Follow Me. It has lessons with which all age classes study the same subject matter weekly. We will decide whether to use this starting in the fall.

In December, Andrew DuPre's brother Sonny talked to the youth about a missionary school which he runs in Liberia. The group became interested in providing scholarship funds for students at the school. Huger McClellan generously arranged to provide a fund-raising dinner. About 200 dinners were served, members gave donations, and the event raised \$2600. \$650 will be given to the school in Liberia and the remainder will help cover the cost of our youths attending a youth conference at Montreat.

J DWALU KIMBER CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
Brewerville, Montserrado County
Republic of Liberia

New Wappetaw Presbyterian Church Youth Group

Dear Young People of God,

We greet you all on behalf of the above-mentioned instruction center.

With reference to the scholarship funds you have rendered to deserving students at our school, we say "Thanks a million and may God bless you all." Our gratitude also goes to Lynn Godwin, your leader.

We heard of you from Mr. and Mrs. Sonny DuPre, our partners who are working tirelessly to ensure that J Dwalu Kimber Christian School is an institution of Religious and Academic excellence for all.

Thank you once more.

Sum G. Karmo, Principal

From the Session –

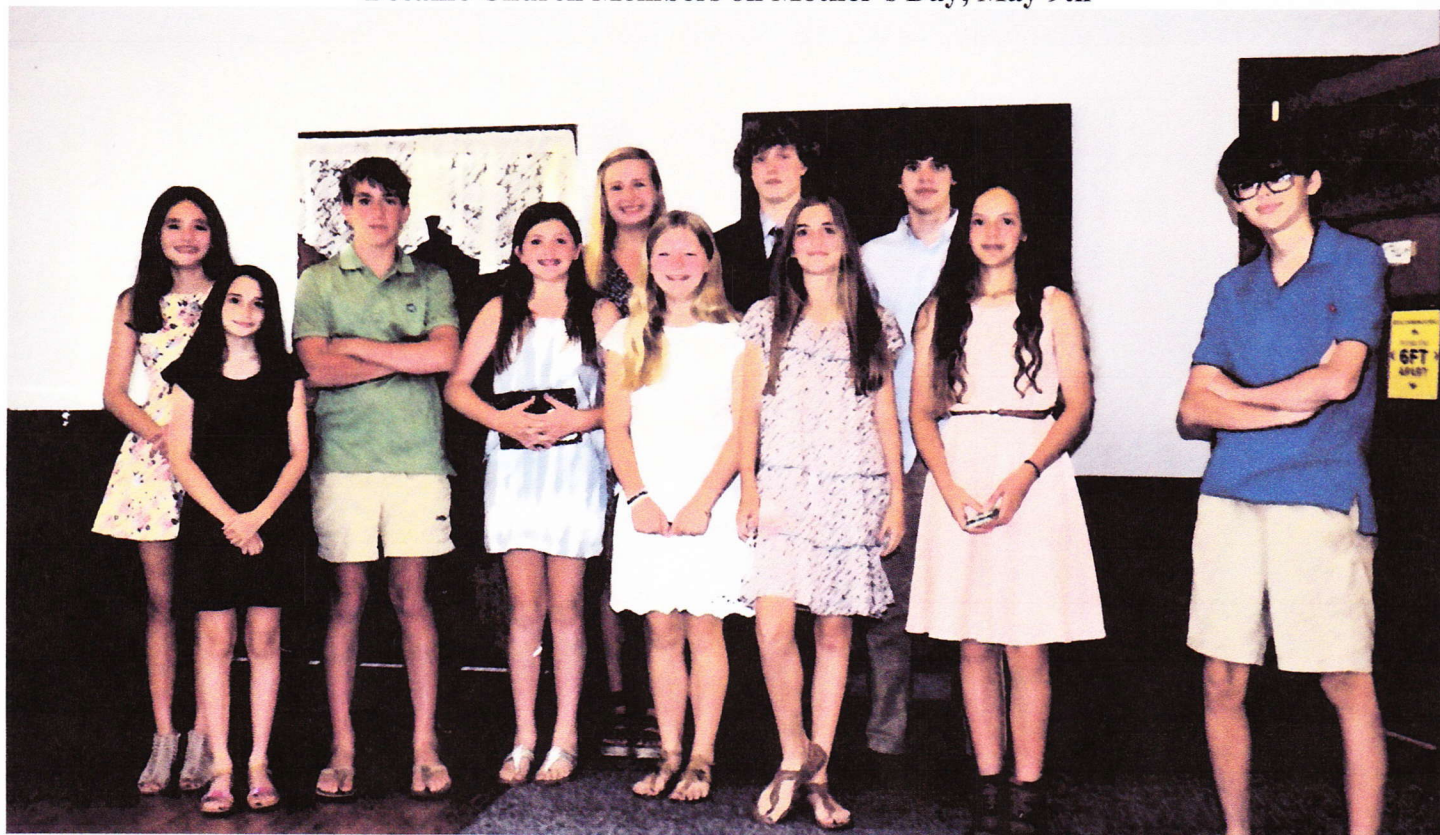
A New Thing for New Wappetaw: Sunday worship services will begin at 10:00 A.M. throughout the summer.

Thanks to Elder Bob McCarley for the great sign

Safety regarding Covid-19 at worship services. In May, session approved the wearing of masks unless adequately vaccinated, and children can come without mask or without vaccination if parents approve. The policy will soon be reviewed at a meeting of the session.

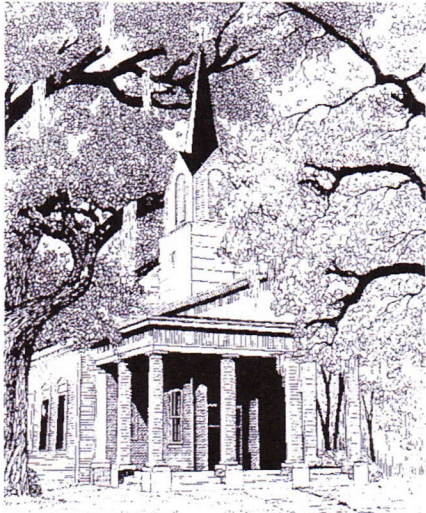
Tombstone Cleaning Available Huger McClellan reports that he has available the tombstone cleaner used at The Arlington National Cemetery. He is using the agent on some McClellan family tombstones, and he offers to clear other stones. Contact Huger to give him specific permission to employ it on family tombs.

The 2021 Confirmation Class
Became Church Members on Mother's Day, May 9th



L-R -- Callie Cooper, Tatum Nettles, Boone McClellan, Absley Chrisman, Payton Garner, Lucie Racine, William Lynch, Lila Duncan, Shane Monaghan, Abby Monaghan, and Beckham Nettles

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2021 High School Graduates



Connie Graham and Steve Souther with grads and others



At worship on May 13th Elder Andrew DuPre presented Bibles to graduates Carlen Garner, Lily Crouch, and Huck Racine – Claire Allen and Katie Scott were unable to be present that day. The student's long-time teachers, Ed and Connie Graham, plus other students enjoyed being present for the special day.

Meetings and Events at New Wappetaw

- June 27 -- Rev. Steve Souther's final worship service
with lunch and a tree-planting in his honor
- July 18 – Communion at worship
- July 25 -- Congregational Dinner after worship
- August – An ice cream social will be scheduled before schools open