



Galatia Presbyterian Church

8800 Galatia Church Road

Fayetteville, NC 28304

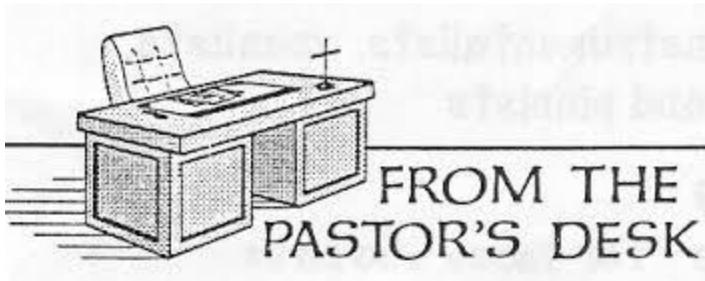
Church Phone: (910) 867-0656

Church Website: www.galatiachurch.org

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September

2016



I hope everyone had an enjoyable and restful summer. As we enter the fall season, I'm excited about all the activities we have scheduled. Please watch your church calendar for upcoming events and programs and join us as we worship and

serve the Lord together.

As many of you know, an exploratory committee was formed late last year to study various issues concerning our denomination. This committee was tasked by your session to review areas of concern and to explore our options for addressing those concerns up to and including moving to another denomination.

The exploratory committee completed their work and reported to the session at our August stated meeting. Included in their report was a recommendation that we ask our presbytery to form a pastoral team to meet with our congregation and discuss these concerns. The session approved their recommendation and sent the enclosed letter to the presbytery to make this formal request.

As we enter this period of discernment, it is especially important that you stay connected with your elders. I realize you will have questions about what happens next and I want you to rest assured that your session will keep you informed as the process moves forward. I also want to assure you that no decisions about the future relationship between Galatia and the PC(USA) can be made without the full concurrence of the congregation. You will be involved each step of the way.

This request was not made lightly. However, our concerns over some of the changes that are taking place within our denomination can no longer go unaddressed. The process put together by presbytery will allow us to address these concerns with each other and the presbytery in order to determine what course of action is most appropriate for our congregation. If ever there was a time for intentional prayers, this is it-as we seek God's will for the future of Galatia.

As always, if there is anything I can do (or your elders), please let us know. We are proud to serve you. What a blessing it is to work in the service of the Lord at Galatia Presbyterian Church!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brett".

Presbytery Letter sent August 16, 2016

For: Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Coastal Carolina (Bill Reinhold), 807 West King Street, Elizabethtown, NC 28337

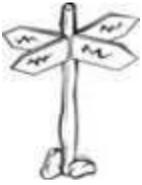
The Session of Galatia Presbyterian Church find ourselves alienated as a result of recent controversial decisions made by the General Assembly, divisive votes taken in the presbyteries, and actions in the July 2016 Youth Triennium. We recognize that we live in a time when our unity in Christ is being tested and our ability to work together in mission is being tried.

The members of the Session believe we need to carefully discern ways to address this situation. The Session has received a report from the exploratory committee to understand the denomination options and the consequences and ramifications of leaving the PC (USA). We seek Presbytery's guidance and assistance with a Pastoral Visitation Team.

We hope that even in these times of disagreement and conflict, the Church will seek to uphold one another, build up one another, respect one another, and love one another, to the end that the mission of Christ be fulfilled. Our work is best accomplished in spiritual unity found in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit (2 Corinthians 13:14).

Praying for Wisdom, Discerning Minds, and Loving Hearts. May we all follow Christ's examples for our lives.

Deborah Dawson
Clerk of Session



The Chimwemwe Way: The Joy of Being Dust

Thank you for the time to worship with you all in August. It was wonderful to be amongst so many people who support Joel and I. Know that your prayers have been answered, are being answered, and will be answered!

When I began this current season of discernment, it came out of a long period of spiritual dryness. Putting my spiritual life on hold until my child got a little older was probably not my best move, and I like to think I am just a little wiser today than I was when I made that decision almost two years ago. But, as I began to seek God again, I first found him in Psalm 103:14, in the New Living Translation says, "For he knows how weak we are; he remembers we are only dust." A physical relief suddenly filled me. Not a scripture to quote as an excuse to do whatever we want, this scripture speaks about a compassionate and merciful God. The God we worship knows what it means to be human; knows that life can be tough. In John 16:33, Jesus tells us to take heart. We will have trials and sorrows, but Jesus has overcome the world.



And so, I write with a happy, peaceful joy. You are you, and I am me. God has given our bodies of dust incredible diversity and many gifts, but also limitations. May we strive each day to help one another with the love of One who remembers we are dust; far from perfect, yet somehow made perfect because that same One is alive in us. Praise God!

As I return to Malawi, please pray: for my relationships with those around me; that I will never stop learning from those around me; that I will walk with confidence in my relationship with Christ; that I will constantly seek God's wisdom in all I say and do.

-Susan Rembert

Contact Information: susanrembert.wordpress.com OR susan.rembert@gmail.com

FINANCIAL REPORT (submitted by Frank Dawson, Treasurer)

Other Income and Disbursements for July 2016				
	Received this Month	Received this Year	Disbursed this Month	Disbursed Year to Date
2C Meal Offering (Presbytery)	\$57.94	\$450.20	\$57.94	\$450.20
Children's Hope Alliance (Barium)	\$42.35	\$86.80	\$42.35	\$86.80
Building Fund (Special Fund)	\$1,635.00	\$17,565.00		\$7,895.00
Cemetery Fund (Special Fund)	\$9,500.00	\$2,810.00	\$500.00	\$2,250.00
Timothy Fund (Special Fund)				
Organ Fund (Special Fund)		\$90.00	\$190.34	\$1,990.34
Gideon's				
Pentecost	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00
One Great Hour of Sharing				

Sunday School Attendance:

Financial Report for General Fund	July	Year to Date	7/3	17	\$25.35
Total Funds Received	\$17,788.83	\$118,813.99	7/10	23	\$32.30
Total Food Panty Funds Received	\$245.91	\$3,655.50	7/17	24	\$28.00
Total Funds Expenditures	\$16,901.01	\$132,519.55	7/24	23	\$41.30
Total Funds Required	\$19,911.24	\$139,378.68	7/31	20	\$42.35

Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child

During September we will be collecting: **hygiene items like bars of soap, washcloths, combs and brushes. Mild soaps like Dove are recommended.** There is a box in the narthex for you to place these items.

Xan Allen



Presbyterian Women



"Whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him." Colossians 3:17

Presbyterian Women begins its new year in September. Let us rededicate ourselves to our Lord's service.

All women are invited to become a part of PW at Galatia. If you have been away from circle, please consider "coming home", we will joyfully welcome you back. If you are new to Galatia, please consider finding a new circle home with us. We will joyfully welcome you.

CIRCLE MEETINGS FOR September: (Flowers for September: **Circle #3**)

Circle #1:	Tuesday, September 13	2:30@ church	Moderator: Jane Gillis Turner
Circle #2:	Monday, September 12	7:00@ church	Moderator: Nancy Dean
Circle #3:	Monday, September 12	6:00@ church	Moderator: Judy Dibacco

Next PWCT Meeting following worship Sunday, September 11th.
Jane Gillis Turner, Moderator



*Seniors'
Luncheon*

Galatia Area Seniors Meeting Sept 27, 2016 at 12:00pm Topic: Scams & Fraud

North Carolinians lose millions of dollars each year to consumer scams including scams associated with sweepstakes, charities, identity theft, and more.

A staff member from the Attorney General's office in Raleigh will talk to us about how to be "scam smart" and easy tips to avoid becoming a victim.

Join us on September 27th at noon for a covered dish meeting. We look forward to seeing you-let's fill up the room!



Don't miss out on an opportunity to support Galatia's Fall Festival, Saturday September 24th ensuring each person that attends has a great time!

The annual Fall Festival is our largest community fund raising project and serves as an excellent bridge by which we can reach out to our community. We will have a BBQ dinner followed by the Auction; along with Children's Activities, a Craft Corner, a General Store, and a Bake Sale. All monies raised will support the pew renovation project.

Putting on such a large event that typically has over 200 attendees can only be successful with much volunteer support. The Fellowship Committee asks that you please consider volunteering to help with shopping, children's meals, auction, advertizing and signs, food serving, decorating, auction donations, ticket sales, food delivery, crafts, or desserts.

Please contact Nancy Autry or Debbie Dawson to get involved; if you need BBQ tickets for yourself or to sell to others-see Julie Layton!

'So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.' **Galatians 6:10**





We are looking forward to youth group kicking back in to gear on Wednesday, September 7th. We have been able to work out a great schedule for both confirmation class and youth group. Generally, we have lesson time first beginning at 6:00, and then we begin packing for the food pantry around 6:30, and then are moving into free time about 7:00, ending at 7:30.

We will be able to follow this same schedule, as Brett will start confirmation class at 6:00 in the youth group room, and the youth leaders we will meet with the remaining kids in the youth game room for lesson time before shifting to packing for the food pantry. The confirmation class will join us there whenever they complete lesson time, and the free time will still be spent together, finishing at 7:30pm. As we did last year, once a month we will have dinner and movie night from 6:00-8:00, and there will be no confirmation class on these evenings. If you are interested in providing a meal to the youth group, please contact Julie Layton. We could use a **dinner** provided dinner for **September 14th** or **October 19th**; November 16th is covered by the Shoebox Packing Party (read on...) and December 14th is thankfully being covered by Diane Young!

Also, this year the youth will help support the Christmas Shoebox initiative that Xan Allen is running. There is a packing party scheduled for Wednesday, November 16th beginning at 6:00pm, where all children (young and not-so-young) are invited to be a part of this great mission! Mark your calendars!

Attention all 3rd, 4th, & 5th Graders!!!

The Growing Galatians, a Sunday School Class just for you will begin Sunday, September 11 at 10:00 AM in the classroom located between the Kindergarten Class and the Heritage Room. The theme for September is "THE GOD WHO CREATED US"

Please plan to be here and let's get the Fall Season off to a great start learning of God's creation and His love for us

-Nancy Autry, teacher

