



Shedding light on the ministries of Linden



The Linden Lantern

May 1, 2010-June 30, 2010

Special points of interest:

- May 1-Pancake Breakfast
- May 6-Natl. Day of Prayer
- May 8-Church Workday
- May 9-Mother's Day
- May 16-Jubilee Birthday
- May 23-Youth Sunday
- May 31-Memorial Day
- June 5-Pancake Breakfast
- June 14-Flag Day
- June 20-Father's Day
- June 21-Summer Begins
- June 21 thru 25-VBS



Join the Flock at Sunday School!

10:00 am

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One Great Week-We Couldn't Live Without It

Have you ever had an experience where the events of your life suddenly seem to pass before your eyes in a matter of seconds? Frequently, these incidents will elicit from us a sense of joy and longing to relive the good things that have happened in our lives. These dramatic flashbacks of memory might be triggered by something very simple: a delicious smell coming from the kitchen.

Often we seek to rekindle these strong memories and emotions through elaborately planned events: a Christmas tradition, a class reunion, a family vacation, a homecoming weekend. Much of the joy in these events is the shared experience of memory. We recall in these moments things which have made us who we are.

Each year we celebrate a week that commemorates the passion and resurrection of Christ. The observance is what we call Holy Week. It dates back to the fourth century Jerusalem and was known at that time as the Great Week. The days from Palm Sunday to Easter were spent in dramatized worship, with participants literally walking in the footsteps of Jesus. Preparation began weeks before as worshippers through prayer and fasting prepared to recount Jesus' death and resurrection.

We could not literally walk in the footsteps of Jesus as we celebrated Holy Week, but we had special occasions to remember and celebrate. Our Holy Week began on Palm Sunday with worship that included several musical pieces from the choir and children and youth choirs as well as the youth hand bell players. We are so appreciative of our choirs and their directors. On Thursday we gathered with other believers in Christ from Pisgah, Crowders Creek, Clover and Bethany ARP Churches for our annual Maundy Thursday service. This is always a wonderful gathering. "Maundy" comes from the Latin *mandatum novum*, referencing the new commandment Jesus taught His disciples (John 13:4). So this is also the new Commandment Thursday. In the history of the church the service has focused on three key areas of Jesus' last week of ministry: the institution of the Lord's supper, the washing of the disciples feet, and His new commandment to love one another.

Holy Week ended with the triumphant celebration on Easter morning as we gathered for an early service, breakfast, Sunday School and our Easter morning worship. Fifty days after the resurrection we celebrate Pentecost, the giving of the Holy Spirit and the birthday of the church. **That one great week changed everything and we cannot imagine life without it!**

Celebrating a Linden Moment

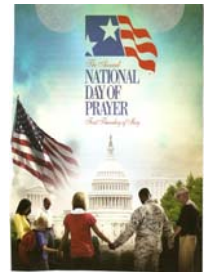


Celebrating 98 Years

National Day Of Prayer

The 2010 observance of the National Day of Prayer will take place on Thursday, May 6th. The emphasis is from Nahum 1:7 which states, *"The Lord is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust Him."* At this perilous and uncertain juncture in our country's history, it is critical that we remain in prayer.

Join us on Wednesday evenings for our mid week prayer time and then for sure take a moment on Thursday, May 6th to pray for our nation as others all over the nation offer up prayers as well.



**Prayer!
For Such A Time
As This**

~ Gastonia's Citizens on Patrol ~

They didn't fire the tear gas or talk to the gunman, but Bob and Sandy Harwell still had a part to play in a nine-hour standoff that brought the Gastonia Police SWAT Team to a quiet city neighborhood. The Harwell's are among four new members of Citizens on Patrol, an auxiliary arm of the Gastonia Police Dept. COP volunteers helped direct traffic during the April 2 standoff on South Marietta Street, freeing the police officers to focus on bringing the standoff to a peaceful end. "We were half a block away," Bob Harwell said. "We could hear the tear gas shots going off." Citizens on Patrol help stranded motorists, wait for tow trucks to retrieve wrecked vehicles, direct traffic and do other public duties that do not require the presence of a law enforcement officer. They also serve as eyes and ears for Gastonia police, crossing the city in refurbished police cruisers marked as citizen patrol vehicles. "This program is so valuable to us as police officers because they can do so many of the things that officers can do," said Officer Amy Hawkins of the Crime Prevention Bureau. "It lets the citizens know that ordinary people can do so much in the community and assist the police department." Police Chief Tim Adams said letters, e-mails and phone calls praising the COPs have flooded his office.



Celebrating Birthdays in May and June

Shelly Harwell-May 2

Charlie Hodge-May 17

John Morrow-June 11

Blanche Hudson-May 21

Jane Crump-May 26

Tom Hudson-June 20

Tori Funderburk-May 21

Lauren Myers-June 21

Doug Black-June 23

Vashti Mace-May 10

Mary Linberger-June 21

Robin McElroy-June 24

Pam Friedl-May 13

Jonathan Edmund-June 21

Debbie Connor-June 28

Lisa Dimeo-May 16

Stephanie Easter-June 7



You know you're getting old when you sit down in your rocking chair and you can't get it started.

Cooking For Christ Ministry

Imagine it's the end of the day. You're tired and hungry. Your kids and spouse look to you with eager and hopeful eyes as they ask with great anticipation, "What's for dinner?". Providing an answer to the seemingly simple question, a task hard enough when life is normal, becomes an overwhelming burden when one is dealing with the added stress of an illness, a death in the family, and perhaps even a newborn baby.

The "care meals" (as I call them) of Linden seek to help lighten the load among the congregation by serving meals to those in need. The people of Linden take care of each other during life's most challenging moments.

Food says, "I care". Often it is difficult to know what to say when someone dies. Food is a way to say, "I care".

In March, Linden's "care meals" were served twice during times of bereavement. At the beginning of March we experienced the death of Mavis Wooten. Mavis had been a member of Linden since 1943. At the end of March we experienced the death of George Queen. George had been a member since 1942. In 1975 he was ordained as an elder. Meals were served to both of these families with the hopes of helping the family start the healing process. The "care meals" have also been extended to help others in time of sickness and recovery. Sunday School class members have taken meals to the homes of members to show that they care for them in the midst of their physical difficulties. Providing meals to others enables us to act as the hands and feet of Christ serving God's family. We're the body of Christ in action providing a tangible show of God's love and care in the time of need. All this is to say thank you to all the "care meal" providers. You are a blessing!



"Care Meals"

Vacation Bible School



All Hands On Deck! The High Seas Expedition is about to set sail.

Vacation Bible School for nursery - 5th grade will begin on Monday, June 21st thru Friday, June 25th. We hope that you will make plans to bring your children and grandchildren this year to this great adventure. Each day at 5:30 pm we will begin with supper followed by bible study, music, games, crafts and lots more! We will have a special ending to Vacation Bible School this year. On Friday, the last day of vacation bible school we will be going to Larry and JoAnn Morrow's for swimming and a cookout. We hope that everyone is making plans to attend and we hope that you will invite someone to attend with you.

All You Can Eat Pancake Breakfast for only \$5.00!

On Saturday, May 1st and Saturday, June 5th Bob and Sandy Harwell will be serving an All You Can Eat Pancake Breakfast to help raise funds for the youth summer adventures of music and missions. The menu includes not only pancakes but sausage, bacon and drinks.



The breakfast takes place in the Linden Fellowship Hall and begins at 7:00 am and ends at 10:30 am. Breakfast is the most important meal of the day so be sure to tell your friends, neighbors, family, co-workers and even a few strangers all about this delicious meal. It's even a great place to meet for your circle meetings, deacons meetings, or small group meetings.

A Great Deal!

And did you read the part about it costing only \$5.00? That's a great deal! We look forward to seeing you there.

Linden ARP Church
205 South Myrtle School Road
Gastonia, N.C. 28052
(704) 865-4885
Pastor: Michael Lineberger

Our Purpose:

By the grace of God and for the glory of God, Linden ARP exists as a worshipping community of believers who are committed to being and making disciples of Jesus Christ in our community and beyond.

Happy Anniversary

*Nick and Lisa Dimeo-May 1
Tim and Elizabeth Morrow-May 3
J.C. and Debbie McCarter-May 24
Ted and Jane Crump-June 4
Steve and Pam Myers-June 15
Tom and Blanche Hudson-June 29
Charlie and Betty Hodge-June 29
Gene and Hilda Crenshaw-June 30*

Visit us...



www.LindenARPChurch.org

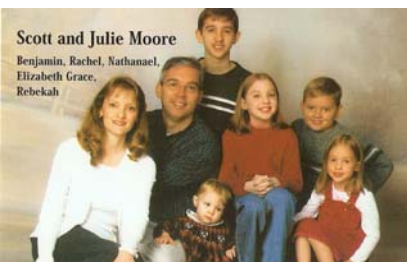
Jubilee Birthday Missions Celebration!

In an earlier article I asked you if you had ever had an experience where the events of your life suddenly seem to pass before your eyes in a matter of seconds. Then I went on to say that we rekindle those memories through planned events.

I hope you remember one particular event from last year. If you can't just look under the trees in the parking lot and you will see a rock there with your names on it. That's our Ebenezer! And you remember last year we had a wonderful "Jubilee Birthday" missions celebration. We had a missions sermon from Rev. John Hopkins from our ARP World Witness office. That was followed by a great lunch and that "jubilee offering" that was taken to be used for the mission of two missionaries. That really was a memorable occasion for us.

Well, we're going to do it again. The "Jubilee Birthday" celebration is a ministry of the ARP Women's Ministry and the ladies of our church are certainly part of that ministry. Under their leadership again this year we will celebrate missions on Sunday, May 16th. Our speaker for the worship service will be ARP missionary Scott Moore. Scott and his family are missionaries to Mexico. Perhaps he will bring his entire family and as you can tell from the picture he and his wife Julie have 5 children.

After the worship service we will gather in the fellowship hall for one of Linden's famous covered dish "we don't meet unless we eat" luncheons! We will celebrate the "jubilee birthday" at that time as well. A special missions offering will be taken at that time. Please join us for this special missions Sunday and celebration on May 16th.



Scott and Julie Moore
Benjamin, Rachel, Nathanael,
Elizabeth Grace,
Rebekah

~ ~ ~ ~ ~
LOOKING AHEAD: Home Coming Sunday will be on September 12th.
Our special speaker will be Ali Mitchell who has a ministry with Muslims.