

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER RECOGNITION AND COMMISSION
August 27, 2006

Prelude and Acolyte

Welcome and Announcements

* Greeting and Rites of Friendship

Preparing our Hearts to Worship

We invite you to center your hearts and minds during a few moments of musical meditation as we prepare to worship our God.

Call to Worship

Leader: *In the beginning, when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters.*

People: ***Then God said, "Let there be light" and there was light!***

Leader: *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God.*

People: ***In the darkness of our lives, God has spoken the Word of life – let there be light!***

Leader: *Christ, the Word of God, is the Light of the world!*

All: ***And God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was good! Let us join our hearts to worship God!***

* Hymn No. 71 "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

Call to Confession (First in Unison and then in Silent Confession)

Almighty God, You created all things new and proclaimed them good. Yet, in the course of time, we have lost sight of the goodness of creation. The prophets of old reminded the people that You are still working newness into creation, into our lives. But, like the people then, we fail to understand that we have a part in that new creation. We often feel detached from this world – from its people, from its pain, from its need. Forgive us Father. Bring us back into right relationship with You and with one another, so that once again, You will look over all You have made and know that it is indeed good.

Assurance of Forgiveness

* Hymn No. 43 "Majesty"

Children's Time

Offertory and Giving of His Tithes and Our Offerings

* Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

Anthem "Til the Storm Passes By" Adult Choir

Musical Interlude: Children exit with Mary and Lauren Langdon to Children's Church

Prayer Requests, Morning Prayers and the Lord's Prayer

Old Testament Lesson Genesis 1:1-5 & 1:26-2:3

* Hymn No. 28 "For Beauty of Meadows"

Gospel Lesson John 1:1-5

Sermon "In the Beginning....." Rev. Lisa Nance

Recognition and Commissioning of Teachers and Affirmation of Faith

* Hymn No. 411 "How Firm a Foundation"

* Acolyte, Benediction and Postlude

** Signifies Congregation to Stand*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Flowers. The flowers today are given to the glory of God by Ken and Sandra Lordi in honor of the birthday of their daughter, Adrienne Jaquith.

Newsletter. If you have items that you would like to place in the September newsletter, please provide that information to DeEtta Wood today.

Session Highlights and Treasurer's Report: Copies of the August Session Highlights and Treasurer's Report are available in the vestibule. Please limit one per family.

The Prayer List

The victims and families of the West Johnston students involved in a fatal car accident, the families of Carl Ogburn and Gerald Pate. Also, Christy Anderson, Jeff Anderson, Richie Andrews, Bevoline Brooks, Josephine Byrd, Mickey Carroll, Carol Clifton, Vera Critcher, Will Duncan, Lovie Dorman, Mary Hart, Lawrence Herron, Ricky Jackson, Chris Johnson, Tim Lang, Betty Lou Lee, Carolyn Lewis, Carol Mayben, Lewis McLamb, Eloise McLeod, Julia Nales, Joan Parrish, Mike Sanchez, Harry and Betty Smith, Alice Stephenson, and Mary Stephenson.

Assisting in Worship this Sunday:

Ushers: Randy Benson and Jim Ingram
Lauren Collier
Acolyte and Bell Ringer:
Infant Nursery: Christina Nelms and Georgeanna Phillips
Toddlers: Gary Phillips

Assisting in Worship next Sunday, Sept 3:

Ushers: Tony Bryant and Darren Stuart
Acolyte and Bell Ringer: Joshua Collier
Children's Sermon: Ann Benson
Children's Church: Nancy Nelms and Kendall Nelms
Infant Nursery: Mary Langdon and Gwen Walton
Toddlers: Courtney and Kent Walton

Events for this week:

Today, Aug 27: Children's Choir Rehearsal from 9:45 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School Assembly at 9:45 a.m. in the Sanctuary, followed by Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. and Sunday School Teacher Recognition and Commission during Worship at 11:00 a.m.

Monday, Aug 28: Pastor Nominating Committee meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Monday, Aug 28: AA meets at 8:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, Aug 29: Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, Aug 30: No Adult Choir Rehearsal this week

Thursday, Aug 31: AA meets at 8:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall

Sunday, Sept 3: Children's Choir Rehearsal from 9:45 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School Assembly at 9:45 a.m. in the Sanctuary, followed by Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. and Worship at 11:00 a.m.

Upcoming Events:

September 5: Stated Session Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

September 10: Young Adult Sunday School class resumes their meetings at 10:00 a.m. in the Library

September 15-17: Church-wide Retreat to Fort Fisher

September 19: Presbyterian Women Daytime and Evening Circles will have a combined meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall

September 30: Presbyterian Women Fall Gathering

September 30: Men's Fellowship to meet for a light breakfast and then a time of clean-up around the church in preparation for Homecoming.

Service of Recognition for 2005-2006 Sunday School Teachers

Leader: God calls ordinary people from ordinary places to do extraordinary work with God's people. The story of our faith is a powerful testament to this fact. Many centuries ago, God called Abraham and Sarah to pack up their belongings and to follow God to a new land.

People: *So Abraham and Sarah packed up and followed God.*

Leader: God called Moses to take the people of Israel out of the land of Egypt. Moses said, "No, God, not me. The people won't believe me. I am slow of speech and slow of tongue." God said, "Moses, I want you to go. Aaron your brother, can speak for you."

People: *So Moses took his wife and his children and went back to Egypt.*

Leader: God called David to be king, even though he was a young boy and the youngest of all of Jesse's sons.

People: *So Samuel anointed David and he rose to be a great king.*

Leader: God called Jonah to preach to the Ninevites and Jonah decided to flee to Tarshish instead. But his flight ended in the belly of a great fish. Jonah prayed to God from the belly of the fish and when God answered his prayer, God also called him a second time to go to the Ninevites.

People: *So Jonah set out and went to Ninevah.*

Leader: God called Mary to have a baby and name the child "Jesus" because he would save the people from their sins.

People: *And Mary said to the Lord, "Let it be done to me according to Your word."*

Leader: God called Peter and James and John away from their families, their homes, and their work as fisherman.

People: *And they dropped their nets and followed him.*

Leader: God called Martha away from the kitchen and Lydia away from her purple cloth, and Priscilla to open her home as a new church.

People: *So they did as God asked and followed God's call in their lives.*

Leader: God has called each of us to hear His voice in our lives. To some of us, He gave the gift of teaching, and we are called to act upon that gift in the course of God's timing. This morning, we want to say thank you to those members of our congregation who have served as teachers. Will the teachers who served during this past year, please stand?

Pastor: You faithfully answered God's calling your life – you reached out to others to continue the story of faith. In thanksgiving, we lift you and the work you have done, up to the glory of God. Let us pray.

Leader: In recognition of all you have done to further the Kingdom of God, we would like to present you with a small reminder of our thankfulness.

Pastor: Thank you for all you have done. (Teachers may be seated)

Commissioning Service for 2006-2007 Sunday School Teachers

Leader: I would now ask that those who have agreed to serve during this coming year please stand. Being a teacher requires energy, patience, commitment, hard work, and a heart for God's word and God's people. You do not enter into this responsibility easily or without thought – but joyfully and responsibly, recognizing that God always provides exactly what we need to answer God's call in our lives.

Pastor: I ask those of you who have agreed to be teachers to answer the following questions. Do you trust in Jesus Christ our Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit?

Teachers: *I do*

Pastor: Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God's Word to you?

Teachers: *I do*

Pastor: Will you fulfill your calling in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our confession?

Teachers: *I will*

Pastor: Will you be a faithful leader, leading others to know and love Jesus as Lord, through the power of the Holy Spirit, to the glory of God?

Teachers: *I will*

Pastor: And do you, the members of Providence Presbyterian Church, accept these people as your teachers?

People: *We do*

Pastor: Will you encourage them, pray for them, support them and honor them, as they seek to lead us in deepening our knowledge of God?

People: *We will*

Pastor: Then in thanksgiving and joy, let us pray!