

stopped suddenly.

"What's wrong, Jack?" his Mom asked.

"The box is gone."

"What box?"

"There was a small gold box that he kept locked on top of his desk. I must have asked him a thousand times what was inside. All he'd ever tell me was 'the thing I value most,'" Jack said.

It was gone. Everything about the house was exactly how Jack remembered it, except for the box. He figured someone from the Belser family had taken it.

"Now I'll never know what was so valuable to him," Jack said. "I better get some sleep. I have an early flight home, Mom."

It had been about two weeks since Mr. Belser died. Returning home from work one day Jack discovered a note in his mailbox "Signature required on a package No one at home. Please stop by the main post office within the next three days," the note read.

Early the next day Jack retrieved the package. The small box was old and looked like it had been mailed a hundred years ago. The handwriting was difficult to read, but the return address caught his attention. "Mr. Harold Belser" it read. Jack took the box out to his car and ripped open the package.

There inside was the gold box and an envelope. Jack's hands shook as he read the note inside. "Upon my death, please forward this box and its contents to Jack Bennett. It's the thing I valued most in my life."

A small key was taped to the letter. His heart racing, as tears filling his eyes, Jack carefully unlocked the box. There inside he found a beautiful gold pocket watch.

Running his fingers slowly over the finely etched casing, he unlatched the cover. Inside he found these words engraved:

"Jack, Thanks for your time! -Harold Belser."

"The thing he valued most was...my time"

Jack held the watch for a few minutes, then called his office and cleared his appointments for the next two days.

"Why?" Janet, his assistant asked.

"I need some time to spend with my son," he said.

"Oh, by the way, Janet, thanks for your time!"

God has built us for relationships. Is there a "Mr. Belser" somewhere that needs your time?

-Jay



# The Epistle

October 2007

St. Paul Presbyterian Church

Vol. 07 No. 10



It had been some time since Jack had seen the old man. College, girls, career, and life itself got in the way. In fact, Jack moved clear across the country in pursuit of his dreams. There, in the rush of his busy life, Jack had little time to think about the past and often no time to spend with his wife and son. He was working on his future, and nothing could stop him.

Over the phone, his mother told him, "Mr. Belser died last night. The funeral is Wednesday." Memories flashed through his mind like an old newsreel as he sat quietly remembering his childhood days.

"Jack, did you hear me?"

"Oh, sorry, Mom. Yes, I heard you. It's been so long since I thought of him. I'm sorry, but I honestly thought he died years ago," Jack said.

"Well, he didn't forget you. Every time I saw him he'd ask how you were doing. He'd reminisce about the many days you spent over 'his side of the fence' as he put it," Mom told him."

"I loved that old house he lived in," Jack said.

"You know, Jack, after your father died, Mr. Belser stepped in to make sure you had a man's influence in your life," she said.

"He's the one who taught me carpentry," he said. "I wouldn't be in this business if it weren't for him. He spent a lot of time teaching me things he thought were important...Mom, I'll be there for the funeral."

As busy as he was, he kept his word. Jack caught the next flight to his hometown. Mr. Belser's funeral was small and uneventful. He had no children of his own, and most of his relatives had passed away.

The night before he had to return home, Jack and his Mom stopped by to see the old house next door one more time. Standing in the doorway, Jack paused for a moment. It was like crossing over into another dimension, a leap through space and time. The house was exactly as he remembered. Every step held memories. Every picture, every of furniture....Jack

(continued on back page)



**September Attendance**

September 02nd.....53  
September 09th.....189  
September 16th.....66  
September 23rd .....68

# Birthdays & Anniversaries

**October Birthdays:**

Roger Coleman .....10/03  
Amanda Trollinger .....10/04  
Andy Bristow .....10/05  
Christina Carroll.....10/08  
Diane Hancock .....10/13  
Michelle Samsel .....10/22  
Jeanetta French.....10/26

**October Anniversaries:**

Joey & Donna Samsel .....10/14

**October Communion Servers:**

Andy Bristow  
George Farrow  
Ron Hayden  
Jack Herndon



## Mary Adele Ward

April 22, 1914 - September 20, 2007

*"Death is swallowed up in victory."  
(1 Corinthians 15)*



PLEASE PRAY FOR

Walter Shannon, Gerry Burnside, Rachel Carroll, Diané Hancock, Ron Lochbaum, Herb Reese, Tim Gard, Mary Jones, Jim Wilder (inlaw of Carol Parke's daughter), Katie Williams (daughter of Merrilou Williams), The Koontz Family, Holly Tilley, Jennifer Buffaloe, (granddaughter of Arleathe), Peggy Ferrar, Caroline Hudson (neighbor of Ruby Whitley), Charles Callicutt, Bill Winfield, Jack McIntyre, Danny Nuckolls (brother of Lynn Ogden), Andy Bristow's daughter Becky, Vinny Spagnuolo ( brother of Toni Redifer), Mike Molson, Mary Eilium's sister-in-law and all of our military personnel in a special way members of our own families - Andy Bristow Jr., Jana Soule, Kevin Tewes, Danny Houghlan, Brian Fountain, Shane Finison, Brian Fountain, Hoby Coleman, Amy Losoncy, Justin Mills and all who serve our country.

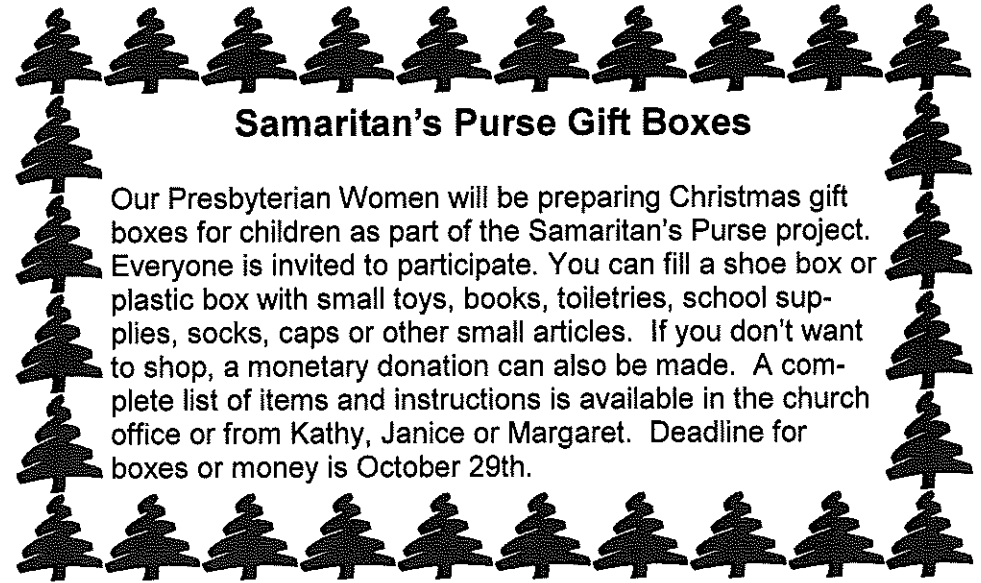
If you know anyone in need of prayers please call Edith Taylor @ 292-1418 or Shirley Berthold @ 299-4452.

Emergency calls should go directly to Jay @ 253-4878.



Just a reminder to keep your email address current with Pam Houghlan

Please email phoughlan@triad.rr.com with any changes.



### Samaritan's Purse Gift Boxes

Our Presbyterian Women will be preparing Christmas gift boxes for children as part of the Samaritan's Purse project. Everyone is invited to participate. You can fill a shoe box or plastic box with small toys, books, toiletries, school supplies, socks, caps or other small articles. If you don't want to shop, a monetary donation can also be made. A complete list of items and instructions is available in the church office or from Kathy, Janice or Margaret. Deadline for boxes or money is October 29th.

### Sanctuary Update...

What may seem like it is taking an inordinate amount of time is really an effort to insure that we have the best possible combination of usability and affordability for our new sanctuary. The Task Force has dreamed, and architects have accommodated those dreams in their plans, but we have had to face the fact that we simply cannot realistically afford everything we would like to have. We feel that we should keep the cost of the new building within the amount which will be available from the insurance settlement, so that the church will not have to incur future debt in the form of a mortgage. Our contractor, Kurt Ryback, is currently working with the architect to achieve this goal. It has necessarily prolonged the process, but we feel that it would not be responsible stewardship to spend beyond what we have available. Kurt hopes to have plans to us very soon.

As reported last month, Ned Pearce has decided not to buy the property we have for sale at this time. However, we have had a number of other recent inquiries, and we are continuing to pursue this sale aggressively.

We are proud to list the addresses of our family and friends serving in the Armed Forces...Godspeed....

SFC Andrew T. Bristow II  
ACO 375  
3869 Hampton Court  
Columbus, GA 31909

Major Shane Finison  
708 Clayston Court  
Clarksville, TN 37040

Captain Kevin S. Tewes, JA  
MNF-I OSJA (IZ)  
U. S. Embassy Annex  
Baghdad, Iraq  
APO, AE 09316

Lt. Danny Houglan  
2535 Ardenes Circle  
Seaside, CA 93955  
dhhouglan@nps.edu

Pv1, Soule Jana  
HHC 105TH ENGP  
APO, AE 09393

Email: armyxapelette@gmail.gov

If you know anyone you would like to add to our list or have addresses we do not have, please submit them to the church office. GOD BLESS OUR TROOPS!

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### **Senior Resource Fair**

On Sunday, Oct. 21st, from 2:00 until 5:00 p.m., Christ United Methodist Church is holding a Senior Resource Fair @ Christ Church, 401 N. Holden Road. There will be representatives present from over 30 services for seniors, including health, legal, financial, exercise, meals, insurance, residences, and more.

All seniors in the Greensboro area are invited. The fair is FREE, and all information is free.

### **2007 Greater Greensboro CROP Walk**

Sunday, October 14th  
First Horizon Park  
Walk begins at 2:00 p.m.

If you are interested in participating in the annual Greensboro Urban Ministry CROP walk, please contact Melissa Vaughn 434-3340 or Pam Houglan 449-4757

***"We walk because they walk"  
"Fighting Hunger,  
One Step at a Time"***

## Sermon Topics for October

- October 07th – "Duty Calls"  
Luke 17:5-10
- October 14th – "Lord, Have Mercy"  
Luke 17:11-19
- October 21st – "Encountering God Through Prayer"  
Luke 18:1-8
- October 28th – "A Tale of Two Prayers"  
Luke 18:9-14

## OCTOBER HYMN OF THE MONTH, #328

***"All Praise to God for Song God Gives"***

From earliest times, people have used music as a primary means of expressing their faith, offering prayerful petitions and praising God. Our October Hymn of the Month speaks to the importance of music in worship. The tune, *Sacred Song*, was commissioned by the First Presbyterian Church of Orange, California in 1986, and composed for this text by Dale Wood. Ever since he won a composition contest at the age of thirteen, Wood has been a prolific composer of anthems and editor of hymnals. This hymn text was written by Carlton Buck, a pastor in the Christian Church, who has authored many books, hymn texts, poems and meditations.

## Chime Notes

*On Sunday, September 30th, we will have sign up for our Christmas music Chime group. We will be reading from large-print words. You will ring the words that are underlined. This is a chance to have fun and make beautiful music without being able to read music at all. We will meet briefly after worship to decide when we want to rehearse. If you won't be present Sunday, call Jeannine at 856-1609 to sign up.*



Dear St. Paul Family,

Thank you so very much for your prayers, cards, phone calls these past 5 weeks. I just know it has made a big impact on my recovery. You are very supportive and caring. Eb and I truly appreciate it.

Love,  
Diane



To the Lovely Ladies, Kathy Carroll & Bronda Coleman, they planned and organized our incredible Grandparents Day Celebration, without their love and devotion to St. Paul's this special event would not have been so successful.

### A BIG THANK YOU

A big thank you goes out to everyone who helped to make Grandparent's Day such a big success. We had 190 members and guests that day! Thank you to Joe and Liz Miles for setting up tables and chairs, putting together fans, wrapping silverware, serving food and helping with anything that needed doing. Thanks to Pam Houglan for helping to set up and for the beautiful flower arrangement and thanks to everyone who helped clean up and take tables and chairs down. Finally, thank to Toni Redifer who went to early service at her church, left and drove to Kernersville, picked up our food, brought it to us, and then stayed and helped serve and clean up. All of you went above and beyond the call of duty, and we love you for it.

Thanks so much!  
Kathy and Bronda

## August 2007 DOLLARS & CENTS

	Month	Year to Date	Budget YTD
Revenue	\$9,858.45	\$91,441.77	\$80,982.64
Expense	\$ 9,305.75	\$75,825.90	\$88,268.80
Net Income/ Or <Loss>	\$ 552.70	\$15,615.87	\$<7,286.16>

### THE MONTH AT A GLANCE

October 2007								
S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
							October 01st Peace Circle St. Paul Bell Tones*	
							October 02nd Love Circle Charity Circle	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	October 03rd Bible Study* Choir*	
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	October 07th World Communion Sunday (Peacemaking Offering) Good News Ringers*
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	October 14th CROP Walk (First Horizon Park)
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	October 21st Session Meeting
	28	29	30	31				October 23rd Gad-A-Bouts (TBA)
								October 28th Pennies for Hunger

#### \* DENOTES WEEKLY TIMES

Bible Study - 6:00 p.m. Wednesday's  
Choir Rehearsal - 7:00 p.m. Wednesday's  
Good News Ringers - 5:00 p.m. Sunday's  
St. Paul Bell Tones - 7:00 p.m. Monday's

#### IT'S NOT TOO LATE...

To join us for the  
Andy Griffith Bible Study  
Wednesday evenings  
6:00 p.m.  
Blue Room, Fellowship  
Building