

... upward

From Steve Keller A Call to Prayer and Fasting

The Session is asking the church to join us for a three day fast from July 5-7 to pray for some great needs in the St. Giles body at this time.

Some are in need of physical healing, some have economic needs and we are asking God for fresh guidance as a church. Some have experienced great loss or are facing great challenges in their lives. We need the Lord to guide, direct, inspire and enable us. As a Session, we are specifically asking for a restoration of the covering of God over the people of the church and the restoration of health among those who are sick. Finally, we need greater wisdom as we consider some significant issues such as when and how to build, as well as wisdom in the support of existing ministries and the creation of new ministries of the church.

At every juncture of great decisions (Esther) or returning to God (Nehemiah), or in times of repentance or acknowledgment of great need, fasting was a vital part of the corporate lives of the people of God:

"Even now," declares the LORD, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning." Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending calamity. Who knows? He may

turn and have pity and leave behind a blessing." Joel 2:12-14

Jesus sought God with a 40 day fast before facing his testing in the wilderness and in preparation of his ministry. Anna, the prophetess, lived out a lifestyle of worship in the temple, fasting and praying both day and night. The apostles in the Antioch church sought wisdom from God through fasting. They simply needed to hear from God as to which steps to take next as a growing church.

As you fast, you may be led to intercede very specifically for someone in need or for the leadership of the church, or you may find God leading you into a time of general repentance or highly personal repentance. In any case we are trusting God that this will be a time when we may all draw close to God together as a church, as we petition Him for those in great need among us. His promise is that he is a rewarder of those that diligently seek Him.

Would you please let us know by emailing Pat Andrews (pat@stgilesepc.org) if you plan to participate with us in this call so we will have a sense of the body's participation in this time of prayer.

Much Love in Christ - Steve


- Lifting up Word & Spirit in a life of whole-hearted worship

Remember in Prayer

Remember in prayer the following who are battling cancer:

Rick Watkins
Bob Sisk
Hal Uzzell
Cornelia Robinson

Our Expectant Mothers



Angelika Booher, July 12	Emma Tregidga, Sept. 9
Melanie Tuggle, July 24	Andrea Myers, Sept. 30
Jennifer Carey, Aug. 14	Leah Appleton, Oct. 2
Sarah Norman, Aug. 14	Joy Kaneklides Rogers, Oct. 9
	Meg Bowden, Nov. 1

Baby Shower

All ladies are invited to a baby shower honoring Sarah Norman on Sunday, July 12, 2009 at 2:00 pm at the home of Erin Chalfant.

Psalm 127:3

Sons are a heritage from the LORD,
children a reward from him.

... upward

- Lifting up Word & Spirit in a life of whole-hearted worship

... upward

In Sympathy

Our sympathy is extended to:

Doug and Connie Smith on the loss of Doug's mother, Carol Adelaide Smith of Ft. Myers, FL on May 1.

Robert and Gina Stasko on the loss of Gina's grandfather, Antonio Egidio Camara on May 9 in Charlotte.

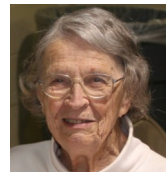
Notes from our Church Body



From Lou Ellen Little: "I would like to thank my St. Giles family for the many blessings that

have been bestowed on me since my recent knee surgery. No words can express how much I appreciate your constant prayers, many cards, meals, flowers & visits. Your love has fed my heart, body and soul. God bless each of you."

Lou Ellen joined St. Giles February 1, 1976 along with her husband Leo (who passed away September, 2004). They were, and she remains, a integral part of the church from serving our Loaves & Fishes pantry to opening her home for Bible Studies and meetings, to providing a place to stay for missionaries, visitors and singles within the church body . Lou Ellen still has much to offer in the way of creating an atmosphere of love, acceptance, and most of all sharing the love of Christ to all those who come in contact with her.



From Hal and Ginny Uzzell:

"We want to thank each and every one of you for all your prayers, visits, dinners, and other acts of kindnesses during the last few months. "

Hal and Ginny joined St. Giles March 9, 1975 and have faithfully served the church for the last 34 years. They continue to be pillars of faithfulness to their Lord and Savior and teach many within the church body how to trust and remain faithful to the Lord through their examples.

Hal has been an elder at St. Giles and on various ministry teams within the Evangelical Presbyterian Church.

Ginny has been very involved with the women of St. Giles, and by example, teaching them to love, trust and follow the Lord in good times and in difficult times.

- Discovering who we are in Christ and who Christ is in us

forward
...
I n w a r d

Changes at St. Giles



If you take a closer look on the front page you will see our new St. Giles Logo! A professional designer is working with us, creating our new logo, a new and more updated website (which is almost complete and should be up and running in July), and redesigning our bulletin and stationery.

Also, you can now go online to the following web address to view the St. Giles Directory and staff members.

Website is : <http://om064842.onlineolanmills.com>
Password is: stgilesepc2009

Please let us know if there are any errors.

Young Adults Class

The Young Adults Class offers opportunities for Bible Study, Outreach and Fellowship.

1. All Young Adults, ages 18-35, are encouraged to join us every Sunday at 9:15 am for prayer and stimulating discussion and teaching based on Samuel.
2. We are taking a respite from our community outreach to the Center of Hope during the months of July/August but are praying about renewing our commitment to this ministry in the Fall.
3. Our next Fellowship Dinner is scheduled for August 22, 5:00 - 9:00 pm, location TBA.

If you are looking for a warm fellowship among a committed group of believers, you will want to take advantage of these opportunities. For more info contact Rick/Karin Slate at 704-865-4656.

- Discovering who we are in Christ and who Christ is in us

forward
.....

Children's Ministries



July 20 -24

Hey St. Giles Family, We need your help to transform the gym for Vacation Bible School! Here are the items we need: artificial trees/Christmas trees, tents, sleeping bags, lanterns, canoe/boat, paddles, life jackets, coolers, fishing poles, folding canvas chairs, back packs, ropes for climbing, mounted fish, mounted antlers, or anything you have that goes along with camping. Thank you in advance for

helping to make SonRock Kids Camp a fun, adventurous place to learn about Jesus this summer! Please put your name on each item and place them in the first gym classroom on the left by July 5th.

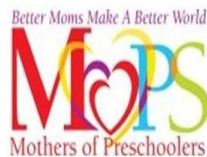
Summer King's Kids meets each Sunday from 6:00 - 7:30 pm for kids ages 5 years - 6th grade. Our July movie night will be on July 12th.



For more information contact Sharon@stgilesepc.org

MOPS Summer Park Days

Contact Person: Jane Burns
(burns1001@windstream.net or 704-821-7323)



Join the MOPS group this summer for our MOPS Park Days! These events are open to anyone and we'd love to have you join us! We will meet at 10:00 am on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays in June, July and August at various parks in the surrounding Charlotte area. (June 25th, July 9th, July 23rd, August 13th, and August 27th) Bring your children and your friends, pack snacks or a lunch, meet other moms, and watch your kids play together! If you would like to receive emails about upcoming Park Days and locations, contact Jane Burns. ***Our first trip is to the Columbia Zoo on Thursday, June 25.*** Please call or email Jane if you are interested so that we can organize times and a group rate.

Come to MOPS and find out what life is like on "Planet MOM." If you are expecting a baby or have any children - ages birth through five - you can register for MOPS. Fall registration is now open so contact Jane Burns or the church office for more information.

MOPS is looking for willing volunteers to help with childcare during our MOPS meetings! If you would be willing to help in **any** way, contact Jane Burns.

- Discovering who we are in Christ and who Christ is in us

... inward

St. Giles Women

*"Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me."
Philippians 3:12*

The St. Giles Women's Ministry is a friendship of uniquely gifted women, ready to confidently represent Jesus to one another and the world through overflowing encounters with the living God. We seek to provide unique opportunities for the women in our body to engage in ministry that fulfills our church's vision of "upward, inward and outward". Missy Evans is the St. Giles Women's Director and can be reached at 704-543-9907 or missyevans@ltdkate.com.

News From One of Our Ladies

From Trish Wallin: "I just returned from an 8 day trip to Albania with 6 other ladies from the EPC. We went to visit the EPC women's faith focus mission project, Eagle Wings. This is a home that has been opened for girls coming out of the orphanages. Before leaving Charlotte, God gave me the word "Joy". While there, I looked for joy every day. I found it in the gypsy village in the children's faces and in 4 young Christian girls on staff at the transition home. With smiles on their faces, in English and Albanian, these girls gave their testimony of how they came to know the Lord. In a country that claims not to have a religion I found joy, I found God."

Small Groups

Small Groups are a place where you can get to know others and, in turn, be known. As we practice living the "one another's" in our Small Groups, we have the opportunity to experience the rich community life that the New Testament portrays:

Small Groups are communities of 6-12 people that meet at the church or in people's homes. Although Small Groups study the Bible, they aren't just Bible studies – they are places for worship, prayer, service, body life, care, discipleship, and reaching out to our friends.

If you are interested in more information about our small groups, contact Scott Carney at (704) 560-8044 or scarney@mcguirewoods.com.

- Discovering who we are in Christ and who Christ is in us

forward
.....

Ministry of Helps

This is a totally volunteer army and geared toward assisting those in our body in times of need. No specific training is needed, it is about using the gifts and abilities you have right now to assist others. If you choose to be a volunteer for a certain area, you may be called in the future to help out with a need. But, if it is not a good time for you to serve when you get called, just let us know that and we can call other people. No pressure. Our goal is to get as many people as possible for all the areas, so that we can spread out the service doers. For more information, contact David Evans (Davidevans@LTDKate.com or 704-904-3555).

Comunidad de las Naciones (Hispanic Ministry)

Comunidad was planted in April of 2004 when the Session of St. Giles felt very strongly the leading of the Lord to establish a latino church plant. Comunidad meets on the St. Giles property in the Fellowship Hall at the same time as St. Giles meets in the Sanctuary. It has it's own congregation, worship team, children's ministry, discipleship groups, prayer meeting, and functions. All functions are conducted in Spanish but there is simultaneous translation for each part of the service.

Alejandro Ruz is a church planter; he planted a church in Asuncion, Paraguay, and ministered there for four years. During that time he trained Pascual Mongelos from among the church body to lead that church going forward as pastor. (The church, La Viña, is doing very well.) After returning to Chile for a while, Ale came to St. Giles to plant our latino church ministry here in 2004.

Ale and his family are now returning to Chile where there are people waiting for him to plant a church there. Ale asked Nick Bowen if he would serve as pastor of Comunidad, and Nick agreed. Both Nick and his wife, Pat, speak Spanish, and have been active in Comunidad since it was formed. Nick and Pat both attended Bible school together, and both are ordained. Because Nick is also a member of St. Giles and has served as both deacon and elder, that connection will help cement and solidify the growing relationship between the two churches. For questions or more information on this ministry, contact Nick Bowen, 704-543-4715 or go to <http://www.comunidaddelasnaciones.org>.

The Ruz family is loved deeply by all in St. Giles and Comunidad, and we anticipate with joy the time when they will return to visit us.

SPECIAL REQUEST: Comunidad is in need of a TV with VCR and DVD to play videos for latino kid's church.

- Recognizing our spiritual gifts & using them to reach our world for Jesus

forward . . .

Loaves & Fishes



Loaves and Fishes' mission is simple...to feed hungry people in our community. St. Giles is one of 16 pantry locations in Mecklenburg County. The pantry is open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Testimony from one of our volunteers: "After donating several dollars to our Loaves and Fishes food pantry one Sunday, I showed up the next day to volunteer. I was privileged to get to pray with people coming to our church for food.

The first person I prayed for was Melissa. She told me her biggest needs are for a job, a place to stay (she was homeless), and for friends to help her. She moved here last year from a rural community near Knoxville, TN, is 38 years old, and said she "was trying to do better."

I prayed for these needs and told her I was looking forward to her returning to our pantry to give us her good news of getting a place to stay and details of her next job. Sometimes our food pantry recipients actually do return and give us testimonies about how their lives were changed after we prayed with them."

** Loaves & Fishes is currently in need of one to two able bodied helpers the third Tuesday of each month to help move food from one storage room to another in the Fellowship Hall. Contact Sharon at WohlfarthJ@aol.com. **

Ministry to our Widows

VISION: James 1:27: "Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world."

Our purpose is to minister to our widows in prayer, fellowship, and to be of assistance in and around their home when there is a need.

If you are a widow and would like to become a part of this group, please contact Margie or Steve Gladden at 704-841-8997 or margiegladden@carolina.rr.com

- Recognizing our spiritual gifts & using them to reach our world for Jesus

...Outward

Missionaries We Support

Alongside Ministries

Don & Gail Lilo (Albania)

EPC

Paul & Elizabeth Branch (Argentina)
Jonathan & Fozia Young (India)

Exciting Word Ministries

Steve & Cornelia Robinson (India)

Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminar

Chaplaincy: Percy Burns

International Friendship Ministries

Raj & Cathy Aluri (South Carolina)

Mission to Unreached Peoples

Corey & Angelika Booher (Poland)
Rick & Lisa Watkins

The Obed Project

Franklin & Ree Linker (Israel)

Rooted, Inc.

Michael & Esther Franklin (Scotland)

Wycliffe

Ron & Marty Barkey
Bill & Sally Dyck
Rister & Esther Jenkins
Mark & Kirsten Jenkins
John & Bonnie Price
Mary Walker

YWA, Tyler TX

Glenn & Carol Price

News from our Missionaries



From Michael & Esther Franklin: "Its now over 2 months since Elsie was born. Its been a sad time, but God is strengthening us. We are comforted to know that Elsie is alive with God and we will meet her again.

Despite the loss, God has shown Himself as loving and faithful. He has not been silent or far away, nor was He caught unawares. From the beginning we offered Elsie to the Lord for His purposes, consecrating her fully to Him. Though we don't fully understand, we choose to trust God in faith, believing He is completely loving, powerful and active in all.

Our prayer is that God will work through this to glorify His name and mobilize the church to further faith and action. We must continue to hold fast, even when things look impossible, believing God is able to accomplish His sovereign purposes. We feel God is urging us not to let go of His promises for manifestations of the kingdom in the here and now, but we must hold fast in faith and not give up!

Through this we have seen the beauty of the body of

- Recognizing our spiritual gifts & using them to reach our world for Jesus

...Outward

News from our Missionaries (Cont.)

Christ in the way we were loved and supported. It's been hard to know how to walk through this time and we continue to take it day by day. With this process of grief, we had previously asked that people give us space to grieve with family and close friends. We now feel ready to gradually reconnect and look forward to chatting with many of you in the days ahead.

Thanks again for your faithful love and support. May you know the rich blessing of Jesus in your lives."

From Glenn and Carol Price: "Greetings from Irving, Texas! We are attending Summit V, the national adoption conference. Last year at Summit IV, we made the decision to go ahead and pursue adoption. It's wonderful to be around so many individuals and ministries that are committed to reaching out to the fatherless. We received wonderful news this past week from USCIS (Customs & Immigration Services). They have approved our application and have forwarded it on to the American Consulate in Ethiopia for processing! We are one step closer to bringing Favor home - keep praying!"

Nehemiah Committee Building Project

Food for thought...

"Nehemiah is good stuff...set aside the rabbit trail of darics and Babylonians and Persians...these people coughed up money. But look at the circumstances: the community comes together to rebuild, despite the burden of debt, usury, imminent attack (try going to work with a sword in one hand while laying stone with the other--not much for morale, huh?), homelessness, intimidation, lack of an alliance for protection, the list goes on. Forty years in the desert seems like a vacation in comparison.

The money came from an embattled community. They had every reason to hold on to any tangible resource. Every reason to build a fortress for safety and self preservation, and then recede into the self-interest that created the situation. Every reason to rest. But instead, God was glorified. The money came from

St. Giles Presbyterian
2027 Emerywood Dr.
Charlotte, NC 28210
704-553-1977

Pastor:

Steve Keller

Director of Hispanic Outreach:

Alejandro Ruz

Director of Ministries:

Meg Bowden

Youth Director:

Nate Horne

Children's Ministry Director:

Sharon Seward

Receptionist:

Pat Andrews

Elders

Jeff Barhite

Norman Kaneklides

Eric Newman

Bob Poole

Rick Watkins

Robert Whitlow

Deacons

Chris Boyd

Peter Brown

Daniel Burns

David Evans

Paul Farish

Steve Seward

Ken White

Nehemiah Committee Building Project (Cont.)

within. Gatekeepers, singers, priests, servants and ordinary people lived life, did their duty and still gave. There were no yard sales, bake sales, raffles or fundraising. I don't read where anyone said "I can't afford" or "My part was to build such-and-such a gate"...The Amish have a "barn-raising" tradition. Perhaps if we have that kind of community we could build a structure to move into.....

but I don't think this is about a structure. To me this is about what we are willing to do to actualize all of the ministries that we dream of and hope for. If we are willing to step out and into God's will for us, and not just pray that he makes away for us. Not to hope to move into a sandcastle in the sky, but to build the Kingdom. Endeavor, not as faith and works, but as worship."

(from Tim Holt, Pastor- Seacoast Vineyard, Myrtle Beach, SC)

A Brief Update From Your Session:

- The Session retreat is being rescheduled.
- Please continue to pray for healing of cancer for Rick Watkins and God's blessing on his family. He begins chemotherapy the week of June 15. You can keep up with his progress using this link:

<http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/rickwatkins>

- Margie Gladden will be working for us on a part time basis. Her function will be to update programs (improving the efficiency of the office), handle technical support with the staff, create and manage our new website, and continue her role in working with the financial aspects of the church.

Love in Christ from Your Session,
Jeff Barhite, Norman Kaneklides, Steve Keller,
Eric Newman, Bob Poole, Rick Watkins, and
Robert Whitlow