



*McCarter Presbyterian Church is an inclusive community of faith, gathered and empowered by the Spirit of God. We declare that our mission is to proclaim and exhibit, by word and deed, the grace, mercy and love of God as revealed and made known by our Lord Jesus Christ.*



Today the Thursday morning Bible study studied Acts 18-20. We noticed how as we read the scripture out loud, how the vibrancy and passion of the work of Paul and the early church was. Paul's journeys took him to meet some very interesting people and often landed him in conflict with the powers that be, both religious and government. It reminded us of someone else who used to do the same thing – Jesus of Nazareth. Some encounters led him to be thrown in jail but he did not stay long there. The Holy Spirit would lead him on to

## McCarter Messenger

September 2016

preach and to meet people who invited him into their home, ate with him, learned and prayed with him. People were deeply hurt but also deeply enriched by the work of the Spirit through Paul. I am grateful for the group that gathers on Thursday morning. It helps me to remember the work of the Spirit is alive, unpredictable and nourishing right here at McCarter. Enter into the stewardship journey with us for the next few months. Evaluate your gifts and see how you can become more passionate about God's call to you.

*"I cannot endure to waste anything so precious as autumnal sunshine by staying in the house."*

*—Nathaniel Hawthorne*



Stewardship Season 2016  
Dan Rigby, Chair of Budget and Finance



Stewardship is a state of living in appreciation to the Lord for His blessings in our lives. Stewardship should be an everyday and ongoing practice because God's love for us is unwavering and never ending.

Stewardship is much more than just about giving money; although, that is a necessary part of it. It is how we treat the environment, our minds and bodies, how we share our skills and abilities, how we share the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus with others and how we give of ourselves to our church's activities and programs.

This year the Stewardship Committee has decided to conduct our stewardship season in a different manor from some previous years. While we will still have our financial Pledge Cards we have added a Time Tithe pledge card as well. We handed that out July 31. The purpose of the time tithe card is to point out both the need of and also to give recognition for the value of our time, our skills and our willingness to engage in doing the Lord's work here to keep McCarter functioning. If you have not received a copy of the time tithe card. There are copies in the Memorial room. It may amaze you to see how many activities we fulfill here just to keep the wheels rolling!

Additionally we will have a representative of each of our Session committees give a "Minute for Stewardship" for the next two months to remind us of the many activities we undertake with our outreach efforts. Our Stewardship season will conclude on October 9th with Commitment Sunday when we will bring both of our pledge cards to put in the morning offering.

**Jack Perry – Building & Grounds Minute for Stewardship**

How many of you know tithing is not just giving money? Here's some examples of work by the good men and women of McCarter.

- Tree removal and landscaping behind church, removal of tree near the playground, holly trees and Dwarf Nandinas at the border of the of property near the pest control building.
- Replaced some Azaleas on both sides of the church.
- Replaced all but one of the Crimson Fire Loro Petalum (about 20). Dan talked the nursery into replacing them at half price, plus we got larger 3 gallon pots. Put soakers around most of them and you might have seen Dan and I watering them on the hot, dry days of summer.
- We have a new lawn maintenance firm (Palmetto Lawn Service) and they are doing a fine job.
- New sign out front. I'm told it lights up at night.
- And how about our new great sound system?!
- Air conditioner has been worked on a couple times, more work needs to be done in the basement, and new heat pump.
- New main electrical switch installed at a cost of \$605.00. This is why we ask for extra dollar bills each Sunday.
- Roof replacement and parking lot sealed and striped soon,

I have had so much help. They say not to name names because you are sure to leave someone out. So thanks to everyone and I will name some names...Dan Rigby, the biggest help in the world. Without his help, most of this would not have been accomplished. I also must mention Jim Greene and my pal Charlie Houston for their help and excellent advice.

Just reminding you that time, good advice, hard work and knowledge must be included in stewardship.

**Darrell Privatte – Education/Family Fellowship – Minute for Stewardship**

*There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord.*

**By: Anne Graham Lotz**

### **1 Corinthians 12:4-5, NIV**

What God commands you and me to do, He equips us for. It's that simple!

If you want to discover your spiritual gifts, start obeying God. Responding to His command with "I can't" is invalid, because He will never command you to do something that He has not equipped and empowered you to do. As you serve Him, you will find that He has given you the gifts that are necessary to follow through in obedience. Any of them. All of them. And if you lack any that you need, God will bring people alongside you who have the gifts that you don't. Working together, you will accomplish the task to the glory of God.

And that's the body of Christ! That's the church. Individual members of the family, each obeying his or her call, exercising the particular gifts the Spirit has given, so that our work is not in vain but produces eternal results. So . . . get to work! You're equipped!

Everyone in the church has his/her own importance, gifts, and talents. Everyone is capable of being a "guest speaker" and teaching someone else something you have learned in our life. That's what we are called to do. Share your talents. God will equip you.

What talents, abilities, knowledge, etc. do you have that you could share?



## **Education & Family Fellowship**

*Darrell Privatte*

Andrea Smith from Greenville Senior Action brought a lot of helpful information to us on Sunday, August 28<sup>th</sup> as we continued our program of "Aging With Our Eyes Open."

September's speaker and covered dish meal will be on 9/25 following our morning service. More information will be forthcoming as the month progresses. Watch the bulletin for details or call or email me.

Thanks to all who have helped us get speakers lined up and especially to all who have brought food and helped set up the room for our pot luck dinners. It takes all of us working together to make things happen and I have been witness to this time after time here at McCarter.

**When I awoke this morning, I asked, "How shall I live this day?" The answers were all around me:**

**The fan said, "Keep your cool."**

**The ceiling said, "Aim high."**

**The window said, "Look outside yourself."**

**The clock said, "Every minute is precious."**

**The calendar said, "Stay up to date."**

**The door said, "Take advantage of opportunity."**

**The floor said, "Kneel down and pray."**



*Tempie Perry & Carolyn Greene*

The Ladies Lunch will meet this month on Thursday, Sept. 8 at 11:30 a.m. following Bible study. We will be going to "Dish Out" on Wade Hampton Blvd. Hope all the ladies of the church can come. We always have a great time.

It is SEPTEMBER, and that means our BAZAAR is just a few weeks away. There is plenty of room in the choir room and adjoining meeting room to bring your used items to donate. (It is fall cleaning time.) If your items are too big for you to bring call Carolyn at 419-3789, and she will arrange a pick-up. The date is Saturday, September 24, 8 am - 2 pm.

We have arranged for a food truck called Wholy Smoke to be here from 11-2 selling bbq. The owner is a minister and the son of a minister. He is excited to be a part of our bazaar and wants to help our cause.

We will be setting up Monday - Friday prior to the bazaar beginning around 9 am each day. Please come help if you can. We can use extra folding tables if you have any to share.

And don't forget your delicious baked goods for our bakery section and homemade crafts .



*Danny McClure*

Ah! Football season approaches finally... With this summer being what it has, hot and dry, it's almost great to see another month pass, and fall to get closer. But really ya'll, I watch The Weather Channel regularly, and they say pretty much more of the same for a few more weeks, at least. Hope everyone's air conditioning is still operational, seems like we've had our share of air problems this summer. I know at my house, we've already had to replace our upstairs system, and I think, almost all but one of the units at church have been repaired, or replaced.

First of all, let me thank the two pastors who were guests at McCarter this past month. Rev. John Hartman led our service on the 13th, in fact helped us with Communion that Sunday. It was the first time he has preached here, but I tell you, he did such a great job. My hat's off to him, not easy serving Communion, even when you're used to being here. On the 28th, Rev. Matt Matthews filled in for our Rev. Matthews, and again, another great job. As far as I can remember, I don't think I've ever seen a situation like this. Oh well, they say if you live long enough, you'll see a lot of things you never thought you'd see. At any rate, I would like to thank Rev. Matt Matthews for leading our service. Now we can trade back for Rev. Rachel Matthews.

As part of the Stewardship Drive this year, Stewardship Committee has come up with a concept called Time Tithing. It's not really a new thing, but this idea is documented. There is a list of things all the different committees here at McCarter do,

**McCarter Presbyterian Church  
Stated Session Minutes July 17, 2016**

and what we're asking everyone to do is look over the list and pick out something you'd like to do. You can check it off on the list and turn it in when we have our other drive, the one for funding. This is in addition to giving money to the church, and is just as important in many ways. First thing, as I said in my presentation on the 13th, don't forget to make your monetary pledge; this is how we keep the church lit up and cozy. Also keeps the water flowing - can't be without it, okay. But with all the projects continuously going on, and so many other things operating here, there are is a never ending list we have to find ways to complete. So, if you would, get one of the list from the table in the Memorial Room and give it a quick scan. If you see something that looks like something you'd like to help with, check it off and turn it in - you get credit, and a lot of thanks.

Some of the things on that list have to do with the Worship Committee, but a few of the things we do aren't on that list, such as setting up for Communion. It's not difficult, but it's something we do every two months, and a little help in this area would be appreciated by all. Other things like ushering, singing in the choir, and donating flowers are also a few of the things we are into. I won't spend a lot of time on this, but when you have a small family, the more that pitch in the better.

Last, but certainly not least, our choir director, Charlie Houston, will be taking some time off for the next few weeks for some health issues. We will do our best to keep things going in the music department, but we will surely miss him while he is gone. We will pray for him and Agnes, without fail, and look forward to his return. If you need us, we're only a phone call away...

Moderator Rachel Matthews called the meeting to order at 12:15 with a prayer. A quorum was established as all Session members were present. For our reflections, Rachel gave us some handouts and showed us some of a video describing and discussing "transformational ministry" that Rev. E. Stanley Ott had presented. This is a component of our ongoing quest to re-imagine our Mission for McCarter.

Carter Berry gave our devotional from John 14: 16-18 on perseverance.

Clerk's report: Minutes from both the Stated Meeting of May 15 and the called Session meeting of July were read and approved. It was noted that the next Foothills Small Congregation meeting will be held at Piedmont Presbyterian Church on July 19.

Old Business: Rigby made a motion to advise the New Freedom Group (N.A.) that after this weeks' meetings they would not be allowed to return. This was done after an earlier meeting had turned violent and the efforts we required to set things right with the other effected group were not made. Jack Perry seconded and the measure passed without objection. (This motion was modified late the following Tuesday to allow them to meet through July. It was passed by majority vote via email).

The Budget and Finance committee proposed to organize our Stewardship season by adding a "Time Tithe" card to be filled out and turned in along with the standard pledge card on Commitment Sunday this October 9, 2016. Additionally we will be presenting a "Minute for Stewardship" over eight Sunday worship services beginning July 31 with an general introduction to the congregation of what has been planned. Each of the other seven "minutes" will be delivered by each Session committee to remind

everyone of the scope of the work we do at

McCarter throughout the year. The “Time Tithe” card’s function is to give recognition to critical importance of everyone’s effort to keep the wheels rolling. The proposal was approved by acclamation.

**Building and Grounds:** Jack Perry reminded us to be thinking about our need to develop a list of things we may want to include in next year’s request to the Della Padgett Foundation Trust. He stated that we had had to replace the main electrical breaker for the church as well as a fan motor for the A/c for the Sunday School wing. We are studying how best to handle the broken A/C unit for the basement area.

**Education Family & Fellowship:** Darrell Privatte reiterated our request planning and reminded us that

Next Sunday, July 24, we would have a pot luck dinner after church services and hold the second of our series on “Aging with our eyes open” with a speaker from Senior Action.

**Witness & Service:** Carter Berry updated us on the Ronald McDonald House meal scheduling to clear up some confusion. She also brought up the possibility of next year exchanging this funding to another program that more closely ties in to our mission. The Session was generally agreeable to support this adjustment when the program was identified.

**Worship:** Danny McClure will get the piano tuned. Our next Communion will be August 7, 2016.

Next Stated Meeting will be on August 21, 2016 at 12:15 after Sunday Service.

Dan Rigby gave the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Dan Rigby

Clerk of Session

## Minutes of McCarter Stated Session Meeting

August 21, 2016

Moderator Rachel Matthew called the meeting to order with a prayer at 11:40 AM. Darrell Privatte, Danny McClure and Dan Rigby were present establishing a quorum. Carter Berry & Jack Perry excused.

Dan Rigby gave the devotional.

**Clerk’s Report:** Both the minutes for the Stated Session meeting of July 17, 2016 and for the Called Session meeting of July 31, 2016 were reviewed and approved. Delegates Matthews and Rigby gave a summary report on the 100th Foothills Presbytery meeting on August 14, 2016. There was discussion and interest expressed to see our “experiment” unfold and bear fruit.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** Rachel presented a “Safe Place Policy” statement which the Session members were to take home and comment on via email by Friday 26, 2016. Rigby was to send a copy to our current church insurer to see if this, added to our existing Sexual Conduct Policy, would allow them to reinstate our full Liability coverage in this area.

**Committee Reports:**

Building & Grounds. Dan reported that Jack is getting bids for some needed painting & ceiling work.

Education, Family & Fellowship: Darrell reported that we would have a speaker for our Aging With Our Eyes Open outreach after next Sunday’s service. Tempie Perry would be in charge of room setup and Charlotte Rigby would introduce our speaker. We would enjoy a potluck meal during the program.

**Witness & Service:** No report

Worship: Danny reported that per the Sessions earlier approval, Rev. Dr. Matt Matthews would deliver our sermon on August 28 while Rev. Dr. Rachel Matthews delivers the Sunday sermon at St. Giles Presbyterian Church that day for their Ladies Day celebration.



Budget & Finance: Dan presented the financial report as of August 20, 2016. We are right on our budgeted expenditures YTD. Building & Grounds maintenance is the only line item overage; that being due to having to replace the main breaker into the church and do repairs to two different HVAC units. The report was approved as explained.

Next Scheduled Meeting: September 18, 2016.

Moderator Rachel closed the meeting with a prayer.

### **United Ministries 2016 Highlights**

#### *January—June*

37 students passed the GED

162 people completed the 4-day employment readiness training

150 people found jobs

15 people received job training

981 families received food

660 families received assistance with utilities, rent, or cooling

2,370 showers taken at the Place of Hope

**18 formerly homeless people found a home**

Myrtice Foster (Kathy Brown's mother)  
Peggy Shoemaker (Darrell Privatte's mother)  
John and Judy Pew  
Montie Burger  
Martha Taylor (friend of Mandy Taylor)  
Gina Fooshang (niece of Tempie)  
Eddie Sue Ware and her sister Bettie Landreth  
Tracy Glancy (Mandy's coworker)  
Frances Kuykendall (Betty Kunz's sister),  
Rene Chambers  
Jade Chambers  
Danny Franks  
Vonda Smith McAlister  
Tiffany Greer and Lori Bishop, (friends of Donna & Danny McClure)  
Deryl McKinney (daughter of Christine Ferguson)  
Shannon High (co-worker of Jan Privatte)

We give thanks for the life and witness of Rachel Burt who entered the Church Triumphant Monday, August 22. We pray for her daughter Julie Powell and all her friends and family. Thanks be to God.

We pray that New Freedom finds a new home, a place for recovering addicts to get better. For families facing disagreements, for all who are unemployed and under employed, for all those who are besieged by the violence of war, devastated by the forces of nature and enduring the pain of illness and injury, or hurting in any way, for our leaders along with all who serve our nation, for peace in our hearts, our homes, the church and the world, for McCarter and the worldwide church of Jesus Christ.

*Rachel Burt, a long-time member of McCarter Presbyterian and a precious friend to many entered heaven's gates on August 22, 2016 following a period of declining health. Betty Kunz graciously submitted this beautiful eulogy for her dear friend Rachel.*

## Remembering My Friend Rachel Burt

*Betty Kunz*

Rachel and I were best friends for over forty years. We met when both of us worked as medical professionals in different, but nearby physicians' offices. We shared many noon lunches at the cafeteria in the old Bell Tower and both of us relished their specialty dessert of bread pudding with a luscious, thick lemon sauce.

Rachel embrace humanity in a very special way. Although her personal values were conservative, her acceptance of others was broad and encompassing. She was proud of her rural heritage and enjoyed looking out for others. On holidays she loved to invite those without nearby relatives to her home to eat turkey and dressing and mashed potatoes and gravy. Nobody left Rachel's table hungry. She was a great hostess and chef.

My best friend never took time to have a pity party for she was far too busy doing for others, particularly her friends. Rachel experienced much sadness, as well as joy in her life, but she focused on moving forward and not turning inward. I never once, in all the time I knew my dear friend, heard her express bitterness or self-pity for the tragedies that occurred in her life. Never once did she utter words of blame for her losses or heartaches or the physical discomfort she felt during her last several years.

She mastered the art of appreciation and gratefulness to others, because she was a child of God and a devoted Presbyterian disciple. Although out-spoken, she still listened and valued the opinion of others. Her dry wit and humor was contagious. Her loyalty and integrity were visible to all, and her love for her family and friends always abided.

Julie, you have lovely memories to keep the remembrance of your mother alive. I have wonderful memories of your Mom as my best and loyal friend. I count it among my many God given blessings.

Rest in Peace, my dear friend.

*This isn't death, it's glory!  
It isn't dark, it's light;  
it isn't stumbling, groping,  
or even faith — it's sight.  
This isn't grief, it's having  
my last tear wiped away.  
It's sunrise, it's the morning  
of my eternal day!*



Lester Murdock 9/12





While looking at a house, my brother asked the estate agent which direction was north because he didn't want the sun waking him up every morning.

She asked, 'Does the sun rise in the north?'

My brother explained that the sun rises in the east and has for some time. She shook her head and said, 'Oh, I don't keep up with all that stuff.....'

*They Walk Among Us!*

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My colleague and I were eating our lunch in our cafeteria, when we overheard an admin girl talking about the sunburn she got on her weekend drive to the beach. She drove down in a convertible, but said she "didn't think she'd get sunburned because the car was moving."

*They Walk Among Us!*

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My sister has a lifesaving tool in her car which is designed to cut through a seat belt if she gets trapped.

She keeps it in the car trunk.

*They Walk Among Us!*

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I couldn't find my luggage at the airport baggage area and went to the lost luggage office and reported the loss.

The woman there smiled and told me not to worry because she was a trained professional and said I was in good hands. 'Now,' she asked me, 'has your plane arrived yet?...' (I work with professionals like this.)

*They Walk Among Us!*

*They Walk Among Us!*

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A guy bought a new fridge for his house. To get rid of his old fridge (still working), he put it in his front yard and hung a Sign on it saying: 'Free to good home. You want it, you take it.'

For three days the fridge sat there without anyone looking twice.

He eventually decided that people were too mistrustful of this deal.

So he changed the sign to read: 'Fridge for sale \$50.'

The next day someone stole it!

*They walk amongst us!*

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One day I was walking down the beach with some friends when someone shouted.....

"Look at that dead bird!"

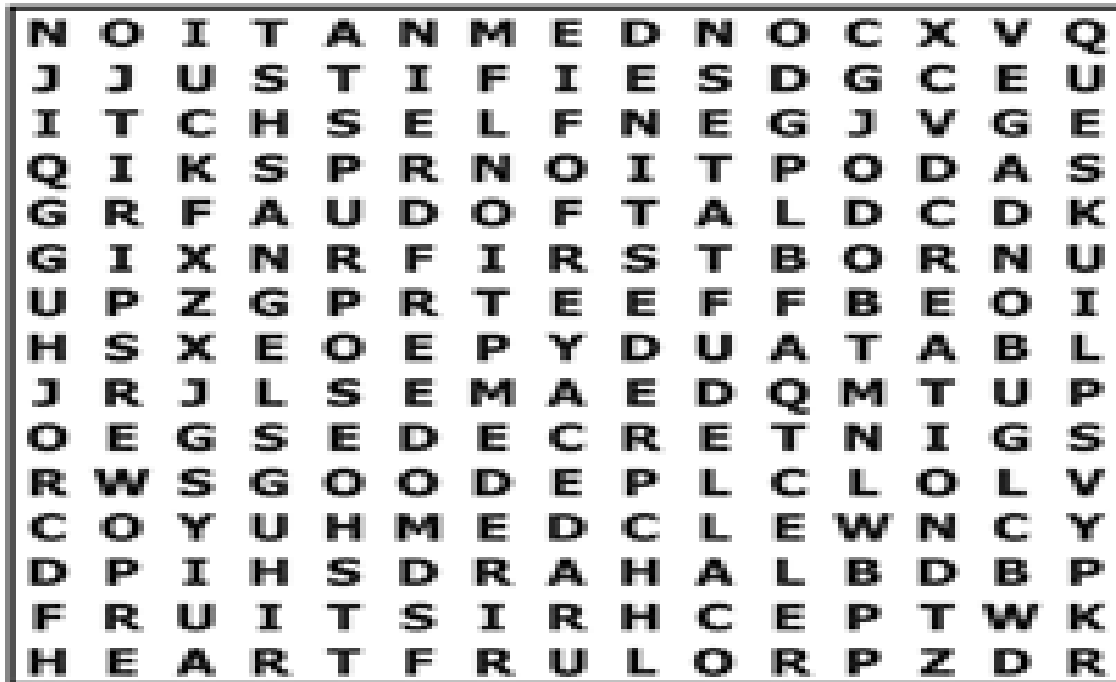
Someone looked up at the sky and said..."Where?"

*They walk among us!*

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# Puzzle!

Search for words found in Romans 8.



Abba

family

Lord

called

fruits

predestined

creation

died

elect

justifies

bondage

freedom

powers

conquerors

hardship

intercedes

Jesus

angels

flesh

peace

condemnation

good

redemption

Spirit

adoption

firstborn

love

Christ

glorified

purpose

decay

heart