



July 2017

A VIEW FROM THE PULPIT

It was a bleak, rainy morning as the couple entered the diner for breakfast. Several others were there but no one spoke. The mood at the diner seemed to reflect the news of the day with its daily recitation of murder, mayhem, and discouragement.

At the other end of the diner they noticed a young mother with a little girl of probably around four. Suddenly, the child broke the silence by asking her mother, "Don't we say grace here, Mommy?" Behind the counter, the cook looked at the little girl and said "Sure we do, honey. Will you say it for us?" The little girl bowed her head, clasped her hands and said in a clear loud voice, "God is great and God is good, and we thank Him for our food. By His hand we all are fed. Give us, Lord, our daily bread." It seemed as if the diner's atmosphere changed and people began talking to one another.

One of the dangers of modern life seems to be being labeled a "religious" person. Somehow the "freedom of Religion" that the framers of our constitution wanted to preserve has evolved into a "freedom from religion" that leads to the exclusion of most things spiritual from public life. Among the words of Thomas Jefferson inscribed on the walls of the Jefferson Memorial are these: "God who gave us life gave us liberty. Can the liberties of a nation be secure when we have removed a conviction that those liberties are the gift of God?" As author of the Declaration of Independence, with its appeal to the Creator as the ultimate source of human rights, Jefferson — perhaps in spite of himself — endowed our national beginnings with the idea that faith and freedom are inseparable partners.

In the wake of September 11, 2001, "God Bless America" was spontaneously sung at meetings and sporting events and even played at the end of some newscasts. It was as if our nation was awakening from the sleep of indifference and complacency into which our material success had lulled us. But what about NOW? As we approach July 4, 2017 let our prayer be for a revival as a nation — for God's promise is still there for us.

"If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land."

- II Chronicles 7:14

Rev. George Walton, Stated Supply Pastor

REV. MARION H. CURRIE

Rev. Marion H. Currie, age 100, died April 9, 2017, at the Twin Lakes Community in Burlington. Rev. Currie was pastor at Buffalo from 1974 to 1982



and those of us who were members at that time have fond memories of him and his wife Barbara who died in 2012.

Rev. Currie was in many ways a traditional Presbyterian minister of the old school, but he was never stern. On the contrary, he most often

had a ready smile and a twinkle in his eye. He and Barbara were always willing to reach out to help members and support the young people of the church. We remember their hospitality in hosting a gathering at the manse each year following the Christmas Eve service, a tradition that was continued by some later pastors.

In 1980 Buffalo celebrated the 100th anniversary of the present sanctuary and Rev. Currie organized a special service for the event. He had commemorative communion tokens distributed to all members as a keepsake.

Rev. Currie retired from Buffalo in 1982 but he continued to be active in Fayetteville Presbytery (later Coastal Carolina) for many years before moving to the Twin Lakes Community. Our condolences go out to his son and daughter and their families.

Sheila Brewer
Church Historian



We received a thank you note from First Presbyterian Church in Burlington, NC: "This is to acknowledge with grateful appreciation your gift to the Memorial Fund in memory of Rev. Marion H. Currie. The family has been informed of your gift. This contribution will serve as a living memorial and will be used to the Glory of God in the worship of His Church."

Dear Buffalo Family,

We appreciate your honoring Dad with a memorial gift to First Presbyterian in Burlington. The years Mother and Dad were at Buffalo were a special part of their ministry. They loved the country church, the parsonage gardens, and most of all, the faithful congregation so willing to serve the Lord.



With Affection,
Betty Currie Boney and
Family to Marion Currie

Dear Buffalo Members,



Enclosed is a donation in memory of my Dad, Bill Shermer. My life has been blessed because of the extra-ordinary person I discovered in my father. I am so lucky to have grown up with such a wonderful father who was always there to love me, encourage me, and support me. I miss him every day.

May this donation be used to further the good works of Buffalo Presbyterian in the greater Sanford Community.

Sincerely,
Candace Young

Remember with love and prayer:



CHURCH MEMBERS: Lynda Bowers, Sheila Brewer, Dr. David Ciliberto, Nellie Cox, Greg Deck, Barbara Jo Glass, Clay Ingram, Brad Johns, Bobby Johnson, Sandie Lemons, Lois Martin, Pam McDonald, and Susan Mierisch

FAMILY OF CHURCH MEMBERS: Vernell Cersosimo, Linda Crompton, MacKenzie Deck, Brielle Frear, Lynn Godwin, Inez Holt, Michael Holt, Stanley Jones, Taylor Jones, David Key, Elaine McBryde, Sam McClearn, Marie Robinson, Carson Setzer, Mary and Jerry Smith, Doug Ury, Allison Williams, and Theresa Williams

FRIENDS OF CHURCH MEMBERS: Ruth Berryman, Billy Boaz, Noah Clifton, Wendy Cole, Michelle Daurity, Henry and Nancy Douglas, Billy Edwards, Terry Farmer, Jim Griggs, Dr. Earlie Hill, Brian Holland, Eva Jones, Claire Kennedy, Kim King, Will Kirkland, Kasyn Kolacinski, Judy Lloyd, Pat Maguire, Rebecca Mansfield, Wendy McBryde, Chris McRae, Mary Quinn, Sue Roney, Tommy Scott, Frank Tibbett, Hannalore Vickers, Sandra Ward, Marie Wicker, and Emily H. Wright



WEEKLY OFFERING TOTALS

June 04, 2017 – \$4295.00
 June 11, 2017 – \$1157.00
 June 18, 2017 – \$1233.00
 June 25, 2017 – \$2234.00
 5 Cents A Meal Offering – \$86.34
 Scholarship Fund Offering – \$464.00



Deadline for articles to be included in the next issue of the newsletter will be Monday, July 24th by 9:00 a.m.



FLOWERS WILL BE PLACED IN THE SANCTUARY DURING JULY BY THE FOLLOWING:

07/02/17 – **OPEN**
 07/09/17 – **OPEN**
 07/16/17 – **OPEN**
 07/23/17 – by Jean Wilberg in memory of Peter Wilberg
 07/30/17 – by Jean Wilberg in memory of Peter Wilberg



July 01st - Peggy Sineath	July 19th - Kay Davis
July 09th - Kyle Cashion	July 21st - Valerie Godfrey
July 11th - Blake Wilson	July 22nd - Pam McDonald
July 16th - Mark Ciliberto	July 22nd - Jim Monson
July 19th - Rick Bridges	July 27th - Jean Wilberg
July 30th - Austin Johns	



WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

July 21st John and Sandie Lemons
 July 27th James and Jan Tart



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING/GREETER

July 02nd Kathy Jolly
 July 09th COMMUNION – Pat Setzer
 July 16th Patrick Kelly
 July 23rd Buddy McNeill
 July 30th J. W. Bailes



EMAIL: buffalochurch@windstream.net

SEE THE NEWSLETTER IN COLOR AT:

www.buffalopres.org



Gifts to the Church



In Memory of Roy S. Cox
 Nellie and Greg Cox

In Memory of J B and Rosa Lee Abernathy
 Patricia Abernathy Johnson

In Memory of Bill Shermer
 Candace Shermer Young

In Honor of Roy Cashion and Larry Abernathy
 Patricia Abernathy Johnson

In Memory of J B Abernathy, Paul D. Abernathy, Howard C. Moore, Lloyd Cashion Sr., Lloyd Cashion Jr., William Cashion, Charles Cashion Sr., Charles Cashion Jr., and Tommy Cashion
 Patricia Abernathy Johnson



GRADUATION



Happy Graduation to Logan Key who graduated from Southern Lee High School on June 9, 2017 Pictured above is Logan's sister, Mackenzie, Logan, mother Kim, and grandmother, Linda



Session Corner

Session Highlights from May 2017

A poll taken of Session Members to give a donation in memory of Rev. Marion H. Currie, a minister at Buffalo from 1974 to 1982, to First Presbyterian Church in Burlington, his home church received approval.

Rev. McDowell and Rev. Walton will switch Sundays in July with Rev. McDowell filling the pulpit on July 2nd and Rev. Walton on July 16th.

Jean Wilberg, Assistant to the Clerk



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The Adult Sunday School Class meets from 9:45–10:45 a.m. For the month of July, we will study the following lessons:

July 02	Moses and the Burning Bush	<i>Exodus 3</i>
July 09	Isaiah in the Temple	<i>Isaiah 6</i>
July 16	Jeremiah's Call and Commission	<i>Jeremiah 1</i>
July 23	Ezekiel's Call	<i>Ezekiel 1-3</i>
July 30	Amos's Call	<i>Amos 7</i>

Testimonial



I wanted to share something with you that touched my soul. Not only touched my soul but my spirits soared and my faith has grown by this experience.

I was having lunch one day and I was alone. One of my co-workers which is very high up on the ladder here at my business ask if she could join me. Of course I was very pleased to be in her company. It was not very long and she was sharing her health issue with me and the fact that her husband was diagnosed with cancer. I told her that our prayer list is very effective and that I would call my church that afternoon and have them both added for prayers. I found myself ministering to this lady and the words were being given to me at that very moment. I could not believe the testimony that I was giving this lady that I only knew slightly from our work. I calmed her while she told me of the death of two family members, the health issues she has been facing and near death and then the news of her husband's cancer.

*** Now for this amazing commitment that I must share. ***



I recalled to another dear friend that when I was a child and would visit with my favorite Aunt that we would kneel by the bedside at night and say our prayers. She was like an Angel to me and I soaked up all I was

taught by her gentle nature. I realized then that over the many years how lax one becomes in praying. I have had prayer in many places with the Lord, but that is natural to talk with Him as my friend and confide in Him always. But to say my goodnight prayer in my bed? How lazy had I gotten over the years to take refuge to my soft bed when I turned my weary body in at night. When did our Christ ever take the easy way out, I ask myself. So, I vowed that every night from then on, I would get down on my knees and say my prayers. He deserved that. Besides I found my prayers were more intent and contained more and more each night. I ask God to use my body, as a vessel, to over flow with goodness and use me as He wished. To lead me as a shepherd when the sheep follows the herd.

Well, let me tell you, it did not take long before He used me in that talk with my friend. I felt like He was using me as He uses his Angels to minister to those who are hurting. This lady's husband is a Minister and she was telling me how angry he had gotten with God, and so I shared with her that sometimes God uses us to strengthen our faith, but also to bring forth witness to the miracles he performs.

So, this is the beginning of Gods miracle. This man's' cancer has not spread and he will have surgery to remove the cancerous parts and then he will recover and he will know in his heart that his God did not forsake him. It will all be good in Gods time.

God is great and we must take time to let him know that He is the most important part of our life as we fulfill our days here on this earth. Christ uses us sometimes and we don't even realize. Now, I know my purpose has been fulfilled all along. I just didn't know it until He revealed a few things I didn't see.

He gave us the gift of life and the least we can do is to be faithful to Him and praise Him all the days of our life.

Never give up hope and keep your faith strong by praising our Creator each and every day of your life giving him all the glory. To God be the Glory.

My Love in Christ, Jan Renwick

CHURCH DIRECTORY

BUFFALO CHURCH OFFICE.....	776-7313
Email: buffalochurch@windstream.net	
SUPPLY PASTOR, Rev. George Walton.....	498-1467
GUEST PASTOR, Rev. Gilbert McDowell.....	776-2292
SECRETARY, Janet Warner.....	842-3044
DISBURSING TREASURERS, Kathy Jolly.....	774-1997
Ken Frie.....	775-5097
RECEIVING TREASURERS, Nelson Burke.....	774-1997
Lee Setzer.....	775-7881
CHOIR DIRECTOR, Jim Monson.....	774-7263
ORGANIST, Pat Kelly.....	258-3908

THE SESSION

2017

Karen Johnson	Worship/Christ Ed, Cong Care	770-1709
Kathy Jolly	Administration Committee	774-1997
Patrick Kelly	Clerk of Session	776-3788

2018

J. W. Bailes	Cong Care & Fellowship	352-2017
Larry Collins	Worship/Christian Ed.	776-5592
Buddy McNeill	Worship/Christian Ed.	776-4844
Jean Wilberg	(Assistant Clerk of Session)	718-6009

TRUSTEES, Frances Foushee, Chair.....	775-7619
Bobby Johnson.....	776-4083
Buddy McNeill.....	776-4844

PM PRESIDENT, Lee Setzer.....	775-7881
PM TREASURER, J. W. Bailes.....	352-2017
PW MODERATOR, Jackie Frie.....	775-5097
CO-MODERATOR, Anne Collins.....	776-5592
PW SECRETARY, Jan Renwick.....	776-7914
PW TREASURER, Pat Setzer.....	775-7881
HISTORIAN, Sheila Brewer.....	776-8091
MARY LOU CAMPBELL, Marie Macko.....	774-1657
SUNSHINE CIRCLE, Anne Collins.....	776-5592
FLOWER CHAIR, Geri Hales.....	775-3770
BUFFALO WEBSITE.....	www.buffalopres.org