

# SOUTH CHINA COMMUNITY CHURCH



Rev. James W. Ferrone, Pastor

May 2009

## NEWS!

*By Pastor Jim*



We are hoping to have a float in the **Memorial Day Parade** on May 25. Come to church and get involved!

We have a new web site:

[www.southchinacommunitychurch.org](http://www.southchinacommunitychurch.org)

Yes, it's long, but you only have to type it once and then bookmark it. We can only accept electronic submissions, so if you have suggestions, send to Carl or the Pastor. Thanks to Bruce, who set it all up and keeps it going.

## KOINONIA

May's Koinonia will be Wednesday, May 20 at 6PM. Chris will cook, so just bring yourselves. The theme is "Voices of Pentecost." Why not bring your Bible?

## WORSHIP CALENDAR

May 17: Ascension Sunday  
May 24: Memorial Sunday  
May 31: Pentecost  
June 7: Communion  
June 14: Children's Sunday

## TIME CHANGE:

**June 21 THROUGH Sept 6 = 9:30 Worship**

June 21: Father's Day  
June 28: Worship  
July 5: Communion  
July 12, 19, 26: Worship  
August 2: Communion  
August 9, 16, 23, 30: Worship  
Sept 6: Communion [Last 9:30 Worship]  
Sept 13: Worship at **10:30AM**



## SUMMER DATES TO REMEMBER

June 18: 6PM Koinonia BBQ

July 26: 6PM Talent Show

August 15: The **Annual Craft Fair** will be held on August 15 from 9AM – 2PM. We are asking for donations for a large basket which will be offered for raffle (this will be a miscellaneous basket – no theme). The **Chicken BBQ** will be held the same day, 11AM – 2PM.



WATCH WEEKLY BULLETINS FOR UPDATES!

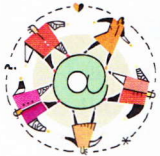
## Church Council News

I opened my last newsletter article by welcoming you to 2009; now here we are but a few short weeks away from having half the year behind us! Our church family has met for worship and fellowship; we've met for planning and problem solving; sometimes we've just met. We've laughed together and cried together; we've welcomed new folks into our family and sadly had others depart. We've worked together, played together, shared our triumphs and our trials with each other and offered love, comfort, encouragement and prayers. We've not only cared for each other, but have reached out a helping hand and an open heart to those in need - people we don't know and may never get to meet. I think that we've had a pretty wonderful first half, but the fact is that this has been going on for years and I see no reason to suspect that it will ever be much different as long as we strive to be the people and the church that Christ teaches us to be.

This year marks the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of a church meeting on the current site of our



church. The building isn't the original. We're no longer a Baptist or Quaker church, but we are connected to all who have gone before and strove to follow Jesus' command to love God with all their heart, soul, mind and strength and to love their neighbors as themselves. As we are connected through Christ to those who have worshipped here for the past 125 years, we are also connected to those who have worshipped for over two millennia and to those who worship around the world today. As we contemplate ways to celebrate this 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary, let us focus on strengthening our sense of family with all of those who follow Christ – past and present. Over two thousand years of history around the world today and the issues are the same: Christians struggle with the problems, pains and temptations of life. Many Christians today suffer persecutions reminiscent of ages past, while others struggle with poverty and life in cultures that hate them for their faith. As we would never question supporting the brothers and sisters of our local church, let us not forget how very large our Christian family is.



In an attempt to broaden our connectedness, we now have a presence on the internet at [southchinacommunitychurch.org](http://southchinacommunitychurch.org). The site is still under development, so check in regularly to see what's been added.

We're also broadening our presence in advertising by running more pieces in the print media. Pastor Jim has been placing some creative ads in the classifieds!

We continue to expand our musical horizons and another concert is tentatively scheduled for a Sunday in July.

For those who have someone on the prayer list, there is now a card that you can mail to them to let them know that we are lifting them in prayer. These cards and envelopes are available on the table under the Council bulletin board. If you send one, consider including a copy of the prayer list and inviting them to join us in prayer for others on the list. I am saddened for all of those who don't share the wonderful blessings of belonging to a loving

Christian fellowship. Please pray for them. *God Bless You All, Carl Schroeder - President*

**PLANNING AND OUTREACH:**

Our Community Outreach Committee has been inspired by many of you, our church members. We have received a great welcome brochure from another church which is given to church visitors. This example, along with other welcome ideas from churches we have visited, will be used to develop a welcome package of our own.

We hope to have two more Christian music events in the next six months, the first one being this summer. This will be a group of fellows most recently in "Forever Plaid" at the Waterville Opera House. They are putting together a Christian program that promises to be perfect Christian music summer repast. Stay tuned! We need your ideas and input to encourage and support our church outreach programs. *Respectfully yours - Bernie Welch*



**FINANCE COMMITTEE:** *No report at this time*

**BENEVOLENCE & MISSION COMMITTEE:**

M & B continues to support three families in the local area. We started the year out with four families, but Rosie reported that one family is back on its feet and no longer in need of our assistance. This is always wonderful to hear! Good for them!! Our hope and prayer is that all our families find the strength to move forward as this family has.



Easter was made extra special for the children of our families this year. Marge brought in empty Easter baskets and asked for donations. The baskets were filled with candy and stuffed animals.

What a wonderful treat for the little ones. Thank you Marge!

Pastor Jim has asked me to look over some literature from Voice of the Martyrs. This is a



group that supports persecuted Christians all over the world either by distributing Bibles to restricted areas, letter-writing campaigns to those imprisoned for their beliefs or contributions to help support their overall mission. This is an opportunity for us to do mission work on a broader realm. You are welcome to check out this group by logging on to [www.persecution.com](http://www.persecution.com) or the children's web site, [www.KidsOfCourage.com](http://www.KidsOfCourage.com). I encourage all to write letters to those imprisoned all over the world for their beliefs. You can do this by logging on to [www.PrisonerAlert.com](http://www.PrisonerAlert.com). We are so incredibly fortunate to be able to worship freely and this is a small way to help those in terrible difficulty.

Spring planting is just around the corner. Hooray!! Think about putting in an extra row of veggies to bring in or to donate to the local food bank. Every little bit helps!! We continue to accept donations for any veggies, fruits or herbs that are brought in to share. This helps with our church advertising costs and is very much appreciated!!

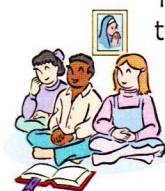


My thanks go out to the Committee members who continue to collect and distribute food and gifts to our families and to all church members who generously donate. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 445-4348 if you know of anyone in our own church family that has a need, as that is also part of our mission work. It's been a tough winter, but Spring has sprung with new hope and warmer sunshine!! -God Bless you all! Linda Rodrigue, Chair

**BUILDING & GROUNDS COMMITTEE:** *No report at this time*

**SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS:**

Thank you all for another fun year teaching your children. It is an honor. We are winding down and preparing for Children's Sunday on June 14th, our last day of Sunday school for this season. Our seniors, Beth Preston, Renee Robilliard, and Finn Welch, will be leaving us and moving on to college in the fall. Beth will be going to Wheaton College (MA) to prepare to be an elementary school teacher, Renee will



attend Smith College (MA) in preparation for medical school, and Finn is headed for Maine Maritime Academy where he will study marine engineering. I also would like to recognize Katelyn Young, who has provided responsible and reliable child care in our nursery for about 5 years now. Katelyn is planning to attend the University of Maine in Orono next year to study biology. These four young adults have contributed so much to our church program; they have been responsible, reliable and excellent role models for the younger children. We will miss you Beth, Renee, Finn and Katelyn! Thank you for your service to South China Community Church. Study hard! *Sunday school "Super" Janet*

Thanks so much to all the fantastic cookie makers for the COOKIE WALK. It was a great success and both Theresa, Pam (my daughter) and I were amazed at the great variety and the number of you who so generously participated. They were DELICIOUS! Thanks again! - Faith Ames

IT WAS PALM SUNDAY AND, BECAUSE OF A SORE THROAT, FIVE-YEAR-OLD JOHNNY STAYED HOME FROM CHURCH WITH A SITTER. WHEN THE FAMILY RETURNED HOME, THEY WERE CARRYING SEVERAL PALM BRANCHES. THE BOY ASKED WHAT THEY WERE FOR. "PEOPLE HELD THEM OVER JESUS' HEAD AS HE WALKED BY."

"WOULDN'T YOU KNOW IT," THE BOY FUMED, "THE ONE SUNDAY I DON'T GO, HE SHOWS UP!"

A LITTLE BOY IN CHURCH FOR THE FIRST TIME WATCHED AS THE USHERS PASSED AROUND THE OFFERING PLATES. WHEN THEY CAME NEAR HIS PEW, THE BOY SAID LOUDLY, "DON'T PAY FOR ME DADDY. I'M UNDER FIVE."





### **Calendar of Events**

- ✚ COMMUNION SERVICES  
JUNE 7 – JULY 5 – AUGUST 2
  
- ✚ MEN'S BREAKFAST - MEMORIAL HALL, 8AM  
2<sup>ND</sup> SATURDAYS: JUNE 13 – JULY 11 – AUGUST 8
  
- ✚ WOMEN'S STUDY GROUP A – 11AM  
2<sup>ND</sup> & 4<sup>TH</sup> WEDNESDAYS: MAY 27 – JUNE 10 &  
24 – JULY 8 & 22 – AUGUST 12 & 26
  
- WOMEN'S STUDY GROUP B – 6PM  
EVERY OTHER SUNDAY(SUBJECT TO CHANGE  
WITH HOLIDAYS/CHURCH EVENTS): MAY 17 &  
31 – JUNE 14 & 28 – JULY 12 & 26 – AUGUST 9 &  
23
  
- ✚ CHURCH COUNCIL MEETINGS, 6:30PM  
2<sup>ND</sup> WEDNESDAYS: JUNE 10 – JULY 8 – AUGUST  
12
  
- ✚ KOINONIA (FAMILY NIGHT), 6:30PM  
3<sup>RD</sup> WED: MAY 20 – JUNE 17 – JULY 15 –  
AUGUST 19
  
- ✚ TURKEY PIE SUPPER – SATURDAY, JULY 11
  
- ✚ DEADLINE FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER: AUGUST 9



### **CREATIVE PUNS FOR "EDUCATED MINDS"**

The roundest knight at King Arthur's round table was Sir Cumference. He acquired his size from too much pi.

I thought I saw an eye doctor on an Alaskan island, but it tuned out to be an optical Aleutian.

A rubber band pistol was confiscated from an algebra class because it was a weapon of math disruption.

No matter how much you push the envelope, it'll still be stationary.

A dog gave birth to puppies near the road and was cited for littering.

A grenade thrown into a kitchen in France would result in Linoleum Blownapart.

Two silk worms had a race. They ended up in a tie.

Atheism is a non-prophet organization.

I wondered why the baseball kept getting bigger. Then it hit me.

A small boy swallowed some coins and was taken to a hospital. When his grandmother telephoned to ask how he was, a nurse said, "No change yet."

A chicken crossing the road is poultry in motion.

When cannibals ate a missionary, they got a taste of religion.





## The Secret

One day, one friend asked another,  
'How is it that you are always so happy?  
You have so much energy, and you  
never seem to get down.'

With her eyes smiling, she said, 'I know  
the Secret!' 'What secret is that?' To  
which she replied, 'I'll tell you all about it,  
But you have to promise to Share the  
Secret with others.'

'The Secret is this:

I have learned there is little I can do in  
my life that will make me truly happy.  
I must depend on God to make me  
happy and to meet my needs. When a  
need arises in my life, I have to trust  
God to supply according to HIS riches.  
I have learned most of the time I don't  
need half of what I think I do. He has  
never let me down. Since I learned that  
'Secret', I am happy.'

The questioner's first thought was,  
'That's too simple!' But upon reflecting  
over her own life she recalled how she  
thought a bigger house would make her  
happy, but it didn't! She thought a better  
paying job would make her happy, but it  
hadn't. When did she realize her  
greatest happiness? Sitting on the floor  
with her grandchildren, playing games,  
eating pizza or reading a story. A simple  
gift from God.

We can't depend on people to make us  
happy. Only GOD in His infinite wisdom  
can do that. Trust HIM! The Secret is  
passed on to you...what will you do?



*"To get something you never had, you have to  
do something you never did." When God takes  
something from your grasp, He's not punishing  
you, but merely opening your hands to receive  
something better. Concentrate on this sentence:*

***"The will of God will never take you where  
the Grace of God will not protect you."***



*It's nice to be important, but it's  
important to be nice."*

- Unknown



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