
SOUTH CHINA COMMUNITY CHURCH



Rev. Paul Harwath, Pastor

September 2013

PASTOR'S MESSAGE



SCCC has had great summer! Our fundraising has been very successful and church attendance is way up. We have met many new people and gained many new friends.

It's great to see newcomers choosing to worship at South China Community Church. I can feel the loving spirit on Sunday morning reflected in the faces of those attending services. It will be sad to see all our summer friends - both old and new - leave us for the season, but the love that has been shared will remain with each one of us. That is what happens when we share God's love with others. All are blessed. Let us go into this fall season inviting even more new friends to join us on Sunday mornings. Keep up the great work!!

If you would like to talk with me, my home phone number is (207)385-0799, or call my cell at (605) 201-4295 - *In Christ, Pastor Paul*



CHURCH COUNCIL NEWS

President's Report:

'ALL JUST LAWS ARE BASED ON GOD'S DEFINITION OF RIGHT OR WRONG.'

The Church Council meetings are well attended with lots of ideas and discussions. We review Elder and Deacon responsibilities each month, which can be reviewed in minutes which are posted on the Council bulletin board.

The Council works diligently to keep church finances stable. We are keeping all of our bills paid and making sound spending decisions.

Special thanks to the following people for their help with the chicken barbeque: Les Ames, Ron Emery, Ron Wallace, Steve Rawson, Jeff Zimmerman, Joyce Goodine and kitchen crew Theresa Plaisted and Glenna Jordan. With their dedication and good work, the barbeque was a success, with 120 half chickens cooked and 120 half chickens sold. Thanks, Guys and Gals!



You are invited to attend our Council meetings and we will provide a time on the agenda for comments. 'Give your life to God. He is the only one who can edit the mistakes from it.' - *Sheldon Goodine, President*

Communications & Outreach:

It has been a very busy summer and the time has flown! We have had a number of visiting parishioners and some new people coming to church - welcome! Check out our website (southchinacommunitychurch.org) for current information. Special thanks to Lisa Montagna, our webmaster. If anyone has information they want to put on the site, let me know and I'll connect you to Lisa.

We had some wonderful fundraisers this summer, with proceeds going toward our General Fund budget; thank you to everyone who helped! The Turkey Pie Suppers have been very successful. The rummage sale/cookie walk brought in \$1500 this year (awesome); special thanks to Glenna Jordan and crew as the cookie walk alone brought in over \$250. The chicken barbeque netted over \$500 - thank you, Sheldon Goodine and crew! It truly was a "community effort" and was a lot of fun. Watch for some fall fundraisers, such as the Dessert Auction in November, and some other suppers.



Special singing group "Heavenly Sounds" performed in July and they were wonderful. Thanks to Carl Schroeder for connecting with the group. Watch for some

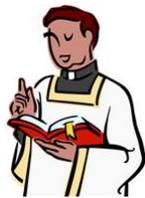
more musical programs this fall and at Christmas; they're a great opportunity to introduce more people to our church and to attract folks of all ages.

The "Secret Pal Program" is still on-going; please remember our elderly in the congregation and help them in whatever way you can. They are a real blessing to everything we do.

I am still working on updating our church brochure. Even though we distribute them, the best communication is still word of mouth, so invite people to see what SCCC is all about. Thank you for letting me and Bernie continue to serve you. Updated member mailing lists will be available soon. - *In Christ's love and service, Diane Webber-Rawson & Bernie Welch, Co-chairs*

Worship Committee:

The year has been going very well. I have received a few comments in the comment box regarding Pastor Paul and his sermons; it seems that he is a nice fit for our church family. He brings the Bible to life for many by sharing stories that are relevant for today's population of young and old alike.



The dedication of the Lucy Harris Memorial Communion Table Cover went well and the four new communion napkins, donated by Glenna Jordan, have been put into service.

The donation to the church library, by Donna Moore of Bill's tapes, are also very much appreciated.



Marge Kurtzman has done a wonderful job taking over the flowers and making sure there are some each week during service. Please remember that there are sign-up sheets, not

only for the flowers, but for greeters and the bulletins as well. If able, please fill your name in on one or more of the slots. This would help the Elders and Deacons so much, knowing that they do not have to seek people to cover all the time. Just having one or two weeks filled out helps tremendously!

We have had some wonderful artwork for our worship bulletins, done by some very talented young people. If you love to draw and feel so inclined, please submit some of your artwork to Pastor Paul.

In music: although we no longer use CCLI licensing, we have had some beautiful new songs sung by the choir and the congregation (written by Carl Schroeder, Chris Faris, and Diane Rawson). Positive comments have been given to me and others in regards to this new music. Thank you!

We have also had some wonderful events happening thanks to our Communications & Outreach: "Heavenly Sounds" was an inspiring musical event and I hope that we have more worship "events" like this brought into the church. Thanks to those involved in coordinating these programs.

Services are being recorded and the DVDs have been finalized, labeled, brought down to the library, and placed on the bookshelf to the left by the door. There is a sign-out sheet for anyone interested in taking them home to view. Copies of the memorial services, baptisms, and confirmations have also been captured. If you would like a copy of any of these, please contact me at 207-458-0283 (you may also text me at this number). There were a few DVDs that did not record, so if the week(s) is missing that you were hoping to view and it has not been signed out, my deepest apologies. New DVDs have been purchased which should have better results (fewer 'lemons') based on reviews.

Recently we tested a new sound system set up by Mike Davis, and it was utilized for the first time on August 25. If the congregation supports it as a "go," we will spend approximately \$1500 on the improved system,

which is much better than what I had expected personally. This will allow people like myself, the soft-spoken ones, to be heard by everyone. In addition, we have a very talented young man who is willing to build a "housing unit" for the sound system; thank you Carl! It is a step in the right direction. Now we just need to get more people to join the choir! I know there are many with beautiful voices; join our musical family and praise God with song.



Thanks to everyone who has been using their gifts and talents to praise God each and every day and for a wonderful year so far. Comments, please keep them coming~

1 Peter 4:10-11

As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To Him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

May God bless the second half of the year as much as he has the first half. - *Respectfully submitted, Paula Kimball-Vigue*

Minister of Music

Mark Twain is credited with saying "Everybody complains about the weather, but nobody does anything about it." I feel we treat our worship service music better than that. There is significant involvement by the church members who are motivated enough to be part of and influence what is heard at Sunday service. We are blessed with eclectic offerings from those in the congregation. It is my responsibility to ensure the music does one thing: to address the teachings of Christ so that the congregation may benefit from them.

The challenge of this task is that each person's palate is unique. All musical tastes can't be addressed all of the time, whereas the message can never be ignored. The weekly hymns are chosen by the Worship Committee. We meet each Tuesday to discuss the

scripture and choose hymns that speak to the chosen scripture lesson. This is the place where any concerns about our music should be brought.

I select music for the prelude, introit and music ministry using the same guideline. If the music does not serve Christ, it is meaningless. Only an open mind can receive the word of God. In this respect, we should be of one mind. - *Peace in Christ, Chris*

Buildings & Grounds:

Not all items on the "to-do" list have been done, but we did get the parking lot striped. Work on the speaker system is underway; work on repairing the grounds at the rear of the church is almost done, with just the seeding and mulching to do.

The south side of the roof over Memorial Hall needs to be redone. The Church Council has received quotes on the cost of repairs and voted to proceed after we get the first money from the Delmont Meader Trust Fund for this project.

Remember: teach a child to love before someone else teaches him to hate! - *Sheldon Goodine, Building & Grounds Chair*

Christian Education:

Sunday school season is upon us! Traditionally, the first day of Sunday school is the first Sunday after Labor Day. Unfortunately, we have no teacher and very few students this year! If you would like to have a blast with some great kids and learn a



ton in the process, please see Janet to volunteer for this very rewarding opportunity! If you know any children, grandchildren, neighbors, or friends who would be interested in coming to Sunday school, please let me know about them as well. We can help with transportation or whatever is needed.

The Thursday morning Women's Study Group will resume on September 12th at 11AM; the location is yet to be determined. The group will continue with "The Questions Christians

Hope No One Will Ask." Anyone interested in joining, please call Joan Ferrone at 445-3118.

A second Women's Study Group meets every other Sunday night [6-7PM] at Emily Schroeder's; the new book of study is "The Ministry of Christ: 1000 Days." The Men's Study Group has also resumed; see the calendar for details.



The annual Sunday school camp out took place and was wonderful! Visit our web site for recent pictures. It's always a fun adventure! Thank you for your support. - *Respectfully, Janet Preston, Deacon of*

Christian Education

Finance & Stewardship:

As the Finance Chair, I will provide revenue and expense budget information in our church bulletin on a monthly basis. I believe it's important this information be available to our congregation and I encourage anyone with questions to please contact me.

I have a few notes concerning our annual budget. It is important to understand the weekly operating expenses and payroll for SCCC is \$990. Currently, 76% of our revenue depends solely on loose offerings and pledges made by our SCCC family members and friends. The remaining revenue is generated by fundraising and/or donations. The current revenue budget is 8% below the forecasted revenue budget as of June 30, 2013. The good news is our expense budget is looking very good, with our expense budget currently under-utilized by 20%. A few of the contributing factors for this are the number of families we are currently providing assistance has dropped from three families to two and we have not tapped into the expense to provide childcare during Sunday service, which is a usual practice over the summer months.

Although we are blessed to have a generous church family and community and a caring Finance and Church Committee who provide constant oversight of our budget to further the work of Christ - - it is important that everyone get involved and take a role in building our

church, whether by hosting or helping with a fundraising event, or bringing in new members. Which is my segue way to the good news: the recent Turkey Pie Suppers, Rummage Sale and BBQ were all successes!

Another way you can help is by contributing your returnable bottles and cans to Tammy's Redemption on Rte. 3. They give us six cents for each container, which adds up very quickly.



As of 20 August, the Faith Ames Memorial Music Fund balance is \$2,101.36. This Fund will provide support for music and worship growth within our church. The savings account is \$3,854.74; the checking account is \$7,474.83; and the Memorial Fund is \$96,920.05. It is important to note that \$38,560.83 of the Memorial Fund is for the Delmont Meader Fund. A separate account for the Meader Fund will be established as instructed by the Trust in the next few weeks.

In closing, I will keep folks updated as information becomes available and certainly you are welcome to contact me any time with ideas, concerns or questions, or you may reach out to our Finance Committee: Mr. Don Nichols, Mr. Ron Emery or Mrs. Joyce Goodine, as well. Thank you for your generosity and commitment to SCCC and May God bless and keep you well. - *Michelle Darveau (512-0936)*



Attending a wedding for the first time, a little girl whispered to her mother, "Why is the bride dressed in white?" The mother replied, 'Because white is the color of happiness, and today is the happiest day of her life.'

The child thought about this for a moment then said, "So why is the groom wearing black?"



- † COMMUNION: SEPT 1 - OCT 6 - NOV 3
- † DIRIGO CLUB'S BREAKFAST: NOT BEING SCHEDULED AT THIS TIME
- † MEN'S STUDY GROUP - 6:30PM, 2ND & 4TH
TUESDAYS: SEPT 10 & 24 - OCT 8 & 22 - NOV 12 & 26
- † WOMEN'S STUDY GROUP A - 11AM, 2ND & 4TH
THURSDAYS: SEPT 12 & 26 - OCT 10 & 24 - NOV 14 & 28
- † WOMEN'S STUDY GROUP B - 6PM, EVERY OTHER SUNDAY, RESUMES SEPT 22: PLEASE SEE EMILY FOR INFORMATION ON OUR NEW BOOK!
- † CHURCH COUNCIL MEETINGS, 6:30PM, 2ND
WEDNESDAY: SEPT 11 - OCT 9 - NOV 13
- † KOINONIA (FAMILY NIGHT), 6:00PM
3RD WEDNESDAY: OCT 16 - NOV 20
- † SEPT 8: ADULT & CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL RESUMED
- † SEPT 8: SERVICE TIME RETURNED TO 10:30
- † SEPT 28: TURKEY PIE SUPPER, 5-6:30 PM
- † **DEADLINE FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER: NOV 18**

Three boys are in the school yard bragging about their fathers. The first boy says, 'My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a poem, they give him \$50.'

The second boy says, 'That's nothing. My Dad scribbles a few words on piece of paper, he calls it a song, they give him \$100.'

The third boy says, 'I got you both beat. My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a sermon, and it takes eight people to collect all the money!'

The following are actual church bulletin board bloopers found in churches across the US:

- *Next Sunday Mrs. Vinson will be soloist for the morning service. The pastor will then speak on "It's a Terrible Experience."
- *Weight Watchers will meet at 7 PM. Please use large double door at the side entrance.
- *Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our church and community.
- *The eighth graders will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the church basement on Friday at 7 PM. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.
- *A song fest was hell at the Methodist church Wednesday.
- *On a church bulletin during the minister's illness: "God is good - Dr. Hargreaves is better."
- *Potluck supper: prayer and medication to follow.
- *The outreach committee has enlisted 25 visitors to make calls on people who are not afflicted with any church.
- *Eight new choir robes are currently needed, due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.
- *The choir invites any member of the congregation who enjoys sinning to join the choir.
- *A new loudspeaker system has been installed in the church. It was given by one of our members in honor of his wife.



*"A faithful friend is a strong
defence: and he that hath found
him, hath found a treasure."
- Ecclesiasticus 6:14 (King James Version)*



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