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# SOUTH CHINA COMMUNITY CHURCH



Rev. Paul Harwath, Pastor

May 2016

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## PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Spring

Spring is here!! Yahoo!!  
Let's get together & make this summer a little bit easier for those whose spring is not so

bright & beautiful. I'm talking about those people who have lost loved ones & those who have loved ones hurting or sick. It will not take much to make a difference: just a simple smile, a pat on the back, a phone call or email & maybe having a little fun with them.

Just knowing someone cares about you can make all the difference in the world. It's knowing that you matter. Letting someone know that, yes, they make a huge difference in this world not only to each of us who are on our earthly journey, but also to our God who loves each & every one of us who was ever born & who will be born. God so loved you that He gave His Only Son so that you will be saved from sin & all evil, to live in God's warmth & love for eternity!!

Those who feel that they are in the winter of their lives will find that spring is just around the corner. Jesus did not come into this world to judge the world, but came so that the world would be saved through Him. Jesus came so that you will be saved & spend eternity in God's everlasting spring time. - *God's love to all of you, Pastor Paul*



## CHURCH COUNCIL NEWS

### President's Report:

"I will thank the Lord with all my heart as I meet with His godly people. How amazing are the deeds of the Lord! All who delight in him should ponder them." *Psalms 111:1-2 (NLT)*

A lot has happened since our last newsletter in February. The Council & its members have been meeting each month to go over the business of the church. Sunday school has restarted, child care has restarted, TVs have been hooked up in the downstairs nursery & Fellowship Hall, & the downstairs was cleaned up. In addition, we have celebrated the lives of members who have passed into God's hands, the baptism & confirmation of a new member, & the addition of new friends frequenting our church & meeting the "family." God willing, they will also become members of our church family.

As the year moves forward, God has provided us with several opportunities to bring people in to see our church and/or meet some of its members for fellowship. Carl Schroeder is presenting us with a Paul Sullivan concert, we are continuing with turkey pie suppers, Pastor Paul is going to hold bow-making classes, Patrick Vigue will hold a "Family Game Night" in his Toy Museum's game room, & we'll have our annual talent show in late July.



We're looking for volunteers to help with a few things. The first would be to reupholster some of the cushions for the benches or make some new cushions and/or pillows for them. Second, we're looking for people willing to share their talents with others, like Pastor Paul & his bow-making. If you have a talent that you would like to share, please see me or Debbie Stowe. We will keep you updated on our thoughts regarding this program.

I have been tremendously blessed to be a part of this church family & the Church Council. My job would be difficult if it weren't for all of you. Thank you! I will continue to look to God

through prayer & listen for His answers as the year continues.

"Now glory be to God! By His mighty power at work within us, He is able to accomplish infinitely more than we would ever dare to ask or hope." *Ephesians 3:20 (NLT) - In Christian Love, Paula Kimball-Vigue, President*

**Missions & Benevolence:**

Budget: \$2,550.00  
Expenses: \$426.63  
Balance \$2,123.37

The Benevolence Committee met on February 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Church; we reviewed the January 28<sup>th</sup> summary of requirements for receiving food from the China Food Pantry. Our budget is limited & since our program is duplicating many of the benefits the Food Pantry provides & the Pantry has an excess amount of food available, we discussed the merits of continuing our food distribution mission project vs. referring applicants to the China Food Pantry for assistance.



Rosie reported that the mother in Family #1 had reported at the January food distribution that she is now receiving Social Security Disability payments. Since she has trouble handling her money, Rosie discussed & offered to help her with setting up a budget for her monthly expenses. Rosie also set a three-month (Feb-Mar-Apr) time frame for the Church to continue assistance.

Rosie also reported that, due to housing complications, Mom in Family #2 & her two children are still living with her mother; Dad is with friends & his 3 children are with their mother, but he comes with her to help with the food pickup. It was decided that, with the February Church food pickup, Rosie would give the families a copy of the Food Pantry information & strongly emphasize that they should take advantage of the program. Both families were given a three-month (March-April-May) time frame for the Church to

continue aid & Pastor Paul was given copies of the Food Pantry information to give to people who call him.

Marge provided Easter Baskets for the six children; thanks to those who helped fill the baskets. I also received cash donations of \$135, which was divided among the families.

Marge provided a container in Memorial Hall for non-perishable foods that Pastor Paul or Rosie can use for emergency calls. Thanks to those who provide birthday gifts as we close out this program. After May, the Benevolence funds will be used to assist with any special requests received by Pastor Paul, especially at holiday time. Thanks again for your sharing & caring & "God Bless." - *Glenna Jordan, Deacon/ Benevolence Chair*

**Building & Grounds:**

Operational Budget: \$8,080.00  
Expenses: \$3,037.34  
Income: \$249.25  
Balance: \$5,291.91

Utilities Budget: \$5,250.00  
Expenses: \$1,551.38  
Balance: \$3,698.62

Things have been changing, cleaned, & straightened up - your patience during the process has been appreciated.

The TV has been installed, but can easily be moved if necessary. A long cable has been added, but I'm going to look into a wireless signal in the future. A cabinet/shelving unit will be built for under the TV.



There are still several to do's that will take place around the grounds. If you find yourself wishing to suggest something else to have done or to volunteer for something you would like to do, please do so! - *Ron Maxwell, Chair*



## **Christian Education:**

Budget: \$50.00

Expenses: \$0

Income: \$186.45

Balance: \$236.00

"Teach me Your way, O Lord; lead me in a straight path..." *Psalm 27:11*

Sunday school has been in session for eleven weeks now. We currently have five children attending, but due to unforeseen circumstances, not all are able to attend each week.

Things have gone rather well though, overall. I have to say that it is different from what I had originally planned. Back in February, I stated that I was looking for older students who were willing to help out; other things have taken precedence for these young adults. I have been blessed to have Beth Preston assist me most weeks.

The children have been listening to scripture, stories, & doing activities relating to messages that Pastor Paul either did the week before or will be doing that day in service. So far we have covered topics such as Needs vs. Wants, The Last Supper & Passover (Luke 22:7-23, John 13: 1-17, Mark 9:33-35), Jesus lives! (Easter) & the history of the lily, The Road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-35), Doubting Thomas (John 20:19-31, Hebrews 11:1), "Fishing" (John 21:1-14, Luke 5:1-11), The Importance of Prayer & Caring for Others (John 21:15-19), Mother's Day, & Pentecost (Acts 2:1-13, 41-47).

I was hoping to bring in music for them to sing, but haven't had enough children attend regularly to practice anything yet. God willing, we will be able to perform something for the congregation on June 19, Father's Day.

Speaking of music, we never did find out what happened to the CDs for the Sunday School. After checking several places on-line, a children's CD with several Christian songs was purchased.



Time was spent over February vacation cleaning up & I'm pleased to say that the rooms remain picked up. Thank you! I will be re-arranging things over summer break, going through all the supplies/materials to see what needs to be replaced for the fall & winter activities. I was fortunate enough to be able to purchase some rather inexpensive supplies before I started, but we still need: Expo markers, white-board eraser, tape, glue sticks, construction paper, & crepe paper. We could also use some new markers since several have been found to be dried up.

Good news! Another area that has been implemented again, since the need arose, is Child Care after the children's message. We currently have a six-person rotation which includes Patrick V., Mimi R., Gail T., Leslie H., Beth P., & myself. A sheet will be posted with the dates & the person in charge for the day. If, for any reason, a person is not able to make it for the assigned day, please contact the next person on the rotation to see if you could swap. If nothing else, please contact me. This first list will go through the end of June.



I would like to have more people volunteer for our child care service & plan to create a new list for the second half of the year. Thanks to Ron Maxwell, anyone who goes downstairs with the children will be able to view & listen to the service on the TV located in the nursery.

May God continue to provide wisdom, strength, & patience to fulfill this position & do it justice. May He also allow the children to gain knowledge, learn the teachings provided, & grow up to spread the love & truths taught by Jesus Christ.

"I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you." *Psalm 32:8 (NIV) - In Christian Love, Paula Kimball-Vigue Christian Education Elder*



**Communications & Outreach:**

Budget: \$750.00  
Expenses \$65.00  
Income: \$100.00  
Balance \$785.00

Several fundraising events are scheduled for June & July; please see the calendar for details.

There has been a donation of flannel, fleece & yarn to the Church. Hopefully, we can make items for the church to sell at the October Craft Fair. I personally love to get together with others & work on projects. Any talented "crafty" people would be greatly appreciated, or if you want to learn or just have fun with us, join me at the church to make items!



We'd like to perhaps create a night of continued learning... if you have a talent that you would share with us or anyone from the community

(e.g., knitting, quilting, sewing, or any other crafting skill), please think about sharing what you know or learning something new. This is open to everyone! - Yours in Christ, *Debbie Stowe, Chair*

**Worship Committee:**

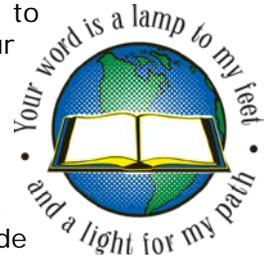
Budget: \$500.00  
Expenses: \$161.00  
Income: \$90.00  
Balance: \$429.00

We have just finished celebrating the Easter season, which I know was made meaningful to all by worship in our sanctuary. Our banners enhance the beauty of our sanctuary & express some aspect of the season we are experiencing. We have a number of lovely banners, but unfortunately some are showing signs of age (as I am!). Are there any crafters out there looking for a project? We could certainly use some new banners. If you have an idea for one, please bring your suggestion(s) to Pastor Paul.



I'm back on track recording our services, thanks to technical help from Ron Maxwell. Recent services recorded on DVDs are found on the "paperwork table" in Memorial Hall. Please always feel free to borrow these to share with friends or family who are not able to be at the service.

I'll soon be making a list of Pre-Offertory Scripture readers for the second half of this year. If you are willing to participate in this part of our service, please let me know & I'll add your name to the list. Also, if you'd like me to send you a reminder email during the week before your turn, just provide your email address to me & I'll do my best to send out a reminder.



There are so many people who work together to support our church & allow us to provide a place to learn, experience fellowship with other Christians & worship the Lord. Thanks to you all! - *In Christian Love, Cheryl Baker, Elder of Worship*

**Finance & Stewardship:**

**Balances as of 4/30/2016:**

Checkbook	3,006.04
Memorial Fund	60,531.63
Faith Ames Music Fund	2,120.26
Meader Trust	34,202.43
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$99,860.36</b>

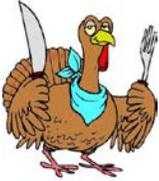
Bank Balance Statement: \$4,664.94

Total expenses through April are \$20,969.36 (32% of what we budgeted), which is just about right, since we're a third of the way into 2016. If you remember from the Annual Meeting, we decided to use \$3,000 from Memorial Funds to balance the budget, but would wait to actually transfer those funds. Well, the time came in April to make the transfer so Eddy could pay our bills, including a large insurance premium which was due.

We are a bit behind on revenue, having received about 26% of our projections for this

month. Shortages are in Fundraising (we've just begun the season), Offerings (mainly loose), & Worship (bulletin sponsorship).

If you would like to remember a loved one in our bulletin, please sign up at the table in Memorial Hall or speak to Cheryl Baker. If you'd like to know if you are on target with your pledge gifts, please see Ron Emery.



We had a Turkey Pie Supper on May 21<sup>st</sup> to kick off our fundraising season. I should also mention that, although it is not budgeted, we have received about \$2,400 in Memorial Funds as well. Thank you to all who have contributed to South China Community Church in memory of a lost loved one. Thank you for your generosity and support! – Respectfully, Finance Chair, Janet Preston



### **WEB SITES of INTEREST**

Inspirational quotes & photos:  
[www.guideposts.org/springquotes](http://www.guideposts.org/springquotes)

Beautiful blossoms of springtime:  
[www.guideposts.org/flowers](http://www.guideposts.org/flowers)

Mothers of the Good Book, from Eve to Mary:  
[www.guideposts.org/biblemothers](http://www.guideposts.org/biblemothers)

SONshine Gift Box to encourage & remind those in need of God's love:  
<http://womenatthewell.com/sonshine-box-ministry/>

Helping the military community at:  
<https://www.garysinisefoundation.org/>

Tips & resources for family caregivers:  
[www.caregiverstress.com](http://www.caregiverstress.com)

### **Happy 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday to the American Bible Society**

**1816:** Elias Boudinot had a long career in public service, including a term as president of the Continental Congress. At the time, few printers published Bibles, but by buying its own presses, ABS was able to print 600,000 Bibles which were sold by volunteers across the country.

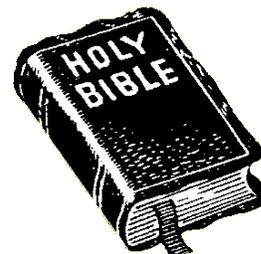
**1861-1865:** During the Civil War, ABS gave Bibles to Union & Confederate troops, distributing more than three million. Soldiers kept their Bibles in the breast pocket of their uniforms as a source of comfort during battle; at times, the only way to identify a soldier was by the name written inside his Bible. ABS also gave Bibles to runaway slaves.

**1940-1945:** During World War II, ABS distributed more than seven million pieces of Bible literature, including a special military edition packaged in a waterproof container for lifeboats & rafts. With the help of the Red Cross, ABS even got Bibles inside German POW camps.

**Late 1950s:** ABS introduced the Finger-fono, a nonelectric phonograph that played vinyl recordings of Bible passages, aimed at the estimated billion people around the world who couldn't read. ABS distributed Bibles & recordings in Native American languages, especially popular with the Navajo tribe.

**The 1960s:** Culture changes – young Americans weren't interested in their parents' Bibles. In 1966, ABS published the "Good News for Modern Man" New Testament. By 1971, it was the nation's #1 best seller, with more than 30 million sold.

- From *GUIDEPOSTS*, May 2016





- † COMMUNION: JUNE 5 - JULY 3 - AUGUST 7
- † MEN'S STUDY GROUP - 6:30PM, 2<sup>ND</sup> & 4<sup>TH</sup>  
TUESDAYS: JUNE 14 & 28 - JULY 12 & 26 -  
AUGUST 9 & 23
- † WOMEN'S STUDY GROUP A - 11AM, 2<sup>ND</sup> & 4<sup>TH</sup>  
WEDNESDAYS: JUNE 8 & 22 - JULY 13 & 27 -  
AUGUST 10 & 24
- † WOMEN'S STUDY GROUP B - 6PM, EVERY OTHER  
SUNDAY: PLEASE CONTACT EMILY SCHROEDER
- † CHURCH COUNCIL MEETINGS - 6:30PM, 2<sup>ND</sup>  
WEDNESDAY: JUNE 8 - JULY 13 - AUGUST 10
- † MAY 29 & JULY 31: PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY  
FUND DONATIONS (PDF SUNDAY)
- † MAY 30 - MEMORIAL DAY, TBA IF SCCC WILL  
HAVE A FLOAT WITH SINGERS.
- † JUNE 26 - JULY 31 - AUGUST 28: SPECIAL  
CAKES AT FELLOWSHIP TO RECOGNIZE MONTHLY  
BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES
- † JUNE 3: RICHARD DOWE MEMORIAL SERVICE,  
11AM. CONTACT DARLENE ZIMMERMAN FOR  
FOOD CONTRIBUTIONS.
- † JUNE 5: PAUL SULLIVAN CONCERT, 3PM.  
SHUTTLE SERVICE AT 2:15 & 2:30 TO BE  
PROVIDED FROM THE FARRINGTON PARKING LOT  
TO THE CHURCH. (NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO  
REGULAR FELLOWSHIP AFTER SUNDAY SERVICE  
THIS DAY)
- † PASTOR PAUL'S BOW MAKING CLASSES:  
JUNE 11 & 25: 10AM - 2PM  
JUNE 12 & 26: 12:30 - 4:30PM

- † JUNE 18: TURKEY PIE SUPPER, 5-6:30PM  
(DEBBIE STOWE, CHAIR)
- † JUNE 19: FATHER'S DAY
- † JULY 16: TURKEY PIE SUPPER, 5-6:30PM
- † JULY 24: TALENT SHOW & ICE CREAM SOCIAL  
6-8PM
- † GAME NIGHT AT PATRICK VIGUE'S, TBA
- † OCTOBER 1: CRAFT FAIR, 9AM-3PM; TABLES  
\$15 EACH
- † **NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: AUGUST 21,  
2016**

### ON THE LIGHTER SIDE:



A police recruit was asked during the exam, "What would you do if you had to arrest your own mother?" He answered, "Call for backup."

I want to grow my own food, but I can't find bacon seeds.

What's the difference between bird flu & swine flu? One requires tweetment, the other oinkment.

Sign behind an Amish carriage: Energy efficient vehicle. Runs on grass and oats. Extreme caution: Avoid exhaust.

The best vitamin for a Christian is B1.

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?"

**REFLECTIONS & PREDICTIONS**  
**PART II**  
**(Not So Good News)**

We left Part I with two questions: What happened? Where are they now?

We have only two of the children from the last 50 years attending SCCC: Debbie Jordan Gillcash & Darlene Goodine Zimmerman. We do, on occasion, have a few who come for special events, but it is not known how many of the 85 children of that era attend(ed) other churches. My guess? Not many.

Church attendance has dwindled each year, not only at SCCC, but all over the country. As we travel & read in newspapers, many churches have closed their doors; buildings are either empty or used for other purposes.

The reasons for this drop in church attendance are many & varied. People have multiple choices for their time, from sports teams to community events to school activities to fairs/festivals, all of which are scheduled on Saturdays & Sundays. Lack of proper education, allowing prayer to be taken out of our schools, government intrusion into our educational system dictating what is to be taught & not taught. Trying to be "PC" has gone beyond all reasoning & social media is way out of control, to the point that it has negatively affected so many young lives that it must be stopped. I'm sure you can think of many more reasons that contribute to this decline in church participation.

We are growing generations of children who are unable to recite The Lord's Prayer, the Ten Commandments, or can name any of the books of the Bible. They do not know the reason for Christmas, Good Friday or Easter.

We now see a 50% divorce rate in our country & countless single-parent homes. The family unit as we know it has declined to an alarming low, or no longer exists in some areas.

These are just a few reasons for the decline in church attendance & membership. The numbers for SCCC are alarming: in the last 10 years, we have lost 35 members & 14

attendees, all of whom have gone to God. In the next 10 years, ~49 of us will no longer be here. To offset this grim statistic, we have gained 32 members over the last 10 years, resulting in a net loss of only three church members. I don't have a current count of how many new attendees are replacing the 14 lost.

How are we to reverse this trend? What needs to be done? The good news will be in Part III.  
- Submitted by Sheldon Goodine



**Children's Choir 1966** 1<sup>st</sup> Row: Patricia Jordan, Paula Boynton, Linda Dowe, Gail Taber, Donna Mosher 2<sup>nd</sup> Row: Christine Giddings, Nancy Taber, Norma Prime, Deborah Jordan, Director Myrtle Austin, Ginger Casey, Donna Farrington



**SCCC Church Choir 1966** 1<sup>st</sup> Row: Theresa Plaisted, Barbara Dowe, Marjorie Whitten, Glenna Jordan, Christa Pauley 2<sup>nd</sup> Row: Myna Jackson, Ruth Colwell, Barbara Kirkpatrick, Pauline Grimshaw, Gladys Cook, Elizabeth Stanley 3<sup>rd</sup> Row: Stan Grimshaw, Al Poulin, Paul Farrington, Carl Kirkpatrick, Pianist Hilda Jacob, Organist/Director Don Pauley, Ralph Austin, John Boynton, Bruce Stanley

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*“No act of kindness, no matter  
how small, is ever wasted.”*

*- Aesop*

