



What, (you might ask), went on at Montreat?

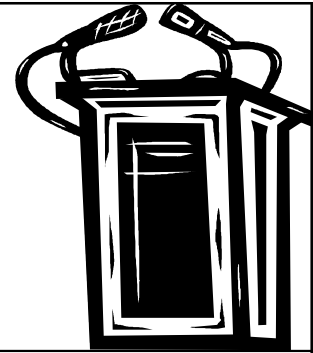
You may have heard, or maybe you didn't, that Jeremy and I spent a good portion of the gathering time at Montreat talking about something new that we want to implement here at Norcross Presbyterian Church. Now we want to offer you the same opportunity, to let Jeremy and I talk with you about something new, and the opportunity to respond.

Maybe you want to know a little bit more. We are re-working and massaging the order for worship a little bit. At first hearing, or first reading as you are doing now, that might create quite a bit of anxiousness. But fear not, in the end, this will feel less like a major overhaul, and more like some timely adjusting.

So, if that hasn't caught your attention and heightened your interest, then continue to trust Jeremy and I, and enjoy the changes as they take place in the new year. However, this is your opportunity to heard, and if that is important to you, then join Jeremy and I, along with the folks on the Worship Committee, and your brothers and sisters from NPC for a chance to hear from us, and to talk this out together. We're going to do that on Sunday, 13 November, right after church. It will take as much time as you have questions and comments for, but we will be done for sure by 12:45, when our Korean brothers and sisters from Kwang-Ya begin to use our sanctuary. We look forward to a great conversation and wonderful future together.

MATT

Finally, a word from the Speechless.....



I want to reiterate how wonderfully surprising and what warm feelings I have surrounding the gifts you presented to me and Melissa on Pastor Appreciation Day. Those of you who have spent any time with me at Montreat know that part of my routine there is to go into the book store, and stare at that Mosaic Cross Stole and pine. You know that I sit there in a covetous state, and know that I love that stole. So, in your giving it to me, you have made me a better person, now I'm not breaking the 10th. It was a special gift that I will never forget.

As I mentioned, my Bible that I do most of my work from, and use to read from on Sunday mornings, is falling apart. Clearly, a new one is in order, and that is a thoughtful gift, and wonderful symbol of how we are connected as pastor and people, through our life and work together in the Word.

And the gift certificate to the restaurant grace 17-20, which by the way, what could be a more appropriately named restaurant for a congregation to give a gift certificate to the pastor, is a wonderful way for you to recognize not only me, but also Melissa, who cares for you all deeply as the spouse of the pastor, and as her church family.

You have overwhelmed me, and left me humbled and grateful. I feel a deep sense of appreciation from you. I want you to know that the feeling is very mutual. I am left with only these words...

Thank you.

With warmest thoughts,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "MATT". The letters are bold and stylized, with a long horizontal stroke at the end of the "T".



Pumpkin Patch 2005 Closing Remarks from Diane Lewis

As the pumpkin patch closes, and all traces of the 2005 patch are erased, here is what I will remember and some of the things that I am thankful for:

- The ‘Patch Detour’ and two set up days (wondering what the construction plan is for Medlock Bridge Road, when they will move those pipes, and when the construction will end)
- 1877 pumpkins and the countdown as the last 77 came off the truck
- Sunny days for three straight weeks
- Preschool visitors
 - Storytellers: Peter Pumpkin, Mother Pumpkin, Farmer Jack/Ken/Tom
 - Homemade cookies
 - Goodie bags and coloring books
 - New games like ‘Find my hat’
 - Treasure hunts and pumpkins with stars
- Nighttime in the patch (great lighting)
- Painted pumpkins
- Frankenstein gourds
- A place where children didn’t hear ‘don’t touch’
- Getting to know other church members better during the quiet times
- Visitors
 - First time and returning for the third or fourth time
 - Families who come just to take pictures
 - People who asked ‘what do you do with a pumpkin?’
 - From around the world, Sweden and Taiwan to name two countries
- Smiles on children’s faces
- Our youth taking an active role welcoming and assisting visitors and maintaining patch quality
- Scouts
 - Scouts and their parents/leaders helping on delivery day
 - Scouts providing shift coverage and excelling at quality control
- Thousands of pumpkins (though one thousand would have been enough)
- Halloween night in the patch
- And after the patch closed
 - Free pumpkins for Norcross Cooperative Ministry
 - Three pickup-truck loads of pumpkins to Yellow River Game Ranch (buffalo, donkeys, and deer like pumpkins)
 - Arriving at church only two days after the patch closed, and discovering no trace at all of leftover pumpkins or empty pallets

I purposely didn’t name any names as I would be sure to accidentally overlook someone. I think I can speak for Larry also as we thank all of you for giving your time and talent to the patch. Though it will ultimately be a Session decision next year, we hope to be back for year five in 2006.

LIFE & NURTURE

BBQ/Bazaar Report from Norma Badeaux

The 2005 BBQ and Bazaar was a success, thanks to all of you who helped by donating your time, your talent, your items to sell, your cooking and meat-chopping abilities! The list could go on for more room than this page allows!

As we have for the past three years, the BBQ and Bazaar has been held during the same time as the Pumpkin Patch. Both events help each other pull in people for fun, food, and pumpkin sales! This year the BBQ/Bazaar proceeds will go to the Clifton Night Shelter to help them rebuild their fire-damaged building. After subtracting the costs, this year we will be able to donate about \$800 to the shelter. Marc Karasek will present the check to Clifton on the third Saturday of the month, when NPC is scheduled to serve food. He will bring back a report on how the rebuilding campaign is coming along and we will report that to you in a future article.

On behalf of the Life and Nurture Committee and the Clifton Night Shelter—
THANK YOU!



As the leaves fall off the trees in abundance, may they remind us of God's many blessings to us for which we give thanks. 'Tis the season!

Presbyterian Women

by
Carol MacGregor



Come to the brunch at church on Saturday, November 19th from 10 a.m. to noon. All women are invited to come for a time of giving thanks and looking ahead to the Advent season. Bring a food to share using an ingredient for which you are thankful!

Lend a hand preparing the Angel Tree and hear how you can take part in the Santa Claus Express (for Presbyterian Homes of Georgia) and Christmas gifts for our Thornwell Homes child.

If you would like nursery service that morning, please call Carol MacGregor at 770-840-9250.



An **Angel Tree** will appear in the church narthex in mid-November. For the seventh year, Presbyterian Women are sponsoring this project which provides children whose families are assisted by Rainbow Village, a Christmas shopping trip to Target. The date is Sunday, December 11 and begins with a pizza lunch after church. Youth and adults will accompany the children while they shop and return to the church to wrap their purchases. Angel ornaments can be removed from the tree and returned with a gift certificate (gift card) from Target. Ten or twenty dollar values are most useful for this purpose. Gift cards can also be turned in or sent to the church office. Thank you in advance for your participation. If you would like more information about the **Angel Tree**, please call Paula Smith at 770-368-8385 or Carol MacGregor at 770-840-9250.

**BEST WISHES TO OUR
NOVEMBER and DECEMBER
BIRTHDAY CELEBRANTS**



November 2 Cal Bernardo

3 Mundy Rado

3 Jo Crymes

18 Glory Hanna

December 1 Kathy Fluehr

4 Marc Karasek

12 Duncan MacGregor

14 Julia Villalobos

15 Glen Helmstetter

19 Ben Currier

19 Chip Plyler

26 Sandy Plyler

30 Margaret Murphy

31 Katie Badeaux