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## THANK YOU LORD FOR:

## THE CULDEE CONNECTION

May 2024

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*When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. (Acts 2:1-4, NRSV)*

On Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate Pentecost at Culdee Church. This is the Sunday each year that we remember the coming of God's Holy Spirit upon believers in Jerusalem, following the death and resurrection and ascension of Jesus. Christians refer to this event as "the birthday of the Church." Even though the gospel writer John tells us that Jesus had already breathed the Holy Spirit on his disciples to empower them for their work as apostles (John 20:21-23), God's Spirit showed up in a mighty way at the Jewish celebration of Pentecost (Shavuot). You can read the whole story in Acts, chapter 2.

Since I preached from Acts 2 last year, we'll hear the Pentecost story read on May 19<sup>th</sup>; then my message will be from Ezekiel 37, the story of his vision of the valley of dry bones. There are two things I invite you to do for May 19<sup>th</sup>. One is to wear "the colors of flame;" red, yellow, orange, or some combination thereof, so that our sanctuary might be alight with the colors of Pentecost. The other is to come having read and pondered the first two chapters of the Book of Acts, and what the message may be for the work and witness of Culdee Presbyterian Church.

**Connie Weaver**

## **NOTES FROM THE STATED SESSION MEETING OF APRIL 14, 2024**

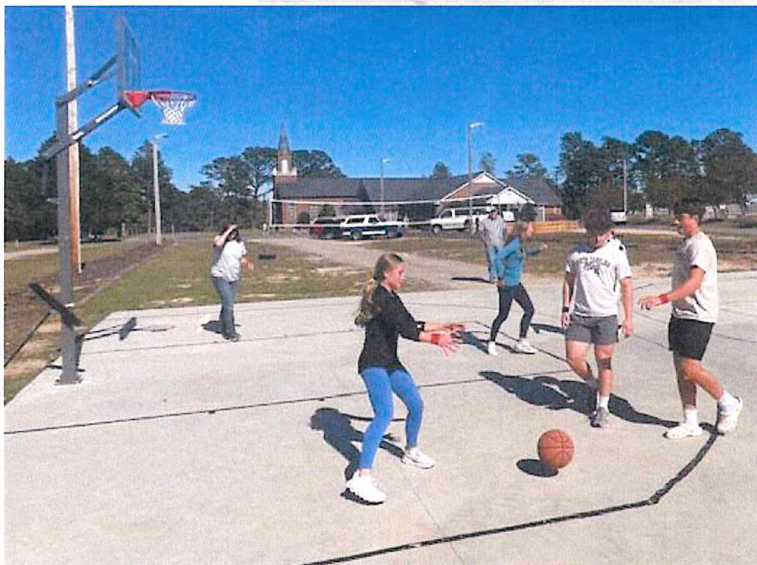
June Stewart, Clerk

The meeting was held in Room A/Session Room at 6:00 p.m. with a quorum of Elders in attendance and Pastor Connie serving as Moderator.

- Active Membership is 162.
- Approved 90% of the proceeds from the 2024 Harvest Festival to go specifically to fund the renovation of the kitchen; 10% will go to funding the session approved list of local and extended missions.
- The Financial Report for March 2024 was reviewed and approved as presented.
- The Barnabas Fund assisted one person with a power bill.
- The report from the Investment Committee was received and approved as presented.

### **Christian Education Ministry**

Culdee Christian Ed held the first Sunday Funday and highlighted the 2024 Olympics on April 7<sup>th</sup>. Seventeen youth attended and competed in basketball, volleyball, gaga ball, kickball and a variety of games for the younger group.







Medals were awarded to the winning teams.





During worship, we discussed the ultimate victory for a Christian. Danny and Marshall led the group in music with some of the braver youth leading the songs. It was a good start to our year.



**The next older youth Sunday  
Funday will be June 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

A KFC (Kids for Christ) VBS will be held on **May 18<sup>th</sup>** from 10 – 12:30. This will also follow the Olympic theme for ages 0 – 6 years old. Our VBS will begin with an opening parade, bible story time, crafts and games. Invite families with young children to join us!

Our plans for **Culdee/Camp Monroe hybrid VBS** continue. This camp is for ages 6–14-year-olds. Currently, we have several openings. If you know of a youth or family member that would like to join us, please let Patti know at 336-803-3278. Dates are **June 23<sup>rd</sup> – June 27<sup>th</sup>**. Camp Monroe counselors will conduct camp at Culdee from 9 – 1 on M,T,W. We will transport campers to Camp Monroe on Thursday morning for the overnight Camping experience. All campers will return on Friday by 2:00 pm. Any camper not wishing to stay at camp overnight will be picked up and transported back to Culdee and can be transported back on Friday morning for the final day.

As we work to grow our youth programs and generate more interest to develop these areas, we would appreciate your support. Please assist us by inviting others to join in our VBS opportunities and Sunday Fundays. As always, we thank you!!!

Marshall Sweat and Patti Burke



## Presbyterian Women

On Saturday April 20, 2024, Ann Savage, June Stewart and I attended the Presbyterian Women of the Coastal Carolina Spring Gathering at St. Andrews Presbyterian Church. There were 82 in attendance with 27 churches represented. Our guest speaker was Maggie Buchanan who spoke on "Why Women Need Other Women." She chose the passage from Luke 1, when Elizabeth was going to give birth to a son "John", and then later Mary would find out she would give birth to a son and He will be called "Jesus". What this came down to is that these two women would need each other. Like Elizabeth and Mary, we at Culdee need each other also. If you have a chance and can go to the church Facebook page and see the post that June shared and listen to the brief message. I think you will enjoy it.

Also, the new PW Horizons Bible Study "Let Justice Roll Down" God's Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation, is out and those that subscribe for this may already have it. I think this will be a great study for us all. Thank you all for everything you do.



Gail,  
PW Moderator

THE  
STEADFAST  
*Love*  
OF THE  
LORD  
NEVER  
CEASES  
LAMENTATIONS 3:22 (NRSV)



## SANDHILLS HUNGER CROPWALK 2024

April 14th was a beautiful, warm day for this year's walk. Lemonade, water, and cookies provided refreshment for everyone when they took a break and/or after they finished up! Thanks to all those who walked or rode their bike or provided lovely instrumental music for the walkers. Deep appreciation is extended to all those who prayed for all the walkers at Culdee and at the main site on the track at Union Pines, and to each one who donated to support this worthy cause. Our Culdee Crop Walk raised a total of \$2,946.00. The money will do wonderful work here in Moore County through the Sandhills Coalition, and in many places around the world!! Thank you all for being a blessing to so many!! June







Joyful Noise will be presenting "Joyful Noise All Stars" on **Tuesday May 21<sup>st</sup> 6:30 pm** in the fellowship hall. This program will consist of all of the students' favorite artists. We are in for quite an evening with these special needs adults. Come prepared to laugh, cry, and sing-a-long with Joyful Noise for a fun filled evening.



Many thanks to all those who've had their photo taken for the new **church pictorial directory**. Final edits are being made and we'll soon be able to make this new directory available to our church family. We extend thanks also to Pam Brown, Joe Weaver, and Janie Taylor for their leadership on this project.



## Up Coming Events

**May 5th Senior Luncheon**



**May 18th Mini-Funday**



**May 23rd Culdee Men's meeting & dinner**



**June 2nd Sunday Funday**

**June 24-28 VBS & Camp Monroe**



Shirley Shields	06
Johnie Marion	06
Josh Aldridge	08
Diane Aldridge	09
Reece Parsons	09
Samuel Blue	10
Andrew Campbell	11
Rebecca Willcox	11
Alston Willcox	11
Alex Campbell	13
Alex Prince	13
Larry Koster	13
Ella Vest	14
JoAnn Cameron	14



## MAY BIRTHDAYS

Will Cuff	15
Duncan Fowler	15
Emily Craven	16
Gail Farmer	18
Griffin Clayton	18
Darrell Cole	19
Brian Gribben	19
Evan Rivas	21
Aidan Palmerton	22
Rick Mathews	22
Mike Marion	23
Layton Barber	24
H.W. Frye	26
Rev. Jane Love	26
Matt Gribben	26
Dennis Fortune	31



## Chancel Choir Luncheon

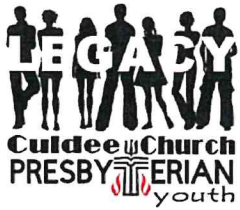
Valenti's was the perfect spot on Sunday afternoon for the Chancel Choir's luncheon. We were served a buffet of 20-layer lasagna, seafood stuffed shells and cheese ravioli with all the Italian fixings. The room was filled with laughter and love. What a blessing this choir family is. We appreciate the joy that Valenti's provided for us on Sunday. The ability to join with our families and worship together in the community. We missed several that couldn't come but welcomed several new prospects for our music program. So grateful for all that the Lord has provided for this beautiful group of musicians.











Happy May Church Family!

There are a lot of things that I never thought about before working at a school. One of the needs that I discovered when I first started as a School Social Worker was that lots of students had accidents, spilled something on their shirt or pants, their water bottle leaked so they needed a new backpack, etc. Some students ask for socks and snacks, too. In the past, schools I have worked at from alternative, elementary, and high have

had donations of clothes somewhere at the school. In one school there was nowhere to store the clothes other than backstage in the auditorium. In another, they were in a room in the gym, and at another, clothes were stored in unused lockers. At my current school, Pinecrest, they were upstairs on the balcony of the library. At all the schools, I would go with the student in need to the donation location and we would go through so many piles and stacks of clothes often to have no luck finding something that would fit. When we did find things we thought would work, students would spend time trying on clothes often to find that nothing fit. Students would then have to call home and if parents had transportation, they would have to leave their jobs, go home to get clothes, and bring them to the student or just pick the student up and take them home. This was not working! Students were missing valuable time in class.

When discussing options for service projects with the youth, they decided the emergency clothes closet at Pinecrest was what they wanted to help with. The new closet is stocked with black leggings, jogging pants, underwear, and a flushable wipe in a labeled by size ziplock bag. Plain T-shirts labeled by size, socks, jackets or hoodies, belts, and bookbags are also available. This allows a quick, five-minute turnaround and students are able to get back to class much sooner than before and feeling less embarrassed. The youth are taking inventory monthly to see what we need to reorder. At the rate that the closet is getting used, we are serving approximately 12 students per week with clothing needs and we have students asking for snacks on a daily basis.

After last week, we are completely out of leggings of all sizes and need to restock the closet! If you would like to help, you can give monetary donations to the church office or choose an envelope of the amount you wish to give from the bulletin board in the sunroom and put the envelope on the collection plate on Sunday. All of the money raised will go to Pinecrest High School Emergency Clothes Closet! Thank you!

In other youth news, we are all busy with Spring activities including travel basketball, lacrosse, horseback riding, and scouts. Our youth are quite amazing in how they are able to juggle school, church, home, sports, and community. I could not be prouder of them!! Celeste Marino





## Finance Ministry



It's hard to believe that in 6 months, on October 19, 2024, Culdee's annual Harvest Festival, Auction and Chicken and Dumplings dinner will be here. Please start considering where you feel led to help. Seeing that it's spring-cleaning time, and you're looking to de-clutter, consider donating items that can be used for both the auction and yard sale.

The parking lot trees and shrubbery will be planted during the Fall. There are several things that must be done to prepare the beds to accept the new trees and shrubbery to make sure that they have continuous care so we can enjoy them for many years to come.

Sandhills Accounting Services will be conducting our annual financial review for 2023 after the tax season is complete.

Every three years, Culdee must go through an insurance bid process. Several insurance companies are currently submitting their proposals and one will be chosen very soon that best fits the needs of Culdee Presbyterian Church.

As of March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024, the year-to-date dividends, interest and realized gains on investments is \$1,731.45. Year to date unrealized gains is \$15,861.12. This creates a total year to date realized and unrealized gain of \$17,592.57.

Always feel free to speak with anyone on the Finance Ministry if you have questions: Tim Lea, Shannon Bullard, Danny Aldridge, Faye Riggsbee, Ann Savage, Mark Cole and Darrell Cole.

## Hygiene Kits for Church World Services

Culdee has collected the following items for many years. These kits are handed out by the CWS following a disaster or war to people who have lost everything. They are meant to help with the basic needs of people. You can collect individual items or total kits and place them in the baskets in the Sunroom. June Stewart regularly puts kits together and sends them in a package to CWS.



One 1-gallon Ziploc bag

One hand towel (No fingertip, bath, dish, or micro-fiber towels.)

One washcloth

One wide-tooth comb removed from the package. It must be sturdy with at least 6" of teeth. No pocket combs or picks.

One fingernail or toenail clipper (Either one is acceptable. Remove from packaging.)

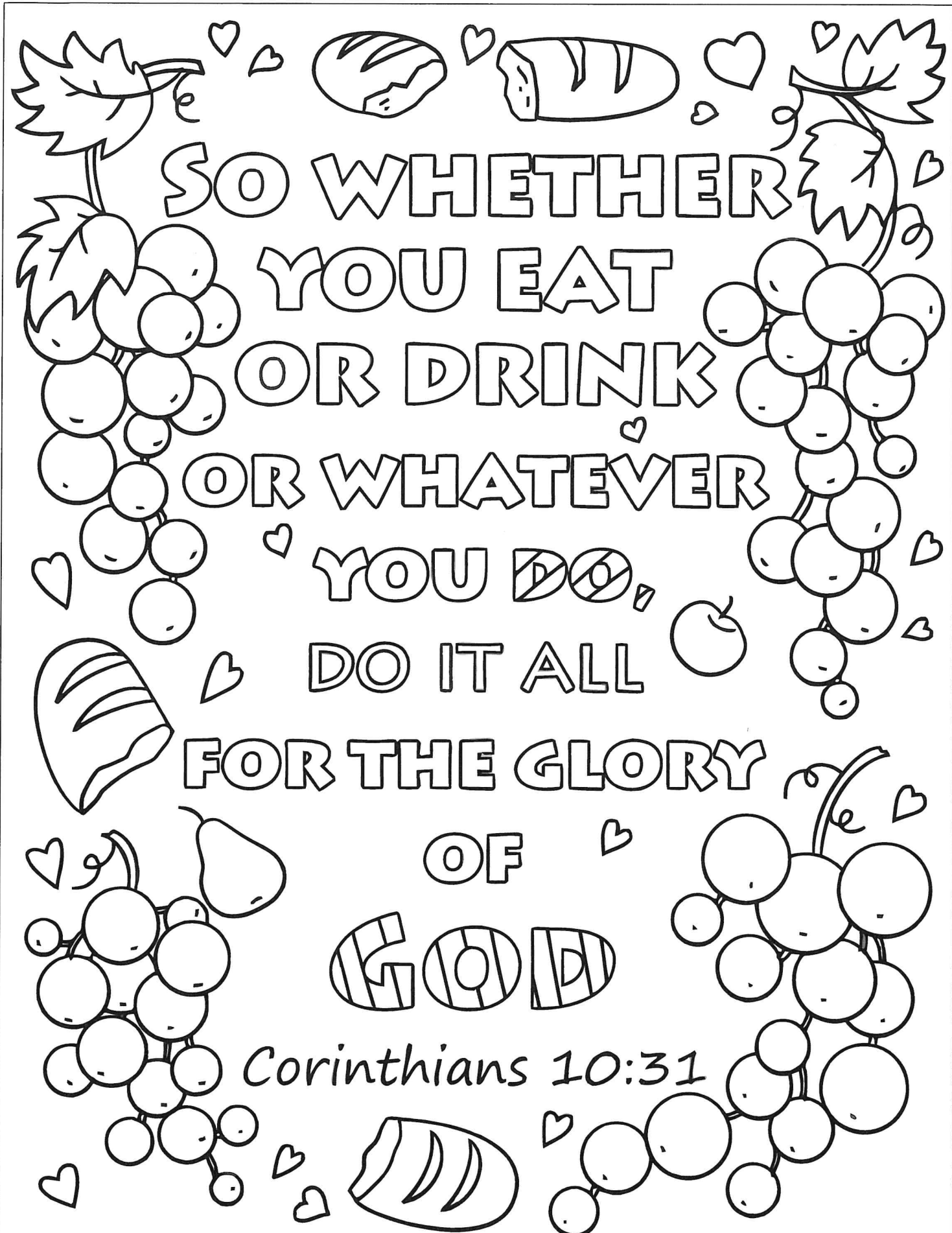
One bath-size bar of soap in the original package

One toothbrush in the original package

Ten standard size Band-Aids

\*\*\*\*\*A tube of extended expiration date toothpaste will be added to each hygiene kit just prior to its journey.



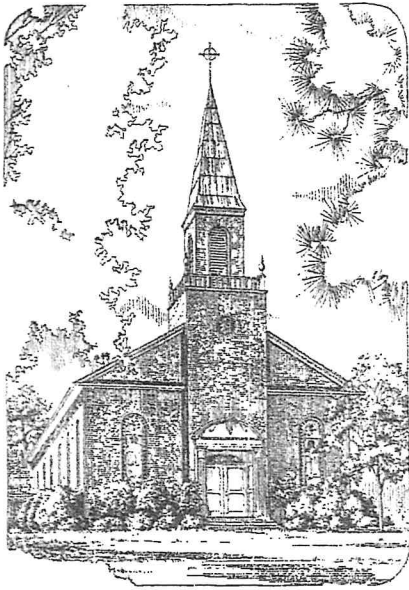


SO WHETHER  
YOU EAT  
OR DRINK  
OR WHATEVER  
YOU DO,  
DO IT ALL  
FOR THE GLORY  
OF

GOD

Corinthians 10:31





*Culdee Presbyterian Church*

916 HIGHWAY 73, WEST END  
NORTH CAROLINA

*Give thanks to the LORD, call on his  
name; make known among the nations  
what He has done. 1 Chronicles 16:8*

### **Culdee Presbyterian Mission**

Culdee Presbyterian Church will build caring relationships with our local and global community while proclaiming the Word of God and building up our faith community.

Contact Us: Phone (910) 295-6685

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