

# KELLEY'S CORNER

A NEWSLETTER OF THE MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF KELLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**MARCH 2010**

## “LENTEN LOVING AND LEADING”

Lent is the “prime time” for our spiritual growth in Jesus Christ. So I highly and strongly recommend that we stress “3 Rs” this Lenten season: REFLECT, RELATE, AND RENDER.

First and foremost, intentionally REFLECT UPON the life, death, and resurrection of the loving and living Lord Jesus, who taught that we are to love God with all of our “heart, soul, mind, and strength” (Mark 12:30). So we engage all of those core components of ourselves in our reflection upon Jesus Christ. A basic ingredient of our reflection upon Jesus Christ is remembering the meaning of the word “Christ”—God’s appointed and anointed leader of his people, whom he calls and claims for salvation and service. Jesus deserves the title of “Christ,” which reminds us that he leads us to our salvation and for his service.

The best book that I’ve read about Christian life, faith, and church in the past decade is Unbinding the Gospel by Martha Grace Reese, who included this anecdote from a church leadership retreat that she led. She asked those church leaders, “What difference does it make in your own life that you are Christian?” She writes this reaction to that inquiry: “Silence. Loud silence stretched on. And on. I stared around the circle in disbelief. Finally, one volunteered hesitantly, ‘Because it makes me a better person?’” So Martha posed the inquiry to the readers: “What difference does it make in your life that you are a Christian?” Lent is the opportune time for each of us to get a good answer to that good question. What difference does the Christian faith actually make in our lives? After extensive consultation with numerous and various “mainline” churches, Martha made this observation: “We only dabble our toes at the edge of the waters of faith. Few of us have a clue how vivid and powerful life with Christ can be.” So I suggest that you REFLECT UPON JESUS CHRIST throughout the Lenten season so that you “get a clue of how vivid and powerful life with Christ can be.”

The second “R” for the Lenten season is for us to RELATE in the real (genuine and authentic) relationships of “rightness and wholeness” with God and people. This shared quality of Christian life, faith, and community, had the traditional biblical term of “righteousness,” whose meaning necessarily includes the personal experience and expression of our crucial connection with God in Jesus Christ. So in the Lenten season, we deliberately strengthen our connection with God in Christ by engaging and exercising it, like the athletes who exercise their bodies now for the next baseball and football seasons.

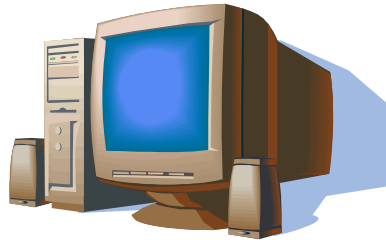
The essential essence of the matter is summarized so well by Martha: “At its best, Christian life has two aspects that are inseparable. It must be real (honest, transparent), and it must be relational (be lived in relationships that are real honest, transparent).” In other words, deliberately develop the depth and breadth of your rightly connected relationship with God in Jesus Christ. This dynamic development is vital to the spiritual health and vitality of you and your church. So Martha’s prescription is providentially placed at Lent: “If you and your

congregation do not have a primary focus on having a relationship with God, please ask the Spirit to help you change that. Everything depends on it." Also, develop the depth and breadth of your right relationships with people ON BEHALF OF GOD IN JESUS CHRIST. The former commences with YOUR persistent prayers to God, individually and with other people, and the latter continues with YOUR prayers for other people and for their connection with God.

*Dan*

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### COMPUTER CLASSES ANYONE??



Would you like to learn how to use a computer, send emails to your family and download pictures of your grandchildren? Kelley Presbyterian Church would like to offer computer lessons to the senior members in our congregation. The lesson will be tailored to your own personal needs. You don't even need to bring a computer; one will be supplied for you. Robert Sciarrone, a college student with our church is offering his time on Thursdays, Friday's or Saturday's from 2pm to 8pm in our church. Starting immediately, all you have to do is call 404 226 5553 to schedule a time that would work for you. There is no cost for the lesson but donations to the "Facility Upgrade Fund" at church would be welcome.

It's first come, first served, so call today for your lesson.

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### SENIOR SPRING FLING AT CALVIN CENTER

*On Wednesday, May 12 at Calvin Center the Senior Adult Ministry Committee (SAM) of Atlanta Presbytery is offering a seminar, "Bearing Fruit in Its Season". There will be a continental breakfast, group Singing, lunch and optional activities among which are walking the Camp Calvin Labyrinth, Exercise Activity, Writer's Workshop, Bible Jeopardy and lessons on container gardening. Registration is \$15. For more information and registration see Nancy.*

## **PLANNING TEAM**

### **Facility Upgrade**

The Planning team kicked off to a great start last year and has identified several areas that could benefit from a facility upgrade at Kelley Church. “We want our church to be a destination more than a landmark.”

In the Narthex we had set up our bulletin board to show you the pictures of the new door, colors we have picked and how a new ceiling would look in our Sanctuary. Many people are chipping in;

- The paint for the Sanctuary has been donated.
- Several congregation members have volunteered to do the molding around the ceiling and judges paneling.
- New signage is donated
- Betty Chafin’s family is donating the new church doors and door cover in her memory.
- Donations from our congregation
- The family of Jean Scroggs is donating a stained glass window to be placed in the choir loft in Jean’s memory

We also received an Outreach Compassion Grant from the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta for our Facility Upgrade especially to replace the ceiling tiles in our Sanctuary, Narthex and Choir loft that were falling down due to age and water damage. Once the tiles were removed it was replaced with sheetrock and painted. We thought you would like to see pictures of our progress.

We have already received a monetary donation but we always need a little more help. If you would like to donate money towards the “Facility Upgrade”, please mark your donation to the church as “Facility Upgrade.” If you have a skill set in any of these areas and would like to volunteer please let us know. Currently we are looking for someone to help with the sound system and wiring for the church chimes.

This project supports our mission statement as all generations will be able to serve together with God in Jesus Christ in a safer, clean sanctuary. Thank you all for your flexibility to worship in our Hospitality Center while we are undergoing this transformation.

Our church is a great example of teamwork. We are all motivated and energized to “make a difference.” You will see changes around the church, but we need your input too. If you have any ideas or recommendations for Kelley Presbyterian Church that you would like to send to the Planning team, please contact any member of the team.

The Planning team members are: Kevin and Frances Scott, Nancy Isaac, Chrys Sanders, Kay Yancey, Carolyn Whitford, Elizabeth Kilfoyle, Paul Rohrabough, Shannon Whitford, Barbara Keller and Pastor Dan Ottaviano. Pictures on back were taken and arranged by Jarvis Aldridge.

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**Dates to Remember:**

**March 28 - Palm Sunday and Kelley Baptism**

**April 1 - Maundy Thursday Service, 7 pm**

**April 4 - Easter Services 7 and 11 am; Baptism of Brooke Ames at 11 am;**

**Men’s Breakfast 8 am and Easter Egg Hunt after breakfast**

# Youth News Letter

## March 2010



I'd like to thank my church family for all the loving support and prayer through the loss of my grandfather. It has meant the world to me and my family!

The youth have begun their tennis adventure once again with the elementary age students. Once again they have stepped up to the plate and volunteered their time to help our tennis program. When you see them please let them know what a great job they are doing. We still need volunteers to cook dinner during the spring tennis season. There is a budget for this so you can be reimbursed for some or all of the cost of the food. Please get with Ms. Katie if you are interested in providing a dinner or if you aren't a cook you can have something brought in.

We still have KPC t-shirts available for our youth fundraiser. They are available in all sizes and cost \$10.00. All of us need a KPC shirt to wear on church outings and when we have community events at the church. Please get with Ms. Katie or myself if you are interested in a KPC shirt.

Please bring in wrapped candy so we can fill eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt!

Upcoming Events: *We all get tight at times; there is money in our youth account for such things. Get with Shannon if you need help paying for any event.*

March 28	-	Movie Day (First Sunday p-13)	4:00pm Middle & H.S. Bring \$5.00 to order pizza
April 4	-	Easter Egg Hunt	
April 11	-	Fun Day (Bowling)	4:00pm All Ages Bring \$15
April 25	-	Movie Day (TBA)	4:00pm Middle & H.S. Bring \$5 to order pizza

*Blessing for a Church*  
*James Dillet Freeman*

*This is God's house.*

*May we who come here not only find out  
about God, but find God.*

*May there be beauty in this place, but  
especially may it be a place where men  
and women become aware of the beauty in themselves.*

*May this be a place of worship. May this be  
a place of instruction. May this be a place of  
ringing. May this be a place of prayer.*

*But for us who worship and take instruction  
and sing and pray, may this always be a place  
of inner stillness, where we may listen and hear when God speaks.*

*May whoever ministers here minister in love.  
May whoever teaches here teach truth. May  
whoever serve here serve pleasantly.*

*May everyone come into this house  
in expectation and go with thanksgiving,  
and may anyone who comes needing help  
go feeling blest.*

*May this be such a house that Jesus Christ –  
or any stranger, even one of the least – would  
feel in it that He was with friends.*

*Amen.*