

# THE SANDHILLS SCRIBE

AUGUST 2009—VOL 9

A NEWSLETTER OF SANDHILLS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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## LEADERSHIP

Drew Martin	Assistant Pastor
Chip McAulay	Assistant Pastor
Mike Windish	Pastoral Intern
Joe Arnold	Ruling Elder
Scott Boulton	Ruling Elder
John Carter	Ruling Elder
Chuck Robbins	Ruling Elder, Clerk
Tom Smith	Ruling Elder
Gray Cockman	Deacon
Bill Crisp	Deacon, Chairman
Larry Haywood	Deacon
Charlie Proulx	Deacon
John Stone	Deacon

## WELCOME CHILDREN

Zachary Wilson

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### September 6<sup>th</sup>:

- \*Church Plant Presentation during Sunday School
- \*Children's Sunday School Promotion Sunday
- \*Children's Church Resumes

### September 13<sup>th</sup>:

- \*Pastor Kevin Skogen's First Sunday
- \*New Adult Sunday School Begins

### September 18<sup>th</sup>: Ladies' Purse

Exchange

### September 27<sup>th</sup>: Pastor Kevin Skogen Installation Service

### October 2-4<sup>th</sup>: Mountain Man Camping Trip

### October 9-11<sup>th</sup>: Ladies Retreat at RidgeHaven

## FROM THE SESSION/PASTORS

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We have had an exciting summer here at Sandhills Presbyterian Church! Here are a few of the things that have been going on recently:

- \*Vacation Bible School
- \*Summer Supper Clubs
- \*Ice Cream Social
- \*Men's Breakfast
- \*Women's Luncheon
- \*Church Picnic
- \*Church Workdays

In addition to these events, we have two answers to prayer to share with you. Assistant Pastor Chip McAulay passed his licensure examination before the Central Carolina Presbytery. And we are in the process of welcoming our new Senior Pastor, Kevin Skogen.

Pastor Skogen was overwhelmingly confirmed by the church during a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, July 19, 2009. The following Saturday, he was confirmed by our Presbytery and his transfer was approved. Many of you have had the opportunity to meet him over the last few weeks. We are blessed that he has been able to lead us in worship several times. Pastor Skogen will officially begin on Sunday, September 13, 2009. Please pray for his family and current church as they are transitioning.

In addition to the many exciting changes that come along with the arrival of our new pastor, we have some exciting things going on with our current Pastoral Staff.

Our Assistant Pastor, Chip McAulay, was originally called to Sandhills Presbyterian to complete his ordination and prepare for a new church plant from our church. He has felt called to begin the church on Lake Tillery in Montgomery County, NC. Please plan to attend Sunday School on September 6, 2009, to hear Chip share his vision for the this exciting fulfillment of the Great Commission in Matthew 18.

Our Pastoral Intern, Mike Windish, is beginning his last year of Seminary at Reformed Theological Seminary. He has a heavy course load this semester, but will graduate and pursue Licensure/Ordination in the Spring.

As we look to the fall, Small Groups will be starting soon, new adult Sunday School classes will begin, and the children will be promoted in Sunday School as well.

In Christ's name, Your Elders and Pastors

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL:** The week after Chip McAulay shares his Church Plant Vision on September 6<sup>th</sup>, a new Adult Sunday School class, **“The New Pastor is Here...Now What?”** will be taught in the Sanctuary by Pastor Kevin Skogen beginning September 13<sup>th</sup>. Here is a brief introduction of the class from Pastor Skogen, **“Brothers and Sisters, It is with great anticipation that Dana, the girls and I, look forward to our joining you all soon. I am sure you have questions regarding the direction of our church, the emphasis I might have and so I am whole-heartedly inviting you to my Sunday School Class beginning on September 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:45am in the Sanctuary. I want to use our time together to set before you where my heart is, and where I believe the foundation of our ministry needs to be. The class is designed to be very interactive, and all questions are welcome as we tackle a variety of issues from what worship is and why we do what we do, what are the means of grace, why are we Presbyterians anyway? We will include things like church membership, the place of our children in the church, the counseling ministry of Sandhills, fellowship, what it is and how we establish it, and many more. So please plan to join us!”**

## MISSIONS

**LIFE CARE PREGNANCY CENTER (LCPC):** One of the current “Mission Agencies” that we support is Life Care Pregnancy Center (LCPC). LCPC serves Moore County in Carthage, NC, and is a Christ-centered ministry that promotes the sanctity of human life by providing Christian direction, compassionate care, accurate information and practical assistance for individuals and families facing crucial decisions surrounding an unplanned pregnancy or pregnancy related crisis. We have several individuals from Sandhills Presbyterian that serve as volunteers at LCPC.

LCPC is currently planning their annual fundraising banquet and silent auction on Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup> at the Little River Golf Club. In addition to the opportunity to buy tickets to the banquet and/or sponsor table(s) at the banquet, LCPC is also looking for donations for their silent auction. If you do or have things suitable to be auctioned (golf packages, trips, dinners, theme baskets, etc), please contact the church office by September 11<sup>th</sup>. LCPC is praying for a huge outpouring of support for this event and thanks us for our continued prayer and financial support.

**YOUNG LIFE OF THE SANDHILLS (YL):** Save the Date: The Annual Fundraising Banquet is Tuesday, October 13th at 6:30pm featuring Allen Levi.

## YOUTH

Our Youth Ministry has just wrapped up an exciting summer! In addition to our summer high school and middle school meetings, we also attended a Drive-In Movie, a Durham Bulls game, hosted a number of cookouts for youth and families, and quite a variety of other activities. Our interns, Michael Hieronymus and Kat Jones, did an amazing job of reaching out to the youth through those events, through one-on-one discipleship, and just by “hanging out.” At the end of July, 28 youth and 6 leaders made the weeklong trip to Greenville, NC for our annual “BASIC Blowout” trip, a week of service in the community, teaching, worship, and fellowship. Our entire Youth Group (even the leaders) even learned the *Thriller* dance together!

As the fall nears, we are also very excited for youth group to begin again. Last weekend, the Youth Leadership Team, which includes 7 of our HS Juniors & Seniors, spent the weekend on a retreat, both learning what it means to be a leader of peers and making plans for the fall. Needless to say, we have a lot in store. The youth ministry website has a calendar of events, but two are worthy of note here. First, our final Youth & Family cookout of the fall will be this Sunday afternoon (August 30<sup>th</sup>) at the Harrelson’s (see the youth website for directions and what to bring), and second, our first youth group of the fall will be on Sunday evening, September 14 from 6-8 pm (for both MS & HS youth). See you there!

If you are new to our church or have any questions about our ministry to youth and families, please contact Assistant Pastor Drew Martin at [drewmartin@nc.rr.com](mailto:drewmartin@nc.rr.com). **YOUTH WEBSITE:** [www.sandhillspca.org/youth](http://www.sandhillspca.org/youth)

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

**CHILDREN'S CHURCH:** *Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6* God has blessed our church with outstanding teachers to help with the Christian training of our covenant children. You may have met them in the nursery, teaching Sunday school, helping with youth meetings, or teaching in Children's Church.

We are excited to be starting a new Year in Children's Church beginning September 6<sup>th</sup>. Children's Church is a place for our children to participate, learn, and grow in their faith. This important ministry could not be possible without the volunteers who have dedicated their time to ensuring that our children will be equipped to learn, to know, and to follow Christ. The new year will begin with some wonderful and exciting changes such as the curriculum that will be taught. Our children will be studying and learning *The First Catechism's* through a program called "*Kids' Quest Catechism Club*". The ages of Children's Church will be 4 to 6 years old.

Thanks again to those who have volunteered their time for our children. We can always use an extra hand and if you feel the desire to volunteer your time once per quarter, please contact Heather Windish at 245-7776 or [hwindish@embarqmail.com](mailto:hwindish@embarqmail.com). We are excited about this new adventure and know with the help of the Church Body we will guide our children in the truths of God that teach us to know and follow Christ

**NURSERY:** As we begin a new school year, the Lord has led me to take on the Nursery Coordinator position. I have many new ideas for this children's ministry but before anything can begin, we must have a solid list of folks who stand ready to volunteer. We have many members on whom we have called repeatedly over the past few years and I would like to give those folks a much needed break and infuse our volunteer rosters with more names. In order to do this we need a firm idea of how many people are interested and in what capacity they would like to serve. Conversely, I need to know who is not able to volunteer in the Children's Ministries at this time.

I plan to have a new system of how we use our volunteers. This will include allowing people to perform ancillary duties such as being a nursery greeter or in charge of snack delivery. I also plan to have a nursery worker orientation so that those people that want to serve in the children's ministry will be prepared before they are expected to serve.

We are in need of some items to serve our infants ("Bouncy Seat", "Boppy" pillow, Exersaucer, Baby Swing, and Pack-N-Play or other type portable crib).

We plan to move the infant nursery to the room that is adjacent to the sanctuary. This is to make it easier for our new mothers with their infants. Children that crawl/cruise to age 2-4 will continue to be downstairs. You will notice new changes taking place over the next few weeks. The nurseries will look different, the registration will be different, and the organization will be new. I humbly ask for your patience and your prayers as we make this transition in an effort to improve and build upon our Children's Ministry.

If you are interested in donating any of the items that are needed or in volunteering in any capacity, please contact the church office or Angie Brooks at [lumrph@aol.com](mailto:lumrph@aol.com).

Sincerely, Angie Brooks Sandhills Presbyterian Church Nursery Coordinator

**CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL:** The new year of Children's Sunday School begins September 6<sup>th</sup>. There are openings for teachers for Infants-2 Year Olds, 2-3 Year Olds, and 4 Years-Kindergarten. Please remember that Sunday School does not happen without teachers who make a real difference in the lives of the children. Each class is team taught, curriculum that is easy to understand/present is provided, and substitutes are always available. Those interested should contact Susan Boulton at 692-0636 or [susanboulton@gmail.com](mailto:susanboulton@gmail.com).

## WOMEN IN THE CHURCH (WIC)

**BIBLE STUDY:** There are two opportunities starting in September for Ladies' Bible Studies.

Sheila Theune will facilitate various Priscilla Shirer studies beginning September 9<sup>th</sup> on Wednesdays from 9:30-11:30 a.m. Childcare will be provided. Sept 9-Oct 21, we will study "He Speaks to Me: Preparing to Hear from God". Oct 28-Dec 16, we will study "Discerning the Voice of God: How to Recognize When God Speaks". Both are homework based studies. Cost of materials will be \$12 per session. If you are interested in attending, contact Sheila at 692-8458 or [sheilatheune@usa.net](mailto:sheilatheune@usa.net).

Lorraine Buracker will be teaching on the book of Philippians beginning October 1st on Thursday mornings at 9:30. There is no homework, and each lesson stands alone. Child care will be offered on a reservation basis by notifying the church office or Lorraine by Tuesday of the same week as Bible Study. Contact Lorraine at 245-3200 or [lorraineburacker@yahoo.com](mailto:lorraineburacker@yahoo.com) with any questions.

**PURSE EXCHANGE:** All ladies are invited to participate in a "Purse Exchange" on Friday, September 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm at the Church. Bring an appetizer to share and a purse to exchange. Please put a notecard in the purse with a Bible Verse on it, with a note explaining its significance to you. The purse can be one from your closet or attic that you no longer use or can be picked up at a garage sale or thrift shop if you don't have one you want to part with. Come for a night of fun and fellowship!

**BOOK CLUB:** There are a few ladies that are interested in starting a Christian Book Club here at Sandhills Presbyterian. If you are interested in getting together once a month to discuss a book that the club reads, please contact the church office.

**WOMEN IN THE CHURCH RETREAT:** The ladies in our Presbytery are having a retreat October 9-11<sup>th</sup> at RidgeHaven PCA Retreat Center in Brevard, NC. The theme of the conference is "Legacy of a Life-Giver" and the speaker is Susan Shepherd. A sign-up sheet is available at the front desk of the church.

## MEN'S MINISTRIES

**D.A.W.N. MEN'S GROUP** (Discipleship And Weekly Nurture) will not meet during the month of August. We will resume meeting after the Labor Day holiday. Please contact Wayne Gomillion with any questions or comments at (910) 585-2400 or [gomillion@charter.net](mailto:gomillion@charter.net).

**D.U.S.K. MEN'S GROUP** (Disciples Under a Sovereign King) meets Wednesday evenings at 7:00pm at the church. All are welcome to come! We are starting The TRUTH Project, that explores the Christian Worldview. Each week we will watch a thirty minute video and discuss the topics covered. For further details please follow link for DUSK group from the church website or contact Ramey Wilson at (910) 692-6216 or [sandhills.dusk.men@gmail.com](mailto:sandhills.dusk.men@gmail.com).

**MOUNTAIN MAN CAMPING TRIP:** The Annual Mountain Man Camping trip with Pastor Steve Hill and the Dillingham PCA Group will be October 2-4<sup>th</sup>. For more information, please contact Dale Crowell at 692-6478 or Troy Decker at 949-3335.

## NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY

If you are new to our congregation, or if your contact information has changed, please be sure that the church office has your correct contact information. We keep (or try to keep) a current directory of members and attendees. We also send out periodic updates via mail and email. A new directory will be printed and ready for pick-up this Fall.