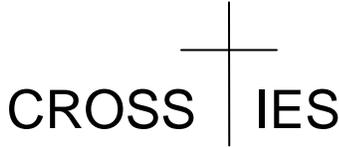


Presbyterian Church of the Cross
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TO CHRIST TO EACH OTHER TO THE WORLD

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JULY CALENDAR

Sat	1	No Soccer	
Sun	2	Adult Sunday School Voices of Angels Practice Worship Service SASTO NA Group	9:45 am 10:00 am 11:00 am 6:00 pm
Tu	4	INDEPENDENCE DAY Church Office Closed	
W	5	No Circle Meeting	
Sat	8	Soccer	9:30 am
Sun	9	Adult Sunday School Voices of Angels Practice Worship Service SASTO NA Group	9:45 am 10:00 am 11:00 am 6:00 pm
W	12	No Session Meeting	
Sat	15	Soccer	9:30 am
Sun	16	Adult Sunday School Voices of Angels Practice Worship Service Communion SASTO NA Group	9:45 am 10:00 am 11:00 am 6:00 pm
Sat	22	Soccer VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL	9:30 am 11:30 am
Sun	23	SHARING SUNDAY Adult Sunday School Voices of Angels Practice Worship Service SASTO NA Group	9:45 am 10:00 am 11:00 am 6:00 pm
W	26	Choir Practice	6:30 pm
Sat	29	Soccer VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL	9:30 am 11:30 am
Sun	30	Adult Sunday School Voices of Angels Practice Worship Service SASTO NA Group	9:45 am 10:00 am 11:00 am 6:00 pm

FREEDOM

The history of our country is closely intertwined with our religious beliefs. The writers of the Constitution were intelligent enough to protect our freedom of religion. Not just one religion, but all religious options. They were fresh off the boat from Europe where religious wars had torn the continent apart for hundreds of years. Some of the most horrifying injustices and torture in human history were conducted in the name of church and religion. They wanted no part of it in this country.

We need to remember this and be careful when we criticize or condemn another person's faith. Most of us are Christian due to the fact that we were born to Christian parents and not because we examined all the religions and chose this one.

Nevertheless, as we follow our faith, let us remember that there are some essential guidelines in the scriptures. First, is that the one we follow, Jesus, is called the "Prince of Peace." Second, he had one law: "You shall love one another." Therefore the Christian faith should always be a people who are peace loving and compassionate.

It is easy to get zealous about our beliefs about how our country should be governed, but when we remember those two essential beliefs, it changes political enemies into fellow citizens, attempting to build a nation where everyone is respected. Our freedom is not a license to march head-long into whatever direction we desire, condemning anyone who will not join us or violently opposing those who disagree.

In the letter to the Galatians we are reminded, "For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another. Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. (Galatians 5:13-16)

Freedom is not about self-indulgence or self-centeredness. It's about building a community that respects and cares for one another. Let us celebrate such a freedom!

~ Gray Clark



Join us for Bible School this summer for a great time! All children age 5-14 are welcome to participate and there will also be a class for adults.

VBS will be held on **July 22 and 29, August 19 and 26, and September 16 and 23** at **11:30 am – 1:30 pm** (all Saturdays after soccer ends for the day). Registration forms are available at church and at soccer and need to be returned to the church by July 2.

Interested in helping out? Please speak with Elaine Morehead or Joanne Miles.

SOCCER

Community children continue to flock to our soccer field to play and improve their soccer skills on Saturdays at 9:30 am. We have volunteers from Greensboro United Soccer Association to coach soccer but we could use some help serving a light lunch around 10-noon and would appreciate your help whether for one Saturday or every Saturday. Contact Gray Clark if you have any questions.

There will be NO soccer on July 1.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

The women will not have a Circle meeting in July. The next meeting will be Wednesday, August 2, at 10:00 am.

PCC PEOPLE

Congratulations to:

- **Kevin and Keri Teague** on the birth of a daughter, **Claire Elizabeth**, on April 29, and to the grandmother, Marilyn Woods.
- **Kristy Teague and Joshua O'Byrne** who were married on June 10. Kristy is the daughter of Marilyn Woods and Jeff Teague.
- **Brooke Peeples Shaffer and Chris Price** who were married on June 17. Brooke is the daughter of Kaye Peeples and Billy Peeples.

We extend our sympathy to the family of **June Owens** at her passing.

AIR CONDITIONING...

...and this hot, humid air we've been having certainly needs conditioning! However, our air conditioner in the sanctuary has finally given out. (It was only 53 years old.) We are currently meeting in the Fellowship Hall while we explore different options and try to find the \$25,000 – \$30,000 needed to replace it.

Worship in the Fellowship Hall is really not so bad. We are in a more intimate place. We can hear the choir. (Could you not hear us in the sanctuary?) We can see one another and we don't feel like we are so distant from one another. Please come worship with us! We miss you!

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

In previous articles, you've learned about **Vacation Bible School** and **soccer**; both of which are free and open to children of the community as well as those who participate in our Sunday programs.

Our Children's Sunday School class will not meet again until September 10 BUT our **Children's Choir**, the Voices of Angels, will continue to meet each Sunday (except August 27) at 10:00 am. We have a couple of really good singers who would love to have some other children join them. Bring those children and let's build our music program! They add so much to our worship services when they sing!

JUST B NATURAL!

That's our music academy's motto..."Don't B sharp, don't B flat, just B natural!" In other words, be yourself, be your BEST self; don't try to be something you aren't just to fit into a group. And it's been proven that learning music can help you achieve your best self which is where the B Natural Academy of Music and the Arts comes into play. Our goal is to provide low cost/high quality lessons for youth age 5-14 who otherwise might not have a chance to have lessons.

In order to keep our academy open, running, and meeting our goal, we need support. Of course, your tax deductible donations are always appreciated, but we are also searching for fund raising ideas, people to run them, and grants. Pass along your ideas to Kaye Peeples.

Classes in guitar, piano, percussion, voice and dance will begin the week of September 5. Watch the August "Crossties", emails, and around the church for information on registration. Contact the academy's executive director, **Kaye Peeples**, at 336-580-6324 if you have questions.

