

June 2011

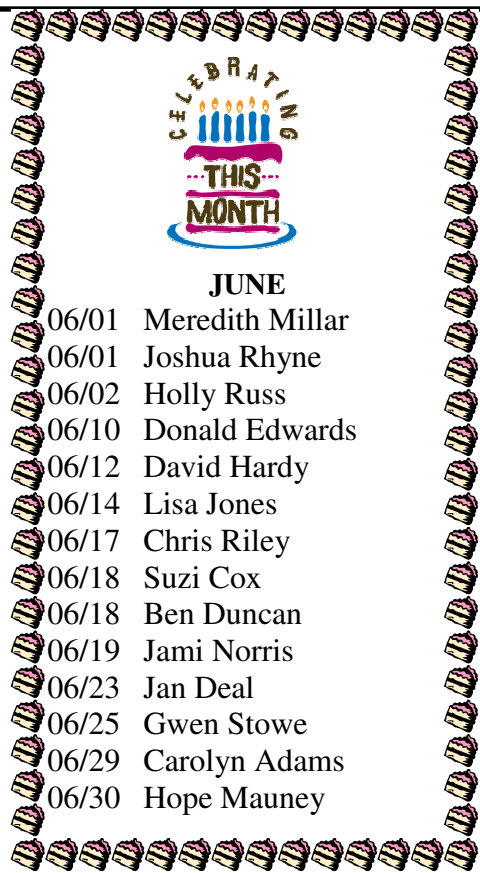
# Crowders Creek ARP Church



It is hard to believe Summer is already here. Kids are out of school and glad for a break. High school graduates and their parents are preparing for a major transition in their lives. College graduates are preparing for the next step: looking for a job or moving onto graduate school. College students are home for summer break. There is no doubt that the summer is a great time of fun, rest, and transition from one phase of life to the next. But I also hope that it will be a time of preparation as well. Some of you may be preparing for the next level of education, for the next job, to be married, or to be parents, but the most important kind of preparation involves our souls. That's why I hope you'll join us for our practical Summer Sermon Series "Soul Searchin". This Sermon Series will be based on the book of Ecclesiastes in the Old Testament. While Ecclesiastes is often overlooked in study it is one of the most relevant books in the entire Bible. It deals with topics such as our work, money, possessions, relationships, worship, trials, marriage, and just simply how to enjoy the life that GOD has given. One of the most helpful resources that I have found in studying Ecclesiastes is a commentary by Philip Graham Ryken. Ryken gives some compelling reasons for studying the book of Ecclesiastes which are wonderful motivators for each of us to take the time this summer to stop and do some "Soul Searchin" ourselves. Why take the time to study the book of Ecclesiastes: 1) Ecclesiastes helps us to be honest about the problems we all face in life. This book does not "sugar coat" the problems of life nor gives us "pat" answers. Instead it deals with them head on and gives us GOD's wisdom in response. Ecclesiastes is not going to hold back on the biggest – most difficult questions that you and others may have: what is the meaning of life – "why am I so unhappy? does GOD really care? – why is there so much suffering and injustice in the world? is life worth living?" 2) Ecclesiastes helps us to see clearly what will happen to us if we choose what the world tries to offer instead of what GOD has to give. On June 5<sup>th</sup> we will honor all of our graduates. We have 6 this year (3 from High School and 3 from college). While all three high school graduates will receive a Bible, this year I decided to give the college graduates an excellent book by John Piper: Don't Waste Your Life. This book is geared toward young people and as we begin the "Soul Searchin" Sermon Series on Graduate Sunday we will all (especially the graduates) look at the question of what we are aiming to gain in life. 3) Ecclesiastes helps us to worship the one true GOD. Solomon is called Qoheleth or the preacher in Ecclesiastes because the book is about the gathering of the people of GOD for the preaching that comes from GOD: His wisdom for living in this world! Qoheleth means: "one who SPEAKS in the assembly or Ekklesia". 4) Ecclesiastes relates well to believers, but also to non-believers— meeting them where they are and helping them to discover the greatness of GOD and that the ONLY meaning in life comes when GOD is at the center of life. Solomon, the author of Ecclesiastes wants us to be convinced that life without GOD is utterly useless, but when GOD is at the center of our lives GOD fills every areas of our lives with meaning. Solomon wants us to see that this vitality and newness changes everything and that's why everything does matter! Since Ecclesiastes deals with practical topics Christians and non-Christians are struggling with, and deals with these tough topics head on why don't you invite a friend or neighbor and we will do some "Soul Searchin" together this summer!

God bless,

Pastor Ben



**JUNE**

- 06/01 Meredith Millar
- 06/01 Joshua Rhyne
- 06/02 Holly Russ
- 06/10 Donald Edwards
- 06/12 David Hardy
- 06/14 Lisa Jones
- 06/17 Chris Riley
- 06/18 Suzi Cox
- 06/18 Ben Duncan
- 06/19 Jami Norris
- 06/23 Jan Deal
- 06/25 Gwen Stowe
- 06/29 Carolyn Adams
- 06/30 Hope Mauney

**HARPS**

**HARPS will be going to Firestone Grill, Wednesday, June 15th at 11:00 a.m. If anyone is interested in riding on the van to go please meet at the church at 10:30 a.m.**

**June Lectionary Texts**

- June 5th—7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**  
Acts 1:6-14; Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35;  
1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11; John 17:1-11.
- June 12th—Pentecost**  
Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; 1  
Corinthians 12:3b-13; John 20:19-23.
- June 19th—1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
Genesis 1:1-2:4a; Psalm 8; 2 Corinthians  
13:11-13; Matthew 28:16-20.
- June 26th—2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
Genesis 22:1-14; Psalm 13; Romans 6:12-  
23; Matthew 10:40-42.

**Additional Ministers this Month...**

	Children's Church	Nursery Schedule
6/5	Felix & Michelle Alpizar	Peggy, Bob, & Josh Grigg
6/12	Laurie Murphy & Shirley Edwards	Allison & Martin Moses
6/19	Carla Clarke & Ava Mauney	Charlie & Christy Rhyne
6/26	NONE	Mona & Tommy Davidson

**June Visitor Sheets:**

**Soldiers On Active Duty  
Meredith Millar**



**Vacation Bible School  
Coming Summer 2011**

Watch bulletin for more details.

**Circles**



- June 6—Ruth Grier Circle at 7:00 p.m.**
- June 7—Minnie Alexander Circle at 2:00 p.m. will meet at Bess Burghen's home**
- Mollie Falls Circle at 7:00 p.m.**

**Leadership Meetings**

- June 8—Deacon's Meeting at 7:00 p.m.**
- June 15—Session Meeting at 7:00 p.m.**

### Bonclarken Gift Shop

*Now is the time of year that you are asked to donate items to the Bonclarken Gift Shop. As you know the Gift Shop began a number of years ago as a service to those who visit Bonclarken. It is a great place to visit, see, and purchase gifts items as well as children's toy, books, etc. Those who are willing are asked to donate hand-made craft items, home-made jelly, jam, pickles, candy, cookies etc. Since children love being able to shop, items from the Dollar Store are very popular.*

*Please bring your donated items by June 5th and place them in the designated container in the vestibule.*

### BABY BOTTLES



Please help us support the Crisis Pregnancy Center by filling a Baby Bottle with loose change. Pick up a baby bottle in the container in the vestibule and return it filled by Father's Day, June 19th.

Join us on Sunday mornings for a new summer sermon series beginning June 5<sup>th</sup>!

### “Soul Searchin” based on the book of Ecclesiastes

*Come and learn how to:*

- “Find your place in light of eternity”
- “Find your place on Monday morning”
- “Find your support people”
- “Find your place in God's house”
- “Find the purpose of your possessions”
- “Find perspective in the Real world”
- “Find meaning in a paradoxical world”

### Upper Room Devotionals



The Upper Room Devotionals are available!! The cost however, is not covered in the 2011 budget. To make these as affordable as possible we will try to order at least 10 large print devotionals. The annual subscription price per person is \$8.22 which includes shipping (on 10 or more). If you are interested in purchasing an Upper Room Devotional please place \$8.22 in a special offering envelope and mark “Upper Room Devotional”. We must collect all money before placing the order. The deadline for receiving payment for the devotional is June 22nd. This will give us time to receive the July devotional. If we do not have 10 subscriptions the price will go up to \$12.99 per copy which will be collected before ordering.

Please contact the church office or Mae Ferguson if you have any questions.





# 2011 Graduate Profiles



**Cavan Christopher Hoose**  
**Hunter Huss High School**  
**Graduation Date: June 10, 2011**

Cavan has been involved in the International Baccalaureate program at Hunter Huss High School and has received his International Baccalaureate Middle Year Program certificate. He was involved in the Huskie Marching Band at Hunter Huss and has performed in many competitions, football games, and parades. He has remained on the A/B honor roll throughout his high school years.

Cavan has been accepted and plans to attend Western Carolina University in the fall.



**Sam Roach**  
**Gaston Christian**  
**Graduation Date: May 7, 2011**

Sam graduated from Gaston Christian with highest honors. He was a member of the Beta Club, Interact Club, and Gaston Christian Players (Drama). He played bass with the Chapel Praise Band. He participated in Cross Country and Swim Team. He plans to attend Covenant College in Lookout Mountain, Georgia (near Chattanooga, TN) in the fall.



**Rebecca Sweeten**  
**Victorious Valley Academy**  
**Graduation Date: June 5, 2011**

Rebecca has taken an active roll in Victorious Valley Baptist Church, especially participating in the youth choir. The girls home has produced many CD's and they are actively traveling as a choir to many churches which support the home and school at Victorious Valley. She will continue living and working at Victorious Valley Home and Academy which is located in Sunset, SC.



**Shannon Millar**  
**Erskine College**  
**Graduation Date: May 14, 2011**

- \*SGA Senator
- \*Robinson Dorm Representative
- \*Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE)
- \*Society of Visual Arts (SOVA)
- \*Water Purification Project, Mexico Mission Trip, 2009

Shannon majored in Social Studies and minored in Secondary Education. After graduation she plans to travel for a time, she already has plans to visit Europe and Jamaica.



**Susannah Roach**  
**Montreat College**  
**Graduation Date: May 14, 2011**

Susannah graduated Summa Cum Laude from Montreat College with a double major in English Literature and Creative Writing. She received the scholarship pin for achieving Dean's list for more than 6 consecutive semesters and was inducted into Alpha Chi Honor Society. She plans to begin work on her Master's Degree (part time) at NCSU in the fall.



**Mandy Deal**  
**Appalachia State University**  
**Graduation Date: May 8, 2011**

Mandy graduated Magna Cum Laude with a degree in Special Education Adapted and General Curriculum. She is a North Carolina Teaching Fellow. Mandy plans to take prerequisite classes for Occupational Therapy Graduate Program.