

# FLINT RIVER PRESBYTERY



Responding to God's Call.

## March 2010 LeaderPak

### COF overview



"Celebration of Faith" 2010 is just around the corner and promises to be a joy-filled weekend of renewal. Our featured speaker for the weekend, The Reverend Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie is a highly-renowned Presbyterian minister and public speaker. He has authored 52 books and edited a 33-volume Bible commentary. He has also been the recipient of the prestigious award: "The 12 Most Effective Pastors in the English-Speaking World". In addition, he has received 16

honorary doctorates and countless accolades as author, teacher, and speaker. Most importantly, though, Lloyd Ogilvie is a man of deep prayer, careful listening, and compassionate attentiveness. He is committed to listening deeply to God and to God's people.

COF will also offer a wide variety of classes designed to deepen daily faithfulness. Class offerings will appeal to a wide audience and will cover topics such as shape note singing, core values of the Christian faith, Old Testament studies, archeological discoveries, women in Scripture, issues of aging, life and death, and prayerful and creative artwork.

Children and youth will enjoy age-appropriate faith-building activities, which will involve music, art, Bible study, and recreation.

A bookstore will be available, and will include many of Dr. Ogilvie's most recent publications. A Ten Thousand Villages fair-trade gift shop will be open as well, and our presbytery's large, walking labyrinth will be located in Hope Chapel for everyone's spiritual refreshment and enjoyment.

If you cannot attend the entire weekend, feel free to come to one of the special worship services on Friday night, Saturday night, or Sunday morning. And feel free to invite colleagues, neighbors, friends and family to join you! You don't need to be Presbyterian to enjoy this enriching weekend!

We're ready to **SPRING FORWARD IN OUR FAITH!**

It's **NOT** too late to call June Denney for a last-minute registration!

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#### [Special Events](#)

(COF, School for Lay Renewal, Sabbath Retreats)

[Join our Mailing List!](#)

## Zack's Has a New Name



Zack's Coffee House has now become Bare Bulb Coffee!

Our mission and ministry are still the same, but we have a new way of talking about what we are doing in the community. Bare Bulb has nothing to do with coffee, but it has everything to do with ministry. Jesus said, "I am the Light of the World," and He said, "You are the light of the world." What we are called to do in Houston County isn't fancy. We simply seek to be light - to shed light - to proclaim the Light that is the Light of Life. That's really it. Bare Bulb. Simple light. It may be an unusual name for a coffee shop. It may be an unusual name for a ministry. We're ok with that. The point is to *shine*.

Here are a few other exciting developments in Flint River's Coffee House Project:

In January, we purchased the equipment and furnishings of an area smoothie store for pennies on the dollar. This purchase saves us thousands of dollars in equipment costs and provides us with most of what we will need to furnish the store.

Construction on our location should begin very soon. Bare Bulb will be located at the busy intersection of Hwy 96 and Lake Joy Road in southern Houston County adjacent to a new (under construction) 14 screen cinema projected to draw 1 million customers each year from a 40 mile radius. We anticipate a summer opening and look forward to showing off our new space when presbytery meets in Warner Robins in August.

Two small groups meet regularly for Bible study, fellowship, and community service.

Dust off your running shoes and join us on Saturday, May 22 for the first annual Bare Bulb Charity Run/Walk! This event, scheduled shortly before we open will bring attention to our shop, build contacts for our ministry, and raise funds for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance in Haiti, the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, and a local service organization.

For more information about this ministry, become a fan of Bare Bulb Coffee on Facebook - and find us on the web soon!

[Bare Bulb on Facebook](#)

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\* The offering for **Haiti Earthquake Relief**, collected during the February 27 Presbytery meeting totalled **\$607.40**

\* The Presbytery Meeting **Dime A Day** Hunger Offering collected **\$376.19**

We thank all of our churches for their **2010 pledges** - those who were forced to cut their pledges during these difficult economic times, those who were able to hold the line, and the sixteen churches that increased their pledges this year. Your pledges made it possible for our commissioners to adopt the proposed **2010 Fiscal Year Budget** (as amended and distributed in the Handbook). It took some painful cutting to get a budget we can live with, and the adopted budget has a \$12,000 deficit....so as God blesses your church this year, we would be delighted to share in your blessings!

## God is at work!

(Written by Sue Leslie, and shared with her permission)

For reasons beyond our control, my husband and I have never been able to have a close relationship with our one grandchild. Over the years, we have seen her infrequently and do not have the closeness that our friends enjoy with their grandchildren. We have finally accepted the situation as one we cannot change, but I also admit to having "grandchild envy" when our friends talked about their grandchildren.

We have two sons and no daughters. In 2007, our married son and our daughter-in-law separated and then divorced. With the divorce, there were no young women left in our family. I missed having a younger woman around so, once during my prayer time, I asked God to send a young woman into my life. It would be nice to have "girl talk."

Last June, after worship service, I fell into conversation with a young military wife whose husband was currently away from home. I felt a little sorry for her when she said that she had no family nearby to help with her children. I spontaneously invited her to visit us one afternoon. Surprisingly, she accepted the invitation. That same week "J." and her two little girls came to see us. It was a nice visit, and we invited her back. Soon she and the little ones were coming every week. We started keeping the children to give her some free time. When she had to have surgery, we kept the children. The children became accustomed to us. The three year old loved to play silly games with my husband, and the baby liked to sit on my lap and eat cookies. "J." and I talked about crafts and sewing. I made her a tote bag. She made me a pincushion.

Now nearly ten months later, my husband and I love "J." and her children. The children may not be related by blood, but they are truly "grandchildren of the heart." I find myself telling others about the funny things the little ones have done. They run to meet us and want to be picked up for hugs and kisses. And then I remembered how I had prayed for a young woman in my life. I had forgotten the prayer, but God had not! He answered my prayer, as He always does, with more than I had asked for. I asked for one person in my life, and He sent three. I asked for a personal relationship with a young woman, and He sent two "grandchildren" as a bonus! Our lives have been forever blessed by His goodness. Thank you, Lord.

## March 2010 Calendar

2	2:30 pm	Resource Center
2	6:00 pm	CEN
4	10:00 am	CME
4	1:00 pm	CLP Minity Team with lunch at 12:30 pm
5-6		Youth Confirmation Retreat
9	10:00 am	Pastoral Relations MT
9	5:00 pm	Mission Assistance MT
10	12:00 noon	NE Clergy Cluster, Northminster
11	12:00 noon	NW Clergy Cluster, Morningside
12-14		Celebration of Faith (COF), Norman Park
18	1:00 pm	Council
20	10:00 am	Statewide General Assembly Commissioner training, Northminster (until 4 pm)

- 23 12:00 noon South Clergy Cluster, Thomasville First  
24 12:00 noon Central Clergy Cluster  
25 Reformation Project Retreat

*All meetings are held at the Presbytery Office unless otherwise noted.*

## Personals

*Christopher Peterson* was examined by Presbytery on February 27, and will become pastor of Thomaston First. He will begin his ministry there on April 11.

*Adam Borneman* was enrolled as a Candidate for ordained ministry during our Presbytery meeting. CLPs *Marie Hill* (Adel) and *Steven O'Neal* (Fitzgerald) were recertified for three more years.

*John Boyer* had successful back surgery on February 18, and is doing well.

*Gale Morgan*, wife of former EP Harrison Morgan, is recovering from hip replacement surgery.

*Jeannie Little*, wife of Pete Little (Washington Ave) has a brain aneurism. Surgery is pending.

*Paula Hoffman* was observed at the 2/27 Presbytery meeting walking on two feet!

*Visit the Prayer List on our webpage!*

## Resource Center Reviews

### **GET READY TO ENCOUNTER THE JESUS YOU NEVER KNEW!**

Welcome to a journey that will challenge you - and change you. A journey that will expand and very likely redefine your understanding of the person, teachings, and the life of Jesus Christ.

This Leaders Guide gives you everything you need to successfully conduct the 14 sessions. Curriculum includes 1120 minute video, 24 film clips and introduction by Philip Yancey each session. The kit includes Participant's Guide, Leader's Guide and copy of the book "The Jesus I Never Knew".

Philip Yancey is editor-at-large for "Christianity Today" magazine and author of many books.

### **GOD WINS!**

That's the message of Revelation. John's message in Revelation is meant to encourage you. This eight-session Video will open your eyes to stunning pictures of Jesus Christ Walking among his churches, battling the evil one throughout history, winning the victory at Calvary, and returning in majesty and glory.

The kit includes a leader's guide on CD with teaching tips, reproducible handouts and other resources, a copy of the participant book and a DVD with introductory presentations by Rev. Lew Vander-Meer.

### **IF YOU WANT TO WALK ON WATER YOU'RE GOT TO GET OUT OF THE BOAT**

Peter may have been the first one out of the boat, but Jesus' invitation to walk on water is for us all. But walk on water? What does that mean? It means facing our fears and choosing not to let fear have the last word, and experiencing the power of God to accomplish what we would not be capable of doing on our own.

The kit includes 90 minutes VHS & DVD, Leader's guide, Participant's guide, and "If You Want to

Walk on Water, You've Got to Get Out of the Boat" book. There are 6 sessions with this study.

### **BECOMING A CONTAGIOUS CHRISTIAN**

Is a proven course designed to equip believers for effective evangelism in today's world. It avoids stereotyped approaches that feel intimidating to many Christians, and shows ordinary believers how they can share the Gospel in a natural and powerful way while being the people God made them to be.

There are 4 sessions of two hours each or 8 sessions of 50 minutes each. In the kit are Video, Overhead masters, Leader's Guide, and a Participant's Guide.

### **MARRIAGE BUILT TO LAST**

We all want a healthy, loving marriage, but there are so many real issues that can stand in the way. In six sessions 24 couples share real-life stories about their honest questions and struggles as they seek to build a marriage that will last a lifetime.

Kit includes 6 DVD's, leader's guide and a workbook by Dave & Sharon Ramsey.

### **INVITATION TO THE NEW TESTAMENT**

A Bible Study that transforms and informs. These studies are modeled after the basic design of Disciple Bible study, introducing participants to disciplined study of the Bible and encouraging them to engage the text through daily reading assignments in preparation for the small group meeting.

This 8 week study includes Participant Book, Leader Guide, and Video Component. Part one of each session is a presentation on some aspect of the topic covered. Part 2 is a conversation among scholars and addresses some aspect of the historical, social, or theological context of each lesson.

### **LAZARUS**

Lazarus is a musical based upon Jesus' story of the rich man and Lazarus (Luke 16:19-31). This one-woman adaptation of Joel Underwood's stage musical is a thoroughly entertaining and thought-provoking look at the serious issues of hunger and poverty in our world today. During the performance, this storyteller transforms herself into a small child, a servant girl, the rich man, and Lazarus...and in the process, leaves audiences transfixed.

Bread for the World is a long-term partner of the Presbyterian Hunger Program. Play time 55 minutes (adaptable to two sessions)

### **JOHN WAYNE BIBLE STUDY**

Vance and Anne Dukes and Laura Holland reviewed this Bible Study, and would like to let everyone know they were impressed with the content, and recommend this study to those having Wednesday night Bible Studies. It is not only good for teens, but adults as well. It is for anyone who wants to go from vice to virtue, to decision, and to redemption.

This is a 4 week study.

## **Parish Paper**

[March, 2010 Parish Paper](#)

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