

**Due to technical difficulties, the Clairmonitor will appear different with this issue. Any missing article requested to be placed in the Clairmonitor via email will be in the next Clairmonitor. I apologize for any inconvenience. Linda Massey, Director of Publications**

# The Clairmonitor

Vol. 32, No. 03

clairmont presbyterian church

02.21.2010

## “Seven Tough Questions for the Christian Faith” based on Tim Keller’s book “The Reason for God”

**Lenten Small Groups** are forming. Please call Rev. Megan Johnson at 404.295.7771, if you would like to join one of the following groups:

- Sunday 9:00am - Parlor
- Sunday 12:00 noon - Chris’ Pizza
- Sunday 5:30pm (during Youth Group for parents)
- Tuesday 7:00pm (women 20’s & 30’s)
- Tuesday 7:00pm (Arnold’s in Tucker)
- Wednesdays 6:30pm (men, women, coed, young adult)
- Thursday 10:00am - Parlor
- Friday 7:45am - IHOP (men only)
- Friday 6:30pm (during Youth Group for parents)



If you are interested in being in one of the following “stage of life” groups, please let Megan know:

- Caregiver of parents/relative/friend
- Newly married, divorced, or widowed
- Parent(s) or a teenage
- Youth (contact Nate Perry at 404.634.3355)

If you are interested in facilitating a group, please let Megan know.

*Tim Keller’s book “The Reason for God” is available for \$10 in the church office, if interested. They are not required for the small group studies.*

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## Worship Services

**10:30am** in the Sanctuary

### Series:

SEVEN TOUGH QUESTIONS FOR THE CHRISTIAN FAITH

### February 21 - First Sunday of Lent

"Doubt: What Should I do with My Doubt?"

*John 20:1-18*

Dr. Tom Pipkin

### February 28 - Second Sunday of Lent

"Exclusivity: How Can There be Just One True Religion?"

*I John 4:1-10*

Rev. Bobby Hulme-Lippert

### Last Call at 6:00pm

### February 21 - First Sunday of Lent

"Doubt: What Should I do with My Doubt?"

*John 20:1-18*

Rev. Bobby Hulme-Lippert

### February 28 - Second Sunday of Lent

"Exclusivity: How Can There be Just One True Religion?"

*I John 4:1-10*

Rev. Bobby Hulme-Lippert

## Annual Congregational Meeting and Luncheon

**Sunday, February 21**

Milligan Hall

The Annual Congregational Meeting has been called for the purpose of:

- Receiving the Budget for 2010
- Introducing the Nominating Committee
- Approving changes in the Terms of Call

Please call the church office at 404.634.3355 with your lunch reservations.

## Bread Visiting Team

The Sunday Bread Visiting Team for Sunday, February 28 is Rob & Angela Gordon. The bread baker is Lynn Black.

## Wednesday Night Alive

**Dinner at 5:30pm**

**Programming at 6:30pm**

**5:30pm - Dinner** in Milligan Hall

(reservations required; call or email the church)

\$6 Adults; \$3.00 Children 12 & under; \$16.00 Family Maximum.

**Children's Activities:** Ages 3 years - 5th grade

6:30 - 7:00pm - Music

7:00 - 7:30pm - Kids Quest Catechism Club

**6:30 - 7:30pm - Adult Programming**

**Lenten Small Groups** at various locations.

Please contact Rev. Megan Johnson at 404.634.3355 if interested in joining.

**Acts of the Apostles** - Through a chapter-by-chapter study of the book of Acts, we will examine the works and power of the Holy Spirit in the life of the early church and His role in our lives today. *Led by Ginny Secor.*

**7:00pm - Soul Sisters** - Small group for all women focused on spiritual growth through study and discussion. Parlor. Contact Renee Miller at rjmiller@yahoo.com.

**7:45-9:15pm - Chancel Choir Rehearsal**

*Menu: 2/24 - Beef Macaroni, Mixed Veggies, Whole Kernel Corn, Dinner Rolls, Dessert, & Beverages.*

*Menu: 3/3 - Herb Roasted Chicken, Rice & Gravy, Broccoli, Dinner rolls, Dessert, & Beverages.*

## Congregational Care

**The Transportation Team of Congregational Care** has drivers willing and able to transport members needing a ride to and from doctors appointments. If you need a ride or are willing to help transport members, please call George Castleberry at 404.634.2355.

**The Transportation Team** also needs volunteers to help drive members to the 10:30am Worship Service. The volunteer will be part of a rotation and participate one Sunday a month, possibly two on occasion. If you can help, contact Jay Scott at 404.558.5971 or jaysweb04@yahoo.com.

## Adult Sunday School Leaders:

Your Spring 2010 Sunday School materials have arrived! Please feel free to come to the church office to get the books for your class. Thank you!

Please check your Sunday School mailboxes each Sunday for important announcements and updates.

## Upcoming Events

### 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Churchwide Talent Show Saturday, February 27

Milligan Hall

Please join us for a wonderful night of fun and entertainment. Beverages and desserts will be served at 7:00pm. It's not too late to enter your talent. Please call Bobby Holmes at (404)370-0839 by Monday, February 22.

### Georgia Festival Chorus in Concert

#### 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Appearance at Clairmont! Sunday, March 14 3:00pm in the sanctuary

This concert, sponsored by the Clairmont Music and the Arts Ministry, features the wonderful Georgia Festival Chorus at 3:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. This acclaimed community chorus, under the direction of its founder, Frank Boggs, has sung much of the world's greatest sacred choral literature for over 20 years. They have toured in England, Scotland, Ireland, Austria, and Italy. This is their 8th annual concert given at Clairmont Presbyterian Church. Each year they inspire and captivate those who hear them sing. Admission is free. Child care is offered for infants and children up to 2 years old.

***Don't miss this special event at Clairmont!***

### Clairmont Family Day Saturday, March 13 Watch for details

### Easter Egg Hunt Eggstravaganza Saturday, April 3

### Churchwide Retreat April 23 - 25, 2010 Toccoa, GA

### Vacation Bible School July 12 - 16, 2010

## Lifestyle Stewardship

Final results for the DYNK  
Exercise Challenge are as follows:

**FEMALES  
WON!!**

Reported for Men as of 1/31/2010:  
Week: 83 hours and 55 minutes  
Cumulative: 236 hours and 36 minutes

Reported for Women as of 1/31/2010:  
Week: 124 hours and 7 minutes  
Cumulative: 329 hours and 32 minutes

Some additional stats worth noting:

Combined (male and female) total cumulative hours reported: 566 hours and 8 minutes

Most hours reported by a male for the month:  
32 hours and 40 minutes by Cec Murphy  
Most hours reported by a female for the month:  
19 hours - tie between Judith Camp & Flora Hendrix

# Male participants: 21  
# Female participants: 45  
Total # participants: 66

If we awarded Olympic medals based on number of hours reported during January, the winners would be:

For the men:  
Gold: Cec Murphy  
Silver: Josh Pipkin  
Bronze: Bob Siegmann

For the women:  
Gold: Judith Camp and Flora Hendrix  
Silver: Hope Arnold  
Bronze: Penny Keys

Thanks for your help throughout the exercise challenge.

## Staff

Dr. Thomas Pipkin - Senior Pastor  
Rev. Bobby Hulme-Lippert - Associate Pastor  
Rev. Megan Johnson - Associate Pastor  
Rev. Ron Hieber - Parish Associate  
Mike Strain - Director of Music and the Arts  
Tim Lloyd - First Light Worship Leader  
Nate Perry - Director of Youth Ministries  
Andria Alexander - Director of Children's Ministries  
Debbie Palmore - Activities Coordinator  
Bill Spinks - Church Administrator  
Danielle Wilson - Administrative Assistant  
Linda Massey - Director of Publications  
Diane Neuman - Financial Secretary  
Agatha Walker - Membership Secretary/Receptionist  
Barbara Powers - Director of Preschool

## Around Town

### **THE PARENTING CONVERSATION: SPEAKING TO THE HEART OF THE FAMILY**

North Avenue Presbyterian Church presents a parenting conference that pours into parents so that they can overflow into their families.

The conference will be held on March 19 & 20, 2010, and will be composed of two large session gatherings (including a live music concert from Echoing Angels), three module class periods, and one pre-session module option. Our keynote speaker, Sue Miller, is a leader, author, and gifted communicator with a passion to equip parents with the skills they need to raise great kids. Worship will be led by Atlanta-based Christian band Echoing Angels which have been hailed as "one of the most sensational and promising rock debuts since MercyMe" by All Music Guide.com.

Registration is now open and costs \$30 per person or \$50 per couple. We encourage single parents to pair up with other single attendees to get the couple rate. For every church that sends 10 couples, one couple comes for free! Registration is available online at [www.theparentingconversation.com](http://www.theparentingconversation.com).

**The American Red Cross** opened a shelter for flood victims in our Family Life Center this past fall. They have approached us with an offer to train members of our congregation to be shelter volunteers. This would be a tremendous gift to the community should we be called upon again to open an ARC shelter. The training can be taken and certification earned in just one day. If you have an interest in becoming an ARC trained shelter volunteer, please contact the church office at 404.634.3355 or [church.office@clairmontpres.org](mailto:church.office@clairmontpres.org) by February 28th.

### **Career Networking at Clairmont**

You are welcome to attend a Job Networking meeting held on the first and third Tuesday of each month in the Education Building, room 102 from 7:00 - 8:30pm. It is very informal and led by Jay Scott and Russ Hanley. If you are interested or would like more information, please email Jay at [jaysweb04@yahoo.com](mailto:jaysweb04@yahoo.com) or Russ at [rhg\\_hanley@yahoo.com](mailto:rhg_hanley@yahoo.com).

## To the Ends of the Earth

### **Haiti . . . how you can help!**

#### **Pray**

**PC(USA) RESPONSE** - The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is responding to this earthquake through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and its partners. Presbyterian World Mission is gathering information on the safety and status of our mission personnel and ecumenical partners in the area. You, too, can be part of God's answer to prayer for those affected by this disaster. PDA is rushing an initial \$100,000 from One Great Hour of Sharing and designated funds to help provide immediate emergency relief to the affected people. Funds are being sent through our ecumenical and local partners working in Haiti.

**GREATER ATLANTA ASSISTANCE** - The Presbytery of Greater Atlanta has a strong partnership in LaGonave. Reports indicate that some damage in LaGonave occurred. The Presbytery has received word that a team from First Presbyterian Church of Atlanta was in LaGonave during the time of the earthquake. They are safe and plans are being considered about how best to get them returned safely to Atlanta.

**All contributions for Haiti assistance should be mailed to:** Presbytery of Greater Atlanta,  
c/o Haiti Disaster Assistance

**1024 Ponce de Leon Ave., Atlanta, GA 30306**  
*The memo section should include Haiti  
Disaster Assistance – DR000064.*

#### **The Outreach Foundation**

One of our close partners, Haiti Outreach Ministries, is based in Port-au-Prince and works with people in several of the poorest districts. Through its congregations, primary schools, feeding programs and clinics, Haiti Outreach Ministries shares God's love in word and deed. We are thankful that, despite damage to churches and schools, the Haiti Outreach Ministries staff appears to be safe. But the needs they and their neighbors face are immediate and profound. No administrative fee will be taken from these gifts. 100% of the gifts we receive will be forwarded promptly to Haiti Outreach Ministries.

The Outreach Foundation  
318 Seaboard Lane, Suite 205  
Franklin, TN 37067  
The memo section should include  
"Haiti Earthquake"

## Mission Ministry

**Druid Hills Community Fellowship** - Yesterday a special Valentine meal was served to approximately 75 guests. The servers and cooks were Suzanne and Doug McNabb, Chuck Powers, Martha Hunter, Karen Turney, Bob Siegmann, and Andrea and Ray Davis. It was a joyful event!

**Azalea Village** - This is a reminder that next Saturday, Feb. 20, at 9am, we will have another work day, focused on painting House #5 (2052 Clairmont Road). If we have enough volunteers, we'll dispatch a crew to House #1 to do final preparations before the new Iraqi family moves in on Feb. 22. We may also dispatch a crew to House #4, as well, to do a tad more cleaning and setting up some beds before we show it to the Salvation Army on Wednesday. So far, we have only four volunteers (and all of us are on the AVM team). If you can come out and help, e-mail me, give me a call at 404.325.2724, or just show up!

We're getting excited, because we have a new family moving in to House #1. They are from Iraq: a husband, wife and 9-month-old son. We're preparing another house (#5) for a new relationship with Refugee Resettlement and Immigration Services of Atlanta (RRISA). And we're in the process of negotiating a relationship with the Salvation Army for House #4.

**Thanks** to the following folks who helped with Azalea Village:

Mitch Fenbert                      Jim Hardeman  
Tim "Iron Man" Fenbert        Jay "Deadhead" Scott  
Tom "The Luthier" Lockwood  
Nancy "The Boss" Miranda  
And thanks to Margaret "Top Chef" Watkins for offering her truck (won't need it because Tim is a truck-drivin' man).

## Classified

**Needed:** A baby crib -- A family from Iraq will be moving into one of our Azalea Village houses on February 22. The family includes a husband, wife, and nine-month-old baby boy, who will need a crib, high chair, play pen and other baby items for the house. If you have any of these items to donate, please call Nancy Miranda at 404.325.2724 or Ray Davis at 404.636.0776. Thanks!

**Needed:** Nancy Miranda needs a stair lift for her mother, Kay Turner. If anyone has a stair lift they are no longer using and would consider selling, please call Nancy Miranda at 404.325.2724.

## Youth

This year's confirmation class began in January and will meet every Sunday during the Sunday school hour until the end of April. The class has just returned from their kickoff retreat at the Calvin Center where they learned what it is like to "Become a Team of Believers." They participated in team building exercises throughout the weekend. The group also spent time discussing "The Dream Giver," by Bruce Wilkinson – which was read by each youth prior to the trip.

This year's class is unique in that only two of the six classmate's families attend Clairmont. That is to say, four of the youth that are interested in God and what it means to be a member not only the local church but also the universal church, are attending on their own inclination. Their parents are also proudly supporting them in this endeavor to join us at Clairmont.

Nate Perry gives full credit to the Holy Spirit's moving on these young adult hearts to learn more. At the same time, it is the relational (missional) style ministry that is in place with CYM that is "paying off." These youth first attended an outreach event of Clairmont Youth Ministry and have since been attending exciting weekly youth events and grown into a relationship with the leaders and youth of CYM. They now want to make this faith their own.

Some of this year's topics for confirmation include: "Who is God, Who am I?", "How did Jesus Deal with our Need?," "What is our Response to Jesus?," "What does it mean to be a Disciple?," and "The Sacraments, and The Church."

Please be in prayer for these youth as the Spirit continues to mold them: Harper Reed, Mason Johnson, Esme Carpenter, Diamond Perrin, Madison VanBuren, and Ryan Ritchie.

Retreat pictures are online at Webshots and Facebook: [www.clairmontpres.org/page/more](http://www.clairmontpres.org/page/more)



## Pre-school and Kindergarten

Registration is open to the public for children aged one year through five years. It operates September through May and offers a variety of activities for the children from 9:00am until 12:00 noon.

Children attending need to be the required age for their class by September 1st of the school year. We have classes for toddlers, 2-year olds, 3-year olds, 4-year olds, and a half day 5-year old kindergarten class.

For more information contact Barbara Powers at 404.634.3355 or [barbara.powers@clairmontpres.org](mailto:barbara.powers@clairmontpres.org).

## Children's Ministry

### Hey Kids!

Coming THIS Sunday during morning worship at 10:30am...

**The Amazing Journey: From Genesis to Revelation**

Join us for an all new KIDS church!

You won't want to miss it!!

During the 10:30 worship service, we invite children ages 3 through 3rd grade to come to the front of the sanctuary for the Children's Moment each week.

The children are then invited (but not required) to participate in "Enrichment Time" (ages 3 and 4) and Children's Church (ages Pre-K through 3rd grade).

The children may be picked up after the service on the playground, or in the Mile High Theater in Milligan Hall in the event of inclement weather.

Contact Andria Alexander at 404.634.3355 or [andria@clairmontpres.org](mailto:andria@clairmontpres.org).

## Youth

The Youth and the 30-Hour Famine on February 27 - 28.

Before this day is over, 29,000 children under age 5 will die because of hunger, disease and poverty. 15,000 of them will die from hunger alone. Today... tomorrow... and the next day... That's one every six seconds.

But here's the good news. Students of Clairmont Youth Ministry are choosing to make a difference. Every year we take part in World Vision's 30-Hour Famine. We raise money by not eating for 30 hours so other kids can eat. *Please give to a Youth.*

Clairmont has participated in this event for several years and has raised over \$28,000 the past 4 years for underprivileged kids around the world.

(Youth continued on page 5)

## Adult Ministry

Dr. Frank Arnold is teaching a series in March on world religion titled "Christianity and the Religions of the World" in which he compares Christianity, Islam, Buddhism, Judaism, and Hinduism in the Education Building, Room 102. Hosted by the John Knox Class.

## Clairmont Women

**Tuesday, February 23** - Small Group at Clairmont Place at 10:30am

**Thursday, February 25** - Lenten Series Small Group Parlor at 10:00am

**Friday, February 26 & March 5** - Mom's Group Parlor at 10:00am

## Presbyterian Women

Circles meeting are as follows on March 2nd:

**10 O'clock Scholars** meet at 10:00am in room Ed 101). *Light refreshments served.*

**12 O'clock Lunchtime Learners** meet at noon in the parlor. Please bring a sandwich. *Dessert & beverages served.*

**Evening Followers** meet at 6:15pm in the parlor.

**Sunday Supper Circle** meets at 6:00pm on **March**

**14.** *Please bring a dish to share.*

## Clairmont Men

**The next men's breakfast is Saturday, March 20** from 7:30 - 9:15am in the church parlor. Bagels and coffee are provided. Our leaders for the breakfast are Tom Lockwood and Robert Rankin.

Please join us! If you have questions, please contact Jack Spangler at [ajspan@comcast.net](mailto:ajspan@comcast.net) or Rev. Bobby Hulme-Lippert at [bobby@clairmontpres.org](mailto:bobby@clairmontpres.org).

## Young Adults

The Young Adults are going on their 2nd Annual Beach Retreat! This year they are headed to Grayton Beach, FL over Memorial Day Weekend (**May 28-31**). Contact Rev. Bobby Hulme-Lippert for more details or to reserve your spot.

The Clairmonitor is published bi-weekly by Linda Massey, Director of Publications. Information for the Clairmonitor must be submitted by Monday morning prior to the week's publications to [linda@clairmontpres.org](mailto:linda@clairmontpres.org) or 404.634.3355 or 404.308.9816.

## In Memory/Honor

### In memory of Eleanor Bain:

- Charlotte Thigpen gave to the Memorial Fund.
- James Platt gave to the Memorial Fund.

### In memory of Ann Johnson:

- Malcolm & Shauni Cohron & Ed & Jane Hoehn gave to the Memorial Fund.

## Sympathy

Our loving Christian sympathy is extended to Betty Pratt on the death of her sister, Doris Pringle on Thursday, February 11, 2010 in Oklahoma City, OK.

## Birthdays

### February 25

Amy Stone  
Nancy Whitten  
Gene Callaway

### February 27

Bonnie Billington  
Alex Bragg  
Amanda Lindley

### February 28

Fred Neuman  
Betty Johnston

### February 29

Sarah Brosnan  
*(if there is a 29<sup>th</sup>! . . .  
how old is Sarah?)*

### March 1

Jack Spangler

### March 2

Lew Fern

### March 3

Marie Farris  
Tabitha Lyon

### March 5

Steve Rucker  
Will Secor

### March 6

Vernon VanDuyne

### March 7

Clint Stamps

### March 9

Chuck Warner

If your name was omitted from the birthday list, please contact Agatha at 404.634.3355.

## Please pray for . . .

### Clairmont Members:

Nell Ball  
Janice Bullard  
Phyllis Davis  
Bill Fleming  
Maggie Hartsfield  
Louise Hood  
Deb Hosford  
Melba Hull  
Louise Kite  
Peggy Lathom  
Sidney Lines  
Caroline MacNeill

Graham Mothershead  
and her family  
Shirley Murphey  
Sara Owens  
Charlie Patterson  
Lois Pruitt  
Joyce Rogers  
Judith Sale  
Anne Sheesley  
Clyde Shepherd  
Kay Turner  
Jimmie Waggoner  
Doris Whitener

### Friends and Family of Members:

Dara Barron (*Julie Comer's friend*)  
Janice Bullard's mother and sisters  
Peggy Dalton and Shannon Harper (*Ann Wooten's friends*)  
Major Mitchell Gibbs and family (*Carol Crochet's brother stationed in Iraq*)  
Cindy Haskell (*Jon Haskell's [ROW Trustee] wife*)  
Beth Jordan (*Ed & Jane Duckworth's friend*)  
Jim McCoun (*Mary Jo McCoun's son*)  
Tom Merrett (*Dot Burnett's son-in-law*)  
John Oltman (*Jack Oltman's dad*)  
Mark Shearon (*Pam Scott's friend*)  
Vic Uotinen (*Andrea Peppers & Jim Hardeman's friend*)  
Fay Wallace (*John and Judyth Williams' friend*)  
Judyth Williams (*John William's wife*)  
Gordon Wilson (*Judy Burden's dad*)

**Please pray for the people on these lists:** Many are facing, or have recently faced health problems or other challenges. To place a name on the list, please call the church office at 404.634.3355. Names will remain on the list for six weeks unless otherwise instructed. Thank you.

## Directed Prayer

1. Please pray for our CPC missions as we embark on our journey to be a more missional church.
2. Continue to pray for the Haitian people in their time of need.
3. Please pray for all the people who have lost their jobs.

FROM THE



PASTOR

Dear Clairmont Family,

The 2010 Winter Olympics are providing us with some great examples of what can be accomplished when people are determined to be the best they can be. There are obvious parallels between the disciplined life of Olympic athletes and the discipline required to follow Jesus Christ. But the other day I was reminded of someone who, not only was disciplined in his quest to be the best, but was also willing question well-worn practices in order to be the best:

When Jean-Claude Killy made the French national ski team in the early 1960s, he was prepared to work harder than anyone else to be the best. At the crack of dawn he would run up the slopes with his skis on, an unbelievably grueling activity. In the evening he would lift weights, run sprints--anything to get an edge. But the other team members were working as hard and long as he was. He realized instinctively that simply training harder would never be enough. Killy then began challenging the basic theories of racing technique.

Each week he would try something different to see if he could find a better, faster way down the mountain. His experiments resulted in a new style that was almost exactly opposite the accepted technique of the time. It involved skiing with his legs apart (not together) for better balance and sitting back (not forward) on the skis when he came to a turn. He also used ski poles in

an unorthodox way--to propel himself as he skied. The explosive new style helped cut Killy's racing times dramatically. In 1966 and 1967 he captured virtually every major skiing trophy. The next year he won three gold medals in the Winter Olympics, a record in ski racing that has never been topped. Killy learned an important secret shared by many creative people: innovations don't require genius, just a willingness to question the way things have always been done.

This year for Lent we are striving to be people who are disciplined to work hard in our faith, but we are also raising questions and experimenting with some things in hopes that God will lead us into a future that will be even more meaningful for us personally and effective for us as a church. As you know, we will be having our morning worship services together during these seven weeks in order to listen to and experience together what God wants to teach us about our faith. Our hope is that bringing us all together for a season will give us a shared excitement and shared insight into where God wants to take us. My prayer is that God will indeed show us a new way, His way, which will be unique for us at Clairmont, and will be effective for the ministry of His Kingdom.

Under Christ's Mercy,

Tom Pipkin



**Clairmont Presbyterian Church**  
**1994 Clairmont Road**  
**Decatur, GA 30033**  
**[www.clairmontpres.org](http://www.clairmontpres.org)**  
**(404)634-3355**

**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**

*Please join us for worship at 10:30am and 6:00pm each Sunday!*