



Celebrating and Watching

By Mr. Alexander S. Brown, Minister

As you know, this past week saw the meeting of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Louisville, Kentucky. However, as we were reminded more than once, this was not just any General Assembly, it was the Fortieth General Assembly of our denomination.

When we think of anniversaries, we tend to think of the big ones being the Silver (25 years), Gold (50 years), or, as we were so recently reminded in the UK, Diamond (75 years). However, in Biblical terms 40 years is far more significant; and it is so because 40 years is a generation.

**“Let anyone who
thinks that he
stands take heed
lest he fall.”**

At this General Assembly we celebrated what God has done in our denomination over this past generation. It is truly wonderful to see how He has been faithful to establish our denomination from a few courageous men and congregations in 1973 to a denomination which now has 80 Presbyteries across the United States, with a total of 1,466 churches, 305 mission works and 4,256 ministers, along with an international outreach which spans

the globe, and is a key part in seeing the Gospel flourish in many different countries and cultures.

The Fortieth General Assembly truly was an Assembly of thanksgiving as we rejoiced together and proclaimed, “This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.” (Psalm 118:23) Over this past generation, the Lord has been good to us indeed.

However, we cannot rest on our laurels, or let our successes distract us from the dangers which surround us. Before the GA met, Joel Hathaway, who is the director for Alumni Relations at Covenant Seminary, posted an article in which he wrote:

The 2012 PCA General Assembly will be the final assembly for some pastors. In addition to faithful saints in the final months of their natural lives and those who suffer an untimely death due to illness or accident there will also be a few tragic train-wrecks of ministry. Ministers who, next week, will vote on the business of the denomination and, by next year, will be selling insurance or real estate.

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July Calendar

Sundays

9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Morning Worship
6:00 p.m. Evening Worship
Children's Church,
Nursery available

- Sun 7/1 Communion, AM Worship
*There will be a brief
Congregational Meeting
immediately following
Morning Worship.*
- Wed 7/4 **4th of July Holiday**
- Thu 7/5 Mission Team Meeting
(6:30 p.m., Bolin home)
- Sun 7/8 Potluck Lunch & Report
on the 40th General
Assembly of the PCA.
*(Sign up in the foyer to
bring either a plate of
sandwiches, a salad,
or a dessert.)*
- Fri, Sat 7/20, 21 The Savannah
River Presbytery meets
at Trinity Presbyterian
Church, Statesboro.

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Celebrating and Watching

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It is a sobering reminder that there are some men who attended this assembly, who rejoiced with us, who debated and voted, who will not be in the ministry next year. But this is not just true for ministers; it is also true for congregations. Last year eight of our congregations were dissolved, and one of our Presbyteries was dissolved at this General Assembly.

It is good and right for us to rejoice at what the Lord has done, but we can never forget Paul's exhortation: "Let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall." (1 Corinthians 10:12)

And this is true for every Christian. Jesus' command to His disciples in the Garden of Gethsemane to "watch and pray" is a command that we all do well to heed. To put it bluntly, it is possible that some of us may not be professing faith in Christ at this time next year. As we have seen vividly over the past few weeks as we have gone through 1 Peter, we live in the midst of a very hostile world, and we have an opponent who "prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour." (5:8) It can be so easy for us to stop watching, especially when we are celebrating and rejoicing in the good that the Lord has done us; but it is then we are at the most vulnerable.

As Jesus said to His disciples, we must watch – we must be on our guard, and we must pray. And so I urge you – pray! Pray for our denomination: as an institution, but also for her ministers. Pray for each other: that we would continue to grow in our faith, and that the grace of God in Christ would silence the attacks and accusations of the devil.

And finally, pray for ourselves: pray that we would never get presumptuous, or boastful, or distracted. Ask God to refine your faith, so that next year at this time you would be closer to Him than you have ever been before. ☞

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Building and Grounds



A strong wind blew through the property in early June and took down two large oaks and a pine. Quick work was made on the removal of the fallen trees. Arrangements have been made for the removal of the stumps along with repairs to the conduit damaged by one of the uprooted trees.

The sanctuary heating/cooling systems have been upgraded with the removal of an inoperative unit and installation of a new one.

The new lawn service began regular monthly maintenance of our grounds at the beginning of June. Feedback from the congregation is appreciated.

Please thank the Lord for His continued grace on our facility.

B & G Committee:
Alexander Brown, Nick Chilton
(Chair), John Garvin, Jerry Harrell
(Sec.), and Bill Wood.

Finance Committee

GIPC Monthly Update— Loan Balance

Loan Balance 1/1/12	\$840,102
Principal Paid YTD	\$ 15,934
Loan Balance	\$824,168
July Payment:	
Interest	\$ 2,459
Principal	\$ 2,790
Total Payment	\$ 5,249

Significant Sessional Actions

Mr. Bill Morton Sr. was approved as a member of Golden Isles Presbyterian Church by Transfer of Letter.

Mr. Brown attended the 40th General Assembly of the PCA in June and plans to share a report with the congregation at the July 8th Potluck Lunch.

Church Office

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Saint Simons Island, GA 31522

Hours: 10:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
(Tuesday-Friday)

Find us on the web at:
gipc-pca.org



Sunday Potluck Lunch!

July 8, 2012

**Mr. Brown will share a report on the
PCA's 40th General Assembly.**

Sign up in the foyer to bring a plate of
sandwiches, a salad, or a dessert.

JULY

"They received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily." (Acts 17:11)

Family Worship

Old Testament Reading

Date	Book	Chapter	✓
1	Joshua	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
2		4	<input type="checkbox"/>
3		5-6:5	<input type="checkbox"/>
4		6:6-27	<input type="checkbox"/>
5		7	<input type="checkbox"/>
6		8	<input type="checkbox"/>
7		9	<input type="checkbox"/>
8		10	<input type="checkbox"/>
9		11	<input type="checkbox"/>
10		12,13	<input type="checkbox"/>
11		14,15	<input type="checkbox"/>
12		16,17	<input type="checkbox"/>
13		18,19	<input type="checkbox"/>
14		20,21	<input type="checkbox"/>
15		22	<input type="checkbox"/>
16		23	<input type="checkbox"/>
17		24	<input type="checkbox"/>
18	Judges	1	<input type="checkbox"/>
19		2	<input type="checkbox"/>
20		3	<input type="checkbox"/>
21		4	<input type="checkbox"/>
22		5	<input type="checkbox"/>
23		6	<input type="checkbox"/>
24		7	<input type="checkbox"/>
25		8	<input type="checkbox"/>
26		9	<input type="checkbox"/>
27		10-11:11	<input type="checkbox"/>
28		11:12-40	<input type="checkbox"/>
29		12	<input type="checkbox"/>
30		13	<input type="checkbox"/>
31		14	<input type="checkbox"/>

JULY

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Family Worship

Psalms & New Testament

Date	Book	Chapter	✓
1	Psalms	126-128	<input type="checkbox"/>
2		129-131	<input type="checkbox"/>
3		132-134	<input type="checkbox"/>
4		135,136	<input type="checkbox"/>
5		137,138	<input type="checkbox"/>
6		139	<input type="checkbox"/>
7		140,141	<input type="checkbox"/>
8		142,143	<input type="checkbox"/>
9		144	<input type="checkbox"/>
10		145	<input type="checkbox"/>
11		146,147	<input type="checkbox"/>
12		148	<input type="checkbox"/>
13		149,150	<input type="checkbox"/>
14	Acts	1	<input type="checkbox"/>
15		2	<input type="checkbox"/>
16		3	<input type="checkbox"/>
17		4	<input type="checkbox"/>
18		5	<input type="checkbox"/>
19		6	<input type="checkbox"/>
20		7	<input type="checkbox"/>
21		8	<input type="checkbox"/>
22		9	<input type="checkbox"/>
23		10	<input type="checkbox"/>
24		11	<input type="checkbox"/>
25		12	<input type="checkbox"/>
26		13	<input type="checkbox"/>
27		14	<input type="checkbox"/>
28		15	<input type="checkbox"/>
29		16	<input type="checkbox"/>
30		17	<input type="checkbox"/>
31		18	<input type="checkbox"/>

JULY

"They received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily." (Acts 17:11)

Private

Old Testament Reading

Date	Book	Chapter	✓
1	Isaiah	63	<input type="checkbox"/>
2		64	<input type="checkbox"/>
3		65	<input type="checkbox"/>
4		66	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	Jeremiah	1	<input type="checkbox"/>
6		2	<input type="checkbox"/>
7		3	<input type="checkbox"/>
8		4	<input type="checkbox"/>
9		5	<input type="checkbox"/>
10		6	<input type="checkbox"/>
11		7	<input type="checkbox"/>
12		8	<input type="checkbox"/>
13		9	<input type="checkbox"/>
14		10	<input type="checkbox"/>
15		11	<input type="checkbox"/>
16		12	<input type="checkbox"/>
17		13	<input type="checkbox"/>
18		14	<input type="checkbox"/>
19		15	<input type="checkbox"/>
20		16	<input type="checkbox"/>
21		17	<input type="checkbox"/>
22		18	<input type="checkbox"/>
23		19	<input type="checkbox"/>
24		20	<input type="checkbox"/>
25		21	<input type="checkbox"/>
26		22	<input type="checkbox"/>
27		23	<input type="checkbox"/>
28		24	<input type="checkbox"/>
29		25	<input type="checkbox"/>
30		26	<input type="checkbox"/>
31		27	<input type="checkbox"/>

JULY

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Private

New Testament Reading

Date	Book	Chapter	✓
1	Matthew	11	<input type="checkbox"/>
2		12	<input type="checkbox"/>
3		13	<input type="checkbox"/>
4		14	<input type="checkbox"/>
5		15	<input type="checkbox"/>
6		16	<input type="checkbox"/>
7		17	<input type="checkbox"/>
8		18	<input type="checkbox"/>
9		19	<input type="checkbox"/>
10		20	<input type="checkbox"/>
11		21	<input type="checkbox"/>
12		22	<input type="checkbox"/>
13		23	<input type="checkbox"/>
14		24	<input type="checkbox"/>
15		25	<input type="checkbox"/>
16		26	<input type="checkbox"/>
17		27	<input type="checkbox"/>
18		28	<input type="checkbox"/>
19	Mark	1	<input type="checkbox"/>
20		2	<input type="checkbox"/>
21		3	<input type="checkbox"/>
22		4	<input type="checkbox"/>
23		5	<input type="checkbox"/>
24		6	<input type="checkbox"/>
25		7	<input type="checkbox"/>
26		8	<input type="checkbox"/>
27		9	<input type="checkbox"/>
28		10	<input type="checkbox"/>
29		11	<input type="checkbox"/>
30		12	<input type="checkbox"/>
31		13	<input type="checkbox"/>

Week beginning JULY 1

Psalm 16:11

You make known to me the path of life;
 in Your presence there is fullness of joy;
 at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Week beginning JULY 8

Philippians 4:13, 19

I can do all things through Him who strengthens me . . .
 And my God will supply every need of yours according
 to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

Week beginning JULY 15

Psalm 91:1-3

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide
 in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say to the LORD,
 'My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.'
 For He will deliver you from the snare of the fowler
 and from the deadly pestilence.

Week beginning JULY 22

Psalm 91:4-6

He will cover you with His pinions, and under His wings
 you will find refuge; His faithfulness is a shield and
 buckler. You will not fear the terror of the night, nor the
 arrow that flies by day, nor the pestilence that stalks
 in darkness, nor the destruction that wastes at noonday.

Week beginning JULY 29

Psalm 91:7-10

A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your
 right hand, but it will not come near you. You will only look
 with your eyes and see the recompense of the wicked.
 Because you have made the LORD your dwelling place—
 the Most High, who is my refuge—no evil shall be allowed
 to befall you, no plague come near your tent.