



J. Barry Dagenhart, Pastor

Robert J. Robinson, Pastor Emeritus

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 8:00 - 4:00 & Friday 8:00 - 1:00 p.m.
803.327.2009 phone 803.327.4123 fax

www.firstarp.org

February 2008, Part Two

**First Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church
Rock Hill, South Carolina**

Sunday Schedule

**Worship - 8:30 a.m. Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. Worship - 11 a.m.
Foundations for the Family—5:30 p.m.**

NURTURING OUR COVENANT FAMILY

A Night of Service

On Sunday evening, **March 30**, our congregation will have the opportunity to work on service projects to nurture our extended church family. Beginning at 5:30 p.m., we will pack "care packages" for our college students, fill baskets for our homebound members, and prepare birthday cards and support notes for our missionary families. There will be crafts and cards to make for the boxes, etc.

In addition, we will have our annual Jubilee Birthday Celebration at 6:30 p.m. with a covered dish dinner. Birthday cake for dessert will be provided by First ARP Women's Ministries. An offering will be received for the two missionary ladies that ARP Women's Ministries supports.

BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR THE GIVING TREE

There will be a tree in the connector with items for all of these support activities. Items should be returned to the connector or the church office by Easter, March 23. Donations for postage and fast food gift cards will be accepted in the church office or may be given to Kathy Barron.

Make sure to mark the date and bring your family for this fun time of providing support and encouragement to members of our Christian family that we don't get to see every Sunday.

First A.R.P. Church
201 East White Street
Rock Hill, SC 29730

NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
ROCK HILL, SC 29730
PERMIT NO. 10

Inspired by the love of Christ, and enabled by the Holy Spirit, we serve God through worship, education and fellowship that we may proclaim His grace and share His love in the world.



A Note from the DCE

I was recently asked to teach a Sunday school class on Lent. With the proposal in mind, I thought, "This will be easy because I already know everything about Lent." To my surprise (as always) there was an abundance of information still left to learn. I spent a few weeks of studying this liturgical season that we celebrate each year, beginning with Ash Wednesday and ending on the Saturday before Easter. Through my reading, I found myself closer to the Lord and able to discover the real reasons why we celebrate this season:

- The 40 days of Lent are symbolic of the 40-day journey that Jesus spent in the desert being tempted by the devil. These 40 days allow us to **experience** Jesus' walk through darkness in the world into light and new life.
- The season of Lent isn't just about giving up something, rather it's a time to **confess and repent** from our sins and a time to **prepare** our hearts to receive a Risen Christ.
- By participating in the traditions of fasting or abstinence, we're able to **discipline** ourselves against the worldly desires of our flesh.
- This season is a time to **reflect and anticipate** the joy of Easter. It is a solemn time as we remember the instances before Christ our Savior was crucified, and a time of celebration as we relive his resurrection.

As you think about what you're "giving up" this year, keep in mind the above thoughts. I pray that you will become closer to the Lord over the next few weeks, as you experience the life of Christ in his journey to give us grace and the greatest gift ever.

Amanda

Morning of Prayer, Saturday, March 1, 2008

On Saturday, March 1, from 9 a.m. until noon, you can attend one or several of the 6 half-hour sessions of prayer with other members of the congregation. During this time we will praise God for His provisions during the campaign, as well as seek His guidance and comfort for other concerns and needs within the church, community, and world. You can also submit prayer requests to be included in prayer for this morning through the church office. A nursery will be provided.

FARPY retreats

Spring Middle School Spring Retreat

The Middle School Spring Retreat at Bonclarcken is just around the corner! Please reserve **March 7-9** on your calendars and plan to join us for a great weekend. These retreats are always a great way to get to know your church friends better and a chance to meet new people as well! If you are interested in being a part of this fantastic weekend, please see Andrew for a registration packet.

Senior High Spring Retreat

The Senior High Spring Retreat is on its way! We'll be at Bonclarcken during the weekend of **March 28-30**, so make sure you write that down! This will be another Super Retreat which means there will be hundreds of high school youth from all over the denomination. If you are interested in going, please see Andrew for a registration packet.

Horizon & Quest

It's never too early to start planning for your summer at Bonclarcken! Our youth have two great opportunities to spend a week there with all their friends from the denomination. **HORIZON**, for *Senior High* students, is **June 16-21** and **QUEST**, for *Middle School* students, is **June 23-28**. Both of these weeks will feature 3 wonderful speakers and a great worship band. We'll also have tons of fun activities, tournament, free time, trips to town, and the always popular sludge war! If you are interested in either of these weeks, please see Andrew for details.

Summer



Souper Bowl of Caring and Chili Sale

FARPY (First ARP Youth) would like to thank each of you who supported both of our fundraising efforts on Sunday, February 3! The congregation graciously donated **\$165 to the Souper Bowl of Caring**. All of this money will be sent directly to a local charity such as Pilgrim's Inn or Interfaith Hospitality Network. Our **Chili Sale** was able to raise **\$620** for our youth mission trips for the coming summer. Thanks again for your continued support to both local and worldwide mission efforts!

Christian Education

Easter Celebration

All children, toddlers through 5th grade, and their families are invited to the **Easter Celebration on Saturday, March 15 from 10:30 a.m. - noon at the Lesslie Land**. There will be a craft opportunity, a telling of the Easter Story, and an Easter egg hunt, followed by a picnic lunch (don't forget your blankets and chairs!). If you would like to participate, please **drop off a bag of candy per child** in the box in the connector with your name on it by Sunday, March 9. If you have any questions or would like to help in any way, please contact Amanda Ghent.

WANTED

We are looking for someone to be the Assistant Director for this year's VBS, "Blessed to be a Servant." We need YOUR help in running a smooth week for the children. Please contact Lisa Cox, Director or Amanda Ghent, DCE if you have any questions about this position or are interested in helping out with the week (June 16-19).

Amanda Ghent
 Make sure you pick up a copy of the recently revised 2008 activities schedule from the church office.

On **March 6**, the HARPS will be going to see the "Patchwork Tales" in Rock Hill. Also, mark your calendars for **March 25**, the next 4th Tuesday luncheon.

More details to follow!

Foundations for the Family

Our Sunday evening program starts at 5:30 p.m. for all ages.

Dinner & fellowship will follow at 6:30 p.m.

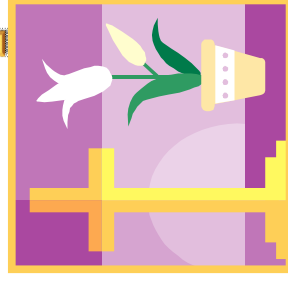
Join us on **February 17** for lessons for children and adults, with a **pizza dinner** following the lessons.

On **February 24**, we will conclude the month with lessons for children and adults, as well as a **covered dish** meal. If you have any questions, please contact Amanda.

March

BRENDA WILSON

- | | | | |
|----|------------------|----|----------------------|
| 1 | Jeanie Alexander | 20 | Bill Cornwell |
| | Jim Hinson | 21 | Chas Crawford |
| | Starr Lee | | Herb Hamilton |
| 2 | Barry Dreier | | Caitlin Marshall |
| 3 | Matt Phillips | | Caitlin Roper |
| 4 | Bob Harper | 22 | Martha Milling |
| | Laura Leathers | 23 | Kelly Todd |
| | Laura Norwood | 25 | Mark Golightly |
| 5 | Key Barkley | | Harriet Goode |
| | David Helms | 26 | Addi Berry |
| 6 | Kate Ferguson | | Jeremy Ghent |
| 7 | Polly Wingate | 27 | Bradley Crews |
| 9 | Emma Gilleland | 28 | Caris Kulbok |
| | Elle Gilleland | | Clay Simpson |
| 10 | Johnny Logan | 29 | Blake Boone |
| 11 | Sara Gettys | | John Landstreet, Sr. |
| 13 | Beth Gettys | | Elaine Norman |
| 14 | Linda Neely | 30 | W. C. Kirkpatrick |
| 15 | Warren Norman | 31 | Sally Coleman |
| 19 | Tripp Wilkerson | | |



Our Christian Sympathy is extended to **Brenda Wilson** and **Risé Strickland** at the death of their husband and father, **Bill Wilson** on Wednesday, February 6, 2008. Continue to pray for God's comfort to be upon this family.