



FIRST CHURCH LIFE



J. Barry Dagenhart, Pastor
Robert J. Robinson, Pastor Emeritus

Andrew R. Slager, Associate Pastor

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

January 2009, Part Two

First Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church
Rock Hill, South Carolina

Sunday Schedule

8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. - Worship
9:45 a.m. - Sunday School

Intergenerational Celebration

Join us for an evening of fun and laughter for the entire church family!! Following the meal on Wednesday, February 4, all church members (ages 4 and up) are invited to participate in special activities that will reach all generations. You don't want to miss this night of fellowship! Following the activities, there will be an introduction to "Table Talk" - a small group opportunity for fellowship and learning for all adults in all stages of life.

This night of activities, along with participation in a "Table Talk" group, will draw us closer together and 'season' our relationships with the salt of Christ's love!

See you there!

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 Pastor

Even as we begin a new year, I think it is good for us to look back and give thanks for the generous, and in some cases, sacrificial giving that helped us to accomplish so much this past year through Forward in Faith (FIF) and the renovation process. The challenges with the national and local economy seem to have had an effect on giving at First ARP, but perhaps not to the extent some would have anticipated.

General Fund giving was \$ 678,968, and special collections which included gifts to FIF, Memorials, etc. totaled \$ 276,489 for a total giving figure of over \$ 955,000. We give thanks to God for all who gave so faithfully and even sacrificially. As a comparison, General Fund giving in 2007 was \$691,300 and total giving was \$1,061,800. Do remember that 2007 was a full year of the FIF Campaign, and in 2008 most of the FIF giving was finished with the completion of the campaign on March 16. One would assume that this would have an impact on the total giving figure.

As we begin 2009, your faithful, generous, and even sacrificial giving is still needed due to the debt that remains on the FIF renovation. As of the end of the year, our debt stands at \$342,361. As the Deacons have indicated, we will begin to pay on this debt through budgeted funds, but we still need your memorials and gifts over and above your regular tithe to help retire this debt sooner. From the comments I have heard, I know that all of us are enjoying the new adult education space in Robinson Hall, the new look of the fellowship area, the new parking area, and soon our youth will enjoy their remodeled space. Please join with me in thanking God for these wonderful facilities, and helping to take care of this debt as quickly as possible.

Barry

IHN Our guests from IHN will be here February 8-15. Sunday school classes will again be asked to provide the evening meals, as well as be overnight guests. If you would like to help this week, contact Bill Vogel or Amanda at the church.

FARPY News

2009 Summer Mission Trips!

Atlanta Mission Trip – Middle School: June 8-11
Registration Deadline Wednesday, March 4

Appalachia Mission Trip – Senior High: July 4-11
Registration Deadline Wednesday, March 4

Start making plans for your summer! We need both youth and ADULTS for each of these exciting and rewarding trips, so please prayerfully consider the role you could play on one of these teams! If you would like more information regarding any of these trips, please contact Amanda!

For FARPY Parents

The Rock Hill Area Youth Directors Association is holding a seminar called "Understanding Your Teenager" with guest speaker Duffy Robbins. Robbins is the author of *The Ministry of Nurture* and teaches youth ministry at Eastern College in Pennsylvania. Attendees will learn the six "principles for effective parenting" which will give parents a road map to successfully guide their teens through the rough waters of adolescence. The seminar will be on February 22 at St. John's UMC (of Rock Hill) from 5-8PM. Contact St. Johns UMC if you would like to purchase tickets (\$25/couple or \$15/person). Childcare will be provided.

HARPS Update

The HARPS will gather on Tuesday, January 27 at noon in Robinson Hall for their monthly covered dish luncheon. The speaker will be our very own Stephen Turner. Please be sure to come and bring your favorite dish to share!

On Saturday, February 14, all HARPS are invited to the Mid-Winter Brunch in Robinson Hall at 9 a.m. The meal will be provided, and entertainment will be given by Kelly and Lisa. You don't want to miss this special time for

