



FIRST CHURCH LIFE



J. Barry Dagenhart, Pastor

Robert J. Robinson, Pastor Emeritus

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

June 2008, Part One

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

Sunday Schedule

9:00 a.m. - Sunday School 10:00 a.m. - Worship



www.firstarp.org

Have you recently thought one of the following: "What time does this event begin?" or "Where is that going to be held?" or "Can my children come?" Well, now there's a quick and easy way to find all (or at least most) of the answers to those common questions regarding the activities in the life of the church. If you haven't yet, log onto the internet and head to www.firstarp.org to check out the new and improved website! Currently on the site, you'll find all of the published newsletters, a day-by-day calendar, and even weekly sermons. Soon, there will be pages for ministries of the church, Christian Education, and for the youth.

Make sure to tell folks that this site is now available for use and will serve as another means of communication. Thanks to **Dave Kulbok** for his development of this site, and to others for the updating this useful tool!

If you have any questions, or would like to see something added to the site that you think would be helpful for visitors or other interested folks, contact

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

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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

Youth at Work in Ministry

I continue to appreciate the wonderful work the staff at this church accomplishes week-in and week-out, but today I especially want to commend the work of **Andrew Shoger** as our youth director. We know that Andrew brings a 'hands-on' philosophy to ministry, and several of our young people will be in ministry this summer through the Atlanta Mission trip for Middle School youth, and the Appalachia and Wales Mission trips for Senior High youth.

But what you may not know is that we have several young people in full-time ministry this summer who have been under Andrew's leadership and have already 'graduated' from youth group, and you need to know about these young people so you can pray for them.

Kristy Brault will be spending most of her summer at Camp Harmon in Aptos, California, working with handicapped folks through this camp in the Easter Seals program. **Rachel Dagenhart** is a youth intern this summer at First Presbyterian Church in Columbia, SC, where she will work with both Middle School and High School girls. **Barry Dreier** is a summer intern with Christian Education Ministries for our denomination, which means he will be involved in almost every youth camp/conference at Bonclarken this summer. **Megan Madsen** has worked free of charge as an intern here at First ARP helping Andrew with the Middle School youth during this past year. Finally, last but not least, **Jamey Dagenhart** is the part-time youth director at Greenwood ARP Church (where Bryan Bult is the pastor), and will continue in that position as he attends Erskine Theological Seminary.

And, of course, I'm sure we will have other young people who will be working Camp Joy, and other ministries this summer (for example, I have heard that **Alan Harbin** will be working all three weeks of Camp Joy). We give thanks to God for all of these young people, and do remember to pray for them that they will be found faithful in their work, and will make a difference where God places them.

Barry



Our Christian Sympathy is extended to **Herb Hamilton** at the death of his mother, Marilyn Hamilton and to **Jim Hinson** at the death of his brother, Brooks Hinson. Continue to pray for God's comfort to be upon the these families.

FARPY news

ATLANTA MISSION TRIP

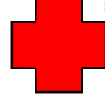
The Middle School youth will be heading to Atlanta June 9-12. We look forward to serving God as we hold a VBS program for international children there. Thank you for keeping us in your prayers while we are away! The team members are: **Addi Berry, Tinsley Berry, Emma Tuttle, Ben Barkley, Christopher McKinney, Cassie Brault, Taylor Madsen, Mary Catherine Blank, Brianne Sullivan,**

GRADUATION SUNDAY

Graduation Sunday is this Sunday, June 1! This is always an exciting time for our High School Seniors and we invite all of you to attend worship that day as we honor them. Our Graduates this year are: **Elise Harbin, Alexander Robinson, Caroline Robbins, Caitlin Roper, & Benjamin Simpson.** We would also like to recognize any college graduates in the bulletin and newsletter. If you have a child who is graduating from college this year, please contact the church office with the information!

Youth Bake Sale

FARPYouth will be hosting a Bake Sale on **Sunday, June 15** to raise funds for our Summer mission trips. We would love to recruit the support of the many wonderful bakers in this congregation! If you would like to provide a baked good, please drop it off in the connector when you arrive at church that morning. We will also be selling decals with the denominational seal with "First ARP Church" above the seal. These can be placed on your vehicle. Thanks for your support of Youth Missions!



BLOOD DRIVE

On Tuesday, June 24 from 2:30-7 p.m. the American Red Cross will hold its quarterly blood drive at First ARP in the gymnasium. Currently, there is a desperate need for type O blood. Donors will receive a ticket to see the Charlotte Knights on Friday, August 22 and will be entered in a region-wide drawing for one of two \$750 gas cards! Contact Amanda Ghent if you have any questions, or if you would like to donate blood this month!

FROM THE DIACONATE...

The diaconate held one meeting in May and would like to share the following:

- ★ An Interfaith Hospitality Network Committee will be formed to handle issues related to building access and use for this ministry.
- ★ Landscape watering will resume on approved Saturdays.
- ★ The HVAC system in Robinson Hall will be replaced in conjunction with the renovation process. Funds donated so far are \$7400.00.
- ★ Due to ongoing security concerns, 2 Deacons will cover Usher Captain duties each Sunday morning, including patrolling during the Sunday School hour. Members are reminded to be aware of these concerns during the week and to keep doors locked as much as possible.
- ★ Funeral procedures have been added to the Usher Captain Guidelines
- ★ Arrangements for transportation of a neighborhood homebound visitor are being developed.
- ★ A rotation for handling the sound and recording system is being established. Volunteers willing to help with this ministry should contact John Sloop. Training will be provided.

Financial Report— April 30, 2008

April General Budget Income	\$49,300.11
April General Budget Expenses	\$36,955.71
General Account Balance	\$12,509.52
Forward in Faith Balance	\$595,232.23
Other Accounts Balance	\$177,611.04

There will be a congregational meeting on Sunday, June 8 immediately following worship to hear a recommendation from the Session concerning a report from the Associate Pastor Search Committee.

SESSION NOTES

The Session held two meetings during May. Key actions included:

Met with the 2008 Communicants Class members. **Addi Berry, Tinsley Berry, Christopher McKinney and Emma Tuttle** were received as new members of our congregation

Reviewed information on the Forward in Faith campaign and current renovation. Work in Robinson Hall continues without significant problems. Recent work has included the elevator shaft, opening the upstairs windows, and brickwork on the east wall. Completion is expected the middle of the summer.

Changes were approved to the CE Manual and an updated copy should be available soon through the Committee or the DCE.

The Family Life committee reported that the pre-school currently has 50 children registered for the 2008-9 school year (52 was the enrollment for the current year). No change is expected in classroom needs for the coming year.

Don and Debbie Schwencer are retiring as ARP missionaries. The church has supported them during recent years. The Mission committee is looking to other missionaries we can now support.

Approved a special memorial worship service for the evening of November 9th.

Reviewed recent work by the Associate Pastor Search Committee.

Identified members in need of specific concern and offered appropriate prayers for them. Prayer was also offered for the Associate Pastor Search Committee.

Questions about this meeting or inputs to the Session can be directed to your district elder, a pastor or the clerk.



Dorothy Day Update

On Thursday, April 17, members of First ARP Church served 75 individuals at Dorothy Day Soup Kitchen. These members included **Joan Barkley, Beth Gettys, Christi Gettys, Beth Pearson, and Brian Twomey**. Most recently, on Thursday, May 15, First ARP Church served 78 people at the soup kitchen with the help of **Spencer Anderson, Pat Bounce, Archie & Kitty Barrett**. Thanks to all who help with this wonderful ministry!

REMINDER OF SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Remember our Summer Sunday Worship schedule is now in effect through Sunday, August 31. This means that Sunday School will begin at 9:00 a.m. with worship to follow at 10:00 a.m.

Christian Education News

Are you "Blessed to be a Servant?"

Then volunteer 4 mornings from 9-noon during the week of June 16-19 to help with Vacation Bible School. We still need helpers for a few classes. Contact Lisa Cox or Amanda Ghent if you would like to help with a wonderful week of Bible learning and fun!

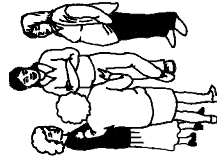
On **Sunday, June 8** during the Sunday School hour, the CE committee will host a reception for **all teachers** of children, youth, and adults. Light breakfast foods will be served in the courtyard beginning at 9:15 a.m. This will be a great time of fellowship as we honor all of those who play an important role in the Christian Education Ministry of First ARP Church.

Note: This reception will take the place of Sunday school—all children, youth, and adults are invited to attend. Adult classes may decide to meet briefly, but we ask that all attend the re-

Many thanks to all those who have helped with the Internet Sunday School program this year. This includes Jeremy Dreier, Amy Kulbok, Andrew Shoger, Shellie Sloop, Debbie Turner, Chuck Cauthen, and Michele Harbin. This ministry reaches out to our young adults and to recent graduates with short devotionals delivered to their computer inboxes on Sunday mornings. What a blessing this ministry is in the life of our church!
Thank you - Betsy Dreier, ISS coordinator

Attention Ladies: Are you looking for opportunities for Bible study and fellowship this summer? No worries!

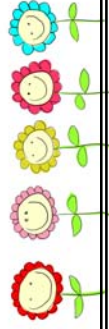
This summer, the ladies will continue the summer Bible study from last year, John MacArthur's *Twelve Extraordinary Women*. This study will meet on Tuesday mornings from 10-11:30 a.m. in ladies' homes and will meet from June 10 to July 15. The women will also continue studying this year's circle book *View from the Top: Studies in the Life of Joseph* by having joint meetings on June 11 (Ch 10), July 9 (Ch 11), and August 13 (Ch 12). The place of these studies will be announced soon! Please see Amanda or Dottie Gettys if you have any questions about either of these studies.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW FOR JULY 21-27

You don't want to miss a great week at Bonclarken this summer! **Family Bible Conference** will be held July 21-24 and will include many activities for the entire family. Dr. Sinclair Ferguson and Dr. Ligon Duncan will be the Bible and Worship leaders for the week. There is a special treat for the women as well, as Mrs. Susan Hunt leads a special time on Tuesday.

Following the week of spiritual encouragement, **World Focus** offers a weekend full of opportunities to hear updates on what is happening in the mission fields all over the world and even speak to some of the ARP missionaries. Our own Amanda Ghent will be helping lead worship for this special weekend. Both the week and weekend accommodate the entire family, so come and relax together! Contact Amanda for registration materials.



From time to time the Missions Committee will feature one of the missionaries our church supports.

Ms. Rebekah Carson who is serving in Berlin, Germany writes in the World Witness newsletter about "Homesickness" and asks, "When was the last time you felt homesick?" She sees a longing in the Germans for something more in life and a loneliness and void they are seeking to fill.

Among the YOUNG she sees a homesickness for a true home as many have never known the love and acceptance typically found in a stable home life. Among the ELDERLY she sees them looking back to communism with rose colored glasses. Although their freedoms were limited, there was a certain predictability to life that now evades them. Among OTHERS she sees them searching for something of a spiritual nature.

God continues to give the missionaries opportunities to show the "homesick" the love of Christ during English clubs, game nights, park festivals and retreats. Please pray for many to come to Christ through the work of our missionaries in all parts of the world.

If you would like to begin correspondence with Rebekah, her mailing address is: Ms. Rebekah Carson
Botzowstr. 54, 10407
Berlin, Germany

