



# 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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May 2008, Part One

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

### Sunday Schedule

8:30 a.m. - Worship 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School 11:00 a.m. - Worship  
5:30 p.m.—Foundations For the Family



### MOPS- Mothers of Preschoolers

is coming to our church! First ARP Women's Ministries is proud to announce the approval from Session to begin a great

outreach program in our church. Through the MOPS program, we hope to reach young mothers in our church and in the local community. We want to do as Paul instructs in his first letter to the Thessalonians to "encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing" (5:11). We hope to offer young mothers compassion, friendship, encouragement, instruction, and a closer personal relationship with Jesus Christ. The committee is planning to begin the program in September 2008, but we need help from the members of the church. We will be looking to fill a number of volunteer positions including childcare, hospitality, and speakers. The first opportunity you have to help the program is a **BAKE SALE on Sunday May 18**. The goodies will be available between the church services and following the 11:00 a.m. worship service. Please come and support the MOPS committee as we begin a new journey in the life of the church. Thank you,

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

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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

### Director of Youth Ministries

As I walked out of the house this morning to head to work, I was struck by two opposing sensations. First was the cool air; no doubt from the rain that passed through last night. The second was the warmth of the sun chasing away the chill that had taken hold of me. For some reason that feeling told me more than any calendar ever could: Summer will be here sooner than we realize!

For many of our Middle and High School youth and a handful of adults, that means our Mission Trips are right around the corner. Our Middle School youth will be heading to Atlanta June 9-12 to hold a VBS for international children in that area. The High School youth will be on the Appalachia Mission Trip July 5-12 continuing the good work they have done for many years. They will also be flying to Wales July 17-28 to spread the Good News of the Gospel and serve as an encouragement to our partner church there.

I invite each of you to join our teams by faithfully remembering to pray for us as we prepare for and embark upon each trip. Our teams realize that they represent the result of a larger effort here at home. We appreciate First ARP Church and its faithfulness to the Great Commission. May God continue to bless our efforts both here and abroad!

**Andrew**



Our Christian Sympathy is extended to the family of Gladys Jones Givens, at her death, on Saturday, April 26. Continue to pray for God's comfort to be upon the Givens family.

#### REMINDER OF SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Summer is on the way, and that means our worship schedule will change. Sunday School will begin at 9:00 a.m. with worship to follow at 10:00 a.m. This schedule begins on Sunday, May 25 and will run through the summer, ending on Sunday, August 31.

## FARPY news

### COVENANTERS CUP

The 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Covenanter Cup will be held at Tirzah ARP Church on Saturday, May 10 from 3 – 7 p.m. This is a fun time for ARP Youth from all over the upstate and parts of NC to come together and play games, hang out, eat dinner and get to know each other better. We had a blast last year and would love for you to join us! Please let Andrew know if you would like to join us for this great event. The cost is only \$5.

### HORIZON & QUEST

It's time to start planning your summer at Bonclarken! 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 two wonderful speakers and a great worship band. We'll also have tons of fun activities, sports tournaments, free time, trips to town, and the always popular sludge war! If you are interested in either of these weeks, please see Andrew by May 7.

### FARP YOUTH SUNDAY

Thank you to all of our youth and parents who helped make Youth Sunday such a wonderful worship service! I appreciate all the time, effort, and commitment you put into preparing for it. Our church family is blessed to have such talented and willing young people.

### Interfaith Hospitality Network

Our IHN guests enjoyed a wonderful week of fellowship and dining with us at First ARP last week. Thanks to all of the Sunday School classes who provided meals for the week, and for those folks who helped as an overnight host. Our guests will return July 27—August 3!



# FROM THE DIACONATE...

The Diaconate held the regularly scheduled meeting on April 15 and would like to share the following action items: Replacement windows in Robinson Hall, the connector, and the preschool areas have been completed. Refurbishment of remaining windows in the Educational Building await sufficient funding.

Gym floor has been cleaned and gym doors have been repaired.

Deacon Workday accomplished much landscaping work—removing stumps and pruning trees and shrubs.

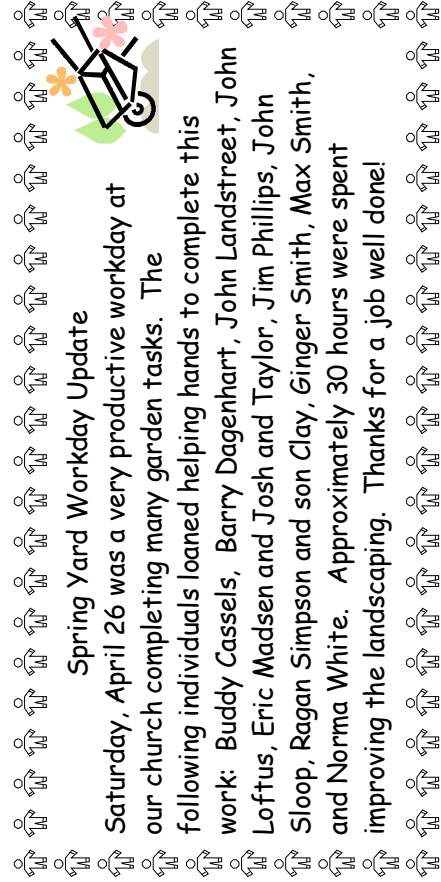
### Financial Report— March 29, 2008

March General Budget Income	\$56,200
March General Budget Expenses	\$58,806
General Account Balance	\$11,432
Forward in Faith Balance to Spend	\$606,197

# HARPS

On **Monday, May 12**, the HARPS will gather for a covered-dish picnic dinner at **5:30 p.m.** at the home of Jack and Ann Roddey. Bring your favorite dish and come enjoy the fellowship!

Also, there are still open spots for the trip to Abingdon, VA **August 5-7**. For more information, contact Lee Carroll or Bill Turner.



### Spring Yard Workday Update

Saturday, April 26 was a very productive workday at our church completing many garden tasks. The following individuals loaned helping hands to complete this work: Buddy Cassels, Barry Dagenhart, John Landstreet, John Loftus, Eric Madsen and Josh and Taylor, Jim Phillips, John Sloop, Ragan Simpson and son Clay, Ginger Smith, Max Smith, and Norma White. Approximately 30 hours were spent improving the landscaping. Thanks for a job well done!

# SESSION NOTES

The Session held three meetings during March. Key actions included:

Reviewed information on the Forward in Faith campaign and current renovation. Since the Final Fruits Offering in March, additional contributions of \$10,000 have been received bringing total giving to approximately \$1,185,000. Work in Robinson Hall continues without significant problems. Completion is expected the middle of the summer.

Joe Patrick & John Barron will be the congregation's representatives to the 2008 meeting of the General Synod. The meeting will be held at Bonclarken June 10-12.

Approved establishment of a local group of MOPS, International. MOPS is a program which ministers to pre-school mothers. A MOPS Steering Committee and the CE Committee are working to set up the program based in our facilities.

The spring Communicants' class will join the church on May 11<sup>th</sup>.

Approved the Transfer of Letter for the Steve Marshall family to Oakland Avenue Presbyterian and Jean Sturgis to Tirzah ARP.

In called meetings, the Session received Audrey Allan, Brian Twomey, Benjamin and Kristin Weeks, Chris and Kathy Hogue, Hillary Hogue, and Evan Rhoad as new members.

Approved Dr. Dagenhart's summer vacation request.

Identified members in need of specific concern & 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, the pastor or the clerk.



On Sunday, April 6, we welcomed Audrey Allan, Brian Twomey, and Ben & Kristin Weeks into the fellowship at First ARP. On Sunday, April 27, Chris & Kathy Hogue, and daughter Hillary, along with Evan Rhoad joined our congregation. We extend a warm welcome to them and ask that you pray for these families. Take a moment and make sure to introduce yourself to all of the new faces!

### Calendar Update

May 4—VBS meeting at 4 p.m.

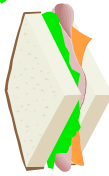
## Time to sign up for VBS!!

This year's program, "Blessed to be a Servant", will be blessed if you join us for the week of VBS, June 16-19. There is a sign up poster in the connector that needs your child's name on it! Children ages 4-5th grade are invited to be a part of this fun and exciting time of learning more about being a servant. Contact Lisa Cox or Amanda Ghent if you have any questions.

## FARPY Yard Sale!

The Middle School & Senior High youth will sponsor a yard sale to help raise funds for summer mission trips! The date this year is Saturday, May 3. Stop by the church gym between 8-1 p.m. to check out all of the items and help support the FARPYs!

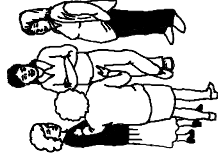
## Join us for Brunch



First ARP Women's Ministries invites ALL women to attend the May Brunch at the home of Ann Roddey on Saturday, May 10 beginning at 11:00 a.m. The members of the FARPWM Board will provide all of the food for this time of fellowship. We will also present The Woman of

## 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.



## Foundations for the Family



Join us for our last Sunday evening program of the spring! On Sunday, May 4, we'll meet at Confederate Park (2 blocks from the church on N. Confederate Ave.) at 5:30 p.m. for a picnic dinner and culmination of this year's Foundations for the Family. The meal will be provided, so join us for this special time of fellowship!



First ARP Church has a long-standing tradition of helping to proclaim the gospel through giving to the direct support of several missionaries serving under World Witness. This direct support, which amounts to \$42,232.00 of our church budget, supports the salary, allowances, health insurance, transportation, pension plans, and other items, directly related to maintaining a specific missionary in the field. Through their work, God is glorified and many have come to know Christ as their Lord and Savior.

The names of our missionaries and the countries in which they serve are listed each week on the back of our church bulletin. As First ARP partners in sending these missionaries, our purpose remains to extend the kingdom of God. Please pray for each of the families as we continue to support their efforts in obedience to the Great Commission.



## Thank You!!

First ARP Youth would like to thank everyone who stayed for the Hamburger and Hotdog cookout this past Sunday! We were able to raise over \$450 towards our Summer Mission Trips. As always, we appreciate the support our church family gives us both financially and prayerfully!

