



FIRST CHURCH LIFE



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

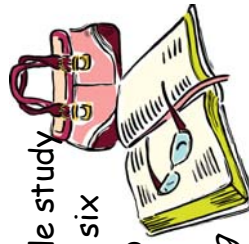
Andrew R. Stager, Associate Pastor

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 8 - 4 p.m. & Friday 8 - 1 p.m.
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May 2009, Part One

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

You're invited!!



The women are invited to the summer Bible study this summer, beginning June 9 and running six weeks through July 14. Over the next two summers, we will study *Having a Mary Spirit* by Joanna Weaver, author of *Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World*. These studies will be held in different homes each Tuesday morning from 10-11:30 a.m. Join us for this wonderful opportunity of fellowship and growth! Below are the dates, teachers, and hostesses for the study. See you there!

- June 9 - Jeanie Revell (teacher); Beverly Simpson (hostess)
- June 16 - Jeanie Alexander (teacher); Hazel Rhodes (hostess)
- June 23 - Amanda Ghent (teacher); Earle Turner (hostess)
June 30 - Sarah Harper (teacher and hostess)
- July 7 - Ann Laney (teacher); Mary Joyce Wright (hostess)
- July 14 - Jody Rankin (teacher); Barbara Lesslie (hostess)

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 Word from the Pastor

Important Congregational Meeting

I do hope that you are planning on participating in the congregational meeting called for this Sunday, at 10:30 a.m. in the sanctuary, for the purpose of adopting a proposed budget from the Diaconate and approved by the Session. As previously reported, the new Fiscal Year Budget consists of a main budget totaling \$758,068 (a decrease of \$86,153 from the 2008 budget), and an addendum budget totaling \$ 13,000. You should have received a cover letter with a copy of the proposed budget last week.

The Diaconate worked hard on trying to trim this budget, and yet maintain as close as possible the level of outreach and ministries necessary to carry out the mission of this congregation. One of the goals of the Session this year was to produce a more realistic budget, and according to the giving levels of our most recent quarter, this main budget is attainable. I want to thank you for your consistent giving, and for the many generous givers in our congregation who make possible so many ministries, and will continue to fund our ministries in the days to come.

Paul Gettys is chairman of the congregation and will be chairing the congregational meeting this Sunday. Cole McKinney, who is Clerk of the Session, will be giving a brief overview of why the Session recommended moving to a fiscal year budget, and Chet Wingate will present the budget for adoption. Please make every effort to participate in your congregational meeting.

Barry



Congratulations to **Stan and Joanne Mauldin** at the birth of their grandson, Timothy Riley Dangerfield, on March 17, 2009. Timothy is the son of Rock and Jodi Mauldin Dangerfield.

FARPY Updates

Dates for your calendar!

All Middle and High School Youth are reminded of the Spring calendar with the following important dates:



you can help out.

Saturday, May 9: Spring Yard Sale

Plan to help out Wed-Fri with set up and pricing, then serving the morning of the sale. Contact Michele Harbin (366-1250) if



May 9, 3-7 p.m.: Covenanters Cup hosted by Tirzah ARP Church. Cost is \$5 and includes



Graduation Sunday

On Sunday, May 31, we will recognize our high school graduates during the worship service, and honor them at a reception following the service. Join us as we celebrate the accomplishments of these students.

We'd like to know if you have a college graduate. Please contact Amanda with their information (college attended and degree earned) so they may be recognized as well.



As you make your summer plans, don't forget that First ARP Women's Ministries can help send your children to Bonclarken camps and conferences!

We provide \$100 per child per summer to attend Horizon, Quest, Camp Bonclarken, and Music-Drama. We also support women attending the Family Bible Conference on a pro-rated basis. Contact Amanda to sign up for camp, or get in touch with Betsy Dreier (328-1302) for more information.

FROM THE DIACONATE...

The Diaconate met in April and took the following actions:

- Presented and approved the proposed 2009-2010 fiscal budget.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial Report—March 31, 2009

General Account Income:	\$64,439.20
General Account Expenses:	\$40,087.53
General Account Deficit:	\$24,351.67



Our Interfaith Guests Are Coming!!

Our guests with IHN will be here May 24-31. The Adult Sunday School classes will prepare dinner for the families (3 - 4 adults/5 children) and volunteers will spend the night with them at the church. Contact Bill Vogel (wtvogel@comporium.net) or Amanda if you can help. Thanks!

We welcome Matt Lewellyn as the new Director of Youth Ministries at First ARP. Matt was recommended by the Professional Staff Committee and approved by the Session on Monday, April 20. He will be a 2009 graduate of Erskine College with a degree in Bible and Religion. He will begin work June 1. We are excited to have him in ministry at our church.



SESSION NOTES

The Session held 2 meetings during April. Key actions included:

Wednesday, April 29 was set as the rededication for the newly renovated Robinson Hall. The youth will plan a dedication for the upgraded 3rd floor space.

Approved holding the annual picnic on May 6 at Elks' Park.

The Membership Committee is doing our periodic review of the church rolls. Anyone who has information about individuals who have moved away from the area should contact Wayne Wingate or others on the committee.

Approved the Professional Staff's recommendation of Matt Lewellyn as the new Director of Youth Ministries.

Approved a request for *Transfer of Letter* for Mac Aycock to the First Presbyterian Church in Myrtle Beach.

Approved, with regrets, a request from John Barron to be relieved of his duties on the Session due to his family's move to Greenville. Cole McKinney was selected as the new Clerk of Session and congregational Secretary.

Received a letter of appreciation from Jamey Dagenhart and Andrew Shoger for the generous gifts through the Seminary Student fund.

Approved the new budget (as prepared by the Diaconate) for presentation to the congregation at a called meeting on May 3, 2009.

Received Mary Elizabeth Loftus and Sara Marie Simpson as new members.

Identified members in need of specific concern and offered appropriate prayers for them.

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



The church is missing a set of very important church keys. The simple key Ring has several keys and would have been picked up from the main office sometime during Holy Week or Spring Break. If you have any information about these keys, or accidentally picked them up, please contact the church office immediately.



John and Sarah Ellen Carson

Dr. Carson is perhaps best known to our congregation as the former President of Erskine College and Seminary. Since retiring from that post, he has joined with World Witness (the ARPC foreign missions board) to serve as a theological educator for pastors and Christian leaders around the world who cannot afford to travel in order to receive a quality, formal theological education. Dr. Carson travels with the Mobile Theological Training Team ("MT3") to ensure that pastors and leaders are well equipped to serve their congregations and evangelize their homelands.

During May, pray for Dr. Carson's health and safety as he travels, for the ability to discern the particular needs of pastors in a variety of contexts, and for his wife Sarah Ellen as she serves alongside her husband and cares for their home in Flat Rock, NC.



Foundations for the Family Spring Celebration!

May 6, 2009 at 5:30 p.m.

Pack your fishin' rods, blankets & chairs, and bring along a side dish or two for the last day of Foundations for the Family for this season at Elk's Park.

Chicken and drinks will be provided. If you can help with set up or break down, contact Ginger Smith (325-1268).



Women's Ministries of First ARP would like to extend their gratitude to everyone who volunteered and supported Erin's Tea Room. We hope you enjoyed the food and the many fellowship opportunities. A special thank you to Erin McManus and her crew for preparing such wonderful meals! The funds raised by these events will support the youth summer missions and other Women's Ministries projects.

Thank you

The Women's Circles will meet jointly this summer. The meetings will be held in Robinson Hall on June 3, July 1, and August 5 beginning at 5:30 p.m. with a salad supper provided by the circles. We will study chapters 10, 11, and 12 in those months respectively. Plan to join us as we finish our study of *Paul's Letters to Maturing Churches*.



We need YOUR family's photo and information! The Family Life Committee is preparing a new Pictorial Church Directory by taking pictures in the Parlor each Lord's Day during the month of May. You may supply a family picture if you wish. Just leave it in the church office or place it in the envelope on the bulletin board in the T-hall. If you bring in a picture please fill out one of the information forms and attach it to the picture.



Dorothy Day Update

On Thursday, April 16, members of First ARP Church served over 70 individuals at Dorothy Day Soup Kitchen. Those who helped were Ken Gasque, Margaret Harper, David Musselman, and Jan Stephenson. The next meal will be served on Thursday, May 21, 2009.

If you would like to help with this ministry, please contact Jan Stephenson (985-4820), Dorothy Day Coordinator.

Family Bible Conference

July 20-23, 2009 Bonclarken

Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God

Come to Bonclarken for a great week of teaching and family activities. While the young children and youth are kept busy with activities, projects, and Bible teaching, the adults will hear from Dr. Mark Ross and Rev. Richard Phillips. There will also be a Women's Ministries showcase. Activities for families and all ages! Contact Amanda if you would like to attend.