



FIRST CHURCH LIFE



J. Barry Dagenhart, Pastor

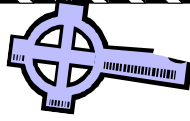
Robert J. Robinson, Pastor Emeritus

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

November 2007, 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 p.m.—Foundations For the Family



Foundations for the Family November Service Project, November 18

Over a dozen years ago families in the church were given the opportunity to make chrismsons for the sanctuary Christmas tree. Since then, they have been repaired on occasion but new members have not had an opportunity to make their own contribution to this beautiful feature of our Christmas celebration. On November 18th there will be an evening of *learning about our chrismsons* and a workshop to *repair the ones we have* and for your family (even families of one) to *make a new one* which will be used to expand to two trees—the one in the sanctuary and one for our fellowship space. If you have “gold” or “pearl” jewels you would like to contribute please mark & leave them in the church office. Join us in the gym at 5 p.m. to learn how these ornaments provide an evangelical tool for our church and what they mean. We hope to see you there!

Kathy Barron and Lucinda Rapp

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

One of the things many people long for in the week-in and week-out life of the local congregation is an environment that exhibits a sense of cohesive community. We are the children of God and we want to feel like a family. This type of community does not automatically happen, but it takes work in the life of the church just as it does in the life of your own family.

Therefore, the church is always planning and hosting events that in addition to being avenues for worship or education or mission, are also a means by which to build community – for us to actually spend quality time together as a congregation. The recent congregational retreat at Bonclarken is one such opportunity where we have a chance to get to know one another in a stronger way. I appreciate all of those who made that possible, especially the retreat committee chaired by **Margaret Harper**. The almost 150 folks there had a great weekend together.

In addition to the retreat, we also experienced another opportunity to foster community through the Reformation Celebration held at the Lesslie land this past Saturday. Many thanks go to the planning committee co-chaired by **Michelle Buit**, **Amy Kulbok** and **Kristin Shoger** for the very clever way in which this event was executed. From the guest speaker Stephen Crofts portraying Martin Luther, to the various games, booths and events, it was an exciting way in which to learn more about our roots as Protestant Christians, as well as have a good time together. I appreciate your attendance at both of these events, and I hope you feel as if our community was strengthened due to these fun and beneficial opportunities.

Barry

Youth News...

Basketball Sign-Ups!

It's that time of year again! If your child is interested in playing basketball in the CBA league this year, please make sure to sign him/her up. There is a table in the Connector with the rosters. Coaches are just as important as the players, so please sign up at the same table if you are interested in coaching...no experience required! Please see Andrew if you have any questions!

Y-o-u-t-h G-r-o-u-p!

What's that spell?! Fun times!

Now that Fall sports and activities are starting to wrap up, you may be wondering what to do with all of that free time. Why not spend Wednesday nights at Youth Group!?! The Middle School and Senior High youth meet at the church from 5:30-7:30 p.m. We have a meal, some praise & worship, a lesson and great games! Even if you have not been able to make it yet this year, we would love to have you join

Prayer Requests

Each week, a list of prayer concerns based on daily updates is compiled. This list contains not only prayer needs, but also an ongoing list of praises and concerns that God has graciously answered. If you would like to receive this updated prayer list on a weekly basis, **please contact the church office or Amanda** at ajghent@comporium.net and indicate whether you would prefer a hard copy or email.



Mission "Thank You" Dinner

You are invited to a very special dinner on Wednesday, November 28. The Youth of First ARP Church would like to take this evening to say "Thank You" for all of the support you have given over the past few years to our Mission Trips. This is NOT a fundraiser of any kind. Please mark this date on your calendar and be prepared for a wonderful meal and program!

FROM THE DIACONATE....

The Diaconate met on Tuesday, October 9 and would like to report the following:

- Deacon Elections will begin with balloting on October 28th and will continue on November 11th.
- The Finance Committee is currently at work on the 2008 Budget.
- The Deacons have requested that members be sent update statements on the status of their Forward in Faith pledges.
- AC and icemaker problems have been addressed.
- The in-house work to relocate the offices of the DCE and Associate Pastor is almost complete.

Financial Update:

September General Budget:	\$67,993.00
September Actual Giving:	\$48,951.00
September Actual Expenses:	\$60,255.00
Year-to-Date Actual Giving:	\$491,814.00
Year-to-Date Actual Expenses:	\$539,074.00
Year-to-Date Actual Deficit:	\$47,260.00
Account Balances (September 30, 2007)	
General Budget	\$2,670.15
Forward in Faith	\$772,297.52
Other	\$143,528.87

Operation Christmas Child

Remember, Operation Christmas Child boxes are due by **Sunday, November 4**. At the evening Family Worship service, there will be a prayer of dedication for these boxes and the children they will

SESSION NOTES

The Session held one meeting during October. Key actions included:

Heard a report from a special committee to consider future pastoral staffing needs. After the review, it passed a motion to pursue calling another Family Life Associate Pastor, Rev. Bult's position. The Recruiting Committee was commissioned to contact potential members of a search committee and will be working to build a committee recommendation. This recommendation will be presented to the Session and congregation for approval.

Directed Finance Committee to maintain Associate Pastor budget line item with these funds used to finance the search and calling of a new associate.

Expressed appreciation to Robert Lesslie for his help in setting up the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper in September when none of the Worship Committee members could be present.

Discussed the importance of the upcoming subscription campaign for *The ARP Magazine*. This is the best source of denominational information to church members.

The Renovation Team continues to work with the architects and the construction company to finalize the drawings and plans.

Received a report from the fall meeting of Catawba Presbytery:

Approved a request for Transfer of Letter to Westminster Presbyterian Church (Rock Hill) for Keith and Susan Williams.

Appreciation was expressed to Rev. Bult for his service over the past four years and a ***Spirit of the Reformation Study Bible*** was given to him by the Session.

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.



DOROTHY DAY UPDATE

On Thursday, October 18, Dorothy Day Soup Kitchen served 65 people a delicious menu. Joan Barkley, Jack Roddey, Bill & Earle Turner, Norma White and Sally Williamson, prepared and served the meal. Remember, the next meal to serve will be Thursday, Nov. 15. Call Bill Turner if you would like to help serve that meal. College students will help with the meal on Dec. 20.



FALL BACK....
Daylight Savings Time is Over
Remember to set your
clocks back one hour on
Sunday, November 4!

CE Corner

Bedtime Christmas Stories

This event is for all children (3 yrs-5th grade) on **Friday, November 30 from 5:30 to 9 p.m.**

Children will be entertained with dinner, games, crafts, and fun bedtime stories and the cost is only \$5 per child! An invitation is on its way, so Parents, please RSVP and let Amanda know if your child will attend and what time you will pick them up. If you would like to help with this event, please contact Amanda.

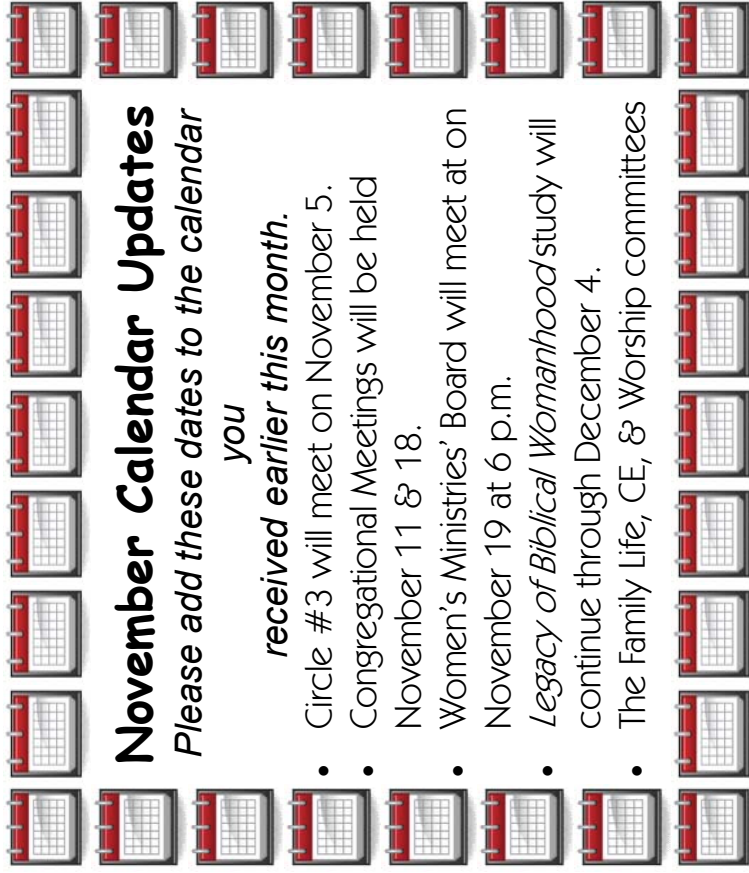


It's almost exam time....and Women's Ministries wants our college students to know we are thinking of them! You can help by grabbing a leaf or two off the "giving tree" in the connector and returning the requested items back to the church by Sunday, November 11. We will fill boxes with these items and mail them to the students before exams begin. These boxes will be a great reminder to our students that we are praying for them during such a stressful season. If you have any questions, contact Debbie



COLLEGE STUDENT LIST NOW AVAILABLE!

A list has been compiled of our college students, with their addresses, phone numbers, emails, and birthdays. Contact the church office or Amanda if you would like a copy of this information.



November Calendar Updates

Please add these dates to the calendar you received earlier this month.

- Circle #3 will meet on November 5.
- Congregational Meetings will be held November 11 & 18.
- Women's Ministries' Board will meet at on November 19 at 6 p.m.
- *Legacy of Biblical Womanhood* study will continue through December 4.
- The Family Life, CE, & Worship committees



Attention grandparents & greatgrandparents who have grandchildren that go to 1st ARP (in our congregation, pre-school, or youth groups)!!!

A picture for the 2008 calendar will be taken on Sunday, Nov. 4, at 4 pm at the Manchester Meadows playground. Bring yourselves, your "grands" and props of something you and your grands like to do together, such as a fishing pole, soccer ball, apron and cooking stuff to hold, books, sewing stuff, rake for yard work, ball caps or favorite ballteam jerseys, etc. Anything to represent what you love to do together will be perfect! Call Barbara Lesslie (366-9367) to confirm that you and your grands will be there! See you at the playground!

Mark your calendars today for the family

Thanksgiving breakfast at the church on Thanksgiving morning. (November 22!) All men of the church are asked to donate \$5. For those manly men that would like to help cook or clean up, contact Wayne Wingate or John Barron.

