



# FIRST CHURCH LIFE



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

Andy R. Stager, Associate Pastor

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 8 - 4 p.m. & Friday 8 - 1 p.m.  
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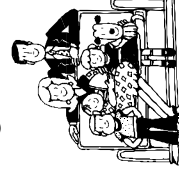
November 2008, Part One

## 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

### Attention all Parents!!

The Christian Education Committee and the MOPS Steering Team are excited to invite you to an evening with Steve Maye on Sunday, November 23 from 5-7 p.m. in Robinson Hall. Steve will share on raising children biblically, with an emphasis on raising young boys. His seminar is titled "Boys to Men: Leading our Boys into Biblical Manhood." Steve is Vice-Moderator Elect for the ARP Synod this year and has taught and spoken on this subject for many years.



This time will be filled with great information, guidance, and encouragement as you raise your children in such a secular world. A pizza dinner will be served. Cost is \$5 per family to cover food. Please contact Amanda at the church office if you plan to attend this event.

## FALL BACK

REMEMBER: Daylight Savings Time ends this weekend.  
Don't forget to set your clocks back an hour on Saturday night!

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 Associate Pastor

To the saints in Christ at First ARP Church, Rock Hill,

Have you ever noticed the way that the Apostle Paul begins his letters? He almost invariably addresses His believers as "saints". It ought not to make us feel awkward or uncomfortable to be addressed as saints. After all, Paul could even refer to the Christians of Corinth as such, though there were sins going on in that fellowship the mention of which would not make for polite dinner conversation.

The reality is this: you and I are saints not in the first instance because we have been given that title by our fellow Christians, by the church, or by the watching world. Rather, we are saints, as Paul also loves to remind his people, *in Christ Jesus*. To be a saint means that we have been set apart from the world as the objects of God's loving and saving purposes. Next, it also means that *we* have begun to set the Lord Jesus apart as the chief object of *our* faith and love. *Only then* does it mean that we begin to find ourselves, and others begin to find us, living for God's glory alone.

As the saints in Rock Hill, we, like the saints in Ephesus, Colossae, Philippi, and (even!) Corinth, were first set apart by the God of grace. Let us also set him apart as the God of glory!

Your fellow saint in Christ,



### Dorothy Day Update

On Thursday, October 16, members of First ARP Church served 87 individuals at Dorothy Day Soup Kitchen. These members included Ann Bogan, Ashley Barron, Erin McManus, and Mary Joyce Wright. Many thanks to Kathy Harris for providing hard-boiled eggs. The next meal will be served on Thursday, November 20, 2008. If you would like to help with these meals next year, please contact Bill Turner.

## FARPY update

Middle School Retreat coming soon!!!

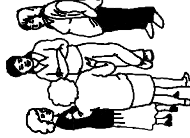
The Middle School Youth will be at Bonclarken next weekend, Nov. 7-9 for their Fall Retreat. Please be in prayer for our group as we travel, spend time in worship, and hang out with old and new friends!

### Mission Appreciation Dinner

The Middle School and Senior High Youth would like to invite each of you to our annual Mission Appreciation Dinner on Wednesday, November 5 at 5:45 p.m. This is our opportunity to say "Thank You" for your support of our mission program. Please come and enjoy a great meal, hear reports from our Summer mission trips, and learn about our plans for future trips. We hope you will be able to join us for this wonderful evening! Childcare will be provided following our meal for children in 4<sup>th</sup> grade and under.

## Women's Ministries News

- \* Thanks to all who helped with the Pampered Chef party! We were able to receive over \$600 of kitchen items, practically fulfilling our wishlist. The WM Board thanks you for your support and purchases. The orders should arrive soon, and you will be contacted to pick them up.
- \* The Women's Ministries Christmas dinner will be on Wednesday, December 17. The Board will provide selections from the cookbook for the meal. Join us for a great time of fellowship, food, and entertainment!
- \* The Catawba Presbytery Winter Retreat will be January 23-25 at Bonclarken. Becky Moss will be our speaker for the weekend on "The Crucified Life: Entering into the Presence of God." The deadline to sign up is December 15. You can pick up information at the church.



## FROM THE DIACONATE...

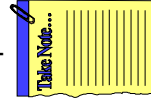
The diaconate held one meeting in October and would like to share the following:

- ★ Approved a request to Session to increase the Forward in Faith Line of Credit.
- ★ Building and Grounds actions:
  - Rail has been installed at steps into T-Hall
  - Gym roof leak is being evaluated for repair
  - Nursery/Preschool and Parlor carpets have been professionally cleaned
  - Landscaping and yard work will be done in conjunction with the Deacon Workday for moving Sunday School classes
  - Deacon Workday for moving is currently set for November 1<sup>st</sup> pending receipt of certificate of occupancy
  - Benevolence offering receipts were to be immediately disbursed to those identified with needs.

### FINANCIAL REPORT

September 2008 Income:	\$63,081.04
September 2008 Expenses:	\$68,617.13
<b>Account Balances—September 30, 2008:</b>	
General Account	\$17,267.98
Miscellaneous Accounts	\$169,344.85
Forward in Faith	\$1408.80

With God's amazing answer to our prayers for a quick sale of our house, the Shoger's have a new address and have cancelled our home phone service. Below is our new contact information.



Andrew & Kristin Shoger  
 459 Brookfield Lane  
 Rock Hill, SC 29730  
 Andrew cell (704) 682-1867  
 Kristin cell – (843) 696-4153

## SESSION NOTES

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

Reviewed information on the Forward in Faith campaign and current renovation. With most work now completed, the contractor is awaiting interior doors which are required prior to gaining the occupancy permit from the city. The parking lot is also awaiting some city permits.

Issues of financing the renovation work were also discussed. \$1.2M was pledged for the work however we are still about \$80,000 short of receiving all those pledges. Additionally, all of the expenses (construction, campaign, Daughter Church, architectural and engineering fees) have left us with a total shortfall of approximately \$360,000 against contributions for the work. The Diaconate has arranged short-term financing to assist in completing the work until giving catches up with this need.

Heard from the Family Life Committee that attendance for the Wednesday evening program has been averaging in the 100-130 range.

Reactivated the Session's "Seminary Student Fund" to support two church family members attending Erskine Theological Seminary. A love offering will be received in the near future for these students. Gifts are to be divided between Andrew Shoger and Jamey Dagenhart who are both now attending the Seminary.

Accepted Chad and Tiffany Ramsey as new members.

Granted tentative approval to use church facilities for two non-members' weddings during 2009.

Approved the Transfer of Letter for Jane Marion Wilson to Zion Presbyterian Church in Lowrys, SC

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.



Congratulations to Jeffrey Lesslie and Katie Miller who were united in marriage on Saturday, October 25 in Charleston. Jeffrey is the son of Robert and Barbara Lesslie.

## Christian Education News

### Check out these new Sunday School class studies!

Some of our adult Sunday School classes are beginning new studies this month that you don't want to miss! Remember, you can be a visitor in any of these classes, so drop by today!

The Christian Life Class will be reading through John Piper's *Don't Waste Your Life*, taught by Scott Ledford and Sarah Dagenhart. Mark Herring will be teaching in the Covenant Life Class through *Weight of Glory*, written by C.S. Lewis. You can also join the Fellowship Class in their study of *The Fruit of the Spirit*. They will be using a guide written by John Sanderson to study these great truths in scripture. The Spiritual Development Class will be diving into II Corinthians and be encouraged by Paul's words to the church.

Contact Amanda if you have any questions about these new studies. Remember, Sunday school begins at 9:45 a.m. each

## Operation Christmas Child

FAMILIES together in service experiencing  
"the power of a simple gift."

Remember, all shoeboxes are due on Sunday, November 9. Please make your postage checks payable to "First ARP Church - OCC" and drop it by the church office.



MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) will hold its third meeting on November 20 at the church. Dr. Robert Alexander will share about the effects of media on young children. You will also enjoy fellowship, refreshments and Bible study. Contact Dottie Gettys if you would like to volunteer childcare or provide baked goods for a meeting.

**Foundations for the Family**, our Wednesday evening program (5:45-7:15 p.m.), is a great opportunity for the entire family to enjoy a nice meal, fellowship, and Bibli-

## HARPS Christmas Gala

The lively days around Christmas holidays beg for glittering indulgence. A decorated holiday tree, tables with colorful ornaments and maroon & champagne colored linens will welcome the HARPS and their guests at the Rock Hill Country Club on Thursday night, December 11, 2008 at 6 p.m. for their annual Christmas Gala. Walt Heinsohn will entertain us for the evening and create a memorable night with his guitar playing.

You will choose from the following menu options:

A - Chicken Saltimbocca (with cheese and ham)

B - Pork Tenderloin with Mango Chutney

(All meals come with salad, chef's choice of vegetable & starch, rolls, assorted desserts, coffee and tea.)

Cost is \$15 and includes the meal, tax, and gratuity.

Call **Norma White** (366-5814) to make your reservation BY Friday, December 5. Contact Norma if you need transportation.

Please join us for a truly unique dining experience which has become a favorite time for the HARPS!



### Are you coming to the annual Thanksgiving breakfast?

Mark Thursday, November 27, 7:30 a.m. on your calendar now for a great morning of food, fellowship, and teaching! Families are asked to donate \$5 (give to church office, John Barron, or Wayne Wingate). Men are needed for prep, cooking, and cleanup. Contact John or Wayne if you can help!

## Preschool

**News** are invited!

The Preschool's Silent Auction Student Art Show will be Tuesday, November 11 at the Magnolia Room at Laurel Creek from 9:30-11:30 a.m.

A few of our items up for bid include car detailing, a girls night out, a "Life is Good" basket, a child's birthday pool part at Laurel Creek, professional photography services, a pool table, a hand-smocked dress, a dessert-a-month, restaurant gift certificates, a Cuisinart Cutlery set, gift baskets, baby-sitting and more! It's not too late to donate any goods or services.

Thank you for considering what you can do.

See you there!

