



# CELEBRATING

## *Our Partnership in the Gospel of Jesus Christ*



The Newsletter, A Publication of the Farmville United Methodist Church, September 2011

### A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR.....

Greetings, and may God's grace and peace be with you!

Do you read daily devotional guides like *The Upper Room*, *Our Daily Bread* or other similar materials? I do. In fact, I am frequently touched by the stories shared, the encouragement offered, and the insightful relevance of scripture recognized by the writers. While these devotional guides are not intended to replace our reading of God's written word, the Bible, they do help keep us connected with our Lord...and at times, even with others.

As I sat in our home this past Saturday, with the torrential rains and wind endlessly beating against the roof and windows from Hurricane Irene, I thought to myself..."this is a good day for ducks", as I recalled frequently seeing ducks along the water's edge during storms and hurricanes, as Town Manager of Swansboro. Yes ducks...and they were even there during Hurricane Floyd...amazing!

My mind then drifted to an article I had read years ago, about a man who had written a meditation for an Upper Room devotion, which involved....you guessed it—ducks!

It was about a family of ducks crossing a busy highway and miraculously making it across, without losing a single duck! The man wrote the article because it touched his heart how God cares for all of his creation in amazing ways.

The scripture used by the author that day was Matthew 18:20, where Jesus said, "Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

I have to admit, the thought of Matthew 18:20 referring to ducks never...never crossed my mind. However, in hindsight, why couldn't it? All of God's creation is important to God, for we are told in Matthew 10:29b that God knows when even a sparrow falls to the ground. God's love is not given just to human beings...God's love is given to the world... all of the world, encompassing all things...even the things we may not care for—like spiders, snakes, etc.

We are connected to all of God's creation, including one another. And it is when we truly realize this fact, that other laws such as the ten commandments become more clear in their purpose. When we hurt one another, take a life, do not honor our mother and father, commit sinful acts...we are in essence, affecting and harming ourselves, as well! We gain strength from one another, and we certainly can be weakened by one another too!

All life is a precious gift...and individually and collectively, we are responsible to God for it. We therefore sense a connection with others who have lost possessions, had damage to their homes or even suffered loss of loved ones as a result of Hurricane Irene. We may even sense a connection...with a family of ducks we see crossing a road or pathway (like the man who wrote for Upper room) because...well, Jesus said, "Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them." You know...it counts as a gathering, so Christ must be there!

May God continue to watch over and be among you...as we recover from Hurricane Irene.

Pastor Bill



Our Church Library has two new additions to the shelves:

***Finding Home, An Imperfect Path to Faith and Family*** by Jim Daly.

This is Mr. Daly's personal memoir. He is the President and CEO of Focus on the Family.

\*Memorial gift for Joseph Wilson, step-father of Pastor Paul, given by the New Beginnings Sunday School Class.

***Heaven is for Real: A Little Boy's Astounding Story of His Trip to Heaven and Back*** by Todd Burpp.

\*Memorial gift for Margaret Pollard, mother of Randy Pollard, given by the New Beginnings Sunday School Class

I will be resigning the position of Church Librarian after much prayer and reflection. The up-coming requirements for this school year will give me very little extra time. I know God has a special individual to fulfill the needs of our Library.

Blessings to all  
Vickie Herring.



### **COUPLE'S NIGHT, SATURDAY,**

**SEPTEMBER 24** – at the home of Pastor Bill and Jean at 5:30pm. Please RSVP to Julie

Warren, [bwjw0803@hotmail.com](mailto:bwjw0803@hotmail.com) or 753-8525. See insert for more information



### **COLLEGE STUDENTS ADDRESSES**

Parents, if you have a son or daughter that will be away from home at a college/university, please call the church office with their address. We like to keep in touch; we want our young people to know that our church cares about them. Please call the church office as soon as you can with this information.

Jacob Parks will be attending East Carolina University, his address is Jones Dorm, Room 377, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC 27858-4353



### **From Luke Warren:**

I am hosting a Blood Drive on September 11th, from noon until 4:00pm at Church. I plan to serve free soup and sandwiches to all donors. Anyone interested please email me at [bwjw0803@hotmail.com](mailto:bwjw0803@hotmail.com) or call me at 252-753-8525, so I know how many people to expect. I'm sorry to have left it to so late to contact you with details, but the Red Cross representative did not contact me until this week.

Thank You, Luke Warren



### **NEW YOUNG ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS**

Beginning **Sunday, Sept. 4<sup>th</sup>**, a new Sunday School Class will be

held for young adults, parents of children and youth and others not attending Sunday School classes. Pastor Bill and Jean will initially lead the class. More details to follow in the coming weeks.

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS AND ASSISTANTS NEEDED**

We are in need of some help in our Sunday School Classes and would appreciate you considering being one of our teachers for the children's class and maybe an assistant starting in September. Please be in prayer and let me know if you can help. Please contact Joy Fields.



It is time for our visit to the nursing home. Our church has been asked to visit the patients during Sunday School for the month of September.

Each Sunday School class has been assigned a Sunday (schedule below) visitation time from 10:00 to 10:30am. Your class is encouraged to visit with and minister to the patients in any way that you feel would be a blessing to them.. They would appreciate any effort you could make to encourage them and lift their spirits.

Thank you for sharing your Christian Love!  
Ashley Sutton and Janet Clontz

- Sunday, September 4 – New Beginning Class
- Sunday, September 10 – Vereen Class
- Sunday, September 18 – Children's Classes
- Sunday, September 25 – Youth

### **SUNDAY MORNING FELLOWSHIP TIME**

Fellowship-Refreshment time will be held in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday mornings following the Early Service. This is an opportunity to meet new members of our church, greet visitors, and talk with members who attend a different worship service or Sunday School class. Attend the 11:00 service? Come a little early before you head to Sunday School and enjoy refreshments along with great conversation. If you enjoy the refreshments and fellowship, please sign up to bring food to share. A calendar for signing up will be beside the coffee pot each Sunday



**United Methodist  
Men's Fellowship**

I hope everyone had a good summer. The UMM have had good turnout for our summer meetings but we would always like to see more faces around the table on the second Monday of the month at 7:00pm. Our next meeting is on September 12th, please come and enjoy good men's fellowship with us.

Mark your calendar, the UMM will be hosting a Soup 'n' Sandwich lunch on September 25th after the 11:00am worship service. Money raised from the event will go toward wiring upgrades in the sanctuary which will help ease the "behind the scenes" transition for our new 5th Sunday blended services. Please make plans to join us for lunch.

In Christ,  
Hugh Williams



We are scheduled to begin our Wednesday Night Fellowship meals on **September 7.**

Cost will remain the same, as last year, that is \$5.00 per person with a family max of \$15.00. If grocery costs continue to rise, it may be necessary to revisit this issue later in the year. Meals will be served beginning at 6:00.

Again, thank you for your group's willingness to accept this responsibility. If you have a problem, contact Irene Pollard or trade with another group. The schedule through December is as follows

- Sept. 7: New Beginnings
- Sept. 14: Circle IV
- Sept. 21: Vereen Class
- Sept. 28: **COVERED DISH**
- Oct. 5: Circle III
- Oct. 12: Youth
- Oct. 19: UMMen
- Oct. 26: New Beginnings
- Nov. 2: Circle IV
- Nov. 9: Vereen Class
- Nov. 16: **COVERED DISH**
- Nov. 23: **NO MEAL**
- Nov. 30: Circle III
- Dec. 7: Youth
- Dec. 14: UMMen
- Dec. 21: **NO MEAL**
- Dec. 28: **NO MEAL**
- Jan. 4: New Beginnings



As FUMC women, we extend our concerns and prayers for all those who have been adversely affected by hurricane Irene. It is in times of strife that God brings us together to witness for Him in all we do to help one another. If there are needs you may be aware of where our UMW might be of assistance, please let us know.

Mark your calendars for November 12<sup>th</sup>. Our annual Holiday Helpers fundraiser will take place and we need all our ladies (and men cooks) to provide us with lots of great dishes, cakes, pies, soups etc. to sell. If you have an item you'd like to contribute for the silent auction table, we'd love to hear from you.

Circle meetings are open to women of all ages who would like to be a part of those who are working together in Christian fellowship for global mission outreach, local, and FUMC as well. Come see what our ladies are up to! If you cannot be present for the meeting but would like to stay informed of current projects in which you could help, just give us a call.

**Circle III** – Monday, Sept 19<sup>th</sup> 7:00 pm meeting at the home of Anne McGaughey. Willa Bullock has invited Rev Bill Price to be the guest speaker.

**Circle IV** – Monday, Sept 19<sup>th</sup> 7:00 pm meeting in the Chapel, FUMC. Cindy Parks is program hostess.

District upcoming dates:

**Sept 16-17** Mother-Child Retreat (Camp Don Lee)

**Sept 24<sup>th</sup>** District Spiritual Enrichment "Day Apart"- Cypress Glenn-10am-11:30am. District Executive Committee meeting follows.

With loving gratitude to our heavenly Father, our mighty fortress, for safety amidst the storm,  
UMW - Friends in Faith  
Connie Mazingo (753-5877) Debbie Terrell (753-4941)



**Christian Sympathy to....**

.....Heide Wilson and her family on the death of her mother, Else Merier, who died Thursday, August 4, 2011 in Germany.  
.....Jeff, Carol Lynn, Jessica, and Landon on the death of Jeff's father, Ed Heath.

**Congratulations.....**

.....to our Music Director, Drucilla Lamm graduated from Barton College, August 12 with a Master Degree in Elementary Education with emphasis on Teacher Leadership. Her address is 1707 N. Carolina Ave. Wilson, NC 27893  
.....to Jacob Parks for receiving the Roland Lang Scholarship this year.



will resume on **Sunday, September 25 at 5:00pm.** Kid's Kingdom is for kids ages 5yrs – 12yrs. **A volunteer is needed to bring snacks.**



Sept. 7: Trey Fields, Nancy Jessup, Marion Stowe  
Sept. 8: Harold Bailey  
Sept. 9: Jimmy Evans  
Sept. 10: Chuck Johnson  
Sept. 15: R. G. Cochran, Amy Pollard  
Sept. 16: Lori Craig  
Sept. 20: Roxie Smith  
Sept. 24: Camille M. Edwards  
Sept. 26: Janet Hall  
Sept. 26: Sandy Tugwell  
Sept. 29: Pat Johnston

Tracey Smith, Horace Allen, Billy Baker, family of Else Meier (grief mother of Heide Wilson ) Conner Carroll (cousin of Maggie Williams. healing); Richard Crossan (health); family of Charlie Fitzgerald (grief) Rufus and Evangeline Cochran (healing), Pat Rouse-Jones (healing), Jessica Heath (healing), Bobby Carraway (healing), family of Ed Heath (grief), Jimmy Hite (surgery and healing', brother of Erin Grimes) Virginia Wooten (healing), Helen Goins (started treatment for lung cancer; cousin of Anita Powell), family of Billy Baker (grief, uncle of Mike Wainwright)



## Church-wide Yard Sale

It's time to look in your attic, storage sheds, garages and closets and get out all of your unwanted or unused items that you would be willing to donate to the church for our church wide yard sale. All of the proceeds from the yard sale will help fund one of our mission's projects that the Administrative Council voted to adopt at its last meeting. This project is called "Backpack Pals", which identifies elementary aged students (through the school system) that may need food and snacks to help feed them when not at school. Some kids only get healthy meals when they are at school. This project supplies the kids with a backpack filled with canned foods which they can open, fruits and other snacks. They will take the backpack home with them over the weekend and return it to school on Mondays. This is just one thing that the council is looking at which the church can do in our community that will make a difference in people's lives.

If you would be willing to help me organize this yard sale, you can let me know or call the church office. What a great way to come together as a church family to do something will make a difference. This will only be successful with your help.

The tentative date for the yard sale is October 15<sup>th</sup>. **I would like to have a meeting on September 7<sup>th</sup> (after the fellowship dinner) with everyone interested in helping out.**

So start looking now at what you may have to donate, and remember, someone's trash may be someone else's treasures!

Blessings,  
Mike Tugwell, Chairman, Administrative Council

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**Return Service Requested**  
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