

CELEBRATING

Our Partnership in the Gospel of Jesus Christ

The Newsletter of the Farmville United Methodist Church, November 2008



Pastor Paul's Report

We just had our Annual Charge Conference, where we plan for next year and look back on this one. I'd like to share with you my report offered there, and a few of my thoughts.

The Farmville United Methodist Church is, I am very pleased to report, unified and going forward in mission and ministry to Jesus Christ. We have a **worship attendance which is up 16% for the year-to-date** from last year, culminating with a 23% increase in Open House Month attendance from the same month last year (attendance of 145 this year to 118 last year). We have an air of Holy Spirit unity and drive- our heart of welcome and mission is very encouraging. From the missions of the church, where we have shown time and again the desire to respond to the needs both around us and around the world, to passionate worship, good participation in our Bible Study and Fellowship programs and events, engaging fellowship and a drive to reach out, Farmville UMC shows that it is primed to be used by God in a strong way in the coming year.

We have been highly involved in missions, giving nearly 50 flood buckets to the MERC Center to help flood victims; we gathered over 10,600 meals for Operation Sharehouse's food for the hungry; we raised over \$13,000 for Relay for Life; and we adopted 2 kids in the 1K for 1Kid campaign for the Methodist Home for Children. This is above our regular giving, and our missional giving to groups like the Wesley Foundation of ECU; the Carolina Pregnancy Center, the Soup Kitchen & more. I love so much the Spirit here that cries out "Let's do it!"

I have been excited to see the high level of participation in the service and fellowship programs of the church as well- our UMW is very active; our UMMen is actively meeting each month, and our UMYF is off to a great start this fall. We can do more in this area of the church, but we are in a good position to grow.

We are planning on a vibrant Christmas season, and look forward to focusing on discipleship building in 2009. We plan to have a community-focused outreach with "Fireproof" in the spring. We are engaged in the process of exploring the Healthy Congregations study, and anticipate during the next year looking very intently at all the ministries of the church, evaluating all our church's missions and ministries through the upcoming "Rethink Church" material coming from Igniting Ministry, in conjunction with our "Healthy Congregations" work, as we focus on our welcome, worship, discipleship and our outreach to the community in the coming year. I am hoping that we are able to be certified as a "Welcoming Congregation" as a result of this work. In all, we truly want to live out our mission to Make Disciples of Jesus Christ.

Farmville UMC is dedicated to making Disciples of Christ! We welcome all! Come, see what God's touch can do in YOU! We have many ways to connect to the church, including our groups, missions and activities. See the details at FarmvilleUMC.com. We have 2 different worship experiences- an 8:45am contemporary worship (with praise band) in the Joyner Chapel, and the 11am worship traditional worship in the Sanctuary.

STORM SURGE!

We will be finishing our "Storm Surge" Sermon Series: How to Power through Life's Adversities. These services have been challenging, practical, relevant & reforming. In these troubled times, it will be God that gives us the tools to not just survive, but to thrive. Don't miss a week!

My thoughts on this report

- 1.) **I share your enthusiasm** for where we are right now. This church has a great Spirit about it. You can see it on people's faces, and you can tell it in the response to our ministries.
- 2.) **Your response is vital to our going forward!!!** The church is not a building- we are no more than the sum of our members. As in our fall Stewardship Campaign- just IMAGINE what we can do if everyone pulls together and commits to the ministries of the church with giving your time and resources to God.
- 3.) **The church is primed for a great 2009-** if we pray at all times, work with a willing heart, and keep God at the top of our individual priorities. We will welcome new Christians to the faith and strengthen our discipleship and fellowship with each other as we strive to live out our Disciple-making mission. I can't wait!

**YOU are
Invited!!**



FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Dear Fellow Members,

It is time to kick off our Adopt-a-bed program. We still have numerous opportunities to adopt an area. But the time has come to go ahead and get things moving. We are going to kick the program off with a

"Church-wide Fall Clean-up Day" on Saturday Nov. 15th from 8:00 until Noon.

We really need a big turn-out, so please mark your calendars. Once we have done all we can on clean-up day, we are going to bring a professional in to "winterize" the landscape and wrap-up any unfinished work. From there, these nice clean beds will be turned over to their adopting families/ groups/ individuals with some instruction from the Trustees. They will be theirs to look after until the Professionals come back in the spring.

We need your help on the clean-up day as well as with a bed adoption. It can be individuals, families, classes or groups that may want to take an area on. There can even be multiple groups or individuals depending on the size of the area adopted. This would include checking on your adopted area once every couple of weeks to be sure everything is in order (if the need for major work arises, you may simply report it to the Trustees). All that would be expected would be weeding and trash or light debris clean-up. A small amount of effort on the part of a larger group of people would keep our Church looking its absolute best with very little effort on any one person's part. Please see the areas listed below to see if one of them is a good fit for you, your family or your group:

These areas are open for adoption:

- Small landscaped island in the rear parking lot.
- Beds away from building that encompasses area between two walkways to Chapel door.
- Bed from Church Street up to, and including around base of Bell Tower.
- Same Bed as above, from Bell Tower, down the side of the Sanctuary and around to the front of the Sanctuary (by the Choir room entry).
- Tree patrol – Occasional trimming of low hanging limbs and light storm or broken limb clean-up. Larger clean-up after hurricanes or ice storms can be handled by professionals. Water stressed trees during extreme drought situations.
- Rear parking lot – Check for trash, excess weeds, seasonal debris.

These areas have been adopted:

- Bed from Kitchen door around to the entry door to Chapel against the Building (Benefield family)
- Bed from door to Chapel around to the side of Chapel facing the Bell Tower. (UMW Circle III)
- Large bed surrounded by back of Chapel and glass hallway (outside Church office). (Edwards Family)
- Enclosed garden on the North Side of the Church. (Lauderdale Family)

- Handicap parking lot on west side of building (Choir entry) – Check for trash, excess weeds, seasonal debris. (McGaughey Family)

Again, if we all pitch in, we can keep our church looking very "inviting" all of the time. I hope we can make this happen. I look forward to a lot of feedback. Please call me, Todd Edwards (753-7721), or the Church office to sign up for your area.

Thank you,
Todd Edwards, Board of Trustees



The UM Youth Fellowship has gotten off to a great start this fall! We have had a lot of fun and laughter each week, as our fall theme has been "Salt & Light". We have had a party at Pastor Paul's, and are getting ready to go to Pilgrimage Nov. 7-9. We are planning some pretty cool things for December & the new year, including a concert by PS151, the summer Creation trip, a Christmas hayride & more. Bring a friend every Sunday night and check it out! 6-7pm.



From the Pastor

In the summertime, I mentioned that I would love to come and visit you wherever you'd like- at home, out fishing, at meal-time, on-the-go or wherever. This holds true for the fall. I'd love to meet you where you are. Let me know "when and where" & I'll do all I can to be there. Also, don't forget to call me if

you are in the hospital or simply need me to stop by. Along with calling the church and the parsonage, you can call my cell: 414-0558.

Also, some have asked for some set "Office Hours" to be able to just stop by and see me here at the office. You are always welcome- I come and go throughout the week. As a general rule, I'll be in Wednesday afternoons from 1:30 until our church supper, and Thursdays from 9-5, possibly stepping out for lunch. I am off Mondays.

"Simplicity adds meaning to holidays"

This is a great article, especially for the troubled times our society is in, for the upcoming Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. It is from our UMC's *Interpreter* magazine. Pick up a copy of the article at the church office, or go online: <http://www.interpretermagazine.org>.

<http://www.interpretermagazine.org/interior.asp?ptid=43&mid=13057>



November is here and leaves are falling. We rake our yards and the next day you can see more leaves. We are all busy whether it's yard work, cooking or getting ready for the Holidays.

Circle III will be in charge of Meals-on-Wheels November 10-14th. If you can help, please give Willa Rae Bullock a call at 753-3478.

"Holiday Helpers" is Saturday, November 15th from 10:00 – 1:00 in the Fellowship Hall. We will be having baked goods, casseroles, cheese straws, cakes, pies and other great items for sale. Also there will be a Silent Auction table and a white elephant table. This is our big fundraiser and the money we make will go into the community for good causes. **On Friday November 14th bring your food to the church during the hours of 4:00 to 7:00** and we will take care of it. I know you ladies are good cooks and we could not do this without each one of you.

On November 22nd there is a Greenville District UMW Local Officers Training at the UMC in Hookerton. Registration is at 9:30 and the meeting starts at 10:00. Nancy Harris and I went last year in Washington and it really helped us in so many ways.

Last year was the first time we had the **"Hanging of the Greens"** that I know of and I think everyone enjoyed helping decorate the church for Christmas. We will be having it again this year on **Monday, November 24th at 7:00 PM.** I have a list of people who will be in charge of different areas. You are to go to whichever area you would like. We need all of you to help. Below are the area assignments:

- Chapel: Sandy Tugwell and Sheri Von Schritlz
- Fellowship Hall: Youth
- Hall: Circle III
- Garland: Harriett Baker
- Putting up the Christmas Tree: Men
- Decorating the Christmas Tree: Circle IV
- Outside Decorations: Men and Boys

Refreshments:

- Hot Apple Cider: Darlene Gaynor
- Drinks, cups and napkins: Pat Sumrell
- Everyone bring their favorite goodies

Please come out and help because this is for everyone in the church. **All decorations need to be taken down by Monday, December 29th after Christmas.**

Circle III is selling peanuts again this year and if you need any please give Darlene (749-4816) or Maxine (749-5561) or any member of Circle III a call. We need to have all orders in by November 23rd. We will not be having any extras this year, so be sure to get your order in by the deadline. Pick up your peanuts on December 4th.

We all have a busy schedule with so many things going on in our lives, but we need to take time and thank our heavenly Father for everything. I want to thank each and every one of you for all you do for our church. Remember it takes everyone.

In Christian Love,
Darlene Gaynor



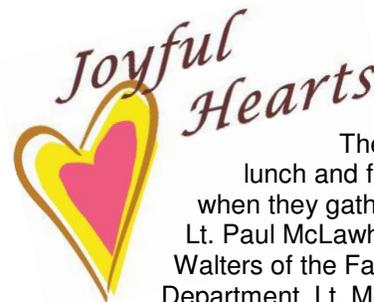
The Staff-Parish Relations Committee will meet Wed. November 12th at 6:45 pm in the New Beginnings Sunday

School classroom. All completed Pastoral Assessment forms should be turned in to Connie Mozingo by Sunday **November 9th.**



will be held here at the **First Baptist Church on November 23, at 7:00pm** with Rev. Rocky Stone preaching. Invite your

friends and let's have a good attendance as we give thanks to God through this time of worship.



The "Joyful Hearts" enjoyed lunch and fellowship in October when they gathered with Lt. Paul McLawhorn and Ofc. Matt Walters of the Farmville Police Department. Lt. McLawhorn has been associated with the Farmville Dept. for 20 years working as an undercover agent. Ofc. Walters came to Farmville in August after graduating from ECU with a degree in Criminal Justice and serving last year in Iraq. Our community is fortunate to have these outstanding men working with us. They gave an excellent program on Senior Safety Issues and explained the services their department offers its citizens. Everyone was reassured to know that calls from seniors to maintain their health and safety were always welcome. Members also had the opportunity to ask many questions during an informal time following the presentation.

The next **"Joyful Hearts" event will be our annual Bingo Night on Thursday, January 15th at 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall.** That means it's time for all church members to start cleaning out closets to find those treasures to donate for us to use as prizes. Beginning now you may give prize items to Nancy Harris and Darlene Gaynor, or drop them off at the church office. Small denomination gift cards from local eating establishments are also needed for that night. Thank you in advance for your help.

Remember the "Joyful Hearts" group is designed for our members 55 and older, but anyone else from the church that wishes to join us at our events is always welcome. Also bring a friend to any of our gatherings. If you need a ride, just call the church office. Questions about the group??? Call Nancy Harris (753-6155)



Children/Youth Christmas Program

Nothing is more moving, more profound than watching/listening to our children and youth tell the Lord's story. That is what they will do during this Advent season. **'Twas the Year Before Christmas** is the old, old story---that is always NEW. You will see and hear prophesy from Isaiah; you will see Zechariah as he receives the angel's message about John the Baptist; and you will see Joseph and Mary as they accept their individual roles in God's plan.

Sunday morning, **December 14th, at 11:00** is the time and the sanctuary is the place. You don't want to miss this!

Chancel Choir's Christmas Musical



The Season of Praise is an especially tuneful, joyful arrangement of old and new carols that will make your holiday season more meaningful, more thoughtful, more true. The choir has already enjoyed this work very much, and we are looking forward to sharing it with you. Readers from the congregation will frame the music with contemporary readings expressing the wonder and beauty of the greatest gift of all.

Chancel Choir will present **The Season of Praise** on Sunday morning, **December 21th, at 11:00, in the sanctuary.** Make your 2008 celebration of Jesus complete---come share with us good music and Christian fellowship---at Farmville UMC!

Bonnie Burnette, Music Director



It is that time again to be thinking about ordering Poinsettias for the Poinsettia Tree that will be in the narthex

December 14 and 21. There will be a bulletin listing the names in memory or in honor of on Sunday, **December 22.** You may take your poinsettia home with you after the Christmas Eve Service.

Please call the church office or fill out a sign up sheet on a table in the narthex, if you would like to purchase one or more poinsettias for the tree, **at \$6.00 each.** We need at least 70 poinsettias to fill our tree, please order your poinsettia as soon as possible.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Operation Christmas Child brings joy and hope to children in desperate situations

worldwide through gift-filled shoeboxes and the Good News of God's Love.

As chairperson of the "**Operation Christmas Child Shoebox**" campaign, I challenge each and every person in our church to make 1 box for the needy and suffering children of the world. In our news every day, we see children who have nothing. Would it not bring a smile to your face to know you made a difference in one child's life with your shoebox? It is one of the most rewarding "little things" I have ever done. I hope each of you will pray about this and help us reach **our goal of over 100 boxes.** If you feel you cannot do a complete box, you may make a donation to the box located outside the office in the hall or you may make a monetary donation to help with shipping costs to the church office. **Make checks out to "Samaritan's Purse."** I thank you all so much for prayerfully considering this most worthwhile project. **Please bring your boxes to the church on or before November 17.**

Ann Clevealand



Hanging of the Greens

November 24, at 7:00pm our church will celebrate the holiday season with a "**Hanging of the Greens**" gathering. We would like all people of our church to come out and help decorate for the holiday season. This is a church wide event. We need men, women and children. We are asking everyone to bring a new "**Warming of the Tree**" item to be placed under the Chrismon tree after it is decorated. **This can be anything that would help someone to stay warm throughout the winter. Examples are blankets, gloves, socks, hats, mittens, coats, throws, and pajamas, anything warm.** These will be donated to a local shelter. Mark your calendar and come get the holiday season off to a blessed start.



Raw peanuts, Country Style Roasted Peanuts, Honey Roasted Peanuts, Roasted Redskin Peanuts, Peanuts in the shell, Chocolate Peanuts Clusters and Cashews nuts, if you are interested in purchasing peanuts, call Darlene Gaynor, or the church office. This is a fund raiser for Circle 3. **Orders need to be in by November 23. Pick-up day will be December 4.**



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15

It's that time again! The Holidays are fast approaching, but don't panic - we can help!

Don't get stuck in the kitchen during the holidays, spend your time enjoying your family and friends. How you ask??

The Farmville United Methodist Women have the answer! Our annual **Holiday Helpers** will be **Saturday, November 15** in the Church Fellowship Hall (located at 4588 West Church Street) from **10:00 am until 1:00 pm.**

A variety of homemade items will be available. There will be everything from homemade cookies, cakes and pies to entrée casseroles, vegetable casseroles and probably some surprises. These wonderful delicacies will be available for a reasonable price thus enabling us to support many worthwhile local missions.

The UMW are asking all members of the church to donate items for the "Holiday Helpers" fundraiser. The items need to be ready to cook or already cooked, frozen and prepared to transport after being purchased. Please include instructions for cooking. List of ingredients are helpful for special diets.

There will also be a "**White Elephant**" table set up for other items to sell. Please make sure that these items are HOLIDAY-theme oriented. These items need to be in excellent conditions.

We are in need of items for the **Silent Auction** table. If any one person or any group of people would like to donate items, crafts, themed baskets, vacation get-a-ways or anything else that would be applicable, please let Darlene Gaynor know or call the church office.

Mark you calendar to stop by here for our Holiday Helpers! Make the Holidays easy this year and let us help you as we reach out to others.



Living Nativity

Our Annual Live Nativity will take place on **December 20 and 21.** It takes a

lot of people in order to make our live nativity possible. **Please consider helping on either Saturday the 20th or Sunday the 21th** so we can continue to offer this wonderful gift to our community. **There is a sign up sheet insert in the newsletter,** fill it out bring it to church with you and drop it in the offering plate. **There are also sign up sheets on the table in the narthex.** Thank you in advance for helping make our Live Nativity a success.

In Christian Love
Janet Clontz



FROM OUR
CHURCH LIBRARY...

I know it's just November, but it's not too early to start planning for Christmas – and the Church Library has three new books given in honor of Gray and Billy Baker's wedding anniversary which will help put us in the mood:

Looking Forward to the Nativity – a Family Christmas Devotional by Jon Farrar is perfect for all families, but especially for families with children, to help us focus on Jesus' birth and what it means for us today.

101 Ways to Have a Christian Christmas by Brenda Verner offers up practical ways to keep Christ at the center of all the Christmas hustle and bustle.

The Christmas Bus by Melody Carson is a fictional story about a lonely mom whose children don't come home for Christmas, and how it becomes a special Christmas for her and the strangers she invites into her home.

Thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Baker for being the reason these three great books are now in our library!

Nancy Wilson Church Librarian



FUMC Congregation,

This is to thank you for all your prayers and thoughts during my illness. Although I am not in the clear, the physicians that have a license to practice medicine are sure my cancer is in remission. I do believe that God Almighty is the only healer there is and this along with prayers, cards, calls and friends, has kept me going. Again, I thank you and may God bless each and every one of you

Pat Rouse-Jones



The **United Methodist Men's Supper Meeting** will be

Monday, November 10 at 7:00pm in the fellowship Hall. All men are invited to join us for good food, and great fellowship.



Get your church sports cup!

Our new "Greeters and Gifters" ministry is expanding our visitor outreach. We are selling to you the cups we will gift to our visitors. After Nov.21, buy these nice sports cups- 1 for \$3, or 4 for \$10. to help fund this new outreach. If you would like to be a part of the "Gifters and Greeters" ministry, there is plenty of space available on the team. Sign up with Pastor Paul today.



Link your Food Lion MVP Card to the church, and we'll benefit at no extra cost to you. Do it in mere moments on our church website, or send your 12 digit MVP card number (be sure to include the little numbers at the edge of your card) to the church and we'll set it up for you. You need not be a church member to sign up.



- Nov. 1: Suzi Greene
- Nov. 2: Katheirne Harville
- Nov. 8: Dustin Vernelson
- Nov. 10: Connie Mozingo
- Nov. 11: Tara
- Nov. 13: Andrew Parks
- Nov. 15: Bill Sledge
- Nov. 16: Tommy Bullock, Charles Eason
- Nov. 17: Breece Sherman
- Nov. 28: Alex Allen
- Nov. 29: Nellie Lang



.....Iris Roebuck, Lola Joyner, Tracey Smith, John Talton, Sylvia Paschal, David Parker, Tommy Bullock, Ruth Teel, Lois Tyson, Kim Cotton, Etna Lewis, Horace Allen, Rufus and Evangeline Cochran, Perry Harper, Clark Blackburn, Brenda and Daniel Purser, Delaney Hudson, Linda Gayhardt, Margaret Wilson, Nandra Talton, Dorothy Talton, Cecil Eason, Michael Thigpen, Barbara Manning, Louise Lewis, James & Betsy Bonds, Mary Allen, Danny Vernelson, Mr. Mack, Doug Rice, Jean Ross, Donna Howard, Billy Modlin, Irene and Randy Pollard and Mike and Beverly Wainwright, Larry Cochran, Gerald Brown, Lewis Clark, Bonnie Burch Hicks, Blake McKeel, Ken

Wainwright, Mildred Wainwright, Bailiegh Carlene, Donnie Hollman, Pat Jones, Lula B. Bush, Nelson Franklin, Nick Luper, Carlton Teel, Clifton Manning, Blaney Parker, Gina Langston, Kathryn Leggett, Jordan (Jo) Manning, Lynette Williams, Haley Hiatt, Pam Adams, Peggy Harrell, Aubrey Lewis, Melissa Thomason, (friend of Delane Fuquay), Daisy Williams, unspoken prayer request.

Daily Bible Reading for November & early December

Begin today! Just pick up on today's reading and go from there. To prevent the falling behind, each month of this plan gives you **only twenty-five readings.**

November

	New Testament			Old Testament
	JOHN	2 PETER	JOB	EZEKIEL
1.	7:37-44	1:1-11	1	1-3
2.	7:45-53	1:12-21	2	4-8
3.	8:1-11	2:1-9	3	9-12
4.	8:12-20	2:10-16	4	13-15
5.	8:21-30	2:17-22	5	16
6.	8:31-47	3:1-9	6	17-19
7.	8:48-59	3:10-18	7	20-21
		1 JOHN		
8.	9:1-12	1:1-4	8	22-23
9.	9:13-25	1:5-10	9:1-20	24-26
10.	9:26-41	2:1-11	9:21-35	27-28
11.	10:1-10	2:12-17	10	29-30
12.	10:11-21	2:18-23	11	31-32
13.	10:22-42	2:24-29	12	33-34
14.	11:1-16	3:1-10	13	35-37
15.	11:17-37	3:11-18	14	38-39
16.	11:38-44	3:19-24	15:1-16	40-41
17.	11:45-57	4:1-6	15:17-35	42-44
18.	12:1-11	4:7-21	16	45-47
19.	12:12-19	5:1-12	17	48
				DANIEL
20.	12:20-36	5:13-21	18	1-2
		2 JOHN		
21.	12:37-50	1-13	19	3-4
		3 JOHN		
22.	13:1-11	1-14	20	5-6
		JUDE		
23.	13:12-17	1-7	21:1-21	7-8
24.	13:18-30	8-16	21:22-34	9
25.	13:31-38	17-25	22:	10-12

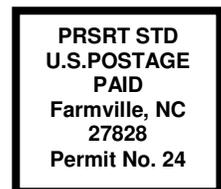
December

	JOHN	REV.	JOB	HOSEA
1.	14:1-14	1:1-8	23	1-3
2.	14:15-21	1:9-20	24	4-6
3.	14:22-31	2:1-17	25-26	7-8
4.	15:1-8	2:18-29	27	9-12

Return Service Requested

P. O. Box 153, Farmville, NC 27828-0153
Phone 252-753-4803 E-Mail – church@farmvilleumc.com
Webpage: www.FarmvilleUMC.com

Pastor: Paul Dunham-pdunham@nccumc.org
Admin. Assist.: Nan Walston-nan.farmumc@embarqmail.com
Admin. Council: Mr. & Mrs. Mike Tugwell
Music Director: Bonnie Burnette
Organist: Drucilla Lamm



LISTEN LIVE!! 1250am Sundays, 11am
Or ONLINE from the link on our website.