

# The Disciple's Connection

CLEMSON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

JULY 2009

## WHAT TO LOOK FOR:

- **Rev. Hutchison**  
Reflects on our  
church identity  
on *Page 1*
- **Pre-Service**  
**Prayer Focus for**  
**July on *Page 2***
- **One of our**  
**Missionaries is**  
**coming home!**  
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## Reflections

We know that there are early-risers and night-owls among us. Psychologists believe the tendency is genetically controlled, but a good alarm clock can trump genetics for the night-owl and a night out on the town can get even the toughest early-riser genetic code to relent, causing the early-riser to sleep past noon.

I'm a night-owl. Even as a child I would hide a flashlight and occasionally a few peanut butter crackers under the covers along with a favorite book. After Mom and Dad tucked me in, I would make a tent of the covers and read until my eyes would no longer stay open. As Lise' can attest, that is still my practice, although the first cracker crumb she found in the bed soon ended the late night snack portion of my genetic code.

She, of course, is early-to-bed; early-to-rise. In Darwinian obedience, we have adapted to each other. So far, that is. Thirty-three years and, at times, the jury is still out.

In the summertime, genes stand aside for a season. The early morning hours of a potentially scorcher of a day in mid-July are wondrous in their beauty. Through the haze of mist rising as the ground warms to the sun, the landscape takes on a magical quality. Dare I say it is like a fine negligee; revealing, but not quite, the beauty of the landscape beyond the sheer fabric. As the sun rises, the misty garment is shrugged off, and roses, day lilies, green grass and rough oaks are revealed.

I'm still waiting for the haze to lift from the new identity that God is calling us to at Clemson UMC. Recently, Lane Glaze described a paradigm for ministry known as the "college chapel." Most United Methodist ministers are not appointed to college chapels. In fact, Clemson UMC is the only church in South Carolina Methodism that fits that description. It has for nearly 100 years. It still does.

Your former pastor, and my Superintendent at the time, Rev. David Nichols, advised the Bishop to appoint me here in 2005. He introduced me to the church with this phrase, "a church that we see as a regional church in this new location." For four years I have sought to make the changes necessary to transform this church into that vision. I thought I was doing what I was charged to do by the Bishop.

After four years of joyous celebration and painful struggle, this congregation remains a college chapel in my opinion. Lane and Pat can speak for themselves regarding this matter. The 180 responses to the ministry survey and results of the Strategic Plan place emphasis upon college chapel ministries while also longing for some of the advantages of a regional church. I suppose we are a genetically "mixed identity hybrid" college chapel at this point. A little bit of this, a little bit of that, comprises Clemson UMC.

A college chapel is charged primarily to take care of its own: the students, professors, staff and alumni who worship there and those parents and others who visit expecting a "college level" sermon. It learns to be friendly, but has trouble being deeply welcoming. It expects to be a revolving door type of operation. Likewise, ministers tend to be short-term passers-by; five years and move along.

A regional church intentionally opens itself to the whole community and seeks a world-wide ministry in the name of Jesus. Missions is the driving ministry, which includes what we call evangelism, justice, outreach and social ministries. All of this is mission; the essential mission of a "full gospel" church. A regional church grows only as a result of the enthusiasm of its members for God's work. Although not an exclusive interest, God is the primary driving force in the lives of regional church members. Often, college chapels are so dependent upon the college that the college becomes the driving force and ever-present competitor for the affections and loyalty of church members.

I am thankful to be reappointed as your senior minister for another year. I will be seeking to clarify my charge with the help of the Bishop and District Superintendent before the summer is out.

In the meantime, I am rising early in prayer, looking into the hazy mist of summer mornings as one who "sees through a mirror, though darkly."

Enjoy your lazy, hazy, crazy days,

Paul

## Church Council Corner

You are encouraged to check out the chart in the narthex displaying the Vision and Mission Statements for 2009 for nine of the thirteen ministry teams. Thanks to all the ministry teams for the work they are doing to achieve the CUMC mission to be Disciples of Jesus Christ by living the Christian Gospel and making it relevant in today's world. In order to do this we will:

- .....Welcome all persons into our fellowship and community of faith with respect and tolerance, share our living faith and offer Jesus Christ to others.
- .....Grow spiritually through the power of the Holy Spirit by embracing thoughtful, meaningful and joyful worship; provide Christian learning opportunities; foster an environment that encourages growth in the faith experience; and care for one another.
- .....Love our neighbors by serving those in need, being good stewards of all God's Creation, and exercising God's universal grace toward all people.

The Church Council will meet at 7:00pm on Monday, July 13<sup>th</sup>.



# Get Involved

## July Worship News

### WEAR YOUR COLORS IN JULY!

As we continue our casual summer worship at 10:00 each Sunday, the members of the congregation are encouraged to "wear their colors" during the month of July. These may be favorite colors or school or university colors of your choice. We will take special note of *alma mater* attire in recognition of the diversity of educational institutions represented here in Tigerland. This is a light-hearted way to recognize our unique educational roots.

## Pre-Service Prayer

During the summer Worship schedule we will have a pre-service prayer every Sunday at 9:50am for all who wish to participate. Be on the look out for a prayer guide in your bulletin.

### Prayer Focus

### Offering

<b>July 5:</b> Missionaries in Liberia - Dr. George and Nancy Carew Hope for Children of Africa Choir	Money for Hope for Children of Africa Choir
<b>July 12:</b> Camp Collide	Tools: drills, saws, paint rollers, paint brushes, hammers, screwdrivers, shovels, sandpaper, extension cords
<b>July 19:</b> Missionary in Kazakhstan - Dr. Chris Hena	Money for Dr. Hena's Bible School Programs
<b>July 26:</b> Mother's Morning Out, Little Lights Child Care, Clemson Child Development	New or slightly used books for infants to age five

### CUMC ACTIVITIES

#### Tuesday Stretches:

Participate in our weekly Tuesday Stretches as Mary-Ellen Lefort leads in a gentle stretching and relaxing techniques. This group meets in the Worship Center at 11:00am.

#### Tuesday Adult Fellowship: **July 14**

11:00am - Stretches with Mary Ellen at CUMC; 12:00pm - Lunch & Program

Adults of any stage and age: Please join us for a "picnic lunch" and a musical program.

Lunch: BBQ and buns, potato salad, fruit salad, ice cream pie.

Set-up team: Garnet & Mary Craddock, Peg Newall, Anne Fletcher, Linda Graham.

Make your reservations by Monday, July 13 marking an "L" by your name on the attendance pad at Worship Service, calling the church office (654-5547) or registering on the website, [www.clemsonumc.org](http://www.clemsonumc.org).

#### Looking for Youth & Adults:

The Parish Health Team is looking for help. We are interested in having youth/adults join us. We meet 3-4 times a year, are A FUN group and you don't need a medical background to join! We recognize health activities, work with the church blood drives and will begin this year providing written notes of support to members who are in need of extra care. Please consider us as a way to help and get to know others in our church family. We promise you will enjoy it! Our summer meeting is Monday, **July 20** at 5PM in the church administration building. Call Sandy Smith at 654-2095 if you have questions.

### COMMUNITY EVENTS

#### Epworth By the Sea: Life Changing Letters from Paul: **October 5-8**

Dr. Evelyn Laycock will lead a study of Paul's letters, examining them in the light of the first century, then comparing their relevance to the present age. Dr. Laycock, a gifted teacher, holds both Masters of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry degrees from Emory University. Register online at: [www.epworthbythesea.org](http://www.epworthbythesea.org) or email Ronda at [rondas@clemsonumc.org](mailto:rondas@clemsonumc.org) for more information and a registration form.

## Children's Ministry

A very special **THANK YOU** to the over 50 volunteers who helped out with this year's Camp E.D.G.E. Vacation Bible School! It was a fun-filled week for over 135 children who learned to Experience and Discover God Everywhere! We couldn't have done it without the help and support of so many of you, so THANKS!

#### SAVE THE DATE:

Thursday, **July 16th** - The Children's Ministry Team is planning an evening for ALL ages at George Mauldin's farm! Mr. Mauldin has graciously invited us to his beautiful property for an evening! The festivities will begin at 5:30PM and will include a cookout and lots of outdoor fun - plan to bring your blankets and lawn chairs and comfortable shoes and enjoy this time with our church family. RSVP will be requested - please watch for more information in the coming weeks!



# Synchronize Your Calendar

*July* 

## *Every Week This Month*

### **Sundays**

9:00am Sunday School  
9:50am Pre-Service Prayer  
10:00am Worship Service  
5:30pm UMYF  
5:30pm Adult Children of Alcoholics

### **Monday**

7:30am Little Lights Childcare  
1:30pm Staff Planning  
7:30pm Monday Night Discussion  
8:00pm Alcoholics Anonymous

### **Tuesday**

7:30am Little Lights Childcare  
11:00am Stretching with Mary-Ellen Lefort  
in the Worship Center

### **Wednesday**

7:30am Little Lights Childcare  
10:00am Wee Wednesday  
6:00pm Alcoholics Anonymous

### **Thursday**

7:30am Little Lights Childcare  
6:30pm Singles Dinner

### **Friday**

7:30am Little Light Childcare  
8:00pm Alcoholics Anonymous

## *Additional Meetings & Events*

\*\*\*Sunday, JUNE 28 There will be a called Charge Conference meeting on Sunday, June 28<sup>th</sup> immediately following morning worship to consider the candidacy of Andrew Wolfe for ordained ministry.

Friday, July 3 Church Office CLOSED  
Little Lights Child Care Center CLOSED

Saturday, July 4 Independence Day

Monday, July 6 3:00pm - 8:00pm: Blood Drive in Worship Center  
7:00pm: Children's Ministry Team in room 105

Wednesday, July 8 12:00pm: Trustees Meeting in room 106  
3:00pm: Communion - Sterling House  
4:00pm: Communion - Clemson Downs Heath Care Sunroom

Monday, July 13 5:30pm: Stewardship Ministry Team in room 106  
7:00pm: Church Council in Worship Center, room 308

Monday, July 20 5:00pm: Parish Health Team in room 125  
5:30pm: Finance Committee in room 106

Monday, July 27 7:00pm: Church and Society Ministry Team in room 124

Tuesday, July 28 5:30pm: Little Lights Board Meeting in room 106

Thursday, July 30 2:00pm: Senior Adult Team in room 106

~ *In the Know* ~

Education News

Introducing Cathy Joens, Christian Education Consultant

We all know that Christian Education has been an important part of the ministry of Clemson UMC. In recent years, a few hard-working and dedicated teachers and leaders have been holding the adult, youth and children's programs together. I continue to be thankful for your efforts and dedication. Recently, we have engaged the consultation services of Cathy Joens, our District Congregational Specialist and a Director of Christian Education in our conference for many years. She is working with me to develop and plan to enrich our program of Christian Education. She will meet with teachers, parents and children over the coming months.

Her first observations have to do with lack of classroom space, acute lack of storage space which makes our education buildings look cluttered and unkempt, and the lack of classroom-specific study aids due to the materials required by the Little Lights Child-care Center which shares the classroom space each week.

We are stretched thin for space. I showed her the closets we once used for classrooms that are now full because of our storage requirements. Since our current pledge campaign to pay off the remaining building debt over the next three years has not come close to 100% participation, we will continue to strain with lack of space.

I will soon assemble the leaders who store materials in our buildings. These include the directors of LLCCC and MMO, the Director of Children's Ministries, the Youth Director, the Cub Scout leaders, the Director of Music Ministries and the Director of the Wesley Foundation. We are going to have to make some tough decisions about storage, including disposing of everything that is not useful to our current ministries. If you are not included above and are storing things in the closets and rooms of the buildings (other than the kitchen area) and wish to be included in our Storage Summit Meeting, please let me know with an e-mail to [hutch616@bellsouth.net](mailto:hutch616@bellsouth.net). We hope to be ready for a new ministry year with a better organized storage system by the end of the summer. Thank you, Paul



Carol Preston

Homecoming for one of our Missionaries!

CUMC member Carol Preston is nearing the end of her two-year Peace Corps assignment in China. In her May Newsletter she wrote: *Homecoming plans are beginning to come together. Right now I have plane tickets to fly to Beijing on July 17, and I have purchased a flight to Norfolk, VA, on July 21. From then on things are not so certain – just know I will spend some time with family in a couple of places before returning to Keowee Key.*

We look forward to welcoming Carol home to CUMC and to hearing more about her experiences and travel as a “foreign teacher” of English to graduate students in China.

Boy Scout Hut Dedication

On May 23rd several members gathered with the family of William Coffeen to dedicate the Scout Hut in Bill's memory. Inez and her sons, Bill and Doug, made a generous gift in Bill's memory recognizing Bill's life-long service to the Boy Scouts of America. Bill's Eagle Scout merit badge sash was on display and a sign for the scout hut was unveiled (see picture to the right). Inez and her family received greetings from friends at a reception after the dedication service. We thank the Coffeen family for the donation and all the scout leaders and church members who worked so hard to erect the Scout Hut.



Health Clips

Skin cancer is the most common of all cancer types. More than 1 million skin cancers are diagnosed each year in the United States. That's more than cancers of the prostate, breast, lung, colon, uterus, ovaries, and pancreas combined.

What you can do to prevent skin cancer: Cover up, Use sunscreen with at least 15 SPF, Wear a hat, Limit direct sun exposure during midday sun, Protect your children, Examine your skin. For more information: [www.add.org](http://www.add.org), [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org), [www.skincancerprevention.org](http://www.skincancerprevention.org)



CUMC Financial Report - May 31, 2009

	Monthly	Monthly	YTD	YTD	YTD
	Income	Expense	Income	Expense	Difference
<b>2009 Budget</b>	73,378	73,378	366,891	366,891	-
<b>2009 Actual</b>	62,213	62,731	325,385	338,616	(13,231)
<b>2008 Actual</b>	57,784	52,318	329,741	308,599	21,142
<b>Building Loan May 31, 2009</b>					374,200
<b>Outstanding Pledges Previous Campaign</b>					42,762
<b>Outstanding Pledges Current Campaign</b>					186,575

A more detailed report can be obtained from the church office.

# Our Church Family



**Davis Calhoun Reeves**  
Baptized on May 10th



**Bridger Walter Joseph Rinehart**  
Baptized on May 24th

**Lee, Jenn, Madison & Sophia**  
**Rinehart**  
New Members on May 24th



**Lillian Christine Reed**  
Baptized on June 7th

**"HOSPITALITY  
REFERS TO  
REFLECTING IN  
OUR BEHAVIOR  
TOWARD  
OTHERS  
FRIENDLY,  
RECEPTIVE  
AND  
WELCOMING  
LOVE"**

**Igniting Ministry**

## Special Thanks

*From the Halfacre Family:*

We are finally settled into what will be our "home" for the next 6 months. Seems like the fog is "wearing off" and we can now focus on what needs to be done to get our family's life back in some sort of order. Looks as if we have a "long road ahead" regarding the rebuilding of our home, but we are all well and life is getting better every day!

Lara and I will be flying up to New Hampshire on June 6th to bring her Mom home to live with us. Her condition is terminal, but her spirits are high and her faith is strong. She is currently in no pain so we intend to make the very best of "the rest of her life." I have a feeling that we will learn TONS from her during the time she is with us.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your phone calls, emails and cards....all representative of the great deal of support you have given me and my family during this difficult time. We have been humbled by the willingness of people to help out and rally around us.

I thank you again for your support.

Sincerely, Robert Halfacre (and family)

*From the Parker Family:*

We would like to express our appreciation for the support and comfort that you offered us, during this unbelievably difficult time. We realize what a wonderful job your church's youth campus ministry does. Since, our son in his first semester at Clemson University had reached out to attend the meetings of the UMC of Clemson campus program. It gives us comfort to know he was seeking out his Christian beliefs and Christian fellowship. Thank you for helping Nicholas James Parker feel at home in Clemson.

God bless y'all!

Merlinda, Mike & Steve Parker

## In Memory

*The sympathy of the ministers and members is extended to the families of...*

Vienna Register, grandmother of June Hay, who died Sunday, May 31, 2009.

Evelyn Epps who died Sunday, June 21, 2009.

**CLEMSON  
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**We're on the Web!**  
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