



Saint Paul United Methodist Church

September 2011 Messenger

Pastor
Director of Music
Sexton

Rev. Murray A. Snow
William H. Searcy, Jr.
Gary Putnam

Secretary

Jere Byington

Calendar of Events

September "Happenings At-A-Glance"

Sunday, September 11th Annual Work Day Offering
for Epworth Children's Home
Sunday, September 11th 10:00 am Young Adult
Breakfast for Race for the Cure
Saturday, September 24th Race for the Cure
Tuesday, September 27th 12:00 Noon Adult Luncheon
Coming in October:
Sunday, October 2nd 2:00 p.m. Walk for the Homeless
Sunday, October 16 5:00 p.m. Fall Fellowship Supper

August 2011 Financial Report

Budget Needed through August	\$ 116,533.00
Budget Received through August	\$ 87,265.71
We are Behind Year to Date:	\$ 29,267.29

SPECIAL OFFERINGS RECEIVED **Through August 2011**

Capitol Only	\$ 210.00
Memorials and Honorariums	\$ 100.00
Multi Media	\$ 10.00
Race for the Cure	\$ 25.00
	\$ 345.00
Total YTD Special Offerings	\$17,429.18

Christian Stewardship **A Theological Foundation for Generosity**

As the Holy Spirit continues to work in our lives, we begin to think less about ourselves and more about others. We begin to see the needs of others and wonder, *If I don't do something, who will?* As this change takes place within us, we experience real joy. We discover that we find more joy in doing things for other people and for God than we ever did in doing things for ourselves. This is what Jesus meant when he said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35). In the very act of losing our lives, we find life, just as Jesus said, "For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it" Matthew 16:25). These spiritual realizations bring us to a central theological foundation for generosity.

(Taken from **Enough, Discovering Joy Through Simplicity and Generosity** by Adam Hamilton)

The **Annual Race for the Cure** will take place on Sat., September 24th beginning at the Greenville Drive Stadium. They Young Adults will be walking with Rebecca Roper's team, The Betty Bunch. All are invited to join the team and support the cause. The Team's fundraising goal is \$5,000. Please contact Rebecca for details about participating and/or making a contribution. Also, on Sunday, Sept. 11th at 10:00 am (during Sunday School Hour), the Young Adults will be hosting a breakfast with a Love Offering taken to raise funds for the Race for the Cure

SEPTEMBER MISSIONS: On Sunday, September 11th, our church will receive a special offering for Epworth Children's Home. Let us begin now throughout our church, to promote the Annual Work Day offering that will assist in the care of the children who call Epworth home.

The **Finance Committee** will be scheduling a meeting soon to create our Budget for 2012. All Department Heads should be reviewing their Budget Needs and Requests for 2012 to report to the Finance Committee.

From the Pastor

Grace and peace to you and your households in the name of Jesus Christ. School is back in session and though it is still hot, we can see signs of Fall in the air. I've been amused with the enthusiastic postings on Facebook by some in our congregation counting down the days till the start of the collegiate football season. I hear the excitement in voices as many of you speak of your favorite team. I can sense that being part of something larger than ourselves brings a sense of joy and fulfillment in our lives. Whether you cheer for the Gamecocks, the Paladins, the Tigers (alphabetical order used) or some other team, remember that we are part of another team that unites us all, the congregation of Saint Paul United Methodist Church. This team brings us joy and fulfillment in life as we live into our mission "to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world." This team is different in that we all have a position to play during the entire game. Though our role may change through the different seasons of our lives, God has something for all of us to do. You and I are not called to be spectators in this game, we are called to be participants. The only spectators in this game is the "great cloud of witnesses" cheering us on to victory.

As disciples of Jesus Christ, each of us has received at least one gift from the Holy Spirit to be used for the building up of the "team," the Church. We read in 1 Corinthians 7:7 that "each has a particular gift from God, one having one kind and another a different kind." We are told to "strive to excel in them for building up the church." (1 Corinthians 14:12). When we use the gifts that God has given us, we find joy and fulfillment. Some questions for each of us to consider: Have I identified the gift that I have received from God for the building up of his Church, his Kingdom? If so, in what ways am I using my gift or gifts? Can I better utilize those gifts? If not, how can I identify my gift or gifts? One of the roles of a congregation is to help one another in identifying, nurturing, and using the gifts God has given us. Making use of our gifts will help us to articulate our vision as a congregation. With a clear vision we can fulfill our mission "to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."

The goal for all of us should be to identify our gifts and use them to God's glory in the building up of his Kingdom on earth. : "The purpose of spiritual gifts is twofold: (1) to unify Christians in their faith and (2) to produce growth within the church, both numerical and spiritual. These gifts are to be used out of love for one another, and in service to one another." Here is a list of some gifts identified in the Bible: Administration, Artistry, Discernment, Evangelism, Exhortation, Faith, Giving, Hospitality, Intercession, Knowledge, Leadership, Mercy, Music (Vocal and/or Instrumental), Service, Skilled Craft, Teaching, Wisdom, and Writing. Does something on this list bring you joy? That's one indicator of a gift. Another indicator is fellow church members or the church confirming a gift in us.

Here are four immediate ministry opportunities (there are more) to use your gifts:

1. Donations to purchase a digital camcorder and wireless receiver for our Homebound DVD and Website ministry. Approximately \$750 needed. (Write multimedia ministry in the note area of your check.)
2. A person with access to a digital video editing software that would be willing to compile, edit, and upload weekly Web postings of our Worship Service and burn DVDs. This is a ministry opportunity to use your gifts and skills for God's glory.
3. A person or persons willing to operate the digital camcorder during Sunday morning worship services.
4. Individuals willing to share their faith stories.

Please give me a call at 864-414-8864 or call the church office if you are interested.

*Blessings in Christ,
With Love, Murray and Susan*

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We extend **Happy Birthday** greetings this month to: Carmie Cook - September 2nd, Nicole Ackerman, September 4th, Beverly Everett - September 5th, Richard Bostic - September 10th, Jamie Robinson and Charmaine Bunch - September 12th, Daniel Roper - September 13th, Tommy Gilstrap - September 15th, Nicholas Matiz - September 19, Calvin Bostic, Virginia Dowis and Diane Robertson - September 20th, Taylor Welborn and Lauren Evans - September 21st, Madison Boone - September 22nd, Jean Jones - September 25th and Daniel Boone, September 30th.

We extend **Happy Anniversary** wishes this month to: Jimmy and Pam Head - September 15th, Bob and Kathy Weathers - September 19th and Chan and Audra Edwards - September 20th.

CONGRATULATIONS to Taunja Pool who was selected as the Greenville County Teacher of the Year!

CONGRATULATIONS to Troy Gamble who recently received his Doctorate in Sports Management from USSA (United States Sports Academy).

CONGRATULATIONS to Jason Feaster who recently received his Master's Degree in Human Resources and Development from Clemson University

Please note the following new address for Jason and Whitney Feaster, 21 Richwood Drive, Greenville SC 29607.

In Your Prayers, Please Remember: Friends serving in the Armed Services: Michael Abowd, John Broom, and Dylan O'Neal, and Jeremy Graham, Michael Gravley, Travis Scott and Paul. (all deployed to Afghanistan), Carroll Anthony, Phillip Baskins, Cliff Belcher, Kiele Binsted, Calvin Bostic, Zonelle Boykin, Edith Branham, Bill and Joe-Ellen Brockman, Ann Brown, **Randy and Linda Burchet**, Connie Cox, **Lilli Curry**, David Dolge, Virginia Dowis, Don Everett, Blaine Frazier, Eva Gillespie, Luke Gilliam, *Courtney Dobson Grass*, Walt Hawkins, Jimmy Head, Eunice Hill, Martha Jameson, Frank "Cotton" Jones, Kristina Kimbrell, Pat Larson, Al Lupo, Dot and "Mac" MacMillan, Buddy Miller, Stephanie Morris, Roy Patterson, Rhonda Pearson, Jimmy Senn, Nancy Sizemore, Nancy Smith, David and Madeline Snow, Jane Snyder, Linda Terminato, Eric Thrasher, Belvin and Georgia Ware, Hazel Welborn, those affected by the recent storms and earthquakes in this county, the people in all countries experiencing disasters and the United States of America and our leaders. Names are kept on the Prayer List for 4 weeks. If you wish to keep a name on the list after 4 weeks or to add a new name, please notify the office. **Bold** = New Addition, *Italics* = Currently in Hospital.

Nursing Home and/or Special Care Residents and Friends Who Are Homebound: Virginia Dowis, Don Everett, Eva Gillespie, Frank "Cotton" Jones, Dot and Mac MacMillan, Helen Reynolds, Dot Thompson and Belvin Ware.

A Special Note of Appreciation

I would like to express my sincere appreciation for the cards, calls, visits and prayers during my recent illness. They meant so much.

Sincerely,
Barbara Grant

SEPTEMBER USHERS

Captain: Tommy Head
Ushers: Charlie Robertson, Diane Robertson,
David Pool, Taunja Pool
Counters: Charlie Robertson, Tommy Head

The **ADULT LUNCHEONS** will resume on Tuesday, September 27th at 12:00 Noon. We will celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month with a "Mexican Fiesta". Rev. Rick Gordon will be out speaker. A Love Offering will be taken. Come, bring a friend, and be sure to sign up.

The **Finance Committee** will be scheduling a meeting soon to create our Budget for 2012. All Department Heads should be reviewing their Budget Needs and Requests for 2012 to report to the Finance Committee.

CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT WORKERS FOR SEPTEMBER

Nursery Workers

September 4 - Taunja Pool, SSH & WH
Edna Patterson, WH
September 11 - Lori Cheshire, SSH, Volunteer
needed WH
September 18 - Volunteers needed, SSH, WH
September 25 - Marcus Stephens, SSH and WH

Toddlers Class

September 4 - Peggy Whitmire, SSH, David Pool,
Stephanie Gamble WH
September 11 - Peggy Whitmire, Edna Patterson, SSH,
Stephanie Gamble, Elise Patterson, WH.
September 18 - Peggy Whitmire, MaryAnn Stephens,
SSH, Stephanie Gamble, Edna Patterson, WH
September 25 - Peggy Whitmire, MaryAnn Stephens,
SSH, Stephanie Gamble, MaryAnn Stephens, WH

Sunday School Teachers, Elementary

September 4 - Annette Bostic, Edna Patterson
September 11 - Annette Bostic
September 18 - Annette Bostic
September 25 - Annette Bostic

Sunday School Teachers, K3/K4

September 4 - Mary Pool, David Pool
September 11 - Elise Patterson, Logan Kanipe
September 18 - Mary Pool, Edna Patterson
September 25 - Mary Pool, Lori Cheshire

Children's Worship Leaders

September 4 - MaryAnn Stephens
September 11 - Lori Cheshire
September 18 - Peggy Whitmire
September 25 - Peggy Whitmire

The **United Ministries Walk 4 the Homeless** will be Sunday, October 2, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. at Fluor Field. Go to www.united-ministries.org to register. You can also get the free mobile app at <http://gettag.mobi>. Call the Office if you have any questions.

United Ministries Needs

The Learning Center needs volunteers (Mon., Tues., and Thurs. from 8am to 7pm and Wed. from 8am to 12 Noon. They also need pocket folders and an upright vacuum in good working condition.

The Place of Hope needs socks, belts and feminine hygiene products.

Emergency Assistance needs Canned meats: beef stew, Treet, tuna and mackerel; dry beans; canned soup; and individual packages of powdered milk.

Saint Paul will soon be hosting evening group classes for guitar, fiddle, banjo, mandolin, and dulcimer. This is one of the programs that Susan Ware-Snow teaches (**POSAM - Preserving Our Southern Appalachian Music**) and they would like to expand the program from Pickens into Greenville. Members of Saint Paul as well as others in the community are welcome to participate. Be sure and check with Susan (979-9188) if you are interested. More details will be available in the near future.