

JUST 4 YOUTH!

We will resume with Sunday Night Youth Fellowship this coming Sunday, January 11. Mid High Fellowship is from 5-6 pm, Senior High Fellowship from 6:30-7:30 pm and dinner will be at 6 pm.

All 7th grade youth and those who have not yet been confirmed are invited to join this year's **Confirmation Class**. We will be having a meeting for all youth who plan to participate in the class and their parents on Sunday, January 25 at 4 pm in the Office Conference Room.

PYC Senior High Spring Retreat at Montreat is March 13-15. The cost is \$50 and registration forms are due by January 25.

THANK YOU to everyone who helped to decorate and/or un-decorate the church for the Christmas season. You are truly a blessing to the church and to me, I could not do it without you!

Nancy Jones, chair
Worship Ministry

FAITH ENRICHMENT SERIES FEBRUARY 7 & 8

Did you remember to save February 7-8 to participate in the Faith Enrichment program at First Presbyterian Church just a short month from now? We look forward to welcoming guest speaker, Dr Jack Haberer, author of *GodViews, The Convictions That Drive us and Divide Us*.



“Dr. Haberer defines five GodViews that, among other things, shape the way Christians relate with one another today. Dr. Haberer believes that a unity that consciously embraces a diversity of convictions holds the best hope for the future of the church.”

Sessions begin Saturday, February 7, 9:30-2:00 in the Fellowship Hall. Lunch will be served for a small fee. On Sunday, February 8, Dr. Haberer will preach at both services and teach a combined Sunday School class.

Dr. Haberer holds a Doctor of Ministry from Columbia Theological Seminary. In addition to his pastoral duties, he is active in the Presbytery and General Assembly. He has written numerous articles for publication and speaks frequently at conferences. In December 2005, Dr. Haberer became the Editor and Chief of the *Presbyterian Outlook*.

CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE

Wonderful Wednesday

Andy Casto-Waters and John Harrison will be leading a study during this term of Wonderful Wednesday of the essential beliefs of the Christian faith. This is a topical approach to a better understanding of what we believe.

They will be using *Christian Doctrine* by Shirley Guthrie as a text. While purchase of the book is not a necessity—it will be extremely helpful. The book will be available for purchase for \$15.00 starting January 14.

First Presbyterian Church 100 School Street Greer, SC 29651 (864) 877-3612	Nonprofit Organization U. S. POSTAGE PAID Greer, SC Permit No. 149
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Return Service Requested

MUSIC DEPARTMENT NEWS

Cherubs, JAM, Chimes and Resounding Joy will resume rehearsals with the start of Wonderful Wednesday on January 14th.

House Ringers will resume rehearsal on Sunday, January 25th

Music Opportunities

Handbell Ministry ~ Open to all ages

Resounding Joy Handbell Choir—Lisa Dillard
Rehearsal: Wednesday, 6:15—7:15 p.m.
House Ringers—Courtney Bateman
Rehearsal: Sunday, 4:30—5:30 p.m.

Praise Team Ministry - Wendi Arms
Rehearsal: Wednesday, 7:30—8:30 p.m.
(Fellowship Hall)

Chancel Choir—Lisa Dillard
Rehearsal: Wednesday, 7:30—8:30 p.m.
(Sanctuary)

FIRST NEWS

First Presbyterian Church, Greer, South Carolina
www.fpcgreer.org - January 6, 2009

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY ~ begins January 14th

WELCOME BACK TO WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY PROGRAM FOR ELEMENTARY, YOUTH AND ADULTS:

As we gather back together from the holidays, we will hear and share with Nancy Lindeman from Thornwell Home for Children about how we at First Presbyterian Church can get more involved with this vital and meaningful ministry! Adult programs will begin Wednesday, January 21st.

SUPPER: Prepared by Todd Gibson, Lunch & Such

Prices: 2-years old & under: Free
3-5-year olds: \$ 2.00
1st - 5th grade: \$ 3.00
6th grade - adult: \$ 4.00
Family Cap: \$15.00

Reservations:

1. Must be made as standing or weekly.
All 2008 reservations have been deleted. You must make new reservations!
2. Must be made/cancelled by the end of the day on Monday's.
3. If your meals are not cancelled, you will be asked to reimburse the church for your ordered meals.

SCHEDULE

5:00 - 5:30	Cherub Choir (4 & 5-year olds and 1 st grade)
5:00 - 5:45	Handchime Rehearsal (2 nd grade and older)
5:30 - 6:00	Supper
6:15 - 7:15	WW Programs & Activities
6:20 - 7:20	Resounding Joy Handbell Rehearsal
7:30 - 8:30	Chancel Choir Rehearsal

NURSERY-AGE CHILDREN

Babies - Twos: Room #121
Leaders: Traci Cartee

PRESCHOOL CHILDREN

Two & Three-year olds—Room #115
Leaders: Todd and Carrie Lea
Four & Five-year-olds—Room #124
Leader: Donna Ware

ELEMENTARY CHILDREN (Rotation schedule)

1st—3rd grade
- JAM (Jesus and Music) - Pam Turnage
- Worship Education—Tom & Doreen Magaha
4th & 5th grade
- POP—Percussionists of Praise—Pam Turnage
(Only 8 spaces available—contact Pam or Lisa
- TWEENS with Walter & Susan Burch

YOUTH

6th—8th grade -Program & Music Moments
Wendi Arms & Whitney Moss
9th—12th grade—“Rita Time” with Rita Burch

ADULT OPPORTUNITIES

Please check inside newsletter for details of programs

Beth Moore Study—Esther: It's Tough Being a Woman
Disciple Bible Study—Invitation to the New Testament
Christian Doctrine
Puppet Ministry
Handbell, Praise Team & Chancel Choir Opportunities

Special Upcoming Dates:

February 25:	Ash Wednesday Worship Service and supper
April 8:	No Wonderful Wednesday (Handbell, praise and chancel choirs rehearsals are as scheduled)
April 9:	Maundy Thursday Worship Service and supper
April 29:	Cookout at Lake Robinson

YEAR-TO-DATE Financial Report – December 31, 2008

	YTD		YTD
Actual Income	\$ 796,056	Budgeted Income	\$ 801,058
Actual Expenses	744,826	Actual Income	796,056
Net Income	51,230	Unfavorable Variance	(5,002)
	Y-T-D Capital Campaign		20,390

JOYS & CONCERNS OF FPC FAMILY

Stan Hopkins Jay Cartee's father
 Scott Tompkins' father John Harrison's mother

The congregation, officers and staff extend Christian sympathy to **Whitney Moss and family** in the death of her grandfather.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the congregation for the lovely Christmas treats I took to Westminster Assisted Living Center. Our abundance (after our Christmas breakfast) was a real treat for those in residence. The cookies, fruit and cakes were placed in their activities room for everyone to enjoy at their leisure. Thanks, Charlene Eichhorn

PARENTS OF COLLEGE STUDENTS: Please up-date your son/daughter's information for second semester. We need to know if there are students who are in college second semester who were not during first semester and also if any students are not enrolled for second semester who were the first. We also need to know of any changes in address from first semester. Please call Linda Sandusky at 879-2190 or e-mail her with this information at lsandusky@bellsouth.net.

FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

Our annual Christmas Angels joint fellowship group dinner, fun and fellowship was held on December 13th. Due to the generosity of fellowship group members, we were able to buy Christmas gifts for 10 children who would otherwise not had a visit from Santa. In addition, we were able to contribute \$200 to CenterQuest to help continue their ministry to young children—Thanks to all who helped make this possible.

If you are not in a group and would like more information and/or like to join a group, please call John McWilliams (877-4753).

USHER & SAFE PLACE DUTIES

Sunday, January 11th

8:55 Ushers—Walden Jones & Brandon Price
 8:40—11:00 Safe Place—Sallie & Jeff Smith
 11:00 Ushers—Leland & Eli Burch
 9:40—12:00 Safe Place—Fred & Harriet Kiemle

Sunday, January 18th

8:55 Ushers—John Cuturilo & Chris Brice
 8:40—11:00 Safe Place—Jeff & Kathy Phillips
 11:00 Ushers—Mark & Daniel Harvey
 9:40—12:00 Safe Place—Paul & Cathy Furtick

Children's Offering Envelopes are in the Gathering Area. There is a sign-out sheet for each box. Each individual envelopes is not numbered so please make sure children put their name and/or number on each envelope.

AGELESS WONDERS

The "Ageless Wonders" group will meet for lunch in the fellowship hall on Thursday, January 15 at noon. Reservations for lunch (\$5.00) are needed by Monday, January 12. Please call Barbara Brandenburg at 244-1414 or Cecile Orr 895-6329 to make your reservation. The program will feature Sara Cooney presenting "The Underground Railroad and the Role of the Quilt".

After we adjourn the meeting those people interested in knitting or crocheting or learning to knit or crochet please join us in the back of the fellowship hall. Supplies and patterns will be available.

**CHURCH-WIDE RETREAT
 April 24 – 26, 2009**

**Bonclarken Conference Center,
 Flat Rock, NC**

Retreat leader: Rev. Kevin Carter
**Director of Outdoor Ministries
 Camp Fellowship & Camp Buc
 Trinity & Foothills Presbyteries**

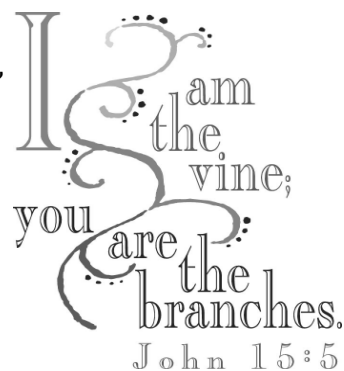
2009 LODGING:

THE LODGE ~ Brand, spankin' new!
*FOUNDERS HALL ~ The motel we have stayed in
 the last few years*
 All rooms have private full bathrooms!

*Its "first come, first serve" to stay in the NEW lodge -
 signup quickly!*

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!!!

Committee members:
 Kathy Phillips (chair),
 Jennifer Jones, Genia Carr,
 Mary Ludlow, Becky
 Schafer, Ron Ware,
 Heather Taylor, Patty
 White, Marguerite
 DeMaria, June Schafer,
 Jerry Crockett, Wendi
 Arms, Whitney Moss,
 Wayne Cole, Susan
 Tompkins



**We're building a house ...
 A HABITAT FOR HUMANITY HOUSE
 right here in Greer! ~ In partnership with GAIHN!**

12 week-build kick-off is March 5th

There will be something for everyone:

- Exterior & Interior construction
- Yard work and painting
- Projects at the church, childcare, meals

T-shirts are available for a \$10 donation

Contact **Thad McCord** (286-8209; empitsu@bellsouth.net) or
Kathy Phillips (236-7968; jeffnkathy@hotmail.com)



PUPPET MINISTRY

Whew, after 3 years, the puppet ministry has finally decided on a name; we shall be called *No Strings Attached*. A big thank you to the person who suggested it!

No Strings Attached practices every Wednesday after the Wonderful Wednesday meal in the Joyful Noise SS classroom (#210).

Want to be part of this energetic team? It's easy: just show up at practice. No experience necessary and the pay is a lot of fun and rewarding. This ministry includes interested 4th graders through

Beth Moore Bible Study

Esther: It's Tough Being a Woman! Join us for an in-depth and very personal examination of this great story of threat and deliverance. Beth Moore will help us to peel back the layers of history and show how very contemporary and applicable the story of Esther is to our lives. If you've ever felt inadequate, threatened, or pushed into situations that seemed overpowering, this is the study for you. Just as it was tough being a woman in Esther's day, it's tough today! This portion of God's word contains treasures to aid us in our hurried, harried, and pressured lives.

Classes begin Wednesday, January 21st. Contact Heather Taylor now to reserve your book! They will be available for pick-up at the first meeting for \$15.

DISCIPLE BIBLE STUDIES

Invitation to the New Testament

This study uses the Gospel of Matthew as its starting point and is designed to help us get a flavor of the entire New Testament

- Nine week study with outside preparation
- Starting Wednesday, January 21—6:15—8:15 p.m.
- Books are \$6
- Registration deadline: January 14

Gospel of John

The gospel of John is unique among the gospels. We will spend eleven weeks reading and discussing it

- Starting February 2
 Monday nights—6:30—8:30 p.m.
 Tuesday mornings—9:30—11:30 a.m.
- Books are \$6
- Registration deadline: January 20

Please register using this form, calling the Church Office or e-mail waynecole@bellsouth.net

Name: _____

Phone #: _____

Email: _____

I wish to register for:

- ___ Invitation to the New Testament (Wednesday)
- ___ Invitation to John (Monday group)
- ___ Invitation to John (Tuesday group)