



Hand-in-Hand in the Rock Hill District

Inside this issue:

<i>Kathy James</i>	2
<i>Retiree and Ordinands</i>	2
<i>Prayer Concerns</i>	3
<i>Birthdays & Anniv.</i>	3
<i>Grace Community UMC</i>	4
<i>Annual Conference</i>	4

Thoughts from Our District Superintendent



Sara White

I received an abundance of emails this morning [Tuesday, June 1] — normal after the holiday weekend. It was interesting to note the range of need expressed in the communications. In five days life can change in major and minor ways. Laughter and tears are next door neighbors for most of us and move along with us from day to day. Pardon me if I use C. S. Lewis again — don't you love when I'm reading something — but change is much on my mind these days.

And Lewis speaks often of experience shaping our lives even as it — in his words, “comes and goes.” If we want to grow in grace-filled experience it is for us to “retain what is irresistible and obvious during moments of special grace.”

So I will state the obvious as we move into moving season. We celebrate the time spent with congregations who molded us even as we lead them. We note the places where we had to use the memory of grace in the distance of the current day. And we receive the promise that in the coming and going, God is present.

For those who move into new situations this year, know that you have been for the Rock Hill District those who bring “special grace” and we thank you. ~ Sara

Moves Within the District:

Joseph L. Curtis to First, Lancaster
Arthur D. Vick to Wesley Memorial

Moving From the District:

Dan L. Batson to St. John's, Anderson
J. Scott Efrid to Wesley Memorial/Edisto Charge
Sandra Smith King to Leesville
Steven M. King to St. John's, Batesburg
Joanne Lockard Hawkins to West Kershaw Charge
Kenneth D. Owens to Lexington
John L. Warren to Bethel, Charleston

Retiring:

Edward E. Galloway

Moving Into the District:

Pamela Ledbetter to Aldersgate
Karen Richmond and Bryson Williams to Catawba/El Bethel Charge
Shannon Murray to East Lancaster
Eric Shephard to Osceola
Carl Hunsucker to St. John's, Fort Mill
Debra A. S. Quilling Smith to St. John's, Rock Hill
Rett Haselden to St. John's, Rock Hill, Associate
Jacqueline Connally to Tabernacle

Reaching People Under 40 *and* Over 60 *Thoughts from Our Congregational Specialist*

Reaching People Under 40 While Keeping People Over 60: Being Church for All Generations is a very catchy title of a book by Eddie Hammett. In the middle of May, another congregational specialist and I had the opportunity to participate in a workshop on this topic at Hinton Rural Life Center.

I realized two things while I was there. The first is that I need to change how I respond when a church asks the question, “How can we get more young people in our church?” I have tended to respond with some general ideas and encouragement. In the future, if you ask me that question, I will likely say, “It can be done. But it takes time, effort, and commitment on the part of the church to make it happen.” In other words, it’s hard work.

The second insight I left the workshop with is that there is hope for the



Kathy James

church and for churches of any size to begin to connect with young people. I am encouraged about the opportunities and possibilities for churches who seriously commit to reaching out to younger folks in their community. In fact, I’m excited about what God might choose to do in our midst in the Rock Hill district.

If you are interested in thinking seriously about how your church might

reach people under 40, I invite you to gather a team of clergy and laity from your church to participate in a monthly study from August through January. The sessions will be 2 hours long. The day of the week, time and location will be determined in consultation with those ready to commit to the study. If there is enough interest, I can imagine a group in Rock Hill, a group in Chester, and a group in Lancaster, for instance. If you want to discuss this study further or indicate your church’s interest in participating, please email me at kljames@umcsc.org or call me at 803-493-6192.

I look forward to seeing how God will work through this opportunity in the coming year. Have a great summer everyone! ~ *Kathy*

Congratulations Ordinands and Retiree!

Congratulations, thanks for a job well done, and best wishes in the next phase of your journey in Christ to:

Rev. Edward E. Galloway, Osceola UMC, who will be retiring on June 30th; and

Rev. Harry K. Gindhart, Jr., Bethel-Armenia Charge, and

Rev. Christopher (Chris) Lollis, Associate Pastor, First Clover

who will be ordained as **Elders** and received as Full Members of the Annual Conference on Saturday, June 12th.

District Prayer Concerns



Rev. Narcie Jeter, Director, Wesley Foundation, Winthrop University. Narcie suffered a seizure last week while attending a student forum in Virginia. After some testing, they have discovered a growth on her brain. Narcie is posting details on her blog, <http://narciejeter.wordpress.com>, and you can go there for more information and updates.

Mr. Hank Wilson, father of **Rev. Miriam Mick**, Spiritual Director, St. John's (Rock Hill), passed away on June 1st.

Mrs. Kay (Kathryn) McKinney, wife of **Mr. Otto McKinney**, passed away on May 31st. Mr. McKinney served as District Statistician of the Rock Hill District for 20+ years.

Mr. Lonnie Catoe, father of **Rev. Mike Catoe**, Camp Creek UMC, suffered a massive heart attack and as of May 27 was in ICC in Lancaster.

Mrs. Jan (Janet) Fuller, wife of retired **Rev. Gene Fuller**, passed away on May 24th.

Sandra Thomas, sister of **Rev. Brenda Curtis** (Bethel-Van Wyck Charge and District Secretary) who has been undergoing treatment since August for breast cancer has been found to have a spot on her brain and is under the treatment of a neurologist.

The Rev. April Hall, on incapacity leave from the Rock Hill district living in Virginia.



Randy Parker, son of Rev. Larry Parker, deployed to Iraq for his *third* tour of duty.

Rev. Curtis Wells, Chaplain serving in Germany.

Clergy Families' Birthdays & Anniversaries

June

- | | | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 Sidney Galloway | 5 Zachary Elliott | 20 Doug & Fran Chambers | 25 Arthur & Margaret Vick |
| 2 Bryson & Laura Williams | 7 Enoch Jeter | 20 Fran Chambers | 27 Tim Murray |
| 2 Kate Smoak | 14 Amy Cooley | 21 Carl & Francis Hunsucker | 29 Mike Catoe |
| 3 Harry Gindhart | 14 Dow Ritter | 21 Donna Lollis | |
| 3 Mike & Laurie Ritter | 15 Betty Tysinger | 23 Robert & Carolyn Hopper | |

July

- | | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| 3 Gene & Anna Feagin | 12 Anita Bozardt | 19 Marvin Caldwell | 28 Joanne & Bruce Hawkins |
| 4 Brenda Parker | 13 Mike & Catherine Catoe | 19 Gene Feagin | 28 Emma Ritter |
| 7 Cora & James Campbell | 13 Carolyn Hopper | 19 Sarah Lollis | 29 Oscar & Peggy Smith |
| 8 Shannon & Tim Murray | 14 Jim & Heather Elder | 20 Jan Fuller | 30 Ed & Sidney Galloway |
| 8 Cathy Catoe | 15 Evan Efird | 21 Francis Hunsucker | 30 Fred Wilkins |
| 10 Chris Lollis | 16 Ray Reavis | 22 Carrie & Clay Wright | 31 Steve Patterson |
| 10 Peggy Smith | 16 Ray & Vicki Reavis | 27 Richard Kluever | |

The Rock Hill District Has A New Church!

Grace Community convened in Constituting Conference on April 11, 2010, receiving charter as a United Methodist Church in the South Carolina Annual Conference. Cheers of praise and thanksgiving arose when Rev. White declared, “Grace Community United Methodist Church is duly formed and constituted.”

The people of Grace Community give thanks to God, to the South Carolina Annual Conference and also to the people of the Rock Hill District. Without prayerful support, encouragement, and partnerships, founding a new congregation would be a far more arduous task.

More joy-filled news: Grace Community will soon complete its purchase of property on Gold Hill Road in Fort Mill! Formerly the location of Carolina Covenant ARP Church, the property is 6.25 acres and includes a twelve-year old 7,750 square foot church building.

The church will spend the summer months building stronger relationships with its new neighbors and “working the bugs out” in its new home. Re-launch strategies and advertising are planned for back-to-school time.

Grace Community began in 2006 as a new church plant of the Conference’s Committee on Congregational Development. The congregation now averages

120 worshippers on Sunday mornings. Its monthly worship ministry for adults with special needs, “Forever Friends,” averages 170.

Nearly 23% of the congregation’s members have come by way of Profession of Faith, meaning new relationships with Christ or relationships renewed after long absence. Only four members have come by transfer of memberships from other United Methodist churches in South Carolina. Praises be to God!



For more information about **Grace Community United Methodist Church**, visit <http://www.come2grace.org/>



2010 Annual Conference Schedule

Thursday, June 10

10:30 AM — Clergy Session **11:00 AM** — Laity Orientation
2:00 PM — Opening of Annual Conference, Worship Service, Bishop Taylor, Preacher
3:00 PM — Conference Organization
7:30 PM — Evening Worship, Cheryl Tolbert, Worship Leader

Friday, June 11

8:30 AM — Morning Prayer
9:45 AM — Business Session
Great Day of Service following lunch
7:00 PM — Evening Worship, Rev. Lowell McNany, Preacher

Saturday Afternoon, June 12

2:00 PM — Memorial Service
3:30 PM — Business Session
7:00 PM — Ordination Service, Bishop Spain, Preacher

Saturday Morning, June 12

8:30 AM — Morning Prayer
9:45 AM — Awards and Recognitions
11:00 AM — Service of Recognition for Retiring Ministers and the “Passing of the Mantle”

Sunday, June 13

8:30 AM — Business Session
11:00 AM — Sending Forth Service and Fixing of Appointments — Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor