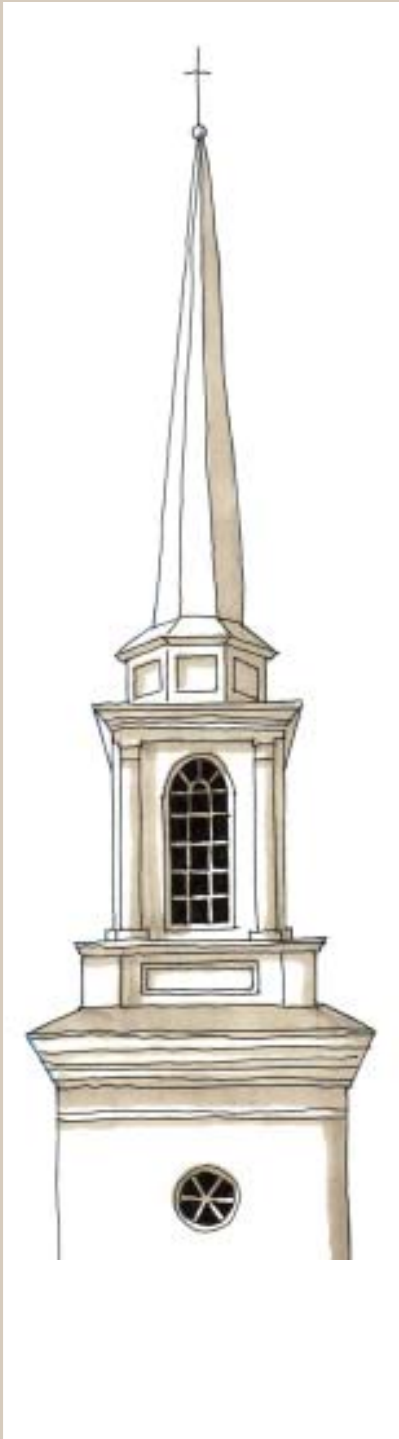


# The Messenger

First United Methodist Church of Conway

Issue 11

August, 2008



## WHAT IS A METHODIST?

This month we continue to consider the question, "What is a Methodist?" When we talk about what Methodists believe, or our theology, we refer to ourselves as Wesleyan. You will remember from last month's *Messenger* that I consider *God's grace* to be the cornerstone of Wesleyan belief, and suggested that this month we should ponder the Wesleyan understanding of the implications of grace for Christian living.

One of the hallmarks of the lives of John and Charles Wesley was their constant striving to live lives shaped by God's grace, to live in response to God's grace, and to live empowered by God's grace.

John and Charles Wesley understood that the gift of God's amazingly abundant and all-encompassing grace is so overwhelming, that it naturally elicits a response.

As a child opening a cherished birthday gift is compelled to smile in joy, so Christians are compelled to respond to the gift of God's grace.

Charles Wesley's hymn, *What Shall I Render to My God*, beautifully expresses this Wesleyan thought. It is based on Psalm 116:12. "What shall I render unto the Lord for all His benefits toward me?"

What shall I render to my God  
For all His mercy's store?  
I'll take the gifts He hath bestowed,  
And humbly ask for more.

The sacred cup of saving grace  
I will with thanks receive,  
And all His promises embrace,  
And to His glory live.

As the recipients of God's amazing grace, may our lives be examples of appropriate thankfulness and praise. And remember, God loves you; and so do I.

Mac

First United Methodist Church  
1001 Fifth Avenue  
Conway, SC 29526  
Phone: (843) 488-4251



## OUTREACH COMMITTEE PROJECTS

Report by **Toby White**, Outreach Chairperson

Be thinking about the CAP Yard Sale that is scheduled for Saturday, October 4.

Whatever items you may be able to gather between now and then will surely be helpful. Items should be brought to the Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, October 1 thru Friday, October 3. Volunteers are also needed to assist with the sale. Please contact me, Toby White, at (234-2619) for questions or to volunteer to help.

Blood Drive Reminder — Sunday, October 12, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

CAP food items needed for August include cereals and peanut butter and jelly.



## COMMUNICATIONS

Report by **Brenda Wilkins**

We are now organizing the pictures that we have for the new Church directory. It has taken a long time to get to this point. There are several reasons for this, but primarily we have discovered that summer time is not a good time to try to put together a directory because everyone is on the move. Anyway, we have tried our best to accommodate everyone's schedules and allow the most opportunities for photographs to be taken.

We hope to complete the directory by the end of August. However, because this is the first time we have attempted to do the job ourselves without outside help, we are learning as we go along. We will keep you posted as the work progresses.



## THE MUSIC PROGRAM AT FUMC

Report by **Billy Fallaw, MM**

Director of Music Ministry

Liturgical Arts week is August 11-15, from 9:00-noon for children grades 1-6. Caitlin Beidler, a professional artist from the Myrtle Beach area will be our artist-in-residence. Registration is limited to 30 participants. The fee is \$30.00. Registration forms are available in the church office and online at [fumcconway.org](http://fumcconway.org). Children will spend the week exploring many ways that we can worship God through the fine arts. Sessions will include using water colors to create art, banner making, chimes, handbells, singing, liturgical dance, dramatic presentations, and creative writing. Each day will conclude with a 15-minute worship service focusing on liturgical colors and seasons. The week's work will be displayed on Sunday, August 15, with some being incorporated into worship that morning.

Caitlin Beidler graduated in 2002 from the University of Richmond with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Studio Art. Her artwork has taken her from Boston, MA, to Belfast, Northern Ireland, to Passe Cataboise, Haiti. Her work includes: custom artwork, murals, teaching workshops, and live painting. The venues for her work include galleries, coffee shops, homes, churches, schools, hospitals, non-profits, and restaurants. Caitlin's favorite part of doing art is not the art itself, but the relationships the art brings, especially with youth.

Plan to take advantage of this great opportunity for your child to explore and experience the arts and worship during Liturgical Arts Week. I have contacted some of you about assisting. Youth and adults are needed. If you are interested in being a helping hand during that week and have not been contacted, please let me know.



**BUILDING STUDY  
COMMITTEE**  
Report by **George  
Jenkins**

The final report of the Building Study Committee was presented to the Church Council on Monday, July 28, and it was unanimously approved. Also approved were two recommendations by the Building Study Committee.

The first recommendation was to establish a Building Committee to oversee Phase I of the renovation, which is all that we anticipate being able to fund right now. The second recommendation was to establish a permanent capital improvement fund to help us avoid situations in the future where we have no funds set aside for building improvements. Both recommendations were discussed and unanimously approved.

The master plan applies only to the main church building. The Family Life Center and the Hut are not included. Phase I of the plan includes the sanctuary and common areas (and elevator), first floor education wing (excluding fellowship hall, kitchen, and the John McCutcheon Sunday School Classroom), and the second floor choir suite. The Lay leadership will select the Building Committee, which will consist of about 12 members, and five sub-committees to deal with specific areas of the Phase I renovation. Each sub-committee will be chaired by a member of the Building committee. The estimated cost of Phase I is two million dollars.



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
Report by **Spivey Hood**

The phones are now working in the church; however, there is still a problem with the Hut being able to broadcast their Sunday service. The carillon and the PA system are still being addressed. The water fountains in the Family Life Center have been repaired and are now working properly, as well as the toilet in the Hut. The air conditioning and the water problem in the Hut have been taken care of. We continue to work on problems as they arise. The age of the buildings and plumbing and electrical components is the primary reason for needed repairs and replacement of parts throughout the church.



**ALTAR GUILD**  
Report by **Amy Jenkins**

Serving on the Altar Guild this month are:

**Dawne Clonts  
June Brown  
Cindy Harper**

**AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FOR OUR READERS**

We need to update our mailing list! Some people have moved without notifying us of their current address, which adds to our mailing costs when the newsletters are returned. We also mail to many people living outside the area, and to a number of people who are not members. We sincerely want to send *The Messenger* to all who desire to receive it by mail. (Please remember that you can also read *The Messenger* online at [www.fumcconway.org](http://www.fumcconway.org)). Thus, we are requesting all non-members, and out-of-town recipients to contact the church office if you want to continue receiving *The Messenger* by mail. Contact us at 843-488-4251 or by email at [office@fumcconway.org](mailto:office@fumcconway.org). Thank you for helping us to be better stewards of God's gifts.

## WAY TO GO, FIRST UNITED METHODIST!!!

Report by **Rae “Scoop” Daniels**

First United Methodist Church softball team won the tournament on Thursday night, July 24, to end the softball season. In a game that was close all the way, our team lost the first of a double header against Juniper Bay Baptist by one run. That loss forced a second play-off game.

In the second game, First Methodist fell to nine runs behind late in the game. Loyal fans kept up a steady den of encouragement. Hot bats and exciting fielding tied the score 17 to 17 at the end of the sixth inning. Juniper Bay was held scoreless in the top of the seventh. The Methodists came to bat in the bottom of the seventh, needing one run to win. The team loaded the bases, and a hit to the outfield brought the winning run across the plate.

We are proud of our team and the hard work and dedication they put into another winning season (three years in a row). Let's let them know when we see any of them how much we appreciate them.

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## ON THE ROAD AGAIN WITH THE S&S TRAVELERS!

The last outing for our S&S Travelers this summer is August 20. We will be going to Websters or O'Hara's in Mullins. Why not make a special effort to join us for this final trip of the season? The cost is \$4.00 per person to cover the cost of gas for the Church van. What a good way to spend a summer day. Anyone wishing to take part in this trip should meet us at 10:30 a.m. at the Family Life Center on Wednesday, August 20. For more information, call **Janet Martin** at 234-3235.



## CHILDREN AND YOUTH NEWS



Elementary school boys group first outing on June 26 to Surf's Up Family Fun Center.



WWJD Wednesday — The children baked cookies and delivered them to the Conway Police Department, CAP, the Church office, and the Water Department to thank them for their work in the city of Conway.

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## FLOWER CALENDAR

Please remember to check the Flower Calendar often to see where the blank dates are so you can sign up. When you provide the Altar Flowers, you can dedicate them in memory or in honor of someone. The Flower Calendar is located on the bulletin board on the wall outside the office.

**MISSION NEWS**  
Report by **Rae Daniels**

We want to share with you a letter we received recently from Analiser Halawa, our coordinator for the Island of Nias. It is in regard to an orphanage he visited, and, himself being sent away to an orphanage at the age of nine, can speak from personal experience on the subject. The letter reads as follows:

*"I met several children at the orphanage close to our home area two days ago. The orphanage is full of children now. There are about 80 children. Seven of those children came from my home village. Their parents bring them there through someone. They are very good children and cute. They like going to school and like to sing. They like to stay there even though they miss their parents and home village. They are brought into orphanage because they feel that staying in orphanage gives a big chance to be success and will be a better promise for future rather staying at their parents' side. I gave them some pictures of their family. Some of them are the families joining GMI [Methodist Church] in Hilihamazihono."*



Why Do Parents Send Their Children to an Orphanage? On June first the Indonesian government increased the price of all oil products by 30% and the price of rice by 100%. Rice and medicines on Nias had already increased 400% because of the earthquake. The result of the June first increase in kerosene means mass starvation and death from dysentery especially among young children. In Medan sewage runs in open ditches throughout the city. Ditches also carry trash, garbage, road kill, dead rats, leaded gasoline, oil and grease from auto repair shops and all manner of

human and commercial waste from Medan's 3,000,000 people. All of this empties into a shallow river running through the city. The ditches and this river are the only source of water for thousands of poor. For example "The River People" who live in shacks above the river, bathe, brush their teeth, wash their clothes and relieve themselves within a few feet of mounds of the contamination listed above. They get all of their water for cooking and drinking from the river. Water must be boiled at high temperatures for at least five minutes to be safe to drink. The result of the increases is that the poor must cut their food supply by half and they can no longer buy the kerosene necessary to prepare food and water safely.

**IN OUR MAILBOX . . .**



**. . . FROM OUR READERS**

First United Methodist Church of Conway,

We just wanted to say “Thank You” for your prayers and support for the Indiana Joan’s “Quest for Happiness” Kids Crusades. We were so glad to be a part of such a great opportunity. We are excited to see what God has done and what He will do in the future.

Sincerely,  
The Goff Family

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Dear Church Family,

Words can never express the joy I felt when the children came to my house and sang. They were so precious, and I love each one of them. I want to thank Jenny Wilburn and Amy Hickman, also, for bringing the little children to see me.

Mary T. Foxworth

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Dear Church Family,

I am so appreciative of the visit from the children. They sang three songs to me and presented me with a card they made themselves. How wonderful it is to be remembered by the dear children and the people who guide them in the ways of the Lord.

Betty Floyd

Dear Church Family,

I feel truly blessed to have such a wonderful church family. Thank you for all of your prayers and visits during my knee surgery recovery. I really appreciate the flowers, food, phone calls, and cards. Your kindness and encouragement brighten my days.

Betty Woodward

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Dear Church Family,

Thanks so much for all of the prayers, phone calls, visits, and cards during our illnesses. We are very blessed to be part of such a wonderful church family. We hope to be able to see you all soon.

Billy Joe and Irene Calhoun

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**YOU'RE INVITED!**

The Emma Thompson class will begin a study about the founder of Methodism, John Wesley, in January. The highly recommended book, John Wesley: Holiness of Heart & Life, will be used. Everyone is welcome to join the study group.

# August



# Birthdays

1 Sarah Hood

2 Charlie Hardwick  
Churchill Jenkins  
Bill Foxworth

4 Eugenia (Gene) Parker  
Laurel Edwards

5 Alberta (Bobbie) Twomey

6 Benjamin Butler  
Madison Mishoe

7 Brent Roof

8 Pinckney Watson  
Patsy Buck

10 Wilmarie Boatwright  
Leslie Thompson  
Scott Steiner

11 Mary Lee Taylor  
Dawne Clonts  
Mike Saville  
Debby Brooks

12 Dick Deminski

14 Libby Jones

15 Brian (Steve) Kyzer

16 Joe Snurr  
Blake Martin

17 Creg McAda

18 Alison Hammond

20 Mark Brooks  
John (Jay) McCutcheon

21 Betty Huggins  
George Kyzer

23 Robert Harper  
Bert Von Herrmann  
William Goldfinch

24 Lois Sechriest  
Judy Gladson

25 Duc Watts

26 Paul Gladson  
Jackie Stokes  
Zachary Senn

27 Mary T. Foxworth

29 Adrienne Jennings

30 Emily (Lee) Gladson  
Jill Watts

31 Christy Elvis  
Thomas Hickman

## WORDS OF WISDOM

*Some of the most beautiful things in life cannot be seen or touched — they are felt with the heart.*

*Submitted by Sadie Rae Hutchinson*



**Gifts  
Received**  
(AS OF PUBLICATION  
DEADLINE)

## GIVEN IN MEMORY OF:

**Corky Thrasher** by Mr. & Mrs. Richard Kleine.

**Ralph Edwards** by Mr. and Mrs. John VonDeck, Jr.; Mr. James C. Blackwood; Mr. & Mrs. Felix Maronge; Dr. Carolyn F. Addison; Britt & Nancy Stiltner; Mr. & Mrs. Basil Price; Keith & Jan Gawith; Nancy Hendrick; Dena D. McGinn; Mr. & Mrs. Charles Dusenbury.

**Betty Anne Griffin** by Britt & Nancy Stiltner; Mr. & Mrs. Richard Kleine; Keith & Jan Gawith; Nancy Hendrick; Dena D. McGinn; Mr. & Mrs. Charles Dusenbury; Mr. & Mrs. Randy Wallace; Mr. & Mrs. Warren H. Wells; Billy & Libby Jones; Mr. & Mrs. James E. Brogdon, Jr.; Mr. & Mrs. John E. Coles; Ms. Dorothy Ellis, Ms. Katherine Grice Snowden

**Leila Hucks** by Britt & Nancy Stiltner; Mr. & Mrs. Charles Dusenbury; and Mrs. Ebba Kelbaugh.



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.  
**The people of The United Methodist Church**

Rev. Mac Kinnett, Minister — (mac.kinnett@fumcconway.org)  
Billy Fallaw, Music Director, MM — (billy.fallaw@fumcconway.org)  
Brenda Wilkins, Administrative Assistant — (brenda.wilkins@fumcconway.org)  
Kathy Hucks, Pastor's Secretary — (kathy.hucks@fumcconway.org)  
Elaine Weidman, Bookkeeper — (elaine.weidman@fumcconway.org)  
Jan Kyzer and Gayle Fanshaw, Nursery  
Neal Watts, Sexton

**First United Methodist Church of Conway  
Welcomes You!**

Newsletter Contact:  
newsletter@fumcconway.org  
or  
Brenda Wilkins (347-3097)

First United Methodist Church  
1001 Fifth Avenue  
Conway, SC 29526

Phone: (843) 488-4251  
Email: office@fumcconway.org  
Web Site: www.fumcconway.org  
FAX: (843) 488-5936

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**THE MESSENGER**

A Publication of First United Methodist Church of Conway

