



Celebrating

The Good News of Jesus Christ



Jarvis Memorial United Methodist Church

November 4, 2008

Is Our Church In Crisis?

People are worried. You and I encounter retired folks who depend on their investments as the primary source of their income. Many have had to tighten spending, and they worry that they might not have enough to get by. The stock market is not the only concern these days. We probably have people in our community and perhaps in our congregation, who have experienced foreclosure or evictions. Maybe you are aware of persons who have lost or fear losing their jobs. The economic crisis is real, and it is scaring people.

In a time such as this, what is the church's role in dealing with this severe economic crisis? I believe it has a great role; namely to help people conquer their fears and worries with the peace of Christ. The Church - you and I - may not be experts on economics or on how to fix these problems, but we are experts on deflecting fear and worry. Now is the time for the church to step boldly into the dialogue and proclaim the gospel. People may think that fear and worry will go away if we can boost the stock market, or if we have elected the "right" person president, or if we give the money to the right group. But fear will continue because the stock market will fall again, good people will make bad decisions, and there will always be greedy comen and conwomen.

Defeating fear and worry is a church's job because these are always and can only be defeated by the gospel of Jesus Christ. Look at the hope proclaimed in Romans 8, or the plain statement in 1 John 4:18 "**There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear.**" In the closing verses of Matthew 6 Jesus tells us not to worry about the things non-believers seek, rather be confident in the knowledge that God provides for all our needs. Paul tells us to overcome anxiety in Philippians 4:4-7 by rejoicing, praying, and giving thanks. Jeremiah 29:11 reads, "**For I know the thoughts I think concerning you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of hurt, to give you a future and a hope.**"

Those of us who know the powerful peace of Christ that passes understanding (it is beyond our ability of rational thinking) have a joyful obligation to share that peace that is found in Christ. This is a great gift we have to give to a worried and fearful world; a world that hungers for peace and "a future and a hope." People's fears will not be assuaged by stock market reports or expert prognosticators, but by Jesus, the name that charms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease.

So, where does our church's upcoming Stewardship Campaign and the 2008 budget fall in these difficult financial times? This is not the time to retreat from church obligations. It is the time to press forward. The Church is here to present God in Jesus Christ. What should we say, "Sorry, we can't afford to do that right now?" In tough times the church is needed more than ever, and the people of God must be challenged to meet that need. We can support the work of the church with full confidence that this work is the most important work in the world. Yes, there will be some who will need to cut back, and we must show understanding and acceptance. But, despite the news reports, the resources are there and most will meet the challenge. Allow these tough financial times to sharpen the focus and ministry of our church -- to help our congregation define the importance of what we are doing and to establish the urgency of the high cause we represent. Can we count on you?

In Christ's Service
Albert Shuler

Religion and the Environment: Friends or Foes

Presented by Calvin Mercer, next Monday (November 10th) at 7:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation at 131 Oakmont Drive (Opposite Gold's Gym) in Greenville.

For better or worse, religious images, symbols and ideologies impact many people's conceptions of the environment and their reactions to environmental issues. Whether one is a person of faith or not, it can be useful to understand how religious symbols and thought can relate to environmental issues.

Dr. Calvin Mercer, co-director of the ECU Religious Studies Program, will address these issues and give attention to the challenges that await those in the environmental movement, who want to gain a hearing from religious people. The challenges are worth confronting.

Religious symbols and attendant ideas are powerful and go to the heart of how people of faith identify themselves. These symbols are like levers - If you move them, you move the hearts and minds of millions of people in our culture. "There will be resistance, but the payoff from thoughtful, respectful engagement can be significant," Dr. Mercer says, "for both the environment movement and religion."

**This Sunday
November 9th
8:15, 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.**

Rev. Albert Shuler
"Walking The Royal Road"

Scripture:
Matthew 25 1-12

**Charge Conference
Jarvis Memorial UMC
Tuesday, November 11, 2008
7:30 p.m. in the Chapel**

Prayer Families

*We ask your prayers
this week for these mem-
bers of our church family:
Terry Mark Cagle, Wayne
and Genie Caldwell,
Danny and Susan Callis,
Jim and Pat Campbell,
Martha P. Campbell,
Kristen and Charles Cam-
plin, and Rick and Renny
Cannon.*

*Please also pray for the
Communications
Committee.*



Fellowship Feast
 Wednesday, November 12th
Serving at 5:30
In The Taft CLC

Menu: Pancakes and sausage
We need help setting up, serving, and cleaning up Fellowship Feast. **We also need** leaders for the Children's Program. To help out, please call Patty Marr at 757-1883.
Cost: adults - \$6.00 & children - \$2. **Please make reservation** by email: jarvisumc@earthlink.net; by calling the church office, 752-3101, or by filling out a card in pew pad on Sundays.

Sympathy

Our prayers and sympathy are with Barney Barrett Jr. and Barney Barrett III and their families upon the death of Alyce Barrett, wife and mother, on October 30, 2008.

Baptism

We will celebrate the baptism of Parker Anderson Whitley, son of Chad and Katie Whitley this Sunday, November 9th, during the 11:00 service.

Pray For The Persecuted Church

Remember our persecuted brothers and sisters in Christ. Join together for the international day of prayer for the persecuted church on Sunday, November 9th.

One Day with God Camp

We need donations of homemade cakes, pies, brownies and cookies. We also need to sell car wash tickets (\$10 each). To help out please call Patty Marr at 757-1883.

Operation Christmas Child

Sunday, November 23rd is the drop off date for Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes at Jarvis. If you have packed a shoebox for the project, please bring it to church that Sunday. Thank you for your help.

On Nov 24th we will begin...

decorating the Sanctuary for the holidays. Please plan to come help out. Look for more information in the coming weeks.

17th Annual Jarvis Lecture on Christianity and Culture.

7:00 p.m. Tuesday, November 18, 2008, Wright Auditorium, East Carolina University
 Tickets are free for everyone and can be obtained by visiting the box office in the lobby of Wright Auditorium just before the lecture.

Noted Jesus scholar Marcus Borg (Ph. D., Oxford University) will deliver this year's lecture. The work of Borg, distinguished professor of religion and culture at Oregon State University, is controversial and thought-provoking. Dr. Borg has authored ten books, two of which have become best-sellers. One of his recent publications is *The Heart of Christianity: How We Can Be Passionate Believers Today* (2003).

UMW Group Meetings



United Methodist Women

Group	Time	Date	Address
1	5:30 p.m.	11/9/08	Jarvis Parlor
2	9:30 a.m.	11/10/08	Harvey Wooten, 3048 Dartmouth Dr., Greenville
3	10:00 a.m.	11/10/08	Marian Smith, 1210 S. Overlook Dr., Greenville
4	6:00 p.m.	11/10/08	Sharon Shumaker, 1906 Red Bud Circle, Greenville
5	7:00 p.m.	11/10/08	Pat Leanhardt, 409 Kempton Dr., Greenville
6	10:00 a.m.	11/10/08	Cypress Glen, Four Seasons Room
8	7:30 p.m.	11/10/08	Beanie Taylor, 528 Crestline Dr., Greenville

Parking is Back!!!!

The long awaited city parking lot between the church and Evans St. is finally complete. Together with a new stone walkway connecting that lot to the church side walk, things are beginning to look a lot better out our front door.

Poinsettias



The Worship Committee feels it would be appropriate to determine an optimal number of poinsettias with which to decorate around the chancel during Advent. That number would be representative of the memorials and honoraria that are intended. The Committee recommends we designate all money received beyond the necessary number of plants to the Pastor's Benevolent Fund to assist persons in need. The poinsettias will be in the church December 14th and 21st and every honoree and donor will be named in the bulletin. Complete & return the form below w/your check (\$8 each) to the church.

Name of Donor: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

EXPLORERS: A new adult Sunday school class

will begin on November 16th with a two week look at Thanksgiving entitled "Let's Talk Turkey". On November 30th the class will begin a 5 week Advent study entitled "While We Wait" by Mary Lou Redding. If you are interested in being a part of the Advent study, please contact Debi Holcombe dholcom@pitt.k12.nc.us to pre-order a book. The cost is \$12.00. The EXPLORER class will meet during the Sunday school hour in the Kingdom Quest room (across the hall from the flex space in the TCLC). Facilitators for the Advent study will be Debi Holcombe, Tim Dismukes and Hale Stephenson.



It's not too Late

Sign up for the Church Directory Today! **Free** 8x10 portrait and **free** Church Directory for participating families. Sign up sheets are available in the Hall of History and Taft CLC. Photography dates are Monday, Dec. 1 through Saturday, Dec. 6. Many thanks to those who have already signed up!

Calendar: November 9th
6:00 - 7:30 p.m. - Plunge
7:30 - 8:45 p.m. - The Current

Jarvis United Methodist Men



2008 BBQ CHICKEN DINNER

Plus Casserole & Bake Sale
United Methodist Women

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15

11:00 to 2:00

At Jarvis Memorial United Methodist Church
TICKETS \$6.00

All proceeds benefit ministry and outreach.

The pastoral staff would like to visit with, pray for, and offer assistance to any Jarvis members that have been hospitalized or are simply experiencing a difficult time.

So if you or another Jarvis member that you know, is in need of a Pastoral Visit, please notify the church office at 752-3101.



Altar Flowers

A word of gratitude to the children and grandchildren of J.B. and Marian Smith for providing the altar flowers on Sunday, November 2.

Green Tip of the Month-

"Tis the season to cook for your family! As you prepare your family meals this fall, try these energy-saving tips:

- Be sure to prep your ingredients before you turn on the stove.
- Microwave when possible – it requires much less energy!
- Cover your pots and pans. Food heats more quickly so you can turn the unit down and use less energy.

Try turning off the unit before the dish is done (1-2 minutes).
(www.greenlivingtips.com)

Week of November 9th, 2008

Children's Church:

Kingdom Quest Leader - (9:00) Christy Becker **(11:00)** Anissa Potter and Laura Smith

Acolytes: (8:15) Mike Boswell **(11:00)** Brett Bowman

Crucifer: (8:15) Luke Boswell **(11:00)** Briana Brown

Music and Worship News -by Dr. Stan McDaniel

Kids Unite! "Young Ringers" to Begin!



CALLING ALL KIDS! "YOUNG RINGERS", our handbell choir for older children and youth will resume rehearsals this Sunday, November 9, from 5:15 to 6:00 p.m. in the Music Lab/Handbell Room (lower level). Membership in Young Ringers is open to any child, grades 4 through 8. We need at least eight ringers to have a complete bell choir.

Handbell ringing is a great deal of fun, and the potential to create beautiful music is unlimited! Playing in a bell choir is the ultimate "team" experience as ringers learn to coordinate every motion and sound, ringing with rhythmic precision and sensitivity. It's challenging but fun, and you don't need to read music to start. Just come to rehearsal, and we'll teach you all you need to know. Dr. Stan McDaniel will be directing this group at least initially.

See you at handbells!

Don't forget
Current and past newsletters can be found on Jarvis' website at www.jarvismethodist.org

