

J U N E 2 0 0 9



Jarvis Memorial United Methodist Church

CELEBRATING THE LOVE OF CHRIST THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

Jarvis bids farewell to Revs. Shuler and Christianson

Campground UMC, Fayetteville District, is the new parish for Jarvis' Senior Pastor

Dear Family and Friends of Jarvis Memorial,

When I was ordained as an Elder in the United Methodist Church, I covenanted to be an itinerant pastor... which means "I will go where the bishop and cabinet appoints me." The time has come again to live out this commitment by accepting another opportunity to be in ministry with sisters and brothers in another part of the connectional church.

It is hard to believe three years have passed so quickly. There have been ups and downs on our journey together, but I am grateful for the many blessings I have received along the way. I have learned a great deal about this congregation and your willingness to give of yourselves to glorify God's kingdom in this community and beyond. I trust and pray that this spirit of giving will continue in the years ahead.

My family and I have truly been blessed by the wonderful people who have been supportive in many ways. There were times when I wondered whether I should be here in ministry at Jarvis. And then, as if by



Photo Ed Davis

Reverend Shuler blesses the new wheelchair ramp built by the Shepherd's helpers on March 2, 2008.

providence, the cards, letters, emails, telephone calls and encouraging words would come pouring in from so many of you, helping me to realize and remember that this is the place where God wanted me to be. Your support, your encouragement, and your prayers have been a source of strength and comfort. You know who you are, and I am eternally grateful.

I have also been privileged to work with an outstanding staff of

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Associate Rev. Christianson leaves to minister in Sampson County

Dear Jarvis Family,

It has been a joy to be among you for two years. I have especially enjoyed leading our Sunday morning worship services and teaching the "Living the Adventure" Sunday School class. Being a member of the choir has been a special delight. Thank you for the times of fellowship with various groups of the church and individuals.



Rev. Christianson

I am saddened that the decision was made to eliminate the position of Associate Pastor. I had hoped to have many years of ministry among you. But our world is in a financial crisis, and I know I am not the only person whose job has been adversely affected. I will continue to pray for Jarvis, that you may find continuing effective ministry, even with reduced financial resources.

The Bishop has appointed me to a new work effective June 23. I will become the pastor of the Goshen-Keener Charge. The Goshen and Keener United Methodist Churches are located in rural Sampson County.

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Jarvis Memorial Children's Ministries

Mission Explorers

Calling all rising 4th, 5th & 6th graders on Mondays from 10 am – 2 pm beginning June 29th through August 17th. These older elementary children will get hands-on participation with local missions as they travel to different sites each Monday in the summer for eight weeks, followed by discussion and lunch. This summer the children will be learning and visiting the following: Cypress Glen, Give 2 the Troops, Hope of Glory, the Humane Society, the Joy Soup Kitchen, Meals on Wheels, the Ronald McDonald House, and Gleaning with the Society of St. Andrew. This will be an awesome summer ministry! REGISTRATION ENDS JUNE 10th!

Summer Sunday School

This summer, our Children's Sunday School (Kindergarten - 5th Grade) will become aware of God's world through the first Creation story in Genesis. Through several workshops (Art, Bible Storytelling, Cooking, Science, Games, Missions, and Video), they will discover a sense of awe and wonder over what God has made. Teacher and shepherd volunteers are needed for Sunday School starting June 14th. Please contact Beth Griffin at 756-1226 or Ncgriff2@aol.com if you can lend a hand.

Movie Night

Friday, June 5th at 6 p.m. – TCLC
Join us for hot dogs, fruit, drinks & popcorn (please bring donations for the donation basket).

Preschool Movie – “Space Buddies” (G)
All other ages – “Hotel for Dogs” (PG)
Children are encouraged to bring pillows & sleeping bags! PLEASE register by calling the church office at 752-3101.

Calling All Children Who Like to Read

Join Mrs. Amy in the “Read to Feed Summer Reading Challenge!”

Children, preschool through 5th grade, are challenged to read a certain number of books this summer from the “Read to Feed” library and turn in their reading log to Mrs. Amy at the end of the 6-week program. Based on the number of books read by the children, money will be donated in honor of those children participating to buy gifts of livestock for struggling families in other countries through Heifer Project International. Reading logs as well as this summer's reading list can be found in Mrs. Amy's office. So.....which Jarvis children will be up for the challenge?

Congratulations

The following children memorized the Lord's Prayer during the last Sunday School rotation!

Kindergarten: Emmie Brooks

1st Grade: Harriss Evans, Greg Kuhn, George Dismukes, Tanner Twiddy, Frank Marr, Allie Curtis, Anna Hackett, Will Cox and Robert Allen

2nd Grade: Mary McMillan, Katie Glass, Paige Whitehurst, Carina Becker and Gray Brooks

3rd Grade: Lanier Evans, Hallie Smith, Elizabeth Martin, Griffin Curtis, Jack Allen, Elizabeth Williams and Elizabeth Whitehurst

4th Grade: Ruth Bishop, Drew Griffin, Christopher Poole, Evan Marr, Garrett Fagundus, Morgan Hackett, Kate Ward, Caroline Kuhn, Watson Evans, John Christopher Britt and Sara Young

5th Grade: Larkin Staley, Sarah Stephenson, Kaleigh Tucker, Zach Surles, Jackson Ward, Robert Horton, Jesse Martin, Natasha Stephenson and Walker Allen

Blessings, Amy

Please contact Amy Staley, Director of Children's Ministries at 752-3101 or email her at jarvisdcm@earthlink.net concerning these events.

2009 Vacation Bible School



Volunteers are needed to help with this year's daytime VBS! If you can help even just one day during VBS, we need you! There is a place for everyone: decorating, storytelling, games, snacks, music, crafts, and shepherds are especially needed to assist the children and move them from one area to the next.

Contact Amy Staley at 752-3101 or email her at jarvisdcm@earthlink.net.

If you can donate or loan us any of the supplies listed below, we would be most grateful.

Fishing poles (cane) & fishing reels, bait buckets and crab pots, lanterns and netting, clear packing tape and masking tape, row boats or canoes, Michael's, Wal-Mart Gift cards or monetary donations, plastic plants, oars, and Bayou related items

**Please
Remember that
there will no
Kingdom Quest
during the
Summer**

Jarvis Youth Ministry

As the end of the academic year approaches, JSM can reflect on many accomplishments that have occurred despite a few bumps in the road. Under three different interim youth directors and the faithful service of adult and student leaders, JSM has continued to provide weekly Sunday school programming and Sunday evening fellowship.

Confirmands concluded their education and were welcomed into the church family. Youth attended Big Stuff, confirmation retreat, Acquire the Fire and conference Kaleidoscope events. Students have diligently served dinner on a monthly basis at the Greenville Community Shelter. They have packed up food for the hungry at the Million Meal event at ECU. They served dinner for Sweetheart dinner and the Relay for Life Survivor banquet. They walked miles and sold food to raise money for cancer.

Looking forward, JSM is enthusiastically planning for Youth Sunday on June 7th. The youth have worked diligently to prepare for all aspects of each service including worship music, scripture readings, messages, dramas and more.



JSM work and spiritual growth will continue throughout the summer. Some students will attend the annual conference ACS leadership event while others will participate in Erasing the Lines, a program from SonSet Ministry to build unity and Christian fellowship among races and economic classes in eastern NC.

Last but not least JSM, in partnership with the Greenville Housing Authority, is nearing the conclusion of its fundraising activities to build a playground for Hopkins Park, the only public housing neighborhood in Greenville without a playground for its children. Through support raised from community grants and student activities, JSM has raised \$33,000 towards the "Together" project. The students are prayerfully

optimistic that the remaining \$10,000 needed to complete the project will be raised in time for children of Hopkins Park to enjoy their new playground this summer. Members of the church family are invited to help in this endeavor. Please support the Youth with your prayers, your presence and your gifts for the following events:

- 1) Spaghetti Dinner at Fellowship Feast on June 3rd -5:30 pm**
- 2) Car Wash, Bake Sale and Cookout on Saturday June 6th, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm**

If JSM can accomplish all of this under part-time interim leadership, think of what God can accomplish with full time permanent leadership. Please be in prayer as the search committee moves forward in its search for a Youth Director. Though it has been challenging at times, I feel privileged to have served the Jarvis youth this year and I look forward to continuing this service in the coming year. New volunteers are always welcome. Just come and there will be a place for you to facilitate the spiritual growth of our Youth.

— Marti Van Scott

Christianson from Page One

I owe a great deal of thanks to the wonderful staff at Jarvis with which I work. Albert Shuler is a trusted colleague – sharing pastoral ministry and seasoning everything with good humor; Dan Earnhardt adds wisdom; Stan McDaniel has taught me much about church music; Timm Hackett is always creating something new; Sammy Hudson brings great respect for our youth; Amy Staley demonstrates the joy of church ministry; Alison Ponzi has expanded my musical repertoire; Woody Barrow is creative in making

new possibilities for an aging building; Walt Whitfield is reliable and responsible; Jackie Horton is dedicated to our Pre-School; Patty Marr is creative and fun; Karen Wagner is a loving caregiver for our youngest children; Theresa Esslinger brings great energy and commitment to the Boys & Girls Club; Steve Cagle is unbeatable as an organist; Chuck Beckett brings Christian commitment to his work with finances; Abby Kenerly is astute and competent; Heather Johnson is a refreshing presence in our office; and, of course, Sharon Stocks holds us all together

with her serene demeanor and commitment to excellent work. To these dear souls, and others: "Thank you for a wonderful experience of God's grace as we have worked together in ministry!"

I wish all the members and friends of Jarvis Memorial UMC God's grace and peace.

"Be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us." — Ephesians 5:1-2a

May your service to Christ be blessed abundantly!

Rev. Diane Christianson

Shawl Ministry Sews with ‘Stitches of Love’

In the Old Testament, David meets with some of the Benjamites and Judahites and says: “If you have come to me in friendship, to help me, then my heart will be knit to you.”

Each Tuesday morning and Wednesday evening, a group of women will meet in the Jarvis Memorial UMC Conference room with one purpose in mind — taking David’s in their hearts and, more importantly, their hands.

Since October 7, 2008, more than 35 ladies have participated in the Jarvis Memorial Prayer Shawl Ministry. In those eight months, close to 150 prayer shawls have been knitted, blessed, and given away to people who may be ill or to celebrate a joy in a family’s life.

“At first, Albert (Shuler) had quite a list,” Hilda Alford said. “He was taking them to everyone in the hospital, out of town and here, too. He has taken them to shut-ins, people who were sick, and those who have lost loved ones.”

The shawls have grown so popular that people have offered to buy one from this ministry, but the answer has remained the same — they are not for sale. During the last service which featured a blessing of the shawls, a few members were



Genie Caldwell

carefully knits together the final stitches of a prayer shawl.



“All of our pieces have a cross on them and they are wrapped with a prayer on the inside...The Lord told me to get involved in this ministry.”

Hilda Alford

again asked about buying a shawl.

“I told her no, but she could always make a donation,” Alford said.

The ladies give most of the prayer shawls away; however, if someone wishes to give a shawl to someone who is not ill (recently, one was give in honor of a graduation), people can always make a donation to the ministry.

The prayer shawls have also been an international blessing as well, with one traveling as far as Nicaragua to a pediatric patient.

Perhaps the group can be defined best by the words of member, Sarah Whitehurst, who stated, “We are really sewing with stitches of the love.”

The Jarvis Memorial prayer shawl ministry meets on Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. and on Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. If you would like to inquire about the prayer shawls or support the ministry, contact Hilda Alford at 252-758-7842.

Prayer Shawl Ministry Team

Hilda Alford
Jane Brown
Genie Caldwell
Linda Clark
Pat Campbell
Kelly Cassiano
Vicki Clement
Emalynn Colardo
Faye Dozier
Ann Davis
Deborah Dugan
Judy Garris
Jo Harper
Debi Holcomb
Jo Anna Lee
Brenda Little
Connie Moseley
Sheila Mozingo
Susanne Mullis
Bobbie Newman
Margaret Nottingham
Jimmie Shuler
Melissa Shuler
Doris Rasberry
Madoline Roy
Peggy Cox Taylor
Sally Thompson
Louise Walker
Carlynn Warren
Sarah Whitehurst



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Shuler from Page One

committed Christian workers and leaders who have a love for God and a passion for serving God's people. I want to thank each of you for the many big and small ways you have labored together with me in the Lord's vineyard. I am confident that God will continue to utilize your gifts and graces for ministry in the future in ways that only God can imagine. Despite changes and transitions that come often in ministry, let us remain faithful to our shared calling in Christ who compels us to "go into the world, in the strength of God's Spirit, to give ourselves for others" in Jesus' name.

Please know that Jimmie and Melissa join me in saying how much we appreciate your love and prayers, and trust they will continue after we are gone. You will certainly remain in ours. May God continue to be with you and guide you in the months and years to come.

Electronic Newsletters and E-Blasts

One of the main reasons for switching from a weekly newsletter to a monthly version was cost. By doing so, Jarvis will save over 75 percent (roughly \$4,000) in bulk mail cost.

This switch has not only been in the frequency of the newsletters, but also content. The emphasis of the new format will be on celebrating the ministries of Jarvis and not simply listing what's happening next. We want your good news as your ministry spreads the Good News.

During the weeks when a newsletter doesn't go out, please send Timm Hackett (jarvisace@earthlink.net) the weekly events you wish to be publicized so they may be sent out in our new E-Blast email news bulletin.

It is our hope that you enjoy learning about all the ministries at Jarvis through the new newsletter format.

Financial News

Fund	As Of	Revenue	Budget	**Difference
MTD-Revenues	April 30, 2009	\$73,989	\$62,474	\$11,515
YTD-Revenues	April 30, 2009	\$391,621	\$402,815	-\$11,194
Remaining TCLC Debt =	\$283,311	Revenue - Budget = Difference		
Remaining BUS Debt =	\$8,037			

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Malachi 3:10 (Paraphrased) If God's house receives tithes, meat, from a Christian or a Non-Christian; then those that give will be blessed. In other words; we as God's children need to give a tenth unto the Lord for His purposes. God's tithe(s) should be first and foremost. The tithe is not an option for God's children. It is a command to us.
 Psalm 37:25 (Paraphrased) tells us, as Christians, we will not be forsaken in our needs.

Please pray that all ministries will be fully funded from the outstanding pledges and or non-pledged gifts in 2009. You can participate in Sharing God's Gifts Through Your Contributions:
 -Pray about your giving to God's ministries.
 -Model the generosity God calls you to exhibit.
 -Educate yourself about the ministries of Jarvis Memorial.

Pray that God finds us faithful.

The Business Manager's office will be open for any questions you may have.

Jarvis Seeks New Stephen Ministers

The Stephen Series is a complete system for training and organizing lay people to provide one-to-one Christian care to hurting people in and around your congregation.

The Stephen Series provides congregations with the structure, training, and resources to set up and administer a complete system for lay caring ministry (called Stephen Ministry) in the congregation.

Stephen Leaders recruit and select laypeople from the congregation to serve as Stephen Ministers and provide them with 50 hours of training in Christian caregiving. Some of the training topics include listening, feelings, assertiveness, confidentiality, and ministering to people in specific situations such as divorce, terminal illness, grief, and childbirth. Stephen Ministers also are trained to recognize when a care receiver's needs go beyond the care a Stephen Minister can provide and how to refer the care receiver for additional care.

For more information please contact The Reverend Dan Earnhardt at 252.752.3101 or jarvispcm@earthlink.net

