

The Link

The Newsletter for First A.R.P. Church



February 6 — 19, 2011



No Frills Friday

“What Does it Mean to Live a Missional Life – A Life of Sacrifice and Simplicity?”

Taught by Matt Kuiken, Alex Pettett and Eddie Spencer

Friday, February 4, 2011

6:00—8:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall

Thank You, Norma Jean!



This past Sunday, January 30, at the 11:00 worship service, our congregation honored Norma Jean Huffstetler for her 45 years of service at First A.R.P. Church. We will celebrate her years of service again on Sunday, February 27, at a reception in her honor. The reception will be held in the Fellowship Hall at 4:00—5:30 p.m. This occasion will give our entire church family the opportunity to honor her and express our personal gratitude.

Long tenures of service are rare these days in any endeavors and organizations. Norma Jean has been our organist, music leader and staff member since 1965. She combines great natural abilities, strong leadership qualities with a servant's heart. She has been a deeply loyal and wonderful staff leader and colleague. We will miss her on the organ bench but will continue to enjoy her in the church pew.

It is our commitment to celebrate her years of service as well as continue the legacy of music and servant hood she leaves behind. We thank God for you, Norma Jean.

New Thursday Morning Bible Study

“Wisdom: The Art of Godly Living”

Come join the NEW Thursday Morning Bible Study led by Pastor Matt. This study on *“Wisdom: The Art of Godly Living”* focuses on portions of the book of Proverbs. This class meets from 9:00-10:00 a.m. in the church parlor. Both men and women are welcome. Childcare is available for those who need it.

This new study began February 3rd but you can join in at any time. Please register by calling Matt at the church or by emailing him at mkuiken@firstarpchurch.org.

Sunday Morning Greeters

February 6 — (8:30) TBA (11:00) Ellis & Meg Fisher
 February 13 — (8:30) TBA (11:00) Ellis & Meg Fisher

Sunday Morning Coffee Servers

February 6 — Rob & Frances Parker
 February 13 — Peggy Starr

Sunday Morning Worship Attendance

	8:30	11:00	Total
January 23	190	366	556
January 30	173	440	613

Ushers for 11:00 Service

February — Rudy Stowe (head), David Jansen, John Williams, Billy Sturgis

Wed. Prayer Luncheon Menu (12 Noon)

February 9 — pork chop, sweet potatoes, steamed broccoli, salad, dessert
 February 16 — chicken casserole, green beans, salad, dessert

Wednesday Night Menus (5:30 p.m.)

February 9 — baked herbal chicken, scalloped potatoes, green peas, baby carrots, roll, dessert
 February 16 — beef vegetable soup, hoagie sandwich, tossed salad, dessert

Wednesday Prayer Luncheon Helpers

February 9 — Gene & Anne Hanna, Sarah Wallace, Barbara Sanford
 February 16 — Jerry Lyons, Ellen Snider, Arthur Spencer, Gloria Rhyme

Wednesday Night Money Collectors

February 9 — Roxanne Spencer, Amelia Pritchett
 February 16 — Russ McAllister, Marshall Welch


Medical Transportation Ministry

Do you need a ride to your doctors appointment?
 Call Loretta Horne at 704-864-5527

Laptop Computer Needed


If you have a laptop computer that you would like to donate to a worthy cause, please call **Oscar Whitescarver at 704-868-4934**. Someone he knows has the opportunity to go to college and make a new start for himself but he needs a laptop.






Wishing You a
Happy Birthday!


Annie Anthony—2/19
 Jack Lear—2/19
 Josie Martin—2/19
 Anne McAllister—2/19
 Sharron McPeters—2/19
 Kathryn Painter—2/19
 Alex Blevins—2/20
 Mary Lisa Sherrill—2/20
 Mike Taylor—2/20
 Alvin Cain—2/21
 Che Hooks—2/21
 Zack Stroupe—2/21
 James Bostick—2/22
 Connor Cherry—2/22
 Cathy Foster—2/23
 Lauren Haubert—2/23
 Jane Alice Todd—2/23
 Ashley Fretz—2/24
 Thorny Guthery—2/24
 Sharon Huffstetler—2/24
 Morris Keeter—2/24
 Debra Starnes—2/25
 Amanda Summey—2/25
 Will Henry—2/27
 Jerry Miller—2/27
 Matt Tippet—2/27
 Emma Davis—2/28
 Walter Payne—2/28
 Mike Craig—2/29





Happy Wedding Anniversary

Bob & Widdy Barnhill	2/09/51	60 years
Steve & Lisa Buchanan	2/14/87	24 years
Bob & Jo Ann Sytz	2/15/58	53 years
Don & Gloria Wilson	2/18/62	49 years
Brad & Claire Wilson	2/19/94	17 years
Ray & Carolyn Jones	2/21/70	41 years
Joe & Patsy Boyles	2/23/63	48 years
Mike & Angie Surbeck	2/27/82	29 years



Valentines Party

February 11, 2011
6:00 p.m.—Fellowship Hall

The Primetimers and Elective Sunday School Class will have a Valentine party catered by Texas Roadhouse on Friday night, February 11th at 6:00 p.m. in the church Fellowship Hall.

Cost: \$25.00 per couple or \$12.50 per individual

Please call Mary Alice Holland at 704-866-9584
or Anne McAllister at 704-853-0131
to make your reservation.

RESERVATION DEADLINE: SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6th

Come out and have some fun and fellowship!



Welcome, Lynda Williams! Preschool Director

Lynda Williams is our first Preschool Director. Several years ago, our Session developed a vision to begin a Christian preschool. We concluded that while there were very fine Christian preschools in our city, few that we knew of were ministering to parents who were not financially equipped to send their children to a Christian preschool. Our vision includes children who can /cannot financially participate in a preschool program.

At that time, we looked for a Director who would have the gifts and experience to pioneer this new work and then grow it. In God's providence, we did not identify anyone. In recent months, Lynda Williams submitted her application and in the late Fall accepted this position. She began her work on Monday, January 24. We will make the official announcement at both worship services this Sunday, February 6.

Lynda is a native of Charlotte, N.C. She was baptized and professed faith in Christ at Hickory Grove Presbyterian Church. She has been married to Steven Williams, who grew up in Gastonia, for 30 years. She and Steven have two girls: Sadie, a recent graduate from Lees-McRae College, and Mary Lanier, a freshman at Ashbrook High School.

She has over 10 years in preschool ministry experience. Last April, she was awarded the Outstanding Preschool Director of the Year for Gaston and Lincoln Counties. She received a Business degree from Winthrop University, an Education degree from Belmont Abbey and an Administration and Childcare Certificate from Gaston College.

In addition to her work, she enjoys gardening, reading and genealogy. Mostly, she enjoys spending time with her family.

We look forward to seeing how God uses her leadership in a kingdom preschool ministry.

Dear Church Family,

I am pleased to announce that I have recently been accepted as Calvary Home For Children's first missionary! For those of you who don't know, this is the ministry that Greg Skipper leads in Anderson, S.C. I have committed to this ministry for two years. I will be leaving for Calvary on June 27, 2011.

I would like to find out if anyone has a couch or love seat that they would like to donate to the home where I will be living. If so, please give me a call at 704-868-6735.

Thanks ahead of time for all of your prayers and support.

In Christ,
Denice Cope



Dear Church Family,
We are extremely grateful for all of the prayers, meals, visits and gifts that you have lavished on us with the arrival of our daughter, Emerson. We feel so loved

and are so thankful to be raising Emerson in such a caring, generous church family.

With Love,
Randy, Pamela & Emerson
Mumford

Dear First A.R.P. Church Family,
Your outpouring of love and sympathy following the recent illness and death of my father has been overwhelming. The prayers, calls and loving cards by so many of you have been a huge source of comfort. My dad would have loved each of you just as Marshall and I do! What a true privilege and blessing to be part of such a caring community of believers.

Ann Welch

Dear Church Staff,
I wanted to send this card to let you guys know how much I appreciated what you did for me during this last surgery. The cards, meals, phone calls, and especially the continual prayers meant so much. My back went out so quickly this time I was not prepared—especially since I had been doing so much better. But through every trial we go through, the Lord always has blessings to go with them and you guys are truly a blessing! We are so fortunate to have each and every one of you “running the ship” so to speak. Thanks again for everything and hopefully this third surgery will be the last!

In His Love,
Tweet

1st Annual H4G Planet Fitness Invitational



Gastonia Municipal Golf Course
Gastonia, NC

Morning tee time starts at 8AM
Afternoon tee time starts at 1:30PM
Captains choice format
Cost is \$200.00 per team
Entry fee deadline - Feb 28, 2011
Lunch provided
All proceeds go to Hope 4 Gaston

Saturday
April 16, 2011

"Pattin' Fore A Purpose"

Contact David Hooks for more information
at 704-914-8512 or david.hooks@t-mobile.com



Support Cancer Services of Gaston County

It is time to sell raffle tickets for Cancer Services spring event. The theme is about cancer survivors and hope. The event will be held on Friday, April 1 at Stowe Manor in Belmont. Event tickets are \$25 with heavy hors d'oeuvres and a live band, The Caleb Davis Band.

Raffle tickets are \$5 each or Buy 5 and get the 6th free (so 6 for \$25). This year, the prizes are a 42" T.V., an Apple iPad, and \$250 cash.

Many of you know how dear Cancer Services is to my heart! They supported me through many years of my illness. They are a WONDERFUL group and I will give my ALL to support them! All money raised goes to help those in GASTON COUNTY; gotta love those local organizations!

For tickets, please call Dawn Carr at 704-865-3072 or you may get them from Leslie Farrar when you are at church; she will have them in her office.

Thanks for supporting such a great cause...good luck on winning something at the drawing...I'm going for the CASH!!

In Christ,
Dawn Carr

Hope for the Journey

By: Matt Kuiken

“Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.” 2 Corinthians 4:16-18



Before I left St. Louis for Gastonia I had the opportunity to run the 2009 St. Louis Go Marathon. This is a 26.2 mile race through the streets of St. Louis with thousands of other people. I remember that on race day I was so excited to get started. The first ten miles were relatively easy, I had lots of people around me, a crowd cheering us on, and I felt good. But as I got further into the race, mile 16, 17, 18, things weren't going so well. I was getting tired and my whole body was starting to ache. The runners had thinned out around me (because I was so far behind everyone else) and there was not much of a crowd to cheer the runners on this far into the course. And most discouraging of all, there began to be more and more medical stations on the side of the road, with more and more people in them. It was at this point that I started to wonder, "Am I *really* going to be able to do this? Is my body and mind going to be able to make it to the end of the race?"

Life is much more like a marathon than a sprint, isn't it? We start off life with energy and enthusiasm with lots of people around us, but as life goes on it becomes harder to persevere as we often struggle with loneliness, worry, an aching body and more and more people in the medical stations around us. With all of these things going on it can be easy, as Paul says, "to lose heart." But in the verse printed above Paul urges us that as believers we must not lose heart, but rather we must stay the course and continue to run the race of the Christian life with perseverance. There are a few reasons Paul gives for why Christians shouldn't lose heart.

First, Paul says *we are making invisible progress*. He says that "though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day." It is not hard to prove the outwardly wasting away thing is it? Most of us have to look no further than our bodies to see that the effects of life in a sinful world are taking a toll on our bodies. But Paul says that even though our physical bodies may be falling apart, our souls are actually being renewed. Our spiritual muscles are growing younger, stronger, and more vibrant. Inwardly we are being made new again, we are all on the incline! And this is something that God is doing in each one of us if His Spirit does live in us. The fact that our souls are being renewed is also a promise that one day we will be given a new, imperishable body that will compliment our renewed soul (1 Cor. 15). So if you are discouraged about your life and you are feeling like everything around you, including your body is falling apart, take heart! You are making invisible progress.

The second reason Paul gives for why we must not lose heart is that *we are making an eternal investment*. Did you know that if you are a Christian you are an incredibly shrewd and wise investor? Paul says it this way, "For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all." Paul says that your initial investment is your light and momentary troubles. By going through various trials and tests in your life you are making an investment. But some of you may feel offended that Paul is calling your earthly trials "light and momentary," they often don't seem that way to us. Still Paul is saying that if we consider the return we get on our investment, then our earthly tests and trials will seem "light and momentary." And what is the return on our investment? The Greek text literally says, "the eternal weight of glory in excess upon excess." Something that is heavy is firm, solid and is not going anywhere. Paul says that a believer's faithfulness in trials on earth is an investment in an eternal glory that is beyond anything we can ever imagine. So press on, and do not lose heart! With every day you persevere you are making an eternal investment.

So what now? Paul says simply, "So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal." If you focus your eyes on what is seen, you are going to grow discouraged by only seeing things falling apart, and you will be tempted to despair. But if you fix your eyes on the things that are unseen: your invisible progress and your eternal investment, you will not lose heart. God's purposes are being accomplished, his kingdom is moving forward and the weight of glory is waiting for us through the grace and power of our Lord Jesus.



Genuine Happiness

Several years ago, a beer commercial aired featuring well-built handsome men alongside beautifully bikini-clad women frolicking on the beach long after the sun went down. They were advertising beer, but they were marketing something else.

Advertisers understand people's desire for happiness, so they often link their product to happiness and satisfaction and they are absolutely right. Every human being deeply desires happiness and satisfaction. However, to believe that beer drinking, beach frolicking, beautiful body types or the pursuits of pleasure, power, prestige or prosperity can satisfy those desires is a falsehood. C. S. Lewis says it like this:

"Creatures are not born with desires unless satisfaction for those desires exists. A baby feels hunger, there is such a thing as food. A duckling wants to swim, there is such a thing as water. Men feel sexual desires, there is such a thing as sex. And if I find within myself a desire of which no experience in this world can satisfy, the only probable explanation is that I was made for something in another world. If none of my earthly pleasures satisfy the desire, it doesn't mean that the universe is a fraud, that I have failed or that things have failed. Probably the earthly pleasures were never meant to satisfy, but only to arouse it. It suggests the real thing." — C. S. Lewis

The "real thing" is the God-created desires satisfied exclusively by the Creator. The "real thing" is the hunger and thirst of one's soul being filled only by Jesus Christ. Happiness will never be experienced in seeking it directly. No matter how much freedom, time and money we expend on the pursuit of happiness, it cannot be found. Happiness is the by-product of something far greater than human endeavors.

In Jesus' fourth beatitude, He teaches us the source of "genuine happiness" or "blessedness": "*Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled*" (Matthew 5:6). Jesus doesn't say, "Blessed are those who seek for blessedness", but rather "*blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness.*" Genuine happiness, soul-satisfaction and inward contentment are found in "righteousness."

The problem with the word "righteousness" is that it has been corrupted and caricatured as self-righteousness. When many people think of "righteousness", they think of church rules and religious regulations — "the church lady." Sadly, the church itself has not always accurately portrayed the cause of "righteousness." Mark Twain once said, "Having spent considerable time with religious people, I can understand why Jesus liked to be with tax collectors and sinners."

"Righteousness", in a biblical sense, simply means, "to be right, to be approved, or to be accepted." If your daughter tries out for a sports team, she awaits the outcome—is she accepted or not? Psychologists tell us that our identity, our own self-esteem, is rooted in our righteousness or acceptability. The Bible would go beyond the psychological need for approval to a deeper spiritual need to be accepted by God, our Maker. In fact, the Bible, human history, and your spiritual journey witness to the reality that the soul's hunger and spiritual thirst for genuine happiness can never be satisfied until we know that we are right with God—fully accepted by Him.

However, the problem is, "*There is no one righteous, not even one*" (Romans 3:10). A coach selects your daughter for his sports team based on her performance level. But not one human being can stand before a Holy God solely on good performance. "*All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God*" (Romans. 3:23). "*Therefore, since sin entered into the world through one man, and death through sin, death came to all men because all sinned*" (Romans 5:12). Simply put, we are neither right nor approved by God.

Take heart! The gospel of Christ proclaims that through faith in Christ, His perfect life, sacrificial death and glorious resurrection, we can be approved and accepted by God. God's approval is not based on our performance but Christ's performance. "*For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring us to God*" (I Peter 3:18). "*God made Christ who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in Christ we might become the righteousness of God*" (II Corinthians. 5:21).

Too many Christians know this truth theologically but not experientially. We are accepted by God. Our happiness is not in the pursuit of happiness, but in Christ. Oh, the freedom in living the gospel. If our identity is in our acceptability, let us preach to ourselves that we have been approved by a Holy God. Do we know what that means for us? We are right with God. We are free to experience genuine happiness. Our souls' hungers and spiritual thirsts are satisfied in Christ. "*Seek first God's Kingdom and righteousness and He will add many things to your life*" (Matthew 6:33). C.S. Lewis says it this way, "Aim at heaven and you get earth thrown in. Aim at earth and you get neither."

We are completely free from basing our identity and self-esteem on others' approval. We are accepted by God Himself. We can say with the Apostle Paul, "*I care very little if I am judged by you or any human court; indeed I do not even judge myself... It is the Lord who judges me*" (I Corinthians. 4:3, 4). And what is His verdict? "*Therefore is now no condemnation for those who are in Jesus Christ*" (Romans. 8:1). We are His delight, "*Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, 'Abba Father'*" (Galatians 4:6).

LIBRARY NOTES

Open house for Adults Sunday,
February 13th 10:30 - 11:00.

Open House for children
Sunday, February 20th during
the Sunday School hour. Come
by and see what we have
available!

Wingate University Singers
Kenney Potter, conductor
Meghan Balsom, featured
accompanist

In Concert
February 21, 2011
7:00 P.M.

First A.R.P. Sanctuary

Plan now to attend this evening
featuring hymns, spirituals, anthems,
classic and contemporary choral
music!

You're Invited to a Wedding Shower!

Everyone is invited to a drop-in wedding shower to honor Elly Hovis and Zack Keuthan on Saturday, March 5, from 2-4 p.m. in the First A.R.P. Fellowship Hall. Elly and Zack are registered at Kohl's, Target, and Bed Bath & Beyond.

Church Directory Updates

- ◆ **Carolyn Jones** – change her email address to: carolynjones@atcmail.com
- ◆ **Dean Rhyne** – add email address: unccddome@yahoo.com
- ◆ **Dawn Carr** – delete work number
- ◆ **Chris Carr** – change work number to 704-306-7587
- ◆ **Carrie Wilson** – delete Apt. 121 and replace with Room 236
- ◆ **David & Melissa Rowe** – change address to 3245 Quinlan Ln, Lincolnton, NC, 28092
- ◆ **Jerry Best** – correction to cell phone number: 704-689-1351
- ◆ **Kennon Keiser** – correction to email address: kennon.keiser@quintiles.com

Nuts and Bolts

By Jean Stewart

*My laugh lines echo the years of
happiness my heart has enjoyed.*

- ◆ Congratulations to Lee Crawford who received his BS in history from Appalachian State University in December 2010. Lee is certified to teach all social science subjects on the secondary education level. He is looking for a job!
- ◆ Wow! We had three students on the fall Dean's List at Erskine College. We are so proud of Kennedy Craig, Zack Keuthan and Emily Robinson. You must maintain a GPR of at least 3.70. Great work.
- ◆ The Study Club, one of Gastonia's premier book clubs, celebrated its 100th anniversary in January. To commemorate this, the club commissioned a painting by our own Ty Hobson to depict scenes, flowers, trees and events of Gaston County. Anne Alexander, club president, presented the painting to the Gaston County Library. It will be hung and displayed in the North Carolina room of the library.
- ◆ **Our library is on the honor system. When you check out a library book be sure and leave the sign out card on the shelf. We need to know where our books are. Our library budget to buy new books is very small. We cannot afford to lose any of our new books.**
- ◆ **Reminder from Tom Williamson:** Tom has loaned many of his books to members of this congregation. If you have one, please return it to him. Books are very expensive.
- ◆ Eddie's scripture for memorization:
"For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich." 2 Cor. 8:9

Children's Ministry Update

"Missions Mania" - Sunday School!

During the month of February our children's Sunday School classes will be focusing on missions; both around-the-world and close to home!

Sunday, February 6

Photos, Letters and Cards to the Allers and Meburgs

Sunday, February 13

Finish Letters and Cards

Sunday, February 20

Decorate Classroom Doors

Jesus Loves the Children of the World

Sunday, February 27

Ages Two-Kindergarten—Finish Classroom Doors

Grades 1-5—IHN Pillowcase Project



Did You Know???

Our **First Grade Sunday School Class** has moved to the Second Floor. They are already enjoying the bright sunshine and the extra space!!!



Library Open House !!

Kids Day!

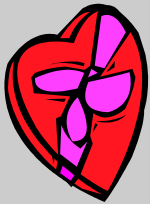
Sunday, February 20!

Our children's Sunday School Classes will visit our church library on Sunday, February 20. The library will also be open before and after Sunday School on that morning for families to check out books and movies!



Our library has a lot of new resources! Take a look!

Kisses for C. A. M.!!!



Please bring bags of *Hershey's Kisses* to the red buckets outside Mrs. Maney's door by Wednesday, February 9!

Thanks to everyone who brought mittens, gloves, hats and scarves for our Mitten Tree! We delivered two loads to the Crisis Assistance Ministry during January!!!

Fifth Grade Parents Meeting!!



Wednesday, February 9

7:30 p.m. -Chapel

Important Information about Communicants Class!

Questions?? rmaney@firstarpchurch.org

Watch Our Eagles Play Basketball!!!!

Friday, February 4

6:00 p.m.—U8—First United Methodist Church

7:00 p.m.—U10—First Baptist Church

Saturday, February 5

10:30 a.m.—U6—Southminster Presbyterian Church



Friday, February 11

6:00 p.m.—U8—First United Methodist Church

6:00 p.m.—U10—First Baptist Church

Saturday, February 12

10:30 a.m.—U6—Southminster Presbyterian Church



West Gastonia Bible Club

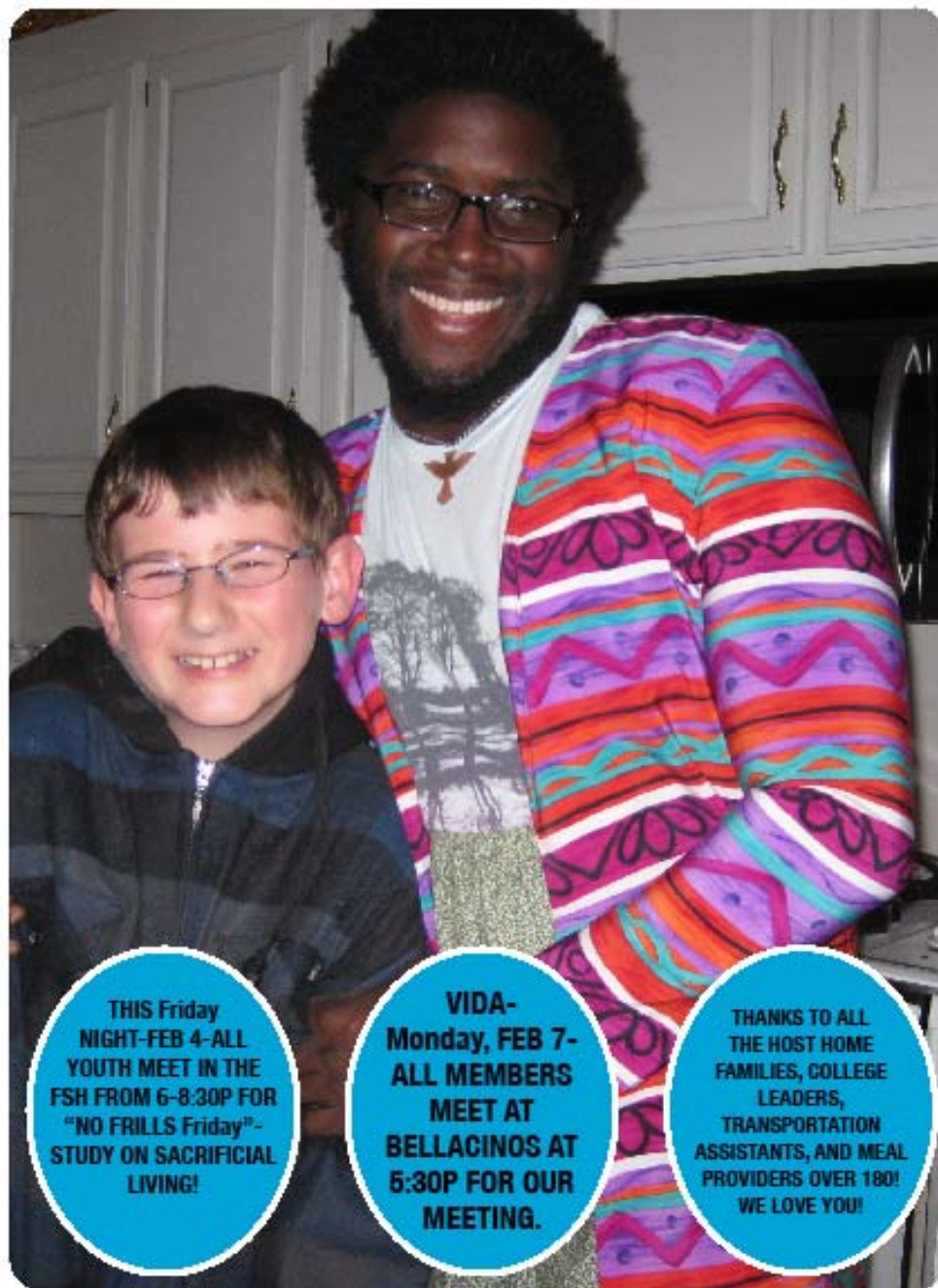
Would you love to be a part of a bi-weekly ministry with first and second grade students at West Gastonia Boys and Girls Club??? Our church sponsors a **Bible Club** every first and third Friday of the month. Contact Vincent Cherry for more information about this ongoing ministry opportunity.

Extollo! Let's Sing!

Sunday, February 6—9:50 a.m.—First—Fifth Graders
Kids Church Room

youth

**CHILI COOKOFF-WED., FEB 23 IN HE FSH-CALL
COURT OR JAKE TO SIGN UP! ALL PROCEEDS
RAISED GOES TO THE YOUTH MISSION TRIP TO
NASHVILLE-JULY 3-8.**



THIS Friday
NIGHT-FEB 4-ALL
YOUTH MEET IN THE
FSH FROM 6-8.30P FOR
"NO FRILLS Friday"-
STUDY ON SACRIFICIAL
LIVING!

VIDA-
Monday, FEB 7-
ALL MEMBERS
MEET AT
BELLACINOS AT
5:30P FOR OUR
MEETING.

THANKS TO ALL
THE HOST HOME
FAMILIES, COLLEGE
LEADERS,
TRANSPORTATION
ASSISTANTS, AND MEAL
PROVIDERS OVER 180!
WE LOVE YOU!

SMALL GROUPS

THIS Sunday IN THE
SANCTUARY @4P-ALL YOUTH
MEET TOGETHER FOR
KNEEL. CHOIR FOLLOWS
KNEEL @ 5:15P. HSG WILL
MEET @ COURT'S FROM
6-8P. NO CBS THIS WEEK.

MISSION TRIP

ALL YOUTH ARE
ENCOURAGED TO
PARTICIPATE ON OUR
COMBO MISSION TRIP TO
NASHVILLE July 3-8. SIGN
UP ONLINE ON OUR YOUTH
WEBSITE.

SPRING RETREATS

LOOK FOR DETAILS SOON
IN THE MAIL REGARDING
OUR SPRING RETREATS TO
BONCLARKEN. THE COST IS
\$60. HS-March 4-6. MS-
March 18-20.



First A. R. Presbyterian Church

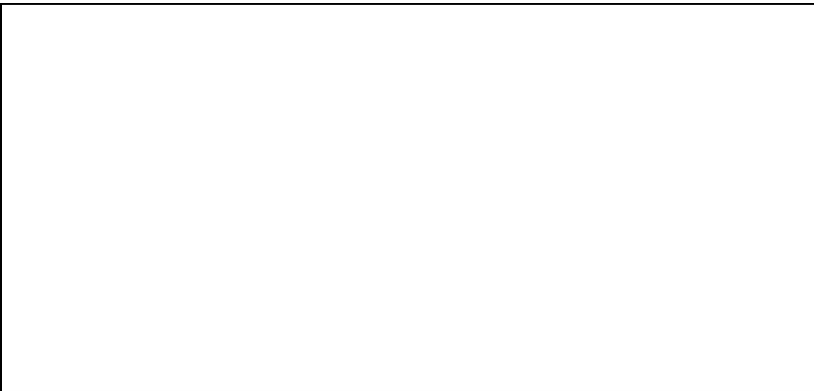
317 S. Chester Street, Gastonia, NC 28052
Phone: 704-864-3468, Fax: 704-864-2416
Church email: whenderson@firstarpchurch.org
Pastor Eddie's email: espencer@firstarpchurch.org
Pastor Matt's email: mkuiken@firstarpchurch.org



**Non-Profit
Organization
U. S. Postage Paid
Gastonia, NC
Permit No. 196**

Return Service Requested

In God We Trust



SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY

February 6, 2011

SOUPER BOWL is a nationwide effort to benefit food pantries and soup kitchens throughout the United States. Churches collect donations as attendees leave worship and then select a local organization to receive the contributions. The total collected is called in to SOUPER BOWL headquarters to be included in the nationwide count and the money is sent directly to the chosen organization.



Sunday, February 6, our congregation will be collecting money and designating it for Crisis Assistance Ministry. CAM

offers food assistance from its on-site pantry to low-income families and individuals in the greater Gastonia. CAM uses designated food dollars to shop weekly at the Second Harvest Food Bank and on a retail basis when needed. Last year, CAM provided food to help feed 6,302 people.

Share your caring spirit along with thousands of others across the United States on SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY. Every dollar donated helps people feel the power of God's love. That's something to cheer about!

**Boy Scout Troop 4
SPAGHETTI SUPPER!**



MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14

5:00—8:00 p.m.

**First A.R.P. Fellowship Hall
Eat-in or Take-out**



It will be on Valentine's Day this year, so treat your Valentine with a delicious spaghetti supper while supporting our Boy Scout Troop 4 at the same time!!!

**Tickets are \$7.00 each
or \$25.00 for a family of 4 or more**

Purchase tickets from:

Sid Craig,
Jim Todd,

Greg Christopher or one of our Boy Scouts.