

The Hill's Chapel House Call January 2012



A New Year's Blessing

May God make your year a happy one!
Not by shielding you from all sorrow and pain,
But by strengthening you to bear it as it comes;
Not by making your path easy,
But by making you sturdy to travel any path;
Not by taking hardships from you,
But by taking fear from your heart;
Not by granting you unbroken sunshine,
But by keeping your face bright, even in the shadows;
Not by making your life always pleasant,
But by showing you when people and their causes need you most,
and by making you anxious to be there to help.
God's love, peace, hope and joy to you for the year ahead.

Cemetery Report



Thanks for your continued support for our cemetery. Since our budget was cut 25% we needed extra support. And because the Methodist Discipline does not allow fund raisers for our budget we will use the book sale money for a new roof on our service building.

Guy McIntosh, Treasurer

Memorials

In Memory Of	Donor's Name	Designated
Nelson Kiser	Guy & Etrulia McIntosh	Cemetery Fund
Willis Linder	John & Aileen O'Brien	General Budget
Willis Linder	Hill's Chapel UMC	Cemetery Fund
In Honor Of	Donor's Name	Designated
Art Howard	Guy & Etrulia McIntosh	Cemetery Fund

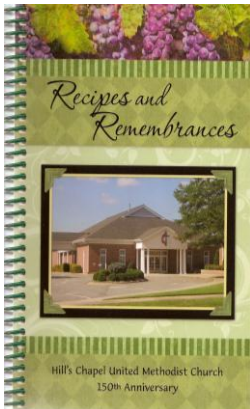
Thank You!

Thanks to all of our dear friends at Hill's Chapel for your thoughts, prayers, calls, cards and food provided to us during this difficult time. All of your acts of kindness over the last several years since my Dad's diagnosis have meant so much and only confirmed what a wonderful church family Hill's Chapel has. Special thanks to Val for all of her visits to the hospital these last several weeks. God bless each and every one of you! Kelly & Gary Carter and Dee Dee Linder

Thanks for your calls, cards, and prayers during my second hospital stay. Especially your prayers for they helped me to recover. Guy McIntosh



United Methodist Women



The UMW is giving to the church budget the profits made from the ham supper and the sale of the cook books. Ham supper was \$1,144.69 and cook books was \$1,864.10 for a total of \$3,008.79. We still have cook books for sale.

Many, many thanks to all the people that made these projects possible. Lots of people have worked real hard.

Have a Merry Christmas and I hope it will be a great New Year for everyone.

Mae Goff, Pres. UMW



LAKE NORMAN

2012 DISTRICT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

The United Methodist Church

Saturday, January 14, 2012

8am—12pm

Davidson UMC

Inclement Weather Date:

Saturday, January 28, 2012

SESSION I:

PREVIEW OF WORKSHOP OPTIONS

- ◆ **S/PPRC: "Who Cares for the Pastor?"** Rev. Dr. Lillie M. Jones
What are the responsibilities *and* realities of working with the pastor? Staff/Pastor Parish-Relations Committee members will consider if they are sufficiently caring for their pastor beyond paying a salary, providing housing and giving other benefits. Practical suggestions and tools will be given to support the pastor as he/she attends to their own spiritual, physical and emotional well-being which is crucial to their ability to serve God and the people of God in pastoral ministry.
- ◆ **Lay Leaders: Understanding Your Role As Lay Leader** David Stroupe
This session is for anyone who is a current Lay Leader, interested in becoming a Lay Leader, or interested in learning what this position is all about. Conversations will focus on the responsibilities of a Lay Leader and how to be an effective Lay Leader in the local church.
- ◆ **Nominations and Lay Leadership Development: What is A Vital Congregation?** Jennifer Davis
What Does That Have To Do With Me? The Mission of the United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. We have determined that in the Western North Carolina Conference we will focus on creating vital congregations with a missional focus in order to fulfill our mission. It sounds like a lofty goal and is a bit puzzling. The questions that are most often asked are "what is a vital congregation?" and "How do we create one?" The purpose of this workshop is to define and discuss the practical steps necessary for creating and maintaining a vibrant, vital congregation engaged in ministry in communities all over our conference.
- ◆ **Administrative Council & Committee Chairs: Shared Visioning for Vital Churches** Rev. Jamie Hamrick
This workshop will explore vision which is eagerly following a compelling, prayerfully discerned vision from God.
- ◆ **Finance/Treasurer: How to be a Terrible Finance Person** Jennifer Burton
Designed for both treasurers and finance chairpersons and committee members, this presentation is designed to provide insight into the world of local church finances, through the perils of what NOT to do. In doing so, we will discuss the right things to do - with internal controls, disbursements and their documentation, payroll reporting including W-2s vs. 1099s, employees vs. independent contractors, accountable reimbursement plans, the budget setting process, accountability and many others. Bring your questions as we will also provide time for a question and answer session!
- ◆ **Stewardship: Abundantly Living When Things Seem Scarce** Rev. David Snipes
This workshop will call attention to the fact that ALL we have and ALL we are is God's. Contrary to what we see on the news or experience as the financial markets fluctuate, God has provided for us and will continue to do so. Practical, theological groundings for financial stewardship will be the basis for this workshop.
- ◆ **Managing Change and Transition** Rev. Russ Moxley
"A primary leadership task is to produce lasting and useful change. To be able to effect change in a church, clergy leaders need insights and perspectives on how to navigate resistance to changes that are positive and important and necessary. This workshop will focus on six strategies that clergy can and must use to reduce resistance and produce lasting change.
- ◆ **Digital Connectionalism: Social Media and the Church** Skyler Nimmons
This workshop will give the basics of the social networks of Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, LinkedIn and Blogs. Participants will learn more about how to reach out to others for Jesus Christ in new ways!
- ◆ **RETHINKCHURCH** James Carpenter & Louise Learson
This workshop opens a conversation - to rethink how we might effect change in the world and how local congregations can serve their neighborhood and community better.
"What if church was a verb, and not a noun?"
"What if church was less about Sundays, and more about the other days of the week?"
- ◆ **Coaching: What's it all About?** Peg Aldridge & Dave Zietlow
Coaching is a popular buzz word these days. In this session, we will explore how pastoral and congregational coaching is being used in the Lake Norman District and beyond to build and support life-long fruitful ministries. Come join the fun!
- ◆ **Missional Households: Creating a Legacy of Faith in Youth & Families** Krista Petty
Tell me and I will forget. Show me and I may remember. Involve me and I will understand." - Chinese Proverb. Serving the community is certainly a good thing, but did you know that children and students serving alongside adults is also one of the STICKEST factors to their future faith journeys? Intergenerational serving offers more than warm fuzzies--it impacts an entire generation of new servant leaders. This interactive workshop explores ministries across the U.S. that are making an impact on their own church families and the communities they serve.

SESSION II:

PREVIEW OF WORKSHOP OPTIONS

- ◆ **Exploring God's Vision for Your Church** Peg Aldridge & Dave Zietlow
In this session, we will explore what a visioning session might look like using an appreciative approach. Our hope is to identify six congregations that would participate in a cluster visioning session in early 2012 led by coaches in the Lake Norman District. Come join us!
- ◆ **Connecting with Youth Ministry** Rev. Greg Richard
Are you connected to your youth? Are your youth connected with the church, with the community and most important, are they connected with Jesus? This workshop will concentrate on these connections and give some ideas how we can make these connections happen.
- ◆ **Inspiring Worship** Rev. Chris Westmoreland
We can connect to God in many different ways, but how often do we think about the real value of corporate worship? What makes worship "Inspiring?" Come as we discuss not just the "why" of worship, but more the "how" of leading inspiring worship experiences that can change hearts and encourage faith. Whether you are leading worship for 10, 100 or 1000 people, we will talk about basic principles that can transform any church starting with the people already in the pew.
- ◆ **Let's Get Social: Getting Started with Social Media** Skyler Nimmons
What is social media? Why is social media important? What are the most important social networks? I've heard about blogging – what is it and why should I be interested? The workshop will address these questions and more
- ◆ **Cultivating Gratefulness Through the Seasons of Life** Ann Starrette
In I Thessalonians St. Paul says: *"rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances"* (5:16-18). Great finish to a letter, Paul, but in real time are these realistic guidelines? After all, how is it possible in today's economy? With all the problems we encounter in our churches, families, schools, and government? If we choose to embrace Paul's encouragement as realistic guidelines for cultivating gratefulness through the seasons of our life, where do we start? In this session, Ann, will guide us through the hindrances, helps, and simple "how to's" on our journey toward inner transformation.
- ◆ **The Enneagram: Understanding Yourself, Your Relationships, and Your Image of God** Rev. Dr. Jody Seymour
The Enneagram is a tool, somewhat like the Myers Briggs Personality system, which a person can use to better understand your personality type. The Enneagram is often used for spiritual direction and for understanding how one views relationships. This will be a brief introduction to the Enneagram system. Jody is a certified Enneagram instructor.
- ◆ **Ideal versus Reality in Ministry** Rev. Jeff Johnsen
Lay people often follow clergy in their ideas, but often their ideas are nowhere near what laity expected them to be which causes laity to be less than supportive of future ideas. Clergy then wonders why laity is hesitant to follow, but in essence it is the tension between the "Ideal versus Reality." The workshop will deal with how I have been able to navigate through 10 years at Denver UMC while growing from 250 to 720 in worship attendance in a church 127 years old.
- ◆ **Planning a Comprehensive Ministry for Older Adults** Susan Harrison & Rev. Alberta Spencer
This workshop will discuss part of the book, "Aging and Ministry in the 21st Century" by Dr. Richard Gentzler, Director of the Center on Aging and Older Adult Ministries for the General Board of Discipleship in Nashville, TN. We will discuss how to engage more people in older adult ministry, what works and doesn't work, and just what does a ministry to older adults look like compared to years ago. Bring your ideas and we will share what is happening in our churches.
- ◆ **Called to Heal: Reclaiming the Church's Healing Ministry** Tonja Thorpe
A healing ministry is heart-centered service in response to the needs for healing body, mind, and spirit. In our time together, we will explore how to integrate the churches' tradition of healing, utilizing scripture, prayer, liturgy, laying on of hands and anointing with essential oils in being a healing presence to others. Consideration will also be given to the use of sound therapy and distant healing as alternate ways to connect to the Divine.
- ◆ **The Spiritual Practice of the 12-Steps** Rev. Cynthia Sloan
Not unlike John Wesley's Class meetings, 12 step recovery groups [vary as they may] have a way of asking the same direct question Wesley asked, **"how is it with your soul?"** As the 'class meeting' offered opportunity in reckon with the interior life, so does 12 step groups. Class meetings and 12 step groups both offer and encourage each one of us to being open and commitment to a walk toward freedom together, not alone. The results are reconciliation and transformation; a walk resulting in our salvation; as if our very lives depend upon it. Come join in a lively discussion of the 12 steps as a path to spiritual formation.
- ◆ **Servant Leadership: A Path And A Practice** Dr. Ruth Anderson
This session will offer the basic content of servant leadership, as The Servant Leadership School of Greensboro teach it, and will invite participants into understanding how we use the spiritual practices of Communion: Prayer and the Practice of Presence; Compassion: Awakening the Intelligence of the Heart; and Co-Creation: Alignment with Divine Power and Purpose. The workshop will provide materials and experiences for participants to incorporate into their daily lives.
- ◆ **Conflict: An Opportunity for Growth and Church Transformation** Dianne Beam, Ric Vandett & Carol Walters-Glenn
Do personal conflicts keep your church or church group in turmoil? What keeps your church from focusing on the mission of reaching out with the love of Christ? Help is available! The Church Transformation Team is a group of people trained by Plowpoint Ministries to help churches work through difficulties, identify strengths and strategize to meet challenges.

Anniversaries and Birthdays

05 – Sidney & Martha Jones
11 – Mark & Brandy Hills
16 – Keith & Leila Hager
26 – Guy & Etrulia McIntosh

26 – Jesse & Chloe Myers
30 – Carl & Cora Grice
31 – Freddie & Jessie Dellinger



01 – Ruth S. Dellinger
02 – Alice Dellinger
02 – Shelby Matthews
04 – Eli McGalliard
04 – Guy McIntosh
05 – Liz Kendrick
08 – Ann Brotherton
08 – Laura Gilleland
08 – Craig McIntosh
12 – Jake Carter
12 – Todd Luckey
12 – Randle Beal
14 – Jim Rogers
15 – Lisa Shelby
16 – Deana Dellinger
16 – Leila Hager
16 – Bill Lange

16 – Evelyn Mercer
17 – Larry Goff
18 – Jimmy Dellinger
20 – Jessica Young
21 – Annette Wilkes
22 – Jim Graham
23 – Courtney F. Mowry
23 – Joyce Gaston
24 – Andrew Dellinger
24 – Susan Gable
25 – Susan Goff
26 – Marvin Hinson
28 – Teresa Barkley
29 – Tyler Hatley
31 – Gary Duckworth
31 – Robert Gales
31 – Marty Newton

Willing Workers

9:00am Nursery

- 01 – Patty & Maddie Crow
- 08 – Neely Osborne & Avery
- 15 – Kristen & Russell Dickson
- 22 – Amber Tuttle & Spencer Gaston
- 29 – Steven & Lesley Gales

9:00am Children's Message

- 01 – Anne Graham
- 08 – Robert Gales
- 15 – Sonya Gales
- 22 – Shannon Parker
- 29 – Pastor Val

9:00am Children's Church

- 01 – Christy Hegler
- 08 – Angela Dellinger
- 15 – Pam Fisher
- 22 – Christy Love
- 29 – Kristen Dickson



*Please note volunteers are still needed.

Backpack Program



Please support the Catawba Springs

Elementary Book Bag program!!

We will be sending approximately 24 book bags full of food home each weekend with children who are hungry.

Your support makes the program a success.

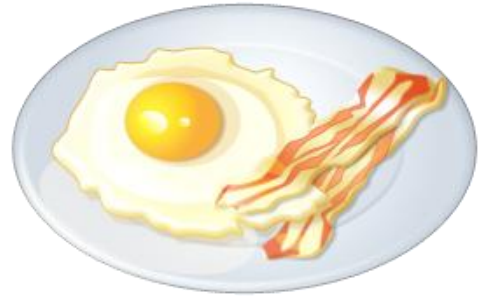
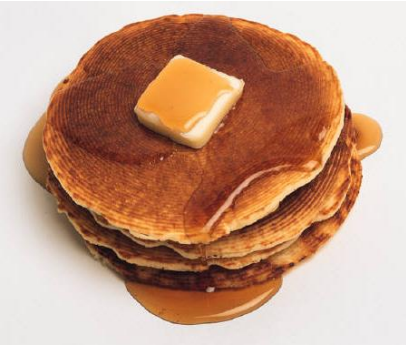
Give by either donating money and designating your check to go in the Book Bag account or by bringing in foods listed below.

Thank you – and a hungry child thanks you, too!!

Peanut butter, small cereals, toaster pastries, canned fruits and vegetables, canned and boxed pastas, tuna, canned meats, snack crackers, cake mixes

PLEASE – NO GLASS ITEMS

Community Breakfast



Sponsored by the United Methodist Men
Saturday, January 14th 8am – 10am

**** Join us for food and fellowship!!****

Hill's Chapel UMC Family Life Center

Cost - \$5 per person



Financial Snapshot

As of November 30, 2011

Lori Gaston, Treasurer

General Fund:

Contributions received		208,535.48
Expenses paid out:		
Conference Apportionment	(17,110.20)	
Missions/Ministry	(20,337.19)	
Operations/Maintenance	(61,165.26)	
Personnel	(121,200.31)	
	<u>Total Expenses</u>	<u>(219,812.96)</u>
	2010 general fund surplus/(deficit)	<u><u>(11,277.48)</u></u>

Capital Funds:

Sanctuary fund		133,416.34
Building fund		51,087.01
Total		<u><u>184,503.35</u></u>



Pastor's Pen

Dear Friends,

As I write this, I'm working on two worship services that feature rituals of the church that mark our significant passages in life. One is the funeral service for RC Sifford—a wonderful, kind man who in his 88 years made and left the world a better place. The other service is for Christmas Eve. It's our 5:00 candlelighting child-friendly communion service. This year we'll have a special addition—the baptism of Ivy Singleton, Lea Anne and Marty Cansler's grandchild. These two acts of worship illustrate so beautifully the affirmation of the circle of life that encloses us from birth until we draw our last breath. In life and in death we belong to God.

And of course, we have our earthly journey in between—a journey through the in-between times of the kingdom inaugurated but not yet fulfilled. We as the church and as individual believers must constantly strain to discern where and how the Spirit is calling us. The beginning of the new year is a great time to take stock of where we are and where we're headed.

Over the past six months the church has identified four areas that we wanted to strengthen, or wanted “more of”. Progress has been made on each, and each will continue to command attention and oversight over the next six months. They include:

--Increase our financial stability. We have worked hard to stay under a significantly reduced budget, and have succeeded. We conducted a financial campaign that was spiritually-based. A next step to work on, perhaps, is the movement from a sense of scarcity to one of abundance—a faith that God will bless our work as we step out. We have clues—signs, maybe?—that abundance is possible. A need in the congregation has brought in \$2500+ for the Good Samaritan Fund. We were able to assist up to 24 families per week at Catawba Springs, and to host the Christmas party at no cost. Other mission needs have also found immediate support. There is abundance to be shared!

--Provide more program opportunities for our older adults. God sent Eric Hillestad our way almost as soon as that felt need arose! And that ministry is now underway very well.

The Big Band Music Program on December 9th was a great success! Our goal is to equip our church leaders themselves to continue this service to and with our older adults.

--Provide more programs for children. This ministry is critical! We've met a few times and begun to map out possibilities. Our great opportunity this spring is to envision what we want and a strategy to implement it—and then do it! We have great leadership, great space, a community needing us—everything is ripe for the harvest!

--Provide a way for every member to be in service or mission. God has blessed our congregation with a great diversity of gifts—some people have talents with youth, or construction, or finance; others may not see themselves as having such gifts or time—but have the resources to enable others to do. On January 7th, we have a day of mission scheduled. There is much work to be done in our community. Dozens have signed up to help. One of the tasks of our Mission Committee this year will be to provide ongoing support to those willing and able to do service—in the church, community, and world. We're excited at the prospect!

I am excited about the possibilities that lay before us on our journey! Please take the time during these early January days to listen to where God is suggesting you serve. Together we too can make this world a better place.

Blessings,
Val



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