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# First United Methodist Church of Greensboro

September Newsletter

2011

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## A View From The Pulpit



### Enough: Discovering Joy Through Simplicity and Generosity

Stress. Anxiety. Fear. These words capture well the state of mind of many of us in America today. We have witnessed dramatic market losses, the collapse of the world's largest insurance company, and many bankruptcies and mergers. Every day seems to bring another piece of economic uncertainty.

A recent survey found that over three in four Americans are stressed about the economy and their personal finances. Half were worried about providing for their families basic needs. Over half were angry and irritable, and reported laying awake at night worried about this. The report concludes that, "the declining state of the nation's economy is taking a physical and emotional toll on people nationwide."

Join us in worship starting October 2nd for a sermon series entitled Enough: Discovering Joy Through Simplicity and Generosity. Our nation

September Food Bank Needs

Tables of 8

FUMC Charge Conference

Become a fan of  
FUMC Greensboro  
on Facebook!

Join our Facebook fan page. This group is for members, visitors, and those who are curious about the church.

On Facebook - search: First United Methodist Church of Greensboro. Or click on the image below:



## Contact Information

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30642

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[staff@fumcgreensboro.org](mailto:staff@fumcgreensboro.org)

## QUICKLINKS

September Birthdays

September Volunteer  
Schedule

Remember in Prayer

FUMC Greensboro Website

Church Calendar

North Georgia Conference

is experiencing what many have described as the "American Nightmare." Increasing consumer debt, declines in savings, lower income growth, and a volatile stock market are all a part of economic insecurity. We have all lived in a society that tells us "you deserve it now," whether or not we can afford it or really need it.

All of us have struggled with these issues at one time or another. They are important issues that we cannot ignore. This is why, over the following five weeks starting October 2nd we will be having a churchwide study and worship emphasis called Enough: Discovering Joy Through Simplicity and Generosity. During this time we will explore what the Bible teaches us about financial management through corporate worship and small group study (visit the [fumcgreensboro.org](http://fumcgreensboro.org) for details about small group study opportunities).

We'll have expert advice and stories about what others have learned by working through financial challenges. Each week we will provide you with some practical tools you can use to assess your financial situation and develop a financial plan with a biblical foundation.

At the conclusion of the emphasis, we will have the opportunity to make personal commitments of our offerings to God through our church in the coming year. We will consecrate these commitments in the worship service on two consecutive Sundays (see the schedule that follows).

I hope YOU will join us in the coming weeks as we look at how we can manage our financial resources and truly experience simplicity, generosity, and joy.

## Schedule of events:

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| October 2   | Faith in the Midst of Financial Crisis<br><i>(Small Group Study Begins)</i> |
| October 9   | When Dreams Become Nightmares   |
| October 16  | Wisdom and Finance  |
| October 23  | Laity Sunday  |
| October 30  | Cultivating Contentment   |
| November 6  | Defined by Generosity<br><i>(Small Group Study Ends)</i>                    |
| November 13 | Consecration Sunday #1  |
| November 20 | Consecration Sunday #2  |

of the United Methodist  
Church

The United Methodist  
Church Online

December 11 Celebration Sunday - Results Celebration and  
Consecration of Next Year's Ministry Commitments

Yours in Christ, Joe

### ***Welcome to our Church Family***

Bill and Trina Berry, 1041 Delconee Place, Greensboro, GA 30642

### **Fall Opportunities for Adult Christian Education 2011**

Its 100 degrees outside, yet time to sign up for our Adult Fall Studies!  
This year there is something for everyone.

The opportunities available are:

\*Long term Disciple I Bible Study, Sept. until May with holiday breaks  
taught by Joe Watson;

\*Disciple 2, 3, & 4 will also be offered with times and places according  
to sign up.

\*Beth Moore's study on the Revelation "Here and Now...There and  
Then" at the Spotlight Theater on Wednesday's at 10:00 beginning  
September 14th facilitated by Jane Lang and Merry Grayson.

\*"Expecting to see Jesus" by Anne Graham Lotz is a follow up study to  
the 911 "Wake up Call" simulcast, beginning Sept.14th from  
9:30-11:30 am at the South Campus facilitated by Pam Luke  
and Brenda Oulsnam.

\*For men, the Journeymen are offering "How to Be a Big and Strong  
Christian" taught by Joey McQuaig on Sunday evenings at 6:00 at the  
South Campus beginning Sept. 18th.

\*Alpha, an 11 week course on Christianity begins at the North  
Campus on September 12th at 6:00.

\*Seekers for singles will meet Tuesdays at South Campus;

\*"Methodist, Who We Are and What We Believe" taught by Rev. Joe  
Watson will be offered in October for 4 weeks. Time and location to  
be announced;

\*Community Bible Study for Women begins Thursday, September 1 at  
9:30 at Lake Oconee Presbyterian Church;

\*Small Group and in home short term studies upon request;

Sign ups are at both campuses.

Please stop at the information tables and sign up for one of the  
classes. If you have a special interest or a need please let us know and  
we will do everything possible to provide a study that is appropriate.  
If you are interested in sharing your home or in leading a study,  
contact Merry at the church office. There really is something for  
everyone so sign up today!!

### **September 21st Wednesday Night Dinner**

FUMC (Carey Station Rd. Location)

Sponsored by The Stephens Ministry

To Benefit Habitat for Humanity.

Habitat is trying to do an Apostle Build, which means the house will be built by local churches. Funds raised at this dinner will be our challenge to other local churches for this home. Pastor Joe will be cooking BBQ with all the trimmings. Please make plans to join us.

You may make reservations by emailing: [staff@fumcgreensboro.org](mailto:staff@fumcgreensboro.org), sign up on inserts found in your Sunday bulletin, or calling the church office (706.453.7064).

### **Chandler Circle News**

September is here and that means that it's time for the Chandler Circle to start our monthly meetings! Our first meeting will be on Tuesday, September 20th beginning at 5:30 pm in the upstairs conference room at our South Campus location.

We will start with a delicious snack, followed by a study of Chapter 8 in Debbie Macomber's book, "One Simple Act." In this book, you will discover, through true stories, what happens when we commit intentional acts of generosity. Lives are changed in ways we never envisioned. Come with Debbie late one evening through the checkout line at the grocery store. Visit a mid-western train station. Discover the link between a submarine, a few bread crumbs, and some minnows. Visit ancient Galilee as a young boy volunteers his fishes and loaves to Jesus only to see his meager gift multiplied many times over to feed five thousand. Listen in on a touching phone call with an elderly widow. You will stand amazed at what God accomplishes when we make ourselves available through simple acts of generosity. If you were not able to participate in our study of this book last year, don't worry. You can catch right up with us!

We welcome all women of our church and any friends you would like to invite. Please note that child care will be provided. We hope to see you on September the 20th for fun, fellowship, and learning more about God generosity!

For additional information, please contact Laura Dent at 706-347-1160 or Pam Luke at 706-474-0242.

### **Nelson Circle News**

Nelson Circle's next meeting will be Monday, September 19, 10 AM, North Campus (Broad St. location). The Reverend Joe Watson and his wife, Julie, will be our guests with Rev. Joe speaking to us. The program will be followed by Brunch. Please join us for fellowship, fun and food!!! What could be better!

### **United Methodist Men's Group**

Our United Methodist Men's Fellowship will be meeting the 2nd Thursday of EVERY MONTH for BREAKFAST at 8:00 a.m. with rotating campuses starting with the September 8 meeting at the South Campus; October 13 North Campus; November 10 South Campus. The

UMMen's Fellowship is comprised of anyone attending our church with an interest to know Jesus Christ, to grow spiritually while engaging in events and activities that impact the total mission of our Church and community. There is no application, no indoctrination, no initiation! Just come and join us in an opportunity to grow in your faith, engage in wholesome fellowship while having some fun as we have an exciting season planned. If you have questions, please contact Bob Hummell @ hummellr1@yahoo.com or 706.817.3754.

## Preschool News

God is providing for our Preschool in so many ways! Leslie Bradley is the teacher we needed for the class of Twos on Tuesdays and Wednesdays and Ones on Thursdays. Leslie taught with us for two years when her older son was in our Preschool at the North Campus, and did a lot of substitute teaching for us last year at the South Campus. We are so blessed to have her with us full time! We are also thrilled to have Amy Reber coming to teach music for us! Amy has a child in one of our Threes classes and will be coming from LOA, where she teaches music, to have classes with our children at the end of each Preschool day. Amy is an accomplished musician and teacher and well-known in our community.

We are using a new curriculum this year. I love the name, "ABC Jesus Loves Me," as it clearly gives the Christian focus that we desire. Naturally, the first Bible story is about Creation. The activities, books, colors, shapes, numbers, and letters relate to the Bible story. For example, the colors black (darkness), white (light), and blue (water) are introduced the first week, as is the numeral "0," which is appropriate for the "nothingness" before God created the world. For the month of September our theme is "New Friends."

I know you will enjoy seeing the children's art work on the walls again! Please stop by and visit our classrooms anytime. Also, I want to thank our church ladies who cut out the felt Bible story pieces we needed and Cheryl Laine, who will again be our "Library Lady" on Wednesdays by reading to the children.

Some of you know that my husband, Rob, has been working in the Hilton Head area since July. I will be joining him as soon as we find someone to take my place directing the Preschool. The SPR Committee has been busy working on this and I know that God will provide just the right person! I will visit as often as possible and be in touch by email and cell phone as we make this transition. We do not know at this point how long Rob will be working away from home. As with all of what we do together as the Body of Christ, the Preschool is not "my" ministry, but belongs

to all of us as we join together to live out Proverbs 22:6, "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it."

In His love,  
Karen Mitchell, Preschool Director

## YOUTH

# IMPACT

Sunday's from 5:30-7:00 :: Carey Station Road

For youth 6th-12th grades

**Music and More is back!** Throughout the month of September we'll be looking at how our faith and the music we listen to interact with each other.

### **Confirmation:**

An opportunity for youth to learn about the Christian faith and claim it as their own.

October - May

Youth 6th-12th grade are invited to join this class.

Sunday's at 4:30.

INFO MEETING: September 18 at 4:30.

### **Upcoming Dates:**

9.4: No Youth

9.18: Confirmation Meeting 4:30.

FCA's FUSION at Lakeside

Sunday School: South Campus: 10:45

Amanda Garvin: Associate Pastor to Youth

706.453.7064//[amanda@fumcgreensboro.org](mailto:amanda@fumcgreensboro.org)

## **Seekers - Young Adult Ministry**

Bible Study and fellowship for young adults without children. We meet every Tuesday at GFUMC's South Campus from 6:30 -7:45.

For more information e-mail [amanda@fumcgreensboro.org](mailto:amanda@fumcgreensboro.org)

or 706.453.7064

We're on Facebook! Seekers - Greensboro, Georgia



Seekers - Greensboro, Georgia

## 911: A Wake Up Call for God's People

7:00 PM Simulcast

**Where:** Greensboro FUMC Carey Station Rd. Campus

**What is the aim?** The sole purpose of the Simulcast is to revive the hearts of God's people, waking them up in their relationship with Him and restoring vibrancy to their faith.

**What time will the broadcast air on September 11, 2011?** 7:00 pm

**What will be the content of the program?** Joel Rosenberg will deliver an informative opening message - a 45-minute teaching on Biblical prophecy and current events that point to Jesus' return. Anne Graham Lotz will give a stirring, 45-minute challenge from Isaiah, urging the Church to return to the Cross, and recommit to the proclamation of the Gospel.

### ALPHA

"Alpha", a practical introduction to Christianity, that answers questions like: *Why am I here? Is there more to life? What's it all about? Why Jesus?* This Bible study begins Monday, Sept. 12th at 6:00 PM in the Family Life Center, First United Methodist Church Broad St. location. This **free** class lasts for 10 weeks. Each week dinner is served and child care is provided. (Please bring sack meals for the kids.) Register at either campus vestibule.

### JOY Club News...

Our "Just Older Youth will have our first meeting of the new year on September 14th at the Broad Street Campus at 11:30 in the Family Life Center.

This will be a covered dish lunch which this group is so famous for! Our Special guest will be Joe and Julie Watson, our new pastor and his wife, We will also make plans for the rest of our year. Don't miss this fun time with friends!



## Greeting Cards

Pre-order your Christmas Cards from a member of our youth group today! Cards feature pictures taken by members of our congregation, and proceeds will support the youth travel fund. Sold from September 4-September 25. Variety of packages available. Pick up beginning November 6.

## Mission Committee News

The Mission Committee had several guests from Action Ministries Transitional Housing speak to us at our last meeting. Action Ministries is part of the North Conference United Methodist Church. They brought us up to date on the Transition House in Greensboro. The house gives an opportunity for a homeless family (must have children) to stay for a period of two years. They must be employed within 90 days and must contribute 30% of their income to rent, which 10% of this is put into a savings account for the family when they leave. It takes \$32,000.00 to operate the house, with HUD paying 75% of this, so Action Ministries has to come up with \$8,000.00 through donations, etc. per year. The house is now occupied by a young mother and two children. The committee is looking into ways that we might be able to help, and will keep everyone informed.

A gentleman from Greensboro is in need of a new floor and we will be helping with that this month. We are going to try to have more projects on Saturdays so more interested church members will have an opportunity to help out.

Our next meeting is Monday, September 12th and Joy Ashley will be speaking on her recent mission trip to Africa. We meet on the second Monday of each month at the South Campus Conference room at 8:30 AM. Anyone interested is welcome to attend.

## Music Notes

September is here! Where is the cool weather? Hopefully it will be

here soon. If you're tired of those high electric bills, you can come to one of our rehearsals and enjoy the church's air-conditioning.

- Bell Choir will begin Wednesday, September 7, at 5:00 pm at the South Campus. We are looking forward to new members joining us.
- Chancel Choir is rehearsing on Wednesdays from 6:30-8:00 at the South Campus. We will begin working in September on our Cantata for Christmas. This is a GREAT time to join or come back to choir. We have plenty of robes and plenty of music!
- The Spirit Singers (North Campus Ensemble) continues to grow. We meet Wednesdays from 5:45-6:30 at the South Campus and would love to have more members from the North Campus congregation.

September 11 will be a special day at our church. We will have the Athens Classic Brass Quintet playing in the Narthex before the 9:30 service. They will play Patriotic Music starting at 9:00. During the service they will play our Prelude and Postlude. Our choir will be singing God is Our Refuge, accompanied by trumpets.

Lauren has been working on a new song with the children. They will sing during the service on September 18. We hope your child will be able to join us!

Mark will begin working with the instrumentalists on Sunday, September 11. If you have a hidden musical talent, we hope you will dust it off and find a group that you can join!

Joyfully Yours,  
Mark and Dawn Ruppelt

## **The United Methodist Children's Home**

The Children's Home Work Day Offering will be our special offering in September. What is the Work Day Offering? This offering is taken once each year by churches of the North Georgia Conference to provide a significant portion of the operating income of the Children's Home. Their mission is to provide redemption, healing services that bring meaningful change to the lives of children and families. In the coming weeks, please consider giving to The United Methodist Children's Home. To learn more, go to [www.umchildrenshome.org](http://www.umchildrenshome.org).

## **Christian Outreach Thrift Store (aka C.O.T.S.)**

Greene County Christian Outreach Thrift Store volunteers needed. Six times a year our church is scheduled to work the sales desk at the thrift store (COTS). Volunteers are needed to work 9:45-2 PM on Thursday or Saturday, or 9:45-1:30 and 1:30-5 on Friday. It is a

good way to get started "giving back" to our wonderful community and work with another volunteer and get to know them better. The work is not hard--you bag the items being purchased or run the cash register. Most of us find items to purchase which we "just need to have". It also is a good time to bring in your donations. If you are able to do this just a few times during the year, please call Pat Lamb at 706-453-0328 with any questions or to sign up. Our next scheduled time is Sept. 15, 16, 17.

### **FUMC Food Bank September Needs: Tuna Fish - Soups - Canned Vegetables**

You might be surprised to know that you and other FUMC church members helped contribute more than 262 lbs of food in the 2nd quarter of 2011 ! But like all charities, we really need your help this quarter. Picking up a couple of cans of tuna or soup @ Publix or Ingles can do so much good. We are helping to feed Greene County citizens so that they can have nutritious meals, that might not otherwise ! And remember, 100% of your donations go to work ! No waste whatsoever ! All it takes is a few minutes of your time and then bring it to church on Sunday and place the items in our FOOD BANK grocery carts."

### **Tables of 8 Dinners - Please Sign Up Now**

Tables of 8 is a series of four casual, alcohol-free, in-home dinners which any two adults can attend by signing up to participate together. A twosome can be any two people who want to attend the Tables of 8 dinners with each other-a married couple, single couple, or two friends or relatives of either gender.

The Tables of 8 dinner dates scheduled for 2011-2012 are: October 13, 2011; November 10, 2011; January 12, 2012; and February 9, 2012. (We skip December; it's such a busy month for everyone.)

In a nutshell, participating twosomes are randomly grouped together for four fun-filled fellowship dinners held on the dates shown above. Each twosome hosts only one of the dinners at home (or elsewhere), attends three other dinners hosted by someone else at a place of their choosing, meets with a new group of eight at each dinner, and is never grouped with another twosome more than once. Participants share in providing food for each of the four dinners they're assigned to. The hosts provide the main dish and beverage when the meal is in their home, and each of the other three twosomes attending will be asked to bring a vegetable, a dessert, or a salad and rolls, as assigned.

The make-up of each dinner is determined by the order in which a twosome signs up, so PLEASE SIGN UP AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. Our Tables of 8 displays and sign-up sheets are located in the Lower Vestibule (North Campus) and in the Gathering Place (South Campus).

If you cannot host a dinner at home (or another location of your choosing), WE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE YOU JOIN US ANYWAY! You can sign up to serve as substitute(s)...subs are VERY important to the success of Tables of 8.

Prior to the first dinner, participants will be notified of their dinner assignments and receive more detailed information about the program by e-mail. For more information, call or e-mail Dick or Nancy Hyde at 485-0178 or nmhyde@plantationcable.net.

## Charge Conference Date Set

Please place on your calendar that First United Methodist Church Charge Conference will be Monday, November 14, 2011, 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary (Broad St. location). This is the annual business meeting of our church with Rev. Gary Dean, District Superintendent presiding.

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