DAILY MAINTENANCE OF THE SOUL

Maintenance postponed has a way of demanding your attention! No, I’m not talking about catching up on things around the church. I’m talking about my own home, the one I live in and pay taxes on. The home which has a growing list of little things that need attention on a regular basis. Oh, you can put things off for a while, but eventually they leak, or peel, or get stuck or wear out or just stop working as they should.

Most of you have already learned this lesson, but you see this is the first home Caroline and I have owned (along with the bank). We have lived in either apartments or parsonages since we got married. There was always someone else to call when something went wrong. It was always the landlord’s responsibility or the Trustee’s job. It is eye-opening to grasp that the mortgage payment and the taxes are just the beginning of what it costs to own a house. Without regular maintenance, things break down, become weak and worn and sometimes fall apart.

Today I am dealing with a second story gutter that fell loose from the house — higher than we could get to with any ladder we own. Turns out that gutters can only hold so many pounds of combined pine needle and water weight before they pull loose from the house! At the same time our sprinklers declared independence. They started doing what they want, when they want in random directions of their own choosing and the man says we need a whole new control box and all new heads. I can already see down the road that the garage door has seen better days...

Do I have a point? I hope so! The old Methodist small group meetings used to begin with the question to each person present, “How is it with your soul?” Souls need maintenance too. Jesus recommended regular prayer by teaching and example. The Apostle Paul wrote, “Pray without ceasing.” I’m thinking the message is pretty strong that we need to stay connected to God in prayer in order to maintain our souls, hearts and faith. I could push the analogy about redirecting storm water away from the house toward praying during the storms. I could push the need for a new watering system toward the living water which Jesus spoke of welling up within us through the Holy Spirit. But then I would be at a loss to find something spiritual about a garage door?

Bottom line. Every relationship you have needs regular maintenance. If you ignore, put off contact and never take a close look at the people in your lives – things fade, dry up and weaken. It is the same with your soul and your relationship with God. Pray often. If you are not in a small group, ask yourself – “How is it with my soul?” Answer honestly and pray about what you need to be whole and healthy within.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Jim Dennis, Jr.
**CHILDREN’S MINISTRY:** Making Young Disciples of Christ

**Lesson Plans for:** June 4
Sunday School for grades 1st - 5th
**UNIT 1:** Courageous Bible People
“Courageous Disciples”
**Memory Verse:**
“Hope in the Lord! Be strong! Let your heart take courage! Hope in the Lord! Psalm 27:14

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**VBS TEACHERS & LEADERS MEETING**
THIS Sunday, at 5:00 PM in the Conference room
Meet the VBS Staff and learn all about
**HERO CENTRAL VBS!**

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**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL INFO:**
JUNE 19 - 23, 8:45 AM - 12:00PM
**Deadline to Register:** JUNE 11
For Children who have completed 3K - 5th grade
“Hero Central: Discover Your Strength in God”

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**VBS WORKERS NEEDED FOR 3K PLEASE!**
We still are looking for a 3K Adult leader and Leaders.
Contact Beverly Blevins or Allison Outlaw to help.

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**GRACE SUMMER GUITAR CLASSES**
Taught by Beverly Blevins

**Children who have completed 2nd grade and up who would like to be a part of a summer guitar class, please contact Beverly Blevins.**
You will learn basic chords and learn to share God’s word through song!

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**YOUTH: Passion for Christ | Passion for people**

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**SUMMER STUDENT BIBLE STUDIES, THE RESCUE**
Will begin THIS Sunday evening (June 4)!

1. Middle School Study at Sonic from 4 - 5 pm!
   During happy hour with half price slushies

2. High School Study in the youth wing from 6 - 7 pm
   Show up this Sunday and bring a friend

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**UPCOMING Activities and Events**

**JUNE**
Sunday June 4th | Summer Bible Studies
Sunday June 11th | Summer Bible Studies
Sunday June 18th | Summer Bible Studies
Monday June 19th - 23rd | VBS | 8:00am - NOON
Saturday June 24th - Saturday July 1st | Piedmont Salkehatchie

**JULY**
Thursday July 6th | GreenJackets Game | 6:00pm (Augusta GA)
Sunday July 9th | Summer Bible Studies
Sunday July 30th | Summer Bible Studies
Sunday July 30th | Summer Bible Studies
From Pam and Rodney
For the 2016-2017 WINGS season, there were 60 meal events prepped from the Wesley Center kitchen. Pam and Rodney cannot do what they do without a strong group who help them each week.

Jo Barton
George Batten
Terry & Joe Billiter
Teresa Calhoun & Family
Katie & Wayne Cato & Family
Janis Collins
Donna & Glen Conrad
Fran Faulkner
Julie, Paul, & Max Gazda
Judy Hall
Debbie Hamilton

Maryann Mayo
Margaret & John McKibbin
Catherine Newman
Suzanne Nuckols
Lisa & Mark Phifer
Linda Smith
Susan Waller
Barry Whitney
Bruce Wilson
Joe Winfield

LOOKING AHEAD

NA Salkehatchie

July
15 - 22

Christmas in JULY

Wednesday, July 15 at 6PM
Helping to support Salkehatchie

Singer/Songwriter Ed Kilbourne

Don’t let the kids have all the fun at VBS!
Vacation Bible School for “Grown-ups”
“The Gospel According to You”
Coming to Grace, August 28-30
10:00 - 12:00 noon,
followed by a light lunch
Led By:
Singer/Songwriter Ed Kilbourne
Save the dates and watch for details!
For Adults 50 +

It will all kick-off with...
“It’s 5 O’clock Somewhere!”
Concert for ALL ages by Ed Kilbourne
Sunday, August 27 at 5:00 PM

DRAMA

The calendar just changed from May to June.
Time to get your kids involved for the summer!

Island Castaways
Creative Arts Camp For Kids
June 26-30 9am-noon 30 spots available
For completed 1-5th grade

$25/child ~ $40/2 children in the same family
I will order supplies soon and want to make sure that your child will have what they need.

"...just sit right back and you'll hear a tale, a tale of a faithful
trip...Of 7 stranded castaways...on this tiny ship.
(You can finish singing this song, I'm sure.)

SANCTUARY MUSIC

CHANCEL CHOIR: Summer is here
REMINDER—There are NO Wednesday rehearsals in July.
Sunday morning warm up / rehearsal begins at 10:30 AM
This is an important part of our Sunday preparation during the summer months.

CHANCEL BELLS:
Thank you for a wonderful season! Enjoy the summer break.
We will ring in the new handbell season in September!

Choir Retreat Planning
SAVE the DATES: September 2 - 4.
Looking forward to another great time of singing and fellowship.

Come and support the many events we have planned for your enjoyment at GRACE UMC!
**MISSIONS & MORE**

**WEEKLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**CHURCH CALENDAR UPDATES and LOOKING AHEAD**

If your group, Bible Study, or Committee has a change in schedule for the summer, please send an email to Karen at karenb@gotgraceumc.org. If you know when your schedule resumes in the fall, let me know too!

| SUNDAY, June 4 | 8:30 AM 830 Worship - Gathering, Sanctuary  
|               | 8:45 AM LifeSong Contemporary Worship, Wesley Center  
|               | 8:45 & 11:00 AM BLAST program, Asbury Building  
|               | 9:45 AM Sunday School, Campus, All ages  
|               | 11:00AM Traditional Worship Sanctuary  
|               | 5:00 PM Grace Singers, Music Room  
| MONDAY, June 5 | 8:30 AM Staff Meeting, Conference room  
|               | 9:15 AM Jazercise, Family Center Gym  
|               | 6:30 PM Youth Worship Team Rehearsal  
|               | 8:00 PM Men’s Basketball, Family Center Gym  
| TUESDAY, June 6 | 6:00 PM Jazercise, Family Center Gym  
| WEDNESDAY, June 7 | 9:15 AM Jazercise, Family Center Gym  
|               | 10:00 AM GIVTS morning group  
|               | 1:00 PM Newsletter Folding & Labeling crew, Conference room  
|               | 6:15 PM GIVTS Evening group, Wesley Center room C  
|               | 6:15 PM Grace Worship Team Family Group, WC Parker  
|               | 7:00 PM Chancel Choir, Bitchington Music room  
|               | 7:00 PM Worship Run-Through, Wesley Center  
|               | 8:00 PM Men’s Basketball, Family Center gym  
| THURSDAY, June 8 | 9:00 AM Agape Pastoral Counseling, Lower level Wesley Center  
|               | 11:30 AM Wisdom of the Ages, Conference room  
|               | 1:00 PM Library Committee, Library  
|               | 6:00 PM Caring and Sharing, Lower level Wesley Center  
|               | 6:00 PM Jazercise, Family Center Gym  
|               | 7:00 PM Missions Committee Meeting, Conference room  
| FRIDAY, June 9 | 9:15 AM Jazercise, Family Center Gym  
| SATURDAY, June 10 | 9:15 AM Jazercise, Family Center Gym  

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**Our First Experience of Hosting**

Grace’s first Family Promise was highly successful thanks to the willingness of many to serve, to be patient and flexible and to give in so many ways. From the arrival of the truck Sunday afternoon until it pulled away early Sunday morning Grace served three families (a grandmother with two grandsons, a mother with three boys and a mother with a two year old daughter).

Volunteers provided over 300 hours of service. You might hear that we were not full, that there wasn’t a need for so many volunteers or that some of the family members were not very appreciative. Some of this is true. One family stayed with us all week, one family successfully moved into their own home, one family chose to not continue in the program and a final family chose to not enter at all. Difficult for us to understand but we have not been in the positions they are. Our role is to provide a safe place for these families to ‘come home to’ at the end of the day, not to judge or speculate.

We learned a great deal about the program, how we can better work with the program and how to meet the needs of the families we will serve in the future. We presently are scheduled for the week of December 24 to 31. We are on the list should another week come available prior to that date. Watch for future dates and opportunities to serve. Thanks to so many who provided supplies, organized meals, provided activities, stayed overnight, set up and tore down and all the other pieces that made this week work.

_**Ephesians 2:8-10**_ For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith - and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God - not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do._

Margaret and Caroline

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**Sunday-Funday!**

“We are created for community, fashioned for fellowship, and formed for family, for no one can fulfill God’s purpose alone.”

June 11, 1:30 pm | Grace UMC LakeSite

**Please RSVP to Shannen-Rose Forde ASAP at shannenrose@gotgraceumc.org or call the Church office at 279-7525. Thank you for letting us know YOU are coming!”**
FAITHFULNESS

We promise to uphold Grace with our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service and our witness

OUR PRAYER and PRAISE REQUESTS: week of May 30, 2017

Birth: Benjamin (Ben) Ryan Ballesteros, son of Erin and Genaro, born on May 16
Sympathy to: The family of George A. Shaw in his death on May 27
University Hosp: Susan Waller, Frances Crook
Walton Rehab: Lou Ann Sink
NHC Rehab: Virginia Machak, Mildred Weeks, Ruth Ballard

OUR PRESENCE: May 28

Worship: 437 Sunday School: 278

OUR SERVICE: June 4
Acolytes: Haley Gross, Brooklyn Gross
Crucifer: Bryson Parler
Count Team: 6/5 Margaret McKibbin, Betty Bullen, Sandy O’Neal
Offertory: Ken McDowell
8:30 Layreader: Dave Redmond
8:30 Greeter(s): Dave & Frances Redmond
11:00 Greeter(s): (Main) Elizabeth Flowers
(Ga. Avenue) Michael & Sarah Deen
Doorstep Visitation: Dave & Frances Redmond
LifeSong Refreshments: Joe & Laura Lusk

ALTAR FLOWERS for June 4
The beautiful flowers on the altar are placed there to the glory of God and in loving memory of our parents Mr. and Mrs. Mack Jowers and Mr. and Mrs. Ed Merritt
by Dr. and Mrs. Ronald Jowers

Memorials through May 28, 2017

IN MEMORY OF...
Sara Ruczko Bell, mother of Suzanne Fletcher
(Discretionary) Kurt & Kathy Bradley
Mildred Miller
Raymond & Joyce Hargrove
(Michael Hargrove Scholarship) Carol McGregor
Dorothy Newman, mother of Linda Smiley
Connie Sawyer
Daniel O’Neal
(Youth Drama & Youth Development) John & Yvonne O’Neal
Edna Pierce
(Edna Pierce Memorial) Kurt & Kathy Bradley
Don Zipper
(Trustee Repairs) Blaine Zippler
Jim & Sandra Travis, Ted & Opal Thompson

IN MEMORY OF...
Garry & Sandra Guest
Beth Harper

Our Gifts: The Lord’s Treasury

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<th>Amount</th>
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<td>2017 General Budget</td>
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<tr>
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Budgets and Building Maintenance

(Good News / Bad News) that is really good in the end

The Good News is that Grace UMC did an amazing thing last year and raised enough in the budget and off budget to pay down our loan and cut the payment in half! WOW!

The Bad News is that we have been putting off maintenance that has come due in these first few months of 2017. The news gets good again when you know that our mortgage savings and your faithful giving allowed us to pay cash for an almost $70,000 new roof on the Asbury Building. That is done and paid for largely with savings from the mortgage paydown.

This week an ancient air conditioner unit has gone out and will cost around $20,000. If we delay a few things and stretch the payments, we can also afford to fix that. Last year, we could not have afforded these needed repairs.

This year, we can. Good News. We have savings! Bad News. We put off maintenance for years. Good News – we can afford to fix things now! Thank you!

MUSIC in the PARK SERIES
Each Thursday at 7:00 PM

The free hour-long outdoor concerts will be held in North Augusta’s Maude Edenfield Park. The series is for all ages, and we invite everyone to bring a chair or blanket and enjoy music in this beautiful outdoor setting. Concerts are moved inside the Community Center in the event of inclement weather.

This week: Once: Tribute to the Music of Prince. Begins at 7 For more information and links to preview performers, visit naartscouncil.com.

- June 8 – Once: Tribute to the Music of Prince
- June 15 – Double D
- June 22 – Backline Bluegrass
- June 29 – Philip Lee Band with food purchases available from the Riverside Smoke food truck
- July 6 – 246th Army Band
- July 13 – Doug and the Henrys
**UPCOMING EVENTS**

*Programs and Activities:*
- **Sunday - Funday at the Lake,** June 11  
  (see below and page 4)
- **Vacation Bible School,** June 19 - 23
- **Creative Arts Camp,** June 26 - 30
- **Piedmont Salkehatchie,** July 24 - July 1
- **NA Salkehatchie,** July 15 - 22
- **Jr. Jazzercise Camp,** July 17 - 21

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**Grace United Methodist Church**  
639 Georgia Avenue, North Augusta, SC 29841

**Main Office:** 803-279-7525  
**Child Development Center:** 803-279-7528  
**Fax:** 803-279-1434  
**Email:** info@gotgraceumc.org  
**Website:** www.gotgraceumc.org  
**Rev. Dennis:** 864-910-0664 (daytime)  
803-426-8580 (evening)

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**GRACE STAFF**  
Rev. James D. Dennis, Jr., Senior Minister  
Rev. Tyler Strange, Associate Minister  
Dr. John M. Newell, III, Honorable Location  
Dr. Joe Lusk, Pastoral Care Minister  
Dr. John M. Youngner, Jr., Pastor Emeritus  
Karen Bach Mays, Church Secretary  
Yoanda McCabe, Financial Secretary  
Allison Outlaw, Preschool Ministries  
Beverly Beville, Children & Family Ministries  
Marianne Harton, Church Administrator  
Cameron Quinn, BST Director  
Susan Burgess, Choir Director/Organist  
Barbara Seaborn, Special Services Organist  
Michael Keltz, Director of Contemporary, Worship & Youth Ministry  
Shannon Rose Forde, Director of Recreational & Sports Ministries  
Jenny Lou Jones, Drama Director  
Dan aLykins, CDC Director  
Lisa Dollar, CDC Finance  
Pam Rawlinson, Kitchen Manager  
Rodney Rawlinson, Kitchen Cook  
Szemore Security Services

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**Sunday-Funday!**

*How good and pleasant it is when God’s people dwell together in unity!*  
“Psalm 133:1”  
Our focus is about fellowship with one another.

Join the entire Grace UMC family for games, food, swimming, music and fun!  
Please bring your own chairs, blankets, and a side dish to accompany provided hot dogs and water.

“We are created for community, fashioned for fellowship and formed for family,  
for no one can fulfill God’s purpose alone.”

**June 11, 1:30 pm | Grace UMC LakeSite**

**Contact Jenny Lou Jones at jljou7@comcast.com for more info**

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**ISLAND CASTAWAYS**

**Creative Arts Camp For Kids**  
June 26-30 9am-noon  
For completed 1-5th grade

$25/child  
$40/2 children in the same family

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**GRACE HIGHLIGHTS**