

St. Luke's Messenger

Dear Parish Family

April - May 2016

I hope and pray that you have had a glorious Easter as Spring is upon us! For better or worse, weeks before the Heritage Golf



Greg Kronz
Rector

Classic, some of my azaleas are already in full bloom and the others are on their way! March Madness is in full swing, and the Island is buzzing with visitors. Young families are gearing up for both soccer and baseball seasons; and for others, the annual Piano Competition

has just ended (as I write this article).

I think about all of the activities that people invest themselves in as we live day by day and week by week; some of which are "set in stone;" others which are "negotiable," depending upon our schedules and time of the year. And, of course, there are also the "surprises" that we deal with that may come up with our health, our cars, our homes, our families, our work, that cause us to "adjust" or even change our schedule dramatically.

What are "anchors" for you that give you stability or that you look forward to day by day, week by week? Some are almost "non-negotiable;" that you almost "can't do without." There are the obvious ones: sleep, food, time with a spouse if you are married. Heritage, for some, is a "must;" for others, the Piano Competition; and still others, their weekly golf outing or bridge game (some, more frequently than that!). And, of course, there are family

gatherings at holidays that are scheduled well in advance, as well as vacations and/or time away with family and/or friends. For some, right now, it is planning for the Final Four or the Masters. Because we look forward to so many of these, we don't often "count the cost" in terms of time or expense. They are "a given" or "a must;" they are "built in" to our psyche.

My Lenten sermon series on Miracles, in part, reflected that Jesus' perspective, as He performed miracles, was not just about the "miracles of creation" such as the water to wine, or the feeding of the 5000; nor were they just about the physical healing of those who were in need, such as the lepers or the paralytic; though Jesus did all of these miracles out of compassion for those in need. But His ultimate goal was drawing people to faith: to the Kingdom of God. Physical needs would continue, and those whom He healed would eventually die a physical death. His desire was that, in doing these miracles, people would be awakened to the reality of God; His love, His desire that people would come to Him, live for Him, and spend eternity with Him. That in all aspects of our lives, we would find Him to be our source, our strength, our priority, our anchor. And, therefore, as we enjoy our day by day, week by week life that He has blessed us with, we would find time to strengthen that relationship with Him, to grow in the knowledge and love of Him and seek to bring others into His Kingdom.

When I consider how much time all of the above activities and events cost us in terms of time and resources, and what it cost Him for our salvation, I am mindful of what I see in our culture and world about the priorities of how we, as His church, spend our time. Consider the time and/or expense of a sporting event or movie, a dinner out or a vacation, a television program, or two, or three; an evening out at a play, the symphony. I love my weekly golf outing; but I realize, by the time that I drive, warm up, and play, I have five or six hours invested! When I compare that to one worship service and one

Bible study per week, golf certainly takes more time! I spend a half-an-hour to an hour every morning with the Lord. But, when I realize that I like to watch the news every day if I can, as well as watch NCIS every week; again, it's about a break-even prospect in terms of the investment of my time. I have to wonder when I hear people say that "I don't have time" or "it takes too much time" to have a daily quiet time or to be in worship, or to be in a Bible study.... are we living for this world or for Him?

In light of the Cross and Resurrection (what we have just experienced), I believe it is worth pausing, reflecting, considering....what is my life about; where is my heart, and where are my priorities? God wants us to enjoy the life He has blessed us with and also to have a balanced life with family, friends, work, activities, worship, and service. Sometimes, we lose sight of what is lasting, what is eternal, and we find ourselves living for this world only, spending little to no time growing in our relationship with the Lord, individually or with others, and serving even less. When we study the life of Jesus, His priorities, where His heart was, how He lived, what He taught, and the miracles He performed, it may just cause us to take another look at our own lives; especially in the wake of Easter, and as we move toward the "season" of summer when people's schedules shift even more away from worship and more toward playtime, travel, and "fun." In the pursuit of the latter, we could find ourselves missing out on the joy that is not only deeper, but lasts into eternity. This is what Jesus came for and died for, and why He rose again; that we might find His love, forgiveness, and the power and incentive to live His life now, so that we might share eternity with Him forever.

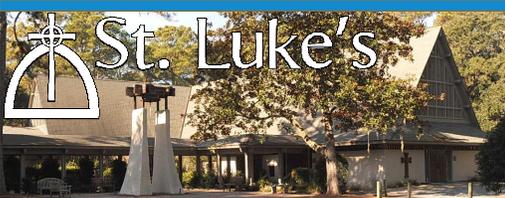
Think about it, pray about it. God is not a "cosmic kill-joy." Rather, He is the source of eternal joy and love. That is why Jesus came!

Love in Christ,

Greg Kronz

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Our Focus

- Upward: To worship and serve the Lord
- Inward: To grow spiritually in the knowledge and love of Christ in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
- Outward: To share our faith, our hands and our hearts, for the sake of the gospel, our community, and the world.

A CHURCH IN THE ANGLICAN TRADITION

St. Luke's Parish Picnic



Saturday, April 23, at 1:00 p.m.
(immediately following Steve Chisholm's ordination)

Come congratulate Steve, welcome the Bishop and join us for food, fellowship, and fun. Hog Heaven BBQ will provide a delicious lunch of BBQ, chicken and all the fixins ... please bring a dessert to share. Tickets on sale in the Parish Hall after the services or at the Church Office-- Singles \$8, Couples \$15, Families \$25. **Reservations are required, so sign up today! 843-785-4099**

Flower Guild

Altar flowers are available for April 17, May 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29. Please call the church office at 843-785-4099 to reserve your special day in honor or memory of someone.



New Security Policy

We are instituting new security measures for the church building and the preschool building. The doors to those buildings will generally be locked except during worship services. If you need to enter the building during work hours and find all the doors locked, please call the church office at 843-785-4099. Thank you for your consideration as we work through this new policy.

St. Luke's E-Zine

We send a weekly email to help you prepare for Sunday and upcoming activities. We call it our E-Zine. That's E-'zeen', like maga-zine. It's our weekly 'E'-lectronic maga-'zine'. Or E-Zine. Get it? To be added to our list, send an email to publications@stlukesghi.org with "E-Zine" in the subject line.

Ladies' Bible Studies

Real MOMS Bible Study sends special thanks to all who participated in the Lenten Black Bag Challenge of donating one item a day to the Church Mouse for the 40 days of Lent. This sacrificial giving for Lent has resulted in over 63 black bags so far.



Forty Days – Forty Items

Wednesday, February 10 is the first day of Lent. I have a challenge for you! Each day of Lent, remove one item from your closet that you no longer wear or need and put it into this trash bag. At the end of the forty days, donate these items to a place that can share them with someone who can really use them!

Messenger Bi-Monthly

Beginning with this issue, The Messenger will be published on a bi-monthly basis. Each edition will arrive on the even numbered months and will contain information relevant to that month and the next. It will continue to be available online on our website, and there is a link to the current Messenger in each E-Zine. If you currently receive a paper copy in the mail, that will continue unchanged.

Transitions

Baptisms: None

Deaths: Bob Watson, Judy Oppenheimer

New Members: None

Requests for Transfer Out: Phyllis Brafman, Richard & Lainie Crose



SEARCH FOR "St. Luke's Church" and look for the Bell Tower icon.



SC Diocese E-Newsletter

You can receive the newsletter of the South Carolina Diocese by subscribing from the Diocesan website: www.diosc.com

Look for the following to the right of the homepage:



SUBSCRIBE HERE

Bookshop

Spring in our Bookshop

"Spring has sprang, and winter is went, and this weren't did by accident." OK. Do we have your attention? How wonderful - it's Easter and Spring, and we invite you to shop with us for amazing gifts, books and inspiring (only \$1.00) cards. It's a time of miracles, so cheer someone up with a remembrance. It could be a miracle to them. Enjoy the everyday blessings of this time of year. Keep smiling, and see ya soon. Join us: Sundays: 8:45am-10am; 11:15am-12 Noon; Wednesdays: 9:30am-1:30pm.

Church Staff



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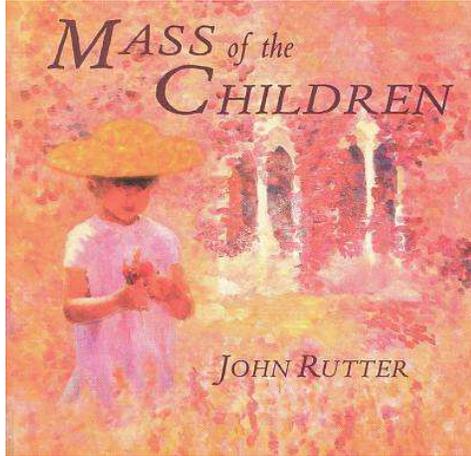
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VESTRY MEMBERS

<http://www.stlukesghi.org/administration---vestry.html>

The Easter Celebration Continues

On Sunday, April 10th at the 10 o'clock service, the Easter celebration continues with the special musical presentation of John Rutter's choral work **MASS OF THE CHILDREN!** The St. Luke's Choir, soloists, children/youth choirs, and instrumentalists offer this beautiful music as their gift this Easter season.



St. Luke's welcomes back baritone soloist **MATT WALLEY**, former St. Luke's baritone-in-residence and brother of

past St. Luke's Associate Rector Kent Walley, and soprano soloist Gayle Lang. The treble trio is composed of Sonya

Jacobs, Anna Booman, and Melinda Smith. Choristers from the St. Nicholas and St. Cecilia Choirs make up the children's choir for whom this work was written. The chamber ensemble includes flute, oboe, bassoon, clarinet, horn, harp, double bass, timpani,

percussion, and organ. **JOIN US FOR THIS JOYFUL CELEBRATION!!!**

2nd Friday Organ Recital

On Friday, April 8, **CHAD MARTIN**, organist at First Presbyterian Church, HHI, performs in concert on the 2nd Friday at Noon Organ Recital Series.

These concerts, featuring organists from around the Southeast and beyond, are performed on the 20-rank Gabriel Kney tracker organ at St. Luke's Church, HHI. Now in its 17th season, this series is presented monthly by the Low Country Chapter of the American Guild of Organists on the second Friday of each month throughout the year. Concerts, 12:00 noon to 1:00pm, are held at St. Luke's Church, 50 Pope Avenue, Hilton Head Island. These events are **FREE** and the public is invited. Come join us for an hour of delightful music!



(LCCAGO.org or ninarodman@stlukeshhi.org)

Christ the Lord is Risen Today

Easter Hymn Story

"And if Christ is not risen, then our preaching is empty and your faith is also empty."

(1 Corinthians 15:14)

John and Charles Wesley found themselves out of favor with many fellow Anglican ministers who spurned their fiery evangelistic preaching. Many pulpits were closed to them.

A friend from his Oxford days, George Whitefield, twenty-two, who was having the same trouble, began preaching in the open air. In London, he asked Charles to stand with him as he preached to thousands in the open air at Blackheath, and Charles, too, got a vision for reaching the multitudes.

Charles made his first attempt in the outskirts of London. "Franklyn, a farmer, invited me to preach in his field," he wrote. "I did so to about 500. I returned to the house rejoicing." Soon he was preaching to thousands. "My load was gone, and all my

doubts and scruples. God shone upon my path; and I knew this was His will concerning me."

A man named Joseph Williams heard Charles in Bristol: "I found him standing on a table-board, in an erect posture... surrounded by, I guess, more than a

thousand people, some of them fashionable persons, but most of the lower rank of mankind. He prayed with uncommon fervency... He then preached about half an hour in such a manner as I have scarce ever heard any man preach... I think I never heard any man

labor so earnestly to convince his hearers they were all by nature in a sinful, lost, undone, damnable state; that notwithstanding, there was a possibility of their salvation, through faith in Christ... All this he backed up with many texts of Scripture, which he explained and illustrated, and then by a variety of the most forcible motives, arguments, and expostulation, did he invite, allure, quicken, and labor, if it were possible, to compel all, and every one of his hearers, to believe in Christ for salvation."

Charles Wesley still preaches today in much

the same way, through his ageless hymns that are sung around the world each week. Perhaps his most exuberant anthem is the one he simply called "Hymn for Easter Day," published in 1739. It originally consisted of eleven stanzas. The "Alleluias" were added later, but appropriately, for this is a hymn one never gets tired of singing:

Jesus Christ, is risen today, Alleluia!

Sons of men and angels say, Alleluia!

Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!

Sing, ye heavens, and earth, reply, Alleluia!

(Excerpt taken from *Then Sings My Soul*, by Robert J. Morgan. Thomas Nelson publication.)

NOTE: "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today" is hymn #207 in *HYMNAL 1982*. Four verses of the original eleven verses are included our hymnal.





Surf Shack VBS

June 12-16

Surf's up! Join us for Surf Shack Vacation Bible School, where kids will Catch the Wave of God's Amazing Love! Kids get 'amped' to learn God Creates, God Helps, God Loves, God Calms, and God Sends. On this ride, kids remember that the Lord is great and awesome! (Nehemiah 4:14b)



SUMMIT in April/May



Join us as we take a look at New Testament heroes from the book of Acts. Each week we will marvel at the greatness of God proclaimed by NT disciples. We will see how Jesus' death and resurrection sparked a fire of love that spread throughout the whole world. And we will watch these men and women risk it all so that others may know about the risen Savior. (Weekly during Night Church which begins at 5 PM.)

Surf Shack VBS begins Sunday night, June 12, with a ...

Family Dinner and Day 1 of VBS (5-8pm).

Our ride continues Monday thru Thursday 9:00-Noon.

Parents, grandparents & the entire parish are invited Thursday night for

our closing program & ice cream social (7-8 pm)

Open to ages 4-11. Registration begins in May.

We have roles for volunteers and helpers! Come surf with us!

You're the Best!

Thanks to everyone who made our Easter experience so much fun. From crafts to game supervision to egg hiding, we appreciate you -- Mary Hiers, Connie Payne, the entire Starnes family, Rebecca Bistis, Stephanie & Natalie Sturm, Alison & Shawn Marsh. And the dozens of you who filled eggs. (PS: the fuzzy chicks were a surprise hit!)

SPECIAL THANKS to Shannon Murphy & Wulfrano Luna for preparing our flower crosses. Thank you also Clifford, Starnes, and Wallace families for assisting the children on Easter Sunday.



WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP...

GETTING READY FOR VBS

- Prayer Team
- Registration
- Decorations, Props, Art
- Publicity
- Shop/gather materials
- Crafts Prep

FAMILY DINNER/ICE CREAM SOCIAL

- Plan
- Shop
- Prepare
- Serve
- Set Up
- Clean Up

DURING VBS

- Bible teaching
- Crafts
- Science Experiments
- Snack Preparation
- Games
- Lifeguards (crew leaders)
- Tech Team
- Photography (am & pm)
- Youth Praise Team
- Nursery

OTHER

- Wherever needed WITH KIDS
- Wherever needed BEHIND THE SCENES (not with Kids)

You can call Sylvia at 785-4099 to talk about volunteering, or there will be an insert at the Sunday services soon that you can fill out and drop in the offering plate or turn in to the registration table in the Vestibule on Sign-up Sundays.

**THANK YOU
FOR PRAYING
ABOUT YOUR
INVOLVEMENT!**

St. Luke's Youth Ministry

Surf Trip 7

May 13 -15th is our 7th annual Ponce Inlet Surf Retreat for Middle and High School Students. The cost is \$120. A \$60 deposit is due by Sunday, April 24th in order to reserve your spot. Spots are limited. Call Steve 540-4025 for more details.

Summer Mission Trip with Urban Promise Honduras

High School 4th annual Summer Mission Trip to Copan Ruinas, Honduras with Urban Promise is scheduled for Sunday June 19th – Sunday June 27th We have 14 high school students signed up for this epic trip! We will be doing extensive fundraising in April and May to raise money for our trip. Please keep us in your prayers as we prepare for this trip!



HS mission trip with Urban Promise

Annual 200 Envelope Youth Missions Fundraiser:

Beginning Sunday April 3, we will have three displays with 66 envelopes on them set up in the parish hall, the narthex and by the vestibule between services to help our high school students go on their second mission trip to Honduras. The envelopes will be numbered 1-200. If you would like to financially support the kids on this trip all you have to do is grab an envelope that fits your budget and make a donation for the amount on the envelope. For example if you want to make a \$35 donation grab envelope #35. The fundraiser will continue the next six Sundays. During the week we will have one of the displays set up in the church office.



All gifts are tax deductible and the great thing about this fundraiser is that it will not break your bank! If all 200 envelopes are taken we can raise a lot of money to help these kids get to Honduras!

April-May Schedule

Our youth group meetings are designed to bring students closer to God so they can be lifelong followers of Christ. Meetings have time for food, games, bible study, prayer and small group discussion time. All meetings are held at 40 Pope Ave in the Missions and Ministry Building.

High School Schedule - Grades 9-12

6:30-7:45

Pizza Provided *

Sun 4/3 HS Youth

Sun 4/10 No Youth Spring Break

Sun 4/17 Pizza Night at Mellow Mushroom

Sun 4/24 HS Youth

Sun 5/01 HS Youth

Sun 5/08 HS Youth

Middle School Schedule - Grades 7-8

6:00-7:30

Pizza Provided *

Wed 4/06 MS Youth

Wed 4/13 No Youth Spring Break

Wed 4/20 MS Youth

Wed 4/27 MS Youth

Wed 5/4 MS Youth

Wed 5/11 MS Youth

Wed 5/18 End of School Year party

*Pizza is provided but parents can make periodic donations to our Pizza fund. Suggested donation \$5 a meeting per kid to help offset cost of food. Thanks; this helps us have more money for events and trips.

Need more information? Please contact Steve: Cell: (843)540-4025 Email: stevechisholm@stlukeshhi.org

Volunteer to Help at Ridgeland Correctional Institute

HOPE PRISON MINISTRY has expanded into two more prisons in S.C., RIDGELAND and BENNETTSVILLE. There is an IMMEDIATE NEED for individuals to assist and facilitate in the Recovery and Rehabilitation Programs at RIDGELAND in the following areas of interest:

- INVESTING
- ANGER MANAGEMENT
- PLUMBING
- DEALING WITH EMOTIONS
- ELECTRICAL
- PEER PRESSURE
- BLUEPRINTS

- STARTING A LANDSCAPE BUSINESS
- BARBERING
- STARTING A JANITORIAL BUSINESS
- CULINARY ARTS
- OSHA CERTIFICATION
- INTERIOR PAINTING

These are just a few of the needs. ANY SKILLS YOU MAY HAVE are both needed and would be appreciated and beneficial.

If interested, a visit to the institution will be arranged to determine if you want to participate. Time and frequency of visits will be at your discretion, weekly, monthly, quarterly, etc. Ridgeland is a short 45-minute drive.

If you are interested and/or want to discuss further or have questions answered, **contact Mike Znachko at 843-290-6373 or e-mail mdzs@aol.com.**

This can be an opportunity for you to not only assist individuals trying to change their lives and become productive members in their communities, but also offer you an opportunity to use your skills and talents God has provided. Many St. Luke's people are already contributing their time and talent at the Allendale Institution with unbelievable success and rewards. Take time to pray on this need and see if God is calling you to assist your Brothers.

FROM THE MISSION COMMITTEE

Bob Augustine

Thanks to a dedicated and resourceful committee, we were able to have a very successful Missions Month, in March. (In spite of the absence of “the chairs”). The church Mouse has again generously offered to match donations for missions, up to \$20,000!

We were able to hear from two of our partners, live and in person, at the church. Blair Quinius presented his mission and vision in Honduras, and Candy Rieger spoke about her work in the Dominican Republic and Haiti. I think that helps solidify our connection with these incredible individuals and we are thankful for the time and effort they took to share with us. We also heard more detail about Saint Luke’s mission to Honduras, in February. I am always humbled and amazed by the way God uses Betsy Hake. The churches weekly prayers that she never loses her fervor are certainly being answered.

Another one of “our own” has returned from a successful trip to Uganda, where Kathie Phillips lead a partner care “time apart” (apart or away from the mission field) for 24 of Global Teams’ field partners. Here are a



couple of stories that Kathie shared. One woman working with prostitutes said “This apart time was very wonderful and joyous in my life through different ways, like studying the bible together, sharing and having fellowship as believers without

segregation. I thank God for whatever happened and for those who planned it richly and exceedingly”. Another man commented: “This time has renewed my spiritual life and ministry. The most helpful was hearing God talking to me personally through (the study of the book of) Timothy. I usually read scripture to preach to others, not for me personally”. This demonstrates how important

“partner care” is to those in the mission field. Their ongoing spiritual formation is essential for their well-being and continued great commission success.

Several St. Luke’s mission’s committee members (and several Global Teams members) are attending the New Wineskins Conference for Global Missions, in Ridgecrest, NC, April 7-10. This is a worldwide gathering of Anglicans, involved in missions, with the purpose of inspiring and equipping individuals and churches to fulfill our Lord’s Great Commission. Some of the topics being presented are: “Reaching Muslims in North America”, “God’s Heart for the Young and for Justice” and “Missions to

Southeast Asia”. We hope to be invigorated by this gathering and hope to learn of new opportunities to serve the Lord. We will report in more detail in future Messenger articles.

Please prayerfully consider the Saint Luke’s summer trip to Tanzania and an opportunity to be involved with the Valentine Project with the Vanderslices. More on this later, or speak with a missions committee member, if you know you want to be involved now.

I just wanted to praise the Lord and please join me in giving thanks for the recovery of a man whose “shoulders we stand on”. Tom Green is cancer free- thanks be to God!

Please keep our other, more “local” missionaries, in your prayers: Mike Znachko, Tom Conner and the Smiths.

As I write this, I am struck by the variety of ways that God uses His “body” for His purpose. There are a number of roles we each can take in the broad field of Missions.

There are of course, the Missionaries or Pioneers, going out, but, there are also mobilizers helping others go out and there are caregivers, part of the support team for those going out. All play vital roles. Is God calling you to one or more of these roles? Stop and listen for the Call. In Matthew 9:37-38, Jesus said “the harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send laborers

Bob & Tamara Augustine, Missions Committee Chairpersons
btaugustine@roadrunner.com

Church Mouse

Spring is HERE, if you can believe it! The last few months have kept us so busy at The Church Mouse that it’s hard to realize winter is over and glorious Spring is in full swing! The Mouse is brimming with items – and news - to welcome the season, so ‘heads up,’ everybody, we’re in for a wild ride.



Our Spring Clothing Reveal was an amazing success. On the first day of the reveal, our sales totaled almost \$6,000! Of course high-ticket items like furniture made up much of our record day, but the seasonal clothing reveals would not be possible without the cadre of volunteers who work like Trojans to make it happen. Thanks for all your hard work!

We’re happy to welcome Rebecca McNemar as our new Church Mouse Assistant Manager. Rebecca is an independent voice-over artist and Creative Director of her company, Black Dot Studio. She provides voice talent for public speaking, announcing, audio books, radio and TV commercials, computer games, company websites and much more. And if all THAT isn’t enough, she’s had lots and lots of retail experience. Welcome to The Church Mouse, Rebecca...we’re delighted you’re here!

Although we’ve welcomed some new volunteers to The Mouse, we are still in GREAT NEED of even more. Won’t you double-check your schedule and try to find a couple of hours in your week to join us? We have a great group of ‘Mousekateer’s and you’ll love being part of the fun.

Please continue to encourage your friends and neighbors to make their donations to

The Church Mouse and be sure to remind them we have FREE FURNITURE PICKUP. Check out our very own (different from St. Luke’s Church) website at www.churchmousethrift.com. We have all The Church Mouse news that’s fit to print on our great and user-friendly website, so visit our site often.

Speaking of the cyber highway, be sure to like us on Facebook while you’re checking out your own social media. We keep Facebook updated with important information about sales and events featured at The Church Mouse.

In over 90 places the Bible speaks of our being ‘blessed to be a blessing to others.’ We celebrate being a blessing to our community and visitors every day of every month. And we delight in carrying forward our mission – “Changing Lives Locally and Around the World”

April Outreach: FCA

Since 1954, the Fellowship of Christian Athletes has been challenging coaches and athletes on the professional, college, high school, junior high and youth levels to use the powerful medium of athletics to impact the world for Jesus Christ.



The heart and soul in sports™

FCA focuses on serving local communities by equipping, empowering and encouraging people to make a difference for Christ. Here in the low country, **South Coastal FCA** ministers in the three counties of Beaufort, Jasper, and Hampton to a mission field of 37 schools and 25,000+ students and 500+ coaches.

FCA uses the powerful platform of athletics to minister to and through coaches and athletes (the influencers) to the other students in their schools. Our local FCA Staff of 4 (missionaries) share the Gospel by going to the mission field and meeting students on their turf; their schools, gyms, fields, courts, etc... The Vision of FCA is "to see the world impacted for Jesus Christ through the influence of coaches & athletes." And our FCA Mission is "to present to coaches and athletes, and all

whom they influence, the challenge and adventure of receiving Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, serving Him in their relationships and in the fellowship of the church.

FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN ATHLETES

Currently **South Coastal FCA** has a presence in 28 schools in our tri-County area including every public middle school and high school. About 2,300 students

meeting weekly in Campus or Team Huddles (student led devotions/studies with prayer) at their schools. In addition, FCA has 8 (soon to be 11) coaches studies where we come along side coaches and help them to develop and deepen their faith so they in turn coach from a Biblical world view. **In the last 12 months, through all our FCA programs, we have seen the Lord bring 389 young people to make public first-time commitments or re-commitments to Christ! Praise God!**



As we approach the end of the school year **South Coastal FCA** is focused on summer camp for our young people and coaches. FCA camps are a time of **"inspiration, perspiration and transformation"** for student/athletes and coaches who want to reach their potential through comprehensive athletic, spiritual, and leadership training. Camp is a great opportunity for our young people to unplug from their usual business of life for a few days and to focus on their spiritual side as well as a specific sport or leadership training.

Financial support for camps provides an amazing return in relation to lives transformed and for overall impact on our ministry.

FCA thanks the members of St Lukes for their continued partnership in ministry and for the prayers, resources, and

volunteers you all provide our ministry. Please visit our website at www.southcoastalfca.org for more information and contact Director, Paul Cifaldi, with any questions or needs (pcifaldi@fca.org or 843-298-9801).

May Outreach: Hospice Care

Hospice Care of the Lowcountry has been providing expert end of life care to this community for more than 3 decades.

Our mission is to give comfort and honor dignity for our patients and families through

compassionate physical, emotional and spiritual care, regardless of their financial circumstances. Many diagnosed with a terminal illness will continue to undergo treatment with the hope of a cure.

Frequently patients undergoing treatment for their disease, suffer from the side effects of the treatment. These side effects can be debilitating and incapacitating. In 1995, Hospice Care of the Lowcountry felt it important to care for these people that required a special type of care, but not quite ready for hospice care. After thoughtful fact gathering and then application to our state, we were awarded a special license to provide Palliative Care those in need of this

community. It is a home health license with an addendum of a terminal illness diagnosis.



Palliative Care is a specialized approach to ease suffering for people with serious illness. It is about relieving pain, reducing distressing and disabling symptoms

and easing stress. The goal is comfort and quality of life improvement. We have found over the years, the largest number of patients that fit into this program, are those diagnosed with cancer. Cancer patients often have issues with pain, nausea, shortness of breath, elimination, nutritional concerns, anxiety and the overall stress of the unknown outcome of the treatment and disease. Palliative Care, like Hospice Care is provided to patients and their families by a multidisciplinary team of professionals; physicians, nurses, social workers, nursing assistants, counselors, therapists and chaplain. The team approach to care is holistic with each member bringing an important and unique set of skills to create

a complete, coordinated package of care services.

Hospice Care of the Lowcountry and Palliative Care of the Lowcountry, focuses on one's dignity and enhancing the quality of life for the person and his or her family. Research suggests that this way of care may even prolong a person's life. It has been shown to ease symptoms, decrease pain and depression. As a result of the intense team oversight we have found a reduction in ER visits and hospital admissions. We provide visitation to the home from the team of professionals, medications required to alleviate symptoms, supplies and equipment as needed to assist the person and his or her family to enhance the care.

If you should have questions or would like to become a volunteer, please contact us at 843.706.2296 or visit our website at www.hospicecarelc.org

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Counselor's Comments: A Future and a Hope

Sharon Smith

Every year at this time, the azaleas are in full bloom and the plant life seems to become greener. There also seems to be a feeling of expectancy/hope in the air. At the same time we are celebrating the resurrection, there is a resurrection of warmth and growth all around us. How good of God to remind us that after the dark of winter comes the light of spring.

I have decided to take this same tact with my thought process. It occurred to me that in each day, week, month and season of life there is a dark side and a light side, and I have a possible choice in focusing in on either what is wrong or what is right. I've said before that I think we live in a world that emphasizes the negative, and I have decided that it is possible for me to change my focus to be the opposite of the world view. In every day I can choose to see what is good rather than what is bad, and there is always something that is good.

One of my favorite prayers is the Serenity Prayer which says, "God grant me the

courage to change the things I can, the serenity to accept the things I can't and the wisdom to know the difference." I think it is a difficult task to truly accept the fact that the only person I can change is myself. It doesn't matter how unfair or wrong another individual may behave, it is my responsibility to respond in a proper and loving way. The changes I make have to be within me and this takes the courage to move forward into the unknown.

There are also many things that need to be accepted as beyond my ability to change. This often requires grieving over what has actually been lost. Norman Wright, in his book *Recovering from the Losses of Life*, says that any change, whether good or bad, is a loss and therefore requires us to grieve. He also

notes that we don't even allow ourselves the proper time to grieve a death, so most of the time we don't take the time to consider grieving changes. However, I think it is impossible to get to the place of acceptance without acknowledging the other steps in

grief, (i.e. denial, anger, bargaining and depression). True acceptance only comes when we stop trying to make something different happen.

And finally, when we have accepted what is, I believe we receive wisdom from God to see how He has everything under control. He will use all our circumstances to

show us His constant presence with us, His good intentions, and His steadfast love. "For I know the plans I have for you," says the Lord. "They are plans for good and not disaster, to give you a future and a hope." (Jeremiah 29:11).



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