

March Recipe of the Month

- Cabbage Salad
- 1 med. head of cabbage
- 6 green onions, sliced
- 2 packages Ramen noodles, broken
- 1 cup slivered almonds
- 2 Tbsp sesame seeds
- 2 cups chicken (3 breasts), if preferred

Brown noodles, almonds and sesame seeds in margarine. Mix in one package seasoning from Ramen noodles. Add cabbage (and chicken if preferred). Add green onions just prior to serving along with the dressing.

Dressing:
 1 cup oil
 1 cup sugar
 2 Tbsp soy sauce
 ½ tsp white vinegar
 Mix well and pour over above mixture, blending well.

This dish was a real hit at one of our fifth Sunday dinners and is shared with us by *Alice Raggett*. If you have a favorite recipe from one of our dinners that you would like to share, or if there is a dish at one of our church functions that you particularly like let me know, give me the recipe or email it to evelynbrown@comcast.net and we will try to feature it in a future issue.

Chaires UMC Newsletter

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~ *What Do You Believe?* – cont'd from Page 1



Chaires UMC
Newsletter

Volume 2, Number 3

March 2007

Featuring ~ “Our Miss Jane”



Most everybody knows “Miss Jane.” She is a really unique little lady who is very smart and friendly and will help anyone in any way she can. Mulder and I will never forget the very first phone call we received concerning the newsletter; just two days after mailing out the first edition. The caller complimented us for doing such a wonderful job and how she “just loved it and thanked us so much for doing it.” Little did we know that she had been the city editor of a newspaper herself! What a compliment and real encouragement, too. And that is why she is “Our” Miss Jane! She is known to be such a sweet lady who is dedicated and devoted to her church and loves her family and friends.

“Miss Jane” was born Jane Fulton Harvey on January 21, 1922 in Laurens, S. C.; a wonderful little town which she loved throughout her youth and still does. She says, “I feel that I was fortunate to have a loving family and friends, young and old. Life was fun in the 30’s and 40’s with plenty of dancing and parties. I graduated from Winthrop College (now University) in 1943 with a degree in

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Cluster Meeting

A cluster is a natural association of 4-7 churches. Every local church is expected to be in a cluster as an extension of its congregational life reflecting our shared accountability to Christ for fulfilling the Great commission (Matthew 28:19-20). Chaires UMC is clustered with Sardis, Lloyd, and Wacissa, UMCs. Clusters teams are small communities of congregational leaders from each church of the cluster. A cluster team meeting is a corporate spiritual discipline that expresses our connectionalism.

The purpose of Clusters is to improve the effectiveness and health of ministry as measured by our conference’s vision and mission statements and by Jesus’ Great Commission and Great Commandment. Specifically, the purpose of cluster teams will be

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What Do You Believe?

Wouldn’t it be wonderful to have appropriate responses just roll off your tongue so you never had to revise or correct something you said? Certainly that is not my experience. My problem starts by allowing the “trigger to be tripped.” When this happens, I neglect to consider my choices (or consequences), usually in close proximity to an impromptu flow of words. The likely result is a need to apologize or request forgiveness from someone. The humbling truth? I do have choices as to how I respond and the power to overcome “trigger-tripping.” Even so, I still sometimes revert to a “self” response that does not honor God.

Will I ever learn? Certainly I have plenty of opportunities. Life brings each of us a multitude of choices every day. The only way we can truly know the best choices is to spend time with God. He

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desires that we take principles we learn from His Word and apply them to our situations. He helps us – and when we respond His way we demonstrate our faith. When we respond “my way,” we demonstrate rebellion, otherwise known as sin.

As followers of Jesus, everything we do – or don’t do – reflects on Him. So, every time I allow my “trigger to trip,” not only am I responsible for how my action reflects on Jesus, but people around me make observations and even decisions about my faith – and perhaps about their own. How can my faith help me overcome “trigger-tripping?”

There is a huge difference between faith in God (that He exists) and faith that trusts Jesus with our life (living faith). The first (that He exists) is a “head” issue, the second reflects a “heart” condition (living faith). The first can leave you unchanged. The second will change your life forever. Faith is a gift from God. Faith is exercising our will to trust God, believing He has given us principles of truth in His Word that relate to any situation we will encounter. True “heart” trust in God (whole person – body, mind, soul) results in living faith. Living faith results in obedience. Obedience demonstrates our faith and shows God, and others, that we really do care what He thinks and desires – or not. We choose.

The whole essence of the Christian faith is a personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ. The relationship involves faith – choosing to trust and obey Him in all things, including the seemingly “small” ones. When we respond with heart-felt trust, the result is living more consistently according to God’s Word. God, through His Holy Spirit, responds by moving more of His truth from our head into our heart. As we are given more truth, by God’s grace and His Spirit we should increasingly exercise living faith. God has identified allowing my “trigger to be tripped” as something that no longer has a place in my life. By faith, I am responsible to respond to principles of truth He shows me in His Word. Do you see God working on something in you?

God’s Word says that He is at work in all who believe (see 1 Thessalonians 2:13). Jesus never had to apologize, revise or correct anything He said. Everything Jesus said came directly from God the Father (see John 17:7-8). His every action reflected the Father’s will. God wants us to become more and more like Jesus. The better we know Him the more truth we see in His Word and our words and actions will become more consistent with our confession of faith. God’s truth, and our response to it is the key (see Hebrews 4:12-13).

Do you claim to be a follower of Jesus – the Word of God in flesh, the Light of the world (see John 1:1;8:12)? If so, you have made a choice that involves privilege but also great responsibility (see Romans 10:9-10; Luke 9:23; Romans 12:1-2; Galatians 2:20; Ephesians 2:10). As followers of our Lord Jesus, the hard truth is that our choices and actions reflect on Him and we are each individually responsible for correctly responding – His way. We either bring Him glory – or not.

We struggle with choices over and over – often the same ones. God uses these times of struggle to grow our faith, making us into the image of Jesus. Are your choices reflecting true living faith? God looks upon even our seemingly “small” actions of faith – or unbelief – as very significant, and so should we.

~ submitted by Lynne Mulder

Have you visited the Chaires United Methodist Church’s Website, www.cumc.hisbody.com, recently? If you haven’t you are missing a treat! Steve Lenzo has put together a very professional (as are all of his endeavors) site that will earn the praise of everyone who sees it. It has quite an array of information on and about Chaires UMC, including history, ministries offered, our affiliations, the church calendar, member services, the Pastor’s Corner and even copies of this newsletter. Visit the site, it’s well worth it; and thank Steve for doing such a great job!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
						BSA Council Banquet
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Men’s Bible Study - 5pm	BSA Troop 25 Meeting		Family Night			Couple’s Retreat Weekend
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Men’s Bible Study - 5pm Commissioning of Mission Team	BSA Troop 25 Court of Honor	UMM & UMW Meetings 6:30pm	Adult Bible Study 10:30 am			Emmaus Gathering Couple’s Retreat Weekend
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Men’s Bible Study - 5pm One hour of Sharing Widow’s Mite Offering	BSA Troop 25 Meeting	Bring cookies to church	Pack Cookies @ church	Ship Cookies Trustee Mtg. 6:30 pm		Koinonia Dinners BSA OA Spring Community Service Day Couple’s Retreat Weekend
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Men’s Bible Study - 5pm	BSA Troop 25 Meeting		Adult Bible Study 10:30 am			

Anniversaries		Birthdays	
Rick & Paula Davies	11	Buddy Alley	2
Buddy & Pat Alley	19	Robert Stephenson	5
Steve & Sharon Lenzo	21	Caleb Messer	12
		Pat Miller	12
		William Wilson	13
		Catelyn Smith	14
		Christy Alley	14
		Jim Taylor	25
		Duane White	29

English/Journalism and went to work on a newspaper in Orangeburg, S. C., where I met my future husband, Tom Kempton, an aviation cadet from New York. After he moved on for more training, I left to become city editor of the Evening Herald in Rock Hill, S. C. and stayed there until Tom returned from the 15th Air Force flying B-17's in Italy." (Note: If you will remember, Joe Gregory was fighting in WWII in Italy at the same time.)

"Tom and I were married on May 12, 1945, and the day of his discharge from the Army Air Corps, he went to work as a pilot with the airlines. He retired as a senior pilot with Pan American World Airways in 1982. We lived in the New York area for almost ten years while Tom flew the Atlantic and then moved to Miami in 1954 with Pan American Air Latin American division."

"Thinking we probably would never have children, we started building a two bedroom in the Pinecrest area – with pool for lots of fun! But the Lord was good and a baby girl, Susie, arrived in 1956, followed by Carolyn in 1959, and Tommy in 1963 (two days before my 41st birthday!). I always felt He didn't want me to give birth to Yankees!"

"Life was good and happy. In the mid 70's I decided I'd like to do more than be a wife and mother, and got a real estate salesman's license and then a year later a broker's. The market was good and I enjoyed being in the business world, but gave it up when we moved to Tallahassee. I had proved by brain still worked!"

"That move was made in 1979 and we moved into our house on Hill n' Dale in December 1980. Shortly afterwards, I started attending our church and became a member by letter of transfer when Danny Shuler was pastor. I loved it then and still do. Our church family is surely a family of love and when I moved to Monticello two years ago, I couldn't think of leaving Chaires. It is a part of me and I am a part of it."

"Tommy and Renee, his wife, were married in the little white church; my husband's memorial service was there seven years ago; and each of my granddaughters, Lana Kempton and Cheyenne Floyd were baptized there. Of course I love it and always will!"

"My husband, Tom, and Pastor Bill's dad flew together several times with PAA. Also, foreign travel included Mexico, Hawaii, Cuba (before Castro), Virgin Islands (before statehood), Puerto Rico, England, and France."

"What I like to do now is centered on church, occasional lunch with family or friends, read a lot, and do scrabble on the computer."

~ Submitted by "Miss Jane" with intro by Evelyn Brown

~ Cluster Meeting – cont'd from Page 1

"Drawing Together-Seeking God's Heart-Touching our World." (Excerpted from *Instituting Clusters: A Brief Summary*)

On Sunday evening, February 11, 2007, the Cluster Meeting service was held at CUMC with churches from Sardis, Wacissa, and Lloyd in attendance. A wonderful time was enjoyed by all as we sang many songs in praise to our Lord. "Ministry Moments" were shared from each church as to what the Lord is doing to use each of us to further His kingdom.

An enjoyable time of fellowship and good food was shared in conclusion to a service of praise and testimony for what God has done to continue growth in each church.

The Cluster Meetings will be held at Wacissa in May, Lloyd in August, and Sardis in November. Let's try to have a good attendance at their churches as they did at ours.

May God Bless Each and Everyone

Treats for Troops

We are excited to offer this opportunity to show support for the troops who are sacrificing so much to defend our freedoms. Since freedom to worship is one of our most cherished freedoms, it is particularly fitting for our church to express our gratitude by sending treats.

Following are rough plans for the project. Keep in mind that these are flexible. We do not want to place limits that would keep a willing soul from participating.

WHEN – We hope this will be an "on-going" monthly project. Our first shipment is scheduled for Thursday, March 22nd. Some of us will gather at the church to receive and pack cookies for shipping the day before (Wed., March 21st).

Bring fresh baked cookies to the church Tuesday P.M. or Wednesday A.M.

WHAT – Bake cookies or brownies (no cake, please). We may want to expand later to include other small personal items, but for our first shipment, we will concentrate on cookies. I have three different recipes that have been proven to ship well. If you have your own specialty, you are more than welcome to bake them.

Bake at home solo or two or three together for fellowship.

Please put them in a sealed plastic container

(GLAD or Publix for example: 3 for \$2.39)

ready for us to box. You may want to enclose a note of appreciation, scripture verse, and/or introduction.

WHO - If you have a relative or close friend serving in Iraq, Afghanistan, or other area of conflict, and would like cookies sent to their unit, contact Lynn Fannin evenings at 656-9891.

AREAS OF SERVICE NEEDED

BAKERS

PACKERS

DONATIONS TO COVER SHIPPING

Questions, concerns, input – call Lynn Glover @ 997-6408 or 212-4639

ECHO

ECHO is in need of food, blankets and pots and pans. Please bring any of these items to the church by the first Sunday of the month and they will be delivered to ECHO by the first Thursday. Thank you for all your help in this effort to help those who are less fortunate

~ submitted by Neva Holland

Chaires UMC Newsletter

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Editor - Evelyn Brown

Layout - Mulder Brown

If you wish to contribute, please notify Evelyn Brown in person, by phone at 877-1975 (H) or 487-3579 (W), or, if you prefer, by email at ~ evelynbrown@comcast.net

UMW News

The Valentine Dinner was a smashing success on Friday, February 16th. If you were not there, you missed a great dinner and the most fun with line dancing led by Susie. Door prizes included the potted miniature zinnias on each table and boxes of chocolates.

At the February meeting, we had the pleasure of two new faces, Sue Horne and Dewease Lewis. We welcome you to Chaires United Methodist Women's ministry group.

Mrs. Lewis gave us another quilt to work on putting together, the "Log Cabin" quilt pattern, while she is piecing together the "Dresden Plate" quilt pattern. What a worker she is! Please let Margaret know if you would like to volunteer some time to getting these quilts completed. Just think – YOU might even win it some day!

All ladies are encouraged to attend the UMW meetings on the second Tuesday evening of each month at 7:00 pm with dinner at 6:30.

~ submitted by Margaret Boyette

Youth Group



February was a fun month for the youth at Chaires. We started out the month with helping the children's ministries. The youth presented a bible story and skit in Sunday school classes to a very attentive audience. Both the younger children and the

youth seemed to have a great time and receive a great blessing as well. We are planning on helping out the children's ministries in the future and hopefully more regularly. Also in February, we were able to invite the youth group from Gray Memorial UMC to have a joint youth group meeting at Chaires. The Gray Memorial youth group will host a joint meeting on March 3rd, and all look forward to continuing the camaraderie.

In March we have one of the greatest moments of the school year coming...SPRING BREAK! Some of our youth will be taking advantage of that week to serve missions on the Guatemala trip. Those who are not able to go on that trip can look forward to a small retreat during that week. Exact details will be given towards the beginning of the month. After Spring Break will be a time for us to start determining not only our finalized plans for the summer, but also our spiritual well-being and preparation for the activities this summer and for those who will be graduating and moving on.

We are looking forward to March being an exciting month and a busy month as well. If we keep looking towards Christ in all that we do, March can be a month filled with growth and spiritual blessings.

~ submitted by Peter J. Marvin, Youth Minister, CUMC



Children's Ministry

Students this month are learning about John the Baptist and Moses. The Youth Group wowed the kids with a re-enactment of Baby Moses' escape from death. Baby Moses was played by Youth Director Peter Marvin, which had the kids full of giggles.

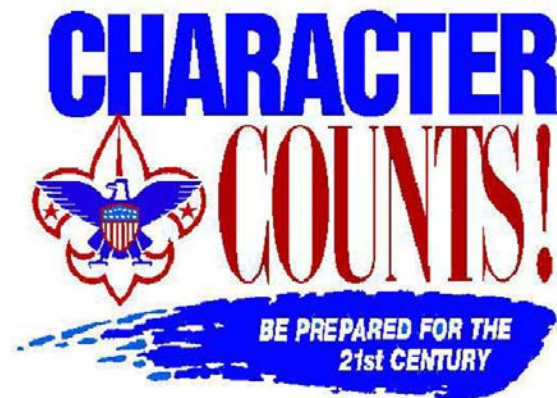
Ask them to share with you what they know. They also did a service project that taught them about the importance of putting other people first. They made Valentine's Day cookies to give away.



We would like to thank Connie Mayo for all of her hard work with this project.

If you have any craft items that you would like to donate we would love to have them - - - including wiggly eyes, paper bags, smocks, and paint. Thank you again to all of you who provide snacks to the kids. They are grateful.

~ submitted by Joy Marshall



Boy Scout Troop 25

Our Chaires UMC Troop 25 is holding a "Court of Honor" on March 12 at 7 p.m. Some of the awards are as follows: Adam Church is receiving the last two Eagle required merit badges; Eric Hague and Bradley Donaldson will be awarded their "LIFE" rank; Slade Walker has earned his "First Class" rank and Greg Linzy will receive his "Second Class" rank.

I just came back from Suwannee River Council Wood Badge leader training course. Sometimes it feels that the BSA adult leadership training is endless....of course until the knowledge gained is applied.

Adult leadership training topics include: Youth Protection; Fast Start for Cub or Boy Scout Leaders; Position specific (Scout Master, Committee Members and such); BALOO (Basic Adult Leaders Outdoor Orientation (Cub Scouts); Outdoor Leadership skills (Boy Scouts Leaders), Safe Swim Defense (Swimming), Safety Afloat (canoes, motor boats and water-ski & such); Climb-on safely (COPE and mountain climbing); POW WOW (Scout and Craft Skills); Leave no Trace (environmental practices while venturing in nature); and Wood Badge (Advanced Leadership Training).

Our Troop 25 Adult Leadership is making great strides to gain and apply the knowledge and skills required to keep our scouts safe, follow the scout rules and protect the environment.

While at a break at Wood Badge, some of the scout leaders were discussing "How did we become aware of the great outdoors?"

I'd like to call it "messing with nature". As a new scout I'd find things of nature like frog eggs, turtles and various things and mess with them. In interaction with tad poles, frogs, bugs and other things, we grew to enjoy what nature had in store.

In the woods, we were loud and boisterous; over time a transformation occurred as our enjoyment of nature increased. We learned to stealthily approach and observe what nature wanted to show. For me, I began drawing and keeping a sketchbook of my enjoyment. I drew creatures, wild flowers, streams, rocks and trees. I smelled the fragrance in the air. I touched nature and it touched me. In a way, nature became a friend to cherish.

We became aware of the destruction of nature; like piles of trash near a beautiful stream or oil running down on its water. The conservation projects and cleanup work that our Scoutmasters assigned us to do acquired a new meaning. What had been a "project" became a "mission"; what was "work" became a "labor of love". I remember the desire to refresh and protect nature. These desires transformed us to become stewards of the lands.

That was many years ago. It's funny how a group of people can experience and interpret their thoughts so similarly. In that discussion, the scout leaders from New Jersey, Louisiana and Florida all agreed that we started our enjoyment and relationship with nature by "messing with nature."

~ submitted by Troop Leader Terrance Hague