



# THE ROCK



AUGUST 2015

Volume 1, Issue 36

## Epworth UM Church

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## EPCOMING EVENTS

July 19-August 2  
HALOS Back to School  
Drive

**August 11**  
Charlotte Herbert 10:30 AM  
Worship Meeting 6:30 PM

**August 15**  
Crafters Meeting 10:00 AM

**August 16**  
Children's Moments  
Training 10:00 AM

**August 17**  
Nominations Meeting  
6:30 PM  
SPRC Meeting 7:30 PM

**August 18**  
Trustees Meeting  
7:00 PM

**August 24**  
Finance Meeting  
6:30 PM

**August 25**  
Chapter 2 Book Review  
7:30 PM

**W**ho wants to join me in Florence for Annual Conference June 5-8, 2016? This might seem a long way off, but we are beginning the process of electing our 2016 officers. Some of you already received e-mails from me asking if you are willing to serve again in 2016. The 2016 Lay Member to Annual Conference, along with all our other 2016 officers, will be voted on at Charge Conference this fall.

## Pastor Ben's Corner

Here are a few reasons why you might want to be Epworth's Lay Member to Annual Conference. First, the 2016 Annual conference will deal with anything arising in the wake of General Conference, our denomination's governing body which meets every four years. By now most of you are aware of the growing debate about human sexuality which could be discussed and/or acted on at General Conference; conversely, they could table the conversation for another four years. The 2016 South Carolina Annual Conference will meet in between General Conference making changes to the Book of Discipline, and the changes taking effect January 1, 2017. I have no idea what resolutions or fallout may come before the floor of Annual Conference 2016.

The Lay Member to Annual Conference is the voice and vote of Epworth at Annual Conference. As a clergy, I am not a representative of the people I am serving; I represent myself. The Lay Member to Annual Conference votes her or his moral conscience. In other words, whoever is elected as the Lay Member to Annual Conference does not vote how people back home might ask him or her to vote. The Lay Member to Annual Conference votes how she or he feels lead by God to vote.

Second, the Lay Member to Annual Conference is very powerful in the life of the local congregation. He or she is automatically a member of Church Council, SPRC and Finance. These are three of the most powerful and influential committees at Epworth.

Third, the Lay Member to Annual Conference gets to participate at Annual Conference. One of the greatest strengths of The United Methodist Church is our connection. We are not a loose affiliation of local congregations. We are one united church body with many street addresses. It is eye opening for people to see how big the Church is and how we all work together as United Methodists.

I say all that to once again make my invitation to you; who wants to join me at Annual Conference in 2016? This could be a benign year with no controversial discussions, or this could be one of the most tumultuous annual conferences in recent history where every vote counts. If you want to be considered for this important roll, then I need to hear from you! We will appoint our Lay Member to Annual Conference at our Charge Conference which is slated for early October. The Nominations Committee and I will meet in a few weeks to start putting together recommendations for Epworth's various offices. Please contact me if you are interested in serving Epworth as our Lay Member to Annual Conference or any other office at Epworth.

## **Editor's Page** *Thelma Ford, Editor*

**D**o you have physco stenosis?  
Is you attitude so hard that  
you are so subject to change?

Change is inevitable. Think of  
all of the changes you have been through  
in your lifetime. Then all of a sudden,  
you have reached a plateau and you are  
not going to grow anymore.

Attitude can be your worse disability. It  
is the difference in being happy or not  
looking for happiness.

Prayer is a powerful weapon for support-  
ing the changes that take place in your  
life. Also for accomplishing goals. You  
cannot sin while you are praying.

Stop worrying; invite God into the details  
of your life. Let go and let God.

**Get up in time to see  
the sun. It will  
brighten your day.**

**D**o not be afraid  
of tomorrow  
because God is  
already there.

**The best way to know God  
is to love many things.**

**Fear can keep us up  
all night long, but  
faith can abolish it.**

**T**he past should  
be left in the  
past or it can steal the

**Your life may be the  
only Bible some  
people read.**

**W**elcome rain  
drops; they  
make things flourish.

**Every day is a gift.**



## He Gave by Jack Hunt

He gave us the seashore and a warm  
sunny day  
With sandy white beaches on which  
we may play  
Wave after wave that are spaced  
just so  
Who sets their pace, do you really  
not know?

He gave purple mountains from  
shore to shore  
Some tree covered, some rocky,  
with eagles that soar  
With beautiful streams that are  
pristine and clean  
Which make mighty rivers that are  
God's scene

At the fall called Niagara mighty  
waters flow  
A thunderous beauty with rainbows  
that glow  
Who gave us this gift, such beauty  
to see  
A present from God to you and to me

He gave us a canyon that is so grand  
I know it was made by God's  
own hand  
He used a river to carve His art  
One look would show, He did  
His part

He gave us the desert so vast  
and dry  
With sage brush, cactus, and bare  
hills that are so high  
Who said there's no God; are these  
people blind?



## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- 4 Jason Lee
- 6 Eileen Robertson
- 9 John Hunt
- 9 Leigh Ann Lewis
- 10 David Smith
- 10 Carol Klauber
- 14 Logan Taylor Nelson
- 15 Grace Johnson
- 15 Bethany Robinson
- 16 Janis Myers
- 17 Cassie Dupree
- 18 Sue Bolyard
- 18 Keri Cunningham
- 20 Janice Lane
- 22 Susie Hunt
- 23 George Bishop
- 24 Frank Majors
- 25 Stacy Baker
- 25 Barbara Tyrrell
- 26 Benny Nelson
- 28 Jackie Ross
- 31 Steven Sloan

*Everyone was born to fulfill the  
purpose of God. That is the reason  
that God put us where we are.  
May your life be rich with His  
abundant love and may blessings  
overtake you from near and far.  
Happy Birthday!*

*Our faith calls us to bring joy to others, helping them to have a more fulfilling life. Every day as we walk through life we can extend friendship to the people we meet. We can greet them, smile, and be pleased to see them. We all have the potential to be "Good Sorts" by passing on God's love to those we meet.*

# AUGUST 2015

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<i>Lord, you have given us so much that sometimes we forget how little we really need in order to survive. We cling foolishly to things and comforts and forget that your grace is sufficient. Help us, as we venture into the unknown, to trust your love. In Jesus' name. Amen.</i>						
						<b>1</b>
<b>2</b> Contemporary Worship 8:44 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Traditional Worship 11:15 AM Disciple Bible Study 2:00 PM	<b>3</b> Serenity AA Meeting 8:00 PM	<b>4</b> Visitation Team 10:00 AM Boy Scouts Meeting 7:00 PM	<b>5</b> Prayer Meeting 10:00 AM Youth Meeting 6:00 PM Choir Practice 7:30 PM NA Meeting 7:30 PM	<b>6</b> Contemporary Band 6:30 PM	<b>7</b> Family and Friends Game Night 6:00 PM	<b>8</b>
<b>Pastor Ben is on vacation August 2-10</b>						
<b>9</b> Contemporary Worship 8:44 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Traditional Worship 11:15 AM Disciple Bible Study 2:00 PM	<b>10</b> Serenity AA Meeting 8:00 PM	<b>11</b> Visitation Team 10:00 AM <b>Charlotte Herbert Circle 10:30 AM</b> <b>Worship Meeting 6:30 PM</b> Boy Scouts Meeting 7:00 PM	<b>12</b> Prayer Meeting 10:00 AM Youth Meeting 6:00 PM Choir Practice 7:30 PM NA Meeting 7:30 PM	<b>13</b> Contemporary Band 6:30 PM	<b>14</b> Family and Friends Game Night 6:00 PM	<b>15</b> <b>Crafters Meeting 10:00 AM</b>
<b>16</b> Men's Breakfast 7:30 AM Contemporary Worship 8:44 AM Children's Moments Training 10:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Traditional Worship 11:15 AM Epworth Grows Garden Meeting 12:30 PM Disciple Bible Study 2:00 PM	<b>17</b> <b>Nominations Meeting 6:30 PM</b> <b>SPRC Meeting 7:30 PM</b> Serenity AA Meeting 8:00 PM	<b>18</b> Visitation Team 10:00 AM Boy Scouts Meeting 7:00 PM <b>Trustees Meeting 7:00 PM</b>	<b>19</b> Prayer Meeting 10:00 AM Youth Meeting 6:00 PM Choir Practice 7:30 PM NA Meeting 7:30 PM	<b>20</b> Volunteers at JIO 9:30 AM Contemporary Band 6:30 PM	<b>21</b> Family and Friends Game Night 6:00 PM	<b>22</b>
<b>23/30</b> Contemporary Worship 8:44 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Traditional Worship 11:15 AM Disciple Bible Study 2:00 PM	<b>24</b> <b>Finance Meeting 6:30 PM</b> Serenity AA Meeting 8:00 PM	<b>25</b> Visitation Team 10:00 AM Boy Scouts Meeting 7:00 PM <b>Chapter 2 Book Review 7:30 PM</b>	<b>26</b> Prayer Meeting 10:00 AM Youth Meeting 6:00 PM Choir Practice 7:30 PM NA Meeting 7:30 PM	<b>27</b> Volunteers at JIO 9:30 AM Contemporary Band 6:30 PM	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>

**W**HEN GOD INVITES US to change, God also helps us make the change. But don't expect big changes to be automatic or easy. Human growth, whether rapid or slow, is a process that involves commitment, hard work, mistakes, and side trips. Almost always we must grow into a change, even after we have stopped a certain behavior. We will need to make adjustments and ask for more help, always paying attention and surrendering as we go. – Tilda Nordberg *The Chocolate Colored Umbrella*