One of my favorite childhood memories was going to the site of a train derailment. When I was young, there was a cargo train that derailed on the upper end of Lake Marion. While staying with a friend we traveled by jon boat to the site of the derailment. It was quite interesting to see those large box cars turned off of the tracks. Some had actually slid into the water and spilled their contents. For some reason, it stands out in my mind that some of the contents were large cases of baby diapers.

There was an eeriness to the scene. The train’s rightful place was on the tracks. That is where it could best fulfill its purpose and mission. I don’t recall ever hearing the cause of the derailment, but I’m sure it was a costly accident.

In many ways, just like the train, churches can be derailed. They can be thrown off track. For the train crossing Lake Marion, two steel rails were essential to its forward progress and the accomplishment of its mission. In a similar way, prayer and making disciples are the twin rails that are essential to the church’s forward progress and the accomplishment of its mission.

This Sunday morning we will begin a new expositional study through the book of Philippians titled, Gospel United. It is the Gospel that unites us. We are united by our common faith in Jesus as Lord and Savior, and we are united in our shared calling to make disciples (advance the Gospel). On Wednesday nights, we are participating in a study titled, Tell Someone: You can share the Good News. Both the message series and the Wednesday night study will focus on sharing our faith and being united around the Gospel, but it is important to remember that without a commitment to prayer the train will be derailed or lose power. The Holy Spirit’s power is released when we seek the Lord in prayer.

While we are presently focusing on the Gospel and how we can share it with others we don’t want to lose our prayer focus. So this Sunday evening we are going to have a corporate prayer service. This will be a structured time of worship and prayer. I hope you will make every effort to be here as we seek the Lord together. Our prayer gathering will begin at 6:00 pm.

For Him,
Chad
Opportunities

SUNDAY
8:15am  Encounter Service
9:30am  Sunday School
10:30am  Cornerstone Service
5:00pm  Student Choir
6:00pm  Evening Service
TeamKID
Youth

WEDNESDAY
5:15-6:30pm  Supper
6:00-6:45pm  Preschool Choir
1st-5th Grade Choir
6:30-7:30pm  Bible Study (Sanctuary)
Youth Worship (Crosswalk)
6:45-7:30pm  Preschool Mission Friends
Grades 1-5 G.A.’s
Grades 1-5 R.A.’s
7:35-9:00pm  Sanctuary Choir

THURSDAY
7:00am  Men’s Prayer Group

Employment Opportunities
Our Child Development Center is now hiring part-time and full-time employees. For more information contact the CDC Director, Donna Miller at 294-9001.

Sympathy
Sympathy is extended to:

The family of Alma Malone.
The family of Diane Mitchell.
Brenda Hall in the death of her sister, Judy Salters.

The Reaching Center
Food needed this week:
macaroni and cheese, instant potatoes,

Wednesday Night Supper
Menu for April 27:
Fried Chicken, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy, Green Beans, Corn
Children’s alternative menu:
Peanut butter and jelly sandwich

Dinner Theater/Mission Trip Fundraiser
Hosted by the Student Choir
On Sunday, May 22nd the Student Choir will be hosting a dinner theater event in the Crosswalk. Doors will open at 5:30pm. This fun event will blast you to the past as we go back to the time of Motown classics. The students will be ready to serve you a delicious spaghetti dinner as you sit back and enjoy great music! This event is also serving as an opportunity to raise funds for the Student Ministry's mission trip to New Orleans this July. **Tickets are $10 and will be available starting on Sunday, May 1st** in the Welcome Center and in the church office. **Tickets will sell fast, so make sure to get your tickets as soon as possible!** See you there!

Make-a-Dress Workshop
Tuesday, April 26
Senior Adult Building
3:00-9:00pm - Drop In Anytime
Pizza served at 6pm
Adults: $2, Kids: $1
Don’t know how to sew?!
You don’t need to! Come spend some time with us and learn how to make these EASY dresses for our mission team to share in Uganda this summer.
For more information contact Susan Bishop at 246-7253.

Financial Report
Sunday, April 17, 2016
Total Annual Budget........$1,291,427.97
Budgeted Gifts Rec’d 4-17......$16,714.00
Legacy Gifts......................$523.00
Designated/Reimbursement.....$4,896.55
Total Deposit....................$22,133.55

Attendance
Sunday Morning Services........543
Sunday Evening Service.........88

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Hands of Kindness is the Uganda Ministry started by Kathie Burgess.
The tournament supports the completion of the Children’s Center in Koreng, Uganda.

Friday, June 10, 2016 - 9am
Furman Golf Course
$75 per player
Sign up at H.O.K. website today or call (864) 884-4553

www.handsofkindnesschilderen.com