

The Cumberland Network

Volume XII
Issue VI

Dec.09-May 10

Special points of interest:

- Visit us on the web,p.6
- Annual Conference, June 10-13, Florence Civic Center
- Youth Prayer Break-fast, June 26
- Men's Day, June 27
- VBS, June 21-25

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Penned from the Pulpit

Rev. J. Jeannette' Cooper

Revelation 21:5-5

5. And he who sat upon the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true."

6. And he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the fountain of the water of life without payment."

God has, is and will continue to make new things. This is evidenced in our experiencing the renewal of a place, in which to worship. It is a great thing that God has done for and through us. We are recipients of God's favor, by being a part of the

re-building of these walls, called Cumberland United Methodist Church. Let's not take this deed lightly. Let us rejoice and be thankful in all that we do.

God is working it out, for newness of ministry. We are planning and praying through growth and development. The outreach committee is expanding its reach. Vacation Bible School is on the horizon; and we will receive a ministerial intern by the end of May. God is making all things new. Has God spoken to you about who you can invite to church; who you might offer prayer; or to whom you may offer ministry? Don't let what God wants to do through you be ignored.



God has a plan for us.

Let us be in one accord as God, through Jesus the Christ and The Holy Spirit lead us into new things. Let's be ready to obediently walk into the future. The old has passed away. Let us catch the Spirit of the new. May you have a safe and blessed summer.
Rev. J. Jeannette' Cooper

Willie Phillips Retires

Mr. Willie Phillips, having served as custodian of Cumberland United Methodist Church for the past 20 years, announced his retirement in February to become effective immediately. Members of the church celebrated his retirement with a drop-in on Sunday, April 11. The affair

was an enjoyable event for members, family and friends. Mr. Phillips was asked to take the position of custodian after the death of Mr. Henry Moses in 1990 until a replacement could be found. After serving diligently for several months, he was hired

full time. He served faithfully during the pastorate of the Reverend James Gadsden, Larry McCutcheon, George McClellan, and the present pastor, Reverend J. Jeannette' Cooper.

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A Message to the Graduates

We've tried to teach you many things,
Including right from wrong.
Be careful as you leave our wings,
And choose not the maddening throng

The time is now to put into practice,
These lessons we have instilled.
You'll meet others but none will match us,
Don't forget that you are strong willed.

If you let good judgment and precision,
Strategy and concentration,
Guide you in making each decision,
There'll be no place for procrastination
New acquaintances may not all prove to be true friends,
Again you'll have to decide.
Parents and guardians are available both ears they'll lend,
In them it's safe to confide.

High standards and good morals are necessary,
These are characteristics we know you possess.
Temptation, ignore that old

adversary,
You'll encounter trying days we do confess.

Invite honesty and kindness to envelope you,
As you enter this phase of your existence.
Keep this in mind in whatever you do,
And good choice will meet with little resistance
By working hard you will earn your best grades,
Some of which you have already made.
You're becoming our leaders of tomorrow,
Set examples you'd want your siblings to follow.

by Cornelia Frierson

GRADUATES 2010

*"We congratulate
our members who
have reached an
important pinnacle in
their lives."*

High School Graduates 2010

Samantha Toney: Wilson High School (International Baccalaureate Diploma).
Brandia Rumelle Cooper: South Florence High School
Biael Nesmith: Wilson High School
Catherine Joy Evans: Wilson High School

Sharese Williams: Wilson High School
Kyle Christopher Bruce: Wilson High School

Anthony McCants:
Francis Marion University
Andrew Brewington: School of Divinity

College Graduates 2010

Taylor Harrison: South Carolina State University
Jennifer Gallman: Columbia College

"Father Do Not Distant Yourself"

Poem by Corneila Frierson

Father do not distance yourself,
You are needed for your children's total health.

Their physical well being and mental stability,
All depend on your availability

Contributions, you can't make if you aren't there,
They quickly grow up thinking that you don't care

What else is left for them to think,
When you are always that missing link?

You are the one who should be the role model,
For your own children help prepare one milk bottle.

One day soon they'll toss it aside,
You need to be there with rules and help them to abide.

Mother does what she can, but it's still one sided,
Father they need both of you so they won't be misguided.

They long for you most when things go wrong in school,
That's where the rules seem to be most cruel.

Father you could help them. I know you could explain,
Provided you in the home, would just remain.

Beverly Woods Recognized for Securing Funds for Children

Florence School Dist. 1 After School Care Director Beverly Woods received recognition from the Florence Housing Authority for her work in securing funds to benefit students participating in the 21st Century community Learning Centers Program.

During the past school year, Woods was instrumental in receiving over \$680,000 in the program which is a key component of the No Child Left Behind Act.

Its primary focus is to provide funding for the establishment or expansion of after-school programs designed to help students and their families (particularly those attending high-poverty and low-performing schools) to meet state and local academic standards.

Cooper Update

Tory Cooper is playing football in Innsbruck, Austria. He is playing for the Swarco Raiders, the only team in Europe that has a partnership with a NFL team, the Oakland Raiders. The Swarco Raiders is the No.1 team in Europe and back-to-back Eurobowl Champions.

Tory, whose number is 23, the same number he had at the Citadel, is a running back and receiver. The games can be seen twice per week at www.raiderstv.at.

Since returning to Europe, Tory has visited Verona, Italy, London, Prague, Switzerland, and Germany. While in Germany, he spent the weekend with his cousin Karl Frierson, the son of Louise Frierson.

Says Cooper, "It is nice, but there is nothing like the United States."

YOUTH NEWS AND HIGHLIGHTS

CUMC Youth have had a fun and exciting year so far. Since December, we have had many great activities.

Each week at the youth meeting, we spend time studying the Bible. We have been discussing topics such as Relationships with God, Parents and Friends and How to Pray. Our discussions are thought provoking and help us with daily issues.

In December, we visited the Pelican House to sing carols and visit with the residents. Afterwards, we fellowshiped at Pizza Hut. In January, we sponsored "Family Fun Night" – an evening filled with food, games and fun. Several awards were presented to families participating. Our event in February was to be a Valentine's dinner, but because of the snow, the program was canceled.

However, dinner was served to those who were able to brave the weather and we do appreciate that!

In March, we had a pancake supper which was fun and well attended. There were games and activities for the entire family. Our events for the month of April were an Easter Egg Hunt and cookout – thanks to Mr. Milton Phillips. On Easter Sunday afternoon, we presented an Easter program which included beautiful speeches by the children and a skit and songs by the youth.

For the month of May, we had the "Hawaiian Spring Fling". There were out door "old school" games, i.e. jacks, dodge ball, kick ball, sack races, checkers, bingo, and so many other activities. Prizes were awarded for participation and to the winners. There was great food and fellowship. This was an enjoyable evening of outdoor fun for adults, youth and children.

Member Vidal James was selected to be a part of the All State High School Honors Chorus. The concert was held March 20 at Winthrop University. Thank you, Cumberland for your continued love and support for the youth and children. We continue to try and "grow" in the right direction. Amaron Barr-Cook, CUMC Youth Secretary

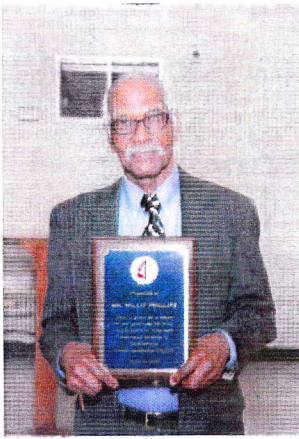
More Graduates

Elementary to Middle School: Nia Kiaria Mearite: North Vista Elementary to Williams Middle School

Middle School To High School
Cornelius Frierson: Southside Middle School to Wilson High School

Kindergarten Graduates

Carla Frierson: North Vista Elementary
Jaylen Davis: Timrod Elementary
Jacquelynn Richardson: Christian Assembly School



Phillips Retires

Mr. Phillips is a third generation custodian for the church following in the footsteps of his grandfather George Liston and his grand uncle Alex Madison. His parents, the late Mr. Elisha and Bessie Liston Phillips instilled in him great work ethics and the necessity of helping others. As a result, Mr. Phillips has been a permanent fixture during meetings, choir rehearsals, funerals, church services and other activities at the church as well as the outreach center.

Mr. Phillips served in the Armed Forces during the Korean Conflict. After his tour of duty in the army, he enrolled in Denmark Area Trade School and pursued courses in tailoring. He continues to use his skills in tailoring to serve his many clients in the business.

Mr. Phillips has helped the church grow and prosper through the years, always extending a helping hand. Now is the time for him to relax and

cont.

enjoy his retirement, reflecting on his many joys doing those things he did not have time to do while working. The Cumberland church family extends God's blessings. Mr. Phillip has been given the office of Emeritus Trustee.

A special thanks to those volunteers who helped to make each distribution a successful event.

Food Bank Ministry

On Thursday, May 20 the Food Bank committee distributed bags of perishable and non perishable food to a total of 57 families. Due to the present state of the economy, there was an increase in new applications this month as from previous months. The bulk of the food for this ministry is purchased from Harvest

Hope Food Bank. Members are encouraged to make contributions to this ministry. Contributions are needed now more than ever in order to continue to help the needy in the community. The food is distributed on the 3rd Thursday of every month from 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon. A SPECIAL THANKS to those volunteers

who help to make each distribution a successful event

Soup Kitchen Ministry

The soup kitchen continues to minister to the needs of the community by providing a nutritious meal to those who come on the 3rd Monday of every month from 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm. Anyone who needs a free meal is welcome. This ministry serves approximately 45 to 50 clients each month.

Volunteers are a vital part of this ministry. Many thanks are given to the Soup Kitchen Committee and the Evangelism Committee for their many hours of service to this ministry.

The soup kitchen will not be closed during the months of July and August. The UMM

and others has stepped up to make sure the soup kitchen remains open. We have had a good year thus far, with steady participation from our clients and great assistance from our staff.

Restoration Committee Update

As a result of the work of the Restoration Committee and the church's membership, Cumberland celebrated Consecration Sunday on March 28, 2010. The committee continues to deal with minor issues that arise as a result of a major building construction. The final phase of the construction is completing the landscaping and paving the parking lot which should be complete this June. Members of the committee and several Trustees made a complete inspection of the church construction and prepared a

"punch list of problems" which is shared with the contractor. These are general items which need attention but are not considered major problems.

The members of the Restoration Committee prepared and submitted a grant to the South Carolina conference' Committee on Congregational Development. We are happy to report that as a result of the efforts we received a grant in the amount of \$75,000.00. These funds are being used by the Finance Committee and Trustees to support needs of the

church that complement the rebuilding of the sanctuary. The Wall of Support information will soon be placed in the foyer between the sanctuary and Educational Building.

Thanks to those persons who have made commitments and completed their pledge. We encourage others to do the same.

The Memorial Garden will be completed this summer. We need for persons who have made the commitment to complete the forms appropriately so that the correct information will be placed on the markers.

completed this summer. We need for persons who have made the commitment to complete the forms appropriately so that the correct information will be placed on the markers. It is so important that we continue to be supportive of our church and its needs.

Fundraising Task Group Update

Thanks to you for the outstanding support of the Mother's Day effort. The total amount generated was \$4,565. To those of you who are making contributions in honor of your birthday and all other extra mile contributions, we thank you!

Let us continue to be committed to the financial needs of

the church. Please continue to support the WALL OF SUPPORT. You may call the church secretary in reference to items that are still available (662-2904).

Don't forget to put Father's Day on your calendar. The committee is asking that contributions be made in lieu of flowers.

REMEMBER, TOGETHER
WE CAN AND TOGETHER
WE WILL!

*Our Ministerial
Intern, Ms. Krystal
Higgins, arrived on
June 5, 2010.*

*Welcome to
Cumberland Ms.
Higgins!*

Cumberland History Book on Sale

History was in the making on Palm Sunday, March 28, 2010 when the Cumberland Church family moved into the new sanctuary. It was a great day! There were many mention accomplishments during the morning worship. One mention was a history book of Cumberland United Methodist

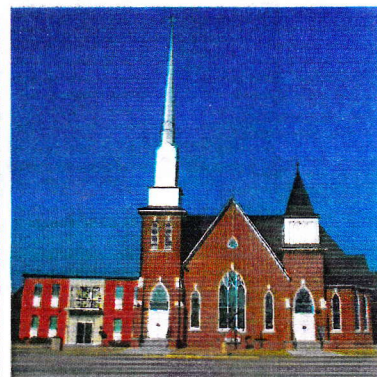
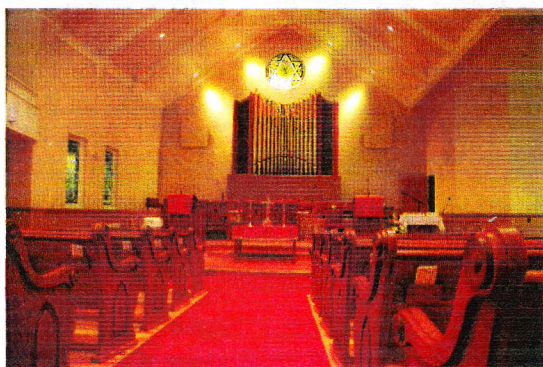
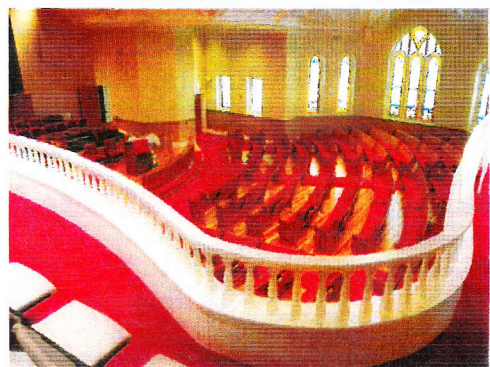
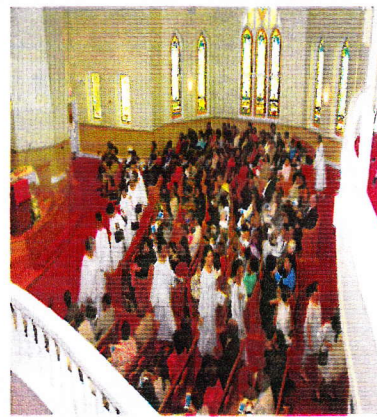
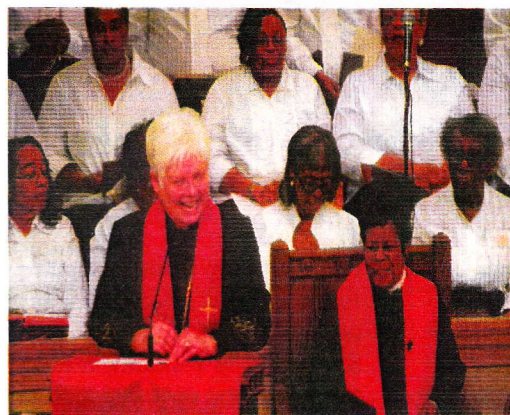
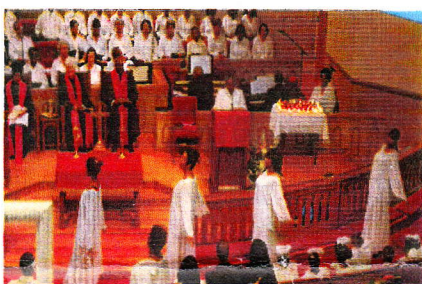
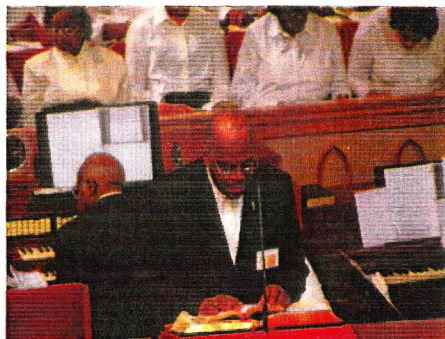
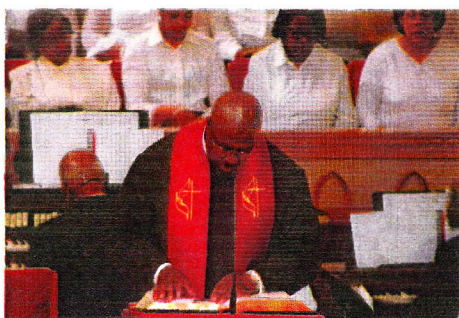
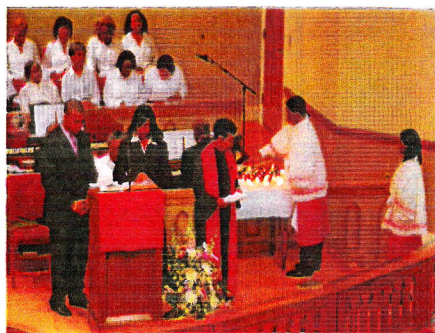
Church. This book gives information of Cumberland's history from 1865 to the present date, 2010. The content includes documents, written history and many pictures. A book of this magnitude can be vital to the present church generation to share with generations to come.

The front cover of the book shows the old church (1911) on top and the new church (2010) on the bottom. Cumberland United Methodist Church History Books are available on sale for \$25.00 in the church office.

*This book will prove to
be an historical account
of Cumberland that
can be shared with the
generations to come..*

HOME AGAIN





Welcome Home, Cumberland!

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Florence, South Carolina

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We've opened our hearts our
hands and our doors.

www.cumberlandumcflorence.org

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Thank-you Cumberland Family



Dear Cumberland UMC
Family,

Thank you for the magnificent retirement reception along with your generous gifts. Your kindness and generosity is appreciated and will forever be remembered. When I reminisce on the afternoon of April 11, 2010, the memories of your kind words of thanks, best wishes and the sweet spirit of everyone that attended my retirement celebration will forever be remembered. I retire with bitter sweet emotions, sweet in knowing that God continues to bless me with a loving family, good health, great friends and You, my

church family. Thanks again for sharing the afternoon with me and my family. Retirement is withdrawal from one's position or occupation or from active working life – Webster' Dictionary Retirement is a part of life – such as life and life as such – Willie L. Phillips' dictionary.

Willie L. Phillips and family