

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, September 9, 2018
11:15 a.m.

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

THE PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

O loving God, to turn away from you is to fall, to turn toward you is to rise, and to stand before you is to abide forever. Grant us, dear God, in all our duties your help; in all our uncertainties your guidance; in all our dangers your protection; and in all our sorrows your peace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Augustine of Hippo

OUR APPROACH TO GOD

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP, COMMON CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT "Surely" Langston
CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 130:5,7)

Leader: I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I hope.

People: **For with the Lord there is steadfast love,
and with him is great power to redeem.**

Leader: Let us worship God!

* HYMN OF PRAISE No. 35 LOBE DEN HERREN
"Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty"

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Good and gracious God, we confess that we have been more fearful than faithful. Our vision has been dim, our imagination has been shallow, and our love has left many out. Forgive us, Holy God, and renew our hearts again. Help us to see others not as the world sees them, but as you see them. Mold us once again into the image of your Son, so that we would be extravagant with his grace and courageous with his call. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

People: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

* GLORIA PATRI (Hymnal, No. 581)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

CONGREGATIONAL CALL TO PRAYER McNeill

"The Steadfast Love of the Lord Never Ceases"

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases;

God's mercies never come to an end.

They are new every morning, new every morning;

Great is your faithfulness, O Lord, great is your faithfulness.

MORNING PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Hymnal page 35, Traditional

K5 and first grade children leave for Children's Church following the prayer.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON — Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 (Page 13)

Dave Edwards

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON — Romans 4:16-21 (Page 155)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON

Ben Dorr

"Hoping Against Hope"

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

SERVICE OF GIVING

Offertory "Let All the World" Argento

* Doxology (Hymnal, No. 606)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

* Prayer of Dedication

* HYMN No. 321

AURELIA

"The Church's One Foundation"

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

* CHORAL RESPONSE

Ulrich

"Gaelic Benediction"

* POSTLUDE

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

arr. Walther

***All who are able may stand**

HEAD USHER: Butler Mullins

SPONSOR: Ben Alexander

GREETERS: Kathryn Freedman, Brad Lucas, Coleman Kirven

LITURGISTS: Barbara Stoop, Leigh Stuckey,

Mary Kathleen Duncan, Amos Workman

ACOLYTES: Madeline Barker, Sterling Porterfield

If you are visiting this morning, we extend a special welcome to you. Westminster Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is a community of faith open to all who profess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PARKING

We have permission to use the parking lots at the Uniform Shop and Augusta Commons Mall.

TRAFFIC POLICE OFFICER

A Greenville city police officer will be on duty from 9:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. to help people cross the street from the other side of Augusta Road.

STREAMING

All worship services at Westminster are broadcast via live video streaming. Navigate to the home page of the church website at www.wpc-online.org and click the link "Worship via Live Streaming."

CHURCH NOTES

Musicians leading in worship this Sunday are:

Nancy Smith, organist

Westminster Brass

*Craig King, Tom Vanderbloemen,
trumpets*

*Mark Britt, Richard deBondt,
trombones*

Andrew Knauer, timpani

NURSERY

Childcare is available for infants through four-year kindergarten. Our childcare program provides safe, secure nurseries for our babies and toddlers during worship services. Our nurturing staff of experienced caregivers and parent volunteers offers a welcoming environment to all children.

During the worship service, children in rising K5–1st grade follow one of our ministers out for Children's Church in **Room 206**.

In Memoriam

Elizabeth Brunson Wilson

3/25/1947 - 9/2/2018

*"In my Father's House
are many mansions."*

LET US PRAY FOR:

The Family of Betsy Wilson

FALL

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

This **Sunday, September 9**, we will kick off our new Sunday School year with a **breakfast at 9:00 a.m., Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. and worship at 11:15 a.m.** The following **Sunday, September 16**, we will resume our regular schedule of **9:00 a.m. worship, 10:00 a.m. Sunday School, and 11:15 a.m. worship.**

CONVERSATION WITH BEN DORR

I know many of you have had the opportunity to meet Ben Dorr in the past few weeks at worship, in committee meetings and soon to meet him in the pulpit when he preaches his first sermon at WPC on **Sunday, September 9**. The Pastor Nominating Committee also wanted to give you an opportunity to get to know Ben on a more personal level. We asked the Session to submit questions as the basis for a "Conversation with Ben." Join *Michael Cogdill* and Ben by visiting youtube.com/wpcgreenville to hear their conversation and learn more about our new pastor.

*Hank Sanders, chairman
Pastor Nominating Committee*

INTERESTED IN JOINING WESTMINSTER?

Visitors interested in learning more about Westminster Presbyterian Church, membership here, and what it means to be Presbyterian are invited to attend our New Member Class from **8:30–10:30 a.m. on Sunday, September 23**. Those who have been baptized and who wish to become members may do so on **Sunday, September 23**, during the **11:15 a.m. worship service** or on a future new member Sunday. If you have questions, please contact Jennifer Dillard (jdillard@wpc-online.org) at 232-2424.

CAROLINA HIGH

Keep your eyes open for a new year at Carolina High this year. Details coming soon! If you have not been a part of this outreach and are interested in helping out this year, contact Jennifer Dillard (jdillard@wpc-online.org).

SUNDAY NIGHT

YOUTH GROUP KICK-OFF

Both of our youth groups will commence Sunday night meetings starting this week, **September 9**. Note that we will meet at special times for the first week. All families are invited to join us for dinner – please be sure to bring a potluck dish to share!

5:00 p.m.

Choir for all youth

5:30 p.m.

Parent Meeting in Fellowship Hall/ Gym opens for youth

6:00 p.m.

Pot-luck dinner in Fellowship Hall for youth and parents

6:30 p.m.

Program for youth in fellowship hall Icebreaker Get-to-Know You Game

Get to Know Advisors

(Separate parent space to fill out forms and mingle in the Entrance Pavilion)

MEN'S GROUP BOOK STUDY

The Men's Group will begin their new book study on **Monday, September 10**, at **6:00 p.m.** in **Room 209-C**. We will study the book, Mere Christianity, by C.S. Lewis. All WPC men are invited to participate. For more information, contact Rick Carpenter (608-1881).

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Get your day started right with the *"It's Never Too Early to Talk About Jesus"* study and discussion group, meeting again **Tuesday, September 11**, at **6:00 a.m.** in the **Women's Lounge**. This semester we will study Rachel Held Evans's New York Times bestseller, A Year of Biblical Womanhood (available in the WPC library). Don't have time for another book? Don't worry, there will be plenty to discuss even if you haven't been able to dig into the text. Questions? Contact Kathleen Reynolds (kathleenmreynolds@yahoo.com, 346-3155) or Associate Pastor Leigh Stuckey.

THEOLOGY READING GROUP

The Theology Reading Group will meet **Monday, September 17**, at **7:00 p.m.** in the **Charter Room**. Leigh Stuckey will lead the discussion of The Undertaking by Thomas Lynch. Read the book and join us for an interesting evening. All are invited.

THE HARBINGER

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2310 Augusta Street
Greenville, South Carolina 29605
(864) 232-2424

www.wpc-online.org

THE HARBINGER: (USPS No. 764160)
Published weekly by the Westminster Presbyterian Church, 2310 Augusta Street, Greenville SC 29605. Periodical postage paid at Greenville SC 29605.

CHURCH STAFF

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FIND WPC ONLINE

Visit us online to find up-to-date photos, videos and information about our programming:

<http://www.wpc-online.org>

 [facebook.com/wpcgreenville](https://www.facebook.com/wpcgreenville)

 twitter.com/wpcgreenville

 [instagram.com/wpcgreenville](https://www.instagram.com/wpcgreenville)

 [youtube.com/wpcgreenville](https://www.youtube.com/wpcgreenville)

 [gplus.to/wpc](https://plus.google.com/wpc)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 9 - 15, 2018

SUNDAY

- 9:00 a.m. Kick-Off Breakfast
- 10:00 a.m. Sunday School
- 11:15 a.m. Worship Service
- 5:00 p.m. Combined Youth Choir Rehearsal
- 5:30 p.m. Youth Parent Meeting
- 6:00 p.m. Open Gym for Youth
- 6:30 p.m. Youth Dinner
- 8:00 p.m. Combined Youth Group Meeting
- Alcoholics Anonymous

MONDAY

- 6:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study Group
- 6:15 p.m. NAMI
- 8:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

TUESDAY

- 6:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study
- 9:30 a.m. Weekday Chapel
- 9:45 a.m. Weekday Chapel
- 10:00 a.m. PW Circle 5
- 11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 12:00 p.m. AI-Anon Meeting
- 6:00 p.m. PW Circle 3

WEDNESDAY

- 9:00 a.m. PW Circle 6
- 2:30 p.m. "It's Elementary!" & Tweens
- 4:30 p.m. Junior & Senior Choristers
- 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY

- 10:00 a.m. Bible Study
- 8:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

2018-2019 CHURCH BASKETBALL

- Youth ages 5K-12 grade and WPC men
- are invited to participate in Christian fellowship and recreational basketball
- for the upcoming season, which will begin the week of November 10. WPC members interested in being a coach or assistant coach may contact Bryant Puntch (bryant_puntch@ucbi.com or 915-5686). Online player registration will open on **Tuesday, September 4 and end Sunday, October 7**. Registration and schedules may be accessed on the church's website at www.wpc-online.org (<https://wpc-online.org/events-registration/youth-basketball/>).



HOPE, LOVE, STRENGTH AND COURAGE

"I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."
Joshua 1:9

In the early 1960s an uncle of mine was the manager of a motel in Memphis. This was at the height of the Civil Rights movement when Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was a beacon of love and hope in a dangerous and uncertain time.

In the summer of 1962, my uncle opened the doors of his motel to Dr. King and members of the Commission on Civil Rights and the Tennessee Advisory Council to the CCR. My uncle, aunt and cousins actually met Dr. King. For that display of hospitality and tolerance, my uncle and his family had to be taken away when the KKK and other civil rights opponents threatened to burn it down. Eventually, he was transferred to a job in another city then fired. His family's life was upended and changed irrevocably because my uncle felt he had to do what was right.

When we consider the harrowing moments our country has experienced the past two years, it's well to look at similar times in history to examine what others did in such circumstances. We could look all the way back to before the formal establishment of the church when Christians were hunted, executed and even set on fire as torches at the Coliseum in Rome.

Despite knowing that the authorities were looking for them, early Christians continued to practice the faith, spreading hope and love through the Word even at – literally – the risk of life and limb. That's what Paul and his followers did in cities throughout the Mediterranean.

"There they strengthened the souls of the disciples and encouraged them to continue in the faith, saying, 'It is through many persecutions that we must enter the kingdom of God.'"
Acts 14:22

We also can look to those brave souls in occupied Europe during WWII who helped Jews escape persecution at the hands of the Nazis. Those citizens risked everything to do what was right.

So the question we face is how to find that moral courage, how do we find hope?

"But you, take courage! Do not let your hands be weak, for your work shall be rewarded."
2 Chronicles 15:7

"I have said this to you, so that in me you may have peace. In the world you face persecution. But take courage; I have conquered the world!"
John 16:33

Jesus' resurrection, God's ultimate victory, is the example to remember when moral choices must be made. Do we take the path of least resistance? Or do we find the courage to stand up and be counted? God gave us the freedom to choose but he also gave us hope and the light to find our way.

Mark Matlock

Grab a Nametag this Sunday!

On the recommendation of Session and the Pastoral Nominating Committee, we ask that you wear nametags during worship and the fellowship hour. This will help make the process of learning names and faces easier for our new Senior Pastor Ben Dorr and his wife Heather when they join us in worship. And you may finally learn the name of that one person you've been too embarrassed to ask!

You will find nametags in the following places:

- Sanctuary Atrium in several spots
- Friendship Court – outside the choir room
- Entrance Pavilion – near the Fellowship Hall entrance
- Starting this Sunday, September 9, in the Adult Sunday School classes

Write your name in large print and legibly!

Thanks for your help!

ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

We at Westminster believe that education is essential for discipleship, and hope that what you learn in this place will transform your living beyond our doors. Each quarter we offer four classes, covering topics that range from theology and Biblical literacy to culture. This quarter kicks off on **Sunday, September 9**, and will run each Sunday **through October 28**. You are welcome to join any class at any point!

1. **Confirmation for Adults**

This class will study the same curriculum our 9th grade confirmation students study each spring. It would be a great experience for parents whose children will go through confirmation anytime in the next few years, but we welcome adults of any stage to refresh their faith by remembering what it means to belong to God and to be Presbyterian!

Teacher: *Mary Kathleen Duncan, is an Associate Pastor at Westminster whose work focuses on the education and spiritual upbringing of youth and their families.*

Room: 209

2. **Wisdom Calls**

This class will study the Wisdom Literature of the Old Testament (the books of Proverbs, Job, and Ecclesiastes and the Apocryphal books of Sirach and Wisdom of Solomon). In addition to exploring the texts of the books, we will try to apply their lessons to contemporary life using a recent book by Paul Lewis, *Wisdom Calls: The Moral Story of the Hebrew Bible* (available in the WPC library).

Teacher: *David Rutledge, a scholar of religion, is a member of Westminster, who recently retired from Furman University after years of teaching.*

Room: 213

3. **What the Bible Doesn't Say**

Where are all the windows God is opening after closing the door? Or the sins we hate that don't reflect back on the sinner? Did God "say it" so we have to believe it, and does God prefer to help only those who are getting after their own good? This lecture-based class will examine the cultural sayings that have settled into our religious vocabulary. We'll ask what we can learn from popular religion and where we might diverge in our own faithfulness.

Teacher: *Leigh Stuckey, is an Associate Pastor at Westminster who works in education, communication, and mission.*

Room: 211

4. **Visionaries, Idealists, and Creative Geniuses**

What do we know about inspiration? What is a vision? How is relativity inspired? Join this discussion-based class as we explore the creative spark that lies within us all.

Teacher: *Judith Chandler, a member of Westminster, has taught at Furman's Lifelong Learning Institute since its inception. She is also a recognized local artist.*

Room: 210

Sunday School for children and youth will begin on Sunday, September 9, at 10:00 a.m., and classes will be combined differently this year. 2K will meet in Room 108, on our lowest floor, 3K and 4K will meet together in Room 109. 5K and 1st grade will meet together in Room 123. Grades 2 and 3 will meet together in Room 120. Grades 4 and 5 will meet together in Room 118.

Grades 6, 7, and 8 will meet together as a class in the 300 hallway and Grades 9-12 will meet in the Youth Suite.

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WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ADULT GROUPS

- **Hiking Group:** Will meet in the church parking lot on **Saturday, September 8, at 8:00 a.m.** for a hike on the Art Loeb Trail. **Hike Leader:** *Buffie Taylor* (ehtaylor87@gmail.com).
- **Needle Arts Group:** Will meet on **Wednesday, September 12, at 6:30 p.m.** in the **Entrance Pavilion.** **Group Leader:** *Terry Gentry* (tmgentry@charter.net).

CONNECTIONS

Come enjoy a late summer brunch with Connections on **Sunday, September 16, at 12:45 p.m.** at **Passarelle Bistro** (601 Main St.). RSVP to *Ruth Johnston* (ruthjohnst@aol.com or 201-6117) no later than **Friday, September 14.** Newcomers are welcome!

YOUNGISH ADULTS

Join us to kick off our Youngish Bible study and fellowship series on **Wednesday, September 19, from 6:15-8:00 p.m.** at the home of *Kathleen & Jeff Reynolds* (43 Wedgewood Dr.). Watch your email for more details. Childcare will be available at WPC. No need to RSVP! Questions? Contact Leigh Stuckey (lstuckey@wpc-online.org).

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

- Tuesday, September 11**
- **Circle #5:** *Ilene Schlacht*, chair (rischlacht@att.net), will meet at **10:00 a.m.** in the **Choir Room.**
- **Circle #3:** *Dee Malone*, chair (dee05m@gmail.com), will meet at the home of *Fran Walker* (47 Charlbury St.) at **6:00 p.m.**
- Wednesday, September 12**
- **Circle #6:** *Liz Einstein* (liz.ard.einstein@gmail.com) and *Sherry Tate* (sherrytate63@gmail.com), co-chairs will meet at **9:00 a.m.** at Liz's home (223 Camille Ave.).

MENS GROUP FALL MISSION TRIP October 10-14

Clean up and maintenance of Camp Thornwell is our ongoing project for the third year. The camp is owned by the Thornwell Home in Clinton and is a youth camp and respite place for the Thornwell community. The camp is one hour away (435 Sugar Likker Rd, Sunset, SC). There are facilities to stay overnight with good food and fellowship. Volunteers are encouraged to stay several days, but also may come for the day. Workers with all levels of skills and ability are needed. For more information contact *Paul Oneal* (paulmoneal@aol.com) or *Jeff Reynolds* at (trjreynocu@yahoo.com).

WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER CHILI COOK-OFF

Sunday, October 7 5:00-7:00

Adults \$7.00 Children (3-11) \$3.00 Children (2 and under) Free

Join us for the Women of Westminster's Chili Cook-Off! All proceeds benefit the Women of Westminster Scholarship Fund.

Got a mean chili recipe? Grab a team and enter below. Entry fee is \$25 per team. Teams will be responsible for providing their famous chili and their own table decorations and theme. Awards will be given in many different categories. We will provide the table, taste cups and spoons!

Don't cook but love to eat? Join us for a Chili Church Dinner and become one of our many judges. Taste cards will be for sale for \$5 each (or 4 for \$20) and get you 5 tastes per card. Come judge your fellow WPC members as they compete for this coveted award! Voting will close at 6:30 and winners announced at 7 p.m. To keep the check-in lines moving on October 7, we ask that you sign up online and pay online by going to <https://wpc-online.org/events-registration/>. **Menu:** baked potato and salad bar with all condiments, rolls and dessert.

*PLUS...*We all know what chili makes us think of...FOOTBALL! Beginning on Sunday, September 23, the "Ultimate Tailgate Package" will be set-up in the Atrium. Raffle tickets are \$5 a piece (or 4 for \$20) and will be on sale until Sunday, October 7. We will draw the winner Sunday night while we also crown our 2018 Women of Westminster Chili Cook-Off Champions. You will not need to be present to win.

Questions? Comments? Contact Katherine Mattice at kmmarketingservices@gmail.com.

WOW CHILI COOK-OFF TEAM REGISTRATION

Team Name: _____

Contact Name: _____

Contact email/phone: _____

\$25.00 Registration Fee: _____

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER CHILI COOK-OFF

Sunday, October 7 5:00-7:00

Adults \$7.00 Children (3-11) \$3.00 Children (2 and under) Free

Join us for the Women of Westminster's Chili Cook-Off! All proceeds benefit the Women of Westminster Scholarship Fund.

Got a mean chili recipe? Grab a team and enter below. Entry fee is \$25 per team. Teams will be responsible for providing their famous chili and their own table decorations and theme. Awards will be given in many different categories. We will provide the table, taste cups and spoons!

Don't cook but love to eat? Join us for a Chili Church Dinner and become one of our many judges. Taste cards will be for sale for \$5 each (or 4 for \$20) and get you 5 tastes per card. Come judge your fellow WPC members as they compete for this coveted award! Voting will close at 6:30 and winners announced at 7 p.m. To keep the check-in lines moving on October 7, we ask that you sign up online and pay online by going to <https://wpc-online.org/events-registration/>. **Menu:** baked potato and salad bar with all condiments, rolls and dessert.

*PLUS...*We all know what chili makes us think of...FOOTBALL! Beginning on Sunday, September 23, the "Ultimate Tailgate Package" will be set-up in the Atrium. Raffle tickets are \$5 a piece (or 4 for \$20) and will be on sale until Sunday, October 7. We will draw the winner Sunday night while we also crown our 2018 Women of Westminster Chili Cook-Off Champions. You will not need to be present to win.

Questions? Comments? Contact Katherine Mattice at kmmarketingservices@gmail.com.

WOW CHILI COOK-OFF TEAM REGISTRATION

Team Name: _____

Contact Name: _____

Contact email/phone: _____

\$25.00 Registration Fee: _____

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ADULT GROUPS

- **Hiking Group:** Will meet in the church parking lot on **Saturday, September 8, at 8:00 a.m.** for a hike on the Art Loeb Trail. **Hike Leader:** *Buffie Taylor* (ehtaylor87@gmail.com).
- **Needle Arts Group:** Will meet on **Wednesday, September 12, at 6:30 p.m.** in the **Entrance Pavilion.** **Group Leader:** *Terry Gentry* (tmgentry@charter.net).

CONNECTIONS

Come enjoy a late summer brunch with Connections on **Sunday, September 16, at 12:45 p.m.** at **Passarelle Bistro** (601 Main St.). RSVP to *Ruth Johnston* (ruthjohnst@aol.com or 201-6117) no later than **Friday, September 14.** Newcomers are welcome!

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PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

- Tuesday, September 11**
- **Circle #5:** *Ilene Schlacht*, chair (rischlacht@att.net), will meet at **10:00 a.m.** in the **Choir Room.**
- **Circle #3:** *Dee Malone*, chair (dee05m@gmail.com), will meet at the home of *Fran Walker* (47 Charlbury St.) at **6:00 p.m.**
- Wednesday, September 12**
- **Circle #6:** *Liz Einstein* (liz.ard.einstein@gmail.com) and *Sherry Tate* (sherrytate63@gmail.com), co-chairs will meet at **9:00 a.m.** at Liz's home (223 Camille Ave.).

MENS GROUP FALL MISSION TRIP October 10-14

Clean up and maintenance of Camp Thornwell is our ongoing project for the third year. The camp is owned by the Thornwell Home in Clinton and is a youth camp and respite place for the Thornwell community. The camp is one hour away (435 Sugar Likker Rd, Sunset, SC). There are facilities to stay overnight with good food and fellowship. Volunteers are encouraged to stay several days, but also may come for the day. Workers with all levels of skills and ability are needed. For more information contact *Paul Oneal* (paulmoneal@aol.com) or *Jeff Reynolds* at (trjreynocu@yahoo.com).

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