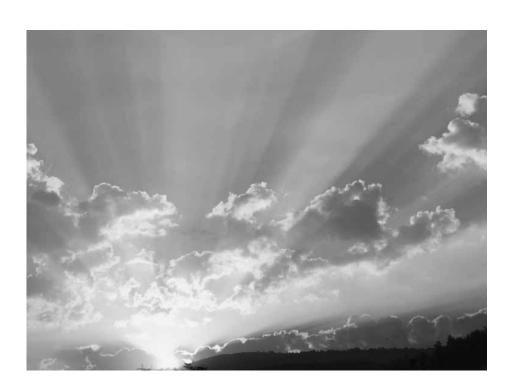


# DEPTH SOUNDINGS

Encouragement, Inspiration and News from The Anchorage

September 2011



**LIGHT** 



# "Living in the Light"

by Janice Jennings

As we, our friends and families, our country and our world seem to be bombarded by so much bad news lately, the theme of "light" feels appropriate. All of us have been affected to some degree, either directly or indirectly, by the tough economic times and constant barrage of natural disasters our country has experienced recently. It seems that we are all facing change and having to make concessions to our way of life. Even though change often brings on darkness and a sense of heaviness, we trust that as Believers, the darkness will return to the brilliant light of a new day. If our busy lives are filled with too much rushing and we fret on the difficult events going on around us, we too often feel the weight and heaviness of bearing burdens we are not equipped to carry.

Reflect on Jesus' invitation in Matthew 11:28-30 "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light." (NIV).

"God is
Everywhere,
God is Active,
and God is
Good."

Even though in the Scripture it appears that Jesus uses the word "light" as an adjective, meaning "of little weight; not heavy," we can wonder if there was a deeper meaning "hidden to the wise and learned" (from vs. 25). What if we bring our needs to the Lord as instructed in vs. 28, and consider the word "light" as a verb meaning "to cause to brighten, especially with joy, animation, or the like" (as defined by dictionary.com). The event of taking our burdens to the Lord takes on a fuller, and richer added dimension. But unless we are intentional about bringing our burdens to the Lord and creating the space necessary to experience the exchange Jesus promises, it is easy to miss the promised "light".

I really appreciated the opportunity to experience that letting go and being embraced by the Light at our "Living in the Light" retreat in the beautiful mountain setting of Kanuga Conference Center in Hendersonville, NC recently. As Bill Dietrich, our retreat leader, took us through highlights of John Woolman's life and teachings, (the 16th century Quaker), we had the spaciousness to listen and learn and reflect on the "Inner Light" or the "Light Within" and the opportunity to find rest for our souls. Bill gave us, and I want to share with you, three fundamental theological truths about God that are always true and appropriate and that we can count on in all situations. They are that "God is Everywhere, God is Active, and God is Good." In trusting and living by these truths we can find light and rest.

# "Public Auction benefits you and The Anchorage"

On September 30, at Augusta Heights Baptist Church in Greenville, Lewis Auctions will hold an auction to benefit a variety of charities. This will be the perfect opportunity for The Anchorage to sell off furniture and accessories no longer being used from the Broadus Street office. Lewis Auctions suggested we invite you to donate items you may no longer need for the auction. The proceeds would benefit The Anchorage and you can take the tax deduction! It is mostly office furniture and child care center items now – so that is what will draw people. Please call The Anchorage ASAP at 864-232-5683 if you have any items you would like to donate. You can view auction details at www.lewisauctions.com.



#### Vision

For all people everywhere to see God more clearly, love God more dearly and follow God more nearly. For when just one person moves toward living out of that graced space, where we know we are loved, there is a ripple effect which is our best hope for the healing of our world. The Anchorage wants to contribute to that hope.

#### Mission

The Anchorage provides a setting in which women and men may come away to be with God, as revealed in Jesus the Christ; and to come to love more deeply, through contemplative retreats, book studies, and spiritual direction this God who loves us beyond measure.

## Metaphor

A safe harbor in which to anchor deep in still waters as a respite from the wind and waves; where pilgrims may enjoy prayerful grace, honor the rhythm of Sabbath and open more fully to the mystery of God's love.

### Servant Leaders

Madeline Blackwell Beverly CroweTipton John Hever Robert Miles Carroll Page, Chair

#### **Other Volunteers**

Susan Leaphart, Vol. Coord. Camp Wynn, Treasurer

#### Staff

Janice Jennings, Interim Executive Director Margaret Vincent, Office Manager

#### The Anchorage

P. O. Box 9091 Greenville, SC 29604 (864) 232-LOVE (5683) www.theanchorage.org

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#### Gifts in Kind:

Sharon Decker Peggy Dulaney Mike Flanagan Ashlyn Mengel Carroll Page Steve Roper, Sign Solutions North Main Friends



## **Upcoming Events**

Fri., Sept. 9 - Sat., Sept. 10, "God Comes to Us" Kanuga Conference, Hendersonville, NC, led by Jeff Rogers

Mon., Oct. 10 - Fri., Oct. 14 4-Day Directed Retreat Mepkin Abbey, Moncks Corner, SC. led by Cathie Powell

Fri., Oct. 14 - Sat., Oct. 15 "Listening to Your Story" The Snails Pace, Saluda, NC, led by Carroll Page

Fri., Nov. 11, 9:30 - 3:30 "Fall Quiet Day: Invitation to the Desert" Furman Chapel Garden Room, led by Cathie Powell

Fri., Nov. 18 - Sun., Nov. 20 "Making the Holiday Holy" The Snails Pace, Saluda, NC, led by Sharon Decker

Fri., Jan. 27 - Sun., Jan. 29 Beach Retreat (XIV): Springmaid Beach Resort, Myrtle Beach, SC. led by Caroline Smith

Sun., Jan. 29 - Tues., Jan. 31 "Praying the Hours" Springmaid Beach Resort, Myrtle Beach, SC, led by Cathie Powell

Fri., Feb. 10 - Sun., Feb. 12 "Artists & Mystics' Retreat" (III) Snails Pace, Saluda, NC, led by Ashlyn Mengel and Cathie Powell

Fri., Mar. 23 - Sun., Mar. 25 "Greatest Silence Retreat" (II) Snails Pace, Saluda, NC, led by Adam and Carroll Page

Mon., Mar. 26 - Fri., Mar. 30 4-Day Directed Retreat Mepkin Abbey, Moncks Corner, SC, led by Cathie Powell

Fri., Apr. 20, 9:30 - 3:30 "Spring Quiet Day: God in Our Stories" Furman Chapel Garden Room, led by Janice Jennings

Fri., May 4 - Mon., May 7, "Retreat for Creative Spirits" Crystal Beach, FL, led by Ashlyn Mengel and Cathie Powell

Only \$10 reserves your space!



# The Anchorage

P.O. Box 9091 Greenville, SC 29604

Return Service Requested

"Your mercies are new every morning. Great is your faithfulness." Lamentations 3:23

Carroll Page completed his 3-year terms as a Servant Leader with The Anchorage, serving as Chair this last year. Left to right: Priscilla Pearce, Janice Jennings, Carroll Page, John Hever, Cathie Powell, Sharon Decker

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## Financial Status as of July 31, 2011 (Fiscal Year is July 11 – June 12)

 Total gifts budgeted
 \$ 38,350

 Total received
 \$ 1,265

 Amount needed
 \$ 37,085

 Total income budgeted
 \$ 82,000

 Total received
 \$ 1,717

 Amount needed
 \$ 80,283

Grateful to God for you, our awesome donors and participants!

Good News! We completed our From God's Abundance (2008-2011)

Our new Friend Raiser for this fiscal year, July 2011 – June 2012, is

"Taste & See"

Please prayerfully consider a pledge (helps with planning) or donation as God leads.

Beginning now, you may **donate gifts/register for events online!** Hoping to make it VERY easy for you.

All gifts are fully tax-deductible.