

August 2024

Sparkling Hearts

W.H.A.T.S. UP!

Women's Health And Tip Section

*Note from
the Heart*

*Back To School
Prayer*

*Tuesday to
Triumph*

*WM
Award Winners*

Girls Day Out



South Carolina
Women's Ministries

Quarterly Publication





Wanda Rabon
Women's Ministries
Director

Note from the Heart

Greetings,

This will be my last letter to you as I prepare to transition to my next assignment in ministry. I wanted to take a moment to express my love and gratitude to you. Our paths crossed not by chance, but by divine appointment, and for that, I am extremely thankful.

Women's Ministries Board

- Janice Vaughn
- Annette DeVane
- Rosa Vazquez
- Kim Allen
- Christle Collins
- Jessica Nolan
- Sylvia Roberts
- Jackie Sims

The hardest part about this position is that seasons can change at each Assembly, and we know we are only here for a specific time. Yet, the impact of our time together will forever resonate with me. If I could pen a letter filled with "thank you" repeated endlessly, it would still fall short of capturing the depth of my love and appreciation.

Church Ministries

Sandra Wooten

You have significantly blessed my life. Your kindness, love, wisdom, and unwavering faith have left a permanent mark. Even as physical distances will separate us, know that a piece of my heart remains connected with yours.

Home For Children

Kim Kerns

Our six-year journey has been a tapestry woven with both triumphs and trials. Together, we celebrated victories and survived heartaches. And amidst it all, we stood united, resilient even in the face of a global pandemic. Those challenging moments only served to amplify the joy we shared.

Girls Ministries

Paige Martin

As we part ways, I find joy in knowing that although our paths will separate we will remain forever connected in the grand design of God's purpose. May we all continue to seek His will, for therein lies our completion and satisfaction.

WM Administrative Assistant

Melody Hand

Philemon 1:3-6 (NKJV): "Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank my God, making mention of you always in my prayers, hearing of your love and faith which you have toward the Lord Jesus and toward all the saints, that the sharing of your faith may become effective by the acknowledgment of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus."



COG State Office
P.O. Box 309
Mauldin, SC 29662

As I step aside, I entrust my successor into your capable hands. Extend to her the same care and respect you graciously bestowed upon me. Her learning curve will be steep, but your compassion will ease the transition.

Website:
WWW.SCCOG.COM

Lastly, thank you for welcoming my family and me into your hearts and allowing us to serve alongside you. South Carolina Church of God will forever hold a special place in my memories, a beacon reminding me that it's not goodbye, but I'll see you later as we anticipate the blessed hope and the glorious appearance of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Quarterly Publication

- August
- November
- February
- May

Wanda Rabon 

"Don't Let Anyone Dull Your Sparkle"



Lessons in Life



Every month, Martin's parents embarked on a journey to visit Grandma, returning on the identical train the following day.

One day the child said to his parents:

"I'm already grown up.
Can I go to my grandma's alone?"

After a brief discussion, his parents accepted.

They stood with him as he waited for the train to exit.

They said goodbye to their son and gave him some tips through the window.

Martin repeated to them:

"I know. I've been told this more than a thousand times."

As the train was about to leave, his father murmured in his ear:

"Son if you feel bad or insecure, this is for you!"

And he put something in his pocket.

Now Martin was alone, sitting on the train as he had wanted, without his parents for the first time.

He was admiring the landscape out the window. Around him some unknowns pushed themselves in. They made a lot of noise. They got in and out of the train car.

The conductor made some comments about him being alone.

One person looked at him with eyes of sadness. Martin was feeling more uneasy with every minute that passed. And, now he was scared.

He felt cornered and alone. He put his head down, and with tears in his eyes, he remembered his dad had put something in his pocket. Trembling, he searched for what his father had given him.

Upon finding the piece of paper, he read it:

"Son, I'm in the last train car!"

That's how life is. We must let our kids go. We must let them try new things. But we always like to be in the last car, watching, in case they are afraid or in case they find obstacles and don't know what to do.

We want to be close to them, as long as we are still alive.

That is how our heavenly Father is, always watching us and is there when we don't know what to do.

Author Unknown





Back To The Future

I grew up in a small town in NC my whole life, and I was raised by middle-income parents during a time when most everyone treated each other with respect.

We didn't eat a lot of fast food because it was considered a treat, not a food group. We drank Kool-Aid made from water that came from our kitchen sink with real sugar. We ate bologna sandwiches, or even PB&J & grilled cheese sandwiches, hot dogs, pot pies, but mostly homemade meals consisting of mainly meat, potatoes, vegetables, bread & butter, and homemade dessert.

We grew up during a time when we mowed lawns, pulled weeds, babysat, and helped neighbors with chores to be able to earn our own money. We went outside to play games like red rover, dodge ball, hide and seek, or ride our bikes with siblings and friends.

We drank tap water from the hose pipe outside... bottled water was unheard of. If we had a coke, -it was in a glass bottle or can.

We watched TV shows like Bonanza, Leave It To Beaver, Gilligan's Island, Happy Days, Andy Griffith, The Brady Bunch, Little House On The Prairie, and I Love Lucy.

After school, we came home and did homework and chores before going outside or having friends over. We would ride our bikes for hours. We had to tell our parents where we were going, who we were going with, and what time we'd be back.

You **LEARNED** from your parents instead of disrespecting them and treating them as if they knew absolutely nothing. What they said was **LAW**, and you did not question it; and you had better know it!!!

When the sun was starting to set, you had better be home. In school, we listened to our teachers.

We watched what we said around our elders because we knew if we **DISRESPECTED** any grown-up, we would get our behinds whipped; it wasn't called abuse, it was called discipline!

We held doors, carried groceries, and gave up our seats for an older person without being asked. You didn't hear curse words on the radio in songs or TV, and if you cursed and got caught, you had a bar of soap stuck in your mouth and had to stand in the corner. "Please, thank you, yes please, no thank you" were part of our daily vocabulary!

I grew up to respect the Nation.

I am thankful for my childhood and will never forget where I came from or the era in which I was raised. I guess that is what you call the good ole days!

The Good Ole Days

**SOUTH CAROLINA CHURCH OF GOD
GIRLS' MINISTRIES PRESENTS...**

**LET'S
RODEO**

Girls' Day Out

**SEPTEMBER 14, 2024
MAULDIN CAMPGROUND
1815 NE MAIN STREET
SIMPSONVILLE, SC 29681**

SAVE THE DATE



Life is nine innings

The game is over after nine innings. Sometimes longer games go into “extra innings.” The game may take two hours or stretch on for four. But, an end is in sight, and sooner or later the game is up. So too with life. Our nine innings may be over much too soon. Others get a longer time to play. But we all know there is a finality to life. The last run is scored; there is always a last out.

Decisions must be made

Baseball is a game of decisions. Victories often are won by the accumulation of small advantages or good decisions made again and again. As New York Yankee Yogi Berra put it, “When you come to a fork in the road, take it.” He reminds us of the need to decide; we cannot escape making decisions about how we will play the game or live our lives.

Comebacks are possible

In life too, “comebacks” are possible. Religious faiths speak of “redemption” or “salvation” in which life can become brand new. No matter how “far down” we are, we can be forgiven, restored. The last can “become first.” Baseball reminds us of these possibilities.

Miracles can happen

Baseball is exciting because the unexpected, the “miraculous” can occur. Teams come from behind, upsets happen, and victory is snatched from the jaws of defeat. One of baseball’s most famous moments was the home run by Bobby Thomson to win the 1951 World Series for the New York Giants, the “shot heard round the world.” As Yogi Berra aptly put it: “It ain’t over ‘til it’s over.”

Teamwork is necessary

On a larger scale, the nine players on a team have to depend on each other and work together in order to win. When the Yankee pitcher Lefty Gomez was asked the secret of his success, he replied: “Clean living and a fast outfield.” As a pitcher, he needed his outfielders.





South Carolina Word Search

O F U X U H I O T M N T T O B A C C O O
 U T U Y M L G J P X N Z Y A L Z X Z A Z
 E D X S A L A M A N D E R N C O T T O N
 C O L U M B I A N D O C H R I S R O C K
 V P X T C A R O L I N A W R E N S L L R
 T O S O U T H C A R O L I N A M X J S M
 Q U C H E E R S B O L L W E E V I L M Z
 S T O U A D M L D B Z L U Z L X S Y B Z
 X H N R L U S N C A M Z L L B H T P D F
 H S F R I N W H N S U H T N N A Q H Q U
 N M E I T N Z K O K V C U N S Y O X H Y
 L K D C T H J O Y E L N I V K B D E L G
 E L E A L U F X X T L N V V H Q H X S T
 B N R N E N B B Y M I E H K O D T K O C
 C W A E R L Q M S A I V S D P X E Y Y Z
 P P T V I E G V T K B W O S Y T Q K B Y
 T T E O V Y V N P I S P H X J U I C E K
 N H C T E S U I Q N G G O O A O R F A G
 V G K F R O K N H G B D T O K G E R N T
 M T S R F P A L M E T T O P A L M T S I

South Carolina
 Columbia
 Palmetto Palm
 Carolina Wren
 Carolina

Salamander
 Fort Sumter
 Boll Weevil
 Basket Making
 Little River

Fountain Inn
 Shoeless Joe
 Chris Rock
 Hurricane
 Confederate

Hunley
 Tobacco
 Soybeans
 Cotton
 Hot



Stress and Beauty: Finding Balance

Stress, while it is a natural part of our life, can significantly have an impact on our well-being, including our physical appearance. While some stress is necessary to rise to life's challenges, chronic stress can lead to various issues such as pimples, dandruff, hair loss, hives, sleepless nights, depression, and indigestion. Over time, it may even contribute to serious health problems.

One area where stress manifests is in our facial muscles. Tension from stress we encounter can cause worried expressions, etching lines on our faces. However, there's a remedy that we can apply throughout the day: prayer.

I Peter 5:7 encourages us to "Give all your worries to Him, because He cares about you." When we choose prayer over worry, we invite God's peace into our lives (Philippians 4:6-7).

In this context, the Bible's advice becomes a valuable beauty guide. By managing stress through prayer, we not only improve our inner well-being but also enhance our outer and physical appearance. So, let's embrace this timeless wisdom and find balance between life's challenges and our pursuit of beauty.



Survival Kit Supplies

Being prepared means being equipped with the proper supplies you may need in the event of an emergency or disaster. Keep your supplies in an easy-to-carry emergency preparedness kit that you can use at home or take with you in case you must evacuate.

What Do You Need In A Survival Kit?

- ◆ **Water:** one gallon per person, per day (3-day supply for evacuation, 2-week supply for home)
- ◆ **Food: non-perishable,** (3-day supply for evacuation)
- ◆ **Flashlight**
- ◆ **Battery-powered or hand-crank radio** (Weather Radio)
- ◆ **Extra batteries**
- ◆ **First aid kit**
- ◆ **Medications** (7-day supply) and medical items
- ◆ **Multi-purpose tool**
- ◆ **Sanitation and personal hygiene items**
- ◆ **Copies of personal documents** (medication list and pertinent medical information, proof of address, deed/lease to home, passports, birth certificates, insurance policies)
- ◆ **Cell phone with chargers**
- ◆ **Family and emergency contact information**
- ◆ **Extra cash**
- ◆ **Emergency blanket**
- ◆ **Matches**
- ◆ **Map of the area**

After you gather those basic supplies for your kit, add unique things each member of your family may need, such as:

- ◆ **Medical supplies** (hearing aids with extra batteries, glasses, contact lenses, syringes, etc)
- ◆ **Baby supplies** (bottles, formula, baby food, diapers)
- ◆ **Games and activities for children**
- ◆ **Pet supplies** (collar, leash, ID, food, carrier, bowl)
- ◆ **Two-way radios**
- ◆ **Extra set of car keys and house keys**
- ◆ **Manual can opener**
- ◆ **Paper products & Wipes**
- ◆ **Sanitizer**
- ◆ **Rain Gear**

Project Awards

Covenant Sister Project Awards

Membership 1-50

Membership 51-100

Membership 101-175

Membership 176-250

Membership 251-350

Membership 351-Up

Hill Street, Elizabeth Johnson

Columbia College Drive, Emily Sutton

Lando, Brittany Flippo

New Direction, Rosa Vazquez

Trinity Springs, Tracy Black

Laurens, Deborah Malone

West Anderson, Cindy Daniel

Home For Children Project Awards

Membership 1-50

Membership 51-100

Membership 101-175

Membership 176-250

Membership 251-350

Membership 351-Up

Hill Street, Elizabeth Johnson

Lando, Brittney Flippo

Mauldin, Janice Vaughn

Grace Covenant, Andrea Foster

No Winner

Conway, Diana Jacobs

Women With A Mission Project Awards

Membership 1-50

Membership 51-100

Membership 101-175

Membership 176-250

Membership 251-350

Membership 351-Up

Hill Street, Elizabeth Johnson

Society Hill, Amber Howle

Eastside Worship Center, Brooke Childers

Grace Covenant, Andrea Foster

Effingham, Barbara Wilks

International Praise, Sylvia Roberts

2023-2024 Total

Women with a Mission - \$32,425.08

Covenant Sisters - \$28,696.46

Home for Children - \$20,262.03

Translation of Literature - \$856.12

Last Six Years Total

Women with a Mission- \$168,423.63

Covenant Sister- \$74,996.08

Home for Children - \$86,396.53

Translation of Literature - \$5,185.93

Standard of Excellence

Honor

*Agape Worship Center
Belton
Cheraw
Columbia College Drive
Fort Mill
Hamer
International Praise
Irmo
Jones Hill
Lando
Laurens
Mauldin
O'Neal
Society Hill
Trinity Springs*

Advanced

*Effingham
New Direction
Wren
West Anderson*

Progressive

*Bethesda
Conway
Elgin
Fairview
Garden Sanctuary
Georgetown
Hill Street
Langley
North Spartanburg
Palmetto Street
Saluda
Simpsonville
Tremont*



Thank You!

I wanted to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude for your generous giving to our Women's Ministries Mission projects. God has blessed this state with generous people like you who believe in reaching out and helping others.

Over the years, we have continued to reach our community, nation, and the world with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It's because people like you understand the urgency of the hour.

The Bible tells us that God loves a cheerful giver, and while I know that it can be a challenge at times, I have found that regular practice in giving is the best way to give.

I realize there are so many different organizations and ministries that are quite worthy of your support. Yet, I am very thankful you chose to bless our projects: Women with A Mission, Covenant Sisters, and our Home for Children.

Again, please know how much I appreciate your giving, and while we may never know the impact it has made on this earth, we know that God is keeping count and will reward us for reaching out and giving to those less fortunate than us.

Back to School Prayer

Once again, we are entering a new school year. Please take time to pray for those who are teaching and leading our children! We live in challenging times without a doubt, and while the world continues to stand against the Word of God and His people, we must stay strong in prayer.

While our public schools may not be blessed with the ability to stop their day for a word of prayer, we as Christians can, and should, pray! Prayer knows no bounds or limits; the only thing that limits God when it comes to prayer is our lack of faith! So many times, when Jesus was here on this earth, we see that he commended faith when He saw it, but rebuked lack of faith!

While we can often look at the challenges faced by our children, teachers, and school leadership, we must remember that God knew exactly who would be alive at this point in time! Therefore, nothing we are seeing is taking God by surprise!

At times, I think it is essential to focus on scriptures like the following to restore our trust in an almighty God. 2 Timothy 1:7 says, "For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind" (NKJV).

Parents, whether you have placed your children in public, home, or Christian schools, be sure to pray for them and those that lead them!

Dear Father, we ask for Your blessings, protection, and guidance for the students as they return to school. May their minds be fertile grounds for knowledge and learning.

Surround them with godly teachers who nurture and challenge them and help them make good friends. Grant them the courage to face new challenges and the strength to stand firm in their values. Direct their paths and keep them from all harm. Let them feel Your presence with each step they take, and know they are never alone, for You are always by their side.

Amen

