

The REMINDER

Growing UPWARD
worshiping and praising

Growing INWARD
becoming more like Christ

Growing OUTWARD
sharing the good news



NOVEMBER 2018

Beginning with appreciation, preparation

Thanksgiving” is Thursday, November 22, this year. I trust that you are in the habit of giving thanks regularly to the Lord. As a “Covenant Partner,” this month we are giving you the opportunity personally to express your thanks in a special and unique “Service of Giving Thanks.” We are in the planning stages for these two special services to be held Sunday, November 25.

As usual we will sing together hymns and praise songs of thanksgiving. We will pray corporately prayers of thanksgiving. We do these things together regularly in our two worship services every Sunday morning. And this year we will add a special feature at both worship services. You will be encouraged to stand up wherever you are in the sanctuary and express your own thanks for what the Lord has been doing in your life.

Several years ago a research report revealed that the number one fear of people in America is to stand

up and speak before others. If this happens to be your fear, I want to urge you to face your fears, admit them to the Lord, and even to a few others and then, this one time, to overcome this fear and give thanks out loud with others about anything for which you are thankful. I assure you that as frightening as that prospect may be, doing this will mean so much to those around you if you will simply push through your fear and give thanks during the allotted time.

Instead of the regular sermon, I will give a brief introduction. Then I will ask anyone who would like to do so to take the microphone that will be provided and stand, if you are able, and express your thanks. If you are unable to stand, you may speak while being seated.

Our children and youth also will be encouraged to enter into the giving of thanks in this way during the service as well. It is precious to hear our young children overcome their

fear and give thanks before others.

You will bless so many people as you choose to do this. I have a great deal for which to be thankful, especially upon learning of the good news about both my middle son and about my sister. For those who have not heard, my sister was meeting my son and his wife in New York the night before his tests. As she and her son walked up, she began showing signs of a stroke. She was rushed to a hospital had surgery the next morning. She is now recovering and improving.

I hope this is an extra special season of thanksgiving for you as it is for me,

Your grateful brother in Jesus,

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ON THE COVER: Porter Stewart, Ida Whitehead, and Harriet Whitehead, along with many members of the congregation, took part in Reformation Sunday celebrations on Oct. 28. Photo credit: Sarah Sweeney of Sweeney Media and Consulting.

A Thought or Two Challenging You Toward Discipleship

Elders develop service, discipleship classes

This past month has been a terrible month in many respects.

Recent events have left our community with a sense of uneasiness and deep sadness. I am sure you have watched and tried to respond to the struggles and tragedies in our community with Christian concern. I must say that I have been encouraged by your demonstrations of love and concern. So, I say **THANK YOU!**

Thank you for reaching out to Farrah Turner and her family during her hospitalization. Thank you for caring for our very own Carolyn (and Wendell) Holland during her days of surgery. (It was a blessing to pray for Carolyn with the elders a couple Sunday mornings ago.) Thank you for preparing meals for the Scotts. Thank you for welcoming new Covenant Partners in your home. Thank you for being God's hands and feet.

An important piece of caring for those in crisis and loss is presence. I saw the chaplain's from "out of town" being present in our crisis. I saw you being present to Farrah's family at the hospital. Arguably that could be the best thing to do in the midst of crisis. No words needed. Those who are in pain because of loss and crisis can be beyond the

ability to put words to their circumstances. It can cut the legs out from under us to the point that we just cannot "move on."

But, Scripture does capture these moments as writers "Lament" their circumstance and merely cry out their pain to God as they mourn. God has provided for us in these times of brokenness in scripture with words of lament. For example most of the book of Lamentations is Jeremiah crying out to God.

Stephen Smith, who visited First Pres several years ago, wrote recently on his Potter's Inn blog about the need for lament. He writes, "A lament is a determined and concentrated witness to suffering. The words that are recorded form a sort of map of one's interior world that has been hijacked; thwarted and destroyed. A lament is an expression that has a form and provides the reader with an actual vocabulary that attempts to express something that is too deep for words. A lament is not an attempt to explain suffering. A lament is not a contrived list of tips and techniques to avoid suffering. The person that is lamenting is simply expressing the chaos, confusion, and commotion that is occurring inside one's soul.

Caring for the soul is creating the space for what is hard to say — to come out. Because without such grief coming out and being relieved, cynicism is birthed; faith is abandoned and theology is sugar coated."

I strongly urge you to allow yourself and others the time to mourn and grieve. Our current cultural context does not. In a bygone day people dressed in black for a season or wore black armbands to allow others by this visual the ability to understand that a season of lament was being experienced. It may behoove us spiritually to allow for a time of lament that we may grieve well!

Then certainly remember, it is true that even the broken, sad times of this life will be overcome by Christ's work on our behalf. He overcame sin and death. Therefore, in the midst of the pain, we have faith that He will redeem, restore, and reconcile all things. So in the pain and grief cry out, "Come, Lord Jesus."

Chris

"I have been encouraged by your demonstrations of love and concern. ... Thank you for being God's hands and feet."

Faithful support helps us bless others

A couple of years ago, we began using the phrase Ministry Action Plan as an alternative to the “Church Budget.” The phrase is based on the premise that the church leadership (staff, elders, deacons, and others) implement plans for ministry to our members, our community, and around the world. Those ministries have a cost associated with them. Funding for the ministries come from the contributions of our covenant partners and others who support the ministries of the church. Research shows that people, particularly young adults, are more energized about contributing to a church’s Ministry Action Plan than they are when asked to “give to the budget.” The term Ministry Action implies involvement in life changing work, which is what God has called us to be and do.

As we move into the final quarter of 2018, our staff and ministry leaders have begun the 2019 Ministry Action Plan process. During November we will be emphasizing stewardship as it pertains to annual giving to support the ongoing ministry of First Presbyterian Church. Over the next few weeks all covenant partners will receive a letter highlighting the importance of continued, faithful financial support of the mission and ministry of First Presbyterian Church. You will also receive a pledge card that will allow you to estimate your giving in support of the 2019 Ministry Action Plan. Additionally, there will be an online pledge card on the church website www.florencefirst.org.

Because God has blessed us we want and need to continually look for ways that we can bless others (our covenant partners, our community and the world). Your pledge is important to the planning process for the coming year. Commitment Sunday will be Sunday, Nov. 18, when all covenant partners will have an op-

Average Weekly Need	\$31,000.00
Year-to-Date Average Weekly Giving	\$26,398.00
Total Ministry Action Plan Receipts Year to Date	\$1,029,520.00
Firm Foundation Receipts to Date	\$467,713.00

portunity to turn in pledge cards as part of our morning worship services as a sign of our commitment to Christ and what He is doing through First Presbyterian Church. During the month I want to encourage each of you to consider your stewardship of time, talent, and treasure as it relates to the ministries of First Presbyterian Church. Thank you for your generosity and faithful support.

Welcome Chase McDaniel and James Allen

We are all deeply saddened by the tragic death of Florence County Sheriff deputy Farrah Turner. As many of you know, Farrah provided campus security for us on Sunday morning since October 2014. We will miss her smile and her friendly presence in the Welcome Center and around the campus. We welcome Chase McDaniel and James Allen, also with the Florence County Sheriff’s Office, who will be providing our campus security on a rotating basis. Please take time to introduce yourself and make them feel at home with us. Also, continue to pray for for Farrah’s family, law enforcement officers, and first responders as they mourn the loss of their daughter, sister, colleague, and friend.




Flowers in the Sanctuary

Do you have a friend or relative you would like to honor? Sign up to place memorial flowers in the Sanctuary. Contact Genia Tyson (genia_tyson@hotmail.com or 843-665-0295) or Melba Whitesides (843-669-8209). Please leave your name, number, and date you wish to reserve.

Living by the spirit into freedom

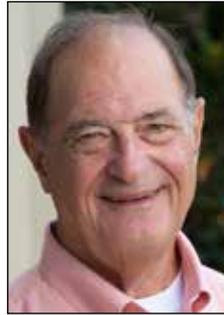
The letter to the Galatians in the final two chapters calls the Church and all Christians to live out their faith. Paul has given the Galatians the correct theology — the Gospel — that Christ died for our sins and Christ has set us free. The final sections of Galatians tell the Christians how to live in freedom. Theology is useless unless what is believed is lived in action. Freedom means we are free to choose a master: “For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. (Galatians 5:13).”

Paul urges the Galatians to choose to live in the Spirit: “Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. (Galatians 5:16).”

We become slaves to living the gifts of the Spirit rather than the works of sin. The two ways of living are symbolized by the Spirit and the flesh. People who live by the flesh commit acts of sin which destroy relationships and community. “I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God (Galatians 5:21).”

The kingdom of God is defined by the parables of Jesus in the Gospels. The one and only requirement of the kingdom is to follow Jesus. To follow Jesus is to love, even those who do not choose to love us. To follow Jesus is to live by the Holy Spirit. The Spirit-led life kills the flesh and seeks the gifts of the Spirit. “The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things (Galatians 5:22).” The message of Galatians is that Christians are saved by Christ and live by the Spirit. Living by the Spirit means each human encounter is seen as an opportunity to exercise the gifts of the Spirit. We choose “through love to become slaves to one another (Galatians 5:13).”

The final and sixth chapter of Galatians has three sections and gives practical advice about how to live in the Spirit. The first section (Galatians 6:1-5) deals with the restoration of a sinner into the community of faith. Paul calls the church to restore a known sinner using the Spiritual gift of gentleness. All Christians fall



REV. MIKE FLEENOR'S BLOG

<https://onepastorsponderings.wordpress.com/>

into sin after their justification. Paul uses a paradox to explain how the church functions in restoration. He says “bear one another’s burdens (Galatians 6:2)” and then “for all must carry their own loads (Galatians 6:5).” The burden of sin must be recognized and forgiven by the church. Love is the law of Christ and to forgive is to show love. Each Christian is also responsible to live ethically. This paradox is difficult to understand but essential in our lives. We know when we need the forgiveness of another and of the church, but we also know what is our responsibility to carry in our own life. In the second section (Galatians 6:6-10), Paul teaches a very important truth in the Christian life. There are consequences for our sins even when we are forgiven. “Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow. If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh; but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit (Galatians 6:7-8).” We can be forgiven of a sin but there are consequences. Accept the forgiveness offered in Jesus and move on in life. In the third section (Galatians 6:11-23), Paul writes with his own hand writing. The entire theme of Galatians is summarized. “For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything; but a new creation is everything (Galatians 6:15)!” The Christian life is a struggle between our fleshly, human desires and with the leading of the Holy Spirit. We are never free of sin on this earth. However, each time we confess our faith in the power of Jesus to forgive us, we begin anew on our journey of following Jesus.

Wednesday Evening Adult Bible Study

We will study together the Gospel of Luke at 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays through mid-November. Please join us.

WELCOME

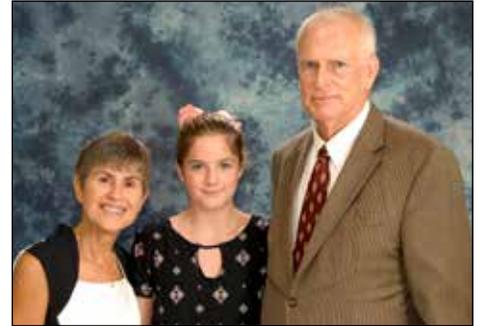
New Covenant Partners



Renda Barnes



Bobbie Sue and Rufus Bratton



Jan and Gary Bray, Caitlin



Jessica Carmichael, Sullivan



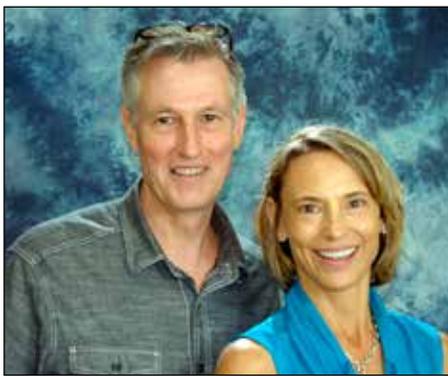
Landis and Hannah Lane



**Yvette Mbangowah and Houltan Losah,
Troy and Pessy**



**Elizabeth and Everett McMillian,
Provence and Hampton**



Michael and Cheryl Pullman



**Celia and Brian Urquhart,
Abi and Wills**



Cathy Welch



**Investigator
Farrah B. Turner**

**END OF WATCH
OCTOBER 22,
2018**



IN MEMORY OF A FRIEND AND HERO

Women in Ministry Monthly Groups

Women in Ministry's aim is to strengthen our relationship with God and build each other up in the body of Christ.

Through prayer, Bible study, and fellowship, we are nurtured and empowered to be His light to our families, our church, and the world. We are passionate about Jesus.

If you are not involved in a circle, please, please come and join in for Christian fellowship and Bible study. We have a place for you!

For more circle information please contact: Jessica Sanyi, Kathryn Scott, Patricia Hubbs, Donna Grubb, or Teresa Stewart in the church office, 843-662-2583.



Bread and Fish	Nov. 10	9 a.m.	Call Jan Green
Joyful Hearts	Nov. 13	10 a.m.	1412 Wisteria Drive
Posies and Petals	Nov. 13	10 a.m.	Lawson-Rain Chapel
SonFlowers	Nov. 13	10 a.m.	326 Old Burch Road, Lake City
Soul Sisters	Nov. 13	noon	Price Classroom
Serenity	Nov. 13	3 p.m.	Lawson-Rain Chapel
Prayer Warriors	Nov. 13	6:30 p.m.	Lawson-Rain Chapel
Women of Grace	Nov. 8	6:30 p.m.	Presbyterian Community



Children celebrate fall, anticipate Thanks-Lunch

Thanksgiving is right around the corner. The CDC preschool classes are gearing up for our third annual Thanks-Lunch, which will be held in the CLC on Nov. 8.

The children in the 2K, 3K, and 4K Classes will be eating lunch with their parents. The menu will consist of “Stone Soup,” sandwiches, and desserts. Each child will be bringing one vegetable to school earlier that week to help make the soup. “Stone Soup” is a children’s fable about two soldiers who were traveling home from the war. They had not eaten for days and when they reached a small town they decided to go from house to house begging for something to eat. The story was the same at each home, there was no food to share. So the soldiers started a small fire in the town square and put a large pot of water and one big stone on the fire. As the town’s people gathered around to see what they were doing, the soldiers began calling out asking if anyone in the crowd had an onion, or one carrot or one potato, etc. One by one the townspeople would run home and get one thing and bring it back to add to the soup.



Soon the soup smelled delicious, and everyone received their portion. It is a great lesson on sharing for young children and the children enjoy “helping” to make the soup.

Mark your calendars now and plan to attend our third annual CDC “Christmas Celebration,” at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 6, in the church sanctuary. Every CDC class will be participating, from the wee babies through the 4K Class. The program will last about an hour and promises to be a fun and entertaining evening!

Thank you again for supporting the CDC with your prayers and encouragement. It’s a wonderful place for children to learn and grow! Blessings,

Beth



Children enjoy their fall festival in the Christian Life Center held in mid-October. The children had more than a dozen booths to celebrate the change in season.

SAVE THE DATE

6:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 6: Mark your calendars now to attend our third annual CDC “Christmas Celebration” in the church sanctuary. Every class will be participating.



November

BIRTHDAYS

November 1

Cathy Bazen

November 2

Lisa Jernigan
Lalla Saleeby
Marian Howard
Cameryn Brand

November 3

Sue Shin
Barron Ervin
Cailin Foxworth
Levi Ham
Alan Thomas
Natalie Monjarrez

November 4

Wesley Snow
Margaret Baroody
Rhett Hughes

November 5

Patrick Hunt
Carolyn Holland
Henley Thompson

November 6

Rocky Pearce
Stephen Christian
Brian Naylor
Liam Brand
Alcy Lee

November 7

Emily Jackson
Nancy Moore

November 8

Susie McLellan
Landon Watkins
Billy Houck
Brandon Hylton

November 9

Ginny Casstevens
Joe Blanton
Cheryl DeGraw
Ansley Sanderson

November 10

Jane Matthews
Ivan Morris
Gresham Hindman

November 11

Michael Hawkins
Joseph Commander
Haley Jackson
Wells McBride
Janie Ray

November 12

Mary Frances Moore
Pat Patton

November 13

Ashton Pennstrom
Joanna Refvem
Paul Welch

November 14

Paige Alexander
Dave Banner

November 15

Fran Curtis

November 16

Jane Shurman
Wynde Edwards
Brooke Langston
Lisa Westmoreland

November 17

Keegan Taylor
Ella Rawlinson

November 18

Clara Leach
Margaret Baroody
Wesley Player
Brian Kim
Carrigan Spearman

November 20

Anna Lee Pennstrom
Rick Hoefer
Colton Miles
Hampton Naylor
Duncan Tyson

November 21

Charlie Bazen
Sheila Cockfield

November 22

Curt Boswell
Hannah King
Rainey Josey
Sidney Ruff

November 23

Sullivan Carmichael

November 24

Matthew Braswell
Connie Stewart
Maggie McNeil

November 25

Ann Cash
Alexis Morris
Amy McKay
Kendall Jackson
Mary Ann Nash
Kate Stokes

November 26

Liz Andrews

November 27

Taylor Powell
Walter Johnson
Don Hebert

November 28

Tom Pantos

November 29

Maymie Lou Spearman
Taiter Garrett

November 30

Chris Scott
Drew Knudsen
Macy Turner
Ruth Montgomery
Jane Slagle



November

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1

- 7:00 AM Men's Breakfast
- 5:30 PM Citywide Prayer Gathering: City Center, 324 W. Evans St.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4

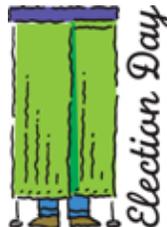
Daylight Saving Time Ends

- 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship Service
- 10:00 AM Sunday School
- 11:00 AM Traditional Worship Service
- 12:00 PM Time2PEEP (The Assembly)
- 4:30 PM Volleyball
- 5:30 PM Youth Fellowship
- 6:00 PM Engaging God's Word Bible Study: JFH



MONDAY, NOVEMBER 5

- 10:00 AM Monday Morning Prayer Group
- 4:30 PM Stretch Your Faith Deep Stretch: Lawson-Rain
- 5:45 PM Stretch Your Faith: Lawson-Rain
- 6:30 PM GriefShare: Price Classroom
- 7:00 PM Boy Scouts: Scout Room



TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6

- 7:00 AM Men's Breakfast
- 9:30 AM Women's Prayer Group
- 9:45 AM WiM CT Committee Meeting: Lawson-Rain
- 11:00 AM WiM Bible Moderators Meeting: Price
- 12:00 PM Just for Women's Ministry
- 12:00 PM Keenagers
- 1:30 PM Ladies' Ensemble Rehearsal
- 5:00 PM Women's Prayer Group – Hucks

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7

- 5:00 PM Adult Handbells
- 6:00 PM Family Night Dinner: JFH
- 6:30 PM Wednesday Night Programs
- 6:30 PM Praise Team Rehearsal
- 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8

- 7:15 AM Men's Breakfast: Presbyterian Community
- 11:30 AM CDC Preschool Thanksgiving Lunch
- 6:30 PM WiM Women of Grace: Presbyterian Comm.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9

- Youth Fall Retreat

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10

- 6:00 AM Parking Lot Mission: HopeHealth parking lot
- 9:00 AM WiM Bread & Fish: Call Jan Green

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11

- 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship Service
- 10:00 AM Sunday School
- 11:00 AM Traditional Worship Service
- 4:30 PM Volleyball
- 6:00 PM Engaging God's Word Bible Study: JFH



MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12

- 10:00 AM Monday Morning Prayer Group
- 4:30 PM Stretch Your Faith Deep Stretch: Lawson-Rain
- 5:45 PM Stretch Your Faith: Lawson-Rain
- 6:30 PM GriefShare: Price Classroom
- 7:00 PM Boy Scouts: Scout Room

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13

- 7:00 AM Men's Breakfast
- 9:30 AM Women's Prayer Group
- 10:00 AM WiM Joyful Hearts: Room 100
- 10:00 AM WiM Posies & Petals: Lawson-Rain Chapel
- 10:00 AM WiM SonFlowers: Ginger Owen's farm house, 326 Old Burch Road, Lake City
- 12:00 PM Just for Women's Ministry
- 12:00 PM WiM Soul Sisters: Price Classroom
- 1:30 PM Ladies' Ensemble Rehearsal
- 3:00 PM WiM Serenity: Lawson-Rain Chapel
- 5:00 PM Women's Prayer Group – Hucks
- 6:30 PM WiM Prayer Warriors: Lawson-Rain Chapel



WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14

- 5:00 PM Adult Handbells
- 6:00 PM Family Night Dinner: JFH
- 6:30 PM Wednesday Night Programs
- 6:30 PM Praise Team Rehearsal
- 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal



November

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15

- 7:15 AM Men's Breakfast: Presbyterian Community
- 6:00 PM Jingle Bell Market at Florence Center
- 7:30 PM Keenagers at Lake City Concert Series:
Lake City Presbyterian Church

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16

- 9:00 AM Jingle Bell Market at Florence Center

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17

- 9:00 AM Jingle Bell Market at Florence Center

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18 *Commitment Sunday*

- 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship Service
- 10:00 AM Sunday School
- 10:00 AM Jingle Bell Market at Florence Center
- 11:00 AM Traditional Worship Service
- 4:00 PM Sixth grade Living Nativity practice
- 4:30 PM Volleyball
- 5:30 PM Youth Fellowship
- 6:00 PM Engaging God's Word Bible Study: JFH

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19

- 10:00 AM Monday Morning Prayer Group
- 4:30 PM Stretch Your Faith Deep Stretch: Lawson-Rain
- 5:45 PM Stretch Your Faith: Lawson-Rain
- 6:30 PM GriefShare: Price Classroom
- 7:00 PM Boy Scouts: Scout Room

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 20**

- 7:00 AM Men's Breakfast
- 9:30 AM Women's Prayer Group
- 1:30 PM Ladies' Ensemble Rehearsal
- 5:00 PM Women's Prayer Group – Hucks

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21

- 5:00 PM Adult Handbells
- 6:30 PM Praise Team Rehearsal
- 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 22

- 7:15 AM Men's Breakfast: Presbyterian Community

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25 *Service of Giving Thanks*

- 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship Service
- 10:00 AM Sunday School
- 11:00 AM Traditional Worship Service
- 4:30 PM Volleyball
- 5:30 PM Youth Fellowship
- 6:00 PM Engaging God's Word Bible Study: JFH

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 26

- 10:00 AM Monday Morning Prayer Group
- 4:30 PM Stretch Your Faith Deep Stretch: Lawson-Rain
- 5:45 PM Stretch Your Faith: Lawson-Rain
- 6:30 PM GriefShare: Price Classroom
- 7:00 PM Boy Scouts: Scout Room

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27

- 7:00 AM Men's Breakfast
- 9:30 AM Women's Prayer Group
- 1:30 PM Ladies' Ensemble Rehearsal
- 5:00 PM Women's Prayer Group – Hucks
- 6:30 PM Session

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28

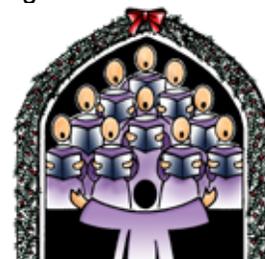
- 5:00 PM Adult Handbells
- 5:30 PM Family Movie Night and Dinner
- 6:30 PM Wednesday Night Programs
- 6:30 PM Praise Team Rehearsal
- 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29

- 7:15 AM Men's Breakfast: Presbyterian Community
- 6:30 PM Hanging of the Greens
- 7:30 PM Men's Choral Society Concert: JFH

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30

- 9:00 AM Hanging of the Greens



Remember in Prayer

Extended Care

Heritage Home

Malcolm Rogers

Heritage at Lowman

Mac King

Homebound

Linda Foxworth
Pam Hoogenboom
George Richardson

Methodist Manor

Marie Jordan

Pee Dee Gardens

Joy Tedder

Presbyterian Community

Hannah Barringer
Ann Cash
Lois Jinks
Aaron Leland

Sympathy

Shelley Gandy, loss of her mother
Family of Farrah Turner

Households

Stephen and Frances Jones, Jay and Stephen
Ken and Cynthia Knudsen
Hannah Lane
Billy and Karen McBride, Wells and Collins
Allen and Vicky McCall
Bob and Emily McLean
Bob and Marie O’Harra

Memorials

Kjeld Lopdrup
Glenda Myatt
Joan Beth Page
Rufus Spivey

Baptisms

Sullivan Leigh Jackson
born April 23, 2018
Daughter of Kendall and Haley Jackson

Genevieve Barrett Draeger
born December 11, 2017
Daughter of Jonathan Larry and Heather Barrett Draeger

*Lord,
Hear Our
Prayer*

Sick & Recovering

Thom Anderson
Jonathan Bankhead
Madeline Brice
Jack Cagle
Chuck Dennis
Grace DuBose
Linda Foxworth
Amy Graham
Dora Hewitt
Carolyn Holland
Billy Houck
Rainey Josey
Mike Page
Mary Catherine Rawlinson
Lillian Scott
Munford Scott
Pat Walker
Phyllis Williams

Elders

Betsy Olsen
Susan Snow

Deacons

Julie Ham
Whit Player

Mission

Helping Florence Flourish
Bridge2Rwanda, The Kings

Women in Ministry

Margaret Jones
Renee McRae

Sunday School Teachers

Kathy Crawford
Tabatha Davis

Staff

Jim Bankhead
Chris Handley



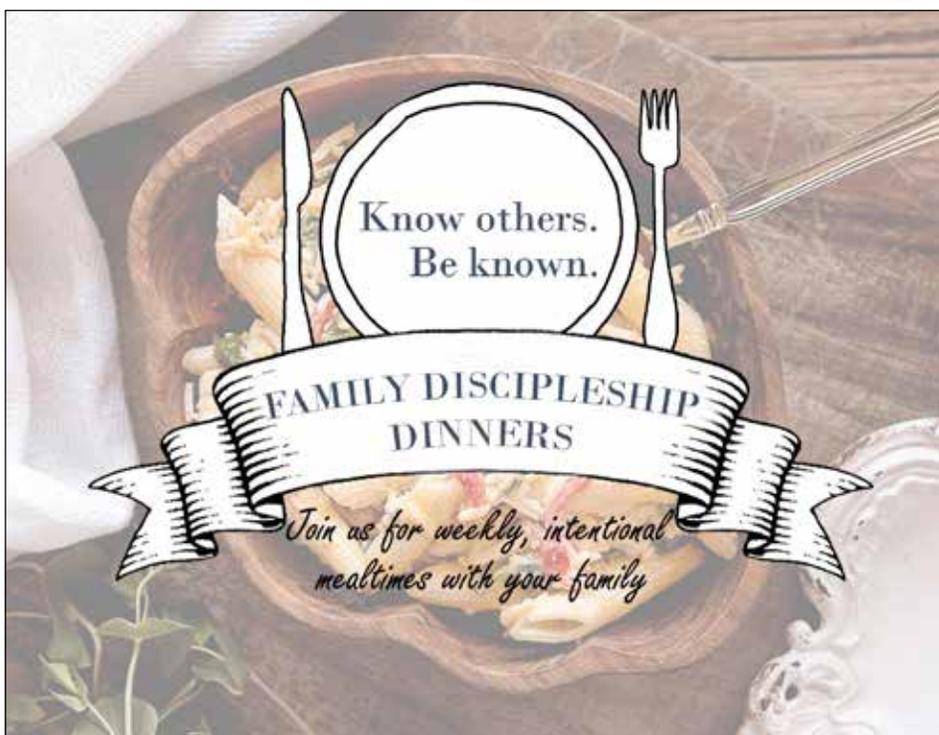
Hanging ^{of} the Greens

Hanging of the Greens will take place two times this year to accommodate all who'd like to help decorate our church.

Thursday, Nov. 29
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 30
9 - 11 a.m.

Please email hunterwburch@gmail.com
or christinalautares@gmail.com if interested.



Family Discipleship Dinners are held at 6 p.m. Wednesdays throughout the school year. Dinner is \$5 per person, and families cap at \$20. Following the meal, activities are available for all ages.

For November, the following meals are planned:

Nov. 7: Ham, sweet potatoes, green beans, mac and cheese

Nov. 14: Barbecue, coleslaw, dessert

Nov. 21: No meal, program

Nov. 28: Soft tacos, Mexican corn, ice cream sandwiches (Family movie night; dinner starts at 5:30 p.m.)



Volunteer CORNER

MAGGIE REECE

How long have you been a volunteer at First?

I have been a volunteer at First Presbyterian about 10 years. Shelby Coker was part of the church staff when I began volunteering.

How long have you been a member at First?

Jay and I became members of First Pres in October 2005. The Rev. Dr. Barry and Susan Jenkins came to the church the same month as our senior minister.

What is one worship song that has really spoken to your heart?

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord Good Almighty is the hymn that takes me back to my childhood years. Our church pianist enjoyed playing the song, and we were able to enjoy the song at least once a month.

What is one spiritual tradition you have in your life or family?

My family and I try not to miss the Christmas Eve Candlelight Church Service wherever we are. We just don't feel like we are celebrating Christmas without participating in the service.

Tell us about your family:

Jay and I have a blended family of two daughters and two sons: one son lives in Augusta, Ga., one daughter lives in Boones Mill, Va., one son lives in Roanoke, Va., and one daughter lives in Belfast, Maine, where they really have winter. We have 13 grandchildren — six granddaughters and seven grandsons. Three great-grandchildren — two great-granddaughters



and a great-grandson — all living in Virginia.

What is your favorite thing about Florence?

We enjoy the Florence Little Theatre, and we are pleased with the caliber of talent. We also enjoy the Florence County Museum,

First Presbyterian Church, our friends, and the climate most of the time.

What do you like to do in your free time?

I enjoy reading novels by John Jakes, Pat Conroy, especially his earlier ones, and books by James A. Michener. We enjoy ballroom dancing, traveling, and visiting with our family is first on our list.

What do you love about being a part of First Pres?

Our Sunday School class, led by Glenn Bell, is a group we do not want to miss. The inspiration we receive from the teachers, the fellowship, the kindness of our group, feeds our spirit. Our church music program is outstanding. We are all blessed by the talent and dedication of Ann Rodgers Chandler and the success of serving not only the church but also the entire community. We have been blessed with Chris Handley, associate pastor, as well as transitional pastors Bill Cain and Jim Bankhead. Our covenant partners are involved with several ministries around town and beyond.



SAVE THE DATE Handbells Concert on December 5

Ring in the Advent season at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 5, in the Sanctuary with our talented Chancel Handbell Choir! This is a First Presbyterian tradition rich with Christmas melodies from around the globe.

NOVEMBER YOUTH NEWSLETTER



Youth Schedule

- Sunday School: November 4, 18, 11, 25 / 10-10:50 a.m. / Light continental breakfast, Lesson
- MOVE: November 18 / 5:30-7:30 p.m. / Dinner, Lesson, Games
- Small groups: November 4 / 5:30-7 p.m. / Dinner, Lesson
- 412 on Wednesdays: November 7, 14, 28 / 6-7:30 p.m. / Dinner, Bible study, Prayer
- East Florence Mission: November 6, 13, 20, 27 / 4-4:45 p.m.
- P3BC on Tuesday: November 27 / 7:15 a.m. / Breakfast, Prayer, Devotion

Youth Fall Retreat

- Our Fall Retreat this year is Nov. 9-11 at Montreat Retreat Center. We will leave at 4:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 9, and return at 5 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 11.

Jingle Bell Market

- Helping Florence Flourish will host a booth at the Jingle Bell Market this year to help raise funds for WinShape Camps for Communities scholarships for campers that cannot afford camp. The camp will be held at First Presbyterian again this summer. The market is taking place Nov. 16-18 at the Florence Center. The youth will volunteer at the booth from 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 18. Please join us in support by using code "HFF" when purchasing tickets to the event as well as visiting the booth.

Youth Praise and Worship Concert

- The youth group is hosting a praise and worship concert from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 1, at First Presbyterian Church. We have arranged for the worship band (Chris Taylor and Avery Milz) from Surfside Presbyterian in Myrtle Beach to lead us during this time. Our desire would be to have a dinner before the concert from 5 to 6 p.m., then have the concert from 6 to 7:30 p.m. The cost is free. We will take up a love offering during the meal to bless the band.

FPC Youth Mission Statement

- Our purpose is to assist our parents in training and making disciples of their children.
- 2 Timothy 2:1-2 – “¹You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, ²and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.”

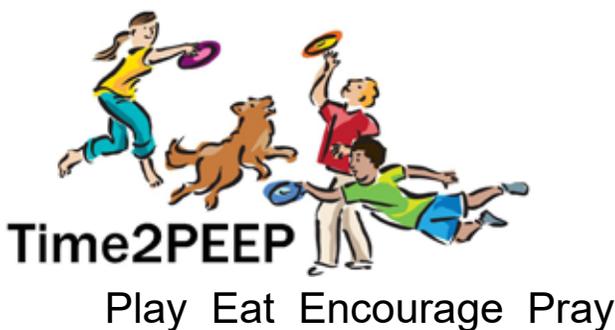
Trick-or-treating at Presbyterian Community



Children from First Presbyterian visited the Presbyterian Community on Oct. 24 to visit and trick-or-treat



Time2PEEP to be held at The Assembly



November 4 is our next time to join friends from The Assembly Church. We will gather in the Welcome Center after the 11 a.m. worship service. Alexis will be able to drive 12 children on the bus. One parent needs to ride with the bus. Please RSVP to ride the bus because space is limited. We will return about 2 p.m. Families are welcome to drive over to The Assembly campus on Palmetto Street if preferred.



Living Nativity Rehearsals

SIXTH GRADE ONLY

Sunday 4 p.m. Nov. 18
 Sunday 4 p.m. Dec. 2
 Sunday 3:30 p.m. Dec. 9

ALL CHILDREN

Sunday	3:30 p.m. Dec. 9	Cast Only
	4 p.m. Dec. 9	Angel Choir

The Angel Choir (3K-fifth grade) will begin rehearsing their songs for the Living Nativity on Wednesdays in November. CDs and brochures with lyrics will be available in the Welcome Center at the desk.



- Dinner for families together at 6 p.m.
- 6:30 p.m. Elementary and Preschool (3K-5K) have a special time of music, learning, and fun. All gather in the Jenkins Fellowship Hall and move from there. Children in 3K-5K meet downstairs across from the fellowship hall. First- through fifth-graders meet upstairs in Room 204. Sixth-graders meet upstairs in Room 205.
- Childcare offered for children under 3K beginning at 6:15 p.m.



Nov. 28 at 5:30 p.m.

“Happy Feet” is the movie. Invite a family to join your family on the lawn. Bring a chair or blanket to sit on.

Parents' Morning Out Children's Gift-making Workshop (Infants - Fifth Grade)

Saturday, Dec. 1
 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

- Children in 3K-fifth grade will make gifts beyond construction paper to give to family and friends.
 - Childcare is available for infants-2K.
 - PLEASE register your child or children on the City or by calling the office. We want to have enough material without being wasteful.
 - Lunch will be provided.
- Shepherds are needed to move children from one craft station to another. Please let Alexis know if you are available.





Church News

Keenagers lunch features House of Hope

Keenagers will meet for lunch at noon Tuesday, Nov. 6, in the Jenkins Fellowship Hall. Bryan Braddock, executive director of the House of Hope, will speak about his experiences living with a homeless man for a week in Augusta, Ga. Come and bring a friend to share in the fun and fellowship of Keenagers!

Volunteers needed for Respite Nights

Volunteers are needed for the monthly respite night for families whose child or children has or have special needs. These will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Nov. 17, and Dec. 15.

The idea is to give parents a break from caring for their child/children.

We need volunteers to help chaperone and care for the children. Please contact Ashley Hylton for questions or if you would like to volunteer: 843-319-0896 or awhylton13@gmail.com.



Sign up for youth basketball league

Girls and boys ages 6-17: It's time to sign up for the Ebenezer Church Basketball League!

Registration is open for Girls and Boys ages 6-17. Practices are held at First Presbyterian Church in the CLC. All games are played at Ebenezer Baptist Church. Practices have started and games begin after Thanksgiving. Cost per player is \$35, and it is due before the first game. Sign up in the Welcome Center, on the FPC website, or online on The City.

Call John Scott, 843-496-8020, or Walt Burch, 843-616-4650, with any questions.



Haiti mission trip will be in late February

Our annual mission trip to Haiti will be in February. Departure will be Feb. 27, and we'll return March 7. Come join the Haiti team 2019 as we minister by our presence and encourage our sponsored children. If you are interested in participating, please call the Rev. Chris Handley for more information.

Volunteers needed for Jobs for Life team

Jobs for Life (JfL) seeks to restore dignity to people's lives and transform communities through a biblical understanding of work. In Genesis 2:15 we learn that we were created and designed by God to work. Typical approaches for alleviating poverty involve giving money for food and do not solve the true problem of generational poverty with its many negative effects including depression, domestic violence and crime. For more information on this topic, please read the book "When Helping Hurts" by Steve Corbet. We are seeking volunteers willing to serve on our JfL leadership team during an 8-week class that is anticipated to start on Jan. 28. For more information about JfL and this opportunity to serve our community, please call the church office or speak directly with elder Bryon Frost 843-615-8393 or Chris Handley.

Scout adventures excel in preparations

Our Scouts have big summer adventure plans during the next three years.

Special thanks to Hunter Morgan for leading our summer trips and the staff at Naturally Outdoors that help with the months of preparations.

The excellent leadership and preparations ensure that our Scouts succeed both physically and mentally and achieve life-long confidence building experiences.

The adventure plans include:

- New Mexico's Philmont Scout ranch — a 12-day backpacking trip in the Rockies in June 2019.
- California's Sierra Nevada mountains backpacking in Yosemite National Park in the summer in 2020.
- Canada's Algonquin national park 50-mile paddle trip in the summer of 2021.



God's Work in our Community

Helping Florence Flourish

Helping Florence Flourish (HFF) works together to build God's Kingdom. Its focus groups help identify the greatest needs in the Florence community: education, homelessness, restoration of the family, racial bridging, and city wide prayer gathering. The focus groups' works are the core of HFF.

In June, it creates a weeklong effort of service in the community, and it includes a weeklong Christian camp for children.

One of HFF fundraisers this year includes its partic-



ipation in the Jingle Bell Market held Nov. 15-18 at Florence Center. Mention referral code HFF, and HFF will benefit from your participation. There also will be a wrapping booth HFF volunteers will work, and proceeds benefit HFF. Money raised during this event will go toward WinShape Camps for Communities scholarships.

God's Work Around the World

Drs. Caleb and Louise King Bridge2Rwanda

The Kings are serving in the town of Musanze/Ruhengeri, in Northwest Rwanda, where Caleb and Louise work at Ruhengeri Hospital, teaching Rwandan doctors. Caleb also continues working to develop hydroelectric power for Northeast Rwanda.

Bridge2Rwanda was formed in 2007 to help expand Rwanda's global network of friends, to encourage foreign direct investment and to create opportunities for Rwandan students to study abroad. It's a Kingdom enterprise "dedicated to building a bridge to Rwanda and transforming lives at both ends."

Several years ago, "President Paul Kagame asked B2R to develop a new scholars program to 'burst the bottlenecks' that were preventing Rwanda's best students from competing for international scholarships. The first class of Bridge2Rwanda Scholars was launched in 2011.

The Kings' prayer requests include:

- That God may be glorified in the work they do there.
- For Caleb: for perseverance and wisdom in his development projects.
- For Louise: that she may be able to address people's spiritual needs as well as physical needs in the Clinic where she works.
- For their children: for health and safety. They had



BRIDGE2
R W A N D A

a recent scare with Moses, when he became short of breath and collapsed at school. Thankfully, he has recovered but still needs some further evaluations.

- For the children they support: for provision — especially for the handicapped children who require more resources.

For more information on Bridge2Rwanda, visit www.bridge2rwanda.org. For the King's blog, visit <https://thekingsatshyira.wordpress.com/>



700 PARK AVE., FLORENCE, SC 29501
 PHONE: 843-662-2583/FAX: 843-662-1726
www.florencefirst.org

CHURCH STAFF

Transitional Pastor	Dr. Jim Bankhead
Associate Pastor	Rev. Chris Handley
Congregational Care Assistant	Rev. Mike Fleenor
Director of Music/Organist	Mrs. Ann Rodgers Chandler
Praise Team Leader	Mr. Glenn Ham
Director of Youth Ministry	Mr. Brock Page
Director of Children's Ministry	Mrs. Alexis Morris
Child Development Center Director	Mrs. Beth Hepler
The Tabernacle Experience	Mr. Joe Koenig
Church Administrator	Rev. Don Hebert
Ministry Assistant	Ms. Teresa Stewart
Financial Assistant	Mrs. Gwen DuRant
Ministry Assistant	Ms. Kimberly Brauss
Head Custodian	Mr. Ron Echols
Assistant Custodian	Mr. Sidney Ruff
Housekeeping	Ms. Wanda LaSane

