

The REMINDER

Growing UPWARD

worshipping and praising

Growing INWARD

becoming more like Christ

Growing OUTWARD

sharing the good news



SEPTEMBER 2019

Bumping Right Along

Dear friends,

This first month for the Evans has been like white water rafting: lots of fun, and never a dull moment as we bump right along, figuring out how to navigate all the things that are straight ahead and quickly approaching!

First, I have been enjoying preaching during “Haggai awareness month.” I am also looking forward to teach *The Bible Outline* class on Wednesdays, starting September 4 at 6:30 p.m. in the Jenkins Fellowship Hall. On the one hand, with a small amount of the

INSIDE

For more on *The Bible Outline* class, see page 15.

“right” information, anyone can begin to find their way through the scriptures as they blow the fog of intimidation away. And yet, on the other hand, the Bible is so enjoyably humbling even for those who have spent much time meditating

I feel like this church is in a wonderful place on its journey. I am so grateful for those who have gone on before me, and for the long history of health in this place. It is evident to me.

on it. I hope wherever you lie upon the continuum that you would find this course helpful. This class deeply connects with my own story of how I began my journey as an adult Christian.

I also have been trying to spend as much time as I can with you. I am amazed at how warm and welcoming everyone has been; we have been offered many extra paddles while navigating the whitewater. I enjoy sharing fellowship with new friends!

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One of the biggest bumps of those rapids that the Evans have hit, is, of course, keeping Mary Lee’s parents in our prayers as Peggy (Corbin Scheu) has begun her chemo. I also have developed some sort of leg infection that took up a day at the ER, and a couple different antibiotics. I think it is starting to come around (at one point, I thought I was going to have to miss a Sunday). And as for the house, we did not close on the original closing date. Yes, the metaphor of whitewater rafting seems appropriate here, too, as we are still bumping along!

Thank you for the first month. It’s been a great ride!

Peace,
Darryl

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ON THE COVER
Dr. Darryl Evans preaches his first sermon to a full house August 4 as the new senior pastor/head of staff at First Presbyterian Church.

A Thought or Two Challenging You Toward Discipleship

Reflect on what it is God's saying

First, let me thank you for the opportunity to go to the Sing 2019 conference in Nashville for study/renewal leave. I needed some time of renewal, and it certainly was a gift to literally sing our hearts into a rich and full place. Keith and Kristyn Getty, Irish Presbyterian musicians/song writers, lead this conference, and their overarching goal is support and encourage congregational singing. On one occasion, we sang with 13,000 others, while being led by Joni Erikson Tada! Oh, how glorious it is sing of your Savior and His grace on and for us with that kind of crowd. It is like heaven! Thank you for giving us (Dottie was with me) this moment.

As I look to the future I am encouraged to see us developing a discipling culture. If you were in adult Sunday School on August 18, you probably heard about the "Kairos Poster." This poster, hanging in each class, is to highlight a posture of learning that growing disciples of Christ will cultivate. The poster pictures an individual with a burning heart while holding the Word of God. On the poster is cited Mark 1:15, where Jesus says "The 'time' (translated from the Greek word Kairos for 'time,' opposed to the other Greek word for time, chronos) has come. The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!"

This verse highlights that THE moment in time has afforded itself for us to listen and respond to Jesus. Therefore, the poster also has on it



Chris and Dottie participated in the Sing 2019 conference in Nashville. The three-day event looks at how the songs of the Bible shape the way we think about worship.

two questions that every disciple will ask her/himself as a day passes: "What is God saying (in this moment) to me?" and, "What am I going to do about it?"

Going forward, this poster highlights that you are being encouraged to pause in your classes (in the course of a day) and reflect on what it is God is saying and how you intend to respond. A growing disciple will form the habit of doing this.

Finally, I will mention that, this fall there is an effort to train leaders for Community Groups, as well as seek participants for Community Groups. The plan is that these new groups will be launched in January. Several of our elders, staff, and others have been working with a discipleship coach this year, Chad Pullins. His guidance has been invaluable in helping us develop a system that will best disciple our covenant partners. During our times with Chad, he has helped us posture ourselves to add a new vehicle to our arsenal for discipleship: Community Groups. These groups will become a means to reach those

outside the kingdom as they intentionally choose a "mission field" in which to cultivate relationships. We are seeking leaders that will guide a spiritual family (i.e., a Community Group) in this outwardly focused initiative. I would love to speak to you about the training that will be offered this fall. Others you could speak with about Community Groups in general are: Susan Snow, Janet Brand, Jayne Boswell, Alexis Morris, Amy Brown, Charissa and Chris Canfield, Rob and Sasha Hall, Mike Lavespere, Dudley Saleeby, Alva Whitehead, Mike Fleenor, and Brock Page.

Our initial training for leaders likely will be at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, September 5, with Chad Pullins. Or, if you would like to participate in a Community Group starting in January, please consider joining me for after family dinner on Wednesday nights this fall. These times will be an orientation to Community Group. Let us be challenged to learn to live together for His name-sake!

Chris

Be vigilant in staying safe on campus

Safety on our campus is a high priority. We want to ensure that the children in our CDC, our covenant partners, and the many guests that visit our church for worship and other activities are as safe as possible.

As we move into our “regular” schedule of activities for the fall, we are evaluating campus safety and looking for ways to make our campus safer while maintaining an open and inviting atmosphere for our covenant partners and guests. You will be hearing more about safety in the coming weeks as we continue to strive to make FPC a safe place for everyone.

There are things that each of us can do to enhance safety on our campus. Let me encourage you to remember the following basic safety tips:

- 1 – Lock your car and do not leave valuables (purses, phones, iPads, etc.) in plain sight.
- 2 – When leaving the building, particularly after dark, practice the “buddy system.”
- 3 – If you are the last person leaving, be sure that the door closes and locks behind you. This is particularly important if you are in the building outside of normal hours (weekends and evenings).
- 4 – Do not block doors open. There are certain doors that will remain locked in order to control access to our buildings. Most of these doors are in remote areas of the building and are not “regular” entrances. **Beginning later this month, the doors behind the Sanctuary (choir room hallway) from the breezeway and Cherokee Road will be locked once the morning worship services begin. Signs will posted that will instruct latecomers to enter through the Narthex.**
- 5 – Familiarize yourself with the location of AED (automated external defibrillator device) and first aid kits. They are located outside the sanctuary near the flower room, outside the kitchen near the CLC, and in the upstairs Children’s hallway.
- 6 – If you see something that “doesn’t look right,” let someone know about it (an usher, custodian, staff member, etc.) Additionally, we have an off-duty Florence County Sheriff deputy on campus each Sunday morning who is willing and able to assist you if you see something that “doesn’t look right.”

Safety and security is everyone’s responsibility.

Facts & Figures

Recently, all covenant partners received quarterly contribution statements reflecting individual giving through the first 6 months of 2019. In order to carry out the *Ministry Action Plan* set forth by our pastors, program staff, and the various ministry units of the Session, we need to receive contributions of \$31,954 per week. The chart below shows a snapshot of our year to date collective giving through August. I have also included a line showing gifts received for our *Firm Foundation Debt Retirement* campaign.

Average Weekly Need	\$31,954.00
Year to Date - Average Weekly Giving	\$28,782.00
Average Weekly Giving - surplus/ (deficit) - YTD	(\$3,172.00)
Total Ministry Action Plan Receipts - YTD	\$978,582.00
Firm Foundation Receipts to Date	\$726,743.00

The chart shows that our average weekly giving is running below the average weekly amount needed. At the same time, we are well on our way toward paying off the remaining debt on our Education Building by the end of this year. As we move back into our regular schedule and are looking ahead to a new season with our new Senior Pastor, let me encourage you to include continued financial support of the ministries and mission of First Presbyterian Church in your plans. One way that you can do this is through online giving, which allows you to support the ministries of our church even when you are away. To learn more about the online giving option, including TEXT to Give and SCAN to Give, visit our website www.florencefirst.org and click on the online giving link at the top right corner of the home page. You may also make a gift and view your giving history through REALM.



Worship in Corinth

The issues about worship Paul deals with in his letters to Corinth have direct influence upon our worship in the 21st century. The 11th chapter of I Corinthians deals with women and men in worship and the Lord's Supper.

In both responses by Paul it is impossible to reconstruct the letter sent to Paul from the Corinthian church. The overall purpose of Paul's letters is to make traditions and cultural patterns be consistent with the Gospel. The Gospel does not eliminate the gender difference between women and men. Paul makes two statements that clarify the proper hierarchy of life in the church. We might assume that the Corinthians misunderstood the Gospel to declare the distinction between genders is dissolved.

Paul is interpreting Genesis 2 to state the proper order of authority: "But I want you to understand that Christ is the head of every man, and the husband is the head of his wife, and God is the head of Christ (1 Corinthians 11:3)."

At this point in the church's theology there was a subordination of Jesus to his Heavenly Father, the LORD God. The doctrine of the Trinity is a theological way to explain the relationship between The Heavenly Father, Jesus Christ as the Son of the Heavenly Father, and the Holy Spirit. The Western Church based in Rome believed the Trinity gives equality to each member of the Trinity. The Eastern Church based in Constantinople believed in the subordinate nature of the three members of the Trinity. I believe in the Protestant Western Church we need to understand the Trinity explains God in an incomplete way. The inability of human language to interpret the mystery of God is seen in all theological discussions. There is equality between genders in the modern church, but there is also a God-created difference between genders which is confused in American sexuality. There is no reason to believe Paul had a subordinate view of women in ministry only that each gender practice respect and dignity for all in leadership in the church.



**REV. MIKE
FLEENOR'S BLOG**
<https://onepastorsponderings.wordpress.com/>

In the second section of chapter 11, Paul states the meaning of the Lord's Supper in worship. It is not a divisive part of worship but a unifying one which has caused theological division in the Church. The Corinthians are using the worship meal to shame others: "For when the time comes to eat, each of you goes ahead with your own supper, and one goes hungry and another becomes drunk. What! Do you not have homes to eat and drink in? Or do you show contempt for the church of God and humiliate those who have nothing? What should I say to you? Should I commend you? In this matter, I do not commend you (1 Corinthians 11:21-22)!"

The setting of the Lord's Supper in Corinth was in the midst of a common meal in the house church. The Lord's Supper as tradition is a reenactment of the cross event, which is to bring to mind the center of the Gospel, that Jesus' suffering brought redemption to the human race. In the final verses in chapter 11, Paul warns that the Lord's Supper is not to be eaten with division in mind nor to bring shame to the poor. The Lord's Supper is to express the community's unity as the new covenant people of God. Paul brings remembrance of the Jewish covenant and the inclusion of Gentiles into the covenant with Jesus' Heavenly Father, the LORD God. Without this chapter in 1 Corinthians, the church would not have the words of institution that are given by Jesus himself to teach us the meaning of his death and resurrection.

Mike

Women's circles unite for dinner



Women in Ministry had a great turnout for the salad dinner August 21. The evening was a success, and the circles start meeting this month. We welcome two new groups to the ministry, as well. One will meet once a month on Monday mornings and the other monthly on a Wednesday night. If you're interested in getting involved, contact Moderator Donna Grubb: dkagrubb@gmail.com or 843-678-9022 for more information.



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.

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



Bread and Fish	September 14	9 a.m.	Call Jan Green
Joyful Hearts	September 10	10 a.m.	Room 100
Posies and Petals	September 10	10 a.m.	Lawson-Rain Chapel
Prayer Warriors	September 10	6:30 p.m.	Lawson-Rain Chapel
SonFlowers	September 10	10 a.m.	2056 Wren Creek Court
Soul Sisters	September 10	noon	Price Classroom
Serenity	September 10	3 p.m.	Lawson-Rain Chapel
Women of Grace	September 12	6:30 p.m.	3002 Japonica Lane
Morning Mercies	September 9	10 a.m.	Pilgrim Class
Women of Valor	September 11	6:30 p.m.	Room 202

Save the Date

Eurasia Trio at First Presbyterian

7:30 p.m. October 1

Eurasia Trio will perform at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, October 1, in the Sanctuary at First Presbyterian Church. Eurasia Trio is: violinist Dr. Qiao Chen Solomon (China), cellist Dr. Martin Gueorguiev (Bulgaria), and pianist Dr. Paolo Gualdi (Italy, www.pagualdi.com).

Dr. Qiao serves as Associate Professor of Music, Director of Orchestral and Strings Studies of the Music Department at Agnes Scott College. Dr. Gueorguiev teaches cello at Oxford College of Emory University. Dr. Gualdi also is an Associate Professor of Music at Francis Marion University. Join us for an evening of moving music with this incredibly talented trio.



Qiao Chen
Solomon



Martin
Gueorguiev



Paolo Gualdi

GET INVOLVED IN MUSIC MINISTRY

MONDAYS

In October, Director of Music Ann Rodgers Chandler will have piano classes for children in grades 1-5.

TUESDAYS

1:30 p.m. Ladies' Ensemble (Ladies of all ages)
4 p.m. Girls' Ensemble (Sixth grade and older)

WEDNESDAYS

5 p.m. Chancel Handbell Choir
6:30 p.m. Children's Choir
6:30 p.m. Praise Team Rehearsal
6:45 p.m. Preschool Choir
7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal



If you're interested in joining the music ministry, contact Ann Rodgers Chandler, Director of Music, at 843-662-2583 or achandler@florencefirst.org.

CDC celebrates three years



First Presbyterian Child Development Center marked its third-year anniversary on August 8. The past three years have been a challenging but satisfying journey as we have sought to reach a high standard of childcare for young families in the Florence community. We are grateful for each parent who has entrusted their child to us. We continue to strive to provide a Christian environment where young children are encouraged to grow and develop spiritually, emotionally, socially, cognitively and physically. We look to the future with anticipation as we continue down this path. Thank you, First Presbyterian Church for opening your doors to the child development ministry, for your support and prayers! Full steam ahead!



September

BIRTHDAYS

September 1

Jimmy Mclellan
David Campbell

September 2

Tyler Jackson
Stephen Jones

September 3

Thom Anderson
Devon Bowen
Lisa Dozier
Karen Jordan
Clara Maxwell

September 4

Stan Bergstrom
Blaine Carter
Clariann Kellam
Bob Whitesides

September 5

Elizabeth Blanton
Peggy Cagle
Kathryn Hopkins
Michelle Jones
Cathy Patrick

September 6

Betty Lee Gandy
Sarah Porter
Jessica Sanyi

September 7

John Bankson
David Douglas
Kathy Hatfield
Andy McInville

September 8

Morgan Banner
Alex Cotran
Paul Davis
Lee Nunn
John Scott

September 9

Anne Floyd
Caroline McInville
Hunter Morgan
Pearce Scott
Don Watts

September 10

Robin Cranford
Carol Fleenor
Caroline Garris
Ken Knudsen

September 11

Betty Bell
Debbie Harwell
Jason Newton

September 12

Mac King
Jo Ann Patton

September 13

Mary Watts

September 14

Bradford Brown

September 15

Chuck Collins
Mark Hanna
Dudley Saleeby

September 16

Matt Dowdell
Thomas Hemmingsen
David Handley
Patrick Lynch
Jeanne Watts

September 17

Mason Slaughter

September 19

Joyce Floyd
Claudia Harris
Edward Henderson
Peggy Taylor
Sara Watts

September 20

Marilyn Bays
Jason Coker
Darryl Evans
Milly Slaughter

September 21

Jessica Carmichael
Greg Cleveland
Kate Genoble
Richard Genoble
Brandon Matthews
Richard Ryan

September 22

Rebecca Clancy
Mike Roycroft

September 23

Preston Bankson
John Ivey Brown
Mary Lachlan Campbell

September 24

John Joseph Alexander
Chris Hobson
Zane Miles
Elizabeth Wheeler

September 25

Annie Abernathy
Al Gilpin
Grayson Jones

September 26

Ben Carter
Hudson Kennedy

September 27

Grace Cleveland
Jack Cleveland
Collins Coker
Graham Rabon
Pam Turner

September 28

Lendi Watkins

September 29

Furman Brodie
Franklin Emerson
Laura Purvis
Jeremy Straus

September 30

Helen Foster
Ella Hylton
Eliza Johnson
Sara King
Ginger Owen
Luke Scott IV
Chuck van Witzenburg



September



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1 COMMUNION

- 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship Service
- 10:00 AM Sunday School
- 11:00 AM Traditional Worship Service
- 4:30 PM Volleyball

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2 OFFICE CLOSED

- 10:00 AM Monday Morning Prayer Group

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

- 7:00 AM Men's Breakfast: Bazen's
- 9:15 AM Women's Prayer Group
- 9:30 AM WiM Coordinating Team Meeting: Lawson-Rain Chapel
- 11:00 AM Bible Moderators Meeting: Pilgrim
- 5:00 PM Women's Prayer Group – Hucks
- 6:00 PM Children's Church Leader Orientation: JFH
- 7:00 PM Men's Choral Society Rehearsal

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

- 5:45 PM Family Night Dinner: Jenkins Fellowship Hall
- 6:30 PM Wednesday night programs
- 6:30 PM Praise Team Rehearsal
- 6:30 PM Youth Program
- 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

- 7:15 AM Men's Breakfast: Presbyterian Community
- 9:30 AM Women's Small Group

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

- 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship Service
- 10:00 AM Children's Ministry Parent Meeting: JFH
- 10:00 AM Sunday School
- 11:00 AM Traditional Worship Service
- 4:30 PM Volleyball
- 5:30 PM Embracing God's Word: JFH
- 5:30 PM Youth Fellowship

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

- 10:00 AM Monday Morning Prayer Group
- 10:00 AM WiM Morning Mercies: Pilgrim Class
- 6:30 PM GriefShare: Room 104
- 7:00 PM Boy Scouts Meeting: Scout Room

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

- 7:00 AM Men's Breakfast: Jenkins Fellowship Hall
- 9:15 AM Women's Prayer Group
- 10:00 AM WiM Co-moderators: Presbyterian Community
- 10:00 AM WiM Posies & Petals: Lawson-Rain
- 10:00 AM WiM Joyful Hearts: Room 100
- 10:00 AM SonFlowers: RoomS102
- 12:00 PM Ladies' Ensemble Rehearsal: Choir Room
- 12:00 PM JFW Bible Study: CLC
- 12:00 PM WiM Soul Sisters: Price Class
- 3:00 PM WiM Serenity: Lawson-Rain
- 5:00 PM Women's Prayer Group – Hucks
- 6:30 PM WiM Prayer Warriors: Lawson-Rain
- 7:00 PM Men's Choral Society Rehearsal



WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

- 5:00 PM Chancel Handbell Choir Rehearsal
- 5:45 PM Family Night Dinner: JFH
- 6:30 PM Wednesday night programs
- 6:30 PM Praise Team Rehearsal
- 6:30 PM WiM Women of Valor: Room 202
- 6:30 PM Youth Program
- 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

- 7:15 AM Men's Breakfast: Presbyterian Community
- 9:30 AM Women's Small Group
- 6:30 PM WiM Women of Grace: 3002 Japonica Lane

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

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

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

- 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship Service
- 10:00 AM Youth Ministry Parent Meeting
- 10:00 AM Sunday School
- 11:00 AM Traditional Worship Service
- 2:00 PM Dr. Darryl Evans' Installation and Reception
- 4:30 PM Volleyball
- 5:30 PM Embracing God's Word: JFH
- 5:30 PM Youth Fellowship



September



MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

- 10:00 AM Monday Morning Prayer Group
- 6:30 PM GriefShare: Room 104
- 7:00 PM Boy Scouts Meeting: Scout Room

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

- 7:00 AM Men's Breakfast: Jenkins Fellowship Hall
- 9:15 AM Women's Prayer Group
- 12:00 PM JFW Bible Study: CLC
- 12:00 PM Ladies' Ensemble Rehearsal: Choir Room
- 5:00 PM Women's Prayer Group – Hucks
- 6:30 PM Board of Deacons
- 7:00 PM Men's Choral Society Rehearsal

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

- 5:00 PM Chancel Handbell Choir Rehearsal
- 5:45 PM Family Night Dinner: JFH
- 6:30 PM Wednesday night programs
- 6:30 PM Praise Team Rehearsal
- 6:30 PM Youth Program
- 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

- 7:15 AM Men's Breakfast: Presbyterian Community
- 9:30 AM Women's Small Group

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

- 10:00 AM Aglow International
- 4:30 PM Respite Night

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

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

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

- 10:00 AM Monday Morning Prayer Group
- 6:30 PM GriefShare: Room 104
- 7:00 PM Boy Scouts Meeting: Scout Room

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

- 7:00 AM Men's Breakfast: Jenkins Fellowship Hall
- 9:15 AM Women's Prayer Group
- 12:00 PM JFW Bible Study: CLC
- 12:00 PM Ladies' Ensemble Rehearsal: Choir Room
- 5:00 PM Women's Prayer Group – Hucks
- 6:30 PM Session: Journey
- 7:00 PM Men's Choral Society Rehearsal

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

- 5:00 PM Chancel Handbell Choir Rehearsal
- 5:45 PM Family Night Dinner: JFH
- 6:30 PM Wednesday night programs
- 6:30 PM Praise Team Rehearsal
- 6:30 PM Youth Program
- 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

- 7:15 AM Men's Breakfast: Presbyterian Community
- 9:30 AM Women's Small Group

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

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

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

- 10:00 AM Monday Morning Prayer Group
- 6:30 PM GriefShare: Room 104
- 7:00 PM Boy Scouts Meeting: Scout Room



Remember in Prayer

Extended Care

Heritage at Lowman

Mac King

Heritage

George Richardson

Methodist Manor

Madeline Brice

Joyce Floyd

Marie Jordan

Presbyterian Community

Hannah Barringer

Ann Cash

Aaron Leland

Tom and Clariann Kellam

Sympathy

Margaret Charles, loss of her father

Glenn Odom, loss of his mother

Rick Ryan, loss of his father

Households

Gary and Jan Bray, Caitlin

Jane Ames

Ken and Margaret Charles

Joe and Carol Commander

Cindy Coward, Elizabeth

Matt and Merrette Dowdell, Lane, Matthew

Mike and Carol Fleenor

Anna Gregg

Patrick and Rebecca Clancy, Brooklyne, Jacqueline, Taylor

John and Susan Bankson

Memorials

Larry Brice

Joe Crawford

Frank Key

Tony Meeks

Alice Nickles

LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER



Sick & Recovering

Thom Anderson

Jonathan Bankhead

Glenn Bell

Madeline Brice

Jack Cagle

Barbara Covington

Chuck Dennis

Theresa Echols

Brandon Frost

Kit Fulmer

Jimmy Green

Carolyn Holland

Rainey Josey

Adele Kassab

Ginger Owen

Mike Page

Mary Catherine Rawlinson

Jay Reece

Peggy Corbin Scheu

Elders

Jim Dameron

Ryon Watkins

Deacons

Linda Smiley

Ronnie Welch

Mission

InterVarsity at FMU

Chandan Sah

Women in Ministry

Anne Hanna

Cille Scott

Sunday School Teachers

Edith Hicks

Jack Hofler

Staff

Glenn Ham

Ann Rodgers Chandler

God's Work in our Community

InterVarsity at Francis Marion University

For over 75 years, InterVarsity has had a vital presence on hundreds of college campuses, including Francis Marion University in Florence.

InterVarsity wants every student on every college campus to have the opportunity to hear about and experience the real hope of Jesus.

First Presbyterian supports InterVarsity at FMU, and with the start of the new school year, they're gearing up for a full week of outreach and events for new students. They minister in a variety of ways, including planting chapters that reach every corner of campus, sending students to global missions fields, serving the larger Christian Church through our retreat and training centers, and producing award-winning books and video resources.

Prayer requests from Adam Salloum, area director, include: praying for our returning leaders that they



InterVarsity leaders at Francis Marion University.

would connect with new students well at these events as they invite them into the community. We are praying that the student community would grow in depth and that we would see students come to know the Lord through their small group this year. Adam lives in Columbia and serves the student group from a distance so his request is also to pray for him as he seeks to serve them well from afar and support local leaders and volunteers who are serving the chapter.

God's Work Around the World

Chandan Sah Empower Believers Movement Nepal

Empowerment Believers Connection is a network of indigenous (Indian) mission agencies that are planting churches and transforming communities throughout the northeastern state of Bihar. Bihar is 0.06% Christian. The state is mostly Hindu (80%), followed by a large Muslim population (18%) and a mix of Buddhism, Jainism, Seiks, etc. EBC was founded and is led by Chandan Kumar Sah who employs multiple strategies to reach and transform communities, including: CHE (Community Health Evangelism), CPM (Church Planting Movements), DMM (Disciple Making Movements), and MED (Micro-Enterprise Development). Pramila, Chandan's wife, is instrumental in equipping and discipling women as she leads a strong women's ministry.

Empower Believers Movement Nepal (EBM-Nepal) is



encouraging the leaders in the network to do Micro Enterprises Project to become self-supportive. Now EBM Nepal has provided Micro loans to 17 different leaders in the network. They are doing projects such as bicycle repairing shop, Sewing Center, Carpentry, Mobile Repairing Centre, Cosmetic shop, General store shop, Private Nursery School, etc.



Church News

Cardboard Box City applications due

Cardboard Box City, which raises awareness of homelessness and funds for Family Promise (a ministry for homeless families), will be held September 28-29 at Wilson High School in Florence.

Cardboard Box City is open to people of all ages and affiliations. Youth groups, service clubs, school groups, sports teams, families, etc., are encouraged to use this event as a learning and team-building experience. Students in 7th -12th grade must be accompanied by an adult chaperone age 21 or older. Students in sixth grade and younger should be accompanied by a parent or responsible adult. Pre-registration cost is \$25 per person before September 14. To register and for more info, visit www.familypromiseflorence.com.

Keenagers kicks off with October luncheon

Keenagers will begin its season with a noon lunch on Tuesday, October 1, in the Jenkins Fellowship Hall. Please join us in what's sure to be a memorable occasion that will also fill your heart and soul.

Thank you from the Reeces

Jay and Maggie Reece thank everyone for their prayers and loving acts of kindness during Jay's recent surgery and recovery.

Alliance on mental illness offers classes

The National Alliance on Mental Illness will offer a free 8-session course to first-degree relatives (parents, spouses/partners, siblings, or adult children) of an adult with a major mental illness. Family-to-family classes will be held in Florence beginning in September. Class size is limited to 20 people. Pre-registration by September 6 is required. The course will be held on Sundays from 2:30 to 5 p.m., Sept. 22-Nov. 10, at Central United Methodist. Contact Susan Snow at susdus@aol.com for more information.



Scouts return from backpacking in Rockies

Our Scouts have returned from Idaho backpacking in the Sawtooth Wilderness area of the Rocky mountains (photo). Thanks to Ivan Morris and Hunter Morgan for planning the trip that included five troop Eagle



Scouts: Hunter Morgan Jr., Richard Shurman, Campbell Frost, Jack Banner, and Ivan Morris. Future Eagle Scout Lucas Morgan also joined the trip. Our Monday night Scout meetings started back for the new school year at with a parents meeting. Boys in the sixth through 12th grades interested in our scouting ministry are invited to join; our weekly meetings begin at 7 p.m. September 9 in the Scout Room.

Embracing God's Word meetings to resume

A 10-week non-denominational, in-depth Bible study of the Book of Colossians will begin September 8 at First Presbyterian Church. Registration for the 5:30-7:30 p.m. study is onsite, and there is no cost. For more information, contact Janet Brand.

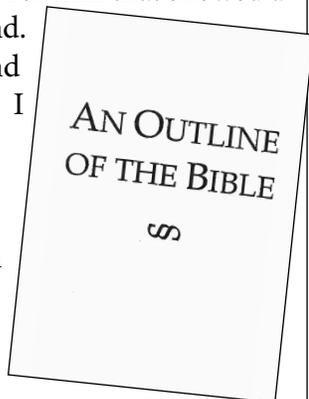
Support CDC with 'Together in Education'

Support the Child Development Center by signing up for the Harris Teeter "Together in Education" program. This is a free program that our center participates in to raise funds. Harris Teeter pays out a percentage of every dollar spent on their brand food items. Link your VIC card yearly at the store or online at: www.harristeeter.com/together-in-education. Our school code is: 3893.

— Submit church news briefs to Kim Brauss at kbrauss@florencefirst.org or call the church office.

The Biggest Secret

The first time I really opened the Bible to read it, I was in college. You'll never guess what prompted me to open it: I was watching a horror film that showed a verse from Revelation at the end. I went up to my dorm room and started leafing through a Bible. I thought I knew the Bible because my parents always made me go to church every Sunday – but as I began to flip through the pages I began to realize something: I hardly knew anything at all. I was so ignorant that I didn't even know I was ignorant! I thought I knew the Bible, but then as it sat open in my lap I realized I was wrong.



I began reading the Bible over Thanksgiving break my freshman year and became absolutely enthralled with it. I thought, “Hey, how come no one ever told me this stuff before? The Bible is the church's best kept secret!”

Then, I would learn something – only to realize later that I had forgotten it. Eventually, I started to write it down. I would say to myself, “OK, in one sentence what is Isaiah about?” Or, “What's a key theme – just give it to me short and sweet?” And so I began to compile *An Outline of the Bible*. I wrote it purely for my own personal Bible study. As I kept revising my *Outline*, I realized other people felt like they were in a fog when they opened the Bible because they were overwhelmed, too.

For me, updating this *Outline* and teaching a class to help others see the contents of the Scriptures is a great joy. The handout I have for you, together with the class, is intended to be a tool – to act as a fan to help blow that fog of intimidation away. I hope that this class would help pave the way that we all might enjoy our rightful inheritance: the gift of God's Word. I hope you will join us for the journey! (Wednesday, September 4 @ 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.)

Peace,
Darryl

Foreign Correspondent comes out of retirement

Dave Banner Sr., the only church member to call to say mine was the only article that he read in *The Reminder*, made a promise that he would increase his pledge by 20 percent if I would occasionally write an article to be published. I told him if he would send me his dollar, I would be sure he followed up on his commitment.

The theme of today's article is one of the three com-

THE PRESBYTERIAN COMMUNITY REPORT

mands on the front of our bulletin: Upward, Inward, Outward. I write empha-

sizing outward because for the past six-plus months Clariann and I have been recipients of outward benefits from church members and friends.

After the preacher completed our wedding vows, the minister said you may now legally kiss your wife. Before contact was made, I made an outward vow and whispered in her ear, “I will always put the seat down.” And I have been doing it for 67 years.

I have established a board of directors that allows more efficient use of their abilities and desire to help us. The board is: Mike Fleenor, chaplain; Warren Montgomery, charge of devotional; Chuck Dennis, producer of produce; Palmer Kirkpatrick, medical adviser; Bob Silver, court jester; Wayne Paffraff, a resident of Presbyterian Communities of South Carolina, a spare tire in all departments; Henry “Sherlock” Rose, finder of many lost items that have been overlooked by many people; Butch Carroll, CEO; and Glenn Bell, church news informant. It's important to have missions beyond the big waters, however, finances, time off from work, family commitment, prohibit 95 percent of such mission work. Outreach mission might live next door or somewhere else you can be easily in contact. It's free and requires no travel. It can be possible. Think again about our mission statement Upward, Inward, Outward — listed in order of importance.

Again, Clariann and I have enjoyed being the beneficiaries of such love. Is there someone that comes to your mind that needs outreach love that you desire to provide?

— Tom Kellam, *Foreign Correspondent*

P.S. I've heard rumors that Ineda Mann wants to come back as a resident. That's too much outreach.

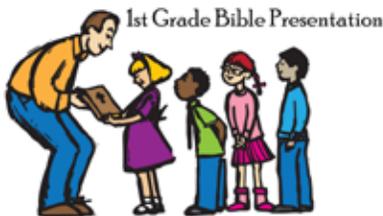


Children's Church is going to look different this year. Children who are in 3K-first grade will have a special time of hearing a Bible story and responding to it. Children's Church will be held in the preschool pod, Room 119.

There will be a **Parent Orientation** at 6 p.m. Tuesday, September 3, in the fellowship hall. All parents of 3K- through first-grade children are encouraged to attend. Pizza dinner and childcare are provided. Please RSVP to the office for childcare, 843-662-2583.



- 5:45 p.m. Family Dinner
- 6:30 p.m. Children go to classes
- Preschool in 5K room
- Elementary students go upstairs
- Sixth-grade Catechism



First-grade children will receive Bibles during worship September 8. Come to the service of your choice. Each child will be called forward to receive their Bible and a blessing.



Children's Ministry Parent Meeting

All parents of sixth-graders and younger are invited to a breakfast gathering at **10 a.m. Sunday, September 8**

The Children's Team will discuss opportunities for your children and your family this coming year.

ites related to parenting, worship, study, and spiritual growth.

There also will be a Book Table set up with some of our personal favor-

Please bring a breakfast item to share. Beverages and paper products will be provided.

Family Night Dinners

Starting Wednesday, September 4, Family Night Dinners are held at 5:45 p.m. on Wednesdays throughout the school year. Dinner is \$5 per person, and families cap at \$20. Following the meal, at 6:30 p.m., activities are available for all ages.



Friends and fellowship



A wonderful time was had with The Assembly families and our church during the August Time2PEEP. Children in first through sixth grade and parents get together with The Assembly families for a time of food and fellowship. First Presbyterian Church and our sister church come together and work on racial bridging throughout the year.

Children need to learn worship is for them, too

Associate Pastor's note: This column addresses challenges Christian parents face. Alexis Morris, Brock Page, and I (Chris Handley) will share the responsibility of giving parents a nugget to help and challenge.

By Alexis Morris
Children's Ministry Director

It's that time to welcome rising second-graders into the Sanctuary for the entire worship service. As parents, it is very challenging. Children fidget, ask questions, hum, drop pencils and sigh heavily. They try our patience, and we think that all eyes are on us. Remember, though, that the long-term blessings of worshipping together outweigh any frustrations we may have.

Corporate worship is the one time during the busy week where the people of God pause and gather to praise, pray and hear the Word



**Parenting
is not for sissies**

of God spoken together. It is a God-ordained rhythm to come together on the Sabbath and worship. If we think the children are not listening, Isaiah 55:1 tells us the God's Word does not return void. When we celebrate the Lord's Supper or a Baptism, the visuals of those sacraments convey God's promise to bring us back into perfect relationship with him through his Son, Jesus Christ. The prayers that are spoken often include children or people they know. Our corporate confession reminds children that adults make mistakes, too; that we all are loved and forgiven by the Savior. Your children want to please you. If they see you worshipping and enjoying the community of believers, they will, too. In Psalm 78, parents are instructed to pass on

the story of God to their children. Worship is all about God's story through praise, confession, forgiveness, Word, and benediction. When children worship with the whole congregation, they learn that they are an important part of worship and that God is for them — not just for the adults.

“We know the benefits from a healthy diet can influence the lives of children for the next 20, 40, 60 or 80 years. It's worth the struggle. And the benefits that flow from including our children in corporate worship can affect their lives not just for 80 years, but for eternity. If green beans and broccoli are worth the struggle, a season or two of difficulty in the pew is more than worth it.” (Jason Helopoulos, “Let the Children Worship in Church” The Gospel Coalition July 7, 2017.)

— Email Alexis Morris at amorris@florencefirst.org.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Help and encouragement
after the death of a loved one

GriefShare is a special weekly seminar and support group designed to help you rebuild your life. We know it hurts, and we want to help.

Mondays, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

September 9 - December 2

First Presbyterian Church

700 Park Avenue, Florence

843-662-2583

GRIEF SHARE®

Youth Ministry News



High school youth pool party



Youth Schedule

- Sunday School: September 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 10-10:50 a.m., Light breakfast, Fellowship, Lesson
- Small group: September 15, 29 / 5:30-7 p.m. / Dinner, Lesson
- MOVE: September 8, 22 / 5:30-7:30 p.m. / Dinner, Lesson, Games
- 412 on Wednesdays: September 4, 11, 18, 25, 6:30-7:30 p.m., Bible study and prayer
- East Florence Mission: September 3, 10, 17, 24, 4-5 p.m.

Youth Parent Meeting

- We will have a youth parent meeting at 10 a.m. Sunday, September 15, in the Jenkins Fellowship Hall during Sunday School. We will discuss the youth calendar for the upcoming year. Please make plans to attend.

New Church Season

- The new youth season kicked off with a high school pool party hosted by Cathy Lee and a middle school pool party hosted by Tara and Jason Newton. Regular Sunday nights and Wednesday nights start back in September. In Sunday School, we will be working through a curriculum by Chris Theule-Van Dam called *Believe It: 16 Things You Need To Know About Your Faith*. On Wednesdays, we will be studying the book of I Timothy, and on Sunday evenings we will look at curriculum produced by Fuller Institute called *Sticky Faith*.

Help! My Teen Doesn't Want To Attend Church

- The following is an excerpt from an article on The Gospel Coalition website, thegospelcoalition.org: “Hebrews 10:24-25 contains the scriptural imperative that battle-weary parents are striving to uphold: ‘Let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another ...’ Christians gather together as the church to encourage one another in holiness and to proclaim and remember the powerful gospel of Christ. Saved or unsaved, your teen needs your church’s witness. Parenting is packed with opportunities to persuade your child to do what’s best even when they would rather not. As an infant, you convinced them to sleep through the night instead of partying away the night in their crib. Instead of a diet consisting exclusively of pizza, you provide healthy alternatives. And every day you drop them off at school, whether or not they’re feeling it. Parents help their children discern the good portion. If your resolve needs a little refreshing, try employing the three E’s – Empathize, Explain, and Exhort.” Over the course of the next few newsletters I will share details about the three E’s. Until then, I pray your teen would be engaged in church and youth.



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CHURCH STAFF

Senior Pastor / Head of Staff	Dr. Darryl Evans
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
Custodian	Mr. Sidney Ruff
Housekeeping	Ms. Wanda LaSane

Covenant Partner Magnetic Name Badges



As our new senior pastor, Dr. Darryl Evans, and his family begins their time at First Presbyterian, consider getting a name badge to be easily recognized and remembered. It's a useful tool to facilitate conversation.

The name badge form is also available in the Welcome Center or online in Realm.

A badge costs \$7.

Order Form

Please return this form to the Church Office with your check made payable to First Presbyterian.

Name (exactly the way it should appear on your badge)

Please use another form for more than one name.

Number of badges: _____

Amount enclosed: _____

