

The REMINDER

Growing UPWARD
worshipping and praising

Growing INWARD
becoming more like Christ

Growing OUTWARD
sharing the good news



NOVEMBER 2021

Moment for Mission: Burn Care International

One of the global missions First Presbyterian Church supports Burn Care International, where Cindy Jackson is the founder of the non-profit:

“I just returned from Tanzania (in October), where I was working with the National public hospital. This



was my third trip to help them establish and implement a protocol for their burn rehabilitation program. It’s challenging to work in an environment where disfigurement, contractures, and suffering are accepted as inevitable. We were seeing positive change and then Covid-19

hit. It was good to get there again and re establish a game plan for moving forward. This hospital has 85 burn beds and the challenges can feel overwhelming to the staff who try to do their best in almost impossible odds. I would appreciate your prayers for the staff that they would feel encouraged and see God working. There are so many needs but even a little progress really makes a big difference.

I have been invited to Palestine to Hebron City in the West Bank with Operation Smile so I would appreciate your prayers for timing, etc.

I am working on trying to find grant money to support

our work and help us be more available for training- so many needs and places asking for help. I am also trying to develop an online training program to multiply our efforts so your prayers would be appreciated as I try to do a good job with the opportunities God has given me.”

Burn Care International, Inc. recognizes that most of the suffering and physical deformities from burns in poor countries around the world could be prevented with education and training in pressure therapy. The process is not quick, but it is effective and can be done by a staff with basic medical training and a good seamstress with a serger and basic sewing machine. BCI is dedicated to training willing medical workers in poor countries around the world how to work with burn patients so that they have the opportunity to heal properly and return to a normal life.

I truly believe that God allowed me to be burned so that I would see the needs around me and to be able to speak from experience about burns. It is my prayer that BCI can make a difference in the lives of burn patients around the world. If you would like more information about how to support this ministry, if you would like a speaker at an event to share the ministry of BCI, or if your organization offers medical care as a ministry in developing countries and you would like more information about burn education and pressure therapy training, please contact me through www.burncareinternational.org.

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ON THE COVER: Covenant Partners process carrying tartans during Reformation Sunday.

Giving Thanks

Dear Church Family,

As the year winds down, I have great gratitude in my heart for many things. We have the Emerts joining us this month and will have a special time with them on Nov. 7 during a joint Sunday School, and Jeremy will preach. Another of our missionaries, Chandan Sah, will be with us on Wednesday night, Nov. 10, sharing how the Lord has been doing a great work among them in Asia. He has not been here recently, and I am looking forward to meeting him. And, we can give thanks for what the future holds for Helping Florence Flourish and Chris, as that ministry now grows into its next chapter.

The holidays can be a challenging time for those of us who are facing a new set of life circumstances such as spending the time without a loved one for the first time. And since we are all never truly alone — for God is with us — we will have a special opportunity for fellowship over a Thanksgiving meal on Thanksgiving Day in the Fellowship Hall. This is open to anyone, regardless if they do not have family nearby, or would simply like to join. Please just RSVP to Teresa so we can plan accordingly. It will be a Thanksgiving feast, and everyone is asked to chip in to help cover the cost of their meal.

We can give thanks that others have expressed the desire to join our work and worship, and that we will be holding a new covenant partners class soon. It is a joy to watch our church family grow.

Give thanks in any and every situation because the Lord is near. As the Apostle writes, “Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

“Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable — if anything is excellent or praiseworthy — think about such things. And the God of peace will be with you.”



What a wonderful season we are in. As an old professor of mine used to say, we are thankful not because of what we have received so much as we are thankful that we are able to give.

Peace,

A Thought or Two Challenging You Toward Discipleship

God's Preparation

Dear Friends,

First, You have blessed and encouraged Dottie and me in the days since our announcement. It is certainly with mixed emotion that we move toward December 31 because we love you! And, I often find myself saying that "We are not leaving" and "We can still be friends!" I even see the relationships that we share at First being part of the web of relationships that comprise the whole of the body of Christ in this community. Therefore, Dottie and my relationship with you will be part of the equation for blessing Florence.

The way that I want you to think about these days is that we are all moving toward a new season of growth as we follow the Lord. Change, transition, and disruption force us consciously to think about where we stand with the Lord. Are we listening for Him and responding to Him? That can't help but be a good thing! Change makes us think about the things that are important to us. Change makes us think about the way we do things, why we do things. Change makes us ask: Can we still do the things the way we used to do things? So listen for the Lord as we go through this day of change around First.

I have finished moving through a season of evaluation and listening to the Lord with a few folks (Gray Scott, Alexis Morris and David and Stephanie Spivey) looking at a curriculum called *Younique*. I may have spoken of this with you before, but it bears a second mention. *Younique* delves into the idea that God has created you for special purposes. Ephesians 2:10 says, "For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." That one verse should thrill us as we anticipate how God has wired us! As we discern how God has uniquely wired us we can step into good works that he has prepared in advance for us to do. As I think about what I am moving toward I believe that God has prepared me for this, and that excites me. The thing that will bring us joy in this life and the next is doing the purposeful work that He has made you to do.

Always challenging us to discipleship!

Chris



Toward a Healthier Church

2022 Stewardship Campaign

During the month of November, we will be challenged on the importance of stewardship and our growth as disciples. As part of our worship during the month of November, we will hear from our covenant partners about why they pledge. This year we will hear from Jeremy Emert, one of our own covenant partners who, along with his wife Courtney, answered the call to serve in Zambia. Brian Braddock, Executive Director for House of Hope, a local benevolence will share how God has used First Presbyterian Church to minister to the underserved population of Florence. The campaign will culminate with Commitment Sunday on November 21.

Later this month, all covenant partners will receive 2022 Commitment cards which will allow you to make a pledge to financially support the ministry and mission of First Presbyterian Church. The campaign will culminate with Commitment Sunday on November 21.

Very soon, you will receive a letter from the Enabling Unit of the Session regarding our 2022 Stewardship Campaign. I'd like to share an excerpt from that letter: "The Covenant Partners of First Presbyterian Church understand the importance of our ministries, the lives that are being impacted through these ministries, and the blessings that come to us as we serve Christ with generous and grateful hearts. During our 2022 Stewardship Campaign we are asking you to do two things:

1) Give prayerful consideration as to how God would have you give to support and expand the ministries of First Presbyterian in 2022. As our giving increases, so do the ministries of our church.

2) Join us on Sunday, November 21, for our Commitment Sunday. On that Sunday, Covenant Partners will be asked to present their pledge cards as part of the morning worship services. This act is about far more than collecting "pledge" cards. It is our opportunity to recommit our lives to Christ and be a part of what He is doing in our community and in the world. The truth is we all need that challenge!"

Over the last 18 months, the COVID 19 pandemic has presented many challenges. Thankfully we are beginning to move out from under the shadow of the COVID 19 pandemic and "church life" is gradually beginning to return to normal. In his letter to the church at Corinth, Paul writes: "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." (2 Corinthians 9:7) As we look to the future, I want to encourage all covenant partners to look at how God has blessed you and ask Him how you can be a blessing to others through the work of First Presbyterian Church.

In Memoriam Panel

Last year, we dedicated the Columbarium Memory Garden. The installation of the columbarium marked the culmination of a dream and desire dating back to 1994, for our church to have a columbarium. First Presbyterian Church is pleased to be able to offer this option for our covenant partners as part of the end of life planning process. In addition to the niches for placement of cremains (ashes), the columbarium features an "In Memoriam" section. This section is for the remembrance of covenant partners, their spouses, children, as well as the parents of covenant partners, who are deceased and are interred elsewhere. Brochures about the Columbarium Memory Garden are now available in the Welcome Center. Information is also available on the church website www.florencefirst.org Please contact me if you are interested in reserving a niche or would like more information about the "In Memoriam" section.



Living By Faith

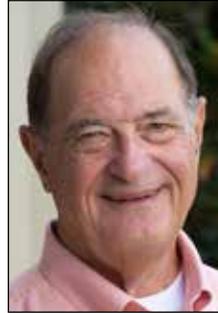
ROMANS 1:14-23

This is a fourth essay on Romans chapter one. Paul's letter to the Romans is carefully crafted to convey to the church in Rome his intention to visit them. This letter is theological[y dense, but a careful study unearths truth that helps us live in the 21st century as followers of Christ.

Paul hopes by expressing his thought about the Gospel that they will help and support a mission to the West (Spain). Romans is difficult to divide into sections or distinct passages. Each section leads to the next to complete his thought about the meaning of the Gospel of God. A purpose of Paul's projected visit to Rome is expressed in Romans 1:14-15: "I am obligated both to Greeks and non-Greeks, both to the wise and the foolish. That is why I am so eager to preach the gospel also to you who are in Rome." Paul's "obligation" is to God to be obedient to God's call. The meaning of obligation is to be in debt. We use the word in the Lord's Prayer from Matthew. Paul uses the word three times as he is indebted to God for his life and ministry. The purpose of Paul's life is to preach the Gospel. The verb we translate, preach the Gospel or good news, is one word in the Greek Bible, evangelion.

Paul uses the phrase: "the Gospel of God" twice in Romans: Romans 1:1 and Romans 15:16. The Gospel of good news of salvation by grace existed before the coming of Christ to earth. Grace can be translated from the Hebrew word for steadfast love (Hesed). Paul's hatred for the Christian movement among the Jews could only be turned to respect and love by Jesus. The revelation or apocalypse of Jesus to Paul changed Paul from a persecutor of the Church to a missionary preacher witnessing to Jesus' resurrection and his Lordship as Messiah. God's people (both Jew and Gentile) are now made righteous and unified through the faith of Jesus and through faith in Jesus.

The definition of the Gospel is explained by Paul through his use of five conditional clauses stacked upon each other. First of all Paul states he is "not ashamed of the Gospel (Romans 1:16)." This may seem strange to us as modern people in the church.



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

Paul seeks to explain the salvation of God to humanity as given freely through faith. The Gospel is the power of salvation for all people. The human race receives salvation by faith not through any merit. Humans who suppress this truth are ungodly, but the truth of God's favor by faith is "plain to them" through creation "so they are without excuse (Romans 1:19)."

This is a difficult concept for modern people to accept. Humans face a decision: accept the truth of God's revelation in Jesus or reject the plain truth of God's love and existence. Paul is challenging the Romans to reject worshiping the idols of Rome and mythology and to accept the truth that Jesus is the Messiah and Lord of the world. This same challenge is made to the world today. Romans is as contemporary a challenge as any other challenge in our world and life. The Gospel of God and Jesus Christ provides the truth of the purpose of life for all humanity.



You're Invited, Ladies

Come join the women of First Presbyterian Church
at our first Gathering event!

Monday, November 8, 2021

Christian Life Center

6:00 Fellowship and Note Writing to College Students

6:30 Soup and Sandwich Supper

6:45 *Take Courage* Bible study video

7:30 Break-out circle meetings in various church rooms

The aim of Women in Ministry is to strengthen our relationships with God and with each other. Through prayer, Bible study, and fellowship, let us be nurtured and empowered to be His light to our families, our church, and to this world.

Greeting the new season with festivities

It's a busy time at First Presbyterian Child Development Center as we prepare for the upcoming seasons of Thanksgiving and soon after Christmas. Our annual Christmas Celebration will be held on Thursday, December 9, in the church sanctuary. (Note change of calendar date). We are extra excited for our celebration this year, since last year we presented our program virtually.

This past month we concentrated on celebrating Fall and spending time outside as the weather changed from summer to fall and lower temps. We've had many beautiful crisp mornings to walk about the campus, ride in our buggies and play on the grounds. The children and staff enjoyed our annual fall festival day earlier in the month, where they played various games in the CLC to win small prizes and candy. A highlight of this year's celebration included the pumpkin balancing walk and the fishing booth. As quickly as the games go up in the morning, they are down by lunch time and we are off to another adventure in another area of the center. We ended the month with the annual Trick-or-Treat event hosted by the church staff for the CDC children. This is one event that is loved and enjoyed by the church staff and the children.

Many good and positive things are happening here and we are thankful for our God's goodness to us as we continue to dig out of the pandemic mode. We have hired some new staff to fill our staff vacancies and are currently training and helping each of them find their position. It is always a challenge to find the exact spot where each new staff member can shine the brightest, using their God given gifts and talents.

We currently have a few openings available in our preschool program for children who are 3 and 4 years of age. Anyone wishing to obtain an application for these ages, only, may do so by emailing me at bhepler@florencefirst.org or calling the CDC office at 843-799-1263.

We continue to covet your prayers as we move forward in the vision the Lord has given us and we rejoice knowing that he always goes before us in all things and prepares the way.

Blessings to you and yours,

Beth





Blood Drive

First Presbyterian Church

Fellowship Hall
700 Park Ave
Florence, SC 29501

Thursday, November 4, 2021
1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.



GriefShare meets from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Mondays in the Welcome Center and Pilgrim Classroom at First Presbyterian Church. You'll find it to be a warm, caring environment, and you will come to see your group as an "oasis" on your journey through grief.

GriefShare support groups are led by people who understand what you are going through and want to help. You'll gain access to valuable GriefShare resources to help you recover from your loss and look forward to rebuilding your life. For more information, email Susan Snow at susdus@aol.com.



November

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1

- 2:00 PM ACS Ministry Meeting: Women's Only
- 2:30 PM Prayer Group: Lawson-Rain
- 5:30 PM Stretch Your Faith: CLC
- 6:30 PM GriefShare: Welcome Center, Pilgrim
- 7:00 PM Boy Scouts: JFH
- 7:00 PM Men's Bible Study: Room 203

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 2

- 7:00 AM Men's Prayer Breakfast: Bazen's
- 9:30 AM WIM Coordinating Team: LR
- 10:30 AM WIM Bible Moderators: LR
- 10:45 AM CDC Music: JFH
- 12:00 PM Just for Women Bible Study: CLC

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 3

- 9:30 AM CDC Chapel
- 5:45 PM Family Night Dinner
- 6:15 PM Wednesday Night Programs
- 6:00 PM Praise Team Rehearsal
- 6:00 PM Youth
- 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4

- 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study: Room 202
- 7:00 AM Youth: F.E. Pops
- 1:00 PM Bible Study: Zoom, Room 202
- 6:00 PM Red Cross Blood Drive: JFH

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7

- 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship Service
- 9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal: JFH
- 10:00 AM Sunday School
- 11:00 AM Traditional Worship Service
- 3:00 PM Volleyball
- 5:00 PM Youth

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8

- 9:00 AM Florence Garden Club Council: Pilgrim
- 12:00 PM Enabling Committee Meeting
- 2:30 PM Prayer Group: Lawson-Rain
- 5:30 PM Stretch Your Faith
- 6:30 PM GriefShare: Welcome Center, Pilgrim
- 6:30 PM WIM Winter Gathering: CLC
- 7:00 PM Boy Scouts: Lawson-Rain
- 7:00 PM Men's Bible Study: Room 203

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9

- 7:00 AM Men's Prayer Breakfast: Bazen's
- 10:00 AM WIM Joyful Hearts: Pilgrim
- 10:00 AM WIM Posies & Petals: JFH
- 12:00 PM Just for Women Bible Study: CLC
- 2:00 PM Fellowship Committee Meeting
- 6:30 PM Girl Scout Troop Meeting: Scout Room

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10

- 9:30 AM CDC Chapel
- 5:45 PM Family Night Dinner
- 6:15 PM Wednesday Night Programs
- 6:00 PM Praise Team Rehearsal
- 6:00 PM Youth
- 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11

- 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study: Room 202
- 7:00 AM Youth: F.E. Pops
- 1:00 PM Bible Study: Zoom, Room 202

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13

- 6:00 AM Parking Lot Mission: Hope Health

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14

- 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship Service
- 9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal: JFH
- 10:00 AM Sunday School
- 11:00 AM Traditional Worship Service
- 2:00 PM Operation Christmas Child: CLC
- 5:00 PM Youth

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15

- 2:30 PM Prayer Group: Lawson-Rain
- 5:30 PM Boy Scouts: Lawson-Rain
- 5:30 PM Stretch Your Faith
- 6:30 PM GriefShare: Welcome Center, Pilgrim
- 7:00 PM Men's Bible Study: Room 203



November

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16

- 7:00 AM Men's Prayer Breakfast: Bazen's
- 10:30 AM CDC Music: JFH
- 12:00 PM Just for Women Bible Study: CLC
- 6:30 PM Board of Deacons: JFH

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17

- 9:30 AM CDC Chapel
- 12:00 PM Outreach Committee Meeting: Pilgrim
- 5:45 PM Family Night Dinner
- 6:15 PM Wednesday Night Programs
- 6:00 PM Praise Team Rehearsal
- 6:00 PM Youth
- 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18

- 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study: Room 202
- 7:00 AM Youth: F.E. Pops
- 1:00 PM Bible Study: Zoom, Room 202

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19**AND SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20**

Florence Area Humane Society Event

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21

- 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship Service
- 9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal: JFH
- 10:00 AM Sunday School
- 11:00 AM Traditional Worship Service
- 3:00 PM Living Nativity Rehearsal: CLC
- 3:00 PM Volleyball
- 5:00 PM Youth
- 5:30 PM Family Dinner: JFH
- 6:00 PM Charlie Brown Thanksgiving

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22

- 2:30 PM Prayer Group: Lawson-Rain
- 5:30 PM Boy Scouts: JFH
- 5:30 PM Stretch Your Faith
- 6:30 PM GriefShare: Welcome Center, Pilgrim
- 7:00 PM Boy Scouts
- 7:00 PM Men's Bible Study: Room 203

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 23

- 7:00 AM Men's Prayer Breakfast: Bazen's
- 10:30 AM CDC Music: JFH
- 6:30 PM Girl Scout Troop Meeting: Scout Room
- 6:30 PM Session: JFH

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 24

- 9:30 AM CDC Chapel
- 6:00 PM Praise Team Rehearsal
- 6:00 PM Youth
- 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25**THANKSGIVING**

CLC Reserved

JFH Reserved for Thanksgiving Feast

- 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study: Room 202
- 7:00 AM Youth: F.E. Pops
- 1:00 PM Bible Study: Zoom, Room 202

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 26

CLC Reserved

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28

- 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship Service
- 9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal: JFH
- 10:00 AM Sunday School
- 11:00 AM Traditional Worship Service
- 3:00 PM Living Nativity Rehearsal: CLC
- 5:00 PM Handbell Concert
- 5:00 PM Youth

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29

- 2:30 PM Prayer Group: Lawson-Rain
- 5:00 PM Handbell Concert
- 5:30 PM Boy Scouts: JFH
- 5:30 PM Stretch Your Faith
- 6:00 PM Greening of the Sanctuary
- 6:30 PM GriefShare: Welcome Center, Pilgrim
- 7:00 PM Boy Scouts
- 7:00 PM Men's Bible Study: Room 203

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

- 7:00 AM Men's Prayer Breakfast: Bazen's
- 9:00 AM Greening of the Sanctuary
- 10:30 AM CDC Music: JFH

Remember in Prayer

Extended Care

Home

Adele Kassab
Glenn Odom

Lowman Home

Mac King

Methodist Manor

Joyce Floyd
Marie Jordan
Maria Whitehead

Presbyterian Community

Ann Cash
Helen Foster
Aaron Leland
Clariann Kellam

Memorials

Richard Nash
David Sherer

Honorariums

Chris and Dottie Handley

Baptisms

Gamble Grace Dozier, daughter of Justin and Amy Dozier
Kassandra Harley Pratt, daughter of Leah and Eric Pratt

Households

FLOCK 1: Don and Ruth Watts, Katherine, Mary, and Sara

FLOCK 2: Wendell and Margaret Jones

FLOCK 3: Patrick and Terry Hunt

FLOCK 4: Nancy Harwell

FLOCK 5: Brian and June Kim, Eric

FLOCK 6: Sherrill Fussell

FLOCK 7: Don and Vicki Hebert

FLOCK 8: Camp and Elizabeth Blanton, Emma, and Eliza

Sympathy

Family of Richard Nash
Heather Taylor, loss of her mother

Sick & Recovering

Butch Carroll
Barbara Covington
Aubrey Crawford
Claudia Ervin
Judy Fuller
Debbie Harwell
Wanda Hill
Barbara Rosenlund

Lord, Hear
Our Prayer

Elders

Debbie Jackson
Laura Marechal

Deacons

Carol Fleenor
Caroline Genoble

Mission

Burn Care International
Helping Florence Flourish

Women in Ministry

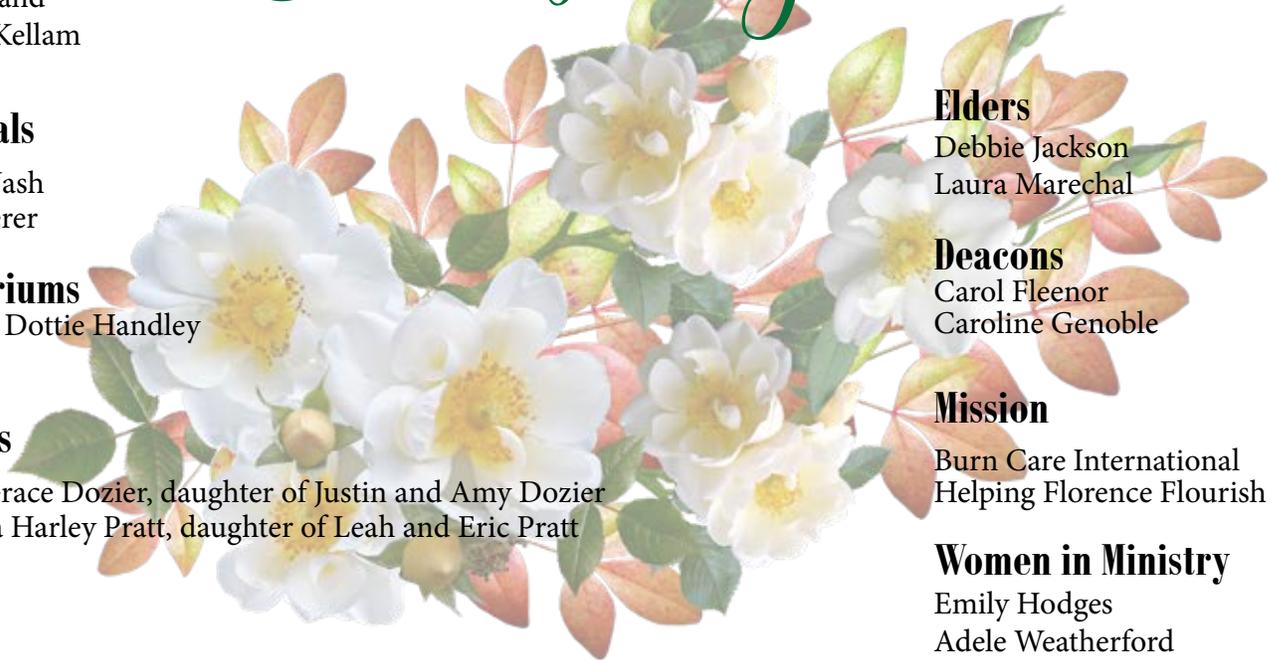
Emily Hodges
Adele Weatherford

Sunday School Teachers

Patti Hubbs
Emily McLean

Staff

Chris Handley
Christina "Taiter" Garrett



November BIRTHDAYS

NOVEMBER 1

Cathy Bazen

NOVEMBER 2

Cameryn Brand
Marian Howard
Lisa Jernigan
Lalla Saleeby

NOVEMBER 3

Cailin Foxworth
Levi Ham
Sue Shin
Alan Thomas

NOVEMBER 4

Margaret Baroodly
Rhett Hughes
Wesley Snow

NOVEMBER 5

Carolyn Holland
Patrick Hunt
Henley Thompson

NOVEMBER 6

Liam Brand
Stephen Christian
Alcy Lee
Brian Naylor
Rocky Pearce

NOVEMBER 7

Nancy Moore

NOVEMBER 8

Brandon Hylton
Susie McLellan
Landon Watkins

NOVEMBER 9

Joe Blanton
Ginny Casstevens
Cheryl DeGraw
Ansley Sanderson

NOVEMBER 10

Gresham Hindman
Jane Matthews
Ivan Morris

NOVEMBER 11

Joseph Commander
Michael Hawkins
Haley Jackson
Wells McBride
Janie Ray

NOVEMBER 12

Mary Frances Moore
Pat Patton

NOVEMBER 13

Ashton Pennstrom
Paul Welch

NOVEMBER 14

Paige Alexander
Dave Banner
Grier Toniolo

NOVEMBER 15

Fran Curtis

NOVEMBER 16

Wynde Edwards
Brooke Langston
Jane Shurman
Lisa Westmoreland

NOVEMBER 17

Ella Rawlinson
Keegan Taylor

NOVEMBER 18

Wesley Player
Brian Kim
Carrigan Spearman

NOVEMBER 19

Tom Gasque

NOVEMBER 20

Anna Lee Pennstrom
Christie Henderson
Rick Hoefler
Colton Miles
Hampton Naylor
Duncan Tyson

NOVEMBER 21

Charlie Bazen
Sheila Cockfield

NOVEMBER 22

Curt Boswell
Sandra Davidson
Rainey Josey
Hannah King
Sidney Ruff

NOVEMBER 23

Sullivan Carmichael

NOVEMBER 24

Maggie McNeil
Connie Stewart

NOVEMBER 25

Ann Cash
Kendall Jackson
Alexis Morris
Mary Ann Nash
Kate Stokes

NOVEMBER 26

Liz Andrews

NOVEMBER 27

Don Hebert
Walter Johnson
Taylor Powell

NOVEMBER 28

Tom Pantos
Anna Spivey

NOVEMBER 29

Taiter Garrett
Maymie Lou Spearman

NOVEMBER 30

Drew Knudsen
Chris Scott
Jane Slagle





Keenagers to meet with guest presenter

All seniors ages 60 and older are encouraged to attend and enjoy our time of thankful friendships and sharing a special meal at noon Tuesday, November 2, in the Jenkins Fellowship Hall. Donation of \$6 per person is requested for the meal. Our guest presenter will be Sandy Griffin, who will tell us about her cross country bicycle trip she did while in her seventies.

Blood drive planned for November 4

The Red Cross Blood Drive will be held from 1 to 6 p.m. Thursday, November 4, in the fellowship hall on campus. Go to redcross.org to make an appointment. Walk-ins are also welcomed.

Attention Parents of College Students

The Women in Ministry and the Deacons of First Presbyterian Church would like to encourage our college students through out the year. Please send the mailing address for your student(s) to tstewart@florencefirst.org.

Family Night Dinners held on Wednesdays

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 about 6:30 p.m. or earlier, activities are available for all ages.

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Gift

Gift-filled shoeboxes bring great joy and hope to children in desperate situations around the world. Please consider attending the Churchwide Shoebox Packing from 3 to 5 p.m. Sunday, November 14, in the CLC. If you're unable to attend, please consider donating a packed shoebox or add shoebox fillers to the collection box on the table in the Welcome Center. For more information, contact Linda Smiley by email at lindasmiley1@sc.rr.com or text 843-618-0324.

Men's Ministry to hold Chili Cookoff

First Presbyterian's Men's Ministry invites all men to compete in its November 3 Chili Cookoff. Members of Women in Ministry will serve as judges. Judges will be voting for the best chili based on: good chili flavor, aftertaste, consistency, blend of spices, aroma and color. Please call or text Brandon Hylton at 843-319-1937 or email bhylton76@gmail.com by Monday, November 1.

Church League Basketball

Registration is now open for boys in Grades 1-12 and for girls 10 years and under. Register online or sign up in the Welcome Center. When signing up on Realm, at the start, please list your child's name. Practices are held at First Presbyterian Church in the CLC. Cost per player is \$35, and it is due before the first game. League play will begin Monday, December 13. The league will have divisions for boys (8U, 10U, 12U, 14U and 17U) and for girls (10U). Age requirements are as of September 1, 2021. Games for boys (8U and 10U) and girls 10U will be played on Saturday. Games for boys 12U, 14U and 17U will be played on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday.

Thanksgiving at FPC

We realize that some of you do not have family in town to celebrate Thanksgiving. First Pres. cares and would like to offer you an opportunity to share in fellowship with others on Thanksgiving Day. If you are interested, please contact Teresa, tstewart@florencefirst.org or 843-662-2583.

First Connections classes to be held

We are grateful for those who have expressed interest in joining our next First Connections Class (for new Covenant Partners). We are planning to meet on November 14 and 21 during the Sunday School hour. If you'd like to join us then — or if you'd like to come but are not available on those particular dates — please let Teresa Stewart in the church office know (tstewart@florencefirst.org/843-662-2583). We look forward to having you!

Save the Date for the Handley celebration

A Celebration of Rev. Chris Handley will be held Sunday, December 5, following the combined 10 a.m. worship service.

— Please submit news briefs or announcements for the bulletin to tstewart@florencefirst.org.

Montreat conference: Bible's influence on creative writing

From Shakespeare to the Inklings: The Bible's Impact on Creative Imagination will be held March 16-18 at Montreat in North Carolina.

This unique Inklings (C.S. Lewis, Tolkien, etc.) conference highlights the Bible's impact on Western Civilization, affecting authors, musicians and artists from the 15th century through today. It will change your world view – from the medieval society lit only by fire to the incandescent musings and works of the Oxford-based Inklings of the 20th century.

Come learn from world-renowned scholars, who will reveal the Bible's influence on the:

- * the greatest English Playwright (William Shakespeare);
- * the greatest English Epic Poet (John Milton);
- * the greatest English Novelist & Allegorical work of the 17th – 19th centuries (John Bunyan);
- * the most popular legend – King Arthur and the Round Table – and its treatment through the centuries, especially by the Inklings;
- * leading 20th Century Christian writers from the Inklings (C.S. Lewis, J.R.R. Tolkien, Charles Williams, et al) to Dorothy Sayers.

Plus, there will be a limited museum display during the conference of illuminated manuscripts, the Saint John's Bible – the first calligraphy and illuminated art Bible in 500 years, an original Folio of Shakespeare Plays from the early 1600s, and much more!

Limited attendance. First come, first served.

Act now to reserve your attendance at this conference with a unique perspective on Christian faith affecting the literary and art culture for the past 750 years. This event is hosted by the Presbyterian Heritage Center. Register at <https://montreat.org/forms/from-shakespeare-to-the-inklings-registration>.



REGISTRATION

Registration covers the program lectures and panels, plus it includes two (2) dinners, one (1) lunch; refreshments at the plenary session breaks, as well as helping to cover general meeting expenses (equipment, audio-visuals, meeting room charges, speaker expenses, etc.). Rooms at the Assembly Inn are also available.

Note: If you attended the November 2019 C.S. Lewis conference in Montreat that was created by the Presbyterian Heritage Center, you are eligible for a \$20 additional savings on any rate. (2019 Lewis Conference Savings)

Pricing dates	Individual	Group Discount (10 or more)
Pricing from April 19 to August 15	\$225/person	\$195/person
Pricing from August 16 to December 31	\$260/person	\$230/person <i>Before Nov. 15</i>
Pricing from January 1 to March 17	\$300/person	\$300/person

To register a group, please contact the registrar at barrye@montreat.org with a list of who you are registering as well as any dietary requirements. The registrar will contact you shortly afterward to confirm your group registration.

No refunds will be made after February 16.

Trunk or Treat





KIDS CONNECTION

Thankful

With the business of our lives, it is easy to forget to stop and just thank God every single day for the many blessings we receive. Our families, the smiles and laughter of our children, our loving pets that bring us joy, our friends, and our church family, they all mean so much. I am truly thankful that the Lord has placed me back in ministry with these precious children at our church. This is a wonderful church family, and I feel blessed to be here. May we always remember 1 Thessalonians 5:18, "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

Blessings,
Ms. Wynde

Trunk-or-Treat Fun

A wonderful time was had by young and old at this fun church family event!

Confirmation

Confirmation is underway, and we are so thankful for our Catechism Class and our teachers!

Children's Church

Help is still needed with Children's Church. I will be making calls to set up times to help; please prayerfully consider helping with this important ministry.

2022 Confirmation Class*



Ellison Banner



Liam Brand



Cannon Coker



Sarah Dozier



Ellis Howell



Hampton Naylor



Addison Suggs



Abi Urquhart



Millie Vaught



Michael Westbrook

*Not all confirmands are pictured

Reformation Sunday



Presbyterians celebrate the anniversary of Martin Luther's 95 Theses. The theses, which criticized the sale of indulgences by church officials, are considered the opening salvo in the Protestant Reformation — a movement that emphasized individual relationships with God and salvation through faith alone. Luther is also celebrated for a second piece of writing: his translation of the Bible into German. After Pope Leo X excommunicated Luther in 1521, the reformer took refuge inside Wartburg Castle. There he completed his translation of the New Testament, based on Erasmus's 1516 Bible text.

SOURCE: Presbyterian Historical Society

Youth Ministry

October was a busy month for the youth group. We played paintball, carved pumpkins, had a movie night & ice cream bar, participated in Trunk or Treat, and went to Carowinds and the trampoline park DEFY.

We are so excited to finally be heading out of town this month on our first retreat this year! The first one in almost two years. We will travel to Montreat, N.C., for the weekend. Cost is \$125 per person. Siblings and anyone who brings a friend will receive a discount. Please contact Taiter for more information.

The holiday season is just around the corner and we are gearing up for even more fun events to end the year. We are halfway through our small group study of *The Chosen* and look forward to finishing the series and encourage families to discuss the study at home.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Fall Retreat: November 5 – 7. Cost is \$125 per person.

Operation Christmas Child Box Packing: Sunday, November 14, from 3 to 5 p.m.

Cookout & Fire: Sunday, November 21, from 5 to 7 p.m. Location TBD.

Junior / Senior Breakfast: Tuesday, November 30, 7 a.m. at Panera. Bring money for meal.

Small Groups: Sunday, November 14 and 28 from 5 to 7 p.m. Dinner provided.

Sunday School (10-11 a.m.): November 7, 14, 21 and 28. Light breakfast served.

Wednesday Night Youth Group (6-7:30 p.m.): November 3, 10 and 17.

Coffee at F.E. Pops (7 am – until): November 4, 11 and 18.





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CHURCH STAFF

Senior Pastor and Head of Staff
 Associate Pastor
 Congregational Care Assistant
 Director of Music/Organist
 Praise Team Leader
 Interim Director of Youth and NextGen Ministries
 Children's Ministry Director
 Children's Ministry Assistant
 Child Development Center Director
 Church Administrator
 Ministry Assistant
 Financial Assistant
 Communications Assistant
 Head Custodian
 Custodian
 Housekeeping

Dr. Darryl Evans
 Rev. Chris Handley
 Rev. Mike Fleenor
 Mrs. Ann Rodgers Chandler
 Mr. Vic Rockhill
 Ms. Christina "Taiter" Garrett
 Mrs. Wynde Edwards
 Mrs. Susan Snow
 Mrs. Beth Hepler
 Rev. Don Hebert
 Ms. Teresa Stewart
 Mrs. Gwen DuRant
 Ms. Kimberly Brauss
 Mr. Ron Echols
 Mr. Sidney Ruff
 Ms. Wanda LaSane



Save the Date

Chancel Handbell Choir
 concert will be held at
 6:30 p.m. Wednesday,
 December 1, in the Sanctuary.

