

# The REMINDER

Growing UPWARD  
worshipping and praising

Growing INWARD  
becoming more like Christ

Growing OUTWARD  
sharing the good news



FEBRUARY 2023





**On Wednesday mornings, either Elder Susan Snow or Children's Ministry Director Kelly Hickey meets with the CDC children for Chapel.**

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*Please submit news briefs or announcements by the 21st of the month to Kim Brauss at [kbrauss@florencefirst.org](mailto:kbrauss@florencefirst.org).*

*To be added to the mailing list call the church office at 843-662-2583.*

# MOMENT FOR MISSION: House of Hope

Led by its director Bryan Braddock, the mission of House of Hope is to serve the homeless of the Pee Dee, "to offer food, housing and clothing, to lead them to faith in Christ, and to help them become contributing members of the body of Christ and of society." This ministry was founded in 1990, and the original men's shelter opened in Effingham in 1991 under the name "New Life Rescue Ministry."

In 2006, the organization was renamed "House of Hope," and expanded its mission to include services for women and children. In 2016, the Courtney McGinnis Graham Shelter was opened for emergency needs. In 2022, the HOPE Village tiny house community opened, offering long term housing for up to 24 months. The Mission Mart Thrift Store directs 100 percent of its profits to the ministry, in addition to providing thousands of dollars of clothing and furniture to people in need. Over its lifespan, House of Hope has provided over 19,500 nights of lodging and served more than 53,000 meals.

Our church has a long history of supporting House of Hope. First Pres. was one of the original churches to support this ministry, and we proudly continue to support this vibrant ministry today. Throughout scripture, God tells us to care for the poor, and ministries like House of Hope are dedicated to fulfilling that command.

### 2023 DATES OF "PARTNER EVENTS"

- **A Choice to Make** - "Heartbeat Gala" - February 16 - SiMT building
- **House of Hope** - Evening of Hope - March 6; tickets \$20/ea through TicketMaster or Florence Center box office. Speaker - Dr. Ben Carson
- **Lighthouse Ministries** - Annual BBQ Fundraiser - March 20 - 24; Horses, Hats & Humanity - May 6; The Good Neighbor Gala - Sept. 7
- **Tenacious Grace** - Grace Bash - April 4 - Church at Sandhurst
- **Naomi Project** - "20 for 23" - pledge \$20/mo for 2023; Appreciation Dinner (TBD); Socks Campaign (TBD)
- **Helping Florence Flourish** - (See website for location info, [helpingflorenceflourish.org](http://helpingflorenceflourish.org)):
  - ◆ Pastor's Breakfast - Third Thursday each month at 7 A.M. - location changes
  - ◆ Citywide Prayer Gathering - Fourth Thursday each month at 7 p.m. - location changes
  - ◆ WinShape - July 10-14 - First Presbyterian Church
  - ◆ Global Leadership Summit - August 3-4 - First Presbyterian Church
  - ◆ ServeFLO - October 2023

# God is Working

Dear Church Family,

These past weeks, we have been reflecting on several of the Twelve Disciples as they followed Jesus and were a part of the first small group. Each one of them had their lives changed in different yet beautiful ways. And so we see that when we gather together in Jesus' name and begin to deepen our bonds of friendship, our lives are changed, too.

This why we have been exploring these lives in conjunction with the launch of our small groups on Wednesday nights. For me, these past two Wednesdays have been a great joy. I have had fun teaching on the Lord's Prayer with Bill Cain and Kathy Griffin, and our discipleship elders Rob Hall and Robert Moore have worked faithfully to help organize our time together. As we engage in these small groups and are guided by prayer, we are doing the same things the original disciples did. I pray that our hearts will be touched during it.

The fact that Fellowship Hall was full last Wednesday despite the downpour confirms the hunger among us. This time of prayer and discipleship is not just for adults; Kelly also led over 50 of our children last week in a study of the Lord's Prayer. ... Praise the Lord! In the coming weeks, we will continue with the small groups yet take a one week break on February 22 in order to celebrate Ash Wednesday and the season of Lent with a worship service in the sanctuary at 6:15 p.m.

Also, this week (between Sundays) I will be in California at the ECO National Gathering. This is a time that is simply life-giving. The worship is powerful; the teaching is superb; and there are many friends old and new who will be there. ECO brings in the most dynamic teachers and worship leaders for their gatherings. I plan on attending teaching breakout sessions on discipleship, missions and re-connecting with Fuller Seminary. Please mark your calendars for next year's National Gathering. It will be in South Carolina at FPC-Greenville from January 29-31, 2024. We will have a large contingent going. Go and you will see how refreshing it is. You are guaranteed to learn something.



Finally, let us give thanks for our new covenant partners. It is exciting to see people continue to visit, and desire to join our church. Please find their names and faces in the pages of this newsletter so that we may greet them warmly.

All in all, God is working in us. He is using us. This year is off to a fine start!

Praise be to Him,

# In EVERYTHING by PRAYER ...

It was Monday evening, and Jill and I had the TV on to watch “another football game!” But this was the Cincinnati Bengals, a team that we had followed when we lived in the Cincinnati area from 1989 to 2001. It was early in the game and after a Cincinnati receiver made a catch and was tackled by a Buffalo Bills player. The Bills player, Damar Hamlin, got up and then, fell LIFELESSLY to the ground. His heart had stopped and so did everything and everybody around him. Players wept, coaches faces were etched in deep emotion as trainers and first responders feverishly worked. And something else happened that evening, people PRAYED. I witnessed it from all those on the field. I saw spectators with heads bowed. I heard ESPN broadcasters call people to pray. That night I awakened in the middle of the night with a heavy heart and prayed for the young man and his family (His mother was in the stands!).

Now remember, as an article in the Wall Street Journal reminded me, that this past year a Washington state high school football coach had been fired for praying with his players. (Thank God the Supreme Court reversed the decision.) And now, on a Monday night, two teams prayed and millions of people joined in praying. Why? What prompted such radical action? A sense that we couldn’t control the tragedy that was unfolding. ONLY GOD ... and so we turned to God and prayed.

You may not realize a foundational truth of your life and mine, but every day you and I need the Lord. We may act as if we have everything under control. But we don’t. We need God. We need God’s guidance. We need God’s protection. We need God’s wisdom. And so do our spouses, our children, our grandchildren, our friends, our church, our community, our nation, our world. And it all begins with PRAYER. Prayer is the language of life.

I’m aware that I’ve written previously on prayer and I preached on prayer to kick off the new year. I’m part of a team of teachers focusing on the Lord’s Prayer. Why? I want us to pray. And the Lord’s Prayer is a model for prayer. This prayer portrays for us the Lord to whom we speak. This prayer sets a foundational priority for us — the Kingdom of God. This prayer cuts through religious pretense and calls us to ask for forgiveness and to forgive others. This prayer moves us to honestly admit that we struggle with temptations which swirl around us and in us every day.

But above all I want us to be known as a HOUSE OF PRAYER. That is the passion of Jesus as he said, “My house shall be called a House of Prayer.” Let’s not wait until a tragedy hits us. LET US PRAY.

Love in Christ Jesus,

*Bill*





# A Fulfilling 2022

## 2022 Year End Summary

In spite of continued challenges caused by the pandemic, there were many good things that happened in our church. We saw a resurgence in worship attendance. We welcomed Kelly Hickey as our new Children's Ministry Director, and we added new covenant partners. Additionally, while we heard of churches in our area that saw giving drop by as much as 90 percent our giving remained steady. In fact, 94 percent of our covenant partners fulfilled their pledge in support of the church's 2022 ministry action plan! For 2022 we met all our commitments to our missionaries (Crom, Emert, Actionelle Flourisma – Haiti, etc.) We also fulfilled our commitments to financially support many of the local agencies in our community (Lighthouse Ministry, Mercy Medicine, House of Hope and others.) Additionally, First Presbyterian Church covenant partners contributed \$29,075 to Sasha Sutserov and the Moscow Seminary, which will be used to train pastors in the former Soviet Union. In addition to financial support of the ongoing ministries of our church, many of you found ways to carry out the work of the "body of Christ" in a variety of ways. This is a tremendous blessing and testament to the faithfulness of our covenant partners even during a time of uncertainty. Your generosity has blessed many in our community.

## 2023 Stewardship Campaign Update

To date, 149 covenant partners have pledged over \$1.1 million in support of our 2023 Ministry Action Plan. When compared to last year, the average pledge amount for 2023 is \$ 7,468, which is slightly higher than the average pledge for 2022. Your pledge is important because it helps the church staff and leadership as they plan for the various programs, activities, and ministry opportunities. While we emphasize stewardship annually, the fact remains that GENEROSITY is and should be a lifestyle for all believers. There is still time for you to make a commitment to contribute to the mission and ministry of First Presbyterian Church in 2023. You may can make a pledge in one of the following ways. Pledges can be made online by visiting the church website, [www.florencefirst.org](http://www.florencefirst.org). Click on the "Make a Pledge" link at the top of the page. This will take you to a page where you can complete a secure and confidential pledge form. Another online

option is the REALM app. From your mobile device, simply log in to REALM and select the "Giving" icon. Select "Pledge" at the top of the screen and follow the prompts. Additionally, pledge cards are available in the church business office. Your continued faithful financial support of the ministries of First Presbyterian Church enables us to provide programs and opportunities to our covenant partners, our guests, and the city of Florence. It also allows us to support missionaries serving around the world. As we move through the coming year, I will be providing regular updates about our giving trends and the financial needs of our church. Thank you for your faithfulness!



## In Memoriam Panel

The Columbarium Memory Garden adjacent to the Sanctuary is a beautiful addition to our campus. In addition to niches for inurnment of cremains, the columbarium features an "In Memoriam" section. At Easter and Advent covenant partners place flowers in honor/memory of loved ones in the Sanctuary. The In Memoriam section give you an opportunity to permanently remember covenant partners, their spouses, children, as well as the parents of covenant partners, who are deceased and interred elsewhere. Brochures about the Columbarium Memory Garden are now available in the Welcome Center. Information will soon be available on the church website [www.florencefirst.org](http://www.florencefirst.org). Please contact me or George Beshere if you are interested in reserving a niche or would like more information about the "In Memoriam" section.



**WEDNESDAY**  
*Dinner Nights!*

**FEBRUARY MENU**

**FEBRUARY 1: CHICKEN CASSEROLE, SALAD, ROLL**

**FEBRUARY 8: TACO NIGHT BY COOK BOOK TEAM**

**FEBRUARY 15: SOUP, GRILLED CHEESE**

**FEBRUARY 22: SLICED HAM, MACARONI AND CHEESE, GREEN BEANS, ROLL**

*Join us this Wednesday!*

**DINNER STARTS AT 5:30 PM**

\$5 a Person | \$20 Family Maximum



# WiM Mid-Winter Meeting



## WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

We want your input! Our Search Committee is in the beginning stages of placement for next year.

We would love to hear from you and if you would like to serve in any way. Please take a few minutes to fill out this form by using the URL below. We would like entries by 5 p.m. Feb. 3, please.

<https://forms.gle/NQpvNa8T57A8hxFm9>

## UPCOMING EVENT

Wednesday, February 1: 5:15 p.m. Bible Moderator's Meeting

We loved seeing everyone at the Mid-Winter Gathering!!! Thanks to all that shared yummy soups, sandwiches, and desserts. A Big Thank YOU to Alexis Morris and Gray Scott for sharing with us!

# Women in Ministry Monthly Groups

The February Anxious study will focus on Session Five-Anxious Esther. We will be discussing how Jesus is Sovereign in our Fight against Anxiety.

"If you keep silent at this time, relief and deliverance will come to the Jewish people from another place, but you and your father's family will be destroyed. Who knows, perhaps you have come to your royal position

for such a time as this." Esther 4:14

Anyone can join a circle at any time. Please let Amy Williams (asfwilliams@gmail.com) know if you would like to get plugged into a circle.

Week of February 11-14: Circle of Friends Meetings (various times and locations)

\*Change for circles regular meeting time.

Bread and Fish	February 11	9 a.m.	Room 100
Joyful Hearts	February 14	10 a.m.	Room 100
Prayer Warriors*	January 31		Mid-Winter Gathering
SonFlowers	February 14	10 a.m.	Lawson-Rain Chapel
Soul Sisters*	February 13	noon	Price Classroom
Serenity	February 14	3 p.m.	Lawson-Rain Chapel
Women of Grace*	January 31		Mid-Winter Gathering
Sunday Salty Sisters	February 12	4:30 p.m.	FPC Church Parlor



# Church News

## Keenagers' lunch to feature musical program

Keenagers' luncheon will be at noon Tuesday, February 7, in the fellowship hall. Meal will be red chili and white chili, broccoli cornbread, and dessert. The CDC will be decorating the tables, and the music program will feature singer Jim Fincher as well as CDC children. The theme is A Victorian Tea Party. Ladies are asked to wear their favorite hat and gentleman, a tie. We welcome all who are 55 and older to join us for food, fellowship, and fun.

## Red Cross blood drive yields 14 units

Thank you to all who supported the blood drive January 25. Because of the donations, and the help of the other volunteers, we were able to collect 14 pints of blood. Of course, the real winners are the patients in need of blood. As you know, each blood donation can help save up to three lives. Your donation is truly appreciated by the blood recipients, their loved ones and all of us here at First Presbyterian Church. We hope that we will see you again at our next blood drive on Tuesday, March 28. Thank you for your time, generosity and dedication to helping others.

## GriefShare to begin new session

GriefShare will start its new 13-week session on Monday, February 20. GriefShare is a place where grieving people find healing and hope. Led by those who have experienced grief and healing, participants who have lost a loved one learn how to walk the journey of grief while being supported along the way. GriefShare is open to anyone who has experienced the death of a loved one. We meet on the listed Monday nights at 6:30 pm.

## Ash Wednesday service to be held

We will celebrate Ash Wednesday and the season of Lent with a worship service in the sanctuary at 6:15 p.m. Wednesday, February 22.

Ash Wednesday marks the start of Lent, an intentional season that focuses on Christ's life, ministry, sacrifice, and resurrection.



## Scouts celebrate 95th year of ministry

First Presbyterian Church started a scouting ministry in 1928.

Thousands of Scouts and 95 years later, our current Boy Scouts will celebrate by attending church together on February 5, 2023 - Scout Sunday. The Boy Scouts and leaders thank First Presbyterian Church for supporting our scouting ministry.

## Heartbeat Gala to be held

The 14th Annual A Choice to Make Heartbeat Gala will be held at 6:30 p.m. February 16 at SiMT building, 1951 Pisgah Road in Florence. The guest speaker is Gianna Jessen. A group from First Presbyterian Church plans to attend. If you are interested in joining the group, please call the church office, 843-662-2583, or email Janet Brand, janet81661@aol.com.

— Submit news briefs to Kim Brauss, [kbrauss@florence-first.org](mailto:kbrauss@florence-first.org) or call 843-662-2583.



# Exciting, love-filled days at the CDC

These are exciting days here at First Presbyterian Child Development Center! We are back to our pre-Covid enrollment numbers and are grateful to have kept our doors open and survived nearly three years of Covid. Some childcare centers were forced to close due to low staffing and other issues. The demand for good quality childcare is now higher than before as many people have returned to work. Covid has changed all of us to some degree, and here at the CDC we are more cautious about our own health and the health and well-being of those that we serve. This winter, flu viruses and lingering Covid germs are making us more aware of the need to stay well and keep our doors open. Keeping CDC Staff well and working is a necessity as we move forward in this weekday ministry.

To some degree, Covid robbed our society of the desire to work and take pride in work. Finding dependable, dedicated staff is not easy. By law we are mandated to keep within our staff/child ratios. This alone has taken a toll. We continue to advertise and look for more people to join our CDC Staff. Putting together a daily schedule with a low number of staff is not an easy task. Yet, there continues to be a burning desire to serve the parents of this community with quality childcare, where their children can learn and grow in a safe, Christian atmosphere.

We are grateful for the prayer support that we have received from many of you and ask that you continue to cover us in prayer in the days ahead.

We are enjoying returning to some of our favorite activities. This month, love is in the air as we share a time with the Keenagers at their monthly luncheon on Tuesday, February 7. Our Victorian Tea theme calls for a tea hat or a favorite tie for the ladies and gents. The 3K and 4K children plan to sing at the luncheon and are busy now making table decorations and other goodies.

Thank you again, First Presbyterian Church, for your faithful support of this ministry. Our God is truly amazing and we feel his presence among us each day as we minister to these little ones and their families. Blessings,

*Beth*



Painting snowflakes in Infant 2.



Science Spot in 2KA, where children learned by a fun and messy science experiment about how arctic animals stay warm!

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1**

- 5:00 PM Bible Moderators Meeting: Women's Only Classroom
- 5:00 PM Chancel Handbell Choir Rehearsal
- 5:30 PM Wednesday Night Dinner
- 6:00 PM Praise Team Rehearsal
- 6:15 PM Wednesday Night Programs
- 7:30 PM 17U Basketball Practice: CLC
- 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2 Groundhog Day**

- 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study: Room 202
- 7:00 AM Youth: F.E. Pops
- 8:30 AM Morning Exercise Class: CLC
- 1:00 PM Bible Study: Zoom, Room 202
- 6:00 PM CDC Training: JFH

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5 Scout Sunday**

- 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship
- 10:00 AM Sunday School
- 11:00 AM Traditional Worship
- 4:00 PM Engaging God's Word: CLC, JFH
- 5:00 PM Youth: Small Groups
- 7:30 PM 17U Basketball Practice: CLC

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6**

- 8:30 AM Morning Exercise Class: CLC
- 2:30 PM Prayer Group: Lawson-Rain Chapel
- 5:30 PM Selah Yoga: CLC
- 6:30 PM Boy Scouts: Scouts Room
- 7:00 PM Men's Bible Study: Room 203

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7**

- 7:00 AM Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 8:30 AM Morning Exercise Class: CLC
- 10:45 AM CDC Music: JFH
- 12:00 PM Just for Women Bible Study: CLC
- 12:00 PM Keenagers: JFH
- 5:00 PM 8U Team A Basketball Practice: CLC
- 6:00 PM 8U Team B Basketball Practice: CLC
- 6:30 PM Session: JFH
- 7:00 PM 10U Basketball Practice: CLC

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8**

- 8:00 AM Veterans Breakfast Meeting: LR
- 12:15 PM Outreach Unit Meeting: Pilgrim
- 5:00 PM Chancel Handbell Choir Rehearsal
- 5:00 PM Children's Ministry: Children's Chapel
- 5:30 PM Wednesday Night Dinner, Programs
- 6:00 PM Praise Team Rehearsal
- 7:30 PM 17U Basketball Practice: CLC
- 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9**

- 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study: Room 202
- 7:00 AM Youth: F.E. Pops
- 8:30 AM Morning Exercise Class: CLC
- 1:00 PM Bible Study: Zoom, Room 202

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10**

Marriage Retreat departure

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11**

- 6:00 AM Parking Lot Mission
- 9:00 AM WiM Bread & Fish: Room 100

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12**

Marriage Retreat return

- 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship
- 10:00 AM Sunday School
- 10:00 AM Meet the Pastor: JFH
- 11:00 AM Traditional Worship
- 4:00 PM Engaging God's Word: CLC, JFH
- 4:30 PM WiM Sunday Salty Sisters: Parlor
- 6:00 PM Youth: Super Bowl party
- 7:30 PM 17U Basketball Practice: CLC

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13**

- 8:30 AM Morning Exercise Class: CLC
- 12:00 PM WiM Soul Sisters: Price Classroom
- 2:30 PM Prayer Group: Lawson-Rain Chapel
- 4:30 PM Discipleship Unit: Women's Classroom
- 5:30 PM Enabling Unit
- 5:30 PM Selah Yoga: CLC
- 6:30 PM Boy Scouts: Scouts Room
- 7:00 PM Men's Bible Study: Room 203



**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14**

7:00 AM Men's Prayer Breakfast  
 8:30 AM Morning Exercise Class: CLC  
 10:00 AM WIM Joyful Hearts: Room 100  
 10:00 AM WIM Sonflowers: LR  
 10:45 AM CDC Music: JFH  
 12:00 PM Just for Women Bible Study: CLC  
 2:00 PM Fellowship Unit

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15**

5:00 PM Chancel Handbell Choir Rehearsal  
 5:30 PM Wednesday Night Dinner  
 6:00 PM Praise Team Rehearsal  
 6:15 PM Wednesday Night Programs  
 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16**

7:00 AM Men's Bible Study: Room 202  
 7:00 AM Youth: F.E. Pops  
 8:30 AM Morning Exercise Class: CLC  
 1:00 PM Bible Study: Zoom, Room 202

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17**

Youth Ski Trip Departure

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19**

9:00 AM Contemporary Worship  
 10:00 AM Sunday School  
 11:00 AM Traditional Worship  
 4:00 PM Engaging God's Word: CLC, JFH

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20**

Youth Ski Trip Return  
 8:30 AM Morning Exercise Class: CLC  
 2:30 PM Prayer Group: Lawson-Rain Chapel  
 5:30 PM Selah Yoga: CLC  
 6:30 PM Boy Scouts: Scouts Room  
 7:00 PM Men's Bible Study: Room 203

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21**

7:00 AM Men's Prayer Breakfast  
 8:30 AM Morning Exercise Class: CLC  
 10:45 AM CDC Music: JFH  
 12:00 PM Just for Women Bible Study: CLC  
 5:30 PM Fellowship Unit  
 6:30 PM Board of Deacons: JFH

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22 ASH WEDNESDAY**

5:00 PM Chancel Handbell Choir Rehearsal  
 5:30 PM Wednesday Night Dinner  
 6:15 PM Ash Wednesday Service  
 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23**

7:00 AM Men's Bible Study: Room 202  
 7:00 AM Youth: F.E. Pops  
 8:30 AM Morning Exercise Class: CLC  
 1:00 PM Bible Study: Zoom, Room 202  
 6:30 PM FCA Spring Banquet: CLC, JFH

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26**

9:00 AM Contemporary Worship  
 10:00 AM Sunday School  
 11:00 AM Traditional Worship  
 3:30 PM Presbyterian Kids 3rd-5th grade: CLC

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27**

8:30 AM Morning Exercise Class: CLC  
 2:30 PM Prayer Group: Lawson-Rain Chapel  
 5:30 PM Selah Yoga: CLC  
 6:30 PM Boy Scouts: Scouts Room  
 7:00 PM Men's Bible Study: Room 203

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28**

7:00 AM Men's Prayer Breakfast  
 8:30 AM Morning Exercise Class: CLC  
 10:45 AM CDC Music: JFH  
 12:00 PM Just for Women Bible Study: CLC  
 5:30 PM Fellowship Unit  
 6:30 PM Session: JFH

# Remember in Prayer

## Extended Care

**Lowman Home**  
Mac King

**The Manor**  
Frank Ellington  
Joyce Floyd  
Julie Hughes  
Marie Jordan  
Maria Whitehead

**Presbyterian Community**  
Ann Cash  
Clariann Kellam

## Memorials

Bret Cook  
Martha Ruff  
Dr. Ramsey Mellette  
Anna Vassy

## Households

FLOCK 1: Anna Spivey  
FLOCK 2: Rhett and Virginia Spencer  
FLOCK 3: Maggie and Jay Reece  
FLOCK 4: Charlie and Kathy Grace  
FLOCK 5: Pat, Becka, Charlotte, Elizabeth and Abigail Tuttle  
FLOCK 6: Michael, Brittany and Colton Miles  
FLOCK 7: Hunter and Kaylee Welch  
FLOCK 8: Jessica and Sullivan Carmichael

## Flowers in the Sanctuary

February 5: Communion  
February 12: Ellen Wilhoit  
February 19: Lynn Porter  
February 26: Women in Ministry

## Sympathy

Whit Player, loss of his mother  
Brandon Hylton, loss of his grandfather

Lord, Hear  
Our Prayer



## Sick & Recovering

Stan Bergstrom  
Aubrey Crawford

## Elders

Rufus Bratton  
Laura Marechal

## Deacons

Walt Burch  
Lynn Porter

## Missions

House of Hope  
Chandan Sah

## Women in Ministry

Meredith Banner  
Ashley Scott

## Teachers

Cathy Lee  
Martha Nance

## Staff

Neal Fulmore  
Vic Rockhill

Do you have a friend or relative you would like to honor? Sign up to place memorial flowers in the Sanctuary. Please contact Genia Tyson ([genia\\_tyson@hotmail.com](mailto:genia_tyson@hotmail.com) or 843-992-8904) or Melba Whitesides (992-4267). Please leave your name, number, and date you wish to reserve.



# February BIRTHDAYS

**FEBRUARY 1**

Buddy Brand

**FEBRUARY 2**

Ross McMillian  
Worth Player  
Cathy Welch

**FEBRUARY 3**

Eliza Blanton  
Allison Hallman  
Amy Graham  
George Stuber

**FEBRUARY 4**

Maddelle Christian  
Zach Hall  
Adele Weatherford

**FEBRUARY 5**

Philip Baugh

**FEBRUARY 6**

Heather Warner

**FEBRUARY 7**

Jeannie Beshere  
Floyd Goodstein

**FEBRUARY 8**

Ellison Banner  
Shelley Hucks  
Michele Naylor  
Hampton Weatherford  
Thomas Rogers

**FEBRUARY 9**

Glenn Bell

**FEBRUARY 10**

Heyward Hanna  
Dave Lawson

**FEBRUARY 11**

Brian Fast  
Mike Weatherford

**FEBRUARY 12**

Sloan Evans  
R. Justin Hardee  
Cheryl Pullmann

**FEBRUARY 13**

Ashley Hylton  
Kevin Rawlinson

**FEBRUARY 14**

Hale Emerson  
Wyatt Emerson  
Sheila Mozingo

**FEBRUARY 15**

Joseph Caine Player

**FEBRUARY 16**

Van Ervin

**FEBRUARY 17**

Andy Brodie  
Hal Fuller  
Debbie Jackson  
Christina Jeffords  
Brian Urquhart

**FEBRUARY 18**

Sarah Moseley  
Mary Courtney Rogers

**FEBRUARY 19**

Shelley Gandy  
Billy Harrington  
Lisa Collins  
Frances Rogers  
Rick Ryan

**FEBRUARY 20**

William Campbell  
Ethan Hall  
Terry Hunt  
Reese McLaurin  
Susan Ingram

**FEBRUARY 21**

Sally King  
Becka Tuttle

**FEBRUARY 22**

Andrew Nance  
Renda Barnes  
Mary Anna Emerson

**FEBRUARY 24**

Maria Whitehead  
Hayden Lewis  
Andy Truman

**FEBRUARY 25**

Brandon Frost  
Kathryn Scott  
Aubrey Crawford

**FEBRUARY 26**

Yarrow Babb  
Michael Foxworth  
Lily Green

**FEBRUARY 27**

Celine Cotran  
Kathy Griffin  
Kim Hawkins

**FEBRUARY 28**

Karen Blankenship



# MEN'S WILD GAME DINNER

Men are asked to bring a wild game  
dish to share with the group.

MARCH 5  5:30 PM

Jenkins Fellowship Hall  
RSVP by March 1 to Brandon Hylton,  
[bhylton76@gmail.com](mailto:bhylton76@gmail.com)  
or 843-319-1937





# New Covenant Partners



**Suzanne Cain** moved to Florence to be closer to family. She is the daughter of Bill and Jill Cain.



**Nancy Collins** moved to Florence a couple years ago to be closer to her daughter. Nancy has 3 children, 9 grandchildren, and 3 great-grandchildren.



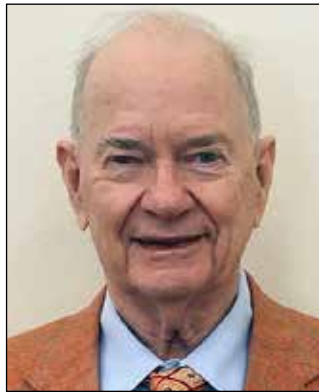
**Beverly Davis** is married to Mark Davis. She's lived in Florence for 31 years.



Florence native **John and JoDee Etheridge** have two children, Avery and Harper.



Florentines **Susie and Dan Jackson** have been married 52 years and have lived three children and 7 grandchildren.



**Keith Jones** moved to Florence in 1963 to teach social studies. Keith is married to Ann, and they have 2 grown children and 5 grandchildren.



Florence native **Kimberly and Daniel Berry "Pack" Packard IV** are married with four children: Penn, Jude, Anna and Lily. The children are homeschooled and the family likes adventure and camping.



**Heather and Hughes Page** are married with two children, Oliver and Aubrey.



Florence native **McCall and Megan Swink** have two children, McCall and Turner.

Please welcome our new Covenant Partners joining the church Sunday, February 5, after participating in classes learning about First Presbyterian Church, our faith and ministries. Anyone interested in learning more about becoming a part of our church can call the church office at 843-662-2583 or reach out to our pastors Darryl Evans, [devans@florencefirst.org](mailto:devans@florencefirst.org), and Bill Cain, [wvcain50@gmail.com](mailto:wvcain50@gmail.com).

# SUMMERTIME, SUMMERTIME, SUM, SUM, SUMMERTIME!

It won't be long before we will be saying, "I can't believe Summer is here!" To help families plan accordingly, the below schedule has been put together for children 3K – 5th grade.

We will meet on campus each "on campus" week from 1 to 4 p.m. During our time together, children will enjoy games, crafts, snacks, Bible Stories and more as we build our relationship with God and one another. Field trips area also planned each month. More details will be available soon. In the meantime, please call Kelly Hickey, 843-662-2583, with any questions or for more information. Don't forget to mark your calendars!!

## TERRIFIC TUESDAYS

(3K, 4K, 5K)

JUNE 6: On Campus  
 JUNE 13: VBS  
 JUNE 20: Trip to Swan Lake, Sumter  
 JUNE 27: On Campus  
 JULY 4: Holiday – NOT meeting  
 JULY 11: WinShape Camp for 5K (3K & 4K NOT meeting)  
 JULY 18: Neptune Island  
 JULY 25: End of Summer Party

## THUNDERING THURSDAYS

(4th – 5th grades)

JUNE 8: On Campus  
 JUNE 15: VBS  
 JUNE 22: Trip to SC Aquarium, Charleston  
 JUNE 29: On Campus  
 JULY 6: Holiday – NOT meeting  
 JULY 13: WinShape Camp  
 JULY 20: Trip to Frankie's Fun Park, Columbia  
 JULY 27: End of Summer Party

## WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS

(1st – 3rd grade)

JUNE 7: On Campus  
 JUNE 14: VBS  
 JUNE 21: Trip to Edventure, Columbia  
 JUNE 28: On Campus  
 JULY 5: Holiday – NOT meeting  
 JUL Y 12: WinShape Camp  
 JULY 19: Trip to the Zoo, Columbia  
 JULY 26: End of Summer Party



## Vacation Bible School is on its way!

### Mark Your Calendars

Monday, June 12 – Thursday, June 15

During VBS, we will discover the bustling town of Babylon; meet Daniel and hear how he and his friends fare as captives in Babylon and we will get to see, hear, touch and taste what it might have been like to live in Bible times. Stay tuned! More information will be coming soon.



# Children's Ministry



Dear Church Family,

I can't believe February will mark my three-month anniversary! In the past three months, Children's Ministry, which encompasses over 70 volunteers and all FPC's staff members, have worked side by side, serving the Lord and His church. It has been amazing to watch how well everyone works together. It reminds me of Colossians 3:23, "Work willingly at whatever you do, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people." We have accomplished a lot in three months with much more to come. Thank you for allowing me to be a part of this amazing team! It truly takes a village. To God be all the glory!!

Much love,  
Kelly

## Presbyterian Kids (PKs)

1st – 2nd Grade

Beginning March 12, all first- and second-grade children are invited to join Mrs. Kelly and friends from 3:30 to 5 p.m. in the CLC for Bible stories, games, snacks and more. We will not meet in April because of Easter; however, we will meet again on May 14. Should you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Kelly.

## Presbyterian Kids (PKs)

3rd – 5th Grade

We had a blast at our first PK gathering! Mrs. Kelly and friends spent time getting to know one other as well as enjoying a devotional, games, and snacks. Please be sure to mark your calendars for our next gathering on Sunday, February 26, and again on Sunday, March 26, from 3:30 to 5 p.m. in the CLC. We will not meet in May because of Memorial Day Weekend. Any questions, please contact Mrs. Kelly at (843) 662-2583.

## Calling all sixth-graders!!!

On Sunday, March 5, all sixth-graders are invited to join Mrs. Kelly and friends for a time of food and fellowship. We will meet in the CLC from 3:30 to 5 p.m. We also will meet on Sunday, April 2, to help with the Easter Egg Hunt (more details coming soon) and Sunday, May 7. Should you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Kelly.

## CHILDREN'S CHURCH UPDATED VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

Children's Church meets in the Children's Chapel for *Children in Worship*. This amazing program held after the Message for Young Disciples is for children ages 3K-5K. It is designed to teach children about worship and allow children to experience Bible stories while learning in their own special worship center.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LEADER</u>	<u>ASSITANT/HELPER</u>
February 5	9:00 am	Caroline Genoble	Bonnie Stuber
	11:00 am	Tabatha Davis	Erin Patton
February 12	9:00 am	Cathy Lee	Martha Nance
	11:00 am	Cathy Lee	Catherine Canfield
February 19	9:00 am	Kelly Hickey	Erin Patton
	11:00 am	Tabatha Davis	Hailey Mikulecky
February 26	9:00 am	Caroline Genoble	Tiffany Strauss
	11:00 am	Tabatha Davis	Amy Brown Lewis

# *Confirmands*



Gracyn Alexander



Mary Lachlan Campbell



Cailin Foxworth



Liam Hughes



Bailey Hylton



Charley Hylton



Graham Rabon



Henley Thompson



Colton Westbrook

## **2023 Confirmation is Underway!**

This is a special time in the lives of our sixth-grade students. Would you please hold our Confirmands and Mentors close in prayer as they spend time together growing in their relationship with the Lord and one another? Prayer is powerful and your prayers are greatly appreciated!

### **CONFIRMANDS**

Gracyn Alexander  
Mary Lachlan Campbell  
Cailin Foxworth  
Liam Hughes  
Bailey Hylton  
Charley Hylton  
Graham Rabon  
Henley Thompson  
Colton Westbrook

### **MENTORS**

Carol Fleenor  
Amy Williams  
Charissa Canfield  
Mike Fleenor  
Ellen Wilhoit  
Don Hebert  
Karen McBride  
Jan Green  
Richie Wilhoit



# Bonfire, Amos study start new year

January was a great month! We kicked things off with a Christmas tree bonfire. We are continuing with our study of Amos on Wednesday nights. We just started our small groups back, and we are studying the teen version of *Experiencing God* by Mike & Daniel Blackaby.

Our next big events are the Super Bowl party at The Hylton's house, and our Ski Trip to Blowing Rock, NC. The trip is almost full. Please see below for more information.

A special thank you to Kelly and Jamie Hickey for hosting the Christmas tree bonfire at their property, and Robert and Betsy Moore, Rob Hall and Daniel Packard for helping set up for the Christmas tree bonfire & getting the trees to the site.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Sunday School** (Feb. 5, 12 & 19) 10 – 10:50 a.m.  
Light breakfast served.

**Small Groups** (Feb. 5 & 26) 5 – 7 p.m.  
Dinner provided. All groups meet at the church, except Junior & Senior girls will meet at Amy Williams house (511 W. Pine St.)

**Wednesday Night Youth Group** (Feb. 1, 8, & 15) 5:45 – 7:30 p.m.  
\$5 dinner provided by the church.

**Coffee at F.E. Pops** (Feb. 2, 9, 16 & 23) 7 a.m.

**Super Bowl Party** (Feb. 12) 6 p.m. – Until  
Meet at The Hylton's house for the big game, plus little games & prizes! Everyone will bring an appetizer to share. Also, bring a friend!

**Ski Trip** (17th – 20th) Leave at 2 p.m.  
Blowing Rock, NC – We will go to Sugar & Beech Mountain. Cost for anyone who will Ski and Snowboard will be \$350. If you choose to ice skate, snowshoe or tube, the cost will be \$250. If there are multiple siblings or friends that join us, each will get \$25 off their trip. Trip is almost full. Please reach out to Taiter ASAP if interested.



## SAVE THE DATE

**Spring Getaway** (March 17 – 19) We will leave at 2 p.m. for Dreher Island State Park in Chapin. We will spend time in God's word through quiet times, small groups and worship. There will be team games, canoes, time around the campfire and more!  
Cost will be \$75. If there are multiple siblings or friends that join, each will get \$25 off their trip. Please sign up and pay by Wednesday, March 1.





700 PARK AVE., FLORENCE, SC 29501

PHONE: 843-662-2583

FAX: 843-662-1726

[www.florencefirst.org](http://www.florencefirst.org)

#### CHURCH STAFF

Senior Pastor and Head of Staff

Assistant Pastor

Director of Music/Organist

Praise Team Leader

Director of Youth Ministry

Children's Ministry Director

Child Development Center Director

CDC Assistant Director/Church Nursery Coordinator

Church Administrator

Financial Assistant

Communications Assistant

Ministry Assistant

Lead Custodian

Housekeeping

Custodian

Dr. Darryl Evans

Dr. Bill Cain

Mrs. Ann Rodgers Chandler

Mr. Vic Rockhill

Ms. Christina "Taiter" Garrett

Mrs. Kelly Hickey

Mrs. Beth Hepler

Mrs. Shurrie Marks

Rev. Don Hebert

Mrs. Gwen DuRant

Ms. Kimberly Brauss

Mrs. Emily Reed

Mr. Leroy Williams

Ms. Wanda LaSane

Mr. Neal Fulmore