

FOCUS



The weekly newsletter of
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Sumter, South Carolina

October 18, 2022

Sunday, October 23

Joy Ringers Trio will provide special music.
Introit: "This is My Father's World" arranged by Sondra Tucker
Offertory: "Adoro Te Devote" arranged by Anne Krentz
Organ

Elders: Gus Blum

Assisting in Worship: Gus Blum

Deacons: Jim Alexander, Matthew Berger

Youth Liturgist: Riley Berger

Jr. Usher: Harry Berger

4:00 p.m. ~ On the Move for Jesus
Bible Study in the Chapel

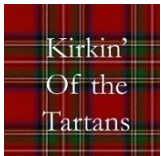
A light dinner will follow in the Fellowship Hall.

Following dinner, Reverend Brearley will be hosting "Listening Sessions" in the Chapel on October 16 and 23 and invites everyone to come to one or more to share thoughts and hopes for First Presbyterian Church.

5:00 p.m. – High School Sunday School in the West Building

Sunday, October 30

KIRKIN' O' THE TARTANS



Tartan carriers will meet in the hallway near the Choir Room on October 30 at 9:30 a.m. for the Processional Practice.

Gary Hipp, bagpipes, will provide processional and recessional music for Kirkin' of the Tartans.

Offertory Anthem: Chancel Choir will sing "The Stranger's Guise" by Karen Marrolli.

Elders: Ann Geddings, Bonnie Disney

Assisting in Worship: Ann Geddings

Deacons: Harold Nixon, Susan W. Osteen

Youth Liturgist: Caroline Moorman

Jr. Usher: Caroline Thames, Charlie Thames



TRUNK OR TREAT

5:00 p.m.

If you are interested in decorating a trunk, please contact Ashley

Blum (doodlebugblum@yahoo.com or 803-847-4406) or Liza Cooper (tblandcooper@aol.com or 704-577-1498).

Sumter United Ministries is in need of winter items for their Homeless Shelter. Our church family is collecting SOCKS, GLOVES and WINTER HATS for men and women. Please consider donating any of these items. Please place your items in the container outside the church office.



From Bob's Desk . . .

Dear Friends in Christ,

Mary Ann and I really enjoyed our trip to **Montreat**, North Carolina, this past week with 17 members of our church. We had such a good time that the group insisted that we reserve the South Carolina Inn for a return trip. Please mark your calendars for Monday through Wednesday, October 16-18, 2023, and plan to join us!

New Harmony Presbytery has called the Rev. Gavin Meek as Executive Presbyter and Stated Clerk, and his installation to this office will be the last Saturday of this month in Florence. Our Session has been in conversation with Gavin as we seek to renew our relationship with the presbytery as we move forward. We are positive about the progress being made. You are welcome to attend this presbytery service.

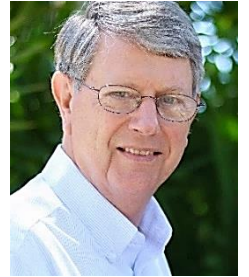
Stewardship season is a time to draw near to God and be thankful for the opportunity to support the work of the church. We give our time, our abilities, and our money to witness to God's love for us and for the whole world. We are already preparing a spending plan for a very eventful year in 2023 as we celebrate the 200th anniversary of our congregation. We will use the first three Sundays of November to encourage the generosity of all of us for the work of our church, and we will dedicate our pledges on Sunday, November 20. Please pray for elder Glenn Woodrum as he directs us in this good effort to support our ministry for Christ in this place.

At the close of worship this past Sunday we announced the **death of Harold Gadson**, a faithful custodian who served our congregation for twelve years. His daughter Markita has been our nursery worker for nine years. The family is receiving visitors at the Gadson home, 302 Rutledge Street, from 1:00 until 7:00 pm on Monday through Thursday, October 17-20. A funeral is being planned for Friday, October 21. The Session has approved a **love offering** for the family. Please make checks to First Presbyterian Church and mark them for "Harold Gadson." Thank you.

May God bless First Presbyterian Church!

Love,

Bob



First Presbyterian Church will be collecting shoeboxes for **Operation Christmas Child** again this year. Pre-printed Shoeboxes will be available at the doors into the Sanctuary and in the hallway in front of the Church Office. Guidelines for filling the shoeboxes will be available, and a label will be in each box. Please place your filled shoebox in the Fellowship Hall **no later than November 13th**.

This ministry of Samaritan's Purse has been providing joy for children in impoverished or war-torn areas all over the world for many years.

This year it is possible to follow your box and find out where it was delivered by going online to register your box label and pay the \$10 requested donation to cover the shipping. We encourage our entire church family to participate!

UPCOMING EVENTS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
- 9:50 a.m. Chancel Choir.....Sanctuary
- 10:30 a.m. WorshipSanctuary
- 4:00 p.m. On the Move for Jesus
Bible Study Chapel
- 5:00 p.m. High School Sunday School..... West Bldg.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26

- 6:00 p.m. Joy Ringers RehearsalSession Room
- 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal Choir Room

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30

- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
- 9:30 a.m. Chancel Choir.....Sanctuary
- 10:30 a.m. WorshipSanctuary
- Trunk or Treat

MONDAY, OCTOBER 31

- 10:00 a.m. Pres. Women Council..... McLaurin Room

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1

- 10:30 a.m. Circle #4 McLaurin Room
- 12:30 p.m. Circle #1 Fellowship Hall
- 6:30 p.m. Circle #6 West Bldg.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2

- 3:00 p.m. Circle #8 Covenant Place
- 6:00 p.m. Joy Ringers RehearsalSession Room
- 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal Choir Room

Council of Presbyterian Women will meet Monday, October 31, at 10:00 a.m. in the McLaurin Room.

Circles will meet as follows:

- #1 - Tuesday, November 1, at 12:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Contact: Linda Brown
- #4 - Tuesday, November 1, at 10:30 a.m. in the McLaurin Room. Contact: Norma Abbott
- #6 - Tuesday, November 1, at 6:30 p.m. in the West Building. Contact: Ashley Blum
- #8 - Wednesday, November 2, at 3:00 p.m. at Covenant Place. Contact: Pam George



ONLINE GIVING

We continue to live in challenging times that emphasize adapting to change and trying new and better ways of doing things. Many of us give to the church by writing a personal check, through online banking, or use of offering envelopes. During the recent, and hopefully, ending health crisis, where in-person worship and receiving of offerings were curtailed, many of you found it difficult to give as you lacked opportunity or convenience.

Online giving may be a more convenient option for you to consider. Online giving is available on our church website or from your computer or mobile device. You are encouraged to try online giving and see if you like it. Whichever way you choose, whether online, by mail, or in person, please know that your generosity is appreciated and vital to the ongoing ministry and outreach of First Presbyterian.

Online giving can be accessed from the FPC website, fpcsumter.org (press the red "Give" button), also from your mobile device (text FPCS to 73256). Follow the online instructions.

And now, you can also give online by using the following QR code and your smartphone. Just hover over the QR code with the camera or scanner on your smartphone or tablet and click on the link that appears.




Why not give online giving a tryout? If you need assistance, please contact our business manager @ neilross@fpcsumter.org or (803)773-3814.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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Sumter, SC
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*Join the Presbytery of New Harmony
as they celebrate the installation of*



Rev. Gavin D. MEEK
*as Executive Presbyter and
Stated Clerk*

on Saturday, October 29, 2022 at 1pm
at John Calvin Presbyterian Church
2000 Marsh Ave, Florence, SC

*All pastors are encouraged to robe, wear red stoles and process.
Reception and refreshments to follow the service.
All NHP members and friends are cordially invited.*

Love to sing but cannot make a yearlong commitment? Join the Chancel Choir as we begin rehearsals for special music during the Advent and Christmas season. We rehearse from 7-8:30 every Wednesday. For more information, email Joni at jonibrown@fpcsumter.org or call the church (803-773-3814).



JOYS AND CONCERNS

Tuomey: Les Carpenter
National Healthcare: Mac DuBose

Home: Marilyn Jenkins, Wanda Casker,
Milo Abbott (grandson of Norma Abbott),
Robert Stage II (Son of Marta Stage)

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY is extended to . . .
. . . Gary Bratton, on the death of his father, Eugene Bratton, who died October 14 in Greenville, South Carolina;
. . . the family of Harold Gadson, our former custodian, who died October 16.

FOCUS ON FINANCES

Two Weeks Beginning October 2 & 9, 2022

	Received		2022 Budgeted
	<i>Two Weeks</i>	<i>YTD</i>	<i>YTD</i>
Revenue			
Contributions	\$ 14,063.	\$ 561,181.	\$ 520,900.
*Other Sources	<u>\$ 15,030.</u>	<u>\$ 71,743.</u>	<u>\$ 105,550.</u>
	\$ 29,093.	\$ 632,924.	\$ 626,450.

*Other Sources YTD includes \$51,558 from endowment funds Distributions and \$15,000 from unused PPP funds held in reserve.