

FOCUS



The weekly newsletter of
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Sumter, South Carolina

November 2, 2021

Sunday, November 7

All Saints Day

"Saintry Risings"

Philippians 3:20-21 John 11:32-44

The Chancel Choir will sing *Heaven* arranged by John Coates as the offertory anthem. This congregational favorite includes *In the Sweet By and By*, *Everybody's Gonna Have a Great Time Up There*, *Unclouded Day*, *By and By*, *When the Roll is Called Up Yonder*, *I'll Fly Away* and *When We All Get to Heaven*.

Elders: Ann Geddings, Linda Hogon

Deacons: Charlie White, Katherine Brogdon

Youth Liturgist: Madison White

Junior Usher: Caroline Thames

Children in Worship Teacher: Bronwyn McElveen
Volunteer: Laura Brogdon

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

On **November 7**, the youth will meet at 5:00 pm at the West Building to enjoy dinner and fellowship. At 5:30 pm the Senior High will head over to fill 105 backpack blessing bags. Once they are finished, they will return to the West Building to dig into a new Bible video study: *Reckless Love*. Middle School will begin their Bible study: *There's A Verse for That* at 5:30 pm in the West Building. We hope you will come join us!

Sunday, November 14

"Riding the Waves on the Steward Ship"

Genesis 7:17-24 Mark 4:35-41

Violinist Lauren Decker will supply special music for this service.

Elders: John Moorman, Jack Osteen

Deacons: Meg Hill, Kimberly Land

Youth Liturgist: Cooper Hill

Junior Usher: Brogdon Hill

Children in Worship Teacher: Ashley Blum/Caron DuRant
Volunteer: Linda Hogon

NATIVITY STORY



It's time to sign up to be a part of this year's nativity! The Nativity will be on Sunday, December 19, during the worship service. **If your child is interested in participating, please contact Kelly Hickey by November 21.**

Rehearsals will be held Sunday, November 28, December 5, and December 12 from 4:00 – 5:00 pm. We will begin in the Fellowship Hall. In addition, we will have a dress rehearsal on Sunday, December 19 from 9:15 am to 10:15 am in the sanctuary. This will be our final rehearsal before leading worship at 10:30 am. Should you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Kelly Hickey.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS NOVEMBER 7

Don't forget to set your clocks back
Saturday, November 6.



FROM THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIR

The Stewardship Committee would like to thank all of you who have returned the Time and Talent Survey. If you have not completed the form, please take a few minutes now to do so. As we "Re-open Our Faith," service on ministry teams are at the heart of our commitment to Jesus Christ.

Jesus reminded us that "Where your treasure is, there will be your heart also." Next week you will be receiving a 2022 Financial Commitment Card. Completing that card represents your commitment to this church and, more importantly, to the work that Christ has set before us at First Presbyterian Church. The Finance Committee appreciates having these cards because they help in planning the 2022 budget. We understand if circumstances prevent you from fulfilling a pledge. But please complete the card and mail it in or bring it to church on Commitment Sunday, November 21. Thank you!

Chuck Fienning, Elder

Chair of Stewardship Committee



Dear Church Family,

Did you know that I have a lot of favorite Bible verses? 😊 Well, I do, and I am truly grateful for the people who taught me the importance of knowing God's word! "Your word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path." Psalm 119:105

God's word is our compass. The truth that we find in the Bible never changes. It will always point us in the same direction. It will always point us to Jesus, and we need Jesus.

This week, as I began planning Christian education opportunities for 2022, Proverbs 16:9 came to mind. "The human mind plans the way, but the LORD directs the steps." It is my prayer as FPC continues to move forward, the Lord will direct our steps revealing to us the importance of engaging in Bible studies, Sunday school, worship and more. We have some wonderful opportunities available for you and your families. Please come join us and see what God has for you!

Confirmation 2022

All 6th – 9th grade students

Sunday School Hour (9:30 – 10:15 am)

January 9 – April 24, 2022

More information coming soon!

Six-Week Adult Bible Study

The Nehemiah Code: It's Never Too Late for a New Beginning
by O. S. Hawkins

January 16 – February 20, 2022, in the Chapel

4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Nursery available upon request

More information coming soon!

On The Move for Jesus

Preschool and Elementary Ministry

January 16 – February 20, 2022 (Winter)

March 20 – May 1, 2022 (Spring)

More information coming soon!

Much love,

Kelly

UPCOMING EVENTS

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7

9:30 a.m. Chancel Choir Sanctuary
 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
 10:30 a.m. Worship Sanctuary
 5:00 p.m. Youth Group West Building

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8

10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting Parlor
 6:00 p.m. Deacon's Meeting McLaurin Room
 6:15 p.m. Faith Formation Parlor

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9

4:00 p.m. Music & Worship Parlor

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10

5:45 p.m. Joy Ringers Fellowship Hall
 6:30 p.m. Missions West Bldg.
 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Sanctuary

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14

9:30 a.m. Chancel Choir Sanctuary
 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
 10:30 a.m. Worship Sanctuary
 5:00 p.m. Youth Group West Bldg.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15

10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting Parlor
 5:30 p.m. Executive Council Parlor

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17

12:30 p.m. Preschool Staff McLaurin Room
 5:45 p.m. Joy Ringers Fellowship Hall
 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Sanctuary

**2021 ANNUAL ADVENT
 WORKSHOP &
 CATERED BOXED
 LUNCHEON**

Sunday, November 21
 immediately following worship

See the Enclosed Lunch Order Form for more details!
EVERYONE MUST SIGN UP-Deadline November 14
**COME JOIN US FOR OUR FIRST MEAL
 TOGETHER SINCE COVID!!!**



Advent Workshop



The church has received a gift of three Automated External Defibrillators (AED's). If you would like to be trained on using these devices, please call the church office (803-773-3814).

SAVE THE DATES!

**CONGREGATIONAL
 CHRISTMAS CAROLING**

Everyone is invited!

Sunday, December 5
 5:00 – 6:30 pm

Pizza and dessert following at the West Building
 This is a wonderful way to share Christ's hope, peace, joy, and love with members of our church family.
 We hope many of you will come and join us.
 Please contact Kelly by November 28 to sign up.



**YOUTH UGLY CHRISTMAS SWEATER
 CHRISTMAS PARTY & WHITE ELEPHANT
 GIFT EXCHANGE**

(NO MORE THAN \$10)

Sunday, December 12 from 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm
 West Building

All middle school and high school students are invited!

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

All 3K – 5th grade students are invited!

Sunday, December 19
 11:30 am – 1:00 pm

Join us at the West Building
 More info coming soon!

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 9 West Calhoun Street
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 803-773-3814

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 Sumter, SC
 Permit #22

This publication was delivered to USPS on 11/2/2021.
 Please notify USPS if you don't receive it in a timely manner.



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).

**IT'S TIME TO
 SHOWER SHAW WITH GOODIES!**

Requested items:

- Pre-packaged Cookies (small individual bags)
- Hot Cocoa Mix (individual packages)
- Candy Canes
- Chocolate Candy Kisses
- Individual bags of Popcorn (Bulk boxes are appreciated)

Please place your donations in the donation bin outside the Fellowship Hall. Deadline is Monday, November 30.

JOYS AND CONCERNS



Home: Mike Carnes, Suzanna Foley, Bill Scobee, Ashley Long (Joel & Ann Long's daughter-in-law), Tom Tindal (John Tindal's Brother), Robert Stage II (Son of Marta Stage)

Austin, TX: Robert Cain (George Cain's Father)

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY is extended to Ashley Long, daughter-in-law of Joel and Ann Long, on the death of her father, Bill Bailey, who died on October 27.

FOCUS ON FINANCES

**Two Weeks Beginning
 October 17 & 24, 2021**

	Received		2021 Budgeted
	Two Weeks	YTD	YTD
Revenue			
Contributions	\$ 36,958.	\$507,422.	\$505,810.
*Other Sources	\$ 6.	\$118,855.	\$139,908.
	\$ 36,964	\$626,277.	\$645,718.

*Other sources YTD includes \$67,000 from SBA PPP Loan Forgiveness and \$45,034 from endowment funds distributions to general fund.