

FOCUS



The weekly newsletter of
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Sumter, South Carolina

February 25, 2020

Sunday, March 1, 2020

9:00 a.m. ~ Care and Prayer (Parlor)

9:30 a.m. ~ Sunday School (Classes for All Ages)

9:30 a.m. ~ Chancel Choir (Sanctuary)

10:30 a.m. ~ Worship (Sanctuary)

Offertory Anthem: The Chancel Choir will sing
"Blest Are They" by David Haas.

John Michael Osteen will be featured soloist.

11:40 a.m. ~ Children's Choir (Children's Music Room)

11:40 a.m. ~ Youth Bells (Session Room)

6:00 p.m. ~ Faithful Families

ELDERS GREETING AT WORSHIP

Dave McNinn, Glenn Woodrum

ELDER LEADING SUNDAY MORNING PRAYERS

Dave McNinn

ELDER VISITATION (March 1-7)

Dave McNinn

DEACON VISITATION (March 2-8)

Sibbie McFaddin, Charlie White

TELLER & USHER

Catharine Frerichs, Macaulay Smith

JUNIOR USHERS

Bee Smith, Shuler Griffin

YOUTH LITURGIST

Duncan James

CHURCH HOUR EXTENDED CARE

Nursery (Ages 0-2K) - Markita Gadson,

Lameshia Dennis, Samantha Haxton

Children in Worship (Ages 3K-1st Grade)

Missy Coulter

Congregational Meeting



A congregational meeting has been called for Sunday, March 1, for the purpose of electing Church Officers to the Class of 2023.

CONGREGATIONAL RETREAT MYRTLE BEACH MARRIOTT RESORT AT GRAND DUNES HOTEL

March 6 – 8, 2020

It won't be long before we head to Myrtle Beach! For the 42 families who signed up, please note you may begin checking-in at 4:00 p.m. and festivities will begin at 7:00 p.m. More information will be coming soon. Should you have any questions, please contact Kelly Hickey.



OBSERVE AN ACTIVE LENT

**"Lent: A Season to Draw
Closer to God"**

Traditionally, Lent is seen as an opportunity to give something up in your life for 40 days – usually a habit that has had a somewhat negative effect on you. This traditional idea finds its roots in an ancient history of viewing Lent as a time of penitence and fasting in preparation for celebrating and remembering the final days of Jesus' life, death and eventual resurrection.

Lent is a reminder that we are dust and to dust we shall return. It is a reminder that we are sinners in need of repentance and grace. It is a reminder that we are broken and need wholeness through the love and mercy of Jesus Christ. Lent is traditionally seen as an opportunity to fast from practices or items in our lives that make us feel disconnected from God, from one another and from ourselves.

At the same time, Lent can also serve as an opportunity for us to do the opposite of fasting. Lent can be a 40-day season to ADD a practice to our lives that will help us grow closer to God, closer to one another and closer to ourselves. Every week during Lent, I'll be giving you practical ways that can help you do just that. Don't let the next 40 days go by without taking advantage of the opportunity to actively and purposefully enrich your spiritual life.

This week:

1. Grab a new devotional "Beloved Community" outside the church office that will guide you closer to God each day.
2. Go to Ash Wednesday Service!
February 26 ~ 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Blessings,

Nick

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL AND CHILDREN IN WORSHIP Sunday, March 8

Due to the Congregational Retreat and the majority of our teachers and leaders attending, Children's Sunday school and Children in Worship will not be held on Sunday, March 8. Children 5 years and younger are invited to join Ms. Samantha and Ms. Markita in the nursery during worship.

An Afternoon of Sacred Music

Sunday, March 15 ~ 3:00 p.m.

FPC Sanctuary

Sponsored by the

Woman's Afternoon Music Club



UPCOMING EVENTS

MONDAY, MARCH 2

- 10:00 a.m. PW CouncilMcLaurin Room
- 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts..... Scout Hut
- 6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts.....Fellowship Hall

TUESDAY, MARCH 3

Circles ~ See Schedule Below

- 10:00 a.m. Staff MeetingParlor

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4

- 5:45 p.m. Joy Ringers Session Room
- 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Sanctuary

THURSDAY, MARCH 5

- 1:00 p.m. Quilting Class West Building

SUNDAY, MARCH 8

- 9:00 a.m. Care and PrayerParlor
 - 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
 - 9:50 a.m. Chancel Choir Sanctuary
 - 10:30 a.m. Worship Sanctuary
- Youth Bells and Children's Choir will not meet.*



The Council of Presbyterian Women will meet Monday, March 2, at 10:00 a.m. in the McLaurin Room. The following Circles will meet Tuesday, March 3, as follows:

- #1 - 12:30 p.m. in the McLaurin Room
Chair: Linda Brown; Hostesses: Ashley Blum, Dee Dailey, Sallie Stafford, Mary Staggs
- #4 - 10:00 a.m. in the McLaurin Room
Chair: Norma Abbott
Hostesses: Peggy Curlovic, Sarah Tindal
- #7 - 11:00 a.m. in the West Building
Chair: Robin Thames
Coffee and light refreshments will be available.
- #9 - 7:00 p.m. at the home of Sibbie McFaddin (321-A West Calhoun Street)
Chair and Hostess: Pam George

Circle #6 will meet on **Wednesday, March 4**, at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Beth McCord, 234 Haynsworth Street.

Chair: Ashley Blum; Hostesses: Beth McCord, Christie Stutz

Circle #8 will meet **Wednesday, March 4**, at 3:00 p.m. at Covenant Place. Co-Chairs are Winnie Gee and Fran Kay.

2020 CLARENDON, LEE AND SUMTER CLUSTER LENTEN LUNCHEONS 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.



- February 26 Ebenezer Presbyterian Ella Busby
4620 Queen Chapel Rd., Dalzell
- March 4 Second Presbyterian Jody Foster
1125 Old Pocalla Rd
- March 11 Friendship Presbyterian Tommy Cooper
10123 Black River Rd., New Zion
- March 18 First Presbyterian Carnell Hampton
9 W. Calhoun St.
- March 25 Melina Presbyterian Vikki Brogdon
3539 Black River Rd., Gable
- April 1 Swan Lake Pres. Franklin Colclough
912 Haynsworth St.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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Sumter, SC 29150
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PRESBYTERIAN YOUTH
present
A Night in Little Italy
Spaghetti Dinner
Saturday, March 28
5:30 p.m. ~ 7:30 p.m.
\$10 (5 and Under Free)



Childcare available upon request.

On March 28, the youth will be hosting a spaghetti dinner in the Fellowship Hall. All proceeds will help defray the cost of the Senior High and Middle School Montreat Youth conferences this summer. We hope you take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to enjoy an elegant dinner while supporting the youth. **Please contact the church office by Sunday, March 22, to make reservations.**



Everyone is invited to the Church Women United World Day of Prayer Celebration. We will meet Thursday, March 5, at 4:30 at Swan Lake Presbyterian Church, 912 Haynsworth Street, Sumter. We would enjoy seeing you along with many other women from different churches in the greater Sumter area. If you have questions, please contact Ollie James.

JOYS AND CONCERNS



National Healthcare:
Suzanne Jackson

Memorial Sloan Kettering (NYC): Mayes DuBose

Home: David R. Brown, Charles King
(Greg King's Father)

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

St. Jude: Elizabeth Williams

FOCUS ON FINANCES
Two Weeks Beginning February 9 & 16, 2020

	Received		Budgeted
	This Week	YTD	YTD
Revenue			
* Contributions	\$ 27,076.	\$ 121,562.	Pending
**Other Sources	\$ 512.	\$ 1,032.	Session
	\$ 27,588.	\$ 122,594.	Approval

**Includes \$30,660 pledges prepaid in 2019; carried over to 2020 revenue*

***Endowments, Church Event Fees, etc.*