

FOCUS



The weekly newsletter of
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Sumter, South Carolina

March 8, 2022



Daylight Savings Time Begins Sunday, March 13!
Please remember to set your clocks ahead one hour on Saturday night, March 12!!!

Sunday, March 13 ~ 2nd Sunday in Lent

Joy Ringers will provide special music:

Prelude: "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" arr. by Jason Krug

Offertory Anthem: "Beautiful Savior" arr. by Bill Ingram

Elders: Missy Coulter, JD Dunn

Assisting in Worship: Missy Coulter

Deacons: Macaulay Smith, Kathy Lyons

Youth Liturgist: Bee Smith

Junior Usher: Murrell Smith

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

A congregational meeting has been called for next Sunday, March 13, 2022, during the worship service for the purpose of electing an Officer Nominating Committee. Nominees will include the following: Missy Coulter (Elder), Liza Cooper (Elder), Jim Alexander (Deacon), Linn Richardson (Presbyterian Women), Scott Williams (Presbyterian Men), Wilson Frerichs (Youth). Two at-large members are to be nominated by the congregation. If anyone has a member they would like to nominate, the nominee must understand the duties and responsibilities of the Church Officer Nominating Committee and have previously agreed to serve if elected. Names of at-large nominees can be forwarded to Missy Coulter (coultervm@aol.com) before the meeting on March 13.

In addition, the Session has approved asking the congregation at that meeting to vote on the following:

1. That each class of the Diaconate be composed of five (5) Deacons, a change from seven (7) Deacons presently;
2. That the Congregational Nominating Committee nominate four (4) at-large church members, including a youth, to be elected to the coming year's Congregational Nominating Committee. (The Session will elect two Elders, and the Diaconate will elect one Deacon to complete the committee.)



The Women's Afternoon Music Club presents

An Afternoon of Sacred Music Experience a liturgical year of music!

Sunday, March 13, 2022

3:00 p.m.

FPC Sanctuary

Sunday, March 20 ~ 3rd Sunday in Lent

Offertory Anthem: Chancel Choir will sing: "A Lenten Meditation" by Douglas Wagner

Elders: Caron DuRant, Ann Geddings

Assisting in Worship: Caron DuRant

Deacons: Chris Someheil, Andrew McCord

Youth Liturgist: Sumter Cooper

Junior Usher: Connor Thames

From Bob's Desk . . .

Dear Friends in Christ,

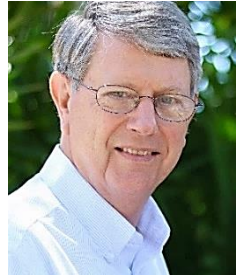
We have now begun our Lenten journey toward Easter, 2022. A good congregation gathered in the sanctuary recently for Ash Wednesday prayers and then came forward to receive the sign of the cross. We prayed that night and we have been praying ever since for the people of Ukraine and all who help them in their brave battle for their families, their homeland, and their freedom. We can give to their support through our church and the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance agency of our denomination.

I would like to thank the Re-Opening Task Force for their continual guidance through these difficult months. They have recently announced that the tools we use to keep each other healthy (the masks, the social distancing, the hand sanitizer) can be used at your discretion. Our motive is always our love of neighbor, and masks are always available to those who need them. We want everyone to feel safe and loved at church.

Lastly, my wife Mary Ann joins me in thanking the congregation for a beautiful, delicious, and splendid reception after worship on February 27. You outdid yourselves in making us welcome at First Presbyterian Church! Thank you.

Love,

Bob



UPDATED COVID GUIDELINES

After studying CDC updated guidelines and our local Covid 19 levels, the Reopening Task Force of our church recommends that we now make wearing masks optional, provide masks and hand sanitizer at all door entrances, and resume passing offering plates and celebrating traditional communion during worship. Individual communion packets will still be available to all who wish to use them instead. Please use masks, sanitizers, and distancing at your discretion to make all feel safe and welcome. Thank you.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED! AUDIOVISUAL TEAM

We would like to assimilate an audiovisual team to assist Ike Jenkins with the online broadcasts of our Sunday morning worship services. If you have an interest in becoming a part of this team or know someone who would be interested (all ages are welcome), please contact Shirley in the church office (803-773-3814 or shirley@fpcsumter.org) or Debby Williams (803-491-5303 or dfordwilliams@yahoo.com).



UPCOMING EVENTS

SUNDAY, MARCH 13

- 9:00 a.m. Joy RingersSanctuary
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
- 9:50 a.m. Chancel Choir.....Sanctuary
- 10:30 a.m. WorshipSanctuary
- 3:00 p.m. Afternoon of Sacred MusicSanctuary
- 4:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study Chapel
- 4:00 p.m. On the Move for Jesus..... Fellowship Hall
- 4:30 p.m. Jr. & Sr. High Sunday School West Bldg.
- 5:00 p.m. Youth Food/Fellowship..... West Bldg.
- 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Confirmation Room
- 5:30 p.m. Youth Group West Bldg.

MONDAY, MARCH 14

- 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting Parlor
- 6:00 p.m. Diaconate Meeting McLaurin Room

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16

- 12:30 p.m. Preschool Staff Meeting McLaurin Room
- 6:00 p.m. Chancel Choir.....Sanctuary
- 7:30 p.m. Joy Ringers..... Fellowship Hall

SUNDAY, MARCH 20

- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
- 9:30 a.m. Chancel Choir.....Sanctuary
- 10:30 a.m. WorshipSanctuary
- 4:00 p.m. Adult Bible StudyChapel
- 4:00 p.m. On the Move for Jesus..... Fellowship Hall
- 4:30 p.m. Jr. & Sr. High Sunday School West Bldg.
- 5:00 p.m. Youth Food/Fellowship..... West Bldg.
- 5:30 p.m. ConfirmationConfirmation Class
- 5:30 p.m. Youth Group West Bldg.

MONDAY, MARCH 21

- 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting Parlor
- 6:00 p.m. Executive Council Parlor

TUESDAY, MARCH 22

- 10:30 a.m. 200th Anniversary Committee .. Fellowship Hall

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23

- 6:00 p.m. Chancel Choir.....Sanctuary
- 7:30 p.m. Joy Ringers..... Fellowship Hall

ON THE MOVE FOR JESUS

Preschool and Elementary Ministry
Children, 3K – 5th grade
Sundays through March 20, 4:00 – 5:00 pm
Fellowship Hall

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

- 4:30 p.m. ~ Youth Sunday School (West Building)
- 5:00 p.m. ~ Food & Fellowship (West Building)
- 5:30 p.m. ~ Youth Group (West Building)
- 5:30 p.m. ~ Confirmation Class (Confirmation Room)

**HIGH SCHOOL
MONTHREAT
YOUTH CONFERENCE**
(Rising 9th-12th Grade)
July 10 – 16

Anyone who is interested is asked to please contact Taylor Geddings or Caron DuRant.



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS
EASTER EGG HUNT**
Palm Sunday, April 10
3:00 – 4:00 p.m.

As we start preparing for this fun event, we need your help with Easter eggs. We need plastic eggs filled with individually wrapped candy or stickers. Please no chocolate (it melts), or peanuts (due to peanut allergies). All donations are needed in the church office by Sunday, April 3. Any questions, please contact Ashley Blum.

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

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2022 ZOOM LENTEN SERVICES

12:00 Noon

Christ's Death on the Cross . . .

- March 9 **Offers Forgiveness of Sin** Rev. Nick Cheek
Luke 23:33-34
- March 16 **Demonstrates God's Love** Delcia Harper-Baxter
John 3:16/Romans 5:8
- March 23 **Heals & Restores to Wholeness** Dr. Larry Hill
Isaiah 53:4-6/1 Peter 2:24
- March 30 **Reveals God's Amazing Grace** Dorothy McBride
Hebrews 4:14-16

Zoom:

<https://zoom.us/j/92413750242?pwd=Q1RQUURwN3YrRTRrR VloT2Y3R2lyZz09>

Zoom: Meeting ID: **924 1375 0242** Passcode: **636048**
Dial phone: **1 646 558 8656** then ID: **924 1375 0242#** then #

FROM THE PRESCHOOL

Registration has started for the 2022/2023 school year. Open Enrollment will continue until all classes are filled.



We offer classes for Toddlers, 2, 3, 4's and Kindergarten. Please call the preschool office for additional information (803-773-9027). Check out our website also!

JOYS AND CONCERNS

National Healthcare: Jennie Linn Duffie
Home: Nancy Smith,
Harold Gadson, Bill Scobee,
Robert Stage II (Son of Marta Stage)



CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY is extended to Margaret Hutchens on the death of her sister, Harriett Payne, who died February 21, 2022 in Lexington, South Carolina.

FOCUS ON FINANCES

**Two Weeks Beginning
February 20 and 27, 2022**

	Received		2022 Budgeted
	Two Weeks	YTD	YTD
Revenue			
*Contributions	\$ 14,136.	\$ 189,026.	\$ 158,600.
Other Sources	\$ 180.	\$ 341.	\$ 0.
	\$ 14,316.	\$ 189,367.	\$ 158,600.

*Includes \$24,739 in 2022 pledges prepaid in 2021, carried over and recognized as revenue in 2022.