

FOCUS



The weekly newsletter of
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Sumter, South Carolina

April 27, 2021

Sunday, May 2

Elders Assisting in Worship

Kay Smith, Dee Dailey

Deacons Assisting in Worship

Macaulay Smith, Charlie White

Joy Ringers will provide special music.

Introit: Celebration No. 5 in C by Michael R. Keller

Anthem: King of Kings and Lord of Lord by

Martha Lynn Thompson

Sunday, May 9

Elders Assisting in Worship

Caron DuRant, Margaret Ezell

Deacons Assisting in Worship

Susan Brabham

Choir Anthem: Jesus, Feed us arr. by Brian Wentzel

OFFERING TO BE RECEIVED FOR PRESBYTERIAN COMMUNITIES OF SC

Since 1954, Presbyterian churches across our state have marked Mother's Day with an offering to support the ministry to older adults provided by Presbyterian Communities of South Carolina (PCSC). PCSC operates six retirement communities which hundreds of seniors call "home." Thankfully, the Presbyterian churches who founded this ministry continue to sustain it. One way we do this is through the Mother's Day Offering, which is used solely to provide charitable care for residents who have outlived their life's savings. Would you please consider making a gift? It will make a difference for seniors in South Carolina.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

A congregational meeting has been called for Sunday, May 23, during the worship service for the purpose of electing officers.

FPC Summer Intern for Children and Families Ministry Open to FPC College Students Only

Applications will be accepted beginning May 3 through May 14 for a part-time FPC Summer Intern for Children and Families Ministry. This position will begin May 30 and run through August 8. Responsibilities include but are not limited to: supporting the work of the Director of Faith Formation; assist in preparation of weekly activities, such as securing reservations or tickets and other general logistics; lead summer Bible studies where needed, including Children in Worship, Terrific Tuesdays and Wacky Wednesdays; supervise, along with Director of Faith Formation, weekly outings and events; help lead, teach and coordinate Vacation Bible School activities and Music & Arts Camp; maintain children's programs while the Director of Faith Formation is out of the office; help with creative planning for summer events and preparation for fall events; build growing relationships with children; set an example to children through words and actions. If you are interested, please go to FPC's website and download the application, **complete it and return to the church office no later than May 14**. Should you have any questions, please contact Kelly Hickey.

A Prayer and Benediction for FPC



Almighty God, You who called the universe into being. You who formed our inmost being and called us to be your people:

We give you thanks for your steadfast presence. Through seasons of constancy and even change, you are with us – calling us into deeper waters, calling us together in your spirit of unity, calling us out of ourselves into the world to serve others. Help each of us to trust the future that rests in your care. In the time we were together we saw laughter and tears, hopes and disappointments. We give you thanks for the countless ways our lives have been woven together in the tapestry of your church. Guide us as we hold these cherished memories, but move us in new directions, until that time to come when we are completely one with you and with each other.

As this church and I, its pastor, experience loss and change – help us hold fast to the promise that your mission is bigger than any of us. Strengthen us to be your Church in all times and seasons of life – a place where all are truly welcomed and embraced in your love; a place where we find ways you are active among us and calling us to join in your saving work; a place where the story of your love and grace and mercy are embodied.

Eternal God, you hold the times and seasons, endings and beginnings, in your hands. We give you thanks for our time together, for work accomplished. Grant to us all the guidance of your Holy Spirit, that fears and uncertainties about the future be transformed into the confidence that belongs to the children of God. May each day be received as a sacred trust and lived to your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Benediction:

Over the past almost 5 years, we have seen the ways God has moved in and through our midst. For these times and for the ways God has used First Presbyterian to shine God's love, I will forever be grateful. As my family and I, and as the church, transitions to what is next, know the Cheeks will hold you in prayer. We give God thanks and praise for you. Scripture tells us that endings are only new beginnings. Therefore, let us go forth, doing God's will in our respective places, for the sake of the Gospel of Christ. In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Nick

WANTED: Volunteers to

- C** - because you have a loving heart
- A** - because you want to be actively involved
- L** - because you love to visit
- L** - because you're looking for a special way to let others know you care

Others in our Church Family

Contact Pam George (803-775-5083) or Linda Hogon (803-775-4167) if you're interested in joining our Volunteer Caller Team

UPCOMING EVENTS

SUNDAY, MAY 2

- 9:15 a.m. Joy Ringers RehearsalSanctuary
- 10:30 a.m. Worship
- 4:00 p.m. Middle School Youth
- 5:30 p.m. Senior High Youth

MONDAY, MAY 3

- 10:00 a.m. Council of Presbyterian Women (Zoom)

TUESDAY, MAY 4

- 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 12:30 p.m. Circle #1 (Zoom)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 5

- 6:30 p.m. Circle #6 (Zoom)
- 7:00 p.m. Chancel ChoirSanctuary

SUNDAY, MAY 9

- 10:30 a.m. Worship
- 4:00 p.m. Middle School Youth
- 5:30 p.m. Senior High Youth

MONDAY, MAY 10

- 6:00 p.m. Deacon's Meeting

TUESDAY, MAY 11

- 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting

WEDNESDAY, MAY 12

- 9:00 a.m. Circle #7Baker's Sweets

The Council of Presbyterian Women will meet Monday, May 3, at 10:00 a.m. via zoom.

Circles will meet as follows:

- #1 - Tuesday, May 4, at 12:30 p.m. via zoom. Contact: Linda Brown
- #4 - Will not meet in May
Contact: Norma Abbott
- #6 - Wednesday, May 5, at 6:30 p.m. via zoom
Contact: Ashley Blum
- #7 - Wednesday, May 12, at 9:00 a.m. at Baker's Sweets
Contact: Robin Thames
- #8 - Will not meet in May
Contact: Winnie Gee and Fran Kay
- #9 - Will not meet in May
Contact Pam George



Summer Time, Summer Time, Sum, Sum, Summer Time!!!

Please mark your calendars for Terrific Tuesdays (rising 5K – 2nd grade) and Wonderful Wednesdays (rising 3rd – 5th grade). We will meet on campus from 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm learning Bible stories, playing games, and more. Please watch the Focus for a **tentative** Summer schedule. Should you have any questions, please contact Kelly Hickey.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

For FPC Children and Grandchildren
Monday, June 21 – Thursday, June 24
9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Online registration is open!! Please visit FPC's website (www.fpcsumter.org) for the registration link. In addition, if you would like to volunteer, **we need you!**

Please contact Kelly Hickey for more information.

Youth Groups meets in person every Sunday!

Middle school ~ 4:00 to 5:00 p.m.
Senior High ~ 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

If you have any questions, please contact Taylor.



CALLING ALL YOUNG PIANISTS!

We would love for our talented children and youth to play piano preludes the month of May. Please email Joni at jonibrown@fpcsumter.org or call 803-773-3814 to schedule a date!

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
9 West Calhoun Street
Sumter, SC 29150
803-773-3814

Non-Profit
US, Postage Paid
Sumter, SC
Permit #22

This publication was delivered to USPS on 4/27/2021.
Please notify USPS if you don't receive it in a timely manner.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

FPC assists First Baptist Missionary Church with their food pantry. Volunteers are now needed the second Friday of each month, beginning May 14 to cover two 3-hour shifts. The first shift is 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. to bag the food. The second shift is 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. to hand out the food. Please contact Steve Creech (stevecreech@crwins.com or text 803-983-5288).



July 19-22, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Rising 3rd grade-8th grade
Cost: \$50.

Registration deadline is June 19, 2021

We are excited about this year's Music and Arts Camp. Since we are still following COVID guidelines, current plans include meeting Monday – Thursday with everyone bringing their own bag lunch. The church will provide drinks and snacks. This year children will be performing the drama Mission Impossible: Sharing the Gospel by Our Love. Registration is open. Please look on FPC's website (www.fpcsumter.org) for the registration form or stop by the church office. We also hope you will consider volunteering to help make this week a success. Teamwork makes dream work. For more information, please contact Kelly Hickey.



JOYS AND CONCERNS

Tuomey: Richard Mey

Home: Kathy Lyons, Darryl Peyton,
Bill Scobee, David R. Brown,

Tiny Owens, Robert Stage II (son of Marta Stage),
Angela Bouknecht (Mallory Beaton's Mother),
Serena Davell (Marie Mills' Sister),
Charles King (Greg King's Father)

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

FOCUS ON FINANCES

Two Weeks Beginning April 11 and 18, 2021

	Received		2021 Budgeted
	Two Weeks	YTD	YTD
Revenue			
Contributions	\$ 36,620.	\$207,548.	\$196,512.
*Other Sources	\$ 77.	\$ 2,702.	\$ 27,290.
	\$ 36,697.	\$210,250.	\$223,802.

*Includes Endowments, Church Event Fees, etc.