

# FOCUS



The weekly newsletter of  
**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
Sumter, South Carolina

May 11, 2021



## Sunday, May 16 Baccalaureate & Youth Sunday

Come hear how the Lord is working in our Youth group and celebrate our graduating Seniors.

*“Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity. (1 Timothy 4:12)”*

Some of our graduating seniors will bring you a sermon on how this church has prepared them to go out into the world and show God’s love to others.

There will be a receiving line and reception to honor graduating seniors at the West Building immediately following the service.

### Elders Assisting in Worship

John Moorman, Missy Coulter

### Deacons Assisting in Worship

Will Fort, Jim Alexander

Prelude: Bach Cello Suite No. 1: Kathryn Blanding, Soloist

Anthem: Ashokan Forewell: Madison White, Ansley Blanding and Kathryn Blanding, String Trio

## Sunday, May 23

### Elders Assisting in Worship

Becky Owens, Ann Geddings

### Deacons Assisting in Worship

Randa Carole DuBose, Elyn Croft

Choir Anthems: God’s Gonna Set This World on Fire/We Gather Here in Jesus’ Name

### CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

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

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

FPC assists First Baptist Missionary Church with their food pantry. Volunteers are needed once a month 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](mailto:stevecreech@crwins.com)) or text 803-983-5288).



### SUMMER TIME, SUMMER TIME, SUM, SUM, SUMMER TIME!!!

Please mark your calendars for Terrific Tuesdays (rising 5K – 2<sup>nd</sup> grade) and Wonderful Wednesdays (rising 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> 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.

Dear Church Family,

Over the last month or so, there have been many emotions in regard to Nick’s departure. Some of the emotions include shock, hurt, sadness, anger, betrayal, confusion, a sense of relief and more. I have been heavy over the brokenness and the division, yet, God, in His infinite way, has been stirring in my heart with a message that I feel I am to share with you.



I have been a part of FPC for 2 years, with one of them being in the trenches of COVID. Although it has been somewhat challenging, the Lord has worked through you to keep me going. Do you want to know how? Through your love!

During my short time with you, the one thing I have experienced over and over and over again is the love you have for one another! You take care of each other! You are a family!

Many of you have been here for generations, others a couple of decades, and then some less than a decade and you are connected. You have strong relationships and you have been together for a very long time!

It is my prayer that we, the Body of Christ, not allow anger, bitterness, confusion, hurt, sadness, and all the negatives to divide us. May we look to Jesus remembering that God is not a god of division. He is not a god of confusion or of strife. God is a god of love. A God of hope and a God of healing and reconciliation.

May we, the family of FPC, “Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.” Proverbs 3:5-6

I love you and I am looking forward with joyful anticipation to see what the Lord is going to do.

*Kelly*

### 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.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**SUNDAY, MAY 16**

10:30 a.m. Worship

**MONDAY, MAY 17**

10:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry .....505 W. Calhoun

**TUESDAY, MAY 18**

10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting ..... Chapel

6:00 p.m. Executive Council ..... Chapel

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 19**

1:30 p.m. Discovery Class (Zoom)

6:30 p.m. International Missions

7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir .....Sanctuary

**FRIDAY, MAY 21**

9:30 a.m. Preschool Graduation ..... Chapel

**SUNDAY, MAY 23**

10:30 a.m. Worship

**MONDAY, MAY 24**

6:00 p.m. Session Meeting ..... Chapel

**TUESDAY, MAY 25**

10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting ..... Chapel

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**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

9 West Calhoun Street

Sumter, SC 29150

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Sumter, SC  
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Can't commit to a weekly rehearsal? Consider singing with the FPC SUMMER CHOIR! This multi-generational group meets at 9:30 on Sunday mornings beginning June 6 to prepare a simple anthem for our 10:30 worship service. If you are new to the group, please come 15 minutes earlier, so that we can set you up with a robe and a folder. Email Joni at [jonibrown@fpcsumter.org](mailto:jonibrown@fpcsumter.org) or call the church for more information.



**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](http://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.



**July 19-22, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**  
**Rising 3<sup>rd</sup> grade-8<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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**

Lake Marion Nursing Home

(Summerton): Richard Mey

Home: Bill Scobee,

Emmett Anglin, David R. Brown, Tiny Owens,

Robert Stage II (son of Marta Stage),

Angela Bouknecht (Mallory Beaton's Mother),

Serena Davell (Marie Mills' Sister),

Beth Byce (Sibbie McFaddin's Daughter),

Tom Tindal (John Tindal's Brother),

Charles King (Greg King's Father)

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

**CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY** is extended to . . .

. . . the family of Dot Spencer, who died May 8;

. . . Max Goodson on the death of his mother and Gloria Coker on the death of her step-sister, Stella Goodson, who died April 30;

**FOCUS ON FINANCES**

**Two Weeks Beginning April 25 and May 2, 2021**

	Received		2021 Budgeted
	Two Weeks	YTD	YTD
<b>Revenue</b>			
Contributions	\$ 19,033.	\$226,581.	\$218,411.
*Other Sources	\$ 0.	\$ 2,702.	\$ 30,808.
	\$ 19,033.	\$229,283.	\$249,219.

\*Includes Endowments, Church Event Fees, etc.

Watch the Focus for exciting plans for this summer!

