

# FOCUS



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

May 31, 2022



## Sunday, June 5 Pentecost Sunday

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be observed.

Individuals participating in summer mission trips will be commissioned during the worship service.

Introit: "As the Wind Song" by Sarah Alexander, Soprano  
Offertory Anthem: "Come, Holy Ghost" by Chancel Choir with Kelsie Decker and John Michael Osteen, Soloists

**Elders:** Norma Abbott, Gus Blum

**Assisting in Worship:** Gus Blum

**Deacons:** Suzanne Wates, Jim Alexander

### PENTECOST OFFERING TO BE RECEIVED

A gift to the Pentecost Offering helps the church encourage, develop, and support its young people, and also address the needs of at-risk children. 40% of the Pentecost offering can be retained by individual congregations wanting to make an impact in the lives of young people within their own community. The remaining 60% is used to support children-at-risk, youth, and young adults through ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency.

## Sunday, June 12

Anthem: "Let All the World in Every Corner Sing" by the Chancel Choir.

**Elders:** Liza Cooper, Missy Coulter

**Assisting in Worship:** Liza Cooper

**Deacons:** Virginia Hutchens, Gary Bratton

**"WONDERFUL  
WEDNESDAYS"  
June 8 ~ June 29  
5:30 – 7:15 p.m.**



Beginning June 8 and running through June 29, we will have "Wonderful Wednesdays." This will be a four week long, Wednesday evening church wide program during the month of June. Dinners will be provided. Following dinner, there will be Bible classes led by Rev. Bob for the teens and adults as well as fun themed lessons and activities for the kids.

**It is very important that we know how many to plan for; please make reservations by calling the church office (803-773-3814) no later than the Monday of the week you and your family plan to attend.**

- Wednesday, June 8 - Faithful Footsteps and Fun Sundaes
- Wednesday, June 15 - Music, Movement, and Moon Pies!
- Wednesday, June 22 - Growing in Grace and Garden Goody
- Wednesday, June 29 - Be Nice and Kona Ice

## From Bob's Desk . . .

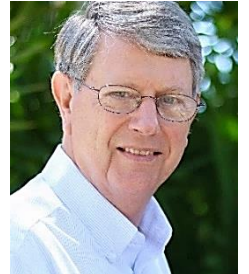
Dear Friends in Christ,

Maybe it is a sign of re-opening, but in the month of May we did just about everything a church can do! We confirmed a Confirmation Class, celebrated communion, enjoyed a Presbyterian Women's Council breakfast, had four listening sessions with the pastor, held a Deacons' meeting, hosted a high school baccalaureate service, baptized a baby, welcomed a new member, loved a congregational covered-dish lunch, rejoiced in a preschool graduation, had a wedding, recognized high school graduates, elected church officers, kept planning a 200<sup>th</sup> church anniversary for next year, had a funeral, did the back pack food ministry, held a Session meeting, and splashed in a pool at the end-of-year youth party!

And in between all these events, we prayed a lot. We prayed for church members involved in automobile accidents, hospital stays, family reunions, graduations, treatment programs, and travels. Then we prayed beyond ourselves for the people of Ukraine as they endure the hardships of war and for those who have opened their arms and their homes to welcome the fleeing refugees. Unfortunately, we have prayed for the victims of mass shootings in Buffalo and Uvalde that are too tragic for words. We just sit down and cry for the parents and loved ones who will never be the same. God help us.

Our church shifts gears in June, I am told. Our congregation goes to summer places and summer adventures, and we are sustained in faith mainly through Sunday morning gatherings. However, we will be coming together for four Wednesday suppers at 5:30 beginning on June 8. Children's activities and adult and older youth Bible study will follow our meal. For the Bible study, I will teach on the first 11 chapters of the Bible which lay the foundation for all that is to come. On June 8, Rev. Jarred Hammett, the pastor in Manning, will teach the Bible study, then I will teach on Genesis 1-11 the last 3 Wednesdays. I hope you can come.

Love,  
*Bob*



## COLLEGE GRADUATES

In addition to celebrating our high school graduates, we would also like to celebrate those who have graduated from college or have obtained advanced degrees. Please call the church office (803-773-3814) or email Shirley ([shirley@fpcsumter.org](mailto:shirley@fpcsumter.org)) with your name, degree, and institution where it was received.



**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**SUNDAY, JUNE 5**

9:30 a.m. Sunday School  
 9:30 a.m. Chancel Choir.....Sanctuary  
 10:30 a.m. Worship.....Sanctuary

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8**

5:30 p.m. Wonderful Wednesdays

**SUNDAY, JUNE 12**

9:30 a.m. Sunday School  
 9:30 a.m. Chancel Choir.....Sanctuary  
 10:30 a.m. Worship.....Sanctuary

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15**

5:30 p.m. Wonderful Wednesdays

**SESSION**

Bob Brearley, Moderator  
 Debby Williams, Clerk

Class of 2023

Missy Coulter  
 Ann Geddings  
 Jack Osteen  
 Dan Spencer  
 Debby Williams

Class of 2024

Gus Blum  
 Liza Cooper  
 Chuck Fienning  
 Linda Hogon  
 Glenn Woodrum

Class of 2025

Norma Abbott  
 Bonnie Disney  
 John Jackson  
 John James  
 Bill Richardson

**DIACONATE**

Class of 2023

Jim Alexander  
 Matthew Berger  
 Katherine Brogdon  
 Colin Davis  
 Paul Herrmann  
 Kimberly Land

Class of 2024

Gary Bratton  
 Lark Haynie  
 Kathy Lyons  
 John Michael Osteen  
 Suzanne Wates

Class of 2025

Virginia Hutchens  
 Debbie Jackson  
 Valerie James  
 Harold Nixon  
 Susan W. Osteen

**TRUSTEE**

Ken Young, Jr.



**CAMP FELLOWSHIP FUN!**

Come join us for a special day of camp fun at Camp Fellowship, located in Waterloo, South Carolina on Wednesday, July 13th. This day trip is for children 4 years- 5th grade and middle school youth. The program will provide camp counselors and age-appropriate camp activities for each age group. Lunch is included. Reservations are required, so please let us know if your elementary and/or middle school kids would like to attend.

*Register by texting Ashley Blum (803-847-4406) or call the church office (803-773-3814).*

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES**

We congratulate the following members of the graduating class of 2022 and wish them success in their future endeavors:

- Ansley Blanding – Clemson University
- William Cooper – Clemson University
- Will Croft – University of South Carolina
- Ivey Edwards – University of Vermont
- Elizabeth Foley – Clemson University
- Duncan James – Clemson University
- Brice Leasure – University of South Carolina
- Hayden Lyons – University of South Carolina at Union
- Ellie Spencer – Clemson University
- Carlie Fort – Clemson University

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
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This publication was delivered to USPS on 5/31/2022. Please notify USPS if you don't receive it in a timely manner.



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 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 office (803-773-3814) for more information.



**JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**Covenant Place:** Jennie Linn Duffie

**Home:** Chuck Fienning,  
 Caroline Sigmon, Harold Gadson,  
 Bill Scobee, Robert Stage II (Son of Marta Stage)

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Linda and Wayne Hogon, who will be celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on June 10, 2022.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Hayley Smoak and Nick Gibbons, who were married in the Sanctuary on May 21, 2022.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Krystin and Michael Baier on the birth of a son, James Michael Baier, who was born May 26.

New FPC car decals have arrived and are available in front of the Church Office. Pick yours up today!!!



**FOCUS ON FINANCES**

**Two Weeks Beginning May 15 and 22, 2022**

	Received		2022 Budgeted
	Two Weeks	YTD	YTD
<b>Revenue</b>			
*Contributions	\$ 24,249.	\$ 356,683.	\$ 260,745.
Other Sources	\$ 0.	\$ 2,760.	\$ 6,410.
	\$ 24,249.	\$ 359,443.	\$ 267,155.