

FOCUS



The weekly newsletter of
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Sumter, South Carolina

September 7, 2021

WORSHIP IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

Our Sunday morning worship is temporarily being held in the Fellowship Hall, while repairs and painting of the Sanctuary ceiling is taking place.

We appreciate your patience and apologize for any inconvenience.

Sunday, Sunday 12

“Dying to Know My Purpose”

Matthew 5:13-16 Mark 8:27-38

Prelude: *Blessed Assurance* by Hamilton Stoddard and Ann Long, piano duet

Introit: *Gather in God's Name* by Michael Burkhardt

Offertory Anthem: *A Jubilant Song* by Mary Lynn Lightfoot

Elders Assisting in Worship

Missy Coulter, JD Dunn

Deacons Assisting in Worship

Meg Hill, Gary Bratton

Youth Liturgist: Cameron Coulter

Junior Usher: Charlie Coulter

Children in Worship

Teacher: Missy Coulter Volunteer: Pam George

“ON THE MOVE FOR JESUS”

Preschool and Elementary Ministry

September 12 – October 17

Beginning Sunday, September 12, children, 3K – 5th grade, are encouraged to join Ms. Kelly, Ms. Jessica, and friends from 4:00 – 5:00 pm to learn more about the Bible, learn memory verses and sing in the Children's Choir. We will meet in the Chapel each week wearing masks. Parent are asked to drop their children off at the office entrance of the church building. Ms. Kelly will be there to greet you.

YOUTH GROUP

On Sunday, September 12, youth group will kick off beginning at 5:00 pm in the West Building. We will meet each week from 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm. We strongly encourage wearing masks. Unfortunately, due to the rise in COVID cases, we will not be able to serve food at this time; however, we are truly grateful that we can be together in person. We are super excited about this year and look forward to seeing everyone at Youth Group!

Sunday, September 19

“Which Way Do We Go?”

Romans 12:9-17 Psalm 1

Special music will be provided by the Joy Ringers Quartet.

Elders Assisting in Worship

Caron DuRant, Ann Geddings

Deacons Assisting in Worship

Chris Somheil, Kimberly Land

Youth Liturgist: Duncan James

Junior Usher: Ligon Ferguson

Children in Worship

Teacher: Karen Ingram Volunteer: Valerie James

From the Bridge Interim

A Labor Day Thought...

“If a man is called to be a street sweeper, he should sweep streets even as a Michelangelo painted, or Beethoven composed music, or Shakespeare wrote poetry. He should sweep streets so well that all the hosts of heaven and earth will pause to say, 'Here lived a great street sweeper who did his job well.'”

- Martin Luther King, Jr.



During this Labor Day Weekend/Week, I give thanks for all who continue to be part of our workforce. Personally, I am grateful my dad taught me to perform my work to the best of my ability.

Colossians 3:23 says:

“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord...”

When Martin Luther King, Jr. penned the above quote, he could have had this verse in mind.

I want to express my thanks to the staff of First Presbyterian for the quality jobs they perform. It hasn't taken me long to discover their love and commitment to Christ and the people of our community of faith. Obviously, someone taught them, as did my dad, to bring their best to work each day!

FPC, join me in giving thanks to God for our staff and their labor of love.

A Labor Day Thought,

Joel

USHER TRAINING AND REVIEW

(Rising 2nd – 5th grade)

On Sunday, September 19, immediately following worship all rising 2nd – 5th grade children are invited to join Ms. Kelly and friends for Junior Usher training and review for those who are coming back. The training/review should last about 30 minutes. If you are not available to join us on the 19th, please contact Kelly.

ADVENT DEVOTIONAL 2021

Hope, Peace, Joy and Love

We had such a wonderful response

with last year's Advent Devotional. It's time to begin putting together this year's with devotions written by you, members of FPC. We are very excited about this opportunity and would love for you to participate. We need 27 entries with no more than 400 words. If you are interested in writing a devotional or have any questions, please contact Kelly Hickey by September 26. Devotions are due no later than October 10.



UPCOMING EVENTS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

- 9:15 a.m. Chancel ChoirFellowship Hall
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. WorshipFellowship Hall
- 4:00 p.m. On the Move for JesusChapel
- 5:00 p.m. Youth Group West Bldg.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

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

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

- 4:00 p.m. Worship & Music Parlor

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

- 12:30 p.m. Preschool Staff Meeting McLaurin Room
- 5:45 p.m. Joy Ringers QuartetFellowship Hall
- 7:00 p.m. Chancel ChoirFellowship Hall

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

- 9:00 a.m. Joy Ringers QuartetFellowship Hall
- 9:50 a.m. Chancel ChoirFellowship Hall
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. WorshipFellowship Hall
- 11:30 a.m. Jr. Usher Training/Review.....Fellowship Hall
- 4:00 p.m. On the Move for JesusChapel
- 5:00 p.m. Youth Group West Bldg.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

- 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting Parlor
- 10:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry505 W. Calhoun
- 5:30 p.m. Executive Council Parlor

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

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

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

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**CARDS OF CARING
COLLEGE STUDENT PROGRAM**

First Presbyterian's Cards of Caring program is a way to show our college students that we care about them, even while they are away at school. Throughout the year students will be sent encouragement with cards on holidays and their birthday to let them know that their church family is thinking about them.

We update our list of college students every year to ensure we have current information. To re-register or register your new college student, please fill out the registration form from the First Presbyterian website or from the church welcome desk. Please contact Kate Peyton at kate_peyton@yahoo.com if you have any questions.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Covenant Place: Bootsie Owens
Home: Suzanna Foley, Bill Scobee,
Tom Tindal (John Tindal's Brother),
Robert Stage II (Son of Marta Stage)

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



CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY is extended to . . .

- . . . the family of Tiny Owens who died August 26;
- . . . the family of Robert Beaty, who died August 31.

FOCUS ON FINANCES

**Two Weeks Beginning
August 22 and 29, 2021**

| | Received | | 2021 Budgeted |
|----------------|--------------|------------|------------------|
| | Two Weeks | YTD | YTD |
| Revenue | | | |
| Contributions | \$ 16,644. | \$406,102. | \$402,193. |
| *Other Sources | \$ 25,104. | \$118,654. | \$128,812. |
| | \$ 41,748. | \$525,056. | \$531,005. |

*YTD includes \$67,000 revenue from SBA PPP Loan Forgiveness and \$45,034 from endowment funds distributions to general fund..



Dear Church Family,

Last Sunday's scripture reading from Ephesians 3 spoke to me regarding being rooted and grounded in Jesus. One of my many prayers for FPC is for the Holy Spirit to move in our hearts, strengthen us in Jesus' love and help us to know Him deeply and intimately - "To be rooted and grounded in love".

As I mentioned in the Children's Moment last week, there are many ways for us to become and stay rooted in Jesus, but this week, I hope you will engage and take part in Sunday School as it kicks off the new church school year this Sunday. There will be classes available for everyone!

3K - 5K: Room 103, First Floor on the Preschool Wing

1st - 5th Grade: Room 302, Third Floor Education Building

Youth (Grades 6-12): West Building

Bethany Class: Chair, Sibbie McFaddin
McLaurin Room, First Floor Education Building

Discovery Class: Co-Chairs, Charles Denny & John Safford
Room 207, Second Floor Education Building

Fraser Edmunds Class: Chair, John James, III
Chapel

Friendship and Harmony Class: Co-Chairs, Gus Blum,
Gary Bratton & Karen Ingram
Room 210, Second Floor Education Building

Detailed information will be available Sunday morning regarding the Adult Sunday school classes.

I hope you will come join us as we become and stay rooted in Jesus.

Much love,

Kelly