

# FOCUS



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

October 4, 2022

## Sunday, October 9

Guest organist, Patti Croft, will provide service music and the offertory anthem.

**Elders:** John James, Dan Spencer

**Assisting in Worship:** John James

**Deacons:** Katherine Brogdon, Paul Herrmann

**Youth Liturgist:** Caroline Moorman

**Jr. Usher:** Murrell Smith, Connor Thames

5:00 p.m. – High School Sunday School in the West Building

## Sunday, October 16

Offertory Anthem: Chancel Choir will sing “How Firm a Foundation” by Emma Lou Diemer.

**Elders:** Glenn Woodrum, Liza Cooper

**Assisting in Worship:** Glenn Woodrum

**Deacons:** Gary Bratton, Harold Nixon

**Youth Liturgist:** Brogdon Hill

**Jr. Usher:** Millie Davis, Richard Dwight

4:00 p.m. ~ On the Move for Jesus  
Bible Study in the Chapel

*A light dinner will follow in the Fellowship Hall.*

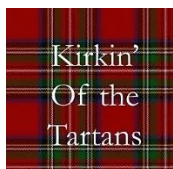
Following dinner, Reverend Brearley will be hosting “Listening Sessions” in the Chapel on October 16 and 23 and invites everyone to come to one or more to share thoughts and hopes for First Presbyterian Church.

5:00 p.m. ~ High School Sunday School in the West Bldg.

## SALEM BLACK RIVER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 175<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY SERVICE 1060 Brick Church Road, Mayesville, SC Sunday, October 9

3:00 p.m. ~ History of the Church by Katherine Richardson

4:00 p.m. ~ Worship Service officiated by Dr. Mark Durrett



## KIRKIN' O' THE TARTANS October 30, 2022

If you would like your family's tartan included in our Kirkin' o' the Tartans Service, please contact Linda Hagon at [lhagon03@yahoo.com](mailto:lhagon03@yahoo.com) or call 803-840-7671

by Wednesday, October 19. A reservation is required in order for your tartan to be carried by a family member or a person to serve as your family's substitute. Carriers will meet in the hallway near the Choir Room on October 30 at 9:30 a.m. for the Processional Practice.

## COLLEGE ADDRESSES NEEDED

If you have a student in college, please call the church office (803-773-3814) and give us their mailing address and email address. It's important we keep in touch with our college students!

## From Bob's Desk . . .

Dear Friends in Christ,

We have a meditation opportunity for you. The Presbyterian Heritage Center in Montreat exhibits the artistic works of the Rev. John Mack Walker, who was the pastor at the Presbyterian Church of Roanoke Rapids, NC, for 38 years. Beginning at age 28, Johnny Mack began carving in wood, and people began bringing him wood from all over the world to use in his sculptures. Even after retiring to Montreat, he carved scenes from the life of Jesus in these beautiful hardwoods, often depicting the biblical characters as men and women he had met in the Appalachian Mountains.

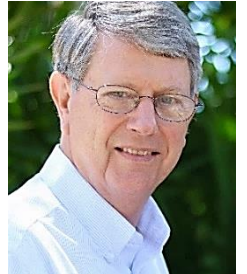
At his death in 1998 at age 83, Johnny Mack Walker's family left 24 of his amazing woodcarvings on permanent display at the Presbyterian Heritage Center in Montreat. We will see them on our upcoming trip to Montreat with our church. Fortunately, a **40-minute video** was produced before his death with Johnny Mack giving us a tour of some of these carvings and commenting on the scenes from the life of Jesus. I have a VHS video of this production, and **we have set it up in the church parlor** to be viewed by our church members and friends any time the office is open. You are welcome to come and enjoy it.

Many who have visited with the Rev. Johnny Mack Walker, minister and artist, through this video have told us they want to return and see it again. I commend it to you for your journey in the faith.

I look forward to seeing you in church this Sunday!

Love,

*Bob*



Join us for a Fall Clean-up on Saturday, October 15 from 9-12 am. Tasks will be assigned in your comfort zone. Sign up to help by October 10 at the Information Desk or by calling the church office and you will be contacted with more information. Your response will help determine the jobs on our “To-do list” that can be accomplished. There will be something for everyone!



**MARK YOUR  
CALENDARS!!  
October 30, 2022**

If you would be interested in decorating a trunk, please contact Ashley Blum ([doodlebugblum@yahoo.com](mailto:doodlebugblum@yahoo.com) or 803-847-4406) or Liza Cooper ([tblandcooper@aol.com](mailto:tblandcooper@aol.com) or 704-577-1498).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9

9:30 a.m. Sunday School  
9:50 a.m. Chancel Choir.....Sanctuary  
10:30 a.m. Worship.....Sanctuary  
5:00 p.m. High School Sunday School.....West Bldg.

### MONDAY, OCTOBER 10

6:00 p.m. Diaconate Meeting .....McLaurin Room

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12

6:00 p.m. Faith Formation .....Parlor  
6:00 p.m. Joy Ringers Rehearsal .....Session Room  
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal .....Choir Room

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14 ~ Preschool Closed

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15

9:00 a.m. Fall Clean-Up Day

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16

9:30 a.m. Sunday School  
9:30 a.m. Chancel Choir.....Sanctuary  
10:30 a.m. Worship.....Sanctuary  
4:00 p.m. On the Move for Jesus  
Bible Study ..... Chapel  
5:00 p.m. High School Sunday School.....West Bldg

### MONDAY, OCTOBER 17 ~ Preschool Closed

10:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry ..... 505 W. Calhoun St.  
6:00 p.m. Session Meeting ..... Fellowship Hall

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19

12:30 p.m. Preschool Staff Meeting ..... Fellowship Hall  
6:00 p.m. Joy Ringers Rehearsal .....Session Room  
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal ..... Choir Room

## SESSION MEETING ACTIONS

### from the September 18, 2022 stated meeting

At the stated September meeting, the Session approved the following items:

- For Sumter Christian Charities increased funding and a plea for volunteers to assist in food distribution.
- Participation in Thornwell Emphasis month by filling Turkey Coin Holders.
- A volunteer grounds clean up at FPC on Saturday, October 15, from 9:00-12:00
- Debbie Jackson as our part time Faith Formation Coordinator effective immediately.

From Missions the following projects:

- October- winter collection of gloves, hats, and socks for Sumter United Ministries
- November- Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes
- December- Sumter United Ministries Angel Tree

The leaders of our church continue to work to make First Presbyterian the best it can be in service to our Lord, the world, and our community. If you have any questions or comments, give me a call— 803-491-5103.

Debby Williams, Clerk of Session



Sumter United Ministries is in need of some winter items for their Homeless Shelter. Our church family is collecting SOCKS, GLOVES and/or WINTER HATS for men and women. Please consider donating any of these items. Please place your items in the container outside the church office.

Volunteers are needed to serve in our Nursery on Sunday mornings (9:00 – 11:30 a.m.) If you are interested, please contact Ashley Blum ([doodlebugblum@yahoo.com](mailto:doodlebugblum@yahoo.com) or 803-847-4406) or Liza Cooper ([tblandcooper@aol.com](mailto:tblandcooper@aol.com) or 704-577-1498).



## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

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Sumter, SC  
Permit #22

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Love to sing but cannot make a yearlong commitment? Join the Chancel Choir as we begin rehearsals for special music during the Advent and Christmas season. We rehearse from 7-8:30 every Wednesday. For more information, email Joni at [jonimbrown@fpcsumter.org](mailto:jonimbrown@fpcsumter.org) or call the church (803-773-3814).

## JOYS AND CONCERNS

St. Francis Hospital (Greenville):

Rose Marie Newman

St. Jude: Elizabeth Williams

(Daughter of Barney W. Williams)

Pocataligo River Health & Rehab (Manning): Wanda Casker

Home: Vern Disney, Isabel Gist, Carolita Cantrell,

Milo Abbott (grandson of Norma Abbott),

Priscilla Dickey, Robert Stage II (Son of Marta Stage)

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Kristen (Sublette) and Ben Timmons on the birth of a son, Benjamin Wyatt Timmons, born September 26. Proud big brothers are Griffin and Banks and proud grandparents are Shep and Linda Sublette.

**CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY** is extended to the family of Bill Nock, who died September 26 in Greenville, South Carolina.

A memorial service for Ken McLeod, who passed away on April 28, 2022 in Richmond, Virginia, will be held at McLeod Chapel United Methodist Church in Rembert, South Carolina on Saturday, October 8, at 3:00 p.m.

## FOCUS ON FINANCES

Two Weeks Beginning

September 18 & 25, 2022

	Received		2022 Budgeted
	Two Weeks	YTD	YTD
Revenue			
Contributions	\$ 18,599.	\$ 547,119.	\$ 484,215.
*Other Sources	\$ 2,255.	\$ 56,712.	\$ 105,324.
	\$ 20,854.	\$ 603,831.	\$ 589,539.

\*Other Sources YTD includes \$51,558 from endowment funds distributions.