

# FOCUS



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

February 8, 2022

## Sunday, February 13

Offertory Anthem: John Michael Osteen will sing "Embrace the Cross" arranged by Bill Wolaver.

**Elders:** John Moorman, Jack Osteen

**Assisting in Worship:** JD Dunn

**Deacons:** Charlie White, Taylor Geddings

**Youth Liturgist:** Anna Kate Coker

**Junior Usher:** Connor Thames



This Sunday we will be collecting donations for the Souper Bowl of Caring. All donations will go to Backpack Blessings. Please be sure to place your donation in a soup pot before or after worship. This will also be the last Sunday to deop off pouch drinks (Capri Suns/Kool Aid Jammers) for Backpack Blessings. Pouch drinks should be placed in the bin outside the church office marked Souper Bowl of Caring.

## Sunday, February 20

Offertory Anthem: Chancel Choir will sing "Praise the One Who Makes Us One" by Tom Trenney.

**Elders:** Whit Shaw, Dan Spencer

**Assisting in Worship:** Ann Geddings

**Deacons:** Katherine Brogdon, Elyn Croft

**Youth Liturgist:** Grayson Alexander

**Junior Usher:** Richard Dwight

*So  
Thankful  
for You*

## LOVE AND THANKSGIVING TO KELLY

As many of you know, Kelly Hickey feels led by the Spirit to close this chapter of her ministry at First Presbyterian Church and follow God's leading to her next time of faithful service. Her last day of work here will be Thursday, February 10.

The Session has designated **Sunday, February 13**, as a time of thanksgiving for Kelly's nurturing ministry among us over these past three years. Everyone is invited to bring cards, letters, or any expressions of your appreciation of Kelly to the church office this week. We will present them to her Sunday, February 13.

## FROM THE PRESCHOOL

Registration will begin for the 2022-2023 school year beginning Monday, February 28<sup>th</sup> for currently enrolled students, siblings, church members, and grandchildren of church members. Open Enrollment will begin on March 7<sup>th</sup> and continue until all classes are filled.

We offer classes for Toddlers, 2, 3, 4's and Kindergarten. Please call the preschool office for additional information (803-773-9027). Check out our website also!



## From Bob's Desk . . .

Dear Friends in Christ,

I am continuing to share with you the words that I wrote recently when being examined by New Harmony Presbytery for service at First Presbyterian Church. I spoke of my faith journey with these words:



*The Christian faith is more remarkable and more precious to me now than it has ever been in my life. I want every church to claim its calling to follow Jesus Christ to places that they would never have gone without him, to love with a love that makes no sense apart from our Lord, and to rejoice with a joy that is deeper and more durable than the sufferings of this world. Holy Spirit and the communion of the saints make such an adventure with Christ possible.*

I am glad to be with you at this time in the life of your church. Thank you for visiting with me and sharing what is on your heart as we continue our journey forward. I am in the church office Monday through Thursday from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm. You are welcome in my study or I can come to you.

I join the membership of our church in thanking Kelly Hickey for her compassionate care for our children and youth and her dedication to Jesus Christ during her years with us. We will thank her publicly during worship on February 13. God bless her always.

Love,

*Bob*

Dear Church Family,

Over the past two weeks, God has provided an amazing trio to take the reins of Faith Formation. God never ceases to amaze me! Therefore, it is with great excitement I announce the Faith Formation Transition Team, along with their ministry areas:

Ashley Blum, Children's Ministry

Liza Cooper, Youth Ministry

Caron DuRant, Children, Youth and Adult Ministry



Some of you have said I am irreplaceable, and as much as I appreciate your kind words, please know it was God who led me. It was God who brought together the many amazing teams who served during my time with you. It was God who put together this awesome trio for such a time as this.

I know without a shadow of a doubt this trio will also be led by God, they will seek God's direction and they too, will need you, just like I did.

Please hold them close in prayer, let them know you are willing to serve and that they can count on you. It truly takes a village and this village, this FPC family is one of the very best!

I love you all!

*Kelly*

UPCOMING EVENTS

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13

- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
- 9:50 a.m. Chancel Choir.....Sanctuary
- 10:30 a.m. Worship .....Sanctuary
- 4:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study..... Chapel
- 4:00 p.m. On the Move for Jesus..... Fellowship Hall
- 4:30 p.m. Jr. & Sr. High Sunday School ..... West Bldg.
- 5:00 p.m. Youth Food/Fellowship..... West Bldg.
- 5:30 p.m. Confirmation/Youth Group .. Chapel/West Bldg.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14

- 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting ..... Parlor
- 6:00 p.m. Deacon’s Meeting..... McLaurin Room

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15

- 10:30 a.m. 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee .. Fellowship Hall

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16

- 12:30 p.m. Preschool Staff Meeting ..... McLaurin Room
- 6:00 p.m. Chancel Choir.....Sanctuary
- 7:30 p.m. Joy Ringers..... Fellowship Hall

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20

- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
- 9:30 a.m. Chancel Choir.....Sanctuary
- 10:30 a.m. Worship .....Sanctuary
- 4:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study.....Chapel
- 4:00 p.m. On the Move for Jesus..... Fellowship Hall
- 4:30 p.m. Jr. & Sr. High Sunday School ..... West Bldg.
- 5:00 p.m. Youth Food/Fellowship..... West Bldg.
- 5:30 p.m. Confirmation/Youth Group .. Chapel/West Bldg.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21

- 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting ..... Parlor
- 5:30 p.m. Executive Council ..... Parlor

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23

- 6:00 p.m. Chancel Choir.....Sanctuary
- 7:30 p.m. Joy Ringers..... Fellowship Hall

Sunday Morning Fellowship will resume February 13!

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

Children in Worship will resume this Sunday, February 13, immediately following Children’s Time. We will meet in the Children in Worship Room, (Room 304) of the Education Building. Please contact Ashley Blum with any questions.

ON THE MOVE FOR JESUS

Preschool and Elementary Ministry

Beginning Sunday, February 13, children, 3K – 5<sup>th</sup> grade, are encouraged to join Ms. Ashley, 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 Fellowship Hall. This ministry will meet February 13 through March 20. On Sunday, March 27, the children will sing during worship. Contact Ashley Blum with any questions.

The Nehemiah Code: It’s Never Too Late  
for a New Beginning

SIX-WEEK ADULT BIBLE STUDY  
BEGINS FEBRUARY 13

Adelaide Spencer will lead this study that will meet each Sunday in the Chapel from 4:00 - 5:00 pm. Please contact Caron DuRant if you are interested in joining this study.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

Youth Sunday school for middle and high school students will resume this Sunday, February 13, from 4:30-5:00 p.m. in the West Building. Missy Coulter and friends will be leading. Youth group will begin at 5:00 p.m. with dinner and end at 6:30 p.m. Please contact Liza Cooper with questions.

CONFIRMATION ORIENTATION

All 6<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> grade students and their parents are strongly encouraged to join FPC’s Confirmation Orientation beginning at 5:30 pm in the West Building on Sunday, February 13. This meeting will explain the goals, methods, and expectations of this year’s confirmation process. Students and parents will be able to ask questions and learn what the class will be doing during Confirmation. This 10-week journey will begin Sunday, February 13 and run through Sunday, April 24. Confirmation Sunday will be Sunday, May 1.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
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This publication was delivered to USPS on 2/8/2021.  
Please notify USPS if you don’t receive it in a timely manner.

The Joy Ringers will resume regular rehearsals on Wednesday, February 16. If you are interested in ringing, please call Joni or email [jonibrown@fpcsumter.org](mailto:jonibrown@fpcsumter.org).



The Women’s Afternoon Music Club presents  
An Afternoon of Sacred Music  
Sunday, March 13, 2022  
3:00 p.m.  
FPC Sanctuary

1823 ~ 2023

On May 29, 2023, First Presbyterian Church will be 200 years old! You are invited to attend a meeting on Tuesday, February 15 from 10:30-11:30 in the Fellowship Hall to help plan our 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.



JOYS AND CONCERNS

Home: Nancy Smith, Harold Gadson, Caroline Sigmon, Bill Scobee, Robert Stage II (Son of Marta Stage)

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY is extended to Eleanor Beard on the death of her brother, Chevis Irvin Boozer, Jr., who died January 25 in Greenville, South Carolina.

FOCUS ON FINANCES

Two Weeks Beginning  
January 23 and 30, 2022

	Received		2022 Budgeted
	Two Weeks	YTD	YTD
Revenue			
Contributions	\$ 76,772.	\$ 96,977.	Budget
*Other Sources	\$ 156.	\$ 156.	Pending
	\$ 76,928.	\$ 97,133.	

\*Includes \$24,739 in 2022 pledges prepaid in 2021, carried over and recognized as revenue in 2022.