

# FOCUS



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

April 4, 2023



## Easter Sunday Sunday, April 9

*Please bring blooms from your yard to decorate the cross in celebration of the risen Christ.*

Please note there will be no children's Sunday School this morning. Children in Worship will continue as planned.

Special music will be provided by the Chancel Choir, Brass Ensemble and Lauren Decker, Violin. Bella Land and John Michael Osteen will be featured vocalists. The Chancel Choir will sing "A Seasonal Alleluia" by Volkmar Leisring and "God's Right Hand and Holy Arm" by K. Lee Scott.

**Elders:** Bill Richardson, Dan Spencer

**Assisting in Worship:** Bill Richardson

**Deacons:** Debbie Jackson, Kathy Lyons

**Youth Liturgist:** Riley Berger

**Jr. Ushers:** Adelaide McElveen, Harry Berger

If you purchased a calla lily in memory or in honor of someone, please remember to take it with you after worship on Sunday morning.

## Sunday, April 16

Please note there will be no children's Sunday School this morning. Children in Worship will continue as planned.

Sean Hackett, saxophone soloist, will play "The Gift of Love" arranged by Daniel Kallman.

**Elders:** Glenn Woodrum, Debby Williams

**Assisting in Worship:** Glenn Woodrum

**Deacons:** Matthew Berger, Susan W. Osteen

**Youth Liturgist:** Caroline Moorman

**Jr. Usher:** Millie Davis, Mary Taylor Moorman

## 200<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

FPC 1823-2023 Notecards to commemorate our 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary will be available to purchase at the Welcome Desk before and after church on Sundays in April. Each set of ten notecards with envelopes may be purchased for \$15. The FOCUS will announce other dates when they will be available.

## HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

### Maundy Thursday, April 6

7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary  
Worship with Communion

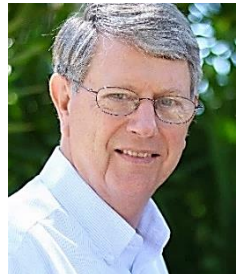
### Easter Sunday, April 9

10:30 a.m. ~ Worship

*Please bring blooms from your yard to decorate the cross in celebration of the risen Christ.*

Dear Friends in Christ,

We thank the procession of children waving palms and the powerful singing of our choir for leading all of us in beautiful worship on Palm Sunday. Now as we live this holy week, we remember the final days of Jesus on this earth as he journeys to the cross.



We will gather this Thursday evening at 7:00 in the sanctuary to dine with Jesus at his last supper and then remember his dying through a Tenebrae service of shadows as the lights dim. Then on Easter morning we will gather as thankful people that God has raised this Jesus from the dead and given us a hope that will never die. God bless us all we remember the faith that sustains us in life.

On Sunday, April 16, we will have a congregational meeting to elect elders, deacons, a trustee, and at-large members of next year's Congregational Nominating Committee. More information on the nominees for elder and deacon will be made available to you soon.

Love,  
*Bob*

## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING April 16, 2023 During Morning Worship

### Nominees for Elder – Class of 2026

Jim Alexander

Becky Owens

Margy Carpenter

Bob Smith

Kimberly Land

### Nominees for Deacon – Class of 2026

Mike Blanding

Kenny Jordan

J.D. Dunn

Joe McElveen

Jimmy Ezell

### Nominees for 2024 At-Large Members Congregational Nominating Committee

Fred Brogdon, Jr.

Jim McQuage

Ann Geddings

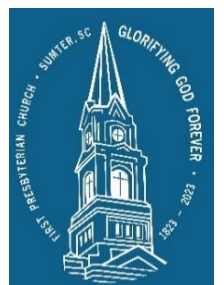
Scott Williams

### Nominee for Trustee – Class of 2026

William Croft

## MINUTE FOR MEMORIES

Dr. Richard R. Potter came to the church in 1946 following the interim ministry of Dr. Lewis Holladay Lancaster. Dr. Lancaster returned to China to resume his work as a missionary. Dr. Potter was responsible for many educational and structural improvements in our church. Stay tuned for the list!



UPCOMING EVENTS

SUNDAY, APRIL 9

- 9:00 a.m. Brass Rehearsal .....Sanctuary
- 9:15 a.m. Chancel Choir.....Sanctuary
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. Worship .....Sanctuary

MONDAY, APRIL 10

Church Office Closed

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12

- 10:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry .....Parlor

SUNDAY, APRIL 16

- 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, APRIL 17

- 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting .....Parlor
- 6:00 p.m. Diaconate Meeting .....McLaurin Room
- 6:00 p.m. Coordinating Committee .....Parlor

TUESDAY, APRIL 18

- 5:30 p.m. AED Training ..... Fellowship Hall

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19

- 12:30 p.m. Preschool Staff Meeting .....McLaurin Room

THURSDAY, APRIL 19

- 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal .....Sanctuary



AED TRAINING

A training session on the use of the Church’s Automated External Defibrillators (AED’s) is scheduled for Tuesday, April 18, 2023, from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

This training is open to previously trained Church members as a “refresher” class as well as first time trainees to become certified in the use of the Church’s three AED’s. There is no cost to participate in the training which will be offered by Paul Krause of Professional Training Services. As more members are trained, then we are better prepared to offer a more effective response should an emergency arise. To sign up, please contact Shirley in the church office at 803-773-3814.

SESSION REPORT

From the March 28, 2023 Stated Meeting

At the stated March 28, 2023 meeting, the Session acted on the following items:

- Approval of summer day camps for the Girl and Cub Scout Troops to be held July 17-21 and July 5-7, 2023 using the West Youth Building and grounds.
- Approval of a ceremony and installation on April 30, 2023, of the historical marker for our 200 year-old church. The marker will be placed on the Calhoun Street side of the sanctuary.
- The scheduling of a Congregational Meeting to be held April 16, 2023 for the purpose of electing church officers for the Class of 2026 and the election of the CONC for 2024.
- Upgrading the audio/visual system in the sanctuary during the month of April. We will be going from one to three cameras, microphones out in the sanctuary and sound connection between the choir loft and the sound control booth. Ike is very excited.
- There will be an AED training course April 18, 2023 open to anyone interested.
- Plans are being made for the May 16, 2023 quarterly meeting of New Harmony Presbytery that will be hosted by our church.

The Session requests that you continue to keep the PNC in your prayers. As always, we will continue to work to serve the Lord through our church, our community, and our world.

Debby Williams, Clerk of Session

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This publication was delivered to USPS on 4/4/2023.  
Please notify USPS if you don’t receive it in a timely manner.

THE PNC NEEDS YOUR HELP

Eastertide will be a busy one for our congregation. The Pastor Nominating Committee is asking us to complete a congregational survey that will come to your inbox soon or may be provided for you on paper. Completing this survey will enable our PNC to write a mission study and a church information form as they continue their journey in search of our next installed pastor. Thank you for helping us.



Faith Formation and Fellowship would like to thank everyone who donated eggs to our annual Easter Egg Hunt and to the youth who helped hide all the eggs. The children had a wonderful time hunting for eggs and decorating their snacks. We appreciate all the support you have shown us this year.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

National Healthcare: Wanda Casker  
Home: Jackie Osteen, Norma Abbott,  
Milo Abbott (grandson of Norma Abbott)



Update on Milo—  
On March 5, Milo had his last chemo, confirmed today (March 29) by scans and an echo cardio gram which were both clear. He will have repeat scans in three months and if those are also good, they will remove his port. Please continue to keep Milo in your prayers as the focus has now shifted to healing, recovering from the side effects of chemo, and enjoying being a big brother and a normal six-year old little boy. Please also pray for all families dealing with a cancer diagnosis and the medical teams taking care of them!

The Abbott Family

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY is extended to Charlene Young, formerly of Sumter and still a member of FPC, on the death of her sister, Lynn Williams Klatt, who died March 19, in Waco, Texas.

FOCUS ON FINANCES

Two Weeks Beginning March 19 and 26, 2023

	Received		2023 Budgeted
	Two Weeks	YTD	YTD
Revenue			
*Contributions	\$ 11,400.	\$270,250.	\$243,997.
Other Sources	\$ 14,922.	\$ 17,531.	\$ 16,118.
	\$ 26,322.	\$287,781.	\$260,115.