

FOCUS



The weekly newsletter of
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Sumter, South Carolina

June 29, 2021

Sunday, July 4

Kelly Hickey will be preaching

Elders Assisting in Worship

Dee Dailey, Whit Shaw

Deacons Assisting in Worship

Charlie White, Colin Davis

Children in Worship

Teacher: Missy Coulter; Volunteer: Jennifer Edwards

Sunday, July 11

Rev. Pam Clinger

Elders Assisting in Worship

Dan Spencer, Kay Smith

Deacons Assisting in Worship

Meg Hill, Andrew McCord

Children in Worship

Teacher: Kelly Hickey; Volunteer: Kimberly Land

NEWS FROM THE REOPENING TASK FORCE

Beginning Sunday, July 4th, the current COVID19 guidelines will be removed. This includes capacity restrictions in the Sanctuary, Chapel, Fellowship Hall, and West Building. We will also resume with passing offering plates and Friendship Pads during worship.

Sunday morning fellowship will resume as soon as the work in the kitchen and Fellowship Hall is complete. More information will be available soon.

If anyone who is not comfortable with the capacity restrictions being removed, you may join in person worship in the Chapel. We also continue to encourage anyone who has not been vaccinated to wear a mask. Should you have any questions, please contact the church office.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS BEING RECEIVED

Applications for the Baker and West Scholarships are being received. These scholarships are awarded to members of our church entering college this fall. The application deadline is noon on Friday, July 9. For more information, please contact Bob Smith at 803-316-2299.



GEAR UP FOR LEARNING



Sumter United Ministries has asked for our help with Gear Up For Learning. This is where First Presbyterian Church has volunteered, before Covid, to collect *college ruled spiral notebooks* for donation to Sumter School District.

Presbyterian Women would like to encourage you to please donate these notebooks by August 2. You may leave them in the Fellowship Hall. We will be distributing them in August. Thank you so much for helping gather these school supplies for Sumter children.

***Help us collect 1800 college ruled
Spiral notebooks!***

Dear Church Family,

This morning as I sit in front of my computer, in the stillness and quiet of the early morning hour, this verse comes to mind. "Rejoice in the Lord always, again I will say rejoice!" Philippians 4:4



The Apostle Paul wrote these words to express his gratitude and affection for the Philippian Church, his strongest supporters in ministry. This morning, I am encouraged to write these words to you, "Rejoice in the Lord always, again I will say rejoice!"

I am in awe at the wonderful ways the Lord is moving and working with us and through us, especially as we continue in a time of transition and rebuilding.

My heart leaps as I see many of you moving outside of your comfort zone, following the direction in which God is leading you. Taking steps in faith and growing in your relationship with God.

My heart rejoices for the Elders and Deacons, our Clerk of Session, our amazing church staff and the Session Committees: Engage, Faith Formation, Care & Support and Mission, along with all the ministries these Committees oversee.

- Care & Prayer
- Church Nominating Committee
- Endowments
- Finance
- FPC Preschool
- Hospitality
- Interim Pastor Search Committee
- New Members
- Personnel
- Presbyterian Women
- Property & Grounds
- Stewardship
- Worship & Music

And many, many more ministries who are continuously working and seeking God's direction to strengthen and support the ministry of First Presbyterian Church.

My heart is overflowing with gratitude and love for each of you. It is a new day. We are finding our way and the best is yet to come. Thanks be to God!

"Rejoice in the Lord always, again I will say rejoice!"
Much love,

Kelly

Please note . . .
The Church office
will be closed on
Monday, July 5.



UPCOMING EVENTS

SUNDAY, JULY 4

9:30 a.m. Summer ChoirSanctuary
 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
 10:30 a.m. WorshipSanctuary

MONDAY, JULY 5 ~ Office Closed

TUESDAY, JULY 6

9:00 a.m. Treasured Tuesdays – SC Aquarium
 4:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study Chapel

WEDNESDAY, JULY 7

8:00 a.m. Wacky Wednesdays – Lynches River St. Pk.
 5:00 p.m. Youth GroupWest Building

SUNDAY, JULY 11

9:30 a.m. Summer ChoirSanctuary
 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
 10:30 a.m. WorshipSanctuary

TUESDAY, JULY 13

10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting Chapel
 1:00 p.m. Treasured TuesdaysWest Building
 4:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study Chapel

WEDNESDAY, JULY 14

1:00 p.m. Wacky Wednesdays.....West Building
 6:00 p.m. Faith Formation Fellowship Hall



Summer Sunday school is in session! Many of the adult Sunday School classes are meeting on Sunday mornings

at 9:30 a.m. We hope you will come join us.

- The Bethany Class will meet in the McLaurin Room, First Floor of the Education Building
- Children & Youth (3K – 12th grade) will meet in the Fellowship Hall, First Floor of the Education Building
- The Discovery Class will continue meeting on the 3rd Wednesday of each month via Zoom
- The Friendship Class will meet in Room 203, Second Floor of the Education Building
- The Fraser Edmund Class will meet in the Chapel, First Floor of the Education Building
- The Harmony Class will meet in Room 210, Second Floor of the Education Building

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Kelly Hickey at khickey@fpcsumter.org.

It's not too late to join this summer's adult Bible study held each Tuesday in the Chapel from 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm. We are studying *The Nehemiah Code: It's Never Too Late for a New Beginning* by O. S. Hawkins. We hope you will come join us!



Please note we have cancelled Music and Arts Camp due to low participation; however, Treasured Tuesday and Wacky Wednesday Ministries will continue through the summer. Should you have any questions, please contact Kelly Hickey.

The Property & Grounds Committee is in the process of cleaning the kitchen and the Fellowship Hall cabinets. If you are missing a platter, casserole dish, tupperware, etc., please come by the Fellowship Hall to see if it's there.

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

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 Sumter, SC
 Permit #22

This publication was delivered to USPS on 6/29/2021.
 Please notify USPS if you don't receive it in a timely manner.

Youth group will meet on
 Wednesdays, July 7, 21 and 28
 5:00 – 6:30 p.m. in the West Building

High School Montreat
 July 11-17

July 27 ~ Middle School Fun Day
 July 29 ~ High School Fun Day
Watch the Focus for more info!



TERRIFIC TUESDAYS & WACKY WEDNESDAYS

On Tuesday, July 6 (rising 5K – 5th grade) are invited to join Ms. Kelly and friends as we travel to the South Carolina Aquarium in Charleston. The cost for each participant is \$17.50 per participant.

On Wednesday, July 7 (rising 5K – 5th grade) are going to Lynches River State Park to explore nature trails, the Environmental Discovery Center, the canopy walk, enjoy a picnic lunch and more. All participants are encouraged to bring a bag lunch. Drinks and snacks will be provided. There is no cost for this trip.

On Tuesday, July 13 & 27 (rising 5K-2nd grade) and Wednesday, July 14 & 28 (rising 3rd-5th grade) will meet at the West Building from 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm for Bible study, games, crafts and more. Please contact Kelly with any questions or to sign up.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

MUSC: Suzanna Foley

Home: Bill Scobee, Virginia Elder

Carol Reese, Serena Davell (Marie Mills' Sister),
 Beth Byce (Sibbie McFaddin's Daughter),
 Tom Tindal (John Tindal's Brother),
 Jeffery Pepper (Marta Stage's Grandson)

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



FOCUS ON FINANCES

Three Weeks Beginning June 6, 13 & 20, 2021

	Received		2021 Budgeted
	Three Weeks	YTD	YTD
Revenue			
Contributions	\$ 42,705.	\$312,220.	\$292,841.
*Other Sources	<u>\$ 67,931.</u>	<u>\$ 71,981.</u>	<u>\$ 71,985.</u>
	\$ 110,636.	\$384,201.	\$364,826.

**Includes \$67,000 from SBA PPP Loan Forgiveness 5/25/2021.*