

FOCUS



The weekly newsletter of
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Sumter, South Carolina

July 27, 2021

Sunday, August 1

Please join us as we welcome the Reverend Joel Long, FPC's Bridge Interim Pastor. There will be a meet and greet reception in the Fellowship Hall immediately following worship. We will also honor Taylor Geddings during worship as this will be his last Sunday serving as Interim Director of Youth Ministry.

Elders Assisting in Worship

Margaret Ezell, Missy Coulter

Deacons Assisting in Worship

Elyn Croft, Kathy Lyons

Children in Worship

Teacher: Beth McCord Volunteer: Virginia Hutchens

Sunday, August 8

Elders Assisting in Worship

Ann Geddings, Linda Hogan

Deacons Assisting in Worship

Suzanne Wates, Jim Alexander

Children in Worship

Teacher: Karen Ingram Volunteer: Caroline Ferguson

FROM THE REOPENING TASK FORCE

The Reopening Task Force continues to monitor the COVID numbers in our state and we are growing more concerned. We continue to encourage people to wear masks if unvaccinated. Mask will be available for anyone who feels more comfortable wearing one.

Dear Church Family,

First, I want to say thank you! Thank you for trusting me over the past few months as Acting Head of Staff. It has been an honor and huge learning experience for me. I am grateful for the opportunity and certainly look forward to handing over the reins. I also want you to know I am extremely excited the Reverend Joel Long will be joining First Presbyterian Church as the Bridge Interim Pastor. From what I have learned, Rev. Long will certainly be a gift to us.



Over the weekend I took some time to listen and reflect upon the sermons from this summer. Debby Williams was right when she said, "we have been blessed with guest preachers and speakers who have been wonderful, inspirational, spiritual men and women of God."

As I listened, I put together a summary that I would like to share with you:

First Presbyterian Church has been blessed for close to two hundred years. She continues to stand on God's promises knowing that God loves everyone dearly and can use anyone to share the Good News. As Christians, we are Christ's representatives in the world. We may be the only Bible someone will ever see. It's not about what we say but rather what we do that really matters. Our actions show that First Presbyterian Church trusts the Good Shepherd knowing it is He who leads us through every season we endure, the good and the bad.

So, how will we finish the race? How will you and First Presbyterian Church be remembered? Will it be from our commitment to keep running the race, giving our very best to God? The truth is we are the blessed people of God, and we are God's blessing to the world. May we continue to worship together, to be in spiritual fellowship with our Lord Savoir, always remembering we belong to God.

Much love,

Kelly



DON'T FORGET GEAR UP FOR LEARNING

Deadline is August 2!

*Help us collect 1800 college ruled
Spiral notebooks!*

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. **Anything not picked up by Monday, August 2, will find another home!**

UPCOMING EVENTS

SUNDAY, AUGUST 1

- 9:30 a.m. Summer Choir Sanctuary
 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
 10:30 a.m. Worship..... Sanctuary

TUESDAY, AUGUST 3

- 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting Chapel

SUNDAY, AUGUST 8

- 9:30 a.m. Summer Choir Sanctuary
 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
 10:30 a.m. Worship..... Sanctuary

TUESDAY, AUGUST 10

- 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting Parlor
 10:00 a.m. Preschool Staff Meeting..... McLaurin Room
 11:00 a.m. Music & Worship..... Parlor

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11

- 6:00 p.m. Faith Formation..... Fellowship Hall

THURSDAY, AUGUST 12

- 6:00 p.m. Preschool Parent Orientation

FRIDAY, AUGUST 13

- 9:30 a.m. Preschool Drop-In



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

IMPORTANT DATES



- Parent Orientation ~ Thursday, August 12, 6-7 p.m.
- Student Drop-In ~ Friday, August 13, 9:30 – 11:00 a.m.
- First Day of School ~ Tuesday, August 17

Please call the preschool office (803-773-9027) for additional information.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 West Calhoun Street
 Sumter, SC 29150
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This publication was delivered to USPS on 7/27/2021.
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DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY

With Taylor's departure as Interim Director of Youth Ministry August 1, 2021, FPC has put together an adhoc committee to evaluate this ministry and search for the next Director of Youth Ministry. The members of the adhoc committee includes Michael Blanding, Katherine Brogdon, Kelly Hickey, John Moorman (Chair) and Kimberly White. As this committee moves forward during this transition, the Session has approved Kelly Hickey to be Acting Director of Youth Ministry.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Home: Suzanna Foley, Bill Scobee,
 Carol Reese,
 Tom Tindal (John Tindal's Brother),



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

CONGRATULATIONS to Bronwyn and Thomas McElveen on the birth of a son, Burke Tecklenberg "Buck" McElveen, who was born July 21. Proud big sister and brother are Adelaide and Joe McElveen. Proud grandparents are Kathy and Joe McElveen.

FOCUS ON FINANCES

Two Weeks Beginning July 11 & 18, 2021

	Received		2021 Budgeted
	Three Weeks	YTD	YTD
Revenue			
Contributions	\$ 21,711.	\$348,808.	\$330,371.
*Other Sources	\$ 0.	\$ 71,947.	\$ 82,100.
	\$ 21,711.	\$422,756.	\$412,471.

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