

FOCUS



The weekly newsletter of
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Sumter, South Carolina

August 23, 2022

Sunday, August 28

Offertory Anthem: Chancel Choir will sing "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" arranged by Gilbert Martin.

Elders: Dan Spencer, Glenn Woodrum

Assisting in Worship: Dan Spencer

Deacons: Debbie Jackson, Kathy Lyons

Sunday, September 4

Offertory Anthem: Violinist Lauren Decker will play "Come, Christians, Join to Sing" arranged by Ruth Coleman.

Elders: Norma Abbott, Gus Blum

Assisting in Worship: Norma Abbott

Deacons: Matthew Berger, Gary Bratton

"I LOVE TO TELL THE STORY... OF JESUS AND HIS LOVE"

Greetings from the History Committee for the 200th Anniversary of First Presbyterian Church! In addition to many events planned by the Steering Committee to commemorate our rich history, our subcommittee is creating an oral history with members of our congregation. We would love to hear your stories about your Christian journey at First Presbyterian. Ike Jenkins has graciously agreed to do the video sessions in the sanctuary. We hope you will join the fun and share your stories!

Please contact Beth Jackson to schedule a session, or contact any of us if you have questions.

Beth Jackson: jjack@ftc-i.net
803.236.4631

Debbie Jackson: debbiejackson@gmail.com
803.775.481

Susan Hilton: sheteaches@hotmail.com
803.491.5888



CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Attention all First Presbyterian Members
who are interested in:

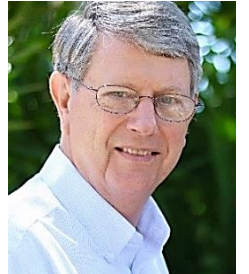
- Baking or delivering a casserole to a church member in need
- Helping transport a church member to an appointment
- Helping with small construction/repair jobs in members' homes

Please contact Missy Coulter at coultervm@aol.com or 803-983-2039. We are currently forming new committees to help church members in need of these services. No meetings will be required. Please sign up to help if interested!

From Bob's Desk . . .

Dear Friends in Christ,

This past Sunday, I ended the sermon with a poem that speaks gospel to me and to my family. In the sermon, Jesus is healing a crippled woman who has been bent over for 18 years, and with his healing touch Jesus brings a new beginning to her life. I pray for new beginnings for me and for others as we are touched by the forgiveness of God in Jesus Christ. The poem is written by Louise Fletcher and is titled "The Land of Beginning Again." Here is my favorite part:



I wish that there was some wonderful place
Called the Land of Beginning Again,
Where all our mistakes and all our heartaches
And all of our selfish grief
Could be dropped like a shabby old coat by the door
And never be put on again.

For what had been hardest we'd know had been best
And what had seemed loss would be gain
For there isn't a sting that will not take wing
When we've faced it and laughed it away,
And I think that the laughter is most
What we're after
In the Land of Beginning Again.

That wonderful place is the eternal mercy of God, and it is found in the church of Jesus Christ when we are moved by the Holy Spirit. I am praying for new beginnings for us all!

Love,

Bob

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!

COME SEE MONTREAT October 9-12

"Come See Montreat" is a trip to see the Presbyterian Conference Center near Black Mountain, North Carolina. We will travel on Sunday, have Monday and Tuesday to explore Montreat and the surrounding area, and then journey home on Wednesday. We have reserved rooms in the South Carolina Inn in Montreat, but we need to know who would like to go on this trip. **PLEASE SIGN UP NOW** so we can secure our lodging. Brochures are available and can be picked up from the tables outside the sanctuary and in front of the church office.



UPCOMING EVENTS

SUNDAY, AUGUST 28

- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
- 9:30 a.m. Chancel Choir.....Sanctuary
- 10:30 a.m. WorshipSanctuary

MONDAY, AUGUST 29

- 10:00 a.m. Council of Presbyterian WomenMcLaurin Room

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31

- 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir RehearsalChoir Room

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
- 9:30 a.m. Chancel Choir.....Sanctuary
- 10:30 a.m. WorshipSanctuary

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

Labor Day ~ Church Office Closed

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

Circles – See Full Schedule Below

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

- 5:45 p.m. Joy Ringers RehearsalSession Room
- 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir RehearsalChoir Room

Council of Presbyterian Women will meet Monday, August 29, at 10:00 a.m. in the McLaurin Room.

Circles will meet as follows:

- #1 - Tuesday, September 6, at 12:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Contact: Linda Brown
- #4 - Tuesday, September 6, at 10:30 a.m. in the McLaurin Room. Contact: Norma Abbott
- #6 - Wednesday, September 7, at 6:30 p.m. in the West Building. Contact: Ashley Blum
- #8 - Wednesday, September 7, at 3:00 p.m. at Covenant Place. Contact: Pam George



CAMP FELLOWSHIP FUN!

We are excited to announce that our Camp Fellowship camp day has been rescheduled! Mark your calendar for Saturday, September 17, for a full day of camp activities, campfire fun, and an overnight stay. We will also have an outdoor Sunday morning worship service at camp before heading home.

This trip is for two age groups: elementary ages 4-5th grade and middle school youth . . . so it's great for siblings. There will be counselor-led activities and cabins for each age group. All meals are included.

Reservations are required so we can make arrangements for transportation, food, and camp facilities. **Please let us know by August 28 if your children will be participating.** Please contact Ashley Blum at (803)847-4406 or doodlebugblum@yahoo.com with any questions!



RALLY DAY FOR
SUNDAY SCHOOL IS
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11!

- Preschool and elementary age children will meet in their regular classrooms at 9:30 a.m.
- Middle School will meet at 9:30 a.m. in the multi-purpose room (across from the Fellowship Hall).
- High School will meet on Sunday afternoons at 5:00 p.m. in the West Building – Bring your Bibles!

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

Non-Profit
US, Postage Paid
Sumter, SC
Permit #22

This publication was delivered to USPS on 8/23/2022.
Please notify USPS if you don't receive it in a timely manner.

JOIN THE FPC MUSIC
MINISTRY!

We are looking for singers, handbell ringers, pianists, and other instrumentalists to join us in leading music for our worship services. Children, teens, and adults- We have a place for all of you. Contact Joni at jonibrown@fpcsumter.org if you are interested.



Middle and High School Youth will kick off the new school year with Corn Hole and Ice Cream Sundaes at 5:00 p.m. **Sunday, September 11**, at the West Building.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

MUSC: Milo Abbott (grandson of Norma Abbott)
St. Jude: Elizabeth Williams (Daughter of Barney W. Williams)



Pocataligo River Health & Rehab (Manning): Wanda Casker

National Healthcare: Carolita Cantrell

Home: Jane Tisdale, Priscilla Dickey, John Michael Osteen, Windy Corbett, Bill Scobee, Robert Stage II (Son of Marta Stage), Jason Cranford (Joel & Ann Long's son)

CONGRATULATIONS to Stephen and Katie Stafford on the birth of twin sons, Samuel Boone Stafford and Sawyer Beau Stafford, born on August 15. Proud big brother is Jackson Stafford and proud grandparents are Steve and Sallie Stafford.

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY is extended to the family of Caroline Sigmon, who died August 22, 2022.

FOCUS ON FINANCES
Two Weeks Beginning August 7 & 14, 2022

	Received		2022 Budgeted
	Two Weeks	YTD	YTD
Revenue			
*Contributions	\$ 21,848.	\$ 488,798.	\$ 413,675.
Other Sources	\$ 7.	\$ 25,595.	\$ 91,320.
	\$ 21,855.	\$ 514,393.	\$ 504,995.