

FOCUS

The weekly newsletter of
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Sumter, South Carolina



August 9, 2022



FROM BOB'S DESK . . .

Dear Friends in Christ,

The back of the bulletin this past Sunday told us that First Presbyterian Church is being called to gather after a busy summer of travels and vacations and to gear up for the ministry that lies before us. This coming Sunday, August 14, we are looking forward to a covered-dish congregational luncheon as the church provides chicken and drinks, and we are invited to bring side dishes and desserts. Then we will hear summer stories of mission trips and conferences that have strengthened our faith. I hope that you will come this Sunday and enjoy the good food with your friends.

I wish that everyone could see the mountain of over 2,900 spiral notebooks that our church has donated to those in need of them through Sumter United Ministries. It is amazing! Many of you brought the school supplies to the Fellowship Hall. Sallie Stafford and I have enjoyed purchasing notebooks with the money you donated. She was travelling to Florida this past weekend, and I was heading to western North Carolina, so we stopped at stores along the way and bought cases of the notebooks. We texted each other as to our progress along the way. Thank you for your generosity that made it all possible. First Presbyterian Church comes through again.

We thank God for all the activity at our church. Elders and deacons are being trained for leadership, a dedicated group is meeting to plan our 200th anniversary celebration that happens in 2023, and folks are being invited to return to Sunday School, youth groups, and children's ministry for the new year. Please know that you are welcome here.

And don't forget the Montreat trip that happens October 9-12. Just call the church office to get on the list. We are reserving rooms now for a very reasonable price at the South Carolina Inn. Meals and shopping will be out of pocket. A small brochure with other information is being printed. We are planning on a good time in the mountains together.

Love,
Bob

Sunday, August 14

BLESSING OF THE EDUCATORS

We will have a special blessing of educators during worship. All teachers, administrators and school staff for public and private schools are invited to attend.

Offertory Anthem: Soprano Bella Land will sing "Down to the River to Pray."

Elders: Gus Blum, Norma Abbott

Assisting in Worship: Gus Blum

Deacons: Jim Alexander, Suzanne Wates

COVERED DISH LUNCH

Join us in the Fellowship Hall immediately following worship for a covered dish lunch (chicken and drinks will be provided). We will hear stories from those who have traveled on mission trips and to conferences over the summer.

Sunday, August 21

The sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be observed..

The Chancel Choir will sing "A Jubilant Song" by Mary Lynn Lightfoot

Elders: Ann Geddings, Linda Hogan

Assisting in Worship: Ann Geddings

Deacons: Gary Bratton, Virginia Hutchens

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.



UPCOMING EVENTS

SUNDAY, AUGUST 14

- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
 9:50 a.m. Chancel Choir.....Sanctuary
 10:30 a.m. WorshipSanctuary
 11:30 a.m. Covered Dish Luncheon..... Fellowship Hall

MONDAY, AUGUST 15

First Day of FPC Preschool/Kindergarten

- 5:00 p.m. Officer Training..... Fellowship Hall
 6:00 p.m. Coordinating CouncilParlor

TUESDAY, AUGUST 16

- 6:00 p.m. Anniversary Committee..... Fellowship Hall

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17

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

SUNDAY, AUGUST 21

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

MONDAY, AUGUST 22

- 6:00 p.m. Session Meeting McLaurin Room

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24

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

THURSDAY, AUGUST 25

- 5:00 p.m. Officer Training..... Fellowship Hall

CAMP FELLOWSHIP TRIP

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!

FROM FPC PRESCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN

Parent Orientation will be held Thursday, August 11, from 6:00-7:00 p.m. in each classroom.

Student drop in will be Friday, August 12, from 10:00-11:00 a.m. The first day of school for the 2022-2023 school year is Tuesday, August 16.

GEAR UP FOR LEARNING UPDATE

We are excited to announce that we exceeded our goal – a total of over 2900 notebooks were collected! A special thank you to all who contributed!!! Job well done!

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 West Calhoun Street
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 Please notify USPS if you don't receive it in a timely manner.

200TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION 1823 ~ 2023

Exciting plans are being made to commemorate and celebrate the past 200 years of First Presbyterian Church!

Please consider volunteering your time and talents to help with our celebration in the areas of Music, Drama, History, Children and Youth Activities, Publicity, Media, Fund Raising, Commemorative Item and others.

To learn more and become involved, we hope to see you at the next meeting on August 16 from 6-7 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Your valuable participation will be very much appreciated.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

St. Jude: Elizabeth Williams
 (Daughter of Barney W. Williams)

Tuomey Rehab: Wanda Casker

National Healthcare: Carolita Cantrell

Home: Priscilla Dickey, John Michael Osteen,
 Windy Corbett, Caroline Sigmon, Bill Scobee,
 Robert Stage II (Son of Marta Stage)



FOCUS ON FINANCES

Two Weeks Beginning July 24 and 31, 2022

	Received		2022 Budgeted
	Two Weeks	YTD	YTD
Revenue			
*Contributions	\$ 20,316.	\$ 466,949.	\$ 388,280.
Other Sources	\$ 19,347.	\$ 25,589.	\$ 73,643.
	\$ 39,663.	\$ 492,538.	\$ 461,923.

