



The Spire

First Presbyterian Church

August 2020

Greenwood, SC

A Message From Our Pastor....

Home Alone

The Christmas story of an 8-year-old left home alone is irresistibly cute and funny. Through the antics of a creative little boy and two mischievous thieves, the audience is sure to chuckle and smile. Additionally, a heartwarming story of a lonely neighbor shows us that being “home alone” is sometimes a struggle. In their July meeting, the Session discussed the importance of reaching out to our members who are isolated and lonely during this pandemic. Some people are able to take quick trips to the store for necessities. But there are many people who are vulnerable and cannot run the risk of going out. In nursing homes and retirement communities, many people are forced to stay in their room and have all of their food and necessities delivered. This story of being left “home alone” is not so fun.

Genesis 2:18 tells us that we were created to be together. God said, *“It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him.”* We know that next God created woman as Adam’s “helper.” On a larger scale, God created each of us as “a helper.” It is not good that anyone should feel alone. God is definitely by our side, as reflected in Isaiah 41:10, *“Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.”* But God also calls us to do the same. We can show God’s love when others feel alone and abandoned. We can be the presence of God in the lives of others.

During this time of isolation and quarantine, I encourage everyone to make a special effort to reach out to people who may be “home alone.” Be that voice of assurance and hope. You would be amazed at the power of a quick phone call, a note by email, text, or mail. It may also surprise you how it will fill your tank as well.

If you know of anyone who needs special attention from the church, please let us know.

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kx' or similar initials.

Pastor Kyle

CHURCH NEWS

RECENT HOSPITALIZATIONS:

(Home unless noted)
Erwin Abell -- GRRH
Roger Robinette -- St. Francis
George Brockenbrough
David Berry

Our Christian prayers and sympathies are extended to Thomas Jones and his family upon the passing of his mother, Norma Jones of Chattanooga, TN on July 15, 2020; and to the family of Diana Rhodes upon her passing on July 18, 2020. We share with them the joy of the promise of resurrection and eternal life.



Congratulations to Melvyn & Glenda Davis on the birth of their great-grandson, Max Alexander Pilgrim, born July 7th. Parents are Taylor & Sydney Pilgrim of Simpsonville.

SESSION UPDATE

Below are some of the highlights from the July stated meeting of the Session:

1. Approved wedding of Rebecca Bell and Jeff Sieckman.
2. Approved the ordination of Gordon Tubbs on August 16, 2020.
3. Mission Committee reported an upcoming project. See more information under "Service Project for All Ages!"
4. Endowment reported approval of new high definition sanctuary cameras.
5. Noah's Ark reported they will open their school year on September 8th.
6. Approved Palmetto Girls Sing proposal to begin their 2020-2021 season.



BLUE PRESBYTERIAN HYMNAL

Be on the look-out for the blue Presbyterian Hymnal from our sanctuary. If you dedicated a hymnal and would like to have it, please stop by the church and pick it up. We also have hymnals that have been dedicated but not claimed and these are available for anyone who would like them. Any hymnals left over will be given to a church or community group in need.



Presbyterian Women News



Wow, where has the summer gone? Hopefully, it will soon be safe enough to start school and our circle meetings.

Our study this year will be titled, *Into the Light, Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament*. The cost of the book is \$11.00. Elise Collins will coordinate recording PW lessons for the fall and spring. Let her know if you would like to present one.

If you are interested in joining or visiting one of our circles, please call the church, (229-5814) or Moderator, Donna Feldmaier (377-5346), for more information.

Women's Sunday date is to be determined. It will be a very busy service. The Rev. Caroline Vinson Dennis from Westminster will be our speaker. The PW Honorary Life Membership will be announced. Birthday and Thank offerings will be collected. The following officers will be installed:

- Moderator – Donna Feldmaier
- Historian – Ann Hare
- Search Committee – Janice Elliott and Marilyn Towne
- Circle 2 – Elise Collins and Amy Fennell
- Circle 3 – Sharon Smoke
- Circle 4 – Lisa Yarbrough
- Circle 5 – Samar Din
- Circle 8 – Scottie Jefferies

See you in church soon,
Donna Feldmaier, Moderator

Coordinating Team

The PW Coordinating Team will meet in Alexander Hall on Monday, August 24. Our meeting will begin at 10:00 am and we will be social distancing. Do not forget your masks.

USED PW CIRCLE BOOKS

Please remember to drop off your used PW Circle Books to the front office. These gently used books are donated to New Faith Presbyterian Church for their ladies to study and enjoy.

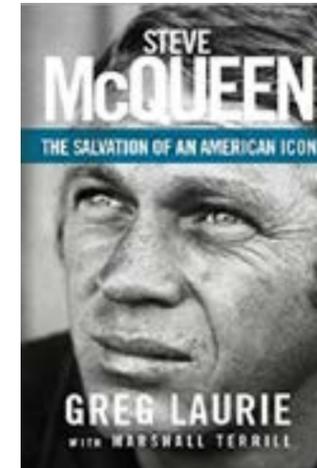
FPC Family Ministry



Camp Fellowship Camp-in-a-Box Highlights

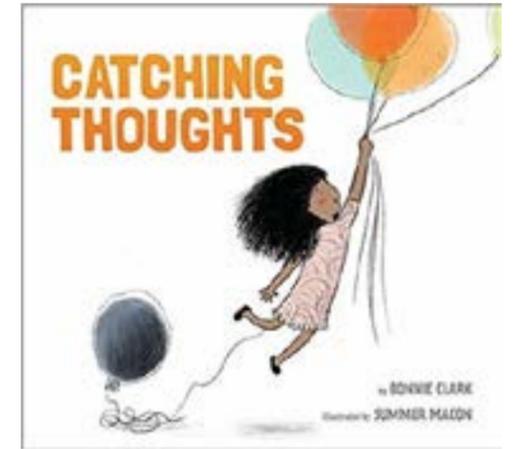


What's new in the library?



Come check me out!!!

New Parent Resource



How to acknowledge and replace unwanted thoughts.

FPC University

Physical Distancing Appropriate Faith Opportunities

Wednesdays:

6:00 – WNF Men's Bible Study (Contact David Gardner)

Sundays:

10:00 – Fun With Hymns with Steve Skinner

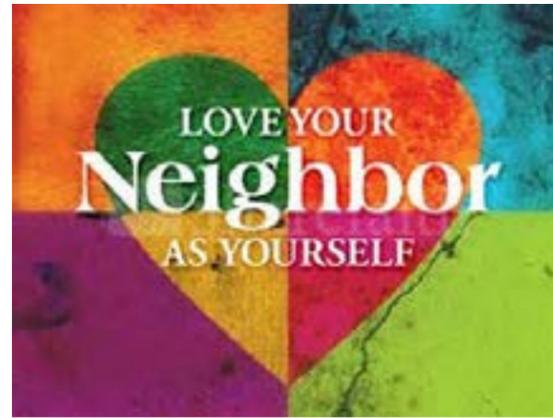
10:00 – Sunday School for Children with Elise Collins (Zoom recording on FB)

Also, check out Facebook for funnies, lessons, book readings, show and tell, church highlights, and more!



Koinonia means...Christian fellowship or communion, with God or, more commonly, with fellow Christians.

Even in times of physical distancing, we can still reach out and check in with each other. How are your neighbors?



Service Project for All Ages!

Join us in packaging kits for school children at Woodfields, Lakeview, and in Pakistan.

Drop by anytime during the window below for a one-way assembly line.
Enter via the Noah's Ark covered entrance.
Hand sanitizer provided. Masks encouraged.

August 5th 4:00 – 8:00 p. m.
August 6th 10:00 a. m. – 12:00 p. m.

(Items generously funded by our Endowment – thank you!)



Teen Circle (Circle 2)

What's your favorite Bible story and why?
With which Bible character do you most identify with and why?
Ask your mom and/or grandmother for their answers.

Back-to-School Prayer Walk



Bedrooms: Lord God, help us to wake up thinking of you and feeling refreshed and ready for each new day. At night, Lord, help us to give any worries over to you. We pray that we would sleep well and have good dreams each night. Help us to remember to talk with you each day and to pray for things like . . .
Amen.

Bathroom: Lord God, when we get ready for our day, help us to think of you. When we look in the mirror, help us remember that you made us just the way we are. Help us to feel thankful, Lord. And help us remember that you made others just the way they are, too. Remind us to pray for them, too, like . . .
Amen.



Kitchen: Lord God, thank you for yummy and healthy food, and for the time we spend together here as a family. Help us to be excited to do our part in this family. Help us not to be in too much of a hurry to enjoy our times together and to give you thanks for things and people like . . .
Amen.



Wherever you do homework/schoolwork: Lord God, please bless this space where we work. Help us to have clear minds and focus for the work we will get to do here. Make us excited to learn, and eager to work hard, so we can play hard afterward like . . .
Amen.



Doorway: Lord God, we pray that when we leave through this door, that all the love we feel inside this home and from you will surround us all day long wherever we may be like . . .
Amen.

Car: Lord God, we pray that when we travel in this car, that you would keep us safe. When we look out the windows, Lord, help us to see the wonderful things you've made like . . .
Amen.



Driveway: Lord God, as we all go our separate ways for the day, watch over each one of us. May we feel your love and share your love. Help us SHINE like . . .
Amen.

YOUTH NEWS



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO...
Blair McClendon (16th)
Maddox Lee (30th) and
Amelia Scott (30th)!



Favorite summer highlights:

My favorite thing to do in the summer is hanging out with my friends whether at the pool or playing video games. I also enjoy going to the beach with my family, playing travel baseball with the Emeralds and working out for Eagles baseball.

- Bennett Erickson

My grandparents have a house at the lake, and I love to spend time with my family out there!!

- Laura Margaret Fennell

Favorite thing to do in the summer: My favorite things to do in the summer includes going to the pool, the beach, and visiting friends and family.

- Henry Logan

Work and build relationships with friends and family.

- Mykal Hite

Confirmation 2020

Bennett Erickson, Laura Margaret Fennell, Thomas Goff,
Lauren Griggs, Mykal Hite, Henry Logan,
and Freddie McClendon

Noah's Ark News

Noah's Ark Staff, Director, Board of Directors and First Presbyterian Church are currently working on plans to reopen Noah's Ark Preschool on a five day a week schedule this fall.

Please be praying as we work together to navigate this unprecedented time and welcome our families back.

Noah's Ark Substitutes

Noah's Ark Preschool is looking for substitutes for our program. If you are willing to spend a few hours loving on our precious children, we would love to have you join us! Please contact Kim Masters 229-0902 or noahsark@firstgreenwood.com to complete the necessary forms.

GENERAL CHURCH INFORMATION



BIG CALENDAR

When you have your dates planned for the fall and are ready for them to go on the big calendar, please email them to office@firstgreenwood.com. Please include any dates when you will not be meeting (holidays, etc.). This includes (but not limited to) team meetings, committees, Bible studies, and small groups. If you have any questions, contact Lea Jones at 864-229-5814. **PLEASE DO NOT ASSUME THAT WE KNOW WHEN AND WHERE YOU WILL MEET.**

STAFF E-MAIL ADDRESSES

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CHURCH INFORMATION

First Presbyterian Church
Mailing address: P. O. Box 426
Greenwood, SC 29648

Physical Address: 108 East Cambridge Ave.
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www.firstgreenwood.com

Not able to attend Sunday mornings?

You can look at the bulletin and listen to the sermon online.

Just go to www.firstgreenwood.com.

Another option is to call the church office and request you be added to the list to receive a CD and/or bulletin in the mail.

Do you receive Kyle's Pastor update each week by email?

If not, call the church office (229-5814) or send us an email to office@firstgreenwood.com.



STEPHEN MOMENT...

August 2020

"If you love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray to the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever; Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. I will not leave you comfortless; I will come to you." John 14: 15-18

One of the greatest gifts that God has given us is the Holy Spirit. What does the Bible say? In Romans 8, many references are made about the Spirit. In verses 26-28, we are told that the Spirit will help us to find out where to direct our prayers and "he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God." Verse 28 is the most encouraging. It says: "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to his purpose." I pray that we will be open to hear and feel the Holy Spirit as we journey in this life.

Let us pray in a different way this month by using a poem by Mable A. Lybyer. It is titled: *Just For Today*.

Dear Lord, "I pray for heartsease, release from pain;
I pray for strength, Lord, to live again.
I pray for courage to fight my fight.
Oh, give me wisdom to choose the right.
I have no heart, Lord, to go my way,
Oh, give me courage just for today.
Oh, give me strength, Lord, to bear the pain;
To see the sunshine beyond the rain.
Oh, give me faith, Lord, teach me to say,
"This life I'll live, Lord, just for today." Amen

Sandra Cobb, Stephen Minister/Leader
"Christ Caring for People Through People."

If you are burdened and would like someone to share the load, please ask for a Stephen Minister. Contact Brad Christie (nbc@erskine.edu) or Kyle Hite (kyle@firstgreenwood.com) at the church. ALL Stephen Ministry is conducted in strictest **confidentiality**.

notes

Chancel Choir Ministry of First Presbyterian Church "Where tradition comes alive"

Plan for launching the 2020-2021 Choir—September 9, 2021 (subject to Session approval)

Chancel Choir Ministry

- Supports the congregation's song
- Serves the Worship liturgies (leading in Responses, Introits, Offertories, etc.)
- Functions as a discipleship group

We rehearse weekly to prepare for music leadership roles. To observe social distancing guidelines, rehearsals will be held in the Sanctuary Choir Loft, and choir participation will be limited to 20, plus substitutes.

Our goal is to have a full choir team every Sunday.

Choir rehearsal adapted for safe distance standards.

- Rehearsal option 1¹ Wednesdays 6-7:15²
- Rehearsal option 2 Wednesdays 7²-8:15

¹concurrent with Wednesday evening CE programming

²the overlap of 7-7:15 is for the entire choir to rehearse the coming Sunday's music.

Qualified substitutes may fill in for a regular choir member in cases of absence or illness. They need only to attend the Wednesday 15 minute rehearsal 7-7:15.





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Parish Associate

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Director of Christian Education

Mrs. Elise Collins

Director of Music Ministries

Mr. Steve Skinner

Teaching Pastor and Organist

The Rev. Bob Glick

Director of Youth Ministries

Mr. Gordon Tubbs

Administrative Secretary

Ms. Lea Jones

Financial Administrator

Ms. Nan Smith

Building Superintendent

Mr. Allen Mitchell

Sexton

Mr. Vince Plotczyk

Noah's Ark Director

Ms. Kim Masters

Church Treasurer

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Clerk of Session

Ms. Beth Meyer

Moderator of Deacons

Mr. Bob Bowers

Moderator of Presbyterian Women

Ms. Donna Feldmaier

Chair of Endowment

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