

The PRESSbyterian

www.1stpresbyterian.org

January 2018

FROM THE PASTOR

"Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth."

• Psalm 96: 1

Happy New Year in the name of Jesus Christ.

I pray that this first edition of our church newsletter finds you well and resting in God's great promise that His plans are for our good. I pray that the Lord will help each of us not be convinced by what the world tells us we should be doing, but rather begin this year, as a church, on our knees seeking God's Will for our future. I sense the continued presence of the Holy Spirit among us, and wish to begin this year thanking God for our loving, giving, supportive and blessed community of faith.

As we think on such blessings, I would also like to welcome those who have recently joined with us in membership here at our church. Please join me in a warm First Presbyterian Church welcome to: Shelby and Delle Bolen; Jason, Laura, Jacob and Sarah Beth Fogle; Ozzie and Elsie Fogle; Melissa Camp; Mrs. Caroline, Madelyn, Anna Caroline and Grayson Smith; and Carol, Chloe and Caleb Bess. What a wonderful group of new members. Blessings upon all of you, and we look forward with great anticipation to see what our Lord will accomplish through all of us. Praise to the One who sees fit to love us, and bless us in such amazing ways.

I sense the continued presence of the Holy Spirit among us, and wish to begin this year thanking God for our loving, giving, supportive and blessed community of faith.

For a number of others who have expressed interest in joining our church, I will be hosting an inquirers luncheon on January 21st from 12:15 pm – 1:00pm in our Centre. If you are interested in learning more about our church and would like to join me for lunch please contact the office and make a reservation.

Here at FPC Orangeburg, 2018 promises to be filled with opportunities for us to engage in ministry and service to our community. I pray we will join together in this grand adventure as we seek to be God's light amid the darkness, as we strive to help others help themselves and as we serve Jesus with the energy, intelligence, imagination and gifts He graciously gives to us. As we begin a new year, I pray our lives will be a *new melody* heard in heaven and in all the earth.

Happy New Year!
Grace, Mercy and Peace,

-Pastor Darren



THE TAYLOR FESTIVAL CHOIR

Presents a program of American Music

Saturday night, January 27, 2018
7:30 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church

Tickets - \$15.00 each
\$20.00 at the door

Tickets available from Sylvia
or the church office.

JANUARY CIRCLE MEETINGS

- Circle 1:** Wednesday, January 10 8:15 a.m.
Youth House
- Circles 2 & 4:** Tuesday, January 9 10:30 a.m.
Conference Room
- Circle 3:** Tuesday, January 9 6:00 p.m.
Marcia Wood
125 Wells Grove Lane

LUNCH WITH THE PASTOR

AT *THE OAKS*

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3 ♦ 11:30 A.M.

THE OAKS DINING ROOM



To minimize the disruption of residents and guests and insure adequate seating arrangements, reservations must be confirmed by noon on Tuesday, January 2. Call Norma Shaffer (516-6135) if you wish to come. Tickets may be purchased at the Reception Desk in Woodard Commons.

DIRECTORIES ARE HERE!

If you have not picked up your church pictorial directory from the Parlor, please do so very soon. Be certain to pick up the one labeled with your name on the back of the book. Remember that the company only provides a directory for those who sat for a photo or submitted a picture.

CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES 2018

Contribution envelopes for use beginning in January are available for pickup in the Parlor. Please be certain to pick up the correct box, as they are labelled and numbered. Use of these envelopes is crucial in our record keeping process and greatly appreciated.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

was administered to

Grayson Elizabeth Smith

daughter of

Mr. and Mrs. Darren (Caroline) Smith

December 10, 2017

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

LIVING FAITHFULLY
BELIEVING

SERVING BOLDLY
DOING

CELEBRATING GOD'S LOVE

We talk about ADVENT as a journey and have experienced this journey thru Advent 2017 and celebrated Christmas thru Epiphany. Now that we have moved into ordinary time in the Liturgical calendar, what do we do while waiting for Lent? Do we just wait or continue preparation, this time for the second coming of Christ? Lent helps us recognize Jesus' journey to the cross and His great loving sacrifice for us. After the resurrection, we know Jesus spent 40 days witnessing and preparing others before He went home to prepare a place for us.

Do we continue to prepare ourselves to study and listen for God's guidance? Do we continue striving to have a deeper relationship with God? Do we pay attention to what the one, John the Baptist, who came to prepare the way for Jesus, did? He quickly made it plain that his purpose was to prepare the way by making the path straight. (John 1:19-23) To make a path straight can mean to clear the way and but also to provide. How do we do that today? Do we make a path for others to follow along with ourselves? Sometimes as John did, we need to get out of the way in order for Jesus to be present.

What is our role in this journey and the journey of those around us as we all strive to know Jesus better? Sometimes it is pointing others to God and sometimes it is getting out of God's way. Is there anything you need to clear out of the way to make room for God or to prepare the way for others?

Prayer: God, we ask for your guidance to follow You bravely and joyfully wherever You lead to make Your Presence known to others. Prepare our hearts for this journey. Help us know when to prepare and when to get out of Your way. Amen.

Serving together,
Kaye
Christian Education Coordinator

2017 THANKSGIVING BOX OUTREACH A SUCCESS!

A big Thank You! from the Evangelism Committee for your prayers, contributions and support for our Thanksgiving Box Ministry. This year we were able to distribute 117 boxes to help folks in our area enjoy a Happy Thanksgiving. Thanks also to all who helped with the delivery of the boxes. Our youth were heavily involved as well as many adults. May God continue to bless each of us. Thanks be to God.

Gerald and Elise Myers
Thanksgiving Box Team

Note from a Thanksgiving Box recipient:

To the members of the First Presbyterian Church: [We] would like to thank you for the large gift box. Linda from Pruett Hospice was so nice to put our names on your gift list. We know God will bless you all for showing your kindness to someone you do not know. I know we will enjoy each gift in the box. Thank you once again.

REGULAR SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES



will resume on
Sunday, January 7, 2018.

UNITED IN MARRIAGE

Amanda Jill Davis

and

David Adam Waters

December 9, 2017

OUR FATHER'S CLOSET

The Ladies of Circle One thank you for your care and diligence in collecting and donating coats and jackets to Our



Father's Closet. When our stock for this year was short, this church family came through by telling others and collecting from your personal contacts and groups. We see Jesus' hands in this ministry touching more people through both the generous giving and grateful receiving of warm coats.

Through the willing help of Bruner's Dry Cleaning and generous people like you, this community outreach has distributed over 3000 coats through 25 community schools, agencies, and charities in the last 14 years. In collecting, cleaning and delivering coats, our ministry hopes that fewer people will experience the physical chill of winter. Moreover, through the kindness of all who make this ministry possible, Our Father's Closet sends a warm message of Jesus' love and the caring spirit of those who follow Him.

Remember: It's still cold and we still need Boys and Girls coats and jackets sizes 5/6 thru 16/18 and XX-Large coats! Circle #1 takes your coat donations all year round! No need to wash or clean. We take care of that!

Note of thanks from the Director of District 5 Office of Federal Programs and Student Services:

Please accept this small note of appreciation from our office and Orangeburg Consolidated School District Five for the beautiful sweaters, coats and jackets for our students as the weather turns cold. In our crazy world, it is especially great to know there are still people who care about other people. May God bless each of you and your ministry.

With warm regards,
Patricia Goldsmith

MEMORIALS

IN MEMORY OF

Mr. Max Runager

Mrs. Marianne Bundy

Dr. Hal Trimmier

Mrs. Eva Baroody

GIVEN BY

Mr. and Mrs. John Brailsford, Jr.

Dr. and Mrs. Lawton Salley

Mr. and Mrs. Dwight Frierson

Mr. and Mrs. John Worley, Jr.

Dr. and Mrs. Steven Patterson

Circle 1

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Bradley, Jr.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Mrs. Carol Bess

Caleb Bess

Chloe Bess

3091 Bragg Blvd., 29118

Mr. and Mrs. Shelby (Delle) Bolen

234 Hampton Dr., 29118

536-1944

Ms. Melissa Camp

775 Stanley Street, 29115

Mr. and Mrs. Jason (Laura) Fogle

Jacob and Sarah Beth

6652 Neeses Hwy., Neeses, 29107

247-3740

Mr. and Mrs. Ozzie (Elsie) Fogle

1073 Zion Church Road, 29115

Mrs. Caroline Smith

Grayson, Madeline, and Caroline

3037 Jackson Drive, 29118

NOTES OF THANKS

- Dear Church Family,

We felt your prayers during Marianne's illness and they comforted us. You have made us more aware of how blessed we are to be members of 1st Pres. Your cards, calls, texts, flowers, and food were greatly appreciated and we thank you for them and all the ways you have shown His love for us through your love for us.

Love,
Susan and Jimmy Smoak

- To First Presbyterian Church Family,

Words could never explain how much I appreciate your prayers and acts of kindness during those difficult times. May God bless you all.

Thank you,
Harry Lewis

COMMUNITY NOTES OF THANKS

We have received many expressions of thanks from the community and local and foreign ministries for our contributions throughout the year, and especially around the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons. Some of these organizations are Council on Aging, Catch the Vision, Into the Mouths of Babies/The Filling Station, St. Joseph Family/Hearts with Haiti, Child Evangelism Fellowship, The Outreach Foundation, and CCMO (Cooperative Church Ministries of Orangeburg).

PRAYER ROOM

Our prayer room in the Centre is open from 9:00 to 5:00 on Monday thru Thursday; and on Friday you can get a key. It is a quiet place where you can pray, meditate and just be silent. There are prayer stations if you choose.



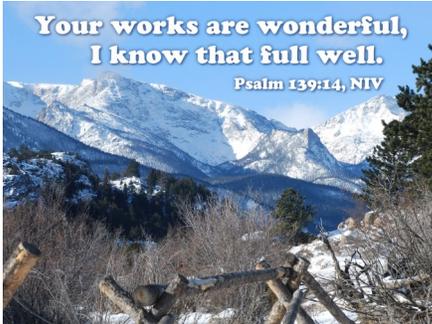
I heard a story about a minister who would go into a closet, turn off all the lights so there would be no distractions and sit and "Listen for God." He talked about the battle to clear his mind "to hear" which is an active process and said some days were easier than others. I tried this in our prayer room and invite you to try it also but bring a flash light for when you leave. Let's all make a practice of praying and listening for God.

Listen & Silent
are spelled with
the same letters.
Think about it.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

1/1 Sarah Francis Coggins	1/15 Campbell Bowers
1/3 Kaye Borgstedt	1/18 Bill Covington
Lawrence Thackston	1/19 Jane Shuler
1/4 Tamra Campbell	1/21 Marion Moore
Paige Hewitt	Amy Delaney
1/6 Chance Boltin	1/26 Dawes Edwards
1/7 Keith Hewitt	1/27 Gaye Lanier
1/9 McCullough Mims	1/28 Carol McCall
1/11 Frank Tourville, Jr.	1/29 Rita Hutto
Melissa Plummer	1/30 Blake Bruner
Katie Weigle	Reagan Ridley
1/12 Jewell Davis	1/31 Buddy Barnwell
1/14 Cheryl Smith	
Beth Kuck	
Jennifer Turner	
Adison Walter	
Ava Cuttino	

First Presbyterian Church
650 Summers Avenue
Orangeburg, SC 29115
Return Service Requested



January 2018



GROWING THROUGH FELLOWSHIP

**Growing Through Fellowship will resume
on Wednesday, January 3, 2018.**