

The PRESSbyterian

www.1stpresbyterian.org

April 2018

FROM THE PASTOR

“We are blessed in so many ways...” One of you asked me the other day how things are going and this was my response. I truly mean it. Sure there are challenges, struggles and difficulties, but when I look around our world, most of what I deal with are problems related to 1st world living. I, like many of you, know where I can find food and water today. I even have shelter and clothing. However, there is something common to all humans whether we live in the first world or the third world. No matter the continent we live on, our primary challenge in life is our spiritual poverty. Yet God has taken care of this as well. God is gracious and merciful.

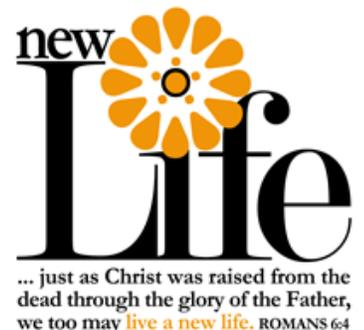
The following sums up the reasons that I can say to others - even amid challenge and daily strife - “We are blessed in so many ways...”

We hold so close to our hearts
The cross where Jesus died,
But so much more than the blood-stained cross
Is that Jesus came back to life
The stone's been rolled away;
The tomb lay open and bare —
They looked for Him, and then the angel said
That He is no longer here
Oh what joy they must have felt
To see Him just once more,
To eat with Him, to drink with Him,
To receive Him back as Lord
So much did He accomplish
Through His death upon the cross
And in His rising from the dead,
He reconciled us back to God
Nothing else could bridge the gap
That sin had wrenched apart —
Now we can freely go to God
And receive Christ in our hearts.

- By M. S. Lowndes

I hope you sense God's blessings amid the challenges of life. I pray that each of us can share a smile, lend a hand and even on a “bad day” sense the Holy Spirit in our lives. I guess what I'm saying is: in a dark world filled with hatred and injustice we might try and live as Easter People, as we are blessed in so many ways.

Shalom,
Pastor Darren



HOLY WEEK



- March 29** **MAUNDY THURSDAY** 7:00 p.m.
Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
- March 30** **GOOD FRIDAY** 12:00 p.m.
Devotional Service
- April 1** **EASTER SUNDAY** 11:00 a.m.
Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

MONTREAT FUNDRAISING LUNCHEON

APRIL 15, 2018

Following the worship service on Sunday, April 15th, a luncheon will be held to benefit the 14 children and youth attending the annual Montreat Worship and Music Conference. Shawn and Lisa Boltin will prepare chicken perlo and green beans. Dessert will also be provided. Everyone is invited to come and bring friends. The suggested donation for meals is \$8.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children ages 12 and under. Any additional donations are appreciated. Leftover perlo will be sold for \$20 per gallon. All proceeds help offset the considerable expense of the music conference, which will be held June 17-23.

Sylvia Trimmier

EASTER FLOWER CROSS

The children of our congregation will be decorating a flower cross during the Sunday School hour on Easter Sunday. Church members who want to contribute are asked to bring cut flowers to the Parlor before Sunday School. Teachers will bring Pre-school students at 9:50, Elementary at 10:00, and Youth at 10:10. Families are invited to take group pictures with the Easter cross after the service.



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

The annual PCUSA One Great Hour of Sharing offering will be received on Easter Sunday, April 1. This offering supports ministries of disaster response, refugee assistance and resettlement, and community development that help people find safe refuge, start new lives and work together to strengthen their families and communities.

Primetimers

On Tuesday, April 17, we will visit the Calhoun County Museum in St. Matthews. Our church bus will leave the church parking lot at 10:30 a.m. We will tour part of the museum, have lunch at the museum and then complete the tour. Cost is whatever you want to donate. Mark your calendars now.

APRIL CIRCLE MEETINGS

- Circle 1:** Wednesday, April 11 8:15 a.m.
Youth House
- Circles 2 & 4:** Tuesday, April 10 10:30 a.m.
Conference Room
- Circle 3:** Monday, April 9 6:00 p.m.
Elsie Fogle
1073 Zion Church Road
-

LUNCH WITH THE PASTOR

AT *THE OAKS*

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11 ♦ 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, April 10. Call Norma Shaffer (516-6135) if you wish to come. Tickets may be purchased at the Reception Desk in Woodard Commons.

PRESCHOOL NURSERY SCHEDULE

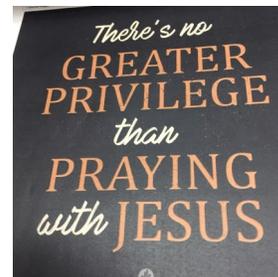
- | | |
|----------|------------|
| April 1 | Richardson |
| April 8 | Sterling |
| April 15 | Crabb |
| April 22 | Dickson |
| April 29 | K. Smith |

CHILDREN'S CHURCH SCHEDULE

- | | |
|----------|-------------|
| April 1 | Dangerfield |
| April 8 | Fogle |
| April 15 | Nexsen |
| April 22 | Albergotti |
| April 29 | Burroughs |

PRAY-ERS NEEDED

In addition to the prayer teams, we have two groups who meet at the church to pray and we are looking for more members.



1. The Intercessors meet on Thursdays at 11:15 in the Centre conference room to pray and send prayer notes to those for whom we prayed.
2. A group meets at 12:30 on Thursdays in the prayer room in the Centre to pray for our church, the church universal, our community and special requests. PLEASE prayerfully consider joining one or both of these groups.

If neither of the times for these groups works for you, we can certainly form groups at other times.

CONTACT: Kaye Borgstedt, 707-2225

LIBRARY NEWS

We have some new books in the library for children and youth. Check them out:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| The Donkey That No One Could Ride | DeStefano |
| The First Easter Ever | Jones |
| Ready, Set, Find EASTER | Zonderkidz |
| The Donkey Who Carried A KING | Sproul |



GROWING THROUGH FELLOWSHIP

Wednesdays

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| Supper: | 6:00 p.m. |
| Program: | 6:30 p.m. |

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

LIVING FAITHFULLY
BELIEVING

SERVING BOLDLY
DOING

CELEBRATING GOD'S LOVE

Look at the picture below. What is the first thing you see?



Now look at this different angle. What is the first thing you notice?



These pictures remind me of the Easter story. In the first, the dead bloom is not as prominent as in the second. On Good Friday, the crucifixion, represented by the dead bloom, is paramount. However, in the second picture, the living blooms and light of the sun shine brightly, overshadowing the dead. The Light

even makes a "cross" behind the plant. While never forgetting the sacrificial love of Jesus dying on the cross, the resurrection is what underlines our faith and trust for our salvation and eternal life. Jesus said, "I am the Light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life." John 8:12 and "In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men," John 1:4

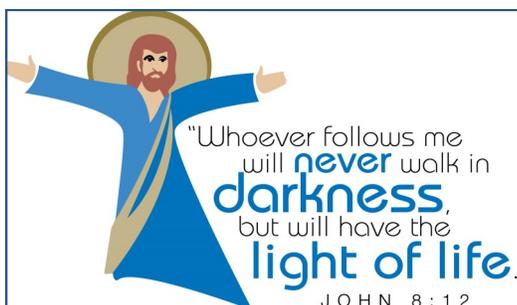
"He died for us so that....we may live together with Him. Therefore encourage one another and build each other up...." 1 Thessalonians 5: 10-11 Now, before you go about being the kingdom of God here on earth:

"Take a deep breath, let it out slowly
Do it once again
Close your eyes and slowly count to five
Take another deep breath and be reminded
of God's presence in your life and

PRAY: Encouraging God, help me encourage and build up others. Help me not criticize others but offer compassion and hope. Amen.

And go into your day with confidence, knowing that God has promised to be with you always, even when His timing is not your timing. Remember God's love for you as you remember your love for Him. Never ever, ever forget, "You cannot go where God is not. He keeps His promise of always being with you."

Kaye Borgstedt
Christian Education Coordinator



NOTE OF THANKS

Dear fellow members of FPC,

A simple thank you is not enough to express our gratitude to all of you who made Arnie's memorial service so meaningful and special. The food, flowers and special music, your time, talents and concern for our family all came together in a beautiful celebration of Arnie's life. Our family was so touched and grateful for your outpouring of love.

What a blessing to be part of a church family who so willingly demonstrates the hands and heart of Christ.

Grace and peace,

The family of Arnold "Arnie" Smith

SPRING CLEANING? CALLING ALL COATS!



Our Father's Closet

As the weather gets warmer, we all start to think about spring cleaning. As you clean out those closets, please remember Circle 1's community outreach, *Our Father's Closet*. We collect gently used coats *throughout* the year. If you have any coats and warm jackets you wish to donate, please place them in the big red bucket located in the hall leading to the restrooms in the Centre. Our circle ladies, along with *Bruner's Dry Cleaners*, will clean all coats and distribute them during winter months to children and adults who need warmth in cold weather.

Being a part of this coat ministry brings great satisfaction and joy. Anyone interested in assisting Circle 1 with collecting, cleaning, organizing or distributing for *Our Father's Closet* outreach, is encouraged to contact a member of Circle One. The note below is one example of how OUR hearts are humbled and warmed each year through the cooperative work of our church and community with *Our Father's Closet*.

Thanks for the continued support!
Ladies of Circle #1

Dear Circle One Ladies,

"Some people always seem to find a way to do something really nice for someone else... People like you."

Thank you for the lovely coats you donated for many of our children this year. We appreciate you thinking about the Brookdale Family so often.

Thank you also for blessing many of our families with baskets at Thanksgiving.

Sincerely,

Patricia Hampton

and the Brookdale Middle School Family

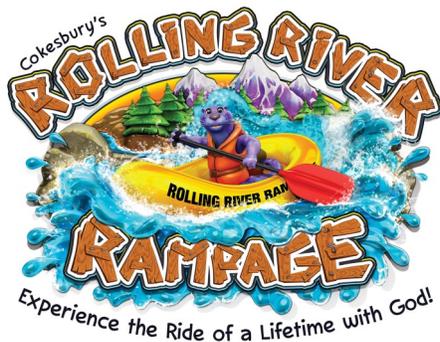
MEMORIALS

IN MEMORY OF

Mr. George "Sugar" Hill
Mrs. Mary Ann Cannon
Dr. Fulton Gasper
Mr. Arnie Smith

GIVEN BY

Felder and Sara Evans
Mr. and Mrs. Billy Thornton
Mr. and Mrs. Hoyt Dudley
Tara, Richard and Andrew Williamson
Tuesday Morning Bible Study
Mr. and Mrs. Moss Perrow
Peggy and Bill Kinney, Jr.
Elisabeth Kinney McNiel
Dan McNiel and Family
Tom and Beth Wilkinson
Mr. and Mrs. John Shuler



Rolling River Rampage Vacation Bible School June 11 - 15

Join First Presbyterian June 11-15 for Rolling River Rampage VBS for a fun filled time of learning about Jesus! All children 3K (completed) - 5th grade (completed) are invited.

Please register online at

<https://rrr.cokesburyvbs.com/1stpresbyterian/>

by June 1, as the registration website will be closed after that date.

The cost is \$15 per child with a \$30 maximum per family. This includes a T-shirt and one CD per family! Money can be turned in to the church office or mailed (536 Stanley Street, Orangeburg 29115). Please make checks payable to First Presbyterian Church and include VBS in the memo line. Once you've paid, you can pick up your VBS CD, so your child can begin learning all of the fun, new songs! *If you want to ensure that your child gets a certain shirt size, you need to register by May 1.*

We also need youth and adult volunteers! If you'd like to help during VBS, please sign up at <https://rrr.cokesburyvbs.com/1stpresbyterian/>.

Sarah Coggins
Youth and Children's Director

BIBLE STUDY

If you would be willing to host a home Bible study, please contact Gaye Lanier, 536-1199 or Kaye Borgstedt, 707-2225. Day, time and number of participants will be up to the host. We will help with the study.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

4/01	Abigail Sterling	4/25	Kim Reed
4/02	Bari Cuttino		Laura Fogle
	Augustus Burroughs	4/26	Jean Davis
4/10	Ben Davis		Dryden Smith
4/15	Robert Richardson	4/28	Peggy Crocker
4/17	Bill Thomas		Janet Branan
	Jim Fowler		John Hutto
	Drew Shuler		Courtney Sterling
4/22	Emily Shepherd		Rylee Wofford
	Carson Gué		Charley Sterling
4/24	Dodd Buie	4/29	Leslie Lovelace
		4/30	Walt Turner

BETHELWOODS CAMP-IN-A-VAN JULY 16-20

Bethelwoods Camp-In-A-Van will be July 16-20 (9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. on Monday-Thursday and 9:00 a.m. until noon on Friday).



All children 5K (completed) – 5th grade (completed) are invited to join us for an exciting day camp at the Centre. The camp will be led by counselors from Bethelwoods Camp & Conference Center and will include games, Bible stories, songs, crafts, and fun!

There are only 30 spaces available, so register soon! Registration forms are available on the church website, and you can drop off registration forms at the church office or email them to Sarah at scoggins@1stpresbyterian.org. The cost is \$25 per child, and this includes lunch each day.

Make checks payable to First Presbyterian and put "Bethelwoods" and your child's name on the memo line.

Sarah Coggins
Youth and Children's Director

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY WOMEN BUILD 2018

begins SATURDAY, APRIL 7, 2018
at 990 KINGS ROAD

7:30 a.m. - REGISTRATION BEGINS
8:00 a.m. - CONSTRUCTION BEGINS

EDISTO HABITAT has been chosen again as one of 300 affiliates to participate in the "Women Build Program" sponsored by Lowe's! Requirements for us to meet to receive a \$5,000 Grant from Lowe's include

- 1) 50% of VOLUNTEERS must be Women Volunteers
- 2) HOW-TO-CLINIC at our Lowe's Store:
Scheduled for Saturday, April 21, 10:00 a.m.
Topic: Installing Vinyl Siding
- 3) MEDIA DAY at Work Site:
Scheduled for Saturday, May 5
Media will be present to take numerous pictures.
Everyone is asked to wear bright blue T-shirts.

SCHEDULED WORK DAYS FOR "WOMEN BUILD 2018" 990 KINGS ROAD:

Saturday, April 7	Build & Stand Exterior Walls
Saturday, April 14	Build & Stand Interior Walls, Install Styrofoam, Tape Joints, Wrap House
Saturday, May 5	Install Windows & Doors Official "Groundbreaking Service" Install Vinyl Siding The First Work Day for "Park Beautification"
Saturday, May 19	Paint Interior
Wednesday, May 30	Dedication and Landscaping, 5:30 p.m.

REMINDER: Please view this video on safety before coming to the Work Site:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2_VH0Fh2I0o

Melissa Camp
Volunteer Coordinator, Edisto Habitat for Humanity
803-378-8277

HONORING OLDER PEOPLE ENTHUSIASTICALLY

Everyone is invited to GTF on Wednesday, May 2, to help honor our more life experienced folks. MARK your calendars now. Fun time for all.

MISSION TASK FORCE

This is just a heads-up to let you know when our Hands of Christ distribution will be this year. **On Saturday August 11, 2018**, First Presbyterian and Saint Luke Presbyterian will participate in a *Hands of Christ* clothing and school supply distribution to students in our partner school, Rivelon. Doors open at 12 pm and close at 3. Volunteers will arrive at 11:00 and stay for a meal after clean-up at 3:30.

Put this date on your calendar. More details and volunteer sign-up will be sent out in May.

The Mission of *Hands of Christ* is to bring Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) congregations together to help meet some of the basic needs of children, showing them Christ's love.



THURSDAY, MAY 3
SAVE THE DATE.

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



April 2018