

The PRESSbyterian

www.1stpresbyterian.org

July 2017

FROM OUR INTERIM PASTOR

Friends in Christ,

With the calling and approaching arrival of your new pastor, Dr. Darren Bess, our time together is rapidly drawing to a close. I want you to know what a privilege and pleasure it has been to serve as your Interim Pastor for nearly two years. I have enjoyed and been blessed by our association and our service together.

When I retired from First (Scots) Presbyterian Church in Charleston May 31, 2015, I had not planned on doing an interim so soon. The transition team under Phyllis Buie and our Presbytery Executive, Donnie Woods, changed my mind and I am delighted they did. You are a wonderful and supportive church family with a friendly and competent staff and good leadership in the Session and Diaconate. Your new pastor will be equally blessed to be a part of this historic and faithful church family. Help him to feel as welcomed and as valued as you have me.

My only regret is that Tita was not as free to share this ministry with me since she continues to work, especially on the weekends, at the Aquarium. But I assure you that you will see more of us in the future as new friendships have been forged over these two years and we will continue to cherish those relationships, personal and professional.

I have two sermons remaining on **July 16 and July 23**. I hope to use these opportunities to further challenge you and help you prepare for a new season of growth and service under Dr. Bess's leadership.

As we part company for a while I am reminded of the words of Michael W. Smith's song entitled "Friends."

*Packing up the dreams God planted
In the fertile soil of you.
I can't believe the hopes He's granted
Means a chapter in our lives is through.*

*But we'll keep you close as always,
It won't even seem we've gone
'Cause our hearts in big and small ways
Will keep the love that keeps us strong.*

*And friends are friends forever
If the Lord's the Lord of them
And a friend will not say, "Never,"
'Cause the welcome will not end.*

*Though it's hard to let you go,
In the Father's hands we know
That a lifetime's not too long
To live as friends.*

May God continue to bless and use you in his service.

Danny Massie



"A friend loves
AT ALL TIMES."

PROVERBS 17:17, NRSV

First Presbyterian Church ♦ 650 Summers Avenue ♦ Orangeburg, South Carolina ♦ 29115 ♦ 803-534-0088

SUMMER MOVIES AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

Each of the movies will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the Centre, and we will have popcorn and drinks. You may want to bring a comfy chair or a beanbag.

Wednesday, July 19



Wednesday, August 2



DIRECTORY PICTURES

Did you miss your chance to have a photo taken for our pictorial directory? Good News!!! We have added an additional day—**Thursday, July 13**. You will receive a free 8x10 just for having your picture taken. Bring a canned good and you will receive \$5 off the purchase price if you choose to order additional prints. Remember that you must have a picture taken in order to receive a directory. Sign-up sheets are in the vestibule on Sundays or you may register online.

<https://booknow-lifetouch.appointment-plus.com/9rlghpcq/>

LUNCH WITH THE PASTOR AT *THE OAKS*

WILL NOT MEET IN JULY OR AUGUST.

MISSION TASK FORCE

The Mission Task Force Hands of Christ Steering Committee is looking for Volunteers for one day only. On **August 8**, 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, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Centre. 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. We need 60 volunteers for this one day event. Volunteers from other churches are welcome to participate. Please e-mail Jim Harvey (james.e.harvey@gmail.com) or text Jim at (440-263-7420) if you are willing to volunteer. There will be an orientation meeting on August 8, before distribution. After the distribution we will have a meal for the volunteers.

Donations of books for grades Pre-K through 2nd grade would be appreciated. We are also seeking items from the following list of supplies: #2 pencils, glue sticks, composition journals, plastic folders with prongs, scissors, pencil boxes, pink erasers, colored pencils, Kleenex tissues, hand sanitizers. A donation box for books and one for supplies will be in the Centre.



ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL VBS!

Thank you, Sarah, for a great VBS. Each year seems to be better than the last. Thanks to the many folks who volunteered we were able to have smaller groups of children who could then get a group and individual experiences. What great food and activity leaders and where would we be without our teenagers! Last but not least, thank you parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles who brought us your children for the week.

With Christian Love,
The Christian Education Team

CHARLESTON ATLANTIC PRESBYTERY

August 26, 2017
Mt. Pleasant Presbyterian Church



The program on Saturday, August 26, has options for everyone including parents, new officers, Sunday school teachers, youth advisors, musicians, and staff; childcare is provided. If we have 15 people, we can take the church bus. We will pay early bird registration fee of \$25 for Sunday school teachers and youth advisors if we have your completed form or notification from you that you registered online by July 10 (www.capresbytery.org/steps). Registration booklets are in the church office and in the Centre.

UNITED IN MARRIAGE

Erin Elizabeth Buig
and
Bradzen James Carter
June 24, 2017

NOTE OF THANKS

Thank you, PNCGerald, Ann, Amy, Cal, Kathryn, Leslie, and Suzanna....for your prayerful diligence in finding the minister God had selected for us. We appreciate you and your service and are looking forward to this next chapter in the life and ministry of our church.

In Christian Love,
The Christian Education Team

JULY BIRTHDAYS

7/01	Stacey Walter Jimilyn Kell	7/17	Steven Patterson Katherine Patterson
7/03	Solomon Selvam	7/20	Tracy Myers
7/06	Helen Culler	7/21	Elise Myers
7/08	Marji Albergotti		Harry Mims, III
7/09	Ann Edwards	7/22	Nancy Hudson
7/13	Marcia Wood Julianne Shuler Anna Kate Kuck	7/24	Sloan Moore
		7/25	John Shuler Wendy Dudley
7/14	Sylvia Trimmier Logan Miller	7/26	Candace Fowler Carol Cassone
7/15	Shirley Westbrook Nancy Nance Robin Mims		Andrew Hunter, Jr.
		7/28	Evelynn Myers
7/16	Zoe Wingard	7/30	Sandy Price Beth Nexsen

DEACONS

CLASS OF 2020

Erin Axson
Kyle Crabb
Lessie Gayle Dickson
Alan Johnstone
Tripp Wingard

ELDERS

CLASS OF 2020

Herb Bradley
Caroline Marcus
Josh Nexsen
Jane Shuler

CLASS OF 2018

Martin Gilchrist

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

LIVING FAITHFULLY
BELIEVING

SERVING BOLDLY
DOING

Who do you look like? In 2 Corinthians 3:18, Paul tells us that we “are BEING transformed into the Lord’s image....with ever increasing glory which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.” Now answer the question, who do you look like?

As Christ’s servants as we try to honor Him with the way we live, one of our goals should be to take on His image. What does it mean to take on His image? One thing it means is that with the help of the Holy Spirit, we can demonstrate Christlike characteristics in how we live. The Spirit gives us unrestricted access to God’s holy presence and enables us to see and reflect the glory of God. We should be humble in attitude, loving and compassionate to everyone. We must imitate Jesus’s characteristics until it is no longer imitation but from the heart. If we fix our eyes on Jesus, we can become more and more like Him. Can you think of any higher compliment than being told, “I see Jesus in you.”? Remember, after spending eight days and nights communing with God, Moses’ face shone reflecting the holiness and glory of God. (Exodus 34:29-35)

How are you like Jesus? How does your access to God’s “hotline” through scripture and prayer change you to look more like Christ?

As this is being written, I am wondering about our congregational meeting scheduled for June 25. Questions abound. Who is the person/family to whom God has led the PNC? What are they like? Is he a good pastor, a good preacher? What will he want to change? These and more are all human questions but to me the real questions are: What does God want us to do?

What did God teach us from our last experience and how can we use that now? What is my responsibility during worship? What is the attitude God wants us to have.... humble, loving, serving, open or judgmental, closed and reserved? (The answer to this last question is easy but the behavior must be intentional.) What does God want our church to continue and what does He want us to change? What is my part? What am I willing to do for a smooth transition to a new leader? How and what must I do to approach this new chapter in the life of First Presbyterian in a Christlike way?

By the time you read this, the congregational meeting will be over and the vote taken, so some questions will be answered. God has given us an opportunity to be an active part of the new chapter at FPC. It has been said that for followers of Christ, love is the family resemblance the world should see. Is love what our community will see in this church family? Will we be seen as Christlike? Let’s all come together to support our new pastor and his family.

PRAYER: Lord, please help us to keep our eyes fixed on You, to study scripture and pray. Transform us into Your image in what we say, in how we love each other and others and in how we worship You. Help us live in such a way that others see You in us. Give us eyes to see your greatness and to respond with servant hearts. Amen.

In Christian Love,
Kaye Borgstedt
Christian Education Coordinator

*If we fix our eyes
on Jesus, we can
become more and
more like Him.*

MEMORIALS

Given in Memory of

Dr. Henry Frierson

Mrs. Cindy Clark

All Past Members

Given By

Reuben and Libby Ridgeway

Gene and Kathy Wilkes

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



July 2017

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

	Preschool	Elementary	Middle and High School
July 2	Erin Richardson	Susan and Jimmy Smoak	Audrey Rose
July 9	Lessie Gayle Dickson	Jane Holladay	Katherine and Craig Smith
July 16	Marcia Wood	Geni and David Gillespie	Catherine and Lyn Cuttino
July 23	Kim Reed	Susan and Jimmy Smoak	Caroline and Taylor Marcus
July 30	Sandra Borgstedt	Erin Richardson	TBA

PRESCHOOL NURSERY SCHEDULE

July 2	Richardson
July 9	Gué
July 16	Borgstedt
July 23	Wolfe
July 30	Walter

CHILDREN'S CHURCH SCHEDULE

July 2	Smoak
July 9	Nexsen
July 16	Riley
July 23	Coggins
July 30	Ridley