

The PRESSbyterian

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September 2019

FROM THE PASTOR

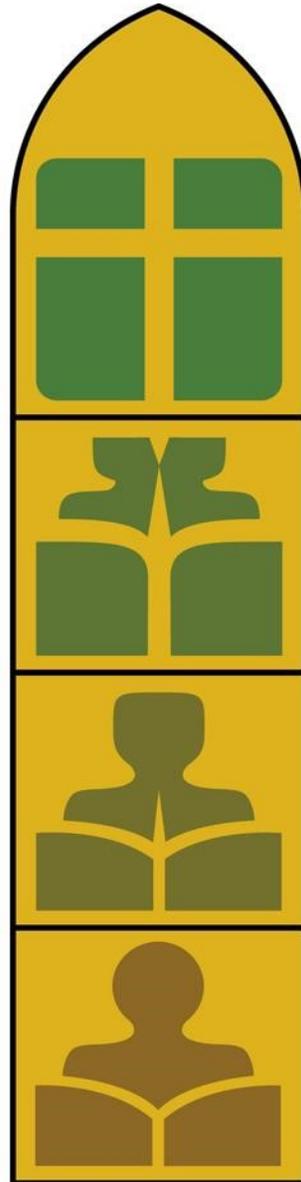
I hope all is well with you and those you love....

It is hard to imagine that summer is rapidly heading towards fall. School is back in session, Sweetgum trees are starting to make a mess in the yard and football games fill our televisions most weekends. It seems our schedules remain full and our routines shift, but shift towards what?

We allow many things access to our time, but an important question we should consider is this: Is what I'm doing helping me short term, long term or eternally?

I'm convinced we spend much time focusing on fleeting things found in the short term. These are not inherently bad, but because we allow them to become the center of our attention we often neglect the long term and ignore the eternal altogether. I mean after all, by definition, eternity is a long time, so we will have plenty of moments to address that stuff then. However, what if there was something we could do that would help us in the short term, long term and eternally, wouldn't that be great?

Well, I hope you will take a look inside this month's newsletter and see the various ways you can learn and serve this fall here at FPC Orangeburg. Learning about God and serving in response to that knowledge is what helps us most



Learn
&
Serve

here in the short term. By serving, we focus on the needs of others - not planning to or wanting to, but serving, living, experiencing the now while God develops within us a heart and mind for others. Already our stress levels begin to fall. The health benefits from less stress and worry naturally help us in the long term as Jesus says, "Whenever you do something for the least of these, it's like you did it for me." Sounds like something spoken with our eternity in mind.

Of course, learning about God and the love He has for us also helps encourage us in the short term, reminding us that we are loved and have purpose. Learning about God assists us in the long term by underpinning our faith, helping us to face the breaker waters of life and preparing us for the leaping off point of eternity - it's just around the corner for all of us.

I hope you will consider focusing on what really matters regardless of the season and join us in any number of ways as we serve and learn together. If you have questions or if we can serve you please contact the church office.

Grace, Mercy and Shalom,
Pastor Darren



GROWING THROUGH FELLOWSHIP

GTF KICKOFF - SEPTEMBER 11

- 5:30 p.m. Meal
- 6:15 p.m. Program for Adults
- 6:00 p.m. Children's Choir Rehearsal
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Bible Study

GTF will begin on Wednesday, September 11, in the Centre. The meal will begin at 5:30 p.m. and the adult program will begin 6:15 p.m. Dr. Bess is facilitating a six-week study, "It's Not Supposed To Be This Way" by Lysa Terkeurst.

Children's Choirs will begin at 6:00 p.m. in their choir rooms.

Youth will meet in the youth room at 6:00 p.m.

FLU SHOTS

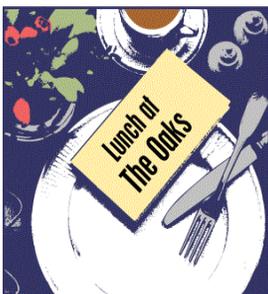
will be available prior to GTF on Wednesday, September 25, 2019.

LUNCH WITH THE PASTOR

At *THE OAKS*

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 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, September 3. Call Norma Shaffer (516-6135) if you wish to come. Tickets may be purchased at the Reception Desk in Woodard Commons.



LIZ CODINGTON

This is week 9 of our summer youth camps. Already over 1200 kids have come through this summer from all over Albania. They have made new friends, enjoyed lots of outdoor activities, and most importantly, have heard the gospel through morning devotions and evening messages and worship each day. Many have prayed to accept Christ and many have asked for Bibles to take home. Praise the Lord! We have 3 more weeks of camp to go. Please pray for God to be at work and for continued safety for campers and staff.

About 2 weeks after camps end, our fall activities will start up. These include Bible School (we are expecting about 20 students), community health visits to our elderly shut-ins, church Bible studies and activities, and our daily after-school program for about 20 kids in our community. My primary role is community health nurse and working as our after-school program nurse. I appreciate prayer for wisdom in working with patients as well as for many opportunities to share the gospel.

Thank you so much for your partnership in prayer and support! You are a vital part of the ministry here. Please let me know if there are specific ways I can be praying for you!

"May Your ways be known throughout the earth, your saving power among people everywhere. May the nations praise you, O God. Yes, may all the nations praise you."

Psalm 67: 2-3

Our prayer group on Tuesdays at 1:30 was formed primarily to pray for our church and the church universal. One of the resources, we use is a book by Rachel Jones entitled 5 Things to Pray for Your Church. It has 21 chapters, each with 5 things for which to pray for our church based on a Bible passage. This article is from that book.

“The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.” James 5:16. James is saying that when righteous people pray righteous prayers, things happen. Things change. Prayers of God’s people are powerful not because we are powerful or our words are powerful but because the Person to whom we pray is infinitely unimaginably powerful! Our prayers are effective not because we are special or have a special formula but because the God to whom we pray delights in us and answering our prayers and changing the world for the righteous who are praying.” (page 7)

One chapter entitled, “5 Things to Pray That My Church Would” is about “Be Devoted To One Another” and the scripture is Acts 2: 42-47. See below.

Heavenly father, help us to...

Learn Together: Thank God that He has given “the apostle’s teaching” in the scripture (v 42). Pray that our church would be devoted to learning from [Scripture] together-----whether that’s in Sunday services, Bible study groups, or one to one. Pray that you would be committed to attending, even at the end of a draining day or hectic week. And pray that your hearts and minds would be engaged and stirred by God’s Word as you meet week by week.

Build Relationships: v. 42, 44 “They devoted themselves...to fellowship...All the believers were together.” Ask that our church would also be devoted to spending the time together required to forge meaningful relationships. Thank God for the friendships you already have here at church; then prayerfully think about who else you could seek to deepen your relationship with this year.

Pray Together: “They devoted themselves...to prayer” (v 42). It’s sometimes said that a church’s prayer meetings are like a spiritual barometer. So, what’s the reading on our church’s barometer? Ask that a culture of prayer would permeate our church, and that God would make us into people who delight in coming together to pray.

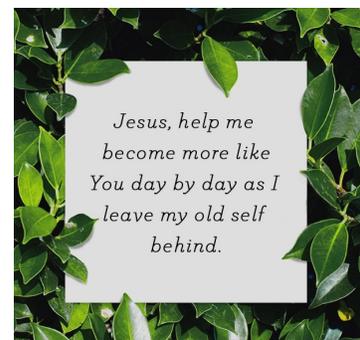
Meet Needs: The first believers “sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need.” Pray that our church would also be sacrificial in our generosity---always ready to meet each other’s material, emotional and spiritual needs. Pray that you would be willing to give up your time, money or convenience to ensure that others have what they need.

And Add To Our Numbers: Thank God for the people and families He’s “added to [our] number” recently. (v 47) Pray that our church would be a community that is friendly and welcoming to newcomers. Pray that our church would grow: that people would come to our gatherings, be introduced to Jesus, see Him at work in the lives of His people and put their faith in His saving work.

What would our church, community and world look like if we all prayed the above every day and then did what we prayed? What would our church look like if each of us pushed out of our comfort zones to reach out in God’s name? Is everyone/anyone truly welcomed into our fellowship? What would be the results if we truly...as Paul instructed in Ephesians 4... left our past behind us and embraced a new way of life? One Bible scholar says this means we are to put off our “grave” clothes and put on our “grace” clothes.

As the psalmist in Psalm 139 sings with gratitude the very fact that all of us are “marvelously set apart,” we know all of God’s works are wonderful. So think about this, YOU are one of God’s beautiful wonderful works. How can we not share His love?

CHALLENGE: Daily embrace the continual process of seeking God’s help thru the Holy Spirit to make us more like Him.



Serving together,
Kaye Borgstedt

NOTES OF THANKS

- Dear Members of First Presbyterian Church,
Thank you for all of the notes, cards and prayers you have shared with me. Your care and concern is very much appreciated. I am doing much better and doing therapy to continue to improve. Hopefully one day, I will be able to visit and thank you in person.

Thank you also for your loving care and prayers for my family there in Orangeburg.

Thank you and please continue in prayer for my family.

Sincerely,
Ann Bess

- I would like to thank my Church family for all the beautiful birthday cards I received. Every special occasion I receive cards that lift my spirit and warm my heart. You can be assured your card ministry is important and always appreciated by those who are blessed by it, as I am.

God bless you,
Estelle Dominick

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS MEETING

There will be a meeting of all children and youth Sunday School teachers on Tuesday, September 3, at 6:30 in the Centre. Typically we meet once a year for updates and to plan for the coming year. So please plan to attend as we will discuss the new curricula, get class rolls, etc. We are very excited about the new children's curricula and are looking forward to sharing with you. Please RSVP to Kaye Borgstedt, (kwborg@aol.com or 803-707- 2225).



Mark your calendars for

September 8

for the First Presbyterian Youth Kickoff!!

CHILDREN'S CHURCH SCHEDULE

September 1	Walter
September 8	Adicks
September 15	Smith
September 22	Gillespie
September 29	Burroughs

We'll meet at the church at 2:00 and will go to the Guthries' pond house. We'll return to the church around 5:30. Bring your bathing suits and towels. You can also bring fishing gear! We'll have ice cream at the pond, so make sure to eat lunch before you arrive. Friends are invited.

Sarah Coggins

GENERAL FUND 2019

For month ending July 31, 2019	<u>Month</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
General Fund Income	\$29,985.60	\$284,227.60
General Fund Budgeted Expenses	\$32,895.59	\$264,097.36 *
	(\$ 2,909.99)	\$ 20,130.24

* Includes 1st and 2nd quarter total of \$10,000 transfer to Missions account.

CIRCLE NEWS

Circle 1 **September 10** **11:30 a.m.**
Foyer of Presbyterian Centre

Meet in the Foyer of Presbyterian Centre for lunch (\$5.00) beginning at 11:30; meeting to follow lunch. Circle books (\$10) will be at the first circle meeting— Presbyterian Questions, Presbyterian Answers by Donald McKim. As we look forward to another great year together, efforts will begin immediately preparing *Our Father's Closet* for our main coat distribution in November.

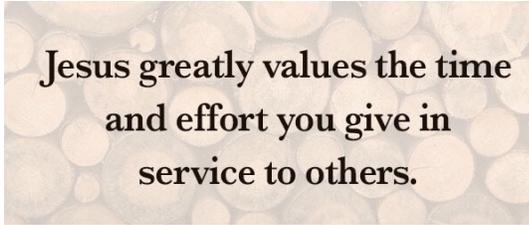
Circles 2 and 4 **September 10** **10:30 a.m.**
Centre Conference Room

We will continue the study from Bad Girls of the Bible. Please bring something for the teachers at Rivelon School to use in their classrooms: handiwipes, hand sanitizers, #2 pencils, construction paper, etc.

Circle 3 **September 9** **6:00 p.m.**
Jane Shuler, 250 Keitt

Our lesson is Chapter 5 from our book, The Attributes of God. We would love new members! Join us.

BAPTISMAL VOWS



**Jesus greatly values the time
and effort you give in
service to others.**

Children's Church is a perfect opportunity to use the vows you made to the children of our church. Children's Church is after the Children's Sermon and is in the Children's Chapel (in the Fellowship Hall). The outline and curricula are provided for you and all you have to do is implement with love. You even get to choose how many times a year you are willing to serve from ONE to more and when you are available. Please prayerfully consider this and let Sarah Coggins or Kaye Borgstedt know.

MEMORIALS

Given in Memory of

Katherine Campbell
Scarlett and Robert Brown

Geb Runager
Kim Reed

Given By

Mr. and Mrs. Herb Bradley, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. John Shuler
Mrs. Frances Lytch
Mrs. Nancy Hudson
Sandy and Caroline Bryant
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Dudley
Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Byrd
Joel and Florence Waldrop
Ms. Lila Jean Turner
Dr. and Mrs. Arden Weathers
Mr. Daniel Fogle
Nancy and Harris Davis
Mr. and Mrs. William Barrett
Vivian Salley Skelton
Delle and Shelby Bolen
Cheryl and Hugh Smith

Mr. Gordon Huddleston
Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Axson
John Knox Sunday School Class
Cookie and Dicky Johnson
Gayle Vallentine Fogle
Steven and Katherine Patterson
Mr. and Mrs. Dwight Frierson
Dr. Jack Johnson, Jr.
Mr. Keith Byers
Anne McGill
Dr. and Mrs. James Harvey
Smitty, Sandra and Kevin Mack
Rocco and Carol Cassone
Ken and Amelia Davis
Joseph and Anna Warren
Reuben and Libby Ridgeway

Janet and Johnny Brailsford
Mr. Julian Berry
Mary Jo Spiers
Dr. and Mrs. Lawton Salley
Mr. and Mrs. Rhett Riley, Jr.
Irene Ballington
David and Geni Gillespie
Ms. Marcia Baxter
Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Talbert
Elaine and Gene Morehead
Ms. Patsy Judy
Don and Ann Cromer
Marli Drum
Mr. Ben Davis, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Jason Fogle
Calvin and Carol Rewis

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



September 2019

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

9/01	Warren Hewett	9/18	Bill Welch
	Jane Jeffords		Stuart Marcus
	Audrey Rose		Kate Edwards
9/02	Elaine Strong	9/19	Michelé Crane
9/04	Marty Bramblett	9/20	Becky Covington
9/05	Janet Whitaker		Grace Weigle
	Sallie Covington		Lauren Bramblett
9/07	Copeland Reed		Walter Mims
9/09	Eddie Byrd	9/21	Dwight Frierson
9/10	Montgomery Richardson	9/23	Divyya Selvam
9/11	Taylor Riley	9/24	Bobby Vaughn
9/12	Jamie Wood	9/25	Jackson Miller
	Kathryn Nexsen		Isabella Reed
	Sarah Frierson	9/26	Annabelle Hunter
9/14	Sarah Paige Bozardt	9/28	Will Frierson
9/15	Earl Whalen		Harrison Miller
9/17	Bob Crane	9/29	Kathy Bradley
	Benjamin Ridgeway		Fred Riley
		9/30	Trudy Frierson
			Suzanne Wingard

MISSION TASK FORCE

September 24 ♦ 5:30 p.m.
Conference Room in The Centre

EDISTO HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Scheduled Work Dates
for home at 1060 Kings Road

Saturday, September 7 and 21
Wednesday, October 2

For more information contact Melissa Camp, Volunteer Coordinator (803-378-8277).

mjcampsc@gmail.com

www.edistohabitatforhumanity.org