

The PRESSbyterian

Summer Edition

www.1stpresbyterian.org

July 2023

YOUTH



HAPPENINGS

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GENERAL FUND 2023

For month ending May 31, 2023	<u>Month</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
General Fund Income	\$21,474.57	\$185,605.03
General Fund Budgeted Expenses	\$31,369.97	\$192,721.70
	-\$9,895.40	-\$7,116.67



VBS

Vacation Bible School was held June 12-15, and we had over 40 children participate. The theme was Hero Hotline, and the children learned the importance of working together to be heroes for Jesus. Our daily lessons focused on heroes from the Bible, including the disciples, Miriam, Moses, and Paul.

The children were able to act as heroes this week by supporting the Council on Aging/Meals on Wheels and St. Andrew's Shepherd Ministry Food Pantry. Dee Anne Miller from the Council on Aging and Dianne Ferrer from the Shepherd's Ministry spoke with the children about the organizations and their impact on the Orangeburg community. The children also made treat bags for clients of Meals on Wheels and collected food items for the Shepherd's Ministry. In addition, our VBS children collected over \$400, which was divided between the two organizations.

We enjoyed having children from Camp Unity, which is a part of Unity Fellowship Church, at our VBS. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped make the week a success!

MONTREAT

The Presbyterian Association of Musician's Worship & Music Conference was held June 18-24 in Montreat, North Carolina. This year, six middle schoolers, two children, and three adults from First Presbyterian participated in the conference. Our young people had a wonderful week learning from top notch music instructors. We also experienced moving worship services and had the opportunity to make new friends from across the country. Thank you to our church family for supporting our young people and making it possible for them to attend this event.

Sarah Coggins

Youth and Children's Director

JULY BIRTHDAYS

7/01	Jimilyn Crosby	7/19	Caley Shaw
7/3	Solomon Selvam	7/20	Tracy Myers
7/5	Alayna Shaw		Layne Oswald
7/6	Kathy Fitzhugh	7/21	Harry Mims III
7/8	Marji Albergotti		Elise Myers
7/9	Ann Edwards	7/22	Davis Dangerfield
7/12	Garrett Jordan	7/24	Sloan Moore
7/13	Delle Bolen	7/25	Wendy Dudley
	Anna Kate Kuck		John Shuler
	Julianne Shuler	7/26	Candace Fowler
7/14	Logan Miller		Andrew Hunter, Jr.
7/15	Robin Mims	7/28	Evelynn Myers
	Nancy Nance	7/29	Jim Stevens
7/16	Zoe Wingard	7/30	Beth Nexsen

NOTE OF THANKS

Dear First Presbyterian Family,
Thank you for all of your many kindnesses during Steve's courageous battle against his cancer. He was an inspiration to our family, and we will miss him in our lives. We have many wonderful memories and are grateful for the two and a half years that we had with him.

We want to thank the Intercessors and the card ministry for all of the prayers and cards that were sent to the Hinrichses and to us. Emmaus Church and First Presbyterian Church have shown God's love throughout this challenging time. Ellen especially appreciated that her home church continued to remember her and support their family. Please continue to pray for them as they face many challenges without their Steve. We know that God will be with all of them and give them strength.

John and Jane Shuler



SUMMER MOVIES



July 12th @ 7pm



August 2nd @ 7pm

Join us for our summer movies in the church's Centre! Popcorn, drinks and candy will be provided. **All ages are invited!**

SPIRITUAL NUTRITION PLAN

Forming habits takes time and intentionality. It is also important to set realistic goals and use them as stepping stones to where you want to be. This month try adding one of these to your routine:

- * **Spend time in prayer for 15 minutes one day a week**

- If you aren't used to this, your brain will likely wander. Part of forming this habit is being gentle with yourself, and working towards focusing on God in this time.

- * **Pick one day a week and spend time in your Bible for 15 minutes**

- There is so much in the Bible that we often leave reading it for Sundays because we don't know where to start. The good news is that each book has something to offer! Try *Mark*, *John* or *James* to start your new habit.



- * **Look for a fellowship opportunity once a month**

- Alone time with God is important and so is time among our brothers and sisters in Christ. Outside of Sunday worship, check community churches' calendars for an opportunity to experience the Kingdom.

- * **3+ times a year look for a volunteer opportunity**

- We are called to be the "hands and feet" of Christ. We need to reach out into our community to be walking and talking witnesses of the Gospel. This can be in our day to day lives, but vol-

unteering is often a unique and humbling experience that shakes us out of our routines. Check community calendars and organizations such as *Habitat for Humanity* for opportunities.

Remember to start small and build! Pick one and try it for a while, then you can toss another one into your routine.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

CELEBRATING GOD'S LOVE



Celebrating God's love is a time for joy. In times of trouble/sadness/despair etc. we, as Christians, have the knowledge that God's love never leaves us. And joy is in knowing that!

Did you know there are 214 Bible verses that speak to joy? A definition of joy is "the great emotion of great delight or happiness that is caused by something exceptionally good or satisfying". This can be fleeting but for us the joy that God gives us is eternal. The Bible never promises us happiness but does promise us joy. Happiness may be temporary and based upon what is happening. Joy is from the Lord, and we can experience God given joy even when we may be experiencing trials, suffering or testing. Joy from God is permanent.

Psalms 126:3 "The Lord has done great things for us and we are filled with joy." Joy is one of the fruits of the spirit (Galatians 5). Jack Wellman, a pastor in Kansas has written extensively about Bible verses on joy and identified what he calls the top 7 verses. Hebrews 12:2; James 1:2-3; 1 Peter 1:8-9; John 16:22; 1 Thessalonians 2:19-20; Psalm 28:7 and Isaiah 12:6. They all speak to me at different times but for the purposes of this article I chose, Psalm 28:7. "The Lord is my strength and my shield: my heart trusts in Him and He helps me. My heart leaps for joy and with my song I praise Him".

When I think of you, the people of this congregation, I praise God and thank Him for each of you. You take God's joy to so many and my prayer is you always feel the joy from God. What a joy it is to join you in worship, fellowship, studying Scripture, praying and caring for others. What a joy to know you are available for helping promote spiritual growth and unity in Christ. As the hymn says, "They Will Know We Are Christians by Our Love" and that love should radiate joy on our faces.

Thoughts:

Worshiping together brings strength and joy.

Focus on joy not happiness.

Question: Does your face radiate God's love and joy?

Prayer: God, I thank you for each member of this church family and pray each one always feels surrounded by your love and joy. Amen

Challenge: Go and take JOY!

In Christ,
Kaye Borgstedt
Christian Education Coordinator



TRAVEL IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF CHRIST

Do you want to walk in the footsteps of the Messiah? See the biblical sites we read about every year? In January 2024, Reverend Clark Rensburg, Jr. and his wife, Marilyn, will be leading a trip to the Holy Land. This is a unique opportunity to see Scripture come to life through visiting these historical landmarks. This is an opportunity, not only to travel, but to meet moments of biblical convictions and further explore your own belief in the face of a faithful experience meeting a historical one.



The Holy Land



January 18 – 29, 2024

Especially designed for:

First Presbyterian Church

Orangeburg, South Carolina

Space is limited. Register Today!



Rev. Clark Rensburg, Jr.

Tour Host



Faith Journeys
1440 S. Priest Dr., Suite 102 Tempe, AZ 85281
877-7FAITHJ • 480-894-8407 • fax: 480-894-5137 • info@myfaithjourneys.com



This pilgrimage to Israel will span Jaffa, Caesarea, Nazareth, Tiberias, Jerusalem, and much more. You will never read the Bible the same way after walking where Jesus has walked.

Go to portal.myfaithjourneys.com for more information and to register. Our Group Code is 24016. Let us know if you have any questions.

Reverend Clark Rensburg, Jr.

- thereverendrensburg@gmail.com

Marilyn Rensburg

- taraseeker@gmail.com

“AS THE FATHER HAS SENT ME, I AM SENDING YOU.”
JOHN 20:21, NIV

First Presbyterian Church

650 Summers Avenue

Orangeburg, SC 29115

Return Service Requested



July 2023

MEMORIALS

Given in Memory of

Laurin Hugh Smith

Sue Ellen Biswell

Barry Wiles

Jeannine Fogle Shuler

Lacie Lewis Skorupski

Mike Runager

Margie Cantley

Mary Wilkes Allen

Robert David Seymore

Roy Dickson

Steve Hinrichs

James "Jack" Dempsey

Given By

Barbara and Harry Mims

Mr. and Mrs. John Shuler

Sandra and Randy Smoak

Mr. and Mrs. Dwight Frierson

Mrs. Estelle Dominick

Mr. and Mrs. Curt Campbell

Mrs. Frances Lytch

Mr. Danny L. Fogle

Mark and Sylvia Trimmier

Rusty and Cindy Brodie

Mrs. Katherine Patterson

Dr. and Mrs. James H. Brunson, Jr.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Bradley

Mrs. Cheryl Baugh

Mr. M. Lewis Fogle

Mr. Gordon Huddleston