

Adding New Chapters to an Old Story

We Are A Stephen Ministry Congregation

First Presbyterian News

No. 3

March 2012

Volume 52

March

4

Worship 8:45 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Communion

The Rev. James Lowry, Guest Preacher

11

Worship 8:45 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

The Rev. James Lowry, Guest Preacher

Preschool Sunday - 11:00 a.m.

Luncheon - FLC, noon

18

Worship 8:45 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Youth Sunday

Water to Wine Band

25

Worship 8:45 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

The Rev. Karla Conditt Daniels,

Guest Preacher

Pet Blessing - West Lawn, 3:00 p.m.

Dear First Pres Family,

There are so many things we want to thank you for in making our retirement activities so pleasant and memorable! We were deeply touched by the lovely dinner on Saturday evening—the menu, the Family Life Center so beautifully transformed, the amazing attendance, and the events (the roasts and speeches, the opportunity to greet so many of you personally, and the Lookout Mountain Band [or was that part of the roasting?]). The gifts that were presented (the flowers, the yard plants, and especially the wonderful painting by Sandy Etherington Tucker) will always remind us of you.

At the time of this writing, it is not yet possible to know the results of the love offering that was received, but we want to thank you in advance for your thoughtfulness and generosity in this regard as well.

In addition, we want to thank the many well-wishers who contacted us to express their regrets that they could not be present for the dinner or the Sunday services on the 19th. A number of you have also sent notes, personal gifts, or have even made donations in our honor to some worthy cause, and we are most grateful for all of these.

From the time that we were called here to the moment of our departing, this ministry with you has been an experience of God's providence and the work of the Holy Spirit. Please know that you will always be in our hearts and prayers. We treasure the friendships and bonds that have been formed, and look forward to seeing you around town.

*Yours faithfully,
Dana and David Cozad*

ABOUT OUR GUEST PREACHERS

We welcome two guest preachers this month. The Rev. James Lowry, Honorably Retired, has served as Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Marianna, FL; Mt. Pleasant Presbyterian Church; and for twenty years as Pastor of Idlewild Presbyterian Church in Memphis as well as Interim Pastor for several congregations.

The Rev. Karla Conditt Daniels has been serving as a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist in Augusta for seventeen years. She is also a Parish Associate at Covenant Presbyterian Church.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The following Sundays remain open on the 2012 Flower Calendar. Please consider reserving one of these dates in memory of someone or to honor someone or a special event. Flowers in our Sanctuary or in our Narthex on Sundays add to our worship experience.

March 25, April 22, April 29,
May 27 (Pentecost Sunday and the flowers must be red),
June 3 (Need two arrangements for communion Sunday),
September 2 (Need two arrangements for communion Sunday),
September 9, September 23, September 30

Thanks again for considering being a part of this ministry in our church. Please call me with any questions or to schedule a Sunday.

Thanks,
Beth Newburn, 648-7612

OPERATING BUDGET

Fiscal Year:
March 2011 - February 2012

Comments & Stats as of
January 31, 2012

Year-To-Date
Income: \$807,612.56
Income Projected: \$848,303.62
Expenses: \$803,880.84
Expenses Projected: \$821,562.98

2010 - 2011 Comparison
Income: \$777,887.65
Expenses: \$806,443.08

Paving/Resurfacing Project

Goal (needed from congregation):
\$20,000

Received as of January 31, 2012
\$17,593.15

Financial Notes: January's income was significantly under projection, bringing us to almost 5% under income projection for the fiscal year. We have been able to keep expenses under budget and therefore hope to end the fiscal year in the black.

Stewardship Update: As of February 20, 2012 193 pledges have been received totaling \$652,313.65. This is 7% under last year at the same time.

Paving/Resurfacing Project: The Session has approved the contractor recommended by the finance/property committees on Sunday, February 19, 2012. The project should begin in early March.

Deadline for the April Newsletter is Wednesday,

March 21st by NOON. You may leave your information in the "Newsletter" box by the officers' boxes in the office hall, or, the preferred method is sending your information in an email to Debbie Grinton at: debbieg@aikenpresbyterian.org.

Officers, and their committee assignments, can be found on the church website: www.aikenpresbyterian.org

If you do not have access to the internet and would like a copy of this information, please contact the church office @ 803-648-2662.



Prayer Ministry

By the grace of God, First Presbyterian is a community of faith dedicated to the ministry of prayer, of and for the people of God. Please share your prayer concerns, so that we can share them with our church family.

NEW REQUESTS

(added February 3 through February 17)

Allison Collie, health concerns, friend of Mary Maddrey
 Barbara Emery and family, death of husband, Charlie Emery
 Ed Irwin, pneumonia
 Dick McCormick and family, death of father
 Jerry Shumpert, health concerns
 Cherry Socciarelli and family, death of husband, Ron

CONTINUING REQUESTS

Mike Bedford, health concerns, father of Allison Shearouse
 June Blohm, health concerns
 Dick Buckalew, health concerns
 Pat Buckalew, health concerns
 Frances Carleton, health concerns
 Bruce Cousins, health concerns, father of Kim Abney
 Lee Davis, health concerns, friend of Gary Hoover
 Joanne Caldwell Dye, health concerns, daughter of Jo Caldwell
 Mary Mosley Edwards, health concerns
 Katie Erickson, brain injury, granddaughter of Sandy Erickson
 Susan Foster & family, death of mother
 Helen Grier, health concerns
 Nancy Hudak, health concerns, friend of Kay Lasure
 Jim Jackson, health concerns
 Christine Jobian, health concerns, sister of Gladys Olson
 Kludzuweit, Ron and Karalee, condolences, death of niece
 Barbara Kolodziej, brain surgery, friend of Rose Lewis
 Joanne Martini, health concerns, friend of Kay Lasure
 Emmy Meister, cancer, friend of Suzanne McLeod
 Charlie Mettlen, health concerns
 Norris Moseley, health concerns, husband of Dianne Moseley
 Mogwedell Norman, health concerns and death of husband, Jim
 Mary Parker, brain cancer, friend of Catherine Smoak Eirvin
 Allison Ploeger, health concerns, sister of Andy Ploeger
 Linda Redd, brain cancer, friend of Rose Lewis
 Betty Ritchie, health concerns
 Ola Salmond, health concerns, mother of Cathy Belles
 Peter Schmittzeh, pancreatic cancer, friend of Kim Abney
 Jerry Seigler, colon cancer, son of Eddie & Verna Seigler
 Verna Seigler, recuperating from surgery
 June Spaunburgh, health concerns
 Frances Spencer, health concerns
 Thomas Studdert, health concerns, father of Chris Reichel
 MarySue Wyatt and Family, death of father, Jim Norman
 Susie Yoder, recuperating from surgery
 Serving Our Country: Hachori Luke Small, friend of the Olsons; Kala & Jerry Reitano, daughter & son-in-law of Dave Clerc; Kellum Mahan, friend of Buchanan family; Alan Brookshire, nephew of Bob & Mary Anne Brookshire; Jacinto Chumbiriza, friend of Gladys Olson



Dear Church Family,

Many, many thanks for the food, cards, calls, and prayer shawl that I received recently after my knee surgery. It's wonderful to be part of such a loving and caring church. Blessings to you all,
 Martha Ebel

I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation to the congregation and staff of this church for your generous gift and your expressions of love and kindness upon my retirement. I feel so blessed to have been on the staff of such a loving and caring community of faith, and I take with me many wonderful memories and friends. Thank you for allowing me to serve on the staff of First Presbyterian Church.

Sincerely, Cassandra Sturkie

Dear Church Family,

You will never know how much your support meant to me, before and after my recent cervical spine surgery. I was terrified! Your prayers, visits, phone calls, cards, flowers, and wonderful prayer shawl provided needed comfort to help allay my fears! I am so thankful to be a part of this awesomely caring congregation. Thanks so much to all!

Yours in Christ, Verna Seigler

Many thanks to the youth group that prepared our lunch for us on Servant Saturday and to the Browns who delivered it. The vegetable beef soup, cheese biscuits, and chocolate chip cookies were all so good and very much appreciated. Again--thank you so much!

Bob & Bonnie Kennedy

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for your prayers, cards, calls, visits, and food during my recent surgery. Your support has made me feel so grateful to be part of the First Presbyterian Church family.

Love to you all, Chuck Dynarski

Dear Church Family,

We haven't the words to thank you for all you have done for our families as we experienced hospitalizations, surgeries, and the death of Jim / Daddy all within a few short weeks. We are so appreciative for the prayer shawls, food, visits, cards, calls, and especially the many, many prayers. God has blessed us through you.

With grateful hearts, Mogwedell Norman
 and Mary Sue & Doug Wyatt

Dear Church Family,

Thank you all so much for the prayers, cards, phone calls, and delicious food that was sent following my eye surgery. This slow recovery has allowed much time for reflection and I am so very grateful for this loving congregation.

Nancy Girardeau

March 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 07:30 AM- Preschool/CDO 07:00 PM-Boy Scout Roundtable 07:00 PM-Worship Committee	2 09:30 AM-Aerobics 06:00 PM-Girl Scouts	3 Youth Pine Straw Delivery
4 08:45 AM-Worship 09:45 AM-Sunday School 11:00 AM-Worship 12:15 PM-Children's Choir 04:00 PM-PCF-Bible Time 06:00 PM-Sr. High Youth Sunday Planning 07:00 PM-Men's Basketball	5 07:30 AM- Preschool/CDO 09:30 AM-Aerobics 10:30 AM-Core Strengthening Class 01:00 PM-Stephen Leaders 07:30 PM-Bluegrass	6 07:30 AM- Preschool/CDO 09:30 AM-Staff Meeting 06:00 PM-CE Committee 06:30 PM-Stephen Ministry 07:00 PM-Boy Scouts	7 07:30 AM-Preschool/CDO 08:15 AM-Core Strengthening Class 09:00 AM-Preschool Chapel 09:00 AM-Prayer Group 12:00 PM-Lenten Lunches 04:00 PM-Sacred Story Video 05:45 PM-Wednesdays Together 06:00 PM-Handbell Rehearsal 07:00 PM-WTW Band Rehearsal 07:00 PM-Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 07:30 PM-Sacred Story Video	8 07:30 AM- Preschool/CDO 07:00 PM-Preschool Board Meeting 07:00 PM-Mission Committee	9 07:30 AM- Preschool/CDO 09:30 AM-Aerobics	10
11 – Preschool Sunday 08:20 AM-Men's Breakfast 08:45 AM-Worship 09:45 AM-Sunday School 11:00 AM-Worship 12:00 PM-Preschool Luncheon/Play 12:15 PM-Children's Choir 06:00 PM-Youth 07:00 PM-Men's Basketball	12 07:30 AM- Preschool/CDO 09:30 AM-Aerobics 10:00 AM-First Circle (#1) 10:30 AM-Core Strengthening Class	13 07:30 AM- Preschool/CDO 09:30 AM-Staff Meeting 10:00 AM-Faith Circle (#2) 06:00 PM-Blue Gold Banquet 07:00 PM-Boy Scouts	14 07:30 AM-Preschool/CDO 08:15 AM-Core Strengthening Class 09:00 AM-Prayer Group 10:00 AM-Trinity Circle (#3) 12:00 PM-Lenten Lunches 05:45 PM-Wednesdays Together 06:00 PM-Handbell Rehearsal 07:00 PM-WTW Band Rehearsal 07:00 PM-Celestial Circle (#7) 07:00 PM-Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	15 07:30 AM- Preschool/CDO 11:30 AM-Midday Music & Lunch	16 07:30 AM- Preschool/CDO 09:30 AM-Aerobics 06:00 PM-Girl Scouts	17 09:00 AM-Officer Retreat
Preschool Book Fair 8:30 AM - 1:30 PM Room 2						
18 – Youth Sunday 08:45 AM-Worship 09:45 AM-Sunday School 11:00 AM-Worship 12:15 PM-Children's Choir 04:00 PM-PCF-Picnic @ Hopelands 06:00 PM-Middlers: Games 07:00 PM-Men's Basketball	19 07:30 AM- Preschool/CDO 09:30 AM-Aerobics 10:30 AM-Core Strengthening Class 01:00 PM-Stephen Leaders 07:30 PM-Bluegrass	20 07:30 AM- Preschool/CDO 09:30 AM-Staff Meeting 10:00 AM-Prayer Shawl Ministry 01:30 PM- Congregational Life 06:30 PM-Stephen Ministry 07:00 PM-Boy Scouts	21 07:30 AM-Preschool/CDO 08:15 AM-Core Strengthening Class 09:00 AM-Prayer Group 12:00 PM-Lenten Lunches 05:45 PM-Wednesdays Together 06:00 PM-Handbell Rehearsal 07:00 PM-WTW Band Rehearsal 07:00 PM-Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	22 07:30 AM- Preschool/CDO	23 09:30 AM-Aerobics	24 12:00 PM-Steeplechase
					PCF Lock-In: 8:00PM – 8:00 AM	
25 08:45 AM-Worship 09:45 AM-Sunday School 11:00 AM-Worship 12:15 PM-Children's Choir 03:00 PM-Pet Blessing 03:00 PM-Youth Ice Skating 07:00 PM-Men's Basketball	26 07:30 AM- Preschool/CDO 09:30 AM-Aerobics 10:30 AM-Core Strengthening Class 11:30 AM-PW Executive Board Meeting 07:30 PM-Book Group	27 07:30 AM- Preschool/CDO 08:45 AM- Preschool Spring Pictures 09:30 AM-Staff Meeting 07:00 PM-Boy Scouts 07:00 PM-Cub Scouts	28 07:30 AM-Preschool/CDO 08:15 AM-Core Strengthening Class 08:45 AM-Preschool Spring Pictures 09:00 AM-Prayer Group 12:00 PM-Lenten Lunches 05:45 PM-Wednesdays Together 06:00 PM-Handbell Rehearsal 07:00 PM-WTW Band Rehearsal 07:00 PM-Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	29 07:30 AM- Preschool/CDO 08:45 AM-Preschool Spring Pictures	30 07:30 AM- Preschool/CDO 09:30 AM-Aerobics 06:00 PM-Girl Scouts	31 11:00 AM-Columbarium Service

The schedule listed reflects church activities only. Check the website for weekly updates or changes.
For a complete list of building use including outside groups, call the church office at 648-2662.



“See Horses Fly”
Aiken Spring Steeplechase
Saturday, March 24, 2012
Noon

Tailgate at the races with your church family at **Infield Railside #806**.

Please bring food to share, and don't forget your lawn chairs.

Congregational Life Committee will provide ice, beverages, and paper goods.

You need to purchase your general admission tickets in advance at advertised ticket outlets.

BOOK GROUP



In March we are reading Rules of Civility by Amor Towles. The novel follows Katey through 1938 as her friends and circumstances shift, and as social masks rise, fall, and rise again. With this snappy period piece, Towles resurrects the cinematic black-and-white Manhattan of the golden age of screwball comedy, gal-pal camaraderie and romantic mischief.

Please join us March 26th at 7:30 p.m. in the Parlor.

Please join us for supper and fellowship at 5:45 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Cost is \$6.50 per adult and \$2 per child, with a \$15 maximum per family.



March 7

Menu: sliced pork loin, hash brown potato casserole, green beans, bread pudding.

Set Up: Joe & Fern Brooks; **Cashier:** Bob & Arlene Lane

Program: “September 11 Experience” with Rick Duran, NYC Firefighter.

March 14

Menu: corned beef, boiled potatoes, cabbage, chocolate cake.

Set Up: Bill & Sue Todd; **Cashier:** Howard Evans

Program: “All About the Wild Turkey Federation” with Christine Rolka, NWTf Education Coordinator.

March 21

Menu: boneless chicken breast, mac & cheese, green salad w/ veggies, carrot cake.

Set Up: Dave & Jane Muhlbaier; **Cashier:** Cindy Raybould

Program: “Woodlanders” with Carl Dawson.

March 28

Menu: shepherd's pie, salad with veggies, banana pudding.

Set Up: Sandy Evans; **Cashier:** Lois Potter

Program: “Covering the Masters” with John Boyette, *The Augusta Chronicle*.

**MIDDAY MUSIC & LUNCH
 CONCERT SERIES**

March 15, 2012

Piano Trio & Vocal Quartet

Students of Juilliard

New York, NY



Concert at **11:30 a.m.** in the Sanctuary. Concert - Free
 Lunch at 12:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Cost - \$9 advance ticket.

Menu: Chicken Florentine, garden salad, rolls, cheese cake. Lunch tickets are available through noon, March 12, from the Receptionist weekdays 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

If you have questions, please contact Ken Courtney, 648-2662, or kenc@aikenpresbyterian.org

2012 Easter Memorials and Gifts



Our sanctuary will be decorated with lilies during Easter. The money generated from Easter memorials will be used to purchase lilies and other enhancements for the sanctuary. Donors will be listed on an insert to be placed in the worship bulletin on Easter. The suggested minimum for each memorial or gift is \$20.00. Please fill out the form below and return it with your check, payable to First Presbyterian Church, marked "Easter Memorial/Gift."

(Please return by April 1st)
PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Donor's Name _____
(as you wish it to appear in bulletin)

Phone _____

Do you wish to pick up a lily after the 11:00 a.m. service on Easter, April 8?

Yes _____ No _____

IN MEMORY OF:

IN HONOR OF:



LENTEN LUNCHES



We need additional assistance with sandwiches for the Lenten Lunch at First Baptist Church on March 21st.

If you can assist with food (providing sandwiches and/or cookies), setting up, serving, or cleaning up, please contact Sandy Evans at 648-8407. Donations toward the extras (pickles, fruit, chips) are welcome, too. Thanks in advance for your generosity.



Second Sunday in Lent
March 4th

Lenten Lunch
Wednesday, March 7th,
noon, First Baptist Church

Third Sunday in Lent
March 11th

Lenten Lunch
Wednesday, March
14, noon,
First Baptist Church

Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 18

Lenten Lunch
Wednesday, March
21st, noon,
First Baptist Church

Fifth Sunday in Lent
March 25th

Lenten Lunch
Wednesday, March
28th, noon,
First Baptist Church

Passion/Palm Sunday
April 1st

Lenten Lunch
Wednesday, April 4th, noon,
First Baptist Church

Maundy Thursday
Service 7:00 p.m.
April 5th

Good Friday Service
7:00 p.m.
South Aiken Presbyterian
April 6th

Easter Sunday
April 8th



**Come Get Carried Up, Up, and Away!
Vacation Bible School
June 25-29, 2012**

We are already getting organized and would love to have you join us! To volunteer, please contact Joanna Hamilton, 648-2662; Cindy Ploeger, 648-2662; or Kim Tuemler, 295-2576.



**PET BLESSING
MARCH 25, 2012
3:00 P.M.**

Join us on the west lawn for a special service to celebrate God's creation including a blessing of the animals.

Bring your pets, large and small, and properly restrained for a social setting.

If you do not have a pet, plan to attend anyway to celebrate the goodness of God's creation.

If you would like to help, please contact Kim Tuemler, 295-2576 or bffpangea@hotmail.com.



CELEBRATIONS

(that we know about!)

--Robert Lee Schwarz was born January 15, 2012. Proud great grandparents are Dent & Jane Moore.

--Gordon Andrew Bonvallet was born January 21, 2012. Proud great grandmother is Pat Bonvallet.

New grandchild? Anniversary? Community Involvement? Honors? Awards? Let us know by calling the church office!

SUMMER CAMP FUN IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER!



Amazing Summer Camp opportunities are available at Camp Fellowship for children (K-5th grade), youth (6-12th grade), and families! Be sure to visit our website for all the information you will need and to complete your registration!

www.campfellowship.org

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

Focus Class - Join us in the Conference Room. This class is studying the book of Revelation.

First Class - Join us in Room 32. This class studies various books of the Bible using the Barclay Bible Commentary.

Law Class - Join us in Room 26. This class uses The Present Word, a Bible study lesson series that follows the lectionary scriptures for each week.

Seasons of the Spirit - Join us in the Parlor. The Seasons of the Spirit curriculum invites us to explore meaning and mystery in the Bible through the lectionary.

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

Confirmation Class for 6th Grade - Join us in Room 3. This class uses the We Believe curriculum.

7th - 12th Grade - Join us in Room 2. This class uses re:form curriculum by Augsburg Press.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

Older 2 & 3 Year Olds - Join us in Room 8.

Preschool & Kindergarten - Join us in Room 5.

1st & 2nd Grade - Join us in Room 10.

3rd, 4th & 5th Grade - Join us in Room 4.

Presbyterian Children's Fellowship

March 4, 4:00-6:00 p.m. - Bible Time! We'll be focusing on sharing and giving to others.



March 18, 4:00-6:00 p.m. - Picnic at Hopelands Gardens! We'll supply the children's meal, but you may want to bring some bread or crackers to feed the ducks!

March 23-24, 8:00 p.m.-8:00 a.m. - Lock-In for 3rd-5th Graders! Our friends from South Aiken Presbyterian will be joining us in the Family Life Center for snacks, games, bounce house, and a special Bible Story! Bring \$10, your sleeping bag & pillow, and LOTS OF ENERGY!!



YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

SATURDAY, March 3 - PINESTRAW DELIVERY DAY

Middlers & Senior Highs need to meet at the church at 8:00 a.m.

March 4

Middlers - No meeting

Senior Highs - 6:00-7:30 p.m. - Youth Sunday Planning



March 11

Middlers - 6:00-7:45 p.m. - Movie Night: "Facing the Giants."

Senior Highs - 6:00-7:30 p.m. - Youth Sunday dress rehearsal.

March 18

Middlers - 6:00-7:30 p.m. - Games in the Family Life Center and devotion time.

Senior Highs - YOUTH SUNDAY 8:45 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Worship Services

No evening meeting.

March 25

Middlers & Senior Highs - 3:00-7:00 p.m. - Ice Skating in Augusta!

Meet at the church to drive over together.



It's Time to Start Registering for Youth Summer Conferences and Mission Trips!!

Middle School Cross Mission Trip to Charlotte, NC - June 3-8, 2012

(Rising 6th graders through completed 8th graders)

Montreat Youth Conference "Perfectly Imperfect" - June 10-16, 2012

(Rising 9th graders through completed 12th graders)

Intergenerational Mission Trip to John's Island - July 21-28, 2012

(Must be at least 14 years old)

Registration forms & Information will be available in the Youth News, on Youth Bulletin Boards, and on the church website.



MARCH

- 1 Becky Fulton, Ed Girardeau
- 2 June Gorrell, Jane Keisler, James Odum
- 3 Jo Caldwell, Debra Dean-Romero, Bill Shelburn
- 5 Doris Baker, Breanna Bullard, Spencer McCants
- 6 Shirley Cothran, Aaron Raack
- 7 Phil Cozad, Alan Moses
- 8 Dick McCormick, Bill McDonell
- 9 Mary Jo Epps, Janet Gray, Butch Henry
- 10 Coville Winsor
- 11 George Kierspe, Russ Schwalbert
- 12 Bailey Buchanan, Susan French
- 15 Sue Henry, Amanda Phillips, Ingrid Swanson
- 16 Curt Derico, Carolyn Shaffer, Gary Smith, Ellen Williams, Fred Wright
- 17 Nancy Bebb, Parker Gibbons
- 20 Bill Rundorff, Ann Rundorff
- 21 Laura Angelos, John King, Mary Jo Langford, Dick Smith
- 22 Arlene Lane
- 24 Jack Cornell, Ashlyn Girardeau, Jim Kelley, Bob Lane, Virginia Taylor
- 25 Mary Irving Calfee, Ray Parker, Sheryl Phillips
- 26 Harriet Jackson
- 27 Carolyn Gibbons
- 28 Doug Cook, Bayer Dawsey, Scott Hunter
- 31 Neena Hase



PRESCHOOL SUNDAY – MARCH 11, 2012

WORSHIP SERVICE 11:00 A.M.
Presentation of Mary Hunter Award

BBQ LUNCH

12:00 p.m.- Family Life Center

\$10/adults, \$4/children under 12

Reservations (for take out or dining in):

Call 648-3311 or email Mary Maddrey at marym@aikenpresbyterian.org

KINDERGARTEN PLAY PERFORMANCE

during lunch--come see the kids!

PRESCHOOL NOTE CARDS

\$10 for set of ten depicting scenes of Preschool activities.

All proceeds benefit the Preschool Scholarship Fund.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

Books, posters, games,

and much more for children and adults

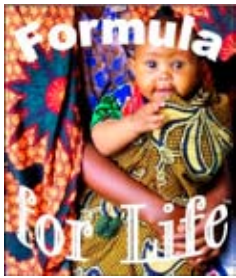
beginning Sunday, March 11th after the 11:00 Worship Service in Room 2,
continuing

Monday through Thursday, 8:30 a.m.--1:30 p.m.

SILENT AUCTION BASKETS

beginning Sunday March 11th after the 11:00 Worship Service in Room 2,
continuing

Monday through Wednesday, 8:30 a.m.--1:30 p.m.



FORMULA FOR LIFE™ --RAISING AWARENESS

The FFL necklace project raises money for formula for HIV-negative babies in Mwandia, Zambia, whose mothers are HIV-positive. Since the project began in 2009, the total amount of money raised is over \$120,000!

FFL has not only been blessed with financial success, but the project has also raised awareness of our church and of our quest to help save babies in Mwandia.

Another neat story comes to us from members Anne and George Elkins.

George was at a grandson's basketball game recently and in conversation with another couple the subject of church came up. George told them he went to First Presbyterian and issued an invitation. The lady immediately said, "Oh, that's the necklace church!" She went on enthusiastically telling about somebody giving a talk at their church and several people buying necklaces and about the project buying formula to save babies in Mwandia! Sounds like great PR for our church and for the babies!

Please contact Jim Kelley or Catherine Vandegrift if you would like to be part of the necklace makers team and/or the necklace sellers team. FFL is an amazing mission, and you can be a part of making a difference in our world!

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Please join us on March 20th (the third Tuesday of each month), 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. in the PW Productions Room (#27). We'll be happy to teach you how to make a prayer shawl! Join us in sharing ideas, tips, fellowship, and prayer! Newcomers are always welcome! You can also be a part of this ministry through your handwork at home (preferred size for our prayer shawls is a minimum of 30" by 60"). Please call us to get details about yarn, etc.

Be sure to let the church office know if you have a new baby or grandbaby in your family! We have baby items, and we'd like to share with your new family member, if we have an adequate supply at the time!

Please let us know of someone who might benefit from the comfort of a prayer shawl. The recipients do NOT have to be members of our church. Call Robbie Knox at 648-5229 or Catherine Vandegrift at 642-4788 to suggest a prayer shawl recipient or with your questions.



Prayer Shawl Ministry



FEBRUARY CIRCLE MEETINGS

FIRST CIRCLE (1)

Monday, March 12,
10:00 a.m., Room 28

CIRCLE OF FAITH (2)

Tuesday, March 13
10:00 a.m., Woodside

TRINITY CIRCLE (3)

Wednesday,
March 14, 10:00 a.m.,
Parlor

CELESTIAL CIRCLE (7)

Wednesday,
March 14, 7:00 p.m.,
Room 1

SAVE THE DATE

Presbyterian Women Birthday Luncheon Saturday, May 5



Tickets are \$12 and available at the April Circle meetings and in the narthex after worship on April 22 & 29.



Thanks to the entire congregation for your generous gifts during our "Souper Bowl of Caring" collection. Due to your kindness, we were able to deliver a check for \$731.14 to ACTS, in addition to 467 non-perishable food items!



NEW DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE!

Our medical equipment cupboard has again received some excellent and useful donations! If anyone has a need for any of these items listed below, contact the church office for more information, and we can loan them out to our church family.



We now have available:

- 3 Wheelchairs of different types
- 3 Walkers – 2 types
- 8 Furniture blocks (to raise sofas or chairs for easier sitting and rising)
- 3 Canes
- 2 Boots (for ankle/foot sprains or fractures)
- 2 Raised toilet seats with handles
- 2 Bed blocks – to raise the head end of a bed, for those with GERD
- 1 Shower seat with back – to use in the shower for those who cannot stand

We are grateful to those supporting this ministry to our church family. Please let us know how we can help, by calling the church office! 648-2662



The main emphasis of the trip was to conduct vacation Bible school, dispense eyeglasses for adults and do some basic dental and health treatments for children in four rural villages. Two of the Agape Promises students (many of the 50 students in the AP program are supported by First Pres. members) were important members of the team. Ingrid and Estella, both 9th graders, who were out of



school on their "summer" break, led the opening session of each VBS session, and helped with the eyeglass dispensing and the dental/medical treatments. Their enthusiasm and hard work were important to the success of the team. They were wonderful representative of the Agape Promises program. The next team lead by Alan Moses will depart on February 29 and will include two Aiken dentists, and dental hygienists will be treating approximately 75 patients.

Please hold them and those who will be served by them in your prayers.

Remaining dates set for 2012's mission trips: March 31 to April 7, June 4-15, July 7-17 and Oct. 8-15. Each trip is different, in terms of work and other activities. First-hand information is also available from HAF board members Allen Blancett and Alan Moses. HAF now has a Facebook page, and details are at www.hondurasagape.com as well.

Follow the team, led by Alan Moses, serving in Honduras February 29-March 10 via the Honduras Agape Foundation blog: hafmissions.blogspot.com

MOM'S STOVE IS WORKING!

Remember when you were encouraged to buy a smoke-free stove for Mom? And many of you did? Well, Mom and the kids are breathing much better now because you gave from your heart. The Honduras Agape Foundation mission team to Honduras in early February was told by Dr. Constantino that he is seeing a dramatic improvement in respiratory cases in Teo since the Justa stoves ('eco-stoves') have been built. In a separate encounter with a Red Cross worker in La Montanita, the feedback was the same. It's working. People are getting and staying more healthy.

Both villages now have ample supplies of clean water for drinking and general sanitation. They are continuing to build smoke-free stoves which reduce respiratory problems, and they are building latrines for improved personal hygiene. All of these improvements are a result of teamwork—people in First Pres. provided funds, the villagers provided labor, and the families are reaping benefits. (See more on the church website: www.aikenpresbyterian.org)

Does this take care of all the needs? Not by a long shot, but God's love is being manifest. Sign up for the team going down March 31-April 7. Contact Allen Blancett (649-5094) for more information.

SERVANT SATURDAY REVIEW

On Servant Saturday, January 28, approximately 130 members (children, youth and adults) of the congregation served locally in various capacities.

- 37 bags of clothes were sorted, sized and labeled and taken to ACTS
- 450 valentines were signed for ACTS Senior Food Program
- 40 cards were created for clients served by the Savannah River Cancer Foundation
- Breakfast was made and approximately 100 served at Grace Kitchen (St. John's United Methodist)
- Lunch was made and approximately 100 served at St. Thaddeus Soup Kitchen
- Fencing was removed and carpets cleaned at two Christ Central-Aiken sites
- The grounds at the Red Cross office building were cleared of trash, brush, and leaves
- Soup, biscuits, and cookies were made and delivered to 16 of our homebound members
- 13 people donated blood
- Approximately 25 people participated in a prayer vigil for the ministries, staff, and clients where we served.

MINISTRY ON THE COAST!

Join us for our intergenerational (rising 9th graders – adults) mission trip July 21-28. This is an opportunity to enter generously into the experience of others as we listen to the stories of the Gullah people and learn about their culture, help to make a home(s) safe and livable, grow as disciples through personal and communal reflection on our experience and Scripture and build intergenerational relationships as we work, play, and worship together. Information and registration forms are available on the table in the office hallway. Questions? Contact Cindy Ploeger or Holly Shoaf-O'Kula. Registration deadline is March 30th. Check out the website: ruralmission.org

MWANDI MISSION

Bruce Eberhard and Jim Kelley will leave for Mwandia, Zambia, on March 25 and return April 16. They will be taking over some much needed replacement parts. While there, they will be doing some maintenance/repair work to the guest house, electrical work in Keith & Ida's new house, attempting to stop some leaks in the hospital sterilizer, and moving the washer and dryer from the guest house to the new laundry facility. There will certainly be other jobs that will need doing. Bruce will be attending the board meeting while Jim will be dispensing blankets and booties for newborns and dresses for little girls.

Wondering what is happening these days at the mission we support in Mwandia? Visit these two web sites: mwandimission.org and idaandkeith.blogspot.com.

IF IT'S MARCH, IT'S MAC & CHEESE AT FPC

Thanks for your contributions of oatmeal in February! Please leave your contributions for ACTS in the baskets in the narthex wings. Looking ahead: April - pasta sauce; May - rice.



First Presbyterian News

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SACRED STORY: A RIVER FLOWS THROUGH US

THANKS TO SO MANY!!

For those who participated in the worship service on February 12, our story at FPCA came alive in a different way on that Sunday morning. It was funny at points. Who can forget Lorraine going to the top—or the shades of Deliverance the hikers experienced? But it was also poignant and moving as we shared the memories of brokenness, healing, loss, and witness.

To name all who contributed in so many ways is a dangerous endeavor; there were many behind the scenes that encouraged, shared stories (officially and unofficially). The story-tellers were too numerous to name, and so we will not even try. Some stories were anonymous, some were told by others in memory or honor of someone else. Thanks to all of you who took your time to share the good times and the hard times with us; we truly hope that you saw your story represented in its spirit in Sunday's worship. There were, however, some specific roles that people accepted in order to bring the Sacred Story to life, and below are some of those. We know we will inevitably omit someone, and so apologies are offered before the task of naming begins.

CAST in order of Appearance:

Holly Shoaf-O'Kula
Theresa Hipps
Annelise Hipps
Howard Jones
Jody Duggan
Margot Salzman
Bob Hinds
Kathy Cook
Doug Cook
Kelley Brown
Virginia Girardeau-Smith
Dana Cozad
Philip Merry
Rob Gray
Lorraine Seebly
Katie Brown
Robin Boyd
Elizabeth Girardeau-Smith
Ethan Ploeger
Ed Girardeau
Sally Jenkins
Matthew Girardeau-Smith
Tim McKinsey
Bennett Tucker
Jed Alexander
Maxine Eberhard
Lindsay Tucker
Catherine Vandegrift
Bruce Eberhard
Colin Covington
Jean Covington
Dave Johnson
Linda McGurer

Story-Gatherers

Fern Brooks
Kathy Brown
Dana Cozad
Carl Dawson
Jim Farmer
Kathy Huff
Sally Jenkins
Jane Keisler
Dave Muhlbaier
Marilyn Sackett
Pam Skiles

Technical—Sound and Lights

Dave Johnson

Manager & Planning Team

Kim Cauthen
Chris Kupcha
Joe Kupcha
John Palmer

Round-Table Decorations

Kathy Boyd
Theresa Hipps and family

Videographer

David Boyd

Music

Ken Courtney
Sanctuary Choir

Costumes and Sanctuary

Embellishment
Margot Salzman

Staff

Thanks to the staff, who, as always, were supportive in so many ways behind the scenes:
Cheryl--key role in everything technological.
Sandy—for keeping us in supplies and water
Debbie--for wonderful design of printed materials
Bonnie--too many roles to name, but she will dream of water bottles for many months!
Jacob and Alvin who helped with the set-up of the sanctuary and Family Life Center
Volunteers--Carol Ryder and Marilou Knowles

Pastors

Holly and David for script advisement and planning team

Miscellaneous

Sally Jenkins was involved from the beginning, attending the Community Performance International workshop about developing a community performance. She was full of ideas that were essential in bringing CPI to us, contributing energy and creativity at all levels of the process.

Members of the Worship Committee, the Endowment Committee, and the Christian Education Committees, and the Session lent moral and financial support

Jerry Shumpert for supplying drinks for the lunch; Peggy Penland and Houndslake Guest House for accommodations, Trip Buchanan for emergency dental care (your never know when and how you can help!)

A DVD of this special service is available for \$5 from the church office. You may also view it in the Parlor on March 7 at 4:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.