

FIRST NEWS

SUMMER 2022



Photo courtesy of Budge Bean

Both in our world and in our church, the past two years have been ones defined by a single word: transition. Of course, COVID forced us all to transition in one way or another from our normal rhythms and routines. But transition has also been a defining word here at First Presbyterian with changes in leadership happening across several key ministry areas. This began with Tom Evans accepting a new call to New York City back in summer 2020 and was followed last year by Holly and Robert Bannan also accepting a new call to serve in Conway, SC.

With the faithful guidance of two outstanding interim leaders – Rev. Lewis Johnson and Rev. Lewis Galloway – and the steadfast ministry of the other pastors and staff, you all jumped feet first into this transitional time. My call here earlier this year represented a first step out of those waters, but there were still ongoing searches for new leadership of our youth and children's ministries. And now, after much prayer and a lot of hard work on the part of two search committees, it is such a joy to be able to celebrate the call of two individuals to come serve alongside us in the areas of Youth and Campus Ministry and Children's Ministry.

First, at the congregational meeting on May 22, the congregation voted to call John Daniel DeBevoise as our new Associate Pastor for Youth and Campus Ministry. John Daniel is coming to us from Decatur, GA having just graduated from Columbia Theological Seminary with a Master of Divinity Degree. John Daniel's energy and passion for ministry with youth and college age students is going to quickly make a mark on the lives and faith of our young people and our congregation as a whole. We are thrilled to be welcoming John Daniel as well as his fiancé, Rev. Eliza Smith, who already serves in Spartanburg as the chaplain at Converse University. John Daniel's first day at FPC is June 8.

Second, we are equally excited to be welcoming Kara Clark as our new Director of Children's Ministry. Kara is a seasoned educator having worked as a teacher for the past sixteen years. She has also served in various forms of children and youth ministries at Montreat Conference Center, including as director of Montreat's extensive day camp "Clubs" program. Kara radiates energy and love for doing ministry with children and families, and we could not be more excited to have someone with her experience and creativity stepping into this role! We are also thrilled to have her husband Douglas and their two

children Huntington (8) and Shaffer (4) continue being a part of our church family. Kara's first day at FPC will be August 7.

These two additions to our staff team represent such an exciting new chapter in our ministry together here at FPC. I am mindful though that we would not have gotten here without the hard work of many individuals throughout this transition time. Thank you especially to Ansley Page, Beth Burris, and Carrie Coleman who stepped up in such BIG ways to help provide continuity and leadership in the "in-between time" for these crucial ministries. And thank you too to all the members of the two dedicated search committees who prayerfully went about the work of identifying and calling John Daniel and Kara to come and serve in our midst.

Blessings to you all. See you at church. Invite a friend.

Peace,

Rev. Alan F. Dyer
Senior Pastor



Summer Worship Schedule

PENTECOST

JUNE 5 - WORSHIP AS ONE AT 11AM IN THE SANCTUARY

JUNE 12 - SEPTEMBER 4*

8:30AM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP IN THE CHAPEL • 10:30AM MORNINGSONG WORSHIP IN FOGARTIE HALL
10:30AM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP IN THE SANCTUARY

*INSTALLATION OF REV. ALAN F. DYER

JUNE 26 - WORSHIP AS ONE AT 10:30AM
SANCTUARY

*JULY 3

WORSHIP AS ONE AT 10:30AM
SANCTUARY

*AUGUST 28

WORSHIP AS ONE AT 10:30AM
SANCTUARY

*SEPTEMBER 4

WORSHIP AS ONE AT 10:30AM
SANCTUARY

Adult Summer Sunday School 9:30a.m.

During June and July, we will focus on the New Testament Church as described in Acts, as we consider how we are called to be the church. Our two adult Sunday School offerings for the summer will coordinate with this sermon series. If you have not yet found a Sunday School class, or if your class is taking a break from the summer, we hope that you will join in one of these classes to enrich your faith and worship this summer.

Emmaus & Friends (Room 2207)

Join with the Emmaus Class this summer as they explore the New Testament Church through lectionary passages from Acts and the Letters of Paul in June, before turning to the other work written by the writer of Acts (the Gospel of Luke) in July. Enjoy good coffee and fellowship before diving into the Bible. Each session stands on its own. So come as you are able!

LIFT & Friends (Purnell Room)

Acts: Discover the Spirit Then and Now-- Acts presents big stories with big questions: What is God like? How does the Gospel direct our points of view? How can faith shape action? How does God's work in the first century reveal God's work today? Let's think about it together and deepen our understanding, so we can keep pace with God working all around us. Matthew Skinner's works on Acts will guide our conversation and nourish our faith to live transformative grace more fully.

Church on the Lawn May 15, 2022



CHILDREN'S MUSIC

Begins September 14 at 5pm

Children's music will begin again in September for ages 4K-5th grade. Register beginning AUGUST 1 at fpcspartanburg.org/childrenschoir.



Birth through Age 3

For parents and children. Classes begin mid-September. Register beginning AUGUST 1 at fpcspartanburg.org/firststeps. Class size is limited!



Contact Marcia Andrews for more information at mandrews@fpcspartanburg.org.



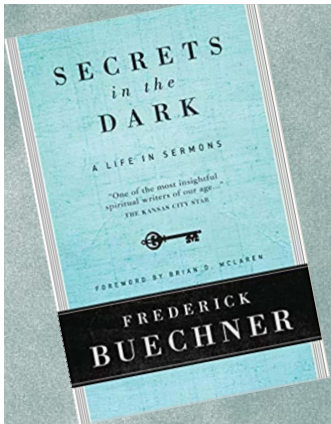
Summer Reading Group

Thursday mornings beginning June 2 through July 21
9:30am-10:30am in the Small Private Dining Room

Pastor Leslie will facilitate a group conversation around the sermons of Frederick Buechner.

Purchase a book (Scan the code to the right to purchase online), and come join us for discussion!

Please contact Leslie Lang at llang@fpcspartanburg.org if you're interested!



Acts 2 Dinners

Acts 2 Dinners & Young Adult Small Group Fellowship Dinners brought people together this spring to strengthen connections to God and our church family. A vision of the Fellowship Committee, these small group dinners were inspired by Acts 2: 42-47 that describes the early church sharing worship, prayer, study, and meals together. Throughout the New Testament, we see Christianity happens most fully in community. Community strengthens our faith and deepens our love for Christ. God strengthens our ties that can then shine the love of Jesus beyond ourselves. More dinners to come this fall!





SUMMER '22 SCHEDULE

Email Carrie to sign up or for more info!
ccoleman@fpcspartanburg.org



Youth Sunday School
9:30am on the Second Floor of the Family Life Center
Middle School and High School Sunday School will continue through the summer as we also welcome our rising 6th graders.

JUNE	JULY	AUGUST		Youth Summer Bible Study* Mondays, 12 - 2pm Rising 6th - 8th grades Tuesdays, 12 - 2pm Rising 9th - 12th grades and graduated HS Seniors	*Meet us in the Family Life Center at noon. We'll walk to a closeby restaurant for lunch then come back to the church for Bible Study and rec time!
5th - Summer Kick Off Lake Party and Cookout 15th - Hike to Pearson's Falls 29th - Carowinds & Carolina Harbor Water Park	6th - Dinner and a Movie 20th - Green River Tubing 24th - 30th - Montreat (HS Only)	12th - Shop 'Til You Drop (Charlotte) 14th - Blessing of the Backpacks 21st - Fall Kick Off Party			

Summer Bible Study starts on June 13 and runs through August 2.
It will not meet on July 4, 5, 25 or 26.



Summer - Sunday School
9:30-10:15 a.m.
Preschool (C110) & Elementary (start in C201)

Children's Ministry: New Every Day

A huge blessing of Children's Ministry is seeing new things abound. They are constantly learning. Recently, a three year old while playing with a felt board, told me all about Mary finding Jesus in the garden. A four year old greeted his mom's return home with the Lord's Prayer and "Go Now in Peace." Often five-year-olds tell the Bible story if I hesitate. Elementary kids ask and answer big questions about faith. They are learning so much! Thanks be to God!

Our new ventures in May were big hits. Our 5th graders were hungry for targeted lessons about friends and God's work in their lives. Our Two's Class also had great participation. Moms helped these tiny ones learn about Jesus. How precious!

Friends, God has been shaping little lives all year. We are blessed with incredibly dedicated and creative teachers who study, create, teach, and care so that our children know the love of Jesus. What a difference they make! To them we say, "Thanks be to God for you and your generous spirit! Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!"

Let the little children come and know the love of Jesus deep in their hearts!

Love, Pastor Ansley



Neighborhood Meal Ministry

The Neighborhood Meal Ministry continues to gain momentum and guests now that we are able to serve and eat inside again!

Every Thursday in the Arthur Center starting at 4:30pm, volunteers serve a hot meal to those in need in our community. It takes many volunteers to make this ministry possible; from providing food, to cooking, to serving and fellowshiping with the guests.

There is a particular need for food sponsors and volunteers on July 7, 14, and 21st.

Please reach out to Betsy Burrell (b_burrell52@yahoo.com) or Mary Lorick Thompson (marylorick.thompson@salem.edu) if you are interested in getting involved!

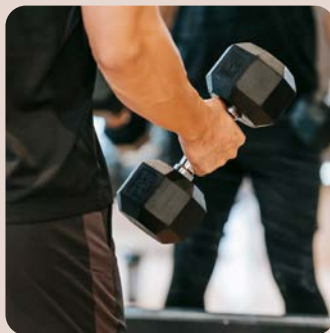
RECREATION NEWS

BOOTCAMP CLASSES

Monday/Wednesday/Friday
7:15am via Zoom

Monday/Wednesday/Friday
9:15am on the Track

Tuesday/Thursday
12:15pm on the Track



SUMMER GYM HOURS

Beginning May 31st

Monday-Thursday 8am-8pm

Friday 8am-2pm

No weekend hours

YOGA CLASSES

Mondays & Wednesdays
8:15am in the Activity Room

\$5/class taught by
Nicole Hensley





PASTORAL CONCERNS

(THROUGH MAY 18, 2022)

IN MEMORIAM

Geraldine “Jerry” Roser Crenshaw

Tuesday, April 26, 2022

Mother of Dick Crenshaw and Carol Barre

I am the resurrection and life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live.

John 11:25

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

Christian sympathy is extended to:

Gail Collins, on the death of her mother, **Mildred Eloise Cook Mitchell**;

Leigha Keller, on the death of her father, **Chester Maurice Pace**;

David Ike, on the death of his father, **Albert Frances Ike, Jr.**;

Logan Camp, on the death of her father, **G. Frank Lundy, Jr.**; and

Martha Moore, on the death of her mother, **Jane Moyer Fairey Albergotti**.

BIRTHS

Congratulations to:

Martha and John Moore, on the birth of their daughter, **Ann Wilkerson Moore**, born Thursday, April 28, 2022.

BAPTISMS

The Sacrament of Baptism was administered to:

Braxton Hoffner Bonetti, son of **Hannah and Tony Bonetti**, on May 8, 2022;

Virginia Kabrich Kennedy, daughter of **Sarah and Whitner Kennedy**, on May 8, 2022;

Josephine Collier Berry, daughter of **Becky and Jeff Berry**, on May 8, 2022; and

Welder Manning Cameron, son of **Mahlon and Bretton Cameron**, on May 15, 2022.



ALL EVENTS ARE FREE!

JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION WEEKEND

THE JOURNEY CONTINUES...

JUNETEENTH BLOCK PARTY Friday, June 17 th 6pm-10pm St. John Street near Barnet Park Live DJ Food Trucks 360 Photobooth & more!	JUNETEENTH FESTIVAL Saturday, June 18 th 11am-7pm Barnet Park Food Kids Zone Live Performances Shopping Vendors	JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION & RENEWAL Sunday, June 19 th 5pm Cornerstone Baptist Church Go back & Get it!
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Kirkin' o' the Tartans

First Presbyterian Church will hold its annual Kirkin' o' the Tartans Worship Service on Sunday, October 30, 2022. At our Kirkin' service, we remember ancient times, as well as past and present kith and kin, while asking God's help and blessings in the future through special music and a procession of bagpipes and tartans.

The tartan fabrics are ordered from Scotland, so we need your order and payment by Friday, July 22, 2022. The cost of a banner is \$135.

Some clans have multiple patterns available. If you want a particular pattern, please indicate below. Otherwise, we will order the most common pattern for that clan.

At the conclusion of the service, the tartan banners will be given to the sponsor for storage or display until the next Kirkin'. Only the staffs and banner stands will remain at the church.

Questions? Contact Martha Bean at mtbean@icloud.com.



2022 Kirkin' o' the Tartans Banner Sponsorship Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (____) _____

Email: _____

Clan Tartan: _____

Pattern: _____

Please forward this form and check for \$135 to:

First Presbyterian Church - Kirkin' Fund
Attn: Lynise Clarke
393 East Main Street
Spartanburg, SC 29302

The poster features a light blue background with a subtle wave pattern. It is decorated with several large, stylized tropical leaves in shades of pink, orange, and red, positioned around the edges. At the bottom, there are two orange starfish on a sandy beach. The text is centered and uses a mix of bold, sans-serif and cursive fonts.

SUMMER *Sizzle*

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

JUNE 5TH
PENTECOST PARTY

JUNE 26TH
REV. ALAN DYER'S INSTALLATION
VBS KICKOFF

JULY 24TH
OLD FASHIONED
ICE CREAM PARTY

AUGUST 14TH
BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS
POPSICLE PARTY

SEPTEMBER 11TH
RALLY DAY

First Presbyterian Church
393 East Main Street
Spartanburg, SC 29302-1917

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