



The Window

The Newsletter of Fort Hill Presbyterian Church

August 2015

Message From the Pastor

Trading Spaces

We have spent the summer trading spaces. Frankly, it has been refreshing to me. Sometimes changing the routine is good. When we worshipped in Tartan Hall at the later service, we were squeezed in like sardines. I had to put my arm around the person next to me as we sat so close. I looked out and saw a cozy community, a band of disciples ready to be open to what was happening. I am so thankful. I thought of the "beatitude" that states, "Blessed are the flexible, for they shall bend and not break!"

Our leaders have identified a couple of needs of our congregation. First, Christian Education Ministry examined how to grow and improve our Sunday morning time for faith development between worship services. Another need is time for fellowship and relationships. There are some exciting new things planned. You will read about "The Bridge" inside. One of the challenges has been allowing transitions between worship services and education time. So first in conversation with Worship Ministry, and then through the work of session's ad hoc committee to explore this, session determined to adapt the Sunday morning schedule.

Another identified need of the congregation is time for conversation, visiting, and fellowship. So our new schedule will help provide time and space for that. The newly renovated spaces will have some gathering spaces for folks to sit and visit. Our Fellowship Ministry is working on some short term Wednesday dinners and programs later in fall. And then on Sunday we will add time between services and "The Bridge" for us to have unrushed time to gather.

So the new Sunday morning schedule beginning **September 6** with our fall kick-off and welcome back BBQ for our college students and church family will be:

8:30-9:15 Worship

Location: Sanctuary while Tartan Hall is renovated from August 17-mid October

9:15-9:30 Fellowship

9:30 The Bridge — *community building and faith exploration*

10:30-10:45 Fellowship

10:45 Worship (Sanctuary)

Feel free to come at 10:30 and visit with neighbors around you.

I hope we will all be refreshed by trying something new, keeping our eyes on the goal: to build up the body of Christ as we glorify, grow, and meet needs together.

In Christ,

Pastor Laura

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Fort Hill Presbyterian Church

101 Edgewood Avenue

Clemson, SC 29631

(864) 654-2061

www.forthillchurch.org

Laura Smith Conrad, Pastor

Mary Morrison, Associate Pastor for Discipleship

Kelly Roman, Associate Pastor for University Ministry

Maggie Alsup, PSA Intern for University Ministry

Kristyn Ball, Interim Director of Youth and Outreach

Cyndi Davis, Children's Ministry Coordinator

Margaret MacKay, Director of Music

Lori Houck, Administrator

Judy Crawford, Administrative Assistant

Scott Thraikill, Facilities Caretaker

Joining together on a journey of Christian faith, we seek to be Disciples of Christ and to share God's love in our community and around the world.

We do this as we Glorify God, Grow Disciples, Meet Human Needs.

Scriptures for Sunday Worship

- 8/2 10th Sunday after Pentecost**
2 Sam. 11:26-12:13a; Ps. 51:1-12
Eph. 4:1-16; John 6:24-35
- 8/9 11th Sunday after Pentecost**
2 Sam. 18:5-9, 15, 31-33; Ps. 130
Eph. 4:25-5:2; John 6:35, 41-51
- 8/16 12th Sunday after Pentecost**
1 Kings 2:10-12, 3:3-14; Ps. 111
Eph. 5:15-20; John 6:51-58
- 8/23 13th Sunday after Pentecost**
1 Kings 8:(1,6,10-11) 22-30, 41-43
Ps. 84; Eph. 5:10-20; John 6:56-69
- 8/30 14th Sunday after Pentecost**
Sng of Sol. 2:8-13; Ps. 45:1-2, 6-9
James 1:17-27; Mark 7:1-8

The Window September Deadline

The deadline for announcements, articles, and features for the September issue of *The Window* is **Monday, August 17.**

Please email your item as a Microsoft Word document to the church office at window@forthillchurch.org or type the item directly into your email and send. If you don't have access to a computer, you can leave the item in Lori Houck's box in the FHOG office.



Sunday
August 16, 2015

Choir Corner

When we hit August, you know school is starting, football is coming, and the bit of leisure we enjoyed in the summer is over! That's not a bad thing. It's just a fact.

So what is in store for us here at Fort Hill? Well, renovations to the education building and sanctuary should be all done soon and we get to enjoy newly renovated, upgraded facilities. And there's more to come with the Administration Building and Tartan Hall.

Musically, there's a new list of anthems for the fall planned and ready for the Chancel Choir. They have enjoyed a break and while they sat in the pews or traveled some, we were blessed by gifted musicians — Mandy Hays on violin; vocal soloists — George Dunkelberg, Chip Egan, Garland Gravely, and John Sherman; Sarah Morrison, Ethel Pettigrew, and Pianists — Sydney Weeks and Judy Bonham.

So now what? Singing opportunities are being planned for our children, youth, and Chancel Choir and ringing opportunities for the Chancel Bells. There's something for all!! And we will have a new rehearsal space to enjoy and a larger choir loft to fill. So think about sharing those musical talents you have been hiding away!

As always, I want to say thank you to Fort Hill for allowing me the privilege of going to Montreat Worship and Music conference for the continuing education each year. It was a glorious experience and a great inspiration to kick off a new choir year!

Smiling-n-Singing

Margaret

Christian Education Ministry Update

"Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise;" Psalm 100:4a NIV

This verse comes to mind each time I consider the changes and additions being made in our facilities and programs. We will soon come together to greet each other with excitement after a summer of vacation and camps. Updated spaces allow us to explore new possibilities during our 'Bridging Hour', (9:30-10:30), between the worship services. Many plans for this new church year are being finalized by members of Worship, Fellowship, and Christian Education Ministries, some are already in place. Other ministries of our church are also busy with existing programs and exciting plans. Look for and embrace these experiences to develop a richer relationship with God and one another.

Thank you to all who have already agreed to serve with these ministries. Thank you also to those who will answer yes to a need. Many creative ideas and suggestions, as well as, loving supportive words and deeds have been made by our church members. These are deeply appreciated. Gratitude is also expressed to all who lovingly provided the means to make the physical renovations needed to expand the ministry begun by generations of the past, for present, and future generations.

A group of young disciples have already started their journey this summer as they joined together for fellowship and service. We have read, painted, visited, cooked, and eaten together. Please watch for the dates and times of all activities in the Window, the bulletin, website, weekly announcements, and email. Make plans to be part of THE BRIDGE.

Upcoming dates:

August 16 — Blessing of the Backpacks

September 6 — Rally Day and Bridging Celebration

Let us enter this new time together with a joyful, cooperative spirit.

Blessings,

Cyndi

Children's Choir News

We're trying something new!

New choir times and day for our Children K — Middle School

Wednesday starting September 9:

K—3rd Grade will meet from 6:15—6:45

4th—8th Grades will meet from 6:45—7:15

Our talented Kristy MacRae has faithfully led our children in music on Sunday afternoons. Now with her growing family, she takes a well-deserved break.

Margaret MacKay will be directing these groups.

University Ministry Update



Welcome Back, Maggie Alsup!

Maggie began a second year of her University Ministry internship on July 15. She will be working with us until May 2016.

Fall Semester PSA Meal Sign Up

Meals are a fun and meaningful part of the PSA Sunday night experience. Nearly every week during the school year, students look forward to eating dinner together. As they break bread, they laugh, share stories from their

weeks, and support one another. If you would like to provide a meal, you can sign up individually or in groups. Meals can be home-cooked or delivered from a local restaurant. Contact University Ministry Intern Maggie Alsup (psa.intern@forthillchurch.org) to sign up.



PW Coordinating Team 2015-16

Officers

Moderator: Judi Cundiff

Treasurer: Gail Williams

Secretary: Lois Sill

Historian: Lib Gage

Committee Chairs

Birthday Luncheon: Aleta Robinson, Beth Chapman

Cares & Concerns: Stephanie Scott

Christian Action Ministry: Eva Henry, Linda Gahan

Clemson University Ministry & Fort Hill College Student Program: Maggie Bandy

Columbia Friendship Circle: Nan Jones

Honorary Life Membership: Kathy Hughes, Pansy Duke, Eva Henry, Marcia Sherman

Mission Haven/Safe Harbor: Susan Beckwith, Joan Dixon, Gensie Waldrop

New Membership: Cynthia Gravely, Betty Long

Publicity: Mary Barron

Retreat: Susan Brown, Jayne Fort, Helen Wooten

Officer Recruitment: Linda Gahan

The Window

Sunday Servants

Pastor on Call

8/2 Mary Morrison

8/9 Mary Morrison

8/16 Laura Conrad

8/23 Mary Morrison

8/30 Laura Conrad

Elder at the Font—8:30 Service

8/2 Jackie Ellis

8/9 Michael Bailey

8/16 Megan Chavis

8/23 Joanne Trenholm

8/30 Charles Barron

Elder at the Font—10:30 Service

8/2 Mike Money

8/9 Donna McCubbin

8/16 Chloe Satzger

8/23 Michael Bailey

8/30 Bill Cato

Infant—2 Year Old Nursery

8/2 Ellen Torrence

8/9 Laura Crenshaw

8/16 Billie Jackson

8/23 Beth Durham

8/30 Joan Dixon

3—5 Year Old Nursery

8/2 Ellen Torrence

8/9 Laura Crenshaw

8/16 Helen Mohr

8/23 Beth Gregory

8/30 Meredith LeCroy

Mobile Connection



For church member directory, online giving and more, download the app "Church Life" to your iPhone, Android, or Windows phone. You can click on a phone number and email address directly from the phone. You can submit a photo as well. To learn more, go to:

acstechnologies.com/products/acs/features/acs-church-life

In order to be able to access the member database, you will have to first sign up for a member login account through the church website: www.forthillchurch.org.

Announcements & Concerns



Christian Sympathy is extended to:

JoAnn Koonce and family in the death of **Roger Koonce** on July 7.

Thank You!

The Davis family would like to thank everyone at Fort Hill for your loving thoughts, beautiful cards, and much needed prayers. They were especially comforting during the time of our grief. Yet, we celebrate the life of Adrienne, knowing that she touched the lives of so many people from all walks of life in a truly Christian way.

Rick & Alex Davis



Congregational Meeting, Sunday, August 16, 10:20 in the Sanctuary, for the purpose of electing 3 members to represent the congregation on the 2015 Officer Nominating Committee. The three candidates are *Marcia Barker, Bill Mostertz, & Cathy Spragins*. Additional nominations will be accepted from the congregation. In addition to these members representing the congregation, the 2015 Officer Nominating Committee will consist of the follow: Session, Megan Chavis; Presbyterian Women, Myra Cato; Men of the Church, Bob Williamson; Youth of the Church, Hannah Sawyer; Board of Deacons, Cheryl Trammell; Laura Conrad, Pastor Ex Officio Member.

Did you know that **Homebound Communion** is served the first Sunday of every month by the Board of Deacons? If you or someone you know would like to have communion brought to you, please call Lisa Street at (864) 868-2751.

Ladies, you are invited! Circle of Hope (Circle 5) is hosting a tea at Hazel Sparks' home on Monday, **August 3**, at 3:30 pm. All ladies are interested in joining an afternoon Circle are invited to come for tea and fellowship. For more information, call Hazel at 654-3617 or Ann Gilreath at 654-4300.

Welcome to

The Bridge

Following on our **Bridging Generations** theme, **The Bridge** is the name of our time of growing in the faith together across the generations at Fort Hill. Every person of all ages is invited to come and join with one another each Sunday for an hour of exploring faith. Instead of classes we will have **Bridgeports**, instead of teachers, we will have **Bridge Builders** to help us deepen our faith and extend hospitality to others. During the bridging time there is a place for everyone. With our newly renovated educational building everyone will find a place to grow in discipleship.

9:30—10:30
On Sundays at
Fort Hill
Presbyterian
Church

- ✚ The first floor will provide **Bridgeports** for our youngest disciples (infants—first graders)
- ✚ The second floor will provide new spaces for all our adult disciples with ease of accessibility to the sanctuary and office, for the first time ever!
- ✚ The second grade **Bridgeport** will also be on the second floor for ease of access to the sanctuary as they **Bridge to Worship** throughout the year, learning everything about how we glorify God together in community every Sunday
- ✚ What was once Bethlehem Hall will become a finished center for youth and offer **Bridgeports** for our older elementary disciples (3rd—5th graders), our middle high disciples (6th—8th graders) and our senior high disciples (9th—12th graders).

Community Building will begin at 9:30 am with all disciples ages 5K—8th graders gathered in the youth center for Holy Motion energizers, singing, and the Bible story for the day, all led by our **Pier Pointers** (senior highs). Then at 9:45, the young disciples make their way to their **Bridgeports** for exploring faith with their **Bridge Builders** and **Pier Pointers**. At 10:30, parents pick up their children to bridge to worship and glorify God together.

How we build bridges of Faith

Bridges that last are built over time. So too is a Christian life of discipleship. At Fort Hill Presbyterian Church every member and child is encouraged and invited to

spend time with one another growing in faith seeking understanding by laying a strong foundation in prayer, Bible study, and spiritual practices that open our lives to the love of Jesus Christ.



Children 3 years old—5th graders will enjoy **Growing in Grace & Gratitude** with their **Bridge Builders** and **Pier Pointers**. *Growing in Grace & Gratitude* is rooted in the foundation of Presbyterian identity where God's grace and our gratitude are the heartbeat of our faith, life, and worship. *Growing in Grace & Gratitude* extends an invitation to discipleship that inspires children to learn and practice hospitality, generosity, and love; and reaches beyond Sunday morning, encouraging children to live their lives as an expression of God's grace.

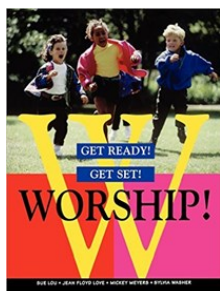
Youth in 6th—8th grades will explore **Faith Questions** which are mini-courses about real faith questions posed by Presbyterian youth from across the denomination. These four to six session explorations encourage youth to look to Scripture as well as our faith traditions, to engage a faith question through meaningful, relevant, and responsive ways.



Adults, stay tuned to your Window for more information about Bridgeport opportunities for you starting in September!

The Christian Education Ministry

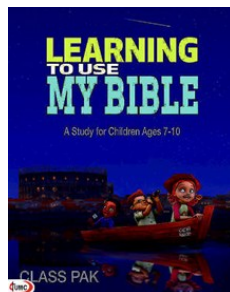
Bridges to Worship for Second Graders



Beginning in January children in second grade will explore worship practices through **Get Ready! Get Set! Worship!** In their Bridgeport they will learn about the order of worship, the sacraments, prayer, the offering, and all other elements of worship and the worship space we call the sanctuary.

Children will receive Bibles and bake communion bread as they build bridges

to worshipping God. Once children receive their Bibles, they will enjoy **Learning to Use My Bible** and begin to unfold wonderful stories in this holy book.



Announcements & Concerns

Calling all Young Adults ages 22-35!

Are you looking for some meaningful fellowship, but have not found that group? Do you want to get to know others in our church your age? Do you want to talk about faith with people your age? Come be a part of a new group that is forming. We'll get to know each other over small plates and big ideas this summer using Brian McLaren's short weekly readings in *We Make the Road by Walking*. We will meet **Thursday, August 6**, at Montreat. For more info, contact Sarah Morrison at sm4@clemson.edu or (864) 630-9770.

BYOB Fellowship Event: Bring your own boat to the lake **Sunday, August 9 at 2:00 pm**. Location is still to be determined, but save the date for this fun in the sun event. If you have a boat, please come and fellowship on the water with other Fort Hill members. Don't have a boat? No worries, come and jump aboard with a friend! Children under the age of 12 are required to wear a lifejacket if riding on any watercraft so please bring a lifejacket for your child. Lifejackets will be made available for adults. Any questions, please contact Megan Chavis at (864) 207-7116 or mchavis1210@gmail.com.

We send our friend, **James Nampushi**, home asking God's rich blessings to be with him, his family, and his work. James has been a part of Fort Hill Church while doing his graduate work. He will be leaving early August to return to Kenya. His current address is c/o Dick Shick, 114 Browning Heights Way, Central, SC 29630 and current email jnampus@clemson.edu. His address in Kenya will be: Maasai Mara University, PO Box 861, Narok, Kenya 20500.

Youth Mark your calendars for an ice cream social to help bridge rising 6th and 9th graders into youth group on **August 23**. We will meet in the back parking lot at **4:00** where we will play games and get to know one another. We will end our time with ice cream at Spill the Beans. Pick up will be in the back parking lot at 5:30. Please bring \$5.00 for ice cream.

August Fort Hill Church Activities

Sunday, August 2

- 8:30 am Worship Service — Tartan Hall, if available
- 10:30 am Worship Service — Sanctuary
- Homebound Communion

Monday, August 3

- 3:00 pm PW Circle 5 Tea — Hazel Sparks' home

Tuesday, August 4

- 9:30 am Staff Meeting — Conference Room
- 5:30 pm PSA Summer Devotion — Pot Belly Deli
- 7:00 pm Fellowship Meeting — Conference Room

Thursday, August 6

- 5:00 pm Young Disciples' Retreat — Montreat
- 7:00 pm APNC Meeting — Conference Room
- 7:00 pm Young Adult Bible Study — Montreat

Friday, August 7

- Young Disciples' Retreat — Montreat
- 10:00 am Construction Progress Mtng — Conference Rm

Sunday, August 9

- 8:30 am Worship Service — Tartan Hall, if available
- 10:30 am Worship Service — Sanctuary
- 2:00 pm Bring Your Own Boat Party — TBA

Monday, August 10

- 5:30 pm Christian Action Meeting - Conference Room

Tuesday, August 11

- 9:30 am Staff Meeting — Conference Room
- 4:00 pm Christian Education Meeting — Spill the Beans
- 5:30 pm PSA Summer Devotion — Pot Belly Deli
- 5:45 pm Music Ministry Meeting — Conference Room
- 6:30 pm Worship Ministry Meeting — Conference Room
- 6:30 pm Finance Meeting — Club Room

Wednesday, August 12

- 7:30 pm Chancel Choir — Sanctuary

Thursday, August 13

- 4:00 pm Mission Meeting — Conference Room
- 6:30 pm Youth Ministry Team Mtng — Conference Rm
- 7:00 pm APNC Meeting — Conference Room
- 7:00 pm Young Adult Bible Study — Spitlers' home

Sunday, August 16

- 8:30 am Worship Service — Sanctuary
- 10:20 am Congregational Meeting — Sanctuary
- 10:30 am Worship Service — Sanctuary
- 11:30 am Discovering Faith — Conference Room

Monday, August 17

- 4:30 pm Youth Leaders' Meeting — Tartan Hall

Tuesday, August 18

- 7:00 pm Session Meeting — Conference Room

Wednesday, August 19

- 7:30 pm Chancel Choir — Sanctuary

Thursday, August 20

- 7:00 pm APNC Meeting — Conference Room

Friday, August 21

- 8:00 am Preschool CPR Training — Club Room
- 1:00 pm Construction Progress Mtng — Conference Rm

Sunday, August 23

- 8:30 am Worship Service — Sanctuary
- 10:30 am Worship Service — Sanctuary
- 11:30 am Deacons' Meeting — Conference Room
- 6:00 pm PSA Dinner & Program — PSA Student Center

Tuesday, August 25

- 9:30 am Staff Meeting — Conference Room
- 5:30 pm Membership Meeting — Conference Room
- 6:30 pm Seminary at the Fort — Mary Morrison's home

Wednesday, August 26

- 4:00 pm Trustee Meeting — Conference Room
- 7:30 pm Chancel Choir — Sanctuary

Thursday, August 27

- 7:00 pm APNC Meeting — Conference Room
- 7:00 pm Young Adult Bible Study — Spitlers' home

Sunday, August 30

- 8:30 am Worship Service — Sanctuary
- 10:30 am Worship Service — Sanctuary

AA meets in the Admin Building Basement each Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday at 8:00 pm and each Friday at 12:30 pm.

August Birthdays & Anniversaries



8/2	Billy Fort Billy Gregory Ed Hutson	8/15	Stephen Pettigrew	8/26	Debbie Dalhouse Diane Egan	8/5	Tom & Gensie Waldrop
8/4	Raenota Merrill Phil Prince Mary Principe	8/16	Jacob Chavis Jerry Waddle	8/27	Myra Cato Allison Clancy Sarah Allen Elizabeth Thomas	8/7	Putt & Almeda Jacks
8/5	Jane Chance Linda Parsons	8/17	Laura Crenshaw Ed Halbig Noah Harrington Shane Turner Marie Turner	8/28	Pete Crowther David DeWitt Heidi Martin Hannah Smith	8/8	John & Nancy Brown Dick & Laura Shick
8/6	Corey Norris Ryan Poetz	8/18	John Spragins	8/29	Jeannie Bailey Trey Bartels Sam Blondeau Jerry Chapman David Coyle Jim London Caroline Oates	8/13	George & Jane Polk Jere & Rose Ross
8/7	Pat Gardner Trisha McGinn	8/19	Bob Fant Jennifer Griffis Catherine Jones Bill Kahle John Lefevre Mary Courtney Norris Lanny Parsons	8/30	Nancy Oates	8/14	David & Bitsy Barkley Shane & Mary Stuart Turner
8/8	James Horton Paul Kantzler David Richardson	8/20	Cortlinn Bailey Rich Bartels Steve Best McClure Dickerson	8/31	Paul Caley Tommi Jones Jeb Martin	8/15	Tom & Sue Hunter
8/9	Anne Cash Rosalee Christenbury Cathy McInnis Chris Torres	8/21	Judy Blackwell			8/16	Bill & Judy Lindsey Jim & Donna McCubbin Jake McKinney & Rose Marie McDonald
8/11	Lois Bro Kevin Christenbury Emma MacRae Amy Worley	8/22	Eric Bost Sam Burchfield Jerry Christenbury Kay Dearing Nick Greene Michael Mudge			8/17	Lee & Linda Davis
8/12	Helen Crader Helen Mohr	8/23	Jim Martin Laura Torres			8/19	Jim & Jane Van Senu
8/13	Nancy Stone	8/24	Elvira Brown Tim Burg Jim Palmer			8/20	Stephen & Rebecca Ackerman Jack & Phyl Stevenson Doug & Lynn Carlson
8/14	Ann Rash	8/25	Jane Sosebee			8/21	Larry & Linda Gahan
8/15	Lauren Fields Kristen McInnis					8/22	John & Gayle McGregor
						8/23	Bill & Myra Cato Jim & Vernie Roberts
						8/24	John & Cathy Spragins
						8/26	Craig & Eileen Homan
						8/27	David & Joan Alexander Harold & Arlene Cheatham
						8/29	Joe & Anne Dickey John & Ann Gilreath Kenny & Helen Mohr

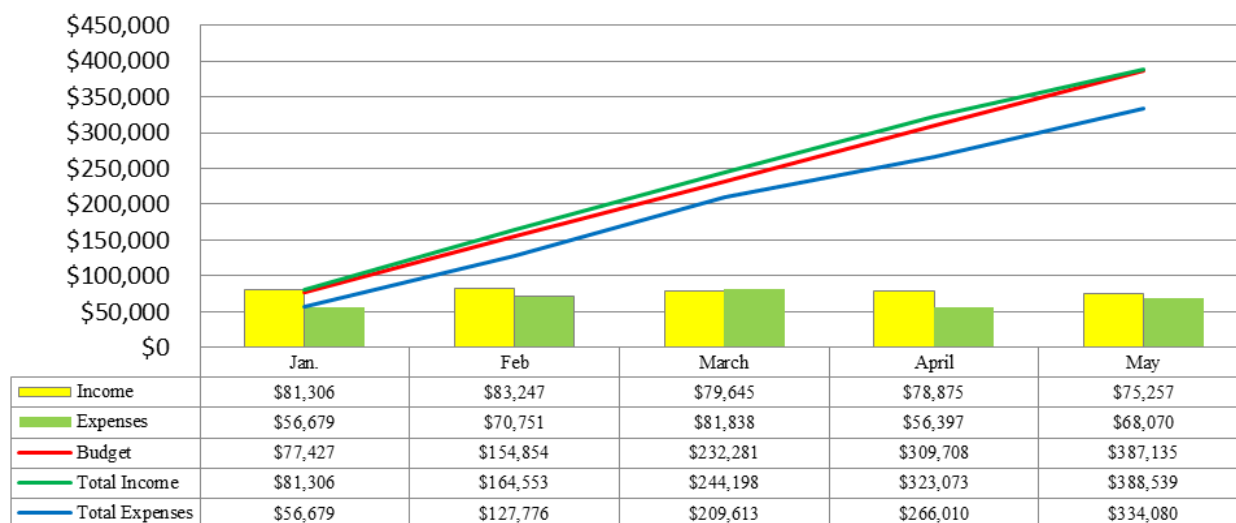


From the Finance Ministry

Through June, total income was \$466,604 while expenses for the first half of 2015 were \$422,968 for a surplus of \$43,636. Overall expenses are at 45.5% of budget, while income is at 50.2%. As you can see, income is slightly above budget while expenses are 4.5% below budget. Session ministry chairs are doing a great job of managing expenses, and thanks to your financial support, Fort Hill is able to continue its ministries to members, community and around the world.

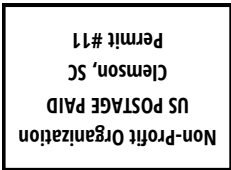
Bridging Generations Update: Pledge giving for the month was \$130,837. Non-pledge giving was \$903, undesignated memorial gifts was \$170 and interest income was \$1.92 for a total of \$131,911.20. Total income year to date is \$205,282.60.

Fort Hill Income/Expenses 2015



Return Service Requested

101 Edgewood Avenue
Clemson, SC 29631
(864) 654-2061
www.forthillchurch.org



InDwellings needs your support, now more than ever. We're a non-profit group establishing "Homes of Love" for adults with intellectual disabilities here in the Upstate, and renovations on our first home will begin very soon!

Join us for our fundraiser, **The Triple-B Bash—Bluegrass, BBQ, and Blue Jeans**. It will be held on Friday, September 18 at the Cannon Centre in Greer. Our entertainment for the evening will be Asheville's acclaimed bluegrass band, **Nitrograss**. Come out in your favorite blue jeans, raise a glass of your favorite beverage, and enjoy mouthwatering food from Mutts BBQ in Greer!

The festivities will also include a corn hole competition, a silent auction, and a live auction by Jake Ohlinger. Your host for the evening will be fellow bluegrass lover and WYFF News 4 anchor, Michael Cogdill.

We hope you'll support the **The Triple-B Bash** by coming on board as a sponsor, donating items or services, or by purchasing your \$50 tickets through **Eventbrite.com**. For more information, please visit our website, Indwellings.org or call **864.283.6080**.