

# The Window

The Newsletter of Fort Hill Presbyterian Church

## Message From the Pastor

November 2015

### Blessed to be a Blessing

As our state became submerged in a deluge of rain, we witnessed our neighbors in the lower part of the state struggling under water. The first impulse most of us had was, "What can we do to serve?"

That weekend some dragged themselves to worship after celebrating a wonderful Saturday night win in Death Valley. We gathered around the Lord's Table that Sunday to celebrate and give thanks for God's abundant grace. We broke bread with the Christian family all over the world. It was World Communion Sunday. We remembered Christ's broken body and God's struggling people. We were filled with bread of life and cup of salvation. And we asked, "What can we do to serve?"



The impulse of Christ followers is always that. "What can we do to serve?" Because we know the abundant grace and forgiveness we have received, we just cannot help but want to share. We have been blessed to be a blessing.

Paul writes, "God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. (II Corinthians 9:8)

Each year we reflect on God's grace and ask "What can we do to serve?" with our annual giving to the church. Our money, like all we have, is a gift of God's grace, and we respond to God in worship through the giving of our tithes and offerings. So I invite you to consider your regular giving to God. And respond cheerfully by making a pledge. The regular disciples of sharing our money is one way we practice our discipleship.

If you have never pledged before consider making a first step by dedicating 2%, 3%, or 5% of your income to God. Set a goal of growing into a tithe (10%) as shown forth in scripture. As we grow in generosity, we grow in joy. Paul writes in II Corinthians 9:7, "Each of you give as you have made up in your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheering giver."

Give cheerfully. Give faithfully. Respond to God's blessings and be a blessing.

Together In Faith,

*Laura Conrad, Pastor*

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### Fort Hill Presbyterian Church

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(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  
Cyndi Davis, Children's Ministry Coordinator  
Margaret MacKay, Director of Music  
Lori Houck, Administrator  
Judy Crawford, Administrative Assistant  
Scott Thrailkill, 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

- 11/1 All Saints Day**  
Isa. 25:6-9; Ps. 24; Rev. 21:1-6a, John 11:32-44
- 11/8 24th Sunday after Pentecost**  
Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17; Ps. 127; Heb. 9:24-28; Mark 12:38-44
- 11/15 25th Sunday after Pentecost**  
1 Sam. 1:4-20; Heb. 10:11-14 (15-18) 19-25; Mark 13:1-8
- 11/22 Christ the King**  
2 Sam. 23:1-7; Ps. 132:1-12 (13-18); Rev. 1:4b-8; John 18:33-37
- 11/29 1st Sunday of Advent**  
Jer. 33:14-16; Ps. 25:1-10; 1 Thess. 3:9-13; Luke 21:25-36

### December

#### *The Window* Deadline

The deadline for announcements, articles, and features for the December issue of *The Window* is Monday, November 15, 2015

Please email your item as a Microsoft Word document to the church office at [window@forthillchurch.org](mailto: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.

## 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Clemson Area Ministers' Cook-off November 5

The Ministers' Cook-off will be held on **Thursday, November 5**, from 5:30—7:00 pm this year at Clemson United Methodist Church. John Cessarich will broadcast "John on the Road" from our event and we are happy to welcome him back. Tickets are still \$10 for ten tastes, and will be available for sale after worship services prior to the cook-off. If you can't attend, please consider buying a ticket as a donation to Safe Harbor.

## 25th Sanctuary Anniversary & Kirkin' 'o the Tartans Worship Service

Join us **Sunday, November 1**, for a special Kirkin' 'o the Tartans worship service as we celebrate our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in our Sanctuary. Special guest preacher, James T. Richardson, retired pastor, and former organist, Matt Manwarren, will help us celebrate in this special Sunday when we celebrate our Presbyterian Heritage. We will also remember the saints who have died in the last year. Wear plaid!



## Choir Corner

Celebrating All Saints' Day and Kirkin' of the Tartans is one of my favorite Sundays of all the year. It's wonderful when we combine the two because we celebrate our Scottish heritage and remember all who have gone before us. Plus, we always have bagpipes and brass playing in the service and lots of tartans and kilts! It's a wonderful celebration.

This year, I think it's even more significant as we celebrate all that has been accomplished in this year. We have bridged generations of those who were here when Fort Hill was formed to the generations now who have contributed to making necessary renovations and improvements to our facilities. That's exciting. Thanks be to God.

I am personally grateful for the leadership of our ministerial staff; the members who led us in the capital campaign; the program staff for their work behind the scenes; the architects and members who hammered out plans and dreams for improved spaces; our church family who contributed to the campaign with all their monetary gifts and prayers; and to Trehel and ALL the workers. I know things are still in progress, but during this Thanksgiving season, I say a HUGE THANK YOU! And I am grateful to be part of this wonderful church family.

Happy Thanksgiving to all and blessings to you and your family.

Smiling-n-Singing,  
Margaret

## Children's Ministry Update

The renewed Wednesday night dinners have been fun and delicious. If you have not joined us for dinner, make plans to be a part of the fun. Be sure to thank the members of the Fellowship Ministry for their hard work and great plans.

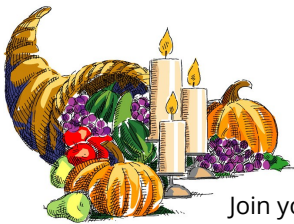
We have a few important dates to remember:

- November 1** All Saints' Day/Kirkin' 'o the Tartans (*Fall back/reset your clocks!*)
- November 8** Thornwell Thanksgiving Offering begins (*Fill up a coin slot turkey*)
- November 15** Children's choirs sing
- November 22** Return Thornwell Thanksgiving Offering
- November 26** Thanksgiving service at Old Stone Church 10 am (*bring a blanket*)
- November 29** First Sunday of Advent

Be sure to make plans to be a part of Gift Day, December 12, at 9:30 am. See Ally Young's article in this issue of *The Window*.

Let us always remember to count our blessings.

Cyndi



## Thanksgiving Worship Service at Old Stone Church 10 am , November 26, 2015

Join your neighbors in giving thanks. Old Stone Church meeting house is on the corner of Hwy. 76 and Old Stone Church Road. Together we will worship and praise God for the abundance of gifts God has shared with us. Remember the stone building is not heated and often does not warm up until the afternoon, so bring a coat and/or a blanket.

## Discover the Light of Christmas



### Discover the Light of Christmas

The season of Advent is a wonderful time to celebrate the coming of Christ with family and friends. One special way that we celebrate the season and prepare our hearts to welcome the miracle of Christmas is through readings and lessons of the Advent wreath. Now is the time to make plans for our Fort Hill family observance of the Advent wreath tradition. We would like to have 2 to 4 people (related or unrelated) per

worship service to lead the Advent wreath lesson for each Sunday in the Advent season. One person may read the prepared passage and the other person may light the candle on the Advent wreath. The passage may be divided to accommodate more members of your group or family. This year the Sundays of Advent are November 29, December 6, 13, and 20, and we also have readings for the Christmas Eve services at 5 pm and 9 pm. Please look at your schedule and consider volunteering to participate in the tradition. A sign-up sheet will be posted at both services or you may contact Eddie Payne ([eddiewpayne@gmail.com](mailto:eddiewpayne@gmail.com)).

## Decorations for the Christmas Season

You can help us decorate our beautiful church by making contributions for the purchase of wreaths and poinsettias in memory of or in honor of that special someone in your life. Wreaths are \$40 each and poinsettias are \$17 each. Please make checks payable to Fort Hill Presbyterian Church and indicate either on your check or the form available in the Narthex or FHOG office how many wreaths and/or poinsettias you are providing and the name of those loved ones you are remembering or honoring. Your contributions will be recognized in the bulletin and *The Window*.



## Advent Decorating Elves Needed



The season of Advent is almost upon us, and we are actively seeking folks who enjoy decorating! This year, we will be "Decking the Halls" of Fort Hill on Sunday, November 22, from 2-4 pm. If you are interested in fun and fellowship as we set the scene for Advent, please contact Eddie Payne ([eddiewpayne@gmail.com](mailto:eddiewpayne@gmail.com)).

## Calling All Kids and Volunteers!

Gift Day is right around the corner and we need your help. Mark your calendar for Saturday, December 12, from 9:30—11:30. This gift making tradition is for children two years—5th grade. Cost is \$15 and children will create gifts to give their family and friends. This year the kids will be doing a service project as well. Look for sign up sheets soon! We need volunteers to help, so please contact Ally Young ([allytiger79@hotmail.com](mailto:allytiger79@hotmail.com)).



## Sunday Servants

### Pastor on Call

11/1 Laura Conrad  
11/8 Mary Morrison  
11/15 Laura Conrad  
11/22 Mary Morrison  
11/29 Laura Conrad

### Elder at the Font—8:30 Service

11/1 Donna McCubbin  
11/8 Chloe Satzger  
11/15 Michael Bailey  
11/22 Bill Cato  
11/29 Chip Egan

### Elder at the Font—10:30 Service

11/1 Rose Marie McDonald  
11/8 Joanne Trenholm  
11/15 Charles Barron  
11/22 Megan Chavis  
11/29 Erika Hays

### Infant - Infant/Crawler

11/1 Camille Horton  
11/8 Joan Dixon  
11/15  
11/22  
11/29 Shelly Wilson

### Toddler - 2 Year Old Nursery

11/1 Ellen Torrence  
11/8  
11/15 Billie Jackson  
11/22 Aleta Robinson  
11/29 Donna McCubbin

### 2 1/2 - 3 Year Old Nursery

11/1 Andy & Reagan Blondeau  
11/8 Laura Crenshaw  
11/15 Beth Durham  
11/22 Heather Wright  
11/29 Leanne Greene

### 4-5 Year Old Nursery

11/1 Eddie & Megan Chavis  
11/8 Leanne Broome  
11/15 Bradley & Meridith Lecroy  
11/22  
11/29 Nancy Spittler

## Are You No Longer Receiving Fort Hill Communications?

If you once received the Fort Hill Weekly Updates and Bulletins each week but are no longer receiving them, please contact Judy at [judy.crawford@forthillchurch.org](mailto:judy.crawford@forthillchurch.org) so that she can check into the problem for you. It appears that there may be an issue with some spam filters blocking our communications sent through our MailChimp email service.

## Announcements & Concerns



**Phyllis Wecht** and family in the death of David Wecht, September 22, 2015 in Charlotte, NC.

**Nancy Stone** and family in the death of Nancy's brother, Christie Patterson, on October 7, 2015 in Valdosta, Ga.

**Rob Key** and family in the death of Rob's mother, Kathryn Key on October 8, 2015 in Lexington, SC.



### Congratulations on the birth of:

- **Adair Elizabeth & Vivian Grace Stevenson** on September 30 to John & Amada Stevenson. Proud big sister is Lilia.
- **Whitney Greer Money** on October 21 to Mike & Courtney Money. Proud big brothers are Lucas & Hudson.

## Thank You!

*To all of our friends at Fort Hill. Tommy and I wish to thank all of you who have called and sent cards of well wishes since Tommy's recent diagnosis of ALS. They give us a sense of comfort knowing that so many people care.*

*In Christ, Carol & Tommy Pollock*

The members of **Christian Action Ministry** want to thank the members of Fort Hill congregation who gave items to aid the victims of the recent flooding in South Carolina! Ten very full bins of towels, blankets, socks, underwear and toiletries were delivered to Cooperative Ministries in Columbia, SC on Monday, October 19. The gentleman who helped unload the binds was so gracious and grateful for the donations. Our contact, Yolanda Green, wrote later that day, "Thank you so much for the abundance of donations. I have already begun distributing them! Please like our page on Facebook. We will be thanking everyone for their donations! It is such a privilege to help others in the name of Christ and you responded quickly and generously. We thank you!

## News From Presbyterian Women

### Fort Hill Presbyterian Church Hosts Family Promise Guests November 15-22, 2015

Due to our extensive renovation project, First Baptist Church, our next-door neighbor, will house our guests. We will supply linens, towels, food, and volunteers. Please see the sign-up board in the Administrative Building near the FHOG Office and sign-up! Have you wanted to be involved in mission outreach but were unable to travel to far-off places? Now is your opportunity to participate in caring for your neighbors in need right here at Fort Hill! Please be a part of our church team that will care for our guests through Family Promise! We need volunteers to make-up the cots and take down cots, prepare food, be hospitality hosts, spend the night at church one night, tutor children, provide encouragement, and provide snacks, etc. Please consider sharing the gift of your time or resources for this worthwhile program.

Please contact Linda Gahan at [glinda1942@gmail.com](mailto:glinda1942@gmail.com), (864) 654-2953 or Mary Barron at [mb1cb1@bellsouth.net](mailto:mb1cb1@bellsouth.net), (864) 885-9342.

### Presbyterian Women College Magazines, Books & Puzzles

Hold on to your magazines and puzzles until later in the year after our renovations are complete. We are currently unable to collect and store in the Collections Room.

### Samaritan's Purse Shoeboxes

**Deadline: November 8, 2015 (include \$7 for shipping, please).** Please use standard-sized plastic "shoeboxes" and pack them with new small toys (no war-related toys, please), hats and sports caps, balls, mild bar soap, wash clothes, toothbrushes, toothpaste, comb, sunglasses, socks, art supplies, coloring books, markers, crayons, bows and barrettes. They appreciate games such as marbles and dominoes. Pack no medicines, please. When preparing a box for older students, please include school items appropriate for them such as calculators, solar flashlights, protractors, compasses, make-up kits without mirrors, kitchen sets (plastic plate, bowl, cup), playing cards, jump ropes, shorts and t-shirts (preferably with no writing on them). Soccer balls are a longed-for item for boys. A deflated ball and small pump or a small ball to fit in the box is ideal. Due to some cultural concerns and beliefs, please avoid stuffed animals. If you wish, add a personal greeting in a separate envelope. Eva Henry will place pamphlets listing the items requested in the FHOG Office. Please deliver the unsealed boxes, or bring gift items to the FHOG office at the Administration Building entrance on Edgewood Avenue by November 8. Indicate on the top of the box the appropriate age group (2-4, 5-9, or 10-14) and whether it is for a girl or boy. Remember to include \$7 for shipping.

**Contact person: Eva Henry (864) 654-3737**

### 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Clemson Area Minister's Cook-Off

**When: Thursday, November 5, 2015 / Time: 5:30-7:00 pm**

**Where: Clemson United Methodist Church**

Proceeds to benefit Safe Harbor. Sponsored by CACIT (Clemson Area Congregations In Touch)

### Thank You

Linda Gahan thanks you for your generosity in packing gifts for Bethlehem Ministry. She mailed 45 boxes of gifts in October!! Thanks to Sherry Kantzler and her request for soccer balls, 25 soccer balls were donated to include in the children's boxes, including a few pumps.

### Honorary Life Membership Nominating Forms

Each year we honor a member of our church with the **Honorary Life Membership Award** at our annual PW Birthday Luncheon. This award is given to a dedicated Christian whose witness, long and dedicated service, and spiritual influence in our community reflect the love of God and His church. Prayerfully consider the Presbyterian woman (or man) you would like to nominate for her (his) outstanding lifetime contributions to Fort Hill Presbyterian Church. Nomination forms are due by **January 11, 2016**.

### Attention ALL WOMEN for Fort Hill Presbyterian

**Mark your calendars now for our Winter Retreat on Saturday, January 23, 2016, 9:30am—3:00pm at Keowee Key Activity Center.** Ready to be inspired and renewed? Come and join us for our annual January retreat designed with you in mind! Our guest speaker, Patty Sprinkle, will be sure to inspire you. This retreat is open to ALL WOMEN of our church. We want every woman hungry for fellowship and spiritual renewal to come and join us for this wonderful event!

Submitted by Mary Barron, PW Publicity Chairman  
[mb1cb1@bellsouth.net](mailto:mb1cb1@bellsouth.net) or (864) 885-9342

## Cynthia Ross Davis, Coordinator of Children's Ministry

It has been my pleasure to serve Fort Hill Church as Coordinator for Children's Ministry during this past year. We have wonderful families busy raising their children within the loving embrace of this church family. What a joy it has been to begin to build relationships with these amazing children and their families. I look forward to deepening relationships with our children and their families as they grow in their faith and God's Love.

As CMC, I have worked with many church volunteers and staff to coordinate a variety of programs and events for our children. Enthusiastic response to participate makes our programs run well. I work with nursery volunteers and paid nursery staff, Sunday Morning Bridge Leaders, Vacation Bible School volunteers and two groups, Children's Ministry Team and Christian Education Ministry, dedicated to education and nurture of our church family. I also help with childcare and recreation during the renewed Wednesday Night activities and dinner.

As a member of Fort Hill's staff I meet and serve with other staff members to coordinate the intersecting components of our ministries. My other duties include the opportunity to lead our Preschool children in chapel two mornings a week and serving as the Preschool liaison to our church. During our 10:45 Church service I often lead the Children's time. Anyone having worked with young children will understand how wonderful a gift it is to listen to these children share their understanding of how God loves us.

I thank God for helping me follow a path that has led me to become the Coordinator for Children's Ministries for Fort Hill. I am a former Special Education and First grade teacher, and former buyer for a toy store. My husband Don and I joined James Island Presbyterian Church when we were married there. Our son, Ross, was baptized at James Island. Our family joined Fort Hill when we moved to Clemson 20 years ago. We have enjoyed living as part of this church family. I have served Fort Hill as elder, teacher, and youth advisor, and now am happy to be part of Fort Hill's staff.



## Jane Hodgin, Fort Hill Presbyterian Preschool Director

I am a resident of Clemson, married for 26 years to my husband, Derek. We have four children: Hali, Marley, Sydney, and Blaise. I have a degree in civil engineering and am a licensed registered nurse with experience in critical care, cardiac rehab and school nursing. I grew up attending Naples Presbyterian Church in Florida, and currently am an owner at Newspring Church and attend a Clemson home campus.

This is my third year as Director of Fort Hill Presbyterian Preschool — where we play with a purpose. I felt called to apply for this position and am grateful for the opportunity to serve as the leader of this outreach ministry. On a daily basis, I have the awesome opportunity to share God's love and word, not only with the children, but also with their families. Additionally, I get to work with twelve Godly women that are on my staff — we do life together.

This year, Fort Hill Presbyterian Preschool has 63 children enrolled. Four of the five classes are full with waiting lists. We also have 8 children on either full or partial scholarship through the Hazel Sparks Scholarship fund. The preschool's mission is to provide quality, loving instruction to each child enrolled in our program. We strive to provide a caring, Christian environment where children are encouraged to grow spiritually, intellectually, emotionally, socially, and physically.



## Announcements & Concerns

### Wednesday Night Suppers are back!

They began on October 7 and will continue for seven weeks ending on **November 18**. The Butcher's Block in Anderson is our caterer for these fun, family nights. Adult meals are \$8 and child's portion meal is \$4. There is an alternative children's meal available each week in addition to peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. Call the church office (864-654-2061) for reservations and remember, reservations close on Mondays at noon. Here are the menus for October:

- 11/4: Roasted chicken with roasted red potatoes and tossed salad.  
Kids meal: Entrée meal or hot dogs
- 11/11: Country fried steak & gravy with mashed potatoes, green beans.  
Kids meal: Entrée meal or grilled cheese sandwich
- 11/18 Turkey & dressing, green beans, cranberry sauce.  
Kids's meal: Entrée meal or turkey sandwich

### Men of the Church. Tuesday, November 3, 8:00 am at Paws Diner,

Hwy 123 toward Seneca, across from Bountyland Exxon, for breakfast. They will expect us and provide a separate area for us. In addition, we are planning on three or four evening meetings a year, with dinner, and a speaker that would be attractive to our younger members and their sons. We want to encourage young boys in particular to come with their fathers and enjoy an all male atmosphere. A number of our current members remember starting their association with Men of the Church in that fashion and it had a positive influence on their lives. Meeting times are in a state of flux due to reconstruction, but we will keep you informed.

**The Seminary at The Fort.** *The Call — The Life and Message of The Apostle Paul* by Adam Hamilton will be our fall Bible study. The Christian Education is offering two opportunities to participate in this six week Wednesday Bible study **November 4, 11, and 18**. The morning time will be **10-11:30**, the evening time will be **6:30-7:15**. Contact Mary Morrison for more information.

**CPR Class - Sunday, November 15th, 2:00 pm in the Club Room.** The price is \$30.00 per person and that includes the cost of the book and the 2 year certification card. For questions, contact Cile Dunkelberg [ciledd7@aol.com](mailto:ciledd7@aol.com)

**Be on the lookout for a new and different Christmas giving experience.** Fort Hill Christmas Food Boxes are being revamped. Very family friendly experience — using our resources to help others in need.

# November Fort Hill Church Activities

## Sunday, November 1

See box below

## Monday, November 2

- 12:15 pm PW Circle 1 — Club Room
- 3:00 pm PW Circle 5 — Club Room
- 7:00 pm Eagle Scout Court of Honor - Sanctuary/Tartan Hall

## Tuesday, November 3

- 8:00 am Men of the Church Breakfast — Paw's Diner
- 4:00 pm Building & Grounds Meeting - Conference Room
- 5:30 pm University Ministry Meeting — PSA Student Center
- 7:00 pm Personnel & Program Support Mtg. — Conf. Rm.
- 7:00 pm Fellowship Ministry Meeting — Cooper Room

## Wednesday, November 4

- 10:00 am Bible Study — Club Room
  - 7:30 pm Senior High Youth Bible Study - Tartan Hall
- See box below

## Thursday, November 5

- 11:30 pm Staff Planning Meeting -
- 5:30 pm Minister's Cook Off— Clemson United Methodist
- 7:00 pm Young Adult Bible Study — Spitler's Home
- 7:00 pm Hollywood Jesus — PSA Student Center

## Sunday, November 8

See box below

## Monday, November 9

- 5:30 pm Christian Action Meeting—Conference Room
- 6:00 pm Children's Ministry Meeting— Cooper Room

## Tuesday, November 10

- 5:00 pm Christian Education Meeting—Room E208
- 5:45 pm Music Ministry Meeting— Conference Room
- 6:30 pm Worship Ministry Meeting—Conference Room
- 6:30 pm Finance Meeting — Club Room
- 7:30 pm PW Circle 2 Meeting — Sanctuary

## Wednesday, November 11

- 10:00 am Bible Study— Club Room
- See box below
- 7:30 pm Senior High Youth Bible Study - Tartan Hall

## Thursday, November 12

- 7:00 pm Young Adult Bible Study — Spitler's Home
- 7:00 pm Hollywood Jesus — PSA Student Center

## Friday, November 13

- 10:00 am Construction Progress Meeting — Conf. Room

## Sunday, November 15

See box below

- 11:45 am Discovering Faith Class — Club Room
- 1:00 pm CPR Training — Tartan Hall
- 5:00 pm Family Promise — First Baptist Church

## Tuesday, November 17

- 9:30 am PW Coordinating Team Meeting — Club Room
- 7:00 pm Session Meeting — Club Room

## Wednesday, November 18

- 10:00 am Bible Study— Club Room
- See box below
- 7:30 pm Senior High Youth Bible Study - Tartan Hall

## Friday, November 20

- 4:00 pm Boy Scout BBQ Supper (Port-cochere area)

## Sunday, November 22

See box below

- 2:00 pm Hanging of the Greens—Sanctuary

## Monday, November 23

- 6:30 pm Boy Scout Court of Honor - Sanctuary/THall

## Tuesday, November 24

- 5:00 pm Membership Meeting — Conference Room

## Thursday, November 26

- 10:00 am Thanksgiving Worship — Old Stone Church
- Thanksgiving Holiday — Office Closed

## Friday, November 27

Thanksgiving Holiday — Office Closed

## Sunday, November 29

See box below

## Recurring Weekly Activities

### Sunday

- 8:30 am Worship Service — Tartan Hall
- 9:30 am The Bridge Faith Formation Groups
- 10:45 am Worship Service — Sanctuary
- 4:30 pm Middle School Youth Group
- 6:00 pm Senior High Youth Group
- 6:00 pm PSA Dinner & Program — PSA Student Center

### Tuesday

- 9:30 am Staff Meeting — Conference Room
- 7:15 pm Foothills Chorale — Choir Room

### Wednesday

- 5:45 pm Wednesday Night at The Fort — Dinner/Bible Study
- 6:15 pm Children's Choirs (K-3rd grade) — Room E208
- 6:15 pm Recreation (4th—8th grades) — Room E209
- 6:15 pm Chancel Bells — Choir Room
- 6:45 pm Children/MS Choir (4th—8th grades) — Room E208
- 6:45 pm Recreation (K—3rd grade) — E209
- 7:30 pm Chancel Choir — Choir Room

### Thursday

- 7:00 pm Young Adult Bible Study — Spitlers' home

## Weekly AA Meetings

Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday evenings at 8:00 pm and Friday at 12:30 pm in Room A104 of the Admin Building Basement.

# November Birthdays & Anniversaries



- 11/1 Kay Harkins  
Janet Johnson  
Marie Nebesky  
Erin Smith  
Bruce Whisler
- 11/2 Harold Harris
- 11/3 Samantha Young  
Cortland Young
- 11/5 Henry Crader  
Nancy Hawkes
- 11/6 Ette Ruppert
- 11/7 Evan Hicklin  
Elyse Hollingsworth
- 11/8 Bill Cato  
Bobby Skelton  
Bob Williamson, Sr.
- 11/10 Walton Bost  
Anne Dickey
- 11/11 Jake Crowther
- 11/12 Mary Hughes  
Lisa Street  
Andrew Trammell  
Kyle Winchester  
Bryan Young  
Mason Young

- 11/13 John Ferguson  
Gary Gardner  
Robby Lightsey  
Rose Marie McDonald  
Riley Richardson
- 11/14 Lin Dearing  
Alex DuBose  
Sue Hunter  
William Spitler  
Anndie Young
- 11/15 Mik Fredman  
Dorothy Horton  
Ebb Horton
- 11/16 Ben Martin
- 11/17 Jim Eidson
- 11/18 Savanah Aaron  
Austin Adams  
Evelyn Doerr
- 11/20 Teresa Hollingsworth
- 11/21 Sally Alexander  
Jo Jo Martin
- 11/22 Benton Danhill  
Steve Miller  
Larry Sloan
- 11/23 Charlotte Poteet  
Danny Winchester

- 11/24 Noelle London
- 11/25 Barbara Coleman  
Jan Fredman  
Barbara Sebenick
- 11/25 Joy Skelton
- 11/26 Mary Barron  
Greg Bearden
- 11/27 Bob Tollison
- 11/28 Trey Smith
- 11/29 Carter Bandy
- 11/30 Dan Anderson  
John Bennett  
Kenny Mohr  
Ann Wetsel  
Savannah Worley



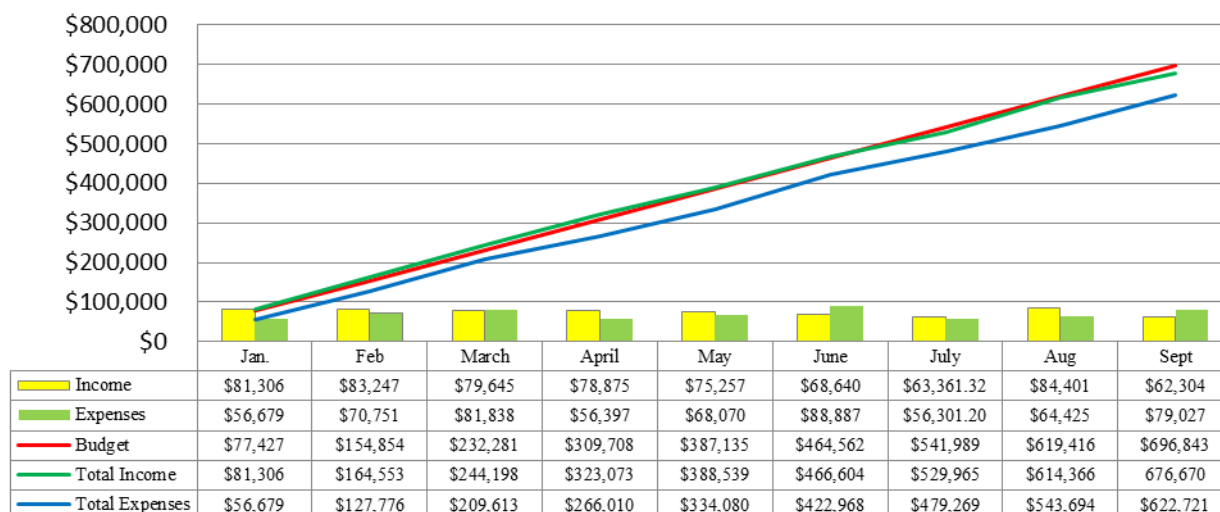
- 11/3 Jerry & Pam Waddle
- 11/6 Paul & Gail Caley
- 11/9 Jody & Mollie Faithful
- 11/20 Troy & Susan Nunamaker
- 11/21 Bud & Leslie Hicklin
- 11/22 Charles & Peggy Rutland  
Danny & Angie Winchester
- 11/23 Jan & Anita Fredman
- 11/27 Trey & Robin Smith
- 11/29 Steve & Ethel Pettigrew

## From the Finance Ministry

Through September, total income was \$676,670 while expenses for the first 9 months were \$622,721 for a surplus of \$53,949. Overall expenses are at 67% of budget, while income is at 72.8%. As you can see, income is approximately 2% below budget while expenses are roughly 8% 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.

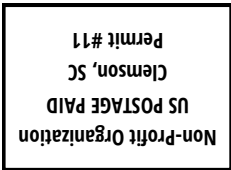
**Bridging Generations Update:** Pledge giving for the month was \$50,308.98. Non-pledge giving was \$750, undesignated memorial gifts were \$120 and interest income was \$2.27 for a total of \$51,181.25. Total income year to date is \$681,086.73. Total expenses year to date: \$1,228,483.52.

**Fort Hill Income/Expenses 2015**



*Return Service Requested*

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## Report from the 40<sup>th</sup> Trip for Fort Hill Medical Missions

From September 11—19, 2015, Susan and I were part of an eye surgery team from Georgia working in Comitancillo, Guatemala. This is a town up in the northwest of the country, in the San Marcos state, 8 hours over twisting mountain roads from Guatemala City and about 40 miles from the Mexican border. It is a beautiful Mayan region where many of the people speak only Mam, their regional Mayan dialect. You can imagine how valuable our helpers were who could speak three languages — Mam, Spanish, and English.

Many of these people are very poor, subsisting on their farms, often perched on steep mountainsides. They come to town to trade their goods for other goods, often not relying on cash. Market days are very busy and we were there during one. Their transportation is whatever might be available, and it would not be unusual to have 15 people standing up in the back of a pickup truck — just crammed tightly together.

In spite of their material poverty, they are incredibly welcoming and friendly, often wanting to hug us before we could even evaluate them. Their smiles were everywhere, and we felt very accepted and sincerely appreciated. And the children are just incredibly beautiful.

Unknown to us before the journey, we arrived during their week of national independence celebration, similar to our July 4. Their special day is September 15, and the celebration lasts all week. This hurt the transportation opportunities for the poorest, and so we were not quite as busy as expected. The great value of this for me was that I had more time to spend in evaluations and examinations. While Susan and others were “locked away” in the OR, I was enjoying the warmth of these people’s company. Usually, I have to move quickly along in the examination process so I can get on to the OR, but this time I “specialized” in evaluations, sending the surgery along to others.

Susan once again proved her flexibility as she helped set up the operating room and then became the scrub nurse for Dr. Edgar, a young ophthalmologist from Guatemala City who donated a week of his vacation time so he could join this team. This has to be the way of the future to bring the most help to the people — having a country’s own physicians reach out to the poorest. Dr. Edgar plans on donating a free “mission week” every year. Five others from the US completed the team, and we were blessed every day to be with them.

In Guatemala, 60% of the people are Mayan, speaking 22 dialects. From our experiences in Comitancillo and in our previous four trips to El Faro, we cannot say enough about the warmth of these people. They are very accepting and grateful but so often very poor. Charities such as the Efraim Foundation at El Faro and Mission Housing Ministries at Comitancillo are working to bring healthcare, education, housing, and increased opportunities to these fine people who have such a rich heritage. In Comitancillo, we were fortunate to work with Dr. Ovidio Garcia, an optometrist whose main goal is to improve the lives of his people in a multitude of ways. He is another great example of a caring professional, doing all he can to relieve suffering in his own region, relying on the grace and love of Jesus.

Now, with this completion of Fort Hill Medical Mission’s 40th mission effort, we turn our attention to Mission Outreach’s 2nd and 3rd. Mission Outreach is the new non-medical arm of Fort Hill’s mission efforts. A team led by Chuck Conrad will be working with the Appalachian Service Project in Jonesville, VA, October 11-13. Then a team led by Beth Chapman, will be working in El Faro, Guatemala, from October 19-29. Church and Beth have done supremely well in their leadership roles, and we know that the Fort Hill teams (the El Faro one including Laura Conrad) will be wonderful blessings — and will be greatly blessed themselves.

As a quick summary, you two mission arms are medical (Fort Hill Medical Mission) and non-medical (Mission Outreach). Fort Hill’s mission committee welcomes your inquiries and your encouragement and support and is made up of the following members: Mary Barron, Marlene Nicholas, Jim London, Raenota Merrill, Larry Sloan, Cathy Spragins, Bill Beckwith, Chuck Conrad, and Bob Brown. Find out the ways you can be involved in reaching out to the less fortunate.

Bob Brown