



The Window

The Newsletter of Fort Hill Presbyterian Church

March 2016

Message From the Pastor

Bridging Generations

As our construction work comes to a conclusion, let me be the first to say, "Praise God!" and "Thank you!" It is amazing what generous and loving people can do together. BUT! Let's remember that it is the power of the Holy Spirit living and moving through us. All good gifts come from the Source by God's grace. For generations Fort Hill Church has been a weigh station along the way for spiritual pilgrims. Some have faithfully stayed and toiled to plant, tend, and grow disciples in this place. Others come through for a season of life, a time, to be nurtured and to serve our Triune God. Fort Hill church is a holy space for many.

You and I have had the privilege to preserve and make usable this historic church. Have you noticed with new construction in town that we are truly one of a small number of historic places? While we are preserving a meeting house of God, we are also breathing new life into old bones. Almost every space has been touched with an intention of adding places for caring conversations, accessibility, and fresh ministry. I smile when I hear children laughing in our halls and see curious onlookers around the arcade windows as folks gather each week to observe the changes in our courtyard. I find myself spending more time in our Education building now that I can zip across the Bridge. And now that our Preschool can be self-contained and secure, almost our whole church can be used regularly for groups- church and community groups all week long. After all, this is God's house, and it ours to care for and share graciously. We are more fit to do our mission and ministry. We plan to dedicate the work to the glory of God on Pentecost Sunday, May 15, 2016. So put that date on your calendar.

Because of the generosity of our members and those who have remembered us in their wills, we expect \$2.6 million to help us meet our goal of \$3 million. Soon our construction loan converts to a mortgage, so any advanced giving saves us interest in the long run and is much appreciated. Thank you for your patience, your gifts, and your service to Christ's church. Please thank our staff when you see them. They have endured noise and dust, and moved furniture around in order to function. Thank you to our Long Range Planning team who have worked for over two years and continue. They are Dan Anderson, Michael Bailey, Clarice Gustafson, Dusty Oates, and Art Williams.

Together in Faith,

Laura Smith Conrad, Pastor

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.

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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

Cyndi Davis, Children's Ministry Coordinator

Margaret MacKay, Director of Music

Judy Bonham, Organist/Handbell Choir Director

Lori Houck, Administrator

Judy Crawford, Administrative Assistant

Scott Thrailkill, Facilities Caretaker

Scriptures for Sunday Worship

- 3/6 4th Sunday in Lent**
Josh. 5:9-12; Ps. 32; 2 Cor. 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32
- 3/13 5th Sunday in Lent**
Isa. 43:16-21; Ps. 126; Phil 3:4b-14; John 12:1-8
- 3/20 Palm Sunday**
Luke 19:28-40; Ps. 118:1-2, 19-29
- 3/27 Easter Sunday**
Acts. 10:34-43; Ps. 188:1-2, 14-24; 1 Cor. 15:19-26; John 20:1-18

March *The Window* Deadline

The deadline for announcements, articles, and features for the April issue of *The Window* is **Tuesday, March 15th, 2016.**

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 possible, please keep your articles to 500 words or less.

"I WAS HUNGRY AND YOU GAVE ME FOOD"

-Matthew 25:35



Easter Sunday, March 27

Holy Week Worship Services

Palm Sunday, March 20 at 8:30 & 10:45 am

If you are able, we will meet outside the Sanctuary before the 10:45 service to join in the Palm Sunday Parade and Processional. After the 10:45 worship service we will gather for a congregational potluck lunch.

Maundy Thursday Tenebrae, March 24 at 7:30 pm

We will enter into the darkness of the betrayal of Jesus as he turns to face a cross. As our Lord shared a meal with his disciples, we will eat at the Lord's table and be served God's grace.

Easter Sunrise Service, Sunday, March 27 at 7:00 am

In the Amphitheater of the Old Stone Church outdoor cemetery on the corner of Hwy 76 and Old Stone Church Road. It tends to be chilly, so please remember to dress warmly. Bring your coffee and hear the good news, "He is Risen! Death and the grave have been overcome."

Easter Sunday Worship Services, March 27

Services with the Chancel Choir in the Sanctuary at 8:30 and 10:45 am. During the service, we will be collecting our Easter special offering, the One Great Hour of Sharing offering which supports Presbyterian Mission programs that provide disaster relief, food, clean water, training, and resources to people in need all over the world. Join us at either identical service to enjoy the good news of a risen Lord.

Announcements

March 2, 9, 16, and Maundy Thursday, March 24th:
Wednesday Night Supper in Tartan Hall.

March 5th Second graders will prepare communion bread at 11:00am.

March 18th 1st through 5th grade & **March 19th** Kindergarten and younger—
Egg Hunt! Please save cardboard egg cartons for Cyndi Davis. They may be left in a bag on the Cooper Room door.

March 20th
Congregational Celebration & Potluck
In place of the usual congregational dinner in February, we will celebrate being complete with our renovation and share in a potluck meal after 10:45am worship.

Choir Corner

By the end of the month, we will have celebrated a glorious Easter after waving palm branches, worshipping in darkness on Maundy Thursday, and remembering the heaviness of Good Friday. Those are many emotions to experience in one week!

For many of us, a regular week can have many ups and downs. In our church family each week, we receive prayer requests for God's presence. It may be an illness or surgery, a loved one having to enter a special care center or hospice, the loss of the physical presence of one near and dear to us, along with the celebration of a new birth or the news that there is a cure, and the list goes on and on.

In all of these journeys, we know God is present and we know he loves us. We pray and wait. We talk and share with others our fears, doubts, hopes, and needs. Our Ash Wednesday service led by our PSA students and Maggie Alsup, our intern, was extremely moving this year. If you missed it, here's what touched me most. There was a wooden cross (that you have seen in worship already) with many nails on it. It wasn't a pretty, smooth cross. Made from a brightly decorated Christmas tree in the PSA center in December, it is now gnarly, crooked, rough, harsh, and barren. It was stark sitting there in our beautiful sanctuary. But during the service, ribbons of purple, dark pink, etc. were provided to tie to the nails on the cross. It was an opportunity to put all of your hurts, sins, and transgressions right there with Jesus. Oh, it was moving. Tears filled my eyes as I tied the ribbon on the nail. It was as if I had driven a nail into the son of God myself and I truly felt his pain and suffering for me. Then it was strange that I also felt a release because He had taken it all from me. WOW! That was powerful and sobering.

So, as we anticipate Easter and journey with Jesus to his resurrection, let us not forget that while we sing *Were You There*, we also are able to proclaim *Alleluia, Amen*.

Smiling-n-Singing,



Wednesday Night Suppers

Suppers in March at 5:45 pm In Tartan Hall - Join Us.

March 2—Ron Rash, writer of novels, short stories, and poems, "Religious Imagery in His Writings"

March 9—Claire Caskey, retired Clemson English professor, "Random Church Humor"

March 16—Ben Sill, Religious Artifacts, limited to 10-12 people; others play Ugame at tables

March 24—Maundy Thursday Service

The schedule is as follows:

- 5:45 pm Wednesday Night Supper Tartan Hall
- 6:15 pm Children's Choir (K-3 grade) Room E209
- 6:15 pm Recreation (Grades 4-8) Room E208
- 6:15 pm Chancel Bells Choir Room
- 6:15—7:15 *Weekly Program*
- 6:45 pm Children/MS Choir (4th-8th grade) Room E209
- 6:45 pm Recreation Grades (K-3 grade) Room E208
- 7:30 pm Chancel Choir -Choir Room



Please RSVP by Noon each Monday to Judy Crawford at 864.654.2061 or judy.crawford@forthillchurch.org. Adults \$8 and Children \$4.

The Window

Sunday Servants

Pastor on Call

- 3/6 Laura Conrad
- 3/13 Mary Morrison
- 3/20 Laura Conrad
- 3/27 Mary Morrison

Elder at the Font— 8:30 Service

- 3/6 Donna McCubbin
- 3/13 Sarah Morrison
- 3/20 Garland Gravely
- 3/27 Alyssa Howard

Elder at the Font— 10:45 Service

- 3/6 Jackie Ellis
- 3/13 Joanne Trenholm
- 3/20 Leanne Greene
- 3/27 Jim London

Infant - Infant/Toddler

- 3/6 Judy Blackwell
- 3/13 Stella Hudak
- 3/20 Billie Jackson
- 3/27 Aleta Robinson

2 & 3 Year Old Nursery

- 3/6 Leanne Greene
- 3/13 Lisa Britt
- 3/20 Stephanie Scott
- 3/27 Jenifer Griffis

4 & 5 Year Old Nursery

- 3/6 Jackie Ellis
- 3/13 Erika & Mandy Hays
- 3/20 Elizabeth Bost
- 3/27 Claudette Bennett

Announcements & Concerns



Christian Sympathy is extended to:

Tom and Carol Pollock in the death of Tom's mother, Anna Pollock on February 7, 2016.

Wes & Judy Koch and family in the death of Judy's mother, Dorothy Sapp, on February 8, 2016 in Columbia, MO.



Congratulations on the birth of

Neely Katherine Morton, daughter of Christopher and Paige Morton, born January 29, 2016, in Greenville, SC. Neely is the granddaughter of **Gregg and Cathy Morton**.



Presbyterian Student Association NEWS

Thank you to all of those who have provided meals this semester. We have three dates still available (April 3, 17, and 24) if you would like to provide a meal.

Please contact Maggie Alsup (psa.intern@forthillchurch.org) if you are interested.

For those of you attending the Spring Break Mission Trip, please mark your calendar for the pretrip meeting on Sunday, March 6 at 8:10 PM. We'll discuss the details of the trip, packing lists, and other important information.

If you are attending the trip you are required to attend this meeting. If you are not able to make it to this meeting please let Kelly know as soon as possible.

2016 Deacon's Retreat

On February 20, the Fort Hill Board of Deacons welcomed its Class of 2019, which includes Lisa Britt, Anne Cash, Becky DeWitt, Eva Henry, Melanie Job, Tommi Jones, Barbara Madison, and Cindy Sloan. Under the leadership of the Deacon Executive Team, Diane Egan, Moderator (Class of 2016), Robin Weeks, Vice Moderator, Donna Crader, Secretary, and Mary Morrison, Associate Pastor for Discipleship, twenty-six deacons met in the Club Room for the purpose of learning how to better care for each other and for those in their Circles of Care (COC).

In addition to being given a variety of resources, the deacons enthusiastically shared their own ideas with each other in breakout discussion groups. Important discussion centered around the deacon ministries that were reorganized last year and continue to develop. Those ministries (Compassion, Witness, and Service) will continue to serve the congregation of Fort Hill in special areas of need, areas such as bereavement meals, special receptions, new baby ministry, homebound communion, prayer shawls, flowers, membership/assimilation, healthcare and transportation. As the deacons discussed their assigned ministries during the retreat, new ideas were already being shared as to how to make those ministries even more effective during the coming year.

A special time of spiritual inspiration was offered by Mary Morrison. She encouraged asking two questions, "How can I help others?" and "How can we help others?", as the deacons will both minister to their Circles of Care and lead those in their circles to minister to each other. Mary encouraged deacons to think about how their unique gifts can be used and shared in their COC ministries, reminding the deacons to rely on their strength to come from God as they pray for the individuals in their COC and for each other.

In addition to all that was being learned at the retreat were a delicious lunch and the enjoyment of the fellowship that the day provided. A hoped-for result of the day was that the Fort Hill Deacons came away with a renewed sense of purpose and a better idea of how to share Christ's love with all. And...as in the picture below says...Fort Hill Deacons care!

Diane Egan
Deacon Moderator, Class of 2016



Top row (behind the letters!) Tommi Jones, Marchita Culpepper, Jayne Fort, & Melanie Job. **Third Row:** Joy Skelton, Cile Dunkelberg, Gensie Waldrop, Lisa Britt, & Becky DeWitt. **Second Row:** Pam Waddle, Lisa Street, Barbara Madison, Anne Cash, Donna Crader, & Cheryl Trammell. **First Row:** Wes Koch, Eva Henry, Cindy Sloan, Cynthia Gravelly, & Robin Weeks.

Children's Ministry Update

I hope everyone is doing well and making time to participate in Wednesday suppers and activities. The children are learning more about the special days and practices of Lent through crafts and activities. We will follow regular our schedule on Sundays during Lent. On Easter, Sunday, March 27, we add a Sunrise Service at Old Stone Church. We will have both 8:30 and 10:45 am services and Bridge (9:30 am) at Fort Hill.

Worship Education for second grade continues in March as the children learn about the sacraments, the church calendar, holidays and traditions. We will meet to prepare communion bread to present for the March 6 8:30am service. We also look forward to participating in the Children's Sunday Service on April 24 which features the children and youth choirs' performance of *The Tale of the Three Trees*.

Looking ahead:

Easter Egg Hunts:

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| March 18 | Flashlight Hunt for 1 st through 5 th graders 7:00-9:00pm |
| March 19 | Hunt for Kindergarten and younger 10:00-11:30am |
| April 24 | Children's Sunday Service |
| April 29 - May 1 | Church Retreat at Montreat |
| June 20- June 23 | Vacation Bible School |
| June 24 | Mission Project for 3rd - 5th grade |



Blessings to you,

Cyndi

From the Finance Ministry

Below is a summary of the 2016 budget passed by Session. A copy of the line item budget is available upon request. Please contact the Church office to receive a copy.

General Fund Contribution Income	Amount
Pledged Giving	\$787,740
Non-Pledged Giving	\$140,990
Building Usage Fees	\$13,500
Total Income	\$942,230
General Fund Expenses	
Board of Deacons	\$2,600
Buildings & Grounds	\$93,800
Christian Action	\$97,230
Christian Education	\$22,500
Congregational Fellowship	\$6,500
Finance	\$28,800
Membership	\$1,550
Personnel (Includes salaries/benefits all staff)	\$565,072
Program Support	\$57,096
Planning	\$1,750
University Ministry (FHPC Share)	\$52,327
Worship	\$13,005
Total Expenses	\$942,230

March Fort Hill Church Activities

Tuesday, March 1

- 8:00 am Men of the Church Breakfast — Paws Diner
- 4:00 pm Building & Grounds Meeting — Club Room
- 5:30 pm University Ministry Meeting - PSA Student Center
- 7:00 pm Personnel & Program Meeting — Conference Rm
- 7:00 pm Fellowship Meeting — Club Room

Wednesday, March 2

- 10:00 am Bible Study — Club Room
- 1:00 pm Construction Meeting - Library
- 5:45 pm Wednesday Night at the Fort — Tartan Hall
- 6:15 pm Ron Rash - "Religious Themes in his Writings"

Thursday, March 3

- 6:30 pm Foothills Chorale Board Meeting — RoomE209

Sunday, March 6

- 2:00 pm NAMI — Club Room
Home Communion

Monday, March 7

- 12:15 pm PW Circle 1 — Club Room
- 3:00 pm PW Circle of Hope — Club Room
- 4:00 pm Brownie Meeting — Room E209
- 6:30 pm Boy Scouts — Club Room

Tuesday, March 8

- 5:00 pm Christian Education Meeting— RoomE209
- 5:00 pm Girl Scouts—Club Room
- 5:30 pm Christian Action - Library
- 5:45 pm Music Ministry Meeting—Conference Room
- 6:30 pm Worship Ministry Meeting—Conference Room
- 6:30 pm Finance Meeting—Club Room
- 7:00 pm PW Circle 2—Library

Wednesday, March 9

- 10:00 am Bible Study — Club Room
- 1:00 pm Construction Meeting - Library
- 5:45 pm Wednesday Night at the Fort — Tartan Hall
- 6:16 pm Claire Caskey "Random Church Humor"

Friday, March 11

Senior High Mini Montreat

Sunday, March 13

- 2:00 pm NAMI — Club Room

Monday, March 14

- 9:30 am PW Trinity Circle—Club Room
- 4:00 pm Brownie Meeting — Room E209
- 6:00 pm Children's Ministry Meeting—Cooper Room
- 6:30 pm Boy Scout—Club Room

Tuesday, March 15

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

Wednesday, March 16

- 10:00 am Bible Study — Club Room
- 1:00 pm Construction Meeting—Library
- 5:45 pm Wednesday Night at the Fort
- 6:15 pm Ben Sill— "Religious Artifacts" and Bible Trivia

Friday, March 18

- 7:00 pm Easter Egg Hunt (1st-5th Grade) Sanctuary

Saturday, March 19

- 10:00 am Easter Egg Hunt (Preschool & younger) Sanctuary

Sunday, March 20

- 12:00 pm Congregational Potluck Lunch
- 1:00 pm Deacon Meeting— Club Room
- 2:00 pm NAMI—Club Room

Monday, March 21

- 4:00 pm Brownie Meeting — Room E209
- 6:30 pm Boy Scouts — Club Room

Tuesday, March 22

- 5:00 pm Girl Scouts— Club Room
- 5:00 pm Membership Meeting — Conference Room

Thursday, March 24

- 6:15 pm Dinner Night at the Fort
- 7:30 pm Maundy Thursday — Sanctuary

Sunday, March 27

- 7:00 am Easter Sunrise Worship— Old Stone Church
- 8:30 am Worship— Tartan Hall
- 10:45 am Worship— Sanctuary

Monday, March 28

- 4:00 pm Brownie Meeting — Room E209
- 6:30 pm Boy Scouts — Club Room

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
- 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 (3/2-3/16 & 3/24)
- 6:15 pm Children's Choirs (K-3rd grade) — Room E209

Wednesday (continued)

- 6:15 pm Recreation (Grades 4-8) Room E208
- Chancel Bells — Choir Room
- Program — Tartan Hall
- 6:45 pm Children/MS Choir (4th-8th grades) — Room E209
- Recreation Grades (K-3 grade) Room E208
- Chancel Choir — Choir Room

Thursday

- 7:00 pm Young Adult Bible Study — Spitzlers' 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.



March Birthdays & Anniversaries



- 3/1 Jake Alexander
Amy Elrod
- 3/2 Marie Danhill
Margaret Thompson
Katherine Whisler
- 3/3 Caroline Dawson
Peggy Mowrey
- 3/4 Caroline Hunter
- 3/5 Luke Artigliere
Ben Deaton
Kristie MacRae
Mike Moore
George Rodgers
Sylvia Thomas
- 3/6 Bitsy Barker
Dusty Oates
Bob Wilkinson
- 3/7 Chase Aaron
Anna Lightsey

- 3/8 Alison Cundiff
Leland Hawthorne
- 3/9 John Brown
- 3/10 Dylan Bolger
Shirley Chappell
Barry Robinson
- 3/11 Tom McGinnis
- 3/13 Evelyn Cureton
Dulcie Mohr
Lindsay Pollard
Denny Walling
- 3/14 Julianna Ellis
Garland Gravely
Christine Hughes
Kathy Hughes
Joe Lamping
- 3/15 Caleb Dickerson
- 3/17 Philip Marcum
- 3/18 Elizabeth Reimer
- 3/19 Raymond MacKay
George Mitchell
Katie Wilson

- 3/20 Rita Greagan
- 3/21 Larry Gahan
- 3/22 Wayne Madison
- 3/23 David Cundiff
Billie Jackson
- 3/24 Caleb Bailey
Turner Hill
Hudson Money
Emily Poetz
Ben Sawyer
- 3/26 Elizabeth Crader
- 3/27 Sullivan MacRae
- 3/28 David Crum
- 3/29 Finley Wiles
- 3/30 Maggie Bandy
Sally Martin
Gayle McGregor
- 3/31 Frances Caskey



- 3/4 Raymond & Margaret MacKay
- 3/9 Ed & Shelly Burchfield
- 3/10 Rich & Emily Bartels
- 3/12 Bo Crader & Debbie Vaughn
- 3/17 Danny & Brigitte Gregg
- 3/22 Chuck & Elizabeth Sisson
- 3/27 Ed & Annette Halbig
- 3/31 Don & Cyndi Davis
Bob & Becky Fant

FHPC Staff Spotlight

Margaret MacKay, Director of Music

My work here at Fort Hill as the part-time Director of Music began in September of 2010. Music study began for me when I was 10 years old in Iva, SC with Marian Wakefield, who is still teaching and playing in church at age 95!!! (Not sure I have those kinds of genes!) My aunt was the organist at Good Hope Presbyterian Church in Iva. When she decided to retire, I took over the reins at age 13, and have always served in that capacity somewhere since then.

As a graduate of Anderson College, Furman University, and Southern Seminary with degrees in organ performance, I have served churches in Greenville, Belton, Louisville, KY, and Anderson. After serving for 18 years as Organist/Director of Music at First Presbyterian in Anderson, God opened a wonderful door to work part-time. I knew of Fort Hill, their strong ministry, and was thrilled to be called to serve with you.

It is a joy to work with such a fine staff, serve alongside dedicated members, and work with incredibly talented musicians of all ages. As Director of Music, my duties include: directing the Chancel Choir; serving as interim director of the children/youth choirs; working with our wonderful organist/handbell director, Judy Bonham; working with our talented pianist for the 8:30 service, Becky Bowman; planning for and assisting our Joyful Noise group at the 8:30 service; working with all the staff in planning and executing music for all services; acting as a liaison with PSA and their student music coordinator; serving on the Music Committee and Worship Ministry; and overseeing the music ministry as a whole.

My husband, Raymond (a bass in the Chancel Choir), and I are parents to 5 adults: Ray, his wife Stephanie MacKay, and grandson, Carson; Lauren, her husband Kory Warden and step-granddaughter, Alex; Mary Kathleen, her husband David Duncan, and granddaughter, Mary Eliza; Paul Weeks, an attorney in Washington, DC; and Kristen and husband Tyler McCall. Two more grands will arrive in mid-March with Carson having a sister and Mary Eliza having a brother!!! God is good.

I am blessed beyond measure to be doing what I love most - - using the gifts God has given me to praise Him through music with the people of God here at Fort Hill. To God be the Glory!



Judy Bonham, Organist & Handbell Choir Director

I have been playing the organ at church since age 13. I have served many churches as organist, children and adult choir director and handbell choir director. My long musical career has brought me to my present position at Fort Hill Presbyterian. From 1996-2001, I served Fort Hill as children's choir director. In 2006 I became the organist and shortly thereafter I accepted the handbell choir director's position.

After obtaining my Master's Degree in organ performance at Indiana University I began my teaching career in North Carolina at Guilford College and Greensboro College. After moving to South Carolina I discovered that I loved working with children so I pursued my teaching certificate in music education and taught public school music for 27 years.

At Fort Hill I play the organ at the 10:45 service, providing solo organ works and accompanying congregational and adult choir singing. I also have the privilege of working with a wonderful group of handbell ringers. The position at Fort Hill is truly a labor of love. We are so blessed with a wonderful instrument, and I am so blessed to be allowed to play it. Every day I thank God for the wonderful staff and membership of Fort Hill.

Welcome Fort Hill New Members



Adam, Victoria, Luke & Elizabeth Artigliere

Address: 208 Riggs Drive
Clemson, SC 29631

Phone: (864) 356-5592 (Adam)
(864) 356-5933 (Victoria)

Email: vicartigliere@yahoo.com

The Artigliere family come to Fort Hill by transfer of letter from First Presbyterian in Anderson. Adam is an attorney with the McNair Law Firm and Victoria works in the Advanced Plant Technology department at Clemson University. Luke is a student at Edwards Middle School and Elizabeth is a student at Clemson Elementary.



Todd, Catherine, Ashley & Andrew Latiff

Address: 1010 Wyntuck Court
Clemson, SC 29631

Phone: (864) 653-5906

Email: todd.latiff@oconeeffederal.com
latiffc@bellsouth.net

The Latiff family come by transfer of letter from Lake Murray Presbyterian. Andrew is currently in the confirmation class and will be confirmed this spring. They have moved back to Clemson from Chapin. Todd is a banker with Oconee Federal and Catherine works in Special Education with the Pickens County School District. Ashley is a 10th grader at Daniel High School, while Andrew is an 8th grader at Edwards Middle School. They live in the Clarendon Hall neighborhood in Clemson.



Chuck & Nina Moede

Address: 105 Carrie Leigh Lane
Pendleton, SC 29670

Phone: (281) 703.7382 (Chuck)
(281) 703.7359 (Nina)

Email: chuck.moede@alumni.clemson.edu
nina.moede@alumni.clemson.edu

The Modes come by transfer of letter from Webster Presbyterian in Webster, Texas. Both Clemson alums, they have moved back to this area upon Chuck's retirement from NASA. They have two grown daughters, Karen and Melissa. Currently living in Pendleton, they are building a house in Stillwater.



Carolyn Stroup

Address: 419 Meldau Road
Seneca, SC 29678

Phone: (843) 319-9023

Email: cwstroup@att.net

Carolyn has moved back to Clemson from Florence, SC and is renewing her membership at Fort Hill. Some of you may remember Carolyn and her family. Her children Kristin and Brannen McElmurray are children of Fort Hill Church. Carolyn is a retired special education teacher and she enjoys collecting folk art and living on Lake Hartwell.

News from Presbyterian Women

April Paper Goods for Helping Hands

During the month of April, Presbyterian Women (PW) will be collecting paper goods (paper towels, Kleenex, toilet tissue, etc.) for Helping Hands of Clemson - a home for foster children. Please bring your paper goods donations to the kitchen next to the Club Room beginning **April 1**. Please designate on the bags that they are for Helping Hands. Thanks!

Presbyterian Women's Birthday Luncheon

It is time to mark your calendars for the **Annual PW Birthday Luncheon** to be held at Fort Hill Presbyterian on **Saturday, April 2**. **ALL** women attending Fort Hill Presbyterian are invited to this special gathering. Our speaker will be Chandra Coleman, the Advancement Officer from Thornwell Home for Children. Please plan to attend this fun and informative program.

Please remember to come prepared to contribute to the Birthday Luncheon Offering. Our donations will go towards projects chosen by Presbyterian Women, fulfilling our mission to improve the lives of others.

Presbyterian Women Is Collecting Campbell Soup Labels Or Box Tops for Education for Thornwell Home for Children

Presbyterian Women, please collect and bring in your **Campbell Soup labels** and **Box Tops for Education** for Thornwell Home for Children. Laurie Lefevre is asking for the Presbyterian women to place your donations in a basket on the side of the refrigerator in the small kitchen across the hall from the FHOG Office. We will give these to Thornwell. Each label is worth 10 cents. Thank you for your generosity!!!

PW Winter Retreat a Big Success

The Presbyterian Women's retreat was held **Saturday, Feb.27** at Seneca Presbyterian Church. All enjoyed inspirational study, great food and fellowship.

Valentine Boxes for Our Fort Hill College Students

Thank you for the abundance of donations for the Valentine care packages for our Fort Hill college students! We mailed or hand delivered 23 boxes and know the students really appreciated their home church thinking of them.

Dates to Remember:

April 2	PW Birthday Luncheon
April 3-10	Family Promise at Fort Hill Presbyterian.
April 21	Come See Columbia Day

Family Promise: A Ministry for Homeless Families

Fort Hill will again host Family Promise guests beginning April 3, this time in our newly renovated church building. Starting February 22, coordinators Mary Barron and Linda Gahan invite you to sign up on the Dry-Erase board placed near the FHOG office during the week and in the Narthex on Sundays. **Fifty (50) volunteers are needed for the week**. Here is what you can do to make a difference in the life of homeless families:

Hospitality hosts, 2 persons/evening, 5:30 – 7:30 pm, to greet guests, serve dinner, clean up, and as needed play with children and listen to adults.

Meal hosts, 3 persons/evening, prepare a portion of a meal & bring food by 5:30pm ready to serve.

Overnight hosts, 2 persons/evening, 8:30 pm – 6:30 am, sleep overnight at the church, meet emergencies, serve continental breakfast.

Set-up bedrooms, 4 per Sunday, 2 – 3 pm, unload beds and guest belongings from trailer & make beds.

Take-down bedrooms, 4 per Sunday, 7:30- 8:00 am, move beds and belongings to trailer and rearrange classrooms.

Saturday breakfast, 2 persons/Saturday, prepare and serve Saturday breakfast 9:00 – 10:00 am.

Saturday activity: Plan and implement an activity for the guests on Saturday.

Purchase breakfast food and snacks for the week.

Laundry: Wash bedding and towels after the week is over and return to the church.

Meeting this human need will bring you and our guests many blessings and great comfort. For more information contact Linda Gahan at 654-2953 or glinda1942@gmail.com.

Mission Outreach

Oh My Goodness, I cannot believe that I just returned from a trip to El Faro in Guatemala in October and I'm leading another team in April. Fort Hill Mission Outreach is such a blessing to the people it serves, but truly, our people that go or give heart and funds to these missions are the ones that are blessed.

During the 12 day trip last October, the team painted inside and outside of the house of a village widow with 3 children, (she works 17 hours a day in the El Faro kitchen); built kitchen walls for another villager, purchased and installed 7 stoves (wood burning, and ventilated!) in village homes; purchased and delivered 8 water filtration systems to families in Livingston, Guatemala; held a pizza party complete with toys and t-shirts to an orphanage near Puerto Barrios; visited children in the Children's Hospital in Puerto Barrios (sharing toys, clothes, blessing bags for the mothers, and spending time playing with the children); and remodeled a donated storage space at the children's hospital so mothers would have a place to rest, shower and sleep (think Ronald McDonald house). This project included clean up, painting existing walls, constructing and painting 2 new walls, and cleaning out the overgrowth in the small courtyard behind the facility. All the people that we "worked" for while we were at El Faro are so appreciative of Fort Hill Mission Outreach and all the support they are given by our church....showing God's love.

The plans for our trip in April are to enclose kitchens for several of the villagers. Their kitchen areas are outside of the house because most of their stoves are open fires. There are no walls on the kitchen areas, so when it rains, rain blows in. We enclosed one such kitchen in October and the lady, Pauline, was so happy, she couldn't wait for us to finish to move her one kitchen cabinet in and start cooking. She already had a stove that she was not able to use because of the rain. Now she can use her new stove and new space. These enclosed kitchens also give them another ROOM on their houses and they don't have to cook in the room where they sleep.

We are planning another project at the hospital. We would like to work in the court yard of the mother's area where we worked before. We were thinking of some benches and hammocks and small tables for them to relax and eat outside. At present there are beds inside, but nowhere else to sit. Imagine being with your child at the hospital and you have to go out on the streets at night to eat and sleep. I can't even imagine.

A pizza party at the orphanage was a huge hit last time...complete with balls, jump ropes, toy trucks, and t-shirts for all. They don't get many new things and they LOVED all their new colorful t-shirts. We hope to do this again. The smiles and joy on the kids faces brought tears to our eyes and smiles to our faces.

We also want to take "blessing bags" for children and moms at the hospital and the women and children of the village. Last trip we noticed several children with holes in the bottoms of their shoes. We went out and bought 10 pairs of Crocs for \$3.00 each. The smiles those shoes brought is beyond words. They put them on IMMEDIATELY!!!

Our blessing bags were filled with hair accessories, water bottles, pencils, pens, toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, washcloths, pot holders, wooden spoons, kitchen towels, balls, trucks, small dolls, crayons, pencil sharpeners, and any other things that moms and kids LOVE. In October, we made 30 bags for moms and 30 for kids. The \$1 Store is GREAT. They don't get a surprise every time they go shopping. They LOVE surprises too.

ANY gently used children's clothes would be GREATLY appreciated. There are children all around the village that have so few clothes and most are hand me downs and WELL worn. We'll take girls & boys clothes, ANY sizes.

We still have stoves and water that we raised funds for last trip. We get to deliver several of those this trip to provide healthier cooking and living conditions.

As you can tell, this will be 11 days full of God's love and blessings that we take to the people of Guatemala. Everyone that's been to El Faro, comes home with a deeper understanding of the love God has for all his people, the givers and the receivers. God is so good!

We would LOVE to have all of you go with us on a mission. You will be changed. Call me with any questions you might have and please consider going.

Fort Hill Mission Outreach is the group, but you, the congregation are the ones that make it all possible. We need your prayers, support, blessings, and donations. Look around you, WE are so blessed here in Clemson. Help us change the lives of the beautiful people around El Faro...one trip at a time.

Mission Statement for Mission Outreach:

We seek to glorify God by sharing His love with people and communities in need at home and around the world. We strive to cooperatively partner with them and to serve them using compassion, education, and support in hopes of alleviating their suffering while preserving their dignity.

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March 2, 9, 16, and Maundy Thursday, March 24th: Wednesday Night Supper in Tartan Hall.

March 5th: Second graders will prepare communion bread at 11:00am.

March 18th, 1st through 5th grade & **March 19th** Kindergarten and younger—**Egg Hunt** Please save cardboard egg cartons for Cyndi Davis. They may be left in a bag on the Cooper Room door.

March 20th: Congregational Celebration & Potluck In place of the usual congregational dinner in February, we will celebrate being complete with our renovation and share in a potluck meal after 10:45am worship.

April 8th: Coffee House in Tartan Hall—prepare your best fun to share!

April 10-12th: The Seminary at The Fort Scholar in Residence, the Rev. Dr. Rodney S. Sadler, Jr. will lead us in an examination of "Race, Social Justice and Political Reform."

April 24th: Children's Musical / Children and Youth Choirs *The Tale of the Three Trees.*