



The Window

The Newsletter of Fort Hill Presbyterian Church

May 2017

Message From the Pastor

The Lasting Supper

When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. Luke 24:30-31

One of the first acts of our Risen Lord after the resurrection was to have communion with two strangers in Emmaus. They had been walking the road, talking to one another, and then the strangers invited Jesus to stay with them without knowing who he was. It was not until they sat down to eat supper that Jesus was revealed to them. He took bread, blessed it and broke it, and gave it to them. These are the words of institution used at the sacrament of the Lord's Supper every time we have communion. In that place and many times over and over, we recognize Jesus when we share this holy meal together. We celebrate the sacrament in worship as a gathered body of believers, and we trust that Christ is especially present with us in the bread and the cup, as well as in the communion with brothers and sisters in the fellowship of faith.

The meal shared at Emmaus reminds us that we can also recognize the presence of the living God at our everyday meals and our common tables. The Last Supper continues every time we gather and remember Christ's presence and give thanks over a meal. Our table blessings remind us of communion held in worship. We give thanks for God's providing for our needs and recognize the Giver of these gifts. The blessing and the eating are ordinary ways that we see God present in the ordinary, daily acts. We celebrate a lasting supper.

Our session voted last fall to celebrate the sacrament of the Lord's Supper every first Sunday of the month in both services of worship. To experience the variety of ways Christians have enjoyed over the ages, we will alternate between receiving the sacrament by intinction and by sharing trays in the late service. In intinction worshippers are invited forward to a station to take a piece of bread and dip it in the cup. Some love the active way of participating and seeing the members of the body of Christ with whom they commune. You may choose to remain seated and servers will come to your seat. Sharing the trays is a way of passing the gift of Christ from neighbor to neighbor. Both ways are meaningful. As we celebrate the sacrament more often, may we recognize the abundant grace God showers on us every day and see the presence of Christ Jesus with us — who was born, lived, died and was raised for us.

Meet you at the Lord's Table on May 7.

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

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Linda Kofler, PSA Intern

Cyndi Davis, Children's Ministry Coordinator

Margaret MacKay, Director of Music

Judy Bonham, Organist/Handbell Choir Director

Becky Bowman, Pianist

Lori Houck, Administrator

Judy Crawford, Administrative Assistant

Scott Thrailkill, Facilities Caretaker

Scriptures for Sunday Worship

- 5/7 4th Sunday of Easter**
Acts 2:42-47; Ps. 23;
1 Peter 2:19-35; John 10:1-10
- 5/14 5th Sunday of Easter**
Acts 7:55-60; Ps. 31:1-5, 15-16;
1 Peter 2:2-10; John 14:1-14
- 5/21 6th Sunday of Easter**
Acts 17:22-31; Ps. 66:8-20;
1 Peter 3:13-22; John 14:15-21
- 5/28 7th Sunday of Easter**
Acts 1:6-14; Ps. 68:1-10,
32-35; 1 Peter 4:12-14;
1 Peter 5:6-11; John 17:1-11

June

The Window Deadline

The deadline for announcements, articles, and features for the June issue of *The Window* is **Monday, May 15, 2017.**

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.



Frank & Rita Van Lenten and family in the death of Rita's sister, Rose Marie Collerone, on April 14.

Mark & Kerri Kwist and family in the death of Mark's uncle, Lee Kwist, on April 16.

Mike & Judy Blackwell and family in the death of Mike's mother, Doris Horton Blackwell, on April 21 in Gaffney.

Paul & Joan Borick and family in the death of Paul's mother, Joan Borick, on April 22 in Pennsylvania.

Choir Corner

I was doing spring cleaning a few weeks ago and came across a note our minister daughter had written thanking us for a contribution made to their summer youth trip. They had gone on a Presbyterian pilgrimage to Scotland that included a visit to the Iona community. As part of her thank you, she included a copy of the Iona Creed. We used this as a prayer at the end of one of our Chancel Choir rehearsals and found it very meaningful. I would like to share it with you.

The Iona Creed

We believe that God is present in the darkness before dawn;
in the waiting and uncertainty where fear and courage join hands,
conflict and caring link arms, and the sun rises over barbed wire.
We believe in a with-us God who sits down in our midst to share our humanity.
We affirm a faith that takes us beyond our safe place:
into action, into vulnerability and onto the streets.
We commit ourselves to work for change and put ourselves on the line;
to bear responsibility, take risks, live powerfully and face humiliation;
to stand with those on the edge; to choose life and be used
by the Spirit for God's new community of hope. Amen.

Smiling-n-Singing,

Margaret

Inside the "Den": Marking Milestones

The month of May seems to always carry with it a sense of accomplishment, celebration, and transition in the lives of young people.

This month we will be celebrating major milestones for some of the young people here in our church. Over the past few months, ten 8th graders and one sophomore have been working their way through confirmation. On Sunday, May 21, at the 10:45 service, we will be celebrating their hard work as we welcome them into our community as full members of Fort Hill Church. They will then be able to take part in congregational votes and serve as elders on Session (as two of last year's confirmands, Katherine Whisler and Mac Martin, are doing right now!).

May 21 will also be a day when we celebrate our graduating high school seniors. For them, as for our college students, this is a time to recognize both the work they have done thus far as well as the unique place of transition that is fast approaching as plans for the future are made.

May is indeed a time to celebrate these important milestones. We also recognize the transition of 5th graders into middle school **and** youth group, so we are inviting them to join us for a sneak peak on May 7. And our 8th graders will get a chance to join our senior highs on May 14 to discuss what to expect in high school — another big transition!

I hope you will join me this month in praying for all of the young people in our church as we give thanks for God's spirit abiding with us in these times of transition and celebration!

Joyfully,

Dana



Confirmands and their covenant partners prepared dinner for guests at Our Daily Rest homeless shelter on March 11.

Children's Ministry Update

Spring is flying by. The children have enjoyed numerous activities together. During Bridge on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday, the children participated in an Easter egg hunt and picture scavenger hunt. We also released the butterflies we had watched grow as caterpillars, create chrysalis and emerge into butterflies. As I witnessed the excitement and concern the children had for our butterflies, it reminded me of the love, encouragement, excitement, and concern our church family has for our children. We anticipate their birth, foster their growth, and celebrate as they grow into young adults.

Thank you for being their supportive loving church family.

Vacation Bible School planning is well under way, June 12-15. We need volunteers to fill many jobs. Loving guides and workers are needed as shepherds for ages 5 through fifth grade during the day, escorts from drop off to VBS class, group leaders for Bible story, mission story, crafts and snack preparation. Please support VBS by working with our children. Sign up sheets will be located in the Arcade during May, or contact Cyndi Davis (cyndi.davis@forthillchurch.org) to volunteer.

Abundance Orchard is this year's VBS theme. It was developed by The Society of St. Andrew which supports the Stop Hunger Now Project. We will learn how we might help with their mission as we participate in mission projects with our church family. Children in grades 3-5 will glean fields as one of the first of our projects. Registration forms are available on our website and outside the FHOG office through May 30.

Wishing you JOY!



Congregational Fun Day and Picnic

We have much to celebrate in May, so join your church family **May 21 for the Congregational Fun Day and Picnic** at the Outdoor Lab. The fun begins at 3:00 pm and lasts until 7:00 pm. Our main meal will be served around 5:30 pm. We'll honor the confirmation class and our high school graduates on this day!

We'll provide hot dogs with all the fixings, water, lemonade, and place setting items. You can bring side dishes and chairs for your family. Please use the following suggestions for bringing food to share.

Last names beginning with:

A-D — Appetizers

E-M — Side dishes

N-Z — Desserts

The Clemson University Outdoor Lab is located five miles from campus and is on a beautiful peninsula on Hartwell Lake. We have reserved the picnic shelter and amphitheater for fellowship, food and games. Nature trails are located nearby. And we also will have canoes available for your lake recreation. Feel free to bring a kayak if you wish. Swimming cannot be offered at this time and there are no pets allowed at the Outdoor Lab.



Finally parking is limited and we strongly encourage carpooling. We're also trying to work out transportation for those who cannot drive. More information to follow.

Here's a link for a map to the Outdoor Lab:

<https://www.google.com/maps/place/Clemson+Outdoor+Lab+and+Kresge+Hall/@34.620848,-82.8487587,17z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m5!3m5!1s0x0:0x7fb7294ec06e33fd!8m2!3d34.620848!4d-82.84657?hl=en>

Directions from 123: Turn onto Hwy 76/28 East towards Anderson. Follow Hwy 76/28 for 4 miles. Turn right only West Queen Street (this is also the turn for the T. Ed Garrison Arena). Follow West Queen Street for 2.5 miles. The Outdoor Lab entrance is on the left.

The Window

Sunday Servants

Pastor on Call

5/7 Laura Conrad
5/14 Mary Morrison
5/21 Dana Waters
5/28 Laura Conrad

Elder at the Font—8:30 Service

5/7 Joanne Trenholm
5/14 Rose Marie McDonald
5/21 Helen Wooten
5/28 Joan Borick

Elder at the Font—10:45 Service

5/7 Jim London
5/14 Dick Shick
5/21 Mike Worley
5/28 Paul Durland

Infant - Infant/Toddler

5/7
5/14 Joan Dixon
5/21
5/28 Annette & Elise Halbig

2 & 3 Year Old Nursery

5/7 Ed & Jillian McLaurin
5/14 Stephanie Scott
5/21 Laura Crenshaw
5/28 Beth Durham

4 & 5 Year Old Nursery

5/7 Eddie & Megan Chavis
5/14 LeAnne Broome
5/21 Meredith Lecroy
5/28 Barbara Madison



We were surrounded by the love of God, pastors, and dear friends from Fort Hill Church during John's illness and death in December. Thank you so much for cards, emails, visits, phone calls, and prayers. Our blessings continue to sustain us.

*With gratitude,
Cathy Spragins & family*

The Mohr family would like to express our appreciation for all the cards, visits, and especially prayers given on behalf of Andrew Mohr and Gary Mohr, Sr. during their surgeries and recovery periods. It is nice to have such a caring church family to support us in times of need. Thank you again.

News from Presbyterian Women

Hope

Oh Spring, when nature stirs and
days grow long

When gush forth fields of flowers
and birds in song

New life creeps in much as dawn's
first faint rays

To slowly seize a season and its days.

This once a year renewal that's so fair,
This birthday of a multitude of things
Pleads, "Celebrate God's glory everywhere
And revel in the rebirth that it brings."

When bees can find fresh nectar
on each knoll

And blossoms find the bees that
make them whole.

When warmer days let leaves
new fingers spread

With shade to cool the trail which
tiny creatures tread.

All around, the world just seems so happy
As warblers reappear on weary wing,
Extolling earth's awakening to me
In purest hymns of hope that we both sing.

*By Ben Sill
March 23, 2013*



Yellow Throated Warbler

PW Spring Birthday Luncheon

We want to thank all of the committee members and volunteers who worked tirelessly to make our annual PW Birthday Luncheon, held on **April 29** a great success! Besides enjoying delicious salads, desserts and beverages prepared by our members, we enjoyed fellowship with one another. Our speaker, Ms. Armilla Moore, Director of Family Promise of Pickens County, shared with us the struggles and joys of directing this life-changing program for homeless families.

May Magazine Collections for Campbell Veterans Hospital and Harris Psychiatric Hospital

During the month of May, Presbyterian Women will be collecting magazines, books and puzzles for **Campbell Veterans Hospital** and **Harris Psychiatric Hospital**. Please bring your donations to the Collections Room in "the dungeon" at the bottom of the lower stairs across from the Club Room beginning **May 1**.

Campbell's Soup Labels and Box Tops for Education

Please continue to bring Campbell's Soup Labels (until the end of June 2017) and Box Tops for Education, and place them in the basket on the side of the refrigerator in the small kitchen beside the Club Room. We will continue to save Box Tops for Education for Thornwell but the collection of the Campbell's Soup Labels will end in June.

Next Family Promise Sign Up is for July 23-30, 2017

In an effort to coordinate with other area churches, our July 30, 2017 week to host Family Promise has been moved to the week of **July 23-30, 2017**. Please mark this change on your calendars and plan to participate in this wonderful home mission effort! For more information, please contact Linda Gahan, (864) 654-2953, or Mary Barron, (864) 885-9342. Thank you!

Fort Hill Presbyterian Women Travel to Mission El Faro in Guatemala

FHPC Mission Outreach sent our Medical Eye Mission team to Mission El Faro, Punta de Palma, Guatemala, to do cataract surgeries March 19-28. Accompanying Dr. Bob Brown and Susan were Mary Barron, Beth Chapman, Myra Cato, and Cathy Spragins. Dr. Brown was able to do six eye surgeries before encountering equipment difficulties. At that time the focus of our trip changed into a service mission. We visited the local elementary school and assisted in an oral exam of introductory English, visited an elderly woman in a remote area and brought her gifts, visited children in the National Children's Hospital in Puerto Barrios and brought them gifts and Blessing Bags, and built a kitchen for the 82 year old woman we had visited earlier in the week. When one door closed for us, many more opened up!

Beth Chapman leads our next Fort Hill Service Mission trip July 8-15, 2017. Contact her if you would like to be a part of this opportunity to "Go forth...!" Beth Chapman: (864) 643-0043 or wallsindisguise@yahoo.com.

Columbia Friendship Circle

Fliers on Columbia Friendship Circle are found in the pews. CFC was founded in 1949 to pray for the staff and students of the seminary, encourage young men and women to pursue seminary work and provide financial assistance to families in need. Annually CFC gives scholarships to seminary students with families as they work toward their degrees. Donations toward this worthy cause would be great appreciated.

Mother's Day Offering

Mother's Day expenditure in the US this year is expected to be 21.4 billion dollars. Yes, billion. Americans **only** spent 19.7 billion on Valentine's Day.

For some of us the expenditure will be \$0 as we no longer have a mother. Or, we will buy a card and a gift for her at a cost under \$172. If so, could you manage a small donation to the Mother's Day offering for Presbyterian Communities of South Carolina?

The Mother's Day offering on May 14 supports the Presbyterian Communities of South Carolina's foundation. The foundation acts through an endowment fund to assist seniors with financial needs to continue their residence at the PC communities.

Why do people need assistance? Usually they have had a serious medical issue that depleted their savings. Others outlive their planned retirement savings. Either way, these unexpected life events have placed them in the serious position of being unable to manage the costs associated with the PCSC community where they've lived for years. In the last 20 years nearly 30 million dollars has been used to supplement the needs of these residents.

Please take a look at the **new** website <https://www.prescommunities.org> or google "PCSC Communities" and enjoy the short interview with our own FHPC member, Dorothy Vedder, to get an even better understanding of PCSC communities.

In honor of your mother, daughter, sister, or friend and to aid a PCSC senior consider making a generous gift to the Mother's Day offering on May 14.

FH Preschool Music Teacher Opening

The preschool is in need of a music teacher for their 2, 3, and 4 year old preschool program. This position is part time and requires instruction two mornings/week. Please contact Jane Hodgkin at preschool@forthillchurch.org or at (864) 654-2061, ext. 30, if you are interested in applying for the position.

Bloom Where You Are Planted

by Cathy Spragins

On March 19, 2017, six excited, seasoned Fort Hill mission travelers left at 4:30 am for Atlanta to fly to San Pedro Sula, Honduras, then by van and motor boat to arrive at Mission El Faro, Guatemala. This beautiful tropical mission site was envisioned by an American, Phil Ephram, one of God's servants in Chicago who owns factories that make coffee grinders. Mr. Ephram wanted to create a mission in a serene natural setting to serve people in Guatemala in need of jobs, education, health care and spiritual journeys. Thus, El Faro was begun a dozen years ago.

Groups of Senior Citizens come here for spiritual renewal. High school students spend a weekend at El Faro pouring concrete slabs for future kitchens for local families. Medical teams come to work at the Children's Hospital. Soccer tournaments take place at El Faro and Vacation Bible School is held here for local children. The quiet beauty of El Faro and the sound of the ocean surf fills one's soul. GOD IS IN THIS PLACE. And God brought the Fort Hill team here to serve — to help the blind to see, to add joy to hospitalized children and support their parents, to build a sturdy new kitchen building for a dear 82 year old woman living in a dark, smoky one-room house, to greet everyone with smiles and "Buenos Dias", and to listen with concern and give warm support to the missionary staff at El Faro. Our planned "eye mission" activities had to be halted due to microscope problems, but our team of Bob and Susan Brown, Mary Barron, Myra Cato, Beth Chapman, and Cathy Spragins bloomed where they were planted and made productive use of their time. Stored medical supplies were inventoried and reorganized, "Blessing Bags" were given to mothers at the hospital, tutoring and assistance in speaking English was done in the local school and plans were made for work to be done on the next Fort Hill Mission trip July 8-15, 2017. Gracious hospitality was extended to us, meals of local ingredients were delicious, conversation with mission staff were frequent and enlightening. We were richly blessed and praise God for His goodness.

Note from Bob Brown:

For the first time in 42 eye surgery mission trips, we hit a major glitch on the recent trip to El Faro, Guatemala. On the first operating day (March 21) I noted a blur using either of the two Zeiss microscopes in the El Faro operating room. My view was murky, dusky, dingy — all words I was thinking about as I carefully and prayerfully performed the first three operations. By the time I finished the third, I knew we had to stop, to end the surgeries. Any problem I might encounter from that point on, I would blame on my "flying in the face of a storm". I did not want to hurt any of these trusting patients. In my training I was taught every day that "the best interest of the patient is the **only** interest to be considered" — Dr. Charles Mayo. It was very painful to bring to an end that which we had prepared for so intensely. However, our team and the El Faro team lifted my spirits as best they could and I am forever grateful. The patients will have their operations — just delayed a few months. In fact, a very good Guatemalan ophthalmologist wants to jump in to help his own people by offering free operations to the most affected who are still waiting. An ophthalmologist from Alabama, who obtained the microscopes for El Faro, will evaluate their condition. Down the road, it will all work out well. And our team accomplished certain projects that would not have happened otherwise. Going from Plan A to Plan B does help soothe my own pain. The Lord does not waste efforts to serve Him.

Bob Brown

May Fort Hill Church Activities

Monday, May 1

- 12:00 pm PW Circle 1 — Club Room
- 3:00 pm PW Circle of Hope — Club Room
- 7:00 pm Habitat Meeting — Conference Room

Tuesday, May 2

- 8:00 am Men of the Church Breakfast — Sunnyside Café
- 9:00 am AP Exams — Club Room
- 5:00 pm Mission Outreach Meeting — Club Room
- 5:00 pm Planning Meeting — Conference Room
- 5:30 pm UM Ministry Meeting — PSA Student Center
- 6:00 pm Christian Action Meeting — Library
- 7:00 pm Youth Ministry Meeting — Den
- 7:00 pm Personnel & Program Support — Conference Rm
- 7:00 pm Fellowship Ministry Meeting — Library

Thursday, May 4

- 8:00 am Preschool Mother's Day Tea — Club Room
- 7:00 pm SAT Prep Class — Room E209

Friday, May 5

- 8:00 am Preschool Mother's Day Tea — Club Room
- 7:00 pm SAT Prep Class — Room E209

Saturday, May 6

- 10:00 am Children's Exploration at the Botanical Gardens — BG

Sunday, May 7

- 11:45 am Building & Grounds Meeting — Conference Room
- 11:45 am Discovering Faith Class — Club Room
- 12:00 pm B. Madison/L. Britt Circle of Care Lunch — TH
Home Communion
- 1:00 pm NAMI — TBD
- 3:00 pm Confirmation Class — Den
- 4:30 pm 7 Habits Parenting Class — E205

Monday, May 8

- 9:30 am PW Trinity Circle — Club Room

Tuesday, May 9

- 6:30 pm Worship Ministry Meeting — Conference Room
- 6:30 pm Finance Meeting — Club Room

Tuesday, May 9, continued

- 7:00 pm PW Circle 2 — Library

Sunday, May 14

- 10:30 am Special Session Meeting — Tartan Hall

Monday, May 15

- 10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry — Hazel Sparks' home

Tuesday, May 16

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

Wednesday, May 17

- 12:00 pm Pastor Lunch — Foothills Community

Friday, May 19

Last day for Fort Hill Preschool

Saturday, May 20

- 3:00 pm Confirmation Celebration — Sydney Weeks' home

Sunday, May 21

- 9:30 am Called Session Mtg with Confirmands — Youth Den
- 3:00 pm Church Picnic — Outdoor Labs Clemson

Monday, May 22

- 6:45 pm Boy Scout Court of Honor — Sanctuary/TH

Tuesday, May 23

- Staff Planning Day
- 5:30 pm Membership Meeting — Conference Room

Monday, May 29

- Memorial Day Holiday — Church Office Closed
- 5:00 pm Boy Scout Medical Testing — Tartan Hall/Club Room

Wednesday, May 31

- 6:30 pm Wild Wednesday — Peppinos

Recurring Weekly Activities

Sunday

- 8:30 am Worship Service — Tartan Hall
- 9:30 am The Bridge — Faith Formation Classes
- 10:45 am Worship Service — Sanctuary
- 4:30 pm Mid-High Youth — Youth Den
- 6:00 pm Senior High Youth — Youth Den

Monday

- 4:00 pm Brownies — E209
- 6:30 pm Boy Scouts — Club Room/Tartan Hall

Tuesday

- 9:30 am Staff Meeting — Conference Room
- 5:30 pm Folk Dancing — Tartan Hall
- 7:00 pm Foothills Chorale — Choir Room

Wednesday

- 6:15 pm Chancel Bells — Choir Room
- 7:30 pm Chancel Choir — Choir Room

Thursday

- 7:30 pm Young Adult Bible Study — Pete Crowther's home

Weekly AA Meetings

Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday evenings at 8:00 pm and Friday at 12:30 pm in Room E205 of the Education Building

May Birthdays & Anniversaries



- 5/1 Jim Barker
Susan Beckwith
Lucy Martin
Peggy Rutland
- 5/2 Bill Carnes
Lauren Young
- 5/3 Audrey Sehorn
- 5/4 Paul Borick, Jr.
- 5/5 Rob Griffin
Marsha Griffin
George Reynolds
- 5/6 Stella Hudak
Tyler Miller
- 5/7 Tootie Poteet
Ralph Ricks
Ben Sill
- 5/8 Jill Weir
- 5/9 Connor Schoonover
Pam Waddle
- 5/10 Will Turner

- 5/11 Pansy Duke
Alex Hicklin
Josh Poetz
Mark Torres
Eva Williamson
Shelly Wilson
- 5/12 Judi Cundiff
- 5/13 Bill Lindsay
- 5/14 Carol Goodwyn
Allison Reynolds
- 5/15 Jackie Ellis
Ella Griffis
Tim Howard
- 5/16 Joan Dixon
Ellis Rutland
Carol Stout
Art Williams
- 5/17 Claudia Harris
Greg Sosebee
- 5/18 Ed Burchfield
Don Davis
Bill Mostertz
Jonathan Mudge
Pat Rutledge
- 5/19 Donna Crader

- 5/19 Eddie Payne
- 5/21 Eliza Bost
Grace Bost
Ford Fagan
Stephanie Smith
- 5/23 Stephen Ackerman
Joan Borick
- 5/25 Ginger Littlejohn
Keith Smith
John Stevenson
- 5/26 Annette Halbig
Bob Lightsey
Sarah Massios
Doug Satzger
- 5/27 Traci Harrington
Randy Moore
Laura Shick
- 5/28 Harles Carter
Linda Wofford
- 5/29 Rameth Owens
- 5/30 Maranda Arnold
Elaine Rogers
Cindy Sloan
- 5/31 Charlotte Gruosso
Mavis Sabin



- 5/1 Charles & Mary Barron
Gene & Carol Goodwyn
- 5/2 Jason & Katie Wilson
- 5/3 Mike & Marie Nebesky
- 5/10 Jim & Donna London
- 5/12 David & Marlene Nicholas
- 5/14 Jim & Judy Eidson
- 5/15 Greg & Jenifer Griffis
- 5/19 Josh & Emily Poetz
- 5/21 Matt & Laura Crenshaw
Bill & Bonnie Lanier
- 5/22 Mike & Kathy Moore
Ron & Kathy Hughes
- 5/27 Norman & Jackie Ellis
- 5/28 Dan & LeAnne Greene
- 5/31 Hack & Cheryl Trammell

From the Finance Ministry

Through March, total income was \$261,557 while expenses for the first quarter were \$241,870 for a surplus of \$19,687. Income includes a one-time transfer of \$24,695 from restricted funds which significantly contributes to this surplus. Overall expenses are at 25.8% of budget, while income is at 28% of 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, the community and around the world.

Bridging Generations Update: Pledged giving for the month was 35,361.66. Non-pledged giving was \$175, undesignated memorial gifts were \$270, and interest income of \$7.04 for a total of \$35,806.66. Total income year to date: \$134,901. Total expenses year to date: \$16,316. Loan principle: \$1,217,264.41.

Fort Hill Income/Expenses 2017



Did You Know?

Did you know you can track your pledged giving online?

Follow these simple steps to see if you are on track to meet your annual pledge goal:

- Go to Fort Hill's website www.forthillchurch.org and scroll to the bottom of the page and click on **Member Login**.
- Log in using your existing credentials or request a username and password by clicking on **Need a Login?**. To get set up you must use an e-mail address that is on file with the church. If you need to update your e-mail address please contact the church office.
- Once logged in, click on **My Pledge History** under **My Giving Summary** at the bottom of the page. From there you will see your pledge, amount given year to date, and balance remaining.



One Great Hour of Sharing Honor and Remember

In Memory of:

Chip & Diane Egan in memory of Anne Watt, Eleanor Tudo, and Joe Egan
The Wetsel Family in memory of Ferd & Ruth Wetsel
Jim & Donna London in memory of Dick & Bee Sparkman and Jack & Doris London
Joan Borick in memory of her father, Hugh Mayberry
Donna Crader in memory of loved ones
Lib Gage in memory of Gaston Gage and Libby Crowther
The Conrad Family in memory of Charles Conrad, Sr., Carroll & Joyce Smith, our parents
Doug & Lynn Carlson in memory of Doug's parents and Lynn's father
Helen Wooten and family in memory of Tom Wooten
Cathy Spragins and family in memory of John D. Spragins
Ann & John Gilreath in loving memory of Roy & Lib Folwkes
Lynn D. Hudgin in memory of Annie B
Chuck Cruickshank in memory of Betty Cruickshank
Sue and Mary Limber in memory of D. Nelson Limber
Anna Tollison in memory of Robert Tollison
Polly Peters in memory of Norman Peters; our parents, Dr. & Mrs. W.H. Jamieson and Mr. & Mrs. Harold J. Peters
Bob & Becky Fant in memory of our parents, Mr. & Mrs. Robert Fant, Sr. and Dr. & Mrs. John Otts
Jim & Jane Van Sensus in memory of Robert A. Van Sensus (brother) and Alice E. Thornburg (cousin)
Karen Lindenmeyer in memory of Carl Lindenmeyer
Harold & Arlene Cheatham in memory of Bob and Wanda Goodrow
John & Claudette Bennett in memory of our parents, Jack & Elizabeth Bennett and Claude & Helen Hesse
Lee & Linda Davis in memory of our parents, Arma & Henry Stover, and Erma & Albert Davis
Hap & Jeannette Carr in memory of Dr. & Mrs. Chalmers Carr, Mr. & Mary Gary DeWitt, and Col. & Mrs. Marvin "Slick" Ellison
Donna, Jim, and Corey McCubbin in memory of Betty Cruickshank

In Honor of:

The Wetsel Family in honor of Frank & Margaret Kerr
Lib Gage in honor of my grandchildren: Lisbeth, Gaston, Gage, Jake, and Grace
The Conrad Family to the glory of God!
Doug & Lynn Carlson in honor of Lynn's mother
Jack & Billie Jackson in honor of Guardian Ad Litem Programs
Jere & Rosemary Ross in honor of our grandchildren, Mary Ellis Knapp and Rosemary Reeves Collie
Hack & Cheryl Trammell in honor of Harrison, LaBruce and Boggan, Jonathan and August, Caroline and Harrison, and Andrew and Hilary
Chuck Cruickshank in honor of Donna, Jim, and Corey McCubbin
Sue and Mary Limber in honor of Marian A. Limber, Corina Blanco Paredes, Samantha Blanco Paredes, and Marisol Blanco Paredes
Bob & Becky Fant in honor of our children, Chris, Emily and David, our son-in-law, Jake, and grandson, Coan
Karen Lindenmeyer in honor of Vic, Vince, and Brian Lindenmeyer
Wes & Jacquie Worley in honor of families
Don & Janna McKale in honor of Hazel Sparks
Donna, Jim and Corey McCubbin in honor of Chuck Cruickshank
Raymond & Margaret MacKay in honor of Alex, Mary Eliza, Carson, Teddy, and Abby, our grandchildren

Return Service Requested

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Reflections on Paint

by Linda Kofler

On an early Sunday morning, twelve PSA members gathered together and caravanned to the old mining town of Webster Springs, West Virginia to begin our spring break. There we met Pam, a sweet older homeowner who lived alone with her dearly loved herd of dogs and cats who ran around the house we were asked to paint. Meeting her put a name and a story to statistics about those who lived in a town that's been struggling with poverty and drug use. Upon Pam's request, our group scrubbed, wiped and painted every room in her house, transforming her living space into something cleaner, brighter, and friendlier.

Many times during the process I thought, "This is just paint, not a sustainable solution to systemic poverty. We're college students, not economists or social workers. How much can we change here?" But as we gathered together in prayer on our last day amidst a freshly-painted house, I realized my answer. Our group didn't just paint Pam's house. We laughed with her, heard her stories, and played with her animals for a week. As she went around to give every last one of us hugs before we left, she said tearfully, "I'll really miss you guys." As a woman who lives alone, we were invited to share in her life and in her friendship for a week that transformed both homeowner and volunteer.



As I look back upon my nearly completed time at Fort Hill, I think "I just answered some e-mails, hosted some bible studies, but how much did I really change?" And again, I realize that my time here cannot be encompassed in the things I did, the endless to-do lists I completed (or didn't), but should rather be recognized by the uncountable times I've laughed with students, or our endless analytical conversations about faith, or the honest discussions about body image, or the light-hearted stories about stuff we shared. How can you count a year? Perhaps in the number of times I've felt pride swell up in my heart for the loving, brave people I've seen our PSA student become, or the instances I've felt accepted as an outsider coming into a strange state, or the number of times I've gotten a chance to make newcomers feel accepted into our PSA family. When I'm off studying to become a physical therapist in Germany, or at Western Carolina, I'll look back in fondness of the family at Fort Hill whose friendship has challenged, inspired, and grown me in ways not unlike adding a fresh coat of paint to brighten an old room.