



A Closer Look ...

Fort Hill Presbyterian Church is a community of disciples of Jesus Christ who share God's love with our community and with God's world. Established in 1895 by 33 charter members, one of Fort Hill's central goals was to serve the cadets and faculty of Clemson College. Over 100 years later, our college town ties are still deeply rooted in serving Clemson University and the broader community.

Location ... Located in the northwest corner of the state of South Carolina, Clemson is midway between Atlanta, GA and Charlotte, NC. With the Blue Ridge Mountains and three lakes in our back yard and the South Carolina coast less than a four hour drive, opportunities to explore and enjoy are endless. Modern and thriving, Clemson is a college town with the quaintness and charm of a historic southern village.



Challenging Ourselves ...

Our commitment to positive growth is illustrated by three past projects:

Winter 2015:

Ministry Architects met with 83 people in nine focus groups to evaluate our youth program and recommend a path to the future.

Spring 2015:

Launched capital campaign to fund major renovations to our education building which were completed in 2016.

Spring 2016:

Completed major renovations to our education building with new space for our youth programs.

Our Youth ...

The youth are the lifeblood of a church and both the present and the future of the church.

Fort Hill youth group epitomizes this standard. We are made up

of approximately 40 senior high and 28 junior high youth that display faithful discipleship to the church, a willingness to learn together and grow our faith, and plenty of leadership potential. Our numbers allow for a sturdy group that is also small enough to enjoy a very close connection. In our current youth group, six youth are elders and two are currently serving on the Presbyterian Youth Council. Our youth display compassion and thoughtful insight to each other's day to day struggles.



Mission

As a youth group, we often participate in community-wide service projects. We have participated with Water Missions International, local food pantries, Clemson Community Care, and we always help distribute Christmas baskets. Our youth are always willing to serve with Vacation Bible School, Trunk or Treat, Easter egg hunts, and Gift Day. Also, we have recently taken part in mission trips to Denver Colorado, Asheville North Carolina, and El Faro Guatemala. Everywhere we go we have a reputation of displaying the light of God within a place where darkness has been the norm of the day.

Upcoming Youth Calendar:

FEB	Confirmation Mission Trip Youth Sunday
MAR	High School Mini Montreat
MAY	Confirmation Sunday Senior Sunday
JULY	Youth Mission Trips Montreat Youth Conference



@ Fort Hill Pres. Youth Group

Programming

Our youth group meets every Sunday evening with middle and school youth at 5:00 in their dedicated new space, The Nest, Senior high youth meet at 5:00pm as well in the main youth room, named The Den, by our youth. Dinner for everyone from 6:30-7:00pm. The typical Sunday night youth group will consist of about 30 minutes of fellowship and 30-45 minutes of either Bible study or discussion on topics of the day.

Within our time together there is never a shortage of laughter, excitement, and thoughtful contemplation. We take on hard topics with curiosity and wisdom to know that not every question in faith can be answered. We also have several fellowship events each month and support each other at athletic events, dance recitals, and Sunday lunch.



Fort Hill Youth Are Special!

While we have the support of a fantastic church and great programming, what sets us apart is our members. "Youth Group has opened the door for me to build meaningful, lifelong relationships with so many members at Fort Hill. Through events and activities like confirmation classes, mission trips and youth Sundays I have gotten to connect with the congregation and community, both young and old." Sydney Weeks, Youth Member and APNC representative. Youth member and APNC representative Mac Martin says that "youth group provides an opportunity to make new friends and it's a place you can just be yourself. Not only do you have fun but you grow spiritually." Mac feels like it's served as a resource to answer faith questions he's had as a youth. Any member will tell you that week in and week out making it to youth group is priority. Here at Fort Hill, we are glorifying God, growing disciples, meeting human needs, but most importantly we are creating bonds and teaching lessons that will last a lifetime.



Christian Action Ministry ...

Fort Hill is a very mission-oriented church, reaching out to help those needlessly suffering locally, nationally, and internationally. Some of this help is financial, which is very necessary, but what is most impressive is the number of volunteers and the warm dedication of their many efforts.



Local Mission Efforts

The members of Fort Hill, both young and old, actively donate their time and talents to a host of local charities and community organizations. These groups help feed the hungry, clothe the less fortunate, and provide housing and a safe environment for families and individuals who have been mistreated, abandoned or simply fallen on hard times.

National & International Mission Efforts

We actively support PCUSA missionaries in Mexico, Haiti, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Members are also active in Water Mission's efforts to provide safe drinking water to communities throughout the world, especially in Africa. Fort Hill Church is also blessed to have a very active medical mission effort.

For example, Fort Hill Medical Mission, established in 1997, has enabled Dr. Bob Brown, his wife Susan and numerous other members to make over 39 eye surgery mission trips to 13 countries, including India, China, Vietnam, Cambodia, Haiti, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Ghana, Nigeria, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi, and Zambia. Through surgery efforts, these missions have enabled hundreds with cataract induced blindness to see again.



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