

The Window

The Newsletter of Fort Hill Presbyterian Church

November 2020

Message From the Pastor

Dear Disciples of the Fort Hill Community:

At its stated meeting Tuesday, the Session approved a motion from the Return to Church Task Group that we resume in-person worship in our sanctuary on Sunday, November 1. We will follow the parameters and protocol previously established. Sign-ups will be limited to 30 people per service in addition to ministerial staff and those assisting with the service. Our 10:45 am service in the sanctuary will be streaming online live. You may join us at that time or worship using the recording of that service afterwards on our YouTube Channel [Fort Hill Presbyterian Church](#). We encourage those who are vulnerable to continue to join us online during Phase One.

The Session had a thoughtful discussion about this move to allow in person worship with strict guidelines since we are in Phase One of our plan which allows only small groups indoors. Just as there are a wide range of views about this topic in our congregation, so there are a variety of opinions on the Session. The vote to return on November 1, while not unanimous, was approved with a clear majority of Session members in favor. Our Return to Church Task group follows trends and data for our college town and surrounding area. We considered safe physical distance seating as well as the effects of gathering indoors for the length of time of the service. We realize that worship will not be the same as it was back in March but we are eager to open up the opportunity to our members who want to worship 'in-person' and agree to comply with safe gathering protocol utilizing the guidelines presented below:

- You must sign up ahead of time by registering at this link or at the end of this article.
<https://onrealm.org/FortHillPresbyt/PublicRegistrations/Event?linkString=MjU4ODczOTQtNDRIYy00NTI4LTg0NzYtYW1ZDAXNWVhMGIO>
- You may sign up for worship in the sanctuary starting this Monday, October 26. **Our signups conclude at Thursday, 12:00pm.** While our numbers are limited we ask that you consider signing up for every other Sunday to allow others to participate.
- Individuals experiencing the following symptoms should not attend worship: Fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath/difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea, diarrhea or vomiting. Anyone who has a known exposure to Covid-19 within 14 days prior to worship should not attend worship. Anyone who has been diagnosed with Covid-19 should wait 14 days after diagnosis and be asymptomatic before attending worship.
- Worship attendees must wear a mask at all times while on the property of FHPC. Face shields will not be a substitute for masks.

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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, AP for Discipleship
Michael Sanchez, AP for Univ. Min.
Katie Wilson, Children's Ministry Coord.
Beth Olker, Youth Ministry Coordinator
Margaret MacKay, Director of Music
Judy Bonham, Organist/Handbell Dir.
Becky Bowman, Pianist
Lori Houck, Administrator
Julie Bryant, Administrative Assistant
Scott Thrailkill, Facilities Caretaker

Weekly Lectionary Scriptures

11/1 All Saints' Day

Rev. 7:9-17; Ps. 34:1-10, 22;
1 John 3:1-3; Matt. 5:1-12

11/8 23rd Sunday after Pentecost

Josh. 24:1-3a, 14-25;
Ps. 78:1-7; 1 Thess. 4:13-18;
Matt. 25:1-13

11/15 24th Sunday after Pentecost

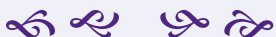
Judges 4:1-7; Ps. 123;
1 Thess. 5:1-11;
Matt. 25:14-30

11/22 Christ the King Sunday

Ezek. 34:11-16, 20-24; Ps. 100;
Eph. 1:15-23; Matt. 25:31-46

11/29 1st Sunday of Advent

Isa. 64:1-9; Ps. 80:1-7, 17-19;
1 Cor. 1:3-9; Mark 13:24-37



December *The Window* Deadline

The deadline for articles, announcements, and features for the November issue of *The Window* is **Friday, November 13**.

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.

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- Be prepared to check in at the entrances with a smartphone with the help of a greeter as needed. Registration of your attendance will provide information in the event contact tracing is necessary.
- We will use two entrances to the Sanctuary, the front doors and the porte-cochere door. Doors will open at 10:25 am. No other parts of the building will be accessed.
- Hand-sanitizer and the Narthex bathrooms are available for use.
- After arrival, an usher will direct each family to available seating in accordance with safe and appropriate distancing.
- The worship service itself will be an adaptation of our traditional service, but with no congregational singing at this time. Music will be mostly instrumental.
- The pastoral staff leading the service will enter and exit the Chancel and will not greet worshipers following the service.
- An usher will direct worshipers to exit the sanctuary, one row at a time, when the service is over.
- There will be no nursery, childcare, or Wee Kirk at this time. A "Story for All Children" will be a part of the worship for children to experience via live streaming broadcasts.
- If anyone who attends worship in the sanctuary is diagnosed with Covid-19 within 14 days of attending the service, that individual is asked to notify Lori Houck, lori.houck@forthillchurch.org, or pastoral staff immediately. Those attending worship during that time will be notified of the exposure.

Please note that November 1 is the first Sunday when we "fall back" after Daylight Savings Time ends.

Our church leadership will continue to monitor the situation with the coronavirus, and the Return to Church Task Group continues to check in weekly. I am very grateful to our Return to Church Task Group and to the Session for the leadership that they continue to provide through these extraordinary times.

May God's grace, comfort, and strength surround each of you, our church, and our community.

Peace of Christ,

Laura Smith Conrad, Pastor



Stewardship Commitment Sunday

On November 15th Fort Hill will celebrate our "Stewardship Sunday". This will be our chance to remember all that God has given us and all that we have. We ask that you and your family prayerfully consider what God is calling you to do in support of Christ's ministry. We know that 2020 has put some major obstacles in our way and tithing (10%) may be difficult for some, but please consider how much God has blessed each of us with an abundance, that we get to share through the work of Fort Hill. A small increase in giving, by each of our members, will allow to realize being "Together for Joy" and move the mission of Fort Hill forward this year and into the future.



Again, Stewardship Sunday is November 15 (more news to follow on how we will celebrate that Sunday). Or you may send your pledge directly to Lori Houck, Fort Hill Office Administrator, or through online pledging on the Fort Hill website at:

<https://forthillchurch.org/worship/stewardship/online-pledge-card/>

And again, we want to say **thank you** for your pledges and financial contributions in the past years. And in this time of COVID 19, we are blessed with the generosity that has continued as you have given online or mailed in your contributions. This generosity has helped Fort Hill continue its ministry in the community and in the world. Again, thank you for your support.

In Christ,

Laura Conrad
Pastor

Art Williams & Stewardship Team
Stewardship Ministry Chair

Choir Corner

With Thanksgiving approaching, my mind is on good food, special time with family and friends, sharing and providing for others, and taking time to worship and remember our blessings.

I don't know about you, but I have to admit during these past months, I have found my sleep patterns have changed. I awaken in the middle of the night with my mind overwhelmed with this or that concern. Some are important while most are just worrisome.

Many times in these moments, I pray. I pray words of hymns, anthems, children's songs – the things we cannot gather and sing together in these days. I am comforted and reminded of God's presence and all the wonderful people in my life...and then I rest.

The beautiful hymn 716 in our Glory to God hymnal says: "God, whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store; nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, costly cross, grave's shattered door. Gifted by you, we turn to you, offering up ourselves in praise; thankful song shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days."

As you celebrate the season of Thanksgiving, remember and thank God. Gather together safely and thank God. Dream and thank God. Pray from your heart and sing to yourself from your soul words of thanksgiving and thank God. May we turn to God offering up ourselves in praise today and all days.

Smiling-n-Singing,

Margaret



The Window



Christian Sympathy is extended to:

Josh, Ally, Mason and Anndie Young and family on the death of Josh's grandfather, **Larry Young** on Tuesday, October 6.

Erika, Mandy, Cooper and Sawyer Hays and family on the death of Mandy's father, **Walter "Buddy" Hays** on October 24 in Spartanburg.

Beth Wilkinson and family on the death of Beth's sister, **Lu Rosebrook** on Saturday, October 24.



Fort Hill is forming an

INCLUSION ACTION TEAM

To learn about diversity in our community and identify and investigate ways we can connect to our community as a Christian Church

IF YOU FEEL LED TO BE A PART OF THIS TEAM OR WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT
MICHAEL STEELE - MSTEEL149@GMAIL.COM



The Window

Delivery Method

If you would like to receive the electronic version **ONLY** of *The Window*, please send an email to Julie Bryant at fhpcnews-letter@gmail.com.

No action is needed if you wish to continue with your current delivery method.

Church Mouse

Oh, how exciting...we actually had church in the parking lot in the beginning of October.

I saw **Scott Thraikill** helping set up with communion given by **Beth Chapman & Robin Denny**. **Bruce Whisler** set up the audio. **Ronda Ricks, Robbi Stokes, Erika Hays and Jim & Caroline Thomas**, were part of the planning and the greeters. Guidance from our staff of **Pastor Laura, Pastor Mary, Margaret MacKay & Judy Bonham**. Our choir of **Mark & Robbi Stokes and Diane & Chip Egan** sounded

so great singing outside.

Other people that have helped with the music over the past month are **Clay Mohr**, who played his guitar and sang. **Robbi Stokes and Margaret MacKay** played handbells. **Chuck Moede** is our video expert and does such a great job. **Mandy Hays** played the violin & the narrator for the 23rd Psalm was **Raymond MacKay**.

Margaret MacKay assembled rhythm bags for the children's choir to be given out during the drop off for school supplies.

Our youth advisors are hard at work keeping the youth involved both remotely and in person: **Chuck Conrad, Lanie Hedrick, Pat Street, & Beth Griffin** are advisors for Middle Schoolers. **Adam Scott, Chris Griffin & Lisa Street** are advisors for the senior high group.

Officer Nominating Committee is hard at work - **Donna Crader, Susan Brown, Garland Gravely, Cooper Hays, Melanie Job, Jay Jones, Michael Steele, Cile Dunkelberg & Jacquie Worley**.

Thank these people when you see them next, or send them a note or a text.



News from Presbyterian Women

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 20, 2021. For more information, contact Committee Members:

Cathy McInnis, (864) 654-4003, Email: tomcatmc@bellsouth.net

Myra Cato, (864) 508-0182 ©, Email: myracato@bellsouth.net

Judy Blackwell, (864) 868-4153, mandjblackwell@att.net

Joan Dixon, (864) 654-1065, joankdixon@bellsouth.net

*****Please tell us more about yourself! Regularly update your Fort Hill Presbyterian Church Presbyterian Women Data Sheet for future reference. That sheet is invaluable when preparing a write-up for our nominee. Ask your Circle leader to get a copy.**

Operation Christmas Child Boxes for Samaritan's Purse

Deadline November 1, 2020

Please include a \$9/box donation for shipping.

- Use a standard-sized shoebox (no oversized shoe boxes for efficient packing, please) or a similarly sized plastic box.
- Indicate whether the gift is for a girl or boy and include the appropriate age for which the gift is appropriate (2-4, 5-9, 10-14).
- Fill the box with gifts that may include small toys, school supplies, hygiene items mild soap, toothpaste, toothbrush, comb, etc.), and personal items (sunglasses, t-shirts, socks, watch, ball cap, and solar flashlights). Soccer balls are a longed- for item for boys. A deflated ball and small pump, or a small ball to fit 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.
- Please include \$9 per box for shipping

The Samaritan's Purse drop-off location has changed due to the current pandemic. On Sunday mornings until the November 1st deadline, please leave the boxes in the Arcade in the alcove near the sink and elevator. Eva Henry will collect your donations from there on October 18, 25, and November 1. The FHOG Office will not be available.

Contact person: Eva Henry, 864-654-3737

Dates to remember:

November 1, 2020 - Deadline for Samaritan's Purse Shoeboxes

November 26, 2020- Thanksgiving



Advent Bible Study Opportunity

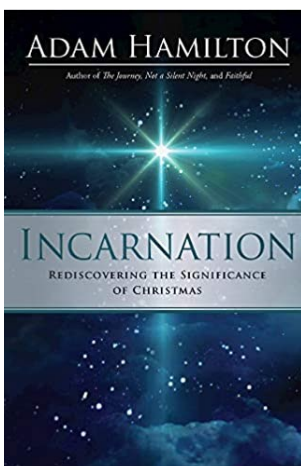
Join with others for four sessions learning about the names of Jesus. ***Incarnation: Rediscovering the Significance of Christmas*** will be offered on Wednesdays, November 18, December 2, 9, and 16 at 10:00 AM via Zoom.

A second class will be offered on the four Sundays of Advent-- November 29, December 6, 13, and 20 at 9:00 AM via Zoom.

Be Transformed this Advent Season!

His parents gave him the name Jesus. But the prophets, the shepherds, the wise men, and the angels addressed him by other names. They called him Lord, Messiah, Savior, Emmanuel, Light of the World, and Word Made Flesh.

In *Incarnation: Rediscovering the Significance of Christmas*, best-selling author Adam Hamilton examines the names of Christ used by the gospel writers, exploring the historical and personal significance of his birth.



- 1--Presidents and Kings
- 2--The Savior and Our Need for Saving
- 3--Emmanuel in the Midst of a Pandemic
- 4--Light of the World, Word of God, and Lord

This Advent season church families will come together to remember what's important. In the face of uncertainty and conflict, Christians reclaim the Christ Child who brings us together, heals our hearts, and calls us to

bring light into the darkness. Now more than ever, we invite you to reflect upon the significance of the Christ-child for our lives and world today!

Register in advance using one of the links below. You will receive a confirmation after registering. Also, please purchase your own book or e-book prior to beginning of class .

WEDNESDAY-- Bible Study (Zoom)

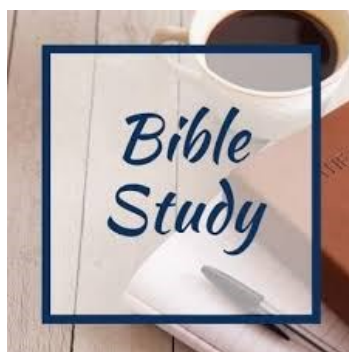
Nov 18, Dec 2, 9, 16 at 10:00 am

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tjlpdOGgqT8iGdXklbro58NHF4kjL5tnbYS1>

SUNDAY-- Bible Study (Zoom)

Nov 29, Dec 6, 13, 20 at 9:00 am

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tjUvcuGuqTouG9C0T0doB3BSnEpj3pSy7EwZ>



From the Den

Dear Fort Hill Family,

I want to take this space to say thank you for allowing me to work with our youth this year. I have enjoyed getting to know the youth of our church and will always cherish the opportunities I had to learn and lead and serve with them. As of the first of November, I will be moving to begin a Solo Pastor position in NC. I will always be appreciative of this time I was able to come back and be reminded of what a powerful, loving, supportive youth program we have at Fort Hill. It was so important to me as I went through middle school and high school and it was a blessing to be able to come back for this season of the life of the church.

Please keep the youth, the advisors, the youth ministry team, and the APNC in your continued prayers as they continue to navigate these strange times of COVID and as they await the arrival of whoever God is currently preparing to serve as the next Associate Pastor.

Again, thank you and know that you all remain in my heart and in my prayers.

Grace and Peace,

Beth Olker

Art Workshop with Ashley Mason Brown

**Star of Bethlehem Advent Art Workshop
with Ashley Mason Brown
Pansy Duke Scholarship Recipient**

Sunday, December 6

3:00-4:00 PM by Zoom video conference

Limit of 30 participants. Register in advance for this event:

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tjcufrjkrEtbkasdb11NNiS5ooUCFylup>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Please click image for complete information about the workshop



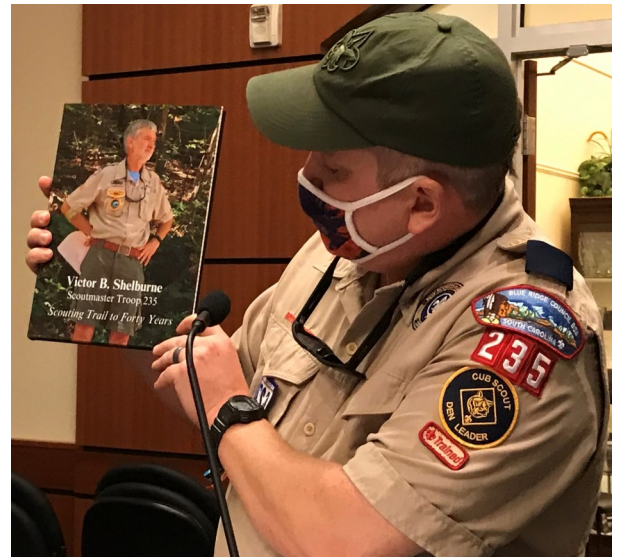
Congratulations, Vic Shelburne

Scouts BSA Troop 235, sponsored by Fort Hill Presbyterian Church, has been serving boys ages 11 to 17 in the Clemson area since 1963. Just a few weeks ago, Vic Shelburne was honored for 40 years of service as scoutmaster of this troop. He was recognized not only by Fort Hill Presbyterian Church, but also by the City of Clemson and many officials in local, state, and national government.

Vic was an Eagle Scout and experienced scoutmaster when he arrived in 1980 to join the staff of the Clemson University department of forestry. He soon was recruited to lead Boy Scout Troop 235. Under his leadership, Troop 235 has enrolled an average 60 scouts per year. More than 220 members of the troop have become Eagle Scouts, the highest advancement rank in Scouting. This is quite an accomplishment considering competition from other organized youth activities, increasingly busy family schedules, and distractions of social media.

Vic has ensured that Troop 235's activities reinforce Scouting's goals of learning life and leadership skills through community service and outdoor activities, while also having fun. Troop members annually complete an average of 1,000 hours of service to the community through groups such as Clemson Community Care, Pendleton Historic Foundation and the Clemson Experimental Forest.

Troop 235 remains one of the most active troops in the country. We are thankful for the forty years Vic has served not only as a scoutmaster, but also as a mentor and positive role model to so many youth in our community.



Beth Durham, CAM

Birthdays & Anniversaries



11/1	Janet Johnson Marie Nebesky Bruce Whisler	11/11	Jake Crowther Tyler McCall
11/2	Harold Harris	11/12	Mary Hughes Lisa Street Andrew Trammell Kyle Winchester Bryan Young Mason Young
11/3	Samantha Young Cortland Young	11/13	Adam Artigliere Trent Fagan Gary Gardner Rose Marie McDonald Mary Morrison
11/5	Henry Crader Nancy Hawkes	11/14	Lin Dearing Alex DuBose William Spitler Anndie Young
11/6	Ette Ruppert	11/15	Mik Fredman Dorothy Horton Ebb Horton
11/7	Evan Hicklin Elyse Hollingsworth	11/16	Ben Martin
11/8	Bill Cato Bob Williamson		
11/10	Walton Bost Anne Dickey		

11/17	Jim Eidson
11/18	Savannah Aaron Austin Adams
11/20	Teresa Hollingsworth
11/22	Steve Miller Larry Sloan
11/23	Danny Winchester
11/24	Noelle London
11/25	Barbara Colman Jan Fredman Kerri Kwist Barbara Sebenick
11/26	Mary Barron Greg Bearden
11/29	Carter Bandy Amelia Hedrick
11/30	Dan Anderson 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
11/29	Steve & Ethel Pettigrew



A Proclamation of the Session of Fort Hill Presbyterian Church

Whereas Vic Shelburne has now served continuously as the Scoutmaster of Troop 235 since 1980, amassing more than forty years of faithful service to Clemson area youth and;

Whereas he has modeled the tenets of Scouting and inspired generations of participants and;

Whereas he has spent hundreds of nights camping with Troop 235 both locally and through high adventure travel to the Rocky Mountains, Maine, Canada and the Florida Keys and;

Whereas his leadership has now helped produce more than two hundred & twenty Eagle Scouts and;

Whereas he has recruited and mentored dozens of adult leaders for Troop 235 and helped establish Troop 7235, Fort Hill Presbyterian Church's all-girl Scouting unit and;

Whereas his forty years of extraordinary service have been recognized by proclamations from the City of Clemson, South Carolina House of Representatives and Senate, Rep. Jeff Duncan, Sens. Tim Scott and Lindsey Graham and Gov. Henry McMaster and;

Whereas his continuing dedication to Scouting helps to fulfill the mission and vision of Fort Hill Presbyterian Church;

We, the Session of Fort Hill Presbyterian Church, congratulate Vic Shelburne and humbly thank him for four decades of exemplary service to God, country and community.

Also, in recognition of Vic's forty years as Scoutmaster of Troop 235, Fort Hill Church will honor his service by planting and dedicating a Holly tree in the western area of the church grounds. We do so in the hope that the Holly's bright red berries, reminiscent of the many red accents on Scout uniforms and insignia, will remind us of the shining influence and impact Vic has had on the lives of so many Scouts and adult Scouters from our area.



101 Edgewood Avenue
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(864) 654-2061
www.forthillchurch.org

Non-Profit Organization
US POSTAGE PAID
Clemson, SC
Permit #11

Return Service Requested

OUTDOOR LUNCH

Following Stewardship Commitment
Service on November 15

A box sub lunch of Turkey, Ham or Vegetarian
and soft drinks/water will be available.

Contact Julie with reservation & lunch choice:
julie.bryant@forthillchurch.org or
864-506-0372.

Click here for complete details

