

# The Window

The Newsletter of Fort Hill Presbyterian Church

## Message From the Pastor

January 2021

### Change of Plans

All of us have been experiencing having to make a change of plans. Our holidays looked different. Being church looks different. Our work and home lives have changed. Students, teachers, professors, and administrators in our community are adapting, racing, and contact-tracing to keep up and stay safe. Our world is weary; and yet, God is with us and will lead us through this.

In Scripture God's people were always having to make a change of plans. At Christmas we recall how Mary and Joseph dealt with unexpected news and challenging timing of a birth and a census requiring travel with a pregnant Mary. And that was just the beginning. When Herod tried to use the intel of the three magi to track down Jesus because he was threatened by him, we know that Mary and Joseph had to flee as refugees to Egypt to save their lives. Even the magi went "home by another way" when they heard about it, to avoid Herod's treachery. We read in Matthew 2:13-23, that another angel visits Joseph in a dream to tell him it was safe to return after Herod died. Relief and salvation had come, except that Joseph was warned again that Herod's son was on the throne, and they hid out in Galilee just to be safe.

The early life of Jesus was filled with threats and those who wanted to harm him. What was so dangerous about Jesus? Maybe it was the fact that God's power comes in the humble and vulnerable ways. That was not the way of Herod. A different way seemed to unmask the charade of Herod's violence and capricious rule. Herod was about power over, and Jesus modeled power with. God sent Jesus to be with us. God shares power with us, giving humans the great commandment, and empowers us to be instruments of his truth, grace, and peace. The Herods of this world do not like that.

We call this time of year Epiphany because God is revealed to the light of a star to non-Jews, the magi, to us. Where do you see God at work shining the light of Christ in our world now?

Better yet, how are you a vessel who allows God to shine that light in and through you? Through us?

Let's reflect on those questions, and then let's do it!

Together in Christ,

*Laura Smith Conrad, Pastor*

### Inside this issue:

Weekly Lectionary Scriptures	2
Choir Corner	2
Sympathy & Congratulations	2
Thank you from Lori Houck	2
Presbyterian Women News	3
Church Mouse	3
Thank you from Marlene Nicholas	4
January Birthdays/Anniversaries	<b>back</b>

### February 2021 *The Window* Deadline

The deadline for articles, announcements, and features for the February issue of *The Window* is **Wednesday, January 15.**

Please email your item as a Microsoft Word file or in the body of your email to the church office at

[window@forthillchurch.org](mailto:window@forthillchurch.org)

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

### Fort Hill Presbyterian Church

101 Edgewood Ave • Clemson, SC 29631  
(864) 654-2061 • [www.forthillchurch.org](http://www.forthillchurch.org)

Laura Smith Conrad, Pastor  
Mary Morrison, AP for Discipleship  
Michael Sanchez, AP for Univ. Min.  
Katie Wilson, Children's Ministry Coord.  
Margaret MacKay, Director of Music  
Judy Bonham, Organist/Handbell Dir.  
Becky Bowman, Pianist  
Lori Houck, Administrator  
Julie Bryant, Admin. Assistant  
Scott Thrailkill, Facilities Caretaker

*Joining together on a journey of Christian faith, we seek to be Disciples of Christ and to share God's love in our community and around the world.*

*We do this as we Glorify God, Grow Disciples, Meet Human Needs.*

## Weekly Lectionary Scriptures

- 1/3 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Christmas**  
Jer. 31:7-14; Ps. 147:12-20;  
Eph. 1:3-14; John 1:(1-9) 10-18
- 1/10 Baptism of the Lord**  
Gen. 1:1-9 and Ps. 29;  
Acts 19:1-7; Mark 1:4-11
- 1/17 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany**  
1 Sam. 3:1-10 (11-20) and  
Ps. 139:1-6, 13-18;  
1 Cor. 6:12-20; John 1:43-51
- 1/24 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany**  
Jonah 3:1-5 and Ps. 62:5-12;  
1 Cor. 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20
- 1/31 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany**  
Deut. 18:15-20; 10 and  
Ps. 111; 1 Cor. 8:1-13;  
Mark 1:21-28



Janet Johnson and family on the death of Gene Johnson on November 30 in GA.

Lori Houck and family on the death of her brother, Steve Manley on December 11

Joann Daugherty and family on the death of Don Daugherty on December 13.

Wade and Melanie Job on the death of Wade's father, Curtis Job, on December 15 in MN.

Nancy Lamping's family upon her death on December 26.



## Choir Corner

A new year! A fresh start! The end of 2020. Thank goodness! Hallelujah! But what lies ahead?

There's a part of me that loves having a new calendar. It's clean and uncluttered. Each day is blank with any and all possibilities. I have hope for 2021 with the availability of a vaccine for all. And the best case scenario I would be thrilled to see is the opportunity to have regular Wednesday rehearsals for our Children and Adult choirs!! But will that be the case?

2020 taught us much about patience, acceptance, and waiting. We learned to do things in different ways and perhaps more creatively. That's not a bad thing, and we are still learning.

How grateful and blessed we are for our church family, the ministerial staff and support staff, media team, children and youth leaders, musicians, and opportunities to continue to worship.

In 2021, may we continue to feel God's strong arms around us. And may we praise him with old and new songs in our hearts and minds.

Happy New Year!!!

Keep smiling-n-Singing,

*Margaret*



Congratulations to Jason and Liz Leisinger. They welcomed daughter, Gretel Taylor Leisinger on November 30 in Colorado. Her older sisters are, Eloise and Dorothy. Proud grandparents are Jim and Jenny Leisinger.

# News from Presbyterian Women

## Happy New Year!!

We would like to extend a big **thank you** for all of you who donated boxes for **Samaritan's Purse**, an organization benefitting underprivileged children, & the amazing amount of clothing donated for **Safe Harbor**! Also, **Thank you** for all of the Christmas gifts you brought for the **Presbyterian Communities** in Easley & Clinton, SC! Your generosity means so much to so many! We give a special thanks to Eva Henry for facilitating the Samaritan's Purse and Presbyterian Home collections, and for the PW Mission Haven/Safe Harbor Committee who collected and sorted the items!

## Honorary Life Membership Nominating Forms

Each year we honor a member of our church with the 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](mailto:tomcatmc@bellsouth.net)

**Myra Cato**, (864) 508-0182 Email: [myracato@bellsouth.net](mailto:myracato@bellsouth.net)

**Judy Blackwell**, (864) 868-4153 [mandjblackwell@att.net](mailto:mandjblackwell@att.net)

**Joan Dixon**, (864) 654-1065 [joankdixon@bellsouth.net](mailto: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 you a copy.

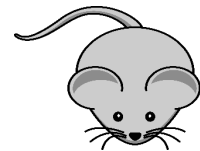
For more information, please contact **Committee Members**:

## Dates to Remember

January 20, 2021 – Deadline for Honorary Life Membership applications

Submitted by Mary Barron, PW Publicity — 864.885.9342

# Church Mouse



Oh my, things are busy here with Thanksgiving and then Christmas. We had a baptism of Natalie Adair Turner daughter of Trevor and Marie Turner with the help of Caroline Thomas in November. Margaret MacKay & Robbi Stokes rang bells but also Jacquie Worley, Robbi Stokes, Beth Webber, Rose Ross with Margaret and Judy Bonham directing the bell choir. Then at another service the bells were rung by Gensie Waldrop, Mark Kwist, Bridget Trogden, & Caroline Thomas. Also contributing to the beautiful sounds were the PSA Musicians of Kaitlyn Truesdale, Kate Mills, & Allison Horres.

Once Advent started there were so many things that added to the Spirit of the Season through the decorating of the church with Jim & Caroline Thomas, with the help of Scott Thrailkill, lighting of the Advent Candle Garland Gravely, Larry & Wanda Glenn and Dan, Denise, & Hayden Anderson and special music with Bridget Trogden. Several choir members sang on the 6<sup>th</sup>. Jim & Jenny Leisinger, Mark Stokes, Cindy Sloan, Chip Egan, Rameth Owen, Laurel Whisler & Jacquie Worley and on the 13<sup>th</sup> Robbi & Mark Stokes, Diane & Chip Egan, Tom & Connie Lawrence, Karen Ware, Garland Gravely & Ronda Ricks. Best Sunday for me is the Lessons and Carols because I love all the music. Readers were Karen Ware, James Kwist, Mark Morrison, Dulcie Mohr, Mark Kwist, Hannah Sawyer, & Jacquie Worley. Special music was provided by Bridget Trogden, Gensie Waldrop, Caroline Thomas & Mark Kwist.

Lenten devotionals were done, or so I heard Mary say, each day by a different family: Crader/Vaughn family of Bo, Debbie, Helen, Edward, Henry and Elizabeth then Lee, Mary Margaret & Jay Allman, plus Jody, Mollie, & Ella Faithful, and then Man Chi & Derge Cher, next comes Jillian, Ed, Lochlan, Hank, & Laney McLauren, then Ashely, Matt & Eleanor Burns, and John, Amanda, Leila, Adair, & Vivian Stevenson. More next month....





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**Return Service Requested**

- 1/1 Mitchell Pollock
- 1/2 Susan Brown  
David Durham
- 1/4 Michael Blackwell  
Dyke Spencer
- 1/5 Beth Griffin
- 1/6 Blair Bolen  
Mollie Faithful  
Barbara Madison  
Donna McCubbin
- 1/7 Larry Glenn
- 1/8 Elizabeth Artigliere  
Lynette Sefick
- 1/9 Eva Henry  
Betty Pettigrew
- 1/11 Ben Bronson  
Cooper Littlejohn  
Marian Radosevich  
Beth Smith
- 1/12 Gus Gustafson
- 1/13 Derick Durham  
Rose Ross
- 1/14 Angie Winchester
- 1/15 Michael Alexander-Alonso  
Ross Davis

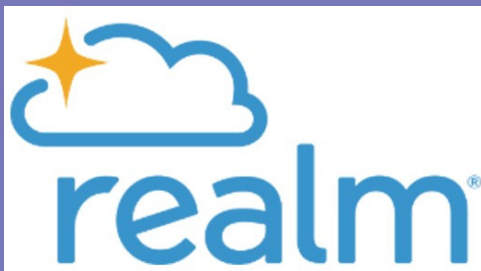


- 1/15 Mary Limber
- 1/16 Polly Peters
- 1/18 Kemper Fagan  
Bonnie Lanier
- 1/19 Jay Kennedy  
Lucas Money  
Lois Sill
- 1/20 Carol Johnson  
Rita Van Lenten  
Kyle Weeks
- 1/21 Harriett Salley  
Caroline Thomas
- 1/22 Michelle Blackwell
- 1/23 Diane Carnes  
Jim Cobb  
Savannah Ricks  
Sarah Thomas  
Amelia White
- 1/24 Reel Adams  
Britt Alexander

- 1/24 Beth Durham
- 1/26 Walt Fagan  
Pete Smith  
Sara Pollock  
Amelia White
- 1/28 Bill Thompson
- 1/29 Joan Alexander  
Harold Cheatham
- 1/31 Marty Bailey  
Carole Kohlmayer  
Sue Limber



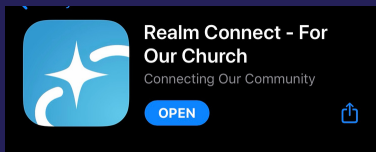
- 1/1 Jerry & Beth Chapman
- 1/5 Ralph & Ronda Ricks
- 1/8 Bradley & Meredith LeCroy  
Trevor & Marie Turner
- 1/10 Steve & Susan Best
- 1/24 Bill & Audrey Thompson
- 1/26 Jack & Billie Jackson



# FORT HILL'S NEW INFORMATION SOLUTION

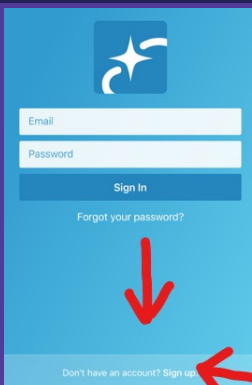
## 01

Download the free app  
**Connect - Our Church Community**  
from your app store



## 02

Sign up with the email address on file at FHPC. If you don't have it, please call the office.



## 03

There are lots of things Realm can do, but for now you can update your contact info, set privacy and track your giving

## 04

Contact info is not public or searchable on the internet but can be viewed by other members if you allow in Settings

## 05

Track your giving, check pledge progress, and print statements. This feature cannot be viewed by other members

## 06

Use of Realm is not required but after Feb 1, 2021, ChurchLife will not be available. As always, if you have any questions or need help, please call the church or email [julie.bryant@forthillchurch.org](mailto:julie.bryant@forthillchurch.org)