

# The Window

The Newsletter of Fort Hill Presbyterian Church

May 2021

## Message From the Pastor

### Did You Know We Celebrate Easter for 50 days???

The Christmas song goes, "We need a little Christmas. Right this very minute." But we need a lot of Easter joy, renewal, new life! While many celebrate Christmas for months, we forget that the really great news of our faith is the news of resurrection. The church gives twelve days to Christmas, but 50 to "Eastertide" culminating on Pentecost Sunday. We call this "the great 50 days."

During the forty days of Lent we are asked to examine our hearts, confess, draw closer to God, and follow Jesus even to a cross. Naturally, the joy of resurrection needs to be enjoyed at least that long and even more. During Lent we are asked to give up and sacrifice something, but during Easter we gain the promise of new and eternal life. Lent is a season of penance, but Easter is a season of praise, letting as many "Alleluias" ring out as possible. Music during Lent is in a minor key, so that the music of Easter is bold, victorious, happy!

So whoop it up! Enjoy this good news of salvation for seven weeks. Maybe it takes us that long to realize how refreshing it is. Like the dazed and confused disciples, it took them awhile to really understand this good news.

Celebrate in some tangible, real ways. If you are able to so safely, enjoy a fellowship meal with some old or new friends. The menu matters less than the presence of Christ and the love you share. Plant flowers or a garden to remember how God's goodness and beauty bring joy and feeds our bodies. Share yourself by worshiping God with our church family. It is richer when we get to be present in person. Refresh your spirit by scheduling a daily devotional time and being with God in prayer.

Bring joy to others. Schedule a fun family outing. Go a date with a special someone or a spouse. Call a lonely neighbor or an old friend. Practice resurrection. It is a feast of relationships, love, and the good news of new life out of dead places. And the world needs that news now more than ever.

Resurrection is worth celebrating! Christ is risen. He is risen indeed! And God raises, revives, and renews us, too.

Onward 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](http://www.forthillchurch.org)

Laura Smith Conrad, Pastor  
Mary Morrison, AP for Discipleship  
Michael Sanchez, AP for Univ. Ministry  
Jacob Kennedy, Assoc for Youth/Mission  
Katie Wilson, Children's Ministry Coord.  
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

### 5/2 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

Acts 8:26-40; Ps 22:25-31; 1 John 4:7-21; John 15:1-8

### 5/9 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

Acts 10:44-48; Ps 98; 1 John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17

### 5/16 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26 and Ps 1; 1 John 5:9-13; John 17:6-19

### 5/23 Day of Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21 or Ezek 37:1-14; and Ps 104:24-34, 35b; Rom 8:22-27 or Acts 2:1-21; John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

### 5/30 Trinity Sunday

Isa 6:1-8 and Ps 29; Rom 8:12-17; John 3:1-17

June 2021

## The Window Deadline

The deadline for articles, announcements, and features for the June issue of *The Window* is Friday, May 14.

Please email your item as a Microsoft Word document to the church office at [window@forthillchurch.org](mailto:window@forthillchurch.org) or type the item directly into your email and send. If possible, please keep your articles to 500 words or less.

## Choir Corner

Many of you know that hymn texts and words of anthems are very special to me and a huge part of my communication and sharing. You may have received a note or card at some time with a hymn text in it that gave words of assurance or comfort.

I have no doubt that many of you probably have a favorite hymn or song text! I would love for you to share those with me. Here are some of my thoughts about people's favorites. For children, I think two of them are *I've Got Peace Like a River* and *If You're Happy and You Know It*, with motions, of course!! For high school and college students, I would probably say their favorites are *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*, *Here I Am, Lord*, and *Canticle of the Turning*. For adults, many of you enjoy *Amazing Grace*, *Blessed Assurance*, and *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*.

Here are my favorite hymns: *The Church's One Foundation*, *I Will Come to You*, *Be Thou My Vision* and *God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me*. The anthems that I hum and pray are *Do Not Be Afraid* by Phillip Stopford, *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need* Arranged by Mack Wilberg, and *He Never Failed Me Yet* by Robert Ray. And there are MANY more on my list...we will share those another time.

Whatever words give you strength or a melody you hum to give you calm, keep them close to your heart!! And please don't hesitate to tell me. I would love hearing from you!

Keep smiling-n-singing,

Margaret



HAPPY  
Mother's Day

  
SUNDAY MAY 16TH  
**GRADUATION  
SUNDAY**

IF YOU KNOW, WHERE YOU  
ARE ATTENDING COLLEGE,  
PLEASE LET JACOB KNOW!

EMAIL: [JACOB.KENNEDY@  
FORTHILLCHURCH.ORG](mailto:JACOB.KENNEDY@FORTHILLCHURCH.ORG)

WE ARE PREPARING A GIFT AND  
WANT TO CELEBRATE YOU!

FHPC Prebyterian Women's  
**BIRTHDAY OFFERING  
DRIVE-THRU CELEBRATION**  
SUNDAY, MAY 2  
2-4 PM

[Click here for complete information](#)



**John and Sally Martin** on the death of John's uncle **Tommy Burwell** on April 16 in Spartanburg.

**Raymond MacKay and family.** **Raymond's** uncle, **Wendell Templeton** died on April 17 in Gaston.

## Worship Update

Worship in the Sanctuary has current protocols to help us safely 'Glorify God and enjoy God...' in worship. We continue to use our masks and sit safely apart, vaccinated and unvaccinated, in order to ensure the comfort and safety of all Fort Hill disciples and guests. Thank you for showing courtesy and love to one another in these practical ways during this Covid19 crisis.

### Pastor Laura

COME TO CHURCH!!! The doors are open wide! Literally! Fresh air, social distancing and the joy of worshipping in person are waiting for you! What a better way to celebrate Spring! It's safe, it's joyful, it will put a smile on your face, even though it will be behind your mask! Trust me, it makes a difference! See you at church!

Peace,  
**Cindy Trammell**  
Ruling Elder

I would like to encourage more folks to begin attending (yes - in person) the worship services in the Sanctuary at FHPC. The management of the Covid restrictions and safe procedures is very well done and the comfort level of those now attending appears very high. Granted, the current mask and physical distancing requirements will somewhat minimize the level of fellowship at the gatherings. However, it is now an excellent seasonal time to return to worshipping and enjoying God together in our church building. It can be a very timely step for all of us to get into a disciplined routine of worshipping together as a lively church body! Let us all work together in a spirit of commitment to actively revive FHPC worship service attendance and rebuild the Christian fellowship of gathering as Covid is defeated. I believe God will smile and so will you.

Peace and Love,  
**Tom Shealy**  
Ruling Elder

## Children's Ministry



**VBS 2021**  
**FHCCM**  
**COMPASSION CAMP**

JULY 19TH-22ND  
MORNING AND FULL DAY OPTIONS AVAILABLE  
FORT HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

REGISTRATION OPENS NEXT WEEK! LOOK FOR DETAILS BY EMAIL  
OR CONTACT KATIE WILSON



**Thomas Rawleigh Hunt** was born February 3, 2021. Parents are **Laura and Randy Hunt** from Decatur, GA. Big sister is **Catherine**. Grandparents are **Jerry and Pam Waddle**.

**Laura James Richardson** was born on March 28, 2021. Parents are **John and Shanda Richardson**. Grandparents are **Jim and Sally Richardson**.

**Logan Yeates DeWitt** was born April 9, 2021. Parents are **Adam and Mallory DeWitt** from Idaho. Grandmother is **Becky DeWitt**.



## From the Finance Ministry

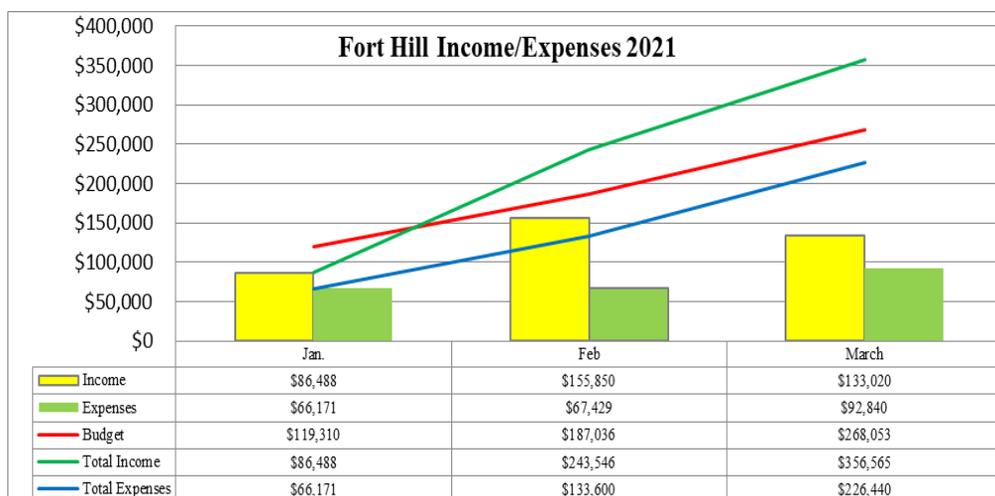
Through March, total income was \$356,565 while expenses for the first quarter were \$226,440 for a surplus of \$130,135.

Overall expenses are at 22% of budgeted, while income is at 35.6% of budgeted.

Expenses are slightly below budget while income is above budget. Through your financial support Fort Hill continues to minister to

the congregation, members, the community and around the world. **Thank you!**

If you are not present at Church, your contributions can be made by mail or online through the Fort Hill web site. **Bridging Generations Update:** Loan principle: \$289,886.



### Crucial Calling Campaign Update As of March 31, 2021

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| Pledged Giving received to date (\$1,256,720 total pledges) | \$ 825,969 |
| Non-Pledged Giving received to date                         | \$ 23,100  |

### Application of Crucial Calling Funds

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| Amount applied to Building Fund Debt Reduction<br>(additional funds to fulfill campaign commitment to be applied with future pledge payments)             | \$ 80,000  |
| Amount set aside for UM Operating Expenses<br>(additional \$100,000 will be made with future pledge payments)   | \$100,000  |
| Amount applied to University Ministry Endowment Fund<br>(UM Endowment Fund balance as of 3/31/21, including substantial investment income, is \$794,787.) | \$ 621,431 |

The remaining funds received but not yet applied, are held as cash in our bank account awaiting disbursement to UM Endowment or BF Debt Reduction.

Foothills Presbytery will be donating \$250,000 to the UM Endowment Fund once we have received \$1,000,000 in the Crucial Calling Campaign for Campus Ministry.

# News from Presbyterian Women

## Fort Hill Presbyterian Women's Drive-Thru Celebration

Sunday, May 2, 2021 2-4 PM



Look for balloons on Edgewood Ave directing you to the Handicap parking lot next to the sanctuary. We look forward to seeing you there!

### This drive-thru event will provide:

Ft Hill Presbyterian Women with the opportunity to support the ministries of Presbyterian Women USA, and to celebrate the recipient of the 2021 PW Honorary Life Membership Award. The Honorary Life Membership Award is awarded each year to someone whose Christian example of service to our church and community is truly noteworthy. You are invited to come, visit with greeters (socially distanced and masked), congratulate the HLM recipient, get a delicious cupcake, and of course drop off a donation to fulfill our mission to improve the lives of our fellow women, men and children in need. You may also make your donation online at <https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/giving-funding/give/> or mail check payable to FHPW & note Birthday Offering in memo line to FHPW Treasurer, **Gail Williams, 524 Nautical Way, Anderson, SC 29625** by June 20th.

### The 2021 PW Birthday Offering recipients chosen by Presbyterian women worldwide are the following:

#### Garden Gate Ranch, Inc., Des Moines, Iowa

This is a Christian organization that provides safe housing and other services for sexually exploited women and their children. <http://www.gardengateranch.com/>

#### Memorial Drive Ministries, Inc., Stone Mountain, GA

The PW Birthday Offering will help to fund a much-needed roof for their gymnasium where afternoon after-school activities take place. <https://mdmatl.org/>

#### Nkhoma Mission Hospital, Nkhoma, Malawi

Our Birthday Grant will provide funds to build an obstetrics and gynecology-specific operating room next to the existing prenatal and maternity wards at this hospital situated in southeastern Africa. [www.nkhomahospital.com](http://www.nkhomahospital.com)

For more information go to the following web address: [https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/what\\_we\\_do/support-mission/birthday-offering/](https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/what_we_do/support-mission/birthday-offering/).

Contact for more details:

**Barbara Madison** [barbara.madison@mindspring.com](mailto:barbara.madison@mindspring.com), 302 Lancelot Dr, Clemson

**Jill Foster** at [jillfoster01@hotmail.com](mailto:jillfoster01@hotmail.com) 597 Pine Thicket Rd, Liberty, SC 29657

**Donna Crader** at [dbcraider@bellsouth.net](mailto:dbcraider@bellsouth.net), 512 Shorecrest Dr, Clemson

**Pam Waddle** at [pam.waddle@yahoo.com](mailto:pam.waddle@yahoo.com) 103 Shady Ln, Clemson

### Magazines in May for Campbell Veterans & Harris Psychiatric Hospitals

During the month of May, Presbyterian Women will resume collecting magazines, books, and puzzles for Campbell Veterans Hospital & Harris Psychiatric Hospital. Please bring your donations on Sundays in May to "the dungeon" at the bottom of the lower stairs across from the Club Room beginning May 2, 2021.

Contact: **Eva Henry** (864) 654-3737

### Box Tops for Education and Paper Goods for Helping Hands

Presbyterian Women **please continue to collect and bring in your Box Tops for Education for Thornwell Home for Children.** Please place your donations in the basket on the side of the refrigerator in the small kitchen across the hall from the FHOG Office. Each label is worth 10 cents. Thank you for your generosity!!! Contact: **Nan Jones** at [jones4927@bellsouth.net](mailto:jones4927@bellsouth.net).

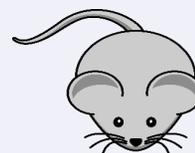
### Dates to Remember:

- **May 2, 2021 - PW Birthday-Offering Drive-thru**
- **May-Magazine Collections for Campbell Veterans and Harris Psychiatric Hospitals**
- **May- Box Tops for Education collection**

Submitted by Mary Barron, PW Publicity Chairman.

Contact at [mb1cb1@bellsouth.net](mailto:mb1cb1@bellsouth.net), or Tel: 864.247.1322(c)

# Church Mouse



Oh my, oh my I do love spring with all the flowers and the warm weather. But I am sure **Scott Thrailkill** is not happy when he sees my yellow mouse prints here and there. Did you know that everyday after the pre-school kids and teachers leave that he sanitizes every single thing? He is helping keep all of them healthy.

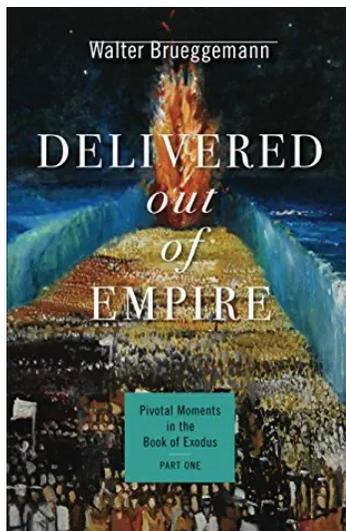
In March, PW did a drive thru drop-off for clothes for Safe Harbor and Tamasee DAR School – wow it was so well organized. You handed the clothes to **Joan Dixon, Mary Barron, Lisa Britt, Eddie Payne, Mary Morrison, Sue Limber, Helen Wooten, Cindy Davis or Myra Cato.** They took it to the "Dungeon" and **Gensie Waldrop & Susan Beckwith** sorted them.

Halleluia, people are back in church but carefully spaced out with their masks on. They do get to hear the choir sing beautiful music. Members on a rotating basis are **Jacquie Worley, Mark & Robbi Stokes, Chip & Diane Egan, Jim Dusenberry, Garland Gravely, Cindy Sloan, Karen Ware, Judy Blackwell, Laurel Whisler, Ronda Ricks, Charles & Mary Barron, Mark Morrison, and Rameth Owens** under the direction of **Margaret MacKay.**

Throughout March, Christian Action members presented the facts on various projects their committee supports. **Jim Thomas, Cal Sawyer, Annette Halbig & Beth Durham** did the minutes for mission.

But Easter Sunday we had people inside and out under the tent (under the watchful eye of **Pastor Mary**). **Jim & Caroline Thomas, Eddie Payne, and Erika Hayes** checked people in, passed out items, and seated them. To start the service, joyous ribbon dancers came in - **Dulcie Mohr, Emily Miller, Beth & Paige Durham, and Kate Hollingsworth.** Communion assistants were **Beth Chapman, Jerry & Pam Waddle, Gensie Waldrop, Beth Weber, Robbi Stokes & Jacquie Worley** provided more glorious music with the bells. Glad to see activities are slowly returning to normal but still practicing safe protocol.

## Sojourners Sunday Morning Book Study



You are invited to join a group of folks who are journeying together for ten Sundays, beginning May 16 to study *Delivered out of Empire* by Walter Brueggemann.

In this first volume, Brueggemann considers those pivotal moments in the narrative told to us in Exodus 1-15 in which God intervenes to free the vulnerable Israelites from the domineering socioeconomic systems in Egypt. Each short chapter in the book is greatly enhanced by discussion questions that will help us identify these crucial events, as well as to simplify and clarify God's intentions for us, in our own times, to create new freedoms for the oppressed.

To receive a ZOOM invitation to join at 9:00AM on Sunday mornings (8:30 for social time), please e-mail Bob Stout at [b39c40@bellsouth.net](mailto:b39c40@bellsouth.net). Your presence and your participation will be greatly appreciated.



## Mother's Day Special Offering

Since 1954, congregations across our state have marked Mother's Day with an offering for Charitable Care to support the ministry of Presbyterian Communities of South Carolina (PCSC).

PCSC operates six retirement communities across the state. We are privileged to have one, the Foothills Community, nearby in Easley. Each community provides a full range of accommodations and services from independent and active living to healthcare and memory support.

Some residents, who have spent decades saving for retirement, find themselves in a difficult situation when they simply outlive their resources. Through the generosity of churches and individuals, PCSC is able to provide charitable care that allows seniors to continue to call PCSC home. The Mother's Day offering is used solely to provide charitable care for residents who can no longer pay the full cost of their care.

On this Mother's Day, prayerfully consider giving to this needed fund. Help replace fear and concern with reassurance that all will be taken care of until God calls us home.

Please note "Mother's Day Offering" in the memo line when making an online contribution or check.

**Annette Halbig**



## May Birthdays & Anniversaries



5/1 Jim Barker  
Susan Beckwith  
Lucy Martin  
Peggy Rutland

5/2 Bill Carnes  
Brad Harper  
Lauren Young

5/3 Audrey Sehorn

5/4 Paul Borick

5/5 Rob Griffin  
Marsha Griffin  
Cindy Trammell

5/6 Stella Hudak  
Tyler Miller  
Trevor Turner

5/7 Tootie Poteet  
Ralph Ricks  
Ben Sill

5/8 Ed Burchfield  
Jenny Leisinger

5/8 Davis Little  
Jill Weir

5/9 Pam Waddle

5/10 Will Turner

5/11 Alex Hicklin  
Mark Torres  
Eva Williamson  
Shelly Wilson

5/12 Judi Cundiff

5/14 Carol Goodwyn

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 Don Davis  
Darrel Hedrick

5/18 Bill Mostertz  
Jonathan Mudge  
Pat Rutledge

5/19 Donna Crader  
Eddie Payne

5/21 Eliza Bost  
Grace Bost  
Ford Fagan  
Stephanie Smith

5/22 Perrin Kreidler

5/23 Stephen Ackerman  
Joan Borick

5/24 Julie Johnson  
Jacob Lawson  
Jamie London

5/25 Ginger Littlejohn  
Keith Smith  
John Stevenson

5/26 Annette Halbig  
Doug Satzger

5/27 Jeremy Johnsonwall  
Randy Moore  
Laura Shick

5/28 Linda Wofford

5/29 Rameth Owens

5/30 Maranda Arnold  
Elaine Rogers  
Cindy Sloan  
Robbi Stokes

5/31 Charlotte Gruosso  
Shannon Phlegar  
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

5/14 Jim & Judy Eidson

5/15 Greg & Jenifer Griffis

5/19 Josh & Emily Poetz

5/21 Bill & Bonnie Lanier

5/22 Mike & Kathy Moore

5/27 Norman & Jackie Ellis

5/28 Dan & LeAnne Greene

5/31 Hack & Cheryl Trammell





101 Edgewood Avenue  
Clemson, SC 29631

(864) 654-2061  
www.forthillchurch.org



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***Return Service Requested***

## **Welcome Jacob Kennedy, Associate in Youth and Mission**

We celebrate Jacob's graduation from Princeton Theological Seminary with a Master's in Divinity. Jacob joins our staff full-time on May 18 and his first Sunday in Worship regularly will be May 23.

Please send Jacob a note of welcome telling him something you love about being a part of the Fort Hill faith family as a way to introduce yourself. If you would like to share a gift card to a local restaurant or shop, that would be welcome. Jacob will reside in our Presbyterian Student Center temporarily until his rental house is available in August, so those gifts will be a big help while he settles in. You may send those to Jacob Kennedy at 101 Edgewood Ave. Clemson, SC 29631 so his mailbox is full of our care!

We are planning a reception to welcome Jacob, immediately following the service on May 23 from 11:45 - 1:00pm. Please join us in the Courtyard for cake, punch and fellowship. Those who watch the church service from home, as well as those who attend church in person, are invited. Let's give Jacob a warm and hearty welcome!

