



The Window

The Newsletter of Fort Hill Presbyterian Church

Message From the Pastor

July 2021

Dear Friends,

Here we are in July. The shortest summer ever for our students and families. It has been a year. As I sit here thinking of you, my prayer is that it is well with your soul. We have all had a year, and I miss seeing so many of you.

This year we have had to make many pivots. One of those great pivots is the use of technology for worship and groups gathered. It has been a gift. We can play with more images and video, all tools that help us imagine God's wonder and beauty more fully. I have heard that on Zoom some feel more quickly able to share and relationships have been built. The future is hybrid. And I am sure we will continue some of that.

But then when we could gather in person, I cannot tell you how many folks returned to worship with a tear to just be in the Living Presence of Christ and his people. I understand that there are reasons many are not showing up yet in person. But know that you are missed. And we are less vibrant without you here. Every voice added to our singing makes it richer.



I know. I know. Come August some plan to re-engage. I hope you will. So, please put this on your calendar. **Bring a Friend Sunday, August 1 which is also when we have Blessing of the Backpack for our students returning to school that week!** Yes, school will be starting early.

Gather in the Courtyard for fellowship at 10:15 on July 4 and August 1. On August 1 we would love for you to bring a neighbor or friend for fellowship and Worship. We are called to share the good news joyfully and build relationships intentionally. So here is a real way we can each do that!

May the Lord bless you until we meet again...

Laura Smith Conrad, Pastor

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Fort Hill Presbyterian Church

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Laura Smith Conrad, Pastor
Mary Morrison, AP for Discipleship
Michael Sanchez, AP for Univ. Ministry
Katie Wilson, Children's Ministry Coord.
Jacob Kennedy Assoc. for Youth/Mission
Margaret MacKay, Director of Music
Judy Bonham, Organist/Handbell Dir.
Becky Bowman, Pianist
Lori Houck, Administrator
Julie Bryant, Administrative Assistant
Scott Thraikill, 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

7/4 6th Sunday after Pentecost

2 Sam. 5:1-5, 9-10 and Ps. 48;
Ezek. 2:1-5 and Ps. 123;
2 Cor. 12:2-10; Mark 6:1-13

7/11 7th Sunday after Pentecost

2 Sam. 6:1-5, 12b-19 and
Ps. 85:8-13; Eph. 1:3-14;
Mark 6:14-29

7/18 8th Sunday after Pentecost

2 Sam. 7:1-14a and Ps. 89:20-37;
Jer. 23:1-6 and Ps. 23;
Eph. 2:11-22;
Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

7/25 9th Sunday after Pentecost

2 Sam. 11:1-15 and Ps. 14;
2 Kgs. 4:42-44 and Ps. 145:10-18;
Eph. 3:14-21; John 6:1-21

August 2021

The Window Deadline

The deadline for articles, announcements, and features for the August issue of *The Window* is Thursday, July 15.

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.

**

Thank you

Thank you for all of the prayers, cards, food and help from church members after Bob's stroke.

Bob & Nan Jones

The Holy Land "Footsteps of Jesus"

Fort Hill members interested in traveling to Israel in June 2022, see this website for more information:

<https://www.grouptoursite.com/tours/chuckconrad2022>

Questions: contact Chuck Conrad
803-493-7985 or
chuckconrad@pickens.k12.sc.us



Christian Action Ministry Update

Pack the Pews

This spring, Christian Action Ministry introduced four different ways for you to serve in this community and beyond. The *Go Fourth and Serve* Campaign highlighted ways to get involved with Habitat for Humanity, Our Daily Rest, Ripple of One, and it provided information on how to learn about our missionaries. This summer we want to Pack the Pews! Though we love seeing your smiling faces every Sunday in the pews, what we really want to see is an abundance of school supplies filling the pews. Bring your supplies to church and stack them in the arcade pews. We will distribute these to local schools and to the children of Family Promise and Ripple of One. Examples of school supplies include:

Notebook paper	Erasers	Crayons
Printer paper	Dry-Erase Markers	Scissors
Notebooks	Tissues	Glue Sticks
Composition Books	Clorox Wipes	Binders
Pencils	Colored Pencils	Folders

Let's get these pews packed and overflowing with supplies this month!



Choir Corner

It's always interesting to me when July 4th falls on a Sunday. It should not be any different than any other Sunday, but it sometimes seems that way. We think of flags waving, bands playing, parades, cookouts, and fireworks, to name a few. But does that mean that we forget about the real meaning of Sunday, and substitute a totally different way of observing it?



Freedom is a gift. We are blessed in this country to be free. We can do what we want when we want. We can travel freely. We can worship together without dictatorial laws. We can sing our favorite songs like *God Bless America*, *My Country 'Tis of Thee*, *America, the Beautiful*, and *I'm Proud to be an American*, etc. And we can worship God. We do not worship a leader or group of people. We worship God. We sing of our faith, our country, our freedom. We do it without being made to or ordered to do it. We worship our creator, and celebrate life as Christian believers. Here is the text to one of my favorite hymns based on Psalm 90 that seems to describe faith and freedom in a beautiful way. Find a time to sing it as well.

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home.

Beneath the shadow of thy throne thy saints have dwelt secure; sufficient is thine arm alone, and our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood, or earth received its frame, from everlasting Thou art God, to endless years the same.

A thousand ages in thy sight are like an evening gone, short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever rolling stream, bears all our years away; they fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the opening day.

Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, be thou our guard while life shall last, and our eternal home.

Happy July to you all. Keep a song in your heart!

Margaret

Church Mouse



Oh my, the precious little ones are gone and with them their wonderful collection of crumbs they often left behind. Our own **Scott Trailkill** has been so faithful in cleaning all the places and toys that the children used everyday. **Dana Armstrong**, the director, is leaving us to work in an elementary school. We thank her for all she did for the program.

As I was running around getting my morning exercise on Sunday, I heard wonderful music coming from the sanctuary. We were having services, but the congregation was singing, and the handbells were playing, too. Over several Sundays I saw the handbells being played by: **Robbi Stokes, Gensie Waldrop, Beth Weber, Rose Ross, Mark Kwist, Debbie Shealy, Jacquie Worley, Caroline Thomas, and Bridget Trogden**. Various people have been singing in the choir, too: **Chip & Diane Egan, Mary & Charles Barron, Cindy Sloan, Ronda Ricks, Judy Blackwell, Garland Gravely, John Sherman, Karen Ware, Mark & Robbi Stokes, Jim Barker, Jim Dusenberry, Mark Morrison, George Dunkelberg, and Jacquie Worley**.

Did you know that **Caroline Thomas** has been providing the beautiful arrangements for church from her own yard? Ushers over the weeks have been **Eddie Payne, Greg Bearden, Mike & Judy Blackwell, Jim & Caroline Thomas, and Robin Weeks**.

On Pentecost Sunday **Pastor Jacob Kennedy** led the group with a floating Dove. Following him were the flames presented by: **Lisa Street, Leanne Greene, Dulce Mohr, Eddie Payne, Cody Satzger, and Mason Young**.

The APNC found a great pastor for us in **Jacob Kennedy**. The committee consisted of the Chair, **Helen Mohr**, with members - **Cody Satzger, Mac Martin, Sydney Weeks, Mike Worley, Allison Young, Chip Egan, Elizabeth Bost, and Cathy Spragins**.

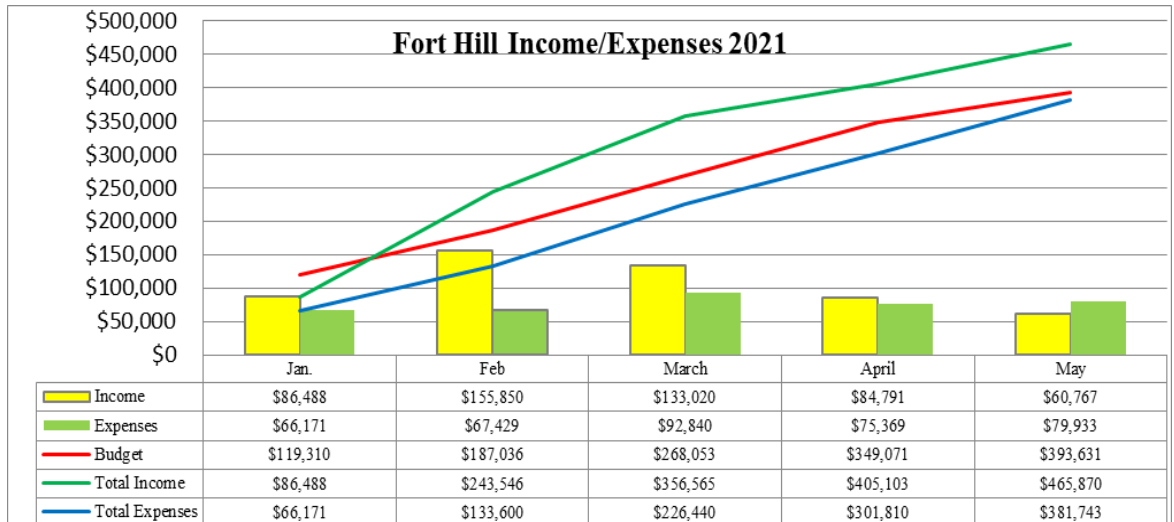
Be sure to thank all who have helped our church.



From the Finance Ministry

From the Finance Ministry

Through May, total income was \$468,870 while expenses for the first five months were \$381,743 for a year to date surplus of \$87,127. Expenses are at 36.6% of budgeted, while income is at 49%. As you can see, income is approximately 8% above budget while expenses are roughly 5% below budget.



Some expenses are lower than budgeted during this pandemic, and thanks to your financial support, Fort Hill is able to continue its ministries to members, 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: \$288.110.



Media & Sound Team Update

There's Much To Be Done . . . You Interested?

Over the past year-plus much has changed in our lives, our world, and at our Church. Things like videos, live streaming and projection for worship have been very visible additions that will need to continue. But there is more. There are the ongoing needs for running the sound and recordings in worship and for events at Fort Hill. There are new needs for creating informative and inspiring graphics, continuing the development of Fort Hill's web and social media presence, utilizing photography and videography, and identifying and operating equipment. How are these needs met? With the creative and collaborative involvement of people seeking to put their talents into action or pursue their interests and curiosity into involvement and service.

Interested in Serving Fort Hill in Any of These Areas?

Sound! Livestreaming! Video!

Web & Social Media!

Graphic Design!

Photo & Video Editing!

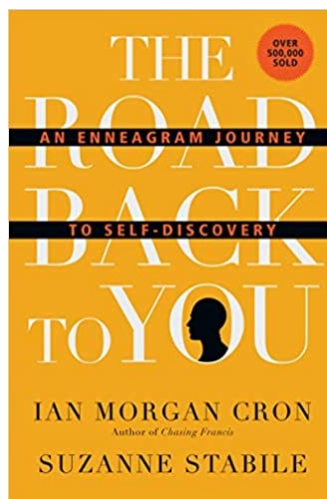
Contact Chuck Moede at chuck.moede@gmail.com

The Media Team and Sound Team at Fort Hill both have many opportunities, and needs, to continue and grow in their ministry. If you would like to be involved in any, or all, of these areas or want to find out if serving in this way is where you are being led, please contact Chuck Moede at chuck.moede@gmail.com.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study in August

This August and September take time to join others on a journey to explore the Enneagram and glean insights for your own spiritual formation. The Enneagram is an ancient tool that helps individuals understand their motivations in life by examining nine different personality types. The Enneagram is “full of wisdom for people who want to get out of their own way and become who they were created to be,” says Brother Dave, a seventy-year-old Benedictine monk, a mentor for Ian Morgan Cron. Cron along with Suzanne Stabile, co-authored *The Road Back to You—An Enneagram Journey to Self-Discovery*. Their book will be the focus of this five week journey that runs on Wednesdays at 10:00-11:30 AM on August 11, 18, 25, Sept 1, and 8, led by Mary Morrison. Watch for sign-up details in weekly e-news.

Brother Dave spoke John O’Donohue’s “Blessing of Solitude” over Cron as their journey began together. These words are also my prayer for those of you who will join me in this exploration of faith and life together.



May you recognize in your life the presence, power, and light of your soul.
May you realize that you are never alone, that your soul in its brightness and belonging connects you intimately with the rhythm of the universe.
May you have respect for your own individuality and difference.
May you realize that the shape of your soul is unique, that you have a special destiny here, that behind the facade of your life there is something beautiful, good, and eternal happening.
May you learn to see yourself with the same delight, pride, and expectation with which God sees you in every moment.

In *The Road Back to You* Cron and Stabile forge a unique approach—a practical, comprehensive way of accessing Enneagram wisdom and exploring its connections with Christian spirituality for a deeper knowledge of ourselves, compassion for others, and love for God. I look forward to the journey together.

Mary Morrison

Call My Name, Clemson conversations begin in August

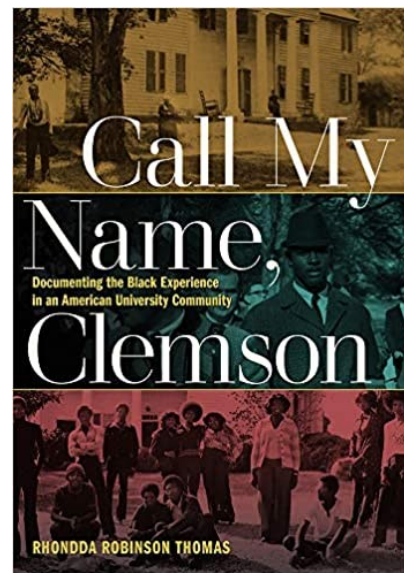
Racism book series continues with conversations related to our local context

After spending the last year learning about racism on a broad scale, from its origins, its terminology, its systemic patterns that affect all of society, the upcoming book was chosen with a desire to raise awareness within our own context here in Clemson. *Call My Name, Clemson: Documenting the Black Experience in an American University Community* written by Rhonnda Robinson Thomas is the next book for conversations on racism.

Thomas presents the history and reality that “Between 1890 and 1915, a predominately African American state convict crew built Clemson University on John C. Calhoun’s Fort Hill Plantation in upstate South Carolina. Calhoun’s plantation house still sits in the middle of campus.”

Our church, founded in 1895 sits on a portion of what was once property of Fort Hill Plantation. “The church received the name ‘Fort Hill,’ from the former Calhoun and Clemson property on which Clemson College was founded.” [*Country Church and College Town: A History of Fort Hill Presbyterian Church 1895-1995*, Sean Howard McMahon, published by Fort Hill Presbyterian Church, Clemson, SC, 1995, page 28.] Thus, the story of Clemson and Fort Hill Presbyterian Church are linked in history.

Join Michael Steele, chairperson of the Inclusion Learning Action Team, as he facilitates these conversations of Thomas’ account of the intersection of her calling as an English professor at the university and the driving force behind opening up the school and community to its hidden past. Conversations will be on Mondays, August 16, 23, and 30 at 7:00 PM. More details will be shared in late July.



July Calendar

Laura Conrad away July 2-10
Michael Sanchez away July 3-6

Sunday, July 4

Sojourners Class - 9:00 am - Zoom
Fellowship in the Courtyard - 10:15 am
Worship/WeeKirk/Nursery - 10:45 am

Monday, July 5

Office Closed in observance of Independ. Day
Discipleship Ministry - 6:00 pm—In person
Scouts BSA Troops 235 Boys/7235 Girls - 6:30-8:30 pm - Porte-cochere/Parking lot

Tuesday, July 6

Men of the Church breakfast - 9 am - Dyar's in Pendleton
Staff Meeting - 10:00 am - Conference Room
Fellowship Ministry—7:00—Zoom

Wednesday, July 7

Wild Wednesdays - 7:00-8:00 pm

Sunday, July 11

Worship/WeeKirk/Nursery - 10:45 am

Monday, July 12

Scouts BSA Troops 235 Boys/7235 Girls - 6:30

Tuesday, July 13

Staff Meeting - 10:00 am - Conference Room
Adult Ministry—7:00 pm—In Person
Middle School Youth Mission Day- 8:30-5:00

Wednesday, July 14

Wild Wednesdays - 7:00-8:00 pm - Holy Trinity

Sr. High Youth to Montreat - July 18-24

Sunday, July 18

Sojourners Class - 9:00 am - Zoom
Worship/WeeKirk/Nursery - 10:45 am

VBS - July 19-22

Monday, July 19

Prayer Shawl Ministry - 10:00 am - Home of Hazel Sparks
Scouts BSA Troops 235 Boys/7235 Girls - 6:30 - Porte-cochere/Parking lot

Tuesday, July 20

Staff Meeting - 10:00 am - Conf. Room

Wednesday, July 21

Wild Wednesdays - 7:00-8:00 pm - Holy Trinity

Sunday, July 25

Sojourners Class - 9:00 am - Zoom
Worship/WeeKirk/Nursery - 10:45 am

Monday, July 26

Scouts BSA Troops 235 Boys/7235 Girls - 6:30

Tuesday, July 27

Staff Meeting - 10:00 am - Conference Room

Wednesday, July 28

Wild Wednesdays - 7:00-8:00 pm - Holy Trinity

Friday, July 30

Jane Polk Interment - 4:00 pm - Columbarium
Montreat Check-In

Saturday, July 31

Memorial Service for Jane Polk - 11:00 am



2021 FHPC Compassion Camp (VBS)

Monday, July 19, 2021 9:00 am

This year's VBS will focus on what it means to have compassion for ourselves, for others, and for the world. Fort Hill friends and family who are rising 3K - 5th grade for Fall 2021, are invited from 9:00am-12:30pm where we will sing, hear a Bible story, and rotate through craft, movement, STEM, and Compassion in Action stations. We will hear stories of the compassion of friends, family members, neighbors, and Jesus and learn what it means to be compassionate.

Those who are rising K5-5th grade are invited to Stay & Play until 4:00pm. We will serve lunch in Tartan Hall before moving to the back lawn and parking lot for outdoor games and activities. The last day will be "water day!"



[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

JULY BIRTHDAYS

- 7/1 Becky DeWitt
Ric Ware
- 7/2 Catherine Latiff
- 7/3 Tom Hunter
Nan Jones
- 7/4 Katherine Cason
- 7/5 Avery Conrad
Hallie Conrad
Bruce Salley
Jane Van Senus
- 7/6 Greg Griffis
- 7/7 Sherry Kantzler
Cooper Lecroy
- 7/8 Page Cross
- 7/9 Lee Churchfield
- 7/10 Edward Crader
Shirley Muzii
Ronda Ricks

- 7/11 Craig Horton
- 7/12 Carl Hollingsworth
Corey McCubbin
Hugh Spitler
- 7/13 Mary Margaret Allman
Denise Anderson
Ken Chappell
Elbert Horton
- 7/15 Mike Blackwell
Maegen Johnson
Ethel Pettigrew
- 7/17 Patrick Adams
Tom Waldrop
- 7/19 Tammy Fagan
- 7/20 Edmee Reel
- 7/21 Jack Jackson
Grant Jones
- 7/22 Sawyer Hays
Bill Nisonger
- 7/23 Nancy Spitler
- 7/24 Ellen Ackerman
Ethan Ackerman
Jason Allen
Adam Scott

- 7/25 Lanie Hedrick
Sasha Satzger
- 7/26 Spencer Bryan
Debbie Shealy
- 7/27 Lee Davis
Jim McCubbin
Johnnie Van de Sande
Barbara Westall
- 7/28 J.T. Bandy
Sarah Morrison
- 7/29 Marlene Nicholas
Jeremy Wright
- 7/30 George Dunkelberg
Caroline Rash
- 7/31 Nancy Hutson
Gary Mohr
John Sherman
Harrison Steele

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

- 7/6 Louis & Nancy Stone
- 7/7 Chip & Diane Egan
- 7/11 Ken & Shirley Chappell
- 7/12 Mike & Courtney Money
- 7/15 Michael & Laura Kozlarek
- 7/17 Chris & Beth Griffin
- 7/18 Dan & Denise Anderson
David & Judi Cundiff
- 7/21 Devon & Leanne Broome
Steve & Laura Hunter
- 7/24 Ann & Ron Rash
- 7/27 Bill & Jan Kahle
- 7/28 Chuck & Nina Moede
- 7/29 Dusty & Nancy Oates

Congratulations and a Fond Farewell!

It is with a sad heart that we announce the resignation of Julie Bryant, our Administrative Assistant, who will be leaving Fort Hill Church in early July.

She has been a blessing to us and we will greatly miss her upbeat attitude and friendly smile, as well as her competent assistance to the staff and congregation.

She will be leaving us to accept a position with Liberty Elementary School at the beginning of the upcoming school year. Please join us in wishing her well.





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