

# The Window

The Newsletter of Fort Hill Presbyterian Church

## Message From the Pastor

### On Our Second Marathon

Congratulations we have made it through our first marathon. We have been running a marathon by persevering through an 18-month pandemic. At the end of the marathon, runners get to celebrate, rest, and rejuvenate. But as soon as we broke the finish line, we never got to put our feet up.

On our first marathon, we all adapted. Schools and Church went online. We learned Zoom skills and made videos. We checked on our family and neighbors more. We cheered for healthcare workers, custodians, and food service folks. Teachers were heroes and sheroes. We masked up. Our elderly and vulnerable were extremely isolated. Our young missed playing and socializing. Our parents worked and managed the essentials until exhausted. We crashed and burned. We managed our anxiety and depression, some better than others. Day drinking became a cultural phenomenon. We vaxxed up. We unmasked. We enjoyed some summer freedom. We escaped for a little while.

Just when we got to the finish line, we didn't get to hydrate and refresh. We did not get to rest up. We could not collapse. Something mysterious happened. A Delta variant and the return to fall schooling. A new starting line appeared. The starting shot went off. And we were off again...on a second marathon.

Our feet blistered. Our hearts tired and weary. Our bodies stressed and shot. And we could not stop. And in some ways, we were more vulnerable than ever. Hospitals filled. Healthcare workers and school personnel were overstretched. Protecting people and loving one another got lost somewhere. Until leaders of all kinds made the needed changes to protect those in their care. And we woke up from another spiral.

Jesus said, "Come to me all you who are weary and carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me for I am gentle and humble in heart. And you will find rest for your souls." Rest. Sabbath. In a 24-7 consumer-driven world, you will not find rest, until you stop and turn to Christ for it. One in seven days was created for that kind of rest. Make sure you practice sole care for tired feet, and soul care for weary hearts, minds, and bodies. We were not made for constant stress and busyness. In fact, we were created for communion with God and for loving relationships with one another.

Your pastors are here for you and are available to listen, pray, and support you. Our elders and deacons are leading and serving through these challenges in faith, hope, and love. We are in this together. And we look to Jesus as we run this race with perseverance, remember we are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses and cheerleaders. Let's build up, encourage, and rest!

Together in Faith,

*Pastor Laura*

September 2021

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*Fort Hill Church*

125 ANNIVERSARY

### 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  
Jacob Kennedy, Associate for Youth/Mission  
Katie Wilson, Children's Ministry Coord.  
Margaret MacKay, Director of Music  
Judy Bonham, Organist/Handbell Dir.  
Lori Houck, Administrator  
Morgan Bryant, Admin Assistant Intern  
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

### 9/5 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Prov. 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23;

Ps. 125;

James 2:1-10 (11-13) 14-17;

Mark 7:24-37

### 9/12 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Prov. 1:20-33; Ps. 19;

James 3:1-12; Mark 8:27-38

### 9/19 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Prov. 31:10-31; Ps. 1;

James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a;

Mark 9:30-37

### 9/26 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Esth. 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22;

Ps. 124;

James 5:13-20; Mark 9:38-50



## FAITH IN ACTION

Sermon Series  
on James  
begins August 29

## Choir Corner

One of my favorite children's songs is "If You're Happy and You Know It". I am sure you have sung it at some time in your life. It goes like this:

1. ***If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands.***  
***If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands.***  
***If you're happy and you know it, then your face will surely show it.***  
***If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands.***
2. ***If you're happy and you know it, stomp your feet.***  
***If you're happy and you know it, stomp your feet.***  
***If you're happy and you know it, then your face will surely show it.***  
***If you're happy and you know it, stomp your feet.***
3. ***If you're happy and you know it, say AMEN!***  
***If you're happy and you know it, say AMEN!***  
***If you're happy and you know it, then your face will surely show it.***  
***If you're happy and you know it, say AMEN!***

**AND THEN YOU COMBINE ALL THREE!!!!**

***If you're happy and you know it, do all three—clap, clap; stomp, stomp; Amen!***  
***If you're happy and you know it, do all three—clap, clap; stomp, stomp; Amen!***  
***If you're happy and you know it, then your face will surely show it.***  
***If you're happy and you know it, do all three—clap, clap; stomp, stomp; Amen!***

It is fun and joyful. It gets you moving. It makes you laugh when you try to do it and get the motions mixed up. One can't help but smile as they sing it or as they listen and watch it. I love songs that lift our spirits and make us smile or laugh. I also like songs that move us to tears. And in **my** book of teaching music, it is all about emotions. Music makes you feel, remember, celebrate, and give thanks.

In planning anthems for the adult choir this fall, it was important to include familiar ones and new ones hot off the press. It's good to be in a comfort zone, and it is great to be challenged and accomplish goals. Isn't that what life is about? We accept challenge, we learn, we grow, we feel, we remember, we celebrate, we laugh, we mourn, we weep, and the list can go on.

So as you sing or listen to songs — breathe in the words. Feel them. Apply them. And then give thanks to God for music and what it means to our faith.

Keep smiling-n-singing,

*Margaret*

## October 2021 The Window Deadline

The deadline for articles, announcements, and features for the **October** issue of *The Window* is **September 15**.

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.



### Christian Sympathy is extended to:

Gary & Carolyn Mohr Jr. and **Benja** and Andrew on the death of Carolyn's mother, Helen Morton, on July 24 in Pendleton.

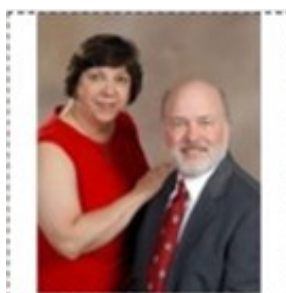
# How to Be a Part of the Next Church Directory

Just prior to the pandemic the Fellowship Ministry of Fort Hill Church had completed the first round of photography for our 125th Anniversary Pictorial Church Directory. The pandemic brought the closure of Lifetouch's church directory division.

The Fellowship Ministry will use information in the church database to create our own pictorial directory. The goal is that by Advent we will have this project completed, and we need everyone's help to reach that goal. Below is how each member and family can assist the Fellowship Ministry to make this happen.

- **Now through September 11th** — Church members, please take your own FAMILY photo and upload it into Realm. The head of household's profile can hold two photos: one of the individual and one of the family. Please upload your FAMILY photo into the second position.
  - ◇ Photos should be taken in the horizontal or landscape position and may be taken with a smartphone. Please make sure each person's face is large enough to be visible. See three examples below.\*\*
  - ◇ If no one your family is able to upload a photo to Realm, then email your FAMILY photo as an attachment to [communications@forthillchurch.org](mailto:communications@forthillchurch.org).
- **Now through September 30th** — Your Deacon (or someone from the Fellowship Ministry) will be contacting you to see if you are able to take your own FAMILY photo and upload it or email it to the church. If you cannot, then your Deacon (or Fellowship Ministry representative) will arrange a time to come and take your FAMILY photo and email it as an attachment to [communications@forthillchurch.org](mailto:communications@forthillchurch.org) by September 30th.
- More information to come in the October issue of The Window.

\*\*Families, please note that for church record keeping, when your son or daughter turns 18 years of age, we move them into their own household as an adult. To avoid duplication of records, please do not create a new profile for your adult children to be added back under the parents. Thank you.



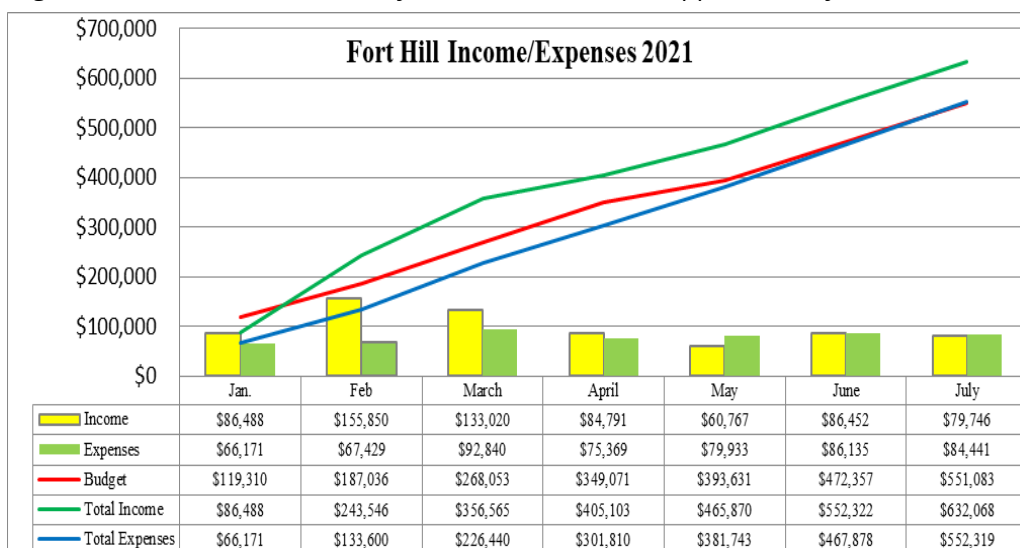
## From the Finance Ministry

Through July, total income was \$632,068 while expenses for the first seven months were \$552,319 producing a surplus of \$79,479. Expenses are at 53% of budget, while income is at 67%. As you can see, income is approximately 9% 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 contribution can be made by mail or online through the Fort Hill Church website.

### Bridging Generations Update:

Loan principal: \$286,324



## Church Mouse



This summer has been a busy time — we had Bible School. I had so much fun listening to all the children.

Plus, Pastor Jacob took our high schoolers to Montreat with the help of **Lisa Street, Ella Griffis, Ellen Ackerman, Walton Bost, Jeb & Lucy Martin, Ben Bronson, Dulcie Mohr, James Kwist, and Emma Worley.**

Plus, music this summer included the following on bells: **Beth Weber, Bridget Trogden, Mark Kwist, Debbie Shealy, and Chris Torres.** Plus, to ring in the service: **Jacque Worley, Robbi Stokes, and Gensie Waldrop.** Soloists in July were: **Mary Limber, Savannah Ricks,** and the quartet of **Chip & Diane Egan** and **Mark & Robbi Stokes,** and on August 1, **Bruce Whisler** on the trumpet.

There were two funerals with the funeral guild members helping: **Jim & Caroline Thomas, Nan Jones, and Suzan Simmons.**

The choir is back, and I love to sneak in and listen and I do **NOT DISTURB THINGS LIKE THAT BABY POSSUM DID.** The beautiful voices ring out through the whole church of: **Chip & Diane Egan, Mark & Robbi Stokes, Charlotte Grusso, Gensie Waldrop, Jacque Worley, Gayla Bell, Cathy Spragins, Judy Blackwell, Karen Ware, Frank & Rita Van Lenten, Garland Gravely, Jim Dusenberry, John Sherman, and Gary Mohr, Sr.**

The great job done by the audio and visual guys cannot be forgotten. Be sure to thank them—they are in the balcony but every Sunday they produce our service on YouTube and in person to run smoothly: **Chuck Moede, Chris Griffin, Jeremy Johnsonwall, Wes Worley and Bruce Whisler.**

## Searching...Listening...Responding... It's a Process!

God calls us. Have you put yourself in a position to personally hear God's call?

The OFFICER NOMINATING COMMITTEE (ONC) is actively seeking individuals to serve as either elders or deacons for the Class of 2025. If you've personally sensed even the slightest nudge to further explore, or the stronger push to serve in either role, we'd like to hear from you! Or maybe you'd like to suggest another individual for one of these church servant-leadership opportunities. Submitting a name does not automatically equate to a formal nomination to either office, or a commitment to serve, we promise! It will merely open the door to additional conversation and prayer partnership for this sense of call from God.

You may offer names for additional follow-up by answering a few brief questions on the digital response form at the link below:

<https://form.jotform.com/2122348456049>

If you prefer, you may also contact Robin Weeks directly by phone (654-650-1923) or email ([newoaks@att.net](mailto:newoaks@att.net)).

Officer Nominating Committee for 2021: Denise Anderson, Elder; Ben Bronson, Youth; Laura Conrad, Pastor (Ex-officio); Jenifer Griffis, Member-At-Large; Craig Horton, Member-At-Large; Sally Martin, Board of Deacons; Robin Weeks, Elder (Coordinator); Bob Williamson, Men of the Church; Jacque Worley, Presbyterian Women; and Josh Young, Member-At-Large.

ONC Response Form:

I suggest the following individual(s) be engaged in conversation for consideration of the role of Elder or Deacon.

Name of the person(s) I am recommending (can be "self"):

Submitted by:

Your preferred contact information for follow-up:

## Announcements

The Circle of Hope will meet Monday, September 13, at 3:00 pm in the basement level of the Corley Center on the Clemson Downs Campus.

### Memorial Service for Pansy Duke at Fort Hill Sanctuary

Friday, September 17, at 2:00 pm

Reception Following (Tartan Hall or Courtyard—Covid Plan)

# News from Presbyterian Women

Hooray! September is here! It is time for fellowship, fun, Bible study, and sharing! All Fort Hill Presbyterian Women are invited to join one of the circles listed below.

Note: Please wear masks unless otherwise notified. Each circle will communicate if there are location or meeting changes.

## Presbyterian Women Circles and Leaders

2021-2022

### Circle 1

Meetings: First Monday at 12:15 pm  
FHPC Club Room or Outside  
Co-Leaders: **Maranda Arnold** — (864) 654-8816, [marandaarnold@gmail.com](mailto:marandaarnold@gmail.com)  
**Carolyn Stroup** — (864) 973-8237, [dwstroup@att.net](mailto:dwstroup@att.net)

### 2nd Tuesday Evening Circle

Meetings: In person, to be announced  
Co-Leaders: **Janet Bean** — (864) 886-8108, [janetlbean@yahoo.com](mailto:janetlbean@yahoo.com)  
**Nan Jones** — (864) 654-1539, [jones4927@bellsouth.net](mailto:jones4927@bellsouth.net)

### Trinity Circle

Meetings: Second Monday at 9:30 am  
Co-Leaders: In person in the FHPC Club Room  
**Aleta Robinson** — (864) 868-9238, [sixmiletoo@aol.com](mailto:sixmiletoo@aol.com)  
**Volunteer Needed**

### Circle of Hope

Meetings: First Monday at 3:00 pm  
Clemson Downs, Corley Center basement  
Leader: **Judy Blackwell** — (864) 506-1138

**THANK YOU to all who stepped up to serve in positions of leadership!** We really appreciate your willingness to go the extra mile to do all that needs to be done in our PW family!

If you have been considering taking a more active role in PW and are willing to serve, please volunteer! We have many jobs! Please contact your circle leader, or our Resource Officer for recruitment of new leadership, Helen Wooten, at (864) 654-4201.

We are looking forward to seeing you in September, studying the scriptures, growing our faith, and enjoying the fellowship of our sisters in Christ! Come and bring your friends!

## PW Clothing Drive-by in October Start saving your donations now!

We will once again be having a clothing drive for new or gently used fall and winter clothing in October. While preparing for a change in the seasons, please take a moment to collect clothing that you no longer want and bring your donations to Fort Hill Church to give to those in need. Watch for details in the mid-week emails and church bulletins.

## PW Directory Changes Due by September 15th

Do you have a new email, phone number or address? Did you notice a typo or incorrect contact information in our last PW Directory? Now is the time to make any necessary change before the next printing of the PW Directory for 2021-22! Please send your contact info to Lois Sill at (864) 506-0771 or [slois@clemson.edu](mailto:slois@clemson.edu).

All PW News must be sent to Lori Houck by the 15th of the month prior to the next printing of *The Window*. Please submit your news to Mary Barron, PW Publicity Chairman, prior to that deadline.

Contact at [mb1cb1@bellsouth.net](mailto:mb1cb1@bellsouth.net) or (864) 247-1322.



# September Church Activities

## Wednesday, September 1

Wed AM Enneagram Study — 10:00 am — Zoom

## Thursday, September 2

Sabbatical Reflection Group — 7:00 pm — Club Room

## Sunday, Sunday, September 5

See Weekly Recurring Event Schedule for regular events

## Monday, September 6

Office Closed for Labor Day

## Tuesday, September 7

Men of the Church Breakfast — 9:00 am — Dyar's Café

Staff Meeting — 10:00 am — Courtyard

Christian Action Ministry Meeting — 6:00 pm — Library

Adult Ministry Meeting — 7:00 pm — Zoom

P&PS Ministry Meeting — 7:00 pm — Club Room

Youth Ministry Team Meeting — 7:00 pm — The Den

## Wednesday, September 8

Preschool Open House — 9:00 am — Preschool Rooms

Wed AM Enneagram Study — 10:00 am — Club Room

Building & Grounds Meeting — 3:00 pm — ??

## Thursday, September 9

First Day of Preschool (Turtles, 2-day Honeybees, Owls)

## Friday, September 10

First Day of Preschool (3-day Honeybees, Whales, Owls)

## Sunday, September 12

ONC Lunch Meeting — 11:45 — Courtyard & Tartan Hall

Cub Scouts — 2:30-4:00 — Backyard, Tartan Hall, & Ed Bldg.

NAMI — 2:30-5:00 pm — Club Room & CR Kitchen

## Monday, September 13

Return to Church Task Force Meeting — 5:30 pm — Zoom

Discipleship Ministry Meeting — 6:00 pm — Zoom

## Tuesday, September 14

Finance Ministry Meeting — 6:30 pm — Zoom

Worship Ministry Meeting — 6:30 pm — Courtyard Tent

Fellowship Ministry Meeting — 7:00 pm — Zoom

## Wednesday, September 15

NO Wednesday AM Bible Study this week

## Friday, September 17

Pansy Duke Memorial Service — 2:00 pm — Sanctuary

Reception following service — Tartan Hall/Courtyard

## Sunday, September 19

Children's Ministry Team Meeting — 1:00 pm — The Nest

NAMI — 2:30-5:00 pm — Club Room & CR Kitchen

## Monday, September 20

Prayer Shawl Ministry — 10:00 am — Hazel Sparks' home

## Tuesday, September 21

Session Meeting — 7:00 pm — Tartan Hall

## Wednesday, September 22

Wednesday AM Bible Study — 10:00 am — Club Room

## Saturday, September 25

Bereavement Meal for Johnson Family — 12:30 pm — Club Room

Johnson Committal in Courtyard — 1:30 pm — Courtyard

Janet & Gene Johnson Memorial Service — 2:00 pm — Sanctuary

Reception in Tartan Hall following service

## Sunday, September 26

Cub Scouts — 2:30-4:00 — Backyard, Tartan Hall, & Ed Bldg.

NAMI — 2:30-5:00 pm — Club Room & CR Kitchen

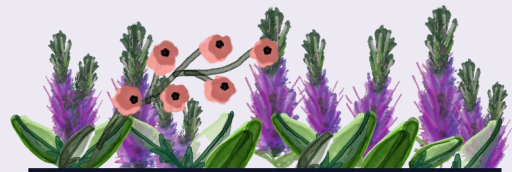
## Tuesday, September 28

Membership Meeting — 5:30 — Courtyard

(The Den if inclement weather)

## Wednesday, September 29

Wednesday AM Bible Study — 10:00 am — Club Room



## Weekly Recurring Events

### Sunday

Sojourner's Class — 9:00 am — Zoom

In-Person/Livestream Worship — 10:45 am — Sanctuary/Online

Childcare/Nursery (Birth-3 years) — 10:45 am — Nursery Room

WeeKirk — 10:45 am — Courtyard doors across from The Nest

Youth Group — 5:00 pm — The Den / Backyard

PSA College Dinner/Program — 6:00 pm — PSA Student Center

### Monday

Scouts Troops 235 (Boys)/7235 (Girls) — 6:30 pm —  
Porte-cochere/Parking Lot

### Tuesday

Staff Meeting — 10:00 am — Courtyard

PSA College Bible Study — 7:00 pm — PSA Student Center

### Wednesday

Chancel Bells Rehearsal — 6:15 pm — Choir Room

Chancel Choir Rehearsal — 7:30 pm — Choir Room

**Weekly AA Meetings:** Sunday, Tuesday, & Thursday at 8:00 pm and Friday at 12:30 pm



# September BIRTHDAYS

9/1	Katie Blondeau Tim Daley Anna Wofford	9/10	Jody Faithful Joy Van Daele	9/21	Carol Hipp Jay Jones Denny Sherrod	9/26	Mary Dusenberry
9/2	Emily Burchfield Derge Chen Addison Johnson Angela Littlejohn Bridget Sehorn	9/11	Jere Ross Louis Stone	9/22	Chris Griffin Carol Pollock Michael Sehorn	9/28	Susan Best Ashley Latiff Cal Sawyer
9/3	Libba Shelton Josh Young	9/12	Lee Jones	9/24	Gabby Bailey Abby Martin Mary Kate Turner	9/29	A.J. Howard
9/4	Susan Nunamaker Luke Turner Emma Worley	9/13	Reagan Blondeau Wes Koch	9/25	Cile Dunkelberg Jennifer Simpson	9/30	Gerald Bitzer Craig Homan Emma Ouellette Adair Stevenson Vivian Stevenson
9/5	James Kwist Joanne Nisonger Tom Shealy	9/14	Lisa Britt Mark Morrison				
9/6	Leila Stevenson Jordon Weir	9/15	Al Littlejohn				
9/9	Adelyn Hudak Walt Owens Ann Kathryn Pollock	9/16	Jordon Bolger Clay Mohr Dianne Smith Jim Van Senus	9/1	George & Cile Dunkelberg	9/15	Walt & Rameth Owens
9/10	Debbie Durland	9/17	Andy Ackerman Paul Kenney Mark Kwist Mary Stuart Turner	9/2	Jerry & Edmee Reel	9/16	Leland & Grace Hawthorne
		9/18	Joyce Daley Betty Shealy	9/3	Lanny & Linda Parsons	9/24	Owen & Johnnie Van de Sande
		9/19	Kevin Bronson	9/5	Bill & Jan Beckwith Derick & Beth Durham	9/25	Lin & Kay Dearing
		9/20	Robin Denny	9/8	Gary & Pat Gardner	9/26	Tom & Betty Shealy
				9/13	Bob & Carol Stout	9/30	Mark & Kerri Kwist

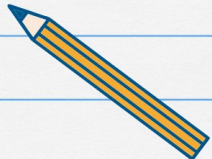
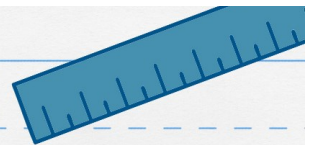


# September ANNIVERSARIES

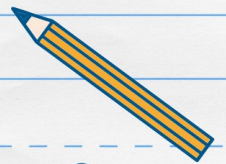
9/1	George & Cile Dunkelberg	9/15	Walt & Rameth Owens
9/2	Jerry & Edmee Reel	9/16	Leland & Grace Hawthorne
9/3	Lanny & Linda Parsons	9/24	Owen & Johnnie Van de Sande
9/5	Bill & Jan Beckwith Derick & Beth Durham	9/25	Lin & Kay Dearing
9/8	Gary & Pat Gardner	9/26	Tom & Betty Shealy
9/13	Bob & Carol Stout	9/30	Mark & Kerri Kwist



## PACK THE PEWS: SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE CONTINUES



Please continue to bring in school supplies until the end of September! Your donations can be placed on the pews in the arcade. Let's get these teachers and students off to a great start!



## Hand-Written Hellos

Over the past year I think it is safe to say that we have become more familiar with technology. We've learned everything from how to order groceries from the recliner to the importance of the mute button in a Zoom call. As handy as we have gotten to being remote and as convenient as it has become, I think it is also safe to say that we are ready to be footloose and protocol-free. We are all ready to lay these keyboards down, turn off our laptop cameras, and get back to Hellos with a hand-shake and a hug.

Starting in September, CAM is going to offer you a way to send a hand-written hello to someone who may not have the opportunity to do that in-person very often. Look for the "Hand-Written Hellos" table in the Narthex for everything you need to send a hand-written note to a fellow church member. We will highlight different members every week through the fall months, so stop by the table on your way in every Sunday and drop your note off on your way out. A hand-written note is the next best thing to a hand-shake and a hug.



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101 Edgewood Avenue  
Clemson, SC 29631

(864) 654-2061  
www.forthillchurch.org

*Return Service Requested*



## The Holy Land "Footsteps of Jesus"

Join Fort Hill Members as we travel to The Holy Land following the Footsteps of Jesus in June 2022. The 10-day trip begins in Tel Aviv and continues through Haifa, the Sea of Galilee, Jerusalem, and Bethlehem!

Contact Chuck Conrad at 803.493.7985 or [chuckconrad@pickens.k12.sc.us](mailto:chuckconrad@pickens.k12.sc.us) if you have questions or are interested in enrolling on this trip to the Holy Land.