

# The Window

The Newsletter of Fort Hill Presbyterian Church

## Message From the Pastor

December 2023

### O Holy Night... a Weary World Rejoices

As we begin this season of Advent, we have many ways to stay focused on celebrating the birth of Jesus. Inside this newsletter, you will read of the ways we follow the star in faith. Of all the activities and stresses of preparing, let's remain focused on the simple gifts of God's love. Let's share what we have with those in need and love one another. Let us welcome the Christ child and meet him in our neighbors.

This season of Advent our worship series will focus on the Gospel of Luke. A complimentary Advent devotional is provided for you to journey toward Bethlehem with expectation. From the authors of *A Sanctified Art*:



### How does a weary world rejoice?

***Christ was born into a weary world. King Herod ruled the land with a legacy of ruthlessness. The Romans treated the people of Israel with contempt, imposing harsh taxes and land seizures that forced many into subsistence farming. Poverty and destitution were pervasive. And yet, Christ was born, bringing good news of great joy for all people.***

***As Advent comes again to a weary world, we ask, "How does a weary world rejoice?" From the opening chapters of Luke's Gospel, we have found a few answers: we acknowledge our weariness, we find joy in connection, we allow ourselves to be amazed, we sing stories of hope, we make room, we root ourselves in ritual, and most importantly, we trust our belovedness. In the parallel birth stories, we find rhythms for rejoicing. As we move through our series, we hope to create space for acknowledging the weariness of our world while celebrating God's closeness with great joy.***

***And so, this Advent, we will hold space for our weariness and our joy. We will see a "thrill of hope" in our hurting world. We will welcome joy — even if, like the prophet Isaiah, we cry out for comfort (Isaiah 40:1). In this weary world, may we find many ways to rejoice.***

May all the blessings of God: hope, peace, love, and joy be yours this season.

United in Christ,

*Laura Conrad, Pastor*

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### 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 Congregational Care  
Jacob Kennedy, AP for Congregational Life  
Colin Pettigrew, AP for University Ministry  
Preston Shealy, Parish Associate  
Margaret MacKay, Director of Music  
Judy Bonham, Organist/Handbell Director  
Lori Houck, Administrator  
Morgan Bryant, Administrative Assistant  
Michelle Blackwell, Childcare Coordinator  
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

### 12/3 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

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

### 12/10 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

Isa. 40:1-11; Ps. 85:1-2, 8-13;  
2 Pet. 3:8-15a; Mark 1:1-8

### 12/17 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

Isa. 61:1-4, 8-11; Ps. 126;  
Luke 1:46b-55; 1 Thess. 5:16-24;  
John 1:6-8, 19-28

### 12/24 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent/ Christmas Eve

2 Sam. 7:1-11, 16; Luke 1:46b-55;  
Isa. 9:2-7; Ps. 96; Titus 2:11-14;  
Luke 2:1-14 (15-20)

### 12/31 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas

Isa. 61:10-62:3; Ps. 148;  
Gal. 4:4-7; Luke 2:22-40

## January The Window Deadline

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

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



## Welcome New Baby!

**Maggie Pettigrew born October 12**  
Colin, Emily, and baby Maggie Pettigrew



*Here are some ways we can prepare and welcome the Christ Child this year:*

### Lighting the Advent Candles each Week in Worship

If your family or a couple of friends would like to serve Christ and Fort Hill by lighting the candles of Hope, Peace, Love, and Joy this season, please let Caroline Thomas know at [thomascb160@att.net](mailto:thomascb160@att.net).

### To Honor or Remember a loved one with a Gift

During this season of giving and remembrance, we invite you to 'honor' or 'remember' family and friends who have impacted your life by making a contribution to the JOY offering. Your gift, of any value, will be used for wreaths, greenery, poinsettias for FHPC and support underserved communities. Please complete the Honor and Remember form that is available in the Narthex, FHOG office, or by contacting Morgan in the Church Office (864-654-2061 or [communications@fifthillchurch.org](mailto:communications@fifthillchurch.org)). Checks payable to FHPC and the completed form should be submitted to the church office by December 1. Memorials and honorariums will be recognized in the bulletin and The Window. Poinsettias will be available for pick up following the Christmas services.

### Advent Devotional Calendar

This year our advent devotional comes to us by our friends at Sanctified Art. The devotion for this year is an advent calendar. Each day participants will be given a daily task, to center themselves for the coming birth of Jesus Christ. This devotional can be accessed on the Church Facebook page, the Church Instagram page, and physical copies can be found in the Narthex.

Facebook: Fort Hill Presbyterian Church

Instagram: @fort\_hill\_church\_clemson

### A Festival of Bells

Our Bell Choir will be featured at 10:45 Worship Service on December 10.

### Angel Vespers — a Telling of the Christmas Story by our Youngest Disciples

Sunday, December 10 — Soup/Chili Supper at 5:30 pm in Tartan Hall followed by the Angel Vespers program at 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary

### A Service of Lessons and Carols

One Worship Service at 10:45 am with Choir and Brass on December 17.

### Christmas Eve, December 24

10:45 am Worship Only for the Fourth Sunday in Advent  
5:00 pm Family-Friendly Christmas Eve Candlelight Service  
9:00 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight with Choir and Communion

### Christmas Sunday, December 31

10:45 am Worship (one joint service in the Sanctuary)  
The Dedication of Jesus in the Temple from Luke 2:21-38 & more Christmas Carols!



# Blue Christmas? What is that?

Blue Christmas is a gentle reflective service of hope for the hurting. Our Blue Christmas will be on the longest night, the winter solstice which is December 21st this year. While this service is designed to bring comfort to those who are grieving or missing someone or something in their lives that is now gone, the reality is that people who are hurting are not likely to come to such a service unless someone they trust brings them or invites them to come and sit with them.

Think now about who you will invite, pick up, and bring with you to sit together to acknowledge the "blues" that can often accompany the holiday fanfare.

Our world has much going on that we can think of that is not pleasant - the ongoing war in Ukraine, the newer war between Israel and Hamas, the challenges to democracy, just to name a few. But there are also very personal losses that can cause us to be blue at Christmas. Losses that pierce our hearts when a loved one has died, when a cancer diagnosis has been spoken, when a class has been failed, when employment has been reduced, when a dream has been crushed, when a marriage has fallen apart, when a young adult overdoses, when a partner lies to cover up an affair, when the treatments are no longer helping, when the season is over, and the list goes on. So why do we try to cover our pain and grief with Yuletide cheer?

If this is you or someone you know, come and sit with one another in a liturgy that speaks of the love of God for the grieving. We will share Scripture readings, prayers that acknowledge pain and emptiness as well as Christian hope, reflect on light in darkness as we light the candles of the advent wreath using darker themes of death, judgment, heaven, and hell, experience silence, and light individual candles at the crib. In a dark and weary world, come let your sadness and that of others be welcomed, but met with the light of hope.

**Blue Christmas Service**  
**On the Longest Night - December 21**  
**7:00 pm in Tartan Hall**



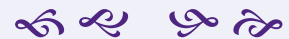
## Sunday Servants

### Pastor on Call

12/3	Mary Morrison
12/10	Mary Morrison
12/17	Jacob Kennedy
12/24	Laura Conrad
12/31	Shared by Pastors

### Elder of the Day

12/3	Cindy Prather (8:30) Debbie Shealy (10:45)
12/10	Catherine Stoddard (8:30) Heather Wright (10:45)
12/17	NA
12/24	Gregg Morton
12/31	Nancy Spitzer



### Christian Sympathy is extended to:

**Cindy & Ben Trammell** on the death of Cindy's mother, Carolyn Vermilya on October 26 in Florida.

**Jerry & Beth Chapman** on the death of Jerry's uncle, Loyd Brisco Chapman on November 11 and Jerry's other uncles, Art Barber and Marion Lark, earlier this year.

**Don & Janna McKale** on the death of Don's sister, Ellen Dolezal, on November 8 in Iowa.

**Judy & Mike Blackwell and Michelle Blackwell** on the death of Judy's mother, Michelle's grandmother, Elizabeth June Harris, on November 16 in Salisbury, MD.

**Karen & Ric Ware** on the death of Karen's father, James Beason, on November 17 in Duncan, SC.

**Family & friends of Sally Mitchell** on her death on November 18 in Clemson.



WORSHIP WITH US THIS  
**CHRISTMAS**



## Church Mouse

Fall is here and I just love running through all those leaves. It's so much fun outside. Did you know our church is establishing a **Mental Health Counseling Organization Committee** with **Chuck Conrad** as chair and **Pastor Mary** as the staff liaison? Members are **Sarah Allen, Harold Cheatham, Robert Miles, Stacey Miller, Rose Marie McDonald, Don McKale, Ethel Pettigrew, Katherine Sosebee, Nancy Spitler,** and **Ally Young**. Plus, we have a search committee for the **Coordinator of Faith Formation** with **Pastor Jacob, Mary Margaret Allman, Bo Crader, James Kwist, Lucy Martin, Kristen McCall, Cathy Morton,** and **Lisa Street**.

I love when the Strong Praises and Singers of Christ sing. They are **Adair, Vivian, & Leila Stevenson, Derge Chen, Maggie Wilson, Dorothy, Ebb, Louise, & James Horton, Grace Collins, Elizabeth Crader, Adelyn Hudak, Pickens McCall, Thomas Baker,** and **Ethan Nihoul**. I sit under the first pew so I can hear them well. But my seat there also lets me clean up the breadcrumbs from communion. Preparers were **Wayne & Barbara Madison** under the direction of **Beth Chapman**. Servers were **Dan & Denise Anderson, Kevin Bronson, Jerry Chapman, Gregg & Cathy Morton, Cathy Spragins, Mark Stokes,** and **Georganne Burton**.

Give special thanks to all who were elected to serve as elders and deacons: **Lee Allman, Bette Bronson, Diane Carnes, Karen Gaston, Ed Halbig, Nancy Hutson, Carolyn Newton, Holly Ridgell, Charlotte Grusso,** and **Debbie Vaughn** as Deacons. The Elders were **Charlie Barron, Gary Clary, Grady Jordan, Sue Limber, Don Ridgell, Cindy Sloan, Helen Diamond Steele, Ben Sill,** and youth Elders were **Sarah Ulrich & Mason Young**.

It takes so many people to make a church active, and I want to give thanks to all who do contribute.



## Internal Coaching at Fort Hill

During the pandemic years without the ability to attend in-person conferences, I pursued my continuing education with a focus on gaining coaching skills, knowledge, and practice. I am one of five who are the first persons to become a Certified Life Coach through Summit Coaching Training. As my role at Fort Hill changes, I requested that I be allowed to serve as an internal coach through one-on-one opportunities with church members as well as in some group settings.

I will offer internal coaching through the church. If you have a decision to make that you want someone to help you think through, a coach is an excellent way to do that. Coaching is a creative process in which the client talks about a professional or personal challenge and together with the coach listens, questions, and discerns the possibilities to empower the client to change and grow by acting upon his or her own decisions to improve one's quality of life.

I will coach formally and with church members who may desire more engagement into planning ahead for something, such as a life transition like a move to an independent living or assisted living facility, looking for a new job, moving to a new place, or any number of work or life experiences. I will meet with you for a series of coaching sessions, agreed upon by you, the client, and me. Coaching will help you claim your own strengths, gain personal and professional insights, improve your performance and satisfaction, become more balanced, grow with an accountability partner, and achieve your personal goals as you tackle your challenges.

As I coach internally at Fort Hill, I will describe the protocols that establish the coaching relationship, what a typical coaching session looks like, share the International Coaching Federation Code of Ethics with you, and schedule three to seven coaching sessions. Confidentiality is key to a healthy coach-client relationship and that would be maintained within my role as an internal coach at Fort Hill. As a pastor, I hold confidentiality in high value.

One of the services provided through Pinnacle Leadership Associates, Summit Coaching Training began during those same pandemic years and is now accredited by the International Coaching Federation, the premier accrediting body of all things coaching for professional coaches worldwide.

My goal is to gain ICF certification as an Associate Certified Coach (ACC) which requires 60 hours of coach specific education (I have 64 now) and 100 hours of client coaching experience. I have completed my 25 hours pro bono and am working on my 75 hours paid. The gift of internal coaching is just that. A gift to the congregation because as an internal coach, it is considered as part of my call, and I can count those hours as paid hours.

I also have coaching clients outside the church and count those hours among my client coaching experience which provides supplemental income. Additionally, I believe coaching is dovetailing with my sense of call to respond to the local mental health crisis identified by the church.

*Pastor Mary*

# FAITH IN ACTION

Our theme this Stewardship season is "Faith in Action." We are all thankful for the faithfulness of generations before us, who put faith in action to build a church to minister to our college town. At Fort Hill, God's grace and your generosity will help ensure that we can continue to fulfill our mission to Glorify God,

Grow Disciples, and Meet Human Needs. And your support will ensure that Fort Hill can continue to support those in our community most in need.

So, if you haven't yet made your pledge for next year, it's not too late! You can pledge by mailing in a pledge card (in the Narthex or FHOG Office), calling Lori Houck in the Church Office (864.654.2061), or online at:

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

Thank you for considering a gift to Fort Hill Church and may you and your family have a very merry Christmas and a happy new year!



# Fellowship Activities

Thank you SO MUCH to all the people who signed the cards for our friends at Clemson Downs, Foothills Retirement Community and for those who cannot join us at church at this time. We sent out 46 cards expressing our thanks for each of these members.

## Upcoming Activities:

**Soup/Chili Supper** — Sunday, December 10, we will have a soup/chili supper at 5:30 pm in Tartan Hall prior to the Angel Vespers program. Come join us as we prepare to see our beautiful children portray the Christmas story.



**Book Club** — meets on the second Monday of each month at 7:00 pm in the Gathering Space. Our future books to be discussed are:

- January 8 — Happiness Falls by Angie Kim
- February 12 — The Secret Book of Flora Lea by Patty Callahan Henry

**Holiday Potluck Supper** — Monday, December 11, we will meet for a holiday potluck supper at Lisa Britt's home at 338 Wellington Way in Central. We will all bring a children's book to take to Clemson Child Development Center. If you have thought about joining our group, come meet, and eat, with the active participants at our gathering. Call Debbie Shealy at 912.656.4596 for more information or to RSVP.

**Potluck Breakfast** — Sunday, January 7, there will be a New Year's potluck breakfast in Tartan Hall at 9:30 am, between services. Join us as we bring in 2024 with some good food and fellowship.

Wild Wednesday Potluck and Craft Connections will not meet in December.

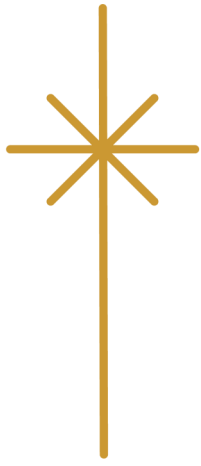
Look for the January Fellowship activities that will resume in their regular schedules after the holidays in the January Window. Have a great holiday season with friends and family!!



# Children's Ministry Corner

Children's Ministry hosted a fun afternoon at Denver Downs. Lots of children and families came out to play and have a wonderful time of fellowship! The children also enjoyed a time of thanksgiving at their friendsgiving! Here they played games, made crafts, ate lots of food and began to decorate for Christmas. All of the Children, Families, and Children's Ministry Team are gearing up for this upcoming month where they will be having Gift Day and Angel Vespers. All are welcome and encouraged to come out for these events and enjoy some fellowship time with members of all ages.





For  
to us  
a child  
is born,  
to us  
a son  
is given.



Isaiah 9:6

## News from Presbyterian Women

It's hard to believe December is upon us. Our study Sacred Encounters, The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke—Acts is going well. It's not too late to join us.

**Circle 1** — December 4 @ 10:00 am in the Club Room

**2nd Tuesday Evening Circle** — time and place TBD

**Trinity Circle** — December 11 @ 9:30 am in the Club Room

**Circle of Hope** — December 4 @ 3:00 pm at Clemson Downs Corley Room

### Honorary Life Membership

Each year the Presbyterian Women of FHPC select the recipient of the Honorary Life Membership award. This award goes to ANY (male or female) person or persons who have given long and dedicated service to Fort Hill Presbyterian Church or a former church congregation and who reflect the love of God and His church and have made a difference in the spiritual life of the community. PW Honorary Life Membership Nomination Cards will be available in the FHOG office and through each Circle. Cards may be returned to the designated envelope in the PW box.

Additional cards are available upon request. Deadline for submission is December 31.

This honor is open to all members of Fort Hill Presbyterian Church.

Contacts: Cynthia Gravely (864.723.5601) or Stephanie Scott (864.654.7407)

### Helping Hands Paper Goods Drive

Donations of paper goods for Helping Hands group children's home will be an ongoing monthly project for PW. Donations of paper goods such as paper towels, toilet paper, tissues, napkins, soap, and liquid laundry detergent (no pods) can be dropped off in the FHOG office or placed in the marked plastic box in the collections room below the FHOG office. These will be taken to Helping Hands the middle of each month.

Contact: Carolyn Stroup (843.319.9023).

### Christ Child Boxes

Donations for the Christ Child Food Boxes can be dropped off in the Narthex. Jim Thomas is the contact person. This project is formerly the Christmas Baskets.

### Presbyterian Home Gift Boxes

There will be a collection box in the Narthex of the Church for gift donations. The following gift items are requested: postage stamps, post-it notes, large print word search puzzle books, 2024 calendars, picture frames, large print paperback books, pens, pencils, small umbrellas, men's handkerchiefs, shower caps, hair brushes, combs, lip balm, nail polish, emery boards, nail clippers, toothpaste and brushes, soap, lotion, Kleenex, greeting cards, socks, knee highs, batteries, deodorant, mesh laundry bags, flashlight with batteries, and rain hats. Please DO NOT wrap these gifts. It will be much easier to distribute them to the appropriate resident.

Contact: Eva Henry (864.654.3737).

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2023 PANSY DUKE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

This year Fort Hill's Discipleship Ministry was able to award the 2023 Pansy Duke Scholarships to three recipients: Virginia Kackley, Dulcie Mohr, and Walton Bost. Each is already an active servant leader in the church and in their larger communities. They are putting their faith into action as they seek ways to serve, lead, and empower others to do the same.





# Welcome Fort Hill New Members



**Andy & Olivia Bajoczky  
Wallace (2) & Ginny (2 mos.)**

**Address:** 331 Pendleton Rd, Clemson, SC 29631  
**Phone:** 843.697.0411 (Andy); 843.530.3060 (Olivia)  
**Email:** abajoczky@gmail.com (Andy)  
omlooney@gmail.com (Olivia)

Andy & Olivia and children Wallace & Ginny joined Fort Hill after living in Charleston, SC. Olivia is an Ordained Elder. They have previously served in the areas of Fundraising/Stewardship and Education/Programming (Children & Youth). Some of their interests include being outdoors and on the lake, all things Clemson, and spending time with family and friends.



**Brian & Katy Baker  
Thomas (6)**

**Address:** 105 Ridgestone Drive, Central, SC 29630  
**Phone:** 864.723.3769 (Brian); 864.650.5460 (Katy)  
**Email:** brianalvinbaker@gmail.com;  
kathryngillian@hotmail.com

Brian & Katy and son Thomas are active here at Fort Hill Church. Brian grew up at Fort Hill and Katy is from Columbia. Brian is a financial advisor/principal of his own business and Katy is a Mammography/Radiologic Technologist. They enjoy Clemson football, Youth activities, and service.



**George "Andy" & Miriam Hutto**

**Address:** 108 Cherry St, Pendleton, SC 29670  
**Phone:** 803.487.7009 (Andy); 864.633.6526 (Miriam)  
**Email:** gahuttomail@gmail.com (Andy)  
huttomail@gmail.com (Miriam)

Andy & Miriam joined Fort Hill by transfer of letter from Grace Presbyterian Church in Fort Hill, SC. Andy & Miriam and their kids, Calvin & Sarah Ann, were part of Fort Hill when they lived here before. Andy is an Ordained Deacon and Miriam is an Ordained Deacon and Elder. They have previously served in Bible school and facilities. Some of their interests are running, gardening, and sewing.



**Thomas "Cooper" Landes**

**Address:** 200 Fort Hill St, Clemson, SC 29634  
**Phone:** 253.219.0050  
**Email:** tlandes@clemson.edu

Cooper joined Fort Hill by reaffirmation of faith. He enjoys running, fencing, scuba diving, and reading. Cooper is a freshman at Clemson, studying Environmental Engineering.



# December Fort Hill Church Activities

## Sunday, December 3

- 8:30 am Worship Service — Tartan Hall
- 9:00 am Sojourner's Class — Zoom
- 9:30 am Kindred Spirits Class — Club Room
- 10:45 am Worship Service — Sanctuary / Livestream
- Nursery (birth—3 yrs.) — Nursery Room
- Bible Fun (2-4 yrs.) — Honeybee Room
- WeekKirk (children's worship—4K-1st gr) — Nest following Children's story
- Homebound Communion — various locations
- 12:00 pm Children's Gift Day — multiple locations
- Special Session Meeting — Library
- 12:30 pm Drop-In Mission Opportunity — Tartan Hall
- 5:00 pm Youth Group — the Den & Backyard
- 6:00 pm PSA College Senior Night — PSA Student Center

## Monday, December 4

- 10:00 am PW Circle 1 Meeting — Club Room
- 6:30 pm Scouts BSA Troops 235 Boys/7235 Girls — CR/TH

## Tuesday, December 5

- 8:30 am Men of the Church Breakfast — Egg's Up Clemson
- 10:00 am Staff Meeting — Conference Room
- 4:00 pm Folk Dancing — Tartan Hall

## Wednesday, December 6

- 10:00 am Wednesday AM Advent Study — Club Room
- 6:00 pm Wednesdays @ The Fort — Nest/E208/Courtyard
- 6:10 pm Angel Vespers Rehearsal — Sanctuary
- 7:00 pm PSA College Bible Study — PSA Student Center
- 7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal — Choir Room

## Thursday, December 7

- 9:00 am Men's Small Group — Library
- Preschool Snow Houses — Tartan Hall

## Friday, December 8

- 9:00 am Preschool Snow Houses — Tartan Hall
- 3:00 pm Finance Meeting — Club Room

## Sunday, December 10

- 8:30 am Worship Service — Tartan Hall
- 9:00 am Sojourner's Class — Zoom
- 9:30 am Kindred Spirits Class — Club Room
- 10:45 am Worship Service — Sanctuary / Livestream
- Nursery (birth—3 yrs.) — Nursery Room
- Bible Fun (2-4 yrs.) — Honeybee Room
- WeekKirk (children's worship—4K-1st gr) — Nest following Children's story
- 2:30 pm Cub Scouts — Ed Building/Tartan Hall/Conf. Room
- 5:00 pm Middle School Christmas Party
- 5:30 pm Soup/Chili Supper — Tartan Hall
- 6:30 pm Angel Vespers — Sanctuary
- PSA Pre-Exam Communion — Old Stone Church
- 7:00 pm Sr. High Youth Group Christmas Party

## Monday, December 11

- 9:30 am PW Trinity Circle — Club Room
- 6:30 pm Scouts BSA Troops 235 Boys/7235 Girls — CR/TH

## Tuesday, December 12

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting — Conference Room
- Ben Sill's Small Group — Library
- 4:00 pm Folk Dancing — Tartan Hall
- 6:00 pm PW TWOesday EVEning Circle Meeting — Library

## Wednesday, December 13

- 10:00 am Wednesday AM Advent Study — Club Room
- 6:00 pm Wednesdays @ The Fort — Nest/E208/Courtyard
- 6:10 pm Children's Choir — E-209
- 7:30 pm Chancel Choir — Choir Room

## Thursday, December 14

- 9:00 am Men's Small Group — Library
- 9:30 am Preschool Christmas Program & Reception — Sanctuary & Tartan Hall

## Friday, December 15

- 5:00 pm Deacon Christmas Party — Morrison home

## Sunday, December 17

- 9:00 am Sojourner's Class — Zoom
- 9:30 am Kindred Spirits Class — Club Room
- 10:45 am **Lessons & Carols** Worship — Sanctuary/Livestream (One Service)
- Nursery (Birth-3 yrs.) — Nursery Room
- Bible Fun (2-4 yrs.) — Honeybee Room
- WeekKirk (children's worship—4K-1st gr) — Nest following Children's story

## Monday, December 18

- 6:30 pm Scouts BSA Troops 235 Boys/7235 Girls — CR/TH

## Tuesday, December 19

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting — Conference Room
- 4:00 pm Folk Dancing — Tartan Hall

## Wednesday, December 20

- 11:45 am Foothills Community Lunch — Foothills Dining Rm

## Thursday, December 21

- 7:00 pm Blue Christmas/The Longest Night Service — TH

## Sunday, December 24—Christmas Eve

- 10:45 am **4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent Worship Service** (one service) — Sanctuary
- 5:00 pm Family Candlelight Worship Service
- 9:00 pm Communion Candlelight Worship Service

## Monday & Tuesday, December 25 & 26

Church Offices Closed for Christmas break

## Friday, December 29

Church Offices Closed

## Sunday, December 31

- No Faith Formation Classes
- 10:45 am **Christmas Sunday Worship** (One Joint Service) — Sanctuary

## Monday, January 1—New Year's Day

Church Offices Closed

## Weekly AA Meetings

Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday evenings at 8:00 pm and Friday at 12:30 pm in Room E205 of the Education Building.





# December

## BIRTHDAYS

12/1	Oron Broome	12/8	Wallace Bajoczky	12/16	Ben Trammell	12/22	Jason Wilson
12/2	Vernie Roberts Jimmy Dean	12/9	Georganne Burton Jim Leisinger	12/17	Cleo Gregg Jillian McLaurin	12/23	Debbie Collins
12/3	Aaron Mantia Donald Spitler Debbie Sturman		Olivia Mueller Addie Nebesky Elizabeth Sisson	12/18	Mary Francis Allman Mary-Beth Clanton Lee D'Andrea Sydney Matheson Laney McLaurin	12/24	Linda Gahan Jan Kahle
12/4	Elise Halbig Linda Newmark	12/10	David Collins Meredith Lecroy			12/25	Anita Fredman Hilarie Sehorn
12/5	Lynn Carlson Chip Egan Alice Kennedy Hazel Sparks	12/11	Lori Houck Helen Wooten	12/19	Charlie Barron Eric Mueller	12/26	Eloise Black Bob Stout
12/6	Laura Hunter Emily Miller Elizabeth Vogt	12/12	Amelia Alexander Tracy Bolger Leslie Hicklin	12/20	Chuck Conrad Stephanie Scott Sarah Ulrich Geoffrey Wilson	12/27	Marcia Barker Judy Koch
12/7	Melissa McGraw Marchita Culpepper Bill LaGrone Joanna Walling	12/15	Man Chi Chor Danny Gregg Melanie Job Mike Money	12/21	Will Hiott Mike Nebesky Tipton Wright	12/28	Thomas Baker Terri Smith Heather Wright
		12/16	Crew Lecroy Allen Smith	12/22	Tom Arthur Bryce Smith	12/29	Tiffany Deal Kate Mills
						12/31	Dale Cleveland Calia Worley



# December

## ANNIVERSARIES

12/1	Jimmy & Jill Weir	12/17	Jay & Alice Kennedy Wes & Judy Koch	12/20	Mark & Robbi Stokes
12/5	Greg & Jane Sosebee			12/22	Eric & Elizabeth Bost Darrel & Lanie Hedrick
12/8	Jason & Stella Hudak	12/18	Andy & Reagan Blondeau Jim & Nina Cobb Michael & Helen Steele Pat & Lisa Street	12/23	Michael & Jeannie Bailey
12/10	Eddie & Megan Chavis			12/26	Hugh & Peggy Garner
12/14	Bryan & Lauren Young	12/19	Donna & Kelly Crader	12/29	Layne & Dianne Smith

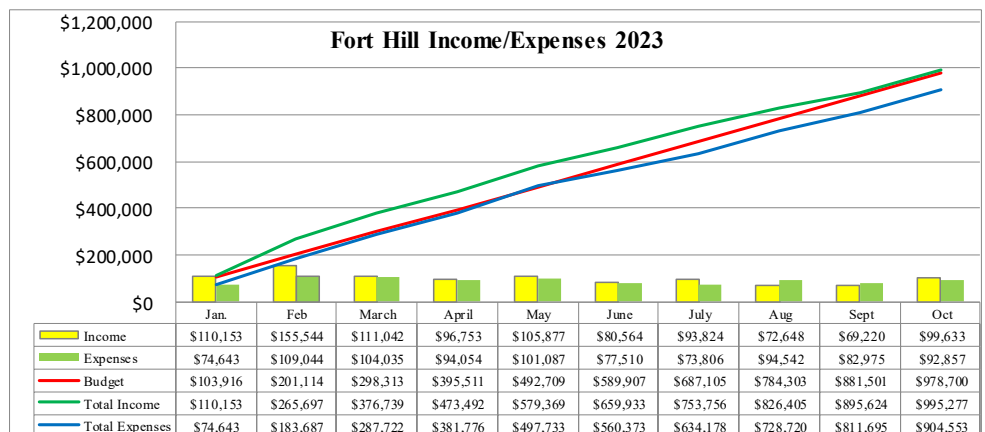
## From the Finance Ministry

Through October, pledge and offering income was \$995,227 while expenses for the first 10 months were \$904,533 for a surplus of \$90,744. Overall expenses are at 75% of budget, while income is at 84.8%. Income is approximately 1% above budget while expenses are roughly 8% below budget.

If you have not returned your 2024 pledge, please prayerfully consider your pledge for the coming year, so Fort Hill can continue its ministries to members, community and around the world.

### Bridging Generations Update:

Loan Principal Balance: \$199,669





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

101 Edgewood Avenue  
Clemson, SC 29631

(864) 654-2061  
www.forthillchurch.org

***Return Service Requested***

## The Christ Child Box Project

The joy of our Christmas celebration shines vividly when we join together to share blessings with our community and honor the miracle of Christ's birth. A special tradition for our Fort Hill family is collecting and gifting Christ Child Boxes to those in need. This year, we will partner once again with Clemson



Community Care to provide necessities to those in our local community who are experiencing difficult times.

You can participate by picking up a Christ Child Box in the Narthex and filling it full of supplies to brighten the Christmas season for a local neighbor in need of assistance. Inside the box, you will find a list of much-needed food and personal hygiene items. Please fill the box with your purchases of suggested items and return it to the church. The boxes will be available starting December 3 and will be accepted throughout the month of December and into the new year.

### CHRIST CHILD BOXES

If you wish to participate but are unable to go shopping or cover the cost for a complete kit, you are encouraged to make a monetary donation to Clemson Community Care. Please write a check to FHPC and specify "Christ Child Box." The cost of one box is estimated to be \$65 but donations of any amount are much appreciated.

*The Christian Action Committee*