

Message From the Pastor

God is So Good!

In the recent months, I have begun the practice of running. I don't really know why I started, but it's been life-giving in so many ways. Even on the days where I would rather do anything than run! My favorite time to run is right before meetings here at Fort Hill. A few weeks ago as I finished my run through Clemson, I walked through the Sanctuary on my way to my office, I looked up at the cross, and thought to myself, "God is so good!"

It's true, and at Fort Hill Presbyterian Church we have witnessed that reminder that God is good, so much over the last few months. We have seen a community come together, support each other and show each other so much love in times of mourning and loss. We have celebrated our youngest members with our Cradle Roll, and some of our oldest youth with their High School



graduation. We have welcomed a new staff member, Kelly McCord, who is our Coordinator of Faith Formation. We have fellowshipped together, worshiped God together, and been a witness to the love of God out into the world. Indeed friends, here at Fort Hill Presbyterian Church there has been a consistent reminder that "God is so good!"

Now, we are approaching the summer months. Times where we are apart as members of our Church are on vacation. When children gather for Vacation Bible School, youth are away on trips, where we sometimes see less of our community we love. However, the goodness of God does not stop. We show it to all we meet, and it spreads out from this place we love, Fort Hill. Remember each place you go, you are called to share the goodness of God to all people. When we meet again, we gather together in the Sanctuary, possibly after a run, remember that "God is so good!" Indeed friends, we have so much to be grateful for, and let that be a reminder in these summer months!

Peace.

Jacob Kennedy, 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.

June 2024

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Fort Hill Presbyterian Church

101 Edgewood Avenue Clemson, SC 29631 (864) 654-2061 www.forthillchurch.org

Laura Smith Conrad, Pastor
Jacob Kennedy, AP for Congregational Life
Colin Pettigrew, AP for University Ministry
Preston Shealy, Parish Associate
Kelly McCord, Faith Formation Coordinator
Margaret MacKay, Director of Music
Judy Bonham, Organist/Handbell Dir.
Lori Houck, Administrator
Morgan Bryant, Administrative Assistant
Scott Thrailkill, Facilities Manager

Weekly Lectionary Scriptures

2nd Sunday after Pentecost 1 Sam. 3:1-10 (11-20); Ps. 139:1-6, 13-18; 2 Cor. 4:5-12; Mark 2:23-3:6

6/9 3rd Sunday after Pentecost 1 Sam. 8:4-11 (12-15), 16-20 (11:14-15); Ps. 138; 2 Cor. 4:13-5:1; Mark 3:20-35

6/16 4th Sunday after Pentecost 1 Sam. 15:34-16:13; Ps. 20; 2 Cor. 5-610 (11-13), 14-17; Mark 4:26-34

6/23 5th Sunday after Pentecost 1 Sam. 17:(1a, 4-11, 19-23) 32-49; Ps. 9:9-20; 2 Cor. 6:1-13; Mark 4:35-41

6/30 6th Sunday after Pentecost 2 Sam. 1:1, 17-27; Ps. 130; 2 Cor. 8:7-15; Mark 5:21-43

July 2024 *The Window* Deadline

The deadline for articles, announcements, and features for the July issue of *The Window* is **Saturday, June 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.



Sunday, June 2 9:00 in Tartan Hall

Please join church members for fellowship and food this summer on June 2, July 7, and August 4.

Coffee and juice will be provided. Church members are asked to bring their favorite breakfast item to share.

Farewell to Margaret MacKay

Dear Fort Hill Family,

You truly are family to one another. I look out from the choir loft each Sunday and see faces of all ages, people who are children of God, dedicated and committed to one another and faithful in service. That is a wonderful sight to behold, and Raymond and I are blessed to be members and servants in this place.

I began church music when I was 13 years old playing the organ at Good Hope Presbyterian Church in Iva, SC. I went on to serve in churches in Anderson, Greenville, and Louisville, KY. I always thought I would go far away, but ended up right back in the beautiful upstate.

The reality is that there comes a time to move on. I have decided to make that move and retire this June 30th. I have prayed, talked to Raymond, Laura, and members of Personnel. I have questioned myself at times, but I have no doubt that God is leading me to this decision.

What a gift and honor it have been to serve at Fort Hill. Working alongside our amazing staff of Laura, Jacob, Colin, Judy, Lori, Morgan, and Scott has been a pleasure. And how blessed to have such a wonderful group of friends of all ages in our Chancel Choir, Children's Choirs, and Handbell Choir.

Yes, I will miss you all greatly, but you will always be in my heart and mind, and never forgotten. Keep a smile on your face and a song in your heart.

Smiling-n-Singing (with some tears),

Margaret MacKay

Dear FHPC Family and Friends,

As you have been informed, Margaret MacKay has decided to complete her ministry with us and retire from full-time ministry. She and Raymond have many children and grandchildren to enjoy and time together planned.

Margaret joined our staff 14 years ago and has been a constant friend in ministry with us all. Her greatest gifts beyond her musical talents are her deep faith, devoted heart, and the kindness and joy she brings to all, no matter what age. Margaret is a consummate musician and a talented leader for us and in the larger church. Her skills have enriched our worship life and made us better followers of Jesus Christ. Raymond has also been a faithful member of the choir, served on the Session, and freely advised us professionally as an attorney. We are grateful for them both.

Margaret's last Sunday with us will be **June 30**. We will celebrate her time with us during the worship service and at a reception following the 10:00 service in Tartan Hall. We hope you will be able to be at church that Sunday to give Margaret your best wishes, while sharing memories, hugs, and no doubt, a few tears. We bless her with our love and gratitude and a wish for God's continuing grace and peace in their lives.

To express our gratitude for Margaret's service among us, we will present her with a gift of money from FHPC. If you would like to participate in the monetary gift, please send your check made out to FHPC with "Margaret's Gift" on the memo line or give online noting the same. Additionally, we want to collect personal notes with a blessing, a scripture, or your gratitude for her. Printed photos with good memories are great, too! Please bring these items to the baskets marked in either Tartan Hall or the Narthex by June 30.

The mission of FHPC is to Glorify God, Grow Disciples, and Meet Human Needs. As we reflect on Margaret's time with us here in Clemson, there is no doubt that she impacted our church and community in all of these areas. To God be all glory!

In Christ,

Sue Limber
Moderator, Personnel & Program Support

Laura Courad

Community is Here

COMMUNITY IS HERE will be the overarching theme for Discipleship Ministry as we return to 2024-2025 Faith Formation Classes for all ages in August. Community is and always has been here at Fort Hill with so many opportunities to gather — whether in Worship, PSA, Deacons Circles of Care, Faith Formation classes, Youth Group, PW Circles, Men of the Church Breakfasts, Prayer Shawl Ministry, Prayer Chain, committee work, Fellowship, and New Member Ministry gatherings, First Sunday Breakfasts, Wednesday Bible Study, Wednesdays at the Fort, men's study groups, FHPC Preschool, Scouting, NAMI, AA, and so much more.

Come August however, as Faith Formation classes resume, "Community is Here" will additionally take on a new meaning. Classes for *all ages* will be focused on curriculum choices that will encourage participation, discussion, and sharing in what it *means* to build community with one another as we worship, care, share, and uphold each other on our journey as disciples.

Discipleship Ministry invites you to watch for opportunities to participate in a "Community is Here" class offering this fall and explore what community means to you. Class offerings will be announced in coming weeks, and we hope you will join us in celebrating "Community is Here"!

Donna Crader

Co-Moderator, Discipleship Ministry

This Summer in Youth Ministry

Friends of Fort Hill, our Youth Ministry at Fort Hill is going to have an incredible summer. We are going to have fun playing and engaging in fellowship with one another. Check out the schedule below.

Summer Trips

June 20–23 Massanetta Middle School Conference July 7–13 Montreat High School Conference

Weekly Summer Events

June 5-July 31 Wild Wednesday every Wednesday at Holy Trinity Episcopal

Summer Meet-Ups

June 9Movie Night at the Fort6:00 – 8:00 pmJuly 18Putt-Putt at Oasis Ranch3:00 – 5:00 pmJuly 25Tour of the Highest Point in SC10:00 am – 5:00 pm

Volunteer Opportunities

June 24–27 Vacation Bible School

If interested please contact: children@forthillchurch.org

Youth Ministry Update

The Fort Hill Youth will be so busy this summer! Our Middle Schoolers will take their first trip to the Massanetta Springs Middle School conference in Harrisonburg, VA. Our High Schoolers will look into "Planting Peace" at the Montreat Youth Conference, which Pastor Jacob will be co-directing this summer while we are there! We of course will have our Wild Wednesdays and other fun adventures. We want to make sure that you are able to see all that we are up to! Be sure to check the Church Facebook page for picture updates and our Instagram page:

@forthill.youth

Sunday Servants

Pastor on Call

6/2 Laura Conrad6/9 Colin Pettigrew

6/16 TBD

6/23 Laura Conrad

6/30 TBD

Elder of the Day

6/2 Debbie Shealy
6/9 Catherine Stoddard
6/16 Heather Wright
6/23 Charlie Barron
6/30 Gary Clary



Christian Sympathy is extended to:

- Mary Dusenberry and family on the death of her husband,
 Jim Dusenberry on April 24.
- Joan Dixon and family on the death of her sister Gina Kingman Isbell on May 1 in Greenville.
- Jill Weir and family on the death of her mother Joyce Gordy on May 2 in Ohio.
- Ron Rash and family on the death of his uncle Edwin Holder on May 3 in Wilkesboro, NC.
- Arlene Cheatham and family on the death of her sister Violet Hela Holmes on May 11 in Albany, NY.
- Shirley Muzii and family on the death of her husband Mario Muzii on May 12.



Thank you for all the support and offers of help to Ron and me during my fainting in the 8:30 service. We are blessed to have such a caring church family.

Thank you!

Ann & Ron Rash

Church Mouse



Hi there. Did you miss me? Had some serious family things to handle.

Communion on April 7: the preparers were **Beth Chapman, Jean &**

Jerry Greene. The servers were Bette & Kevin Bronson, Carolyn Newton, Leanne Broome, Cile Dunkelberg, Donna Crader, Ralph Ricks, Cindy Sloan, Debbie Vaughn and Sue Limber. For Maundy Thursday service the servers were Mark & Robbi Stokes, Cathy Spragins, Helen Wooten, Ralph & Ronda Ricks with Beth Chapman as the preparer. Home based communion at Clemson Downs was Beth Chapman, Susan Beckwith, and Nancy Hutson. For Foothills Community in Easley, they were Charlotte Gruosso and Wes Koch.

Communion on May 5: the preparers were Jerry & Beth Chapman. The servers were Gary Clary, Donna Crader, Grady Jordan, Lee Allman, Carolyn Newton, Mason Young, Charlie Barron, and Don & Holly Ridgell. At Clemson Downs the servers were Georganne Burton and Jim London and at Foothills they were Charlotte Gruosso and Cathy Spragins.

We had four funerals on 4 Saturdays in a row in April and May. The funeral guild members helped with all four. For Tom Shealy's service the helpers were: Diane Egan, Robbi & Mark Stokes and Jacquie Worley. For Bob Jones' service the Funeral Guild helpers were: Diane Egan, Stephanie Scott, Donna London, and Jacquie Worley. For Norm Weber's service the helpers were: Diane Egan, Donna London, Stephanie Scott, Robbi Stokes, and Jacquie Worley. For Jim Dusenberry's service the helpers were Donna London and Mark Stokes.

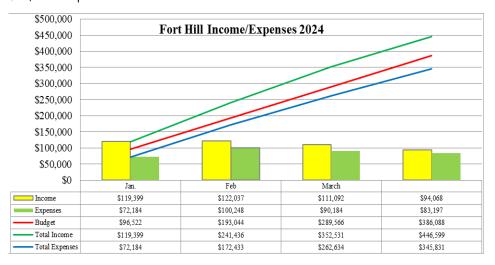
PSA Sunday had the following college students participating: Lainey Hutchinson, Ellen Ackerman, Madeline McCree, Corey & Brandon Glenn, and Tyler Moore. Then they had Scott Dillon on the piano and the PSA Music team singing.

Be sure to thank all who work behind the scenes and all who help the church be Christ Centered.

Finance Ministry Update

Through April, total income was \$446,599, while expenses for the first four months were \$345,831 leaving a surplus of \$100,768. Overall expenses are at 29% of budget, while income is at 35.5%. As you can see, income remains above budget while expenses are slightly below budget. Multiple giving units made their year contribution in the first quarter of the year leading to the current surplus. 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 by clicking the "Give Now" button on the Fort Hill Church website home page: (https://onrealm.org/FortHillPresbyt/-/form/give/now).

Bridging Generation Update: Loan principal balance — \$90,932. Your contributions to the ongoing Building Generations II campaign reduced the loan principal by \$53,844 in April!



News from Presbyterian Women

Another successful year for Presbyterian Women comes to a close. The PW will have new leaders next year. Judy Blackwell and Mary Beth Clanton will be taking over from Carolyn Stroup and Maranda Arnold. We welcome their new leadership.

Two Circles will combine so that we will have one morning, one afternoon, and one evening circle for Presbyterian women to join. If you are not a member of a Circle, we encourage you to join our Bible study.

Circle 1 and Trinity will combine for the morning circle. A new name for the circle will be chosen in September. This circle will meet on the first Monday of the month at 9:30 am in the Club Room at FHPC.

Circle of Hope will meet the first Thursday of each month at 3:30 pm in the Corley Center at Clemson Downs.

2nd Tuesday EVEning Circle will meet the second Tuesday of the month at 6:00 pm in the Library of FHPC.

Next year's study is *Let Justice Roll Down: God's Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation*. You are asked to pay for the books in advance. They will be ordered in July. You don't have to be a member of a circle to order a book. Please contact Carol Hipp at chippathome@gmail.com or 704.578.2199 to arrange for payment for your books. The cost is \$11 for the regular study guide and \$16 for the large print.

We will still collect paper goods for Helping Hands during the Summer. Please leve your donations in the room below the FHOG office.

Announcement: The PW Coordinating Team will meet Tuesday, August 13 at 9:30 am in the Club Room.

Welcome Fort Hill New Members



Mark & Lisa Burns

Address: 1052 Cliffs Vista Parkway, Six Mile, SC 29682

Phone: 847.651.2977 (Mark); 312.206.2213 (Lisa)

Email: mark.burns123@icloud.com (Mark)

lisaburns1030@comcast.net

Mark & Lisa joined Fort Hill Church by transfer of letter from First Pres in Deerfield, IL. They are both Ordained Elders and have served in education and finance. They have also served in the choir and bell choir.



Chris & Kelly Collins Grace (10)

Address: PO Box 321, Central, SC 29630

Phone: 864.940.4088 (Chris); 864.940.6319 (Kelly)

Email: murdaug@clemson.edu (Kelly)

Chris and Kelly joined Fort Hill Church by Reaffirmation of Faith and Profession of Faith. Grace has attended Fort Hill Church regularly with her grandparents David & Debbie Collins.

Christian Action Ministry Highlight — Ripple of One



A BIG thank you for your support over the years. We absolutely cannot do what we do without your support. Here is a summary of Ripple of One:

At Ripple of One, we believe that, through a combination of mentoring and incentives, families can transform their cycles of poverty into cycles of financial and physical success. Our program works alongside mothers and fathers in Greenville, Anderson, Pickens, and Oconee counties to walk them into a life of financial health and stability, creating healthy change that will last generations.

To help each participant achieve their full potential, we focus on four main categories of mentorship: educational, financial, relational, and health. As families move through our two-year program, they are given incentives. The incentives are...

- Monthly rewards for reaching goals in the areas of education, career, and financial.
- Savings matching up to \$200 every month. (Many participants have graduated from Ripple with between \$5,000 to \$10,000 in their savings.)
- Paid internships to gain industry experience. (Ripple has community partners that allow our participants to work and improve their skills. Many have been hired on as a result or been able to use the company as a good reference.)

We work closely with other community organiations! Below are just a few of our non-profit partners where we either have dual enrollments or we are their clients' "next step".

- 1. Dream Center
- 2. Mill Village Ministries
- 3. Foothills Care Pregnancy and Anderson Pregnancy Center
- 4. Upstate Fatherhood Coalition
- 5. Habitat for Humanity

In the last 6 years we have had 123 adults and children move beyond public assistance. Many of the graduates come back to volunteer, and we've hired 2 graduates to work at Ripple.

At Ripple of One, we hope to see every participant experience the joy of financial freedom, which they can achieve through the encouragement and support of our program. We are proud to know these amazing parents who are paving their way for others.

If you feel led to volunteer or if you know someone that could use our program, please visit www.rippleofone.org.

June Fort Hill Church Activities

Sunday, June 2

 9:00 am First Sunday Summer Breakfast — Tartan Hall
 4:00 pm New Member Social — Patrick Square lakehouse Homebound Communion — Various locations

Monday, June 3

8:30 am Building & Grounds Meeting — Library

Tuesday, June 4

8:30 am Men of the Church Breakfast — Eggs Up Clemson
3:00 pm P&PS Meeting — Library
5:30 pm University Ministry Meeting — PSA Student Cntr.

7:00 pm Adult Ministry Team Meeting — Conference Rm. Youth Ministry Team Meeting — the Den

Wednesday, June 5

5:00 pm ACC Search Team Meeting — Conference Room 6:45 pm Wild Wednesday begins (see recurring events)

Friday, June 7

Meet & Eat Dinners — Off-Site

Saturday, June 8

Meet & Eat Dinners — Off-Site

Sunday, June 9

12:00 pm Deacons' Meeting — Club Room

90s Birthday Celebration — Arcade/Tartan Hall CM Fellowship Pool Party — Clarendon pool

Meet & Eat Dinners — Off-Site

6:00 pm Youth Movie Night at the Fort — the Den

Monday, June 10

7:00 pm Book Club Monday — Gathering Space Near E205

Tuesday, June 11

10:00 am Men's Study Group (Ben Sill) — Library2:00 pm Planning Meeting — Laura's Office

4:00 pm Finance Meeting — E209

5:00 pm Worship Ministry Meeting — Conference Room

6:00 pm Discipleship Ministry Meeting — the Den

7:00 pm Youth Movie Night — the Den

Wednesday, June 12

6:00 pm Safe Place Training — the Den

June 16 — June 22

Margaret away — Worship & Music Conference at Montreat

Sunday, June 16

12:00 pm Children's Ministry Team Meeting — Nest

Tuesday, June 18

7:00 pm Session Meeting — Club Room

Wednesday, June 19

11:30 am Foothills Pastor Luncheon — Foothills Dining Rm.

June 20 — June 23

Jacob/Kelly away — Massanetta Springs Middle School Conference Laura away — Preaching at Montreat

Sunday, June 23

12:00 pm Craft Connections — Club Room

Monday, June 24 — Thursday, June 27

Vacation Bible School — All Church Reserved

Tuesday, June 25

10:00 am Men's Study Group (Ben Sill) — Library
5:30 pm Membership Meeting — Conference Room
7:00 pm Fellowship Ministry Meeting — Club Room

Wednesday, June 26

10:00 am Staff Meeting — Conference Room

June 28 — July 4

Colin away — Commissioner for General Assembly in Salt Lake City



Recurring Weekly Activities

Sunday

9:00 am Sojourners' Class — Zoom

10:00 am Worship Service — Sanctuary/Livestream

Nursery (Birth-2 yrs) — Nursery Room Toddler Time (Walkers-K3) — Turtle Room WeeKirk (children's worship/K4-1st gr.) following Children's story — Nest

Tuesday

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

Wednesday

6:45 pm Wild Wednesday (Youth) — Holy Trinity Episcopal

7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal — Choir Room

Weekly AA Meetings

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

June Anniversaries & Birthdays



6/1	Lee & Mary Margaret Allman Adam & Victoria Artigliere Bill & Joanne Nisonger
6/3	Craig & Camille Horton
6/4	Don & Janna McKale
6/5	Andrew & Beth McCord
6/6	Heath & Lauren Fields
6/8	Scott & Leslie Callison
6/10	Chuck & Laura Conrad
6/11	John & Marcia Sherman
6/13	Frank & Rita Van Lenten
6/14	Jimmy & Betty Dean

6/14	Jerry & Jean Greene Elbert & Nancy Horton Art & Gail Williams
6/15	Tim & Joyce Daley Guy & Mavis Sabin
6/18	Brian & Katy Baker Larry & Cindy Sloan
6/19	Barry & Aleta Robinson
6/20	Jason & Sarah Allen John & Sally Martin Tom & Cathy McInnis
6/21	Gus & Clarice Gustafson
6/22	Carl & Theresa Hollingsworth

6/22	Todd & Catherine Latiff Wes & Jacquie Worley Josh & Ally Young
6/26	Hugh & Nancy Spitler
6/27	Bob & Susan Brown Nathan & Emily Ewoldt Bruce & Laurel Whisler Bob & Eva Williamson
6/28	Ben & Lois Sill
6/29	Riley & Carol Johnson
6/30	Donnie & Ginny Gamble John & Debbie Sturman Ben & Linda Wofford



6/1	Bo Crader Julie DuBose	6/9	Rebecca Ackerman Dan Radakovich		Cynthia Gravely Cooper Hays	6/22	Benjamin Smith Jacquie Worley
	Marion Gahan Don Ridgell	6/10	Andy Kwist Cathy Olker		Virginia Hintz Courtney Money	6/24	Harrison Wetsel Wes Worley
6/2	Grady Jordan	6/11	Paul Borick III		Gary Pollock	6/25	Lisbeth Crowther
6/3	Betsy Mudge Cody Satzger		Erika Hays Chryssa Rutland	6/17	Eddie Chavis Ellen Torrence	0,23	Audrey Thompson
	Josh Simpson	6/12	Cheryl Trammell	6/18	Joann Daugherty	6/26	Leanne Broome Nina Cobb
6/4	Judson McKinney Tony Rutland	6/13	Grace Hawthorne James Rash		Cyndi Davis Larry McCullough Cathy Spragins	6/27	Steve Martin Amanda Stevenson
6/5	Shelley Burchfield		Frank Van Lenten	C/10	, , ,	6/28	Robin Weeks
	Lochlan McLaurin Marcia Sherman	6/14	Katy Baker	6/19	Jean Greene Louise Horton	0/20	Sydney Weeks
6/6	Kip Bagley		Ellie Faithful Kimberly Jordan		Ann Howard	6/30	Sarah DuBose
			Chuck Sisson	6/20	Dylan Barker		Rob Key
6/7	Anne Sellers				Bette Bronson		Susan Mussman
	Jim Thomas	6/16	Helen Adams	6/21	Daniel Turner		Raymond Wooten
6/8	Victoria Artigliere		Paige Durham				

The Window





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Return Service Requested

Fellowship Ministry Update

Save the Dates!! June 2, July 7, & August 4

First Sunday Summer Breakfast are here again!! Bring a yummy breakfast food (from sweet to savory) to share with fellow members and friends. Join us in Tartan Hall at 9:00 am for food and fellowship before worship. Don't forget that worship in the summer is at 10:00 am.

Other Fellowship Opportunities

Book Club will meet on **June 10** at 7:00 pm in the Den. We will be discussing the book, <u>The Women</u> by Kristin Hannah.

Meet and Eat groups will meet on **June 7-9**. Call Holly Ridgell at 864.320.2366 to join in the fun. Small groups meet for a meal and conversation at someone's house or at a chosen restaurant. This is an awesome way to meet new friends or join with old friends as you spend time together over food and laughter.

Craft Connections will meet **June 23** after worship in the Club Room. Bring a craft you are working on and join in the fun conversations and fellowship.

If you would like to plan and host parties and fun gatherings for our church family, join the Fellowship Ministry by calling or texting Debbie Shealy at 912.656.4596.

We would love some new ideas for fun activities!