



# The Window

The Newsletter of Fort Hill Presbyterian Church

## Message From the Pastor

October 2024

### Which Jesus Do We Worship and Serve?

Perhaps you have read the testimonies of pastors who have been vilified and demonized for preaching the teachings of Jesus like the Beatitudes (Luke 6:20-26, Matthew 5:1-12). For some people, that Jesus does not line up with their ideologies. Like Jesus, these pastors have been run out of town and thrown off a proverbial cliff for preaching the gospel (read Luke 4:16-30, the Rejection of Jesus). But the Jesus revealed to us in the gospels is:

- the one who touched the hand of the leper,
- the one who fed a starving hillside multitude,
- the one who said our neighbors and enemies deserve the same love we give our families and ourselves,
- the one who preached the scandalous worth of a despised Samaritan,
- the one who said he and the forgotten prisoner on the cross were one in the same,
- the one who dined with both priest and with prostitute,
- the one who spoke to and really saw the woman at the well,
- the one whose family fled political genocide soon after he was born.

Perhaps we have gotten confused because we are listening to the wrong teachers, looking to the wrong leaders. Whatever heresy of Christian Nationalism, prosperity gospel, or fertility religions we see throughout history, the people of God, the Church, always need reforming by the Word of God and the work of the Holy Spirit. We believe in sin. Maybe we have forgotten the gift of self-reflection, truth telling, and confession as a discipline in society. Since we predestined to be conformed to the image of Christ (Romans 8:29), we all fall short. As we celebrate the Reformation of the church which resulted in the Protestant tradition on Sunday, October 27, I think Russell Moore has it right when he writes,

*The way forward is what it's always been. As Luther said in his Heidelberg Disputation, 'The theologian of glory calls evil good and good evil. The theologian of the cross calls a thing what it is.' Sometimes that means nailing a word or two to the castle door. Sometimes that might mean letting goods and kindred go. The whole of Christian life is about repentance. That repentance must be about the renewing of our minds and the renovation of our hearts, not just the laundering of consciences that are no longer bound to the Word of God.<sup>1</sup>*

We all have work to do! Let us choose to take up a cross and follow Jesus, the Word made flesh, not the Jesus we remake in our own image.

*Laura Conrad, Pastor*

<sup>1</sup>Russell Moore, "The Uneasy Conscience of Christian Nationalism," Christianity Today, Sept/Oct 2024.

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### Fort Hill Presbyterian Church

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Laura Smith Conrad, Pastor  
Jacob Kennedy, AP for Congregational Life  
Colin Pettigrew, AP for University Ministry  
Pat Rabun, Associate for Cong. Care  
Preston Shealy, Parish Associate  
Kelly McCord, Faith Formation Coordinator  
Judy Bonham, Organist/Handbell Dir.  
Lori Houck, Administrator  
Morgan Bryant, Administrative Assistant  
Scott Thraikill, Facilities Manager

*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

### 10/6 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Job 1:1; 2:1-10; Gen. 2:18-24  
Heb. 1:1-4; 2:5-12; Mark 10:2-16

### 10/13 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Job 23:1-9, 16-17; Amos 5:6-7,  
10-15; Heb. 4:12-16;  
Mark 10:17-31

### 10/20 22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Job 38:1-7 (34-41); Isa. 53:4-12;  
Heb. 5:1-10; Mark 10:35-45

### 10/27 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Job 42:1-6, 10-17; Jer. 31:7-9;  
Heb. 7:23-28; Mark 10:46-52



## 2025 Stewardship Campaign — Dedication Sunday, November 17



This fall at Fort Hill, as we consider how to respond to God's grace in our lives, we are following a theme of "Just Be." Life for all of us is busy and at times messy, but we need to find some time where we can just be.

This past year has been a time of re-focusing our ministries and staff. To enrich our congregational life, Fort Hill has grown the staff to include a full-time Faith Formation Coordinator and is now seeking a Music and Worship Arts Coordinator to enhance visual arts in worship.

The different ministries of the church are busy making plans for next year — for children and families and youth ministry, for faith formation, for reaching out to those in our community and the world, in college ministry, and in taking care of the physical buildings in which we meet. We will wait to finalize those plans until the end of this year, when pledge cards have been returned and the Finance Ministry has a better idea of what resources will be in place.

Would you consider making a pledge for your giving to Fort Hill for 2025 and in doing so, being a part of how our congregation is growing disciples and sharing the love of God in our community and beyond? You will be receiving a mailing later this month with more details.

I hope you'll take some time and prayerfully consider this. You can respond by bringing your pledge on **Dedication Sunday, November 17**, or by using the QR code below.

Thank you for being a traveler on the journey of faith at Fort Hill.

*Nancy Spittler & Lettine Greene,*  
Stewardship Co-Moderators



### November 2024 *The Window* Deadline

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

## Kirkin' o' the Tartans

October 27, 2023  
10:45 Worship Service  
(one service only)

Join us as we celebrate the saints in worship.  
Everyone can be a Scot for a day!  
The Presbyterian church is descended from the Kirk (church) of Scotland. We will process the Tartan banners and enjoy bagpipes. Happy Scotoberfest!





# Children's Corner

Last month, we leaned into our Children's Ministry theme for the year, "Welcome to the Neighborhood." We took communion in worship, supported one another at sporting events, and continued to build our neighborhood. Faith formation started brightly with Praying in Color, and we went to watch the Tiger Band perform. What a wonderful community we live in. We can't wait to see what adventures the month of October will bring! Between Trunk or Treat and Kirkin' o' the Tartan, it will surely be a beautiful month in our neighborhood.



We are still looking for volunteer trunks to pass out goodies to the children on **Sunday, October 27th from 4-7 pm**. Candy donations for Trunk or Treat are also being collected in a box in the Narthex! Upcoming events in November include Denver Downs on **Saturday, November 9th at 11 am** and Friendsgiving on **Sunday, November 24 at 9:30 am** in the Nest. Please remember to always accompany your child during any events that take place away from Fort Hill. For any Children's Ministry questions, please contact Kelly McCord at [kelly.mccord@forthillchurch.org](mailto:kelly.mccord@forthillchurch.org) for more information.

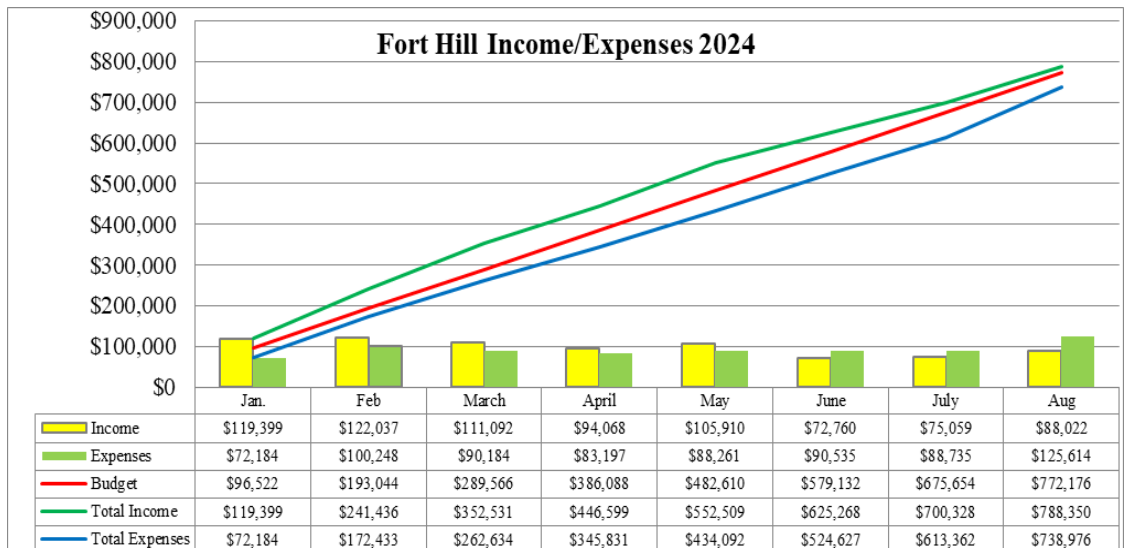


# From the Finance Ministry

Through August, total income was \$788,350 while expenses for the first eight months were \$738,976 providing a surplus of \$49,371. Overall expenses are at 62% of budget, while income is at 68%. As you can see, expenses are approximately 4% below budget and income is roughly 2% above budget. Thanks to your financial support, Fort Hill Church 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 website or your Realm profile account.

## Bridging Generations Update:

Through the end of August, total income was \$217,515.12. We spent \$180,000 of those funds to pay off the Building Fund loan with the final payment made in June. The balance and additional money received will be used for projects with include replacing the sanctuary 33-year-old lighting system and updating the sound technology for in-person and on-line worship. Another project is the development of the outdoor space in the "backyard" that all ministries of the church can use to support their specific activities.



## Sunday Servants

### Pastor on Call

10/6	Pat Rabun
10/13	Jacob Kennedy
10/20	Laura Conrad
10/27	Colin Pettigrew

### 8:30 Service Elder of the Day

10/6	Heather Wright
10/13	Gary Clary
10/20	Sue Limber
10/27	N/A, One Service

### 10:45 Service Elder of the Day

10/6	Charlie Barron
10/13	Grady Jordan
10/20	Don Ridgell
10/27	Cindy Sloan



### Christian Sympathy is extended to:

- **Jeremy Wright** and family on the death of his great-aunt on August 27 in Gastonia, GA.
- **Jim Roberts** on the death of **Vernie Roberts** on September 11 in Clemson.

## Preschool News

We are so thrilled to begin the 2024-2025 school year with all of our preschool families! What a wonderful start we have had so far with our little ones! We look forward to a fruitful year full of growth and learning!

Thank you all for your continued support each year! We are so blessed with a wonderful staff and church family.

One happy addition we have to our preschool this year is a new playground! We are beyond excited to have our little ones run and play in our new play area. What a joyful and fun place it will be for our preschool and church children!

Thank you again for your love and prayers for our little preschool!

*Kayla Webb, Preschool Director*

## Fellowship Opportunities

### Fall BBQ

On **October 6th**, after the second service, don't miss a wonderful opportunity to eat some yummy BBQ from Smokin' Pig and mingle with church members and students from PSA. No reservations are needed. Come on down to Tartan Hall for a fun lunch and gathering of folks and friends from FHPC!

### Book Swap

It is time to start collecting all those books you want to get rid of. Bring them to the arcade, starting on **October 27th** and we will have tables set up for you to deposit your old books and to take any books home with you that peak your interest. The book swap will continue **November 27th**.

### Other Fellowship Opportunities in the Fall:

**Book Club** in the Den at **7 pm**. Everyone is welcome!!

On **Monday, October 14th** we will be discussing the book, The Mitford Affair by Marie Benedict.

One **Thursday, November 14th**, Ron Rash will join us to discuss his recent book, The Caretaker (notice this is on Thursday, instead of on Monday).

### Craft Connections

We will meet **October 27th** after the 10:45 worship service in the **Club Room**. Bring a craft you are working on and join in the fun conversations and fellowship.

**Supper Club** had its kick off dinner at the Ridgell's house on September 29th. Delicious food and fun was enjoyed by all who attended. Supper Club is made up of small groups who 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 good food and laughter. Call Holly Ridgell at [hridgell@gmail.com](mailto:hridgell@gmail.com) to join in the fun.

Fellowship Ministry welcomes Mary Barron to our team. She will be planning some outings to various events such as plays, music opportunities, historical sites, etc. Please consider joining our team as we plan and host parties and fun gatherings for our church family. Please consider joining our team as we plan and host parties and fun gatherings for our church family. You can join the Fellowship Ministry by calling or texting Debbie Shealy at 912-656-4596. We would love your input and new ideas.

## Slide into Fall

**Sunday, October 6**  
**following the 10:45 service**

**Questions? Contact Debbie Shealy at**  
**[panddsmom1@aol.com](mailto:panddsmom1@aol.com)**



## News from Presbyterian Women

Fall is here and we have started a new year of Presbyterian Women activities. We welcome new members to our monthly Bible studies. Please consider joining us at one of these meetings.

### 2024-2025 Presbyterian Women Circles

**One Trinity Circle** meets October 7th in the FHPC Club Room at 9:30 am for social gathering and the meeting starts at 10:00 am.

**2nd Tuesday EVening Circle** meets October 8th in the FHPC Library at 6:00 pm.

**Circle of Hope** meets October 3rd at 2:00 pm at the Corley Center at Clemson Downs.

### October Clothing Drive

The Fall Clothing Drive is coming up. Mary Beth Clanton is coordinating this effort. Please contact Mary Beth if you are willing help with the clothing drive. She is looking for another person to work with her on this project. The clothing drive is coordinated with the Trunk or Treat activity at the end of October. You may drop your gently used clothing off at the collections room below the FHOGG office or bring them for drive by collections at the Trunk or Treat event.

### Helping Hands Group Home

Helping Hands monthly collections will concentrate on paper goods i.e. paper towels, toilet paper, Kleenex, napkins, etc. Please leave your donations in the collections room below the FHOGG office or bring them to your Circle meetings.

### Operation Christmas Child

Presbyterian Women along with Children's Ministry & Mission outreach will sponsor the Fort Hill Church Collection of shoe box gifts this fall. Operation Christmas Child began in 1990 by Dave & Jill Cooke in Wales, after three years their shoe box mission merged in partnership with Samaritan's Purse. Operation Christmas Child collects shoeboxes of gifts filled with toys, school supplies, and hygiene items to children in need around the world to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way. This is the first time for many of these children that they have ever received a gift. Since 1993, these partnership efforts have delivered more than 220 million gift-filled shoeboxes to children in 170+ countries and territories. Please bring your untaped box and a donation for postage to the arcade of the church on or before Sunday, Nov. 10th. Fort Hill's gift-filled shoeboxes will be delivered to a national collection site in Charlotte/Atlanta beginning Monday, Nov. 11th. For additional information or questions, contact Eva Henry or Judy Blackwell (864-868-4153) or [samaritanspurse.org](http://samaritanspurse.org)

## Church Mouse

Preschool is back and Sunday School is starting back too!! I love all the activity and of course all the crumbs that are left behind.

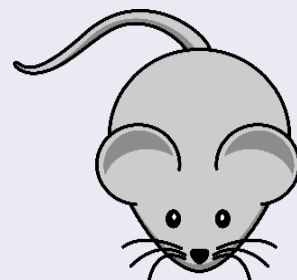
In September, Communion was prepared by **Beth Chapman** and **Robin Denny**. **Beth Chapman** directed the communion servers who were: **Kevin Bronson, Greg & Cathy Morton, Carolyn Newton, Cindy Prather, Debbie Shealy, Catherine Stoddard, Jim Thomas, and Ben Trammell**. **Carolyn Newton** and **Holly Ridgell** did the communion for the shut-ins and at Clemson Downs.

Many of our church members are on the Board of Directors for the Old Stone Church: **Curtis Arnold** serves as president; **Tom Cleveland** serves as treasurer; and **Nan Jones** serves as secretary. **Lin Dearing, Garland Gravely, Nancy Stone, and Ethel Pettigrew** also serve on the board along with others within the community and from Pendleton Presbyterian Church. **Maranda Arnold** has created a database of most burials at Old Stone Church. Plus, the emeritus members from our church are **Jerry Reel** and **George Dunkelberg**.

Presbyterian Women leaders are: **Judy Blackwell** and **Mary Beth Clanton** as the co-moderators for 2024-2025; **Holly Ridgell** and **Jacquie Worley** will be co-moderators for 2025-2026; the immediate past co-moderators were **Maranda Arnold** and **Carolyn Stroup**; **Stephanie Scott** is the secretary with **Carol Hipp** serving as the treasurer.

FHOG (Fort Hill Office Greeters) serve in the office on different days to answer the phones and put together bulletins and get The Window ready to be mailed to church members. They are: **Marchita Culpepper, Nan Jones, Nancy Lloyd, Robbie Stokes, Gensie Waldrop**, with the subs being **Donna Crader** and **Cindy Sloan**.

Be sure to thank all that have served our church well.



Fort Hill Men's Fellowship  
**He-Brews**  
at Silos Brewing Co  
122B Folger Ave, Easley  
Thursday, Oct. 24, 5pm

# October Church Activities

## Tuesday, October 1

- 8:30 am Men of the Church Breakfast — Egg's Up
- 4:45 pm P&PS Ministry Meeting — Library
- 5:00 pm University Ministry Meeting — PSA Student Cntr.
- 6:00 pm Christian Action Ministry Meeting — Club Room  
Adult Ministry Meeting — Conference Room
- 7:00 pm Youth Ministry Team Meeting — The Den

## Thursday, October 3

- 3:30 pm PW Circle of Hope — Clemson Downs Corley Cntr.

## Sunday, October 6

- See Weekly Recurring Event Schedule for regular events
- 12:00 pm Slide into Fall BBQ — all church  
Homebased Communion — various locations

## Monday, October 7

- 8:30 am Building & Grounds — Library
- 9:30 am PW One Trinity Circle Meeting — Club Room

## Tuesday, October 8

- 10:00 am Men's Group Meeting (B Sill) — Library
- 2:00 pm Planning Meeting — Conference Room
- 5:00 pm Worship Ministry Meeting — Conference Room
- 6:00 pm Discipleship Ministry Meeting — The Nest  
PW Circle 2 Meeting — Library

## Sunday, October 13

- 9:30 am Seekers Class — E209
- 2:30 pm Cub Scouts — Conference Room, Tartan Hall, &  
Ed Building (upstairs & downstairs)

## Monday, October 14

- 10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry — Hazel Sparks' home
- 4:00 pm Finance Ministry Meeting — E209
- 7:00 pm Book Club — The Den

## Tuesday, October 15

- 7:00 pm Session Meeting — Tartan Hall

## Thursday, October 17

- 9:00 am Staff Retreat — Off-Campus (office is closed)

## Sunday, October 20

- 12:00 pm Deacon Meeting — Club Room  
Children's Ministry Team Meeting — The Nest

## Monday, October 21

- 4:00 pm Mental Health Awareness Team — Conf. Rm.

## Tuesday, October 22

- 10:00 am Men's Group Meeting (B Sill) — Library
- 5:30 pm Membership Ministry Meeting — Conf. Rm.
- 7:00 pm Fellowship Ministry Meeting — Club Room

## Thursday, October 26 — Saturday, October 28

- Kirkin' o' the Tartans Sunday Tartan set-up — Tartan Hall

## Thursday, October 26

- 11:45 am Pastoral Lunch — Clemson Downs
- 5:00 pm He-Brews — Silos in Easley

## Sunday, October 27

### Kirkin' o' the Tartans Worship Service (one service today)

- 9:00 am Seekers Class — E209
- 12:00 pm Craft Connections — Club Room  
Fellowship Book Swap — Arcade/Tartan Hall
- 2:30 pm Cub Scouts — Conference Room, Tartan Hall, &  
Ed Building (upstairs & downstairs)
- 3:30 pm PW Clothing Drive Drive-Thru — McHugh Lane
- 4:00 pm Trunk or Treat — Fort Hill Church parking lots

## Staff Time Away Notes

Laura Conrad — 10/1-10/4;  
10/30-10/31

Jacob Kennedy — 10/7-10/11  
Lori Houck — 10/10-10/11

**All Staff away — 10/17  
(Staff Retreat)**

Colin Pettigrew — 10/25-10/27



## Weekly Recurring Events

### Sunday

- 8:30 am Early Worship Service — Tartan Hall
- 9:30 am Praying in Color Class — The Nest  
Feasting on the Word Class — The Den  
Sojourner's Class — Library  
Kindred Spirits Adult Class — Club Room
- 10:45 am In-Person/Livestream Worship — Sanctuary/Online  
Childcare/Nursery (birth-walkers) — Nursery Room  
Toddler Time (walkers-2 years) — Turtle Room  
Bible Fun (3-4 years) — Honeybee Room  
WeeKirk (children's worship—5K-1<sup>st</sup> Grade) —  
(following Children's story) — Owl Room  
WOW (worship education—2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> grade) — Nest
- 2:30 pm NAMI Family-to-Family — Club Room
- 5:00 pm Youth Group — Tartan Hall/The Den
- 6:00 pm PSA College Dinner/Program — PSA Student Center

### Monday

- 9:30 am Preschool Chapel — Sanctuary
- 6:30 pm Scouts Troops 235 (Boys)/7235 (Girls) — Club Rm/TH

### Tuesday

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

### Wednesday

- 10:00 am Morning Bible Study — Club Room
- 5:30 pm Wednesdays @ the Fort — Nest/E208/Courtyard  
Children's Choir Rehearsal — E209
- 6:00 pm Evening Book Study — Club Room
- 7:00 pm PSA College Bible Study — PSA Student Center
- 7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal — Choir Room

### Thursday

- 9:15 am Small Group — Library

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



- |       |                                                                    |       |                                                                            |
|-------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 10/1  | Curtis Arnold<br>Jim Roberts                                       | 10/10 | Salley Ouellette                                                           |
| 10/2  | Wanda Glenn<br>Char Harvey<br>Evan Matthews<br>Hank McLaurin       | 10/11 | Emma Van Daele                                                             |
| 10/3  | Ginny Bajoczky<br>Ransom Broome<br>Laurie Sherrod<br>Ben Wofford   | 10/12 | Nancy Horton<br>Gregg Morton<br>Maggie Pettigrew                           |
| 10/4  | Bill Beckwith                                                      | 10/14 | Beth Weber                                                                 |
| 10/5  | Hunter Crenshaw<br>Marv Dixon<br>Tom Lawrence                      | 10/15 | Beth Chapman<br>Elaine Smith                                               |
| 10/7  | David Alexander                                                    | 10/16 | Brian Baker<br>Donnie Gamble<br>Andrew McCord<br>Jerry Reel<br>Mike Worley |
| 10/8  | Jan Beckwith<br>Emily Ewoldt                                       | 10/17 | Peggy Garner<br>Benjamin Wofford                                           |
| 10/9  | Clarence Rogers<br>Guy Sabin                                       | 10/18 | Barbara Curl<br>Lib Gage<br>Corey Greene<br>Deanna Ramey<br>Alan Torrence  |
| 10/10 | Tommy Bolger<br>Camille Horton<br>Jan Kenney<br>Katherine Mostertz | 10/19 | Andy Blondeau<br>John Prather                                              |

- |       |                                                                                                       |       |                                         |
|-------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----------------------------------------|
| 10/20 | Tatum Rose Bronson<br>Fred Burgett<br>Grace Cook<br>Rick Hegenberger<br>Jeff Johnson<br>Jacob Kennedy | 10/25 | Gary DuBose<br>Hazel Pittendreigh       |
| 10/21 | Helen Efland<br>Clarice Gustafson<br>Kristen McCall<br>Whitney Money<br>Phil Ulrich                   | 10/26 | Evelyn Rabey<br>Tripp Ross              |
| 10/22 | Charlotte Phillips                                                                                    | 10/27 | Ginny Gamble<br>Russ Phillips           |
| 10/23 | Judy Bonham                                                                                           | 10/28 | Tina Mostertz                           |
| 10/24 | Don McKale                                                                                            | 10/29 | Elizabeth Bost                          |
|       |                                                                                                       | 10/30 | Bob Brown<br>Ed McLaurin<br>Chuck Moede |
|       |                                                                                                       | 10/31 | Gail Caley<br>Pickens McCall            |



- |       |                                          |       |                               |
|-------|------------------------------------------|-------|-------------------------------|
| 10/2  | Bill & Diane Carnes<br>Anne & Steve Cash | 10/21 | Avery & Emily<br>Green-Conrad |
| 10/3  | Patrick & Helen Adams                    | 10/22 | Ed & Nancy Hutson             |
| 10/6  | Kyle & Robin Weeks                       | 10/23 | Michael & Hilarie<br>Sehorn   |
| 10/7  | Ed & Jillian McLaurin                    | 10/24 | Tyler & Kristen McCall        |
| 10/8  | Chris & Maggie Bandy                     | 10/29 | Wade & Melanie Job            |
| 10/10 | Mike & Judy Blackwell                    | 10/30 | Marv & Joan Dixon             |
| 10/20 | Kevin & Bette Bronson                    |       |                               |



## Youth Ministry: Finding Shalom

Our Fort Hill Youth have been meeting for almost two months on Sunday evenings and have recently begun our new Faith Formation Class "Feasting on the Word." Throughout this time of meeting together, we have continued to explore what it means to experience shalom. Throughout the month of September we have explored mindfulness practices, played games, fellowshiped together, and grown closer to God. Please continue to pray for our Youth as they find shalom in new ways, and learn what it means to experience wholeness.

Remember to follow Fort Hill Youth Instagram: @forthill.youth.





# Clemson Presbyterian Student Association

Fall 2024



## *A Message from Reverend Colin Pettigrew*

Over the last couple of years at PSA we have been working to rebuild our program after experiencing some difficult times during the pandemic. During that time, God has been at work in and among young people seeking a place to belong who in turn invite others to do the same. We have focused on who we are and who God is calling us to be.

Now there is a new energy at PSA. Thanks to God's faithfulness and the faithful work of our students, we know who we are at PSA and we want to share who we are with others. While we continue to maintain the family feeling that has been cultivated over the last couple of years, there is a new excitement to bring others into our family at PSA and Fort Hill.

The best part of it all is seeing our students step into their identities as leaders at PSA and around the church. They love to share God's love and it is an absolute joy to watch them do it.

With the support of Fort Hill and the new energy from our students it is clear to me that God is doing something special at PSA and I am grateful just to be able to play my part in all of it. I will tell you that I am looking forward to the ways that God will move in the coming year, and I hope you are too.

Peace,  
Colin



The purpose of Clemson PSA is to provide a place for worship and discussion, as well as to encourage community, friendship, and service to the campus of Clemson University in affiliation with the Presbyterian Church USA.

### Ellen Ackerman

A junior nursing major from Central, Ellen has counted Fort Hill as home since the age of 5 or 6. Combining her nursing degree with a minor in psychology, Ellen hopes to become a geriatric nurse practitioner. One of her favorite things to do is to cuddle up in a hammock in the mountains and nap but she also gets energized by being around people. “I love to yap to anyone who will yap back.” She enjoys the Sunday night programs and goes to Bible Study and Lunch Bunch when her schedule allows. She’s also attended Montreat College Conferences, the Spring Break Mission Trip, and beach weeks. In fact, her favorite PSA memory is from her first PSA beach week when they stayed up entirely too late talking, playing games, and enjoying each other’s company. She was drawn to PSA by the sweet, supportive group that fosters and allows open conversation about God. She has also really enjoyed having Pastor Colin as a mentor for all of her “God questions.” She describes PSA as a place that simultaneously fosters the fun of friendship and the seriousness of faith. In recognition of the rare gift that the larger congregation’s support of PSA is, she offers a sincere thank-you for what it does to allow the community to thrive.



Ellen Ackerman



Brandon Glenn

### Brandon Glenn

A junior economics major with a geography minor, Brandon is from Aiken, South Carolina, and his home church is South Aiken Presbyterian Church. While Brandon joined PSA as a freshman, the College Conference in Montreat really motivated him to become a more active member. Since that trip, he has enjoyed going on the beach trip and a mission trip to Charleston in addition to repeat trips to Montreat. In fact, he has been on summer staff at Montreat the past two years. Brandon’s favorite PSA memory is the Charleston mission trip - from the packed car rides around the city to late nights filled with card games to picking strawberries in the sun, “we had a blast.” His advice to freshmen regarding PSA? “Go eat non-dining hall food! It can be tough to peel yourself away from your friends, homework, or bed on a Sunday evening, but why not go get some good, free food. Worst case scenario, everyone you meet is too friendly and not your style, but you got a free meal. Best case scenario you make amazing new friends.” He recognizes that post-COVID PSA has struggled but regardless of size, its mission is being carried out. And with the growth they have seen recently, they are becoming more and more active in the campus community.

For more information: Colin Pettigrew, Associate Pastor for University Ministry, [PSA.Pastor@FortHillChurch.org](mailto:PSA.Pastor@FortHillChurch.org) or 853-654-3705

### *Sundays*

Worship at Fort Hill  
10:45 AM

PSA Dinner,  
Devotion, and  
Discussion  
6-8 PM

### *Wednesdays*

Bible Study  
7 PM

### *Thursdays*

Lunch Bunch  
11:30 AM

### *Fall Retreat*

October 25<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup>

### *Friendsgiving*

November 17<sup>th</sup>

### *Communion at Old Stone Church*

December 8<sup>th</sup>

### *Exam Breakers*

December 9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>



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## Safe Harbor

We are blessed if we live in a loving family in which there is respect among and between spouses. Unfortunately, many spouses and children are not safe in their own home. They suffer physical abuse from the one who has promised to love and cherish them.

Our church has been a dedicated supporter of Safe Harbor's work for years. Abused spouses in Pickens County can rely on Safe Harbor to help them with a safe environment. When we give to Safe Harbor, 82 cents of every dollar goes directly to the intervention services and prevention initiatives to break the cycle of domestic abuse. It aims to raise awareness about domestic abuse and provide needed services to the community. Safe Harbor offers safe emergency shelter and advocacy services free of charge to victims of domestic abuse and their dependent children. It also offers free counseling to adults and children experiencing domestic abuse, as well as transitional housing.

As a member of Fort Hill Presbyterian Church, you, through your tithes and offerings, are providing financial support to Safe Harbor. If you would like to donate money directly, you can go online to [safeharborsc.org](http://safeharborsc.org) or mail your donation to P.O. Box 174, Greenville, SC 29602. Safe Harbor will schedule a pickup if you want to donate furniture for transition housing. Just call the donation pickup line at 864-385-7946. Call the resale shop at 864-242-1751 if you would like to drop off items.

You may never find yourself in an abusive situation, but those who do count on us to help them when they finally find the courage to break free from the cycle of abuse.

