

# SUMMERVILLE Presbyterian Church

Share Christ, Serve Others, Grow Together in Faith

# 3 RD CHRONICLES NEWSLETTER

February 2025 | Vol. XXIX | No. 2



# IN THIS ISSUE

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# UPCOMING EVENTS

- First Wednesday in the Word—February 5
- Wednesday Night Live—February 5, 12, 19 & 26
- PW Circle Meetings—February 12
- Wild Ginger Galentine's Day Celebration—February 13
- Salt Shakers Kick-Off Covered Dish Dinner—February 13
- Valentine's Day—February 14
- Charleston Atlantic Presbytery Meeting—February 15
- Chili Cook-Off and Talent Show—February 16
- Confirmation Sunday—February 23
- Sandlapper Singers Performance—February 23
- Doty Park Sack Lunch Distribution—February 23
- Ladies Luncheon—February 27

# FROM THE PASTOR



Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I am writing this near the end of January, already aware of the twists and turns that life can bring despite our best laid plans and resolutions. Some in the congregation have faced unexpected diagnoses,

unanticipated expenses and devasting losses. This brought to mind a devotion I read last fall written by Jennifer Watley Maxwell, published in the The Ministry Collaborative and entitled "The Paradox of Blessedness." Perhaps some of these excerpts, based on the Beatitudes, might be helpful to you.

"Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them. He said:

'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you." -- Matthew 5:1-12 NIV

Meditating on these words I think of both the seeming unfairness and supernatural favor of our faith. We are invited into a relationship with a God who, while all powerful, neither promises nor guarantees that our lives will progress without trauma, turmoil, or tragedy.

The fact that God neither extends cheap grace or easy answers to alleviate this tension for us says something powerful about our God. That God invites us into a real, authentic relationship with no shame, secrets, delusion, or favoritism. After all, God's sacrifice of God's own Son for us anchors us in the turbulent tensions of life with our God who understands and abides with us here.

Ultimately, what God does not spare us from, God strengthens us for and sustains us through. For those who live in despair or have depressive moments, God grants peace and reorders our emotions toward deep soul satisfaction.



For those who mourn and are experiencing unimaginable loss, God offers comfort through Scripture, community, and the abiding presence of the Holy Spirit. For the meek—the disinherited who always seem to find themselves on the bottom or the underside of power—God promises the moral turning of the arc of the universe toward justice, mercy, and inclusion.

For those yearning for righteousness and the things of God in a secular world that mocks us and our beliefs, God promises us the Divine desires of our hearts.

When we are merciful, pure hearted, persecuted for righteousness, or suffer for the sake of the cross, God's supreme blessing assures us that God's Divine power is operable and reorienting our lives in real time. That God really is working all things for our GOOD!

So whatever you're going through, you can rejoice in the Lord knowing that:

You are BLESSED!

Blessed when your body betrays you and you can't get around like you used to

Blessed when your heart is broken, and it doesn't seem like the tears will ever stop

Blessed when you're depressed and confused

Blessed when you've done your best and it doesn't seem good enough

Blessed when all hell breaks loose and there are no words of comfort

Blessed when unfairness and injustice refuse to take a break

Blessed by Jesus' stripes

Blessed by His blood

Blessed by His resurrection

Blessed by the promised Comforter, and

We will be blessed to see His coming again!

We are the ones for whom God's blessings apply right now in real time, and for this we are grateful!

In Christ's service,

Pastor Anita

# WORSHIP

# DETOURS in the story of Joseph

## **Sermon Series**

As we continue our look at Joseph's life in Genesis 37-50, we will encounter the theme of temptation in the story of Joseph and Potiphar's Wife (Genesis 39), consider how God can use us even in places where we aren't able to live out our dreams (Genesis 40), see how Joseph's abilities enable him to plan

wisely (Genesis 41), how we can learn from mistakes as we look at Joseph's ruse with his brothers (Genesis 42-44). To each of these Old Testament passages I will add an accompanying New Testament text. We'll reach the conclusion of the series on March 2.

Date	Focus/Title	Scripture(s)	
2/2/25	Facing Temptation	Genesis 39	
2/9/25	Making the Most of a Bad Situation	Genesis 40	
2/16/25	Plan Wisely	Genesis 41	
2/23/25	Learn from Your Mistakes	Genesis 42:6-17; 44:18-34	

# **Contemporary Music**

The Praise Team played for the annual Pig Pickin' last month where we got to see some members who usually attend the Traditional Service, and we enjoy being able to fellowship with people we don't often see. Our biggest goal is to create an uplifting atmosphere that enhances our service, and we cherish every moment we get to share music with you all.





Your input is invaluable to us. We would love to hear your song suggestions and are always looking for new music to incorporate into our worship. If you have a favorite hymn or contemporary song that you feel would resonate with our congregation, don't hesitate to share it with us at millerjulia2001@gmail.com

Come join us for the Contemporary Service at 10:00 in the gym and sing along. We look forward to seeing you!

**Julia Miller and Joe Swisher**Co-Directors of Contemporary Music



Here's what's happening in the world of music at SPC.

There is a lot going on in February as we once again highlight music from the African diaspora to commemorate

Black History Month. This will include familiar spirituals and gospels as well as hymns. Additionally, there's the Talent Show on the 16th, and we will welcome the Sandlapper Singers from Columbia, SC, for a concert of music on Sunday, February 23. I hope you will come out and enjoy all of these offerings in February!

Our Handbell Choir and Jewel Tones will provide music for worship on February 2. We are looking at the possibility of having standalone performances (concerts) for these ensembles this spring. We are excited to add Rebecca Mills and welcome back Marcia Todd to handbells and welcome Sheila Wilson to Jewel Tones. The Chancel Choir also is welcoming new members: David Cantrill, a familiar face from our cantata collaborations, John Wilson, and Angela Blanchard!

Looking ahead to Easter, we have ordered a new cantata for the Good Friday Lenten service, and we will soon begin securing instrumentalists for this and for Easter morning. We will be presenting "The Living Last Words of Christ" by Ruth Elaine Schram. In this dramatic and powerful work, the composer imagines the responses of other witnesses at Calvary, creating short dramatic monologues for each: the contemptuous soldier; the crucified thief's sympathetic sibling; the scornful priest; the anguished shepherd who remembers Jesus' miraculous birth; the grieving mother of Christ; and the heartbroken disciple, searching for answers. This will feature seven readers, full choir and instrumentalists.

We are excited about all of these upcoming worship opportunities. Please email me at summervillepres-

music@gmail.com if you are interested in getting involved in the music ministry at SPC.

William Bennett
Director of Music



# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



# **Mothers Morning Out Update**

What a wonderful month at MMO! In January our theme was "Winter." We wished for snow, and it came! We were so thankful for the chance to see snow close up and be able to experience real snow days as our program was cancelled for two days due to safety concerns.



We enjoyed a visit from the Dorchester County Library Bookmobile and took a walking field trip up to the Timrod Library for reading and craft time. We still have our Soccer Shots program on Thursdays, and many of our students are learning to play soccer! Our faith-based learning and chapel time focused on how God made us special and each of us unique. We are looking forward to all the activities that February holds.

We are thankful for all of you and your continued support and encouragement for the program. We have grown this year to serve 61 children, and we feel God's blessings. We are looking forward to registration for the next school year beginning this month.

All snack donations are welcome and so appreciated. With 61 students, we go through lots of snacks and supplies. Thanks to all of you who have so graciously given to our program.

If you have a question you would like for me to answer about our program in the newsletter, please email me at summervillepresmmo@gmail.com. Or stop by and see me anytime!

Blessings,

#### Rebecca Mills

Director of Children's Ministry and Mothers Morning Out



## JOY KIDS MOST SUNDAYS FROM 4:30 PM—5:45 PM

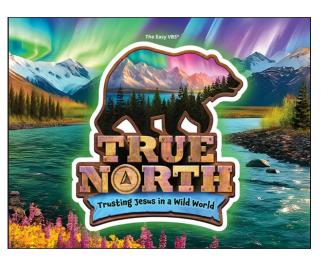












#### SAVE THE DATE!

We will be doing a 3 day VBS format this year, so plan to join us June 2-4, from 9-1pm. Lunch provided each day. Stay tuned for child and volunteer registration to go live!

# SPIRITUAL GROWTH & OUTREACH



# Jennifer Grainger

Director of Spiritual Growth & Outreach



# IT'S A SWEET TIME TO JOIN A SMALL GROUP!

Share+Word+Prayer Women's Small Group: Monday Nights at 5pm; Genesis classroom

Women of Worth Small Group: 3rd Thursday of Every Month at 6pm; location rotates

Knitting Small Group: meets the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month at the home of Pat Tolbert, 719 N. Hickory St 29483. No prior knitting experience necessary

Men's Small Group - Join Ralph for the Saturday morning Men's group 8:30 am each Saturday; Lanneau Hall



29486 Small Group: 2nd and 4th Thursday, 11 am; Cane Bay Library

Contemporary Worship Small Group: Sunday mornings, 11:10 am; Room

Special Topic Small Group: Details TBA; will be led by Suzie Ryan

Use the QR code to sign up, or reach out to Jennifer.

Don't see what you are looking for? Use the QR code and fill out the form. Jennifer will use this information to start new groups.







# Calling all Women 21

and older!

Join us for a Galentine's Day Celebration!

Thursday, February 13 5:30 pm at Wild Ginger

To RSVP, use your Connect Card or email Jennifer at jenniferg.spc@gmail.com



# NURTURE



On the day before Thanksgiving 2024 the Transportation Team provided a ride to a

doctor's appointment for one of our church members. That trip was in response to the 50th request for a ride since this service was first offered in June of 2022.

This ministry would not be possible without the following members of the Transportation Team who offer their time and their vehicles to aid fellow SPC members in a time of need: Bill Demerest, Perry Harris, Claude Burns, Sharon Klein, Elaine Segelken, Carol Ploth, Betty Cowen, Charlie Harris and Carol Wilkins.

If you need a ride, or if you would like to be added to this awesome team of drivers, please contact Charlie Harris at 571-492-2407.

THE NEXT GRIEFSHARE CYCLE MEETS THURSDAYS FEB 6—MAY 1 FROM 7-9 PM IN THE DORCHESTER ROOM



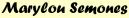
#### **BLANKET SUNDAY**

For more than 75 years Church World Service has been helping people of faith bring God's hope and comfort to people in the U.S. and

around the world. When natural disasters strike and other difficult times occur, a kind and loving response can make all the difference. That's why the CWS Blankets program was created—to provide a tangible response to people facing a difficult time, homelessness or disaster, reminding them that they are not alone. In addition to blankets, the organization also provides hygiene kits, school kits, emergency clean-up buckets and more.

Presbyterian Women is sponsoring the annual Blanket Sunday this year on February 23. This is a churchwide—not just a PW—event. We are looking for monetary donations that will go towards the purchase of blankets and the other items mentioned above. Look

for the giving envelope in your bulletin insert and please give generously. We appreciate your continued support.



**PW Moderator** 



Have you ever noticed the racks of pamphlets in the church office or those in the area outside the gym? Or maybe you've picked up a pamphlet or taken one home to read. These are called **Care Notes**, written by various religious leaders and medical per-

sonnel, that deal for the most part with medical and mental health issues. Titles include: Living with Cancer A Day at a Time; Discovering Simple Ways to Pray; and Finding Strength to Survive a Crisis or Tragedy. The pamphlets deal with feelings of anxiety, depression and loss—problems that most of us face at one time or another. The GriefShare group that meets at our church uses the **Care Notes** pertaining to grief and loss. The pamphlets are easy to read and understand, are thought-provoking and often humorous. Look through the racks next time you're in the church office or outside the gym to find a Care Note that touches your heart. As the first page of each says, "Take one-and take heart. Give one and give hope."



Dear SPC Family,

On behalf of the Hoybach Family, thank you for all the loving prayers and letters of encouragement for our daughter, Lisa Hoybach, and our entire family during the past six months, after her diagnosis, treatment and bone marrow transplant for AML, leukemia. After six months of chemotherapy and the transplant, we were so happy and grateful to get the news that the transplant was 100 % successful. Lisa is in 100 days of recovery with caregivers at her home in Jacksonville, Florida, where she goes to the Mayo Clinic twice a week. She still needs prayers as it is a long recovery with host graft disease in the wings. Again, thanks to my wonderful church family and prayer groups that have kept us strong with faith. Maggie and Pete Hoybach

Hello everyone! This note is to say thank you for the lovely flowers Elaine brought me while I was in rehab recently. They really brightened my days there. And thank you for the myriad prayers and best wishes sent to me through Lionel. I am home and slowly improving. **Sally Lawson** 

# CLARENCE'S CORNER & MILITARY PRAYERS

**Clarence's Corner** Happy Valentine's month to my lovely church family! During February we often think about love and those who are close to us. Read the following excerpts from *Good Housekeeping* to learn more about the origins of Valentine's Day and its traditions.

"Many people know that Valentine's Day is named after Saint Valentine. But did you know there are actually two Saint Valentines? Nobody knows for sure if the holiday originally celebrated Saint Valentine of Rome or Saint Valentine of Terni, both of whom were martyred. Legends say that Saint Valentine of Rome was a priest who defied the Roman Emperor Claudius II's ban on soldiers getting married and continued to marry couples in secret. Other stories say that he helped Christians escape Roman prisons and fell in love with the jailer's daughter, writing her a letter signed "From your Valentine."

The first Valentine was sent in the 15th century. According to the website History.com, the oldest Valentine we have record of is from the year 1415. Charles, Duke of Orleans, wrote it to his wife while he was a political prisoner in the Tower of London. One of the lines in the poem reads, "I am already sick of love, My very gentle Valentine." Swoon!

We take red roses for granted as a Valentine's Day staple, but roses actually don't grow in February weather in the U.S. because it's too cold. Instead, millions of flowers are grown around the world and shipped to the U.S. specifically for February 14th. Most of the roses we gift for Valentine's Day come from Ecuador, Kenya and Columbia.

The first heart-shaped box of chocolates was introduced in 1861. It was created by Richard Cadbury, son of Cadbury founder John Cadbury, who started packaging chocolates in fancy boxes to increase sales. He introduced the first heart-shaped box of chocolates for Valentine's Day in 1861, and today more than 36 million heart-shaped boxes of chocolates are sold each year. That's 58 million pounds of chocolate!

"XOXO" is a popular signature this time of year. But it didn't always mean hugs and kisses. The origins of the signature stem from the Middle Ages. The Washington Post reported that during those times the "X" symbolized the Christian cross, and letters ended with the sign of the cross and a kiss to symbolize an oath. As the gesture became popular in literature, letters and paperwork, it came to mean something had been "sealed with a kiss."

Have a happy heart day! I love you all. Remember, Saint Valentine wasn't just one person.

#### Clarence

Congregational Care Dog





# **Military Prayer List**

- Michael Arnold, Army, Hunter Air Field, Savannah, GA (Nancy Piscatella's grandson)
- Cade Carpenter, USAF, Honolulu, HI; Zoë Carpenter, USAF, Scotts AFB, San Antonio, TX (Kathy Whittle's nephew and niece)
- Derek Craver (son of Don and Patricia) Navy, Jacksonville, FL
- Quincy D'Antonio (Linda Wigfield's grandson) Health Clinic, Navy Base, BHC Diego Garcia, Indian Ocean
- Jack Graves (Sally and Lionel Lawson's grandson), Army, Fairbanks, AK
- Elijah Kellar (Robert and Sue Wearn's nephew), US Navy, Long Beach, MS
- Trent Kern (Bill and Gail Hausler's grandson-in-law), Air Force, Charleston AFB, North Charleston, SC
- Matt Kitchen (Merrilyn Long's nephew)
   Coast Guard, Schererville, IN
- Andre Maurice Moncrief (son of Sherry Roberts), Army Reserve, Modesto, CA
- Lt. Parker Northrop (son-in-law of Hunter and Perry Harris) Navy, Sicily
- Sebastian Silvers (son-in-law of Chris and Rebecca Mills) Army Flight Engineer, Ain Al-Asad, Iraq
- Andrew Tuttle (Patty Taylor's greatnephew) Army, Fort Wainwright, AK
- Capt. Charles Young, USNR, NAVWAR, CYBER EAST
- HM2 (FMF) Nathan Herrington, Surface Force Independent Duty Corpsman School

Please let the church office know when changes occur. Thank you.

# SERVICE & OUTREACH



We are so excited that **Hands of Christ** will start serving younger students in 2025! Beginning this August, we will be opening our distribution to preschool children and promoting it to our Mothers Morning Out community.

While adding supplies for these younger friends is exciting, we are starting from scratch! This month we will be joyfully collecting toddler clothing and smaller backpacks. Other than socks and underwear, items can be in good used condition. We are asking for new socks and underwear for boys and girls in size 2T-4T, new and used clothing for girls and boys in size 2T-4T (school appropriate shirts, pants, tops), and smaller backpacks that fit a toddler's back.

All donations can be brought to the office or the HOC room during the month of February. On March 16 we celebrate "Undie Sunday" and will have collection bins for all sizes of new underwear. April 27 will be "Sock Drop Sunday," and you can bring new socks to us on those days or anytime during the month.

We are so excited for the opportunity to expand our HOC offerings and are already praying for the new faces that we will see this summer. Thank you for your continued support and ongoing donations!



Food to nourish your body, Jesus to nourish your soul

SACK LUNCH DISTRIBUTION DAY IS FEBRUARY 23. CONTACT VICKY METHOT FOR MORE INFO.



"And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity."
Colossians 3:14

We hear a lot about Christian unity in sermons and readings and prayer services. And I like to think that our recent Hearts for Summerville Christmas party ties right into the theme of love and unity. On December 14 we had 251 children come to our campus for gifts, produce, cookies, cocoa and more. We had volunteers from four universities, eight churches, three high schools, two middle schools and three elementary schools. Our donors came from as far away as Cameroon but also included friends/family from Charlotte, Sumter, Mt. Pleasant, Columbia, Augusta, and even Texas. Volunteers/donors included teachers, attorneys, pastors, engineers, students, nurses, retirees, college professors, IT and HR professionals and others.

One of my favorite things about the event is that it was the second time we had hosted it. Forget the glitches because relationships are what this event is about. The family that ran straight to Liz because they remembered her from last year and played games, took selfies and shared all sorts of stories. The family that brought a pink bracelet to the gift giveaway because they learned that the volunteer who helped them last year had been undergoing treatment for breast cancer. The little one who cried because she was sick and wouldn't be able to attend and see her "best friend," and Sherry taking a drive to deliver gifts and play Frisbee for an evening to make this sweet child's Christmas. So many stories. So much joy. All rooted in love and the family that we have created between our church and our community. This is such a great start to celebrating unity.

This is what SPC and Hearts for Summerville are about: About love, about serving each other, about building relationships, about unity, about shining the light of Jesus into a world that needs some brightness.



A HUGE thanks for your prayers, your donations, your time, your patience, your ideas and your service. We are already looking forward to Christmas 2025!

**Heather Kemble**Hearts for Summerville

# **FELLOWSHIP**



January 29:
Pot Luck Dinner
Fellowship will provide the meat.

50's & 60's Music Bingo

February 5:
Baked Chicken Breat
Vegetable Medley
Rice Pilaf
House Salad
Bread
Caramel Cake
Game: Penny Game

February 12:
Pizza
(Cheese, Pepperoni & Supreme)
House Salad
Dessert
Icebreaker: Talking Points

February 19:
Pot Roast
Roasted Potatoes
Peas
House Salad
Bread
Strawberry Shortcake

Game: Shut the Box

February 26:
Pork Loin
Roasted Potatoes
Green Beans
House Salad
Roll
Hershey Pie
Icebreaker: M&M Game

DINNER STARTS 5:30 PM \$12/person \$30/family

GAME/ICEBREAKER 6:00 PM

**BIBLE STUDY 6:30 PM** 

The Parables of Luke
Pastor Ralph will be visiting a
different parable from the Book of
Luke each week. Facilitated by
Rev. Dr. Ralph Herbert
(Lanneau Hall).

Help Is Here (Max Lucado)
Facilitated by Jennifer Grainger
(Genesis classroom)
Books are \$10.00 or \$10.50 with credit
card. You may purchase in the church
office.

**Salt Shakers** will meet in Lanneau Hall February 13 to kick off the spring session. Come join us for fellowship and bring a dish to share. We will meet as a large group



at 6:00 pm. Then in March, April and May, smaller groups will meet in local restaurants for a meal. For new members or people who are thinking about joining our church, this is the perfect way to get to know some of our church family. We always have a good time and would love to have some new people as well as folks who participated in the past. Questions? Contact Merrilyn Long at 843-970-3264 or merrilynrlong@gmail.com.



HELP NEEDED

Don't forget to join us on Sundays for Coffee Fellowship in Lanneau Hall between the 8:45 and 10:00 am ser-

vices. It's a wonderful time to get to know your fellow church members and greet visitors. If you would like to volunteer, to make or bring cookies, please contact Zachary Storti or the church office.



Thursday, February 27 Logan's Roadhouse 211 Azalea Square Blvd. Summerville

Please contact Claudette Young by email at claudettemarieyoung@yahoo.com or phone at (843) 991-1057 to confirm your attendance.



CHARLESTON ATLANTIC PRESBYTERY
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)

SPC will host the Charleston Atlantic Presbytery meeting, worship service and a luncheon on Saturday, February 15. If you would like to help, please contact the church office or indicate on your Connection Card.



# FINANCE & MISC



The offerings along with monies received for the use of facilities and the total expenses for the one month of **December 2024** and year-to-date are as follows:

	Montnly	Year-to-Date
Receipts	\$ 85,468.00	\$842,852.00
Expenses	\$ 69,154.00	\$809,995.00
Excess (deficit)	\$ 16,314.00	\$ 32,857.00

Monthly Receipts and Expenses fluctuate, which has resulted in 2024 year-to-date excess revenues over expenses of \$32,857. January, February and March revenues reflect numerous IRA contributions which is consistent with the prior year; the result is a large excess which is be used throughout the year. The Finance Committee would like to thank everyone for financially supporting our church.



Dorothy	Douthit	1	Kristin	Kay	15
Terrence	Hutnik	1	Tanja	Rogers	15
Jocelyn	Barkley	3	Daniel	Wilcox	15
Meredith	Harley	3	Carol	Hetu	17
Sandy	Lindsay	4	Lauchlin	Blue	18
Angela	Moore	5	Thomas	Terranova	19
Vera	Devito	6	Catherine	Kay	20
Joe	Macomber	8	Matthew	Keller	20
Philip	Muller	8	Amanda	Brobst	21
Cole	Stephens	8	Andrea	Keller	21
David	Rademaker	9	Louis	Castagnaro	22
Sandy	Rademaker	9	Jackie	Brinson	25
Carla	Higgins	10	Sally	Lawson	25
Bryan	Selander	10	Charlana	Douthit-	
Cynthia	Wilson	10	Sharlene	Schneidmuller	26
Gary	Brewer	11	Ken	Fulghum	26
Anna	Winstead	11	Margaret	Tupper	26
Blair	Bailey	12	Elliot	Harley	27
Elaine	Robbins	12	Judith	Herrmann	27
Marian	Branstetter	15	Jacob	Page	29

## **New Office Hours for SPC Finance Manager**

Cecelia Bond, SPC's Finance Manager, will be moving to an hourly position in 2025. She will consistently be in the office Mondays and Tuesdays from 8:30-5:00 pm, and some Thursdays from 8:30-noon. To make an appointment, please contact Cecilia at 843-871-0280 or email her at cbondspcfinance@gmail.com.

# **GUESS WHO?**



Her parents are the Grits King and Queen. Who is she?

Submit guesses to summervillepres@gmail.com.

First correct answer receives a gift card prize!



Answer from January's Guess Who?
Sarah McCallum.

We had no correct guesses, so no winner in January.



# CREATE YOUR LEGACY

"You Are Blessed to Be a Blessing"

Genesis 12:1-3

To explore the options and benefits offered through Legacy Giving, and to send a message of love and hope to future generations, pick up a "Legacy" flyer in the church office and schedule a conversation with Cecilia Bond, Finance Manager. All discussions are confidential and without obligation.

# SESSION UPDATE & THE CHURCH MOUSE



#### Greetings!

These are some items of interest from recent Session activity:

- In preparation for the Annual Congregation Corporation Meeting, ministry teams prepared the Annual Report. In addition, Session approved recommendations for the 2025 Corporation Officers and Nominating Committee to be presented for approval at the Annual Meeting.
- Session approved updates to the SPC Manual of Operations. Among many other changes, we included the recently developed 5 Core Values (described by Anita in the January edition of 3rd Chronicles and included in the 2024 Annual Report)..
- After the new Elders and Deacons completed their training, they were examined and approved by Session.
- Session approved one baptism (taking place in March) and the purchase of a second columbarium, with placement to be determined and approved at a later date.
- Anita and Session recognized the many significant contributions of the Class of 2024 Elders whose terms are ending.

If you have any questions, please feel free to see me or email me at summervillepresclerk@gmail.com.

Blessings,

#### Oden Semones

Clerk of Session



By
Ezekiel W. Mouse, Esq.
Special to
3rd Chronicles

"Do you love me, Ezekiel?"

"Sure, Mary. Why do you ask?"

"Why do you love me?"



"Because you are kind, generous, forgiving of my faults, and mostly, you love me in return."

"How does what you say differ from why you love God?"

"Well, you are right. I love God for the same reasons. Especially because He loved me first. It is hard not to love a god who loves you so completely."

"That is also the message of the Gospels: how much we are loved by God, and how we are to show that love to each other."

"This may not be how most people view the month of February, especially February 14th, but it is a greater love than is usually celebrated on that day."

"It also is a love to express every month of the year!"



#### **Directory Updates Needed**

Please stop by the church office or visit either welcome center to update your information for the 2025 directory. You may also update your listing online in Realm.

If you would like a different photo, you may come to the church office to have a new photo taken or submit one of your own.

The 2025 directories will be distributed this month.

Please contact Julie McCormick for questions or to schedule a new photo.

## STAFF

Rev. Dr. Anita Herbert—Senior Pastor
Rev. Dr. Ralph Herbert—Discipleship Pastor
Jennifer Grainger—Director of Spiritual Growth &
Outreach
Rebecca Mills—Director of Children's Ministry/
Director of Mother's Morning Out
William Bennett—Director of Music
Jim Moore—Organist
Joe Swisher and Julia Miller—Co-Directors of
Contemporary Worship
Cecelia Bond—Finance Manager

SESSION

Fellowship—Sheri Page (Chair), Zachary Storti
Nurture—Charlie Harris (Chair), Sharlene DouthitSchneidmuller
Service— Kristi Selander (Chair), Kelli Kemmerer
Spiritual Growth—Alicia Macomber (Chair), Hunter Harris
Property—Lauch Blue (Chair), Jade Hill
Finance—Jeff Bowers (Chair), Robert Pratt
Personnel—Jeff Bowers (Chair)
Worship— Walt Morgan (Chair), Mike Homola
Clerk of Session— Oden Semones

# 3RD CHRONICLES

Julie McCormick—Administrative Office &

**Communications Coordinator** 

Shirley Gay—Sexton Bob Hirsch—Sexton

Proofreaders: Frieda Hughey, Merrilyn Long, Carol Austin, Janice Sharp, Elaine Segelken, Diane Burden Assemblers: Cecelia Bond, Barbara Grube, Gail Hyatt, Patsy Rose, Rose Warrell, Lynn Hawks Send questions, comments and news to summervillepres@gmail.org

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Chronicles deadline is normally the second Friday of each month.



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