



NEWSLETTER

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHARLESTON



SPRING IN THE PARK / EASTER SUNDAY TIME FOR CHILDREN

DEAR FRIENDS IN CHRIST,

Happy Summer– almost. I know it's just the beginning of May, but blink and you'll find yourself here doing prep for the Tea Room, children will be cleaning out their lockers, and we'll be worshipping together at 10:00am in the Sanctuary (starts on Memorial Day Weekend).

I reviewed a post-Christmas re-cap from a couple of years ago. Check this out: "*SEWE, Oyster Roasts, Lent, Easter, SPK Graduation, Tea Room, Craft's Fair, Spoleto, Memorial Day, Summer Camps, 4th of July, a few days at the beach, Hands of Christ, Second Church Homecoming August 28th!*" Change the date to August 26th and you'll have the date for Homecoming 2018! I wrote, "*Catch your breath – these are just the high points! Don't get me wrong, this list is neither complete nor a complaint, but it is compelling and at times it can be exhausting.*"

Well this year's big add-on is Vacation Bible School in collaboration with Redeemer Presbyterian. We're inviting our neighbors on the Eastside to share supper and discipleship the week of June 24th. We'll meet in the evening when families can come together. We're able to do this by building on years of relationship with the Shaw Center, the Eastside Community Development Corporation, Laundry Matters, and R3– an organization formed to enrich the lives of youth on the Eastside and beyond. We're also sponsoring a team for the Philip Simmons Summer Basketball League! This is possible because of Second Presbyterian's commitment to Christ's purpose around the world, but also around the corner.

The challenges we face, we will face together and if we are faithful and bold in our witness to Jesus, our flourishing is assured. But we must be generous as a body, more generous with our gifts of our time, our talents, and our money. Our campus and our location is a blessing, but the structures must be maintained and our mission constant. So our stewardship must be consistent throughout the year and the summer especially. As you travel or you chill (and I hope you get to do both) remember the compelling narrative that God has placed on the Second Presbyterian Church. Meet people where they are and, yes, invite them to join us in life that is dynamic and joyful in service to the Christ.

Take time to daydream. Safely sun. Know that you are loved –





EASTER EGG HUNT / FLOWERING OF THE CROSS
EASTER COMMUNION / DAWN MEARS & FRIEND WITH PAT MELLENN



SO FAR IN 2018...



We had a great time celebrating the many talents of our church at our **SECOND ANNUAL TALENT SHOW** last month. It was a wonderful way to end our Wednesday night programming and we are so thankful for each of you who have made this midweek fellowship possible throughout the year, as each church group has rotated to provide the weekly meal. **SUPPER AT SECOND** will return next school year.



We hosted special events and services this **LENTEN SEASON**. Between our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper and Holy Week Liv helped put together a weekly Lenten devotional. **HOLY WEEK** hosted a Palm Sunday processional, Maundy Thursday Community Communion and Good Friday Tenebrae Services all culminating in a Joint Festival Service on **EASTER SUNDAY** accompanied by a trumpeter and a rousing crowd for Handel's Hallelujah Chorus, not soon to be forgotten.



This year has brought a mix of great joy and tempered melancholy as we have gotten to **HONOR & COMMISSION** both Melvin Kizer and Mary Brown upon their retirements. Uncle Melvin and Miss Mary deepened our joy and lightened our sorrows for many years. May both of them be led to new labors and to joyful times secure in the faith that binds us forever in the body of Christ.

We made it through the snow(!) and marked the beginning of spring with both the Men's Society Oyster Roast and the Annual Church **OYSTER ROAST** in the park.

We enjoyed a special service as the **FIRST(SCOTS) CHOIR** joined our choir in February and look forward to more worship services with the **CHARLESTON GOSPEL CHOIR** throughout the year. They provided the music during Mary's commissioning Sunday, April 29th.

TALENT SHOW (THANKS TO LIV, CAPPELMANN, ERIN KERR & DOMONIQUE BROWN) WITH TRIPP CARRINGTON AS EMCEE / SAM KERR SHOWING OFF HIS BASKETBALL SKILLS

MAUNDY THURSDAY COMMUNITY COMMUNION SERVICE / SUE, LIV & SUZANN ENJOYING SPRING IN THE PARK / OYSTER ROAST

MISS MARY WITH ERIN, SUE, AND MRS. SUE / MELVIN KIZER'S COMMISSIONING

FUN STUFF COMING UP...

Join your Second Family for a **"BEAUTIFY THE YARD" DAY** on Saturday, May 19th, from 10am-noon. Bring your family, cleaning tools, and enjoy the sun as we beautify the church's yard!

BRING IN YOUR EXTRA QUARTERS. On Tuesday, May 29th the West Ashley Young Adult Small Group is hosting a **FREE LAUNDRY NIGHT** at Laundry Matters to serve our neighbors on the eastside. There will be buckets located around the church campus. Please consider dropping in a few extra quarters if you are able.

Join us for **TEA ROOM** May 25th, 26th & 27th, for lunch, cake & tea to benefit our missions program. We'll be serving from 11-2pm on Friday & Saturday and 11:45-3pm on Sunday, though members are invited to join us after worship. Staff volunteers are needed Friday & Saturday from 10-2:30, Sunday from 10-3:30 and for a Prep Day May 24th from 10-3pm. **WE NEED YOU to make it a success**, as you have since 2006! It takes 25-30 people per day to staff Tea Room. On Prep Day 12-14 people are working to get things ready. We need volunteers for staff, prep and to prepare our homemade desserts. Please consider your contribution to our Tea Room by volunteering your time in some way. We would love to see you there enjoying our delicious fare- and spread the word to family & friends to come join us for FUN, FOOD & FELLOWSHIP! If you signed up for the second weekend, or have not yet volunteered, and can volunteer for the 3-day weekend, May 25, 26, 27th, *especially on Sunday*, find the **SIGN UP** on Facebook @SecondPresCharleston, in the weekly "Sunday at Second" email, at www.2ndpc.org/events or send Cathy an e-mail at bluesdog2@att.net.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL will be June 24th-28th from 5:30-8:00pm. Volunteers and participants can sign up now. There are many ways to serve: you can volunteer to teach, lead, provide supplies from our Amazon Wish List, or help with the meals. Find registration forms, a link to the Wish List, and more information at www.2ndpc.org/blog/vbs.

SECOND FAMILY BEAUTIFY THE YARD DAY

SATURDAY, MAY 19TH
10AM - NOON

QUARTERS for free laundry night

On Tuesday, May 29th the West Ashley Young Adult Small Group is hosting a free laundry night at Laundry Matters.

Loving America Street



SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
presents

Seconds Please TEA ROOM

FELLOWSHIP HALL • MAY 25, 26, 27

FRIDAY & SATURDAY 11AM-2PM, SUNDAY 11:45-3PM
SERVING MEMBERS ON SUNDAY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER WORSHIP.
JOIN US FOR LUNCH, CAKE, & TEA
TO BENEFIT OUR MISSIONS PROGRAM

WWW.2NDPC.ORG

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

June 24-28th
5:30-8:00pm

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Our congregation does the work of the living God in a myriad of ways each and everyday. Enjoy a glimpse into a few of the ways Second Presbyterian has been at work in service to the community outside the church walls. You can find a full list of church activities and partnerships- from "Loving America Street" to "Water Mission International"- at the front of the Sanctuary or the Education Building. *The work we get to do!*



SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Special Olympics is a year-round, non-profit organization that brings sports training opportunities to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. I have the joy of being the Director of Charleston, Dorchester, and Berkeley counties - "Area 6" of Special Olympics South Carolina. As the youngest Director in the state, my role has its challenges, but I wouldn't spend my life doing anything else. I got involved with the Special Olympics, and was inspired by the outlook that the athletes have - not only on sports competition, but on life. It's not uncommon for a race to cease because one of the athletes fell down on the track, and their competitors rushed to help them up. The oath of the Special Olympics athlete is "Let me win, but if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt", and they positively live it, and cause it to shine from others around them.



Area 6 Special Olympics has eleven sports programs that meet most all months of the year, and include anything from bowling and basketball, to sailing, and golf. Competitions are held locally, at the state level, and occasionally across the country, or the world. 2018 is the 50th anniversary of the founding of Special Olympics, and several of our Area 6 athletes will be travelling to Seattle this July for the anniversary celebration, and to compete against peers across the United States.

I have heard God's words, and he calls His work through me "radiant" and "a blessing", and I'm learning to be confident in that role. They say that you've found your calling when you picture Heaven, and it's there. Heaven is a Special Olympics competition, with all of the community, and the friendship, and the dancing that I get to surround myself with in this life.

- Megan Reynolds

DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL OLYMPICS SC "AREA 6"



SEA ISLAND HUNGER AWARENESS FOUNDATION

Sea Islands Hunger Awareness Foundation is presenting its Fourth Annual Gullah Celebration at Fresh Fields Village on May 19th.

The monies raised each year helps fund the Sea Islands Blessing Basket, the Water Wellness Mission program and seven partners that help feed the hungry on the islands.

The Blessing Basket program serves 240 low-income families each month providing about a week's worth of food to help supplement their diet. It costs between \$250 and \$300 a year to support each family in this way. This program has added about 45 new clients in the past two months and expect more to be added each month.

The Water Wellness Mission provided new wells and filtration systems to families that have been living without clean running water to their homes.



**MEGAN REYNOLDS WITH AN ATHLETE
THE OATH OF THE SPECIAL OLYMPIAN**

**HUNGER AWARENESS GULLAH
CELEBRATION**

**ONE OF THE INTERPRETIVE STRUCTURES
DESIGNED TO STEAL THE FOCUS FROM
THE TOWERING CALHOUN MONUMENT**

Since the program started in the Spring of 2016, 15 wells have been installed at no cost to the families. The average total cost for a new well and filtration system is \$5,000. There are 26 additional families on the waiting list.

In addition to these programs, the Sea Islands Hunger Awareness Foundation helps to financially support Backpack Buddies of Seabrook, Fields to Families, Hebron Zion Presbyterian Emergency Food Bank, Meals on Wheels of Charleston (meals to Wadmalaw and Johns Islands), Rockville Presbyterian Meals on Monday, Sweetgrass Garden and Wesley United Methodist Temple Take Out Ministry.

The entertainment at the Gullah Celebration is the Deninufay African Dance and Drum Production at 3:30pm and the Low Country Voices at 4:30pm. There will be a large silent auction, craft vendors, Gullah Food, wine and beer and a children's art show.

The SIHAF thanks everyone who supports its missions. For additional information go the SIHAF website at fightislandhunger.org.

- Peter Rupert

BOARD MEMBERS AND TREASURER OF SIHAF

ENVISIONING WAYS TO 'OUTSHINE' JOHN C. CALHOUN MONUMENT

Nathaniel Walker is an Architectural History Professor at College of Charleston and he tasked his Architecture of Memory class to design a new monument or an addition to the Calhoun statue that would reframe his prominence in Marion Square, where his sculpture looms over the heart of downtown from a pedestal. "The only rule was, you weren't allowed to destroy him," Walker said, "Just putting a plaque on the monument and explaining that Calhoun was a bad man is not enough." They came up with nine different interpretive structures that all aim to steal the focus from the towering Calhoun monument. Walker said what began as a classroom exercise might be a call to action for city leaders. "I want this to be part of the conversation that ends with a beautiful monument that literally outshines Calhoun." The student exhibit, "Outshining the Shadows," will be on display throughout the summer on the second floor of Addlestone Library at the corner of St. Philip and Calhoun streets.

You can find the article about Nathaniel's class, "College of Charleston students envision ways to 'outshine' John C. Calhoun monument," in full in the Post & Courier.

- Nathaniel Walker

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY PROFESSOR, COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON

ENGAGING OUR COMMUNITY

WHAT WE BELIEVE

ROOTS, REDEMPTION, CALLING...

COMMUNITY

We value the image of God in all people, everywhere. We believe that we were created to live deeply with one another; carrying each other's burdens, sharing our resources, praying for and confessing our sins to each other, suffering and celebrating together. It is in these honest, loving relationships that God transforms us, and truth of Christ's promises becomes a reality. The way of Jesus cannot be lived alone.

SERVING

We believe that Jesus is God in human form, and that the church is God's ongoing presence in the world. Led by the Spirit of God, we are passionate about relieving suffering and fighting injustice by joining the God of the oppressed in living out the transforming message of the resurrected Jesus. Jesus calls his church to be a compelling force for good in the world, and we believe that the church is at its best when it serves, sacrifices and loves, caring about the things God cares about. We were created to live for something larger than ourselves.

CELEBRATING

We take great joy in partnering with God to change the world, embracing the truth that all of life is sacred, hope is real and that tomorrow can be better than today. We celebrate the divine in the daily, pursue lives of hope, reflect gratitude, and renew ourselves in worship. God invites everyone everywhere into this way of life, and we believe it is the best possible way to live.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Spring and summer are busy times of the year! Spring brings a lot of time spent outside with family and friends and a whole new schedule of sports. Families begin to wrap up the school year with final projects, testing and a whole long to-do list full of things. There's spring break trips and plans, Easter egg hunts, end of the year cookouts and the travels begin. As your family begins to make travel plans this spring and summer, would you consider taking a special guest with you on your adventures? Whether they are local, near or far, consider taking this someone special with you. Let "Flat Jesus" be a part of all your fun!



What is "Flat Jesus?"

FLAT JESUS was created as a way to keep our church connected as we approach the travel seasons of spring and summer.

Here's how "Flat Jesus" works:

Print out Flat Jesus, color him in, and take of picture of him wherever you go. You'll love taking FLAT JESUS out to dinner with you, on Spring Break, to the beach, to hang with your grandchildren, and when you meet new friends all over town! It's an amazing adventure. Take FLAT JESUS with you and see what happens.

How to create your very own Flat Jesus:

1. Print out the template at www.2ndpc.org/blog/flatjesus (on heavy cardstock paper if possible).
2. Be creative! Decorate Flat Jesus. Think about what, if anything, his robe should say. What color and type of hair does your Flat Jesus have? Any accessories?
3. Make one for yourself and one for a friend!

4. Place a reminder on the back of your Flat Jesus on how and where to send pictures of your Flat Jesus' adventures. Send pictures to Miss Liv (olivia.cappelmann@2ndpc.org)

5. If you have access to a laminating machine, laminate your Flat Jesus. This way if he attempts to walk on water he'll be protected!

6. Take your Flat Jesus everywhere with you and take lots of pictures and then share them with us.

7. Talk with family and friends about what you and Flat Jesus experienced.

There are lots of things happening here at Second that Flat Jesus would love to be a part of, too. Three of our high school youth will be traveling to Montreat Youth Conference the week of June 10th-16th. We will also take a group of middle school youth to the Montreat Middle School Conference at Maryville College July 18th-22nd. Have you marked your calendars for Vacation Bible School yet? It is June 24th-28th from 5:30-8:00 every night and we need you! There are lots of ways to be involved in VBS and we cannot do it without you. If you have any questions about how to get involved or register your child for VBS please give Liv a call or send her an email.

- Liv Cappelmann





VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL JUNE 24-28

Can you believe it is already May? I am having a hard time wrapping my head around the fact that we are quickly approaching the halfway mark of 2018. Vacation Bible School is right around the corner and will be here before we know it. VBS is June 24-28th every evening from 5:30-8:00, starting with dinner, and we need your help to make it a success! We are in need of lots of volunteers throughout the week. We are also in need of children 3 years old through completed 5th grades to register. Neighbors, family, friends are all welcome—the more the merrier! We have also created an Amazon “wish list” to help cut down on costs. We would encourage you to take a peek at that list and consider donating towards this exciting ministry. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

VBS is a ministry of the whole church and it will take many hands to help ensure that it is successful. If you have any questions about volunteering or about registering a child to take part in VBS please do not hesitate to reach out. There are so many ways to be involved, some more hands on than others, and we need all the hands. These are exciting times for Second and we hope that you will consider joining us for VBS this summer.

- Liv Cappelmann



**MUSC CAMP COMMUNICATION
TAYSHAWN BROWN AT THE TALENT SHOW
HOMECOMING SUNDAY
PREVIOUS VBS**

**OPPOSITE
EASTER EGG HUNT
GRACE KERR DANCING AT THE TALENT SHOW
YOUNG ADULT RETREAT TO MONTREAT
PARENTS' NIGHT OUT**

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN KINDERGARTEN

“For behold, the winter is past;
the rain is over and gone.
The flowers appear on the earth,
the time of singing has come”

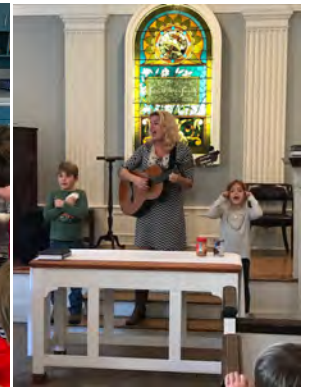
Song of Solomon 2:11-12

In the Kindergarten world, just as caterpillars transform into butterflies, our children become ready for their next stage of school. Spring at SPK has been full of singing, dancing, playing, and learning. Yet in what feels like only a moment, another year has passed. We are in the final few days of the school year where we grow emotional over the “lasts”: a last field trip, our last chapel with Ms. Liv and Pastor Cress, the last classroom party, or even the last day of Kindergarten for our graduates.

We added an 18-month-old class on Tuesdays and Thursdays this semester and they were a delightful addition to our school family. Our Two's class explored zoo animals, learned about life on a farm, made sea creatures, and even perfected their shapes and colors. The Three's class wrapped their year-long journey through the ABC's, built community through their kindness tree, and learned what it really means to be a Classroom Helper. The Four's class stretched their number sense with a 100th day of school celebration, finished their cumulative A to Z book, and strengthened their handwriting. Our BIG Kindergarteners learned to read, write in full sentences, present book reports, and met all of their math, science, and social studies goals. School wide spring fun included Kindergarten Sunday, Dad's Day, a Canned Food Drive for Sea Island Hunger Relief, Easter Egg Hunts, our annual Mother's Day Brunch, and even a retirement celebration for Ms. Mary.

Our children have developed in all areas of growth and we now prepare ourselves for the next season in their lives. Yet through this change, we reflect on all of the beautiful things we have received this year. We are thankful for another year with healthy children, a safe and creative learning environment, supportive parents, and our Church family. We are grateful for teachers who continue to find new ways of making learning effective and fun and for the unwavering support from our Director, Ms. Sue. It has been another wonderful year at SPK and we look forward to continuing this tradition in the fall. What a special place!

- Erin Kerr



SCHOOL STAFF

SUE HENDERSON, DIRECTOR

ERIN KERR, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

IRENE ROSE SMITH, MUSIC AND SPANISH

SUSAN LAU, KINDERGARTEN VOLUNTEER

SARAH ELIZABETH CRAW, KINDERGARTEN TEACHER

ALLIE WILKINS & KATHERINE ALBRIGHT, PRE-K (4) TEACHERS

CHRIS BAILEY & AMY PRAUSE, PRESCHOOL (3) TEACHERS

SUE M^CMANUS, MARY BROWN & RACHEL HORNE, PRESCHOOL (2) TEACHERS

JOURNEY: A WORSHIPING COMMUNITY FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS



SPRING BREAK

Six Journey students successfully traveled to Cuba, building relationships with two Presbyterian churches -- one in the small fishing village of Caibarien and one in Havana. Among other supplies, the students raised money for two laptop computers for the church in Caibarien, whose previous computers were destroyed by Hurricane Irma.

LEADERSHIP DISCERNMENT

College of Charleston students and Citadel cadets have both held "Leadership Discernment Dinners" where freshmen & sophomores were invited to explore leadership in the campus ministry.

RECORD NUMBER OF GRADUATING SENIORS

This year, Journey will bid farewell to 12 seniors at the College of Charleston and 3 seniors at the Citadel. Of this group, 8 volunteered to deliver senior sermons to their peers. Also a new record!

SEMI-ANNUAL BEACH BAPTISMS

In cold April waters, two students publicly declared their faith for the first time and reaffirmed their baptisms while one cadet publicly declared his faith and was baptized with the help of Dr. Vance Polley of Sunrise Presbyterian Church.

- Colin Kerr



CHAPEL

The 9:30am Chapel Service maintains a small but stable attendance and an increasingly diversified gathering of worshipers. We welcomed Tim Thompson as our Director of Chapel Music. His talent and knowledge of different types of worship music has been a real blessing to the service. This year, we did not have guest musicians, and instead relied completely on Tim's musical leadership. The Chapel service continues to be an entry point for new members, as the service is a more casual, very welcoming service. This year we saw fewer college students and Journey members worshiping at Chapel. Instead, the service reflected the multi-generational look of the larger church.

- Laura Ott

**JOURNEY STUDENTS AT A BUILDING SITE
DURING CUBA MISSION TRIP**

**JOURNEY STUDENT BEACH BAPTISMS
COMMUNION IN CHAPEL**



Piccolo Spoleto



MUSIC

JOINED BY FIRST(SCOTS) / CHARLESTON GOSPEL CHOIR / MIKE PARTAIN ON TRUMPET EASTER SUNDAY

GOSPEL CHOIR - Members of Charleston Gospel Choir most recently provided music for the service on April 29th, as part of the service honoring Mary Brown that day. The CGC will sing during the Spoleto Festival as well. For more info visit www.colourofmusic.org. Lee Pringle, of the CGC, is founder and artistic director of the festival, and CGC rehearses in our building.

PICCOLO YOUTH MUSIC FESTIVAL will again be held at Second Presbyterian on Sunday afternoon, May 27th, Find more information at www.2ndpc.org/music. Please come to support these wonderful young musicians!

CHOIRS NEWS

ADULT CHOIR rehearses 6:30-8:00 pm Wednesdays in the Choir Room, upstairs in the sanctuary through mid-June, after which there will be a break until mid-August. We always appreciate new members. We sing in the service almost every Sunday; downstairs on the first Sunday of the month, when there is Communion, and also one other Sunday monthly; the other Sundays upstairs in the loft. We had a festive Easter service when 20+ people joined the choir in singing Handel's Hallelujah Chorus as the postlude.

HANDBELL CHOIR rehearses 5:00-6:00 pm Wednesdays upstairs in the sanctuary, and plays in the 11:15 service once or twice a month. Handbells, too, will go on summer break sometime after May, time TBA.

Junior Choir (middle-school age) rehearses from 10:30-10:45 am Sunday mornings, upstairs in the Choir Room. For more information about musical ensembles at Second, please contact Dr. Harlow.

PLAY AN INSTRUMENT? - instrumentalists are welcome in both services at Second. Please contact Dr. Harlow to play in the 11:15 service, or Tim Thompson for the Chapel.

WANT TO HELP our Music Program at Second? Here are also some ways to help us financially:

Sponsor a chair - Four years ago we purchased 15 chairs for the choir loft. All but 3 of these chairs have plaques commemorating their donation, in honor or memory of a specific individual, or given by a family. Please contact Dr. Harlow if you are interested in sponsoring a chair for the choir.

Wylly Fund - established initially by Kate Stanton, contributions to the Wylly fund provide honoraria for guest instrumentalists in the service. Please contact the church office for more information.

Sponsor a hymnal - our new hymnals, Glory to God, were purchased by the Session, but may also be given in honor or memory of a loved one, or by a family. A bookplate is placed on the inside cover of hymnals that are donated, indicating the honoree and donor. Please contact Suzann in the office for more information.

Sponsor an anthem - for \$50 it is possible to purchase the sheet music for an anthem (25 copies) for our choir. If you have a favorite scripture text or composer, or wish to honor or memorialize a loved one through music, this is a great way to do that. The dedication is printed in the bulletin when the anthem is sung.

Have another idea? Or for more information contact Dr. Julia Harlow, Director of Music, at jarlow@2ndpc.org; Tim Thompson, Director of Chapel Music, at timplypian@gmail.com; or Lee Lingle, Chancel Choir Director.

MISSION TEAM

The members of Second Presbyterian Church shared God's love with God's people this past Easter by giving generously to the One Great Hour of Sharing, \$1,634. The prophet Isaiah wrote, "You shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in"(58:12). His vision is being worked out in Puerto Rico and Houston and still in South Carolina through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. In Uganda, a widow farms to feed her three children and eight grandchildren, aided by the Presbyterian Hunger Program. In Ohio, the Front Porch Café community helps recovering addicts or individuals released from prison with guidance in employment opportunities, and to re-enter society as positively changed. A Self-Development of People grant allowed them to renovate their building for this current use. Other special offerings in the past few months helped Thornwell children and their families (Thanksgiving offering) and aided retired Presbyterian pastors with emergency needs (Christmas Joy offering). We will have several other opportunities later in the spring, the Mother's Day offering for SC Presbyterian Communities and the Pentecost offering, 40% of which will help with our own community-wide Vacation Bible School in June.

Giving to special offerings is one way of being a mission-oriented church, but personal involvement is important as well. The Seconds Please Tea Room is not only a fun way to get to know other church members; it is a critical fund-raiser for mission projects locally and globally and it's not too late to sign up if you are able to volunteer. The Vacation Bible School volunteer signup forms are available on the church website, as well as with Liv Cappelmann. On Tuesday, May 29th the West Ashley Young Adult Small Group is hosting a Free Laundry Night at Laundry Matters to serve our neighbors on the eastside. There will be buckets located around the church campus. Please consider dropping in a few extra quarters if you are able. Thank you for your generosity and support of this amazing ministry. The Hands of Christ school clothing and supplies event (August 13 & 14 at Second) needs our members to help, both at our church and at other sites. We will need folks to unload the truck Monday, set up the rooms, and be shopping helpers to go around with each child. Very importantly, Hands of Christ staff will be training some of our members to work with registering the families as they arrive. Please come join us in one or all these gifts of yourself in God's name.

- Sarah Mitchell



SPRING IN THE PARK / SPOLETO CRAFT FAIR IN THE PARK

TEA ROOM

Tea Room is just a few weeks away! If you have not yet heard, this year we will open our Tea Room for only one weekend, but as a 3-day weekend. The Piccolo Spoleto Crafts Fair, that has been the anchor of our customer base from the beginning, will only be staged for one weekend, the first weekend of the festival. This is the reason that our 3-day Tea Room will involve service on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, May 25, 26, 27. Hours of service on Friday & Saturday will be 11am – 2pm. Hours of service on Sunday will be, for the general public, 11:45am – 3pm. We will begin serving our members as soon as is possible after the morning worship.

We have always tried to be good stewards of our resources and we think this is the best way to avoid what could be a major loss on a second weekend without the Crafts Fair. Hopefully, the positive note is that we will do very well and everyone will enjoy a break from a repeat opening the next weekend.

On that note, we need volunteers for Sunday, as well as Friday, Saturday and Prep day on Thursday, May 24th. If you have not yet volunteered and are willing to, especially on Sunday, sign up online or email me, bluesdog2@att.net.

Staff for each day of Tea Room involves between 25-30 people, so we hope that you will consider, prayerfully, how you can help to make this 3-day weekend a huge success. We truly appreciate all the support for our Tea Room that you have given over the years and continue to give.

Blessings to All!
- Cathy Hinson



VOLUNTEERS AT 2017
TEA ROOM

REBECCA KETTERING,
ROB & DAWN
MCCREADY, AND LUCIE &
CHUCK MEDBERRY



IN APRIL WE SERVED
OVER 80 VISITORS
DURING THE SPIRITED
BRUNCH, AN EVENT
USED TO WELCOME THE
PUBLIC AND TO
PROMOTE OUR TEA
ROOM

DIACONATE REPORT

The Board of Deacons is a group of dedicated members of the church, working quietly behind the scenes to care for the needs of the congregation. We have been active keeping in touch with members of the church, making sure the physical and emotional needs are met, whether they need a home-cooked meal, a visit, a call just to say 'hello', a shoulder to cry on, a ride to a doctor's office or to church.

We are responsible for providing the meal for the Wednesday night fellowship on a rotating basis with other groups in the church. Talking about food, we are all active in the "Seconds Please Tea Room", planning, cooking, serving, preparing orders or doing whatever is needed to help. Cathy Hinson is a leader extraordinaire and we all work for the success of the tearoom.

If you need us we are here, just a phone call away, and ready to serve the needs of our congregation.

- Ruth Carr



SEERSUCKER SUIT & FANCY HAT SUNDAY 2017
PATTERSON SMITH WITH OTHER MEMBERS OF CHARLESTON FAITH COMMUNITY BEFORE THE ILLUMINATION PROJECT PRAYER GATHERING IN OUR SANCTUARY
ANNUAL CHURCH OYSTER ROAST



ROB & DAWN MCCREADY HAVE GENEROUSLY WORKED TO REILLUMINATE THE BELL TOWER AND STAINED GLASS IN THE SANCTUARY

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

The Property Committee has, like many of its peers, focuses on the health, safety and comfort of our congregation. Ongoing efforts to maintain the integrity of the main Church and the Education Building have consumed a majority of our budget. In this area we have repaired our main slate roof after interviewing and selecting a suitable slater. For long-term wear slate is the best choice for waterproofing but it is also labor and material intensive. By maintaining this roof we save the church untold amounts of money in future replacement costs. We have also carried out extensive studies of the fabrics that make up our buildings such as the stucco that covers both the Church and the Education Building. This is done to keep the committee informed of future repair possibilities as well as provide the Session with estimates of cost for a full future planned renovation.

On a lesser note, we have replaced some of the many HVAC units in the Education Building. This remains a major area of study for comfort and reduction of operating costs to this all-important structure for our congregation. In that line, we have also returned to new condition our aged icemaker in the kitchen. As the result of the efforts of the committee we were able to locate the complete internal assembly for the machine for a pittance of the replacement cost for such a unit. With the coming of Spoleto and the operation of our famous Tea Room, this was a most important undertaking. Stop by the kitchen and take a look at the new and improved ice cubes we are getting!

With the efforts of Brad Milner, Jerald Hucks, Patterson Smith, his son Russell, and the remainder of the committee, we can claim to be the largest 24/7 working committee at 342 Meeting Street! If you are looking for a home at our church and are not afraid of getting dirty once in a while we invite you to join us.

Everyone is welcome and invited to join us for the Second Family "BEAUTIFY THE YARD" Day on Saturday, May 19th, from 10am-noon. Bring your family, cleaning tools, and enjoy the sun as we beautify the church's yard!

- Pat Mellen

SECOND FAMILY BEAUTIFY THE YARD DAY



**SATURDAY, MAY 19TH
10AM – NOON**

**BRING YOUR FAMILY, CLEANING TOOLS, AND ENJOY
THE SUN AS WE BEAUTIFY THE CHURCH'S YARD!**

RSVP ON FACEBOOK @SECONDPRESCHARLESTON

**CONTACT DEBRA J. GAMMONS (864-386-0005)
WITH ANY QUESTIONS.**



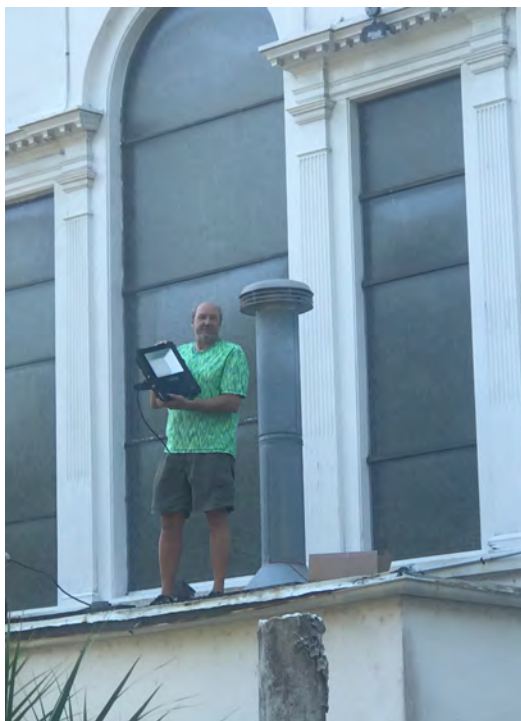


FINANCE COMMITTEE

Second Presbyterian faces challenges and opportunities. Expenses are greater than income. In seeking to cut expenses and increase offerings, the Finance Committee is working diligently. First, landscaping services have been suspended (current expense of \$9,060/year). Second, the accountant's time has been reduced (current expense of \$6,000/year). Third, the Committee is seeking grants for historic properties. Fourth, the Committee is working with the Property Committee to reduce costs. The first Second Family Beautify the Yard Day is set for May 19, 2018 for our church family to help take care of the yard. Help is needed from all.

SEVEN WAYS YOU CAN STRENGTHEN FELLOWSHIP, WORK IN FAITH, AND REDUCE COSTS

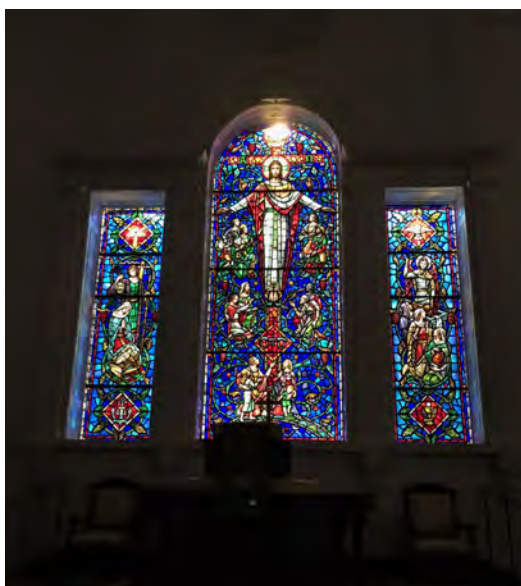
1. Give a bit more in your offering from what God has given you and remember Second Presbyterian in your Will
2. Work in the Tea Room
3. Take out the garbage and the recycling bins
4. Serve in the Nursery
5. Sponsor a lunch after church
6. Come out on May 19th to "Beautify the Yard"
7. Invite people to church and encourage them to join



Second Presbyterian is still maintaining funds given by generous members. Balances on March 31, 2018 for five funds currently being handled by Millennium Private Wealth are Roberson Fund: \$122,690.92; Thiele Fund: \$463,589.46; Allan Fund: \$20,692.15; Foundation Account: \$147,203.50; and Cemetery Fund: \$59,598.13. Withdrawals have been made from the Thiele Fund to keep the church's operating account from going into the negative; the amount withdrawn through April 11, 2018 has been \$82,400.00. These funds are crucial and need to be maintained. Total expenses for 2018 equal \$524,452.00. The Committee seeks to increase income and decrease spending.

The Finance Committee's focus is on the teachings of Jesus Christ and being responsible stewards of God's money and property. Members are welcome to join the Finance Committee. Including Second Presbyterian in your estate and planned giving will help sustain the church. Let your legacy be one of love and hope.

- Debra Gammons



Remember that you can **GIVE TITHE OR SPECIAL OFFERINGS ONLINE** or set up your bank account to automatically draft out your tithe so that it is easy to make sure you're keeping up with your pledge.

You can also **SUPPORT SECOND PRES WHEN YOU SHOP** on Amazon. Use the link: bit.ly/2ndpcsmile, or choose to support "Second Presbyterian Church" at smile.amazon.com and Amazon will automatically donate to Second Presbyterian with each purchase you make.

NARRATIVE BUDGET

WORSHIP The responsibility of the Music and Worship Committee is to work with the Pastor and Minister of Music to create an environment that is conducive to prayer and worship. The committee discusses and evaluates worship services and makes proposals to Session that pertain to worship needs. The spending priorities in the 2018 budget aim to facilitate all areas of worship: both chapel and 11:15 church services, music for both services (including chancel choir, bell choir, accompanists, special music and guest musicians), Holy Communion, Baptisms, special holiday services, as well as inviting guest ministers into our service on special occasions. **All spending decisions are made with the goal of creating opportunities to hear and share God's word and to glorify God.**

The decisions were made this year to continue the Chapel service, to hire a Chapel Music Director, to hire a chancel choir director and to continue to have choir section leaders. These decisions were made because **we believe music to be an integral part of our worship services.**

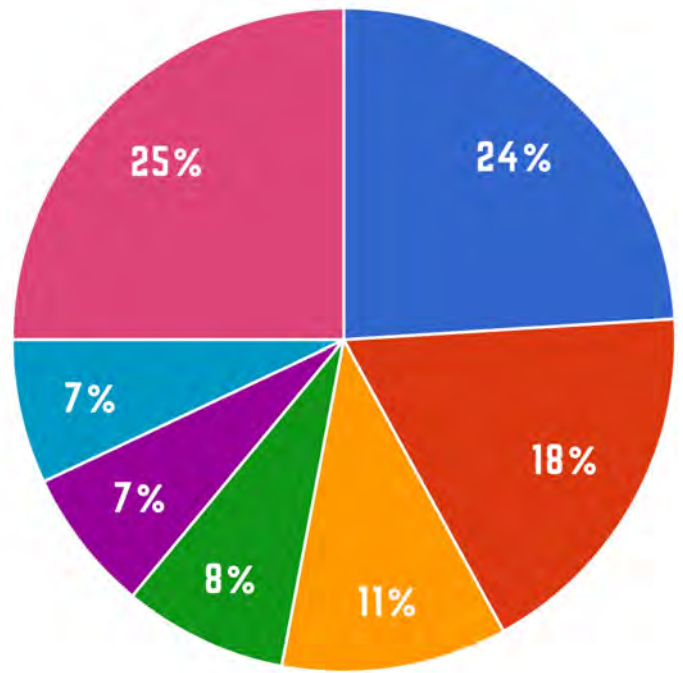
There were some reductions made in the Music and Worship budget such as for the children's choir director, as we hope to find a volunteer willing and able to take on that task. We also zeroed out the budget for guest musicians, as we are able to use other funds to facilitate this activity. The Session worked with the Minister of Music to make reductions in the budget that would not affect the worship experience.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION Christian Education is a vital part of the life of Second Presbyterian. CE encompasses a wide range of ages—from the youngest to the oldest member of Second. **The budget reflects the mission to equip disciples of all ages to encounter the risen Christ through fun, meaningful and transformative experiences.** This year, because of the generosity of the church we have been able to do new and exciting things within Christian Education. This summer we will be hosting our very own VBS. As we craft our Christian Education budget, we have made sure to prioritize not only providing our members with resources such as curriculum, but also **equipping disciples to move beyond the walls of the church.**

Our Wednesday Night Suppers and study continue to be an enriching ministry that consist of studies and programming for all ages. The West Ashley Tuesday small group took a fall retreat at Montreat in Sabbath, study, recreation and prayer. And this summer we are taking three high schoolers and three middle schoolers to Montreat Conferences. It is through the generosity of our Second family that these opportunities for outreach and Christian hospitality are made possible.

The Christian Education portion of the 2018 budget was increased by about \$3000 to pay for this year's Community Vacation Bible School. The Session believes this to be a important and exciting opportunity for our church to serve not only children from our own families but those in our surrounding community.

MISSIONS Missions continues to be one of the most active segments of our church community. **The outreach to God's community around the corner and around the world is a hallmark of our church family.** There are numerous missions for which we take up special offerings throughout the year and those are estimated in the budget based on the previous year's collections. However, there are two major changes in 2018: The Church's financial support to the Charleston Atlantic Presbytery was reduced by 50%, but Second Presbyterian is still giving more than is mandated by per capita contributions and continues to be active in Presbytery committees. And the Church's financial contribution to campus ministry, Journey, was reduced substantially. For the past few years Colin has served Second Presbyterian as Director of Young Adult Ministry in recognition of our role in establishing Campus Ministry at the request of the Presbytery and in exchange for



- **WORSHIP**
- **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**
- **MISSIONS**
- **HOSPITALITY**
- **FELLOWSHIP**
- **PASTORAL CARE**
- **PROPERTY**

office and support services. As Colin finishes seminary and considers next steps we are eager to continue a relationship with the important ministry to college students, offering them welcome, acceptance, and discipleship. Session will continue to work with the campus ministry and will evaluate the financial commitment moving forward.

HOSPITALITY The priority of the Hospitality portion of the budget to create special events and fellowship opportunities for the church community. The events include the Annual Oyster Roast, Tea Room, Seersucker Suit & Fancy Hat Sunday Lunch, and other special brunches and lunches on Sundays, as well as receptions and special meals for congregants. The events put on through hospitality resources offer **an opportunity to reach out to our community, to get to know one another as brothers and sisters in Christ, as well as to welcome**

new members into our church family. This part of the budget also goes to fund events to encourage fellowship between attendees of the two services. There was no substantial change to this portion of the 2018 budget.

FELLOWSHIP The Fellowship portion of our budget is directed at funding certain activities throughout the year that create opportunities for our members to join together in worship and celebration. We have been able to get creative with opportunities such as the Talent Show and Inter-generational Game Night in order **to provide robust programming and creative invitations for fellowship to the congregation and our community.** Our Wednesday Night Suppers continue to be a life-giving weekly ministry that consists of a family-style meal prepared each week by a different church group. We have watched our involvement on the east side continue to grow and flourish. We have seen this best in extending intentional invitations to our neighbors at The Shaw Center for things like Trunk-or-Treat and the Easter Egg Hunt. We have also increased involvement with the children and families through Loving America Street at Laundry Matters. These activities are coordinated and executed by our Director of Christian Education.

PASTORAL CARE Pastoral Care includes a wide range of responsibilities, carried out by the Pastor, Elders and Deacons. Most importantly it includes the basic care and nurturing for members as they go through difficult or even life-changing situations. It is important that **the church can reach out to support people in their pain and loss as well as their triumphs and joys.** The Pastor cares for our church family with shut-in visits, hospital visits and by reaching out to members during difficult or challenging times. In addition, Pastoral Care includes new member outreach and current member retention. This budget is wide-ranging and provides the opportunity for the church leaders to have an active relationship with the Church body and our neighbors. While this is a small portion of the overall 2018 budget, bringing in new members and serving those already part of our church family is one of the most important roles of Second Presbyterian. There were no substantive changes to this part of the budget.

PROPERTY The single largest part of the 2018 budget, by a slim margin, is Property (25%). The preservation and maintenance of our historic church home is expensive, but it is an important part of our stewardship responsibilities. The budget reflects the **commitment to ensure that the church, which was built in 1809, is here for future generations.** The largest part of the Property budget section is the line item for Property Insurance. The Session and staff have worked very hard in the last few months to negotiate new service contracts at lower costs to balance the budget. With the retirement of the church sexton this year, there has been an increase in incidental repair and maintenance costs. However, those are offset with the reduction in the salary section of the budget, as we have yet to hire a new sexton.

Property costs include landscaping and maintenance. While the budget shows a slight increase in this part of the budget, Session members have committed to taking on more of this responsibility and organizing "work days" to lower this cost. "Work days" also provide an opportunity for fellowship, so it's a win-win situation.

In addition, this year an assessment was made on the architectural stability of the church building itself, and it was deemed to be in excellent physical shape. The Session was relieved that the building was found to be architecturally sound and that no major repairs are anticipated for 2018.

STEWARDSHIP

The goal of the Stewardship Committee is to design and execute a successful stewardship campaign and to encourage and cultivate a culture of giving in the church family. The theme for this year's stewardship campaign was "LIGHT" and we challenged our Second Family to "Be a Light!" in our church and our community. Our guiding scripture for the campaign was Matthew 5:14&16: *"You are the light of the world...Let your light shine before others that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in Heaven!"* We began stewardship season with an October 8th "Kick-Off Sunday" and a letter to all members and regular attendees. The Committee set a goal of \$315,000 based on previous year's success. We believe the goal to be both ambitious and achievable. The letter asked all to give, and those who have given in the past to consider giving more. For the next 5 Sundays, various members shared messages at both the 9:30 and 11:15 services about why it is important to be a steward of Second Presbyterian Church. Our Fall newsletter included a stewardship message about the importance of participating in the mission of the church, and in Sunday school, the children discussed the importance of being stewards of God's church. We concluded the official campaign with Commitment Sunday on November 5th. The support for the stewardship campaign has positive, but the pledges to date have fallen far short of our goal. There is clearly still much work to be done to educate our members about the importance of financially supporting the work of the church and its mission to spread the word of God. The committee has been encouraged by the enthusiasm of the church family during stewardship season, and it is up to the challenge of continuing its work to increase participation in the church. We are not done yet and we continue to encourage members to contribute a pledge, to be a light in our church community and beyond!

- Laura Ott

"You are the light of the world... Let your light shine before others that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in Heaven!"

Matthew 5:14 & 16



FELICIA SANDERS SHARING ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF STEWARDSHIP

GET INVOLVED...

SIGN UP to help serve on Sunday mornings as a **GREETER, USHER OR LITURGIST**. No special experience necessary! For more information email Tina, skippytsmith@gmail.com. Sign up quickly and easily at www.2ndpc.org/signup.

Volunteer to help with **TEA ROOM** or come for lunch, cake & tea May 25th, 26th or 27th to benefit our missions program. We'll be serving from 11-2pm on Friday & Saturday and 11:45-3pm on Sunday, though members are invited to join us after worship. We need volunteers for staff, prep and to prepare our homemade desserts. Please consider your contribution to our Tea Room by volunteering your time in some way. We would love to see you there enjoying our delicious fare- and spread the word to family & friends to come join us for **FUN, FOOD & FELLOWSHIP!**



Register to volunteer at **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** and sign your children up too! VBS will be June 24th-28th from 5:30-8:00pm. Volunteers and participants can sign up now. Find registration forms, a link to the Wish List, and more information at www.2ndpc.org/blog/vbs.

The **HANDS OF CHRIST** school clothing and supplies event is August 13 & 14 here at Second Presbyterian. Last year we helped serve 371 children here at Second Presbyterian through Hands of Christ. Christ's helping hands, reaching out to support each other and the children of the Lowcountry at its finest! We will need folks to unload the truck Monday, set up the rooms, and be shopping helpers to go around with each child. Very importantly, Hands of Christ staff will be training some of our members to work with registering the families as they arrive. Look out for more info this summer.



You can find keep up with the goings-on at Second Presbyterian Church throughout the year at **WWW.2NDPC.ORG/EVENTS**



Second Presbyterian

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