



The Light



July 2020

LPC'S 2ND ANNUAL (1ST VIRTUAL) BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS SERVICE!

In this uncertain time of pandemic, we are reminded of the blessing of God's creation and the creatures that bring us comfort. This was an Outreach effort to uplift the community, bless the pets we love, and remember our call to care for all of God's creation.

We had 63 submissions by many community members, and several LPC members, and blessed 98 animals which included dogs, cats, bunnies, a hedgehog, and a horse! We also blessed three Bluffton PD K9 dogs and five dogs and cats available for adoption at Palmetto Animal League.

You can watch the short service of blessing on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/2V6SWoKFjDk>

Thank you to the Outreach Team for making this a success, Dale Nordby for being our guest musician, and all of you who uploaded photos of your pets and shared the message about this service!



Summer loved by the Paulicks



Tumeric is available for adoption at Palmetto Animal League.



Lickity



Kismet loved by Lori Higgins



K9 Teeko, a German Shepherd from the Czech Republic, enjoys working in the Bluffton Community finding and taking drugs off the street.



Shuri has been with PAL for over 2 years and she is eager for a real home. Her foster mom said she's the perfect house guest!



Annie



THE GREEN TEAM (AKA—THE CREATION CARE TEAM)

LPC recently received certification for the second year that our church meets the standards set by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) as a **Creation Care Congregation**. We scored a passing grade on a test that measures environmental activities in worship, education, property and community outreach.

But much more remains to be done, such as:

-  Participating in local cleanup days
-  Evaluating our energy usage In the LPC buildings
-  Helping the congregation learn about environmental risks to our planet
-  Encouraging recycling

The Green Team needs your help. While the virus complicates working together, we need to determine how best to continue to address environmental issues. This requires your participation in order to continue the momentum.

We invite everyone interested in environmental issues to a meeting on Saturday, July 11 at 10am. We will gather at the fountain area (weather permitting). Bring a chair and a strong voice (for social distancing). Please RSVP by email at gretchjon@yahoo.com. If you can't make the meeting but are interested in helping, send us an email.

Finance Ministry

In the June LPC Newsletter the Administration and Finance Mission Team reported the Lowcountry Presbyterian Church received a substantial gift in May from the estate of Alice Barnett who had been a member of the church for several years.



In response to the coronavirus, some members of the Church have updated or considered updating their estate plan and will. In your deliberations, please consider how Lowcountry Presbyterian Church has influenced your thoughts and prayers and provided comfort through this difficult time of the pandemic and social unrest. Estate gifts can be non-restricted or specific to an area of interest such as worship, music, technology, or the building fund. Your generosity can make a difference in the future of our Church. All gifts, regardless of the size, are welcome.

The Worship Ministry Team will be sending out a **Worship Attitude Survey** next week. It will be sent by separate e-blast. Please be looking for it and respond as soon as you can once you receive it. Thank You!

Congratulations, Lucy Herrin!



Lucy just graduated with the class of 2020 from May River High School. We want to thank her for her many years working in the church nursery, being a lively voice in our youth group, and overall for being a part of LPC since the Herrin family moved to Bluffton six years ago.

We hope to send her off in worship before she leaves for college in the Fall and look forward to seeing her occasionally when she is home to visit. Lucy has been accepted to Valdosta State University and plans to major in nursing. We hope you will join us in congratulating her, thanking her for her years of service, and praying for her as she starts this new journey!

SAVE the DATE

LPC Retreat to Montreat, NC

has been rescheduled from October 23rd -25th to May 14-16, 2021!

Enjoy a springtime weekend in the mountains, fellowship, faith enrichment and fun with your Church family. All our eating, sleeping and meeting will take place in the William Black Lodge.

The weekend will include:

- *Faith enrichment with teaching and discussions led by Dr. Brian Bibb, PhD, Professor of Old Testament at Furman University.
- *Free time for hiking, reading, rocking, shopping in Black Mountain or exploring in Asheville
- *Fun and Fellowship

Cost will be approximately \$230 each for two nights lodging and six meals, based on a 25 room double occupancy commitment. Those who wish to come the night before or stay after can arrange for additional lodging. Deposits of \$100 each will be due by February 7, 2021. Carpooling will be arranged. Look for more details in the coming months!

Planning team: Chris Herrin, Judy & Jerry Wells, Carolyn Welch, Jon and Gretchen Nickel



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTRY

Join us for this 4-week Book Study

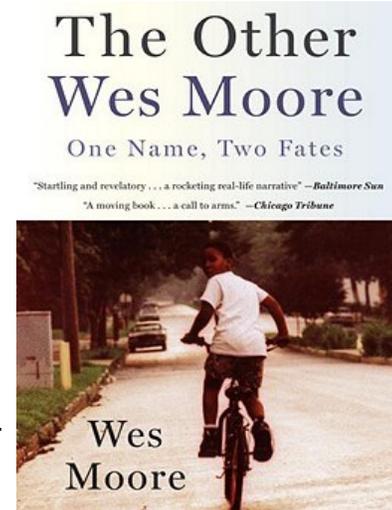
Join us as we read together and discuss the memoir,
"The Other Wes Moore: One Name, Two Fates" by Wes Moore

Here is a synopsis of the book:

The chilling truth is that his story could have been mine.

The tragedy is that my story could have been his.

Two kids named Wes Moore were born blocks apart within a year of each other. Both grew up fatherless in similar Baltimore neighborhoods and had difficult childhoods; both hung out on street corners with their crews; both ran into trouble with the police. How, then, did one grow up to be a Rhodes Scholar, decorated veteran, White House Fellow, and business leader, while the other ended up a convicted murderer serving a life sentence? Wes Moore, the author of this fascinating book, sets out to answer this profound question. In alternating narratives that take readers from heart-wrenching losses to moments of surprising redemption, *The Other Wes Moore* tells the story of a generation of boys trying to find their way in a hostile world.



Two groups will be offered with each meeting weekly for a month, starting July 16th

*One led by Rev. Dion and Jon Nickel using Zoom will be Thursdays from 5:30 pm to 6:45pm

*The second led by Rev. Herrin and Josh Fox will be offered at the same time, in person in our Fellowship Hall, at tables with chairs socially distanced, (except for couples 😊), wearing masks and sanitizing before and after the meeting. This group is limited to 10 people. If we get more than that, Chris and Josh will lead another group at another day and time.

To sign up for either group, e-mail Christy at the church office by Friday, July 10th. Your leaders will then be in touch with you by e-mail.

You are encouraged to get your own book online, (you can also order through Barnes and Noble and pick up your book there) but if you need the church to order one for you, please do indicate when you sign up. **The deadline if you need us to order the book is July 7th.**

Join us Wednesdays at 5:00 pm via Zoom for

DRIVE THRU HISTORY: THE GOSPELS

Join us for the video study where we explore the Gospels and see the places Jesus walked. **Drive Thru History: The Gospels** is a video series offered on Wednesday evenings from 5:00-6:00 via Zoom. Each week there is a different video. The videos are approximately 25 minutes in length. After the video, there is a discussion about the video. The discussions are led on an alternating basis by Dan Herrin and Carol Bogle. The link to join each weekly session is sent out by email on Tuesday of each week.

Please join us anytime even if you haven't attended the first few classes. Each class is connected but stands on its own. If you haven't tried a CE class yet, join us for this engaging opportunity! We hope to see you Wednesday! For a sneak peek on the class, watch here:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=20&v=EASqxQEnEnA.](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=20&v=EASqxQEnEnA)



Charleston Atlantic Presbytery will present its
12th annual STEPS event on
Saturday, August 29, 2020 via Zoom
 9am—11:00am

This year's theme is
"For Such a Time as This,"

Esther 4:14.

Virtual STEPS will consist of two workshop sessions with three options each. Read about the workshops at <https://capresbytery.org/steps-2020/>. This is a great opportunity to deepen your spiritual life from the comfort of your own home, or with fellow LPC-ers in Fellowship Hall (up to 10 people). Contact Elder Carol Bogle at CarolBogle21@gmail.com if you are interested in joining us in person in which case we would decide together which two classes we will participate in.

In order to participate, you MUST pre-register on the presbytery website. There is no cost to participate, but you MUST pre-register by **Friday, August 21**. Zoom links to the workshops for which you registered will be sent to you Monday, August 24. If you do not receive your link by Tuesday, August 25, contact Dorothy Blackwelder or Pie Mikell immediately.

Enjoy classes like Self-care in a Season of Change, What Happened at this Year's 1st ever Virtual General Assembly, and Adaptive Change in a Time of Volatility. We hope you'll take advantage of this opportunity to learn with other Presbyterians in our Presbytery!

MEN OF PURPOSE (MOP) on Saturday mornings

We will not be meeting officially again until fall. We may meet a couple of times this summer informally. We pray for everyone's health and safety.

Questions? Please contact Bill Walker, billwalker42@gmail.com.



DON EVONS HONORED

This photo was taken one rainy Tues. morning. We practiced social distancing and wore masks. For a few seconds while the photo was taken, we came together and lowered our masks, then replaced them and stepped apart.

A framed version of the photo was presented to Don Evons on Saturday, June 6. Their Sun City home has been sold and they have moved back to their primary residence in West Chester, PA. Don suggested and worked with Jerry Kramer to start a Saturday morning men's group that evolved into Men of Purpose. We all wish the very best for Don and Thalia in their future.



Photo courtesy of Gretchen Nickel and signs and photo printing by Jon and Gretchen Nickel.



Change Can Make A Change for July

We have all been horrified by the acts of violence against the Black community recently and in the past. For this reason, the Missions Ministry has selected two organizations for support in July.

The **Beaufort County Black Chamber of Commerce**, bcbcc.org, is a 501(c)3 organization dedicated to offering products, services and educational programming for multi-cultural business owners and professionals within the Beaufort and neighboring communities. Their mission is dedicated to the economic empowerment of African American communities and small businesses in Beaufort County. All donations made are utilized to fulfill their mission, offer programming and business educational workshops and seminars. Any amount is appreciated and tax deductible under the law.



If you watched the movie, "Just Mercy," you are familiar with the **Equal Justice Initiative**, eji.org. This organization is committed to ending mass incarceration and excessive punishment in the United States, to challenging racial and economic injustice, and to protecting basic human rights for the most vulnerable people in American Society. They have earned the top ranking from Charity Navigator and won a Skoll Award for their impact on social justice reform. EJI is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization and all donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law and do not represent payment for goods or services received.

We hope you feel called to help make a change for a more positive future. Donate by making a check payable to LPC with "CCMAC-July" in the memo section and mailing it to the church. Thanks so much for your compassion and caring!

Thank You

On behalf of everyone at Family Promise of Beaufort County, words can not express our appreciation for the generosity you continue to show by donating gift cards and providing financial support to assure our families are well taken care of during this time of uncertainty.

We are happy to report that two of our families have moved into their own homes and are doing well. Additionally, a new family of seven recently joined us and the kids are getting settled in at daycare while the two oldest are excited to get started at the Boys & Girls' Club on June 15. Mom starts her new job soon and Dad is currently seeking a new employment opportunity and we wish him much success.

That said, your financial support or donation of gift cards from Walmart and Food Lion would still be greatly appreciated.

We were excited to reopen our doors on June 1 and once again help homeless families ***find their way home***. We wouldn't be able to continue supporting these families without friends like you. **Please stay vigilant about your own well-being and that of those around you.**



Missions Continued:

thank you!

Thank you, Lowcountry Presbyterian Church, we are more than grateful for the support and many donations you have shared with Agape Family Life Center. Many families have what they need especially during this critical time because of your love and commitment to serving.

Our Mission ...

AGAPE FAMILY LIFE CENTER IS COMMITTED TO EMPOWERING INDIVIDUALS, PROMOTING FAMILY EXCELLENCE AND NURTURING BETTER HEALTH AND WELLNESS IN JASPER COUNTY.

We are organized and operated as a non-profit charitable tax-exempt Social Service organization. We provide programs and services within our 22,000 square-foot facility.

Our COVID 19 Contingency Plan

Nutrition: Agape Family Life Center remains committed to the residents of Jasper County South Carolina. Our host of Volunteers and Staff are on the front-line every Wednesday and Saturday ensuring that nutritious food is distributed to more than 1,300 individuals within the month of April alone.

Education: Virtual connection with students offering educational resources to minimize the learning gap.



Volunteers and partners playing it safe!



*Volunteers setting up food distribution stations
That provided for more than 1,300 individuals in April*

Missions Continued:



Back to School



It is that time of year again to, if you are able, please help support the annual **BACK TO SCHOOL FUN DAY** which we have participated in over the past several years, both financially and with supplies.

The Back to School Fun Day would love to have your support in assisting families in need. The make-up of this year's event will be handled differently from the previous years due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We will not sacrifice safety for fun so we will ensure that everyone is in a safe and healthy environment by having

them and their children stay in their cars and drive through and get the backpacks and then leave. The Bluffton Area Community Association will hold Back to School Fun Day at the Bluffton Eagles field Bluffton, SC from 11 AM to 2 PM Saturday, **August 1, 2020** distributing the backpacks with needed supplies as parents drive-through to receive them.

We need your help in providing to our organization no later than **July 24, 2020**. Monetary donations (checks payable to *Back to School Fun Day*) or gift cards can be mailed to:

Back to School Fun Day, 163 Buck Island Rd., Bluffton, SC 29910

We especially need your financial help and support this year more than ever. Thank you for your continued support.

Backpack Buddies

On Thursday, June 25th, Donald and June Allison, Linda Wright and Sandy Benninger volunteered at the Bluffton Farmer's Market Backpack Buddies Booth. We were pleased to have a great turnout from our participating families. The market has moved this year to Green Street in downtown Bluffton and the hours reduced to 12:00-3:00. We loved the new location. Our booth was situated beneath a beautiful Live Oak where we enjoyed gentle breezes and wonderful shade.



Backpack Buddies Booth at the Bluffton Farmers' Market. Pictured L-R: Donald and June Allison, Sandy Benninger and Linda Wright.



Live Streaming Is Here!

Although we cannot yet be together in the Sanctuary, our Live Streaming capability is ready to go! We needed to have it up and running since our original return to worship date was June 28th. When we are together it will no longer be possible to pre-record our worship services and post them on Sunday to be viewed, as we have been since our shutdown in March (kudos to Pastor Stephanie for making that happen). Over the next couple of weeks, we will be deciding how we want to possibly use this capability even before we are together again. Look out for more information on this in future email blasts.

So how did this all come about? Recognizing that going forward it would make sense to be able to Live Stream our services, both for our own Members as well as being an Outreach effort, our Session had the wisdom to create a task force to research and develop this effort for us. That task force originally consisted of Pastor Chris, Dale Nordby, and me; however, we quickly realized that we needed some additional expertise and solicited the help of Chuck Thomas and Pastor Stephanie and began our effort to make this happen. We want to thank all of you that financially supported this effort as well. Our Live Streaming certainly could not have happened without you.

What we quickly found out is that there are many ways to stream, and that many more entities are looking into streaming because of the virus. After two months of research, deciding on the best course of action for us, and learning how to best operate the equipment we purchased, we are now ready to go!

Once our services are actually viewed Live as they occur, there will be a difference in what you have been viewing these last three plus months. There will be no more pre-recording, splicing, and editing. This will be a Live production you are watching just as if you were in the sanctuary participating in person.

It is important to also understand that this will be just the beginning of our Live Streaming effort. We wanted to have this up and running as soon as possible which, we have done; however, we recognize that we still have a long way to go with this effort. In the weeks and months to come, you will see enhancements to our Live Streams. We will be adding at least one additional camera to create different viewing angles. New fiber optic cables will be run into our building creating more speed and higher quality streams. In addition, we will be able to add both pre and post stream announcements to help keep all who tune in as informed as possible.

As we move forward over the next few months, we will need some volunteers to be able to help us broadcast our services Live week after week. If this is of interest to you, please let me know. The financial support we have received has been critical; however now is the time where the donation of your time and talents is needed. We are not going to be able to keep this effort going without your help.

If you have any questions or would like to sign up to be part of the Stream Team, please let me know.

Bob Lowry, 843-227-1928, Jblowry99@gmail.com



MUSIC MINISTRY

Hopefully you are all singing along with the hymns and in 4-part harmony. Special thanks to ***Jerry Anderson, Dale Nordby, Jon Nickel, Rachel McClellan, Maureen Kalmbach and Betsy and Mac MacDougal*** for sharing their musical talents with us.

Hopefully we will all be able to "hum" together in the Sanctuary in August. A small ensemble from the Jubilate Ringers is beginning rehearsals and hopes to participate in August.

In July, we are looking forward to Jerry, Jon, and Dale providing special music, along with guest flautist, ***Jacqueline Fesq*** on July 26th. Stay strong and we are all looking forward to worshipping together in August.

Missing you,

Karen and Robin

***While you've been away.....
the Buildings and Ground Team,
using the time and energy of volunteers...
has been busy!***

Thanks to Susan and Doug Zellman who painted a few walls in the Narthex.
....to Bo Welch who power washed the front porch and sidewalks
....to Wim Tekelenburg who dug up, replaced and repaired the cement blocks and gravel on the curve of the drive to the church office, and who was on-site when concrete was poured to keep his work and the drive from deteriorating
...to Jerry Wells who replaced the wooden fencing near the front of the sanctuary.



LOWCOUNTRY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Session Highlights - June 22, 2020

At its June Stated Meeting, conducted via Zoom video conferencing, the Session:

- † Noted that LPC currently has 370 members and 22 affiliate members.
- † Given the realities of the COVID-19 pandemic, approved a recommendation from Rev. Herrin to postpone the planned church-wide retreat at Montreat from October to April 2021, assuming that Montreat will have facilities available.
- † Approved the Building and Grounds Ministry Team's recommendation to have an appropriate tree planted near the fountain and to have a plaque placed at its base in memory of Alice Barnett and in recognition of her generous gift to the church. Further, the Session agreed to investigate what would be required to improve the landscaping around the fountain necessary to create a memorial garden.
- † Determined that, in light of the increasing number of coronavirus infections in Beaufort County and in Bluffton, it was necessary to postpone the planned June 28th resumption of in-person worship in the Sanctuary. August 2nd was selected as the new planning date for the re-opening the church. The Session will meet in a special meeting on July 22nd to evaluate the then current environment and determine whether to proceed with the planned re-opening.

The next Stated Session meeting will be at 7:00 PM on Monday, August 10, 2020.

If you have any questions please contact Ernest Bush, Clerk of Session at 843-290-3218 or elbush@mac.com.

Thank You!

Dear LPC Family,

Thank you all very much for the love, constant prayers, and tremendous support you've shown me in the months since Stuart's passing. Though we cannot gather yet as a congregation, your caring phone calls, messages, and cards have meant more to me than words can say. I welcome the chance to chat on the phone – or even in person, as long as we safely social distance! Please contact me. I would enjoy some conversation! I pray for the day to arrive soon when we can all be together again. May God bless each and every one of you.

In His love,
Joan Kimble

July Birthdays



1	Nancy Knorr	11	Clarke Marshall	23	Stephanie Dion
2	Stuart Bendelow	13	Bob Heisey	24	Debby Miller
5	Carolyn Welch	16	Bonnie Flack	27	Chuck Thomas
6	Bill McDougall	17	Emily Bortz		
7	Caroline Reneau	17	Michele Eberhart		
9	Mary Beth Schauer	17	Jay Marshall		
9	Robin Lind	19	Gretchen Nickel		
10	Carter Fox	20	Perry Robinson		
11	Chris Herrin	21	Phyllis Willever		
11	Lori Law	23	Emily Hale		

Member Prayer List



Herb Costolo
Marilyn Gemme
Ken McElroy (at Encompass)
Marilyn Miesner

Vonnie Stearns
Dave Tanner
Shirley Wanket

Christian sympathy is extended to

The family of **Cindy Marshall**. A service will be planned in the future.

And to

The Family of **Al Thomas**. A service will be planned when we are able to meet.

And to

Josh Fox on the death of his grandmother, *Ruth Fox*



We regretfully inform you that these members have or will be moving away:

Don and Thalia Evons have returned to Pennsylvania where their family is.

Ted and Betty Cooley moved on June 27th to a continuing care facility in Stone Mountain, GA.

Jim and Carolyn Tripp will be moving to a similar type facility in Greenville, SC, living in Brevard, NC beginning in July until their apartment is ready.

Nancy Kozlowski will be moving July 16th to be near family in Virginia.

We are so appreciative of all the ways these members added to the life and the ministry of the church and wish them every blessing in their new journeys.



July



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 Drive Thru History, 5:00pm	2	3	4
5 VIRTUAL COMMUNION	6	7 Bell ensemble, 12pm Outreach, 5:30pm	8 Christian Caring 10am Drive Thru History, 5:00pm	9 Property, 9:00am Administration /Finance, 4pm	10	11
12	13	14 Bell ensemble, 12pm	15 Drive Thru History, 5:00pm	16 Book Study, 5:30pm Fellowship Hall or Zoom	17	18
19	20	21 Bell ensemble, 12pm Christian Education, 2:00pm Stephen Ministry 6:30pm	22 Drive Thru History, 5:00pm Session, 7:00pm	23 Missions, 2:00pm Book Study, 5:30pm Fellowship Hall or Zoom	24	25
26	27 Communications, 4:00pm	28 Bell ensemble, 12pm	29 Drive Thru History, 5:00pm	30 Book Study, 5:30pm Fellowship Hall or Zoom	31	