



The Light



LPC Mission Statement

Surrounded by God's grace, we are a family of faith joined together through Christ, offering meaning and hope to all by the way we worship, serve and live.

January/February 2023

JANUARY FELLOWSHIP LUNCH

January 22nd

"Building a Better Brain"

Debbie Anderson, Memory Matters

Join us for a Soup and Sandwich Lunch

Sponsored by Congregational Care



No matter your age, maintaining a healthy brain is important to your overall well-being. It's never too late to protect the circuit board of your body! Learn practical and fun ways to help your brain be the best it can be.

Sign-up on the sheet in the narthex, online or call the church office by Wednesday, January 18th. A \$5 donation will be accepted at the lunch. It is the last chance to see the original church and fellowship hall before the renovations!

CAMPAIGN TO FUND THE RENOVATION OF FELLOWSHIP HALL

Kickoff, January 22nd



Al and Marian Thomas

The renovation will honor Al and Marian Thomas for their commitment to serving Christ through LPC and also through their volunteer work in the community. The Session has approved the renaming of Fellowship Hall to the Albert and Marian Thomas Hall.

Vincent Thomas, their son, will be worshipping with us on January 22nd to help kick off this campaign. The Vincent Thomas Family and Pamela Thomas-Graham Family have each made a significant contribution to start our campaign.

Sunday February 12th LPC will welcome

Rev. Martin B. Copenhaver

as our guest preacher (at both services)
and seminar leader (after 10:30am only)



Rev. Copenhaver, pastor, scholar, writer, and brother of LPC member, Chad, will base his sermon and seminar on his book *Jesus Is the Question: The 307 Questions Jesus Asked and the 3 He Answered*. It is not necessary to have read the book ahead of time.

Following the 10:30 service, the Faith Formation Team will host a reception in the Narthex with tea sandwiches and cookies (to tide participants over 'til lunch). We will then re-convene in the Sanctuary for a more in-depth look at the questions Jesus asked followed by a time of discussion.

About the book: Contrary to some common assumptions, Jesus is not the ultimate Answer Man, but more like the Great Questioner. In the Gospels, Jesus asks many more questions than he answers. To be precise, Jesus asks 307 questions. He is asked 183 of which he only answers 3. Asking questions was central to Jesus' life and teachings. In fact, for every question he answers directly, he asks—literally—a hundred. *Jesus is the Question* considers the questions Jesus asks—what they tell us about Jesus and, more important, what our responses might say about what it means to follow Him

About the preacher and writer: The Rev. Martin B. Copenhaver is an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ. He served as a local church pastor for thirty-four years. He was Senior Pastor of Wellesley Village Church in Wellesley, Massachusetts for twenty years (1994-2014) before becoming president of Andover Newton Theological School (2014-2019), which is the oldest graduate school of any kind in the country. While serving as president, Andover Newton sold its Boston-area campus and moved to New Haven, Connecticut in order to become an affiliated seminary of Yale Divinity School. Martin is the author of nine books and is a Contributing Editor of *The Christian Century* magazine.

Communications Ministry

We welcome the new year with joy and hope!

The Communications Ministry provides timely and effective communications about the activities of LPC to our members and the community beyond. These include our bi-monthly newsletter *The Light*, weekly e-blast notices via email, the website, brochures, and our membership directory. We also "spread the word" about LPC via Facebook, ads in local papers, event programs, Nextdoor app, and cards to local new home buyers.

We hope to expand our committee so we can do more projects! We need members for proofreading, newsletter assistance, taking photos, writing cards, creating ads, and coordinating our next membership directory. If you are looking for ways to serve at LPC, please consider joining our ministry!

Our committee members are Carol Bogle, Lynn Cordy, Kathy Crist, Christy James, Sue Martin, Janit Maguire, Chair, and Kate McClain.

MEMBERSHIP MINISTRY

Christmas Dinner

A good time was had by all at the Christmas Fellowship Dinner.



The Membership committee is brainstorming fellowship opportunities while the Hall is being renovated. When the weather starts to warm up, we will have an outdoor event.

There are openings for Sunday morning greeters in 2023.

If you are interested, please contact Carolyn Marshall rivercovecottage@gmail.com.

The Membership Committee meets at 10:30 am on the first Thursday of each month in the Parlor. If you would like to join in the fun and see what we do, please join us at our next meeting February 2nd.

New Members Joined November 22nd

They were warmly welcomed following worship and enjoyed a luncheon afterwards.



New Members Class Fall 2022



Rosemary Bishop moved to Bluffton from Boston in 2015. She taught in the Boston Public school for 34 years as a teacher of the deaf. She has one son who still lives in Boston. She has played with the Jubilate Ringers for 7 years. She also enjoys dance and crafts, including knitting and jewelry making.



Peggy and Taylor Evans were born, grew up, married, and raised two sons in Boardman Ohio. As graduates of Youngstown State University Peggy taught Pre-K for many years and enjoys playing bells and singing in the church choir as well as fishing. Taylor was the CFO and Treasurer of a multi-state distributor of building materials and manufacturer of vinyl windows. Taylor likes to golf, read mystery books and paint with watercolors. They vacationed on Hilton Head for many years and retired to a home in Sun City 18 months ago.



Susan Fearon Sue and her late husband, Jim, moved to Bluffton in 2005. Prior to retirement, they resided in Fairfield, Connecticut where she taught k-2 in the public schools. She has a son, Clark, who also resides in the low country. Sue volunteers at Hospice Care of the Lowcountry where she provides respite and pet care. She and her therapy dog, Leo, enjoy visits with patients. Sue volunteers at Maranatha Farms Rescue and has several four legged family. She enjoys gardening, is a PEO, and a member of Delta Kappa Gamma Society.



Nancy Graham grew up in the Boston Massachusetts area. She lived in Vt for 15 years and there she played the piano and the organ for 3 churches. She was raised in the Roman Catholic faith. Nancy has worked as a companion for the elderly, insurance clerk, and also a medical coder. She has lived in Sun City since 2017 with her sister, Rosemary Bishop.



Jane Lundblad's faith journey began in a small Presbyterian church in central Illinois, close to the family farm, and has followed her through several states. She is a recent transplant from West Virginia and moved here to be closer to her family. She continues to enjoy gardening, nurturing plants and growing flowers for arranging. Other hobbies include a love of reading and all forms of embroidery and handwork.



Stephen and Hillary Meyer moved to Bluffton in 2015 from Columbia, SC. They are proud parents of Laura Camille (Millie), and expecting their 2nd child. Stephen was born and raised in the rural Finger Lakes region of New York and earned a bachelor's degree from American University in Washington, DC. Hillary is from Mt. Pleasant, SC, and earned a bachelor's degree from Clemson. They met in law school and earned their J.D. degrees from the University of SC School of Law. Stephen is a partner at Vaux Marscher Berglind, PA in Bluffton focusing on family and matrimonial law and criminal defense. Hillary is an attorney at the Jolley Law Group, focusing on probate and civil litigation. They enjoy time with family and friends, traveling, running, attending USC football games, and enjoying the beauty of the lowcountry. They transferred from First Presbyterian Beaufort, where they married and Hillary & Millie were baptized.

New Members Class Fall 2022 (continued)



Mark and Marie Pendleton were both born into Disciples of Christ churches and feel like LPC is a return to their roots! Mark attended vocational school in Carpentry, has a B.S. in Industrial Arts, and a Master's in Voc. Ed. He carries the reputation in the family of (to quote their grandchild) "Papa can fix it!" He enjoys tennis, reading, and Youtube videos of things getting fixed. Marie has a B.S. in Psychology and a Master's of Education. She founded a Montessori school in Bowling Green, Ohio. Her 2nd career as a real estate agent lasted 16 years. She enjoys reading, knitting and playing cards. Mark and Marie have 2 daughters, 4 grandchildren and look forward to moving into their new home in Margaritaville.



Alane Peragallo and her husband relocated to Sun City from northern Virginia in 2017. Alane was an attorney before switching careers to become an elementary school teacher. She taught for 13 years prior to relocating to South Carolina and retiring. She enjoys running, swimming, golfing, reading and working part-time in a golf shop.



Tom & Linda Smith have one son who lives in Bluffton with his wife and their three children. Linda is a native of Gainesville, FL, and Tom grew up in Baton Rouge, LA. Linda worked as a social worker and a school librarian. Tom was a research chemist and a research manager for Eastman Chemical. Linda's interests include reading, shopping, and travel. Tom enjoys fishing, cooking, gardening, and music. They moved to Bluffton from Gainesville, FL, where they retired in 2001. They previously lived in Texas and Tennessee.



Carol Thorne moved here from Germantown, TN with a small stop in Mt. Pleasant, SC to be closer to her family which includes a new great granddaughter! She is a retired bookkeeper and has volunteered in many areas of the church over her lifetime. She enjoys being part of small blessings for old and new friends and is happy to have found LPC!



Brittany Wilson is originally from Ohio, but has lived in South Carolina for the past 6 years. After 5 years in Columbia, she moved to Bluffton to be closer to her parents, JR and Susan. Brittany works remotely for the University of South Carolina Office of Undergraduate Admissions as a Marketing Technologist. In her free time Brittany enjoys traveling, playing the cello, and walking the family dog, Benji.



Susan Wilson is originally from Ohio. Prior to relocating to Bluffton with her husband JR, she worked in Columbia for 5 years. Susan works for PNC Bank as a traveling banker. Primarily based in Hilton Head, she often travels to other PNC branches throughout South Carolina to provide banking support. In her free time Susan loves to travel, do various craft projects, and spend time with the family dog, Benji.

WORSHIP MINISTRY

Poinsettia set-up and Hanging of the Greens



The Worship Team enjoys a meal together.

WORSHIP MINISTRY

Kirkin' O' the Tartan February 19th

LPC will be celebrating its Scottish heritage with a Kirkin' O' the Tartan during a special service of worship on February 19th at 10:30am.

**Please note there will not be an 8:30 service on this date.

Kirk is the term in Scotland for church and kirking is considered a blessing. The tartan is a symbol of love and togetherness, no matter what our heritage.



The Kirkin' is a colorful celebration of the Scottish roots of the Presbyterian Church. It commemorates the defiance the clans of Scotland displayed when ordered by their English conquerors in 1746 to cease wearing their tartans or playing bagpipes upon threat of death. The practice of concealing scraps of family tartans and having them secretly dedicated and blessed in churches was a political statement, not sanctioned with religious practice.

The ceremony had its beginning in this country when the late Dr. Peter Marshall, a native of Scotland, preached a series of sermons in support of the British War Relief. His sermon on May 2, 1943, was entitled "Kirkin' o' the Tartan." Dr. Marshall was Pastor of the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church in Washington, D.C., and it was there that the Kirkin' was first held. The service rapidly spread over the United States and Canada and is enjoyed in every part of the world.

In the spirit of this tradition, The Kirkin' o' the Tartan service at LPC will include a ceremonial procession, hymns and bagpipe music as we remember ancient times while asking God's help and blessings in the future. Be sure to wear your tartan and join us on February 19th!

If you have a tartan banner and would like to participate in the processional (which involves a Saturday morning rehearsal on the 11th) please contact Debbie Hough at hougha@bellsouth.net or Pam Davis-Webb at psdw44@gmail.com.



FAITH FORMATION MINISTRY



Grow with us.

MISSION STATEMENT:

The Faith Formation Ministry educates, inspires and grows disciples in Christ.

We will celebrate the **completion of our Take5 journey** through the New Testament on Sunday, January 15th during coffee hour after the 10:30 service. Pick up a small gift in celebration of your commitment to the Take5 initiative and enjoy a beverage, sweet treat, and conversation.

You will also have an opportunity to learn about and join our congregation-wide initiative for 2023, *Seasons of Psalms*

The Book of Psalms is a collection of songs and prayers that express the heart and soul of humanity. The psalmists confess their sins, share their doubts and fears, ask God for help in times of trouble, and praise and worship him. Throughout each season, you will find comfort and strength in the weekly readings and gain a better understanding of how our deepest, strongest and honest emotions fit in our relationship with God.

Participation is simple!

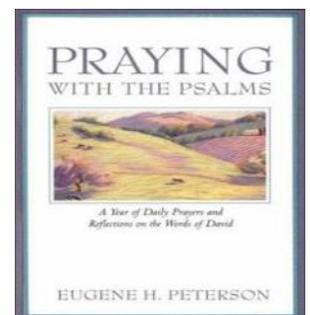
The 150 Psalms have been arranged by season and week on the *Seasons of Psalms* reading plan.

- Read or listen to the 1-4 outlined Psalm(s) each week
- Meditate on the Psalmists words

Choose to Dig Deeper by participating in upcoming Adult Education opportunities (optional)

Be sure to pick up a Seasons of Psalms reading plan after worship on Sunday, January 15th to begin your 2023 journey! There will also be a limited supply of *Praying with the Psalms* by Eugene Peterson, a devotional prayer book focusing on one year with the Psalms, available for a \$10 purchase.

You may also visit the Seasons of Psalms table (located under the TV in the Narthex) for a copy of the plan at any time or [click here](#).



Youngish Adult Group

The Youngish Adult Group, in their 30's and 40's, single and married, meets monthly for pizza and faith discussion led by Chris Herrin. Childcare is provided.

The next meeting is Thursday, January 26th at 5:30pm.

Visitors are welcome and let Chris know, to have enough pizza and childcare.



FAITH FORMATION MINISTRY

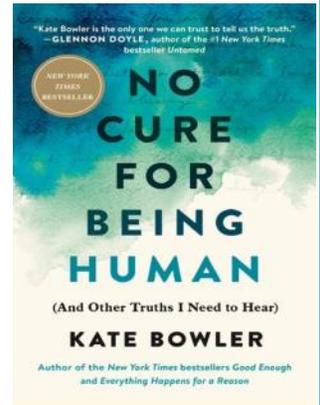
Quarterly Book Club

Tuesday, January 24, 2023 at 6:00pm in the parlor

(It's not too late to consider participating! The book is only 198 pages.)

Optional-dinner at Panera after the book club discussion. Sign up on our website lowcountrypres.org/adult-ed

Our book selection is *No Cure For Being Human* by Kate Bowler, the bestselling author of *Everything Happens for a Reason (And Other Lies I've Loved)*.



"It's hard to give up on the feeling that the life you want is *just* out of reach. A beach body by summer. A trip to Disneyland around the corner. A promotion on the horizon. Everyone wants to believe that they are headed toward good, better, best. But what happens when the life you hoped for is put on hold indefinitely?

Kate Bowler believed that life was a series of unlimited choices, only to find that she was stuck in a cancerous body at age 35. In her instant *New York Times* bestselling book, *No Cure for Being Human*, Kate searches for a way forward as she mines the wisdom (and absurdity) of our modern "best life now" advice industry, which offers us exhausting positivity, trying to convince us that we can out-eat, out-learn and out-perform our humanness. With dry wit and unflinching honesty, she grapples with her cancer diagnosis, her ambition, and her faith and searches for some kind of peace with her limitations in a culture that says that anything is possible.

In facing down cancer, Kate, "a Christian Joan Didion" (Glennon Doyle), searches for hope without cheap optimism, and truth with room for mystery. We are as fragile as the day we were born, and we will need each other if we're going to tell the truth: Life is beautiful and terrible, full of hope and despair and everything in between, but there's no cure for being human."

Children's Sunday School

Our Children's Church class ended the 2022 year by learning about the meaning of Advent and the birth of Baby Jesus with the help of a nativity scene. Teacher and LPC member Phyllis Willever leads this class of 4 and 5 year olds at 10:30 on the second and fourth Sundays of each month in the classroom near the nursery. The dates for the 1st quarter 2023 classes are: Jan 8, Jan 22, Feb 5, Feb 12, Mar 12, and Mar 26. Note the change for February from the usual second and fourth Sundays. Many thanks to Phyllis for her continuing contributions to our LPC children's faith formation.



Men of Purpose (MOP)

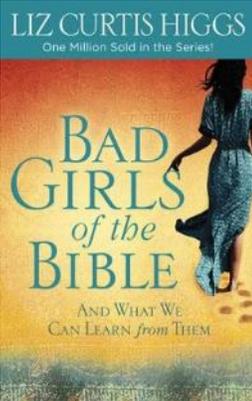
Men of Purpose, a Men's small group, is reading *Divine Conspiracy* by Dallas Willard.

This is a challenging book but it will make you think and is leading to some great discussions. Why not spend time at LPC with MOP this Saturday in the parlor at 9:00am? Books are available in the office for \$11.00.

For questions contact Bill Walker – billwalker42@gmail.com.



FAITH FORMATION MINISTRY



Women of Faith

Join **Women of Faith** on February 14th as we kickoff a 2023 study of Bad Girls of the Bible and What We Can Learn from Them by Liz Curtis Higgs.

People everywhere marvel at the “good girls” in Scripture - Ruth, Mary, Esther, but on many days, that’s not who they see when they look in the mirror. If we’re honest, we sometimes see the selfishness of Sapphira or the deception of Delilah. We catch a glimpse of Jezebel’s take-charge pride or Eve’s disastrous disobedience. Like Rahab and Michal, we’re surrounded by temptations, exhausted by demands of daily living, and burdened by our own desires. So what are we to do?

Join **Women of Faith** each month as they learn from these infamous sisters how not to handle the challenges of life!

The group, open to all LPC women, friends and visitors meets every second Tuesday at 11:00am in the Parlor to engage with God’s Word in community. Bad Girls of the Bible by Liz Curtis Higgs will be the focus book throughout 2023. The book is available on Amazon or wherever you prefer to buy books.

Please read the introduction, pages 1-8 before our February 14th meeting. Each chapter can be read as a stand alone section, making it easy to join this group at any time along their journey. Please consider joining us!

Contact Pam Davis-Webb (psdw44@gmail.com) or Venus Holland (reidallenholland@gmail.com) for more information.

Read what a few participants had to say about their experience:

From Dale Wilkes:

Many thanks to Pam Davis-Webb and Venus Holland who delightfully led this first gathering of Women of Faith. I highly recommend joining us in 2023. The once-a-month meeting and reading assignments were most suitable to our full lives. The small group gathering lead me to new friendships and a closer LPC community feeling.

In her book *Inspired*, Rachel Held Evans tackled the tough questions about certain passages of the Bible. She helped us put the uncomfortable parts into context given the cultural norms of the time and reassured us of the underlying *Good News* message of love through the many stories God presented to us through His Word.

From Sonia's Abernethy:

Those two women made the study so much fun and the book certainly opened my eyes to a different way of looking at the Bible, which was very helpful.

From Carol Bogle:

As the outgoing elder for Faith Formation, I am taking this opportunity to thank Pam Davis-Webb and Venus Holland for co-leading the Women of Faith this year. They chose an excellent book, “Inspired” by Rachel Held Evans, for us to delve into. It was very clear that they spent a great deal of time preparing for each monthly session. Their combined extensive backgrounds in public education, along with their lovely personalities, fostered a wonderful group dynamic. We learned, we shared, we ate snacks and most importantly, we made connections with each other. I encourage other women of the congregation to join Women of Faith on February 14th at 11:00am in the parlor.

Ministry Team Fair

Sunday, February 5, 2023 (new date!) after both services

The Moving Forward in Faith, a subcommittee of Session, will sponsor a "ministry team fair". There will be representatives of all of the LPC ministries available to provide information and answer questions. We discovered, after completion of an in depth analysis of the LPC volunteer program earlier this year, that there are more than 140 different people involved in over 50 volunteer opportunities! Wow! Being overachievers, we would love to have even more people sign up to volunteer for 2023.

Thank you to everyone who is currently volunteering or who has volunteered in the past. If you haven't found a place to serve, please be sure to take advantage. We need everyone's involvement in some way!

A Passion for Serving

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. EPHESIANS 2:10

Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt. Solomon built God's temple. The apostle Paul established churches in Asia Minor. Have you ever wondered what assignment the Lord might have for you? You are God's handiwork. God has prepared in advance good works that only you can do.

God desires to use you in mighty ways for His kingdom. Allow Him to direct you along a path that is pleasing to Him. Be open to God's call on your life. God has uniquely created us with different gifts, talents, and abilities. He gives us an assignment that is specifically suited for us.

We should not expect a "Damascus Road" experience like Paul had. Be careful not to compare yourself with others. Sometimes we may view our assignment as insignificant. However, sometimes serving behind the scenes is the most important. God has gifted you in unique ways. Be open to ways that He might be calling you to serve. Many times God will speak His will through our circumstances. Listen. Serve.

Dear Lord, help me believe that You can use me for Your service. Thank you for equipping me. Help me step out in faith to serve others in Your name. Amen.

"A Passion for Serving from *Be Still and Know*, published by Barbour Publishing, Inc. Used by permission."



MISSIONS

For the month of January, Change Can Make a Change collection will benefit the Beaufort County Sheriff's Department's Project Lifesaver Program

This is a 501©3 community based, public safety, non-profit organization that provides law enforcement, fire/rescue and caregivers with a program designed to protect and when necessary, quickly locate individuals with cognitive disorders who are prone to the life threatening behavior of wandering. Beaufort County established the program in 2012 and currently have 26 people on the program. Each participant is fitted with a personalized Project Lifesaver wristband which is a battery operated transmitter that emits an automatic tracking signal every second, 24 hours a day. The signal can be tracked by specially trained personnel on the ground or in the air. Bands and batteries are changed each month and new transmitters cost \$300. each.

LPC to Host American Red Cross Blood Drives

The American Red Cross would like our church to host quarterly blood drives during 2023 in Fellowship Hall, once the renovation is completed. What we need is a blood drive coordinator and committee from our church to work with the area Red Cross Representative to plan and put on the blood drive.

The role of the blood drive coordinator is:

- To help save lives!
- To serve as the connection between our church and the Red Cross
- To get people excited about our blood drive and ask them to join your team
- To spread the word about blood donation in person and through the use of Red Cross materials and messaging
- To ask people to give blood

For more information or If you are interested in volunteering to serve as the coordinator or on the committee, please contact Anne Redlus, anneredlus@gmail.com.



The Souper Bowl of Caring Offering

On the day of the Super Bowl, February 12th, we will collect the Souper Bowl of Caring Offering. All money raised will be given to a local agency who deals with hunger. Whether or not you care about football at all, let's make this a big day to help tackle hunger. Your donations will be collected in large soup pots as you exit, marked for either team. Bring your cash and checks made payable to LPC and marked for the Souper Bowl of Caring offering. Donations can also be made on-line through the website, where you can also "vote" for your favorite team. You may wear your favorite team jersey!



The Thanksgiving food drive was extremely successful!

Thank you, thank you LPC members! The Food Drive was a resounding success due to your generosity. We collected 1,156 food items, including 104 bags of fresh fruit and vegetables, 261 cans of vegetables, 125 cans of chicken and tuna. We also received stuffing, rice, gravy and cranberry sauce to help with the Feed the Hungry boxes. Some committee members will be helping pack the boxes too so look for more pictures coming soon.

Again, thank you for your donations to Agape. The Missions Committee



Your generous food donations to Agape made it possible to supply special boxes full of Thanksgiving items for the Feed the Hungry. 150 boxes were made for distribution. Thank you again from the Mission Committee

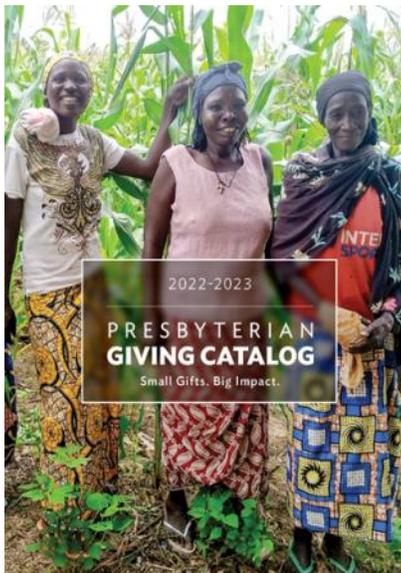




Angel Tree continued:

And from May Angulo, program manager of NOC after school program:

“Thank you so much for the books and gift cards!! God bless you and your congregation.”



Presbyterian Giving

Thank you to all of the members of our congregation that supported the Presbyterian Giving Catalog this year.

There were 89 items purchased from the catalog. The most popular gifts selected were Sewing Machines (9), Family of Chickens (17), Educate a Child (11) and Farming Tools (9). The donations totaled \$4,911.00.

As the tag line goes for this project, SMALL GIFTS. BIG IMPACT will definitely make a lasting impact on those in need.

MISSIONS



BACKPACK BUDDIES

On December 6th, church members packed 141 bags of food for the Backpack Buddies program. On Fridays, during the month of December, 37 children at Prichardville Elementary will each receive a bag.

The next packing will take place on Tuesday, January 31, at 12:30 at the St. Andrews by the Sea United Methodist Church, 39 Persimmon Street. For more information contact Sandy Benninger sbenninger@sc.rr.com



Save the Date!

The Mission Team is excited to announce that Rev. Robert Gamble, Executive Director of This Child Here which is at work in the Ukraine will be visiting us on Sunday, March 19th.

More plans about his visit will be forthcoming but mark your calendar to plan to attend events surrounding his visit.



MUSIC MINISTRY



Happy New Year from Karen Ball and Robin Lind! As the Music Ministry team at LPC, we are looking forward to an inspirational and musical 2023. The new sound system is almost here and we are so thankful for the hard work and donations of so many people who worked to make this happen. Special thanks to those members who volunteered their time to help with the sound system this past year and for continuing to improve the live-streaming so that we could bring our services to more people. We are hoping to present a concert this spring to properly thank everyone.

For January, the Chancel Choir will begin rehearsals on Thursday, January 5th at 6:45pm in the Sanctuary and will be singing at the 10:30am service on January 8th. This is a perfect time to join and sing with this delightful group. We encourage you to make this one of your New Year's resolutions. You'll be glad you did.

The Jubilate Ringers will begin rehearsals on Tuesday, January 10th, at 12:30pm. Our first performance will be on February 12th at both services. Contact Judy Barry for more information.



Outreach concert in January: We are excited to announce that the Evolution Big Band will be returning to perform at LPC on Sunday, January 22nd at 2 p.m. See the announcement below:

SPECIAL UPCOMING CONCERT!

The Evolution Big Band is Bluffton, South Carolina's hometown All-Star Big Band, playing jazz standards with a contemporary flare. The band features 17 of the top jazz musicians in the Lowcountry who are committed to keeping big band music alive and thriving.

On January 22nd, the band will perform at 2 p.m. at the Lowcountry Presbyterian Church. Admission is free and reservations are not required. The band will be asking for goodwill donations to help support non-profit organizations in the area. This concert will feature popular songs by Count Basie, Sammy Nestico and Duke Ellington. Plus, we will showcase some contemporary arrangements of jazz standards. Penney Lynn Smith will be our featured vocalist.

The mission of the Evolution Big Band is to support local charitable causes by performing big band music. Through playing at concerts and fundraising events, as well as donations from the band itself, to date the band has helped numerous non-profit organizations in the Lowcountry raise more than \$200,000 to support their causes.

MUSIC MINISTRY



Christmas Day Choir



Choir Picnic



Jubilate Ringers at Cantata



Tom Smith, soloist



Brittany Wilson, cello

Looking for a new way to contribute in January?

New ushers are needed to fill spots recently vacated. The time commitment is for one service, once a month. Training is thorough and you worship while you volunteer!

Please contact Larry Tremetiere if you are interested, ltrem1943@gmail.com or 843-208-2107. These are the open slots: 1st Sunday at 10:30am - 2 needed; 3rd Sunday at 10:30am - 2 needed; and 4th Sunday at 8:30am - 1 needed.

This is a vital ministry and we need you.

Thank you.



THE GREEN TEAM (AKA—THE EARTH CARE TEAM)

LPC is an Earth Care Congregation!

Our church has been certified through the PC(USA) and has taken the Earth Care pledge:
Our worship and discipleship will celebrate God's grace and glory in creation.

Our education will encourage and support each other in keeping and healing the creation.

Our facilities will be managed, maintained, and upgraded to respect and cherish all creation.

Our outreach will encourage community involvement and public policy to protect and restore the earth.

Interested in this ministry? Contact Jon & Gretchen Nickel to get involved: gretchjon@yahoo.com

AS WE TRANSITION INTO 2023, LET EACH ONE OF US BECOME MORE AWARE OF OUR EARTH AND OUR IMPACT ON IT! HABITS ARE HARD TO BREAK, BUT EVERY ACTION MATTERS!

Let Jan/Feb be YOUR months to REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE & DONATE as you rethink your own household choices! **Every action matters!**

~For example, reduce the quantity of paper towels and paper napkins you use. How about using cleaning cloths and fabric napkins that we all have in drawers instead? Make cleaning cloths out of old t-shirts. **Every action matters!**

~Throwing a party? Vow to buy **zero** plastic & styrofoam items (or even paper)! Get out that stored china and silver you never use! If using plastic serving items you already have, wash them and reuse them multiple times! **Every action matters!**

~Shred old tax returns and other sensitive documents to add to your compost bin. **Every action matters!**

~ We know that plastics are a huge concern worldwide. But if we vow to **NOT BUY & USE LESS** plastic until better recycling solutions are found, we won't be adding to the problem! **Every action matters!**

~Donate usable household items you no longer need rather than putting them in the trash. **Every action matters!**

~If you are new to the area or need more information about **area recycling**, visit the beaufortcountysc.gov/recycle website or call the Solid Waste and Recycling Office at 843-255-2736. Educate yourself about recycling. **Every action matters!**

~The next **Beaufort County Electronic Waste recycling event is Saturday, Feb 11—watch for more information in the E-blasts/bulletins!** Add and label a designated box in your garage and contribute to it until the quarterly events. **Every action matters!**

In the early afternoon at the last event in December, we witnessed **4 full shipping containers of E-waste from just this county location alone and the line of cars waiting to drop off numbered dozens!** That's a shocking amount of TVs, computer screens, cords and cables, small appliances, etc. kept out of the landfill and salvaged for precious metals etc.

In the months to come, we will share more actions! Please share your ideas with us at: gretchjon@yahoo.com

Your actions matter!

Jon & Gretchen Nickel



Progress on Installation of the new AV System

Old tiles came down, walls were repaired and painted and new tiles put up! More progress coming this month. Stay tuned!



Work is finally completed on the pillars!



Blankets for *Young Lives* a ministry of Young Life

YoungLives is a non-profit organization that was established to mentor young moms ages 14 - 22 and to encourage a life with Christ as well as learning how to care for themselves and their babies. The staff, consisting of volunteers, paid staff and mentors, meets daily, weekly, and monthly with young pregnant moms and young moms with babies to offer support and friendship. The Directors purpose for this program is to encourage faith as well as personal sustainability. Chante' Fennell is the local *YoungLives* Coordinator.

The Congregational Care Ministry Team was contacted to seek our help in providing blankets for their young mothers and their children. We talked about different options and decided we would ask for help making the no - tie blankets. The team has contributed eight fleece blankets to give to young mothers and children. Thank you to Bonnie Flack, Sally Stein, Jerri Hanna, Jane Lundblad and Harriett Senior and Sloan Gray for giving time and fingers to make these blankets.

Chante' picked up the blankets and was very appreciative for the contribution we made to help these young moms and children. For more information, you can contact Chante' at Chantefennell30@gmail.com or visit the Young Lives website at <https://younglives.younglife.org>



Fleece Scarves

After Sloan Gray's fleece blanket project for the *YoungLives/Teen Mothers* program was complete, there was quite a bit of fleece left over. A Scottish heritage of being thrifty kicked in and a need to find a use for all that fleece took over. Being a sheep in the Lord's flock, it was known that the fleece had value beyond scraps. At the sewing machine, and over the course of a couple of weeks, 12 toddler and 24 teen fleece scarves were made. The teen scarves have pockets, so the kids have a place for their phones and their hands are free! Congregational Care agreed that donating them to the joint Mittens, Hats, and Scarves project with Temple Oseh Shalom would be a perfect choice. These scarves should provide added warmth and comfort to the children in this area this winter.



Karen Couser modeling a fleece scarf.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE MINISTRY

Congregational Care's Flower Ministry has had a busy year under the guidance of Fran Parker and her group of volunteers. These caring individuals rearrange flowers that are donated for Sunday service and another group delivers those new bouquets to various members of the church. For 2022, 91 bouquets and 11 plants have been distributed to those who are ill, shut-in, grieving, or in thanks for their involvement in LPC. The 2023 calendar is now hanging in the Narthex and Sundays are starting to be filled in. Please consider making a gift of flowers to a Sunday during the upcoming year and sign up. Fran or someone from the Ministry will get in touch with you prior to your Sunday for input from you about the flowers and to let you know the cost. The cost has been around \$60, but like everything, there could be an increase in the price for the new year. A check is written to LPC with flowers in the memo. After the 10:30 Sunday service, flowers can then be taken by the donor or distributed to others through the Flower Ministry.



Christian sympathy is extended to:

Tom Smith on the death of his brother Peyton.

Bill and Joan Walker on the death of their sister-in-law Jane Trayschke.

Marjorie Wilno on the death of her sister, Miriam Hopkinson.



Congratulations to Debbie and Andy Hough on the birth of their grandson Calvin Robert Lackey born January 5th!

Thank You!

We are grateful for the love, caring and prayers of our LPC family.
Bill and Joan Walker

Dear LPC family,

The love and support I have received from you has been overwhelming. I appreciate the prayers and all the ways you have reached out with cards and the knitted prayer shawl and flowers you sent to me during my hospitalization and during my recovery. With God's continued presence to give me strength, I am hopeful to show more progress in 2023!

With Gratitude and Love,
Kathy Crist

January Birthdays



**Happy
January
Birthdays!**

1	Jim Martin	9	Lori Higgins	18	Walt Stein
2	Judy Barry	10	Beth Bleile	18	Ann Tekelenburg
6	Ernest Bush	12	Harriet Bender	20	Debi Franklin
6	Nancy Doran	15	Edith Rea	22	Carl Smith
7	Matt Hale	16	Bebe Blount	25	Carol Hissom
7	Vera Toulmin	16	Karen Couser	30	Debbie Hager
8	Evelyn Baker	16	Daniel Herrin	30	Mark Stauffer
8	Fran Casperson	17	Rip Powell		
8	Judy Placer	18	Earline Nichols		

February Birthdays



**Happy
February
Birthdays!**

1	Lois Lunardini	10	Micki Underwood	25	Don Pierce
4	Leland Day	14	John Rea	26	Vonnie Stearns
4	Janet Lang	14	Rob Webb	27	Mick Mikkelson
5	Kathy Crist	14	Tedi Zaryczny	27	Chuck Kreitler
7	Marilyn Miesner	17	Becki Hale	28	Maureen Kalmbach
7	Lauren Robinson	18	Jerri Hanna		
8	Carolyn Alexander	21	Larry Tremitiere		
9	Dick Eberhart	25	Kim Hardin		

Nursery Volunteers/Substitute Staff Needed

The nursery operates each Sunday during the 10:30am service. We need two adults in the nursery from 10:20-11:30 (or when the service ends). The compensation for the substitute staff person is \$20.00. A background check will be handled through the church office. Get your baby fix and give our young parents the opportunity to worship. Contact Dale Wilkes at dalewilkes207@gmail.com.

LOWCOUNTRY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Phone: 843-815-6570

E-mail: office@lowcountrypres.org

We're on the Web!
www.lowcountrypres.org

SESSION MEMBERS:

Jan Alpert (Admin & Finance)

(804) 304-5874

janalpert@aol.com

Karen Couser (Congregational Care)

(843) 422-2473

kcouser16@gmail.com

Sandra Benninger (Building & Grounds)

(843) 705-5233

sbenninger@sc.rr.com

Diane Mikkelson (Missions)

(843) 368-6865

dianemikke@aol.com

Pam Davis-Webb (Worship)

(607) 215-2289

psdw44@gmail.com

Jerri Hanna (Congregational Care)

(843) 645-0610

jjhannalpc@aol.com

Kevin MacCarthy (Building & Grounds)

(609) 462-3903

packaging82@yahoo.com

Janit Maguire (Communications)

(845) 527-6409

janitmaguire@gmail.com

Carolyn Marshall (Membership)

(805) 522-8346

rivercottage@gmail.com

Anne Redlus (Missions)

(843) 705-6373

anneredlus@gmail.com

Larry Tremitiere (Worship)

(843) 208-2107

ltrem1943@gmail.com

Dale Wilkes (Faith Formation)

(207) 299-6693

Dalewilkes207@gmail.com

Session Highlights

While there was no stated meeting in November, the Session did convene in two called meetings:

- On November 27th the Session met to examine and receive sixteen new members of the congregation.
- On November 29th the Session met to consider renovations to the Fellowship Hall. Specifically, the Session approved the design and scope of work for the renovation; accepted a very generous grant from the estate of Al Thomas to fund the majority of the renovation cost; authorized a campaign, to begin in January, to raise the remaining funds necessary to complete the renovation; and approved the renaming of the Fellowship Hall to the "Albert and Marion Thomas Hall".

At its December 14th stated meeting, the Session:

- Voted to only have the 10:30 am worship service on February 19, 2023 in recognition of the unique demands of the "Kirkin' o' the Tartans" service to be conducted on that day.
- Received the Faith Stories of the newly elected elders who will be installed in January (Jan Alpert, Karen Couser, Pam Davis-Webb, Kevin McCarthy, Janit Maguire and Dale Wilkes) and then voted to accept their examination.
- Recognized and thanked retiring Session members (John Abernethy, Carol Bogle and Debbie Hough as well and Karen Couser, who will be serving for another year) and invited them to reflect on their time of service on the Session, both for the benefit of the remaining elders as well and the newly elected elders.
- Expressed its appreciation to retiring Clerk of Session Ernest Bush with comments, notes and gifts, all gratefully received. The Session then elected Janit Maguire to serve as Clerk beginning in January.
- Voted to approve the 2023 Budget as presented by Treasurer J.W. Wilson.
- Called a Congregational Meeting following the 10:30 am service on January 29, 2023 for the purposes of presenting the 2022 Annual Report, reviewing the 2023 Budget and electing at-large members for the 2023 Church Officer Nominating Committee (CONC).

The next Stated Session meeting is scheduled for January 25, 2023.

If you have any questions or would like to see the minutes from these Session meetings, please contact Ernest Bush, Clerk of Session at 843-290-3218 or elbush@mac.com.

January 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <i>Happy New Year</i>	2 Church Office is Closed	3	4	5 Building & Grounds gam Membership 10:30am Faith Formation 2pm Choir Practice 6:45pm	6	7 Men of Purpose 9:00am
8 Worship 8:30am & 10:30am Installation of Elders Adult Sunday School 9:35am Fundraising Concert 7pm	9	10 Moving Forward 9:30am Women of Faith 11:00am Bell Practice 12:30pm Communication 4:00pm	11 Congregational Care 10am	12 Choir Practice 6:45pm	13	14 Men of Purpose 9:00am
15 Worship 8:30am & 10:30am Take 5 Celebration	16	17 Bell Practice 12:30pm Missions Meeting 3pm	18 Worship Ministry 7pm	19 Admin/Finance 4:00pm Choir Practice 6:45pm	20	21 Men of Purpose 9:00am
22 Worship 8:30am & 10:30am Adult Sunday School 9:35am Fellowship Lunch 11:30am Evolution Band Concert 2pm	23	24 Bell Practice 12:30pm Quarterly Book Club 6:00pm	25 Session Meeting 6:30pm	26 Lay Visitation 11:15am Youngish Adults 5:30pm Choir Practice 6:45pm	27	28 Men of Purpose 9:00am
29 Worship 8:30am & 10:30am Ministry Volunteer Fair in the Narthex	30	31 Bell Practice 12:30pm				