



# 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.*

## New Members Class Spring 2023

**May and June 2023**



On April 30<sup>th</sup> we welcomed eleven new members, with three joining in absentia. The Membership team had a special cake in their honor following the service. Go to pages 18 - 19 to put names with faces and to read brief bios about each.



After being warmly greeted by members of the congregation, the group, elder Karen Couser and Rev. Herrin enjoyed lunch together at Truffles!

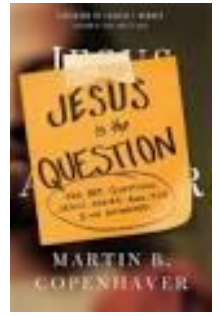


Hudson Michel, Emery Mae and Cora Kate, daughters of Mary and Chris Johnson, were baptized on April 23rd. Participating elder was Bonnie Flack.

**One Service Only  
at 10:30am  
June 4th through  
Labor Day weekend**



## Rev. Martin Copenhaver Visits LPC



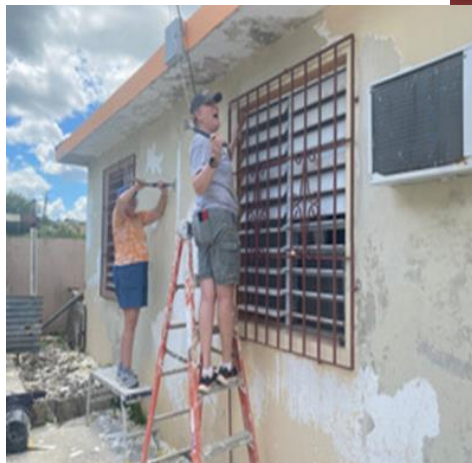
On April 23, the LPC congregation enjoyed a visit from retired UCC pastor, scholar and writer, Rev. Dr. Martin Copenhaver. His sermon on "Questioning Jesus" was followed by a brief time of refreshments after which many of the congregation reconvened in the Sanctuary for a discussion of Copenhaver's book "Jesus is the Question: 307 Questions Jesus Asked and the 3 He Answered." After a brief recap of the book, members of our Faith Formation Ministry and Chad Copenhaver, brother of Martin, read to the group 124 of the questions Jesus asked. Rev Copenhaver then opened up discussion for reactions on these questions, which ones we liked, which ones concerned and/or challenged us, and what other questions we might have about Jesus's walk among us.

Copenhaver is author of nine books and an editor-at-large at *The Christian Century* magazine. He lives with his wife Karen in Woodstock, VT and Cambridge, MA. The next book he is writing is on being a grandfather!

We thank LPC members Chad and Sandra Copenhaver for bringing Rev Copenhaver to us. We hope they all enjoyed family time together in the Lowcountry.

The presentation which followed the worship service is now available as a stand-alone broadcast that viewers may find on the LPC website ([lowcountrypres.org/virtual-worship](http://lowcountrypres.org/virtual-worship)) or [click here](#).



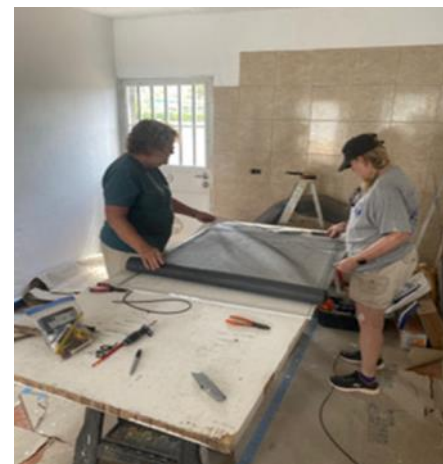



## Puerto Rico Mission Trip



Nine members of Charleston Atlantic Presbytery went to Puerto Rico on a mission trip March 4-11 to repair homes damaged from Hurricane Marie and more storms. These members represented six churches in the presbytery: **Lowcountry**, James Island, Mount Pleasant, Summerville, Palmetto, and St. James. The two from Lowcountry were JR Wilson and Lila Wright.

Work included painting inside and out, pressure washing, scraping, tiling a bathroom and living areas, screen repair and general cleanup. The team worked on two homes both with major water damage and non-livable for years; one home 10 minutes from host house, close to the coast, and second home 50 minutes away in the mountain area. Team stayed at PDA Host House in San Juan next to the Presbyterian church. The team worshipped on Sunday at the Levittown Presbyterian Church that CAP helped repair after Hurricane Maria, with several participating in worship.



## Shoe Collection with the Temple in April

Many dozen pairs of shoes were donated in April by Temple Oseh Shalom and LPC members as a memorial to the victims of the Holocaust. Thank you to all who helped make this memorial event a success! Non-profit God's Goods will receive the shoes.



## AGAPE SPRING FOOD DRIVE RESULTS

Many thanks from Agape and the Mission Committee to everyone who donated food to the food drive. We collected 953 items! Both Ponchitta and Viola at Agape were very happy to receive the food from our drive! LPC donated 255 cans of vegetables, 50 bags of fruit, 38 bags of vegetables 77 jars of peanut butter and 71 boxes of cereal and more to help stock their empty shelves. It was great to see you all drive up with donations.

Many thanks, The Mission Committee



# MISSIONS



## This Child Here

Rev. Robert Gamble, PCUSA pastor and founder of *This Child Here* ministry in Ukraine was our guest preacher on Sunday, March 19<sup>th</sup>. If you missed the service, be sure to go to our webpage and watch the live stream, to hear the powerful message he shared.

Rev. Gamble **also led a question/answer time** in the sanctuary following the worship service (approximately 100 folks stayed and a few from the community attended as well).

LPC began financial support of *This Child Here* last year. On his visit Rev. Gamble was presented an additional check for \$1,000 to support his ministry. *This Child Here* was also the March Change Can Make a Change collection for which we collected \$3,049.

Thank you for your generous support of this important ministry.



## Missions Beyond

**Question :** Does your family sponsor a child through organizations such as Save the Children, World Vision, Compassion, etc? If you do, would you contact Anne Redlus at [anneredlus@gmail.com](mailto:anneredlus@gmail.com) or call 843-705-6373 so she can collect information on the impact that our members have in supporting children around the world.

# MISSIONS

May 2023

## CHANGE CAN MAKE A CHANGE



LOWCOUNTRY LEGAL  
VOLUNTEERS

For over two decades, Lowcountry Legal Volunteers has protected, defended and advocated for those that have struggled in silence for far too long – working on the frontlines and behind the scenes to offer our clients the competent and skilled legal services they deserve. We are here to provide sound counsel and create a pathway to fair representation for all. We are here to help our clients restore order in their lives and those of their children.

LPC member Stephen Meyer will give a minute for mission on Sunday, May 7th. He is the LLV board chair.



MEALS on WHEELS  
BLUFFTON-HILTON HEAD

*LPC Missions Ministry*



JUNE 2023

## CHANGE CAN MAKE A CHANGE

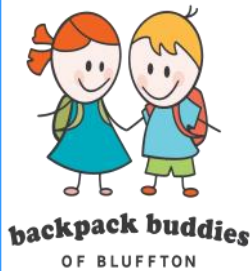
### *Meals on Wheels Bluffton-Hilton Head*

Meals-on-Wheels, Bluffton-Hilton Head is dedicated to providing meals to homebound clients in Hilton Head and Bluffton (including Sun City) who lack capacity to prepare nutritious meals without regard to their ability to pay. Warm meals are delivered five days a week. We not only deliver meals, but we also make sure our clients are doing well as part of daily engagement with them.

Our meal delivery program is the heartbeat of our non-profit organization. Meals-on-Wheels, Bluffton-Hilton Head relies on the dedication of our volunteers to deliver a hot, nutritious meal every weekday, 52 weeks a year, even on holidays. Our clients include anyone in the Bluffton-Hilton Head area, including Sun City, who needs assistance with meals – whether temporary or long-term.

Meals-on-Wheels, Bluffton-Hilton Head, Inc. is a local 501(c)(3) charitable organization dedicated to providing our clients with one nutritious meal a day in their own home on a temporary or long-term basis.

# MISSIONS



## BACKPACK BUDDIES

On April 4th, volunteers from LPC met to package food bags for Backpack Buddies. Food was then distributed to students at Prichardville Elementary School on Fridays throughout the month of April.



**Thank you for your generous donations!**

**March Change Can Make a Change (CCMAC) for This Child Here totaled \$3,149**

**April Change Can Make A Change for One Great Hour of Sharing totaled \$3,043**

**Turkey/Syria Earthquake Relief totaled \$3,605. Those monies have been sent to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance who is on the ground in that area.**

### **Thank you from Bluffton Community Soup Kitchen**

"Thank you for your kind and generous Souper Bowl offering of \$3,161.00 to the Bluffton Community Soup Kitchen and your kind note. It will help to provide hot home cooked meals to residents of Beaufort County SC that include the sick and shut-ins, seniors, homeless, the unemployed, working, and poor families.

Thanks to your support, compassion, and generosity you are enabling us to serve our neighbors in need. Bluffton Community Soup Kitchen is a donor supported, volunteer driven organization, and our success is made possible by the support of donors like you.

Thank you, thank you, thank you and that still is not enough!"

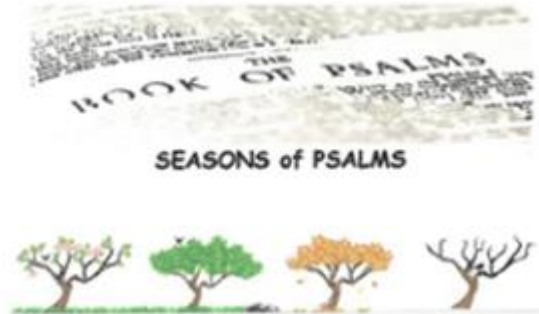
## FAITH FORMATION MINISTRY



*Grow with us.*

### MISSION STATEMENT:

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



Our *Seasons of Psalms* congregation-wide faith study initiative is moving along with Sunday School lessons and two sessions with Rev Herrin as we learn about the 150 Psalms. Join in any time. Reading schedules may be picked up on the table under the monitor in the Narthex or [click here](#) for a copy.

To enhance your study, check out our new *Seasons of Psalms* page on the LPC website under the Faith Formation tab. Included is a free, useful tool that enables you to read separate Bible translations side-by-side on your computer, pad, or mobile screen.



### **RABBI KEN KANTER TO TEACH ON PSALMS**

Our Faith Formation Ministry is pleased to welcome Rabbi Kenneth A Kanter to LPC on Sunday, May 21. Rabbi Kanter will present a Jewish interpretation of the Psalms during our 9:30 am Adult Sunday School class. Rabbi Kanter visits our area once a month from Cincinnati as he leads the Temple Oseh Shalom service here at LPC. He is currently the Rabbinic Director of Roots of Reform Judaism in Cincinnati.

Born in Chicago, Rabbi Kanter received his B.A. in Jewish and American History from Harvard, his M.A.H.L. and Ordination from HUC-JIR, and an honorary Doctor of Divinity. In 2005, he concluded twenty-six years as a congregational rabbi in Nashville and Chattanooga. Before coming to RRJ, Rabbi Kanter served for 15 years, as faculty member, Associate Dean and Director of the Rabbinical School at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Cincinnati.

Please join Rabbi Kanter in the Church Parlor at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, May 21.

### **Adult Sunday School**

Please join us in the Parlor from 9:30 am to 10:10 am on Sundays. This year we will alternate studying the Psalms or discussing a timely, current event topic with Biblical connections from The Wired Word series. Check your weekly e-Blast for the upcoming Sunday's lesson.



## FAITH FORMATION MINISTRY

### 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 Wednesday, May 3 at 5:30pm.

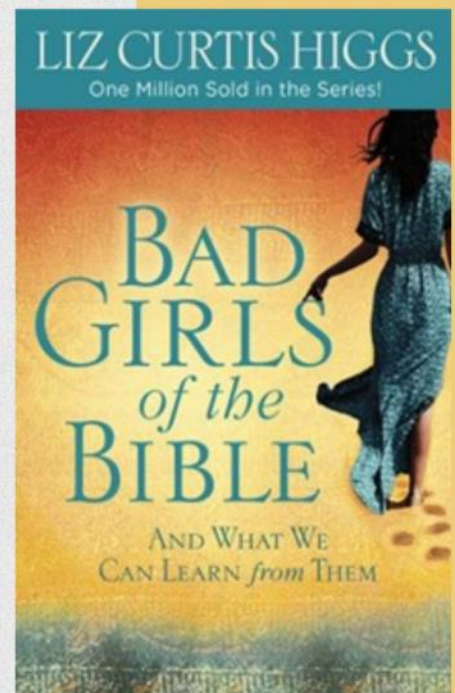
Visitors are welcome, and let Chris know to have enough pizza and childcare.

## WOMEN OF FAITH

MAY 9TH, 11 AM, PARLOR

The next Women of Faith meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 9th at 11 a.m. in the parlor. The group, open to all LPC women, friends and visitors meets every second Tuesday to engage with God's Word in community. *Bad Girls of the Bible* by Liz Curtis Higgs is the current focus book. Please read pages 59-83 (Pillar of the Community) before our our May meeting. Each chapter can be read as a stand alone section, making it easy to join this fun 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.



### Men of Purpose

Men of Purpose, a Men's discussions small group, will be reading and discussing "Jesus is the Question" by Martin Copenhaver through May 13. They do not meet during the summer months and will resume meeting on September 9, 2023.



## FAITH FORMATION MINISTRY

### Children's Sunday School for 4 & 5 year olds

The 4 and 5 year olds in our Children's Sunday School enjoyed a wonderful Easter Sunday with teacher Phyllis Willever. They learned about Jesus's love for all the children of the world. Each child was given an egg with a "Jesus Loves Me" wristband inside and enjoyed singing "Jesus Loves Me".

The children have also learned about the miracle of Jesus feeding the hungry crowd of 5000 with only five loaves of bread and two fish and made necklaces representing the loaves and fish.

The last class before the summer break will be Sunday, May 28. Classes will resume in the fall on the second and fourth Sundays at 10:30 am for four and five year olds.



### THE GREEN TEAM (AKA—THE EARTH CARE TEAM)

#### LPC EXPLORED HONEY HORN ON HHI

We could not have had a better sunny, breezy day at Honey Horn on May 2! Our tour guide, Dave, shared a great deal of fun facts about the salt marshes, flora and fauna, and the history of the Honey Horn property. Dave told us he is a friend of LPC's Bill & Judy Thorpe! An hour and a half walk did not give us time to explore the whole property but we know we'll be back! A special bonus was finding LPC member Wendy MacCarthy behind the visitors' desk in the Coastal Discovery Museum where she volunteers!



Opportunities abound to take classes there and learn more about the uniqueness of the Lowcountry! Visit [coastaldiscovery.org](http://coastaldiscovery.org) for more information. All are welcome to explore at any time for free! And their Farmers Market is each Tuesday!





## THE GREEN TEAM (AKA—THE EARTH CARE TEAM)

### LPC receives its Earth Care Recertification, for the 5th consecutive year!

Certification means that as a result of the actions here at LPC during the year in Worship, Mission, Building and Grounds and Education, we met the criteria contained in the 202nd General Assembly's report on Restoring Creation for Ecology and Justice.

Going forward, the remodeling of Fellowship Hall continues our environmental effort, including many energy-wise appliances and lighting fixtures and improved insulation—all of which will not only lower electrical expenses—and be more environmentally responsible.

LPC supports Adopt-A-Highway on Simmonsville Rd. and the May River Cleanup in Bluffton. And we continue to promote Beaufort County Electronic Recycling events 3-4x yearly.

#### Saturday, May 20 Electronics (E-waste) Recycling Event

Any personal computers, laptops, CRT monitors, LCD monitors, CRT televisions, non-CRT televisions, printers, hard drives, and miscellaneous electronics (cell phones, radios, and fax machines) will be accepted. Household items NOT accepted at this event include microwaves, vacuums, stereos, speakers, tuners, VCRs, DVDs, lamps, etc. These can be taken to the Convenience Centers for disposal and will not be unloaded at the event. **STAY IN YOUR CAR** during the event. Staff will unload electronics. Residential only.

#### Event Date

May 20, 2023

E-waste Event Hours: 9 am - 1 pm

#### E-waste Event Locations

Beaufort Site: 140 Shanklin Rd. - Beaufort SC 29906 Bluffton Site: 9 Benton Field Rd. - Bluffton SC 29910

#### SAVE THE DATE: BLUFFTON WALK FOR WATER WILL BE SATURDAY, SEPT. 23!



It's not too early to mark your calendar for this year's Bluffton Walk for Water and plan to join LPC's Team! Last year over 50 LPC members and friends joined 100 other Walkers in the Old Town fundraiser. Water Mission is a Christian, Charleston-based, non-profit that builds and provides water treatment units for 3rd world nations, and also to war-ravaged countries like Ukraine and disaster areas like Turkey. Bluffton alone raised over \$17K at the 2022 Walk!

Beaufort will hold its event the Saturday before, (September 16). So if you are unable to Walk in Bluffton on the 23rd, please join the Beaufort Walk—or even participate in both!

When Water Mission opens on-line registration in early summer, please gather friends, family and neighbors to increase LPC's numbers and secure your T-shirt size! Watch for more information in the bulletin and weekly e-blasts.

Interested in touring Water Mission in North Charleston? We will be planning an outing to do just that! Those that visited last year found it humbling and very meaningful.

Questions or willing to help plan the event? Contact Gretchen and Jon Nickel at

[gretchjon@yahoo.com](mailto:gretchjon@yahoo.com).



## Earth Day Highway Clean-up

In honor of Earth Day, 10 LPC members and friends collected 10 bags of trash (and a lot of car parts) along Simmonsville Rd. on April 21 as part of a Beaufort County-wide Adopt-A-Highway effort! It was amazing how quickly the pickup went with so many folks joining in!

Thank you all! Hope to see you again for the summer and fall events this year!

## Grounds Clean-up Day March 4th



## Communications Ministry

### *Where We've Been... Where We're Going....*

#### Welcome Cards to New Residents of Bluffton:

As part of the communications ministry's outreach, several LPC members send hand-written welcome cards to the new homeowners in their communities with an invitation to attend a service with us. We recently had a visit from a new homeowner in Rosehill after she received a card from our member, Evelyn Baker. The visitor said she took the time to come visit us because Evelyn took the time to send her a hand-written note.

We would like to reach more communities in the area with welcome cards inviting new residents to join us for service on Sunday morning.

Would your community homeowner's association give you a list of new residents? If yes, and you are interested in doing this in your community, please reach out to Christy James at [office@lowcountrypres.org](mailto:office@lowcountrypres.org) or Janit Maguire at [janitmaguire@gmail.com](mailto:janitmaguire@gmail.com)

#### LPC's Booth at the Bluffton Farmers Market:

Communications Ministry Member, Lynn Cordy, and fellow LPC members Sally Ayotte, Karen Couser, Sue Martin, Dale Wilkes, manned a booth on March 16<sup>th</sup> to interact with the community and let folks know that *All Are Welcome* to join us on Sunday morning!

Many people in the area know of LPC because of the front-façade of the church and the trees in our parking lot. Lynn had a lovely photograph of the front-façade of LPC printed on cardboard and framed to display on our table. A great way to help the community get to know us and remember us when they see a picture of our church or drive by our parking lot.

#### LPC Sponsorship of Pulseology's 5K:

LPC sponsored Pulseology Fitness Club's first annual 5K run/walk on April 1<sup>st</sup> to benefit Palmetto Animal League. The LPC logo was on the t-shirts and advertising. There were 190 participants, and it raised \$1,750 for PAL.

#### Membership Directory:

The Communications Ministry makes monthly updates to our Membership Directory. If you have any updates like a new email address—please let Christy or Janit know at [office@lowcountrypres.org](mailto:office@lowcountrypres.org) or [janitmaguire@gmail.com](mailto:janitmaguire@gmail.com)

We are planning a new pictorial Membership Directory in the fall. The photography company, *Unique Church Solutions*, will be here in October to take our photos. We will update the congregation of the exact dates in late summer.

#### Communications Coordinator:

We have hired a part-time communications coordinator to help us (10 hours a month) with creating advertisements for print and Facebook posts about our events, and to help with our website.



## The Audio Visual Project - A Tremendous Success

With the new equipment all in place and up and running, there are no other words to use to describe our AV project other than a Tremendous Success. First and foremost, the improvement in the sound quality has been amazing. The increase in our microphone capabilities has added to that success. But how about on our large screen being able to talk to a woman in Ukraine in real-time? Or Chris being able to project a video for a class she is holding from the pulpit? Or at Easter being able to see Lila and JR's presentation on their mission trip? Or words to a hymn being shown during service? Or the Temple being able to also do the same? Or the new assisted hearing devices? Or the new Live Streaming capabilities? Or the new monitor in the rear to show the choir the cross? Well, you get the picture, and yet with all of that, we are just beginning to scratch the surface on what we can do.

Then with all of this in place, we did it with an approximate \$10,000 surplus from our original budget. This includes acquiring our new assisted hearing system which was \$7,600 and not part of the original design. As a congregation, we recognized a need, developed a plan, financially supported it, hired a capable contractor in Vibe, and then executed the plan we laid out. Certainly, we had issues that came up along the way that we had to react to, and changes were made. In addition, there are still some things that come up even now that we need to respond to and adjust. With all the new equipment that is to be expected. However, with all that we have achieved and with all we are now capable of doing, it has all been so worthwhile!

Finally, as a team, we want to thank you for all your support. It is about 3 years ago at the start of COVID that this all began for us and look where we are today. Even in the midst of heartache and tragedy, God Shines His Light!

Bob Lowry-Chair, Carol Bogle, Janit Maguire, Jim Martin, Chuck Thomas, Larry Tremitiere



On April 30th pictures were shown during Chris' sermon.

## Fellowship Hall Renovations Update

### Demolition

- .. Main bathrooms have been gutted.
- .. Kitchen has been gutted.
- .. All ceiling tiles have been removed

### Activity

- .. Commercial refrigerator, warming cabinet, and new ice maker have all been delivered.
- .. Door ways are being enlarged to move tables & chairs easier (pictured top right).
- .. Doors are ready to be painted.
- .. Our plans have been reviewed by the chief inspector for Bluffton. Comments have been sent back to K Company which forwarded the comments to our architect and engineer. Final plans are expected soon, then construction can begin.
- ..The front wall of fellowship hall must be replaced (pictured bottom right).



## LPC Connects

### To be a Church Family We Have to Know One Another

I have challenged the elders on a quarterly basis, to reach out to someone they don't know and invite them out for coffee or a meal, whether it's a long time member, a brand new one, or a visitor. It would be a good goal for everyone in the congregation. How much more will our collective sense of community be if we were all intentional to build relationships. If you'd like to be more connected, don't wait for someone else to take the initiative! AND if you do gather with other LPC folks, please take a picture and send to me.

You will make my day and we'll put your group in the next newsletter!

Peace, Chris Herrin



Pictured here Gretchen and Jon Nickel run into Susan Lowe at the airport in Palm Springs in March.



The Session enjoyed connecting with each other over dinner at British Open Pub following their meeting on Wednesday, April 26<sup>th</sup>.



## MUSIC MINISTRY

### The Jubilate Ringers

will be playing on the third Sunday in May on the 21st. This will be their final performance before they take a break during the summer months. They will be playing: "Give Me Oil in My Lamp", arranged by Mark Arnold and



"A Gospel Ring" by Anna Laura Page, with Karen Ball at the piano. We look forward to their return after Labor Day. Their dedication and beautiful playing bring so much to the services. Special thanks to Robyn Kiser for organizing the music and Judy Barry for keeping track of everyone.

**The Chancel Choir** will be singing through June 11<sup>th</sup> and then will be enjoying a break through the summer, returning in September. On May 7<sup>th</sup>, the women of the choir will be singing "All Night, All Day" for the Prelude and the men of the choir will be singing "Lean on Me" for the Offertory. On May 14<sup>th</sup>, Tom Smith will be joining Karen at the keyboard for a 4-hand accompaniment of the choral piece, "Time for Praying." Special thanks to Jean Nordby for organizing the sheet music each week and keeping us on task, to Maureen Kalmbach for organizing social events, and to Judy Barry for keeping track of choir members and sending out the communication announcements. During the summer we look forward to the musical offerings of guest musicians and members of the choir for special music when the Bells and Choir are on vacation.



**Jazz Band Concert Announcement:** The Lowcountry Jazz Band, led by Mary Woodmansee Green, will be performing in the LPC Sanctuary on Tuesday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. The OLLI program out of USCB sponsors this ensemble. There is no admission charge for this concert, although a freewill offering will be taken up. A wide variety of jazz songs will be performed and our own Robin Lind will be the vocal soloist. Invite your friends and come and enjoy an evening of jazz.



# MEMBERSHIP MINISTRY



## Oyster Factory Park Picnic

We are delighted to report that our Palm Sunday picnic at Oyster Factory Park was a great success, with over 60 people in attendance. It was a beautiful day, and everyone enjoyed the fellowship and delicious subs. We want to thank all those who came out to join us, and we hope to see you at our next event. In other news, we enjoyed meeting the new members during snack and chat breaks at their classes in March. We are excited to have these 11 individuals join us in worship and service. Please be sure to meet and welcome them to our congregation. Finally, we are beginning to plan our next event that will, hopefully, take place in Thomas Hall. We are anxious to see the newly renovated space. Stay tuned for more information about this event coming soon.



## MEMBERSHIP MINISTRY

### New Members Class



**FRANK & LESLIE DOVE**

**Frank and Leslie Dove**, originally from Maryland and New Jersey, moved to the Lowcountry in June of 2022 after living 32 years in the “high country” in Colorado, where they enjoyed skiing, hiking, camping and backpacking. In Colorado, Frank was in the home inspection business and Leslie was a church musician for 16 years while also managing the inspection business. They have 3 children, 8 grandchildren, and are very excited about becoming great-grandparents in August! They are enjoying retirement and the freedom to explore this beautiful area and feel so very blessed to have found Bluffton, Sun City and LPC. They both love bike riding and trying the many activities available in Sun City. Frank is enjoying getting back into golf and getting acquainted with their many friendly neighbors. Leslie enjoys reading, playing piano, and hearing the bird symphony while walking the neighborhood or sitting out on the lanai.



**FAITH HULL**

**Virginia Durham** has attended a Presbyterian Church for 63 years. In 1960 she and her husband, along with three other couples, formed the Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church in Bartlesville, OK. She has been a member of First Presbyterian Church on Hilton Head for 15 years. She has 3 children, 2 sons and one daughter. She lost her husband last year after 62 years of marriage. (Picture not available.)

**Faith Hull** grew up in small town Durham, CT and then moved to KY to go to Centre College. She met her husband, Fred, at the newspaper in Lexington. They have two children. Later she moved to CT, then retired and moved to Bluffton. Faith loves tennis, golf, baking and entertaining.



**MARGARET JOHANSEN**

**Margaret Johansen** was born, raised and educated in Missouri. She met her husband in Missouri and their two daughters were born there. Her degree in Music Education was earned at William Jewell College. She began her teaching and singing careers in North Kansas City, Missouri. In 1970, Margaret and family moved to Athens, Georgia, where she resided for the next 50 years. Her husband, who is now deceased, was an Associate Professor in the Fine Arts department of the University of Georgia and her daughters received their college educations there. Margaret was a music teacher in the Athens public school system, and she continued to sing professionally in and around Athens. As a member of The 1st Presbyterian Church in Athens, she sang in the choir. She was also an Elder, a Liturgist and a Circle Leader. Margaret retired from teaching in 2002. Since then, she has traveled internationally as well as visiting friends, children, grandchildren and other family in the US. She relocated to Bluffton in 2020, to be near her daughter who lives in Hilton Head.

## New Members Class Continued



**JANIS LAKIN**

**Janis Lakin** was born and raised in New Orleans, LA. She moved here from Arlington, VA 4 years ago. She has a masters in education with 33 years teaching experience. She actively enjoys pickleball, hiking, kayaking and cycling. She is single, seventy, a twin born on October 31st and a gym rat! She is excited to be a new member at LPC and continuing her faith journey!



**ETHEL ANN PRICE**

**Ethel Anne Price** and her husband Ron moved to Bluffton from Savannah in 2004. She is a retired branch manager of SunTrust Bank. They have 2 children, 3 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren. She loves spending time with family, golf and line dancing.



**ROBERT SHUMATE**

**Robert Shumate** was born and raised in Bluefield, WV. He has a wonderful son who is now in Portland, OR and a sister who has also retired in Bluffton. He is a graduate of Lincoln Memorial University and Tennessee Technological University in fishery and wildlife biology. He is a member of Alpha Phi Omega National Service Fraternity and has worked as a biologist at a biological station and as a park ranger in Florida. He volunteers on mission trips for LPC and at Pinckney Island Wildlife Refuge.

**Lila Wright** was born and raised in Aiken, SC. She has lived in Missouri, Oklahoma, and Alabama before moving to Bluffton in 2022. She retired from retail pharmacy in 2019, but recently returned to work part-time in hospital pharmacy. She enjoys horseback riding, travel, fishing, walking on the beach, and perusing consignment shops.

**Jim Wright** was born in Bedford, Virginia. He moved to Bluffton from Auburn, Alabama after retiring from teaching at the Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine. He enjoys playing with the grandkids, reading, playing the baritone ukulele, and singing bluegrass and gospel music. (Picture not available.)



**JOHN WOODRUFF**

**John Woodruff** is a 76 year old retiree from Raleigh, NC



*Sweet  
Baby  
Girl*

**Congratulations to Stephen and Hillary Meyer on the birth of their daughter, Dahlia Grace, born April 5th. Dahlia has a big sister, Millie.**

## WORSHIP MINISTRY



### Sunday Worship Flowers

If you would like to donate the sanctuary flowers for the pulpit, please sign-up on the Flower Chart in the Narthex or call the church office.

Pictured are members of the Worship Ministry who arranged the Easter flowers for display in the sanctuary. Many thanks to all who donated plants in honor or memory of a loved one!

## CONGREGATIONAL CARE MINISTRY

### Congregational Care Greeting Card Ministry

For the past couple of years, the Greeting Card Ministry has been a one-person activity. To involve more members who wished to volunteer in the ministry, we decided to separate it into five card categories: Sanctuary Flowers, Sympathy, Get Well, Thinking of You, and Special Occasions. Additionally, we are going to mail *The Light* to various people who do not have or use a computer. The Sanctuary Flower notes of thanks are for the flowers that are donated by individuals on a weekly basis, but not the Easter and Christmas flowers that are handled through the Worship Ministry.

Cards or Notes are sent according to:

Sanctuary Flowers thank you notes: Jan Adams or Debbie Hager

Sympathy: Carol Thorne

Thinking of You: Carol Hissom

Get Well: Betty Smith

Special Occasions: Judy Placer

If you know a member who is having a milestone birthday or anniversary, please contact Judy Placer so she can get a card out. Additionally, we are going to mail birthday cards to children 12 and under rather than have them on the birthday call list. This will be under the care of Judy, too. Linda Smith will be mailing *The Light*. Christy has been doing this, but we felt it would fall nicely in this section of our ministry.

We do have a good system of communication for when cards could be sent to members, but please let one of the ladies listed know if there is something going on that isn't in the bulletin, sent out in an eblast, etc.

## CONGREGATIONAL CARE MINISTRY

### Prayerful Stitches Beyond our Doors

Several ladies of LPC give of their time, talents, and materials to knit or crochet lap robes and shawls. Many have been distributed to members of LPC. This spring Tom Maguire, husband of Janit, took some of the lap robes she had made to The Pines, the senior facility next to our church. Tom is a Eucharistic Minister for St. Gregory the Great. When he asked his group who would like one, he had nine enthusiastic YES responses. He gave what he had, and Janit requested to make up the difference with some from our stock. Tom delivered those extra blankets and included our gift card so the residents knew that they came from our church. He said all were very happy to receive them. If you are interested in joining this ministry which is part of Congregational Care, please contact Jane Lundblad at 307-483-1299 or [jhl6odml@gmail.com](mailto:jhl6odml@gmail.com). Also, if you do not knit or crochet, but would like to donate yarn to this group of ladies, please contact Jane for suggestions before you purchase. Donations to their labor of love would certainly be welcome and appreciated.

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***Please remember with your prayers:***

Kathy Crist



**Christian sympathy is extended to:**

**the family of Chad Grayson**

**the family of former member Jean John.** Jean had been moved by her family to a care facility near Atlanta several years ago now.

If you would like to send a card to the family this is the contact information we have:

Jean John family  
1125 Audubon Dr  
Lynchburg, VA. 24503

**the family of Betsy Rogers, former member who had moved to Illinois**

**Chris Richards on the death of her husband, Stan**

**Virginia Durham on the death of her son**

**the Chavelas family on the death of Carmen's older son, Porfirio Rauda who was living in Mexico and is survived by his 10 and 12 year old daughters.**

# Thank You

Dear Church Family,

I would like to take the opportunity to THANK YOU all! You may have sent a card, gift, flowers, food, get well wishes, said a prayer or shown your concern in other caring ways; I want you to know I truly consider it a privilege to have been on the receiving end. Special thank you to JR for delivering the beautiful church flowers and to Jerri Hanna for her calls, visits, delicious meal and the lovely prayer shawl.

On a personal note, my hand is out of the cast, is healing and am regaining some fine motor skills with my new joint replacement. Physical Therapy will continue for another THREE months as strengthening exercises are added!! I would appreciate continued prayers for patience! God knows our every need.

Thank you again.

Love and God bless you all,  
Joann McElravy

## May Birthdays

1 George McCartney	7 Debbie Hough	22 Naomi Davis
1 Clint Young	8 Dede Bush	23 Terry Parker
2 Fran Parker	9 Bill Bogle	24 Randy Aubrey
4 Dave Casperson	11 Donna Aubrey	26 Cristi Rozea
4 Chris Johnson	11 Stephen Ball	27 Andy Hough
4 Pam Davis-Webb	11 Eva Kottraba	27 Nancy Johnson
5 Lynn Cordy	14 Jaxson Hardin	28 Robin Bloom
6 Nancy Dietz	16 Joe Lieser	30 Venus Holland
6 Sharon Stauffer	19 Gray Toulmin	
6 Dale Wilkes	22 Herb Costolo	



## June Birthdays

1 Elaine Branda	9 Millie Meyer	22 Bob Krantz
1 Bob Flack	10 Ronald Buhman	22 Stephen Meyer
2 Sharon Heisey	10 Carmen Chaveles	23 Karen Buhman
3 Wendy MacCarthy	14 Jan Catanese	23 Shirley Holec
4 Betty Breedlove	17 Kaye Ramach	24 Karl Juelch
5 Donald Allison	18 John Schauer	24 Emery Johnson
5 Gail Boggs	19 Peggy Evans	25 Anne Grayson
6 Kate McClain	19 Rick Underwood	26 June Allison
6 Susan Wilson	20 Susan Belli	28 John Warren
8 Susan Lowe	21 Sloan Gray	29 Jon Nickel
8 Kathy Walters	21 Paul Sell	



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**E-mail: office@lowcountrypres.org**

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**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.*

## SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

The Session convened in two called meetings, 3/22/23 and 4/26/23, where they:

- Began a study of Dietrich Bonhoeffer's book *Life Together*.
- Approved baptisms of Hudson, Emery, and Cora Johnson on April 23<sup>rd</sup>
- Adopted policy to stop taking photographs of children's faces who are from outside organizations and attending functions at LPC. Created parental permission form for posting pictures of children in our congregation.
- Received reports from Clerk of Session Janit Maguire that LPC had 321 members as of 4/26/23, reflecting the removal of Frank Waller and Nancy Paton who passed away, and Janet Chamberlain who moved to Greenwood, SC. Added twelve baptized members to membership count as per the *Book of Order*.
- Elected Taylor Evans as LPC Treasurer effective May 1<sup>st</sup>, replacing JR Wilson, who resigned the position. Much thanks to JR for his excellent service.
- Reported on Fellowship Hall renovation progress. Estimated completion is July-August and most of the unexpected expenses will be covered by the fundraising.
- Elected Elder Anne Redlus as chair and Elder Larry Tremitiere to serve on the 2023 Congregational Officer Nominating Committee to elect new session members for the class of 2026.
- Approved expanding the Personnel Committee to allow for greater continuity as elders rotate off the Session.
- Authorized the Personnel Committee to pursue the employment of temporary, part-time staff if deemed appropriate as we continue to search for a new Associate Pastor.
- Reported that weekly teams are being formed to do the livestreaming, even as there is still need for a few more operators. They will continue to be trained and coached by Bob Lowry.

The next two Session meetings are scheduled for May 24<sup>th</sup> and June 28<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions or would like to see the minutes, please contact Janit Maguire, Clerk of Session at janitmaguire@gmail.com or 845-527-6409.

# MAY 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Bell Practice 12:30pm Quarterly Book Club 5:00pm	3 Faith Formation 2pm Youngish Adults 5:30pm	4 Building & Grounds gam Membership 10:30am Choir Practice 6:45pm	5	6 Men of Purpose 9:00am
7 Worship 8:30am & 10:30am  Adult Sunday School 9:35am	8	9 Women of Faith 11:00am Bell Practice 12:30pm Quarterly Book Club 4:00pm Lowcountry Jazz Band 7pm	10 Moving Forward 9:30am  Congregational Care 10am	11 Choir Practice 6:45pm	12	13 Men of Purpose 9:00am
14 Worship 8:30am & 10:30am  Adult Sunday School 9:35am	15	16 Bell Practice 12:30pm	17 Worship Ministry 7pm	18 Choir Practice 6:45pm	19	20 E-waste Recycling gam – 1pm at 9 Benton Field Rd. Bluffton
21 Worship 8:30am & 10:30am Adult Sunday School Rabbi Kanter 9:35am	22	23 Bell Practice 12:30pm  Communication 4:00pm	24 Session Meeting 6:30pm	25 Admin/Finance 4:00pm  Choir Practice 6:45pm	26	27
28 Worship 8:30am & 10:30am  Adult Sunday School 9:35am	29	30 Bell Practice 12:30pm  Missions Meeting 4:30pm	31			