

THE ABBEY NEWS



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JUNE 2022

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

From the Pastor	1
Sermons	1
May Happenings	2
Mother's Day Offering	3
Financial Report	
Mission Projects	3
How can I serve?	
Presbyterian Women	5
In Our Prayers	5
Happy Birthdays!	5



POINTS TO PONDER

*"How long, O Lord? Will you forget me for ever?
How long will you hide your face from me?
How long must I bear pain in my soul,
and have sorrow in my heart all day long?
How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?" ~Psalm 13:1-2*

I am sitting at my desk on Friday, May 27th, at 8:17 composing this article for you all. There are a multitude of reasons for that. Life in the small church, feeling compelled to serve my hometown of Newberry this week, and the recent school shooting at Robb Elementary in Uvalde, Texas, has just about zapped me for the week.

As I have prayed and lamented and spoken these words from Psalm 13 aloud, I have come to the stark realization that we are in a collective state of trauma. Not just as a state or a nation, or as a world, but as a church family. And as I have prayed these words aloud this week, so many faces of saints from the past have come to my mind. I'm sure some of you can recall more than I have had the pleasure of knowing in this life, but this week, a couple of folks have been in my heart.

Dr. D wrote on his Facebook page 8 years ago this week: "Peace, for which we all desire and claim we want for the world and for our lives, can only come when we learn and practice loving others as we are loved, forgiving others as we are forgiven." I hear his voice as I prepare articles, sermons, and emails every single week, every day, even—but more this week than ever before.

As I was visiting with teachers in Newberry, one said something that struck me as a "Dr. D" saying. She said what's wrong is these kids don't know Jesus. There's a void in their hearts that only God can fill. What's fascinating and God-surprising about this is that one of the last Bible Studies I sat in on with Dr. D. at Presbyterian Communities was him talking about C.S. Lewis's quote about the "God-sized void in our souls," and that on the Heavenly Father could adequately fill it. We may try to fill that void with other things, but we can truly only fill that void with God. It's God waiting for us to welcome him in that fills that void.

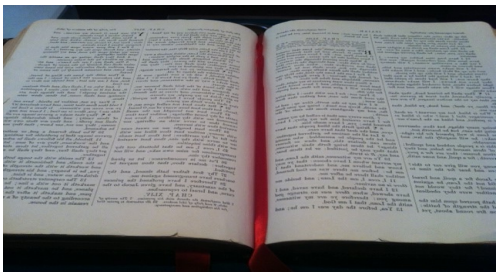
We may cry out with the psalmist "How long, O Lord? Will you forget me forever?" But even the psalmist knows that's not true. He ends the psalm with these words of assurance:

But I trusted in your steadfast love;
my heart shall rejoice in your salvation.
I will sing to the Lord,
because he has dealt bountifully with me.

Our weeping may last for the night, but joy comes in the morning.

Grace and peace,

Rev. Audrey



JUNE SERMONS

Rev. Audrey will begin a new summer sermon series on June 5th using Eugene Peterson's Book *The Jesus Way*. We will explore characters and themes that show us how to truly live into "The Way."

June 19th and 26th we will have guest preachers while Rev. Audrey is away in Greece.



We are so blessed to have a loving and caring church family here at WPC! If you would like to be a part of this family, we would LOVE to have you! You are only a visitor once at WPC! There are so many offerings of service through our church. There is one for YOU!



We will
Celebrate Holy
Communion
June 26th
during Morning
Worship.



*Choose for yourselves today
whom you will serve...*
**As for me and my house,
we will serve the Lord.**
Joshua 24:15



Surely the Presence of the Lord is in this Place

Choose for yourselves today
whom you will serve...
As for me and my house,
we will serve the Lord.
Joshua 24:15

TREASURER’S REPORT

April receipts:	\$ 12,591.01
expenses	13,486.75
	- 895.74
YTD receipts:	\$ 55,743.11
expenses	49,526.15
	+ 6216.96

MOTHER’S DAY OFFERING



Thank you WPC for your donation of **\$750.00** for this most worthy mission!

God is So Good!

DOT’S KITCHEN



Dot’s Kitchen is always looking for folks with a heart of service! See Linda White or Joey Roeder to learn how you can be a part of this Awesome group of servants!

PENTECOST LUNCHEON AND WHC UPDATE



Join us on **June 5th** as we celebrate Pentecost with our annual Pentecost luncheon in Gossett Hall. Drinks and meats will be provided. Please bring a well-filled basket of your favorite side dishes for all to enjoy! We will gather immediately following worship. We will also hear an update of our Westminster Hope ComeUnity project and will gladly answer any questions you may have. We will also let you know how you can serve in this most worthy mission project! Our dream is becoming a **REALITY!**

HOW CAN I SERVE?



Our church is also blessed with many servants who give their time and talents to another great mission “Oconee United Ministries”. If you would like to help families in distress who are looking for help with the cost of living expenses, please talk with De French, Nancy Johnston or Reverend Audrey and they can point you in the right direction! God Bless you!



Sometimes, we forget how much we have blessed others while we continue to share God’s bountiful blessings to us! God allows us to BE a blessing in our service and support of those in need in our community. God also richly blesses us WITH blessings from our giving of ourselves to others. Dot’s, OUM and FF are only a few of the missions we support. You WILL be blessed if you just reach out and say, “YES” to any of these wonderful mission projects!

Also, if you know of a need in our community that you would like to share with Session, please do so!

Nancy Johnston also reported that **Senior Solutions “Meals on Wheels** “is in need of drivers to deliver meals to clients. There are 17 routes throughout the county. Each route takes one hour to deliver. Please call Senior Solutions and sign up to serve today!



*Choose for yourselves today
whom you will serve...*

**As for me and my house,
we will serve the Lord.**

Joshua 24:15

Presbyterian Women Afternoon Circle

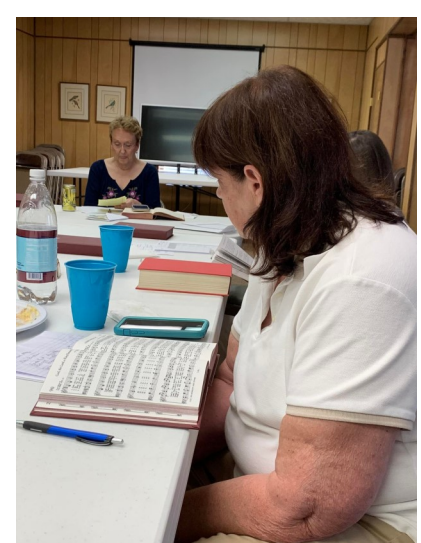
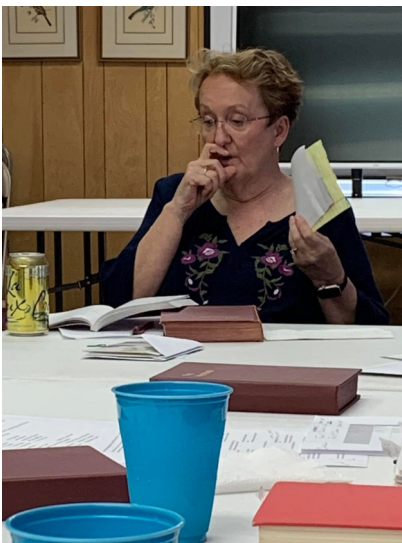


Ladies, we would LOVE to have you at Circle! We meet each month at 4:30 pm in Gossett Hall.

Many thanks to all the ladies for all the tasty goodies and a huge thanks for wonderful Bible study from Nancy Johnson!

We will be taking our summer break during the months of June and July but we will “hit the ground running” in August to plan another exciting year of service to our community! Love to you all!

Check your PW minutes for your Pentecost assignments!



Today's Prayer:

Dear Lord, I pray today that I will yield my spirit completely to You, that You may use me as You please. I pray that You will provide me opportunities to show people how much You mean to me. Give me discretion to know what to say and how to say it. Make me bold enough that I may proclaim salvation cheerfully and joyfully. I pray that the seeds You allow me to plant will grow and mature. I pray that You, Father, will water the seeds that You allow me to plant today. I am forever grateful for the cross; may I proclaim it in a contagious way today. Amen.



**Presbyterian Women 2022
Sunday, May 15th
Birthday Offering and Annual Meeting**



*Choose for yourselves today
whom you will serve...*
**As for me and my house,
we will serve the Lord.**
Joshua 24:15



Church Fellowship



*“For where two or three have gathered together in My name, there I
am in their midst.” Matthew 18:20*

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Joshua 24:15

Kicking Off our Pentecost Offering!



Thanks Dr. Virginia Gordon for another awesome bulletin board in our narthex to help us kick off our Pentecost Offering! We will begin our Minutes for Missions on Pentecost Sunday and collect donations during the summer months.

A gift to the Pentecost Offering helps the church encourage, develop, and support its young people, and also address the needs of at-risk children. 40% of the Pentecost offering can be retained by individual congregations wanting to make an impact in the lives of young people within their own community. The remaining 60% is used to support children-at-risk, youth, and young adults through ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency.

Our Session here at WPC has voted to designate our 40% to Westminster Hope ComeUnity! What a wonderful mission to help our at-risk children right here in Westminster South Carolina! Please pray for our team as they move forward with this most worthy mission for our community. As always, we encourage you to be generous and know that this offering will be a way for you to be the hands and feet of Christ in our community, state, nation and world. God Bless You!

Dates to Remember!

- 6-5 Pentecost Luncheon and WHC Q&A
- 6-1 Dot's Kitchen
- 6-14 Dot's Kitchen
- 5/29 Holy Communion



Happy Birthday for the month of June

- 2 Linda Ramey
- 3 Christy Todd
- 14 Jan Walsh
- 16 Tom Multer
- 28 Virginia Gordon



Kathy Darnell, Robbie McClure (Marie Dunnam's brother) Elizabeth Christensen (Kathy Skillen's niece), Arthur Skillen (Kathy Skillen's brother), Joanne Mason, Bob Hartness (Rev. Audrey's dad), Clifton Mabry, Kathy Skillen, Sam and Edna Dillard, Paula Meades and Shari Waldo's friend, Jim and Sherry Moates.

Please continue to pray for Peace in our world and protection for all that are oppressed and in harms way.
Pray for our police, firemen and first responders, doctors and nurses as they put themselves in harms way to help us.



Town Prayer Meeting
Join us for prayer every Tuesday morning at 9 am at the gazebo in downtown Westminster. There will be a guest minister each week. This was started by one person who felt the need for prayer in our town. It has grown and continues to be a light in our community!

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Joshua 24:15

Congratulations Anna Marie Moore



On Sunday, May 22nd, we were honored to celebrate Anna Marie’s many accomplishments and graduation from West-Oak High School. Anna Marie has been a faithful servant of our church for many years and we are so proud to have her in our church family!

Anna Marie will attend the University of South Carolina in the fall and will be working toward a degree in Business Administration and Fashion Design in the hopes of one day opening a salon studio of her own with a boutique!



DO YOU HAVE AN IDEA OR KNOW ABOUT ANOTHER NEED WE COULD HELP WITH?

SESSION

- Clerk: Brad Stancil
- Mission/Outreach: Nita McMillan
- Worship: Virginia Gordon
- Christian Education: Lou Haynes
- Property: John Merritt
- Stewardship/Finance: Kim Burden
- Congregational Care: John Johnston

How can we help? Your Session is always ready to serve in any way we can! Please reach out to us with any concerns, questions, or ideas you may have that you feel could further God’s Kingdom here on earth. God bless you!



June Flowers

- June 5—Edna Dillard, Glory to God
 - June 12—Paula Meades, donation in memory of Paul and Bernycen Leap
- *Contact Shepherd Chuites if you would like to place flowers in the sanctuary.