



First Presbyterian Church

PresbyNews

September, 2023

Dear Friends,

As the hottest days of summer are behind us and football is once again played every weekend, it is also that time of year when our church chooses its leaders for the coming years. According to our church policy, there will be a 5-member Officer Nominating Committee (ONC). By policy, the clerk and assistant clerk of session (Dan Tillman and Cathy Chapman) are automatically on the ONC, as is a representative of the Presbyterian Women (Becky Childers). The congregation will be asked, at a meeting during worship on September 17, to elect two at-large representatives. The nominees for those two spots are Cam Beck and Richard Pierce. The 5-member PNC will work on a slate of four persons to be nominated to be elders for 3-year terms, 2024-2026. Over the last two weeks of September, the congregation will be asked to submit names to the ONC for consideration as elders. Four elders-elect will be chosen by the congregation in mid-October. Then there will be training sessions for the elders-elect, who will be ordained/installed to office in early January.

This seems like a lengthy process, and it is, because it is an important process. Even the word, "Presbyterian," means "elders." We are governed by a group of elders who meet monthly, plan with the pastor, pray often, work hard to lead all ministries of the Church and care for our members. There have been elders in the Church since its inception 2,000 years ago, just as there were elders in Moses' time with the Israelites in the wilderness. It is very important to remember that our pastor is not a priest, nor a "Lone Ranger," but is a cooperative and consensus building leader among our elders.

It is good to remember these words from our Book of Order, as regards the qualifications of elders: "Congregations should elect persons of wisdom and maturity of faith, having demonstrated skills in leadership and being compassionate in spirit. Ruling elders are so named not because they 'lord it over' the congregation ((Matt. 20.25), but because they are chosen by the congregation to discern and measure its fidelity to the Word of God, and to strengthen and nurture its faith and life. Ruling elders, together with ministers of the Word and Sacrament, exercise leadership, government, spiritual discernment and discipline and have responsibility for the life of a congregation as well as the whole church, including ecumenical relationships . . ." [G-2.03].

Our Church's positive health is a direct result of the blessings of God through faithful, caring, diligent and kind elder leaders. We are richly blessed to have a number of persons who fit the description of elders from the Book of Order passage I have cited. By faith, we will go forward this fall to choose another class of elders who will work to strengthen our faith and our ties to Christ and to one another. It is a privilege to serve our Lord with the elders and members of Cheraw Church!

Dr. Dan Sansbury, Interim Pastor

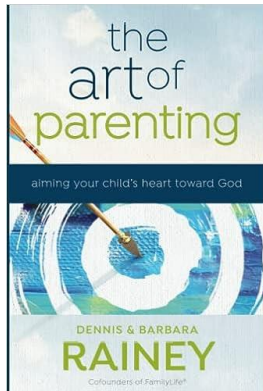
NEWS FROM MRS. WEIZ.....

Christian Education

Rally Day is Sunday, September 10 at Cheraw State Park! Worship begins at 11a.m. with lunch afterwards. Bring a lawn chair & picnic blanket! Special thanks to our dedicated Sunday School teachers. They have one of the most important tasks in the world—sharing the love of Jesus and teaching God’s word!



Most of our Sunday School classes begin on September 17 and that includes our new young adult class! We have classes for ALL ages! The **NEW** Young Adult class will meet upstairs in the first



classroom on the right. From **September 17-November 5** I will teach the 8-week series “The Art of Parenting: Aiming Your Child’s Heart Toward God,” a Bible study that offers advice on how to establish Christian values in your home. This study will help you to experience God’s truth and apply his word in your family by focusing your attention on the Biblical principles in your children’s lives. Equip your child with a solid foundation so they may build upon it for the rest of their lives! Please join us for this special time of fellowship and learning about God’s word!

We need more children’s Sunday School teachers and nursery workers! If you are willing to teach, we would love to have you. Please consider contributing back to the church in this way.

I am excited to announce many exciting new opportunities this fall! We now have 20 children registered for our “Fun Program” ministry! **Fun Program begins on Wednesday, Sept. 6th, 3:15-4:45p.m.** and we will have a **NEW** fun-filled, educational Bible Study offered, “The Gospel Project.” The Gospel Project is a powerful children’s curriculum which takes children through the Bible from Genesis to Revelation during Sunday School & Fun Program. From outdoor games to service projects to singing & ringing praises to the Lord to journeying through the Bible, girls and boys will learn more about following God's command to "put your love into action" (1 John 3:18).

Our Acolyte Ministry is starting back on Sunday, September 17. Any youth or child ages 2nd-12th grade is welcome to participate in this leadership position at the church. Acolyting is very important to the life of our worship service! I am asking all Fun Program children who are eligible to acolyte at least once per semester. We love providing for our children, and we just ask that you acolyte occasionally to help our ministries. See me for a list of guidelines. I am preparing a rotational list to distribute soon.

Children's Ministry Schedule this fall

Wednesday, Sept. 6—Fun Program! 3:15-4:45p.m. with Mrs. Weiz & Mrs. Lindsay
Sunday, Sept. 17 —Sunday School & Acolytes begin! The new young Adult Sunday School class meets!
Wednesday, October 4--- NO Fun Program
Sunday, Oct. 15----Children to Sing & Ring!
Monday, Nov. 19—5-6p.m. Christmas Pageant rehearsal for 3yo-5th grade
Wednesday, Nov. 22nd—NO Fun Program
Wednesday, Nov. 29—Christmas Pageant Rehearsal 4:15-5:15p.m.
Wednesday, December 6-- Christmas Pageant Rehearsal 4:15-5:15p.m.
***Saturday, Dec. 9**—10:30-Noon—*Possible* Christmas Pageant Rehearsal if needed
Sunday, Dec. 3—Youth & Children ring Handbells
Sunday, Dec. 10—11a.m. Children's Christmas Pageant
Wednesday, Dec. 13—**Service Project!** Make Christmas cards for older adults
Sunday, Dec. 17— Chancel Choir Christmas Cantata
Dec. 20, 27, Jan.3.--NO FUN PROGRAM/ MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR!
Wednesday, Jan. 10—Fun Program Resumes



Our church's website is being revamped and will launch soon. It will include more details and info. I have been working diligently on gathering information, pictures, and designing it. It will need tweaking even after we present it to the public, so thank you for your patience. Many thanks to Cam Beck for his assistance. I am a firm believer that God always provides. He also always has a plan "B." 😊

Chancel Choir

Our Chancel Choir is in full swing, singing glorious anthems and responses each Sunday during the worship service. I would like to feature a choir member in the newsletter periodically. This month's highlight is an individual I have enjoyed getting to know---Gina Goddard. Gina was raised in a Baptist church, sang in children's choirs, and played handbells. She was in her high school chorus and took piano lessons for 12 years. She didn't sing much after graduation until she moved to Cheraw in 2002, and has graced our choir ever since, taking a short break when Eva was born. Gina, we are blessed by your beautiful voice and musical offerings to the Lord! Stay tuned for more uplifting musical experiences at FPC!

Please pray for the parents, children, volunteers, Mrs. Lindsay, ministry teams, Chancel Choir, and me as we embark upon a wonderful faith-filled ministry this fall! Thank you for this opportunity to serve our church and the Lord!

Love in Christ,
Weiz



Presbyterian Women News

Bible Study and Circle Meeting First Wednesday of each month. We meet in the Fellowship Building at 10:00 am.

This year our bible study will focus on the Women of the Bible. Cathy Chapman will be our bible study leader.

Light refreshments will be served.

Communion: Mary Jane Evans and Katelyn Evans

Bible Study/ Circle Meeting:

September 6 at 10:00am Fellowship Building

Pledge Cards will be given out at this meeting.

Projects for this year are New Beginnings Transitional Home, Shoe Box Ministry, and Pathfinders.

The church sanctuary now has a hearing loop installed. This is a system that sends the audio captured on the microphones directly into a hearing aid worn by anyone in the congregation. The system provides the cleanest, clearest sound imaginable for hearing aid wearers and does not require a headset, as it works with any hearing aid that has a T-coil. We also have a limited supply of loop receivers and headsets that can be used during worship if your hearing aid is not equipped with a t-coil. For assistance during worship, feel free to ask an usher.

If you wear a hearing aid and are unsure if it is equipped with a T-coil, please consult with your audiologist.



At the August 22 stated meeting, your elders

- Approved minutes of our previous meeting and received communications and thanks for our gifts to area missions;
- Received a report on the August 19 Presbytery of New Harmony meeting; Calvin Phillips, Avery Dickson and Dan Sansbury attended. It was noted that Cate Henderson is now an inquirer, which is the first step towards becoming an ordained minister.
- Heard an end-of-summer financial report, which was good overall but did show lesser income in July, when worship attendance was lower.
- Approved the formation of a Playground Committee, chaired by Mary Jane Evans, which will develop plans for new and improved equipment behind and to the side of our Fellowship Hall;
- Approved Sunday School curriculum for the coming year;
- Approved dates for a variety of fall activities (note throughout this newsletter);
- Approved dates and heard updates on acolytes, Mother's Morning Out, Children's Choir and Fun program

The Session, our governing board of elders, has changed its meeting date to the 4th Tuesdays for the remainder of this year. The elders will next meet at 6:00 p.m. on September 26, 2023.

Fellowship Committee Upcoming Activities

October 25 at 5:30 Annual Trunk a Treat-

Come join in the fun! Decorate the trunk of your car and bring lots of trick or treat candy! Bring your kids, grandkids, neighbors to join in the fun! Let's see who can have the spooktacular costume and trunk!

Annual Friendsgiving Supper November 15

Annual White Christmas December 13

Nursery Volunteers

Our church is growing and we are so excited. The number of children attending nursery during worship has increased and we need your help!

We ask that **any adult** who is willing to keep the nursery during worship, please sign up at the link listed below. We ask that **parents** with a young child attending nursery, please help us by signing up for a Sunday every other month. Thank you for your willingness to volunteer in our nursery.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0545afaf22ab9-nursery#/>

Fellowship Class

Please join us at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Building for Sunday School. We will finish up our study of *The Jesus I Never Knew* September 17th. On September 24th we will begin a 4 week study, *Why?*, by Adam Hamilton.



“CONGRATULATIONS!” to Cody and Maggie Barton on the birth of their son, Duke Oswalt, born on August 9, 2023, and to big sister Adeline and big brother Thomas.

Prayer Changes Things

Gerry & Bobby Rogers; Ina Coggeshall
Atha Lou Gibson; Gray & Bea Sloop
Bennie and Benny Lou Moore;
Jodi Reid (cancer)
Craig Dubos
Beth O’Neal
Monty Dodson
Elsie Rainey (Shirley Brock’s sister)
Jo Ellen Stewart
Donna Bilby (Libby Knight’s sister in law)
Gloria Turner
M. J. Martin
Emma S. Hamden
Keller Smith
Gene Brymer
Luann Murphy (friend of Weiz Baker)
Kitty G. Grubb (niece of Brother Davis)



- 1 Charlie Phillips
- 2 Marion Anderson
- 3 Eliza Chapman
- 4 Ina Coggeshall
- 5 Billy Smith, Larry Zimmerman
- 11 John Anderson, Dal Luke
- 13 Ginny Nickles
- 15 Eva Goddard
- 16 Atha Lou Gibson, Tracie Phillips
- 17 Bennett Evans
- 22 John Folger
- 23 Ella Morgan
- 25 Cynthia Smith, Miriam Stricklin
- 26 Nancy Griggs, Penny Angle
- 27 Gray Sloop



Calendar Of Events

3	10:00 am	Church School
	11:00 am	Worship
4		Office Closed
5	12:00 pm	At Ease Lunch
	5:30 pm	Christian Education
6	8:30 am	MMO
	9:00 am	Stewardship Team
	10:00 am	PW Bible Study
	3:00 pm	Fun Program
	6:00 pm	Chancel Choir rehearsal
	6:30 pm	Mission Outreach
10	10:00 am	Rally Day/State Park
11	8:30 am	MMO
13	8:30 am	MMO
	3:00 pm	Fun Program
		Spaghetti Supper
17	10:00 am	Church School
	11:00 am	Worship
18	8:30 am	MMO
20	8:30 am	MMO
	3:00 pm	Fun Program
	5:00 pm	Worship Team Meeting
	6:00 pm	Chancel Choir rehearsal
24	10:00 am	Church School
	11:00 am	Worship
25	8:30 am	MMO
26	6:00 pm	Session Meeting
27	8:30 am	MMO
	3:00 pm	Fun Program
	6:00 pm	Chancel Choir rehearsal