



First Presbyterian Church

PresbyNews

December, 2024

Dear First Pres Friends,

Christmas time is here, the nights are getting a bit colder, the festive season has begun, and a lot is happening that you want to keep an eye out for! From Fun Program's Christmas Pageant to the Christmas Cantata to White Christmas being right around the corner, this is an exciting time in your church's life!

As we head into the winter season, I wanted to give y'all an update about the Mission at Massanetta Springs trip. This year, we are anticipating about 26 of our members going up to Virginia for this Mission trip in early June, and they are all excited about it! We have several opportunities for fundraising in the months ahead, and our group is getting quite excited about this trip! So make sure you keep an eye out for fundraising goals, various fundraising opportunities, and possibly some more t-shirts the Youth have designed... and possibly another one with my face on it...

This month, since this is such a busy time, I also wanted to share an update about the Prayer Meeting, as it will be held on December 4th and 18th at 5:30 PM however we will not meet on December 11th for White Christmas and December 25th in observance of Christmas Day. In January, Prayer Meeting will resume on January 8th, 2025 at 5:30 PM and continue as normal until March 5th when we will celebrate Ash Wednesday! This is such an exciting time in the life of our church and it is always important to continue praying for those in our community, the world at large, and those here at home who are in need of prayers. If you or someone you know is interested in coming on out to the Prayer Meeting we are always excited to see new people each week!

Lastly, please continue praying for those on our prayer list. Your prayers and support for those on our list means the world to us and is important in every season.

If you have any prayer concerns, please let me know,

Blessings

Rev. Maxwell Michaels

MUSIC & CHRISTIAN EDUCATION – MARY LOUISE BAKER

Sunday School Classes

***All Sunday School Classes Will Meet Through December**

Parlor Class—In December, the Parlor Class will be studying *Faithful Christmas Through the Eyes of Joseph*, by Adam Hamilton. The story of Joseph provides a great example of humbly obeying God even when we don't understand, and faithfully moving forward in the strength that God provides. In January, they will be studying, *Being Presbyterian in the Bible Belt* by Ted Foote and Alex Thornburg. This study helps Presbyterians articulate their faith and respond to these questions from a mainline point of view. Join us each Sunday at 10 a.m. in the parlor!

Fellowship Class—The Fellowship Class meets on Sunday morning at 10:00 a.m. They will finish their 5-week study, *3:16 Numbers of Hope* by Max Lucado on December 1st and will begin an Advent Study, *Waiting Here For You* by Louie Giglio on December 8th. Following the Advent Study, they will delve into a six-week study, *Finding Peace Through Humility* by Joel Muddamalle. All are welcome! I think you will like it. Free coffee, muffins, and great fellowship!

Youth Class—Our Youth class is studying the 12-month curriculum, “Feasting on the Word,” which follows the Presbyterian lectionary and provides a solid biblical background through a variety of learning & teaching styles. Fun activities and thought-provoking discussions are in store for our 6th-12th graders!

Children's Class—Our children's SS class, ages K-5th grade, meets upstairs and will be studying the 5-week Christmas edition of the Gospel Project.

Preschool Class—(ages 3-4) meets downstairs and is also studying the Christmas edition of the Gospel Project.

Nursery available (downstairs)

Christian Education & Music Ministry Fall Schedule

Monday, December 2—Fun Program 3-5 p.m.

Tuesday, December 3—C.E. meeting at 5 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 7 —10:00-11:30 a.m.—Christmas Pageant Rehearsal with pizza afterwards

Sunday, Dec. 8—11a.m. Children’s Christmas Pageant “The First Christmas” (Fun Program children to ring & sing)

Wednesday, December 11—Handbells to Ring during White Christmas 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 15—11 a.m. Chancel Choir Christmas Cantata “Gloria,” by Vivaldi

Dec. 11, 18, 25, Jan. 1, January 8-- NO FUN PROGRAM

December 22—Youth Bells to play alongside guest trumpeter during the 11 a.m. service

Sunday, Dec. 29—NO Acolytes (worship in Fellowship Building)

Tuesday, January 7—C.E. meeting 5 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 15—Fun Program & Chancel Choir Resume

Please join us for these very special upcoming events!



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
PRESENTS



VIVALDI'S
GLORIA

Presented by

THE CHANCEL CHOIR

GUEST STRING QUARTET & SINGERS

JOSE RIVERA, GUEST CONDUCTOR

MARY LOUISE BAKER, ORGANIST

Sunday, December 15, 2024

11:00 A.M.

300 Market Street
Cheraw, SC

Rev. Max Michaels, Minister
cherawfpc.org

Thornwell Home for Children

In the 1800s William Jacobs Plumer, a Presbyterian Minister had a dream. His dream was the start of an orphanage in Clinton, SC, where he was pastoring First Presbyterian Church. On October 1, 1875, Thornwell opened its doors to ten orphaned children. It was not a simple task. There were many challenges to overcome. The needs of children over the past century and a half have changed and Thornwell has changed to meet the varied needs of children and families they are called to serve.

You will have two opportunities on Sunday, November 24th to learn more about the ministry and challenges facing Thornwell today. Joseph Murray will present a program for all adults in the Fellowship Building during the Church School Hour. He will also present a minute for mission during worship. It is the hope of the Mission Outreach Team that you will avail yourself of these opportunities to learn about this important ministry. We hope that you will open your hearts and your wallets and give generously to the special offering used to partner with Thornwell in meeting the needs of young people.

Monitors Needed

Thornwell, First Presbyterian Church, and Pathfinders United, with support from the Malloy Foundation, work together to provide reading help for three Pathfinder children. Thornwell provides the online tutoring and we supply monitors for the children, while they are being tutored. There are several people who do this, but we are in need of additional help. A monitor's role is to make sure the children are online with their tutor and are focused on their reading. The three children who are being tutored this year require very little supervision. However, our presence makes the process easier for students and tutors. If you could find the time to volunteer once or twice a month, it would be helpful. Tutoring takes place from 4:45 - 5:45 pm. Monday through Thursday. If you are able to help, contact Avery Dickson (843) 910-0818 or presbyeducator@gmail.com.



Presbyterian Women News

Communion

December 1- Karen Tillman and Becky Childers

January 5- Kim Brabham and Christie McLeod

Youth Supper

December 15- Charlene Tillman, Marion Anderson, and Cathy Chapman

Bible Study

December 4 -10:00am in the Parlor. Bring a dozen of your favorite Christmas cookies for a cookie swap.

January 8- 10:00am in the Parlor.

Our Bible Study will come from the book Twelve More Women of the Bible

Fellowship Committee Event

December 11- White Christmas Cover Dish Meal at 5:30 pm. There will be a basket for monetary donations to Pee Dee Coalition. Someone told me we have a special guest visiting us! So parents bring your cameras and kids bring your Santa list!

It has been a tradition in the past for this event, we bring canned goods wrapped in white paper to donate to a food bank. This year, any canned goods brought to White Christmas will be donated to the Pee Dee Coalition Transition House in Wallace.

Big Thanks to all who participated and helped in Trunk a Treat! It was a great success!

Membership Committee Event

The Membership Committee will meet in the Fellowship Building after church on Sunday, December 8th to make and distribute Christmas baskets to our shut-ins.

Prayer Changes Things

Gerry Rogers; Ina Coggeshall

Gray & Bea Sloop

Bennie and Benny Lou Moore

Bobbie Jones

Edward Tinsley

Shannon Johnson

Ruth Jackson

B J Moore

Tom Sheeler

Tripp Benton (friend of Ingram family)

Wayne Caulder

Hurricane victims

Louise Carpenter

For those suffering from chronic mental and emotional illnesses

OBITUARY FOR GABRIEL M. KNEY

November 21, 1929-November 8, 2024

Gabriel M. Kney, builder of our beautiful organ, gently passed away on November 8, 2024, after a long illness. He was two weeks shy of his 95th birthday.

After the First Presbyterian's organ and installation committee had analyzed and listened to many organs in North and South Carolina, God led them to select Gabriel Kney (pro. Nay) to build the tracker organ for our church. The organ was installed in 1986 and has been a vital part of our worship, recitals and concerts. Our organ was the 104th organ he built. He leaves an indelible mark on all locations where his organs are housed.

He is survived by three daughters, six grandsons and one great-grandchild. He has two sisters and many other relatives remaining in Germany and New Zealand. Predeceased by his first wife of 52 years was Jane, (who visited here several times) and his second wife, Mary Lou.

Gabriel's exceptional talent in organ building (both in bringing the tracker-style pipe organ to North America and his unique sought-after voicing sound), enabled Gabriel to become a pre-eminent and renowned pipe organ builder. Spanning a 40-year career, Gabriel and his pipe organ builders built 130 instruments for churches, universities, concert halls and private homes across Canada and the United States. Several of his organs are housed in churches in North and South Carolina and Winthrop University.

Gabriel apprenticed as a pipe organ builder in his hometown of Speyer, Germany, after which with little money and no English, he courageously immigrated to Canada at the age of 21. After briefly working for a small organ building company, Gabriel first opened his business with a partner but quickly established his own business, Gabriel Kney & Co., Pipe Organ Builders, in 1967.



Calendar of Events

1	10:00 am	Sunday School
	11:00 am	Worship
2	8:30 am	MMO
	3:15 pm	Fun Program
3	12:00 pm	At Ease Luncheon
	5:00 pm	Christian Education
	6:00 pm	Comm Bible Study
4	8:30 am	MMO
	9:00 am	Comm Bible Study
	10:00 am	PW Bible Study
	5:30 pm	Prayer Meeting
	6:00 pm	Chancel Choir
5	9:00 am	Giving Ministry
7	10:00 am	Pageant Rehearsal
8	10:00 am	Sunday School
	11:00 am	Children's Pageant
	12:00 pm	Membership Team
9	8:30 am	MMO
10	6:00 pm	Comm Bible Study
11	8:30 am	MMO
	9:00 am	Comm Bible Study
	5:30 pm	White Christmas
12	6:30 pm	Mission Outreach
15	10:00 am	Sunday School
	11:00 am	Chancel Cantata
16	8:30 am	MMO
17	6:00 pm	Comm Bible Study
18	8:30 am	MMO
	9:00 am	Comm Bible Study
	5:30 pm	Prayer Meeting
22	10:00 am	Sunday School
	11:00 am	Worship
29	10:00 am	Sunday School
	11:00 am	Worship

December Birthdays

2-	Jackson Tucker
5-	Jim Conn
8-	Ashley Driggers
12-	Betty Davis, Jacob Goddard
14-	Libby Pierce
15	Duward Angle
16-	Caroline Tinsley, Bill Laney
17-	Bennie Moore
19-	Mary Gullledge
21-	Gail Ingram
22-	Christie McLeod
23-	Jordan Smith
30-	Elleigh Evans, Bobbie Jones, Dan Sansbury

UPDATE-MS. LOUISE CARPENTER

After falling and breaking her hip, Ms. Louise is doing well. The plan is to have her up and moving starting Wednesday. She will have to go to rehab and her total recovery time will be about three months but so far everything else is looking good which is great news!

She is currently in room 1134 in Tower 3 at McLeod in Florence if anybody would like to send cards or visit. Please keep Mrs. Louise and her family in your prayers for her recovery.

Dear Church Family,

A joint venture between the men of FPC and St Davids Episcopal will take place on February 8, 2025.

But first a little appetizer. We will be having a trial run December 14, 2024, and splitting the BBQ that is being cooked. We plan to make available small bags to sample after the service on Sunday, December 15. We will have these samples for you to take home and have a taste of some freshly cooked butts, with special sauces concocted by some very good BBQ aficionados.

Hopefully this will get some excitement created for our benefit in February. The Session approved this benefit to help with McArn Food Ministries and Pathfinders United. We will be selling BBQ by the pound and hopefully raise a substantial amount of monies to help these two wonderful organizations. We will be looking for volunteers to help cook, chop, bag, keep pit fires going, and to sell tickets. Stay tuned for more information.

Robby Bennett

843.921.7769

The sanctuary is equipped with a hearing loop. For individuals with hearing aids, please activate your T-coil to utilize this feature. Spare headsets are also available.

Upcoming Events in January, 2025

Elders will be installed on January 12, 2025.



Birthdays

1	Blake Tillman, Beth Witherspoon
2	Gina Goddard
3	William Evans
5	Mary Louise Baker
6	Elizabeth Hydrick
8	Rickey Pace
9	Sue Funderburk
10	Allison Evans
11	Jean Page Watson
17	Bea Sloop, David Evans, Lori Beth Evans
22	Cru Chapman, Jessie Tillman
23	Michael Chapman
24	Marleigh Evans
29	Campbell Harris

January

1		Happy New Year Office Closed
5	10:00 am	Church School
	11:00 am	Worship
6	8:30 am	MMO
7	12:00 pm	At Ease
	5:00 pm	Christian Education
	6:00 pm	Comm Bible Study
8	8:30 am	MMO
	10:00 am	PW Bible Study
	5:30 pm	Prayer Meeting
12	10:00 am	Church School
	11:00 am	Worship
13	8:30 am	MMO
15	8:30 am	MMO
	3:15 pm	Fun Program
	5:30 pm	Prayer Meeting
16	6:00 pm	Session
19	10:00 am	Church School
	11:00 am	Worship
20		Office Closed
22	8:30 am	MMO
	3:15 pm	Fun Program
	5:30 pm	Prayer Meeting
26	10:00 am	Church School
	11:00 am	Worship
27	8:30 am	MMO
29	8:30 am	MMO
	3:15 pm	Fun Program
	5:30 pm	Prayer Meeting
	6:00 pm	Chancel Choir