

CREED & DEED

First Presbyterian Church
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January 2012

A NOTE FROM OUR ASSOCIATE PASTOR

A Happy New Year



Michael and I walked back from our New Year's Eve dinner arm in arm, reflecting on the past year, anticipating the year to come. We thought about the highlights of our 2011 – Michael's job promotion last spring, a summer filled with unforgettable weddings, a week immersed in the wonderful world of Walt Disney. And we wondered what 2012 might bring. More travels, maybe to Alaska, or Italy? The hardwood floors we've been considering, on and off, for over a year? A concerted effort to see more of our families, and especially our precious nephews who are growing up all too fast? (Now *that's* a resolution worth keeping!) 2011 was a good year for us, and 2012 is filled with promise!

Perhaps you engaged in a similar exercise as the New Year approached, remembering God's blessings in the year past, anticipating God's direction for the year to come.

What will 2012 bring for you?

What will 2012 bring for us... for our congregation?

There's no doubt that 2011 was a great year for us at First Presbyterian Church. We welcomed 13 new members, each of them a unique blessing to our congregation. We hosted our very first community event, welcoming 223 of our friends and neighbors for a fun-filled afternoon at the

(continued on page 2)

Community Carnival. We commissioned two of our members to represent our congregation on our first international mission trip to Haiti. We supplied a record 471 children from 213 families with school clothes and supplies through the Hands of Christ. John and the youth led a Vacation Bible School of 40 elementary-aged children that is roundly regarded as our “best VBS ever.” 2011 was a truly blessed year!

And God has great things in store for us in 2012, too. In a few short weeks, your church officers will gather for a long-range planning retreat, where we will begin to discern God’s will for us in the year to come. We want to help our congregation grow closer to God, and so we’ll consider opportunities for small group study and short-term courses (such as the Marriage Enrichment Class – see next page). We want to help each member grow closer to the other members of the family of God, so we’ll look for ways to enhance congregational care and the integration of new members. We want to help our church grow in relationship to the world around us, so we’ll deepen our partnership with Haiti, and consider our next community outreach event. We’ll grow closer to God, to one another, and to the world in 2012!

And, God-willing, we will welcome a new pastor, too – one who is eager to lead a congregation that is spiritually alive, active, growing – a congregation like us! – into the years to come. God truly does have great things in store for us in this New Year!

Joyfully, Kristin

Fellowship Sunday and Dinner
January 29, 2012
11:00 Worship Service (No 9:00 Service)

Fellowship Dinner immediately following 11:00 Sunday Worship Service on January 29, 2012. Fried Chicken, rolls and drink will be provided. Members are requested to bring covered dishes/desserts. Please plan to join us as we worship as one and have good food and fellowship.

Marriage Enrichment Class



Happily Ever After - Is this an impossible goal for a relationship with someone who doesn't always put the top back on the toothpaste tube or the milk back in the refrigerator? No, it is not impossible! We can live happily with our less than perfect spouse, and he or she with us! It takes commitment, flexibility, a sense of humor, and relationship skills to make it happen. Come join us for six weeks of skill development, communication, sharing, and having fun with other couples. We think you and your marriage will be glad you did!

Six Session Syllabus:

Listening Skills
Love Busters
Different Needs of Men and Women
Different Needs of Men and Women, cont.
Resolving Conflicts Fairly
Romantic Love Takes Care and Time

The class will meet on Thursday evenings, January 26 – March 1, from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. It will be taught by Betts Gatewood, a longtime counselor and Presbyterian pastor's wife. Childcare will be provided. There will be no charge for the class, but each couple will need a copy of the Five Steps To Romantic Love Workbook by Willard Harley, which will be available from the church for a cost of \$11.

For more information, to sign up, and to request childcare, please contact John Siebert in the church office. You can also call Sally, church secretary to sign up.

Worship Committee News

Over a year ago, the Worship Committee conducted a church-wide survey regarding our worship services. One of the concerns that we heard, echoed again and again, was the challenge of juggling a number of bulletin inserts every Sunday morning. Our response to this concern began this summer, when we added the blue hymnals to the pews, eliminating the need for most hymn inserts at the 11:00 service. And it continues in January, as we introduce a new bulletin design!

For several months, the Worship Committee has been collecting bulletins from other churches, reviewing layouts, considering dimensions, and experimenting with different paper weights, textures, and colors. On January 8, 2012, we will unveil the fruits of our labors: a tri-fold bulletin on 11x17 paper that, in theory, will eliminate our need for inserts!

The new bulletin design will allow us to streamline all of the information in our bulletin onto one sheet of paper. Any words to hymns that we do not have in our hymnals will be printed in the bulletin. When available, the words to Choral Anthems will appear, that you might meditate upon them as the choir sings. We will even have room to print the words to the Doxology, the Creed, and the Lord's Prayer, for the benefit of guests to our worship service. And all of our announcements, prayer concerns, and the church calendar will be included, as well.

We are thrilled to present this simplified bulletin format, and eager to begin its use. It is our prayer that this new bulletin will augment our worship, and be a blessing to you.

The Worship Committee
Laurie Carter (chair), Ellen Berry, Sue Cook,
Jeanne Foreman, Carl Marjenhoff, and Margie Roberts

Our New Officers

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During our worship service on Sunday, January 8, we will be ordaining Charla Springer, and installing her on the Session along with previously-ordained elders Jim Brogdon and Mary Nettles in the class of 2014. Elaine Hewitt, Clisha Weathers and John O. Williams will be ordained and installed on the Board of Deacons in the class of 2014.

We are deeply grateful to Pam Brogdon, Lynne Hammond and Ruth Lusk for their service on the Session and to Rhoda Boyd, Jesse Cannon and Jeanne Foreman for their service on the Board of Deacons. All six have made significant sacrifices of their time and energy to lead this congregation and each has contributed in a special way to our life together



**American
Red Cross**

SAVE THE DATE January 31, 2012

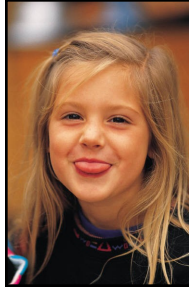
Our first blood drive for 2012 is scheduled for
Tuesday, January 31, 2012.

We're always in need of volunteers to help with our community blood drives and always need blood donors. If you can help, please call Hugh Smith at 899-6420.

2011 Financial Report

	Year to date through	
	11/30/2011	Annual Budget
Revenue	\$ 270,620	\$ 347,902
Expenditures		
Personnel	\$ 171,264	\$ 238,968
Operations	\$ 41,362	\$ 42,569
Missions	\$ 33,132	\$ 37,465
Education, Nurture & Pastoral Care	\$ 20,669	\$ 20,000
Worship, Evangelism & Fellowship	\$ 6,742	\$ 8,900

This report is for publication in the January 2012 Creed & Deed and is based upon financial information as of November 2011 as the December 2011 month is not yet completed.



Spring Semester of LOGOS Begins Wednesday, January 11 at 3:30

Ready, set, go — it's time to get our children back into LOGOS. The cost is \$50 per child. Thank you to everyone that helped with our program last year. We are looking forward to great things in 2012, but we'll need your help. Please sign up to cook for our children. For more information, call Kelly Brown at 899-7898.

Ladies Library Sunday School Class

The class will begin studying a new book for class — “Lies Women Believe” by Nancy Leigh DeMoss beginning January 15. If you would like to know more or join these ladies, please call Kelly Brown at 899-7898.



Women's Companions in Christ Bible Study

This Bible study meets every Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. The group will start back on January 10 at 9:30 a.m. We will be studying the book “12 Ordinary Men.” Please come and join us—we always have good fellowship and lively discussions. For more information, contact Rica Gause at 482-0007.

We're on FaceBook!

Search for “First Presbyterian Church of Moncks Corner” to take a look at our page and become a fan of the church. If you become a fan you will receive notices of church updates, announcements, reminders of special programs, etc. You will also be able to post comments and participate in discussions, if you like.



The letter below is from Jaqueline Segars. Many in our congregation gave generously to help this less fortunate family for Christmas.

I would like to personally THANK the Presbyterian Congregation for the generous gifts they gave my extended family during trying times. These gifts were (are) the only gifts they will (would) get this year. There are not enough words to express my thanks to your church and the Jackson family for arranging such a great joyous Christmas for these step-grandchildren. Again, thank you from the bottom of my heart for helping these children have a wonderful Christmas. A child is truly the joy of life and changes our lives.

Thank You, Jaqueline Segars

“We’re in the Blessing Business”

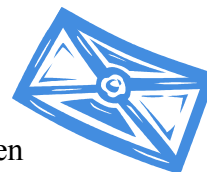
Christmas Boxes for Berkeley’s Needy

The generosity of this church is just amazing. We were able to give Berkeley Seniors 30 boxes of food for their “most needy families” and 15 boxes to Berkeley middle school for their “most needy.” In addition, we were able to provide Linda Brown with a donation for shoes and coats and a bag of staple foods because of donations that exceeded our food budget. I’m sure that the recipient families are most grateful for our benevolence. Thanks to everyone that donated to this cause.

Thank You — Hugh Smith

Your Offering Envelopes

Please remember to pick up your offering envelopes for 2012 in the hallway outside the church office. When you use your envelopes, it helps when posting and counting the offering to make sure that you get credit for your offering. It also saves time for us in the office so we don’t have to look up your number. Thank you for giving to God’s church and to his ministries.





January

- 4 Claire Wilson
- 5 Jerry Brewer
- 10 Jennifer Coffey
Nicholas Ferez
Baxter Orvin
- 13 Rod Murchison
- 15 Jane Williams
- 19 Laurie Lusk
- 20 Carol Jordan
- 21 Doug Bowles
- 22 Shelley Matthews
Rene Moorer
- 23 C. G. Wilson
- 24 Chris Wilson
- 25 Edvania Arena
Adah Brewer
- 27 Len Graham
Neva Peagler
Georgia Spencer
- 29 Janet Lucas
- 31 Emily Carter

Ushers for January

Jane Williams 9:00 Service

11:00 Service
Ken Coffey, Jimmy Livingston,
Marie Hyman and Jane Hood

Acolyte for January

Taylor Hood

We Need Your Help

Response to our Flower Ministry has been very slow this year. If you are interested in providing flowers on a Sunday, please fill out the form on page 15 and place in the PW box.



Flowers for January

January 1	Don & JoAnn Bryant
January 8	Nancy & Jerry Stuckey

The Doings of the Presbyterian Women



If you would like to know more about our Circles, please give the ladies below a call. All women of the church are welcome.

Circle 1 will meet at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, January 9, at the home of Sue Cook, 1044 Groomstown Rd., Cross, 753-3818

Circle 2 will meet at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, January 9 at the home of Pam Coffey, 1107 Butter Rd., Bonneau, 825-6565

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to the success of our recent Ten Thousand Villages Festival Sale! If you helped with publicity, unpacking, setting up displays, scheduling, selling, repacking, or if you bought something, give yourself a pat on the back for a job well-done. Thank you for all your enthusiastic support of this effective & important mission project.



The Doings of the PRESBYTERIAN Men

Newly elected Officers are:

President — Bobby Mitchell

Sec/Treasurer — Jerry Stuckey



All men of the church are invited to attend our breakfasts on the second Sunday of the month at 8:00 a.m. **Our January breakfast is Sunday the 8th.**

The Presbyterian Men will have an Oyster Roast at Washington Hunt Club in February. Date of the Roast and other details will be announced in the near future.

The Presbyterian Men will be scheduling roadside trash/liter pickups along their assigned Adopt-A-Highway Route (West Main Street from the church to the junction at Sugar Hill Drive). **We need an Adopt-A-Highway Chairman—please contact Bobby Mitchell, 761-1566, if you are willing to do this important job.**

Shutterfly.com

Carol Kennemur has been busy taking pictures of our church events—Community Carnival, LOGOS, Presbyterian Home Tea, Christmas Sing-a-Long, Children’s Pageant. Her photos can be viewed on a website called “Church Activities” at <http://fpcofmc.shutterfly.com>. No login/password info is required. You can view at anytime. The photos on these two pages are from Carol’s photography. Of the Christmas Pageant





We extend Christian sympathy to the Goertzen family. Wilmer J. “Ron” Goertzen passed away on Saturday, December 10.

Christian sympathy is also extended to David Harris and his family. David’s father, John Harris from Roxboro, North Carolina passed away on Tuesday, December 6.

Dear Church Family, thank you all for the cards and kind words after the loss of my dad. Together in Christ, David Harris

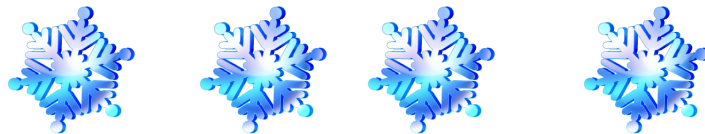
Thank you so much for the beautiful flower arrangement and also all the prayers for our family through this past year. I’m looking forward to being back in Sunday School and church.

Our Love, the Goertzen Family

Thanks be to God, they’re home ! ! ! !

Andrew Britt, Army, Afghanistan, cousin to Meredith Bell
Sgt. Shane Ravan, Marines, Afghanistan, husband of Jessica Bates Ravan

Shane Ravan, my son-in-law, has returned from Afghanistan. He got home in time for the holidays! We would like to thank everyone for all the cards, thoughts, and prayers that he and Jessie received while he was deployed. It was such a great support to have this church family.



FYI — Diane Serafino called the office and wanted her church family to know how much she misses each of you and that she is doing well. She will be back around the middle of January and hopes to see you soon.

We Need Help, Help, Help!!!

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We need volunteers for our Flower Committee. If you have a talent or an interest in arranging flowers, please consider giving some of your time to the church. If we get enough volunteers, you will only need to help three or four times a year. Please consider helping with the committee and beautifying our sanctuary for the Glory of God. Please call Marie Bowles at 825-3310 or 901-9813 for details.

Organization of 2012 Flower Ministry

The shared responsibility by members and friends for the Flower Ministry adds greatly to the worship services. It also provides an opportunity to honor someone or to present an arrangement (or plant) in memory of a loved one. Please complete the form at the bottom of the page and return to the church office or leave in the PW box in the hallway. A new schedule will be sent to you as soon as it is available.

Questions, call Marie at 825-3310.

Thank You, Marie Bowles

Flower Schedule for 2012

_____ I prefer to place flowers on a designated Sunday.

Which Sunday? _____

_____ I prefer to contribute to the Flower Committee and have them place flowers for me.

Which Sunday? _____

Please enclose check payable to Presbyterian Women, designate "*flowers*" and drop in box in hallway or give to Sally, church secretary. The average cost of an arrangement is \$35.00, but we welcome any contributions.

_____ In Memory of _____

_____ In Honor of _____

_____ I would like to serve on the Flower Committee.

_____ Check enclosed for \$ _____

Signed: _____