

OUR FATHER,
*who art in
heaven*

THE LORD'S PRAYER IN LENT

Holy Week & Easter @ FPC

4/2 ~ Palm Sunday

9:00 AM - CrossRoads Contemporary Worship
with Children's Choir

10:00 AM - FPC Kids Easter Egg Hunt (front lawn)

10:30 AM - Traditional Worship

The Sanctuary Choir and Chamber Orchestra
Our Father: A Musical Journey Through the Lord's Prayer

4/6 ~ Maundy Thursday

6:30 PM - Worship with "The Savior's Shard" and communion

4/7 ~ Good Friday

Noon-3:00 PM - Worship with handbell prelude (11:50 AM)
"The Seven Last Words" by guest clergy at
St. Luke's Presbyterian Church (HHI)

4/9 ~ Easter Sunday

7:00 AM - Sunrise CrossRoads Contemporary Worship
(courtyard; fellowship hall if rain)
10:30 AM - Traditional Worship

All services above at FPC will be available via livestream

On Easter Sunday there will be
no Sunday School
(for adults or children).
Nursery opens at 10:15 AM

Both Services on Palm Sunday Will Feature Special Music

FPC Children's Choir will sing during the 9 AM CrossRoads service on April 2 and at the 10:30 AM service the Sanctuary Choir—accompanied by the Chamber Orchestra—will present the cantata, *Our Father: A Musical Journey Through the Lord's Prayer*.

To prepare for Palm Sunday, the children have been rehearsing on Wednesday nights with Beth Green, Director of the Children's Choir.

The cantata was composed in 2014 by Pepper Choplin who described his inspiration for the composition, "I felt a strong calling to do this work. As I have spent many hours setting this timeless text, I have been continuously struck by its profound power."

This choral presentation is an extension of the Lenten all-church study and worship-sermon series focused on the book, *The Only Prayer You'll Ever Need*, by Doug Fletcher, PhD, and First Presbyterian Church Senior Pastor/Head of Staff 2008-2019.

Honor or Remember a Loved One with an Easter Floral Tribute *The Deadline is March 31*



By contributing \$25 you can help with flowers, palms and palm crosses for Easter worship and honor a friend or loved one. Tributes will be listed in the Easter Sunday bulletins. Lilies and azaleas will be available to be picked up after the 10:30 AM Easter service. Contributions may be made in cash; check - payable to FPC; or by debit/credit card online. With questions, call the church office, 843.681.3696.

“The Last Word”



We're on the journey of Lent, a forty-day period of repentance and recommitment that helps prepare us to commemorate our Lord's death and resurrection. We'll soon enter the last week of Lent—Holy Week (*see cover*). Holy Week begins with shouts of “Hosanna!” on Palm

Sunday and ends with shouts of “Crucify him!” on Good Friday. As Christians, we commit to worship during Holy Week to experience anew and profoundly a “love so amazing, so divine [it] demands my soul, my life, my all.”

We also *know* Holy Week in our own lives. Betrayal, suffering and loss. Unbearable pain. When the tears don't stop. When there's no end in sight or no light at the end of the tunnel. Maybe it's chronic pain. Or addiction. Or depression or dementia. Or the war, violence and injustices we see. Or maybe it's the death of a child, spouse or other loved one. At times, like Christ on the cross, we've cried: “My God, my God, *why?! Why?*” Yes, we *know* Good Friday in our own lives.

Thanks be to God the agony of Good Friday is *not* the end of the story. Easter is. Easter gives us hope that

suffering, loss and grief *don't* have the last word. That pain, war and injustice *don't* have the last word. That sin, evil and the grave *don't* have the last word. That's why the pews are packed on Easter Sunday. To hear *again* the Good News that “we don't grieve as those who have no hope.” That “grief and crying and pain will be no more.” That God is with us and that life and love have the last word.

Did you know Winston Churchill planned his own funeral? At the end of it, a single trumpeter, standing at the west end of St. Paul's Cathedral, played “Taps.” Facing in the direction of the setting sun, he played it to signal the close of Churchill's days on earth. Then, another trumpeter, standing at the east end of St. Paul's, played “Reveille.” Facing in the direction of the rising sun, he played it to signal the beginning of Churchill's new day in heaven.

Because Christ rose and lives, we believe that we have a new life now and that we will rise to eternal life one day. Yes, we believe the last song we'll hear, the last word, is not “Taps” but “Reveille.”

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Will".

Pastor Will

An Update from the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee



Your Associate Pastor Nominating Committee (APNC) continues its work to discern God's will for our Associate Pastor for Congregational

Evangelism and Engagement. We are searching for an individual who can help us spread the good news of Jesus Christ outside the walls of our church and in the greater community.

We have advertised, and continue to advertise, our need throughout the Presbyterian community and beyond with the goal of reaching that person that God

has already chosen to be our Associate Pastor. We ask for your continued prayers as we evaluate candidates for this position.

In the event you are aware of someone who might be interested in our position, please refer them to the staff page on the church website, fpchhi.org/our-team, where they can link to the position description. Those with interest should contact the APNC at fpchhiapnc@gmail.com.

Thank you!

Bob White, Chair, APNC
Henry Brown, Jan Cale, Rosalyn Lester, Barb Magee,
Dale Peters and Jean Vahey

You're Invited to Be a Stephen Minister!

*"Serving as a Stephen Minister is much bigger than just helping other people.
It becomes part of you—it changes you for the better.
My faith is stronger.*

*I've learned to listen, care, pray aloud more comfortably, and be more assertive.
With God's help, I'll continue to grow through this wonderful ministry."*

— Donna, Stephen Minister, Jacksonville, NC



Stephen Ministers are lay congregation members who are specially trained to provide confidential, one-to-one care to individuals who are experiencing difficulties in their lives and need a listening ear and a caring heart.

A Stephen Minister is not expected to be a therapist or pastor. A Stephen Minister is someone who will “be there” for his or her care receiver, meeting faithfully for about an hour each week, for as long as there’s a need. Might you have the gifts and passion to become a Stephen Minister?



Training begins April 18 and will be held on Tuesdays from 1-3 PM through the end of June. (We will also have a few Saturday sessions). We will meet at Church of the Cross in downtown Bluffton and be joined by trainees from other churches: Providence, St. Andrew by the Sea, Church of the Cross, Beaufort Baptist and more. The church is helping defray the cost of training materials so they will be only \$25 per person (payable by cash or check to FPCHHI, note Stephen Ministry in the memo line).

The training includes a mixture of lecture, video, group discussion, skill practice, spiritual growth activities and fun. Topics include the art of listening, Christian caring and prayer, confidentiality, assertiveness, boundaries, how to begin and end a caring relationship, depression, grief and loss, ministering to the dying, job loss and divorce.

After your training, Stephen Ministers participate in twice-monthly continuing education to help them grow as Christians and as caregivers (these meetings will be held at FPC on Mondays from 1-3 PM).

Interested? Contact Pastor Diane at dknauf@fpchhi.org, 919.909.2660, for an application and to schedule a time to meet or ask questions you may have. To learn more, visit the national Stephen Ministry website, stephenministries.org, for videos, details and more testimonials like this one:

"Stephen Ministry has enhanced every relationship I have.

*Now I can listen and be there without feeling like I have to rush in and try to fix things—
which my 15-year-old really appreciates!*

*I'm much more at peace in difficult situations because I realize
that it's not me, but Christ within me, who does the work."*

Feedback from Care Receivers

"I began to feel God's love again," said a young woman about her caring relationship with her Stephen Minister and how it enabled her to experience Jesus in a personal, tangible, life-transforming way.

"I'm so grateful for Stephen Ministry!" said a man expressing how he and his Stephen Minister built a highly trusting relationship, apart from his regular circle of friends, so that he could move forward through a tough time in his life.

Welcome to Our New Officers!

Elders



Ingrid Boatright works at Volunteers in Medicine, is serving a second term as an FPC elder, and is on the Facilities and Local Outreach ministries. She is a member of the Beaufort County School Board and the board of the Boys and Girls Club of Hilton Head Island. Ingrid and her

husband, Craig, have two young adult children and a son in high school.



Sharon Chaney is retired after 40 years as professor and administrator at secondary and university institutions in Middle, TN. At Nashville First Baptist, where Sharon and her husband Bill were married in 1970, she was a Prayer Warrior, Personnel Committee secretary, Family

Enrichment chair, and a member of the sanctuary and handbell choirs. At FPC she is in the Carillon Handbell Choir and serves on the Adult, Local Outreach, and Social Witness ministries. Sharon and Bill have two sons and five grandchildren.



Dawn Edington is a retired school administrator and has been a member of FPC for 23 years. She has served as a deacon and this is her second term as an elder. Dawn has participated in many activities at the church including the following: small groups, Bible

studies, book studies, College of Church Officers, Prayer Square ministry, and Welcome Team. She is now serving on the Planning & Research and Congregational Life ministries.



Jim Hipp is a South Carolina native, has been involved on Hilton Head through family-owned vacation property since 1978, and has been a volunteer for the RBC Heritage for 27 years. He and his wife, Edie, moved to the Island permanently in late 2019

following Jim's retirement after a rewarding 45-year career as a city/county manager in four North Carolina cities and one county in South Carolina. He is a veteran of the U.S. Army. Jim and Edie have been married for 47 years and have two children who live with their families, including four grandchildren, in Cary, NC.



Sissy Jarrell is serving her third term as an elder and has been an active member at First Presbyterian Church – having participated in Sunday School, went on a Mission trip to Nicaragua, and has served on various committees, the College Symposium, and other

special projects. She has been involved with the Day School since it opened in 1982 until retiring as the Director in 2014. Sissy has two daughters and a granddaughter.



Mark Matlock and his wife, Kathy, have been members at FPC since 2022. They formerly were members at Westminster Presbyterian in Greenville, SC, for 33 years. There Mark served two terms on the session, sitting on the Nominating, Education and

Long-range Planning committees. He also taught adult and children's Sunday School in addition to being a middle school youth group counselor. He and Kathy have two children, Rachel (33) and Robby (23).



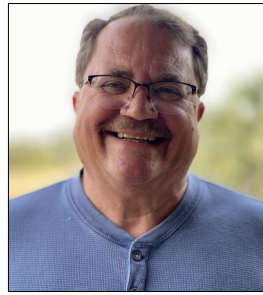
Karen Smith has been a member of FPC for 25 years. For the past four years she has volunteered for what previously was "We're on Wednesdays" (WOW) and is now called FPC Kids. She is a volunteer each summer for children's programs at FPC.

Karen has been a deacon and participated on the Nominating Committee, Health Ministry, Missions Committee, First Presbyterian Day School Board, the first Women's Ministries small group and is a Bahati Scholar sponsor.

Deacons



Betsy Lemons Baker has been a member of FPC for 24 years. She previously served as an elder, a deacon and was a member of the Informal Worship Task Force that established CrossRoads. She has accompanied FPC's Youth Group on several mission trips.



Bill Roesch is retired from a career in purchasing and supply chain management. Married to Susan, he is the father of three grown daughters and is grandfather to two beautiful baby girls. Bill has been involved in church leadership most of his life, having served as Youth



Charlie Deaton joined FPC in January 2020 after relocating to the Lowcountry in 2019 from Fort Worth, TX. Charlie lives in Bluffton caring for his mom, Phyllis, who is also a member at FPC. Charlie has been enjoying participating in FPC's Amazin' Grazin'.

Group leader, Adult Sunday School teacher, deacon, elder and Finance trustee. He volunteers for Deep Well Project's Livable Housing program. Bill and Susan live in Port Royal Plantation with his 92-year-old mother-in-law, Marian Taylor, and daughter, Kat.



Edwina Dunlap is retired from sales management in the software industry. She and her husband, Rocky, joined the church in 2010. At FPC she taught math for the GED Program, volunteered when Family Promise guests were at the church, served on Lay Visitation, Nerve2Serve camp, and the Bahati



Robin Swift has served as an elder and deacon before her current position as deacon. She is co-chair of Operation Christmas Child, a ministry of FPC's Global Outreach, sponsors a Bahati Scholar, and has made an FPC mission trip to Nairobi, Kenya. Robin is retired from the Coastal Discovery Museum after 24 years.

Scholarship program and works in the People In Need (PIN) office. She and Rocky have a son and daughter and three grandchildren.

Filling a One-year Term as Deacon



Jan Meyer enjoyed a career in Real Estate in Bergen County, NJ, before moving to HHI with her husband Gordon in 2020. In prior churches, Jan taught Sunday School, served as Mission Chairman, and enjoyed mentoring inner city teens in Paterson, NJ. Jan has been a member of FPC for three



Cristy Robertson is retired as a member of her family's construction firm that for more than 100 years did construction for over 350 churches. She served as a deacon in Ambler Presbyterian Church in Ambler, PA. Currently, Cristy especially enjoys being a Deep Well volunteer.

years and is serving on the Welcome Team and Visual Arts Committee. Currently, Jan manages two VRBO short term beach rentals in Palmetto Dunes and enjoys yoga and pickleball in her spare time.

Coffee & Conversation Returns

Thursday, April 20, 10 AM

How are you protecting Mother Earth at church and at home?

Thursday, April 27, 10 AM

Law Enforcement or Public Safety ~ How do these agencies see themselves?

Guest speakers: Beaufort County Sheriff P.J. Tanner & Bluffton Police Chief Joe Babkiewitz will discuss a number of current topics.



FPC Kids & Youth Ministry

FPC Kids on Wednesday enjoy all kinds of activities!



Every Wednesday afternoon from 3-6:15 PM—until early May—children join Ms. Jodi (Jodi Gregg Krivda, Assistant Director of Faith Formation), Ms. Beth (Beth Green, Children’s Music Director) and wonderful volunteers for all kinds of activities.

Throughout the afternoon, children participate in music enrichment, Bible time, free play, games, arts and crafts, and more! Dinner is served at 5:15 PM.



FPC Kids and FPC Youth are Creating Special Spaces



In Sunday School, children recently learned about making personal prayer spaces, first in the classroom. Materials were then provided for them to take home to make a special place to pray and study their Bible.



FPC Youth recently spent an afternoon painting the Youth Room. Located right off of the Gathering Space, you may want to stop by and take a look—be sure to notice they have a disco ball!

A huge thank you to all who joined us on Ash Wednesday for the pancake dinner which was a Youth Group fundraiser. More than \$1,600 was raised for future youth activities.

Spring Into Kindness Challenge

Imagine a world where kindness and generosity are the norms. Opening the door for someone, smiling at a stranger, buying a coffee for the person behind you in line, or baking treats for a neighbor transforms you and others. With your gifts of kindness and generosity, you make a difference for someone and truly receive by experiencing the impact you made.



2 PETER 3:18

What would our world look like if we committed these intentional actions daily?

To see the change we envision, we must be the change. As disciples of Jesus Christ, it starts with us, and our collective acts of kindness and generosity can make a big impact. **Let's Spring into Kindness** with a challenge **to commit at least one intentional act of kindness daily**. Then, share your acts of kindness and their impact with us through e-mail, info@fpchhi.org, and on social media to give fellow members in Christ ideas to use in their daily lives. Together, we can make our world better.

What acts of kindness and generosity will you commit today?

Giving Ministry

March/April 2023

2023 MEMBER GIVING			
	ACTUAL	BUDGETED	VARIANCE
February	\$142,502	\$219,111	(\$76,609)
YEAR-TO-DATE	\$413,951	\$518,236	(\$104,285)

Many years ago, we collected contributions by passing the offering plate on Sunday morning. We still do that but there are other ways to make your contribution to FPCHHI:

- GIVE button at fpchhi.org; a one-time or recurring gift*
- Texting "FPCHHI" to 77977
- QR code (see below right)
- Check: mailing a check to 540 William Hilton Parkway, HHI, SC 29928; please indicate on the memo line how the gift is to be used, (i.e., pledge, etc.)
- Stock Transfer – Gifts of stock are welcome (consult your financial advisor or tax advisor for details). Please contact Susan Brannon, sbrannon@fpchhi.org, for the information required for this transaction.

*If you are setting up a recurring gift for your 2023 pledge, please select 2023 Current Member Giving as the fund. If you have any questions, contact Susan Brannon, sbrannon@fpchhi.org.



School Uniform Drive Begins April 23

The uniform drive is part of FPC's Local Outreach Ministry. Funds raised are used to buy uniforms in bulk and then are distributed to students in schools in Jasper County, working in partnership with counselors and others at those schools. Here are the words of appreciation shared by one of the school counselors: *"Just a note on a couple of kids that you have blessed with shirts. One family of three sisters moved from out of state due to domestic violence. We were able provide them with two shirts each. Just today we enrolled a student from Honduras who we provided two shirts to. Having uniforms available has been a gift to many families. We really appreciate it!"*

540 William Hilton Parkway
Hilton Head Island, SC 29928

March ~ April
NEWSLETTER

Sarah Circle Spring Luncheon

Caring Connections ~ Guests bring items for residents of The Village of Summerville.



Sarah Circle Chair Carol Nicewinter gave the opening remarks.



Beloved David Lauderdale (left) was the luncheon speaker.



As has been done in the past, attendees were provided a list of items from which to select. These personal items are being taken this week by FPC member Charlotte White to residents at The Village of Summerville.



More luncheon guests who filled the Gathering Space.

Dr. Will Robinson
Senior Pastor/Head of Staff

Rev. Diane E. Knaf
Associate Pastor

With questions about
FPC communications,
email cbobbitt@fpchhi.org

fpchhi.org

April 30 is a one-service Sunday
Worship at 10 AM
AND it's Confirmation Sunday