

SERVING THE CHURCH

This Week

Liturgist: Linda Stenhouse
Sound:
Ushers: Linda Stenhouse

SERVING THE CHURCH

Next Week

Liturgist: Candie Vaitkevicius
Sound: Jerry Kross
Ushers: Candie Vaitkevicius
Joe Vaitkevicius

Elder of the Month

For May: Ronnie Storch, 864-627-8583 (H); 864-254-8861 (cell)

SESSION MEMBERS

Class of 2022

Linda Stenhouse
Jerry Kross
Jackie Koch

Class of 2023

Barb Daugherty
Bill Marshall (NS)
Ronnie Storch



Cover Art:
Google Images



May 22, 2022



Remembering and honoring the past; Moving forward in unity and grace.

Simpsonville Presbyterian Church

Simpsonville, SC

"Growing Together in Faith – Loving and Serving in the World"

Office Hours: Mon.-Thur. 9-10:30 a.m.
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Rev. Dr. Mary Anne Welch, Pastor
Darrell Johnson, Pianist Jackie Koch, Office Administrator
The WiFi Identity is FPCS-Guest and the password to connect is Grace4all.

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

May 22, 2022

6th Sunday of Easter

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS

The wearing of masks during service and singing hymns is optional.

NOTE: This service may be video recorded.

Please stand if you are able where asterisk.

PRELUDE "Jesus is the Sweetest Name I Know" arr. Livingston, Jr.

***OUR CALL TO WORSHIP** Linda Stenhouse, Liturgist

Leader: God's goodness is breaking into the world.

People: We do not expect the Spirit's movement.

Leader: God gathers in those we judged to be outsiders.

People: We witness this in-breaking as healing, wholeness, restoration and peace.

***OPENING HYMN #138 "Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!"
"Oh How He Loves You and Me"**

*Oh, How He Loves You And Me,
Oh, How He Loves You And Me.
He Gave His Life, What More Could He Give;
Oh, How He Loves You,
Oh, How He Loves Me,
Oh, How He Loves You And Me.*

*Jesus To Calvary Did Go,
His Love For Mankind To Show.
What He Did There, Brought Hope From Despair.
Oh, How He Loves You,
Oh, How He Loves Me,
Oh, How He Loves You And Me.*

***PRAYER OF ADORATION**

CALL TO CONFESSION

SUPPER CLUB: Interested in additional fellowship opportunities? We are considering forming a "Supper Club" beginning in September and Jerry Kross has offered to host the first one. More information will be provided as we get closer to September. Please share your thoughts and interest in participating in this group with a session member

HELP NEEDED: Jerry Kross will be out of town from June 6th until July 10th. The following are tasks that Jerry normally performs.

We need someone to put the trash can out on Monday and take it in on Tuesdays after the trash is picked up.

New plants have been added to the memorial garden and need to be watered every three days.

If you can help with either of these tasks, please let either Jerry or a member of Session know. Thank you.

LEGACY PROJECT: Following are the two questions concerning our congregation that Session will be discussing in May:

- How do we as a congregation practice genuine hospitality to strangers and "the least of these"?
- How do we confront behaviors that are hurtful to the body of Christ? How do we help people change these behaviors?

We welcome any input from the congregation.

SCHEDULES AND EVENTS

FOOD PANTRY: Your continued prayers and giving hearts allow us to keep this mission to our neighbors going. Suggestions for the month of May are canned proteins such as tuna, chicken, beef stew, etc. and other canned goods such as vegetables and soups. As always, we are grateful for all donations.

VIDEO RECORDINGS: Video recordings of services that have been previously recorded are available on the Church's website: www.firstpresssimpsonville.com. Click on "Videos" in the menu at the top or click on the picture of a worship service in the lower right."

PHOTOS: We would like to ask that anyone who has historical photos of activities, events, or milestones in the Church's past, to please bring them in so we can use them as part of the 100th Anniversary celebration.

PENTECOST SUNDAY: Cake and punch will be served in the Narthex after worship service on Sunday, June 5th, in celebration of Pentecost.

SAVE THE DATE: July 8th: Ice Cream Social and Corn Hole Competition — 7 p.m.

CARDS: Join us for card playing on Wednesday, May 25th, at 11 a.m. at the Church. Bring your own lunch.

WELCOME ALL BIBLE STUDY: Join us for a 4 week Bible study on Sunday mornings June 5 – 26, beginning at 9:15 am. The study, titled "Welcome All", is centered around the practice of Christian hospitality through stories from both the Old and New Testaments of the Bible. We hope many people will attend as we prepare for our 100th anniversary and welcoming all into our church. When we are intentional about welcoming all, we are affirming the worth of all of God's people. The hope of this practice is for each person to look at their own idea of welcoming all and ask themselves if a friend or stranger would experience the welcoming spirit of Christ in them. A sign-up sheet is located on the table in the back of the sanctuary.

CONFESSION OF OUR SIN (unison prayer)

Gracious God, we equate our judgment with your judgment, and often consider our ways to be your ways. We define peace as the absence of disruption, holding our comfort as your aim and thinking our preferences reflect your way. Too often we act as if we are your authoritative witnesses, believing our worldview corresponds with your vision, and that our narrative contains your hope for the future. O God, dislodge us from our sinful assumptions. Forgive our selfish views. Correct us with your truth and teach us by your Spirit. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: It is the Lord who opens eyes to see.

All: It is the Lord who softens hearts to hear.

Leader: It is the Lord who returns us to God's presence.

All: Peace, peace, peace — you are loved. You are enough.

Leader: You belong. In Jesus Christ you are restored.

All: Thanks be to our God forever and ever.

RESPONSE:

I'm so glad Jesus lifted me.

I'm so glad Jesus lifted me.

I'm so glad Jesus lifted me,

singin' Glory, Hallelujah, Jesus lifted me

HYMN #489

"Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty"

SILENT PRAYER: A few moments of silent communication with God.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Deuteronomy 34:1-12/Acts 16:9-15

SERMON "We Went Down to the River to Pray" Rev. Dr. Mary Anne Welch

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sits on the right

hand of God the Father Almighty; from there He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Joys and Concerns of the People and The Lord's Prayer

The Lord's Prayer:
Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name.
Thy Kingdom come.
Thy will be done on earth,
As it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts,
As we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
The power, and the glory,
For ever and ever. Amen.

PROCLAMATION OF OFFERING AND PRAYER

(the offering plate is located on a back table in the sanctuary just inside the back double doors.)

OFFERTORY "It Is Well" Arr. Hamilton

*The Doxology

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*CLOSING HYMN #335 "Though I May Speak"

BENEDICTION

RESPONSE: "God Be with You Till We Meet Again"

*God be with you till we meet again;
loving counsels guide, uphold you,
may the Shepherd's care enfold you;
God be with you till we meet again.*

POSTLUDE "Faith is the Victory" Sankey

WELCOME TO SIMPSONVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH! Whether you are a long-time member or first time visitor, we are glad you are here. If you would like to learn more about the Simpsonville Presbyterian community, we invite you to contact us through our website www.simpsonvillepres.com, or by calling the church office at (864)963-8854.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS and REFRESHMENTS today are given by Linda Stenhouse. Thank you.

BIBLE STORY BAGS are available for children during worship. See an usher if you would like one for your child to use. Please return the bag to an usher after worship.

PRAYER FAMILIES OF THE WEEK: Gail West, Jan Johnson

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK: None

LIFE IN THE CONGREGATION

PRAYER CONCERNS: Pastor Cassie; Jo Klein and the Klein family; Jean Kirkland, Sue Marshall's mother, Jan Kross, Barbara; Linda Marksberry (friend of Darrell & Roger); Michael Kolmer (Sue Marshall's brother); Bob Marshall (Bill Marshall (PA)'s father; Mac Parks (former member); Hector & Susan Medina; Joe Vaitkevicius; Rev. Small's daughter Madeline; Gail West (for the loss of her brother-in-law); Chuck (Candie Vaitkevicius' brother); Dan Mills (brother of Barb Daugherty—Missionary to Papua New Guinea); Ivy Bertuzzi; Pat Clark's family; Elizabeth Cooper; Dixie Suit (sister-in-law of Kitty Shealy); Roger Edney & Jen Gibson (relatives of Barb & Roger Daugherty). Do not hesitate to call or email the Church Office (office@simpsonvillepres.com) about any pastoral concerns.