



Forest Lake Presbyterian Church



HEAD, HEART AND HANDS IN THE SERVICE OF CHRIST

Newsletter Volume 61, Number 25

December 5, 2018

Dear Friends,

When God came to earth in human form it wasn't because God needed to do so, but because humanity needed God to come. In Christ, God did for us what we could not do for ourselves. Our salvation cost God everything. It was not convenient or pleasant or easy. As Christ followers we are to do the same for others. This is part of why I believe that followers of Christ must practice radical hospitality.

Let me tell you of three experiences of radical hospitality that I have witnessed in this congregation just this week.

First and second, we will hold two funeral services for two men who were not members of Forest Lake Presbyterian Church this week. You may not know this, but it takes a lot of time and work to ensure that a funeral happens beautifully and seamlessly. It takes somewhere between 10 to 15 hours of time for me to get the bulletin and service planned. But that is only the tip of the iceberg. There are women in this congregation who changed their plans for the week to bake and to plan to put together lovely receptions for those who come to a funeral. They are up early and go to bed late making sure that our Church Parlor is beautiful and the food is delicious so that those who come will feel welcome. The organist and soloists put in extra hours of practice and that doesn't yet count the time the ushers put in to unlock, set-up and then clean-up and lock the building. Our Office Manager spends time creating the bulletins and making copies of the recording of the service for families, and the Business Manager often spends hours writing notes to notify family of memorials. It takes hours of work and much generosity of spirit to have a Service of Witness to the Resurrection, and I would contend that we do this all out of a Christian spirit of radical hospitality; doing for others what they cannot do for themselves at a cost to our own comfort, schedule and lives.

The third example of radical hospitality I have witnessed is our Family Promise program. This week we have one family – a mom, a dad and two young children. They told Jodi Beckham on Sunday night that they had never felt so alone as they felt the day before they moved into a church Sunday School room through the family promise program, and that they had never experienced so much love as they have received from the churches since they became Family Promise guests. We call the families who stay with us “guests”, because we offer them hospitality. And again, our members volunteer to sleep on mattresses that are not as nice as their own, members fix suppers and other meals, play with the children, wash clothes, set-up and take down the rooms, and sit to talk with families who – without the radical hospitality of our congregation – would be without shelter in our city.

In the name of and after the example of the God who came to earth in human form, finding shelter in a stable, and who gave his life for human beings who did not deserve or recognize the gift – **thank you** for being a congregation of radical hospitality!

Grace and Peace!

Ellen

Ellen Fowler Skidmore

*Forest Lake Presbyterian Church
6500 North Trenholm Road
Columbia, SC 29206
(803) 787-5672
www.flpc.org
Office Hours: M-F, 8:30-5:00*

*Proclaiming the good news of God's love in
Jesus Christ, to build a fellowship of
Christian Love, and to serve this
community and the world in the spirit
of the Servant Christ.*

Please Pray For . . .

Missionaries

- * Mark Adams - Mexico
- * Shelvis & Nancy Smith-Mather,
- South Sudan
- * Ministry of Hope- Lesotho

PASTORAL CARE NUMBERS

Ellen Skidmore - 803-463-7586 (cell)

E-Mail: ellenskidmore@flpc.org

Dan Holloway - 803-367-3093

Email: danholloway@flpc.org

Eric Skidmore - 803-543-9859 (cell)

E-mail: zacchaeus@sc.rr.com



STEPHEN MINISTRY



Forest Lake Presbyterian Church is a Stephen Ministry congregation!

If you feel like you or someone you know could benefit from a one-to-one, confidential, caring Christian relationship, please contact:

Wayne Harris at 790-0954 or
cell 608-1187 or
harris1973@bellsouth.net ;

Margaret Harris at 790-0954 or
cell 608-1477 or
harris1973@bellsouth.net

Bettianne Davenport at 782-6256 or
Cell 530-6018 or
bettianned@sc.rr.com



Sympathies of the congregation are extended to:

- * Jan Beacham on the death of her mother, Patricia Monteith on
November 6, 2018.



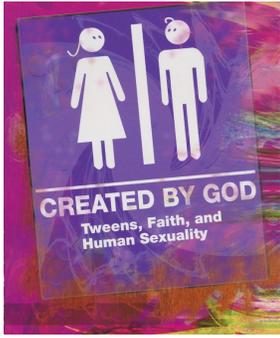
Dear Forest Lake Family,

As the holiday season approaches, I want to say Thank You for all the cards, phone calls, visits, and well wishes throughout my mother's illness. It's still a time of transition for both of us and your prayers continue to be appreciated. We're blessed to be in such a caring and nurturing community of faith.

Pam Bowman

December Birthdays

- 1 Awesome Akah
- 2 William Hunter, Garrett McNaboe, Ann Warner
- 4 Pam Bowman, Gray Olive, Joan Spivey, Matthew Woodle
- 5 Rachel Fleming, Kay Hampton, Margaret Harris,
Gabriella Martinez
- 6 David Fancher, Luis Rodriquez
- 7 John Allison, Lily Shytle
- 8 Kristy Woodward
- 9 Norma Kirkland
- 10 Jerry Joye, Gilla Wingo
- 11 Alex Rowland
- 12 Lois Jinks
- 13 Kathy Vousden
- 14 Cammie Jones
- 16 Trey Beckman, Joshua Dennis, Kay Newell
- 17 Emily Precht, Bryson Wetzel
- 18 Janyce Collins
- 19 Vince Bond, Lucy Hoppman, Caroline Radeker, Samuel White
- 20 Betsey Ellis, Julie Warren, E.B. Winslow
- 21 Smith Lea Lockwood
- 22 Sandi Bush, Terry Chronister, RD Folsom, Ray Fontaine, Pat Pate
- 24 Eric Shytle
- 25 Kenny Rowland
- 26 Jim Barber, Pat Crawford, Nicholas Mershon, Nicholas Poole
- 27 J.T.Mathis, Felicity Morris, Carl Todd
- 28 Taylor Catoe
- 29 Ivey Heath, Cathy Hyman
- 30 Lillian Dennis, Charlie Frick, Lillian Hoppman, Jane Mason,
Bill Thesing, Andy Timms
- 31 Patsy Brown, Claire Maddox



CREATED BY GOD COMING IN JANUARY

Created By God is a weekend experience that engages families with 5th-7th graders in a conversation about human sexuality with a Christian Foundation. The study offers an opportunity to learn, grow and celebrate that we are wonderfully created by God

and are called to responsible living as sexual beings.

Thurs Jan 24: 7:00—9:00pm - Parents Meetings

Friday Jan 25: 6:00—8:30pm - Student Session #1

Saturday, Jan 26: 8:30 am—3:30 pm - Student Sessions #2, #3 and lunch

Sunday, Jan 27: 1:00—3:00 pm - Student Session #4

3:15– 5:00pm - Closing Session #5 with Parents and Students

Cost \$50 per student

Register via email: andreapaschal@flpc.org

Or through this link:

https://secure.accesssacs.com/access/eventlogin.aspx?id=Y8nGtSI+PmW+Kj+RoRXs/g==&site=91571&ReturnUrl=events%2fwz_people.aspx&ChurchID=4607&EventID=167343&sn=91571

A Child Needs You

There are many children in need of mentors at Forest Lake Elementary and the good folks who work there would greatly appreciate just 30 to 40 minutes of your time (only once a week) to help these kids. Mentoring requires no special training; just a willingness to listen, guide and support a child who could benefit from your time. Mentoring does, indeed, matter! For more information contact: Emily Peebles, FLE Librarian at 803-782-0470 ext. 3147 or Cindy Welborn at 530-8084.

Sunday Nursery Workers

December 9
9:00—OPEN
11:00—Laura Keever

December 16
9:00—Ginny & Daniel Jones
11:00—Liz & Rick Pierce

December 23
9:00—Cheri & Travis Taylor
11:00—Sara & Kevin Tyer

Dec 30
11:00—Nursery Staff

FLY DATE NIGHT

Friday, December 7, 5:30—9:00pm

FLY will have a service project/fundraiser at the church: This event will be a time for youth and youth advisors to watch the FLPC kids (K-5) and have fun with them while their parents are on a date.

The cost is \$20 for the first child of a family, and \$10 each additional child.



DO YOU WANT TO KNOW?

You can access member contact information through our website - www.flpc.org.

Create a member login and you can have 24 hours access to the most up-to-date contact information. Of course, you are also welcome to contact the church office for member contact information. We ask that you guard the use of this information to ensure that it is not used for purposes other than church business.

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9

- 8:30 AM—Choir Rehearsal
- 9:00 AM—Worship Service
- 10:00 AM—Sunday School
- 10:30 AM—Choir Rehearsal
- 11:00 AM—Worship Service
- 3:30 PM—Confirmation
- 5:30 PM—FLY Parent Summer Trip Mtg
- 8:00 PM—AA Meeting

MONDAY, DECEMBER 10

- 11:00 AM—Circle 2 (S211)
- 5:30 PM—Session Coordinating Council
- 6:00 PM—Stephen Ministry Christmas Party

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11

- 6:45 AM—Men's Bible Study & Breakfast
- 8:00 AM—Stewardship & Admin (E102)
- 9:00 AM—Yoga (Parlor)
- 10:00 AM—Circle 1 (FH)
- 10:30 AM—Staff Meeting
- 12:00 PM—Gills Creek Assoc (E102)
- 6:30 PM—Disciple 1 (S211)
- 6:30 PM—Circle 3

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12

- 4:00 PM—Book Discussion
- 6:40 PM—Handbell Choir
- 7:30 PM—Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 8:00 PM—AA meeting

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13

- 9:00 AM—Yoga
- 10:00 AM—Jesus in the Gospels (S211)
- 7:00 PM—Circle 4

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14

- 12:00 PM—Senior Lunch (FH)
- 3:30 PM—Departure for Winter Camp

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16

- 8:30 AM—Choir Rehearsal
- 9:00 AM—Worship Service
- 10:00 AM—Sunday School
- 10:30 AM—Choir Rehearsal
- 10:40AM—Called New Member Commission
- 11:00 AM—Worship Service
- 4:00 PM—Joint Session & Deacon Mtg (Parlor)
- 5:30 PM—FLY Christmas Party



Senior Lunch and Program

Friday, December 14 - 12:00 noon; \$5

Program: Beth Mears and PB&J choral performers from RNE High School

Children Ushers

Elementary children are encouraged to become engaged in worship by ushering on the first Sunday of each month. Children will partner with the adults at 9:00 and 11:00 worship services to greet and pass out bulletins before worship, collect the offering, then help pick up in the Sanctuary at the end of worship. Call Andrea with questions. Registration for times can be found at: www.SignUpGenius.com/go/5080E49ADAA2CA57-children

Forest Lake Presbyterian Women

All women of Forest Lake Church are invited to participate in any Forest Lake Presbyterian Women activities and to attend any Circle meeting to become acquainted and visit with new friends. "Circles" (smaller groups) meet monthly for friendship, spiritual enrichment, missions and Bible Study. For information please contact Sandy Helfer, FLPW Moderator, 788-8111.

Circle 1 – Tuesday, December 11, 10:00am
At Sally Templeton's (2140 Bee Ridge Rd)
Leaders: Martie McParland and Sally Templeton

Circle 2 - Monday, December 10, 11:00am
S-211
Leaders: Sally McKenzie and Treva Miles

Circle 3 - Tuesday, December 11, 6:00pm
At Pam Appleby's (216 Genesee Valley Rd)
Leaders: Linda Etheredge and Sandy Helfer

Circle 4 - Thursday, December 13, 6:30pm
At Rebecca Timmons' home (245 Berry Tree Lane)
Leaders: Caroline Streater and Emily McCrae

Greetings Sisters and Brothers,

What a joy it was to be with you all for our Thanksgiving Community Service! We are still basking in the warm expressions of love as we gathered for worship and fellowship. It was a rather active month of us here at Rehoboth, and the Thanksgiving Service was one of the best interfaith experiences. The total in attendance was 104 and the offering was \$595.57. This past Sunday, I challenged a parishioner to add the difference and he did. The new total is now \$600. The offering will allow us to continue to stock the Food Pantry and serve additional families. As you may know, the three days before Thanksgiving are often our busiest, and we expect the same for the Christmas holidays. Please relay our sincere appreciation to your congregants for their generosity.

In this broken world in which we are called to live and serve, may the God who created all things good bless us and keep us from hurt, harm, and danger.

Love and peace,

Rev. Constance "Connie" Barnes
Senior Pastor
Rehoboth United Methodist Church



Elf Tree Update



There are 16 names left on the Elf Trees. Please stop by and pick up a name if you can help with Christmas for a family. If you are not able to take a name from the tree, please consider a donation. We will send shoppers out to shop for those left. If you are available to help shop for elves with the money given, please contact Tom Leclair or Jodi Beckham. Thank you for supporting families in need of help with Christmas!

Gifts are due back to the upstairs tree by December 9th.

NEXT SINGLES 40+ LUNCH BUNCH

Sunday, December 16, 2018
following the 11:00 a.m. service.
MAGNOLIA BUFFET
10052 Two Notch Road,

Make your reservation with Marje Warner, 699-6907, or by e-mail, pmwarner2@att.net, by Friday, December 14, 2018.

Singles 40+

Lunch Bunch



Church Staff

Dr. Ellen Fowler Skidmore
Senior Pastor

Dr. Dan Holloway
Parish Associate for Pastoral Care

Dr. Eric Skidmore
Parish Associate for Stewardship

Dr. Elizabeth M. Mears
Director of Music

Andrea Paschal
Director of Faith Formation

Jodi Beckham
Director of Mission & Community Engagement

Murphy Peele
Business Manager

Adele Wyatt
Office Manager

Bill Wannamaker
Youth Ministry Coordinator

Carter Grant
Youth Director

Ministers
All of the Members of Forest Lake
Presbyterian Church

2018 Christmas Memorial/Honorarium Order Form

To make a contribution to PDA in memory or in honor of a loved one, please complete the form below. You may place it in the offering plate, mail it to the church, or bring it to the church office along with a minimum donation of \$12.00.

Please make your check payable to FLPC. The deadline to order is **December 20**.

Please print clearly so that your information will be listed correctly. Thank you!

GIVEN by _____

In HONOR of _____

In MEMORY of _____

Or E-mail above information to adelewyatt@flpc.org

This gift is a tax-deductible contribution.



“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.”

Luke 2:14; King James Version (KJV)

Year End Contributions

For contributions to count for your 2018 Income Tax return, the gift must be received in the church office by 4:00pm on Monday, December 31, 2018 or have a US Postal Service postmark with a 2018 date. A stock gift would need to have a 2018 transaction date.

Online Giving is an option as well for year end giving. Any gifts made online with a 2018 transaction date will count toward your 2018 giving. Online giving can be accessed from our church website, www.flpc.org or directly with this hyperlink: <https://www.acionlinegiving.com/4188>

Thank you for your faithful support of Forest Lake Presbyterian and its ministries!

If you have any questions, please contact Murphy Peele in the church office. (803-787-5672)



ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE



- Dec. 9 Second Sunday of Advent
- Dec. 16 Third Sunday of Advent
- Dec 19 Longest Night Service at 5:30pm
- Dec. 23 Fourth Sunday in Advent
- Dec. 24 Christmas Eve Services:
 Family Service with Communion at 5:00 pm (nursery provided)
 Candlelight Communion at 8:00 pm
- Dec 30 One worship service at 11:00 am
 No Sunday School
- Jan 6 Epiphany Sunday - Two services at 9:00 and 11:00
 Epiphany Breakfast at 10:00 in Fellowship Hall



ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

During this season of Advent as we thank God preparing for Christmas with the Joyous Celebration of Jesus' Birth, we also reflect on the Beauty of God's World. Presbyterians for Earth Care has prepared an Advent Devotional for you at this link:

<http://presbyearthcare.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/2018-Advent-Devotional-print-layout-.pdf>



ADVENT & CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES



****BEAUTIFUL ADVENT BOOK MARKS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE CONNECTING POINT AND DOWNSTAIRS LOBBY DESK. PICK YOURS UP TODAY****

ADVENT CLASSES

- * LIFE Class – The Greatest Gift: Unwrapping the Full Love Story of Christmas
Celebrate the lineage and majesty of Jesus
- *Serendipity Class – Advent Through the Eyes of Those Who Waited
Isaiah, John the Baptist, Mary and Elizabeth have much to teach us about waiting.
- *Young Families Class – Preparing the Way
- *CCI Class – Hark! The Glad Sound (begins Dec 9)
Explore the history and meaning behind twelve familiar carols heralding the coming of Christ.

LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE – Wednesday, December 19, 5:30pm

For many of us, Christmas is a poignant time of year. It is a time for remembering persons, places, and events that have been a part of our lives in the past, but that are now changed or gone. It is a time when the world around us seems to require joyfulness, but that joy might be a little hard to come by in our own hearts. It is a time when the increasingly longer nights seem symbolic of the creeping emotional shadows that we rightfully and honestly feel, even in the midst of celebration. For this reason, Forest Lake Presbyterian will join churches around the world in offering a Longest Night worship service of healing and wholeness. This is a time for quiet and remembering, when we will have the opportunity to bring our hurting places to God and prepare our hearts and minds for the light of Christ that promises to penetrate the darkness.

The Longest Night service will take place on Wednesday, December 19th, starting at 5:30pm in the sanctuary. It will be about an hour long, and will include scripture readings, music, prayers, silence, anointing with oil, and communion.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES – Monday, December 24

Family Service; 5:00pm

This 45-minute service is for the young and young at heart. A simple retelling of the Christmas story is combined with familiar Advent and Christmas carols. Communion is served, and the story is brought to life by larger-than-life figures that give the service a sense of majesty and mystery. Dress is casual. Nursery provided for children ages 3 and under.

Candlelight Service; 8:00pm

This traditional Christmas Eve service combines the beauty of candlelight Communion with the opportunity to sing well-loved Advent and Christmas carols. Come and wait with us as we celebrate the coming of Christ into the world! No nursery provided for this service.

EPIPHANY BREAKFAST – Sunday, January 6

Epiphany is the Christian Festival marking the visit of the Magi to celebrate Jesus' birth. Fellowship with us at the Epiphany Party to begin the New Year on Sunday, January 6, 10:00 AM in Fellowship Hall.