



Forest Lake Presbyterian Church



HEAD, HEART AND HANDS IN THE SERVICE OF CHRIST

Newsletter Volume 63, Number 19

September 16, 2020

Dear Friends,

There is a lot in life that we cannot control. [Can I get an “Amen!”?] But, there are still a lot of things that we can – if not control – affect. There are things that I can do that only I can do, and I am responsible to do my part – no matter how small. It is very easy these days to get caught up and spend hours worrying about things over which we have no control. Instead, what if we agreed together to spend most of our time on the things we are actually responsible for, working in the places where we can accomplish good or prevent evil?

In this newsletter and the next one, I want to share two very specific places where, I feel strongly, we are all called to work for the good and against the evil: two places where we can each make a difference and live out our faith in positive ways.

First, I am convinced that we can each do some specific things as individuals to protect children against abuse. Every one of us can do some specific things that build our individual and congregation’s ability to protect children from abuse. Would you be willing to watch a short video that educates you on the signs of child abuse? Our Business Manager, Shannon Fancher, can send you the link to watch the video which takes about 30 minutes. Email her and ask – shannonfancher@flpc.org . By doing so you will be better equipped to recognize abuse, to prevent abuse and to respond to it should you find a child being abused. Another action you can take is to fill out congregation’s Child Protection Policy Application, if you have not already done so. If you want to do this, email me and I will send you the information. ellenskidmore@flpc.org . Doing this will teach you about our best practices and give you some specific ways to keep children safe both at church and in the community.

Our congregation has an unwavering commitment to protect children from abuse while they are in our community. This is why we require child protection applications from every single volunteer that has access to children or youth under 18. This is why we pay to run background checks on every volunteer. This is why we require two, unrelated adults supervise children’s and youth activities. I encourage you to take specific actions that will help you to protect our children and youth. Everyone can do something. Let’s be a congregation of those who do those things that affect our community and families in positive ways. We have control over whether we spend an hour watching mindless TV or surfing on social media, or instead whether we will learn more about child abuse so that we can help prevent it, recognize it, and know how to respond appropriately. Please join me in focusing our time and energy on what we can do to be parts of the solution to the problems in our world.

I have another specific idea for our next newsletter. So, before then, please hear my plea today that you consider taking specific small actions to help protect our children and others from abuse. Let’s do what WE CAN DO for the good of all of God’s children.

May God use and bless us!

Ellen

Forest Lake Presbyterian Church
6500 North Trenholm Road
Columbia, SC 29206
(803) 787-5672
www.flpc.org
Office Hours: M-F; 8:30—1:00

*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 . . .

Mission Co-Workers

- * Rev. Mark Adams & Miriam Maldonado Escobar- Mexico
- * Rev. Shelvis & Rev. Nancy Smith- Mather - Uganda
- * Ministry of Hope- Lesotho

PASTORAL CARE NUMBERS

Ellen Skidmore - 803-463-7586 (cell)
E-Mail: ellenskidmore@flpc.org

Eric Skidmore - 803-543-9859 (cell)
E-mail: zacchaeus@sc.rr.com

Ed Black - 803-240-0192 (cell)
Email: edblack@flpc.org



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
wcharris1973@gmail.com

Margaret Harris at 790-0954 or
cell 608-1477 or
mmck1950@gmail.com

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



Sympathies of the Congregation are extended to:

- ◆ Mark & Sylvia Trimmier on the death of Mark's mother, Mary Lois Trimmier, on August 30, 2020.
- ◆ Phil, Laurel, and Rachel Fleming on the death of Allison Fleming, on September 3, 2020.



Thank you!

The Red Cross Blood Drive in our parking lot on August 31 was a success. The reduced capacity of the BloodMobile meant that some people had to wait longer than usual to complete their donations. Thank you to all who gave the gift of life and to those who volunteered to work at the drive. The Red Cross staff working that day were very pleased with the turnout and the success of the drive.

Congratulations!

To Sarah Skinner and Chris Nelson on the birth of their daughter, Freya Alexandra Skinner Nelson, on September 11, 2020. Xan and David Skinner are the proud grandparents.



Last Call for H3 Groups

We are putting together 9 small groups this fall. These groups will meet at different times, some over Zoom and some a combination of in person and Zoom. If you have not signed up for a small group for fall and are still interested, please email Jodibeckham@flpc.org. We would love to connect you to a group!



BIG EVENT ON SEPTEMBER 27th!

Our congregation is grateful for twelve wonderful years of leadership and growth under Andrea Paschal's leadership. And Personnel Ministry knows that you want to thank her. Andrea's final day at Forest Lake will be Sunday, September 27th. On that day, you are invited to attend worship in person (registration required) or watch our livestream at 10am, and then to come to church at 6:00pm when we will thank Andrea and welcome Palmetto Pipe & Drums for a concert. Some bagpipes and drums are enough to raise anyone's spirits! You may choose to stay in your car, or bring your own chairs and sit at a safe distance (with your masks please!) to enjoy this event.

Personnel invites the congregation to do two things:

1. Write a note or a letter or thanks to Andrea and either
 - A. Mail it to the church marked in this way: Thanking Andrea Paschal
Forest Lake Presbyterian Church
6500 North Trenholm Road
Columbia, SC 29205
 - B. Email your note or letter to ellenskidmore@flpc.org
2. Come to the Church and stand beside the church sign (Rockbridge Parking Lot) that will say "Thank you Andrea!" and take a picture of yourself. Then, send the picture to edblack@flpc.org.



Congregational Hymn Sing – Wednesday, September 23rd – 6:30-7:30pm

Drive up and stay in your car, or bring your chair and sit outside to enjoy singing our most favorite hymns together – outside! Dr. Beth Mears and Sylvia Trimmier will have songs for all ages ready, and will also take requests. Come to the Rockbridge Parking Lot ready to sing!

Hey FLY Family,



Since this has been a bit of a different year, let's try something a little different for Sunday School! MS and HS Sunday School will be in my backyard this Sunday (9/20) at 9:15 am. My address is 928 Burwell Lane Cola, 29205 and my cell is 803-608-9273. Light breakfast fare and drink will be provided but you can bring your own food. Also bring a comfy chair if you want, your bible, and your mask! After Sunday School, we can all stay and watch the Live Stream worship service together! See you Sunday!

Blessings and Peace,
Bill

Peace & Global Witness Special Offering

Peace is Active, Not Passive; Peace is Doing, Not Waiting.

Your gifts will help more people experience the freedom and dignity that Christ wants for everyone. Let us offer the peace of Christ in all times and all ways. Thank you for your participation in the Peace & Global Witness Offering.

- ◆ 25 % of this offering stays with our congregation to support peacemaking and reconciliation in our own community.
- ◆ 25 % of this offering will go to our mid council, joining with other congregations in our area to support peacemaking work in our region.
- ◆ 50 % of this offering supports the work for peace and reconciliation being done by Presbyterians across the globe.

The Peace & Global Witness Offering provides the means that allow us to offer ourselves to the pursuit of ending violence and bringing about reconciliation, no matter where it occurs in the world.

Ways to Give: send a check to the church or donate by credit card online at <http://pcusa.org/peace-global>

Coming Soon: Healthy Seminarians-Healthy Church's 2nd Annual Miles for Ministry Fundraiser!

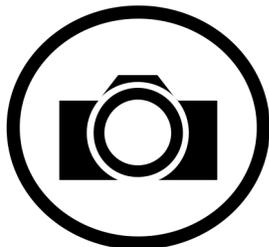
On Saturday, Oct. 3, 2020, Healthy Seminarians-Healthy Church non-profit is going to be holding its 2nd annual "Miles for Ministry" fundraiser. While our goal is still the same (raise \$15,000), our method is different. Last year, donors supported HSHC co-founders Karen and Travis Webster as they ran in a 50k trail ultra-marathon. This year, we are intentionally slowing things down! HSHC and a small group of seminarians and congregational members will be walking and praying for seminaries and faith communities in the Atlanta area and beyond. You are invited to show your support for their health and wholeness ministry in a variety of ways. For more information, and/or to donate, click here: <https://www.healthyseminarians-healthychurch.org/miles-for-ministry-2020/>



**Note: One of the organizations benefiting from this fundraiser is Columbia's own Family Promise of the Midlands!

Church Directory Photo Sessions have been rescheduled.

Due to the continued need for precautions against COVID-19, the dates for photography sessions for our new church directory have been changed to **November 5-8**. Mark your calendars!



FLPC ADOPTED WATERWAY CLEANUP SATURDAY, SEPT 26 ...10:00—11:30 AM

*Meet by the little bridge behind Schiano's, between N. Trenholm Rd. and Forest Dr.

*A Family Event! An Award will be given for the most unusual object found!

*Wear clothes appropriate for a woody area or water's edge.

*Bags will be provided, but if you have a "picker upper" tool and gloves they are always helpful!

*FLPC has adopted this area for our care with Keep the Midlands Beautiful.

*For more information: Julie Lott juliellott@gmail.com

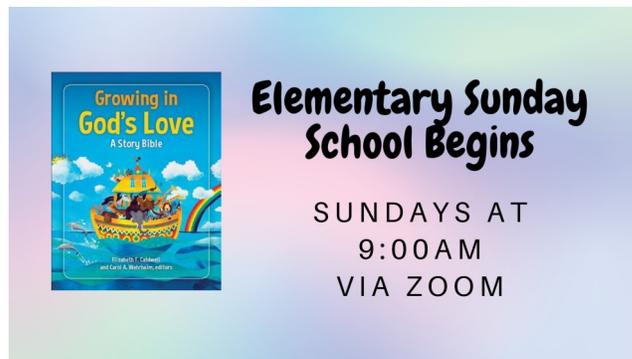
MORE Justice

Forest Lake Presbyterian is beginning our third year of engagement in Columbia's interfaith, non-profit Justice Ministry – MORE Justice. We will be scheduling small meetings (both remote and in person) in September and October to allow members and guests of our congregation to listen to each other, share stories of where we see injustice in our community, and hear reports on the work that MORE Justice is already doing in the areas of education, mental health, housing and gun violence. If you'd like to participate, please email Jodi Beckham (jodibeckham@flpc.org) or Ellen Skidmore (ellenskidmore@flpc.org) to find out more. We will publicize our small group meetings in the next week. While you think about justice, listen to why Peggy Carey chooses to be a Network Member of MORE Justice through our congregation.

“Being a member of MORE Justice through Forest Lake Presbyterian Church has strengthened my resolve to be a better citizen.

Individually, I can do little but donate money. As a member of FLPC I have found the resolve and the inspiration to continue my involvement and commitment in MORE Justice as we work against injustices in our community.”

~ Peggy Carey



Elementary Sunday School starts for Kindergarten – 5th grade
Sunday, Sept 20 at 9:00AM

Join with the Teachers for lessons from the new Bible – Growing In God's Love. Each week the teachers will meet via Zoom with the children to go through the stories in the Bible. Each family will have an “At-Home” letter to help facilitate your child's learning – or to do together at home. Families should receive a copy of the bible to have at home. If you still need one, please contact Ms. Andrea – andreapaschal@flpc.org

Zoom link for Sunday School: [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85255578794?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85255578794?pwd=ZU0vNWJqVURyQkJXTjRuZlpranZCZz09)
[pwd=ZU0vNWJqVURyQkJXTjRuZlpranZCZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85255578794?pwd=ZU0vNWJqVURyQkJXTjRuZlpranZCZz09)