



FLPC News

HEAD, HEART AND HANDS IN THE SERVICE OF CHRIST



Issue No. 1

January 5, 2022

Dear Friends,

Sometimes I have a hard time keeping up with information, and I don't think I am alone. In the church office we recognize that sometimes, even though we use all of our channels of communication to let you know about events and happenings, that message does not make it through the noise and busyness of your lives.

To try to make our communications easier to receive, we have a good website, we send out weekly emails that summarize the most current information, and then a longer newsletter is emailed and/or mailed every two weeks. That is in addition to the bulletin announcements each week. But we have recently added another tool that we believe you will find very helpful. **Realm is our new communication software** that allows you to find what you want to know and to communicate with others in our church more easily. The only "but" is that you do need to create a member login and use it. Directions for how to create a Realm Account are in this newsletter, and you will receive an email invitation from FLPC next Tuesday, January 11th. Please act on that invitation! When you create a Realm account, you will have instant access to the most up to date contact information for our members, without having to call the church office, and you can register for events, see all of your giving records, make payments, send emails and more. Please give this a try. It is our attempt to communicate clearly with all our faith family, but it only works if you receive our efforts.

And, on the theme of communication, please remember that there is a Congregational Meeting **this Sunday, January 9th at 11am** in the sanctuary. The meeting will be livestreamed, but to vote you must be present in the sanctuary. There are important items of business to accomplish (see the purposes listed in the newsletter and bulletins), and the Session's Annual Report to the Congregation will be presented. That report is always long because there is so much good that happens through our congregation. If you are feeling disconnected and like you don't know what is going on at church, please read this report! It will be available at the meeting on Sunday and attached to the worship email that goes out on Friday. The whole report will also be on the church's website for a few weeks for you to read there. I can't make you know things, but I can tell you where to look for the information that is important to you. And I hope and pray that what is going on in and through Forest Lake Presbyterian is important to you. It is important to me, and I can say that the Elders and Deacons and Staff of this church are remarkable in their passion, commitment, and service. Come and see what they see! The news is very good.

See you in worship!

Ellen

Ellen Fowler Skidmore

Bible Studies Beginning in January

Anita Poole's H3 Bible study group, which will begin studying the Book of Judges in late January, would welcome more members! If you are interested in joining this group, contact Anita Poole at scpooles@gmail.com. The group meets at 6 PM on Mondays in room E102 beginning January 24.

Nancy Livingston will lead a weekly study on the Gospel of Matthew starting Thursday, January 13 from 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM. Church room location TBD. If you are interested in joining this group, contact Nancy Livingston at nbl@sc.rr.com.

Jodi Beckham's H3 group will begin studying the short-term DISCIPLE course, *Invitation to John*, on Wednesdays at 10:30 AM beginning January 12. Please email Jodi if you're interested: jodibeckham@flpc.org.

Soul Shop—Faith based Suicide Prevention Training

January 19, 2022; 9:00 am –4:00pm

This is a one-day workshop designed to equip faith community leaders to minister to those impacted by suicide. This includes the creation of a worship resource, training congregation members in suicide awareness and basic conversation skills, and how to extend the invitation to those who have been suicidal in the past to share their stories. This workshop engages the question of how to cultivate a soul-safe culture within your congregation.

Who should attend? Faith Leaders

Location: Saxe Gothe Presbyterian Church
5503 Sunset Blvd
Lexington, SC 29072

Cost: FREE

Registration: send an email to: tinotenda.martin@scdmh.org

Called Congregational Meeting

Session has called a meeting of the congregation on Sunday, January 9, 2022, at 11:00 for the following purposes:

- To elect the 2022 Congregational Nominating Committee: Anne Fowler, David Hunter, Brad Woodward, Rebecca Van Wyke, Janyce Collins, Emily McCrae, Suzanne Precht, and have been nominated
- To elect a Trustee for the congregation—John Hudgens has been nominated
- To hear and to act upon the 2022 Terms of Call for Rev. Ellen F. Skidmore
- To hear the Annual Report of the Session to the Congregation

PASTORAL CARE CONTACTS

- ◆ Ellen Skidmore - 803-463-7586/ellenskidmore@flpc.org
- ◆ Eric Skidmore - 803-543-9859/zacchaeus@sc.rr.com
- ◆ Ed Black - 803-240-0192/edblack@flpc.org

Stephen Ministry Contacts

- ◆ Wayne Harris - 803-608-1187/wcharris1973@gmail.com
- ◆ Margaret Harris - 803-608-1477/mmck1950@gmail.com
- ◆ Bettianne Davenport - 803-530-6018/bettianned@sc.rr.com

MORE Justice

The work of MORE Justice continues, and we invite you to be part of it. MORE Justice brings together congregations from all over Columbia to make the Midlands a more just place for us all to live. Member congregations (like FLPC) work together to empower marginalized people and act powerfully to address serious community wide problems through direct action. This is accomplished this by identifying a problem, doing research, educating the public, and publicly addressing the root causes of, and solutions to, poverty and injustice in our communities. Come join this important effort! Contact Peggy Carey, rdfpc55@yahoo.com, Ellen Skidmore, ellenskidmore@flpc.org or Jodi Beckham, jodibeckham@flpc.org for more information.

Feminine Hygiene Collection

We are collecting all types of feminine hygiene products for Richland Northeast High School students. The school nurse and social worker have expressed a great need for these products as many of their student live in financial need. Please donate products by leaving in the collection box located downstairs at church. *Thank you!*

CRISIS RESPONSE: Building Community Capacity

Tuesday, February 15th 8:30-12:30pm Forest Lake Presbyterian Church

Registration per person - \$10.00 (supports RSD2's community training efforts like this one) To waive this fee, you may use the code SCHOLARSHIP in the registration process. We don't want anyone to be prevented from participating by the cost.

This Crisis Response Training will provide participants with knowledge and skills to respond immediately following a traumatic incident or other intense, stressful situation. Participants will learn the basic neurobiology of stress and trauma responses, how to calm and regulate ourselves and others in stressful moments, and how to follow up after an event. This training will cover sensitive topics and will include practice simulations with feedback and in-the-moment coaching to practice skills. Come join us for a dynamic training and leave with confidence in your new abilities!

Masks welcome, but not required for this event.



Or Click Here [CRISIS TRAINING REGISTRATION](#)

To register:

Our Trainers:

Abby Cobb, LISW-CP, is the lead social worker for Richland School District Two, a leader of the district's Crisis Response Team, and a liaison for countless community agencies and resources. Abby plays a crucial role in both responding to crises in Richland Two and in developing and implementing trauma-informed practices. Abby is also adjunct Faculty for the Columbia College Masters in Trauma Informed Education program.

Cara M. Thompson, LMFT, LMFT/S, is the coordinator of RSD2's Family Intervention Services and specializes in parent-child relationships and trauma-focused treatment. Cara is also a doctoral candidate at USC and researches teaching "helpers" about the neurobiological effects of developmental stress and trauma. Both Cara and Abby are Master Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) Interface trainers and have written their own training series on Trauma-Informed Education. Other licensed therapists and graduate interns will offer in-the-moment support and coaching to participants during simulation exercises.

Did you know we have an online tool that can help you find someone's address or phone number? A tool that enables you to quickly pay your pledge? We do!

If you have not set up your Realm account yet, please make this an easy new year's resolution to achieve. All active church members (with email address on file) who have not set up their Realm account will receive an email from the church on Tuesday, January 11 that invites them to create their Realm account. It is a simple process (instructions are below), and once your account is created, you will be able to access the church's directory and see updates from the church.

Instructions for Creating a Realm Account

1. You will get an email from Realm that says the following: "Forest Lake Presbyterian Church: Join our online community!" Please click the link next to "Create an account."
2. You will then be taken to a page where you are asked to establish a password for your Realm account.

After establishing your password, click "Register" at the bottom. You will then be sent another email from Realm that says the following: "Forest Lake Presbyterian Church: Email Verification." Once you receive it, click the link next to "verify your email." You should be all set!

Presbyterian Women's Retreat February 4 & 5

Ladies, join us for a retreat at FLPC led by Ellen Skidmore. Dinner on Friday will be provided. There is no charge for the event, but please register soon. Bring a friend!

Friday, Feb. 4 - 6:30 to 9 p.m. ~ Dinner and a movie

Saturday, Feb. 5, 9 a.m. to noon ~ discussion

Please [sign up here](#)

Questions, contact [Ginny Jones](#)

Day Trippers

Eudora Farms Drive Thru Zoo — Jan 27

Join us for a day trip to Eudora Farms. Eudora Farms Safari Park is home to around 200 exotic animals and is located in Salley, SC. We'll leave the church at 10:30 and stop at Shealy's BBQ in Batesburg-Leesville. Cost for the trip is \$5 plus your lunch cost. Sign up by calling the church office.

2022 Offering Envelopes

Envelopes are located in the downstairs lobby. If you would like envelopes and don't see a box with your name on it, please contact Shannon Fancher at 803-787-5672 or shannonfancher@flpc.org.

January Capital Improvement Update:

The Landscape Plan has been implemented! We hope that you have noticed the positive changes to campus. A new well has been put in place for an additional irrigation system. Please make sure to check out the courtyard, it has vastly improved in appearance and we hope that you will use this as a place to enjoy the sun, reflect, or read. We have had a hiccup with the raingarden and will adjust what was originally envisioned, but the plan is now to have sod and trees to improve the water quality of the runoff we do create.

The new telephone system will be installed next week. This VOIP system will allow staff to have many functionalities our old system could not provide. Please bear with us as we learn this new system.

We are very excited to be installing cameras inside and outside. Due to supply chain issues, we do not have all the equipment yet, but they do have the cabling and cameras and will install those over next week.

We are on the schedule for the Stained Glass Window sealers to come the week of January 31st. Hopefully, weather will not delay this important project.

And finally, playground equipment has started to arrive. They are planning on raising the wall soon and once all the equipment has arrived, they plan on starting the installation January 17th. It will take about two weeks to install the equipment and then they will install the fence. Once again, this is dependent on good weather conditions and the supply chain.

January Birthdays

- 1 Deborah Joyce, Mary Leigh
- 2 Lyle Lee
- 3 Carter Agee, Mazie Agee, Sally McKenzie
- 4 William Cobis, Tom Leclair, Amanda Wood
- 7 Sandy Helfer
- 9 Judy Rodgers, Holly Sarratt
- 10 Rebecca Williams-Agee
- 11 Ashe Cribbs, Barbara Derrick, Beth Elliott
- 12 Anne Addison Raines
- 13 Margaret Bolyn, Lydia Clary, Jane Van Wyke
- 14 Erlinda McCoy
- 15 Anna Brown, Macy Catoe, Mark Lencke, Pinckney Roberts, Reid Stewart, MB Wright
- 16 Sarah Lowery, Mary Ann Smith, Marynell Wooten
- 17 Melanie Fisher, Mary Grier Middleton
- 18 Pierce Butler, Grace-Maree Stachowiak
- 20 Sandy Hill
- 21 Treva Miles, Beth Powell
- 22 Doris Hunter
- 23 Bill Elrod, Larry Spivey
- 24 Jennifer Catoe, Mandy Pierce
- 25 Elizabeth Blevins, Clark Crawford, Carol Cribbs, Katherine Ryker, Rebecca Timmons
- 26 Dot Grinton, Oscar Wooten
- 27 Lisa Martinez, Rachel Skidmore, Kim Winslow
- 28 Paul Van Wyke
- 29 Charles Bush
- 30 Virginia Boland, Elizabeth Estes
- 31 Charlie Fancher, Logan Marshall

