

The Leaf

Seven Oaks Presbyterian Church
530 St. Andrews Road
Columbia, South Carolina 29210

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The Leaf

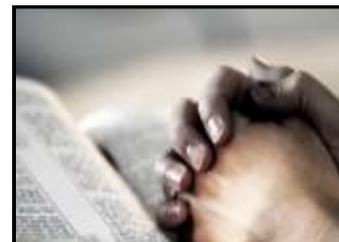
Seven Oaks Presbyterian Church Newsletter / June Issue 2018
530 St. Andrews Rd Columbia, SC 29210 Ph. (803) 772-1761 Fax (803) 772-1787 sopc@sopc.net www.sopc.net

JUNE

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
					1 6:45 Lanterns	2
3 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship/Communion	4 4:00 Congreg. Care 5:30 Good News, B&G, Admin. Missions 6:30 Ministry Chairs 7:15 Fellowship, Worship	5	6 5:30 Elder Training	7 5:30 Spaghetti Dinner set-up	8 6:45 Lanterns 6:00 Spaghetti and Dance Fundraiser	9
10 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 6:00 Pre-Confirmation	11 10:30 Prayer Circle	12	13	14 9:00 Interior Design	15 6:45 Lanterns 1:00 Meet at SOPC to take donations to Hospital	16
17 <i>Father's Day</i> 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship <i>Habitat for Humanity</i>	18 7:00 Session Meeting <i>Habitat for Humanity</i>	19 10:00 VBS Set-up 10:30 Grief Support <i>Habitat for Humanity</i>	20 3:00 Staff Meeting 10:00 VBS Set-up <i>Habitat for Humanity</i>	21 10:00 VBS Set-up <i>Habitat for Humanity</i>	22 4:00 VBS Training	23
24 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 12:15 VBS Set-up	25 9:00 VBS 10:30 Prayer Circle	26 9:00 VBS 10:30 Grief Support	27 9:00 VBS	28 9:00 VBS	29 6:45 Lanterns 9:00 VBS	30

Our members are linked every month with a member to pray for. Please pray for this person or family by name each day. Thanks for being part of this important ministry as we continue to lift each other in prayer.

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REV. JANA CREIGHTON
Senior Pastor
jana@sopc.net

Rev. Alice A. Odell
Parish Associate
alice@sopc.net

Dr. Lloyd R. Pilkington
Director of Music Ministry

Mrs. Criss Gray
Office Manager
sopc@sopc.net

Mr. Karl Thompson
Building Superintendent

Mrs. Sharon Watkins
Piano Accompanist

Miss Michaela Craven
Director of Children
and Youth

Mrs. Sharon Staton
Finance Volunteer
sharon@sopc.net

Mrs. Amy Schwartz
Childcare Coordinator

Missionaries:
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Turk
turk@wanadoo.mg
www.pcusa.org/
missionconnections/
profiles/turkd.htm

Class of 2018 - Session
Linda Floyd - Worship
Fred Holbrook - Admin.
Ed Keelen - Christian Ed.
Ron Kesterson - B & G Chair
Polly Robinson - Worship
John Whitfield - Missions

Class of 2019 - Session
Pat Byrne - Congreg. Care
Marty Hilyer - Missions
Kathy Keane - Christian Ed.
Ken O'Mellan - Fellowship
Jim Taylor - Good News
Jim Wilhide - Clerk

Class of 2020 - Session
John Jones - B and G
Jeanne LeBoeuf - Care
Tish Lowe - Missions
Kathryn Morganelli - Worship
Jack Noë - Good News
Mark Wishart - Fellowship

Trustees
Guy San Fratello
Janice Reiser,
Lucretia Seigler

Treasurer
Hal Bowman

Vacation Bible School TRAVEL TO

Babylon

Daniel's Courage in Captivity



June 25th - June 29th
9:00am - 12:30pm
Seven Oaks
Presbyterian Church
3 years old - completed 5th Grade

- ◆ Fun
- ◆ Music
- ◆ Lunch
- ◆ Crafts

- If you have a child with special needs that requires special accommodations we ask that you contact the office.
- 3 year olds must have completed 3K and be potty trained!



Register online:
<https://vbspro.events/p/events/sopcvbs>
Or call the office: 803-772-1761
530 St. Andrews Rd. Columbia, SC 29210



YOU ARE INVITED:

Please join us as the children and youth host a spaghetti supper fundraiser and dance for everyone! Come support the next generation as they venture out in the world to do God's mission. Be ready to enjoy letting them serve you dinner before you hit the dance floor to wonderful oldies music. We would love to see you all there, Friday, June 8th at 6:00 p.m.



Debt Free in Three Report

Philippians 4:19 -“And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus.”

Most of you have heard that as of April 15th, SOPC launched a Debt Free in Three campaign to accomplish two specific goals. The first is to raise enough money so that we do not have to borrow funds in order to repair our organ which is in need of major renovations (Total renovation costs of \$150,000). The second goal of the campaign is to pay off debt that is remaining from our Raise Up and build Campaign for the Fellowship Hall (Total payoff \$160,000).

As of May 15, 2018, a month after our launch, we have cash on hand of \$59,000 and pledges over the coming 3 years for \$64,000, totaling \$123,000. Each Sunday in the narthex you can watch the barometer rise as we are being active good stewards of God’s gifts. Families can choose to give via stocks (please speak with Sharon Staton), payments on the principal of the loan, a onetime donation (envelopes in narthex), or additional amounts on your annual tithes or giving (indicate this on your normal envelopes for donations).

Also coming soon to SOPC will be hands on opportunities to take part in actively raising funds. If you have an idea and want to be a part of that excitement, please be in touch with Pastor Jana or Pastor Alice or Elder Fred Holbrook. The future is so bright, this Pentecost, we gotta’ wear shades!

Your Debt Free in Three Team

An SOPC Exploratory Task Force has been created by Session **for the purpose of discerning whether or not the abandoned property next door to the church has a purpose in the ministry of SOPC. If such a purpose is determined, the Task Force will develop a recommendation to move forward a plan to pursue such a purpose.** Those serving on the Task Force include: Elizabeth Taylor, Kathy Morganelli, John Whitfield, Buddy Wilson, Fred Holbrook, Ed Keelen and Ben Smith. All members were present at the first meeting held on Tuesday, May 8th at noon in the Session Room.

The group agreed that there are three primary reasons to explore the idea of involvement in the future use of the neighboring property.

1. The property may present an opportunity within our community to reach out to the least, last & lost.
2. The property is currently a blight on our community and creates an environment for negative activities to thrive.
3. The future use of the property will have an impact on the value of SOPC property.

Next the task force discussed what is known about the property.

1. The property consists of 1.78 acres and an abandoned house which was last used as office space over 10 years ago.
2. It is owned by Mt. Horeb Methodist Church in Lexington, SC.
3. It was built by Congressman Asbury Francis Lever and was his family home and farm by the name of Seven Oaks.
4. There are possible community partners who may be interested in joining SOPC in some sort of community outreach on this site.

The group discussed the unknowns that are essential to further exploring the viability of a potential use plan.

1. The structural integrity of the house must be professionally established.
2. Potential community partners must be identified.
3. A vision for the use of the property must be created that can generate support from a variety of funding sources such as other churches, non-profits, grants and philanthropic individuals.

The next action to be taken is to have the structure evaluated by an outside professional. At the next meeting of the Task Force a report by this individual will be reviewed.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

This is a series of PW basics for those new to PW and those who sense some gaps in their PW knowledge. If you want to learn more, read the Leaf in the coming months for additional articles.

PW 101.1: The foundation for all that Presbyterian Women is and does is the PW Purpose, our mission statement. *Forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves • to nurture our faith through prayer and Bible study, • to support the mission of the church worldwide, • to work for justice and peace, and • to build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and witnesses to the promise of God’s kingdom.*

If you have questions, please contact one of the PW Coordinating Team members: Mary Lou Taylor, Julie Bussells, Emalee Dillard, Shelagh Wirth, Melanie Mixon, Charlotte Swearingen, Misty Werner, Marion W Wishart.

You can also talk to a PW circle chair: Bev Elbert, Jeanne LeBoeuf, Beverly Hudson, Jo Groce, Marion W Wishart or Shelagh Wirth.

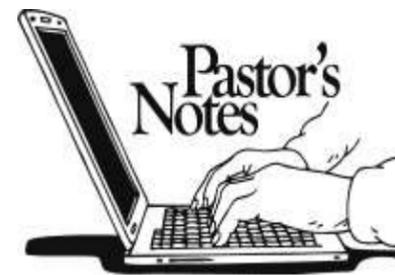


PLEASE HELP OUR **DEBT FREE IN 3** CAMPAIGN BY DONATING YOUR UNWANTED ITEMS FOR OUR CHURCH-WIDE SALE

Drop off your items between August 16th -17th.

(Or call for pick-up if needed for large items)

SATURDAY, AUGUST 18th
WILL BE OUR CHURCH YARD SALE.



From the Pastor,
Recently the elders of SOPC submitted a ‘faith journey’ which told about their life journeys with God. It was no surprise that several of them harkened back to the childhood days of Vacation Bible School as a turning point in their faith walk. The memories of sunlight hitting our faces as we built crosses in the courtyard, the music which made our souls dance, and the intergenerational church family working together to teach them ‘in the way they should go’. It’s a beautiful time!

But why VBS? There’s certainly no magic to the week of June 25-29, 2018 on the calendar. There’s no guarantee that it will be sunshine or even that the courtyard will be swarmed with over a hundred children like last year. However, by participating in Vacation Bible School, the church of Christ is living into something specific, working toward the fulfillment of the great ends of the church.

When children of all ages, shapes, colors and creeds gather together we participate in the proclamation of the gospel. By the adults gathering and teaching we are providing shelter, nurture and spiritual fellowship to one another as the children of God. By sharing the gospel story, or in this case the story of Babylon, we are preserving the truth of God’s work in our lives recognizing how God is living into that truth even now. With our offering a labor intensive but beautiful VBS to all of God’s children, we are promoting the social righteousness of all of our communities coming together, working for the betterment of each child and parents own walk with God and in this world. Finally, as we fill the air with music and laughter, this is an exhibition of the kingdom of heaven to the world. It’s not every day that we can say we are meeting the great ends of the church in one event, one magical week, one playful and artistic adventure. But this week, we can.

Vacation Bible School is about more than teaching our kids about Christ. It’s about teaching the world about Christ, one person at a time, creating disciples as we learn together. I’m excited, friends about getting to participate in Vacation Bible School this year at Seven Oaks. Spread the word to all ages that there is a place for you to hear of God’s love and to share it with others! See you on Monday the 25th!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Nickie Dickson	2
Donna Moore	3
Mark Dillard	7
Mary Gasque	10
Dallene Smith	11
Megan Shuler	13
Tina Pilkington	18
Justin Werner	18
Pat Robosky	22
Judy Barnes	23
Delaine Crook	23
Wendy Wells	24
John Anderson	25
Sarah Burnside	26
Lou Ann Hilton	26
Marty Hilyer	26
Fred Holbrook	26
Frazier Jackson	26
David Odell	26
Mark Pilkington	26
Carol Will	29
Dave Allen	30
Andy Miller	30



Matthew Richard Jackson graduated from the University of South Carolina on Saturday, May 12, 2018 majoring in Computer Science. Anna Elizabeth Jackson graduates from Dutch Fork High School on Friday, June 8, 2018. Anna will attend the University of South Carolina. Matthew and Anna are the children of Laura and Richard Jackson and the grandchildren of Monroe and Charlotte Swearingen.



Church Women United

A racially, culturally, theologically inclusive ecumenical women's movement

As a lot of you know, Church Women United was at SOPC this past Friday to collect Health Kits and have a short worship service. Pastor Jana welcomed everyone and opened us with prayer. Our speaker was Deputy Molly Nations from RCSD and she spoke on sexual trafficking, a real problem in SC. I have been asked what CWU is and does, so.....

Church Women United (CWU) is a movement through which women from Protestant, Roman Catholic, Orthodox, and other Christian traditions may express the ecumenical dimensions of their faith and work. It is open to all women who wish to manifest their unity through worship, fellowship, study, and cooperative action – women of every racial, ethnic, economic, educational and age group.

The purpose of CWU is “to encourage church women to come together in a visible fellowship to witness to their faith in Jesus Christ and, enabled by the Holy Spirit, to go out together into every neighborhood and nation as instruments of reconciling love.” CWU is an independent movement, not tied to any other organization. In earlier years, it had been known as Untied Church Women and had some relationships with other groups. In 1970 we became Church Women United, wholly independent but united in witnessing, united in renewing, united in reconciling.

The three major celebrations are:

World Day of Prayer is a Worship Service held in March each year, with an offering that is sent directly to the National CWU office in New York City;

May Friendship Day, is when the churches bring in the health kits they have been collecting. These health kits have only 6 items in them, toothpaste, toothbrush, soap, comb, hand towel & face cloth. CWU contacts all Columbia area agencies to see if any would like to have a supply of health kits. The May Friendship Day on May 4, which was held at SOPC collected **2916** kits, as well as incomplete kits & odd items. These kits were distributed to 13 different agencies; Children's Garden, Cooperative Ministry, Epworth's Children's Home, Free Medical Clinic, LICs, Mt Hebron Go Forth Ministries, Mercy Youth Group Drop in Center, The Nurturing Center, Palmetto Place Children's Emergency Center, Oliver Gospel Mission, St Lawrence Place, Telamon Corp, The Women's Shelter.

World Community Day, is a fellowship day with a short worship service held each November. Money and canned goods are collected for Harvest Hope Food Bank. In 2017 we sent 92 lbs. of food & \$124 to HHFB.

We meet in January for our Annual Business Meeting. A speaker from a Columbia Agency is always our special guest. The offering taken at this luncheon is given to this agency. In the past we have donated to Toby's Place & Lighthouse for Life. Special study groups may be called for the purpose of learning more about local or international problems, such as drug abuse, juvenile delinquency, or world hunger - or simply for Bible study.

Putting faith into action is CWU's basis for projects in which we are taking an active part. The Columbia unit has helped promote the Greater Columbia Literacy Council, the Columbia Day Care Project, the voluntary Action Center, and Meals on Wheels. Many of the women who participate in our program also volunteer in those and other service projects. The financial support for CWU comes from voluntary contributions from women's groups of the churches which participate and from individuals. Offerings are also taken at each of the Celebrations – designated for specific causes.

As we work together and worship together, we become sensitive to each other's perspectives, and grow also in our own faith. If you would like more information or would like to become involved with Church Women United, please contact me either via phone 803 629 7851 or by email swirth@sc.rr.com.

SESSION NEWS

At its last Stated Meeting on May 21, your Session ...

1. Sarah Park presented a session and training on Disability Awareness for ministry consideration at SOPC.
2. Received an update from our Task Force which is discerning whether or not the abandoned property next door to the church has a purpose in the ministry of SOPC.
3. Received a written report on the May 5, 2018, Trinity Presbytery meeting from Mark Wishart.
4. Heard Rev. Creighton give a report on the 4 new members who were welcomed into our fellowship on May 20.
5. Heard Rev. Creighton report that the Elder training sessions are going very well.
6. Heard a report from Rev. Creighton that the Funeral Guild is working to develop their program.
7. Heard a report on the many activities of our Presbyterian Women.
8. Heard Rev. Odell tell about the Grief Support Group that will begin in June in the Library/Parlor of the Sanctuary.
9. Unanimously elected Hal Bowman to serve as our church Treasurer from June 1, 2018, to May 31, 2019.
10. Unanimously elected Jim Wilhide to serve as Clerk of Session from June 1, 2018, to May 31, 2019.
11. Unanimously APPROVED a revised budget for 2018 which reflects significant increases in giving and APPROVED Fred Holbrook's reporting this to the congregation on May 27.
12. APPROVED increasing the Music Director's vacation from 3 to 4 Sundays per year.
13. APPROVED a yard sale for August 18, with proceeds going to Debt Free in 3.
14. Heard that John Whitfield is working on the Habitat trip for June.
15. Prayed for members who are ill and for our new members and signed cards for them.
16. Learned that we will provide communion for shut-ins on June 3.
17. Learned that a Congregational Prayer Team will begin on the second and fourth Monday of the month at 10:30 a.m. during the summer months in the Fellowship Classroom.
18. APPROVED the Good News Ministry to purchase magnetic Elder name tags.
19. APPROVED a Social Media Policy for SOPC.
20. APPROVED a new logo for SOPC for use on our stationery, signage, bulletin, and LEAF.
21. APPROVED three books for use by Presbyterian Women's Circles:
 - "OVER THE HILL, ONTO THE MOUNTIAN TP" by Louise Looney and James Watkins
 - "PILGRIMAGE INTO THE LAST THIRD OF LIFE" by Jane Marie Thibault and Richard Morgan
 - "LIVING WITH PURPOSE IN A WORN-OUT BODY: by Missy Buchannan.
22. APPROVED Rusty Creighton as a teacher for the Young Adult Sunday School Class.
23. APPROVED the book, "THE HOLY SPIRIT" for use by the Crossroads Class.
24. Prayed for members and friends of SOPC who have experienced joys or sorrows in recent days.

Jim Wilhide,
Clerk of Session

GOOD NEWS - *Jim Taylor, Chair*

I'd like to
connect!



What is Realm? - It is our church management software. It contains our people database, your giving statement, members contact info and our email system (or at least one way to send out church wide emails).

What is Realm Connect? - It is a FREE APP that can be downloaded from the Apple or Android store.

How can I use Realm Connect? - You can connect to other members in the church via groups (Sunday School) and messaging. You can look up members phone numbers, addresses, pictures, and email addresses. Most helpful is the ability to log in and see your giving history as well as donate via the app. A lot of the functions of Realm Connect are not used at this time, like the ability to sign up for Church Night suppers or Koinonia.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION - *Ed Keelen, Chair*

June 7th - Thursday, 5:30 p.m.

Set-up for Spaghetti Dinner and Out of School Summer Party

June 8th - Friday, 6:00 p.m.

Appreciation Dinner with Spaghetti and Oldies Dancing

June 10th - Sunday, 6:00 p.m.

Last Pre-Confirmation Class (@ Grill Marks)

June 10th - Summer Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.

Children meet in Room of Acts

June 13th - Wednesday, 4:00 p.m. -VBS Meeting- Session Room

June 15th - Friday, 2:00 p.m.

Meet at the church to go to Palmetto Richland Hospital to deliver stuffed animals

June 19th, 20th, 21st Tues. Wed. Thurs. - VBS Set-up

June 22nd, Friday, 4:00 p.m

Volunteer Training in Fellowship Hall

June 24th, Sunday, Immediately following the worship service

Set-up for VBS (Pizza will be provided)

June 25th - 29th, Monday - Friday, VBS 9:00am - 12:30pm



CONGREGATIONAL CARE - *Pat Byrne, Chair*



Dear Congregation,

We will begin an 8 week Grief Support Group for anyone interested in joining on Tuesday, June 19th at 10:30 a.m. I expect the class to last about 90 min. This class is for anyone grieving the loss of a loved one or another type of loss in your life. We will meet in the library off the narthex in the main church. We may all be at a different stage of the grief process in our life but everyone is welcome and we, with God's help, will meet you where you are. If you are interested, please contact me.

Blessings, Alice



Beginning on Monday, June 11th we invite everyone to join us in the Fellowship Hall at 10:30am for a time of prayer together. We will continue this every 2nd and 4th Monday.



Thank you to my very faithful Monday Morning Bible Study for my Gift Card as an end to Spring Bible Study gift. You are all so kind and generous to me.

I appreciate your faithful attendance and the gift. We will begin again on Monday Sept. 10th with Genesis. It is so full of many thoughtful stories. I look forward to seeing you all then. In the meantime, safe travels and a wonderful summer.

Love and blessings, Alice

Thank you so very, very much for all your prayers, your cards, your phone calls, and your deep concern during my recent health crisis. I deeply appreciate you all. I am feeling well now and pretty much pain free. I do have another endoscope on June 9th just to check the progress of that darn ulcer of mine, but I expect no trouble from it or following it.

Blessings to All, Pat Robosky

MISSIONS - *Marty Hilyer, Chair*

Our Sharing God's Love collection

We will be collecting spaghetti and pasta sauce. Thank you!

Providence Men's Home

On June 12, the Missions Ministry will provide a meal to the men of Providence Home. We always appreciate help with these meals. If you plan to help with this meal, please contact Robert or Kitsie Miller. Thank you to the Millers and everyone who helps provide this important ministry!

Loving Our Neighbors: The Missions Ministry last month

- * The Lanterns provided a meal to the men of Providence Men's Home.
- * Collected flour, sugar, cornmeal and other items to Sharing God's Love.
- * Packed and delivered weekend food backpacks for children at SOES.
- * Made sandwiches for Oliver Gospel Mission.
- * Collected \$913 for our special Mother's Day offering for charitable care at Presbyterian Communities.
- * Worked a shift at Missions Lexington (formerly known as LICS). Thank you to everyone who volunteered time and gave donations this past month, you are a blessing to those in need.

Habitat for Humanity

Banner Elk Summer Work Week- We'll have lodging at Lees-McRae College in Banner Elk, NC as we work on homes nearby. This year, we'll be there from Sunday, June 17- Friday, June 22. Please see John Whitfield for more information. Thank you!

Soup Kitchen 2018 - Oliver Gospel Mission

Those of you who are signed up will make sandwiches for the men of Oliver Gospel Mission at Centennial ARP church on the following dates this year: May 5, July 7, Sept. 8, Nov. 10 and Jan. 12, 2019. Thanks to Greg Mixon for coordinating this ministry and to everyone who helps.



The Summer Session of the Shepherd's Center of St. Andrews will be June 5 – July 10. Shepherd's Center is an interfaith learning program for adults 50 and older. SOPC is a sponsoring congregation. This summer there will be classes on *American Comedy*, *Memory Care*, *Humanity's Uses of the Night Sky*, *Photography* and others. The programs will be from 9:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. The registration fee is \$20.00. Brochures are in the Narthex or you may contact Hal Bowman for more information.



Missions Donations

\$2,079.08 Trinity Presbytery
\$500 Lighthouse for Life
\$900 Presbyterian Foreign Missions

Ongoing collections are:
Pull tabs for the Ronald McDonald House
and Box Tops for Education for SOES.

We also continue to collect for Two Cents a Meal for the hungry in the red ribbon jars at our meals. You may leave your items in the Missions drop off room or the black baskets in the narthex.

WORSHIP MINISTRY WELCOMES OUR NEWEST MEMBERS



Ed & Margie Billings



April White



Sarah Robinson