

Leader: Gray hair is a crown of glory; it is gained in a righteous life. (Prov. 16:31)

People: Day by day, we strive to be more holy.

Leader: Listen to your father who begot you, and do not despise your mother when she is old. (Prov. 23:22)

People: We are grateful for parents who teach and nurture in love.

Leader: So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not forsake me, until I proclaim your might to all the generations to come. (Psalm 71:18)

People: We love to tell the story of Jesus and his love.

Leader: In old age they too produce fruit; they are always green and full of sap. (Psalm 92:14)

People: We must look past the wrinkles and see the soul.

Leader: You who are younger must accept the authority of the elders. (1 Peter 5:5)

People: Yes, we too will soon know and understand ... give us wisdom so that we may serve others as we have been served. Amen.

Permission is granted for local churches to reprint this article, provided that a credit line is included. <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/litany-for-aging>

OFFERING Offerings may be placed in the large wooden boxes with crosses at the main exit of the lobby.

To give online, text Sevenoaks to 73256 or use the SOPC website with this link:

<https://onrealm.org/SevenOaksPresby/-/give/now>

OFFERTORY "Guide Us, Lord" Mark Patterson
Chancel Choir

INSTALLATION AND ORDINATION OF ELDERS (All oncoming Elders, please come to the front).

SENTENCES OF SCRIPTURE 1 Corinthians 12:4-7, 27 Rev. Jana Light Creighton

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS Rev. Jana Light Creighton

PROFESSION OF FAITH

With the whole church let us confess our faith.

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION AND LAYING ON OF HANDS (All Elders, please come to the front for laying of hands.)

DECLARATION OF INSTALLATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER Rev. Bruce Hurley

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, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

*HYMN # 697 "Take My Life"

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION Rev. Jana Light Creighton

POSTLUDE "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah" James Mansfield

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SEVEN OAKS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
July 16, 2023
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
Ordination and Installation of Elders and Trustee
11:00 am
Welcome! We pray that you will truly experience
God's love and grace as you worship!

STRIKING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Jana Light Creighton

PRELUDE

"Jesus Saves"

Charles Callahan

*GATHERING OF OUR HEARTS

Rev. Bruce Hurley

Leader: In You, O Lord, I put my trust, for you are my strong refuge. Let my mouth be filled with your praise.

People: I will praise you yet more and more; my mouth shall tell of your righteousness and your salvation all the day.

Leader: O God, You have taught me from my youth; and to this day, I declare your wondrous works.

People: Now also when I am old and gray headed, O God, do not forsake me, until I declare your strength to this generation and your power to everyone who is to come.

One: Let us of all ages worship the Lord.

*HYMN # 839

"Blessed Assurance"

*CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Bruce Hurley

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, when we can't see the good around us because all we can see is what has changed and what doesn't work anymore, Forgive us, Lord. When we allow our fears to overtake us and prevent us from anticipating the newness of each day, Forgive us, Lord. When we forget that you are here with us, leading, guiding, and restoring us, Forgive us, Lord. Forgive us Lord, and grant us your grace to see life as you see it for us and the grace to trust you as we walk into the future. *Time of silent confessions.*

Amen.—Fran Vickers

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Elder Judy Barnes

We invite children ages 4k - 4th grade to sit in the "Children's Corner" after the "Children's Message." An adult will be sitting with the children, and age appropriate activities will be provided for children that go along with worship. Parents, please pick up your children after the service.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. Jana Light Creighton

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 46:3-11, Jeremiah 29:10-14

MESSAGE

Empowering the Generations: Late Life

Rev. Jana Light Creighton

*Hymn # 835

"Just a Closer Walk with Thee"

LITANY FOR THE AGING

Leader: Then the Lord said, "My spirit shall not abide in mortals forever, for they are flesh; their days shall be 120 years." (Gen. 6:3)

People: Dear Lord, we do need time to grow.

Leader: Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you. (Ex. 20:12)

People: We pray that the long years will be good years.

Leader: The glory of youth is their strength, but the beauty of the aged is their gray hair. (Prov. 20:29)

People: Give us strength and experience.

Leader: Remember the days of old, consider the years long past; ask your father, and he will inform you; your elders, and they will tell you (Deut. 32:7)

People: Remind us to ask, and teach us to listen.

*Please stand in body or in spirit.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Sunday, July 16

Counters: Fred Holbrook, Sharon Watkins
Usher: Guy San Fratello
Greeters: Elizabeth and Jim Taylor
Acolyte: Kaelin Pilkington
Children's Message: Judy Barnes
Children's Corner: Melanie Logan

Sunday, July 23

Counters: Liz Harris, Sharon Watkins
Usher: Fred Holbrook
Greeters: Brenda Turner, Dallene Smith
Acolyte: Mia Freeman
Children's Message: Mark Johnson
Children's Corner: Melanie Mixon

STAFF

Senior Pastor: Rev. Jana Light Creighton

jana@sopc.net

Office Administrator: Mrs. Denise Wolfe

sopc@sopc.net

Director of Music Ministry:

Dr. Lloyd R. Pilkington sopcmusic@gmail.com

Accompanist: Mrs. Sharon Watkins

Building Superintendent: Mr. Karl Thompson

kthompsonsc@yahoo.com

Volunteer Financial Administrator:

Mrs. Sharon Staton sharon@sopc.net

Nursery Coordinator: Mrs. Amy Schwartz

SESSION MEMBERS

* indicates chair

Clerk of Session: Polly Robinson

Class of 2024:

Hal Bowman - Administration

Richard Brinkley - Buildings & Grounds

Class of 2025:

Fred Holbrook - Administration*

Ed Keelen - Reshape Adapting Group*

Sharon Staton - Missions*

Sharon Watkins - Worship*

Class of 2026

John Carter - Buildings & Grounds*

Liz Harris - Fellowship

Kathy Keane - Christian Ed*

Banks Robinson - Fellowship*

Trustees: Sue Kesterson, Frank Sheppard, Carol Griffith

Treasurer: Hal Bowman

Presbyterian Women Moderator (SOPW):

Mary Johnson

Office Hours:
Monday - Thursday - 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

This week at SOPC:

Sunday, July 16, 2023

9:30 Examination of New Elders

9:45 am - Adult SS Classes

11:00 am - Worship

Ordination & Installation of Elders and Trustee

12:00 pm - Luncheon

1:30 - 4:00 pm - Mision Cristiana Elim Int'l -

Sanctuary, Nursery, & Room of Acts

3:30 - 5:00 pm - Love Revolution

Monday, July 17, 2023

10:00 am - Red Cross Blood Drive

12:00 pm - Ladies Luncheon - Longhorn Steakhouse

6:30 pm - Session Meeting (In person)

7:30 pm - NANA

8:00 pm - Mision Cristiana Elim Int'l -

Crossroads Classroom

Tuesday, July 18, 2023

10:00 am - Staff Meeting

7:30 pm - NANA

Wednesday, July 19, 2023

5:45 pm - NAMI - Pavilion

7:30 pm - NANA

Friday, July 21, 2023

6:45 am - Lanterns Men's Prayer Group

7:30 pm - Mision Cristiana Elim Int'l -

Sanctuary, Nursery, & Room of Acts

Saturday, July 22, 2023

9:00 am - Cuban Feminine Project

10:00 am - American Federation of Human Rights

Stay connected! If you would like to receive emails and/or texts from SOPC, please text the letters SOPC to the number 84576.

If you have information to be included in the weekly bulletin or newsletter, please have it to the church office (sopc@sopc.net) no later than 10:00 am Tuesday the week of publication. Thank you!

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4 WAYS TO GIVE!



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Offering baskets



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Sopc.net



BY TEXT

Text 73256 to SEVENOAKS text rates may apply

530 St. Andrews Rd Columbia, SC 29210
803-772-1761

Welcome!

Masked and Socially Distanced Seating: There are two pews marked as reserved in the sanctuary to the far right front close to the side exit for those preferring masking and social distancing. If you need assistance please ask an usher. Masks are available in narthex/lobby.

Hearing impaired equipment is available in the narthex. Please ask an usher for assistance.

Nursery: A nursery is available in Building A during worship for ages 0 - 4. If you have any questions please see an usher for help.

Worship Bags: Parents can pick up worship bags in the Children's Corner before the worship service, for ages 3 - 5th grades. (*Sanctuary near the restrooms*)

Flowers: The beautiful silk flower arrangements in the sanctuary today were donated for use when the church does not have fresh flowers. If you would like to place fresh flowers in the sanctuary please call the church office for details.

Guests are invited to stop by the guest table in the narthex/lobby. Please take a goody bag with you as a reminder of God's love. Also, please leave your information for us on the yellow card. Thank you for worshipping with us today!

Music Notes: The prelude is based on the great hymn of praise by the same name. The opening verse calls us to shout our song of praise: "Give the winds a mighty voice, Jesus saves, Jesus saves. Let the nations now rejoice, Jesus saves, Jesus saves. Shout salvation full and free, highest hills and deepest caves; This our song of victory, Jesus saves, Jesus saves." The choir's anthem draws on the Prayer of St. Richard of Chichester from the 13th century.



**July
Word of the
Month:
Church**

In our continued prayers...

John Anderson

Richard Brinkley

Al Charles

Joe Gause

Myrna Gause

Sue Kesterson

Ira Leon

Jim Mullins

Josie Wilkes

Kirk Wirth

Tara and John Whitfield

Our Ukraine Family

Daniel and Elizabeth Turk (Missionaries)

Iglesia Presbiteriana de Nueva Paz

Long Term Care - Dave, Rich & Sam Allen, Edith Blanchett, Kathie Cashion, Bobby Sellars (Father of John Paul Sellars), Patricia Williams

If you would like someone to be added to the prayer list, please contact the church office.

Announcements

Love Revolution: SOPC hosts today, July 16, please bring a dish today from 3:30 - 5:00 pm to serve our neighbors in Christ. Please join us in this much needed mission.

Please join us after worship today in the pavilion for lunch and fellowship to celebrate our new Elders and Trustee. The menu is hamburgers, hot dogs, slaw, baked beans, potato salad, and dessert.

ReShape - At our Adapting Group meeting last week, we got excited about the opportunities for community outreach at our church, and brainstormed several ideas which we will now prioritize. Examples are our traditional Fall Festival, but with a more aggressive advertising and marketing campaign to draw in the community, an "Art under the Oaks" Festival, showcasing our own artists and others, and a "Bluegrass Band and Fish Fry" for a foot stompin' and pig out time together. We are also looking into how our small group program might tie in to our community outreach. Stay tuned as these ideas become reality!

Blessing Box: If you would like to help with the Blessing Box for the community, we are in need of ramen noodles, granola bars, and pop top items, i.e. soup, pasta. Thank you for helping the SOPC community area.

Clothing Closet: We are in need of disposable razors, combs, brushes, deodorant, mini toiletries bags, and all other hygiene products.

Family Promise of the Midlands partners with congregations and others to provide shelter and solutions for families with children facing a housing crisis. Our host week for Family Promise guests begins July 23. Donations will be used to purchase gift cards for the families to buy food, supplies, and gas. You can give via the offering, church office, and online (onrealm.org). Please mark donations for "Family Promise."

Cuban Feminine Project: If you can sew a straight line, you could make an easy pleasure storage bag. If you need some instruction on making these reusable pads or just need more supplies, Kitsie will be in the Fellowship Hall between 9 am and 11:30 am on Saturday morning, July 22. If another day suits you better, please call Kitsie at 803-463-6958. We love sharing the good vibes we feel when working on this incredible project. Thank you.

New Sermon Series: A Vibrant Church: Some churches shrivel and die. Other churches thrive and flourish. What about our church? Will it fade, or will it flourish for generations to come? And more specifically, what can you do to help your church become or remain a vibrant, growing community of faith? Join us in worship as we explore what it means to be a vibrant church!



Blood Drive!

Tomorrow

Monday, July 17
10:00 am - 2:00 pm

You can register online,
www.redcrossblood.org, or
by calling 1-800-733-2767.