

July 20, 2023

# The Leaflet



530 St. Andrews Road  
Columbia SC 29210  
803 772 1761  
Sopc@sopc.net

**JULY**

Word of the Month

**CHURCH**



**Word of the month emails go out each Wednesday with a different explanation for the month's word. If you would like to discuss the explanation, please contact Ed Keelen or Pastor Jana.**

**Sunday events: Worship 11:00 am**  
**Worship Link: [https://zoom.us/j/743754044?](https://zoom.us/j/743754044?pwd=bWIHWWJWOFr4UG1zQkZuRVRIaE41dz09)**  
**[pwd=bWIHWWJWOFr4UG1zQkZuRVRIaE41dz09](https://zoom.us/j/743754044?pwd=bWIHWWJWOFr4UG1zQkZuRVRIaE41dz09)**  
**Meeting ID: 743 754 044**

**9:45 am - Adult SS Classes**  
**Children & Youth Sunday School Classes - no summer classes**

**The Roads to Faith Sunday School Class will be meeting with the Fellowship Class this summer, beginning on June 18th.**

**The Class starts at 10:00 am with fellowship beginning at 9:30 am.**

**All are welcome!**

**Come join us and walk with God!!**

## JULY AND AUGUST AT A GLANCE

**Mondays - 7:30 pm NANA**

**8:00 pm Mision Cristiana Elim Internacional**

**Tuesdays - 10:00 am Staff Meeting**

**7:30 pm NANA**

**Wednesdays - 5:45 pm NAMI in pavilion**

**7:30 pm NANA**

**Fridays - 6:45 am Lanterns Men's Prayer Group**

**7:30 pm Mision Cristiana Elim Internacional**

**Sundays - 9:45 am Sunday School for adults**

**11:00 am Worship Service**

**1:30 pm - 4 pm Mision Cristiana Elim Internacional**

**3:30 pm - Love Revolution**

**Saturday, July 22 - 9 am - Cuban Feminine Project**

**Monday, July 24 - 1 pm - Care Givers Group**

**Monday, July 31 - 6:30 pm - Worship Ministry Meeting**

**Tuesday, August 1 - 5:30 pm - ReShape Adapting Ministry**

**Wednesday, August 2 - 5:30 pm - Children's Ministry Team Meeting**

**Thursday, August 3 - 5 pm - Christian Ed Ministry Meeting**

**Sunday, August 6 - Back to School Sunday (Blessing of the Backpacks)**

**Thursday, August 10 - Happy Birthday to Pastor Jana!**



# NOTES and PICTURES FROM CAMP FELLOWSHIP



To help others to the best of my ability  
 -Garyer Lightm

The kids were asked to write one or two sentences about something they had learned or enjoyed at Camp Fellowship. This is what they wrote.

we fought really big spiders  
 -finn



At camp fellowship, I enjoyed getting to know my counselors and cabin mates. I met brayden & Sawyer <sup>Troupe</sup> & latorum & conner.

I am so grateful for the memories ~~made~~ I made, the people I met, and the opportunity I had to grow in my faith and leadership.  
 Rollin

ABOUT CAMP IS SWIMMING & 4 SQUARE. Eli

I enjoyed at camp is probably Archery, swimming, canoeing, & Arts and Crafts.  
 Krou- Abby



# OH WHAT FUN WE HAD AT CAMP THIS SUMMER!



*Montreat*  
Sawyer Creighton and Rollin Cartee



# Camp Fellowship



# AND THE FUN AND FOOD CONTINUE!



PW Ladies Salad  
Dinner

What a beautiful  
group of ladies we  
have!



VBS VOLUNTEERS  
DINNER  
THANK YOU!!

# Migrant Ministry Meal



Mission Ministry and other members from SOPC took a meal to the migrant workers in Lexington County on July 11.

## IN SYMPATHY



Our deepest sympathies to Richard Brinkley's family and friends. Richard was born on August 30, 1946 and passed away on July 19, 2023. He was an Elder at SOPC and was on the Buildings and Grounds Committee. He was very influential in helping the church to set up its accounts with The Texas Presbyterian Foundation. Richard was a faithful Elder at SOPC and we grieve with his family in the loss of our friend in Christ. We will provide more information as we receive it in the next coming days.

## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS



Guy San Fratello	2
Darren Taylor	3
Jason Moore	5
Vern Rogers	10
Ben Smith	10
Pastor Jana	10
Kitsie Miller	14
Sandra Johnson	16
Amanda Edwards	24
Amie Freeman	29
Mark Wishart	30
Marion Watson-Wishart	30
Sarah Paschal	31



What an exciting year we have coming up for our Youth! Please see below for all the fun activities with dates and times!!

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!

1. Youth Sunday School Begins on Rally Day, September 10th, 10-10:30 am in the youth SS room (near Fellowship Hall)! Our Sunday School curriculum is Faith Questions, led by a rotating staff of teachers to get a wide variety of perspectives on life in faith. You don't want to miss the fellowship, snacks, conversation and fun!

2. Confirmation is the process where our young adults learn and experience the power of the Holy Spirit and make a commitment to God and the church in their lives. Each person's confirmation journey is different and these classes are aimed at allowing our youth to learn about their own faith and what PCUSA as a denomination believes in light of their own faith. Confirmation Classes will be held Sundays 09:30-10 am in the youth SS room (near Fellowship Hall)! This is for 7th-9th grade primarily (or older if you have not already been confirmed into the faith and church), Potential confirmands, look for another email with specifics!

3. Confirmation curriculum is the Alpha Series where we explore our faith, ask deep questions and grow together as young adults with God! This series utilizes video clips to get to the heart of the matters of faith in a timely and poignant way while creating a space for them to delve deeper into their thoughts and share opinions in a friendly and safe environment. We will also supplement with the curriculum: Big God Big Questions which is focused on preparing youth to authentically answer the questions they are asked when they join the church:

- Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world?
- Who is your Lord and Savior?
- Will you be Christ's faithful disciple obeying his word and showing his love?
- Will you devote yourself to the church's teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers?

Big God Big Questions equips confirmands to study scripture, tradition of the Christian tradition, and your congregation, to tell their own story.

Confirmation will last through May of 2024. We will learn and grow together in the faith and in community.

4. If you have been or are willing to be a prayer buddy for our children and youth, please let Mary Dempster know. If you are willing to be a mentor to one of our confirmands, please contact Julie Bussells or Jana Creighton. Prayer buddies and mentors will last through May of 2024. Every child needs 5 people in their life to show them how to do this thing called faith. You can and will make a difference! Some ideas for mentoring include: Being present Sunday mornings and youth groups, going on outings and experiences to grow together (child safety laws still apply), job shadowing or 'church shadowing' in activities that you naturally are a part of at SOPC. Encouraging leadership roles in worship and in session, sending cards, and praying for big tests, jobs or adventures, the list goes on!

5. Youth BOAT Trip! September 23, Meet at the park on the Irmo side of the Dam where we will board our vessels, from 1 pm-5 pm. Wear a bathing suit, bring a towel, a drink and a snack to share, sunscreen, and life jacket (if you have one), and a sense of adventure!

6. Youth nights begin September 24th at Seven Oaks Park, 5:30-7 pm. Bring a friend, tennis shoes, a water bottle, pizza is served and be ready to play and grow together to kick off the new year!

# COMMUNION POEM

## Between a Rock and a Hard Place

If you're between a rock and a hard place  
And your troubles are too high to face  
Be still a while and you will find  
That Jesus is a step behind.

If you find that you are all alone  
With no one left that you can phone  
Lift up your eyes, lift up your heart  
And hear Him say "We're not apart".

"I'm part of you, you're part of me  
And where you go I'll always be.  
Have faith in me and have no doubt  
I am the Rock that lifts you out."

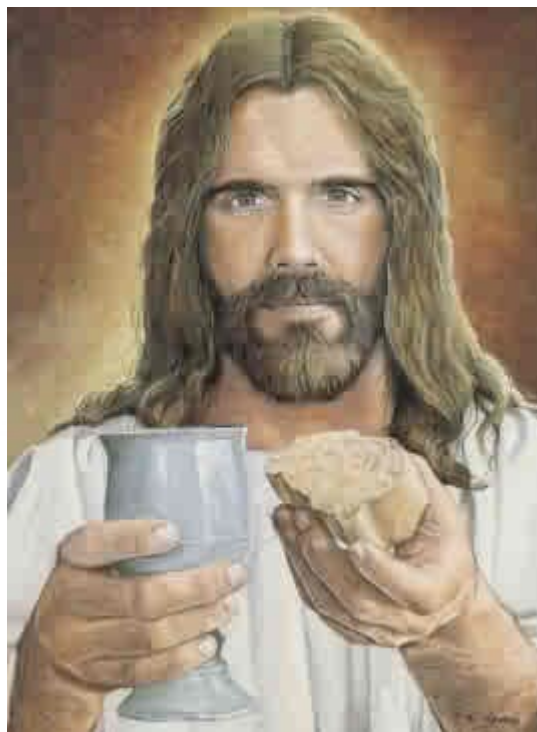
"Be still a moment and you'll see  
The one you need is only Me.  
I have not moved, I'm always here  
I am the Way, you need not fear."

"You ate my bread, you drank my cup  
Don't be afraid I'll lift you up.  
I am the answer to your prayer  
Put all your troubles in my care."

"Lift up your arms lift them up high  
One day you'll even reach the sky  
Where I'll be there to welcome you  
And everything will be brand new.

"With no more troubles, no more fears  
No more sorrows no more tears.  
And I will whisper and I'll say  
I am the Rock, I am the Way'.

I've always been there by your side  
I've been there since the day I died  
I haven't moved , I'll always be  
A part of you eternally."



*Join us for communion on  
August 6, 2023 during our  
Worship Service.*



## THANK YOU!

Dear Sharon and Shawn,

This note is late but I wanted to thank you and the Outreach Ministry so much for all of your support during Staff Appreciation Week. I could not have done as much for the staff without the support you gave us.

The desserts were wonderful. All of them were gone shortly after lunch!

The check was most helpful. I used it towards treats for other days and to

help with a luncheon on Thursday. All in all we had a fun week honoring all of our Certified and Support staff.

We are so appreciative of the support we get from our whole community. We could not do the extras for our staff and students without ALL of you!

Again, thank you for everything!

Michele

## PASTOR JANA IS BACK!



Seeing your awesome boss after a month and discover your "twinsies"! (Haha ) We so enjoyed having Andrea here during Jana's time away! Her gifts are amazing! She really made an impact on me personally and she is such a great leader. I'm happy that she was here during that time. Now moving forward we are so glad to be getting back to a routine and getting to work together again! This team is on a roll!!

## MENTORING

**Mentoring**  
Be a Mentor...Be the Difference



As Andrea shared in her sermon a few weeks ago... every child and youth in our church needs "five fans." Five adults who know their name, encourage them and share our love for Jesus. Would you be willing to put her words into action and be a mentor for a confirmand this year? We have three youth who will be participating in confirmation classes this year and they need mentors! It's not a job that requires an overwhelming amount of time, and can change the lives of our youth! Please prayerfully consider this adventure! Contact Julie Bussells 803-622-9509 if you'd like to serve.

# MISSIONS

## Cuban Feminine Project

**We are making progress** slowly but surely with our pads and storage bags. We would love to have more folks involved. 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 mornings on the following dates: July 22, August 19, September 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, and October 7, 14, 28, and November 4, 11, 18, and 25. 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.



**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](http://onrealm.org)). Please mark donations for "Family Promise."

## CAREGIVERS GROUP

**Leeza's Care Connection  
Columbia, SC Center  
201 St. Andrews Rd.  
Columbia, SC 29210  
(803) 888-7525**

**Our HUGS team is a network of caring ambassadors who have walked the path of family caregiving and are available to share their wisdom with others new to the journey.**

These caring volunteers are certified through our customized HUGS curriculum to provide virtual or in-person support with caregivers who may feel lost, afraid, or alone.

Whether it's through individual support or through our "Group HUG" support gatherings. HUGS is made of a team of Hope and Help that can offer an authentic lifeline for others who are called upon to care.

Inspired by the desire to create a positive and uplifting community, Leeza Gibbons created these programs after her own experience with her mother's Alzheimer's disease. Leeza knew we could, and must, do better to offer families a way forward after diagnosis.

We can help people cope rather than collapse when facing a bleak future. After working with families for years through Leeza's Care Connection, Leeza discovered that the number one request was to be connected with someone who "gets it".

HUGS was designed as an intimate relationship between a mentor/sponsor and a new person or family trying to answer the question, "Now What"?

Our Hugs Ambassadors are what we call FCTA's: Former Caregiver Turned Advocate! They take their years of experience along with the specialized training they receive from us and offer it to those who are struggling to find their way to tomorrow.

Whether you're are an experienced caregiver or interested in becoming a HUGS Ambassador or a currently on your caregiver journey and looking for support, we'd love to chat.

If you'd like to learning more, please email [info@leezascareconnection.org](mailto:info@leezascareconnection.org).



Are you interested in helping out a single mom starting her own business? Please contact Josette Williams at [Josettetara@gmail.com](mailto:Josettetara@gmail.com).

Josette makes her own bath salts in all kinds of scents and would love to make some of them for you! Please contact her at the email address above for pricing and more information.

# The Vibrant Church

Serrmon 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!

## ReShape Update



In the last newsletter, we listed all of the potential actions that we brainstormed and put in our Ministry Guide for Theme 1: "How do we experience Growth in Christ?" This week, we do the same for theme 2: "How do we experience Growth in Fellowship and Hospitality?" The list is much shorter, but the events associated with them repeat periodically throughout the year. Several of them provide opportunities for community involvement.

- ⇒ Suppers of 6/8
- ⇒ Hold Picnic in Pavilion
- ⇒ Organize nature trips and Outdoor activities

Unfortunately, our most recent attempt to have a Suppers of Eight was not held due to lack of sign ups.

We have made good use of the Pavilion, with a Rally Day picnic with Liberty Church, Love Revolution every Sunday, NAMI every Wednesday, and a new renter, Nature School, will be using the pavilion on a daily basis during the week.

A couple of our small groups last fall had a nature theme. Pairwise walking a trail, doing some gardening, day trips to nearby scenic locations. These can usually be organized on a moment's notice, so if you have a hankering to get outdoors, call a few members and head on out. (Might be wise to wait until the heat subsides, though!!)

We were silent in this section of the Guide about Koinonia, but decided to hold six Koinonia meals with about 30 in attendance.

The Adapting Group is working with the Fellowship Ministry to identify additional fellowship opportunities. Being discussed are "First Sunday" meals, a Blue Grass and Fish Fry festival, a food truck event, and perhaps more Koinonia dinners. Your thoughts on what you'd like to see are welcome. Talk with Banks Robinson.

## Administration Ministry

From the Administration Ministry: Thank you for keeping your pledge up to date, as this helps us plan and fulfill the programs of the church! Last month's offering and the year-to-date information are shown below:

	<b>Giving</b>	<b>Budgeted</b>	<b>Difference</b>
<b>June</b>	<b>\$ 22,582</b>	<b>\$ 23,500</b>	<b>(\$ 918)</b>
<b>YTD 2023</b>	<b>\$137,686</b>	<b>\$141,000</b>	<b>(\$ 3,314)</b>

Total revenue for the first 6 months of 2023 (including other income in addition to offerings) and total expenses are shown below.

<b>Total Revenue through June</b>	<b>\$145,384</b>
<b>Total Expenses through June</b>	<b>\$148,070</b>
<b>Expenses in excess of Revenues</b>	<b>(\$ 2,686)</b>

## Volunteer Highlight of The Month



**Robert and Kitsie Miller** have been members at SOPC since March of 1991.

If there is a mission project afoot, Robert and Kitsie are likely involved. If you have a question or concern about a mission project, they are 'go to' people!

Did you know that Robert and Kitsie spearheaded:

- The backpack program at Seven Oaks Elementary
- The Cuban Women's Ministry project
- The Love Revolution

And are involved in MANY more missions at SOPC and in our community?

Robert and Kitsie are a little like the energizer bunny. They tend to themselves, their precious family and all those in our community without missing a beat.

*Thank you Robert and Kitsie for all you do for all of God's people!*

## UPCOMING EVENTS - DON'T MISS OUT!



Please join us as we celebrate and honor our devoted organist and choir director, Dr. Lloyd Pilkington, as he retires from SOPC on August 27. We will have a reception for him immediately after Worship.



**The August 21st Ladies Luncheon** will be held at noon, Poogan's Southern Kitchen, 4605 Forest Dr, Columbia, SC. If attending, please notify Margaret Royals 803-957-0430 or 803-608-1434 or email [mroyals052@gmail.com](mailto:mroyals052@gmail.com)



I know, I know, who wants to talk about a Fall Festival in July? Well, we do! We are gearing up to have a successful Festival this year on October 21 @ 1 pm! Keep watching The Leaflet for more information as it closer!



Please be on the look out for more information on our Men's Prayer Event - Becoming Kings: Feast and Film on Saturday, September 30, 6:30-9:30 pm.

# Community Updates

## The Love Revolution

Every Sunday from 3:30 - 5:00 pm The Love Revolution is proving to be a blessing to our community. Food, love and hope are being provided weekly to those in need around us. This event is open to everyone.

Bring a dish and/or a smile to share God's love.

### Community partners in this effort are:

Ashland United Methodist Church - First Sunday of the month  
Palmetto Thrift with financial aid  
KJ's Market supports us with food and paper supplies



**Help Us Bless Our Community!** Donations for the clothing closet are always welcome! Drop off clothing items in the black baskets in the narthex/lobby or bring by the church office during office hours.

**The Clothes Closet** is in need of wire hangars, pant hangars and children's small plastic hangars (with indentions to hold tank tops). We are, also, in great need of combs, disposable razors, brushes, travel size mini toiletries, deodorant, and any hygiene items would be greatly appreciated.



### **SOPC Blessing Box**

**Non-perishable food donations** for the Blessing Box can be placed inside the box at any time. If you place items, please be sure they are securely wrapped as ants get into the food. If the box is full, please bring your items to the office. SOPC thanks KJ's Grocery Store for donations they provide for our Blessing Box.



Contact information for  
Pastor Jana Light Creighton:  
803 530 4866  
Email: jana@sopc.net

For church business call:  
803-772-1761  
or email: [sopc@sopc.net](mailto:sopc@sopc.net)

Office Hours:  
Monday - Thursday  
10 am - 3 pm

If you use the church facilities for any reason please remember to turn off lights, turn the air off, make sure no water is running (toilets or sinks) and lock the doors. Please also let Karl know when you leave by calling or texting 803-237-4519 so we can keep the facilities clean and sanitized. Thank you!



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

## Ways to Give to Seven Oaks

### To give via text:

#### Step 1

Enter 732-56  
After to

#### Step 2

Type Sevenoaks as  
your message and hit  
send

#### Step 3

Enter 732-56

### To Give via mail:

530 St. Andrews Rd.  
Columbia, SC 29210

### To give via our website:

#### Step 1

go to [sopc.net](http://sopc.net)

#### Step 2

Click on "Give" at the top  
right. A window will open that  
will guide you through the  
process.