

THE LEAF



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The Monthly Newsletter from Seven Oaks Presbyterian Church



Happy
New Year
2024



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Happy New Year

"Rejoice always. Pray continually. Give thanks in every situation because this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

REJOICE ALWAYS

If the ministries we have participated in together bring anything, may they bring moments of rejoicing. Not everything is easy, and this journey together has not been any different. And yet there are so many reasons to rejoice over these last Six years of ministry here at SOPC:

- Debt Free in 3
- Organ Refurbishment
- Boot Camp, Brewing Faith, Creative VBS's (especially during Covid)
- Technological advances (Zoom, Streaming, WIFI Upgrades across campus, Projectors in Worship, Security in Computer systems, New Phone systems and the list goes on!)
- Use of our property expansion- continuous Scout Troop events, Chin Church, Liberty Church, Mision Cristiana Church, The Well Church, Peaceful Gatherings Nature School, Rentals of the Fellowship Hall for Community events and classes, Kairos Ministry on Property, and more!
- Outreach has exploded! The Love Revolution is into year 3, serving between 20-30 folks each Sunday! The Clothing Closet was born and expanded to facilitate 5-15 folks weekly! Providence Men's Home, backpacks for SOES, Giving as much as 13% in missional funds in a year among others!
- Cuba, Pakistan, and Guatemala have all benefitted from new missional meetings and support on the SOPC campus.
- Small groups are continuing to gather and grow like Beth Moore, the 'community outings group' and the Artists' Way are thriving in friendship and community.
- Raise the Roof is preparing as we speak to replace roof number 3 on campus!
- We have had confirmands each year who profess and follow in the faith!
- Youth joined with McGregor last year and Westminster this year to expand the opportunities to our youth.
- The Children's Corner has successfully ministered to our children during worship, a transformation after COVID came in our midst.
- Reshape brought us together to grieve, to learn, and to grow. And SO MANY MORE ministries for Christ have we engaged in! All these things remind us to:

PRAY CONTINUALLY

So much ministry has happened and is happening. So much needs our prayers and support. And yet, Every Change brings challenges. As my ministry here comes to a close, Your prayers and participation are keenly needed as these transitions occur.

- New leadership will have new goals, new opportunities, new styles, and new skills. Pray for what SOPC needs the most and then part of the discernment process in the coming year and then support them with all your heart, soul, and strength in God's name



- Prayers for one another must also continue. Every age and stage needs prayers, so please be in prayer continually for one another. The strength of God will be needed during times of challenge and blessing.
- Prayers for your shepherds as they lead and pray with you during leadership absence and discernment of God's path forward. Your shepherds will be your first point of contact and they will need your prayers as they pray for and with you!
- Pray for ministries to continue thriving as you discern next steps as a congregation.
- Prayer for ways to reach and minister to members, new and old alike, children and teens, as well as those who are no longer able to attend.
- Prayers for our new music minister as he seeks to expand and rejoice with music from our community.
- Prayers for each of you to be so worried about rejoicing that there is no room for disgruntlement, anger or disappointment as you reflect. These emotions harbor resentment and take you away from a faithful walk, Instead rejoice and pray to prepare you to:

GIVE THANKS

In EVERY situation, God is at work. That includes our time together and now the time to reshape with someone new. Give thanks that you have had the opportunity to reflect, learn, grow and change into an even more loving, embracing and rejoicing church. One thing I have learned over these last 6 years is that when you have gone through hard times together, you learn to appreciate and give thanks even more for the good. There is good ahead.

The Good News: Christian joy is not dependent on external situations and factors. Your faith brings strength, and through prayer, you will reap the benefits of God's guidance.

May this new year be a year of strength, faith and God's leadership!

Pastor Jana



A glimpse into the magic of January

Sunday

9:45 am Sunday School for Adults, Youth, & Children
11:00 am Worship Service
11:00 am - 3 pm Liberty Church
1:30 pm - 4 pm Mision Cristiana Elim Internacional
3:30 pm - 5 pm Love Revolution
5:30 pm- 7 pm Youth Group

Monday

8 am - 1 pm Peaceful Gatherings Nature School
7:30 pm NANA
8:00 pm Mision Cristiana Elim Internacional
7:00 pm Troop 91 Meeting

Tuesday

8 am - 1 pm Peaceful Gatherings Nature School
7:30 pm NANA

Wednesday

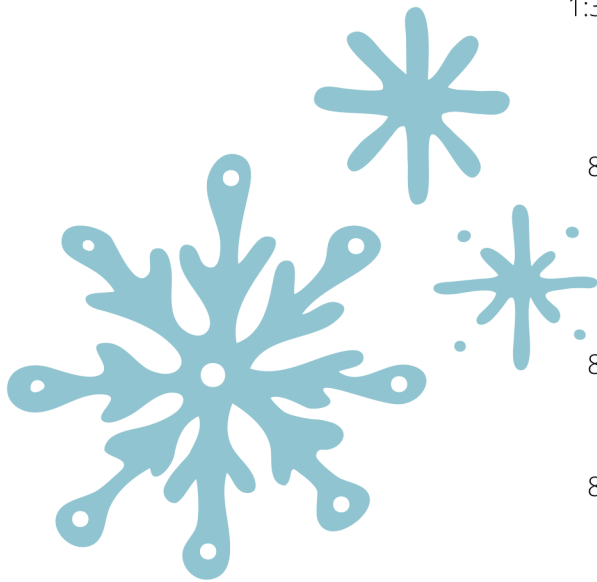
8 am - 1 pm Peaceful Gatherings Nature School
5:45 pm NAMI in Pavilion
7:30 pm NANA

Thursday

8 am - 1 pm Peaceful Gatherings Nature School
7 pm - 10 pm Liberty Church

Friday

6:45 am Lanterns Men's Prayer Group
8 am - 1 pm Peaceful Gatherings Nature School
7:30 pm - 10 pm Mision Cristiana Elim Internacional



Sunday Events:
Worship 11:00 am

Worship Link: [https://zoom.us/j/743754044?
pwd=bWlHWWJWOFr4UG1zQkZuRVRIaE41dz09](https://zoom.us/j/743754044?pwd=bWlHWWJWOFr4UG1zQkZuRVRIaE41dz09)
Meeting ID: 743 754 044

9:45 am - Adult Sunday School

Roads to Faith Sunday School Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/508111743>
Meeting ID: 508 111 743

9:45 am - Children and Youth Sunday School Classes



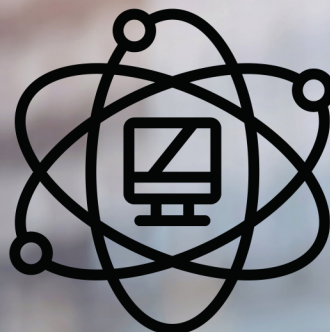
JANUARY

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



June Burkhalter	5
Mae Leviner	7
Tracey Wilkes	7
Cathy Keelen	8
Carol Griffith	11
Banks Robinson	14
Will Watkins	21
Barbara Fowler	23
Janice Holbrook	23
Jacob Schwartz	28
Virginia Martinez	29

Congratulations to Ryan LeBoeuf, grandson of Jeanne LeBoeuf, on his recent graduation from USC with a degree in Computer Science.



Photos



**Prime Rib
Dinner
December 17, 2023**



Rich and Dave Allen and their brother Sam shared a Christmas card with us so that we may know how they are doing.



Dave and Rich are living together once again in a long term home.

Dave can no longer walk but is happy and doing well.

Rich as you can see is all smiles and appreciative of all our love from SOPC.

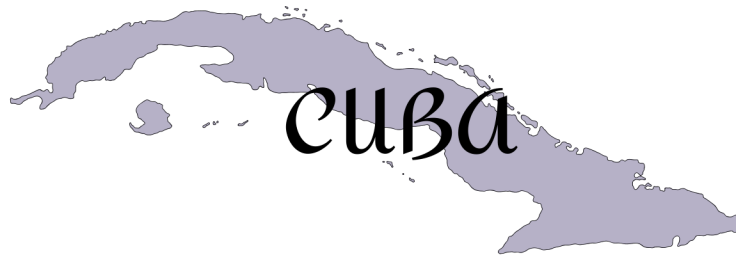


Brother Sam resides now in Haven Memory Care and is doing well!



Thank you for your prayers and support for our members!

Rachel Circle Christmas Luncheon at Miyo's



Aid Mission to Cuba: Robert and Kitsie Miller, Kathy Keane, and Dan Perriero From December 8th to December 15th,

Robert and Kitsie Miller, Kathy Keane, and Dan Perriero embarked on a mission to bring much-needed feminine hygiene products and supplies to Cuba. During their visit, they were able to witness a touching baptism of this sweet girl and had an enjoyable time overall. Stay tuned for more photos in the February Newsletter!



Youth CORNER



Join US!

Exciting January Plans for Youth – Save the Dates!

The new year is fast approaching, and we have plenty of activities planned for our youth. While these dates are tentative, we're planning on holding events on the following days and times. Be sure to RSVP so we can provide food for everyone!

- 7-Jan: Epiphany Study, Dinner, Games and Fun at SOPC
 - 14-Jan: Bowling at Stars and Strikes from 5:30-7 in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Weekend
 - 21-Jan: Potentially lead Worship Service at PCSC VESPERS from 3:30-5. Dinner at Five Guys or Salsaritas
 - 28-Jan: Souper Bowl Begins! Cards/Gifts for Older Adults for Valentine's Day
 - 4-Feb: Party at SOPC
- Stay tuned for the confirmation schedule, which will be issued shortly!



Ladies, we will honor one of our church women in the spring of 2024. We need your help to find that special person! This honor may be given to a woman or man as long as they are a member of the PC USA church. Next time you are with a group of SOPC members and friends, think about the people around you and maybe you will find that person who should be honored.

Please send your nomination for the PW Honorary Life Membership to Shelagh Wirth @ swirth1949@gmail.com before January 31, 2024, and remember to include a bio of your nominee.

Thank you for your help and commitment to SOPC.



THE LOVE REVOLUTION

The Love Revolution: Sharing Food, Love, and Hope with Our Community

Every Sunday, from 3:30-5:00 pm, The Love Revolution is making a significant impact in our community by providing sustenance, affection, and optimism to those in need. This event is open to everyone, so come by and share a dish and a smile as we spread God's love.

Our community partners are essential to this effort. We would like to express our gratitude to the following organizations:

- Ashland United Methodist Church: First Sunday of the month
- Palmetto Thrift: Financial aid
- KJ's Market: Food and paper supplies



CLOTHES CLOSET

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 Clothing Closet 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.



