MAY 2024

### THE LEAF



530 St. Andrews Road Columbia, SC 29210-4517 sopc@sopc.net (803) 772-1761 www.sopc.net

The Monthly Newsletter from Seven Oaks Presbyterian Church

MAPPY O HOTHERS

For as the earth brings forth its sprouts, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to sprout up before all the nations. ~ Isaiah G:11

Our ministries are in full bloom at SOPC this month! We are filled with the hope and joy of the Risen Lord, and we are excited to share it! EVERY PERSON of EVERY GENERATION has something to contribute to SOPC's efforts to grow in our relationships with God and to mirror Christ in the world. How can <u>you</u> help us tend the garden?



Photo by Gracie Rose Photography



# Penetcost is May 19th! All are encouraged to wear "fiery" colors to worship: red, orange, yellow, etc.

#### Acts 2:1-4, New King James Version Coming of the Holy Spirit

"When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit..."

This is also our <u>Confirmation Sunday</u> at SOPC! Please join us as Troupe Cartee and Hadessah Wright confirm their individually chosen faiths in Jesus Christ and enter into full membership of the church!!



1st: Donna Huff

2nd: Margaret Royals

3rd: Dannah Lane

6th: Ken Watkins

14th: Doris Cunningham

18th: Nancy Taber & Stephanie Sampson

19th: David Will

22nd: Allan Sampson

24th: Lloyd Pilkington

25th: Sue Kesterson & Roni Klemick

26th: John Paul Sellars

30th: Nancy Humphreys' 90th!

If your birthday is missing or listed incorrectly, please contact Annah in the church office.



Our SOPC family is invited to a drop-in celebration honoring Nancy Humphreys' 90th birthday on May 25th from 2-4 pm in the TAPP Dining Room of the Presbyterian Communities of SC!

If you can't make it in person, you are invited to send a card to Mrs. Nancy Humphreys, c/o PCSC Unit 23, 700 Davega Dr., Lexington, SC 29073.

Dear Friends in Ministry,
Thank you for your recent donation to
Sharing God's Love through the Souper
Bowl of Caring. We appreciated your
generosity. It will help many needy
families.

Blessings, Sharing God's Love

From Annah: "Thank you, friends, for the outpouring of love and appreciation l received for Administrative Professionals Day! Elizabeth Taylor delivered an orchid, card, and jar of prayers/Bible verses to the office for me AND took me to lunch on behalf of the church! You're going to spoil me! (I'm not complaining!! Wink!) It is a privilege to serve SOPC. and I see Christ in each of you!! May the good Lord bless

you and keep you!"

FROM KAIROS PRISON MINISTRY:

"WORDS CANNOT EXPRESS HOW

THANKFUL WE ARE THAT THE
LORD PUT OUR 2 MINISTRIES

TOGETHER! YOU HAVE BEEN

AMAZING!! THANK YOU FOR ALL
YOU HAVE DONE FOR US. IT
WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN

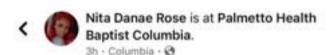
POSSIBLE WITHOUT YOUR HELP

& GENEROSITY. I PRAY THAT WE
WILL BE ABLE TO WORK

TOGETHER IN THE FUTURE...LOVE
IN CHRIST, BETH PRUETT,

KAIROS PRISON MINISTRY #63

\*MATTHEW 25:36"



Seven Oaks.... dropped off some fresh baked goods that they baked themselves for our family and those who visit .... They don't just allow us to share their space as a renter but they consider us as an extension of them.... And I love that





IF YOU HAVE EXTRA PLASTIC
GROCERY BAGS AROUND THE
HOUSE THAT ARE IN GOOD
CONDITION, PLEASE BRING THEM
TO THE CHURCH OFFICE FOR OUR
MISSIONS MINISTRY TO USE AS
THEY PACK BACKPACK BLESSING
SNACKS FOR STUDENTS IN NEED
AT SEVEN OAKS ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL. THANKS!





SOPC will also collect our annual Mother's Day Offering for Presbyterian Communities of SC's ministry with seniors on Sunday, May 12th!! Please prayerfully consider giving as you are able and feel led. Thank you!









Men's Lanterns Prayer
Group meets Friday
mornings at 6:45 am in the
church Fellowship Hall.
Join us for breakfast,
fellowship, and prayer.

## 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 financial information are shown below:

March: Giving - \$24,326; Budgeted - \$21,800; Difference - \$2,526 YTD 2024: Giving - \$60,160; Budgeted - \$65,400; Difference - (\$5,240)

Total revenue for the first 3 months of 2024, (including other income such as rent,) and total expenses are shown below.

Total Revenue through March: \$77,662
Total Expenses through March: \$77,368
Revenues in Excess of Expenses: \$294

#### On Monday, April 15, 2024, the Session:

- Approved Vacation Bible School dates of July 15-18, 2024.
- Approved "Scuba--Diving Into Friendship with God" as VBS curriculum.
- Elected John Carter to attend the May meeting of Trinity Presbytery.
- Approved terms of call for Jim Rowell as Interim Pastor beginning May 13th, pending Presbytery final approval.

You are cordially invited to join us at Westminster Presbyterian Churchon Tuesday, May 21 at 6:00 pm for our Presbyterian Women's Birthday Celebration....

#### Picnic in the Park

Our special guest speaker will be Jeffrey Armstrong from Family Promise of the Midlands.

Family Promise helps families transition out of homelessness. This spring, they are in need of home essentials such as paper towels, toilet paper, liquid soap and hand soap. We will be collecting those items at our PW Birthday Celebration.

Please join us to hear about this local mission and enjoy an indoor picnic of ham, potato salad, green beans, pasta salad, rolls and a slice of delicious

Presbyterian Women's Birthday Cake.

Please RSVP by May 13 to Patsy Feagin, WPC PW Moderator at patsy.feagin@gmail.com



The Good News Ministry is BACK! After a two year hiatus while we had difficulty finding a leader, the Session has approved the reinstitution of the Good News Ministry with Ed Keelen as chair. Team members are: Rollin Cartee (Youth Representative), Mark Dillard, Polly Robinson, and Josie Wilkes, with assistance from Annah Hiers, Mark Wishart and Evan Carson, all of whom have experience in web design, social media, and graphic design.

The essence of the Good News charter is to "engage our neighbors in Christian love and show them a better way of living: as disciples of Jesus Christ AND as members of Seven Oaks PC." Our focus this year will be to enhance our "digital presence." Through our new interactive website, facilitated by our management consultants at Church Fuel, we have the opportunity to MINISTER to our web visitors as opposed to just marketing what we have going on. There is

to MINISTER to our web visitors as opposed to just marketing what we have going on. There is a "Plan Your Visit" button on our website and "How can we pray for you?" posts on Facebook that connect the web visitor to our church. This will enable us to <u>build a relationship</u> with the visitor, perhaps even before they attend their first worship service with us!

The Good News ministry is developing a guide to train volunteer members (called "liaisons") to interact with our visitors in the best possible way. If you have an interest in being a liaison, please let Ed know. We anticipate an increase in the visitors to our church with our new digital outreach, and it will be up to us to serve as instruments of the Holy Spirit to help transform them into disciples of Christ and, hopefully, members of our church. Please join us in prayer for the success of this rekindled initiative.



- Sunday, May 5th: Confirmation Class @ SOPC @ 4:30 pm; Youth Group--SOPC hosts Westminster @ 5:30 pm for dinner and a special project!!
- <u>Sunday, May 12th:</u> No Youth Group...spend time with the special mothers in your life...or with those who fill the role!
- Sunday, May 19th: Confirmation Sunday / Pentecost in Worship at 11 am; Last Youth Group meeting of this School Year
   0 5:30 pm at SOPC with Westminster.
- Stay tuned for fun SUMMER activities!
- If you're interested in attending summer youth camps, please get in touch with the Bussells asap if you haven't already. There are options at Montreat, Camp Fellowship, etc.

## Stars are Borr





#### WHO'S WHO





is a suphenone at LPS. He has been part of produ-cion King Jr. and Aladein Jr. at PHMS and Mamma a member of the Anchory club of LHS. He would like



Rebecca Crotzer☆◆ \*\* /\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

is a senior at LHS. She has been part of many pro-Shress the Musical at VST and Mamma Marrand 2V Showcase at LHS. She is also part of Chonus at LR to thank Mx Pressley and Mx Delinger, and also th trends, specifically Keppley Multigen and Emmelin



#### Karissa (Isa) Garcia☆◆

is a senior at LHS. Site has been a part of product Fail Booky Trup. The Inequivable Chare Factor of on tech crew for Marrena Miar all at LMS, too would friends for supporting her and her leachers for also be her best and making the theatre program as inc



Lyn Glidden to A Pitteria, Guerrat I is a senior at LHS. Sine has been part of production Blonde, Chiusse, Marrona Mal. Bloody Trap. Epic F. Piece, The inexplicable Chare Factor of Me Grego and the Legend, and Children's Shore at UHS and Cotton Girls at USC and USC Alsen. She is also po Society, MHS, and the Improv Club. She would like Pressley and Ms Dellinger for helping her become today and her friends who have encouraged her to



#### Hannah Goff as Fairy 2, fally

atay happy

is a junior at LHS. She has been a part of past pro-Bupsy Malone Jr. at BMS and the 2002, 2003, at Theatre Showcase. She is involved in the Book Ch. would like to thank her family for always supporting of theatre. She would also like to thank her teacher become a better student and performer every day







Clavin Bevers
It is a supposed in U.S. the has been paid of many productions automotive the control disease for the sound has be those has under the security per to the sound has to those has under the security per to facility frauds.



budy-see Sharrika SQ is a serior of LMS. She has been part of probations such as Gresse of LMS. The is area part of the forms Qub at LMS. She would like to thank Texa. Seeing, and her case for their hant wint.



Deatiny Bryant

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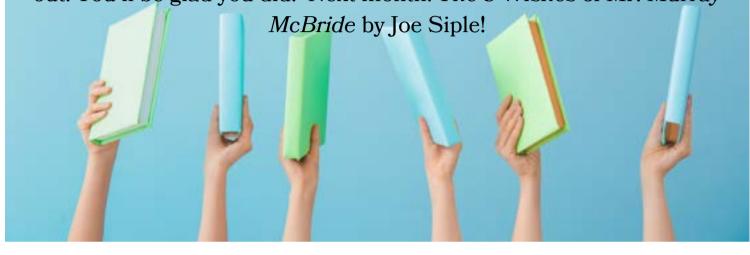
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asses the it also motivation to the MHE. The south like to there has
the south like and stood have hereby.



Samuel Collins tr

enters or LPER The has been part of productions such as Lagarity de Jineaue and Marmon Mal of LPER. He is also pint of the data train at LPER. We enable the 10 thank the Cellinger and Ma day for formy amounting frequent standards.

We've got a great BOOK GROUP going. We just need you to join us! We start our meetings by solving a couple of the world's problems...but only a couple. Contact Kitsie Miller 803-463-6958 for more information. This month's meeting will be Thursday, May 23rd. We'll start at 1 pm at Steve's Hamburgers for lunch, and then move into Snow's Ice Cream for dessert and discussion of *Hello Beautiful* by Ann Napolitano. Check us out. You'll be glad you did! Next month: *The 5 Wishes of Mr. Murray* 





Twice a year, SOPC's Troop 91 holds a Court Of Honor to recognize the achievements of the scouts over the past six months. The church family is invited to join us Monday, May 6th at 6 pm in the Fellowship Hall for one of these celebrations!

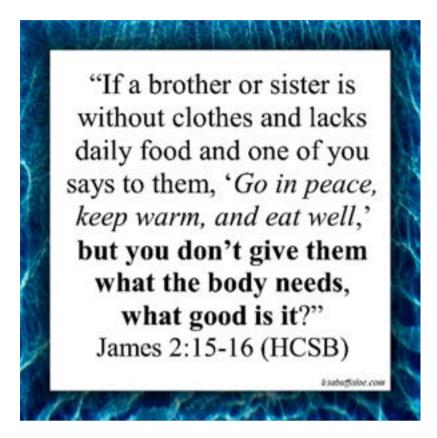
## THE LOVE REVOLUTION

...FREE meals for anyone who's hungry in body or spirit on Sunday afternoons from 3:30 - 5 pm in the SOPC Pavilion. The Clothing Closet opens half an hour prior at 3 pm.

If you have questions about items for the Blessing Box, contact Sharon Staton. If you have questions about items for the Clothing Closet, contact Loretta Demko or Sharon Staton.

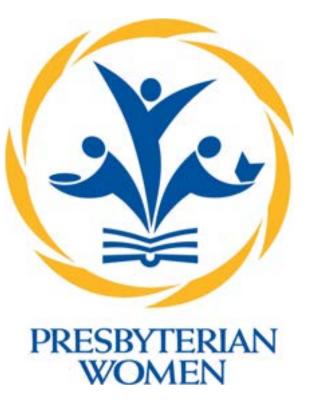






#### Suggested Items for Donation to our SOPC Blessing Box & Clothing Closet:

- Pop-tarts
- Canned goods with pop tops
- · Beef jerky individually wrapped
  - Bottled water or sports drinks
    - Peanut butter
  - Packs of crackers or cookies
- · Toiletries, unopened, any size
- Feminine hygiene products, unopened, individually wrapped
  - Microwave popcorn
  - Mylar emergency blankets available on Amazon
    - Nutri-grain bars
    - Granola bars without chocolate
    - New packs of socks and/or underwear
- Gently used, non-stained clothes / shoes / linens / coats / hats / gloves
  - · Gently used tents, sleeping bags, folding outdoor chairs
    - Chef Boyardee
- Non-perishable, individually wrapped "snack packs" like goldfish, nuts, chips, pretzels, fruit roll-ups
  - SMALL packs of disposable diapers / wipes
  - Individually wrapped, single rolls of bathroom tissue
    - Pocket packs of Kleenex
      - Ramen noodles
  - Canned tuna, albacore, chicken, or Vienna sausages
    - Nothing that melts in the summer heat, please!!



#### SOPC, your mission, should you choose to accept it:

Attendees, like our very own Shelagh Wirth, are encouraged to bring some extra items to the Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women August 8–11th in St. Louis, Missouri. See presbyterianwomen.org/gathering for more information about this international event! The theme this year is, "Do everything in love," based on I Corinthians 16:14.

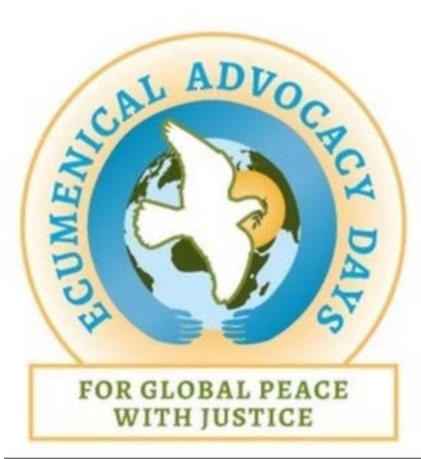
Gift Cards – please bring a gift card(s) to SOPC before July 30, 2024, marked for the 2024 Gathering. There will be a box in the narthex for the Gift Cards. Gift cards in any amount (\$10 + up) for Lowe's, Amazon, Target or Walmart will be given to Bethel Hills and Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services. Bethel Hills is a residential community in Missouri that provides supportive housing, social and educational opportunities for adults with and without developmental disabilities. Operating in Texas, Missouri and Louisiana, Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services offers programming that helps vulnerable children, strengthens families and builds communities.

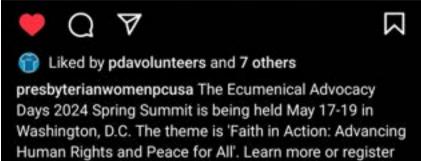
The Period Project – Of the roughly 800,000,000 people menstruating on a given day, 500,000,000 do not have the basic supplies, information or support to manage their period. LifeWise STL – a St. Louis organization that helps individuals achieve well being by addressing system barriers will receive period products donated during the Gathering and provide them to people who need them. If you would like to donate these items, please bring them to the church office labeled "2024 Gathering" before 7/30/24.

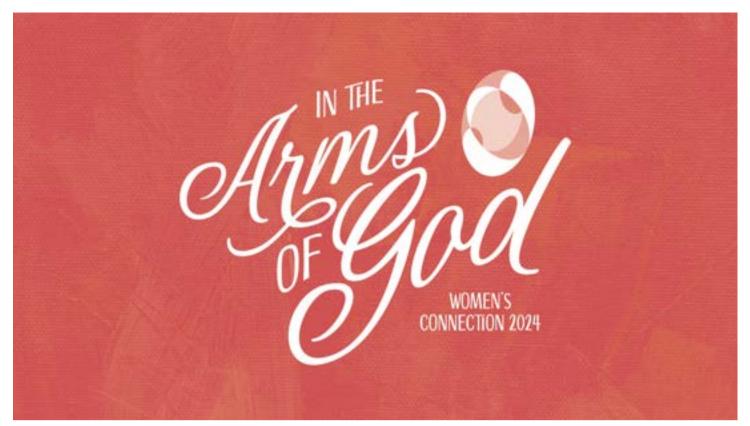
#### Thank you for your caring & support!



Ladies of SOPC are invited to the Church Women
United May Friendship Day @ SOPC THIS Friday,
May 3, 2024 @ 10:30 am. Come to the
fellowship hall to enjoy coffee,
juice, snacks & fellowship @ 10:30 am, before the
II am worship service in the sanctuary. The
offering will go towards the different charities
(per their request) that CWU supports in place of
the Health Kits we all used to put together. No
sign up is required, just show up. Contact
Shelagh Wirth for more information.







August 9-11, 2024



#### https://montreat.org/events/wc-2024

Do you remember what it was like to be scooped up into a caregiver's lap and held tight with love? Our God holds us tight, even in the midst of all that life throws at us. "In the Arms of God," you'll have the chance to retreat from the day-to-day, take a deep breath of the Spirit, gather in community with other women of faith, and leave with a heart full of hope. Women's Connection 2024 will be a time for women to connect with old and new friends, a time to care for yourself; a time for space and Sabbath. As in years past, we will do this together through powerful and authentic worship led by women, space for honest and faithful conversation, and allowing time for discernment and renewing rest. Our hope is you will experience spiritual nourishment, inspiration, and discernment.

# COMMUNITY\*\* \*\*COMMUNITY\*\* \*\*EXAMPLE TO THE PROPERTY OF THE P



Advocating for Asian American history in K-12 classrooms





the Columbia ART
Museum of



















Whenever you need to reserve a room on campus for a new church function or other group function, PLEASE fill out one of these forms. It helps us tremendously as we seek to keep thorough records and to be good stewards of our facilities at SOPC. If the room needs to be set up a certain way, please also fill out a Room Set Up form. They are available in the church office. SOPC groups, please disregard the \$ section. Thanks!

This D	acility Rental Agreement executed by	the understand pe	artine on this day of
20		use of facilities of	Seven Oaks Presbyterian Church, 530 St.
	Renter:		
	Address:		
	City/State/Zip:		
	Primary Contact Name:		
	Phone:A	lt Phone:	Cell:
	Email:		
GENI	ERAL RENTAL INFORMATION		
a.	Date of Event:		
	Event Start Time:		
	:. Type of Event: Number of Guests Attending:		
d.	Venue space requested: (circle as ma Church Fellowship Hall		Church Pavilion
e.	Requested Items/Services (based on	availability and fea	sibility:
		availability and fea	sibility:
	MATED CHARGES		sibility:
	MATED CHARGES  Rental Fee	availability and fea	sibility:
	MATED CHARGES  Rental Fee  Deposit Fee		sibility:
	MATED CHARGES  Rental Fee  Deposit Fee  Key Deposit	\$ss	
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"Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers ..."

I Timothy 4:12

That's what Eli B., Finn B., Troupe C., Rollin C., Rachel B., Sawyer C., Hadessah W., and Abby D. did as they assisted Bruce in worship on 4/14/24!



Interested in stretching your mind and body? Making new friends? Join the Shepherd's Center of St. Andrews Spring Session of Adventures in Learning, now – June 6. Onsite classes and Zoom classes range from chair yoga to outer space exploration. You can find out the latest events around town, including how those flyovers at the old Malfunction Junction will work. Get ready for the Summer Olympics with insider info from a former SC state champion gymnast. Be surprised by the connection between Willie Mays and what we know about vision. Our church is a proud sponsor of this learning program for folks over 50. The Center is located at Ashland UMC, 2600 Ashland Road, and Spring Session costs \$45 for as many classes and activities as you want to take. For more information and registration details, go to the website: shepherdscenterofstandrews.org.



In honor of May being mental health awareness month, on Sunday the 26th, one of the counselors with Live Oak Counseling, Susan Yelverton, will share a Minute for Mission in worship with us. No one would mind if you chose to wear green in support of mental health awareness!

Are you familiar with Live Oak Counseling? Their website, <a href="www.liveoakcounselingcenter.org">www.liveoakcounselingcenter.org</a>, shares this: "Our mission is to provide professional and affordable mental health counseling to people struggling with life issues and to offer opportunities for spiritual growth and wellness. Live Oak Counseling Center is a place of life, growth, and new beginnings. We have the sacred privilege of walking with people who are struggling with grief, depression, anxiety, and difficult family issues.

'THEY WILL BE LIKE A TREE PLANTED BY THE WATER THAT SENDS OUT ITS ROOTS BY THE STREAM. IT DOES NOT FEAR WHEN HEATS COMES; ITS LEAVES ARE ALWAYS GREEN. IT HAS NO WORRIES IN A YEAR OF DROUGHT AND NEVER FAILS TO BEAR FRUIT.' — Jeremiah 17:8

WE HAVE A RICH HISTORY OF CARING FOR INDIVIDUALS, COUPLES, AND FAMILIES IN THE COLUMBIA AREA.

Recognizing a need in the Midlands for affordable and accessible counseling services for adults and children, local churches planted seeds that more than 30 years later have grown to become a thriving and vital organization. Live Oak Counseling Center, originally Columbia Pastoral Counseling Center, has operated since 1991 serving the community as a nonprofit organization supported by client fees, local congregations, and individual and business donations."

SOPC supports Live Oak, not only monetarily, but by offering Susan a room on our campus from time to time to work with her patients who cannot make it to their King St. location.



In honor of Teacher Appreciation Week, our Missions ministry is providing sweets and snacks for the teachers and staff of Seven Oaks Elementary School TOMORROW, May 2nd. If you would like to contribute goodies, please have them to the church office TODAY, Wednesday, 5-1-24, by noon for delivery. Contact Sharon Staton with any questions. Thanks!





MIDLANDS ORGANIZED RESPONSE FOR EQUITY AND JUSTICI

# MORE JUSTICE

SOPC's M.O.R.E. Justice team has set up a fundraising page for Midlands Gives on May 7th. If you would like to donate, go to https://www.midlandsgives.org/fundraise/20080/sopcmorejustice or contact Polly Robinson or Marion Wishart.



sopc Elder Training
will continue on
Tuesdays through May
14th with Rev. Dr. Chris
Denny from
Westminster PC.
Thank you for leading
us, Rev. Dr. Denny!



#### Staff:

Interim Pastor: pending final Presbytery approval, starting May 13th, will be

Jim Rowell!! -- pastor@sopc.net

Office Administrator: Mrs. Annah G. Hiers -- sopc@sopc.net

Director of Music Ministry: Dr. Lloyd Pilkington

**Accompanist: Mrs. Sharon Watkins** 

**Buildings & Grounds Superintendent: Mr. Karl Thompson** 

Volunteer Financial Administrator: Mrs. Sharon Staton -- sharon@sopc.net

Nursery Coordinator: Mrs. Amy Schwartz Help As Needed: Ms. Haley Thompson

#### **Session:**

\* indicates chair
Clerk of Session: Polly Robinson

#### **Class of 2024:**

Hal Bowman - Administration Class of 2025:

John Carter - Buildings & Grounds\*
Fred Holbrook - Administration\*

**Ed Keelen - Good News\*** 

haron Staton - Missions\*

Sharon Watkins - Worship\*

Class of 2026:

Liz Harris - Fellowship

Kathy Keane - Christian Ed\*

Banks Robinson - Fellowship\*

Class of 2027-Elect:

Bruce Hurley, Kitsie Miller, Jeanne LeBoewf & Elizabeth Taylor

Trustees: Sue Kesterson, Frank Sheppard, Carol Griffith

Trustee-Elect: Hal Bowman

Treasurer: Hal Bowman

sbyterian Women Moderator (SOPW): Mary ohnson













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@sevenoakspc





#### Worship Zoom Link:

Meeting ID: 508 III 743

