



Dear Saints of Spring Hill,

As we move from this intentional season of gratitude and stewardship, I want to offer a heartfelt word of thanks. Our **Dedication Sunday** was a beautiful reminder that stewardship begins with recognition. We recognize that all we have and all we are come from the abundant grace of God. Your commitments of time, talent, and treasure are not simply about supporting programs; they are about shaping lives, your own and those around you.

When you give, serve, or simply show up, you make a real difference. Your presence adds warmth to our worship, energy to our ministries, and depth to our fellowship. This is what it means to be part of the covenant community here at Spring Hill Presbyterian Church. Here each of us are discovering our unique place in God's calling and joining together in gratitude and service.

In the past few months, we've seen so many signs of new life and growing connection. Our **Wholeness and Healing Service** continues to be a sacred and restorative gathering, drawing people into prayer, reflection, and communion with God. **Post Church: Conversations of Faith at Post on the Hill** has become a space for thoughtful, relatable dialogue about how faith meets everyday life. Each conversation is a small act of community and courage, and I believe this ministry will continue to grow in depth and spirit.

We are also preparing to launch our new table fellowship groups, **Blessings by the Bite**. This is a time to gather around a meal, share stories, and nurture relationships that sustain and strengthen our faith. Around the table, we remember that God's blessings are meant to be shared, one bite and one conversation at a time.

As we move from stewardship into Thanksgiving and Advent, my hope is that each of you will continue to seek out your place in the life of this church and in God's unfolding work among us. Whether it's through worship, study, service, music, or fellowship, there is a place here for you. A place where you can grow, belong, and help others experience the grace of Christ that is so alive in this community.

With gratitude and hope,

Rev. Brandon E. Miles

What's Old is New!

Nothing is more important in the life of the church than the worship of Almighty God. During the months of November and December, there will be increased opportunities to come before the Lord with thanksgiving and praise.

Some worship opportunities continue a long tradition at SHPC:

The Ecumenical Thanksgiving service which will be held at St. Paul's Episcopal, 4051 Old Shell Rd, on Thursday, November 20 at 6:30 PM

The Advent Cantata *Magnificat: The Song of Mary* presented by choir and chamber orchestra on Sunday, December 14 at 10:30 AM

The Christmas *Lessons and Carols* service led by the Chancel Choir on Christmas Eve, Wednesday, December 24 at 6 PM.

Other worship opportunities have long histories in the church, but are new to SHPC:

Hanging of the Greens is a service of worship in which we prepare our worship space for the Advent/Christmas season and the coming of the Christ Child through wreaths, garlands and trees. Each piece of greenery carries a specific meaning within the Christian tradition, and the members will take part in bringing those pieces forward. Why do we use pine, fir, holly and ivy? Come and find out! The service takes place at 5:30 PM on Sunday, November 23

Wholeness and Healing services. These services take place on the third Sunday of each month at 5:30 PM in the chapel with the next service taking place on November 16. Two services have been held so far with increased attendance at the second service. Join us to find out why this service is so meaningful for those in attendance.

Finally, we have two concert opportunities that you won't want to miss:

Never on a Sunday (but still on a Sunday!) – My first concert since arriving in Mobile. Light classical to pops on my virtual pipe organ. It will take place in the Fellowship Hall on November 9 at 2 PM. We will have refreshments!

Christmas Pops – We will return to the Fellowship Hall on December 7 at 2 PM with a pops concert featuring Christmas vocal, piano, and organ selections for the whole family. (We might even have refreshments again!)

John



Pastoral Care Intern

We are happy to announce that Owen Drey will be joining the ministry team of Spring Hill Presbyterian Church as a Pastoral Care Intern where he will offer compassionate presence, support and spiritual care to members and friends of the congregation. This internship is part of Owen's Board Certification as a Chaplain through the Association of Clinical Pastoral Education which has become the standard for those serving in healthcare, hospice, education and military chaplaincy. Owen completed his first clinical rotation as a System Chaplain Intern with the USA Health system serving at USA Medical Center, USA Children's and Women's Hospital, USA Providence Hospital and the USA Mitchell Cancer Institute.

Owen grew up at Spring Hill Presbyterian and is the son of longtime member, Barbara Drey. . Owen attended St. Paul's Episcopal School, Auburn University, USA and the Cumberland School of Law before heading to Washington, DC to make a difference in the world. Owen attended Georgetown Presbyterian Church where he was ordained and served on the Board of Deacons.

Upon moving to Virginia he attended The Protestant Episcopal Theological Seminary in Virginia (VTS) to study and serve as a theologically trained lay person in the world. In addition to serving as a Lay Eucharistic Minister and on the Mana Foodbank board in his community, Owen conducted his master's thesis research on The Church in the World and later served in mission work throughout east and Central Africa.

Upon returning to Mobile, he worked in the legal field and Owen's most current legal practice has focused on human, civil and prisoner's rights.

Owen has been married to Kathryn Wilburn Drey for more than 20 years, has three wonderful step-daughters, two grand-children, and his son, Gaines is a freshman at the University of Alabama, his beloved grandmother, Barbara's/Gigi's alma mater. Please join us in welcoming Owen to the ministry team.



New Ministry Partnership: Dwell Connect Afterschool Program

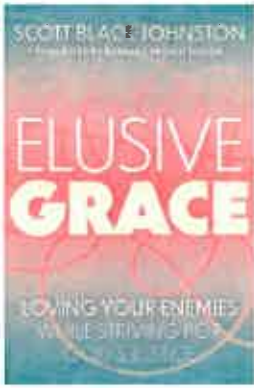
Spring Hill Presbyterian Church is excited to announce a new partnership with Dwell Mobile to host their afterschool program.

Dwell Connect: Where Learning, Life, and Play Come Together.

Beginning this fall, children and mentors will gather in our Bullard Building every Tuesday and Thursday from 4:00–5:45 p.m. for games, learning, and relationship building in a safe, joy-filled environment.

This is a wonderful opportunity for our congregation to extend hospitality and share in God's work of community and connection. We're looking for volunteers to help welcome, tutor, and share in the fun alongside the Dwell staff.

Current Issues



Elusive Grace: Loving Your Enemies While Striving for God's Justice

By Scott Black Johnston

On November 2, 9, and 16, the Current Issues Class will dive into a timely exploration and discussion of this very readable, thoughtful, almost poetic book, based on sermons preached by Johnston as senior pastor at Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church in NY.

"This book presents three interrelated studies aimed at preparing us to wrestle honestly, faithfully, and lovingly with the issues of our time." **Scott Black**

Johnston

Here is what reviewers are saying about the book:

"Scott Black Johnston has a pastoral, prophetic voice that is marked by courage, agility, wisdom, and winsome good humor." **Walter Brueggemann**

"In the chaos of modern life, there are few voices that I turn to with regularity for honesty and wisdom; Scott Black Johnston is at the top of that list." **Tom Are Jr., Senior Pastor, Prairie Village, Kansas.**

"As the time came to emerge from quarantine, the refrain I heard most often from congregations and their pastors was, 'How do you go forward without a map?' This book is Scott Black Johnston's answer to that question." **Barbara Brown Taylor**

Some pre-ordered copies of the book will be available at no cost starting on Oct. 26th for those who plan to participate in the book discussion from 9:00-10:00 in Fellowship Hall on those three Sundays. Additional books will be ordered as needed. We hope you will join us.

Sunday, November 23, Rabbi Steve Silberman to Speak on High Holy Days in the Jewish Tradition

Churchwide Invitation to hear him in Fellowship Hall from 9:00-10:00.

Last November, Brandon led us in a 3-week series on our Christian liturgical calendar, focusing especially on Advent, Epiphany, and Lent. At that time, we wondered if the High Holy Days some of us had heard about in the Jewish tradition constituted a "liturgical calendar" for them.

Who better to enlighten us on this topic than our Mobile neighbor Rabbi Steve Silberman from Congregation Ahavas Chesed! What biblical events were foundational for the Jewish holy days; and how are these days celebrated each year? Join us in welcoming Alabama's longest-serving congregational Rabbi (since 1990), and a special friend to Spring Hill Presbyterian Church for many years. Come and learn!



"It is more blessed to give than to receive."

ANGEL TREE GIFTS for CHILDREN & SENIOR ADULTS

It's **ANGEL TREE TIME**, and SHPC is sponsoring 25 children and 25 senior adults (selected by Catholic Social Services) who need our love and support during the Christmas season.

Our Angel Tree will be in the sanctuary narthex throughout November, beginning 11/2/25, and we need sponsors for every angel. You might even want to join with another friend or family to sponsor "your angel." Angel cards are usually selected very quickly, so if you are unable to select one in person in early November, but wish to participate, please contact Vera Lynn Sheets (251)-454-6846 or sheetsvl@aol.com, and a card will be selected for you.

Each recipient's name and wish list will be on a **GREEN** angel card which you take home. Please complete the matching **WHITE** registry card for your recipient and leave the **WHITE** card on the tree for our records.

You will select one or more items (totaling approx. \$75) from the gift list you choose and wrap and label each one with your recipient's name and angel #. If there are multiple gifts, please enclose them all in a large, durable, heavy duty, reusable holiday shopping bag. These work well to contain and support multiple gifts (usually \$1-2; found near the registers @TJ Maxx, Marshall's, Home Goods, etc.).

Gifts need to be delivered to the church parlor between Sundays November 23 and 30 because they will be taken to CSS on 12/1.

POINSETTIAS: Will be part of the decorations in the sanctuary for the Advent and Christmas seasons. If you would like to donate a poinsettia in honor or memory of a loved one, please call the church office (251-342-1550), email Marcia Wear

(marcia@springhillpresbyterian.org) or sign up on the sheet in the hallway. The cost is \$25.00, and the deadline is December 15. These plants will be taken to homebound church members in the name of the church.



Give to others and honor your family and friends via SHPC's ANNUAL **ALTERNATIVE GIFT MARKET (AGM)** which benefits support agencies in our local community and the world beyond.



Agencies selected for our 2025 ALTERNATIVE GIFT MARKET

Boys and Girls Clubs of South Alabama

Family Promise

McKemie Place

Penelope House

Victory Health Partners

Home of Grace for Women

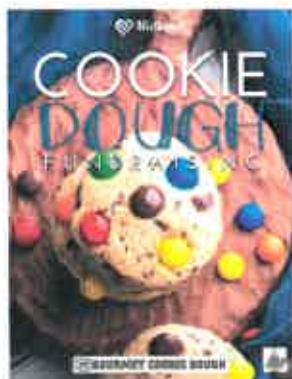
Wings of Life

Helper International

The Presbyterian Mission Agency (PCUSA)

This Christmas mission project features these **nine local and international agencies beyond SHPC's annually budgeted benevolences**. The AGM form provides information about each agency, noting how donations may be used. AGM forms will be available throughout December at the church and in e-news. Donations and representative gift selections may be made any time prior to December 31 by submitting your AGM order form and attached donation check in the offering plate or sending them to Dawn Hearn in the church office. Gift cards for you to send to honor friends and family may also be obtained in the sanctuary narthex, church hallway, or church office.

John 1:16 - ***"From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace."***



Cookie Dough Fundraiser

Please support Spring Hill Week Day School

We are in need of playground safe mulch for our playground and need your help in raising the funds. We are partnering with Midland Fundraising and selling cookie dough just in time for the upcoming Holidays! Orders are **due November 10th**. Please pay with cash or check (Spring Hill WDS). If you are not inter-

ested in purchasing cookies, monetary donations are accepted as well. There is an order form in the hallway. If you have questions call Marcia Wear at 2513421550.

Presbyterian Women

Sunday – Oct. 19, 2025

Dianne Oveson Receives the Life Membership Award from Presbyterian Women (PW)

Each year on PW Sunday, a member of our congregation is recognized for her outstanding leadership and faithful service to the church. On October 19th, the announcement of Dianne Oveson was met with an immediate standing ovation and round of applause from the entire congregation.

Dianne has served for many years as the chairperson of the Day Circle, and a leading member of the Coordinating Team that addresses the needs and service of all PW Circles. She is known for her impeccable organizational skills, her boundless optimism, and her generous spirit of giving. Dianne truly lives and breathes what an inclusive, caring community of women is all about.

It is with great joy that we bestow this well-deserved honor on her. Her family was present, as were previous recipients of this award. There was a reception in the Fellowship Hall following the award. We thank Stephanie Jacobs for serving as the photographer.



Art Soup 2025 will be an exciting evening of artistic creativity, social connections, and caring community — all in support of the Love All Pantry at Central in Mobile, Alabama.

Art Soup will be held on Thursday evening, November 6, 2025, from 6:30 to 9:00, on the water, at the Maritime Museum in downtown Mobile.

What can you expect?

- Hundreds of stunning bowls meticulously hand crafted exclusively for Art Soup by over 30 talented local ceramic & glass artists.
- Over 20 local soups and breads prepared by Mobile's top restaurants.
- Desserts lovingly made by local Mobile restaurants.
- Bar serving wine & beer and a selection of non-alcoholic beverages. (cash tips)

Live music featuring Disco Lemonade.

- Four photo booths to snap fun pics.
- Bowl & coat check for free hands to eat more soup.
- Silent auction items carefully selected by local artists.

Every dollar raised goes directly to the Love All Pantry at Central, which tirelessly serves over 3000 local families each month by providing essential fresh fruits, vegetables, meats, and grains.

Please purchase a ticket if you are able, bring a friend, and spread the word. Let's celebrate art and compassion together. Tickets and sponsorships are available online at loveallpantry.org

Spring Hill Presbyterian Church

Statement as of September 30, 2025

Total Annual Budgeted Rev-	\$	793,620
Year-to-date Received	\$	554,914
Other Receipts	\$	55,948
Total Receipts	\$	610,863
Benevolences	\$	39,000
Salaries and Services	\$	304,069
Programs	\$	20,214
Office Expenses	\$	18,384
General and Plant Services	\$	204,005
Other	\$	19,703
Total Expenses	\$	605,374
Excess Receipts over	\$	5,489

Attendance for October

	<u>In Person</u>	<u>Online</u>
10/5	137	77
10/12	114	55
10/19	128	86
10/26	110	60

MONTREAT SUMMER TRIPS:

Montreat High School is for youth who are currently in 8th-12th grades and will be June 6-13, 2025.

Middle School Montreat is for youth who are currently in 5-8th grades and will be July 15-19, 2025.

Cost is \$365. A \$150 deposit is due by Dec 1st. The remainder (\$215) is due Mar. 5. Scholarships are available.

Please email Courtney Perry at

courtney2@hotmail.com before Nov 19th if you have interest in your child attending.

Memorials

Jack Hamlin Betty Minto

From

Frank & Jane Callahan

Mark & Judy Weaver

Prayer List

Margaret Armentrout, Ted Autterson, Barbara Beach, Cammie Belue, Roy Benton IV, Frank Callahan, John Carr, Lanier Cauley, Janet Clarke, Jamie Crawford, Cathi Dagley, Pat Edington, Chrisy Ennen, Ruth Fitzgerald, Mary Lee Franks, Curran Foose, Ann Hafner, Charles Hall, Bill Harris, Marcy Harris, Lauren Henson, Bill Layfield, Paula Letterman, Sara Long, Nick Kramer, Kay Korb, Jim Martin, Lynn Martin, Ernestine McElroy, Zachary McMickens, Betty Minto, Ann Nicolson, Jenny Oveson, Mary Owen, John Porter, Steve Reams, Susan Schlichting, Pat Stoll, Carol Sumrall, Gayle Underwood, Johnny Walton, Babs Warren, Malcolm Warren, Ann Wilson, Andy Wharton, Ronnie Wright and our military members: Ashton Rubio, Stuart Rubio.

Stewardship Lunch



Trunk or Treat



November 2025

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

1

2
Sunday Schools
Holy Grounds
Worship - Communion
Officer Training
Children/Youth Choirs
Youth Group

3
Outreach
Current Issues
MSC

4
Painting Pals
MSC
Communications
Committee
Mission

5
PWCT
Children's Chapel
Bells
Chancel Choir
Al-Anon

6
Westmin-
ster com-
munion
Service

7
8
AA
Presbytery Meet-
ing

9
Holy Grounds
Worship
Officer Training
Concert

10
MSC

11
Veterans Day
Church office
Closed
MSC
Post Church
Christian Ed.

12
Day Circle
Children's Chapel
Afternoon Circle
Bells
Choir

13
Men's
Breakfast

14
MSC Concert

15
AA

16
Sunday Schools
Holy Grounds
Worship
Officer Train
Children/Youth Choir
Wholeness Service
Youth Group

17
MSC

18
Painting Pals
MSC
Session
Diaconate

19
Children's Chapel
Bells
Choir

20
Newsletter
Deadline
Night Cir-
cle
Ecumenical
Service

21
Adventfest

22
AA

23
Holy Grounds
Worship
Hanging of the Greens

24
MSC

25
Painting Pals
MSC

26
27
28
29
AA
Thanksgiving Holiday
The church office is closed.

30
Holy Grounds
Worship