



SPRING HILL MESSENGER August 2022

New Beginnings

Isaiah 43.19 “Now I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?”

I have been thinking about new beginnings. July 1 is not the usual time for me to think about new beginnings. It usually happens in September, or the end of August. My new beginnings are still connected to the beginning of the school year. Or football practice the second week of August. I no longer make New Year’s resolutions, but I do think about starting a new year. I confess that as I have gotten older, the New Year is not as special as it used to be. Maybe that is because I have seen so many. It has been a while since I stayed awake long enough to watch the ball drop. I have been more excited about the new beginnings associated with my grandchildren: first day of preschool, first day of “big school” kindergarten and the birthdays. Birthdays are such a big deal: a production; inflatable bounce houses with a water slide. The new beginnings that touched me the most were the baptisms of my two grandchildren. To tell more of the story, it may be too soon to tell the entire story, I get emotional doing baptisms. I probably shed an equal amount of tears for adult baptisms as I do for infants.

The new beginning for me at Spring Hill Presbyterian Church has been a big deal for me. I completed an interim contract in Birmingham in order to begin this one. I travel light. I moved in my car. I have learned, as an interim, that it is much more efficient to live in a furnished space. I move only what will fit in my car.

Having known Buz and Anna from my previous interims in Mobile, made the decision to come to Spring Hill an easy one. After almost four I am convinced, I made the correct decision to come here. I have been surprised by the number of you dropping by the office during the week to welcome me.

You, the members of Spring Hill, are making a new beginning. It is a new beginning, but it is built on what has gone before. This church has a great tradition. You have a history of being an open and welcoming church. I am excited to join with you in ministry and mission.

Peace.
Cary

Dear SHPC Family,

School is starting. Summer is still here, but we are catching glimpses of fall on the way. I am getting excited to return back to SHPC to hear about the amazing ways God has been at work this summer through Montreat trips, VBS, and more!

Just in case you are wondering when you will see me back around the church, here's the timeline for my return. August 11-14, I will be joining 19 other women from SHPC at the Montreat Women's Conference in Montreat, NC. I love that as I return back to ministry with SHPC, I will be called out to journey with these women to grow our faith with others across the Southeast. We will return late Sunday, August 14. August 15, I plan to be back in the office. August 21, I will be sharing what I have been thinking about and doing over my Sabbatical at our 9:00 AM Summer Arts Series. And of course I can't forget that we will be celebrating Randy on August 21, after twenty years of faithful ministry at SHPC! I look forward to seeing you and reconnecting in our work together.

Grace and Peace,

Anna Fulmer Duke

Vacation Bible School 2022 Tie-Dyed Compassion

The Bullard Building was awash in color with tie-dyed shirts as children and volunteers enjoyed VBS Compassion Camp. The week began with the Environmental Studies Center Wildlife of Mobile Road Show. With the help of a variety of rehabilitated animals, children learned about native wildlife and how to show kindness towards them. During the week, they discovered that littering not only creates a hazard to wildlife, who are then tempted to come dangerously close to busy roads, but also pollutes our environment. Activities like Mission and Storytelling taught children what it means to have compassion for themselves, for other people, for creatures with feathers and fur, and for our planet with its diverse environment. The week ended with the children filling Compassion Bags for all of the 50 beds at McKemie Place! Even the SHPC Congregation was able to show compassion with additional donations to the McKemie Place needs list. It was a wonderful week where children and adults alike helped change the world with loving kindness.



REMINDERS

Art in the Library

The Art in library for the month of August is from MELISSA ROOT

Youth Baytreat
is
August 6-7

Kirkin o' the Tartans

Sunday August 28

If you would like to carry one of the tartan banners on that day, please call the church office(251-342-1550) or email Sallie
sconnell@springhillpresbyterian.org



We're saving a place for YOU in our Circle!

Whether you're relatively 'new' to Spring Hill, or a long-time church member, you're invited!

Presbyterian Women offers you a monthly opportunity to engage with a smaller group of church women in a loving and supportive environment. This is the perfect time to get involved as we begin the 2022-2023 year!

Kick-off Event for Current and Prospective Circle Members –

Wednesday, August 10th in Fellowship Hall

10:00 a.m. – Reception, getting-to-know-you fellowship, and welcome to all who are seeking more information on our circles.

10:30 a.m. – Hear an overview of the Horizons Bible Study theme: “Celebrating Sabbath,” and pick up your Study Book (\$10) and PW Directory.

When do the circles regularly meet?

On the **second Wednesday** of the month.

Day Circle meets at 9:45 in the morning.

Night Circle meets at 4:00 in the afternoon.

For additional information:

Day Circle: Dianne Oveson (251) 455-6736 Night Circle: Susan Tomlinson (251) 209-0792

Either Circle: Dale Hair (770) 335-3391

MEMORIALS

Elizabeth Britton Jane Hughey
Joe Kramer Charles Langston Sue McClean

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <i>Susan Abrams</i> | <i>Ken & Buff Brown</i> | <i>Sallie Connell</i> |
| <i>Ruth Fitzgerald</i> | <i>Hilda Gewin</i> | <i>Dale Hair</i> |
| <i>Alix Hardy</i> | <i>Jain Ann Lane</i> | <i>Dr. & Mrs. McMurphy</i> |
| <i>Charles & Sherry Porter</i> | <i>Charlie & Amy Powell</i> | <i>Royce Ray</i> |
| <i>Cort & Susan Schlichting</i> | <i>Janie Sims</i> | <i>Sam Strada</i> |
| <i>Dr. Burt Taylor</i> | <i>Molly Wagner</i> | <i>Mark & Judy Weaver</i> |
| <i>Bruce & Sylvia Weinard</i> | <i>Forrest & Ann Wilson</i> | |
| | <i>Anonymous</i> | |
| | <i>Day Circle</i> | |
| | <i>Wheel-A-Meal</i> | |
| | <i>Spiritual Writing Group</i> | |

Prayer List

Coco Anderson, Neal Andrews, Cammie Belue, Kaye Bradshaw, Richard Britton, Janet Clarke, Sherry Coats, Edith Cox, Matt Coleman, Mike Dixon, Ruth Fitzgerald, Amy Britton Foshee, Gwen Greer, Ann Hafner, Bill Harris, Jackie Martin Haskew, Lauren Henson, Andrea Wiik Hinton, John Langus, Bill Layfield, Celia Ledbetter, Kay Korb, Gordon Marsh, Sara Martin, Marilyn Michel, Margaret Miller, Betty Minto, Emma Munderloh, Mary Owen, Art Powell, Bernice Riedeburg, Cort Schlichting, William Shreve, Gladys Sheets, Ransome Sheets, Janie Sims, Carol Sumrall, Malcolm Sumrall, Patricia Trammell Stinson, Pat Stoll, Gayle Underwood, Nicholas Vrakelos, Babs Warren, Helen Wells, Louis Williams, Ann Wilson, Forrest Wilson, Ronnie Wright and all our military members: Haley Harrell, Susanna Hedrick, Ashton Rubio, Stuart Rubio; The children in our Big Brother/Big Sister program: Angelo, Eddie, Maylasia, & Milaishia.



THE PRAYERS AND THE SYMPATHY OF THE congregation go out to Lawrence Hughey on the death of his mother, Jane Hughey on May 27, 2022; to Susan Hoitt on the death of her brother Joe Kramer on June 19, 2022, in Quitman MS; to Linda Langston on the death of her husband, Charles on June 20, 2022; to Richard, Michael & Janice Britton on the death of Elizabeth Britton on July 2, 2022; to Ann Hafner on the death of her sister Betty Bass on July 5, 2022; to Billy McLean on the death of his wife, Sue McClean, on July 15, 2022; and to Linn Ayers in the death of her father, William (Billy) Yost, on July 20, 2022.

The Chancel Choir Begins a New Season- Welcome to New Members

Schedule of Chancel Choir Launch activities

- ♦ Wednesday, August 17, 7:00 p.m.--- **Rehearsals resume**
- ♦ Saturday morning, August 20--- **Choir Retreat** at the church Food, Fellowship, Worship, Rehearsal of Christmas music and more
- ♦ Sunday, August 21--- We are back in the choir seats for worship.

If you love to sing, consider joining. We not only enjoy singing together, but we enjoy great fellowship, often including food, which is known as some of the best of any group's in the church!

Music reading ability, the ability to sing harmony parts, and experience in choir, concert band, or study of a musical instrument is helpful.

For more information, or to join, contact Randy Sheets at the church. 251-342-1550 ext. 15; rsheets@shpc.us.



Concert of Sacred Vocal Music-- Sunday, August 7

During the Sunday School Hour (9:00 a.m.)

Live in our Sanctuary (and livestreamed on the church YouTube channel)

All are welcome

The performers:

Our own Dr. Patrick Jacobs

Dr. Kathryn Hedlund- University of Mobile voice faculty

Dr. Randy Sheets-- piano and organ

The Music: A concert of great sacred vocal music--- for soprano and for baritone, singing solo and in duet.

Arrangements of familiar American songs, such as "At the River" and "Simple Gifts" (by Aaron Copland), "Amazing Grace," "Brethren, We Have Met to Worship"

Arias from Handel's *Messiah* and from Fauré's *Requiem*

Duet arrangements of classics such as Gounod's "O Divine Redeemer" and Mozart's "Ave verum corpus."



Celebrating 20 Years

We are excited to celebrate the 20th anniversary of our Director of Music Ministries and Organist, Dr Randall Sheets. A reception will be held in the Fellowship Hall following our worship service on Sunday August 21, 2022. For more information please contact

Carolyn Wikle @ carolyn.wikle@pnc.com

or Tim Holston @ tholston@southalabama.edu

Tai Chi Classes



Come experience the gentle, calming, yet strengthening exercise that is increasingly recognized as beneficial to persons of all ages and levels of fitness. Randy Sheets (SHPC music director) leads classes for beginners or experienced tai chi players in our Fellowship Hall. If you have questions or wonder if Tai Chi is for you and your physical condition, please contact Randy at the church or at rsheets@shpc.us. Come join us for this practice known as “moving meditation.”

Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall, beginning August 18.

Note: Everyone will be asked to sign a waiver form prior to participation. Pick up a Waiver Form from the Main Building Back Hallway or contact Randy to obtain a form to complete prior to your first class.

- **What:** Tai Chi Exercise Class
- **Who may participate:** anyone. (contact Randy Sheets if you have questions.)
- **Cost:** No charge
- **What to wear/bring:** wear comfortable shoes (or go barefoot) and loose clothes in which you can move freely. Bring a bottle of water if you wish.
- **When:**
 - Thursday mornings at 10:00 a.m.
 - On the second Thursday of each month, we will meet outside, weather permitting. (Another group is in the Fellowship Hall on second Thursdays.)



Coronavirus Commission Updates

July 26, 2022

Mobile County is once again in the High-Risk Category for transmission of COVID-19, especially the most recent Omicron BA.5 variant. With this in mind, we are encouraged to remain mindful of the ongoing situation and to follow applicable health recommendations from sources such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Mobile County Health Department.

Vaccines and Boosters

- Having an up-to-date vaccination is the MOST effective way to mitigate the transmission of the disease, to protect yourself and others, and to lessen the severity of the disease if you do get a break-through case. Please see information at the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) and the Mobile County Health Department (MCHD) regarding currently recommended vaccines and boosters.
 - Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
 - ADPH: <https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/covid19/data.html>
 - [Mobile County Health Department](#)
- Vaccinations are readily available at local pharmacies, the Health department, and some clinics. The CDC, ADPH and MCHD all have websites that help identify local sites that offer vaccinations and boosters.
 - Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
 - ADPH: <https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/covid19/data.html>
 - Mobile County Health Department

Masks and other safety protocols

- Our church remains a mask-friendly congregation. We encourage you to wear a mask if you are in a high-risk category or are in close contact with an individual in the high-risk category.
- If you do wear a mask, it is important to have a well-fitting mask that covers your mouth and nose. Here is a link to the CDC guidance on masks:
- https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/about-face-coverings.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/effective-masks.html

Testing

- You can get FREE COVID-19 tests delivered to your house through the US Postal Service.
- Although these rapid antigen tests are less reliable than laboratory PCR tests, they can be helpful in identifying positive cases. It is good to get an at-home test kit when you're well, so it will be handy if you need it.
- Even if you think you are just experiencing your usual allergy symptoms, taking an at-home rapid antigen test to confirm whether you are positive or not may prevent you from unknowingly spreading COVID to others.

The Following principles were approved at our recent General Assembly Meeting. Cary

Guiding Principles

Prayerful

Confessing our sin to God and those we have wronged, we accept our responsibility for the brokenness in the world and in ourselves. In Christ we are assured of forgiveness and freed to forgive others.

We ask the Holy Spirit to direct and guide us as we actively listen to Scripture and fully engage in the joys and challenges of life in this present world.

By grace and love, Christ binds us together, cleanses us in the waters of baptism, nourishes us at the Lord's table, and sends us out to share the Good News.

Courageous

Reformed and always being reformed, we follow the Holy Spirit in new and imaginative ways to places we have not yet been.

We foster the hope of reconciliation in Christ who transforms the world through healing individuals, communities, and creation.

We work for God's justice and peace for all people in every land, walking with the vulnerable, the marginalized, the oppressed, and the abused.

United

As members of the Church universal, we are Christ's disciples, called by God and empowered by the Holy Spirit.

Against forces that seek to divide, Christ compels us to bear witness to a love that connects communities across great differences.

We approach others in a spirit of openness and trust, as we follow Jesus Christ in respecting the freedom of other religions, worldviews, and traditions.

Serving

Gratefully following the One who washed his disciples' feet, we listen to our neighbors, working to meet their practical needs.

We partner with others to become the hands and feet of God in the world, showing compassion and generosity to all creation.

The Holy Spirit pushes us beyond the familiar, meeting people where they are as we share Christ's transformative love.

Alive

We are people of the resurrection: though death surrounds us, we are not afraid because we follow the One who was raised from the tomb.

The Holy Spirit gives us courage to trust each other and build a community that reflects the fullness of God's image in humanity: beautifully diverse in age, race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, gender identity, sexuality, physical and mental ability, geography, theological conviction, and viewpoints.

In the sure and certain hope of resurrection, we joyfully testify that the Church and its members are called to follow Christ's model by risking all, even life itself, for the sake of the Gospel.

And so, God calls the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to be: Prayerful, Courageous, United, Serving, Alive. Thanks be to God.

If you test POSITIVE

- Check with your health care provider regarding available treatment if you are immunocompromised or in a high-risk category.
- CDC recommendations:
 - If you had COVID-19 and had symptoms, isolate for at least 5 days. To calculate your 5-day isolation period, day 0 is your first day of symptoms. Day 1 is the first full day after your symptoms developed. You can leave isolation after 5 full days.
 - You can end isolation after 5 full days if you are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and your other symptoms have improved (Loss of taste and smell may persist for weeks or months after recovery and need not delay the end of isolation).
 - You should continue to wear a well-fitting mask around others at home and in public for 5 additional days (day 6 through day 10) after the end of your 5-day isolation period. If you are unable to wear a mask when around others, you should continue to isolate for a full 10 days. Avoid people who have weakened immune systems or are more likely to get very sick from COVID-19, and nursing homes and other high-risk settings, until after at least 10 days.
 - If you continue to have fever or your other symptoms have not improved after 5 days of isolation, you should wait to end your isolation until you are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and your other symptoms have improved. Continue to wear a well-fitting mask through day 10. Contact your healthcare provider if you have questions.
 - See additional CDC information about travel.
 - Do not go to places where you are unable to wear a mask, such as restaurants and some gyms, and avoid eating around others at home and at work until a full 10 days after your first day of symptoms.
 - If you tested positive and had no symptoms, you can end isolation after 5 days and continue wearing mask in public for 10 days.
 - See more information at the CDC, ADPH and MCHD:
 - Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
 - ADPH: <https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/covid19/data.html>
 - [Mobile County Health Department](#)

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

MOBILE INFIRMARY IS LOOKING FOR PEOPLE INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING, PLEASE

CALL 251-435-3530 AND ASK FOR KATHRYN BRONSON

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| Statement as of June 30, 2022 | |
| Total Annual Budgeted Revenue | \$ 863,515 |
| Year-to-date Received | \$ 430,143 |
| Other Receipts | \$ 15,568 |
| Total Receipts | \$ 445,711 |
| Benevolences | \$ 28,398 |
| Salaries and Services | \$ 256,057 |
| Programs | \$ 11,295 |
| Office Expenses | \$ 12,104 |
| General and Plant Services | \$ 117,601 |
| Other | \$ 14,312 |
| Total Expenses | \$ 439,767 |
| Excess Receipts over (under)Expenses | \$ 5,945 |

Off We Go to the Montreat Women's Connection Conference!

From August 11-14, twenty women representing our church will be traveling to the annual Women's Connection Conference in Montreat. The theme for this year is "Claimed for More: Wholehearted Living When We Are All Out of Sorts." Sounds timely, doesn't it? The Keynote Speaker is Sarah Bessey, author of several acclaimed books. Smaller breakout sessions will feature a variety of speakers and topics. Count on our Team of Twenty to return renewed and energized with ideas to share!



Seeking a Few "Good Shepherds" for Mary B. Austin Faculty Partners in Education

Yes, we all know that teachers have had 2 years of pandemic challenges that have made their jobs really tough. But did you know ONE simple thing you can do could make a difference to them?

What can I do?

- Sign up on the bulletin board to be a shepherd for one group of teachers at one grade level (generally 3-4 people)
- Write a brief note of encouragement or appreciation to the teachers in your group monthly or every other month. (After you sign up, you will receive a multi-pack of small notecards to get started, along with ideas of what to say in your notes.)
- Additional optional ideas will be offered to you if you become a shepherd.

Please know that just writing a note monthly is enough to brighten the day of your teachers and let them know that you and Spring Hill Presbyterian Church care. Teachers get so few special notes of appreciation that finding something in their box like that puts a smile on their faces. For additional information, contact Dale Hair: dale@joehair.com, (770)335-3391.

August 2022

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|---|--|--|---|---|------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| | 1 Outreach | 2 Committees | 3 PWCT | 4 AA | 5 | 6 AA |
| 7 Sunday School- Sanctuary Worship- Communion | 8 | 9 | 10 Presbyterian Women - Kick-off event | 11 PEO AA | 12 | 13 MSC Workshop AA |
| Montreat Women Conference | | | | | | |
| 14 Sunday School Worship— Back to School | 15 Anna returns | 16 Session Diaconate | 17 Chancel Choir | 18 Tai Chi AA | 19 | 20 Chancel Choir Retreat AA |
| 21 Sunday School Worship- Reception for Randy | 22 Newsletter Dead- line Mobile's Singing Children | 23 Mobile's Singing Children | 24 Chancel Choir | 25 Writing Group Tai Chi AA | 26 Officer Training | 27 AA |
| 28 Sunday School Worship— Kirkin o' the Tartan | 29 Mobile's Singing Children | 30 Mobile's Singing Children | 31 Chancel Choir | | | |