

Dear Saints of Spring Hill Presbyterian Church,
God is indeed at work among us—calling us to listen deeply, act faithfully, and grow together in new and exciting ways.



As we begin August, our Session and Diaconate will gather for a retreat (July 31–August 2) to review your feedback and discern goals for the coming year—goals that will shape ministry action plans across worship, education, mission, fellowship, and care. Please hold these leaders in your prayers as they seek to be faithful stewards of your voices and of God’s vision for our church.

At the same time, we are stepping into another important process: the creation of a new pastoral position at SHPC. The Session has voted to move forward with calling an **Associate Pastor for Discipleship Formation**—a leader who will walk alongside our congregation in nurturing faith at every age and stage of life. We are currently forming an Associate Pastor Nominating Committee (APNC). Once the Nominating Committee completes its work, we will hold a called congregational meeting to elect the APNC and begin this exciting new chapter.

But this journey isn’t just about staffing—it’s about discipleship. It’s about listening for how **God is calling you** to grow, to serve, and to be part of something larger than yourself.

August is the perfect time to re-engage with the life of our church. In these pages, you’ll find a wide variety of opportunities—places where you might hear God’s whisper, sense a tug on your spirit, or feel drawn into something new:

- Serve with one of our **mission teams**
- Join or lead a **Christian education class or small group**
- Sign up for our **new fellowship table groups** (more info to come).
- Try our new **online Bible study/Worship prep** every 4th Tuesday at 6
- Participate in **Post Church** discussions on theology at *Post on the Hill* every 2nd Tuesday 5:30
- Help with **children or youth ministry**
- Join a **church committee** or help with a particular ministry that aligns with your passions
- Attend the returning **Men’s Breakfast** or join the **new evening Presbyterian Women’s group**
- Experience our **monthly Wholeness and Healing Communion service** in the chape.
- Connect through our new **monthly fellowship events and special gatherings**

This is not just programming—it’s **invitation**.

Invitation to belong, to deepen, to wonder, to serve, and to grow.

Let’s walk into this season together, with hearts open to grace, hands ready to serve, and spirits eager to follow wherever God is leading next.

With gratitude and hope,

Rev. Brandon E. Miles

Music Ministries



What a joy it is to be among you! After many weeks of packing, planning, packing, preparation, and packing, I have made the move to Mobile and am getting settled.

I want to say a heartfelt "thank you" to all of you who have already made me to feel welcome and at home here in this wonderful church. It has truly been a joy to be able to shake so many hands and see so many smiles.

And a special thank you for the restaurant recommendations. Many of you have already discovered the way to my heart!

All of the ensembles – vocal and instrumental – will be resuming rehearsals and worship leading very shortly. A few have said those dreaded words to me, "Oh, you don't want me in the choir," but do you realize that you are already a part of the largest choir in the church; the congregation! Everyone has a place (you'll hear that more in the coming months) and that includes singing in the congregation. Of course, I'd also be quite happy to welcome you into the choir. You never know what joys might be in store there!

Please continue to help me with your names. I'll get there, I promise; it just may take me a few tries. And please continue with those recommendations of what to see and do and where to eat. I look forward to loving all the things about Mobile that you do, and all the things about SHPC that you do! Stop by and visit, I'll be happy to offer you one of my Coke Zeros!

John



♫ CHILDREN'S CHOIR KICKOFF ♫

Sunday, September 7 at 5:00 p.m.

Come celebrate a new season of music and ministry!
Join us for an evening filled with:

- Singing praises
- Instrument fun
- Creative crafts
- Ice cream

We welcome **all children ages K3 (by September 1) through 5th grade** to be a part of our joyful choir family.

Bring your voice, your energy, and your friends — and let's make a joyful noise together!

The SHPC Mission Committee

The SHPC Mission Committee meets monthly via Zoom on the first Tuesday evening of each month at six o'clock, except for July.

The Mission Committee receives and studies potential mission projects and recommends annual needed funding to support current and potential mission projects to the Session. The Mission Committee's main focus has been serving local needs in our community although funding for national and international mission projects through the Presbyterian Church USA is also in our purview.

You do not have to be on the SHPC Mission Committee to serve with us on our various mission projects. If you see something that may interest you listed below, please let us know. We would love to have you help us serve God by serving others this year!

1. Creation Care Team-PCUSA Earth Care Congregation Certification/Gulf Coast Creation Care. Volunteer, participate in events. **Contact is Susan Abrams.**
2. Presbyterian Home for Children. Donate or volunteer. Remote contact is Ted Auttersen. Locally, you may contact Moderator of Mission Committee, **Linda Madsen.**
3. Backpack Program. Volunteer to deliver weekend supplemental food for students in need to nearby schools during the school year. **Contact is Marcia French.**
4. Jag Food Pantry for USA students and McKemie Place Shelter for Women. Donate requested items or volunteer. **Contact is Don Fry.**
5. Love All Food Pantry, a Loaves and Fish Feeding Ministry housed at Central Presbyterian Church in Midtown Mobile. Volunteer, participate in local events or donate. **Contact is Linda Madsen.**
6. Mary B. Austin Elementary School. Volunteer, support school staff, and participate in various events throughout the year. **Contact is Buddy Porter.**
7. Christmas Angel Tree for Catholic Charities/Christmas Alternative Gift Market. Volunteer and donate. **Contact is Vera Lynn Sheets.**
8. Wheel a Meal. Volunteer to prepare or deliver meals for senior citizens in the local community. Donate. **Contact Frank Dagley.**

Be on the lookout for church reminders about how and when you may serve with us throughout the year!

"The SHPC Mission Committee thanks all of the participants of this year's **VBS program** for generously donating food items for the Love All Pantry, a Loaves and Fish Community Feeding Ministry located at Central Presbyterian Church in Midtown Mobile.

Back Pack for Kids

The school year is beginning next month!!

Old Shell Road Elementary and Phillips Middle School have relied on the generosity of our SHPC Congregation for years to help their 'food insecure' students. All of the children have breakfast and lunch at school five days a week. But last year 23 students were suspected by their teachers as in need of additional support & food for the weekends. The school Counselors confirmed this and food bags were requested from SHPC. Our volunteers order nutritious easy to prepare meals. And the Youth Groups pack them in recycled grocery sacks with prayer cards included. Our volunteers deliver these Backpacks for Kids weekly to the schools.



This Mission Outreach team has faithfully researched where to purchase healthy foods economically. But the cost still runs about \$500 monthly.

Please prayerfully consider donating to help these children in need.

Thank you!

Lifelines Counseling Services-Rape Crisis Center Transitional Housing program houses individuals who have experienced sexual based violence and have been unhoused for a minimum of six



Lifelines Counseling Services
Take the First Step.

months. The services support the family for up to two years as they rebuild their lives. This past month, Lifelines reached out to SHPC to help a mother and two children waiting for a new apartment. Through the financial gifts of the congregation, we supported this family living at Home of Grace for two weeks. Through the three ministries: Lifeline Counseling Services, Home of Grace, and Spring Hill Presbyterian Church, this family has felt the love of the community and a start to a new life.

Thank you!!

Stewardship Committee

The **Stewardship Committee** will meet on *Monday, August 4 at 4:00 pm* in the Conference Room. We are recruiting more volunteers to help with publicity, collecting short testimonies, preparing our narrative budget, writing social media and newsletter communications, and organizing small group dinners. Volunteers are also needed to help with an All-Church Dinner and our Dedication Sunday lunch. (Did you know that the Stewardship campaign involves lots of EATING and MEALS!?) Contact Barkley Shreve at 251-459-3283 or shrevelb@comcast.net and learn more about how you can get involved with the Stewardship Committee!

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so very much for helping make this milestone in my life a truly wonderful event. I especially want to thank Carolyn Wikle for insisting I do this and making it happen, and Cindy & David Campbell for the beautiful flowers that were in the church for the occasion! Thanks to whoever took the pictures, especially the one of Susan Tomlinson and me with that delicious cake. I have also received other pictures of friends who were there. I cherish the many sweet cards and love you shared. You made me feel so special.



Fondly,

Jacque Marrero

2025 Fall Current Issues

Aug. 10 – “Church in a Post-Christian World” - Part 1 (Brandon Miles)
CHURCHWIDE

Aug. 17 – “Church in a Post-Christian World” – Part 2 (Brandon Miles)
CHURCHWIDE

Aug. 24 – **Rally Day and Pot-Luck Breakfast** (Kick-off Sunday School Classes)

Aug. 31 – **Labor Day Weekend: No Sunday School**

Sept. 7 – “The 2025 Legislative Session: Which Education Bills Passed and Which Didn’t.” Sarah Waldinger, Policy Director for A+ Education Partners, a Non-Partisan Educational Advocacy Organization based in Montgomery. (Via Zoom)

Kirkin' o' the Tartans Worship

We invite you to join us for Worship on Sunday, September 28 for our **Kirkin' o' the Tartans Worship Service**. If you're not familiar with this ceremony, it dates back to our roots in the early Presbyterian Church in Scotland, when families or clans would bring their family symbol or tartan to the Kirk (the Scottish name for church) for a blessing or to rededicate their clan to the God's service. In recognition of that heritage, our congregation practices this ceremony in knowledge that God has gathered different families, ethnicities, and nations into one family, the Church of Jesus Christ. If you have clothing that represents your family tartan, you are invited to wear it to worship that Sunday. If you would like to carry one of the tartan banners, please contact our church secretary, Marcia Wear, so that we can have an idea of who will be participating.



RALLY DAY

JOIN US TO SEE WHAT IS STARTING THIS FALL!

AUG 24 2025 | 9:00 AM
BULLARD BUILDING

Breakfast, Fellowship
and Fall Schedules

Sign up sheet for Breakfast in the Hallway.

Spring Hill Presbyterian Church

Statement as of June 30, 2025

Total Annual Budgeted Revenue	\$ 793,620
Year-to-date Received	\$ 405,004
Other Receipts	38,208
Total Receipts	\$ 443,212
Benevolences	\$ 28,660
Salaries and Services	\$ 201,598
Programs	\$ 13,205
Office Expenses	\$ 13,188
General and Plant Services	\$ 137,978
Other	\$ 14,265
Total Expenses	\$ 408,893
Excess Receipts over (under)Expenses	\$ 34,318

Attendance for June & July

	<u>In Person</u>	<u>Online</u>
6/1	127	63
6/8	96	52
6/15	111	54
6/22	98	40
6/29	102	91
7/6	88	117
7/13	151	97
7/20	135	55
7/29	104	62

Prayer List

Margaret Armentrout, Ted Auttersen, 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, 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, Billy Wiik, Ann Wilson, Andy Wharton, Ronnie Wright and our military members: Ashton Rubio, Stuart Rubio.



Presbyterian Women

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 2025-2026 year!

Bible Study Theme for this Year: Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ

This year's uplifting study focuses on scripture that highlights each of the three aspects listed above. A well-organized study guide with helpful, reflective questions, and a DVD accompany it.

Kick-off Event and Combined Business meeting for Current and Prospective Circle Members – Wednesday, August 13th in Fellowship Hall

10:00 a.m. – Getting-to-know-you fellowship, and welcome to all who are seeking more information on our circles. Pick up a Study Book (\$15) and PW Directory.

10:30 a.m. – Hear an overview of the Horizons Bible Study theme and handle other announcements and business.

When do the circles regularly meet?

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

Day Circle meets at 9:45 in the morning.

Afternoon Circle meets at 2:00 in the afternoon.

Night Circle On the 3rd Thursday at 6:30

For additional information:

Day Circle: Gayla Wiik (251) 689-5201

Afternoon Circle: Susan Tomlinson (251) 209-0792

Night Circle: Sarah Miles (205)-427-2289

All Circles: Lynn Hennig (251) 605-5918

Presbyterian Women to Launch NEW Night Circle for 2025-2026!

Interested in joining a circle, but can't meet during the daytime? In addition to our 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. circles, we will now be starting a Night Circle just for you!

The Night Circle will be led by Sarah Miles; and will meet on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 6:30. The first meeting will be at the Mile's house on August 21.

Late Sign up for all circles will be on August 24, Rally Day Breakfast in the Bullard Building at 9:00 a.m.



Thursday, September 18
9am-2pm
Baytreat
18249 Scenic Hwy 98
Fairhope, AL 36532

Exploring Missional Leadership (EML) is a free, daylong event led by 1001 New Worshipping Communities. It features presentations, active learning, and group discussions, introducing participants to entrepreneurial ministries and the necessary competencies. Join us and learn how to identify and cultivate potential new leaders and innovators within your congregation, and discern if that new leader may even be you!

Exploring Missional Leadership

A Path to Innovative Leadership in
the 21st Century Church

Exploring Missional Leadership is offered by the Interim Unified Agency of the Presbyterian Church(USA), in partnership with the Presbytery of South Alabama
pcusa.org | newchurchnewway.org | presbyteryofsa.org

Who is the EML for?

Individuals discerning a potential call to start a new worshipping community or other new ministry.

Pastors, ruling elders, and other church leaders seeking to foster innovation in their congregations.

Mid council staff and leaders, including members of New Worshipping Community Commissions, Committees on Preparation for Ministry and Committees on Ministry.

August 2025

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

					1 Officer Retreat	2 Officer Retreat
3 Worship Communion	4 Outreach Stewardship	5 Staff Meeting Religious Arts Christian Ed. Worship	6 Chancel Choir AlAnon	7	8	9 AA
10 Churchwide Sunday School Worship Children's Pool Party	11 MCPSS Starts	12 Staff Meeting Finance com- mittee Zoom Bible Study	13 Breakfast Bible PW Morning PW Afternoon Chancel Choir	14 Fellowship/ Hospitality	15	16 MSC Workshop AA
17 Churchwide Sunday School Worship Youth Pool	18	19 Staff Meeting Session Diaconate	20 Congrega- tional Care Chancel Choir AlAnon	21 PW Night	22	23 Chancel Choir Retreat AA
24 Churchwide Breakfast Rally Day Worship	25 Newsletter Deadline	26 Staff Meeting	27 Chancel Choir AlAnon	28 Spiritual Writing Group	29	30 AA
31 Worship	1 Church office Closed					