



SPRING HILL MESSENGER

December/January

Pondering

I have been thinking about the women in my life, past and present, and how I have been changed by them. This article had its beginning when I was leading the Wednesday Bible study, "Word in the Week." The text for the day was Luke 2.1-21. It is in that reading that Mary "ponders." Ponders is a great word.

The word "pondering" got me started – pondering. Maybe it's because it was Mary who was pondering, I started pondering about the women in my life. I started with my Mom. I know it is a cliché but I started with her. Obviously, I would not be here if not for my Mom. She taught me experientially how to love. She showed me how to respect others and myself. One lesson that I was slow to learn from her was a love of learning. When I was in seminary my Dad became a dialysis patient. My Mom had to learn to be his dialysis nurse in order to hook him up to the machine at home. That made me remember how my Mom had gone back to college when my younger brother was old enough to stay in school all day. I remember her studying while she cooked supper.

Most of the things I tell premarital couples about marriage, I learned from my wife. Usually I start with the story about seeing the mold on the floor in our shower. We had been married about a month. I was a typically sexist husband who expected the "wife" to clean the house. After telling Sally about the mold she said, "You know, when I am in the shower I don't wear my glasses and I can't see my feet. So, if you can see mold on the floor, you better clean it." She was not defensive. It was a matter-of-fact. You see it. You clean it. That works in most cases. There was one time Sally was wrong. One of our sons came in from playing and his head was bloody. A piece of a concrete block hit him in the head. I said that it was nothing. Head wounds bleed profusely. Sally insisted on taking him to the closest "doc in the box." When she returned, to her credit, she said the doc said, "Head wounds bleed profusely." Our son didn't need stitches. A very small victory. Because any sane person would have taken him to the emergency department to get him checked. The rest of that story is that our younger son had dropped the block on his head.

Most of my teachers were women. Except for two men in high school, all of my public school teachers were women. My favorite history professor in college was a woman. Her name was Mary Washington. No kidding. Isn't that a great name for a history professor? I remember Miss Eloise Long, who taught fourth grade to all three of us brothers. When my younger brother was starting the fourth grade he was not in Miss Long's class. My Dad went to the school and told the principal he wanted my brother in Miss Long's class. The principal went to his class, stood in the door and said, "Alan, come with me. Your Dad wants you in Miss Long's class." I think it helped that my Dad and the principal were in the same Sunday school class. And that a Speaker boy had been in that school for 16 uninterrupted years. Miss Long taught all of us the multiplication tables. She was so far ahead of her time that she had a woman come to our class once a week to teach us Spanish.

Along the way I learned from my aunts and female cousins; from girlfriends and female clergy. I particularly learned from female chaplains. I have the gift of empathy, but I had to learn the discipline of pastoral care. Most of my female colleagues seem to intuitively know how to care for others.

Whenever I read that Mary "pondered all these things in her heart." I know exactly what she was doing.

Cary Speaker

This Advent I am particularly drawn to Luke 1:26-38, The Annunciation. Being pregnant this Advent helps me see Mary and Christ's birth in new ways. Mary most likely was less than half my age when she found out that she was going to be the mother of the Christ-child. She was living in the backwaters of Nazareth, not in the seat of power of Jerusalem. She was poor. She was a virgin and inexperienced. She was young and a woman in a society that valued men, status, and maturity. Yet, God sees Mary. God favors Mary. God chooses Mary to bear God with us, Emmanuel into this world. Mary says yes to such a large and overwhelming task, to grow, birth, and raise the son of God. I cannot imagine the whispers Mary was subjected to being unwed and pregnant, yet she and Joseph both say yes to this grand and glorious call. Mary is told that "nothing will be impossible with God," which is spoken to Abraham and Sarah in Genesis too. Commentators say that this is the "creed behind all creeds". Through our faith, we affirm that nothing is impossible with God. God enters the world as a tiny child; Christ performs miracles healing the sick and raising the dead. On the cross, death is defeated. Nothing is impossible. Mary's story reminds us that the Lord works through each one of us to fulfill God's purposes, and sometimes we have to block reason out to step out in faith, courage, and trust.

Our theme this Advent is "From Generation to Generation." Later in Mary's Magnificat, Mary sings, *"Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation."* (Luke 1:48b-50). This theme is reflected in our **Advent devotional, which you can access digitally or in paper version, in worship, and through some special Advent crafts that children, youth, and adults will be able to do (children and youth during Dec. 10 Adventfest.)** This Advent, I am excited to explore how we tell this story, the story of Emmanuel, God coming into this world from generation to generation. How we pass down our faith, our hope, and the power of the Gospel.

As you know, I am pregnant and our child will be here around December 6. I have been so grateful for this church family and how they will teach my children God's story passing it down from one generation to another. Thank you for the most special baby shower, the church gift that has been used to purchase car seats and supplies, your prayers and support. I am grateful for the time away that will enable me to bond with this child and return ready to continue ministry together again.

Gratitude, love, and peace,

Anna

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 Sallie Connell (sconnell@springhillprsbyterian.org), or sign up on the sheet in the hallways or the narthex. The cost is \$25.00, and the deadline is December 15. These plants will be taken to Homebound in the name of the church.





FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION...

2022 Advent Devotional and Theme: “Generation to Generation”

The season of Advent is almost upon us, and we're excited to bring you a new daily devotional. Our Advent theme, “from Generation to Generation ...reminds us of the ways our lives, histories, actions, and stories are interconnected and woven together. The work of God is always unfolding – in and through us. This Advent, may you remember that you belong – to a story etched into the wrinkles of time, to generations that have come before and will come after, to a love that won't let you go.”

You may access the devotional here online.flippingbook.com/view/261712895/ or pick up a hard copy in the back hallway at church starting the week before Thanksgiving. The link will be included in the weekly enews and on the website as well.

Please note the following important dates in Advent:

November 27 – First Sunday of Advent

December 4 – Second Sunday of Advent – Cantata

Saturday, December 10, 9:00 AM-- Advent Fest (see announcement below)

December 11 --Third Sunday of Advent -- Children's Choirs

December 18 - Children's Pageant, 9:00 AM Rehearsal, 9:40 Performance; Fourth Sunday of Advent
– Lessons and Carols

Saturday, December 24 – Christmas Eve Children's Service 4:00 PM, 8:00 PM Communion Service

Children's and Youth Nativity Play, Sunday, Dec. 18: On Sunday December 18, our children and youth will be in their own special nativity play. No dress rehearsals necessary! We ask that children and youth show up at 9 am to pick costumes and practice. We will meet in the Sanctuary. Our big show will be at **9:40 am in the Sanctuary**. Adults, leave Sunday school a little early for this fun and festive event! If you are interested in a particular part, please see Susan Tomlinson.



AdventFest: will be Saturday, Dec. 10 starting at 9:00 am. Advent-fest is the day where we create Advent wreaths and decorate the Sanctuary. Many hands make light work, so please let us know if you are willing to help collect greenery, make a wreath on Dec. 1, or more! This event is inter-generational, so children and youth are an important part of this event.

USA ART SALE

Stop by the University of South Alabama on **December 2**, Friday from 8:00 a.m. till 5:00 p.m. at the visual art & glass arts building for the annual art sale. Find art from students & professors in photography, painting, blown glass, pottery and more.

Current Issues Class Topics for December 2022

December 4 — Donna Lagomarsino shares highlights and reflections on her experience in Poland with an animal rescue team. Their initial mission was to help Ukrainian refugees fleeing with their pets for safety in Poland. Hear about what she witnessed and her first-hand impressions during the early days of Putin's invasion.

December 11 — Join Wes Baldwin and others who will provide updates from the SHPC Creation Care Task Force. What has been the focus to-date on this topic, and what might be the next steps?

December 18 — Adult Sunday School Classes will meet briefly with their respective class before gathering in the Sanctuary for the Children's Christmas Pageant.

December 25 — No Sunday School

January 1 — No Sunday School



GIVE TO OTHERS & HONOR YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS

... by "shopping" SHPC's **ANNUAL ALTERNATIVE GIFT MARKET (AGM)** form which features representative gifts of hope, benefitting support agencies in our local community and the world beyond.

Agencies selected for our 2022 **ALTERNATIVE GIFT MARKET**

Victory Health Partners
Wings of Life
Penelope House
McKemie Place
Home of Grace
Family Promise
Helper International
The Presbyterian Mission Agency (PCUSA)



Over the last seven years, our annual AGM average giving has been \$10,616. Let's top that this year by honoring loved ones and giving Christmas gifts to others via our Alternative Gift Market.

AGM forms will be **available in December** in the hallways, narthex, church office, bulletins, and via an e-news link. Gift selections and donations may be made any time prior to December 31 by submitting your gift order form and attached donation check in the offering plate or sending them to Susan Richardson in the church office. **Gift cards** for you to send to honored friends and family may also be obtained in the narthex, church hallway, or church office.

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

Spring Hill Presbyterian Church 2022 ALTERNATIVE GIFT MARKET

Your giving of representative "alternative gifts" to others will be a gift to the agencies listed on this form. Complete a subtotal for each agency you select and then a grand total. And please remember that gifts purchased through the Alternative Gift Market are in addition to your annual pledge to the congregation's operating budget.

RETURN THIS FORM WITH YOUR PAYMENT CHECK to the church office any time prior to December 31, 2022

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

VICTORY HEALTH PARTNERS: A faith-based nonprofit in Mobile providing affordable quality healthcare for low-income uninsured adults from over 25 Alabama counties, 11 Mississippi counties, and 8 counties in NW Florida. VHP does not accept insurance or gov't funding but depends on contributions from supporters & volunteers.

Qty	Description of Representative Gifts equivalent to Your Donation	Unit Price	Ext Price
	Two hours of counseling <u>OR</u> life-sustaining prescription assistance for a patient <circle one>	\$20	
	Doctor's appointment & filled prescription <u>OR</u> full eye exam & pair of eyeglasses <circle one>	\$30	
	\$3,000 worth of Healthcare – (For every \$1 donated, \$30 worth of care is provided.)	\$100	
	Other donation amount of your choosing		
		SUBTOTAL	

WINGS of LIFE: A faith based, non-profit, residential drug/alcohol recovery program in Mobile for men, women, and married couples, empowering them through spiritual enrichment, education, and development of personal responsibility with a goal of positive, life-long effects. WoL also includes a feeding ministry for persons experiencing homelessness.

Qty	Description of Representative Gifts equivalent to Your Donation	Unit Price	Ext Price
	5 meals for guests <u>OR</u> care packages for people experiencing homelessness <circle one>	\$25	
	Christmas gifts for children experiencing homelessness	\$50	
	Kitchen meal ingredients <u>OR</u> administrative/educational supplies <circle one>	\$100	
	Other donation amount of your choosing		
		SUBTOTAL	

PENELOPE HOUSE: A shelter in Mobile that helps victims of intimate partner violence gain social and economic independence through protection, counseling, advocacy, & referral to community resources in Mobile, Washington, Choctaw, and Clarke counties. PH provides refuge and support for victims and their children when their lives are in imminent danger, allowing escape from a violent situation.

Qty	Description of Representative Gifts equivalent to Your Donation	Unit Price	Ext Price
	Walmart gift card provided to clients to meet special needs	\$25 OR \$50	
	One night of shelter (including food and domestic violence counseling-advocacy)	\$75	
	New socks/undies for a child (\$20) <u>OR</u> 2 pairs pants & 2 shirts for school (\$100) <circle one>	\$20 \$100	
	Other donation amount of your choosing		
		SUBTOTAL	

McKEMIE PLACE: The only emergency overnight shelter in Mobile for unaccompanied women experiencing homelessness in SW Alabama. It offers a safe haven, spiritual encouragement, and access to resources to work toward self-reliance. MP provides three daily meals and temporary overnight housing for up to 50 women.

Qty	Description of Representative Gifts equivalent to Your Donation	Unit Price	Ext Price
	Laundry and cleaning supplies for 1 (\$10) <u>OR</u> personal hygiene products for 1 (\$15) <circle one>	\$10 \$15	
	Kitchen supplies for daily meal preparation	\$35	
	New set of clothes for 1 (\$50) <u>OR</u> linens for 3 overnight guests (\$100) <circle one>	\$50 \$100	
	Other donation amount of your choosing		
		SUBTOTAL	

HOME of GRACE: A comprehensive faith-based twelve-week residential drug/alcohol recovery program for females in the Mobile area, ages 18 & up. Hannah House, another residential component of HoG, serves expectant women suffering from addiction by offering support and education about alcoholism/drug addiction and the causes/effects of chemical dependencies on unborn babies.

Qty	Description of Representative Gifts equivalent to Your Donation	Unit Price	Ext Price
	Transportation for a pregnant client going to and from doctor visits while in the program	\$20	
	Care package for a woman beginning her stay in the recovery program	\$50	
	Counseling services for 1 woman in the program	\$75	
	3 meals/day for 10 women in the program	\$100	
	Other donation amount of your choosing		
		SUBTOTAL	

FAMILY PROMISE: Temporary shelter services for families (parents & children) experiencing homelessness in Coastal Alabama. Local churches/groups provide meals, transportation, and space in their buildings for temporary overnight housing. Volunteers share food, spend the night, play with children, and lend their passion and expertise, helping to prepare families for success in the community once they have secured safe, permanent housing. FP's success depends on contributions from supporters & volunteers.

Qty	Description of Representative Gifts equivalent to Your Donation	Unit Price	Ext Price
	School field trip fee for a child whose family is staying in the shelter program	\$10	
	Laundry supplies (\$15) OR transportation for an entire family for one week (\$35) <circle one>	\$15	\$35
	Afterschool care for children while parents work at a job to get out of homelessness	\$50	
	Utility deposit for family moving into a secure home after being homeless	\$100	
	Other donation amount of your choosing		
		SUBTOTAL	

HEIFER INTERNATIONAL: Ending worldwide poverty begins with sustainable agriculture & commerce. Heifer works with farmers and their communities to identify opportunities that deliver living incomes, creating solutions designed to build inclusive, resilient economies. Small-scale farming, climate-smart agricultural practices, increased productivity of livestock and crops, diversification of businesses, creation of inclusive markets, and investing in women's empowerment around the world are just a few ways Heifer seeks to do this.

Qty	Description of Representative Gifts equivalent to Your Donation	Unit Price	Ext Price
	Send a young girl to school (helps with tuition, learning materials, books, school expenses)	\$275	
	Flock of ducks, geese, or chicks (\$20); honey bees (\$30); trio of rabbits (\$60) <circle one>	\$20 \$30 \$60	
	Share of sheep, goat, or pig (\$10); alpaca (\$20); water buffalo (\$25); heifer (\$50) <circle one>	\$10 \$20 \$25 \$50	
	ENTIRE sheep, goat, or pig (\$120); alpaca (\$150); water buffalo (\$250); heifer (\$500) <circle one>	\$120 \$150 \$250 \$500	
	NOTE: There are also separate Heifer International order forms that include additional options/amounts for donation – online @ www.heifer.org/gift-catalog or in the church office.		
		SUBTOTAL	

THE PRESBYTERIAN MISSION AGENCY (PCUSA): Small gifts with big impact offer a powerful shared worldwide ministry which provides help, hope & relief to people of all ages, families, & communities who have experienced disaster or are in need.

Qty	Description of Representative Gifts equivalent to Your Donation	Unit Price	Ext Price
	Fishing net (\$15); Kitchen tool kit (\$25); School Supplies (\$30); Sewing Machine (\$50) <circle one>	\$15 \$25 \$30 \$50	
	Garden well (\$50/share); Water Filter (\$50); Rainwater catchment system (\$75) <circle one>	\$50 \$75	
	Farming tools (\$10); Set of saplings (\$30); Bag of Moringa tree seeds (\$40) <circle one>	\$10 \$30 \$40	
	Refugee food basket (\$50); Family Nutrition Pack for a woman-led household (\$150); community garden (\$200) <circle one>	\$50 \$150 \$200	
		SUBTOTAL	

Make your GRAND TOTAL check payable to SPRING HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH and return it to the church office NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 31, 2022.

Please remember that gifts purchased through the Alternative Gift Market are in addition to your annual pledge to the congregation's operating budget. THANK YOU!

**GRAND
TOTAL:**

MEMORIALS

*Amy Britton Foshee Charles Langston Johnny Langus
Sara Martin Gladys Sheets
Forrest C. Wilson John Williams*

<i>Carolyn Bowman Kay Braswell Linda & Ted Burke Lane Carlton Stephen Chiepalich Theresa Christie Kevin & Julie Conrey Joan Crawford Hal & Lynne Daugherty Dr. Norman McCrummen Barbara Drey Mark, Ely & Laurie Ernest & Jane Bulwinkle Ruth Fitzgerald John & Nancy Galanos Hilda Gewin</i>	<i>J. Russel Goodloe Mack & Betty Graham Mary Lena Harper Marcy Harris Joseph & Paula Henry Sandra Hudson Linda Ingram Sue Jardine Christina Jimenez Chris & Jessica King Mary & Glenn Lancaster Sara Long Jacqueline Marrero Ann Massey Brian & Caroline McCarthy Mitch & Sally Cobb Ken & Betty Odom</i>	<i>Dick & Lila Pennington Kimberly Peterson Abram & Carolyn Phillips David & Marjorie Quarles Ralph & Wanda Lawrence Cathy Rayford Luann Rice Susan Richardson Paul & Kelsey Russell Sallie Connell Cort & Susan Schlichting Jane Sims Teresa & Gus Smith Sam Strada Ruth Tydings Bruce & Sylvia Weinard</i>
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Prayer List

Coco Anderson, Neal Andrews, Cammie Belue, Kaye Bradshaw, Richard Britton, Janet Clarke, Sherry Coats, Edith Cox, Mike Dixon, Ruth Fitzgerald, Gwen Greer, Ann Hafner, Jackie Martin Haskew, Lauren Henson, Andrea Wiik Hinton, Wanda Lawrence, Bill Layfield, Steve Ledbetter, Kay Korb, Gordon Marsh, Marilyn Michel, Margaret Miller, Betty Minto, Emma Munderloh, Mary Owen, Art Powell, Bernice Riedeburg, Cort Schlichting, Ransome Sheets, Janie Sims, Carol Sumrall, Malcolm Sumrall, Patricia Trammell Stinson, Pat Stoll, Gayle Underwood, Nicholas Vrakelos, Johnny Walton, Babs Warren, Ann Wilson, Andy Whorton, 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.



**Our Thoughts
and Prayers
are With you**

THE PRAYERS AND THE SYMPATHY OF THE congregation for Richard Britton & Michael Britton on the death of their daughter and sister, Amy Britton Foshee, in Seattle Washington on November 30, 2022; to Ann Wilson on the death of her husband, Forrest C. Wilson, Jr., on November 1, 2022; to Randy Sheets and his family on the death of his mother, Gladys Sheets on November 5, 2022; and to the family of Helen Wells on her death on November 19, 2022.

Statement as of October 31, 2022

Total Annual Budgeted Revenue	\$ 863,515
Year-to-date Received	\$ 636,834
Other Receipts	\$ 26,256
Total Receipts	\$ 663,089
Benevolences	\$ 41,217
Salaries and Services	\$ 424,683
Programs	\$ 19,558
Office Expenses	\$ 20,191
General and Plant Services	\$ 198,140
Other	\$ 22,192
Total Expenses	\$ 725,981
Excess Receipts over (under)Expenses	\$ (62,892)

Thank
you 

CHANGE TO ONLINE CONTRIBUTION FEE SCHEDULE

Effective 10/31/22, STRIPE, SHPC's on line contribution system provider, has increased fee for ACH bank donation from \$0.25 to \$0.30 per transaction. Recurring donations set up as "fee covered" will be effected by this change reducing the Contribution amount by \$0.05 per transaction. If your donation is not set up as "fee covered", the church pays for this charge. You can re-establish a new recurring donation to make sure 100% of the fee is covered, by signing in to the online payment system and create a new donation going forward.

From the Session:

After several months of consideration, your session approved the following statement. This statement will be on our website and published in other appropriate places where we communicate with the public.

Spring Hill Presbyterian Church is a welcoming and affirming congregation. We are an open and loving community of faith for all people - of every age, race, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, cultural background, socio-economic status, mental or physical ability, or marital status. We recognize all human beings are loved by God and will reach out with love to embrace all who enter our doors seeking God with faith in Jesus Christ as Savior.

PNC Update

The Pastoral Nominating Committee (PNC) has begun the process of determining who God is calling to serve our congregation as its next pastoral leader. In doing so, we would like to ensure that you, our congregation, are kept informed of not only the process we will be working through, but also the progress we are making along the way. The first step, which we are just beginning, is writing the Ministry Information Form (MIF), a document that will provide a picture of the mission and ministry of the congregation, including ministry context, demographics, history, theology, values, leadership needs, and expectations. We would love the congregation's input in preparing the MIF; thus, you will be receiving a survey soon to discern what characteristics you feel are most important in our new pastor. We may also conduct listening sessions and, of course, request your prayers throughout the process. Since well written MIF's clearly communicate these characteristics and ensure the best referrals, the Committee will work with diligence and patience to provide the best narrative possible.

We hope this information gives you a better understanding of the search process and ask for your continued prayers as God leads us forward.



A January Preview Epiphany Star Words

Jan. 8-Jan. 29 you are invited to receive a "Star Word." A star word is a word that we invite you to use as a guiding word throughout the year to follow, reflect on, and ponder. Much like the Wise Men followed the star in the sky, we hope this word will help you to reflect and see where God is calling you. You can receive a star word in worship at the tree in the Narthex or in a basket in the hallway.

The use of star words, is a prayer practice connected to Epiphany and the new year that has been growing in popularity in Protestant churches for nearly a decade now. There are many reasons behind this tradition. First, we know that the Magi followed a star, which ultimately led them to Jesus. Therefore, we too use all the resources we have available to us—including creative prayer practices and intentional words for the new year—to move closer to Jesus.

Secondly, we trust that God uses multiple ways to guide us and speak to us. Star words are one such lens that might provide us with a way to look for God in our midst, both actively and in hindsight.

Finally, we trust that it is often easy to miss God in our daily midst. Having an intentional word to consider both in present days, as well as to reflect on at the end of the year, allows for us to see God in ways we may not have seen God before.

By not looking or sorting through the star words at their selection, we practice the spiritual task of receiving. It is not we who are in control in this moment. Instead, we trust that God is present, and we let go of our desire to cultivate or control. We hope you will join us in the spiritual practice of selecting a star word in January!

Children's Ministry Opportunities

KidsLead is for children 3K to 5th grade at 9:00 am upstairs in the Bullard Building. During this hour our kids will learn a guiding Scripture then engage in Mission Projects. In December, KidsLead will be led by Clair Hamlin and Mariana Parker, Dec. 4 we will do Backpack for Kids, Dec. 11 we will make cookies, Dec. 18 we will act in a Nativity Play (meet in the Sanctuary). Dec. 25 and Jan. 1 there will be no Sunday School. In January KidsLead will continue Jan. 8 with Lynn Hennig and Ellen Sumrall leading.

BLAST is for children grades 3K-5th grade. BLAST and Crossroads happens on the 2nd and 4th Sundays each month from 11:30-12:30 in the Fellowship Hall. We will meet in January Sunday, Jan. 22 to play board games.

Youth Ministry

Youth Group: Dec. 4 we will have our **Youth Christmas Party** from 4:00-6:00 pm in the Bullard Building. Bring a Dirty Santa gift. We will be caroling over at the Gates as well, so come looking festive! Dinner will be served. Dec. 11-Jan. 1, we will take a break, but sign-up for our lock-in Jan. 7-8. Jan. 29, we will begin work on Youth Sunday from 6:00-7:30 pm. **To subscribe to our Remind and receive weekly text messages, send a text to: 81010 and text this message: @springhill.**

Youth Lock-In Jan. 7-8: Youth grades 6-12 are invited to join us for a lock-in! We will meet at 6:00 pm on Saturday; parents can pick up their youth following worship on Sunday, Jan. 8. Sign-up here:

<https://forms.gle/GjXMYKR7ZokYRusc6>

Crossroads will resume January 22 with a writing and faith program led by Amy Patterson. Happy Holidays!

Youth Sunday School is for youth grades 6-12. Youth Sunday School meets each Sunday at 9:00 am in the Youth Room upstairs in the Bullard Building. Dec. 18 we will help with the Nativity Play (meet in the Sanctuary at 9:00 am). Dec. 25 and Jan. 1 there will be no Youth Sunday School

Montreat Summer Trips: The deadline for Montreat was Dec.

1. Montreat High School is for youth who are currently in 8th-12th grades and will be June 3-10, 2022. Middle School Montreat is for youth who are currently in 5-8th grades and will be July 19-23, 2023. Cost is \$310. A \$100 deposit was due by Dec 1 (we are hoping to get those before Anna has Baby Duke #2). The remainder (\$210) is due Mar. 5.

Alphabet Generations

Alphabet Generations (X, Y, and Millennials too) Bible Study meets each week on Sundays at 5:00 pm in the Bullard Building. Dec. 4 we will meet at 6:00 pm at Mellow Mushroom. Dec. 11, 18, 25, and Jan. 1, we will take a break.

BIBLE DISCOVERY— Come join us in the conference room on Sunday mornings at 9:15 and help us delve into God's Word as it applies to us today.

Theology 101 – Beginning Wednesday, January 11, 2023, Cary Speaker will be leading a four-week class on the basics of Reformed Theology. The class will meet at noon in the Fellowship Hall. The topics to be discussed are (1) the Providence of God, (2) the doctrines of Justification and Sanctification, (3) the doctrines of Judgment and Grace, and (4) Worship and Sacraments.

Presbyterian 101 – Beginning Sunday, January 8, 2023, Cary Speaker will be leading a four-week class on the history of the Presbyterian Church. This class will meet in the Confirmation classroom, upstairs in the Bullard Building during the Sunday school hour (9:00-10:00 AM).

Supper Club Sign-Ups Starting for 2023!

Supper Clubs are for anyone who would like to get to know others in our church family in a smaller, relaxed atmosphere. Each person hosts their supper club 1-2 times in a year. Supper Clubs can be hosted in your home, at church, or at a restaurant. We are launching Supper Club sign-ups this fall with the plan for them to kick-off in the January. Please sign-up soon to be placed in a group. You can sign up by filling out the information below and returning it to the bulletin board in the hallway. If you have questions please contact Lynn Hennig or Buff Brown.

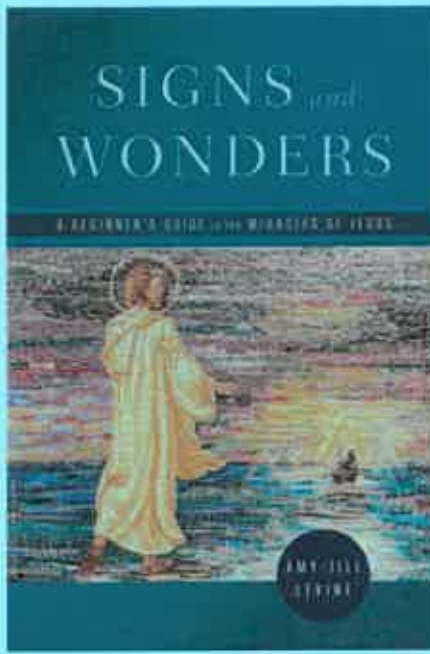
I would like to join a Supper Club. ___ Day ___ Night

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone Number: _____

Any Additional Information: _____



Common Read Small Groups Return for Lent (Feb. 26-April 2)

New Book, New Groups!

Last year was a big success with around 80 people participating in our church-wide Common Read for the 40 Days of Lent. One of the things people commented on most favorably was getting to know those in their small group so much better.

While we won't do this *every* year, as we come back to in-person worship on a more regular basis, this seems like a perfect way to engage again – a second helping of deep learning and fellowship, this time focused on scripture.

What you need to know:

THE BOOK: *Signs and Wonders: A Guide to the Miracles of Jesus* by Amy-Jill Levine.

"How can these old miracle stories speak good news to our lives in this time and place and invite our own healing and transformation along the way?" Rev. Richard Simpson

Note: Author Amy-Jill Levine will be the Dill Lecture Series featured speaker in August, 2023.

PARTICIPATION OPTIONS:

Five Sunday morning groups in person from 9:00-10:00, in various rooms.

One Sunday morning Zoom group for those who prefer virtual participation.

One mid-week group for those who prefer a non-Sunday option. (Day TBD)

SIGNING UP:

Jan. 15 – Feb. 12: Recruiters will be stationed in the narthex and the hallway with sign-up forms and books to sell (\$10 per book).

Your assignment to a group will not be made until after Feb. 12. Please stay open-minded about getting to know new group members once again.

CO-FACILITATORS:

New leaders are stepping into the role of co-facilitators this time, with only a few exceptions.

You will be assigned to a group based on the participation option you select; but you will be with different people from last year.

**Join us as we discover new meaning and understandings of the miracles of Jesus
in conversation with our friends, old and new!**

SHPC YOUTH

SPRING 2023

Dear SHPC Youth,

We will be meeting each Sunday for Sunday School and an afternoon opportunity. We will continue to have an alternating schedule each week.

- 1st and 3rd Sundays we will have dinner in David's Diner and Youth Group from 6:00-7:30 pm.
- 2nd and 4th Sundays we will have BLAST and Crossroads from 11:30-12:30 pm (will include a snack). Crossroads is what we are calling our after church Youth Ministry opportunity.
- Weekly: Choirs and Alphabet Generations will meet.

December 6 I am due to have our second child; if the baby comes on time, I will return in early March. I am so grateful for all of our youth leaders who will carry on in my absence. March 26 is Youth Sunday, so Jan-March will be full of Youth Sunday planning. Please attend so that we can make Youth Sunday special!

Grace and Peace,
Anna

Jan. 1	Happy New Year! No Evening Activities.
Jan. 7-8	Youth Lock-In with Ted, Stephanie, and Edwin. Gather at 6:00 pm in Bullard. Pick-up after Worship. Alphabet Generations and Choir at 5:00 pm
Jan. 15	Martin Luther King Jr. Weekend. No Evening Activities
Jan. 22	Crossroads at 11:30 am, Writing and Faith with Amy Patterson Alphabet Generations & Choirs at 5:00 pm
Jan. 29	Alphabet Generations & Choirs at 5:00 pm. Dinner and Youth Group at 6:00 pm. Youth Sunday planning
Feb. 5	Alphabet Generations & Choirs at 5:00 pm. Dinner and Youth Group at 6:00 pm. Youth Sunday Liturgy Writing
Feb. 12	Souper Bowl collecting before and after Worship. Crossroads at 11:30 am, Youth Sunday Music with Randy Alphabet Generations & Choir at 5:00 pm
Feb. 19	Mardi Gras Break. No Activities

SHPC YOUTH

SPRING 2023

Feb. 26	Crossroads at 11:30 am. Youth Sunday Finale Preparation Alphabet Generations & Choir at 5:00 pm	Apr. 9	Easter, No Activities
Mar. 5	Montreat \$210 Balance Due Alphabet Generations and Choir at 5:00 pm Dinner and Youth Group at 6:00 pm, Youth Sunday Finale Preparation	Apr. 16	Spring Break, No Evening Activities
Mar. 12	Crossroads at 11:30 am. Youth Sunday Finishing Touches Alphabet Generations & Choir at 5:00 pm	Apr. 23	Crossroads at 11:30 am, Alphabet Generations & Choir at 5:00 pm
Mar. 19	Alphabet Generations and Choir at 5:00 pm Dinner and Youth Group at 6:00 pm, Mandatory Dress Rehearsal	Apr. 30	Sundaes on Sunday at the River (after church) Alphabet Generations and Choir at 5:00 pm
Mar. 26	Youth Sunday Be at church at 9:00 am. Youth will get lunch after worship to celebrate (pick-up around 12:30 pm)	May 7	Graduation Sunday, Senior Breakfast at 9:00 am Montreat Commissioning in Worship Dinner and Youth VBS Work Party 6:00 pm
Apr. 2	Alphabet Generations & Choirs at 5:00 pm, Dinner and Youth Group at 6:00 pm, Youth Easter Egg Hunt and Holy Week Worship		

IMPORTANT 2023 SUMMER DATES

- June 3-10: High School Montreat
- June 19-22: Vacation Bible School
- July 19-23: Middle School Montreat
- August 5-6: Youth Retreat

SHPC CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Spring 2023

KidsLead, BLAST, Choirs, and Alphabet Generations Schedule

Jan. 1	No KidsLead or Evening Activities
Jan. 8	9:00 am KidsLead, Linus Blankets *In Jan. KidsLead is led by Lynn Hennig and Ellen Sumrall 5:00 pm Alphabet Generations and Choirs
Jan. 15	9:00 am KidsLead, Backpack for Kids No Evening Activities because of MLK Weekend
Jan. 22	9:00 am KidsLead, Making Cards 11:30-12:30 BLAST and Crossroads 5:00 pm Alphabet Generations and Choirs
Jan. 29	9:00 am KidsLead, Presbyterian 101 for Kids 5:00 pm Alphabet Generations and Choirs 6:00 pm Dinner and Youth Group
Feb. 5	9:00 am KidsLead, Backpack for Kids *In Feb. KidsLead is led by the Pattersons 5:00 pm Alphabet Generations and Choirs 6:00 pm Dinner and Youth Group
Feb. 12	9:00 am KidsLead, Making Cookies 11:30-12:30 BLAST and Crossroads 5:00 pm Alphabet Generations and Choirs
Feb. 19	No Activities, Mardi Gras Break
Feb. 26	9:00 am KidsLead, Making Cards 11:30-12:30 pm BLAST and Crossroads 5:00 pm Alphabet Generations and Choirs
Mar. 5	9:00 am KidsLead, Backpack for Kids *In March KidsLead is led by Judy Falls and Friend 5:00 pm Alphabet Generations and Choirs 6:00 pm Dinner and Youth Group

SHPC CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Spring 2023

Mar. 12	9:00 am KidsLead, Comeback Coolers 11:30-12:30 BLAST and Crossroads 5:00 pm Alphabet Generations and Choirs
Mar. 19	9:00 am KidsLead, Make Cards 5:00 pm Alphabet Generations and Choirs 6:00 pm Dinner and Youth Group
Mar. 26	9:00 am KidsLead, Linus Blankets 11:30-12:30 BLAST and Crossroads 5:00 pm Alphabet Generations and Choirs
Apr. 2	9:00 am KidsLead, Backpack for Kids *In April KidsLead is led by the Porters 5:00 pm Alphabet Generations and Choirs 6:00 pm Dinner and Youth Group
Apr. 9	9:00 am Common Read Reception in Fellowship Hall No Evening Activities. Happy Easter!
Apr. 16	9:00 am KidsLead, VBS Projects No Alphabet Generations Choirs TBD
Apr. 23	9:00 am KidsLead, Making Cards 11:30-12:30 BLAST and Crossroads 5:00 pm Alphabet Generations and Choirs
Apr. 30	9:00 am KidsLead: Exam Care Packages 5:00 pm Alphabet Generations and Choirs Youth: Sundaes on Sunday
May 7	9:00 am Kids attend Senior Breakfast *In May KidsLead is led by the Ovesons and Lindsay Alvarez 5:00 pm Alphabet Generations and Choirs 6:00 pm Dinner and Youth VBS Work Party
May 14	9:00 am KidsLead, Backpack for Kids Mother's Day, Choirs Sing
May 21	9:00 am KidsLead, Making Cards

December 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Spiritual Writing Group	2	3 AA Cantata Rehearsal	
4 Sunday Schools Worship Cantata Youth Christmas Party Children's Choir	5 OutReach MSC PNC	6 Painting Pals Committees MSC	7 PWCT Children's Chapel Springhill Ringers Chancel Choir	8	9	10 AA Adventfest
11 Sunday Schools Worship Hot Cocoa & Cookies	12 MSC PNC	13 Painting Pals Session Diaconate	14 Day Circle Children's Chapel Night Circle Springhill Ringers Chancel Choir	15	16	17 AA
18 Christmas Pageant Worship –Lessons and Carols	19	20	21 Congregational Care Children's Chapel Springhill Ringers Chancel Choir	22	23	24 AA Christmas Eve Services 4:00-Childrens 8:00-Communion
25 Worship –Virtual	26 Office closed for Christmas, on Monday & Tuesday	27	28	29	30 AA	

Church office hours are from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm, on Wednesday & Thursday.

January 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Worship	2 Church office closed	3 Committees	4 PWCT Children's Chapel Chancel Choir	5	6	7 Youth Lock-in AA
8 Presbyterian 101 Sunday Schools Worship Youth & Children's Choir Alphabet Generations	9 MSC PNC	10 MSC	11 Day Circle Children's Chapel Theology 101 Night Circle Spring Hill Ringers Chancel Choir	12	13	14 AA
15 Presbyterian 101 Sunday Schools Worship- Communion	16 Office closed for MLK MSC	17 MSC Session Diaconate	18 Theology 101 Children's Chapel Congregational Care Spring Hill Ringers Chancel Choir	19	20	21 AA
22 Presbyterian 101 Sunday Schools Worship Blast & Crossroads Youth & Children's Choir Alphabet Generations	23 MSC	24 MSC	25 Theology 101 Children's Chapel Spring Hill Ringers Chancel Choir	26	27	28 AA
29 Presbyterian 101 Sunday Schools Worship Youth & Children's Choir Alphabet Generations	30 MSC	31 MSC				