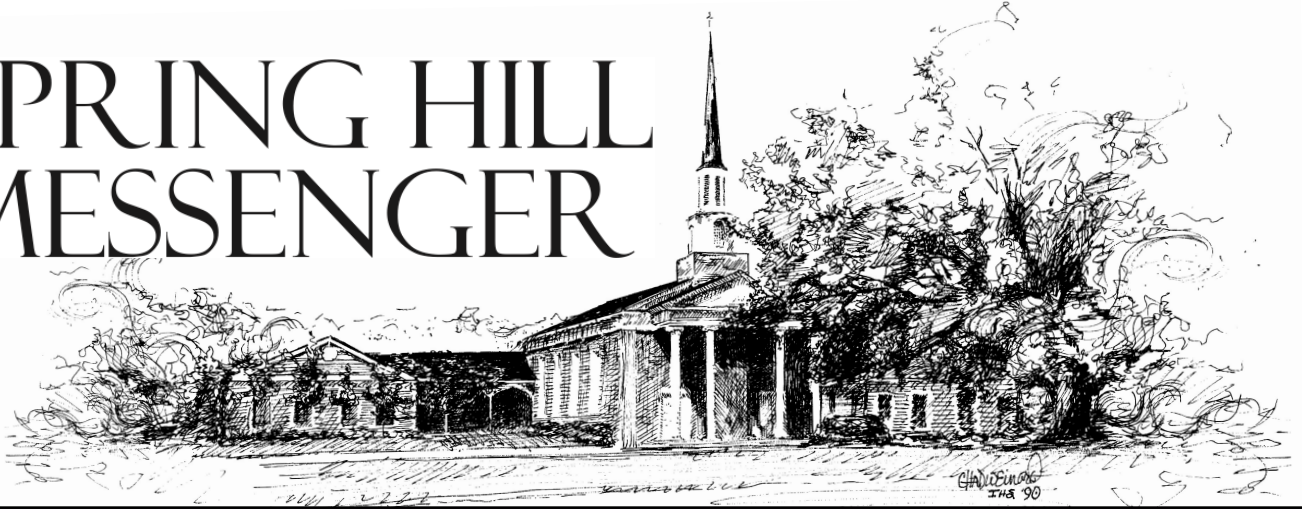


SPRING HILL MESSENGER



Spring Hill Presbyterian Church, Mobile, Alabama

Volume 81, Number 1, February, 2017

“WOVEN TOGETHER: IN SO MANY WAYS”

Dear Spring Hill Presbyterian Church Family,

As we continue to progress through our year-long church-wide theme of “Woven Together,” I keep seeing more and more connections in the life of this church family. Have you had that experience, as well? How we worship and how we fellowship are woven together. How we learn and how we serve are woven together. Renovations to our physical plant and renovations to our church website are woven together. Welcoming visitors and new members in our midst and saying good bye to long-time friends are woven together. Baptisms, weddings, and funerals are woven together. What makes us laugh and what makes us cry are woven together. The connections are there...and they are strong in this church family.

During this month of February, we are making our way through a sermon series on Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount found in the gospel of Matthew. In this important collection of teachings, Jesus reveals himself to be a master weaver, tying together the threads of faith and action, identity and ethics. Connecting these two ideas (love of God and love of neighbor) is not an easy task, but it is at the very heart of who we are called to be and what we are called to do as disciples of Jesus Christ. It’s often very tempting to put all of our energy and effort into one of these two threads at the expense of the other. Sometimes we focus our time and resources on serving the needs of other people (whether they are friends or complete strangers) but ignore our relationship with God. Or sometimes we feel drawn into deep spiritual moments of devotion and adoration of our Creator but ignore the harsh realities of the rest of the world around us. That can happen to individuals, but it can also happen to churches.

Instead, Christ invites us to weave together our lives of Christian discipleship in ways that make connections between love of God and love of neighbor, ultimately growing to the point that we see these two as one and same.

Presbyterians have long celebrated our identity as a “connectional church.” When we use that phrase we are usually describing the way that our church polity connects us with other Presbyterian congregations in our local area and around the country through a web of relationships. However, I think our “connectional church” model goes even deeper than just our church polity. Following Christ’s invitation from the Sermon on the Mount, we Presbyterians have also been a people who have placed a lot of emphasis on connecting our love of God and love of neighbor. We strive to connect our theology with our social ethics. As far back as 1788 the Presbyterian Church (USA) was expressing this connectional nature as we adopted and approved a list of Principles of Church Order (kind of like the church’s version of the Bill of Rights). One of these Principles states, “That truth is in order to goodness;” and “that there is an inseparable connection between faith and practice, truth and duty.” In other words, the truth that we believe about who God (as revealed in Jesus Christ) leads us to live lives of practical service (characterized by sacrificial love for the sake of our human family).

See, even our history and our mission are woven together! So, in the days ahead, as members of this connectional church family, I hope that you will look for the connections but also that you will make the connections. When you see loose threads, weave them together. Make those connections between our worship, service, prayer, and devotion to God with concrete and practical acts of outreach to others in our community and around the earth. Because the good news of the gospel is that in Christ, it’s all woven together.

Grace and Peace,

Meet Our New Members



Young Gun Lee – Young Gun Lee comes to Spring Hill by transfer of letter from Korean Community Presbyterian Church in Atlanta. Young Gun came to the United States from South Korea at the age of 13. After living in Austin, Texas, his family moved to Atlanta and that is now the place that he considers home. Young Gun is a junior at the University of South Alabama majoring in chemistry and he plans to go on to medical school. Young Gun has been visiting Spring Hill for approximately two years. At first, he came with friends and then he just kept coming back on his own. When his mother is in town, she comes to church with him and many of our members have met her.

Alex and Kristin Hamilton – Alex, Kristin and Hope (12 months) recently relocated to Mobile from Columbia, South Carolina. The Hamiltons come by transfer of letter from First Presbyterian Church of Greenville, SC where they lived prior to Columbia. Alex is the golf coach at the University of South Alabama and Kristin works part time and remotely for her company back in Columbia as an economic development project and marketing manager. She is also a busy stay-at-home mom when Hope is not in Mother's Day Out at SHPC. Alex is a South Carolina native and a graduate of the University of South Carolina and Kristin is a native of Florida and graduated from the University of Florida. Both are big SEC fans! They have two dogs, Penny and Ellie, love to spend time with family at Edisto Beach, SC and Saluda Beach NC, and have a lot of fun watching Hope grow.

Dale Hair – Dale Hair comes to Spring Hill Presbyterian by transfer of letter from Trinity Presbyterian Church in Atlanta. Dale and her husband, Joe, moved to Mobile at the end of July in 2016. Dale grew up in the Atlanta area but she and Joe have moved several times due to his job. Joe has taught marketing at the college level at Old Miss, LSU, Kennesaw State and now USA where he is the director of the doctoral program in the business department. Dale is currently employed by the educational organization, Leaning Forward, which focuses on professional learning for educators. She will retire in July and is looking forward to some free time, especially at the beach. Dale and Joe have one son who is married and lives in Boulder, Colorado and two grandsons, ages 9 and 6.

Oliver and Amanda Board – Oliver is from London, England and Amanda is from Arab, Alabama. They met on an online dating site that matched you with someone who pressed the button at the same time as you. After a couple of years of long-distance dating they were engaged. Oliver was baptized as a baby in the Roman Catholic Church but neither have been members of a church before. They had visited many churches in the Mobile area but none felt right to both of them. After joining UKirk they decided to visit Spring Hill. After their first visit, both were reluctant to say how much they like Spring Hill for fear that the other wouldn't and they feel so fortunate to have found Spring Hill. Amanda is in the nursing program at USA, works as a private childcare provider and enjoys reading, archery and yoga. Oliver works as a security officer at BAE until he goes for basic training in the U.S. Army. In his free time Oliver enjoys being outdoors, cooking and reading. Amanda says that she believes that God intended it to be at this time, at this church, with these people.

Backpack Foods a Great Success! Help Keep the Good Going!

Backpack Food for Kids Ministry has been a great success at Phillips Prep and Austin Elementary. We are supplying a total of 21 backpacks per week for both schools. Through your generosity, students in need are given nutritious, easy-to-prepare weekend meals. Food for Kids targets homeless children and children showing signs of chronic hunger. The project will continue throughout the school year. Your continued support of this worthy project is greatly appreciated. We need help with the assembly of the backpacks. This project will be done the first Saturday of the month through the rest

of the school year (February through May), and usually takes less than one hour of time. The next assembly of backpacks will be **February 4, at 9:00AM, room 215, in the Bullard Building.**

Food Donations may be dropped off in the bin that is located in the Bride Room. For monetary donations, make your check out to Spring Hill Presbyterian Church with a note that it is for the Backpack program. Thank you to everyone that is participating in this worthy project!

Upcoming Sundays Have Special Focus

Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday, Feb. 5

This year, the youth will host our third annual Souper Bowl of Caring. Souper Bowl of Caring was started at Spring Valley Presbyterian Church in Columbia, SC. Their idea: why not use Super Bowl weekend, a time when people come together for football and fun to unify the nation for a higher good, collecting money for feeding ministries? Each year youth collect money across the nation in their churches then send every dollar directly to a local charity of their choice. 26 years later youth have generated over \$100 million for charities.

On Feb. 5 our youth will be outside our church before and after worship with soup pots collecting money for a local feeding ministry in Mobile. Let's change the game and tackle hunger! Together we can turn the nation's largest weekend of football into its largest weekend of caring.



SCOUT SUNDAY IS FEBRUARY 12

For decades, SHPC has been proud to sponsor Boy Scout Troop 85. They meet every Monday night in the Edington Building, and you may have seen them on the weekends setting out for or returning from a campout or other activity. We will celebrate this relationship by recognizing Sunday, February 12, as Scout Sunday. Our Boy Scout troop and their families will worship with us that morning and some of the scouts will serve as Beadle, Crucifer, and Liturgists. On that morning, we also invite any young people in our church who are involved in any scouting organization (Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts) to wear their uniforms to church.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AND POTLUCK BREAKFAST, FEBRUARY 19 AT 9:00 A.M.

THE SESSION HAS SET THE ANNUAL MEETING of the congregation for Sunday, February 19 at 9:00 a.m. You are invited to gather with your church family to learn about many of the exciting and important ministries that are coming up in the year ahead. The meeting will adjourn at 10:00 a.m. and reconvene after worship so that everyone will have an opportunity to review the budget.

The Fellowship Committee will provide the Sausage Egg Casserole. Coffee and Juice will be provided as well. Please bring a breakfast dish (enough to feed 10 people of Cheese Grits, Biscuits, Muffins, Pastries, Fruit, or your favorite Breakfast Treat! Sign up your dish on sheets in the hallway or call the church office to insure variety.

Come and bring a breakfast dish to share. Questions? about the potluck breakfast, contact Susan Tomlinson, our Hospitality Committee Chair. (susan48tomlinson@gmail.com)

Woven Together: Heaven and Earth 2017 Festival of Faith March 17-19, 2017

The Festival of Faith is an annual tradition at Spring Hill Presbyterian Church. Over the weekend of March 17-19, our church will participate in many special missional activities. Dr. Robert Williamson, Professor of Religious Studies at Hendrix College and founder of Mercy Community Church in Little Rock, AR will kick-off the festivities on Friday with a dinner and lecture on the Book of Revelation. Then, Saturday morning our members will engage in various mission projects throughout the Mobile community to share in our Acts of Hope. Dr. Williamson will offer another lecture and our Sunday morning sermon before a celebration luncheon for all to share.

Children's Ministry News

In February, our children's Sunday school classes will learn about Jesus and his work through stories found in the book of Matthew. They will hear the parable of the sower and the seed, Jesus feeding the multitudes, Jesus walking on water, and the story of Jesus's transformation. We will also be discussing ways our children can help serve others at home, at church, and in our community. In children's church, we will continue to have a story and activity that goes along with the sermon. **Our numbers are growing! We could use a few more volunteers to help with the children during this time.** If you would like to help, email Lynn Hennig (jhennig 41@aol.com) or Anna Fulmer(anna@springhillpresbyterian.org).

Set the Table together during Lent.



Dear Friends,

This year, as we enter into February I am excited. For all of the opportunities for us to be woven together as a community in the weeks ahead. On Feb. 19 we will have our Congregational Meeting and Potluck Breakfast where we will share the budget for 2017. It will be a time for questions and sharing, AND a time for us to prepare for Lent. I am sure you are thinking I am jumping ahead of myself. Lent doesn't begin until March 1 with Ash Wednesday! But this year, it is my hope that we will be woven together as a church through a communal Lenten practice of "Setting the Table." During Lent, as we journey closer to Christ's death and resurrection, we also journey closer to the Last Supper where Jesus shares bread and cup with his disciples. Each week during Lent, we will be "Setting the Table" in worship adding pieces to our Communion table each week, and I invite you to "set your table" at home. Tables are places where we sit together, we share food, stories, laughter. The table is a holy place, where we are "Woven Together."

So back to the Congregational Meeting and Potluck Breakfast—what does any of this have to do with Lent or Setting the Table? As we break bread, share stories of our church and the exciting things happening in the meeting, you will also have the opportunity to back your packets, pick up a devotional, and prepare to "Set Your Table" at home during Lent. We will have a weekly devotional for you to pick up, as well as supplies so that you can set your table at home. This practice isn't just for adults—we have tried to make it intentionally intergenerational so that everyone can grow together. We also invite you to pack a bag for another, so that we can share this practice with others who don't make it to the Congregational Meeting and Potluck. This Lent, let's make one of our practices a communal one: to read together, pray together, share together, serve together—let's be woven together.

Grace and Peace,

Anna Fulmer

Notes to and about Youth:

Youth Sunday: Mar. 12—
The youth are leading worship!
Save the date for this meaningful service.

Presbytery-Wide Youth Retreat

Saturday, March 11

More information will be available soon, but save the date for this presbytery-wide event so we can get to know other youth from our area.



Memorials have been received for the following:

Dr. Angus McBryde
Bill Wright
Ted & Annie Ayres Terry
Mitchell Barnett
Helen Davidson
Mary Beth Culp

From the following:

Gina Johnson
Alex & Molly Lankford
Anne Terry & Bill Sherren

Honoraria have been received for: Em Foster
From: Doris McGowan

Honoraria have been received for: Randy Sheets
From: Sara Long.

Charles & Linda Langston
Nick Vrakelos
Dorinda Crews

PW

Presbyterian Women's Coordinating Team will meet on Wednesday, **February 1, at 9:30 a.m.** in the Conference Room.

Circles will meet on February 8 as follows:

- #1 at 10:00 a.m.** at the home of Hilda Gewin (4272 Bit & Spur Rd, #5)
- #2 at 6:00 p.m.** in the Parlor
- #3 at 9:30** in the Parlor

Important dates:

May 11 – Birthday Luncheon and Installation of Officers.
Budget Presented.

July 13-15 – AL/MS Women's Conference, South Highland Presbyterian Church, Birmingham, AL

Art in the Library



The featured artist in the library for January and February is Chad Weinard, son of Bruce and Sylvia Weinard. Chad grew up in this church and drew the beautiful picture of the church we have used on the Sunday bulletin for many years. Please stop by to see some of his other artwork on loan from his parents.

2017 Session and Diaconate Committee Chairs

Committees	Chairs
Session	
Clerk	Norma Baymiller
Budget & Finance	Lewis Shreve & Amy Powell (co-chairs)
Christian Education	Luann Rice & Rudolph Hall (co-chairs)
Health & Safety	Amanda Dexter
Personnel & Administration	Chad Brown
Plant Services	Peter Pearce
Religious Arts	Bonney Irwin
Stewardship	Kim Peterson & McCrary Otts (co-chairs)
Welcoming & Belonging	Molly Wagner
Worship	Leslie Sweeney & Nancy Adams (co-chairs)
Ushers	Ryan Mahtani
Capital Needs	Dick Baymiller & Lawrence Hughey (co-chairs)
Diaconate	
Communications	Melissa Root
Congregational Care	Sally Cobb
Outreach	Clair Hamlin
Fellowship	Ann Magee
Hospitality	Susan Tomlinson
Furnishings	Kathy Fountain
Mission	Vera Lynn Sheets & Allison Hill (co-chairs)
Festival of Faith	Brandon Rice & Nickelle Stoll (co-chairs)



We Share in Sorrow.

The prayers and sympathy of the congregation are with Rita Langus in the death of her sister-in-law, Ann Cochran, on December 7 in Atlanta GA; with Robert & Pat Edington in the death of their relative, PJ Edington, on December 7 in Alexandria, VA; with Ray and Mary Alice Phelps (former members) in the death of their son, Joe, on December 15 in Tallahassee; with Lonnie & Rebekah Murray in the death of his father, Leonard Murray, on December 20; with Jo Barton in the death of her stepfather, George Murphy, on January 4; with Gayla Wiik in the death of her mother, Helen Davidson, on January 6 in Pensacola; with the family of Mary Beth Culp in her death on January 8; and with Lewis Shreve in the death of his sister, Kate Barnes, on January 17 in Marion, AL.

LECTIONERY FOR THE LORD'S DAY FEBRUARY 2017

5 Matthew 7:1-6 **12 Matthew 7:7-13**
19 Matthew 7:15-28 **26 Matthew 17:1-9**

Calendar for February 2017

1	Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team – 9:30 a.m.
2	Writing and Spirituality – 3:30 p.m.
5	Scout Sunday
7	Committees
8	Circles
10-11	Presbytery Meeting at Swift Presbyterian Church
12	Communion
13	Newsletter Deadline
14	Men's Breakfast
19	Congregational Meeting
21	Session – 6:00 p.m. Diaconate – 7:00 p.m.
27-28	Office closed for Mardi Gras
28	Prayer Shawl Ministry-10:00 a.m.



Spring Hill Presbyterian Church
10 Westminster Way
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www.shpc.us

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February