

Spring Hill Messenger JUNE/JULY 2025



In the summer of 2002, the Sheets Family moved to Mobile from the mountains of southeastern Kentucky, where Vera Lynn and I had served on the faculty of Union College for 17 years. Ryan was a rising 7th grader and Lindsay was a rising 4th grader. As I settled in at SHPC, Vera Lynn found a position at Phillips Middle School, where she taught language arts, and then drama and chorus. Our children thrived at Phillips and in the International Baccalaureate program at Murphy High School. They were active in the community as well as in the SHPC youth program and choirs (handbells and voice). The church youth program, led by dedicated, loving, and creative young staff members and parent counselors, provided spiritual nurture, a

church home, and good friends.

Ryan and Lindsay's years at SHPC and in Mobile were just as we had hoped they might be - validating our decision to leave the beautiful, but isolated, Daniel Boone country, where Vera Lynn and I thrived in our faculty positions and with good friends.

Good friends are found not only in Daniel Boone country, of course, and our lives are richly blessed by our many dear friends here at SHPC. From the time of our decision to come here, 23 years ago, people of this church have wrapped us in support, kindness, and friendship. Indeed, the outpouring of warmth that has been a constant crescendo since the announcement of my retirement reached a beautiful peak last week with a Chancel Choir party and the farewell reception following worship, accompanied by good wishes and expressions of appreciation—expressed in person, in letters (gathered and shared by Brandon), in the gift of a beautiful painting by Melissa Root, and in many cards. The farewell gatherings will conclude with a Spring Hill Ringers party in a few days.

I am very honored by the establishment of the *Randy and Vera Lynn Sheets Music Fund*, to help support SHPC's music ministries above and beyond the operating budget- for example, helping to fund our staff singers and guest instrumentalists. I am very grateful that this fund already has over \$20,000, due to the incredible generosity of an anonymous donation and of many other persons. I can't imagine a better parting gift!

I am also grateful- and honored--that the Session has awarded me the title of *Organist Emeritus*, and along with it certain privileges- such as the use of an unused office in the Bullard Building and organ practice privileges (as arranged at the discretion of a future Music Director.)

How I have been blessed by our choir singers- youth and adults, bell ringers, and instrumentalists- it has been such a joy! Unless one has been a part of a group such as our Chancel Choir, it is hard to fathom the commitment of our Chancel Choir members--- and how much energy, sustained over extended periods—even years—it involves. The faithful dedication they practice, in 1 ½ hour rehearsals each week, and in the weekly worship services, is a beautiful offering to Christ, and to His Church and His people. Indeed, they embody the verse: "Body, mind, spirit, voice- it takes the whole person to sing and rejoice!" Giving of oneself so wholly- so deeply—as do our Chancel Choir singers-- cannot help but give voice to God's beauty and love. More than a few of our singers and

ringers have practiced this dedication for multiple decades, and many have served as leaders of our children's music for just as long-- there is no way to name them all!

I continue to be inspired by the dedication of so many of you—not only our music people—and how much you give of your time and talent and gifts and service. I have loved working with our church staff members, and serving with our pastors, especially in planning our worship services. Here again, I dare not name names, except to say that I am glad that Brandon Miles is here as our pastor and has been with us through the better part of a year, (including Advent/ Christmas and Lent/Easter). With his leadership and with the dedication of our church members, and with the breath of the Holy Spirit, SHPC will continue its ministry of witness and service and grow in yet unimagined ways.

Vera Lynn and I are not moving away, at least not soon. With both of us now retired, we plan to travel to see family and new places. We do not plan to separate ourselves from you, because you are our friends- our church family- our Mobile family. I will need to stay away for an undetermined period, to create space for a new Music Director, but I do hope to spend time with you at other places and times. Let's pray for the work of our excellent Music Search Committee, which is hard at work.

I chose music for the May 18th worship service not only considering the liturgy for the day but also considering the role of music in faith and worship. The choir began the service—"Let all the world in every corner sing 'My God and King'—and ended the service "Rejoice in the Lord always." I am confident that, with our tradition of commitment to Music Ministries, and with the leadership of a new Director of Music Ministries, SHPC will indeed continue to lift songs to the highest heavens and to the corners of the earth.

With deepest gratitude for the opportunity to serve alongside you, to offer songs of praise with you, and for your deep kindness through the years,

Randy Sheets

BRANDON CONTINUING EDUCATION:

This June 1–11, I'll be traveling to the Netherlands with a group of clergy and students to meet with pastors, mission leaders, and theologians from across the Dutch Reformed Church. This journey is the culmination of a 12-week learning cohort I've been part of through the MI440 course, Being



Church in a Post-Christian World, focused on church renewal in a rapidly changing cultural and spiritual landscape.

Spring Hill Presbyterian Church

Statement as of April 30, 2025				
Total Annual Budgeted Revenue	\$	793,620		
Year-to-date Received	\$	306,859		
Other Receipts	\$ 26,125			
Total Receipts	\$	332,983		
	\$			
Benevolences	21,7	89		
Salaries and Services	\$	141,082		
	\$			
Programs	5,57	5		
	\$			
Office Expenses	8,09	1		
SEC.	\$			
General and Plant Services	81,0	76		
	\$			
Other	10,6	10,676		
Total Expenses	\$	268,289		
	\$			
Excess Receipts over (under)Expenses	64,6	ΩA		

Attendance for May

]	n Person	Online
May 4	148	64
May 11	152	55
May 18	188	113
May 25	94	49

Don't forget to volunteer for VBS July 7-10



Religious Arts

Guided Tour at the Mobile Museum of Art

Join us on **Saturday, June 14 at 1:30 PM** for an exclusive tour of the Mobile Museum of Art's latest exhibit, led by their Executive Director, **Jon Carfagno**. This is a wonderful opportunity to gain insights from an expert guide and explore the museum's newest artistic offerings. Sign up in the hallway, so that we can get a head count.

Meeting Point: Mobile Museum of Art, 4850 Museum

🌉 Trip to Ocean Springs – June 21

The Religious Arts Committee invites you to a day of art, exploration, and great food on Saturday, June 21! We'll meet at the church at 8am and carpool together to Ocean Springs to visit the Walter Anderson Museum, stroll through the charming downtown, and enjoy a delicious meal at Aunt Ginny's Catfish.

Make plans to join us for this inspiring and fun-filled day trip! Sign up in the hallway so that we can finalize reservations.



True North VBS
July 7th thru 10th!
8:30 a.m. -12:00 p.m.

Kids will be guided on the ultimate Alaska adventure where northern lights glow over majestic mountains, racing rivers, and glistening gaciers. As kids trek the tundra, they'll explore how easy it is to lose sight of what's true in our world today. Pointing them toward Jesus. True North VBS Shows them that he is faithful friend we can always trust.

He's our True North.

Station Leaders are the core of True North. These are the people who prepare and teach the material

in the station leader manuals, demonstrating to the kids who attend VBS what it means to trust Jesus in everyday life. There are descriptions of the leaders that are needed posted on the VBS bulletin board. If you are interested in volunteering to fill a position, please sign up on the list posted or online.

Participants and Volunteers are asked to please register by June 15th!

All **Sunday Schools** including Children and Youth are taking a break during the summer except Bible Discovery. That will start May 25th .

Save the date for Rally day on August 24, 2025.

To celebrate **Pentecost**, Sunday June 8, we will gather for Lemonade Under the Trees after worship. Don't forget to wear RED.



On July 13, *Spring Hill Sunday*, the Sunday where we celebrate the birthday of the church and the gifts and leadership of our members, please join us in Fellowship Hall after worship to celebrate Jacque Marrero's 100th birthday!

2025 GRADUATES



Annie Boteler Graduating from St. Paul's Episcopal School Attending Auburn University



Frances Chandler Brown
Graduating from UMS
Attending Auburn University

MELANIE MARIE DAVIS
Graduating from St. Lukes Episcopal School
Attending Mississippi State University

ALLISON JACOBS
Graduating from Saraland High School
Attending Montevallo

ANDREW MORVANT
Graduating from Baker High School
Attending University of Southern Mississippi



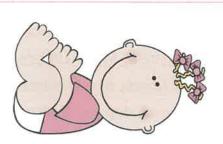
HIGHER EDUCATION GRADUATES OF SPRING HILL PRESBYTERIAN



Samuel Jacobs
Graduating from Coastal Community College
Attending Montevallo

MICHAEL OLIVERA
Graduated from AIDT Welding school

WE rejoice with Martha & Gabriel Vidal on the birth of their daughter, Penelope Jane in Miami on April 28. The Grandparents are Judy & Andy Falls.



Memorials

Bron Dixon

Betty Jackson

Billy McLean

Judy Strada

Carol Sumrall

Hilda Gewin

Alice Herring

Jain Ann Lane

Sam Strada

Roswell Ga. Families

THE PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY OF the congregation are with Nickelle & Daniel Stoll, upon the death of her mother, Gwen Greer on May 14, 2025.



Prayer List

Margaret Armtrout, Ted Autterson, Barbara Beach, Cammie Belue, Frank Callahan, John Carr, Lanier Cauley, Janet Clarke, Jamie Crawford, Cathi Dagley, Chrissy Ennen, Ruth Fitzgerald, Mary Lee Franks, Ann Hafner, Charles Hall, Bill Harris, Marcy Harris, Lauren Henson, Peyton Harvill, Bill Layfield, Paula Letterman, Kay Korb, Jacque Marrero, Lynn Martin, Ernestine McElroy, Betty Minto, Ann Nicolson, Mary Owen, Susan Schlichting, Pat Stoll, Carol Sumrall, Gayle Underwood, Johnny Walton, Babs Warren, Billy Wiik, Ann Wilson, Andy Wharton, Ronnie Wright





June 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Bible Study Worship	MSC Outreach	Facilities Christian Worship Committee	Al-Non			AA	
8 Bible Study Worship Communion	9	10 Finance Committee	11	12 PEO	13	14 MSC Auditions	
	High School Montreat June 8-14						
15 Bible Study Worship Mobile Art Assc.	16	17 Presbytery Meeting Session Diaconate	18 Congrega- tional Care	19 MSC Concert	20	21	
22 Bible Study Worship	23	24	25	26 Spiritual Writing Group	27	28	
29 Worship	30						

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July 2025

CLINI	MON	THE	WED	TITT	EDI	CAT
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 Worship committee	2	3 Church office	closed	5
6 Worship	7	8	9	10 PEO	11	12
		VBS July	7-10			
13 Worship Spring Hill Sunday Jacque Marrero	14	15	16 Congrega- tional Care	17	18	19
Jacque Marrero 100th Birthday			Middle School Montreat July 16-20			
20 Worship Com- munion	21	22	23	24 Newsletter Deadline	25 Officer R	26 etreat
Zentangles Part 2						
27 Worship	28	29	30	31		