

SPRING HILL MESSENGER



Spring Hill Presbyterian Church, Mobile, Alabama

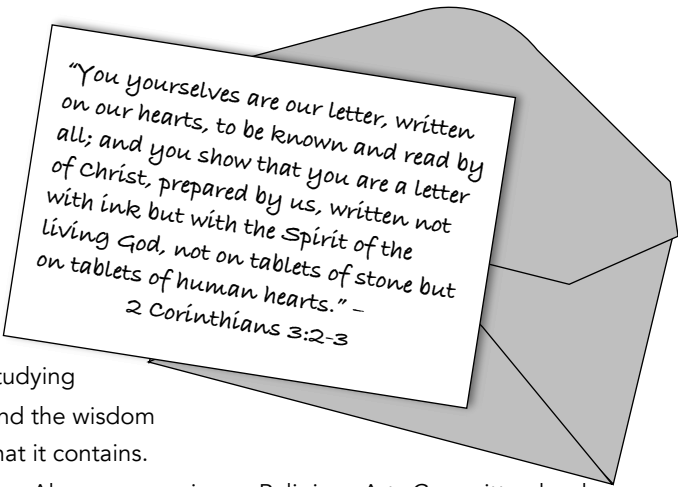
Volume 83, Number 15, June/July, 2018

SIGNED, SEALED, DELIVERED

DEAR SPRING HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FAMILY,

I am so excited about our upcoming Summer Series. This year, our worship services and sermons will focus on the letters of the New Testament. These important documents (called "epistles") were formative for our Christian tradition and were written to congregations and individuals in the early decades of the church. They all speak about the power of the gospel to transform the world, the mystery and revelation of Jesus's death and resurrection, and the character of a Christian life we are called to lead in response to God's grace. Each letter speaks to a different context among the churches to whom they were addressed. Part of our work in the sermons will include filling in these backstories of what was going on in Corinth, Rome, Thessalonica, Galatia, and many other settings. As is the case today, each of these congregations were struggling with their own critical issues. The Apostle Paul, and the other writers of the letters, sought to speak a word of grace and peace into each difficult situation. Some were dealing with times of division, others with how to welcome people who are different than themselves, others had issues around poverty and wealth, or with persecution by the Roman authorities. One of the letters was even written to encourage a congregation to welcome a runaway slave. All of them are grounded in the gospel and show the ways in which the early Christians were seeking to be as faithful as they could to their Lord, Jesus Christ. As ancient as they are, these epistles are therefore immediately relevant to us as well.

Each week's sermon will include the challenge to our whole congregation to write a particular letter in the days that follow. Some will be thank you letters, words of encouragement, advice letters, letters to the next generation, letters to the editor, and many more. Each week's letter writing assignment will grow out of the Biblical letter that we are



*"You yourselves are our letter, written on our hearts, to be known and read by all; and you show that you are a letter of Christ, prepared by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts." -
2 Corinthians 3:2-3*

studying
and the wisdom
that it contains.

Also, once again our Religious Arts Committee has been hard at work putting together an outstanding summer Sunday School series to accompany what we will be studying in worship. They've lined up a fantastic slate of speakers from both within our congregation and our broader Mobile community to speak during the Sunday school hour (9:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall) about a wide range of topics that intersect with our faith. Be sure to see the list of speakers printed in this newsletter. Pin that page to your fridge or input it into your calendar so you can refer to it throughout the summer. More information about each speaker will be shared on our church's Facebook page each week before their presentation.

In addition, Rev. Anna Fulmer Duke and our Christian Education Committee have prepared a wonderful intergenerational summer devotion that you can use with your children each week, including when you may be out of town on summer vacation. This resource, which is completely unique and designed for our particular congregation is a wonderful way to keep connected to your church family even when you can't be here in person or to share your faith with friends and family when you visit them.

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There are many congregations that have a tradition of “gearing down” during the summer. Here at SHPC we actually “gear up” with some of our most engaging and creative studies of the year. I hope that you will be a part of this

wonderful journey of faith as we delve deeper into God’s Word and find new ways to share it with our world.

Grace and Peace,



Dear Friends,

Listen. Pray. Follow

After the Enneagram series, I have been thinking about a principle that I heard years ago that I must constantly remind myself of: “Stop shoulding on yourself.” Often, we have grand plans, to-do lists, goals, dreams—and we want to reach them! We want to move beyond ourselves, our limitations and grow closer to God in real ways. Yet, the worst thing I think we can do is to “should” on ourselves. You might be familiar with this phenomenon: “I should work out every day.” “I should read my Bible.” “I should go to church this morning.” “I shouldn’t feel this way—what is wrong with me?”

“Shoulding” only causes our guilt and shame to grow. It does not lead to real change. We punish ourselves, instead of affirming where we are growing and changing. It also takes God out of the equation. We stop asking the question, “Where is God already moving and changing in my life?” When we “should” do something, we stop wondering. Maybe there is a reason we are hesitant? We stop doing the deeper work of asking what is stopping us. We ignore our own “liabilities and limits.” Instead of “shoulding” on ourselves, maybe we should lean on words of Scripture. Maybe we should think about our calling and vocation.

Scripture calls us to lead fuller and truer lives. This is not done through guilt and shame. Instead of saying we should do something; Jesus calls us, beckons us: Jesus says,

“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.” Matthew 11:28-30.

Jesus calls disciples to drop their nets and follow him. Jesus does not say, you should do this or else... Instead, he freely invites them, and they freely accept.

Parker Palmer says it a bit differently in his book, *Let Your Life Speak*, a book about calling and vocation. He writes, “Vocation (calling) does not come from willfulness (shoulding). It comes from listening. I must try to listen to my life and try to understand what it is truly about—quite apart from what I would like it to be about—or my life will never represent anything real in the world, no matter how earnest my intentions.”

This summer, in all of the opportunities you will have, I invite you to do some holy listening. Journal. Pray. Go on walks. Find time and space to listen in whatever ways you can. Stop shoulding. It doesn’t work: “sometimes the ‘shoulds’ do not work because the life one is living runs crosswise to the grains of one’s soul” (Palmer, 41).

This summer at SHPC is a time of grand adventures. Yet, in the midst of all of the grand adventures, find time and space to discover more about who you are and who God is calling you to be!

Grace and Peace,

Anna Fulmer Duke

Vacation Bible School leaders will be commissioned in Worship on June 24.



SIGNED, SEALED, DELIVERED: FAITH IN DIALOG
(The Letters of Paul)

Adult Summer Sunday School Series, 2018
Spring Hill Presbyterian Church
9 AM, Fellowship Hall

Explore the intersection of Faith, the Arts, and Science with our outstanding slate of well-loved and intriguing local speakers! Each presentation will occur at 9:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Sermons during the summer will be based on the letters of the New Testament and will connect to the themes being covered by our speakers.

Don't let your brain go on Summer Vacation!

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| June 3, 2018 | Carol Sumrall. <u>"Near to the Heart of God: a Grief Perspective"</u> |
| June 10, 2018 | Judge Edmond Naman. <u>"You Treat Me Just Like Your Son"... Sharing God's Grace Through Mentoring."</u> |
| June 17, 2018 | Jeanie Thompson (Founding Director of the Alabama Writers' Forum). <u>"The Myth of Water: Poems from the Life of Helen Keller."</u> |
| June 24, 2018 | SHPC Writers Group. <u>"Memory is a Gift from God"</u> |
| July 1, 2018 | Dr. Glenn D. "Skip" Archer (Counselor, The Carpenter's House, P.C.) <u>"How to Love Your Family as You Love Yourself: or How to Love Yourself Enough to Love Those Closest Around You."</u> |
| July 8, 2018 | Kern Jackson (Director of African American Studies, USA). <u>"Memoirs of the African American enslaved"</u> |
| July 15, 2018 | Rhoda Pickett, (Deacon, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Hattiesburg, MS). <u>"Becoming Onesimus: Brothers and Sisters in Christ".</u> |
| July 22, 2018 | Buz Wilcoxon <u>"Apostles and Epistles"</u> |
| July 29, 2018 | Elwood "Woody" Hannum. <u>"Letters As Historical Sources: Can The Author Control The Reader's Interpretation?"</u> |
| August 5, 2018 | Matthew Patterson. <u>"Magnum Opus"</u> |
| August 12, 2018 | Linda Parker. <u>" Letters in Literature and History"</u> |
| August 19, 2018 | Harvie and Margaret Jordan. <u>"For Better or Worse: A Discussion of Marital Bliss & Blunders."</u> |
| August 26, 2018 | Sarah & Scott Wright. <u>"Then Sings My Soul"</u> |

Welcome!

We welcome our new members who have joined our congregation this year!

Delmar Diamond comes to us from Central Presbyterian where she was a long-time member. She has two daughters, six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren who keep her busy. One daughter lives in Mobile and the other in Florida. Delmar has traveled widely, but now she is happy to be involved with her family and with her church here in Mobile.

Drew Sprinkle, who married Ginny Barton last November, was born and raised in Mobile. A graduate of Auburn, he is now employed by CrowderGulf as a supply chain manager. Drew loves to be in the outdoors hunting, fishing, camping and playing golf.

William Stoll will be a freshman at Davidson High School in the fall where he will play in the marching band. William has been a member of Mobile's Singing Children for seven years, so music is an important part of his life. He loves being on the water and waking up early to capture sunrise photographs. He and his brother, Spenser, are the sons of Dan and Nickelle Stoll and the grandsons of Jeff and Pat Stoll.

J. P. Van Hook moved to Mobile in the third grade. He served in the United States Air Force as a navigator for over twenty years and then he went to work for the Mobile County Emergency Management Agency. He is now retired and is interested in watch repair. He was married to JoJane Van Hook, Geep Phillips' mother, until she passed away in 2014. He is the father of five and likes to travel with his daughter who lives in Florida. A long-time Presbyterian, he comes to us from Central Presbyterian. J. P. has one other interesting connection to Spring Hill: he and Buz's grandfather were great friends!

Alynne Clark is returning as a member of Spring Hill. Alynne was an active member when her daughter, Elizabeth, was growing up. Several years ago, she felt that she needed to see what other spiritual options were available but she felt pulled back to Spring Hill. When Elizabeth, now an adult member of the congregation, began attending Spring Hill as a frequent visitor, Alynne began visiting as well and now she, too, has rejoined our congregation. Welcome back, Alynne!

Mackie Kaufman is in the seventh grade at St. Paul's Episcopal School. She dances all styles of dance and is a member of the Mobile Ballet company. Mackie and her older brother, Gates, are the children of Kathleen and Jim Kaufman and the grandchildren of Sally and Mitch Cobb.

Virginia Otts is a seventh grader at UMS-Wright Preparatory School. She enjoys cheerleading, dance and tumbling. She also loves being with family and friends, especially at the beach. Virginia has twin siblings, Mac and Ella, who are ten-year-old twins. Virginia is the daughter of McCrary and Elizabeth Otts.

Caitlyn Avery is a student at Mobile Christian School. She enjoys volleyball and basketball as well as going to the beach and shopping. She has two older brothers, Hunter and Trent, and her parents are Mike and Brandy Avery.



**We Share
in Sorrow.**

The prayers and sympathy of the congregation are with Barkley Shreve in the death of her mother, Mary Byrd, on April 27 and with the family of Liz Hill in her death on May 19 in Atlanta, GA.



The Power Of “Likes” And “Stars” Or: We Are All Marketers For Our Church

The communications committee had an interesting conversation a few months ago about how we all found our church family. Some of us said “the newspaper of course” and some said “the church’s website helped us decide whether or not to visit”. Yes, things sure have changed and we, as a congregation have the opportunity to create a positive online presence for our church.

If you have a Google account of any kind (Gmail, Drive, Hangout), you have the ability to search for church’s location and then add a review and star rating so other members of the community can see comments about our membership, activities, type of worship service, music, and first experiences.

If you have a Facebook account or other social media accounts, you can search under our entire church name (make sure it is the one in Mobile, AL) and add a review and star rating as well.

Families new to the area, other community members seeking a new church family, and out of town guests now use the internet and online review systems to gauge whether or not they want to attend a certain place of worship. It is very important for families, especially those with children, to have readily available information about times of events, childcare, directions, and worship style explanations.

Please help us grow our online presence by using the power of social media, mapping sites, and other review services (such as YELP and Yahoo) available online. We all have the opportunity to attract new faces to our church family through the power of online communities.

And if you need assistance, please let Melissa Root or Sara Hyder know and we will be happy to work with you to help spread the word.

Sara Hyder for The Communications Committee



Children’s Ministry News-Summer Sunday School

During the summer months, children's **Sunday School** will depart from our regular schedule.

We will meet in the **Children's Church room in the Bullard building** for a quick lesson and discussion. We will then have games and activities available for the children.

The Sunday school lessons will come from the Illustrated Children’s Ministry. These lessons follow the church lectionaries as well as the children’s bulletins we provide each Sunday.

The **Children's Church** lessons this summer will come from the children’s Bible-“Growing in God’s Love-A Story Bible.” We will hear Bible stories of strong women and men this summer. Each story has “Hear, See, and Act” activities to help children relate these stories to their daily lives. We are also looking forward to Bible school, June 25-28! Be sure to register your children if you haven’t already!



Be A “Jewel”!

Keep the Donations Coming!

Thank you for your wonderful response to the call for broken or unwanted jewelry for the ladies of McKemie Place! Our box filled up in one week and the jewelry was taken to St. John’s Episcopal Church where the ladies work during the day. Please keep your donations coming and tell your friends and neighbors!



HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES OF SPRING HILL PRESBYTERIAN

Bryan Trent Avery

Graduating from Mobile Christian School
Attending University of Mobile

Andrew Whitehead Ayers

Graduating from W.P. Davidson High School
Attending Auburn University

Bryan Kimbrough Ayers

Graduating from W.P. Davidson High School
Attending Auburn University

William Sumner Harper

Graduating from Mobile Christian School
Attending Alabama Aviation Center

Haley Harrell

Graduating from Davidson High School
Entering the U.S. Navy



MONTREAT YOUTH CONFERENCE ATTENDEES

Youth Attending Montreat High School Conference, June 2-9:

Ruth Harper, Liam Harper, Haley Harrell,
Patrick Hurley, Annie Olivera,
Charlie Rice, Katie Rice, William Stoll

Adult Leaders: Cindy Campbell,
Anna Fulmer Duke, Rudolph Hall

Youth Attending Montreat Middle School Conference, July 18-22:

Dario Olivera, Michael Olivera, Ethan Rubio

Adult Leaders: Rudolph Hall, Stu Rubio

*Montreat offers six High School Conferences and one Middle School Conference during the summer. Our high schoolers have attending the high school conference for the past four years. This year, the theme for the high school conference is "Lift Every Voice." This is the first year our middle schoolers are attending a conference. The Middle School Conference is located in Maryville, TN at Maryville College. Their theme is "Living Mosaics." Please pray for these students as they embark on this adventure and follow our blog at www.springhillyouth.blogspot.com.

HIGHER EDUCATION GRADUATES OF SPRING HILL PRESBYTERIAN TO NOTE:

David Harrison Greenwood Campbell

Birmingham Southern University
Bachelor of Arts in Business Management,
Economics Minor

Isabelle Greenwood Campbell

Florida State University
Juris Doctor (J.D.)

Jonathan Lee Hennig

University of Mississippi
Bachelor of Arts in Finance



Aletha Nicole Hoitt

The University of Southern Mississippi
Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences,
Chemistry Minor

James Patrick Morris

Auburn University
Bachelor of Science,
Professional Flight Management

Elliot Bryan Morris

University of South Alabama
Bachelor of Arts in Therapeutic Recreation

Young Gun Ham Lee

University of South Alabama
Bachelor of Science in Chemistry,
Forensic Science and Related Sciences Minor



Jennifer Anna Oveson

University of South Alabama
Bachelor of Arts in Human Services

Christian Perkins

University of Alabama
Bachelor of Arts in English Literature, Math Minor

Mary Alice Shreve

Georgia State University
Masters of Science in Nutrition

Thomas Luke Walton

Millsaps College
Bachelor of Science in Business Administration

Spring Hill Sunday:

Spring Hill Sunday will be July 8 commemorating the anniversary of the church's founding on July 16, 1944. In celebration of the membership of this church the service will be entirely led by members of the congregation. Molly Wagner, an elder at SHPC, will preach our sermon. Join us as we give thanks to God and celebrate the life of our church family.

A note of thanks

I cannot find the words to adequately express my gratitude and appreciation for the beautiful worship service and the lovely reception in my honor. I am humbled.

For thirty years, it has been and continues to be a privilege to work with such a wonderful congregation and staff. What an opportunity to share the sorrows and heartbreak and the joys and special celebrations with each of you.

God so richly blessed me when He sent me to Spring Hill. You are special. You are awesome. I love you all.

Thank you,

Sallie Connell

PW

On Wednesday, May 10, the following officers from Presbyterian Women of our congregation were named:

Moderator	Susan Tomlinson
Moderator Elect	Gayla Wiik
Vice-Moderator of Spiritual Growth and Stewardship	Janie Sims
Historian	Melissa Root
Secretary	Dale Hair/Donna Massa
Treasurer	Sylvia Weinard
Advisory Board	Donna Massa

Don't forget!

June 13-15 – AL/MS Women's Conference –
Briarwood PC – Jackson, MS

August 2-5 – Church-wide Gathering, Louisville, Kentucky



Art in the library

Art in the library during the July will be that of Matthew Patterson, Assistant Professor in Art for the glass arts at the University of South

Alabama. His work focuses on exploring identity with an emphasis on the natural world through sculptural applications in glass, wood, metal, and mixed media. He has taught a variety of glass blowing classes with an emphasis on traditional Venetian techniques and contemporary methods of sculpting glass.

Matthew's work has been exhibited nationally in galleries, museums and internationally in private collections. His work has been exhibited in over 40 juried and group shows including 3 solo exhibitions.

Be sure to take a look at this intriguing work.

COMING SOON: A New Pictorial Directory

A new pictorial directory is in the works but we will be doing this one in-house rather than using a photography studio. This will benefit us because it will cost less, it will be easy to update and keep current, and it will give members flexibility in choosing the picture that goes in the directory. Choose a favorite digital photo on your phone or as your family travels or gathers this summer, take a group shot that could go in the new directory. If you're not technically inclined, don't worry. We will have opportunities at church for individual pictures to be taken. Be on the lookout later this summer for instructions as to where to send them.

Calendar for JUNE 2018	
2-9	Montreat Youth Group Trip
3	Communion Summer Series Begins
5	Committees
7	Writing and Spirituality
12	Breakfast Bible Study
16	Yeoman Workday
19	Session 6 PM Diaconate 7 PM
25-28	VBS
Calendar for JULY 2018	
1	Communion
4	Church Office closed
8	Spring Hill Sunday
10	Breakfast Bible Study
18-22	Younger Age Montreat Conference
20-21	Girl Scouts Lock-in – Bullard Building Yeoman Day
29	Church Picnic

Statement as of April 2018	
Total Budgeted Revenue	\$886,720
Year to date received	278,963
Other receipts	10,479
Total Receipts	\$289,442
Benevolences	16,519
Salaries and services	181,702
Programs	10,939
Office expenses	8,916
General & plant services	69,018
Other	13,258
Total Expenses	\$300,352
Excess receipts over expenses (deficit)	-\$10,910



Memorials have been received for the following:

Mary Byrd
Bob & Mary Byrd
Paula Johnson

From the following:

Dick & Lila Pennington
Mary DeWitt Dukes
Carrol & Dr. La Rone Blow
John & Olga Spivey
Sydney & Brooks Milling
Cort & Susan Schlichting
Vernon & Sallie Hunter
Norman & Nancy McCrummen
Mitch & Sally Cobb
Kenneth & Beverly McAuliffe
Sylvia & Doug Smith
Marylou Hyland
Billy & Nancy Melton
William & Alix Hardy
Phyllis Feibelman
Harriet Rutherford
Sam Strada
Hilda Gewin
Roy & Sue Martino
Courtney McGowin
Susan Huddle
Ferrell & Pauline Anders
Jo Harrison
William & Loretta Jones
Bill & Perrin Drew
Karen Wayland
Robbins & Morton
Jacqueline Williams
Cay & Mike Rogers
Margaret Miller
Lynn & Kirby Bland
John & Susan Leach
Diane & James Shreve
Sandra & Ashley Hudson
Carolyn Stephenson
Rocky & Danette McMichen
B. White-Spinner
Elizabeth Whitlock
Alex & Molly Lankford
Lionel and Mary Layden
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Forbes Sirmon

YOU CAN HELP WITH VBS!

NO ACT IS TOO SMALL!!!!

There's plenty of time to help!

DONATE: Your time...

- **Decorating Work Parties:**
Sun. June 10 (11:30-2 pm),
Sun. June 17, Youth Work Party (6-7:30),
- **Clean-Up:** June 28 (11:30-2 pm)
- **Set-up Thank You Pizza Party for Volunteers:**
Thursday afternoon, June 28, 11-12 Noon
- **Your time:** During VBS June 25-28
- **By Praying!**



Items:

We will be packing Blessing Bags for those experiencing homelessness, so we would like donations of:

Peanut Butter Crackers
Water Bottles
Toothbrushes
Small tubes of tooth paste
Socks
Band-aids
150 Gallon-sized Ziplock bags
Handwipes—travel size
Chapstick
Small size trail mix
Mints
Granola Bars
Personal packs of tissues
Deodorant
Nail clippers

AND for VBS children...

5 Packs of Paint Pens
5 Bags of Dirt
1 Bag of Rye Seeds

400 Small Water Bottles
200 Regular Size Water Bottles
400 Small, Colorful Paper Plates
4 large cartons of Goldfish
7 bags Rold Gold Pretzels
4 Costco or Sam's Boxes of Granola Bars
2 Bags Sweet Potato Chips
100 String Cheeses
Pastries or Donuts for Breakfast
4 Packs of Bagels
1 Carton Cream Cheese
3 Bags of Apples
Purple Seedless Grapes (rinsed and pulled apart from stems)—
Delivered to Bullard Building Kitchen on Sun. June 24

Green Seedless Grapes (rinsed and pulled apart from stems)—
Delivered to Bullard Building Kitchen on Sun. June 24

If you are not interested in buying items, checks can always be made out to SHPC. Make the memo line: VBS

To avoid duplication, sign-up to donate specific items on Anna's door.

All items (excluding perishables) may be delivered Anna's office no later than June 20





Spring Hill Presbyterian Church
10 Westminster Way
Mobile, AL 36608

www.shpc.us

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit
Organization
US Postage

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Permit No. 1252
Mobile, AL

