

SPRING HILL MESSENGER



Spring Hill Presbyterian Church, Mobile, Alabama

Volume 81, Number 8, October 2017

REFORMATION ECHOES

DEAR SPRING HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FAMILY,

If you've been by the church the last few weeks you've been hearing us talk quite a bit about the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. For Protestants, this is quite a birthday! We've been marking the occasion with a sermon series, Sunday school classes, and other educational events. The reformers championed certain ideals which historians later referred to as the Five Solas (because of the Latin words used in their names). Here at SHPC we have our own ways of embodying those ideals in our life together.

"Sola Scriptura"- Scripture Alone. The reformers believed that the Bible, not human traditions and superstitions, should be the guide in structuring our lives of faith. At SHPC, holy Scripture serves as the foundation for our worship life. All that we do is oriented toward God's word. This month our worship will be full of many celebrations of God's word in action such as World Communion Sunday (October 1), Presbyterian Women Sunday (October 8), Dedication Sunday (October 15), and Reformation Sunday (October 29).

"Sola Gratia"- Grace Alone. The reformers placed a strong emphasis on the truth that we are saved only by God's grace, not by any actions that we do. This did not mean that they were opposed to "good works" such as supporting the church and ministering to those in need. Rather, these actions are our grateful response to God's Grace. This month at SHPC we invite you to respond to God's grace with prayerful pledges to financially support the work of the church in the coming year. Of course these "good works" are not earning or buying God's favor. Rather, they are our thankful response to God's grace.

"Sola Fide"- Faith Alone. Reformers like John Calvin understood that faith (our trust in God's love) is both "revealed to the mind and sealed upon the heart." At SHPC we strive to provide opportunities for growth in our faith throughout the course of life. Our faith and love grow through opportunities for fellowship, worship, service, and study. In addition to our many Sunday schools and Bible studies, this fall we have begun a mid-week Bible study led by our pastors to equip and enable more of our Church family to connect both the mind and the heart. Join us Wednesdays at noon in the Fellowship Hall for this class

"Sola Christus" – Christ Alone. Rather than being dependent on a priests or self-serving church hierarchies to sense a strong connection to God, Martin Luther talked about the priesthood with all believers. John Calvin and John Knox developed new systems of church government in which the members of the church governed as elders. Our church's active elders, deacons, and committees work hard to equip and empower all members of the congregation to lead. This fall our new class of officers is hard at work training for to lead us together into the future God has prepared for us.

"Sola Deo Gloria"- to God alone be the Glory. Rather than seeking to serve our own power, status, prestige or glory, the reformers understood that the purpose and meaning of life is to give glory to God alone. The mission statement of Spring Hill Presbyterian Church is an intentional and direct to echo of these rReformers work and words: "To glorify God and make disciples who witness and serve."

Grace and Peace,

Back to the Source

Dear Friends,

We are in the midst of our Fall series, “Back to the Source” –and this time has helped me see how important it is to talk about the essentials of our faith. We are continuing this throughout October, with words such as: tithe, freedom, call, prayer, and church. I hope that this theme, becomes a rallying cry for you as well, in your own life—a challenge to go back to Scripture, back to God, to assess your life and priorities.

Our world demands our time. Everything often becomes a priority until nothing is a priority—it is all an emergency. We often are tired, overworked, stressed. We need Sabbath. We need rest. We need to go back to our source, to be renewed, refreshed, and energized. We need space and stillness and solitude. We need time for prayer. We need a moment to be centered in who we are and who God is. This doesn’t mean leaving the country for two weeks to reassess your life—it means taking a moment, a minute to be still, to listen for God’s voice, to go back to our source.

One of the ways that I invite you to go back to the source is to learn a little bit about our Presbyterian History. Join us on **Oct. 29 at 9 am for our Reformation Pageant**. We will tell the story of the Reformation through stories and skits. It will be a fun, interactive time where both children and adults can learn a little more about our heritage. Hear about the Widow of the Reformation, Luther’s sassy and smart wife, Katharina, Calvin, and more!

if you are a parent with a child, we hope you will come back to the source and discover something new about communion in our **Communion Training Class on Oct. 15 at 9 am. This class is geared for children 1st-5th grades**. We will see how volunteers prepare communion, learn why we take communion, and so much more. Come with your questions and challenges. This will also be the Sunday where our second graders will receive Bibles during the Children’s sermon.

Additionally, on **Thursday, October 26 from 5:30-7 pm**, we are hosting our second annual **“Trunk or Treat.”** Members of our church (including, I hope you!) will band together in groups or as families and decorate their trunks based on a theme. Do you love Alabama or Auburn? Decorate your trunk with that in mind! Were you a witch or ghost in a former life? Decorate a spooky trunk! Can you read fortunes? Maybe your trunk needs to have a mystical side! On Thursday, October 26, we will have food trucks here on site beginning at 5:00 pm (for those with trunks and decorations), then at 6 pm, we will open our trunks and invite kids to come trick-or-treating on our lawn. Children will come to your trunk to trick-or-treat. It is our hope that this will not just be a church-wide event, but a community event, a way that we can open our trunks and doors to our larger community.

Jesus said, **“whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.”** This may just seem like another thing to commit to, or another item to add onto your calendar. However, it is my hope that you can see the potential for this to be an opportunity for you to meet and welcome Jesus. Join us as we welcome superheroes, animals from throughout the world, princesses, ghosts, and maybe even Jesus himself.

God does not call us to a life of to-do lists, stress, and fear; but to a life full of joy, fun, and maybe even some crazy costumes. Join us as we remember who God is and who we are called to be!

Peace,

Anna Fulmer

PS: Interested in volunteering or having a trunk? Email Anna at anna@springhillpresbyterian.org

Men’s Morning Bible Study - Second Tuesday Every Month!

Join us for a great time of food, fellowship, study, and prayer on the second Tuesday of every month. We meet at 7:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall.

BIBLE READINGS FOR OCTOBER

Oct 1 TITHE: Leviticus 27: 30-34
Oct 8 FREEDOM: Galatians 5: 1,13-16
Oct 15 CALLING: 1 Corinthians 2: 26-31
Oct 22 PRAYER: Matthew 6:5-15
Oct 29 CHURCH: Ephesians 4: 1-15

Children's Ministries News:

Children's Sunday School and Church

During the month of October, our children's Sunday school classes and children's church stories will come from the book of 1 Samuel.

We begin October by learning how the prophet Samuel was led by God to David.

On October 8, we will hear the story that David is most known for- David and Goliath. This is a great lesson for our children on empowering them against bullies.

Our lesson on October 15 will be about the friendship between David and King Saul's son Jonathan. We will learn about being loyal to our friends.

Children will discuss ways to show hospitality and bring peace on October 22. We will hear the story of David and the greedy, Nabal.

On October 29, we will depart from our study of David to learn about the Reformation. We will have special "kid friendly " activities in Sunday school and children's church to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation.

SAVE THESE DATES IN SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER!

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER (throughout September, on Oct. 15).- **Raising Resilient Children.**

We will hold parenting classes on Raising Resilient Children. Topics of discussion will be Technology and Children, Kindness and Bullying, and Discipline (in an encouraging way).

Oct. 16 at 9 am - Communion 101 for Children and Families

This fall our second 101 classes for children and their families on Communion will be in the Bullard Building. Please reserve your spot for the Communion Training Class by emailing Anna at anna@shpc.us, so she knows how many people to prepare for.

Thursday, Oct. 26 5:30-7 pm - Trunk or Treat

Do you love Halloween? Passing out candy, dressing up, and seeing kids in costume? Then join us for our 3rd Annual Trunk or Treat. We are in need of people to host a trunk—which means passing out candy and decorating your car trunk. We also need lots of candy? Interested? See the sign-up sheet near Anna's office!

And The Young People...

COME CLEAN ! WITH HELP FROM UKIRK

On **Saturday, October 7th**, UKirk South Alabama Campus Ministry will be holding a car wash fundraiser **at Spring Hill Presbyterian Church from 11:00 - 1:00 p.m.** The money will go towards helping support costs of the ministry, as well as helping students with their fees for the College Conference at Montreat in January. Please come out and support the students! Questions? Contact info@ukirksouthal.org.



More Creation and Creativity

"The Religious Arts committee thanks Ginny Barton for sharing her artwork in the library these past two months.

To reflect on our summer theme of "**Genesis:**

Creation and Creativity", we are pleased to offer displays of items featured in the series:

Sue Brannan Walker - 2 books, "It's Good Weather for Fudge" and "Whatever Remembers Us, An Anthology of Alabama Poetry"

Bill Finch - "Longleaf, Far as the Eye Can See" - a beautiful coffee-table type book

Buz Wilcoxon - C.S. Lewis - various collected books including "The Chronicles of Narnia" and "The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe". "C.S. Lewis, a Biography" by A.N. Wilson, "the Inklings", Tolkien - "The Fellowship of the Ring", "The Two Towers", "The Return of the King", "The Hobbit"

Ben Raines - 2 CDs, "The Underwater Forest" and "America's Amazon"

Phillip Otts - "A Storm Before the War"

Sandra Lee - Two Art History books to further study the painters and paintings she mentioned

Linda Parker - "Seven Laurels", a literary novel and "Oliver's Song - a Della Boudreaux Novel"

Stereo Dogs - Andrew and Bryan Ayers and friends - music CD and posters

Steve Silberman - "Wrestling with Angels" by Naomi Rosenblatt, "The Creation" by Ernest Haas, "The Gift of the Jews" by Thomas Cahill

Randy Sheets - "Praying Twice - The music and words of Congregational Song" by Brian Wren



Make Plans to Learn and Fellowship

Music Notes

Remember it fondly but a bit rusty?

Do you (or did you) play an orchestral or band instrument? If so, please let us know. Buddy Porter, our church member who recently retired as instrumental music teacher at St. Dominic's School, will be considering possibilities for working with instrumentalists of various ages, from middle school through adulthood. It might be time to retrieve that instrument from the attic and to dust it off! Please contact Buddy or SHPC music director Randy Sheets and let us know about your experience.

**Even an old horn can make
a joyful noise!**

Calendar for October

	October 2017
1	Stewardship Breakfast – 9:00 a.m. Communion
2	Committees
4	Presbyterian Women's Coordinating Team – 9:30 a.m. Congregational Care Pastor's Bible Study – 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.
5	Writing and Spirituality – 2:30 p.m.
7	Ukirk Car Wash
8	Presbyterian Women Sunday
9	Church Office closed
10	Men's Breakfast – 7:00 a.m.
11	Circles Pastor's Bible Study – 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.
15	Dedication Sunday
16	Newsletter Deadline – 9:00 a.m.
17	Session – 6:00 p.m. Diaconate – 7:00 p.m.
18	Pastor's Bible Study – 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.
21	Yeoman Work Day
25	Pastor's Bible Study – 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.
26	Trunk or Treat – 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.
29	Reformation Sunday Kirkin' o' the Tartans
30	Prayer Shawl Ministry – 10:00 p.m.

NEW!

The Word in the Week

The Word in the Week: 12:00-1:00 PM on Wednesdays in the Fellowship Hall. Our pastors will lead us on a 10-week Bible study through the Gospel of John. You are welcome to bring your own lunch for this "brown bag" style study. The timing of this Bible study has been intentionally planned to avoid interfering with Presbyterian Women Circle meetings or the Odyssey program at the University of South Alabama, and to allow for preschool parents to attend before pick-up.

Kirkin' o' the Tartans

The Kirkin' o' the Tartans worship service is October 29. Plan to carry a tartan banner in this stirring liturgy complete with bagpipes, celebrating that God gathers us from different families, races and nations into one family, the Church (Kirk) of Jesus Christ.



Presbyterian Women Activities.

Presbyterian Women will have an exciting fall. The ANNUAL Life Membership Award will be presented during the Presbyterian Women Sunday Service on October 8. A reception will follow the service. Also on that Sunday, the blue Thank Offering envelopes will be in the pews for an individual gift to PW. The individual gift is part of the Presbyterian Women's annual gift to Presbyterian missions.

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

October 4 – Presbyterian' Women's Coordinating Team meets in the Conference Room, 9:30 a.m.

October 8 – Presbyterian Sunday

October 11 – Circle Meetings

#1 at 10:00 a.m. in the Bride's Room

#2 at 6:00 p.m. in the Parlor

#3 at 9:30 a.m. in the Parlor

Important Future Dates:

May 9 – Birthday Luncheon and Office Installation

June 13-15, 2018 – AL/MS Women's Conference,
Brierwood PC, Jackson, MS

August 2-5, 2018 – Churchwide Gathering, Louisville KY

ALTERNATIVE GIFT MARKET WORD SEARCH

Can you find all of our gift market organizations in the word search below?

E D T Z N F P M V A Q M E J D
 F P C J X B E N B K H S X S S
 I E X R W J N T F J I V N T L
 L C R J E N E V Q M F Y M E F
 F D O N U X L D O H L A F P B
 O T N G Q S O R V W R D M K M
 S V E L E H P I P Y E C Q N D
 G R A K T Y E A S L Y S P O F
 N J O B L X H H D B O X W V R
 I D V I C T O R Y H E A L T H
 W M M I M M U K C N V S D O L
 Y A T I E T S J N G M U M P A
 F Y H S G S E R T V D D N I I
 E C A R G F O E M O H W S V T
 A E W T D Q I H W M Y B V B W

Family Promise, Home of Grace, Penelope House,
 St Mary's Home, Victory Health, and Wings of Life.

**Be sure to come find them again on November 19th,
 9:00 - 12:00 in the Fellowship Hall!**

**Memorials have been received
 for the following:**



Joan Ralph
 Bob Hatcher



From the following:
 Mr. & Mrs. William Faircloth
 Louis & Jane Williams

An honorarium has been received
 to honor of the marriage of
 Lila Finney & Dick Pennington
 from Peggy Regan

Back Pack for Kids Mission

We have started the new school year delivering back packs to children in need. The numbers of children receiving back packs are: Austin – 7 and Phillips – 12. We will start packing food on the first Saturday of the month. The first gathering will be October 7. We meet in the Bullard Building in room 215 at 9:00 AM. There is a barrel in the Bride Room for food donations and checks should be made out to the church with a notation that the check is for Back Pack for Kids. Thank you for your continued generous support for this timely project.



We Rejoice...

We rejoice with Charles and Linda Langston in the birth of their granddaughter, Alexandra Sydney Johnston, on July 7, 2017 in New York, New York (Parents are Jule and Ashley Johnston). We rejoice with Mike Belue and Cammie Ward in their marriage in the Chapel on September 23 and with Alison Hill and Andrew Snelling in their marriage on September 23 in the sanctuary.



We Share in Sorrow.

The prayers and sympathy of the congregation are with Sallie Connell in the death of her sister-in-law Mary Sullivan, on September 24.



Spring Hill Presbyterian Church
10 Westminster Way
Mobile, AL 36608

www.shpc.us

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*You are Invited
to
The Stewardship Breakfast
October 1st, 9:00 a.m.
in the Bullard Building*