

SPRING HILL MESSENGER

Spring Hill Presbyterian Church, Mobile, Alabama

Volume 81, Number 7, September 2017

BACK TO THE SOURCE

DEAR SPRING HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FAMILY,

This fall we celebrate the 500th anniversary of the beginning of the Protestant Reformation. The reformers (like Martin Luther, Ulrich Zwingli, and John Calvin) sought to correct the abuses and heresies of the Medieval Church by returning to the beginnings of our faith story. They used the witness of scripture and the example of the early church as their authorities in matters of faith and life together. As a fitting way to honor their memory and follow their wisdom, this fall we will begin a series of worship services and church-wide events entitled, "Back to the Source." This phrase in Latin "Ad Fontes" (literally "back to the fountain") was a rallying cry used by those reformers to remind their churches to turn back to the source of scripture as their guide. So too will we be examining what the Bible actually teaches about many concepts, doctrines, and vocabulary of the faith that we may take for granted today. Each Sunday, our worship service will be built around a particular word that is important for our Christian faith. Also, each week our Affirmation of Faith used in worship will come from a different confession written during the 1500's. Learning from the wisdom and witness of our forbearers in the

faith is an important part of continuing down the path of being "the church Reformed and always being reformed by the Holy Spirit according to the Word of God."

**"BY GRACE YOU HAVE BEEN SAVED
THROUGH FAITH, AND THIS IS NOT
YOUR OWN DOING; IT IS THE GIFT
OF GOD." -EPHESIANS 2: 8**

"BACK TO THE SOURCE" SCHEDULE:

September 10 – **BIBLE** (Rally Day)
September 17 – **COMMUNION**
September 24 – **FAITH**
October 1 – **TITHE**
October 8 – **FREEDOM** (PW Sunday)
October 15– **CALL** (Dedication Sunday)
October 22 – **PRAYER**
October 29– **CHURCH** (Reformation Sunday)
November 5– **SAINT** (All Saints Sunday)
November 12 – **SIN**
November 19 – **GRACE**
November 26 – **SALVATION** (Christ the King Sunday)

Grace and Peace,

A Vocabulary of Faith

Dear Friends,

This year, something big is happening on October 29—and no, it's not just my 30th birthday! We will be celebrating the 500th anniversary of Reformation here at Spring Hill Presbyterian with a Reformation Pageant (like a Christmas Pageant, but with Reformers) and the Kirkin of the Tartans. Throughout the Fall, we are remembering the Reformation, with our theme, "Back to the Source."

Each week we will be looking at a word from our faith—like church, saint, communion, sin, grace, and more. We are going back to the source—Scripture to see what these words truly mean from the reformed tradition. "Back to the Source" was a rallying cry during the early parts of the Reformation. It is my hope that it will stir something new and exciting within us as well.

It is my hope that this isn't just the theme for peaching and worship in the fall. It's my hope that you will talk to your families and friends about the words we use and what they mean. It's easy to use words around children (and even adults) and assume that they know what you mean and the words you are saying. But often, our words miss the mark, and they fall short. I invite you to create a "Vocabulary of Faith" notebook with your children, spouse, or a friend, and add to the list each week a new word. Talk about the complexities of the

words—see if your understanding of a word grows or changes.

This Fall, we will have eight 7th-8th graders (and one 9th grader) begin confirmation. Confirmation is a time when we intentionally explore the words of our faith and what they mean to us. Confirmation is a time that is "set-apart," where we remember our baptism—the promises that our parents and community made and take on those promises ourselves.

I think our Fall theme, "Back to the Source" is an adult version of Confirmation. It's a time where we get to explore the words we use, the things that we believe, and grow closer to God.

Many of our Sunday schools are using this theme of "Back to the Source" to shape their classes by studying Scripture, studying reformers, and more, so what you hear in worship is what will be discussed in other classes. We hope that you will try something new this fall, and explore our great Sunday school opportunities. Our Fall Schedule will kick-off with Rally Day on **September 10!** Grace and Peace,

Anna Fulmer

Children's Ministries News:



September will be a busy month for children's ministries. On September 3, we will have a lesson on the Garden of Eden, and how God wants us to have exactly what we need.

September 10 is Rally Day to begin the regular Sunday school year! We will not have a lesson in Sunday school, but in children's church we will have a lesson on Ruth. We will hear the story of Ruth's kindness to her mother in law, Naomi, and talk about how we can show kindness to others. On September 17, we will continue the story

of Ruth, and how we please God when we do kind things for others.

We begin our study of Samuel on September 24. Children will hear the story of Samuel being called to convey a message to the prophet Eli. Our goal in this lesson is to recognize God's call to us in quiet times. We will continue to learn about Samuel for several weeks.

The children are enjoying their new children's church space in the Bullard building! Please stop by room 115 and take a look.

Welcoming Marcia Wear

The Personnel and Administration Committee is excited to announce that we have hired Marcia Wear to serve our church as Administrative Assistant following the retirement of Ginny Thompson. The search committee for this position consisted of Nancy Adams, Chad Brown, Sallie Connell, and Buz Wilcoxon. From the start Marcia impressed us with her warm, kind, and people-oriented personality. She is a great team player who adapts well to changes and listens openly to others' points of view. We think that she will be a wonderful addition to our church staff. Marcia began work on August 21, which allowed her to overlap with Ginny for two weeks of training. When you stop by the church office or call on the phone, be sure to welcome her to our church family. Her email address is marcia@shpc.us



Being a Good Neighbor:

As part of our mission and service to our neighbors, our church regularly hosts groups, events, and gatherings for those in our community. Some of these groups have been on our campus for many years, and others are just getting started. It is a great joy to see our facility used as a blessing for others. As a reminder, here are some of the groups that you may see in our buildings on any given week.

Mobile Singing Children (Main Building)

- Monday and Tuesday afternoons

Wheel-a-Meal (Parking Lot)

- Mondays through Fridays

Boy Scout Troop 85 (Edington Building)

- Monday nights and occasional weekends

Girl Scout Troop 8716 (Bullard Building)

- Monday nights

Alcoholics Anonymous

- Thursday nights and Saturday mornings (Edington Building)

Goodwill/Easter Seals

Child Development Center (Edington Building)

- Mondays through Fridays

Spring Hill Weekday School and

Mothers Morning Out (Bullard Building)

- Mondays through Fridays

Mobile Art Association (Edington Building)

- Third Sunday of every month

UKirk Campus Ministry (Main Building)

- Office hours Monday through Thursday

Calendar for September

September 2017	
4	Church Office closed
5	Committees
6	Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team – 9:30 a.m. Congregational Care – 12:30 p.m.
7	Writing and Spirituality – 2:30 p.m.
10	Rally Day Breakfast – 9:00 a.m.
12	Men's Breakfast – 7:00 a.m.
13	Circles
16	Yeoman Work Day
17	Communion Young Adult Bible Study – 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.
18	Newsletter Deadline – 9:00 a.m.
19	Session – 6:00 p.m. Diaconate 7:00 p.m.
20	Pastor's Bible Study 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.
24	Officer Training – 9:00 a.m. New Member Reception – following Worship Young Adult Bible Study – 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.
26	Prayer Shawl Ministry – 10:00 a.m.
27	Pastor's Bible Study – 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.
29-30	Youth Retreat



Opportunities to Serve

Volunteer Opportunity:

A Little time makes a Big Difference

Several weeks ago, Pastor Buz preached a sermon on Surprise (God's Surprising acts) and Teaching. Would it be a surprise to you to know that you are needed – as volunteer readers and mentors at Mary B Austin Elementary School? Would it be a surprise to you to know that you are a teacher although that may be the farthest thing from your mind to be—but you teach by being a role model. Would it be a surprise for you to know that you are a gift-to the teachers as well as the students?

Every one of us can read better than very young readers just getting into the game, and by opening the world to these youngsters, you are showing them the importance and the surprises that they can enjoy through learning and reading. And for the teachers, in committing less than one hour per week to their classroom or students, you are giving them the gift of time: time to devote to other children, time to copy or grade papers, time for them to catch their breath from constant interruptions and questions.

If you would like to be all these things: a mentor, a teacher, a gift-giver, contact Janie Sims. SHPC proudly identifies itself as a PIE (partner in education) with Mary B. Austin Elementary School. We are now in the process of connecting with teachers there to learn which ones would especially like a reading mentor for their child(ren) on a weekly basis. Last school year we had more teacher requests than we had volunteers. We hope that this year we can fill more requests. Speak with someone who volunteered last year to find out about their experience. A little time makes a big difference.



Blessed are you !
Mt 5:11

Calling All Cooks!

Providing meals for our members after surgery or illness is a longstanding mission of our church, and we recently utilized Take-Them-A-Meal for Kay Korb. That time frame has expired, but we know the Korbs still need and would appreciate an occasional meal. If you are able to provide dinner for two sometime, please call Gordon direct to make arrangements for delivery - 342-7653 or 402-5126.

Thanks! The Congregational Care Committee



And the college students...

UKirk South Alabama campus ministry is looking for volunteers from surrounding congregations who would be willing to prepare and serve a meal to college students at the University of South Alabama in Mobile. UKirk meets in the Student Center on campus and break bread together at the beginning of their Monday night program. This is an opportunity for you to meet some of the students our presbytery supports and for UKirk's students to learn about our church.

All details including when and where, allergies, and number of students can be found on Meal Train. Please sign up using the site so all the information will be available to you, the dates will be blocked off, and reminders will be sent through the website as well. Thank you in advance for your support! <https://mealtrain.com/3l9nrw>



Music Notes

Children's Choirs at SHPC *Children of the World*



Kick off Sunday is September 10!

4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall

Come join us for a fun evening of singing, playing handbells and Orff instruments, making crafts and ice cream sundaes.

The program consists of two choirs:

Cherub (ages 3 – 5) and Elementary (grades 1st – 5th).

Keep a look out for your registration form which will be mailed to you soon.

Forms are also available on tables outside of the sanctuary.

Questions? Call Susan Hoitt at 342-1550 or email her at skhoitt@mindspring.com

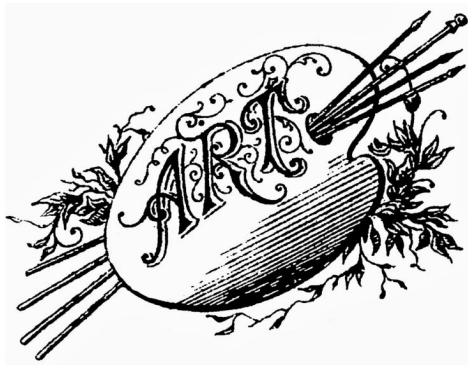
Let's Make a joyful noise!

Notes and Notices

Breakfast, the most important meal of the day...

RALLY DAY KICK OFF BREAKFAST!

The Fellowship Committee is hosting the Rally Day Breakfast, **Sept. 10 at 9:00 am in the Bullard Building**. We will provide egg and sausage casseroles, coffee and juice. The members attending are asked to bring their favorite Breakfast side. All are welcome, so mark your calendars !!!



Studio time on Tuesdays

Come paint with us - Call us "painting pals"... "the fellowship of the easels"...or folks with a Tuesday morning free. The Religious Arts committee continues to hold an 'open studio' with help from artists/members Karen Spaulding and Melissa Root. Join us in the upstairs craft room of the Bullard Building Tuesdays, 9:30 - 12pm. This is free and open to all-no experience necessary!. For more information, or if you need help with transportation, contact Karen at 634-1442.

A Stitch in Time

ATTENTION PRAYER SHAWL KNITTERS – After our summer break we will resume our monthly meeting on September 26. Anyone who knits (or crochets) is welcome to join us in the Quilting Room on the 2nd floor of the Bullard Building at 10:00 a.m. We'd love to have you join us. Call 343-8422 for information.

YIKES! Only 77 Days until Christmas!

Do you know what happens 77 days from today (August 20, 2017)?

The Mission Committee, again this year, will sponsor the AGM (Alternative Gift Market).

It is not too early to plan for the Christmas Season. If you had all of your gifts completed by early November, what joyous seasons Thanksgiving and Christmas would be with part of the activities completed early?

We will open on November 5th in the Fellowship Hall with order blanks, gift notification cards and a Heifer Project display.

Search your newsletter and bulletins for more information the closer we get to November 5th.

Thank you for your support in prior years and we look forward to your help this year.

Your Mission Committee

A Personal Thank-You

Gordon and Kay Korb extend their heartfelt thanks to members and friends of Spring Hill Presbyterian for the many prayers and gifts of food during this time of Kay's rehabilitation.

She is doing much better and we are grateful for the support and friendships from our church family.



Presbyterian Women Activities.

Fall is here and Presbyterian Women begin activities for 2017-2018 on Wednesday, September 6 at 9:00 a.m. in the Conference Room. The Coordinating Team (CT) will be meeting to pick up yearbooks, study manuals and to prepare for the "Life Membership in October."

Circle meetings will begin on September 13:

Circle 1 at 10:00 am. in the Conference Room

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

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

If you are not yet involved in Presbyterian Women (PW) this is a great time to become involved. There are three circles (groups) in our church that meet the 2nd Wednesday of each month (one at night). Each circle is unique in their commitments to our church and community but share common bonds of study and participation in PW and fellowship.

Circle #1 collects food items and paper goods for the Ronald McDonald House food pantry as well as cleaning and laundry supplies to assist the guest residents. Chair is Janie Sims.

Circle #2 meets at night and is co-chaired by Ruth Fitzgerald and Lynn Martin. They collect Campbell's soup labels for local schools and collect funds for the Presbyterian Home for Children at Christmas.

Circle #3 decorates the sanctuary for Christmas and Easter and delivers plants to shut-ins on valentine's Day. They also help defray the cost of outdoor plantings at the church. Co-chairs are Marcy Harris and Carol Sumrall.

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

1st Wednesday – Coordinating Team Meeting – 9:30 a.m.

2nd Wednesday – Circle Meetings

Every Tuesday – Quilters – 9:30 am.

Last Tuesday – Prayer Shawl Ministry – 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, October 8 – Life Membership and Reception

May 9, 2018 – Birthday Luncheon & Officer Installation

Other Dates:

September 30	Fall Gathering
	1st Presbyterian Bay Minette – 10:00 – 2:00 p.m.
June 13-15, 2018	AL/MS Women's Conference, Brierwood PC, Jackson, MS
August 2-5, 2018	Churchwide Gathering, Louisville, KY



Men's Breakfast and Bible Study

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.

LECTIONARY FOR
THE LORD'S DAY
SEPTEMBER 2017

Sept 3- Colossians 1: 15-20

Sept 10- John 1: 1-5, 10-14

Sept 17 - 1 Corinthians 11: 23-34

Sept 24 – Hebrews 11: 1-3

Remembered in Love

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



Joe Croom

Toni Pearce

Joan Ralph



From the following:

Robert & Carol Flowers Foundation

The David Richards Family

Alan & Marilyn Michel

Bruce & Sylvia Weinard

Sue Jardine



We Rejoice...

...with Betty Minto in the birth of a great-grandson, Robert Minto Steber, Jr. on July 23 in Atlanta, GA and with Suzie Olivera & Mario Mitchel in the birth of a son, Sumar Olivera, on August 5. Susan Tomlinson is his grandmother!

We rejoice with Dick Pennington and Lila Finney in their marriage in the sanctuary on August 12.

Mark Your Calendars! Here's the Fall Line-up

Sept. 10: Rally Day, Bullard Building— Breakfast

Oct. 1: Stewardship Breakfast, Bullard Building,

Speaker: Jacque Cordle, Presbyterian Home for Children

Oct. 29: Reformation Pageant, Bullard Building,

Celebrating the 500 Anniversary of the Reformation

Nov. 19: Alternative Gift Market, Fellowship Hall

Learn more about great organizations in the community you can support and get an early start on Christmas shopping.

Dec. 24: Congregational Breakfast



It all Starts on Rally Day, September 10 Classes for Adults and Children

Are you unsure of what Sunday school class you want to try? Come to Rally Day on September 10 in the Bullard Building! We will begin with a gathering breakfast at 9 am. Leaders from each class including children and youth classes

will be at tables throughout the room sharing information about what they will be discussing and teaching this fall. There will also be tables with mission opportunities to get involved in. This is a great way to meet the leaders of our children and youth programs as well as get information about the upcoming year. For our younger members, this will be a great way for them to break the ice and feel comfortable with Sunday school and youth group! It's also a great way for our church to gather to celebrate the beginning of the fall with so much to come!

CURRENT ISSUES

Meets in the Terry Room in the Edington Building at 9:00 am on Sunday mornings. This class is for adults of all ages. In September and October they are studying Calvin and Luther to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. November and December--both times of great joy and consumption, they will look at Walter Brueggemann's study, "Countering Pharoah's Consumption-Production Society Today".

Sept. 10: Rally Day

Sept. 17: Calvin--Part 1

Sept. 24: Calvin--Part 2

Oct. 1: Stewardship Breakfast

Oct. 8: Luther--Part 1

Oct. 15: Luther--Part 2

Oct. 22: Luther--Part 3

Oct. 29: Reformation Pageant

Nov. 5: Wrap-Up Forum on Calvin and Luther

Nov. 12: Session 1--

The Way Out (from "Countering Pharoah's Consumption-Production Society Today")

Nov. 19: Alternative Gift Market

Nov. 26: Session 2--The Decalogue

Dec. 3: Session 3--Countering Caesar

Dec. 10: Session 4--An Act of Imagination

Dec. 17: Session 5--On Not Doing God Any Favors

Dec. 24: Congregational Breakfast

BIBLE DISCOVERY CLASS

Meets in the Conference Room at 9:00 on Sunday mornings. This class is for adults of all ages. This Fall, they are focusing on God's covenant, looking at Scripture from Genesis, Numbers, 1 and 2 Samuel, and more.

Sept. 10: Rally Day

Sept. 17: Genesis

Sept. 24: Exodus

Oct. 1: Stewardship Breakfast

Oct. 8: Numbers

Oct. 15: I Samuel

Oct. 22: II Samuel

Oct. 29: Reformation Pageant

Nov. 5: Nehemiah

Nov. 12: Jeremiah

Nov. 19: Alternative Gift Market

Nov. 26: Ezekiel

Dec. 3: I Corinthians

Dec. 10: Titus

Dec. 17: Hebrews

Dec. 24: Congregational Breakfast





Parents! Save these Dates:

(Sept. and Oct) Raising Resilient Children

Sept. 17: Worship Readiness Refreshers

October 16: Communion 101 for Children and Families

This fall we will be have two 101 classes for children and their families on Worship and Communion at 9 am in the Bullard Building.

We will also have parenting classes on Raising Resilient Children where we will discuss Technology and Children, Kindness and Bullying, and Discipline (in an encouraging way). These events are happening throughout September and October. Please reserve your spot for the 101 children and family classes by emailing Anna at anna@shpc.us, so she knows how many people to prepare for.

POP-UP CLASSES

SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER:

RAISING RESILIENT CHILDREN

This pop-up class will meet in Room 7 in the Edington Building at 9:00 am on Sunday mornings. It's for parents of children and youth of any age—we think that parents can learn from each other

Sept. 10: Rally Day

Sept. 17: Worship Readiness--This is for parents and children 2nd-5th grades.

Sept. 24: Kindness and Bullying

Oct. 1: Stewardship Breakfast

Oct. 8: Discipline (in an Encouraging Way)

Oct. 15: Communion Training- This is for parents and children 5th grade and younger.

Oct. 22: Technology and Social Media

NEW!

THE WORD IN THE WEEK:

A MID-WEEK BIBLE STUDY

This weekly engaging Bible study will meet from 12:00-1:00 pm on Wednesdays in the Fellowship Hall, Sept. 20 - Nov. 15. Our pastors will lead us on a guided tour through the Gospel of John with particular attention given to questions of who Jesus is in the Gospel and how these stories connect to our lives and experiences. You are welcome to bring your own lunch for this "brown bag" style study.

Statement as of July 2017	
Total Budgeted Revenue	\$882,285
Year to date received	480,370
Other receipts	24,477
Total Receipts	\$504,847
Benevolences	30,081
Salaries and services	324,348
Programs	21,437
Office expenses	16,896
General & plant services	116,853
Other	19,463.57
Total Expenses	\$529,079
Excess receipts over expenses (deficit)	-\$24,232



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