



October is Stewardship Season! Are you ready?

Every October as the temperature start to get cooler (Oh wait! We might still have a few of those 90+ degree days!) I get into 'stewardship campaign' mode. I love this month and all the good things that come with it.

Most pastors I know don't really like to talk about stewardship, because they think (wrongly in my estimation) that stewardship is all about money. Now, it is about money, but it's also about so much more than money. Yes, to keep our building up, pay our staff fairly, plan our outreach and mission efforts, have worship and Christian education every Sunday, and plan the fellowship that we all enjoy and the caring that we all experience here – it does take money. But even if money were no object, it takes people to do all the ministries that we are involved in. The church is not the building – I know you know this well – the church is the people and the ministry that is happening in the building.

And there is so much happening here – and beyond here – that gets its support during this season. We do ask you to prayerfully consider making a financial pledge, but we are also asking that you complete a time and talent form to let us know how you would like to be involved. Want to work on a committee? Move to a different committee? Offer to cook for those who can't get out, or offer rides to doctors appointments? Do you want to be involved in our ministry to un- and under-housed adults through the Parking Lot ministry, or volunteer with Strengthening Families? There are also other ways that we can be involved through our work with Help4Kids, Manna House and Lighthouse Ministries.

We need folks who are willing and able to do work on the building, teach children and adults in our Christian Education program, run our technology and sound system, visit our ESPs, send cards, write notes, make phone calls – all of it! Who is it that you haven't see in a while? Call them? We try hard to keep the directory up to date. It means so much to people if they hear from folks other than me. (Truly.)

And when is the last time you invited someone to church? We have so much going on and there is great energy and love in this place. You can feel it when you walk in the door. You can feel it when the choir sings, when the greeters greet members and guest, during the passing of the peace – where all are made to feel welcome and no one is a stranger. Do it! If you

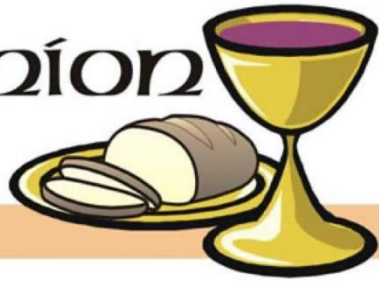
know that someone is looking for a church home, or a new church home, tell them about JCPC. It's not about getting their "butts and bucks" (butts in the pews and bucks in the offering) it's about sharing the gospel of Christ's love to everyone in our community. Especially those who feel marginalized or rejected by other faith communities. When we say that all are welcome we mean it. And we always have.

So I invite you to consider how you can contribute to the work and ministry of this church in all kinds of tangible ways. Pledging lets us know how we can plan for the year ahead. And I know that 2025 is going to be an amazing year in the life our community. Are you ready?

Blessings and love,



WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY



Join us on October 6, 2024 at 10:30 for our annual celebration of World Communion Sunday with New Harvest Presbyterian Church.

Pastor Delcia will be preaching for this service, and Pastor Jen will be assisting. The service will be held at JCPC. Please share with your friends and neighbors! All are welcome! We want to use this time to acknowledge the oneness in God's realm that we all share as Christians.

Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread. (1 Corinthians 10:17)



FACES OF OUR FAITH

BOLD & UNTOLD STORIES

This Summer and Fall join us as we explore some of the lesser known stories in scripture through the sermon series, "Faces of our Faith." You will also have an opportunity to share some of those who have been instrumental in your faith journey. You won't want to miss it!

Join us on Sunday, October 6th at 2pm for a celebration of the Feast of St. Francis and a



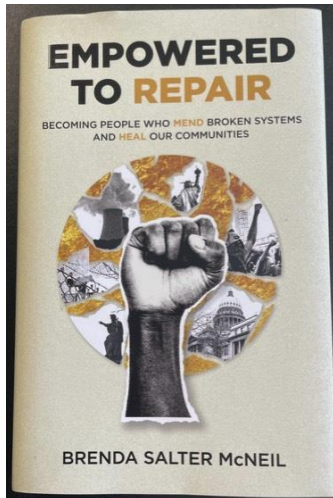
Blessing of the Animals

Stewardship is about how we use the resources — time, talent and treasure — that God has given us.

During the months of September and October through Sunday, November 3rd, we are going to be lifting up different aspects of our mission and ministry. Each Sunday we will lift up one area.

- September 15: Christian Ed and Children's Ministry
- September 22: Worship and Music
- September 29th: Caring and Fellowship
- October 6th: Evangelism, Outreach and Mission
- October 13: Buildings and Grounds
- October 20: Finance and Stewardship
- October 27: Presbyterian Women (Thank Offering)
- November 3: Pledge Dedication Sunday

We have been blessed to be a blessing!



JCPC Fall Book Club Selection *Empowered to Repair*

by Rev. Dr. Brenda Salter McNeil

We will meet to discuss the book over three Monday evenings from 6-7:00pm, at the Clubhouse at The Manor (1st building on the left after you turn from Twin Church Rd to Hamer Circle.)
September 30 (Preface, Intro, Chapters 1, 2, 3, and 4)

October 14 (Chapters 5, 6, and 7)

October 28 (Chapters 8, 9 and Conclusion)

The book is available on most book websites. Please let Betty Anne or Pastor Jen know if you are planning to participate, or just come!

Halloween Drive Thru

OCT. 31 4:00 TO 6:00

Treat bags and GOD's love for all

Can you assist the Christian Education Committee to help stuff and give away treat bags for the drive through event on October 31st from 4-6pm?

It is a wonderful way to connect with our community and let them know that we love them, and we love children.

If you want to help, please reach out to Susan at johncalvinpresbyterian@gmail.com.

JOYFUL NOISE CLUB



JOYFUL NOISE CLUB
MEETS
OCTOBER 6TH AND 20TH
3:45-5:30
In Room 14

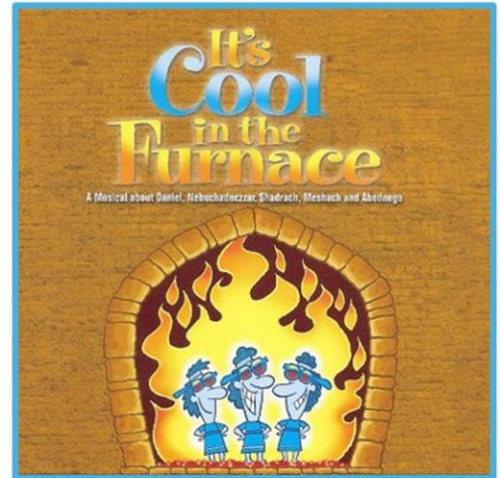


A Service of Remembrance for All Saints Day November 3, 2024 at 10:30am

In honor of **All Saints Day**, a slide show with pictures of each of the **members/friends of JCPC who have passed since November 1, 2023** will be shared during our morning worship service, and family or friends will light a candle in their honor.

If you have a friend or family member that is not a part of this community but that you would like to remember on that Sunday, please provide a picture, their name, relationship to you, and date of birth and death to the church office by **Sunday October 27**. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Jen.

Save the Date!! The Children's Musical



Will be presented

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2024

4:00 PM

Session Summary

Highlights of the Stated Session Meeting on September 17, 2024

The Session met on Tuesday, September 17, 2024 at 6:00 PM in the Multipurpose room at the church. After opening with prayer, Kris Andrews had the devotion using a story about Inky Johnson a star college football player headed to an NFL career whose right arm was paralyzed in the final minutes of a game. Inky is now an inspirational speaker telling how God's plan for him was not to be a professional football player but to spend the rest of his life sharing his Christian faith with others.

The ninth chapter of *Imaginable* was discussed among the Elders. The topic of this chapter was how post-traumatic growth can result in a better understanding of our strengths, an openness to new opportunities, an increased sense of connection with others who suffer, and a desire to serve a cause bigger than ourselves.

Tom Shearer, Treasurer, attended the meeting to report on current income and expenses and Elders were reminded that committee budget requests needed to be turned in so that the Stewardship and Finance Committee can prepare the 2025 church budget.

The Session approved an invitation to invite the New Harvest Presbyterian congregation to join JCPC for World Communion Sunday and approved JCPC covering the registration cost of anyone who wants to attend the Covenant Conversation in Columbia on November 9.

Elders were reminded of each committee's part in presenting to the congregation the ongoing work of that committee during the Stewardship campaign culminating in pledge dedication on Sunday, November 3.

Plans for Pastor Jen's sabbatical were discussed with assignments for Elders during that time. There will be a guest preacher on each of the Sundays and Elders will cover other duties. It was decided to begin now reaching out to the church's ESP's (Extra Special People) by Elders volunteering to do this with specific individuals.

Submitted by Betty Anne Smith, Clerk of Session

Treasurer's Report - August 31, 2024

Operating Budget

	Aug-24		2024 Year to Date (YTD)	
	Budgeted	Actual	Budgeted	Actual
Envelope Income	\$ 18,325	\$ 14,388	\$ 146,603	\$ 162,895
Total Income	\$ 18,476	\$ 15,111	\$ 147,803	\$ 167,857
Prior Years Net Surplus	\$ 862	\$ <u>-</u>	\$ 7,897	\$ -
Expenses	\$ 19,338	\$ 13,651	\$ 155,700	\$ 149,402

In August 2024, total revenue exceeded total expenses by \$1,460 with year to date total revenue exceeding year to date expenses by \$18,455.

In August 2024, envelope income was under budget by \$3,937 and over budget YTD by \$16,292.

Budgeted Prior Years Surplus	\$ 11,345
Total Surplus Used This Month	Aug-24 \$ -
Amount Remaining for Year	\$ <u>11,345</u>

In order to close out 2024 without using any of the Session approved prior year reserves and PPP funds to offset expenses, in addition to keeping expenses within the 2024 budget level, our average monthly increase in total income for 2024 will need to be approximately 3% over 2023. Compared to August 2023, total income for the month of **August is down 35% and YTD total income is up 4%.**

Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. 1 Peter 4:10 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Matthew 6:21

Serving in October

Date	Elder	Liturgist	Usher/Greeter	Nursery	Counters
Oct 6	Thomas Hawkins	Betty Anne Smith	Sheila & Richard Lenz	Jane Coker Sheila Lenz	Joe Bittle, James Collar, Myra Horton
<i>Communion Prep: Robert and Gladys Davis</i>			<i>Communion Servers: Class of 2024</i>		
Oct 13	Joe Bittle	Ken Feaster-Eytchison	Judy & Al Feimster	Myra Horton Karen Stroemer	Margaret Collar, Tom Hawkins, Gary Pierce
Oct 20	Betty Anne Smith	Debbie Barrett	Debbie Barrett Rita Myers	Susan Nexsen Jane Thrower	Ron Rogers, Susan Tedder, Tom Hoffmeyer
Oct 27	Kris Andrews	Al Feimster	Emily & Chuck Stonerock	Karen Pattillo Beth Russell	Kris Andrews, Robin Permenter, Tom Shearin



Jesus taught his followers the importance of prayer, and God longs to change our hearts and our minds through our prayer practice.

If you are not currently on the JCPC prayer email list, please send your email address to janecoker111@gmail.com.

Pastor Jen or Jane Coker send out prayer emails once or twice a week or more frequently when there is an urgent need. Remember, that we pray not so that we can change God's heart, but that we can allow God to change our heart.

Emails come from jpcprays@gmail.com.



John Calvin Presbyterian Church Florence, SC is seeking a Director of Music Ministries

The successful candidate will...

- bring glory to God through music
- Lead congregational singing
- Coordinate, rehearse and direct all choirs
 - Adult Chancel Choir, Children's Choir, Handbells
- Schedule musicians for all services
 - organ, piano, keyboard, guitar, drums, etc.
- Arrange for special music
- Serve on and lead through the Worship and Music Committee

These are just a few of the fun things you'll enjoy in this position!

To apply, e-mail resumé to johncalvinpresbyterian@gmail.com



On Sunday, September 8th our Confimands and 3rd graders received Bibles during our Worship Service.



September 8th Church Buddy Breakfast

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

Remember! Canned food drive for one of our local partners on each Communion (1st) Sunday

Please make sure that you bring your food with you to worship. There will be baskets to collect the food in front of the communion table. There are so many in need in our community!

Looking to contribute to our local mission work?

Lighthouse Ministries **Strengthening Families** program is using our facility to work with families in our community on **Mondays and Thursdays.**

This is a fantastic program that teaches parents and children good and healthy ways to be together as a family.

We need to provide **at least 2 volunteers** to be here at the church **from 5:30 to 7** to help serve the meal and clean up.

If you are interested please see Thelma Hawkins who recruiting volunteers.



Thank you for the many contributions to Parking Lot Ministries!



October 27th we will receive the Thank Offering. This offering funds grants with forty percent of the offering supporting health ministries and sixty percent funding creative ideas for mission.

The Women of John Calvin invite everyone to join them for a Soup and Cornbread lunch following the Worship Service.



Making Space at the Table:

Faithfully Responding to Gender and Sexuality



On Saturday, November 9, join Presbyterians from across South Carolina for "Making Space at the Table: Faithfully Responding to Gender and Sexuality" from 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. This Covenant Conversation will equip faith leaders and congregation members with resources for taking the next steps in navigating important conversations and creating more welcoming spaces for LGBTQIA+ individuals.

<https://tinyurl.com/covconsc>

Saturday, November 9
10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Shandon Presbyterian Church
607 Woodrow St
Columbia, SC 29205



2024 THANK OFFERING OF PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God
—2 Corinthians 9:11–12

muchas gracias a Dios

많은 감사로 말미암아 넘쳤느니라

Holy Bible, New Revised Standard Version, Updated Edition. Copyright ©2021 by National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

Learn more about the Thank Offering of Presbyterian Women by visiting presbyterianwomen.org/thank.

PWR24473



The family of Annie Bigham invite you to share in the
 Celebration of her 90th Birthday
 In the Fellowship Hall of
 John Calvin Presbyterian Church
 On Saturday October 26, 2024
 From 2:00 - 4:00pm

2000 Marsh Avenue
 Florence, SC 29505



- Rita McCracken 10/2
- Frank Eason 10/3
- Charlie Henderson 10/5
- Bruce Mallick 10/6
- Charlie Stonerock 10/6
- DeDe Molnar 10/12
- Robin Permenter 10/14
- Gabi Grinstead 10/19
- Tripp Pattillo 10/19
- Amelia Andrews 10/20
- Martha Welch 10/20
- Annie Bigham 10/29

The gift of your presence is all that is needed!

Please RSVP to Julie Bigham by October 20, 2024
 julsbigham@yahoo.com

Happy Anniversary

- Beka & Kris Andrews 10/3
- Roger Hux & Julia Krebs 10/4
- Erin & Richard Grinstead 10/15
- Rita & Steve McCracken 10/16
- Jen Kottler & Gavin Meek 10/22



A big thank you to my John Calvin family for all the cards, calls, visits, and food. It was so very much appreciated. Hopefully this will be the end for my hip. I don't recommend do overs.

*Love to All.
 Judy*



**AWESOME
 AUGUST**

