

Seneca Presbyterian Church

November 7, 2021

THE CALL

“Grounded in Faith ~ Growing to Serve”



WEEKLY CELEBRATION OF THE RESURRECTION

24th Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 a.m. Worship

November 7, 2021

Liturgist: Peggy Fouts

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please sign the Friendship Pad, but do not tear off.)

PRELUDE

SILENT PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Almighty God, pour out your spirit of grace on us. As we draw near to you in worship, deliver us from cold hearts and wandering minds, that we may find ourselves at home with You. We come to worship You, O God, in spirit and in truth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

POURING OF THE WATER

Sung Response:

You Belong to Christ

Hymn # 492

You belong to Christ, in whom you have been baptized. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

adapted from Isaiah 43:1)

One: He who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel:

All: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name,

One: You are mine.

All: We are the Redeemed of the Lord and given the power to do God's will. Thanks be to God!

One: Let us worship God.

*GATHERING PRAYER

*HYMN #326

For All The Saints

PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Call to Confession

Prayers of Confession

Merciful God, too often we say that we are powerless in the face of all that is spinning around us in our lives and in our world. We get stuck in our fears and mired in swamps of indecision. We retreat into ourselves and fail to act. We forget to trust in you to guide us. To top it off, we turn away the very persons you send to help us.

O Lord, forgive us. Release us from the fears that bind us from acting in faith. Turn our hearts to trust in You. Empower us to walk by faith not by sight. Hear us as we continue to offer our silent prayers of confession to you, O God . . . *(silent prayers of confession)*

Sung Response:

Lamb of God

Hymn #604

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace; grant us peace.

Declaration of Forgiveness

***Congregational Response**

Glory Be to the Father

Hymn #581

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Ezekiel 22:23-31

ANTHEM

Blest Are They

A TIME FOR OUR YOUNG DISCIPLES

NEW TESTAMENT LESSONS

Matthew 19:13-14 & Revelation 14:12-13

SERMON

“Growing Into Ourselves”

Dr. Hartman

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRESENTING OUR PLEDGES TO GOD

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

Musical Offering

This is Amazing Grace

*Doxology Hymn #606

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

NAMING THE SAINTS

Bruce Norton, Suzanne Peden, Reid Arnold, Dorothy Jens, Harry Hendershot, Walker Calderwood, Bill Thompson, Esther McNeas, Helen Macaulay, Pat Hendershot, Joyce Brickett, Sue Smith, Dr. Robert Dendy, Chris Turner, Knox Williams, Danny Day, and Bob Simpson.

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH AND LORD'S PRAYER (Page 35, front of Hymnal)

(...forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.)

SENDING

*CLOSING HYMN

When the Saints Go Marching In

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Let those who are able stand

Welcome to this service of worship for All Saints Sunday. During this service, we will remember those in this family of faith who have entered the Church Triumphant in the past year. You are invited to use this opportunity to give thanks for the saints of your own life. A brief service of remembrance will be held in the Memorial Garden after this service of worship recognizing the lives of all persons whose ashes are interred there.

We'd Love to Have You Join Us . . .

To those newly worshipping with us we warmly welcome you to our congregation. You are invited to join us for any and all of the activities and opportunities we provide. Please let us know if we can serve you in any way. We also extend an invitation to unite with this church. Periodically we offer a series of Inquirer's Classes that explore the meaning of church membership in our Presbyterian tradition. Those interested in membership are encouraged to participate in these classes. If you are interested in conversation about membership, do not hesitate to call the church office at 882-2505 at any time.

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE (11/7/21-11/13/21)

Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Church School
	10:00 a.m.	Soup Kitchen
	10:00 a.m.	Combined Worship
	11:15 a.m.	Children's Choir
Monday	5:30 p.m.	Handbell Practice
	6:30 p.m.	Band/Choir
Tuesday	9:00 a.m.	Parish Nurse in the Office
Wednesday	9:30 a.m.	Days for Girls
Thursday	9:00 a.m.	Parish Nurse in the Office
	12:00 Noon	BB&B

Liturgist: Peggy Fouts

In lieu of flowers a donation is being made in honor of Pastor John Hartman, Jeremy Stranton, and Susan Caldwell by **Ellen Hotz**.

Worship Attendance 10/31/2021 10:00 a.m. 106 people

2022 Flower book is ready for everyone to sign – up for your special date. The book is in Knohl Hall/Gathering Room between the two chairs.

Stewardship Sunday November 7

Please remember that Stewardship Sunday is November 7. Your timely pledge to support this church in 2022 monetarily will help the Session secure the wants and needs of the congregation. We are asking for your steadfast support as we move forward in continuing to do God's work through our dedication of funds to our selected ministries. Your generosity is truly appreciated.

Prayer Requests

We extend our sympathy and love to Martha Mahaffee, in the death of her sister Evelyn Neelands who passed away Monday, November 1, 2021. Keep Martha and her family in your prayers.

Church Family: Nancy Allgood, Priscilla Byars, Fynn DeHay, Sally Fortune, Karen Gomez, Kaki Harmon, Larry Josey, Judy Kellner, Maria Leitner, Janet May, Pep Seales, Pat Williams and Nancy Wilson.

Extended Church Family: Eileen Andruszka (sister of Ken Andruszka,) Debbie Brewer (cousin of Charlotte McDonald), Carol Conger (Helen Kelly's sister), Bill Cullison (brother of Sally Fortune), Pat Durben (friend of Betty Lehner), Henry Gambrell (brother of Carla Honea), Scott Gawlik (son of Betty Gawlik), Evans Harris (husband of Pat Harris), Jonathan Hoover (SPC Custodian), Linda Kelly (cousin of Elaine Williams), Sally Owen (former member), Art Reed (dear friend of Betty and Noel Lehner), Gary Whitehead (husband of Judy Whitehead), Bob Willard (Elaine Williams' nephew).

Note: Please let the church office know of updates to the prayer list.

Announcements:

Dates for Sabbath Lunches at Our Daily Kitchen are for November 7th, 14th, and the 28th. We need your help with baked goods or would appreciate help preparing and/or serving those Sundays.

Mission and Community Care are needing cookies for the Annual Seneca Christmas Parade. Please bring the cookies to the church on Sunday, November 28th. Thank you!

SPC will be collecting new and clean, gently used winter coats for girls and boys, women, and men. We will continue the collection through the month of November. Thank you, Mission Community Care.

'Tis the Season to Show our Appreciation for our Church Staff! A reminder that Christmas is just around the corner. Anyone who would like to make a donation to the staff Christmas gift fund, is free to do so by **Sunday, December 12th (absolute deadline)**. Please include "Staff Christmas Gift" on your check. It is a wonderful time to remember our office secretary, financial secretary, parish associate, music and custodial staff members.

Christian Education Study Opportunities

We have one **Adult Class** that meets in the classroom #1 (Sara Davis' Classroom). The leaders, Dan Toole, and Betty Lehner, discuss various chapters of the Bible with good discussion from the attendees.

We have **Children's Sunday School** downstairs in the Education Building. We welcome the children to gather together each Sunday morning before worship for Sunday School lessons, stories, videos, music and time together exploring God's word for us! The three classes, Grade K-3, Grade 4-5, and Middle School meet in the downstairs classrooms. Come at 8:50 for a snack and enjoy time with your friends and teachers from 9:00 to 9:45.

JOIN US FOR Brown Bag and Bible Study (BB&B)

Everyone is welcome to attend! Date: Thursday, Time: 12:00 - 1:15

Study: *"The Applause of Heaven"* by Max Lucado (a study of the Beatitudes)

We be meeting at noon each Thursday in the Sara Davis Stribling Classroom.

Advent Study:

We will again have an Advent study this year. The study is open to anyone in the congregation and will be offered at two different times during the week:

- During BB&B, Thursday's at noon, beginning December 2nd.
- During Sunday School, beginning Sunday, November 28th, at 9:00am.

Both sessions will be led by Brenda Thomson.

We will be using a book entitled *Awaiting the Already* by Magrey deVaga, which looks at the Christmas story from each of the gospels. The book can be purchased from Cokesbury or from Amazon in paperback or e-book forms. Here is the Link to purchase the book. <https://www.cokesbury.com/Awaiting-the-Already-2> If you have questions, please don't hesitate to call Brenda Thomson at 864-723-9031

Music for the church?

The children will have rehearsal **Sunday's, 11:15 AM** immediately following the worship service and will meet in the Choir Room. All children aged 5 through 12 are invited to come. AND any young person aged 13 and older is also invited to come to talk with our Music Director, Rosalie Hovencamp, about singing with the adult choir.

A young person need not be a member of SPC to come and sing with us. All are welcome.

Choir/Band meets every **Monday for practice at 6:30 p.m. – 8:15 p.m.**

If you have a young person who you will bring to this meeting / rehearsal OR have additional questions, please contact Rosalie Hovencamp by email at: rosencamp81@hotmail.com

Our handbell choir will be performing with the band. Come to church and here they play on November 14th and December 12th.

We need to schedule **ushers** for the next several months and we could use more volunteers to join us. This is a great way to meet the congregation and become more acquainted with your church family. Please look at your calendars and see what Sundays you would be available to assist us and then please call me call or send an email. Thank you for all your support. Blessings, Peggy Fouts

The **yard sale** that was scheduled for **October 16th has been postponed till the spring**. We are still collecting your treasures. Hoping to have the yard sale this spring. Start cleaning out your closets and storage rooms and collecting donations for the yard sale. We need your treasures.

2021 DSS Christmas Program

Everyone, this is our thirty—first (31st) year participating in the Oconee DSS (Dept. of Social Services) Christmas Program. 2020 was a very different year because of COVID and this one seems to be headed in a direction that may also be very strange. Many families may still be in an uncomfortable financial situation. Because our church family has been blessed in so many ways and have supported this program so faithfully for a long time, I am sure that we will be able to make 2021 Christmas special even though it may be different. Last year we sponsored 41 children plus there was an additional \$1705.00 donated by members to assist DSS to fill in as needed. Plus, one of our church elves donated 5 bicycles to sweeten the pot. We will provide a PROFILE of a youngster which gives information about their needs and wants. Sizes for clothing will also be provided. A cover letter will be attached with further details. These profiles will be available the third week of October. All you need to do is to call me at 864-247-0381 or email me at jerryecrabbtree@bellsouth.net and you will be provided with information you need to give your Christmas a wonderful jump start. If you are a new member, give me a call and let me explain how this very worthwhile program really works.

Touching the Lives of Children

Thornwell is all about children and youth. These children may have come from situations that included abuse, starvation, neglect, parents or grandparents who could not care for them. They may have arrived at Thornwell in the middle of the night, scared and confused. At Thornwell, they are immediately welcomed by amazingly dedicated house parents into a family setting where they experience love, trust, healthy family life, faith, success, and hope for the future.

Thornwell Home for Children is a ministry of the Presbyterian Church and supported by members like us. It is located in Clinton, SC, just 1½ hours south of Seneca.

In addition to on-going support, Presbyterian churches in the Southeast take a special offering each year around Thanksgiving. Last year our congregation very generously gave \$3,620.00 for this offering as well as numerous other financial and tangible donations through the year, such as welcome baskets and blankets for newly arriving children. The need continues and grows. Let's challenge ourselves to meet or exceed what we gave last year. The special offering will be **collected on Sunday, November 14th**, but donations may be made any time in the coming weeks. Make your checks out to Seneca Presbyterian Church, designated for "Thornwell".

On behalf of the children who will benefit from our response, thank you in advance! Mission Community Care encourages your generous response.

2021 Christmas Flowers

We will again offer the opportunity to make a donation during the Christmas season in honor or in memory of others. The donations will cover the cost associated with the floral arrangements during the Sundays of Advent. An effort to use natural available greenery and floral materials will minimize the arrangement cost. As in years past, all additional funds will be donated to the Oconee United Ministries. Thank you for your contributions.

In honor or in memory of (circle one) _____

Name(s) giving the donation _____