

Seneca Presbyterian Church

December 26, 2021

THE CALL

“Grounded in Faith ~ Growing to Serve”



WEEKLY CELEBRATION OF THE RESURRECTION

1st Sunday of Christmas

10:00 a.m. Worship

December 26, 2021

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

SILENT PRAYER OF PREPARATION

O God, our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer: you are the source of all true power and the giver of all that is truly good. We pray that our faith may be authentic and our confessions genuine. Through you Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. 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

One: How do we know that God is with us?

All: The sign is this: We shall all be led where we did not plan to go.

One: The wise men wound up at a simple crib in a Bethlehem stable to worship a baby.

All: The disciples left their fishing boats to walk the hills of Galilee with Jesus.

One: Now we, in our day and time, look to God to show us the way to go as disciples of this same Jesus.

All: We come together to worship God, Our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer.

*UNISON PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of Glory, the light of your incarnate Word has shown upon us in the birth of Jesus Christ.

May this light be enkindled in our hearts and shine forth in our lives so that others will see Christ in us.

May following your son bring us joy and abounding hope as children of the light.

In the name of him who came to be with us, is here with us, and is coming again, even Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

*HYMN #132

Good Christian Friends Rejoice

PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Call to Confession

Prayers of Confession

Lord, we confess that we regularly ignore your deep connection with us and our world. We live as if you were there at the beginning of all time, and then turned your back on us. We see you as a great watch maker that made an old timepiece and after winding it up, left it to wind down until it stopped. In assuming that you are no longer present in the world, we fill the void with belief in things that pass away and are not eternal.

Lord, forgive us for failing to see beyond the nose on our face. Grant us wide ranging vision to see and perceive your activity in our world and in our lives. May the wonder of your presence we so keenly see at Christmas remain with us so that we can act as people of your promise and hope in the year ahead. Hear us as we continue to offer our silent prayers of confession to you, . . .

(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

*HYMN #128

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Hebrews 1:1-12

A TIME FOR OUR YOUNG DISCIPLES

MEDITATION

“Looking Under the Right Tree”

Dr. Hartman

*HYMN #119

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

NAMING OUR BLESSINGS

OUR PRAYERS FOR 2022

*HYMN #113

Angels We Have Heard on High

*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.

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

Musical Offering

O Little Town of Bethlehem

*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

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

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

*CLOSING HYMN#134

Joy to the World

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Let those who are able stand

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.

OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2022 are now in Knohl Hall. Your envelopes will have your name listed on them. Please be sure you pick up the correct box. If you do not currently have a box of envelopes, please contact the church office and we will be glad to assign you one.

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

Prayer Requests

Church Family: Nancy Allgood, Priscilla Byars, Fynn DeHay, Sally Fortune, Karen Gomez, Kaki Harmon, Larry Josey, Judy Kellner, Maria Leitner, Janet May, Chet Palmer, Pep Seales, Beti Strobeck, 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), Dave & Minnie (friends of Jean Reinking), ***David (friend of Donna McIntire)**, Robert Doucet (brother-in-law of Paul LaRoche), Henry Gambrell (brother of Carla Honea), Scott Gawlik (son of Betty Gawlik), Evans Harris (husband of Pat Harris), Donna Giudici (friend of Nancy & Jon Young), Linda Kelly (cousin of Elaine Williams), ***Phyliss King (friend of Donna Montague)**, Matthew Olech (nephew of Greg and Kathy Meyers), Sally Owen (former member), Adam Thomas (great nephew 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.

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE (12/26/21-1/1/21)

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| Sunday | 9:00 a.m. | Church School |
| | 10:00 a.m. | Combined Worship |
| | 11:15 a.m. | Children's Choir |
| Monday | 6:30 p.m. | Band/Choir |
| Tuesday | 9:00 am- Noon | Parish Nurse |
| Thursday | 9:00 am- Noon | Parish Nurse |
| Friday | Church Office Closed | New Year's Day Observed |

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.

Announcements:

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

MISSION TRIP COMING! Our church is sending a group on a Mission Trip to Arkansas, mainly to help prepare disaster relief supplies. The trip will be March 6-12 of this next year. We already have several people interested in going but, it is not too late. Join us on **Sunday, January 9th**, right after the morning worship service (in Pastors Hall), to hear details about the trip – including the what, where and why as well as costs involved. For questions speak to or contact Richard or Susan Caldwell (882-7916).

Our **Tiny Library** is a wonderful resource for the parents/children in our community and the Deacons are asking if you have extra children's books you aren't still using, please consider donating them. Deliver them to the church office any time. Thank You!

We Want To Adopt A Highway and Need Volunteers!

The Men of The Church would like to involve our Church in the Adopt-a-Highway program. This is a great opportunity to serve our community and to bring attention to the Church as an integral part of the community. Our commitment would be 4 times a year for 2 years to pick up trash along South Walnut to Wells Highway, about 2.2 miles. Please email Chip White at chipwhite66@gmail.com (preferred) or call 843-709-0043 if you are interested in participating. So, let's go get some vitamin D and exercise while helping our community."

Our Health & Wellness Committee will present an Adult Mental Health Workshop

Saturday, January 29, 2022, from 9:00 am-4:00 pm in Pastors Hall. This course is for anyone age 18 or older who would like to learn more about mental health issues. Information about depression, anxiety, trauma, psychosis, and addiction disorders will be presented in a format that enables the participant learners to respond in a helpful way to someone who may be developing a mental health issue or experiencing a crisis. Ways to de-escalate a crisis situation will be a helpful part of this course. Two certified instructors, Carrie Zimmerman LSW and Aleca Queen LPC, both local to Oconee County, will be able to provide local referral sources. A book, used in class, will be yours to take home as a reference in the future. Cost for the course, to include a manual and certificate of completion, is \$22 and due when you sign up. Lunch will be provided by H & W Committee. Attendance is limited to 15 people so please call SPC office soon to register. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Parish Nurse Ernie Lombard or Elizabeth Hartman.

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.

Eleventh SPC Women's Retreat

We are excited to announce that our eleventh women's retreat will finally happen **March 4th and 5th 2022**. If you have not been on a retreat with us, please consider joining us for time away from the everyday and to make new friends, rest, relax and enjoy God's beautiful creation.

The retreat will again be held at Asbury Hills Retreat Center in Cleveland, SC. We will gather in the late afternoon on Friday and spend 24 hours together, then return home, refreshed, and renewed, on Saturday afternoon. The cost is **\$98** for overnight accommodations, including bedding and towels, and three meals - dinner on Friday, breakfast, and lunch on Saturday. We are also asking for an additional **\$20** toward an honorarium for our leader, Elizabeth Hartman. If cost is an issue, full or partial scholarships are available from Presbyterian Women and from the Christian Education committee. For information about scholarships please contact Kathy Gerner, CE moderator.

To reserve a spot, please fill out the form below and return to the church with your check for **\$118** made out to **Seneca Presbyterian Church with "Women's Retreat 2022" on the memo line.**

We have two cabins available; please indicate which you prefer. Batson is larger and closer to the Dining Hall. Creekside is smaller and a little bit farther to the Dining Hall. All rooms offer individual beds and a private bath. There is a single room available (in Creekside), four rooms that sleep three people, and the others are doubles. If you have roommate preferences, please also indicate that.

Contact Brenda Thomson at 864-723-9031 or abthomson@charter.net if you need additional information or have any questions.

Name _____

E-mail address _____

Lodge preference: Batson _____ Creekside _____

Room preference: Single _____ Double _____ Triple _____

Roommate(s) _____

The single room will be reserved on a first come, first served basis Additional requests for single rooms may be accommodated if all double rooms are not filled.

Interested in carpooling: Willing to drive _____ Want a ride _____