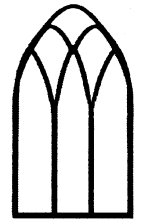




THE WINDOW



THE NEWSLETTER OF FORT HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH • CLEMSON, SC 29631 • (864) 654-2061

FEBRUARY 2011

Feeling the Love!

The conversation went something like this...

"How do you know God is real?" the young man asked me.

"Because I have been given the gift of love and God is love."

"But how do you believe in something you can't see or that is real?"

"Oh, my son, love is the most real thing I have ever known. I have been blessed to experience love, show love, and have had my heart almost burst open with so much love. God is love, and love is real."

While meeting with the officers-elect, we consider the ordination vows we take when we are ordained to service. One of the questions is, "Will you seek to serve people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?" (from the Book of Order G-14.0207h, our constitution). Paul says love is the greatest gift in 1 Corinthians 13. Jesus imagined the worst disasters: wars, floods, famine, earthquakes as the final consequence of sin, he did not imagine this as the worst thing. Instead he imagined the worst disaster, the absence of love. "The increase of lawlessness, the love of many will grow cold." (see Matthew 24:12, Revelation 2:4)¹

If we had no love, the church of Jesus Christ would be a disaster. No mission to our neighbors in need would happen. No deacons would serve and care for our members. No gospel would be preached if it was devoid of love.

So I want to celebrate God's love in the place as evidenced in so many ways. I just saw youth and adults laughing, playing, and praying together at the Prayer Partner Picnic. I met with a wonderfully inquisitive and thoughtful group of officers who are preparing to lead this church. I just laughed way too hard with other staff members as we were planning for the church retreat. I saw a church member checking in on Sunday with another. They were talking and embraced. The Session of this church approved a budget which included growing our mission giving and University ministry beyond us by 7% because of your generosity.

How do you see God's love growing in this place? I hope you can feel the love, too. Love is real and God is, too.

Yours in Faith,
Laura Conrad

¹Earl S. Johnson, *Selected to Serve; a Guide for Church Officers* (Louisville, Geneva Press) 2000.

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THE WINDOW

Fort Hill Presbyterian Church

101 Edgewood Avenue
Clemson, SC 29631
(864) 654-2061
www.forthillchurch.org

Laura Conrad, Pastor
Bill Gause, Associate Pastor for University Ministry
Mary Gause, Associate Pastor for Christian Education
Rodney Norris, Associate Pastor for Youth and Young Adults
Pansy Duke, Parish Visitor
Jack Stevenson, Pastoral Counselor
Margaret MacKay, Director of Music
Lori Houck, Office Administrator
Melissa Shook, Administrative Assistant



Upcoming Scriptures for Sunday Worship

The Lord's Prayer and the Pray Daily Initiative

2/6 — Your kingdom come

Scriptures: Psalm 24, Matthew 5:1-12
Sermon Starters read: Chapters 3-4 of Lord, Teach Us; The Lord's Prayer and the Christian Life book

2/13 — Thy will be done

Scriptures: Micah 6:1-8, Matthew 7:21-29
Sermon Starters read: Chapter 5

2/20 — Give us this day our daily bread

Scriptures: Exodus 16:9-26; Matthew 26:26-29
Sermon Starters read: Chapter 6

2/27 — 10:30 Worship Ordination and Installation of Officers Class of 2014

Scriptures: Psalm 103, Matthew 6:12
Sermon Starters read: Chapter 7

Sunday Servants

Pastor on Call

2/6 Rodney Norris
2/13 Mary Gause
2/20 Laura Conrad
2/27 Rodney Norris

Elder at the Font — 8:30 am Service

2/6 Ethel Pettigrew
2/13 Laura Shick
2/20 Mike Blackwell
2/27 not yet scheduled

Elder at the Font — 10:30 am Service

2/6 Charles Barron
2/13 Amy Elrod
2/20 Leslie Hicklin
2/27 Meri Kate Marcum

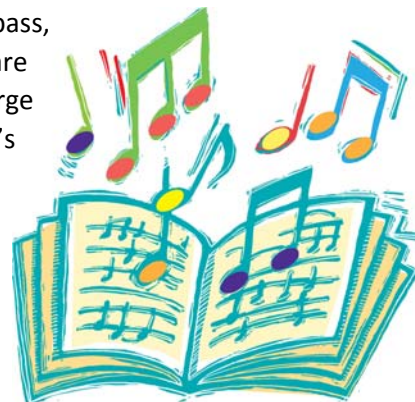
March 2011 Window Deadline

The deadline for articles, announcements, and features for the March 2011 issue of *The Window* is **Friday, February 18**.

Please email your item as a Microsoft Word document (.doc) to the church office at [window@forthillchurch.org](mailto>window@forthillchurch.org) or type the item directly into your email and send. If you don't have access to a computer, please leave the item in *The Window* mailbox in the FHOG office.

Choir Corner

Well, here we are again, early in a new year, busy planning what we're going to do better or at least differently from last year. Our chancel choir is already off to a running start. We are very happy to announce two more new members, Gary Mohr, a bass, and Barbara Escher, an alto. Our ranks are beginning to swell a bit now thanks in large part to music director Margaret MacKay's enthusiastic recruiting. The growing Fort Hill choral music program requires lots of singers of all ages so we can make an even greater contribution to our worship program.



Which brings me to another subject...

we are very fortunate to have a staff that supports the idea that the choir's musical offerings (or any of the service music for that matter) be presented as a form of worshipping God, not as a performance for the congregation. Marcia and I were in a Detroit area church this past Christmas eve with our son. The service was very professional, with a variety of choirs, lots of applause, and even a Tony Bennett sounding baritone, microphone in hand, wandering about the semi-circular alter/stage, singing a lengthy Christmas anthem. Except for three congregational hymns, though, the music part of the service was a performance...not worship. I like our concept a lot better.

If you enjoy singing, come join us for a rehearsal or two to see what the choir's about. We practice on Wednesday evenings from 7:15 to 8:45 (or thereabouts). Tell someone in the choir or the Elder at the font after a Sunday service about your interest so we'll know to expect you. Be sure to mention if you would need child care during rehearsals so we can arrange for that. If you're a busy mom or dad and can't always attend rehearsals on a regular basis, there may also be opportunities to join the choir just for special music performances. Don't give up, just keep singing!

Submitted by John Sherman

THANK YOU!!

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

to all those who helped make the Montreat Mountain Mosaic family retreat such a wonderful success!



Church Mouse

Christmas is such a joyous time at Fort Hill.

One of the most exciting things is the packing by many, many church members of all the food boxes (195 families this year). First I watched MILTON and DORIS bring in 300 Ingles' boxes and store them in Bethlehem Hall. Then BOB & NAN JONES brought in 100 more. The JONESES, SUSAN BROWN, HAMPTON (Susan Brown's grandson), and JIM EIDSON carried all 300 boxes up from Bethlehem Hall. CAL SAWYER and PANSY DUKE shopped in Pelzer then CAL SAWYER brought all the hams in his truck, GEORGE RODGERS brought a truck load of apples, DANNY PRESSLEY rented 2 trucks and a forklift to bring the food here and unloaded it. Many men from the church unloaded and then helped pack the boxes. They were so fast MISS SUSAN had to send them home because she had another shift coming in at 2 and then another one at 4. By 4 all the food was packed in boxes. At 9 the next morning people came in and got names and a map from DIANNE HASELTON to deliver all of them. There were about 20 boxes left and they were loaded in CAL SAWYER's truck and delivered by him, GREG BEARDEN, and EDDIE PAYNE to Our Daily Rest, a homeless shelter in Seneca. Plus there were many, many, many more that helped.

MISS LORI said that 37 GROUPS donated poinsettias and 25 GROUPS donated the wreaths. LESLIE HICKLIN and EVANNE THIES switched out flowers to make sure they always looked healthy.

Communion was served the first weekend in December by: BOB & SUSAN BROWN, BOB & NAN JONES, TOM McINNIS, ROBIN DENNY, KAREN LINDENMEYER, ROB KEY, HACK TRAMMELL, and SAMANTHA YOUNG under the direction of DONNA CRADER.

The best service for me is the Service of Lessons and Carols, the whole mouse family loves to listen. The readers were: KAREN BURG, EDDIE CHAVIS, HARVEY HOBSON, ROB KEY, JIM LONDON, KRISTEN SMITH, and FINLEY WILES. Worship leaders were: PASTOR LAURA, MISS JUDY, PASTOR MARY and MISS MARGARET. The band members were: PAUL BLICHMANN, ANDREW PITTMAN, MICHAEL RIPLEY, BRUCE WHISLER, TIM BAYNARD, and BEN GOLDSTEIN. Choir and hand bell members (young and old) were: ELYSE HOLLINGSWORTH, MARY LIMBER, HENRY MARCUM, ELLIS RUTLAND, CODY SATZGER, KRISTEN SMITH, REID SMITH, SYDNEY WEEKS, CALIA WORLEY, KRISTY MacRAE, BOB FOLSOM, LINDA DAVIS, RON & KATHY HUGHES, JACQUIE WORLEY, MARLENE NICHOLAS, SUSAN SMITH, SHIRLEY MUZII, CAROL TODD, RAENOTA MERRILL, ROSEMARY ROSS, ETE RUPPERT, BETH WEBER, MARY & CHARLES BARRON, CHARLOTTE GRUOSSO, DIANE & CHIP EGAN, SARAH MORRISON, RAMETH OWENS, VERNIE & JIM ROBERTS, BARBARA FOX, LAURA LEFEVRE, MONICA McGREGOR, MILLIE & RANDALL POOLE, EVELYN RABEY, BETH WILKINSON, GARLAND GRAVELY, JOHN SHERMAN, GEORGE DUNKELBERG, RAYMOND MACKAY, and HENRY MELTON.

WOW! It sure takes a lot of people to celebrate Christmas at Fort Hill.



Congregational Meeting

Sunday, February 13, at 10:20 am in the Sanctuary

Discovering Faith at Fort Hill class

Sunday, February 13, at 2:00 in the Library

Joint Officer Meeting of Deacons & Elders

Tuesday, February 15, at 7:00 pm
in Tartan Hall

Beginning with worship, we will thank our class of 2011 elders and deacons followed by the examination of Officers-elect.

PW Spiritual Retreat

February 26 from 9:30 am—3:00 pm
Keowee Key Marina Activity Center

Fort Hill Presbyterian Church—Keowee Key members & friends breakfast

Thursday, March 10, at 8:30 am
Magnolia Room at the Club at Keowee Key

Fort Hill Church's Annual Loyalty Dinner

Sunday, March 13, at 5:30 pm
at Clemson First Baptist Church

SAVE THE DATE!

Mark these dates on your calendar so you have them when you plan summer camps, vacations, etc. Hope you will join us!

Vacation Bible School

(2 years—completed 5th grade)
July 18-22

Mission Camp

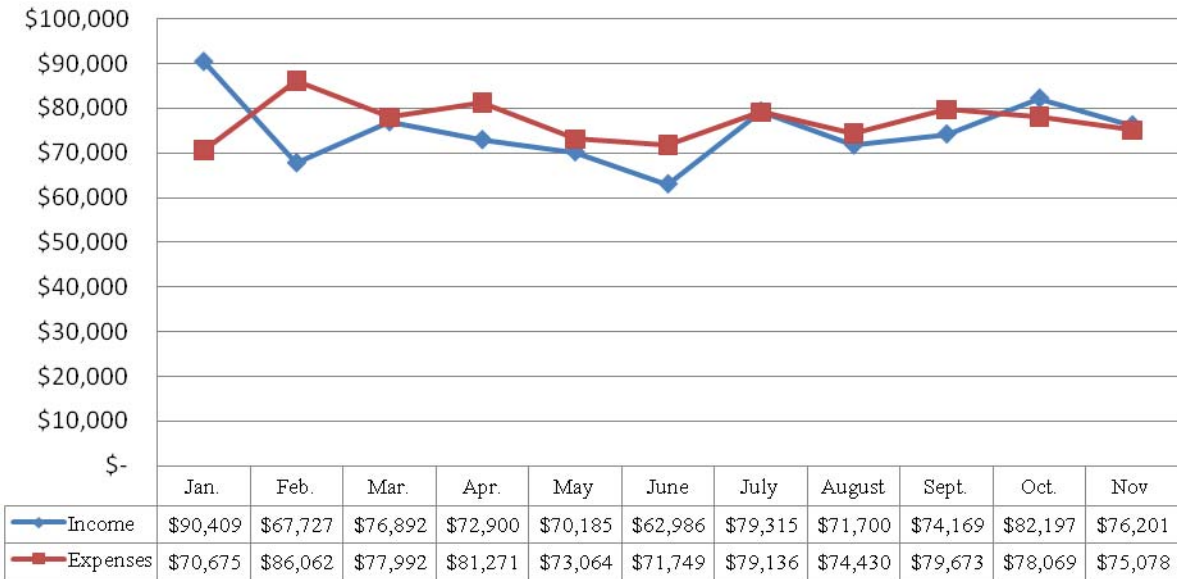
(completed 1st grade—completed 5th grade)
August 1-5

From the Finance Ministry

Through November, General Fund income was \$814,504 (88% of budget) while total expenses were \$845,885 (91% of budget) leaving a deficit of \$31,384. Income continues to lag behind expenses. Please review your pledges and offerings to Fort Hill Church so we can reduce the deficit.

The mortgage balance as of November 30 was \$290,675. Less than two years remain until the mortgage will be paid.

Fort Hill Income/Expenses



News from Presbyterian Women

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN SPIRITUAL RETREAT UPDATE

The date of the Presbyterian Women’s spiritual retreat has been changed to February 26, 2011.

Debbie Foster will again be our leader and the retreat will be held at the Keowee Key Marina Activity Center from 9:30 am—3:00 pm. Her theme will be: “Grace, Gratitude and the Giver of Life”. Lunch will be provided and the cost is \$15. Please get your name in early as there are only 25 places that can be filled. Call Joan Booth at 944-6147 and email her at geojbooth@bellsouth.net to make your reservation and send your check, made payable to Presbyterian Women, to her as well at 12 Yeoman Lane, Salem, SC 29676. If you have already signed up, Joan will contact you to confirm the new date.



VALENTINE BOXES FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS

Circle 7 will be preparing valentine boxes for our college students. PW will be assisting Circle 7 in collecting items such as individually wrapped candy, gum, school supplies (highlighters, pens, sticky notes, etc.), individual servings of drink mix (Crystal Light, etc.), popcorn, Frosty coupons from Wendy’s, chewy granola bars (hard granola bars may crush in mailing), etc. Please place your contributions in a box marked Valentine Boxes that is located in the Collections Room (old FHO office).



FORT HILL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
MIDDLE SCHOOL

FUND-RAISER

4TH ANNUAL
CHILI
COOK-OFF
AND SILENT AUCTION

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27TH FOLLOWING 10:30 SERVICE
TARTAN HALL

NEEDED: ▶ **COOKS**
▶ **SILENT AUCTION ITEMS**

CONTACT JACKIE MARTIN - 508-0709



Announcements

A **Congregational Meeting** for the purpose of approving pastoral staff salary and housing allowances will be held on Sunday, February 13, at 10:20 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

Joining Fort Hill as a Member — We invite you to become part of God's church with us as we seek to be disciples. In the Presbyterian Church you meet with the Session to become a member. Please speak to the Officer on duty or any of the worship leaders if you want to further pursue membership. Our next *Discovering Faith at Fort Hill* class for prospective members is Sunday, February 13 at 2:00 in the Library. Please contact Laura Conrad if you would like to know more.

Attention Fort Hill Presbyterian Church— Keowee Key members and friends: A fellowship breakfast is planned for Thursday, March 10, in the Magnolia Room at the Club at Keowee Key. Our staff will join us for this informal gathering. Please call the club, 944-2151, by Friday, March 4 to make your reservation. The price for the breakfast will be \$15. Please wear your name tag. We look forward to seeing you at the breakfast! Call Alice Thalheimer, 944-5450, with questions or concerns.

A big thanks to Jessica and Larry Goodwin for taking all the winter clothes to Mission Haven in Atlanta!

The church is a precious thing. Thanks so much for all the prayers, cards, meals, visits in the waiting room, and help with transporting our two children to and from the airport. This has made a difficult time more bearable.

Bob, Nan, Catherine & Doug Jones

Thank you so much for all of your cards and support after my father's death. Fort Hill is full of truly caring people!

Lori Houck

Preschool Registration

Fort Hill Preschool will hold registration for the 2011-2012 school year from February 14 until February 28. Morning classes are available for children turning two by April 1, 2011 through four years old. Fort Hill members have priority registration prior to March 1.

Registration forms will be available in the FHOG office and on our church website, at www.forthillchurch.org.

For more information, contact Shelley Burchfield at preschool@forthillchurch.org or 654-2061.



February 2011 Fort Hill Church Activities

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 7am TH—Men of the Church Breakfast 6pm CR—Folk Dance 6pm Conf Rm—B&G 6pm Lib—Fellowship 7pm Conf Rm—P&PS 7:15pm CE Rm 206—Christian Ed 8pm Rm 205—AA	2 6pm Choir Rm—Chancel Bells 6:30 Youth Room—Youth Choir 7:15pm Choir Rm—Chancel Choir	3 8pm Rm 205—AA	4 12:30 Rm 205—AA	5
6 1pm TH—CAPS 2:00 CR—NAMI 4:30pm—JAM 4:30pm YR—Middle School Group 5pm—Jesus Jammers 6pm CR—Youth Dinner 6:30 YR—Sr. High Grp 8pm Rm 205—AA	7 12:15 CR—PW Circle 1 3:30 CR—PW Circle 5 5:30 Lib—Christian Action 6pm Sanct, CR, TH, Dungeon BSA Troop 235	8 11:00 CR—Presbytery Luncheon 5:30 Conf. Rm—Music Ministry 6pm TH—Folk Dance 6:30 BH—Cub Scouts 6:30 CE Rm 210—Finance Ministry 7:30 Library—PW Circle 2 8pm Rm 205—AA	9 12:00 CR - OLLI 6pm Choir Rm—Chancel Bells 6:30 Youth Room—Youth Choir 7:15pm Choir Rm—Chancel Choir	10 9:00 Conf Rm—Transformation Team 10 CR - OLLI 2:15 CR - OLLI 6:30 Lib - Old Stone Church 7pm YR—Girl Scouts 8pm Rm 205—AA	11 12:30 Rm 205—AA	12
13 2:00 CR—NAMI 4:30pm—JAM 4:30pm YR—Middle School Group 5pm—Jesus Jammers 6pm CR—Youth Dinner 6:30 YR—Sr. High Grp 8pm Rm 205—AA	14 9:30am CR—PW Circle 3 6pm CR, TH, Dung.—BSA Troop 235 6:30 YR - Youth & Young Adult	15 9:00am First Spartanburg Church—Presbytery Meeting 6pm TH—Folk Dance 8pm Rm 205—AA	16 10:00 CR - OLLI 1:30 CR - OLLI 6pm Choir Rm—Chancel Bells 6:30 Youth Room—Youth Choir 7:15pm Choir Rm—Chancel Choir	17 9am - Conf Rm—Transformation team 10am CR - OLLI 2:15 Lib - OLLI 5pm Lib—Fort Hill Investment Club 8pm CE Rm 205—AA	18 12:30 Rm 205—AA 5pm BH - PSA Baby-sitting 6:30 TH - Cub Scout Pack Meeting	19
20 2:00 CR—NAMI 4:30pm—JAM 4:30pm YR—Middle School Group 5pm—Jesus Jammers 6pm CR—Youth Dinner 6:30 YR—Sr. High Grp 8pm Rm 205—AA	21 9:15am Library—PW Circle 7 6pm CR, TH, Dungeon BSA Troop 235	22 9:30 CR - PW Coordination Team 6pm TH—Folk Dance 6:30 BH—Cub Scout 8pm Rm 205—AA	23 10am CCR—PW Circle Leaders Meeting 6pm Choir Rm—Chancel Bells 6:30 Youth Room—Youth Choir 7:15pm Choir Rm—Chancel Choir	24 9am - Conf Rm—Transformation Team 10am CR - OLLI 2:15 Lib - OLLI 8pm CE Rm 205—AA	25 12:30 Rm 205—AA	26 6:00pm BH, TH - CAPS
27 1:00 TH—CAPS 2:00 TH - NAMI 2:00 BH - Cub Scouts 4:30pm YR—JAM 4:30pm YR—Middle School Group 5pm—Jesus Jammers 6pm CR—Youth Dinner	28 9:15 Lib - PW Circle 7 6pm CR, TH, Dungeon BSA Troop 235				Sunday Schedule 8:30 am Worship –TH 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship - Sanctuary	Key to abbreviations: CR-Club Room TH-Tartan Hall Conf. Rm.-Conference Room CCR-Cooper classroom BH-Bethlehem Hall



2/1 Eric Pollard

2/2 Hayden Anderson
Linda Davis
Nina Norris
Marshall Smith
Matthew Wetsel

2/3 Diane Bitzer
Almeda Jacks

2/4 Brian Brown
Donna London

2/5 Laura Conrad
Adam Dewitt

2/6 Justin Hill
Charles Rutland
Anna Tollison
James Weir

2/8 Arlene Cheatham
Eileen Homan
Chloe Satzger
Thomas Scott
Hack Trammell

2/9 Terri Bruce
Beth Wilkinson

2/11 Laura Lefevre
Aleta Robinson

2/12 Bennett Bost
Ward Browning

2/13 Ann Gilreath
Bud Hicklin
Terrell Suit

2/14 Jason Kohlmayer
Patrick Pettigrew
Sarah Van Daele

2/15 Catherine Norris

2/16 Sam Bruce
Edwin Greagan
Kathleen McGee

2/17 David Barkley
Forrest Fuller

2/18 Lauren Chavis

2/19 William Alexander
Jessica Christenbury
Jim Dusenberry
Dianne Haselton
Ed Ingalls
John Martin
Laurence Mudge
Duaine Wigger

2/20 Nancy Barton
Joyce Christenbury
Aaron Pollard
Carol Suit

2/21 Kate Hollingsworth
Robert Jones
Eliza Smith
Joseph Weir
Jeffrey Weir

2/23 Holly Burchfield
Amanda Oates
Kyle Smith

2/24 Hansen Wetsel

2/25 Tripp Mosterz

2/26 Janet Cantrell
Becky Fant
Steve Hunter
Laurel Whisler
Alexis Winchester
Spencer Wright

2/27 Richard Clarke
Marian Wooten

2/28 Christine Lightsey



2/8 Brian & Nickie Mueller

2/14 David & Debbie Collins
Tim & Ann Howard

2/18 Bob & Nancy Littleson

2/19 Jack & Raenota Merrill

2/20 Linvil & Martha Rich

2/21 Michael & Joy Van Daele

2/28 Bob & Duaine Wigger

Loyalty Dinner

Plan to attend Fort Hill Church's Annual Loyalty Dinner!

Make your reservation and payment to attend our Loyalty Dinner on Sunday, March 13, at 5:30 pm next door at Clemson First Baptist Church. Payments must be made **before** March 13, either after worship services or by check to Fort Hill Church marked Loyalty Dinner. Dinner is \$12 for adults; \$4 for children; \$40 max for family.

This is a special evening for our entire church family — children too! There will be an opportunity for children to leave with caretakers that evening if they wish. Gifts: If you choose, bring a special gift, baked goods, a certificate to restaurants or services OR canned goods or donations for Clemson Community Care.

Please bring these donated door prizes the evening of the dinner. Plan to come and be with our church family for dinner, music, door prizes and fellowship.

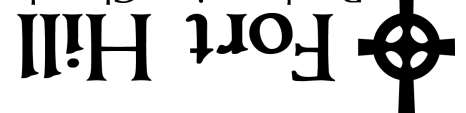


*Joining together on a journey of Christian faith, we seek to be Disciples of Christ
and to share God's love in our community and around the world.*

Return Service Requested

101 Edgewood Avenue
Clemson, SC 29631
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www.forthillchurch.org

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Presbyterian Church



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