



The Beacon

MAY 2025

Family Sundays

By popular request, we will begin having families worshipping together in the sanctuary once a month. We are calling these Sundays, *Family Sundays*. Most months, *Family Sundays* will be the first Sunday of the month ~ a communion Sunday. There will be a Children's Message on these Sundays. Nursery will be available for infants and toddlers.

Sundays for family worship will include:

First Sundays: *Family Sundays* in the sanctuary

Second Sundays: Either Neila Cary or Michelle Page leading the Family Service

Third Sundays: Breezy and the Middle School Youth leading the Family Service

Fourth Sundays: Either Neila Cary or Michelle Page leading the Family Service

The first *Family Sunday* will be May 4th. Matthew already has something special planned for us!

Pastoral Care 2025

In 2025, Sunrise's Pastoral Care is being led by two Elders: Helen Panitt and Michele Smith. Helen is coordinating Congregational Care that includes visiting homebound members, a note card ministry to families at the death of a loved one, and overseeing receptions following funerals. Michele is leading the Stephens Ministry.

Congregational Care under Helen's leadership:

Purpose: *To provide congregational care for members who are unable to attend worship and church events because of health issues. The goal is to provide a personal connection. This may involve visitation and/or regular telephone calls. A card ministry at the death of family member will be offered. Frequently, families appreciate a reception provided in the Fellowship Hall, following a funeral or memorial service.*

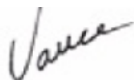
If you are interested in volunteering to help with Congregational Care, you may contact Helen Panitt at: hpanitt@comcast.net. She will assist you in helping her with homebound visitation or volunteering to help with a funeral reception in the Fellowship Hall.

Stephen Ministry under Michele's leadership:

Purpose: *To train and coordinate Stephen Ministers. The role of the Stephen Ministry Leader is three-fold: support the existing Stephen Ministers with regular meetings, train new Stephen Ministers, and work with the pastor in assigning Stephen Ministers.*

Michele Smith is bringing together the previously trained Stephen Ministers. She is receiving training as our new Stephen Ministry Leader and will be seeking the next class of Stephen Ministers that will begin their training this summer.

In God's grace,



High School Youth Group Update

I am so impressed with the high school youth group. I recently asked them if they were enjoying the group and the format and they resoundingly said yes with one exception. They requested both more scripture and a more in-depth dive into scripture. I was nicely surprised and with coordination with Vance, we are now diving head first into the Book of Mark. They once again surprised me when they then requested the group continue through the summer versus the originally planned break. So I have changed my mind about our collective future and believe the youth will take us through the next generation successfully! ~Vic Apat



A great photo submitted to us by one of the FEAST Groups at Sunrise. Feast is a gathering of Sunrise adult members for a time of food, fellowship and fun. It's a great way to get better acquainted with those Sunrise members you already know, or to meet members you don't know. The FEAST groups meet monthly at members' homes or at local restaurants.

Stephen Ministry

Sunrise is excited to be restarting its Stephen Ministry, an empathetic Christian ministry for those with a profoundly heavy heart. It is more than grief support for someone in crisis. Stephen Ministers provide a one to one listening presence, on average 1 hour a week, to sit with someone as they journey through a difficult life event that creates profound stress for that individual. Events can include a serious or terminal illness, both personally or of a family member, a significant trauma, the loss of a job, or the loss of a loved one.

We anticipate offering training for new Stephen Ministers in June, and will tell you more during the month of May.

If you have questions regarding the Stephen Ministry, please contact Michele Smith at MIsmith755@gmail.com.

If you feel you may need a Stephen Minister, please contact Vance.

Sunrise Columbarium & Memorial Garden

Dear Congregation and Families,

The long awaited dedication of the Columbarium and Memorial Garden was held on Maundy Thursday, April 17. It is a sacred place for the inurnment of loved one, as well as a place for prayer, meditation, or simply to sit and enjoy the peace and beauty of the marsh and surroundings.

Decisions about purchasing a niche are made either in advance, at the time of need or after cremation. Regardless of your circumstances, the Columbarium Committee is available to help you. Information is available on the church website at www.oursunrise.org under Resources, at the church office, or by contacting Ida Havelka, Columbarium Committee Chair, at ihavelka@comcast.net, 843-412-1884.

Memorial gifts and donations may be made to the Columbarium Fund to support the perpetual care of the columbarium and garden.

The Columbarium Committee greatly appreciates the support of the congregation, the Session, Hannah Webster, our pastor, Vance Polley and all those who worked diligently to make the columbarium a reality. Special appreciation goes to those who have purchased niches and memorial plaques, and to those have made donations.

Most sincerely,

The Columbarium Committee

Ida Havelka, Chair

Ralph Byers, Niche Purchases & Donations

Lamar Graves, Construction & Maintenance

Cal McRae, Finance

Lynn & Phil Riker, Legal

Sheila Graves, Bob Havelka, Tommy Bulwinkle – Advisory Members



Presbyterian Homes Mother's Day Offering

MAY 11TH



\$1,212,000

Average annual charitable care provided
at PCSC from 2015 to 2024



21

Average number of
residents served by
charitable care
from 2015 to 2024



18

Number of residents
served by charitable
care in 2024



91

Average age of residents
receiving charitable care
(The ages range from 82
to 100+ years of age!)



6

Life Plan
Communities across
South Carolina



70

Years of service
to seniors and
their families



950

Residents
in 2024
(approximate)

Our Mission

*We are a compassionate Christian ministry
dedicated to enriching the quality of life for seniors of all faiths.*

Since 1954, Presbyterian churches in South Carolina have marked Mother's Day with an offering to support the ministry of Presbyterian Communities of South Carolina to older adults. The Mother's Day Offering is used solely to provide charitable care for residents who can no longer pay for the full cost of their care. Giving envelopes will be available in the Narthex on May 11th. Thank you in advance for giving generously.



Thank you for your generous contribution to the Remembrance Garden...

- In loving memory of Linda McCrary Hawkins given by Gary Hawkins

May at Sunrise

Growing Faith's next meeting will be on May 25th at 9 am in the youth group room. Any older elementary & middle school students (4th - 8th grade) are invited to join us!

The Adult Sunday School class will continue with its Bible study that connects the many familiar stories and people of the Bible. The class meets weekly in the church library at 9:00 a.m. There is a video conference option via google meet. ~ Vance

High School Youth Group (9th-12th grade) meets every Tuesday at 7:00 pm in the church library. Our evening includes a meet & greet, devotional time, dinner and fun activities such as a beach bonfire, a night at the fair, community service projects and many other fun activities. Come join us and feel free to bring a friend...or two. If there are any questions, please contact Victor Apat at vapat6604@gmail.com or 843-442-1177.

Middle School Youth Group (6th-8th grade) meets Sundays at 10:30 am and will also meet May 18th and 25th from 4:30 - 6:30 pm at Sunrise Church. This month's meetings will include dinner, games, and a group devotional. If you have any questions, please reach out to Breezy at breezy@oursunrise.org or (843) 860-9581.

The Women's Morning Bible Study will meet Tuesday, May 20th at 10:00 a.m. in the Church Library. After we meet those of us who are able to do so usually regroup for lunch at a nearby restaurant. If you have any questions or if you would like to be added to our mailing list, please call Patsy Hindman at (843) 906-8653.

The Women's Evening Bible Study will continue their study May 20th at 5:30 pm using *Journaling the Psalms: A Guide for Reflection and Prayer* by Paula Gooder. New participants are always welcome.

Cents-Ability is collected the 2nd Sunday of each month. Thanks to you, donations have been made to Neighbors Together, East Cooper Meals on Wheels, and East Cooper Community Outreach. Please continue to give at least two cents per person per meal in the bowl in the Narthex. This simple act is an expression of thanksgiving for what we have received.

Start off your Tuesdays with the **Jerry Dillon Men's Prayer Breakfast** at 8:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Enjoy great food, fellowship, and a devotion.

May 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
8:45am - Choir Practice	9am - Veritas	7:30am - Men's Breakfast	10am - AA Meeting	9am - Veritas	10:30am - Bridge - Fellowship Hall	8am - Karate Testing - Fellowship
9am - Adult Sunday School	2:45pm - Music Lessons	7pm - High School Youth Group	6:30pm - Choir Practice	5:30pm - Agape Do Karate	3pm - Karate Testing - Fellowship	12pm - Memorial Service -
9am - Fellowship (Fellowship Hall)	5:30pm - Agape Do Karate					
9am - Growing Faith - Youth	6pm - Seaside Singers - Sanctuary					
10am - Family Service						
10am - Worship Service						
10:40am - Middle School Youth						
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Communion	9am - Veritas	7:30am - Men's Breakfast	10am - AA Meeting	9am - Veritas	10:30am - Bridge - Fellowship Hall	
8:45am - Choir Practice	2:45pm - Music Lessons	7pm - High School Youth Group		5:30pm - Agape Do Karate		
9am - Adult Sunday School	5:30pm - Agape Do Karate					
9am - Fellowship (Fellowship Hall)						
10am - Worship Service ~ Family						
10:40am - Middle School Youth						
4pm - Cub Scouts - Fellowship						
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Cents-Ability	9am - Veritas	7:30am - Men's Breakfast	10am - AA Meeting	5:30pm - Agape Do Karate		2pm - Bonheimer Memorial
8:45am - Choir Practice	2:45pm - Music Lessons	7pm - High School Youth Group	6:30pm - Choir Practice	6pm - Battery Gadsden -		
9am - Adult Sunday School	5:30pm - Agape Do Karate					
9am - Fellowship (Fellowship Hall)						
10am - Family Service						
10am - Worship Service						
10:40am - Middle School Youth						
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
8:45am - Choir Practice	2:45pm - Music Lessons	7:30am - Men's Breakfast	10am - AA Meeting	5:30pm - Agape Do Karate	10:30am - Bridge - Fellowship Hall	
9am - Adult Sunday School	5:30pm - Agape Do Karate	10am - Women's Morning Bible	1pm - Cherie Pett Memorial			
9am - Fellowship (Fellowship Hall)		5:30pm - Women's Evening Bible	6:30pm - Choir Practice			
10am - Family Service		7pm - High School Youth Group				
10am - Worship Service						
10:40am - Middle School Youth						
3pm - Clark Recital - Sanctuary						
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
8:45am - Choir Practice	Memorial Day	7:30am - Men's Breakfast	10am - AA Meeting	5:30pm - Agape Do Karate	10:30am - Bridge - Fellowship Hall	
9am - Adult Sunday School	2:45pm - Music Lessons	7pm - High School Youth Group				
9am - Fellowship (Fellowship Hall)	5:30pm - Agape Do Karate					
9am - Growing Faith - Family						
10am - Family Service						
10am - Worship Service						
10:40am - Middle School Youth						
4:30pm - Middle School Youth						

May Birthdays

5/3 Brandon Clark

5/4 Nancy Dean

5/6 Korey McDavid

5/8 Cydne Abernathy

5/9 Matt Norton

5/10 Cyndi Kunkle

5/11 Chris McKee

5/12 Susanne Marshall

5/13 Jean Campbell

5/14 Bill Casey

5/14 Malin Allard

5/15 Karen Schmelter

5/16 John Petzold

5/18 Bonnie Burton

5/19 Mattie Smith

5/20 Candace Rosen

5/21 Debbie Croxton

5/24 Shelly White

5/26 Ross Heaton

5/26 Nicole McKee

5/27 Neila Cary

5/28 Carol Dawson

5/28 Bob Hooper

5/29 Jackson Naylor

5/30 Chris Hardwick

5/31 Kathy Jordan

Church Office Hours:

8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Monday through Friday

Phone: (843) 883-3888

www.oursunrise.org

Sunrise Staff

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