



The Light



Lowcountry
Presbyterian
Church

September/October 2021

LPC Mission Statement

Surrounded by God's grace, we are a family of faith joined together through Christ, offering meaning and hope to all by the way we worship, serve and live.

Criminal Justice

"He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God." - Micah 6:8

What does God's justice look like?

Is our criminal justice system just?

What changes should be made so that it is more just?



How does it work?

We are given the imperative in scripture to do justice. That's a complicated task but it brings up many questions like the ones above. The Outreach team has been asking these questions and more. We started out by interviewing some people who work in a variety of roles in the criminal justice system and these interviews can be found on our website at lowcountrypres.org/outreach. We then realized we need to learn more about our local system here in Beaufort County so we've invited several local leaders to tell us about our local criminal justice system, how it works, what is not working, and how we can affect positive change. We hope you'll take the time to join us as we learn together and seek justice. An opportunity for Q&A will be provided at each session.

A Community Conversation with Key Leaders in

***Law Enforcement *Detention**

***Prosecution *Legislation**

Wednesday, Sept. 15th | 6 P.M. to 7 P.M. Sheriff PJ Tanner and Col. Quandara Grant

Wednesday, Sept. 22nd | 6 P.M. to 7 P.M. Solicitor Duffie Stone

Wednesday, Sept. 29th | 6 P.M. to 7 P.M. Senator Tom Davis

Find more information at lowcountrypres.org/outreach



THE GREEN TEAM (AKA—THE CREATION CARE TEAM)

WALK FOR WATER 2021 NEEDS YOU !!!

October 9th, Oyster Factory Park at 9:30am

All are invited to join our LPC **Bluffton Walkers** in support of Water Mission, a charity helping those who live without access to clean water.

In response to the recent Haiti disasters, Water Mission is:

- Leveraging the 40 Water Mission projects in southern Haiti to ensure the uninterrupted flow of safe water for impacted neighboring communities.
- Transporting seven water treatment systems from their Haiti warehouse to meet all safe water needs for 35,000 people.
- Deploying in-county engineers to support municipalities with repairs to get their safe water systems operational.

Last year 18 LPC members and friends walked with empty buckets from the Oyster Factory Park to Bluffton United Methodist Church on Calhoun Street where their buckets were filled. Then they walked through Old Town Bluffton and back to the park. The walk mirrored the plight of millions who must walk distances for water.



We hope to double the number of walkers this year.

To learn more about Water Mission and the Walk for Water fundraiser, go to walkforwater.com/ beaufortco and register to join our team called Bluffton Walkers.

New Members Class

A 3 week New Member and Inquirers' Class will be offered beginning September 12th from 4 to 5:30pm. It is not necessary to attend all three classes but doing so is highly recommended. Information about the PCUSA and our church will be offered, along with faith discussion and refreshments. Contact the church office at 843-815-6570 or lpcoffice1@hargray.com ahead of time if possible but those considering membership are welcome to just show up that day.



Your 2022 Stewardship Campaign begins on 9/19/21!

We are quickly approaching the time of year when you can share your commitment of gifts with the Lord!

Our theme this year from Proverbs 3:9 in the Message paraphrase by Peterson

**"Honor God with everything you own,
give God the first and the best"**

Important dates to remember:

9/19/21	The Campaign begins!
10/24/21	Dedication Sunday!

From 9/19 – 10/24, we will feature weekly e-blasts sharing how your gifts support the mission of the church. Guest speakers will also share that message with a Minute for Stewardship in each of the services.

Additionally, if we can gather together safely prior to Dedication Sunday, there will be an event to share the joy of fellowship and stewardship!

We thank you all for your blessed gifts to the church and pray you can once again find it in your heart...and budget, to honor God with the first and best!

Your LPC Stewardship Team,
Tom Catanese and Joe Franklin

MEMBERSHIP MINISTRY

Fellowship Luncheon

Celebrate Fall's Arrival with your church family at a box lunch get together on September 12 following the 10:30 service.

Bring a chair and relax while enjoying a box lunch from Jim 'N Nick's. Sign up in the Narthex, on the website lowcountrypres.org click on the News & Events tab or call the office (843) 815-6570.

Deadline to order is Wednesday, September 8th.

All sandwiches will come with a side of coleslaw and a cookie. Bottles of water will also be available.

Pig on a Bun

Slow-smoked pulled pork served with original BBQ Sauce

Bar-B-Q Chicken Sandwich

Slow Smoked pulled chicken served with Morgan Co. White Sauce

Joe's Original Turkey Sandwich

Hickory-smoked turkey breast with lettuce, tomato, and honey mustard

We look forward to seeing you on the 12th!

Membership Ministry Team



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTRY



Grow with us.

MISSION STATEMENT:

The Christian Education Ministry educates, inspires and grows disciples in Christ.

Hidden Figures: A Movie Discussion

Wednesday, September 8th at 4:00pm in-person (w/Stephanie)

(individuals may request to attend via Zoom through Stephanie)

OR

Thursday, September 23rd at 6:30pm via Zoom (w/Chris)

(Look for the link in the eblast)



Based on a true story, three brilliant African-American women at NASA -- Katherine Johnson, Dorothy Vaughan and Mary Jackson -- serve as the brains behind one of the greatest operations in history: the launch of astronaut John Glenn into orbit, a stunning achievement that restored the nation's confidence, turned around the Space Race and galvanized the world. This inspiring story is set primarily in 1961 and the movie weaves together the post-WWII space race between the US and the USSR with the harsh realities of Jim Crow segregation and gender bias, and the Civil Rights movement. Whether you have a fascination with space, history, justice issues, or simply love a good inspiring story you will enjoy this well done film.

This movie is available with your Hulu or Disney+ subscription or for purchase to stream on YouTube, Amazon Prime Video, or Apple TV. Don't stream? You can purchase the DVD from Target, Walmart, or Amazon.

Youth Group

Begins Wednesday September 8th at 7pm in the Parlor

Josh Fox and Pastor Stephanie are gearing up for Youth Group on Wednesday evenings! Students are invited to join for pizza and relevant faith discussion on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month. If you have a middle or high schooler in your life who lives in the area, we would love for you to invite them! Friends are welcome!

Children's Church

Children's Church is gearing up to begin again! Finally! Keep a look out for a one Sunday per month opportunity for the 4 year old - 5th grade kids in your life to learn about Jesus and grow in faith!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTRY

Adult Sunday School: The Bible Project



A BibleProject
Video



A Short Audio
Message



Scripture
Readings



Discussion
Questions

Join us for two short-term studies using resources from TheBibleProject.com! Each class includes a short audio recording that is available via eblast each week, a short video we will watch in class, and discussion on how the topic with scripture relates to our lives. Each class stands alone so we hope you will attend any and all classes that you are able and listen to the audio recording before class if possible.

September: Character of God

Discover more about the character of God through this short series.

9/12 - Character of God

9/19 - Holiness

9/26 - Covenants

October: Overview of Biblical Books

Discover a little bit about various Biblical books to gain a greater understanding of the Bible and explore texts you may or may not be familiar with.

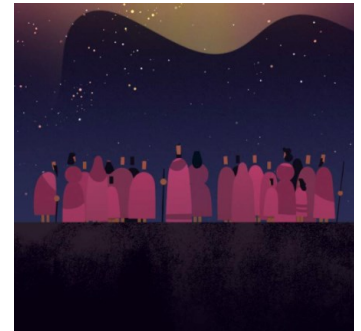
10/3 - Ecclesiastes

10/10 - Lamentations

10/17 - Psalms

10/24 - Philemon

10/31 - Ephesians



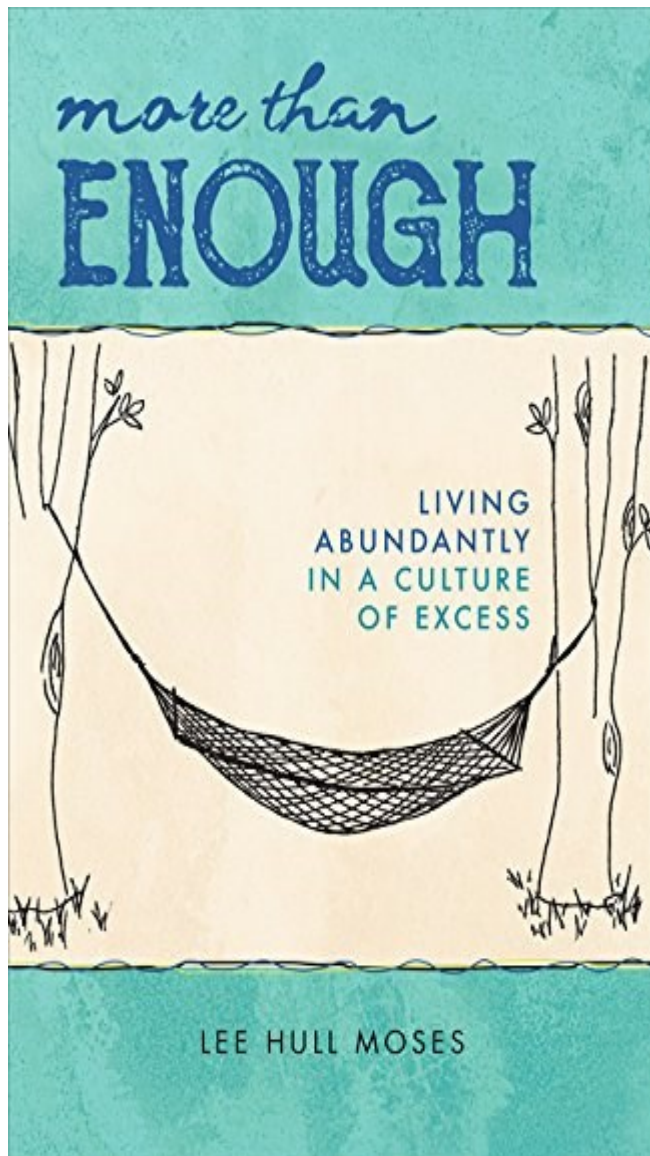
The Bible 100's series continues: Bible 103 begins in September

Those who completed Bible 101 and 102 will continue with Bible 103: Introduction to the New Testament, which will begin right after Labor Day. Each class series (101, 102, etc) builds on the next helping you to get an overview of the Bible and learn how to read and interpret it. Since the New Testament is heavily influenced by the Old Testament, Bible 103 builds on Bible 102. Those very interested in participating in the class can talk to Pastor Stephanie. Meanwhile, look out for the whole Bible 100 series to be repeated beginning in January, as well as other Bible Study opportunities this Fall.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTRY

Grow With Us Plug into these small group Studies!

- I. A five week study of a New Testament Book (to be determined) led by Rev. Bo Welch from 6:30 to 7:45pm in the parlor, beginning Thursday, September 30th. Watch weekly e-blasts for details.
- II. A three week book club discussion led by Rev. Herrin of "More Than Enough, Living Abundantly in a Culture of Excess" by Lee Hull Moses, beginning Tuesday October 12th.



Chris led the study in June and all who participated recommended she repeat this Fall for those who missed. Here is one testimonial:

*Reading the book **More Than Enough, Living Abundantly in a Culture of Excess** is like having a judgment free conversation with a friend about subjects including our need to acquire stuff, how much is "enough", living simply and charitable giving. I enjoyed the small group discussions that we had and recommend the book study to others in the congregation.* -Carol Bogle

Rev. Hull who is Senior Pastor at First Christian Church in Greensboro NC takes up the question, "How do we live in a way that honors God and shows gratitude for the good life we are living in the midst of a world full of pain and brokenness?" With a blend of practical reflection and insight (AND humor), *More than Enough* goes beyond a call to gratitude and generosity and invites the reader to a new way of life, one that is grounded in the hope and grace of God."

Participants should attend at least two of the three sessions to make it worthwhile. Discussions each week will focus on the assigned reading which will be approximately 40 pages per week. *Books are available on Amazon, Barnes and Noble, Kindle, etc.*

Sign up online at lowcountrypres.org/news-events or by contacting Christy at the office, lpcoffice1@hargray.com or 843-815-6570 by Wednesday, October 6th so Chris knows to expect you and can give you the assigned reading.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTRY

A Small Group of 30 and 40 somethings

Time flies when you're having fun and so we forgot to take a group photo at our last gathering, but did take a photo of some impromptu entertainment of some neighbors in Rose Hill taking their pony on a walk in the golf cart. (See photo for a laugh).



Know a 30 or 40 something in the area? We hope you will invite them to join us for our next group on **Saturday, September 18th from 6-8pm!** We'll meet at The Johnson's house for fellowship and faith conversation. Childcare is provided.

Please contact Stephanie at PastorStephanieDion@gmail.com to let her know how many children to plan for, as well as to get the address for this month's gathering!



Men of Purpose (MOP)

September 11th MOP will begin their fall meeting at 9:00am in the parlor.

They will be discussing the overview of the book "You Lost Me" by David Kinnaman.

September 18th – Discussions about the 23rd Psalm. A recording of Howard Edington discussing this Psalm will be the basis of this discussion. Thanks to Stuart Bendelow for offering the recording and Rich Allen for study guides.

September 25th – They will be discussing "Simply Jesus" by N.T. Wright. Books are available in the office for \$13.00 each.

All men are welcome, especially those who would like to see what Men of Purpose is all about. Questions, contact Bill Walker – billwalker42@gmail.com.



Ella Barry was confirmed on August 8th!

Many have seen Ella grow up at LPC since she was a little girl. We are so proud of her commitment to Christ and to the church, which she professed after having completed a confirmation class with Pastor Stephanie in the Fall of 2020. Please continue to keep Ella in your prayers as she grows in faith.



MUSIC MINISTRY

What a difference a year makes. Last year at this time we were preparing music and readings for the Singing Sunrise Service at Fish Haul Beach to remember those we had lost. This year we are looking forward to resuming rehearsals for the Chancel Choir and Jubilate Ringers and excitedly anticipating a year of music making at LPC for Sunday services.



COME JOIN US! THIS IS A GREAT TIME TO JOIN OR REJOIN THE CHANCEL CHOIR!

Whether you are new to LPC or have been a long-time member who loves to sing, we are excited to begin gathering again and lifting our combined voices in song to give praise. We encourage you to come join us up in the choir loft on Sunday mornings where all are welcome. Robes, choir folders, and music will be provided. You provide the singing, laughter, and smiles. Rehearsals are Thursday evenings from 7 to 8 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Choir rehearsals will begin on Thursday, September 9. On October 3rd, the choir will be joined by the May River Brass Quintet, led by Jim Rutgers, for both services. This will be World Communion Sunday and we will be singing a new song with them, "Sing Community, Sing Peace" by Mark Hayes.



THE JUBILATE RINGERS ARE BACK AND READY TO BEGIN RINGING AGAIN!

We are excited to begin rehearsing again and playing for the services on the 2nd Sunday of each month, beginning in October. The first rehearsal will be Tuesday, September 14th from 12:30pm to 2:00pm in the Sanctuary. The first performance will be October 10th. If you have an interest in playing bells or learning to play the bells, please contact Robin Lind or Judy Barry. We are always looking for new members.

Dine Around groups will be returning soon!



Coffee time following worship will also be coming soon.



Rev Herrin's Study Leave at Mepkin Abbey

Thank you to the church for the time away and the resources which made possible this wonderfully enriching time of prayer, reading, walking and silence to listen for God's Word on the beautiful grounds on the banks of the Cooper River. I shared about some of my experience in my sermon on August 29th which you can access through our website. Here are a few more offerings from my time there. The prayer was prayed daily in worship at the Abbey.



Prayer at Mepkin for Pandemic

Most merciful and Triune God
We come to you in our weakness.

We come to you in fear.

We come to you with trust.

For you alone are our hope.

We place before you the disease present in our world.

We turn to you in our time of need.

Bring wisdom to the doctors.

Give understanding to the scientists.

Endow caregivers with compassion and generosity.

Bring healing to those who are ill.

Protect those who are most at risk.

Give comfort to those who have lost a loved one.

Welcome those who have died into your eternal home.

Stabilize our communities.

Unite us in your compassion.

Remove all fear from our hearts.

Fill us with confidence in your care.

We pray in the name of Jesus who is

Lord forever and ever.

Amen



PROPERTY MINISTRY

The Property Team met over breakfast for their last meeting with Wim at Bacon Diner to celebrate his many contributions to the Team. Rev. Herrin took the picture.



Farewell to Wim and Ann Tekelenburg. They were thanked in worship and sent with our blessing on August 8th.



Before and After

Your technology team has been hard at work again. We have created in the balcony a new area to house all of our Live Streaming equipment, and also allow room for our future needs as it relates to improvements in our systems. We have now gone from not even having room to sit, to an area that makes it



comfortable to produce the streams. You will be hearing more from us as we move forward with possibilities designed to improve the audio and video experience in both the sanctuary and with our streaming. This enhancement to the balcony will allow us to accommodate any changes we want to make. It is our goal, as we move forward as a congregation, to be able to properly enhance our worship services and other activities that require AV support. Come up and check out our new area! If you have any questions please contact Bob Lowry at jblowry99@gmail.com.

We would also like to thank our friends from the Temple Oseh Shalom for their gift of \$500 given for this project.





September Change Can Make A Change (CCMAC) is for Boys & Girls Club of Jasper County

Their After-School program occurs every weekday throughout the traditional school year calendar. Through activities that are both educational and fun, the After-School program helps youth achieve academic success and develop life skills.

Boys & Girls Clubs provide young people with a safe place to go after school and during the summer as well as a positive outlet for their energy. Out-of-school hours serve as the essential link between school and home, offering the greatest opportunity to influence the future of our kids, our communities and our country. Boys & Girls Clubs seeks to ensure that all kids, especially those who need us most, have a positive and enriching experience when the school bell rings, putting them on the path to success.

- Juvenile violent crime escalates between 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. on school days
- 1 out of 6 students fails to graduate from high school on time
- 1 out of 5 young people lives in poverty

Boys & Girls Clubs are making a difference.

October Change Can Make A Change

The October CCMAC collection will be to supply turkeys and food for Thanksgiving to Bluffton Self Help, Agape and the Bluffton Community Soup Kitchen.

Thanks for your generous donations!

June CCMAC for Back to School Fun Day : \$798.28

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the school supply drive with both money and school items. We collected three HUGE overflowing bins of supplies and \$798.00 in the June CCMAC collection to purchase even more supplies. Distribution will be to the children in need in the Bluffton Area Community on August 8th to prepare them for the start of the new school year.

July CCMAC for Bluffton Community Soup Kitchen: \$725.21

As of August 30th the CCMAC for Lift Up the Vulnerable (LUV): \$995.76

MISSIONS



2021 Habitat For Humanity Faith Build... LPC Gives Money and Energy!

We collected \$5,338.00 through CCMAC for Habitat for Humanity and the Missions budget added \$1,162.00 to make our total donation to the project \$6,500.00

On August 14th, volunteers pictured below worked on the HHI Habitat Homes.

We trimmed out an interior, painted exterior trim, covered windows with plastic in anticipation of exterior spray painting, built a porch railing and a deck. We worked hard and accomplished a lot.

We enjoyed meeting and working with other volunteers from other churches. Mid morning we took a break and enjoyed snacks and Alljoy Donuts supplied to us by Diane and Mick Mikkelsen.

Our next opportunity to work on the house is Saturday, September 12th. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the Narthex or contact Sandy: sbenninger@sc.rr.com or phone 843- 705-5233 . Here's a way to be a "Doer of the Word, and not merely a hearer." James 1: 22



Not pictured Chad Copenhaver and Sandy Benninger



AGAPE THANKS YOU!

The Mission Team delivered 649 items to Agape after our Sunday food drive! You donated 178 lbs of fresh vegetables and 114 lbs of fresh fruit including bags of apples, oranges, lemons, limes, avocados and a couple of pineapples.



In addition to the fruit and vegetables, we received 55 cans of meat and tuna, 44 jars of Peanut butter and jelly, 43 boxes of cereal, and many other items! Thank you for stopping by with your donations. As always Agape is extremely appreciative of your generosity!

The Mission Team



Neighborhood Outreach Connection becomes LPC building user

An extension of LPC's missions and outreach is our Building Use Program in which many local groups are able to use church facilities for their programs. Most of us are familiar with LPC's long affiliation with Family Promise, which used our facilities regularly prior to the pandemic.

The Building Use Program is carefully administered by Christy James our Church Administrator. Christy makes sure that all church policies and protocols are followed, and keeps the calendar up to date to avoid conflicts. When Christy determines that a potential building user could benefit by a reduction in our normal fees, she refers the application to the Missions Ministry Team or the Administration and Finance Team for further vetting, who in turn make a recommendation to the Session to waive or reduce fees. This ensures that we're doing the most we can for the community while looking out for the church's interests too.



A recent example and new building user is the Neighborhood Outreach Connection (NOC). NOC was founded in 2008 on Hilton Head Island, and now works throughout Beaufort County to advance its goal to "break the pattern of generational poverty one neighborhood at a time."

NOC contacted LPC when it was looking for space for its summer program after its Learning Center that serves Avalon Shores and ONYX Apartment complexes could not renew its lease. Following the successful summer program, NOC asked LPC to consider hosting their after-school program for the academic year beginning in August of this year. The Session responded quickly, and the program has a new home.

This is a happy ending made possible by the good work of Christy James, the LPC Ministry Teams and Session, and most importantly through your generous support of LPC's Missions and Outreach ministries.

On the next page is a letter from NOC expressing their gratitude for your support.

(continued next page)



Note to Lowcountry Presbyterian Church



Dear Friends:

Neighborhood Outreach Connection (NOC) is highly indebted to the Lowcountry Presbyterian Church for allowing the use of its Fellowship Hall for our afterschool program for the academic year, starting August 2021. This decision will be greatly appreciated by the children and adults from low-income households and neighborhoods that we serve.

Your decision to allow us the use of the Fellowship Hall for education purposes is significant and timely.

Since early 2020, the coronavirus pandemic has created enormous challenges in educating children locally. NOC's experience has shown that children from poverty backgrounds have limited learning opportunities and they often do not have access to technology, internet, learning materials, and instructional support at home. These children need a safe and an enabling learning environment within their neighborhood, so that transportation is not a serious impediment to accessibility. Through its learning centers at Avalon Shores and ONYX Apartment complexes in Bluffton, NOC has since 2013 provided continued learning support to many high risk children with the help of local teachers from public schools, volunteers, and technology/ internet. But, unfortunately, NOC has not been able to renew the lease for these learning centers as these complexes have transformed into luxury apartments catering to higher-income families.

The Lowcountry Presbyterian Church has provided a new home for these children by making its Fellowship Hall available. This action has given these children hope to overcome the loss of learning that has accrued since March 2020 because of COVID-19 and to excel in school. NOC will build on its four weeks pilot summer program at the Lowcountry Presbyterian Church, which was highly successful in serving 30 children. Moving forward in the academic year, NOC will offer classes to Pre-K through Grade 8, Monday through Thursday. Children will engage in effective learning for 75 to 90 minutes, building skills in reading, math, and language arts. Special attention will also be given enrichment activities to build social and emotional skills.

NOC values this partnership with the Lowcountry Presbyterian Church and hopes that volunteers from the Church will participate in helping these children in building their learning skills.

NOC appreciates the generous support of the Lowcountry Presbyterian Church.

Together we can fight poverty and bring hope to the poor.

Narendra P. Sharma, PhD
Founder & Chair, NOC

Backpack Buddies Update

On August 12th, Dale Wilkes, Fran Casperson, Pam Davis-Webb, Robert Shumate, and Sandy Benninger braved the heat and worked at the Bluffton Farmer's Market Backpack Buddies Booth. We had a very successful day with close to 50 families participating. Two of those families are supporting 10 children each. There is no question that Backpack Buddies makes a significant contribution toward ending child hunger.

The Farmer's Market has wonderful produce and speciality items. If you haven't gone to the market before it is now located in Miller Park, next door to the Heyward House. It takes place on Thursdays and can be a fun outing.





LPC sponsoring member for the YAV Program of the PCUSA



Sarah Bleile was home for a short visit prior to beginning her second year in the Young Adult Volunteer Program of the PCUSA. LPC supported her financially in her first year but her second year was postponed due to Covid. In July, the Missions Team approved sponsoring Sarah again using \$1500 from the Missionary Support portion of our annual budget.

Here is a letter from Sarah describing her missionary duties for the 2021-2022 year.

Dear LPC and the Mission Committee,

My time to serve as a Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) in New Orleans for a second year has finally come! I am excited to share with you that the call that I accepted to serve as a YAV for the 2021-2022 season is going to happen. I have been waiting patiently for it to start. There have been many challenges to overcome this past year and it has allowed me to grow even more as a person. That growth is going to continue in my year of service.

This past year of in betweenness hasn't been easy for me. But it has allowed me to have grace for myself and others as things constantly changed. It has also allowed me to have time for reflection of my first year and this weird year. During this past year I have been staying busy by volunteering my time with four of the work site placements that the New Orleans YAV program has. I also participated in the virtual YAV year.

I want to give a huge thank you to LPC for the support that you have shown me over the past couple of years. I especially thank you for your gift of \$1500. Your donation will help make it possible for me to serve as a Young Adult Volunteer in New Orleans this year, and for that I am truly grateful. Serving as a YAV wouldn't be possible without your prayers and financial support. One positive of this pandemic is being able to stay connected online. I have had the time and opportunity this past year to connect with LPC and participate in classes that were being offered during this year. It gave me the chance to explore and learn more about my faith and it made my heart happy to be connected at home in South Carolina all the way from Louisiana.

During my second YAV year I will be working part time at Okra Abbey and part time at Jefferson Presbyterian Church. Okra Abbey is a community garden and while there, I will be helping with the gardening and engaging with the community. While working at Jefferson Presbyterian Church, I will be helping with the food bank that they run and I will be involved with the congregation. I look forward to sharing with you about my year, and I want to thank you for your financial support and continued prayers.

I am so excited about serving as a YAV for a second year and look forward to sharing with you my experiences throughout my year of service. I ask that you include me in your prayers as the year starts and throughout the year. You can read about my time from my first YAV year and keep up with my experience from my second year by reading my blog at www.sarahbleileyav.wordpress.com.

Again I appreciate your generous support and your faith in God's work please accept my heartfelt thanks!

Sincerely,
Sarah Bleile

ReEngage and ReNew Team Update

The ReEngage and ReNew Team is comprised of Tom Bloom, who is the facilitator of the team, Bill Thorpe, Diane Mikkelsen and Carol Bogle with Chris Herrin and Stephanie Dion providing support. We held two listening sessions on Sunday, June 27, 2021 which were led by Chris. The purpose of the listening sessions was to hear from the congregation on a variety of topics involving the Pandemic. The team wanted to know, among other things, what the congregation valued about LPC's ministry during the Pandemic, what forms of communication were most useful and what new initiatives LPC started during the Pandemic should be continued.

In order to hear from more members of the congregation as well as others on LPC's email list, the team sent out a survey in early July. The survey had some of the same questions that were used at the listening sessions plus a few other questions concerning in person attendance and use of the live streaming capability.

The responses from the listening sessions and the survey were generally similar.

Communication- Many people found the e-blasts, newsletter, website and announcements made at the Sunday service useful. Some people indicated that they appreciated the phone calls from elders.

LPC's ministry during the Pandemic- There was overwhelming positive feedback about pre-recorded and then the live streaming of the Sunday service. Many people appreciated the video devotionals that were conducted by the pastors. The drive by food collections, bible study classes via Zoom and periodic interviews of staff and elders were popular.

New initiatives to continue- Devotionals, live streaming of the Sunday service, the drive by food collections, Bible study and book discussions via Zoom.

The team thanks everyone who participated in the listening sessions and responded to the survey. Updates from the ReEngage and ReNew Team will appear in future editions of The Light.



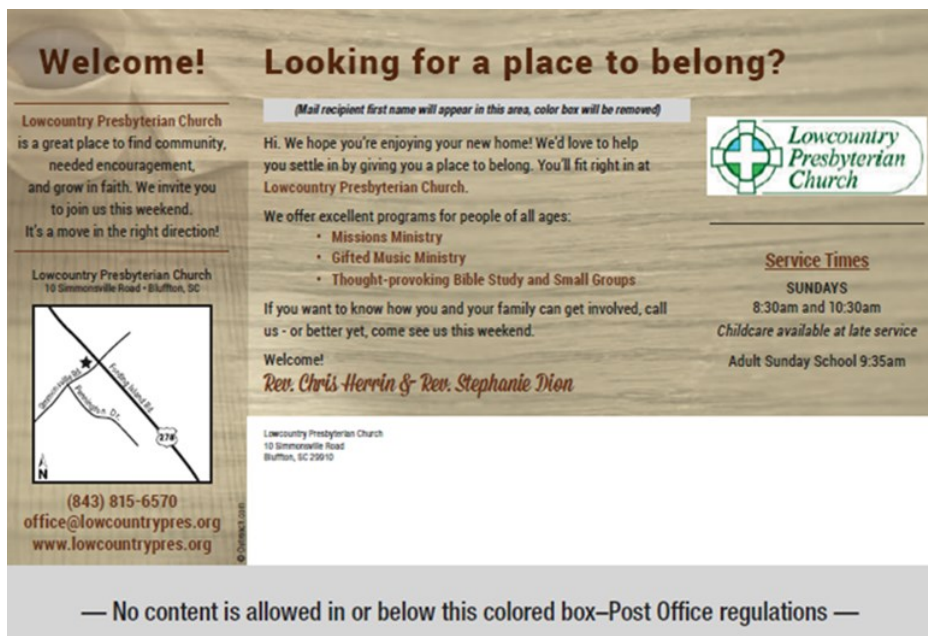
Sunday, July 11th, Chris got to connect with former LPC-ers who now reside in Greenville SC, on her way back from vacation. JoAnn hosted a brunch, complete with a surprise birthday cake for Chris.

All expressed appreciation for LPC's online ministry during CoVid, especially the pre-recorded and then live-streamed worship services which they still watch.

JoAnn Bauer Taylor and her husband, David, Carolyn and Jim Trip and Evie Whiting

Communications Ministry

We are always trying new ways to reach people in our community, encouraging them to worship with us and enjoy LPC as their spiritual home. Through an online service, we created and sent personalized postcard invitations to new home buyers in our area. The cards welcome the buyers and invite them to our church. The company will supply us with a list of names and addresses so we can follow up with them periodically. Below is a picture of the postcard.



Communications Ministry Photography Volunteer Group

As the adage states, "A picture is worth a thousand words." We enjoy sharing events with our members and visitors via the newsletter, Facebook, and Instagram. Pictures are an especially great way to do that. We would like to create a list of volunteers to take pictures at our church events. Sue Martin will coordinate the list and rotate requests. You could accept the request or decline until another time. If you are willing to participate in our volunteer group, please contact Sue Martin at sue.martin32@aol.com or (610) 507-8929. Thank you!



LOWCOUNTRY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Phone: 843-815-6570

E-mail: lpcoffice1@hargray.com

We're on the Web!
www.lowcountrypres.org

SESSION MEMBERS:

John Abernethy (Membership)

(843)757-8099

jagolf@aol.com

Doug Adamson (Administration)

843-706-9260

adamson.doug@gmail.com

Donald Allison (Mission)

(843) 707-7671

dcsallison@gmail.com

Carol Bogle (Christian Education)

(843)356-5268

carolbogle21@gmail.com

Debbie Hough (Worship)

(843)815-2884

hougha@bellsouth.net

Janit Maguire (Communications)

(845) 527-6409

janitmaguire@gmail.com

Diane Mikkelsen (Mission)

(843) 757-6686

dianemikke@aol.com

William Thorpe (Christian Care)

(843) 706-2729

87wt1514@gmail.com

Larry Tremiere (Worship)

(843) 208-3414

ltrem1943@gmail.com

LPC Mission Statement

Surrounded by God's grace, we are a family of faith joined together through Christ, offering meaning and hope to all by the way we worship, serve and live.

Session Highlights

At its August 23rd meeting, the Session:

- Ratified motions approved via electronic vote since the June Session meeting:
 - Accepted a proposal from the Casa del Banguette Hispanic congregation to enhance the audio-visual capabilities in the Fellowship Hall.
 - Approved an Outreach Ministry Team proposal to allow the Pat Conroy Literary Center to use the Sanctuary and the Narthex for two seminars and concurrent book sales.
 - Approved a request from the Neighborhood Outreach Connection (NOC) to use the Fellowship Hall on Mondays through Thursdays from 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm during the upcoming school year for their after-school program for pre-K through the 8th grade students.
- Recognized the work done by the Communications Ministry Team to develop welcoming postcards that will be sent to homes purchased home in the area in July. The postcards will invite new residents to visit LPC.
- Determined that in light of new guidance from the CDC and the rapid spread of the Delta variant of the Coronavirus in Bluffton and Beaufort County, LPC's Covid-19 protocols shall be modified to require participants in worship services, classes, small groups, team meetings, choir and bell practice sessions, community outreach programs and similar events held indoors in LPC facilities, including the Fellowship Hall, to wear masks. This revised protocol shall also apply to all third party use of LPC facilities.
- Elected Elder Hough to be LPC's Commissioner to the Charleston Atlantic Presbytery's Fall Meeting to be held on September 18th.

The next Stated Session meeting will be at 7:00 PM on Monday, September 20, 2021.

If you have any questions please contact Ernest Bush, Clerk of Session at 843-290-3218 or mailto:elbush@mac.com.

At the congregational meeting August 1st, those present voted unanimously to approve the resolution involving the transfer of the church property, to be held by LPC, in trust for the denomination.



Pat Conroy
PAT CONROY
LITERARY CENTER

THE FAITH OF PAT CONROY

Presented by **Jonathan Haupt** and **Holland Perryman**

Lowcountry Presbyterian Church Sanctuary

10 Simmonsville Road, Bluffton

Sunday, October 3, 4:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Free and Open to the Public | Face Coverings Recommended

“When I thought God had abandoned me, I discovered that He had simply given me a different voice to praise the inexhaustible beauty of the made world.”

—Pat Conroy, *My Losing Season*

Acclaimed southern storyteller **Pat Conroy** (1945-2016) is best remembered as the author of a dozen beloved books, including *The Water Is Wide*, *The Great Santini*, *The Lords of Discipline*, and *The Prince of Tides*. In this free, public presentation, explore Conroy’s spiritual and humanistic faith as reflected in his turbulent life and bestselling books—from his Roman Catholic upbringing to The Citadel’s honor code to themes of spirituality in his writings to his life of service as a mentor to his fellow writers to his connections to his “second church,” First Presbyterian Church of Beaufort. Presented by Jonathan Haupt, the executive director of the Pat Conroy Literary Center, and Holland Perryman, founder of Beaufort High School’s Diversity Awareness Youth Literacy Organization, this free community outreach program is offered in collaboration between Lowcountry Presbyterian Church and the nonprofit Conroy Center.



Jonathan Haupt is the executive director of the Pat Conroy Literary Center and the former director of the University of South Carolina Press. His book reviews and author interviews, and articles have appeared in the *Charleston Post and Courier*, *Lowcountry Weekly*, *Beaufort Lifestyle*, *Savannah Morning News Beacon* magazine, and the *Southern Review of Books*. He is co-editor of the anthology *Our Prince of Scribes: Writers Remember Pat Conroy*, the winner of 17 book awards.

The first intern of the Pat Conroy Literary Center, **Holland Perryman** is a senior at Beaufort High School, where she is founder of the Diversity Awareness Youth Literacy Organization and winner of the second annual Ann Head Literary Prize for Short Story. Her book reviews and author interviews have been published in the *Charleston Post and Courier*, *Lowcountry Weekly*, and the *Southern Review of Books*.

www.PatConroyLiteraryCenter.org

CHRISTIAN CARING MINISTRY



Thanks to you all who have sent me cards of concern and well wishes. This is very meaningful to me. My problems are small in comparison to so many others. Still, during times of stress input from good Christian people is very comforting.

God Bless you ALL.....

Bill Thorpe

Thank you for your prayers and outpouring of love while I recuperated from my hip replacement surgery. I feel blessed.

Lois Johnson

Thank you for the flowers, phone calls. Cards and prayers during this difficult time.

Bonnie Dove



Please Remember These Members in Prayer

Bill Box
Al Burfeind

Nancy Johnson
Margaret Tout

Shirley Wanket



Christian sympathy is extended to:

The family of Emo Lieser

Dave and Carol Givens on the death of their son, Jeff

Stan and Chris Richards on the death of Stan's granddaughter, Erin Nelson

Bonnie Dove on the death of her sister Helen Carlson



Upcoming Memorial Services:

A Memorial Service for Emo Lieser is being held on
Saturday, September 4th at 2pm at Seabrook of Hilton Head

A Memorial Service for Marilyn Gemme
will be held at LPC on October 12th at 11:00am

September Birthdays



- | | |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Bob Overfield | 10 Sue Martin |
| 2 Sally Stein | 13 Tom Bloom |
| 4 Donna Myers | 13 Donald Hippensteel |
| 4 Robyn Kiser | 13 Marky Stauffer |
| 5 Jerry Anderson | 14 Greg Bobro |
| 5 Sally Farrar | 14 Rick Kuhn |
| 5 Laura Phillips | 14 William Thorpe |
| 6 Darlene Kunkle | 16 Beth Greenwell |
| 6 Anneke Ruys | 19 Bob Law |
| 6 Dave Williams | 19 Nancy Gureck |
| 7 Joe Franklin | 22 Robert Lowry |
| 8 J. R. Wilson | 24 Carol Simpson |
| 9 Margrit Fodor | 27 Andy Carter |
| 9 Phil Kiser | 30 Chris Richards |

October Birthdays



- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Cathy Cooke | 17 Linda Fischer |
| 3 Ellie Smith | 18 Elizabeth Bobro |
| 6 Ron Gemme | 18 Evie Hardin |
| 6 Jim Tripp | 21 Shirley Boppe |
| 7 Ann Finn | 21 Carolyn Marshall |
| 8 Judy Wells | 22 Jean Nordby |
| 9 Susan Grider | 25 Jayani Wilkin |
| 8 Marian Williams | 28 William Box |
| 10 Erick Chavelas | 29 Ed Walters |
| 12 Dale Kershner | |
| 12 Carol Given | |
| 13 Margaret Tout | |
| 16 Al Burfeind | |

Be sure to notice two new pieces of framed art in our Narthex!

We thank Stephen Ball for procuring, framing, and donating them to LPC to add to the beauty of our gathering space.



“LPC Reads”

For All of the LPC Book Enthusiasts ...

We would like to know if you have read any good books lately. The books can be on any subject. Please email the title of the book, the author and brief description (one or two lines) of the book and why you liked it to Carol Bogle at carolbogle21@gmail.com.

From Bill Thorpe:

1. *The Constitution Of Knowledge* by Jonathan Rauch. In this book Rauch, a Yale Professor, write a convincing treatise that the terrible power and effectiveness of disinformation so infectiously permeates our systems of communications so as to diminish almost to uselessness our means of making decisions and policy appropriate to any issue. Most obviously in political discourse Rauch shows plausibly with numerous examples that both sides of the Isle—conservative and liberal-- have egregiously utilized disinformation to promote their viewpoints and candidates. His only real recommendation is for each of us to become more moral in our response to all information. Interestingly he quotes Lincoln most frequently in this approach.

2. *Simply Jesus* by N.T. Wright Wright, a deep thinker, professor of religion at St Andrews University and prolific author, makes the theme that we have missed the true reason for the coming of Jesus: Rather than prescribing a way to think, act and live so as to gain entrance into Heaven at our deaths Jesus was sent to Earth to teach us by word and action to live for NOW by the codes revealed to us in the scriptures. Make Heaven our daily life not some future place. It is for this reason Jesus used so frequently parables or stories of real life persons to demonstrate and illustrate what God had intended and, indeed, commanded. I found this very interesting and comforting. Heaven is not such a “far away” place rather a place in our hearts and souls—if we so choose—that can make our lives as we live them, heavenly indeed.

From Carol Bogle:

1. *The Lost Girls of Paris* by Pam Jenoff. This novel inspired was by true events takes place in 1944 and 1946 in England, France and the U.S. involving young English women who were trained as secret agents and then literally dropped into France to help the French Resistance against the Germans. The story starts with the discovery of an abandoned suitcase found in Grand Central Station found by Grace, one of the main characters. The suitcase contained photos of 13 young women in uniforms. Who are these women? Why was the suitcase abandoned? Who owns the suitcase? Grace becomes involved in finding out who these women were and what happened to them. Pam Jenoff has written several other novels all involving aspects of WWII, one of which is *The Orphan's Tale*, which was on the NY Times best seller list.

2. and 3. *The Great Santini* and *The Death of Santini* both by the late Pat Conroy. The Great Santini is a fictionalized account of Pat Conroy's life as a young man. The Great Santini is the nickname of Pat's father, a Marine fighter pilot. Pat and his family moved on an annual basis to wherever his father was stationed. They eventually settled in Beaufort when Pat was 16 years old, which is where the story takes place. The dysfunctional nature of Pat's childhood is well known to Pat Conroy fans. It is described in great detail in this novel. The Death of Santini is the non-fiction version of Pat's relationship with his father and how their relationship evolved over the years prior to the Great Santini's death. It also goes into detail about other members of Pat's immediate and extended families and the fall-out of the publication of *The Great Santini*. I thoroughly enjoyed both books. These books are must reads for Pat Conroy fans. I'm gradually making my way through reading all of the books that Pat Conroy wrote. By the way, *The Great Santini* was turned into a movie that starred Robert Duvall as the Great Santini and Blythe Danner as Pat's mother.

4. *Full of Grace* by the late Dorothea Benton Frank. This novel was one of the author's first books. The novel takes place in Hilton Head, Charleston, Mexico City and Sardinia. It was a fun read involving complicated family and romantic relationships, Catholicism, science, illness and more.

"LPC Reads" continued

From Bill Bogle

A Course Called Ireland, By: Tom Coyne

Tom Coyne, an Adjunct Professor of English at St. Joseph's University in Philadelphia, PA, is a golfer. He famously tried to take a year of playing golf to qualify for the PGA Tour as outlined in his second novel *Paper Tiger*, now sets his sights on his homeland, Ireland. By foot. Armed with a small carry bag, waterproof golf shoes and a rainsuit, he sets out to walk the entire circumference of Ireland playing golf courses along the coast. Not just the golf courses, but the distances between the golf courses. In the rain, the cold, and occasionally stopped by angry dogs, sheep, and a bull. Links golf in famous destinations, hidden golf courses off the beaten path, and lodging and food where he can find it. It takes a significant toll on him, but he manages to find new adventures and courses along the way. He is joined by friends, family, and the people he meets. It is not just a list of golf courses to be checked off but an in-depth report of the people, the places, and the courses along the way. It can serve as a study guide for those planning a trip to Ireland, or a wonderful look back at the country to those who have visited it. His personal stories of finding short cuts and the people who follow his journey around Ireland are wonderful.

A Course Called Scotland, By Tom Coyne

Tom Coyne follows up his famous walk around Ireland with a trip around Scotland. He is not on foot this time, and he is joined by followers of his Ireland book along the way. He is helped to locate places to stay and eat, and even private courses to play. He starts in the North of England, with the goal to play around Scotland and end up at the Qualifier for the Open Championship (often called the British Open by the colonists). He remarks about the well-known courses, the over hyped courses, and the hidden gems. He is joined again by friends and family, with wonderful stories of the friendship and experience that is golf. As he did in his Ireland book, he puts together his favorites, ranked by different criteria, which can serve as a tour guide for anyone looking to play golf in Scotland. The stories of his successes, his failures, and his efforts to complete this task keeps you turning the pages. It is a quick read with great chapters addressing areas of the country. He travels to the Home of Golf, St. Andrews, with his wife and young daughters visiting him in the Old Grey Town. He ventures north to Aberdeen and Dornock, and even into the Islands on the West and the North of Scotland. His stories of the land and the people make the book so interesting for all who love travel, and especially golf.

And a foreshadowing of things to come., Tom just released his newest book, *A Course called America*, this May. He has traveled the United States. Playing all the U.S. Open Golf courses, and many in between. But that is another story to finish.



Financial Results

	July	Year to Date
Receipts	\$32,774	\$300,349
Disbursements	<\$45,975>	<\$285,079>
Net Result	\$(13,201)	\$ 15,270

July was obviously not a good month, but it was not unexpected. Our YTD numbers though, are still very strong. However, as we move forward in 2021, I would look for the results to be much closer to our budgeted expectations. If you have any questions, please contact Bob Lowry at jblowry99@gmail.com

September 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 Building & Grounds 9am Membership Ministry 10:30am Mission Ministry 4:00pm	3	4
5 Worship, 8:30 & 10:30am Adult Sunday School 9:35am	6 Church office is Closed for Labor Day	7 Outreach 4:00pm Bible 103 6:30pm	8 Christian Care Ministry 10am Movie Discussion 4pm Youth Group 7pm	9 Choir Practice 7:00pm Bible 103 4pm Admin/Finance 4pm	10 CONC 4:00pm	11 Men of Purpose 9:00am
12 Worship, 8:30 & 10:30am Adult Sunday School 9:35am LPC Brunch 11:30am New Member Class 4:00pm	13 Worship Ministry 7:00pm	14 Bell Practice 12:00pm Bible 103 6:30pm	15 Criminal Justice Series 6:00pm	16 CE Ministry 2:30am Communications 4:00pm Bible 103 4pm Choir Practice 7:00pm	17	18 Men of Purpose 9:00am
19 Worship, 8:30 & 10:30am Adult Sunday School 9:35am New Member Class 4:00pm	20 Session Meeting 7pm	21 Bell Practice 12:00pm Stephen Ministry 6:30pm Bible 103 6:30pm	22 Criminal Justice Series 6:00pm Youth Group	23 Movie Discussion 6:30pm Bible 103 4pm Choir Practice 7:00pm	24	25 Men of Purpose 9:00am
26 Worship, 8:30 & 10:30am Adult Sunday School 9:35am New Member Class 4:00pm	27	28 Bell Practice 12:00pm Bible 103 6:30pm	29 Criminal Justice Series 6:00pm	30 Bo's Class 6:30pm Bible 103 4pm Choir Practice 7:00pm		