

JANUARY 2018



| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|--|---|------------------------|----------------------------|
| | 1 7:00 AA Mtg. | 2 6:30 Discipleship Mtg. | 3 7:30 AM AA Mtg. 5:30 PW#2 Meeting | 4 10:00 Women's Bible Study 7:00 AA Mtg. | 5 7:00 Girl Scouts | 6 |
| Christmas Break - School's Out | | | | | | |
| 7 Communion Epiphany Sunday (Terry Holmes) | 8 7:00 AA Mtg. School's Out | 9 9:00 Early Risers 7:00 Boy Scouts | 10 7:30 AM AA Mtg. 5:00 G & G 6:00 Handbell Rehearsal 7:00 Choir Rehearsal | 11 5:30 Resources Mtg. 7:00 AA Mtg. | 12 | 13 9:00 Elders Training |
| 14 Installation of Elders (Laura Richardson) | 15 7:00 AA Mtg. | 16 9:00 Early Risers 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:00 Stated Session Mtg. | 17 7:30 AM AA Mtg. 5:00 G & G 6:00 Handbell Rehearsal 7:00 Choir Rehearsal | 18 10:00 Women's Bible Study 7:00 AA Mtg. | 19 7:00 Girl Scouts | 20 |
| 21 12:15 Witness Meeting (Carolyn Francis) | 22 7:00 AA Mtg. | 23 9:00 Early Risers 7:00 Boy Scouts | 24 7:30 AM AA Mtg. 5:00 G & G 6:00 Handbell Rehearsal 7:00 Choir Rehearsal | 25 10:00 Women's Bible Study 7:00 AA Mtg. | 26 | 27 |
| 28 (TBD) | 29 7:00 AA Mtg. | 30 9:00 Early Risers 7:00 Boy Scouts | 31 7:30 AM AA Mtg. 5:00 G & G 6:00 Handbell Rehearsal 7:00 Choir Rehearsal | | | |

- Happy Birthday!**
- Jan 3 Marie Anne Coutin-Baxter
 - Jan 3 Mitchell Stanley
 - Jan 8 Justin Wells
 - Jan 10 Jane Rutledge
 - Jan 10 Alex Seal
 - Jan 11 Peggy Chase
 - Jan 13 Ward Gailey
 - Jan 14 Denise Rodgers
 - Jan 16 Betsy Sierra
 - Jan 17 Greg Lathrop

- Jan 20 Suzie Wharton
 - Jan 25 Brad Richardson
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Stockbridge Presbyterian Church
"The Church at the Bridge"

Bridging the Gaps in People's Lives!

- Between us and God
- With family, friends & neighbors

Henry County Georgia

The Church At The Bridge

From My Heart to Yours

A few weeks ago I listened while a pastor friend of mine, who serves a very large and wealthy church in Atlanta, talked about the extensive overseas mission work his church does. Large sums of money donated, missionaries supported, churches built – it really was pretty impressive. Great things are happening!

So did I have a little spark of jealousy? NO WAY! I want you to read a letter we received from one of our G&G families, when they came to pick up their Christmas basket a couple weeks ago:

To the dearest Reverend Susan Bennett and congregation,

The Stockbridge Presbyterian Church makes a difference in our home every Friday. My husband and I have 3 children – a 14-year old girl, a 12-year old girl, and a 6-year old son. All of my kids bring a bag of fruit, noodles, grits, oatmeal, packs of crackers, and even 2 cans of beef-a-roni – actually 3 meals for Saturday and Sunday. My husband and I and the children are so thankful. There is not always enough food in the house. We waste nothing. Thank you for the food!

Thank you for picking our family and sponsoring our kids this Christmas. They are all great kids and good students. I would never want them to wake up Christmas morning and find not much of anything. Our 6-year old would think he was very bad and Santa didn't come!

We are able to pay our bills, but barely. When it comes to extra "wants", we come up short. Sometimes we are short on our needs.

Thank you for the gifts and the food. You have taken so much stress from my husband and me, and our holiday will be better. More joy in our home is always a blessing. We thank God. He is an on-time God, yes, he is! Love and thanks –

There was a p.s. from each of the kids. From the 14-year old:

I'm writing because my little sister and brother still believe in Santa, and you are helping so much.

Thank you for the food on Fridays. Thank you so very much.

The 12-year old girl also said thank you, and drew a funny face with its tongue sticking out, which I absolutely loved.

And the 6-year old boy printed out his full name, with an arrow pointing to his thank you. Wonderful!

The latest statistic is that 70% of school kids in Henry County qualify for the free and reduced-cost breakfast and lunch program at their schools. They and their families are our mission field. The kids and grownups at the 2 mobile home communities we've visited are our mission field. The folks who rely on Joseph's Pantry are our mission field. Every time we step outside the doors of our homes and our church, we're on the mission field that God's given us to serve and help. Are global missions exciting? You bet! Would I trade God's call on the big church for the call he's given SPC? Never! YOU are the people God uses to give these missions their love, passion, and energy. YOU are amazing! God bless each of you for your faithfulness, and much love to you all –

Susan

UPCOMING SERMONS

- Jan 7 Epiphany Sunday
Matthew 2:1-12
Ephesians 3:1-12
"For God So Loved the World"
 - Jan 14 1 Samuel 3:1-10
John 1:43-51
"When God Speaks"
 - Jan 21 Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
1 Corinthians 1:3-9
"Enriched and Strengthened"
 - Jan 28 Psalm 29
Genesis 1:1-5
"A Bigger Picture"
-

Stockbridge Presbyterian Church

Rev. Susan Bennett, Pastor

DISCIPLESHIP



New Year, New Start

The holidays are over and the decorations have been put away. Now what is in store for you in 2018?!

Are you interested in growing as a disciple of Christ? There are many resources to help you. The weekly bulletin and SPC website are excellent resources to start with along with the following suggestions:

Study God's Word

Attend Sunday School on a regular basis. Sunday School Options: College - ++

Pastor's Discipleship Class, 9:45 – 10:30, Upstairs - "Lectionary Sunday School" where we study whatever the Lectionary passages are for that Sunday. This is discussion not lecture.

The Wired Word, 9:30-10:30, Parlor - A current news story is read and discussed, followed by scripture showing how scripture is relevant to today's news.

Walter Lee Memorial, 9:45 – 10:30, Upstairs – "The Present Word"

Presbyterian Women's Circles (See bulletin for details)

Personal study with an accountability partner using the Sail Boat Church 40 day devotional in the back. (Request a copy if you did not attend the retreat)

Service

Consider being an usher or an acolyte. Serve on a committee that you are interested in.

There is always something you can do to grow as a disciple! Just let us know what your interests are. We are here to help!

In Service,

Laura & Stephanie



Thank you to all those who made the Live Nativity happen. It takes the whole congregation

for this ministry to be a success. First, a big thank you to the cast who braved the cold! But that is just what shows our love to the world. There were those who set things up and took things down; those who baked and brought hot chocolate and cider; those who greeted visitors and made them feel welcome. It always amazes me how much outreach this "small" church does in the community and Stockbridge Presbyterian Church did it again with the Live Nativity. Thank you is such a small way of expressing my gratitude to EVERYONE involved!

You are all in my prayers,
Jo Linda Ingram



The group meets on the 1st, 3rd, 4th and sometimes 5th Thursday of the month at 10:00 AM in the conference room Please join us!



Goodness & Groceries Ministry

Our Goodness and Groceries Ministry meets on **Wednesdays at 5:00 p.m.** during the school year. We are continuing our partnership with Food Depot, Cotton Indian Elementary, Dutchtown Middle, Smith Barnes Elementary, and Stockbridge Middle School to ensure no child goes hungry on the weekends. If you are looking for a way to serve God by serving others, please join us in the Fellowship Hall.



SAVE THE DATE

2018 Relay for Life is May 4, 2018 at 7:00 p.m., Salem Baptist Church Park.



Dear Church family,

Thank all of you so much for your continued prayers and loving kindness to Leslie and me. I love you all and miss seeing you and being with you in church.

My new address is:
Sara Moseley
Benton Village Apt. 408
195 Evergreen Terrace
Stockbridge, GA 30281

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas!
Sara



Dear Members & Friends of SPC,

I, as well as my family, want to thank each of you for the prayers, notes, and other condolences you contributed at the time of Joe's illness and death. All of you mean so much to us and you meant so much to Joe during his many years as a part of the church.

We love you all,
Mabel White & Family



5 ON THE 1ST FOR JOSEPH'S PANTRY

Stated Meeting - November 14, 2017

Clerk's Report:

The Session received no communications.

The Consent Agenda was approved.

Jim provided a timeline showing when input to the 2017 Annual Report is due.

Jim reminded Committees that their input for the 2018 Activities Calendar is due to him by 11/30/17.

Resources Committee:

No issues or recommendations.

Witness Committee:

No issues or recommendations.

Discipleship Committee:

The Session approved a request from Barry and Alisa Newsome to have their son, Gabriel, baptized on Sunday, November 26, 2017.

Pastor's Report:

Susan discussed the committee assignments for 2018. The current Session members are to make recommendations to where they and the new members should serve.

New Business:

There was no new business.

There being no further business to conduct, the meeting was closed with everyone praying the Lord's Prayer.

Congregation Meetings:

November 12, 2017

Rev. Susan Bennett called the meeting to order at 12:05 PM. She opened the meeting with prayer and declared a quorum of 10% of members present.

The first order of business was to elect Elders to the Class of 2020. Arlene Lathrop, Co-Chair of the Nominating Committee, introduced her committee members as follows: Laura Richardson as Co-Chair, Aaron Roberts, Tami Pass, Paul Szeto, and Mary Thompson. Arlene related to the congregation that the committee not only prayerfully considered the suggestions

presented by the congregation but also closely reviewed the church rolls seeking individuals who felt called to service as an Elder utilizing their time and talents. The following slate for 2020 was presented: Ken Day, Aaron Roberts, Mary Carol Stanley and Kim Seal. Arlene asked if there were any nominations from the congregation. A motion was made and seconded to close the nominations. The above slate of candidates was elected unanimously.

The second order of business was to present the 2018 Church Budget which was approved by the Session at a stated meeting on October 17, 2017. Jim Beisner, Clerk of Session, discussed Resources Committee's decision to continue to use a missional budget that would demonstrate how the church's financial resources would be allocated to support the adopted strategic plan's six (6) areas (fellowship, worship and music, building use, congregational nurturing, radical giving, and community outreach). He further explained that each item which included staff salaries, from the operations budget was placed into one of these 6 areas.

The last order of business was to present the terms of call for Rev. Bennett for the coming year. Jim Beisner informed the congregation that the terms of call had changed because of the 3% pay increase that had been approved by Session for Rev. Bennett. The congregation approved the following terms of call:

| | |
|----------------------|-----------|
| Salary and Housing | \$ 62,358 |
| Benefits Plan: | |
| Medical/Retirement | \$ 21,865 |
| Dental | \$ 932 |
| Social Security | \$ 4,185 |
| Continuing Education | \$ 1,000 |
| Automobile Expense | \$ 3,600 |
| Business Expense | \$ 1,500 |
| Book Allowance | \$ 600 |

The purposes for which this meeting was called having been accomplished, Rev. Bennett closed the meeting with prayer.



In the past your support in paying the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta per capita has been greatly appreciated. The Session is again asking your support with per capita in 2018 by providing a gift of \$24.23 per SPC member. Thank you.



Circle #1 meets the 1st Tuesday @ 12:00 Noon in the Conference Room.

Circle #2 meets the 1st Wednesday @ 5:30 PM in the Parlor.

Both groups meet September - June.



Every Sunday morning at 9:00 AM a delicious breakfast is served in the Fellowship Hall. This is a wonderful time of fellowship. Please consider signing up to prepare a breakfast one Sunday. The **sign up sheet** is located on the refrigerator in the fellowship hall.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

BEADLE

- Jan 7 Terry Holmes
- Jan 14 Laura Richardson
- Jan 21 Judy Simmons
- Jan 28 Tracey Clipper

LITURGISTS

- Jan 7 Terry Holmes
- Jan 14 Laura Richardson
- Jan 21 Carolyn Francis
- Jan 28 TBD

CHILDREN'S SERMON

- Jan 7 Monica Coutin-Baxter
- Jan 14 John Dunn
- Jan 21 Aaron Roberts
- Jan 28 Tami Pass

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP WORKERS

- Jan 7 Greg Lathrop
- Jan 14 Phyllis & Jason Howard
- Jan 21 Tami Pass & Alisa Newsome
- Jan 28 Stephanie Dunn & Diana Taylor