



AUGUST 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 7:00 AA Mtg.	2	3
4 Communion (Greg Lathrop)	5 7:00 AA Mtg.	6 7:00 Boy Scouts	7 7:30 AM AA Mtg. 7:00 Choir Rehearsal Resumes	8 7:00 AA Mtg.	9	10
11 12:15 Called Session Meeting (Jim Beisner)	12 7:00 AA Mtg.	13 7:00 Boy Scouts	14 7:30 AM AA Mtg. 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	15 10:00 Women's Bible Study Resumes 7:00 AA Mtg.	16	17
18 12:15 Witness Mtg. (Jeffrey Cochran)	19 4:00 Resources Mtg. 7:00 AA Mtg.	20 7:00 Boy Scouts	21 7:30 AM AA Mtg. 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	22 10:00 Women's Bible Study 7:00 AA Mtg.	23	24
25 12:15 Christian Ed Kickoff Luncheon 12:15 Discipleship Mtg. (Lee Hart)	26 7:00 AA Mtg.	27 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:00 Stated Session Mtg.	28 7:30 AM AA Mtg. 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	29 10:00 Women's Bible Study 7:00 AA Mtg.	30	31



Aug 4 Cooper Keller
 Aug 5 Edna Fisher
 Aug 6 Jo Linda Ingram
 Aug 10 Monica Coutin-Baxter
 Aug 12 Ken Roberts
 Aug 15 Sarah McQuade
 Aug 19 Janna Szeto
 Aug 22 Linda Hodges
 Aug 23 Sophie Szeto
 Aug 24 Elle Roberts
 Aug 29 Gerald Taylor

THE SPC SESSION
 Jim Beisner, Clerk of Session

Discipleship
 Monica Coutin-Baxter (21)
 Tami Pass (21)
 Aaron Roberts (20)
 Paul Szeto (21)

Witness
 Jeffrey Cochran (19)
 Terry Holmes (21)
 Stephanie Phillips Ayoola (19)

Resources
 Gene Ingram (21)
 Kim Seal (20)

SPC SPOTLIGHT



Hello, My Name is Gena G. Ridgeway. I would like to formally introduce myself to you, the congregation of Stockbridge Presbyterian Church. I am so excited to be your new organist and pianist.

I would like to thank the staff and especially Ward Galey for giving me this great opportunity to serve the Lord in your church.

I was born in Ware Shoals, SC, which is about 35 miles south of Greenville, SC. My parents were George W. Godfrey and Naomi Elledge Godfrey. I have 2 brothers, my older brother, Steve lives in Ware Shoals, and my younger brother, Alan lives in Clemson.

I have been married to my husband, Kenneth, my high school sweetheart, for 32 years this October. We have one daughter Anna, who is 22 years old and a senior at University of North Georgia. She attended Cumberland Christian School and was a member of Atlanta Young Singers, where I accompanied for 7 years. She has performed as a soloist in Ireland and Carnegie Hall in New York.

At the age of 5, I asked my mom if I could take piano lessons from Mrs. Nell Davis, our church pianist/organist. I took lessons from her for \$1.25 a lesson. My mom always told me I had been given the gift of music and that gift was from God. When I was starting high school, Mrs. Davis retired and I became the pianist/organist. I started on an old organ by Wurlitzer.

My early education was at Camak Elementary School, then Ware Shoals Jr High and High School. I was in the elementary chorus, Jr high school chorus, and the marching band in high school. In Jr high I learned to play the drums and other percussion instruments. I graduated valedictorian of the Class of '74 at Ware Shoals High. I continued to take piano lessons from various teachers and attended the preparatory program at Lander College in Greenwood, SC. I was so fortunate to take from Marianne and Anthony Lenti, better known as Lenti Piano Duo from the Eastman School at the University of Rochester. I also continued my studies on the organ with Dr. Roberta Major, and percussion with Dr. John Hindman, both from University of Georgia. As a Music Education Major, I accompanied many vocal and instrumental students, while working full time at Callie Self Baptist Church. I played there for nine years.

I pursued my Master's Degree in Music at Georgia and was privileged to be awarded an assistantship in piano

and percussion. While there I accompanied many vocals, instrumentals, and also taught ensembles. I furthered my organ performance by studying with Dr. Enulatt. I was fortunate to accompany the Lander Singers, as well as, some members of the Women's Glee Club at Georgia.

Over the years, I have subbed in several churches and I have been a piano teacher, and now I look forward to being a part of this church. Thank you for giving me this opportunity to serve the Lord and SPC. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Choir Rehearsal will resume on Wednesday, August 7, at 7:00 p.m. During the choir's summer hiatus, we enjoyed having Monica Andrea and Marie Anne Coutin-Baxter perform for us one Sunday. They did a wonderful job!



RESOURCES TID BITS

Church Work Days tremendously help with our budget. The last work day on June 22 saved us around \$1900. The cost of pressure washing our building ran around \$1400 last time. And the cost of interior painting would have cost around \$500. All the equipment and supplies used were furnished by our members, not to mention the labor. Our next work day will be September 7.



We are collecting winter coats, small blankets, socks, scarves, gloves for the Coat Closet. A bucket will be placed in the hallway leading to the nursery for you to place your donations in. Thank you so much!



Dear Friends,

*Where can I go from your spirit?
Or where can I flee from your presence?
If I ascend to heaven, you are there;
if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there
If I take the wings of the morning
and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,
even there your hand shall lead me,
and your right hand shall hold me fast.*

Psalm 139:7-10

These familiar words of Psalm 139 are a comfort to me in these busy summer days. I have just been to Florida on a family beach trip, and as I write this, my spouse, Ian, is flying to Seattle for a business trip. This congregation has really racked up the miles this summer – to south Georgia and northern Michigan, as far as Amsterdam and Italy, along the lakeshore and up to the mountains, by boat, plane, and car, for weddings, funerals, business, and pleasure. A few of you have even braved the greatest adventure of all – an outing to Walmart during school shopping season!

Through all of it, no matter if we've stayed close to home or wandered far, the psalmist reminds us of an encouraging promise: we have never left the presence of our faithful God! Isn't that wonderful news... news worth sharing? That's the challenge in Psalm 139. I have a feeling many of our neighbors need to hear this promise: that they are not alone — that wherever they go and whatever they're going through, God is always with them, close at hand, always loving, ever faithful.

Here at SPC, we continue to share that message through our various mission projects. As school starts this month, the school supplies we collected will be distributed, and Goodness and Groceries will start back up. Through these vital ministries to our partner schools, kids will get not only the tangible goods they need to survive and thrive, but also a sense that they are loved and cared for by this congregation and by God. Plans are also underway for Kids' Camp on September 28 and October 5, where families and children will have fun, hear Bible stories, and hopefully experience true fellowship, love, and the presence of the Spirit. And even in these dog days of summer, we're collecting coats and other warm items for a "take one, leave one" coat closet to be set up in our pavilion, in hopes that those who are cold this winter will know physical warmth for their bodies, along with the spiritual warmth in their souls that comes from knowing that God and God's people do care about them and their needs.

All of this we do together in the name of Christ, who holds us all fast, both here in Stockbridge and wherever we go. Thanks be to God for that promise!

See you soon,

Betsy “ “

What are we doing for the kids of SPC? That's a question our Discipleship Committee must ask itself often, if not constantly. We now have a consistent group of children attending nearly every Sunday, and that's fantastic for us. Let's make sure we offer them a fun time with Jesus each week. To help make this happen, we will be having a Children's Church Refresher & Recruiting Meeting after church on Sunday, August 25. If you are a Children's Church volunteer or would like to join our rotation (WE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE YOU!), please attend. Bring your enthusiasm and ideas. Food will be available as we discuss the best ways to give our kids the best time with God each Sunday. Please contact me with any questions. See you this Sunday and on August 25th!

Aaron Roberts

UPCOMING SUNDAYS

- Aug 4** Psalm 107:1-9
Hosea 11:1-9
"Babies in the Hands of a Loving God"
- Aug 11** Psalm 50:1-7, 23
Isaiah 1:10-20
"True Worship"
- Aug 18** Psalm 90
Hebrews 11:29-12:2
"Walking in the Cloud"
- Aug 25** Jeremiah 1:4-10
Luke 13:10-17
"Called to Compassion - No Excuses!"

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

BEADLE

- Aug 4** Greg Lathrop
- Aug 11** Jim Beisner
- Aug 18** Jeffrey Cochran
- Aug 25** Laura Richardson

LITURGISTS

- Aug 4** Greg Lathrop
- Aug 11** Jim Beisner
- Aug 18** Jeffrey Cochran
- Aug 25** Lee Hart

CHILDREN'S SERMON

- Aug 4** John Dunn
- Aug 11** Aaron Roberts
- Aug 18** Monica Coutin-Baxter
- Aug 25** Paul Szeto

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP WORKERS

- Aug 4** The Szeto Family
- Aug 11** Stephanie Phillip Ayoola/Alisa Newsome
- Aug 18** Greg Lathrop
- Aug 25** The Howard Family

SESSION MINUTES

Stated Meeting - June 25, 2019

Clerk's Report:

Communications:

The Session received the Statement of Giving report for 1st Quarter 2019 from the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta.

The Session received a letter from Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Mission thanking SPC for 2 One Great Hour of Sharing gifts of \$101.00 and \$50.00.

The Session received a letter from The Atlanta Community Food Bank thanking SPC for their donation of \$961.50 for the 2019 Hunger Walk/Run.

The Consent Agenda was approved.

Gene reminded the committees about updating the Church Officer Handbook.

Resources Committee:

May 2019 financial statements were reviewed.

Witness Committee:

No issues or recommendations.

Discipleship Committee:

No issues or recommendations.

Pastor's Report:

Betsy reminded the session that members still need to provide Stephanie Ayoola with 72 hours' notice in the event child care is needed for Session meetings in order that we can appropriately staff the nursery.

Betsy thanked the Session for supporting her participation in the Bible Study Program at Smyrna Campground and advised that several members of the congregation attended the event on Monday.

Betsy reminded the Session that she would be out on July 21st and Paul Szeto has tentatively agreed to assume the preaching duties that day.

New Business:

A discussion was held regarding the 110th Anniversary of SPC and how to best celebrate that event. Plans are to incorporate it into the Fall picnic in November. The possibility of once again offering Engraved bricks was discussed and will be investigated to determine cost and feasibility. Possible committee members to run the event include Sue Scheer and Arlene Lathrop, with Kim Seal in a consulting role. Betsy will contact these individuals to gauge their interest.

A discussion was held regarding the possibility of preparing a new church photo directory. Several options were presented, and the agreed consensus was that the church will take their own photos and work with other members to format and publish it. Kim Seal agreed to chair this event.

Betsy advised the Session that she and Monica had talked, and that Monica had submitted a letter of resignation effective 1 September 2019. A motion was made by Terry Holmes and seconded by Jeffery Cochran to accept her resignation. Her request to resign was unanimously accepted.

Betsy updated the session members on the status of work on the website/media team. Jeffery is leading the effort on the website and Betsy is coordinating with others on the social media avenue.

Betsy provided an update on the transition process. The CAT scan has been finalized and will be ordered this week. Plans are to have it presented and completed during the month of July. Laptops will be provided each Sunday for those who do not have the means to complete it electronically at home. Linda Roberts has agreed to input any

forms that are completed manually. The goal is to have the CAT completed by the first part of August.

Old Business:

The Session approved moving up to \$1800 from the SPY Youth Fund to the General Fund to cover the cost of providing Nursery coverage for the Stated and Called Session meetings and one Discipleship committee meeting a month to cover expenses for FY 2019. Resources will budget these expenses for FY 2020 in the annual budget.

The Session approved moving forward with filling the Organist position. An interview panel will be formed by Ward Gailey and in conjunction with Resources, candidates will be interviewed to fill the position.

The Session approved paying Dorothy Clark through the month of August 2019, as a severance package. Betsy and Kim will meet with Dorothy to inform her of the decision.

Congregation Meeting - June 16, 2019

Pursuant to the call of the Session at the Stated Meeting held May 28, 2019, with due notice having been given on successive Sundays, June 9 and June 16, 2019.

Rev. Betsy Turner called the meeting to order and opened with a prayer at 12:00 PM. Jim Beisner, secretary, declared a quorum of 10% of active members present.

The moderator stated the purpose of the meeting was to elect a Nominating Committee consisting of 4 congregation members whose job will be to nominate individuals for the Pastor Nominating Committee.

Betsy read the names of the following members who have volunteered to serve on the Nominating Committee: Sue Scheer, Tami Pass, Mary Thompson, and Gene Ingram. A motion was made and seconded to close the nominations. The slate was unanimously elected.

The purpose for which the meeting was called having been accomplished, the meeting was closed with a prayer and the benediction by Rev. Turner.

Special Meeting - June 9, 2019

Rev. Turner stated the reason for the meeting was to discuss our new study book "Neighborhood Church".

Terry read a devotional titled "Lowering Our Buckets" and a brief discussed ensued.

Betsy provided a brief overview of Neighborhood Church and suggested that we read the Introduction and Chapter 1 for discussion at our next called meeting.

New Business:

Betsy provided an update on the status of the transition process and provided some insight on the CAT that we will be completing in the coming weeks.

The reason for the meeting having been accomplished, Rev. Turner closed the meeting with prayer.



Mark your calendars - Our annual church yard sale is scheduled for Saturday, Sept 14 from 7:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Start cleaning out your closets, attics, under your beds, those outdoor sheds. Remember all of proceeds go to support the various missions of SPC.