



FEBRUARY 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Communion Sunday (Jeffrey Cochran)	3 7:00 AA Mtg.	4 7:00 Boy Scouts	5 7:30 am AA Mtg. 5:00 G&G 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	6 10:00 Women's Bible Study 7:00 AA Mtg.	7	8 Presbytery Meeting 9 - 2 pm
9 Scout Sunday 12:15 Called Session Mtg. (Paul Szeto)	10 7:00 AA Mtg.	11 7:00 Boy Scouts	12 7:30 am AA Mtg. 5:00 G&G 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	13 7:00 AA Mtg.	14	15
16 12:15 Discipleship Mtg. 12:15 Resources Mtg. 12:15 Witness Mtg. (Aaron Roberts)	17 Presidents' Day (Office Closed) 7:00 AA Mtg.	18 7:00 Boy Scouts	19 7:30 am AA Mtg. 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	20 10:00 Women's Bible Study 7:00 AA Mtg.	21	22
Mid Winter Break - School's Out						
23 5 - 7:00 Presbytery Bible Study (sign up required) (Lee Hart)	24 7:00 AA Mtg.	25 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:00 Stated Session Meeting	26 7:30 am AA Mtg. 11-5 pm Ashes-To-Go 5:00 G&G 6:30 Ash Wednesday Service	27 10:00 Women's Bible Study 7:00 AA Mtg.	28	29

Feb 4 Jean Bunker
 Feb 4 Sydney Clipper
 Feb 6 Arlene Lathrop
 Feb 6 Maegan Seal
 Feb 13 Jason Howard
 Feb 17 Doug Scott
 Feb 18 Allie Dunn
 Feb 19 Jim Beisner
 Feb 20 Sue Rodgers
 Feb 23 Elora Newsome
 Feb 23 Lucia Turner
 Feb 24 Carol (Turk) Davidson

THE SPC SESSION
 Jim Beisner, Clerk of Session

Discipleship
 Aaron Roberts (20)
 Paul Szeto (21)
 Terry Holmes (21)

Witness
 Stephanie Phillips Ayoola (20)
 Arlene Lathrop (22)
 Lee Hart (22)

Resources
 Gene Ingram (21)
 Kim Seal (20)

SPC SPOTLIGHT

The Church At The Bridge



On Sunday, March 15, SPC will again participate in the Hunger Walk/Run - an annual 5K walk/run run begun in 1984. This is an event of the Atlanta Community Food Bank that unites our community to raise awareness and critical funds for local hunger relief. Proceeds from the event benefit the Atlanta Community Food Bank and five other local nonprofit organizations that support food pantries, community kitchens, shelters and other programs for people in need of food assistance.

One of these partner organizations is the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta, which is encouraging all of its member churches to get involved in fundraising and participation in this event. The Presbytery will use its portion of the money raised to fund the PATH grant (Presbyterians Answer to Hunger), which SPC has received for our Goodness and Groceries program for several years now. This is a great opportunity for us to support this mission in our own church and others throughout the Presbytery.

The remaining funds go to the Atlanta Community Food Bank, where they leverage every \$1 into \$9 worth of groceries for hunger relief (enough for 4 meals!), and 95 cents of every dollar donated goes directly to programs providing food. In recent years, the youth of our presbytery have raised approximately \$140,000 for hunger relief, (\$35,000 in 2017, up 94% from 2016). Our youth have paved the way for us to become a strong benefiting partner. Let's join them to have a great 2020!

The Hunger Walk will be held on March 15, 2020 at the Home Depot Backyard at the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta. The family-friendly, festival atmosphere includes food trucks, games, educational activities, live entertainment and more! You can choose to walk or run the 5k, or just hang out and enjoy the activities for the afternoon. The Witness Committee will cover registration for anyone who wishes to walk/run.

There are many ways to be involved in the Hunger Walk Run:

⇒ **Come to the KICKOFF LUNCHEON!** The Witness Committee will be providing lunch on **Sunday, February 16** after church to start our fundraising for this event. Please come fellowship and help us get excited about this new mission!

⇒ **JOIN THE TEAM!** SPC has its own team, "SPC Friends." You can search for it on the website when registering or donating.

⇒ **RAISE MONEY** Any donations given at the luncheon or through the church will also go directly to benefit the Presbytery and ACFB. (There are several fundraising tools like the "Social Media App" that will make fundraising easy. You can download them from the website.)

⇒ **Come to the HUNGER WALK EVENT**
 Join thousands of people from around Atlanta who want to end hunger at The Home Depot Backyard on March 15, 2020. You may walk or run the race, or simply come along and join the festivities.

Please visit ACFB's event website at www.hungerwalkrun.org or ask a Witness Committee member (Stephanie Phillips Ayoola, Lee Hart, or Arlene Lathrop) to learn more. We are looking forward to this opportunity for SPC to use our gifts and passion to continue serving God and our neighbors.

Ashes to Go
 On Ash Wednesday, February 26, Betsy will be offering Ashes-To-Go to our community. She will be out in front of the church from 11 - 5 pm. She's asking for volunteers again this year to join her for some or all of that time. It is a wonderful opportunity to meet our community.

The traditional Ash Wednesday Service will be at 6:30 pm on February 26 in the Sanctuary.





Friends,

February is famously the shortest month of the year, but here at SPC, it is absolutely jam-packed with activities and events!

On February 9, we will celebrate Scouting Sunday. We will welcome these young people as guests in our worship service, you'll hear a word from our Scoutmaster about what our scouts are up to, and together we will give thanks for this long-standing and fruitful partnership. Speaking of which, also in February, our troop is hosting a drop-off location for the Stockbridge area "Scouting for Hunger" initiative, which will benefit the church's Joseph's Pantry.

On February 16th, the Witness committee will host a lunch after church to kick off our Hunger Walk initiative. You don't have to bring a thing – just make plans to stay after, enjoy a fellowship meal, and learn about and contribute to this program. See story on front page for details.

On the evening of February 23rd, our church will host a Presbytery-wide "Pop-Up Bible Study." Folks from throughout our region will be invited to come study and learn together about being a "Matthew 25 Church." Stephanie Phillips Ayoola is coordinating the simple supper that night, so look for opportunities to help us host this event as well as to participate in the study session. If you want to participate in the dinner and Bible study, cost is \$5 and sign up is required. You can register here: <http://bit.ly/2FSe4qO>

February 26th is Ash Wednesday, and I am thrilled to offer "Ashes-to-Go" again this year, out in front of the church 11am – 5pm that day. If you have daytime flexibility, I hope you will make plans to come sit with me for an hour or two that day – not only to keep me company, but as a ministry of presence with our neighbors and community. Last year, I marked 25 people with ashes – I hope to reach the community in a similar way this year. We will also gather that evening at 6:30pm in the sanctuary for a full Ash Wednesday service, the beginning of what I hope and pray will be a holy season of Lent.

And on top of those special events, our ongoing ministries continue: Goodness and Groceries on Wednesday evenings, Joseph's Pantry serving families weekly, choir practicing on Wednesdays and singing on Sunday mornings, women meeting for Bible study on Thursday mornings, Session meeting both for business and study, all our committees in full swing, and of course, Sunday school and worship. And your PNC is hard at work too – this month, the Ministry Information Form (the church's resume and pastor's job description) will be published, a major milestone and another huge step forward in the open search for your next pastor.

Thankfully, it's a leap year, so we have an extra day to fit in all this excellent fellowship, service, and vibrant church life into the month ahead. That also means you also have an extra day to get involved and invite a neighbor or friend. There is no reason for this wonderful church to be the best-kept secret in Stock-

bridge – so as you make plans to participate, please also make a commitment to share the story and invite others to "leap in" with us!

Peace,

Betsy

UPCOMING SERMONS

- Feb 9** Isaiah 58:6-12
Matthew 5:13-16
"Salt and Light"
- Feb 16** Psalm 119:1-8
Matthew 5:21-37
"But I tell you..."
- Feb 23** Hymn Sing



OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

BEADLE

- Feb 9** Paul Szeto
- Feb 16** Aaron Roberts
- Feb 23** Laura Richardson

LITURGISTS

- Feb 9** Paul Szeto
- Feb 16** Aaron Roberts
- Feb 23** Lee Hart

CHILDREN'S SERMON

- Feb 9** Stephanie Ayoola
- Feb 16** Rev. Betsy Turner
- Feb 23** Stephanie Dunn

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP WORKERS

- Feb 9** The Roberts Family
- Feb 16** The Coutin-Baxter Family
- Feb 23** Stephanie Dunn/Diana Taylor



In the past your support in paying the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta per capita was greatly appreciated. The Session is again asking for your support with per capita in 2020 by providing a gift of \$27 per SPC member. Thank you.

SESSION MINUTES

Stated Meeting - December 17, 2019

Clerk's Report:

Communications:

The Session received a letter from the Taylor Foundation announcing a \$500.00 gift to SPC for Goodness and Groceries.

The Consent Agenda was reviewed.

Betsy gave an update on the Church Officer Handbook. Second draft of the handbook will return to committees for final review.

A reminder to the committees was made by Jim to start reviewing and preparing items for the 2019 annual report.

The Session approved the activities calendar for 2020.

Resources Committee:

November 2019 financial statements were reviewed.

Witness Committee:

No issues or recommendations.

Discipleship Committee:

No issues or recommendations.

Pastor's Report:

Betsy reminded the Session of the comfort and healing service on 12/22/19.

New Business:

The Session approved Jim Beisner as Clerk of Session and Gene Ingram and Kim Seal as Assistant Clerks of Session for 2020.

The Session approved Kim Seal as Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer (CFO) for 2020.

Betsy lead a discussion on various ways of conducting committee meetings in 2020. A motion was presented to consolidate committee meetings on the 3rd Sunday of the month. Lunch will be provided 3 times a year hosted by committees. The Session approved the motion.

Resources presented a motion to replace the recalled HeartStart AED at a cost of \$554.33. Funds will come out of the Building Fund. The Session approved the motion.

Old Business:

Kim reviewed the membership roll and presented a reconciliation of the rolls. The Session members will review the reconciliation and present any changes and/or additions to Kim.

The Pastor Nominating Committee presented an update on their activities.

Betsy gave an update on actions for the listening to the community project. It was decided to pursue 2 speakers from local schools to be invited to a worship service and luncheon in the late winter or early spring 2020. Betsy emailed Mary Carol Stanley and Betsy Sierra concerning putting together the listening sessions. Betsy met with Betsy and Mary Carol. They suggested SPC come to the schools to meet the teachers and counselors. No new information.

Jeffrey gave an update on his progress on revising the website. Recent changes are now live on the website. Jeffrey feels he can

SESSION MINUTES

have a revised web site completed by 1/20/20.

Special Meeting - December 8, 2019

Rev. Turner stated the reason for the meeting was to discuss readings in "Our Daily Bread" and Chapter 5 of "Neighborhood Church".

Paul selected a reading from an advent selection and discussed the impact of it on him. Further discussion by members of the Session followed.

Betsy led a discussion on Chapters 5 of "Neighborhood Church" with Session members describing passages they felt important.

Resources Committee made a motion to present gift cards to church staff members in the amount of \$100.00 each out of the general fund. The Session approved the motion.

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



The PNC has been working faithfully on our Ministry Information Form (MIF). We are expecting it to be approved by our Congregational Consultant this month. Once it gets the go ahead, it then will be posted to the national churchwide website for all pastors who are seeking a new call.

The process of writing and creating a MIF took time, prayer, and discernment from our CAT listening sessions. Please continue to pray for the PNC as we start moving into the next phase of calling our next Pastor.



Scout Sunday - February 9, 2020

Join us on Sunday, February 9 for Scout Sunday. Troop 65, which meets weekly here at SPC will be participating in the service.

American Scouting has its origins in an event that occurred in London in

1909. Chicago publisher William Boyce was lost in the fog when an English Boy Scout came to his aid. After guiding Boyce to his destination, the boy refused a tip, explaining that as a Boy Scout he would not accept payment for doing a good deed. This anonymous gesture inspired Boyce to organize the Boy Scouts of America. Incorporated on February 8, 1910, the movement soon spread throughout the country.

Scout Sunday was created by the BSA as a day to recognize the contributions of young people and adults to Scouting, and being able to combine their love for the gospel and Scouting made Scout Sunday a very special day.