



JULY 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 10:00 am Women's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)	2	3
4 11:00 am Worship Service (Fellowship Hall)	5	6	7 7:30 pm Churchwide Fellowship via Zoom	8 10:00 am Women's Bible Study 7:30 pm Let's Talk via Zoom	9	10
11 9:15 am Adult SS (Fellowship Hall) 11:00 am Worship Service (Fellowship Hall)	12	13	14 7:30 pm Churchwide Fellowship via Zoom	15 10:00 am Women's Bible Study	16	17
18 9:15 am Adult SS (Fellowship Hall) 11:00 am Worship Service (Fellowship Hall)	19	20	21 7:30 pm Churchwide Fellowship via Zoom	22 10:00 am Women's Bible Study 7:30 pm Let's Talk via Zoom	23	24
25 9:15 am Adult SS (Fellowship Hall) 10:00 am Worship Service (Fellowship Hall)	26	27	28 7:30 pm Churchwide Fellowship via Zoom	29 10:00 am Women's Bible Study	30	31

SPC SPOTLIGHT



The Church At The Bridge

We have so much to be thankful for my friends. I am so thankful for the kind reception and love you all have given me over the last several weeks that came with a "hit the ground running" feel. We have accomplished a lot in a few weeks in order to work towards gathering together inside the church building. There has been a lot of thankfulness to the diligence of the COVID Reimagining Team and the Session, who provide thoughtful leadership through these days of transition and the time to come as we all transition to a sense of "normalcy."

As we go back indoors, I want you aware of my story that helps shape some of the added precautions. Two years ago, I was diagnosed with an autoimmune disease that was the cause of paralysis of my legs and arms after delivering my son. The news came with a whole new way of living and understanding medical terms and issues. I am one of the rare people that per doctor's orders cannot get vaccinated because any trauma or vaccinations can cause paralysis and hospitalization. I am happy to share more about what is going on with me and I say this to share the importance of some of the necessary precautions we will be taking to ensure the safety of me and my vulnerable family, those with children under 13, those that cannot get vaccinated, as well as the reality of some of the new strain of the virus coming along. As we enter into indoor worship, we ask that if you have any symptoms to please stay home, there will be a live stream of the service each week. There will be a check in point, low numbers of distanced worshippers, masks required for all indoor worship and activities and currently no singing done by those not approved by the task force. Singers will have special masks worn in order to sing to have us reflect and meditate on God.

Remember as we know God is good and God is in control, we also know the realities and pain of the world and we are called to be God's people that in kindness put on some discomfort in order to allow for the whole body of Christ to gather.

Included in the newsletter will be more information about re-entry and procedures of worship and small groups. There is information about our missions and ministries that have served our community.

There is information about the opportunities to be in Christian conversation with one another.

I look forward to the prolonged meeting of one another. By sharing phone conversations and meeting one another face to face. God's blessings upon you all.

Joyfully,
 Pastor Kristy

TODAY I AM thankful Opportunities to Worship

- Jul 4 Isaiah 42:7-15
"Thanking God for the Nations"
 - Jul 11 Psalm 85:20-37
"Thanking God for Peace"
 - Jul 18 Mark 6:30-34; 53-56
"Thanking God for Feeding the People"
 - Jul 25 2 Samuel 11:1-15
"Thanking God for Loving Us Through Our Mess"
- All services in July will be held in the Fellowship Hall. They will also be available on our website and facebook page.



PROCEDURES:

As we re-enter the building as the beloved community, we have protocols to allow for safe return of our vulnerable and vaccinated congregation.

1. If you are experiencing any symptoms, stay home and watch the livestream. Temperatures above 100.4 will not be allowed in the building.
2. Masks will be worn at all times while in the building with one another.
3. Everyone will sign in to allow for contact tracing.
4. Only certain persons are allowed access to various parts of the building outside of restrooms and fellowship hall.
5. Per CDC recommendations there shall be 3ft seated spacing between chair groups. No chairs shall be moved unless done by staff or designated usher.
6. Small groups of the church are permitted use of the building. Please allow the church office to know of your usage for cleaning and contact tracing.

Note: Outside groups have been contacted (AA, Scouts) and are abiding by rules set by the Session as we enter into in person gatherings.

WHY FELLOWSHIP HALL?:
 Many have asked why we are starting in the Fellowship Hall for all activities, particularly worship. There are a few major concerns as we begin to gather indoors.

1. Air Flow- The fellowship hall currently has a spacing capacity of creating better air flow during the service.
2. Fabric in the pews and cleaning. We are working on getting fabric safe sanitizer in order to gather in the sanctuary.

Continued on page 2



Jul 1 Amy Roberts Jul 24 Darin Clipper
 Jul 10 Krimson Mani Jul 25 Mike Seal
 Jul 10 Jo Price
 Jul 14 Paul Szeto
 Jul 15 Carolyn Francis
 Jul 18 Abigail Newsome
 Jul 18 Mary Thompson
 Jul 19 Piet Huggins
 Jul 20 Carol Abbott
 Jul 20 Sydney Holloway

THE SPC SESSION
 Jim Beisner, Clerk of Session

Discipleship
 Aaron Roberts (21)
 Paul Szeto (21)

Witness
 Stephanie Phillips Ayoola (21)
 Arlene Lathrop (22)
 Lee Hart (22)

Resources
 Terry Holmes (21)

Treasurer
 Kim Seal (21)

(Church Reopening continued)

3. Flow of people into the building. With everyone entering from one location into the building it is easier for ushers to collect information for contact tracing and know where people in the building are located. The leadership are addressing these issues and are working diligently to be able to get the building ready for activities to resume in the spaces that are more familiar for worship and education. Please be patient with us and if you would like to assist by being on our usher team please reach out to the church office.



SUNDAY SCHOOL - JULY 11 @ 9:15 AM

No Sunday School July 4. Adult Sunday School will begin in person study on July 11, from 9:15-10:15 am in the Fellowship Hall. We use The Wired Word, which combines current events and bible verses for each week's lesson. Our class learns how the word of God still relates to recent news events. We are excited to meet together again and everyone is invited.



Come be a part of our Wednesday night fellowship! We get together via zoom each Wednesday night - 7:30 pm for church-wide fellowship!

For Zoom information - Please contact Pastor Kristy at pastorstockbridge@gmail.com



LOVE FOR NURSING HOMES

Sandra Martin has passion and hope for the ways in which we understand, support, and bring hope into nursing homes, especially those places that are underserved in the larger community. We have committed to praying for our Nursing Homes and the Witness Committee is working towards a vision of thinking about how we can partner well with a community that is forgotten, isolated, and struggling.

Prayer:

Gracious God. You love us no matter how old or young, how frail or strong, how rich or poor. You love us through all circumstances in life and have promised to be with us. Lord, we lift up to you this day those in Nursing Homes that have loved their families, their country, their community and have served you and others. We lift up to you their caregivers; both families and those hired to do the daily cleaning, caring, and medical needs of those in nursing care. Lord, grant us your wisdom to find ways to help people know they are not forgotten. Help us all to be thankful for those who have lived and built beautiful stories with their lives. May we find the partnership that is part of your will and your way. May we remember and then love and support those who need loving kindness, compassion, and care. Amen.

Ways To Give

Ways to give. Give on-line, below is a link to donate to SPC. You can also mail your checks to the church.



WORD FROM WARD

This column is being written on Saturday, June 26. Earlier this morning, I had the privilege of reuniting with some of our children's choir members in the fellowship hall along with Arlene Lathrop. My, had these young folks grown so much since we had been together last, due to the pandemic. Marie Anne is now taller than her older sister, Monica Andrea. Maxwell is bigger, calmer, and quiet, except for when he sings. (Sophie could not come due to a previous commitment, but we did go see her months ago in her school musical. She has also grown significantly.) All children are welcome to join us. We are making efforts to decide when to practice, and I am leaving it up to the parents and friends to help us decide. I am in the process of arranging a Zoom meeting with parents to determine rehearsal times and locations. Parents and friends, your input is needed. We are actually open to rehearsals at the church and/or in homes on a rotating basis.

On Sunday, June 27, we held our final outdoor service. The theme was being thankful for the Lord's healing of us. The music includes a duet between myself (vocal) and Arlene (oboe) on two favorite songs: "There Is a Balm in Gilead" and "What a Friend We Have in Jesus". Our pre-recording piano accompaniment was provided by our dear friend, Dorothy Clark, whom I visited recently. She has been so helpful during the pandemic, providing recorded accompaniments at no charge.

I do want to convey my thanks to Greg Lathrop for his hard and valuable work in providing sound amplification and outdoor broadcasting. Also, our new pastor, Kristy, deserves much thanks for adding a new dimension to our services: live streaming.

On July 4, we enter the building for worship, albeit in the fellowship hall at first. I look forward to a quintet of adult choir members singing "Blessed is the Nation," which fits the theme of being thankful for the nation. Keeping in mind all safety protocols, all singers and myself will don new and special "singers' mask" which are less cumbersome for the singers, and safer for the receiving congregation. God is good!



July 8, 7:30 pm- Discussing Critical Race Theory and why it has become such a buzzword in terms of schools and law in the last months.

July 25,, 7:30 pm - Discussing summer freedom celebrations.

Looking into Juneteenth and celebrations of Independence.

For Zoom information - Please contact Pastor Kristy at pastorstockbridge@gmail.com



Beginning Thursday, July 1 our Women's Bible Study will be meeting in the Fellowship Hall. We will continue to social distance and wear mask but are very excited to be able to gather in the church building. Bring your bibles, we're studying Hosea.



We are so grateful for all the donations given to Joseph's Pantry, and at present our selves are stocked. This is due to your tremendous generosity. We continue to make appointments for the pantry and serve Henry County residents.

Session Report

Special Meeting - May 16, 2021

Rev. Turner stated the reason for the meeting was to address issues that affect Stockbridge Presbyterian Church caused by the coronavirus pandemic and other actions necessary to operate the church.

The Session approved the following minutes of previous called meetings: April 18, 2021

Resources: Gene presented a short report on April 2021 financials.

Discipleship: No items to report.

Witness: Arlene reported the Witness Committee plans for the farewell event for Betsy Turner. Witness will provide cupcakes and bottled drinks after the service and that appropriate distancing protocols would be followed. This recommendation was adopted and approved by the session. The transporter group at Piedmont Henry was resupplied last week.

Gene advised that we were still waiting on forgiveness instructions for the Paycheck Protection Program 2.

Gathering for Worship: There remains no activities at church facilities through May 30, 2021 except for drive thru events and parking lot worship services. The task force proposed that members be allowed to sit outside their cars in family pods for both the May 23rd and May 30th services and be allowed to be unmasked, if vaccinated. They further proposed that if they choose to sit with another family pod that they wear masks. A final proposal was to permit the pastor to preach without a mask, if desired with appropriate distancing. All three proposals were accepted and approved by the session. Gene advised on behalf of the task force that any further actions or recommendations from that group would occur in consultation with our new pastor, following the congregational meeting on May 23, 2021.

Building Update:

Gene provided an update on the status of the building and those actions that were necessary to complete the approved move of various church missions, such as the Nursery and Coat closet ministry.

Pastor's Report: Betsy stated she was grateful for the Session members and for all the work that has been accomplished. She plans to schedule time for individual meetings on May 26th and May 29th under the pavilion from 2:30 PM until 4:30 for those who wish to meet with her. She also advised the session of the Presbytery guidelines that she will be subject to, once the new pastor is accepted and installed and will provide those guidelines to the session members. Betsy discussed the logistical plans for the congregational meeting and allowed that we would conduct the Zoom meeting concurrently, if possible. The logistics are still being looked at and will be finalized with the Discipleship committee.

The subject of possibly relocating the Pastor's office was discussed and it was agreed that this action be placed on hold until such time as we can consult with the new Pastor to determine their desire on this move.

Betsy advised that we have four graduates this year and it was recommended that we provide our customary graduation gift of \$100 and a book (usually a bible) to each graduate. Funds for this are included in the Witness budget. This recommendation was agreed to by all those present.

Session Business: The Session tentatively set Sunday 6/13/2021 at 3:00 pm for the next called meeting via video conference to discuss additional actions, as dictated by the situation concerning coronavirus.

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



**MISSION PROJECT
ADOPT TRANSPORTERS**

Items requested are:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Crackers | Chips |
| Little Debbie Cakes (or the like) | Bottled Water |
| Instant Oatmeal/Grits | K-Cups |
| | (coffee/tea/hot chocolate) |

Protocols for Reopening

Session approved the below recommendations. The task force will develop safety protocols for meeting in the Fellowship Hall and distribute to small group leaders. The task force will be evaluating the effectiveness of the safety protocols and adjust as necessary.

- ➔ Approve moving worship services to the Fellowship Hall in July and August 2021.
- ➔ Appropriate covid safety measures will be enforced. Maximum attendance will be 40 people.
- ➔ Approve allowing church groups of 15 or less people to meet in the Fellowship Hall with appropriate covid safety measures.

No Registration Required to Attend



COAT CLOSET MINISTRY

Items request are:
Socks & T-shirts
(Men's most needed)

