

THE BEACON

Sunrise Presbyterian Church

July 2024 Newsletter

Sunrise has been a member of the Hands of Christ's Presbytery-wide project since 2004, which has now grown to over 22 local area congregations. This year, Hands of Christ needs to collect underwear for girls and boys (boxer-type) for elementary age through high school. Donations may be left in the bin in the Narthex.

We will continue to support Hands of Christ's initiative by encouraging our volunteers to help out at one of the distribution sites. You may go individually but we encourage you to get together and sign up to go as a team at either Zion Olivet or Second Presbyterian Churches.



SAVE THE DATE – 2024 DISTRIBUTION SCHEDULE

Fri. Aug 2 Zion-Olivet 3347 Rivers Ave, North Charleston 4:00-6:00 PM

Sat. Aug 3 Zion-Olivet 3347 Rivers Ave, North Charleston 10:00AM-12 noon

Sat. Aug 3 Second Presbyterian, 342 Meeting St, Downtown Charleston 10:00 AM -1:00 PM

Sat. Aug 3 Hebron Zion, 2915 Bohicket Rd, Johns Island, 10:00AM-12 noon

Mon. Aug 5 Yeamans Park, 5931 Murray Dr, Hanahan, 3:30-5:30 PM

Fri. Aug 9 Westminster, 1157 Sam Rittenberg Blvd, West Ashley, 4:00-6:00 PM

Sat. Aug 10 Westminster, 1157 Sam Rittenberg Blvd, West Ashley 10:00AM-12 noon

Sat. Aug 10 St. James Presbyterian, 1314 Secessionville Rd, James Island, 10:00AM-1:00PM

Kindness

For the last month or so, I have been preaching sermons that highlight God's goodness and our kindness to one another. Most of the topics focus on the little things we can do that promote kindness. It may be as simple as the brief conversation at the checkout counter that we call *small talk*. It may be the kind gesture of a complete stranger. In a world that threatens to overwhelm us with mean-spirited and angry words, there are no *small acts of kindness*.

In a recent sermon, I highlighted a couple of stories about *the kindness of strangers*. The source of two of these stories is the series on NPR called, *My Unsung Hero*.

Lorrie Paul, **My Unsung Hero**

One winter day in 1996, Lorrie Paul was sitting in a hospital in Syracuse, N.Y. Her father, who had just had open-heart surgery, was in the intensive care unit. "He had the surgery. He did very well. [But] he did not do well in recovery," Lorrie remembered.

Soon after the operation, Lorrie's father had experienced a seizure. He was intubated, and his doctors were concerned about his vital signs. "It was just a really rough time. My mom was very fragile [and] needed a lot of attention, a lot of support." When dividing her attention between taking care of her mom and talking to the doctors became too overwhelming, Lorrie decided to take a walk through the hospital. After wandering for a bit, she stopped at a windowsill to look out. "[I] just stared out at nothing. And I started to sob. It got to be too much, and I just thought, 'I'm gonna lose my dad.'"

As she cried, Lorrie felt a reassuring hand on her left shoulder. She instantly felt at peace. Rather than turn around, she allowed the stranger's hand to provide a moment of comfort. "Having someone there and showing that compassion — that love — brought me this sense of calm," Lorrie said. "They didn't try to fix the situation. They didn't try to console me. They didn't try to find out what was going on. It was just presence."

Her sobs subsided, and she felt her body relax. Then the stranger squeezed her shoulder and simply walked away. Lorrie doesn't know who the person was. But nearly 30 years later, she says she still thinks about that person often. "It was so incredibly powerful," Lorrie said. "This compassion they shared with me, this sense of humanity — that they were sharing my sorrow — brought me such a sense of peace that I was able to go back in ... and help Mom and be there for Dad, and get through."

The kind gesture . . . the quiet simplicity of being present . . . there are no small acts of kindness.

Fred Rogers in his book, *The World According to Mister Rogers: Important Things to Remember*, sums up this way of treating each other so beautifully.

Imagine what our real neighbors would be like if each of us offered, as a matter of course, just one kind word to another person. There have been so many stories about the lack of courtesy, the impatience of today's world, road rage and even restaurant rage. Sometimes, all it takes is one kind word to nourish another person. Think of the ripple effect that can be created when we nourish someone. One kind, empathetic word has a wonderful way of turning into many.

In God's grace,





Congrats!!!

Leo Hurst

Leo graduates with four high school state championships in tennis and rugby. He plans to attend the College of Charleston to study business and environmental geoscience. He also hopes to continue playing rugby in college!

Sunrise Columbarium and Memorial Garden Update

Plans are being made for the Sunrise Columbarium and Memorial Garden. The garden will be located on the Jasper Boulevard side of the church overlooking the marsh. Representatives from Eickhof Columbaria and Charleston Lawn Co. participated in a site visit on June 18th at the church. Final modifications to the plans are being made. The revisions are expected early this month.

After the Session approves the final plans and the information packets are completed, there will be an announcement to the congregation during worship. After worship there will be a Columbarium Open House in the Fellowship Hall. The date of the announcement and the Open House will be determined as soon as possible.

We look forward to sharing updates about the project. Contact Ida Havelka, Columbarium Committee Chair, at ihavelka@comcast.net or at 843-412-1884 for more information.



Ride to End ALZ South Carolina is a 255-mile journey for cycling enthusiasts. Traveling from Upstate South Carolina to the Charleston coast, the unique 3-day Group Ride features incredible support and camaraderie. To ride at your own pace, take part in the month-long Virtual Challenge. Either way, participants will fuel cutting-edge research targeted to change the trajectory of Alzheimer's disease. For more information, please click on the link below.

https://act.alz.org/site/TR?fr_id=17234&pg=entry



Thank you for your generous contribution to the Remembrance Garden...

- ~ Gary Hawkins in memory of Linda Hawkins and in honor of John Wertz
- ~ Roberta Blanchard and René Severns in memory of Ernest Thomas

I'd like to thank everyone who's helped during fellowship this year! Whether it's making coffee, bringing in delicious cookies and treats, or coming in early to set up and staying after to help clean up, your service is so much appreciated.

Fellowship is so vital to the life of our church and we love to see you all!

Thank you,
Neila Cary
Elder of Fellowship

Thank You!



ECCO Grocery Bag Sunday



Sunrise Church will have grocery bags available in the Narthex beginning on **Sunday, July 14th**. All grocery bags need to be returned to the Narthex or in the bin outside the Fellowship Hall doors by **Sunday, July 21st**.

The Grocery Bag Sunday program is a cooperative effort between ECCO and local churches. Each participating church is provided with empty grocery bags with an attached "wish list" of items that are critically low on the ECCO food bank shelves. These donations are critical to helping to maintain a steady flow of food. ECCO would like to thank all the churches in our area who participate in this program.

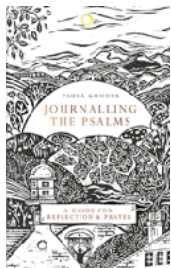
July at Sunrise

Growing FAITH

Growing Faith is taking June and July off for the summer. Have a great summer!!! ~ Reece

The Adult Sunday School class is beginning a study of the Bible. Its purpose and design is to connect the many familiar stories and people of the Bible. We tend to read the Bible in small segments and lose the larger picture of God's activity across the generations. Part of the study will be appreciating the literature and historical context of the Biblical story from Genesis through Revelation. The Adult Sunday school class meets each week in the Church Library at 9:00 a.m. There is a Zoom option. ~ Vance

The Miriam-Naomi Circle is taking a summer break and will resume September 10th with a new study. We welcome new participants in the Circle. After we meet, those of us who are able to do so usually regroup for lunch at a nearby restaurant. If you have any questions or if you would like to be added to our mailing list, please call Patsy Hindman at (843) 906-8653.



The Women's Evening Bible Study will continue their study July 16th at 5:30 pm using *Journaling the Psalms: A Guide for Reflection and Prayer* by Paula Gooder. New participants are always welcome.

Cents-Ability is collected the 2nd Sunday of each month. Thanks to you, donations have been made to Neighbors Together, East Cooper Meals on Wheels, and East Cooper Community Outreach. Please continue to give at least two cents per person per meal in the bowl in the Narthex. This simple act is an expression of thanksgiving for what we have received.



Start off your Tuesdays with the Jerry Dillon Men's Prayer Breakfast at 7:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. Start the day off right with great food, fellowship, and a devotion.

JULY

birthdays

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Paige Hauff | 18 Julie Heaton |
| 2 Kevin Locke | 18 Ida Havelka |
| 3 Clyde Timmons | 18 Barbara McKnight |
| 3 Roxie Ciesar | 19 Billie McRae |
| 4 Karen Lynn | 21 Rob Hauff |
| 5 Yana Mersereau | 21 Mike Schaffer |
| 7 Ella Hurst | 22 Helen Panitt |
| 7 Neal Alexander | 23 Margaret Stapleton |
| 9 William Kitchin | 24 Wendy McClary |
| 9 Jordan Guss | 24 Robert Kitchin |
| 9 Dave Ochiltree | 24 Robert Stapleton |
| 10 Reece Campbell | 25 Edie Rockwell |
| 11 Pat Benzien | 25 Bonnie Hancock |
| 12 Teresa Shackelford | 25 Mary Frazier |
| 12 Mark Plecity | 26 Shane Ziegler |
| 12 Chris Hill | 25 TJ Tinker |
| 13 Brett Wermuth | 29 Niel Crocker |
| 15 Bill Dickinson | 29 Olivia Conner |
| 15 Ben Dickinson | 29 Daphne Byers |
| 15 Waites White | 29 Megan Robbins |
| 17 Ryan Allard | 30 Carole Heathcock |

July 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30 8:45am - Choir Practice 9am - Adult Sunday School 9am - Fellowship (Fellowship) 10am - Family Service 10am - Worship Service	1 5:30pm - Agape Do Karate	2 7:30am - Men's Breakfast	3 10am - AA Meeting	4 8am - Town Parade Parking 5:30pm - Agape Do Karate	5 11am - Bridge - Fellowship	6
7 Communion 8:45am - Choir Practice 9am - Adult Sunday School 9am - Fellowship (Fellowship) 10am - Family Service 10am - Worship Service	8 5:30pm - Agape Do Karate	9 7:30am - Men's Breakfast	10 10am - AA Meeting	11 5:30pm - Agape Do Karate	12 11am - Bridge - Fellowship	13 2pm - Dawson Memorial
14 Cents-Ability 8:45am - Choir Practice 9am - Adult Sunday School 9am - Fellowship (Fellowship) 10am - Family Service 10am - Worship Service	15 5:30pm - Agape Do Karate	16 7:30am - Men's Breakfast 5:30pm - Women's Evening	17 10am - AA Meeting	18 5:30pm - Agape Do Karate	19 11am - Bridge - Fellowship	20
21 8:45am - Choir Practice 9am - Adult Sunday School 9am - Fellowship (Fellowship) 10am - Family Service 10am - Worship Service	22 5:30pm - Agape Do Karate	23 7:30am - Men's Breakfast	24 10am - AA Meeting	25 5:30pm - Agape Do Karate	26 11am - Bridge - Fellowship	27
28 8:45am - Choir Practice 9am - Adult Sunday School 9am - Fellowship (Fellowship) 10am - Family Service 10am - Worship Service	29 5:30pm - Agape Do Karate	30 7:30am - Men's Breakfast	31 10am - AA Meeting	1 5:30pm - Agape Do Karate	2 11am - Bridge - Fellowship	3

Church Office Hours:
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Monday through Friday

Phone: (843) 883-3888
www.oursunrise.org

Sunrise Staff

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