



SteepleTalk

*Find out what's going on and what's coming up
in the life and ministry at John Knox Presbyterian Church.*

Visit our Website

This Sunday's Worship:

Scripture Lessons

[Deuteronomy 6:1-9](#)

[Romans 8:12-17](#)

Gordon Turnbull

Click [here](#) to preview the bulletin.



Mother's Day Offering to be Received Sunday

The first Mother's Day Offering to assist with charitable care for retirees in the Presbyterian Communities of SC (PCSC) was taken on May 9, 1954. Over the years, this offering has become a tradition in hundreds of congregations across the state, and serves as a wonderful way for churches to remember some very special members who now call PCSC home! Through the annual Mother's Day Offering, along with many other gifts received, we have been able to provide nearly \$30 million in charitable care in the past 20 years! Please be generous this Sunday!!! Checks may be made out to JKPC and marked "Mother's Day Offering." We are grateful for the leadership of JK member Karen Nichols as the Administrator of the Foothills Community in Easley!



All are invited to Sunday Morning Coffee Fellowship

Come join in for a cup of coffee and community every Sunday morning in the Fellowship Hall.



Inviting all Men! Opportunities for Fellowship, Prayer and Bible Study

Invite a friend to join you for the monthly Men's Lunch at Lieu's Chinese Bistro, Tues, May 10, 11:45 AM (2nd Tuesdays) for fellowship and food (At I-385 & Woodruff, 1149 Woodruff Road).

Monday Morning Prayer Breakfast: Weekly join the band of brothers in Christ at 7:00 AM in the Kirk Room with breakfast, fellowship and prayer. The group has recently agreed to include an emphasis upon the Bible in various ways!

PW Circle Meetings

Please consider meeting with John Knox women in the following circles for fellowship and Bible study on Tuesday, May 10, at the following times and places:

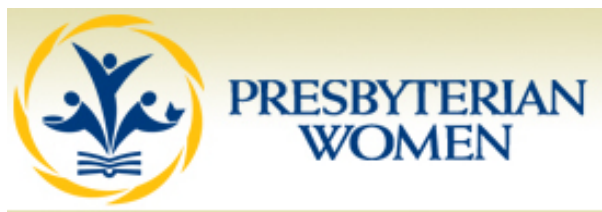
Lydia: 1:30 p.m. in the Women in Christ classroom

Martha: 6:30 p.m. at City Range for an end-of-the-year gathering

Sarah: 10:00 a.m. in the Kirk Room with Molly Fitzpatrick as hostess

Deborah Circle will meet at 7 p.m. on Sunday, May 15, at the home of Caroline Robertson, 604 Devenger Road, Greer (864-608-7570). *Please bring a salad or dessert for the end-of-the-year social.*

Note: *All* women at John Knox are invited. Think about visiting a circle to see if you would enjoy the company of other women as you share a



project, Bible study, and hospitality. Questions, please call Kitty Olson (864-354-4552).



Visitors' Breakfast

The Evangelism Committee invites those who may be interested in becoming a member of John Knox to join us **during the Sunday School hour on May 15**. The event will be in the Kirk Room **at 10:00**, and a light breakfast will be served. Our senior minister Dr. Gordon Turnbull will be among those joining us.

On **May 22** the Session will meet to receive new members, and **May 29** new members will be introduced to the congregation and welcomed in their preferred worship service.

If it is convenient, please RSVP to Mandy in the church office (mscott@johnknoxpres.org) or Ann Brumley (abrumley@bellsouth.net) by Thursday, May 12. We look forward to being with you.

Young at Hearts (YAHs)

Come join the Young at Heart group for a garden tour at the North Carolina Arboretum and lunch on May 17. The Arboretum is located just off the Parkway. Meet at the Church at 8:30 AM. A van will be provided. Admission to the Arboretum is \$5/person. Lunch items at the Savory Tyme Cafe run from \$6.99 to \$10.99. RESERVATIONS ARE VERY IMPORTANT AND MUST BE MADE BY MAY 13. Please contact or call Bessie or Bill Lee at 233-5518, LaRue Wait at 675-6172, or Jo Ann George at 268-6822.



Congregational Meeting on May 22

A Congregational Meeting has been called on Sunday, May 22, during the 11:00 worship service. The purpose of this meeting is to elect our 2016 Congregational Nominating Committee. There will be one worship service at 11:00 AM on May 22.

Church-wide Picnic

Save the Date: Church-wide Picnic on the church grounds on May 22, right after the 11:00 service. Bald Hawk BBQ is catering. Dress for both is casual. RSVP cards will be on the pews on May 8 and 15.



There will be sign up sheets in all the Adult Sunday School classes for volunteer donations of desserts to be served at the upcoming church picnic. Cookies, cakes, cupcakes, pies are requested. Please phone Jane Brannon at 292-0515 for questions.

YOUTH NEWS



MISSION TRIP

Youth Trips

Plans are being finalized for our summer trips. Payments for both Senior High trips (Jacksonville and Montreat) are due now. See your youth newsletters for more details.

The Junior Highs will be going to Thornwell Home for Children July 17-21. Sign-ups have started! Please let us know by May 29 if your child will be going on this mission trip as we continue our commitment to helping the children at Thornwell. Payments will be due by May 29 as well. Stay tuned to your youth newsletters for more details! Contact Susan Felton at sfelton@johnknoxpres.org with any questions.



Stock the Pantry Mission Project

At our last WNL meeting, we started a small mission project to help "Stock the Pantry" for the Mayer family, who will be moving into the Habitat house that John Knox helped build. Some of you took cards home with suggestions for household donations: cleaning supplies, snack foods, basic kitchen staples - anything that will help the Mayers have a well-stocked pantry when they move in! We will be collecting donations from now until May 22. If you would like to bring in a donation, you may place your items in the baskets or grocery bags available in the Narthex. Any questions, contact Susan Felton in the church office. Thank you!



Graduation Sunday is May 15. We will celebrate the accomplishments of all of our graduates during the 11:00 service. Graduates are invited to wear their caps and gowns. They will march into the sanctuary, sit together at the front, and be recognized during the service. We are very proud of these students! Congratulations!

The congregation is invited to a reception in the Fellowship Hall immediately following the 11:00 service to honor our graduates.

Confirmation Sunday is May 8. Our 8th graders will be giving their Statements of Faith at both services that day. Please join us as we celebrate this important milestone in their faith journey.

KIDS NEWS



Kids' News

We hope all of our elementary students will join us for Sunday School on the Kids' Club Hall as we study the miracle of Jesus "Stilling the Storm". Our Scripture reading will be Mark 4: 35-41, and our memory verse is Mark 4: 41b – "Who is this man? Even the wind and the waves obey him!" Our teachers for the month of May are Kelly and John Colacioppo and Chris Mathews.

Our 5th Graders have started their Transition Class that will help prepare them to join the youth group in the fall. We meet in the room at the bottom of the stairs at the end of the kindergarten hall. Look for the signs!! This class will continue to meet through the summer. Sarah Mullis will be teaching this class for the month of May. Please join us!

Vacation Bible School

Registration has begun!! Registration forms can be found in the hall outside the Chapel, as well as on bulletin boards on the Kindergarten and Kids' Club halls. You can also download a form by clicking [here](#). Registration is required and is due by May 22. Turn forms in to the VBS mailbox in the church office. Remember there is NO FEE for VBS this year!! Music CDs are available for \$5. Dinner reservations are also required, but you don't have to pay until you come to eat on Sunday, June 12. So come CATCH THE WAVE OF GOD'S AMAZING LOVE" June 12- 15!! For questions or volunteer opportunities, contact Susan Felton at sfelton@johnknoxpres.org

Children's Choir

All of our children ages K3 – 5th grade are invited to sing with the children's choirs on Sunday, May 8, which is Mother's Day. Children will be singing at the beginning of both services. If your family attends the early service, your children can meet Mrs. Martin in the hallway outside the chapel at 8:40. If you attend the 11:00 service, we will take your children from Sunday School at 10:30 to practice and get robes on. We will bring them up to the sanctuary when it is time to sing. That gives parents time to go get a good seat to see your sweet children sing! After they sing, the children will come sit with you. Please bring their choir robes to the choir room after the service. Thank you!!

Courage & Renewal

Opening Retreat for Summer College Internship Program May 11-13

The opening Circle of Trust® Retreat, *Listening to the Voice of Vocation*, will be held May 11-13. This is the first of two retreats as part of the Speak for Your Servant is Listening 2016 Summer College Internship program, hosted and coordinated by John Knox.

These retreats will use the Circle of Trust® approach developed by Parker J. Palmer and the Center for Courage & Renewal. The Circle of Trust creates a process of shared exploration that creates a safe space for nurturing personal and professional integrity and the courage to act on it. To learn more about this approach go to <http://www.couragerenewal.org/approach>.

Five racially diverse college students from churches of Foothills Presbytery will join six mentors and two other leaders in this retreat. Thanks to groups and individuals from John Knox for providing the meals for this opening retreat! We ask everyone to pray for God's grace and guidance that these college students may discern God's gifts in their lives and a sense of God's vocation and call for them.

This pilot project is made possible by a grant from the Forum for Theological Exploration (FTE), funds designated by the John Knox Session, and individual contributions in partnership with the Center for Courage & Renewal. Kathryn McElveen of Travelers Rest and Brian Braganza of Nova Scotia are the two CC&R Facilitators who will be leading the opening and closing retreats.

If we are willing to embrace the challenge of becoming whole, we cannot embrace it alone—at least, not for long: we need trustworthy relationships to sustain us, tenacious communities of support, to sustain the journey toward an undivided life. Taking an inner journey toward rejoining soul and role requires a rare but real form of community that I call a "circle of trust."

—Parker J. Palmer, *A Hidden Wholeness* (adapted)

Clerk's Report

The Session of John Knox Presbyterian Church met on Sunday, April 17, 2016 for their regularly scheduled meeting. The following are some of the key items discussed:

- Ryan O'Sullivan advised that finances look okay, with income and expenses tracking.
- Jack Hansen asked for suggestions of folks to serve on the audit subcommittee.
- Danny Schaaf is working with Caleb on the capital improvement plan, including prioritizing spending of the balance of the Capital Campaign funds.
- With three recent insurance claims, there have been discussions about our carrier dropping us or increasing the premium.
- Stevie Greene gave an update on the search to fill the two staff positions. The Director of Youth

Ministries final interviews are underway. They hope to schedule interviews for the Director of Children's Ministries in the next few weeks.

- Stevie described plans for Sunday School, including:
- An optional 10 week combined summer program in the Fellowship Hall.
- An 8 week church-wide study of Paul's 'Letter to the Ephesians', to start in the fall.
- A study to start after Christmas, based on 'The Jesus Storybook Bible'.
- Rally Day plans were announced. The session approved a combined service on Rally Day at 10:30 AM, following the breakfast.
- The session also approved one combined service on May 22nd, at 11 AM, followed by the Church Picnic.
- Jennifer Campbell reported that the Blood Drive was a success.
- The Maundy Thursday offering was \$ 697 and went to Place of Hope.
- Thanks were offered for the new cleaning machine. It was a great help in cleaning up after GAIHN.
- Charles Robertson said that the coffee station in the Fellowship Hall has been very well received. They would appreciate some help, perhaps with Sunday School classes volunteering to pick a month.
- M&W advised that the palms were well received on Palm Sunday and will be repeated next year.
- In addition, they plan to add an evening service next year on Good Friday.
- Amy Leidheiser reported that they have had considerable discussion concerning the transportation ministry, how to respond to requests for assistance, and recruiting new drivers.
- Joe Stall said that the large oak that was causing damage to the Gym was removed.
- Considerable time was spent discussing adjusting the facility use fee structure, specifically for non-profits who want to use the buildings. After a fruitful discussion, the session agreed to leave the fee schedule as is.
- The session did approve a motion that future requests for reduced fees be routed thru the CMO Committee for their discernment on adjusting or waiving fees, with pastoral input on whether the use is in line with the mission of the Church.
- The Session approved the recommendation to confirm the 2016 Class on May 8th. Adjectives used to describe the confirmands included great, awesome, and impressive. Mike and Karen Nichols were commended for their wonderful leadership. The persons approved were Brooks Grayson, Carter Moore, Ethan Whatley, Joseph Stilwell, Adam Smallridge, Claire Ambrose, Erin Nichols, Matt Garrett, and Tenison Stokes.
-

Dick Powers
Clerk of Session



Lost & Found

Please stop by the church office through the month of May to check our lost and found. Many umbrellas, jackets, and miscellaneous items have accumulated. At the end of May, we plan to donate those items that have not been claimed. Thank you!

I just want to thank the Sunday School classes and all the people for their help with the habitat lunches and all the snacks. It was wonderful. You are great.

Love,
Lucy Sewell



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

May

5 - Hazel Bowman, Jennifer Campbell, James Whatley, Elle Mehagan

6 - Barbara Oak, Duffy Brown, Jackie Weaver

7 - Caroline Syracuse

8 - Emily Nelson, Addy Aldrich

9 - Jerry Hamrick

10 - Patricia Gailey, Jennifer Smith

11 - Carly Thatcher, Emma Moore

By the Numbers

Attendance on May 1

8:45 - 48

11:00 - 209

FINANCIAL UPDATE: 5/1/16

Weekly Expense Budget: \$17,827.00

Weekly Offering Received: \$14,289.00

Expense Budget YTD: \$320,886.00

Offering Received YTD: \$280,824.89



Miss a service? Visit our YouTube channel!



Please email all submissions for Steepetalk to mScott@johnknoxpres.org. For Thursday publication, information must be received by Tuesday at 12 PM.

Edited by Mandy Scott
John Knox Presbyterian Church
35 Shannon Dr.
Greenville, SC 29650
864.244.0453
www.johnknoxpres.org

STAY CONNECTED



Visit our website