



SteepleTalk

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

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This Sunday's Worship

Join us this Sunday, June 20 at 10:00 AM

**In person: Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall
Digitally: [YouTube](#), [Facebook](#), or John Knox App**



"Join Your Hearts and Praise the Lord"

[Proverbs 16:17-18, 27-30, 17:9](#)
[Romans 15:1-13](#)

[Click here to access the Worship Bulletin.](#)

Thanking God for Betty Ward

After ten years of enriching our worship as pianist, Betty Ward is retiring from her position as Pianist. Betty communicated her decision a few weeks ago, pending the church's hiring of the new organist.

In her role as pianist Betty has provided musical leadership in the early worship service in the Chapel, accompanying the choir for that service as well as the Children's Choir. Betty's faithfulness has shone brightly throughout the disruption of the pandemic, as she accompanied worship and, for the last eight months, served as the church's sole keyboard player.

Betty's faithful service has been fueled by deep devotion to the church and our Lord. We are grateful that Betty intends to remain with us in fellowship and ministry, glorifying God in our worship and music program.

We thank God for blessing us through her ministry, and we pray for a rich and restful season for her and Mike together.



Welcome, Charles Tompkins!



Worshippers last Sunday heard the news firsthand: we have a new organist, Dr. Charles Tompkins. A thorough and extensive search process concluded last week when our Session voted to hire Charles, who has begun to serve in the permanent position this week. We are grateful for diligence of the Organist Search Committee: Pat Fuller (moderator), Mark Britt, Jo Carson, Mills Grant, and Sara Kellar, plus staff members Luke Browder and Gordon Turnbull.

Originally from the Washington, D.C. area, Charles Tompkins is University Organist and Professor of Music at Furman University, a position he has held since September, 1986. He earned the degrees Doctor of Musical Arts and Bachelor of Music from the Eastman School of

Music (University of Rochester), and the Master of Music degree from the University of Michigan. An active church musician throughout his career, he served as organist (or organist/choir director) for churches and synagogues in Washington, D.C., Rochester, N.Y., Walled Lake, Michigan, and St. Paul, Minnesota (prior to his appointment to the Furman faculty); during his years in Greenville he has served as organist for Westminster Presbyterian Church (1988-1997), First Baptist Church, Greenville (1997-2016), and most recently, as associate organist for Christ Church (Episcopal) (2016-2021). A professional organ recitalist, Dr. Tompkins performs each year at universities and churches throughout the United States; he is also the faculty organ accompanist for the acclaimed Furman Singers and Furman Chamber Choir. His performances have been broadcast nationally on American Public Media's PIPEDREAMS.

As an organ consultant, Charles has designed instruments for Furman's Daniel Chapel, St. James Episcopal Church, Greenville, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Clinton, S.C., and First Baptist Church, Augusta, Georgia. He was the consultant for John Knox's beautiful Holtkamp organ, Opus 2078, and he played the September, 2000 dedication service and dedicatory recital for the new instrument.

Dr. Tompkins is married to Dr. Karen Eshelman, who is Organist and Director of Music at St. James

Episcopal Church, Greenville. They are the proud parents of three adult children: Gregory (a faculty member at the Music Haven Community Music School and second violinist of the Haven String Quartet, in New Haven, Conn.); Kevin (Assistant Principal Second Violin with the Omaha Symphony); and Vivian (a 2017 Furman graduate, she has earned Master's degrees from Oxford University and Syracuse University; this fall she will begin a Ph.D. in Musicology at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois).



We are so excited to gather this summer for our 2021 Vacation Bible School as we study the story of the Good Samaritan and learn how God calls us to be a good neighbor. We need lots of volunteers to make this happen for our children, and we would love to have you!

Vacation Bible School will be held Monday, August 2 through Wednesday, August 3 from 4:00 to 6:15 each day. We have various leadership roles for our volunteers, from leading a small group of children around to their different activities to teaching one of our rotation classes (art, games, storytelling, and story activities), from helping set up before VBS starts to helping serve a meal on the last day. We will find the perfect job for you!

If you would like to spend three fun-filled days with our sweet John Knox children learning about loving God and loving our neighbors, please get in touch with Susan Felton. (sfelton@johnknoxpres.org or 244-0453) We hope you can join us!



PLEASE GIVE.

**Your ongoing generosity helps
John Knox to continue to serve.**

We can receive your gifts:

- by mail
- through automatic bank draft
- through the John Knox App

In this season of concern, the Church's witness of service and caring is more important than ever. John Knox is doing all we can to continue our ministry in ways that keep us connected to God and to each other. Please continue your offerings so that we can serve fully throughout this time of need.

Ways to give:

- Mail your contributions to the church at 35 Shannon Dr., Greenville, SC 29615
- Set up electronic payments through your financial institution
- Use the John Knox app: click on "Give"

Thank you for prioritizing the ministry of Jesus Christ in your financial life.



**Please
Let Us Know...**

IF YOU ARE IN NEED, WE WANT TO HELP. PLEASE
CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE TO LET US KNOW
HOW WE CAN ASSIST YOU IN THIS SEASON.

864-244-0453

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

June

17 - Mitch Jenkins

18 - Rose Harner, Stephanie Russell, Matthew Lyden

- 19 - Julie Burns, Erin Greiner
 - 20 - JT Greene, Kyle Parker, Davis Wells
 - 21 - Steve Meggs, Martin McGrath
 - 22 - Diane Falasco, Keith Littrell
 - 23 - Joseph Adams
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By the Numbers

Sunday, June 13
In Person: 128
Livestream: 52

Weekly Offering Received: \$16,180.00
Weekly Budgeted Offering: \$15,684.54
YTD Offering Received: \$449,180.11
YTD Budgeted Offering: \$376,428.92



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

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