

THE



ROADS

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THE CROSSROADS

Minister: Dr. B. E. Pettit, Stated Supply

Minister's Minute

Time has a way of changing things. In fact, if we take a close look we will see that time has made a change in you and me. Little did we realize this year of 2020 would be visited with unexpected conflicts that would make unbelievable changes. No one expected to be visited by COVID-19. Just as it appeared to show some relief it began to return. Nor did we dream of the peaceful protests that would frequently turn out in violence causing a deeper division among the different races. It was enough going on between the political groups without adding these extra troublesome events. November will bring about more questionable conflicts. Regardless of how the elections turn out there will be disappointment and anger with more violence in unexpected places. No one has to warn people to pray. If the changing climate of time fails to alert us our ears are stopped and our eyes are closed. This has to be one of the most dangerous times America has experienced. Most of us believe God continues to be in control. I believe it with all of my heart. The prophet Habakkuk spoke of trembling within. His lips quiver at the sound yet he waits believing God will intervene. He speaks, "Though the fig tree does not blossom, and no fruit is on the vines; though the produce of the olive fails and the fields yield no food; though the flock is cut off from the fold and there is no herd in the stables, yet I will rejoice in the Lord; I will exult in the God of my salvation. God the Lord, is my strength; He makes my feet like the feet of a deer, and makes me tread upon the heights."(My heights) 3:16-19. Could August possibly be what it once was? It was a time when for the farmer's crops were being harvested and others almost ready for harvest. This left some free time yielding revival meetings throughout the churches. At times some dear members

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Minister's Minute Continued

would invite you for a watermelon slicing following the church service. Cotton crops were seen across the South. For those who did not have money handed to them, picking cotton was one way of making money for the County Fair. It was a fun outing with a mixture of animals, farm goods and carnival rides along with a Grand Strand. Time has made a change in August. The hymn "Bring Back the Springtime" voices some of the desires we would like to happen. "When in the spring the flowers are blooming bright and fair. After the gray of winters' gone, once again the lark begins its tuning back in the meadows of my home. Lord to my heart bring back the spring time, take away the cold and dark of sin: O return sweet Holy Spirit, may I warm and tender be again." There was something about August that should not get passed our thinking. It is the answer to the many fears that tend to question our faith. What can we do to help August return partially as it once was? The farming is not as it was then. County Fairs are being cancelled due to the danger of spreading the virus. Think back in days gone by. How did our Mothers and Fathers face the month of August? Did their harvest always make it? What kept them going when crops were failing? It was the faith and belief that God would provide. Like the prophet Habakkuk the times were difficult. God was their strength. This identical God who was revealed in Jesus Christ continues to be the strength we need. So regardless of the virus, or the conflicts that exist in people and in politics, our strength is to be in God. To quote Habakkuk, "Yet I will rejoice in the Lord; I will exult in the God of my salvation." We can't go back to the good old days nor can we bring back the August's we knew. We can bring back our rejoicing in the Lord. He is the Lord of lords and the King of kings! Nothing will change this! Nothing can change this!

Blessings, Bob

August Birthdays

- 11 Gail Horton
- 15 Sandy Bishop
- 15 Brandi Thornton
- 22 Marie Boatman
- 22 Stephen Wilson
- 23 JoAnne Welch
- 29 MaKensley Casey



Prayer Requests: Geneva Pettit, Phil Cantrell, Jeff Thomas, Wayne Springs, Katherine Smith, Judy Moore, Vicki Sinclair, Dawn Pitcher, Scott Pitcher, Daryl Smith, Nancy Smith, Angel Flower, Marie Moore, Sharon Peck, Miriam Garrett, Jan Vassey, Ira Lawson

Homebound: Mary Ella Smith and Jerry Powell



“The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.”
James 5:16

Third Sunday Lunch

Money raised from the third Sunday lunch goes toward our Family Life Center Building Fund. Ten percent of the profit goes as a monetary donation to the Spartanburg Soup Kitchen. Leftover food is delivered to them as well. By having lunch with us each month you not only enjoy a great meal and wonderful fellowship, but you also help support our growth and help feed those in need around Spartanburg County.



NO THIRD SUNDAY LUNCHES UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Sales	\$	0.00
Expenses	\$	0.00
Profit	\$	0.00
Soup Kitchen	\$	0.00

DONATIONS

We have two separate funds that you can donate to **In Honor of** or **In Memory of** someone special. Just mark your donation with which fund you want to apply it to. We have our **Building Fund** in which money donated goes to upgrades and future expansion projects related to our church buildings. We also have a **Cemetery Enhancement Fund** which will go towards future enhancements to our cemetery.

Donations made *In Honor Of* or *In Memory Of*:

- None this month

General Donations: *(Through 5/17)*

Building Fund (BF) Cemetery Enhancement Fund (CEF)

Bob & Geneva Pettit (BF), Bob & Geneva Pettit (CEF), Terry & Elaine Olson (BF)

Church Services Update

In the month of July we continued worshipping inside the sanctuary with social distancing guidelines. We appreciate those of you who have decided to join us inside and have adhered to the worship guidelines established by our reopening committee and approved by the session. It has also been a blessing to see so many of you who have continued to worship through our drive-in option. Those of you who have been unable to attend either option, we still worship with you in spirit and hope that we all will be able to resume worship services without any restrictions in the near future.

Our Christian Duty

One of the most important rights we have as Americans is the right to vote. This election year will have many highly contested races, including the office of President, so your voice is important. Regardless of who you vote for it is a decision that shouldn't be taken lightly. If you are not already registered to vote you have until October 3 to do so. As a Christian believer you are urged to prayerfully consider all the candidates and cast your vote in November.

Welcome to Robin Morris, the new Associate Stated Clerk for Foothills Presbytery

Robin Morris comes to us from Amdocs, Inc., where she served twenty-two years as an Account Manager and Director of Operations. Robin's business skills in communications and organization will be an asset to the Presbytery.

Robin is a member and Ruling Elder at Limestone Presbyterian Church in Gaffney, SC. She has served as Clerk of Session for the last four years. Robin is serving as the scribe for the Pastor Nominating Committee. Over the last 21 years as a Presbyterian (USA), she has led in variety of ways including: Adult Christian Education, as a Youth Advisor, a leader in Presbyterian Women, Missions, Congregational Retreats, Stewardship, Communications, and was Co-Chair of a Capital Campaign. She has two adult children: James who lives in Durham, NC, with his wife, Katelyn, and Emily who lives in Greenville, SC.

As the Associate Stated Clerk, she will be the primary support staff of our Presbytery Leader & Stated Clerk. She will be the primary driver for fulfilling the ecclesiastical, legal, and administrative duties of the presbytery.



The next Newsletter deadline is **Sunday, August 30, 2020**. Please have all newsletter submissions turned in by this date.