

March 2023

# Heard on High

FPC Columbia's *Heard on High* is published monthly for all members and friends of First Presbyterian Church

Leaning on Small and Humble

Priority: from the Latin *prior*, meaning first (also: former, previous)

Humble: from the Latin *humus*, meaning earth (also: soil, ground)

I recently read a book called *Time On Rock*. The author, Anna Fleming, writes about rock climbing technique, geology, and her intense and beautiful connection with the natural world. I am fascinated by her descriptions of "leaning into the rock" during climbs. One "leans in" when the next handhold or foothold seems nonexistent, and the flat rock face is (somehow!) a great comfort and trusted support. One also "leans in" when all is well, when the climber is moving fluidly and feels at one with the massive rock.

The rock face is so much larger and more powerful than the person climbing, yet it is the comforting source of what is needed (the hand- or footholds, the place to lean). The climber does not hold the solution to whatever problems crop up; ultimately, the rock does.

In Lent we can take some time to think about priorities. What matters to you, to me, to us?

A priority is neither a resolution nor part of a list of things you like. It is something distinctly important to you, that you keep front and center in your life. When I respect my priorities, I am stronger, calmer, and clearer-thinking. Here are some of mine:

Being outdoors

Being still, physically and mentally

Writing

Working (not "busy-work")

St. Augustine writes about the value of a humble mindset in the search for priorities - our cornerstones. He reminds us of our "smallness" next to our great God. If we embrace this smallness, our attention turns away from ourselves, and we see clearly what is and is not important. Like the climber on the rock, when we realize we do not hold all the answers and do not need to, when we are grounded in the best sense of the word, when God's great grace startles us to a beautiful new viewpoint, *then* we see what matters.

It is a joy to be with you.

Faithfully,

Nancy G. Reiser

Director of Music Ministry

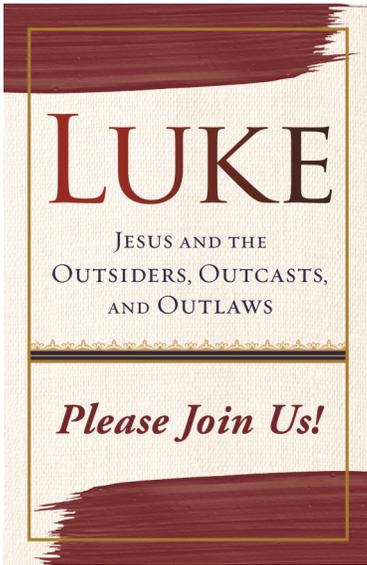
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# Worship and Music



## Lenten Sermon Series

Beginning Sunday | Feb. 26

Jesus came to lift up the lowly. In the Gospel of Luke we find stories of Jesus's ministry with ordinary, unexpected people. They weren't perfect. Many of them were struggling and didn't have their acts together. Whoever they were, Jesus brought the good news of God's kingdom to those who most needed to hear it. That includes you and me. Through Luke's stories we find Jesus's care and compassion for all of us as he welcomes sinners and outcasts.



## GLOW

"God Lights Our Way"

### Acolyte Training

Wednesday March 15 @ 4:45

Wednesday, March 22 @4:45

Acolyte Commissioning Service  
Sunday, March 25 at the 10:30 Service

We are ready to re-start our Acolyte Ministry! We will have acolyte training on Wednesday, March 15 and Wednesday, March 22 at 4:45 with an acolyte commissioning service on March 25 during the late service. Children in grades 2-5 and their parents are invited to attend.

If you have any questions, contact Kristi Martin at [kmcml@gmail.com](mailto:kmcml@gmail.com) or Susie Baxter at [sbaxterfpc@gmail.com](mailto:sbaxterfpc@gmail.com)

# Worship and Music



## Liturgists

MARCH 2023

NAME	8:15 SERVICE	10:30 SERVICE
March 5	Dan Garman	Beth Patton
March 12	Jeff Baxter	Dwight Fox
March 19	Ed Lancaster	Lee Maddox
March 26	Jack Baxter	Dawn Taylor



## Ushers

MARCH 2023

NAME	8:15 SERVICE	10:30 SERVICE
March 5	Ken Brinkley-Captain Alan Phillips	Joe Graham-Captain Bill Handy
March 12	Dan Garman	Bill Cook
March 19	Ron Neal	Matt Campbell
March 26	Ellen Ludwig	John Hill

# Congregational Care/Fellowship



## GETTING TO KNOW THE KNEFFS

Over the course of the next several months, there will be opportunities for members of the congregation to meet Pastor Sarah and her family in a more intimate setting. The next opportunity to meet the Kneffs will be a drop in at Cabin Coffee on Thursday, March 16 from 9:00-11:00.

If you're interested in hosting a small group for Sarah, Michael, and Grace to meet members of our church family, please let the church office know!



# Congregational Care/Fellowship



## MEMORIALS

In **memory** of Nancy Dale by: Mr. & Mrs. Tom Gordon

In **memory** of Harry O'Brien (father of Cindy Baxter) by: Jennie & Al Harlan

In **memory** of Bonnie Fleming Wilson (daughter of James Fleming) by: Jennie & Al Harlan

## JOHN SATTERWHITE MEMORIAL FUND

In **memory** of Betty Wells by: Cindy & Jack Baxter

# Mission



Room in the Inn needs twin and queen size sheets, towels, blankets, cots, air mattresses, pillows, soap, canned goods (pop top) and ramen noodles. Any donations would be appreciated. Bring them to the church office. Rev Jeff Kane appreciates all your help.



## Volunteer with The People's Table!

First Pres is responsible for cooking, serving, and cleaning each Friday during the month of April. If you would like to volunteer, please call the church office and let us know how you would like to serve. 388-1985

# Membership

*Join Us in Welcoming Our  
Newest Members!*



*Sandra Kay and Dr. David Daniels*



*John Davis Prince*



*Mariane and Andy Harrell  
Hannon(3) and Annie Hale (1)*

# Christian Education



## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

**June 26-29**  
**9:00 AM-12:00 PM**

**Online Registration is open!**

We hope you will join us this summer for Vacation Bible School where we will learn what it means to shine Jesus' light in our everyday lives!

On-line registration is now open! Classes are available for preschool through rising 5th grade. There are a limited number of spots so please register early.

Please look at the volunteer positions available and prayerfully consider where you would like to serve!

Sing and Play Blast Off and Cosmic Closing

Stellar Bible Adventures and Stellar Bible Adventures Assistant

Galactic Snacks

Imagination Station and Imagination Station Assistant

KidVid Cinema and KidVid Cinema Assistant

All Star Games and All Star Games Assistants

Crew Leaders (8) and Assistant Crew Leaders (16)

As always we encourage our youth in rising 6th-12th grade to volunteer to be assistant crew leaders.

To register your child to or to volunteer scan the QR code or go to [vbspro.events/p/fpccvbs23](https://vbspro.events/p/fpccvbs23).



# Mission



Ryan Moore, Director of NaCoMe Camp and Retreat Center, visited us recently to help kick off our congregation's participation in the "Flow to the Future" Campaign. This carefully planned building project will provide needed meeting spaces, improve housing options for families and older guests and better accommodate the many groups that want to spend time at NaCoMe.

Some of you have given pledges during the earlier stages of the campaign and now, during the final stage of congregational giving everyone has an opportunity to give. Because of the size of our worshipping community and our close connection with NaCoMe, the session has set a goal of

\$25,000 and has already committed \$12,500 from existing funds. We challenge the congregation to meet or surpass this amount by **March 12**.. Checks for a one-time donation and pledge cards should be made out to NaCoMe and mailed to:

NaCoMe  
3232 Sulphur Creek Road  
Pleasantville, TN 37033

If you prefer to donate through the church, make out your check to First Presbyterian Church, designate NaCoMe on the memo line and place it in the offering plate or bring it to the office. Thank you for your support of NaCoMe!

**Click on the photo below to watch a video about how much our youth love NaCoMe!  
Or, view it on our website [www.1stprescolumbia.org](http://www.1stprescolumbia.org)**



**NaCoMe Day of Service  
Sunday, March 19**

On Sunday, March 19, immediately following the late service, our youth will be going to NaCoMe for lunch and a Day of Service! They would like to invite the members of the congregation to join them as they help prep the grounds for summer camp. If you would like to volunteer, contact Dawn Taylor ([dawntaylor74@gmail.com](mailto:dawntaylor74@gmail.com)).