

# The Beacon

*Sunrise Presbyterian Church*

*March 2022 Newsletter*



*Create in me  
a pure heart. O God,  
and renew a steadfast  
spirit within me.*

*Psalm 51:10*

*A Special Easter Season**Lent*

Throughout my ministry, I have promoted the special nature of Lent as a time of sacred preparation for the celebration of Easter morning. It is a time of personal reflection and community fellowship. Ash Wednesday is the beginning of Lent, and it is a service that is both deeply personal and profoundly communal. In the receiving of ashes we humble ourselves before God, and we join together in supporting each other in a journey of renewal.

*Holy Week*

This year, we plan to be back together for all the special services of the Easter Season. Yes, there will be the Community Sunrise Service on the beach, starting at 6:30 a.m. Holy Week will include the Maundy Thursday celebration of the Passover/Last Supper in the Fellowship Hall.

*Annual Meeting of the Congregation*

As all of our in-person activities and events resume, we are planning the Annual Congregational Meeting for Sunday, March 20, immediately following the 11:00 a.m. Worship Service. At this time the congregation will vote to elect Elders, Trustees, and the Treasurer. The new Elders will then be ordained and installed before Easter.

The Session has reviewed the following candidates and presents them to the congregation as the ballot for new Elders:

Fellowship Elder = Jimmy Hiers  
Pastoral Care Elder = Andy Rhyne  
Welcoming and Assimilation Elder = Shauna Nelson  
Buildings and Grounds Elder = Kristen Champlain  
Clerk of Session = Jon Mersereau

Elder for Youth = Hannah Kern (Spring 2022)  
Elder for Youth = Georgia Stewart (Summer 2022)  
[Hannah will be headed to college in the fall of 2022, so the Session recommended electing both Hannah and Georgia at the Annual Meeting]

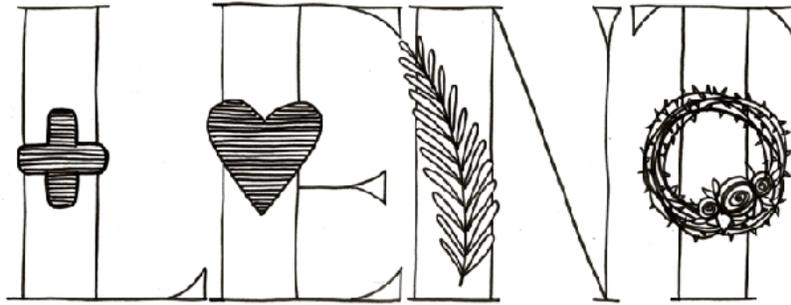
**Remaining on the Session are:**

Finance Elder = Cal McRae (2-year term)  
Worship and Music Elder = Eric Kimker (2-year term)  
Personnel Elder = Ross Heaton (1-year term)  
Missions Elder = Alan Henderson (1-year term)

The enthusiasm of each of these leaders is inspiring! For those that have been serving throughout the *pandemic pause*, your commitment to Sunrise is an incredible gift. To those coming on the Session, your energy and excitement for serving your church is a wonderful inspiration! It is with gratitude and joy that we thank you for your service to our Lord!

In God's grace,



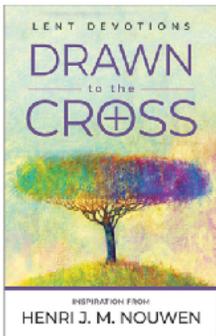


The season of Lent is a time of prayer, fasting and self-examination in preparation for the celebration of the resurrection of the Lord at Easter. It is a period of 40 days – like the flood of Genesis, Moses’ sojourn at Mount Sinai, Elijah’s journey to Mount Horeb, Jonah’s call to Ninevah to repent and Jesus’ time of testing in the wilderness. (The Sundays in Lent are not counted in this reckoning of the time between Ash Wednesday and Easter, as every Lord’s Day is a celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.)

In the early church, Lent was a time of preparation for the celebration of baptism at the Easter Vigil. In many communities of faith it remains a time to equip and nurture candidates for baptism and confirmation and to reflect deeply on the theme of baptismal discipleship.



The Ash Wednesday Service is Wednesday, March 2nd at 6:30 p.m. To begin the Lenten Season, join us for this very special Ash Wednesday Service. Through music, prayer and scripture, we’ll reorient our spiritual lives. Communion will be served as well as the receiving of ashes.



## Lent Devotions are available in the Narthex

Henri J.M. Nouwen, one of the most beloved spiritual thinkers of the 20th century, wrote poetically about drawing closer to the cross of Christ in a way that has touched the hearts of readers the world over. Excerpts from Nouwen’s inspiring insights are paired with original reflections and prayers in this booklet for each day of Lent, as we come to understand more deeply the meaning of the cross in terms of humility, service and sacrifice.



Help decorate our Sanctuary for Easter Sunday! Lily and Music Dedication forms can be found in your Sunday Service Bulletin beginning March 13th in the Narthex or you may give online at <https://www.oursunrise.org/give/> with “Easter Lily” in the memo line and email your dedication to [sunrisepresbyterian3222@gmail.com](mailto:sunrisepresbyterian3222@gmail.com).

*We will miss you*



*Andy,*

*May the road rise up to meet you. May the wind be always at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face; the rains fall soft upon your fields and until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of His hand.*

*Love, Your Sunrise Church Family*





Thank You for your generosity in supporting Souper Bowl of Caring where 100% of your donations are given to College of Charleston Cougar Food Pantry. Together, the congregation will supply the food pantry with 20 grocery bags of much needed food and toiletry items.

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME



## Daylight Savings Time Begins Sunday, March 13th.

Don't forget to set your clocks AHEAD 1 Hour on the 12th!



Thank you, Carolyn and Neal Alexander for your generous support of the choir with the gift of new choir chairs. The old ones were breaking down after 30 years of use. These are a beautiful addition to the sanctuary and greatly appreciated by the choir.

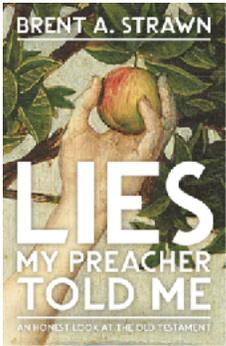


Grocery bags with shopping lists attached will be available in the Narthex beginning on March 13th. All filled grocery bags need to be returned to the Narthex or in the bin outside the Fellowship Hall doors by Sunday, March 20th. Each month, ECCO relies on donations from community members, civic organizations, businesses, churches, and neighborhoods. Thank you in advance for your generous donations!

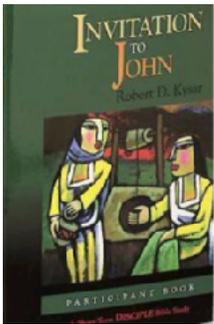


Sunrise's Melissa Henderson was asked to write for the April/May/June issue of These Days. Keep an eye out for the section titled "These Times-Spiritually That Meets Today's Challenges". Her story is titled The "I Missed You" Hug. A limited supply of These Days will be available in the Narthex.

# Monthly Happenings...



The Women's Evening Bible Study will meet March 15th at 5:30 p.m this month. We are using the book LIES MY PREACHER TOLD ME: AN HONEST LOOK AT THE OLD TESTAMENT by Brent Strawn as our study guide. As the title indicates, this book focuses on the Old Testament, and dispels a number of myths we may have heard over the years. We will meet in person at the church and there will also be a zoom link for a remote option. Any questions, please contact me at [reecehsmith@yahoo.com](mailto:reecehsmith@yahoo.com). ~ Reece



The Miriam-Naomi Circle will meet at 10:00 a.m. on March 8th. All women of the church are invited to attend. Our minister, Vance will lead us in our study book *Invitation To John* by Robert D. Kysar. We will continue our fellowship after the study with lunch at a convenient location for those who can do so.



**Cents-Ability** is collected the 2nd Sunday of each month. Thanks to you, donations have been made to TriCounty Family Ministries, 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.



## Communion Sunday ~ March 6th

Communion is served during worship on the first Sunday of each month. Virtual and in-person communion is part of the worship services. For those worshipping in-person, preparations have been made for taking communion in the sanctuary during worship. To prepare for sharing communion at home, you will provide your own bread and grape juice. In this way, we can all share *The Lord's Supper*.



*With  
Deepest  
Sympathy*

Our condolences go out to Dean Schmelter and his family on the passing of his father, Ray Schmelter, on February 18<sup>th</sup>.

Our condolences go out to Chip Blackwelder and his family (his wife Cathy and daughters Erin, Alli, and Emery) on the passing of his mother, Sally Towbridge Blackwelder, on February 21<sup>st</sup>. Chip's siblings are Dan Blackwelder and family and Liz Powell and family.



# Prayer Concerns

**Recent Prayer Concerns** (*Names are listed for a month*): Bonnie Wells, Lauren Nelson, Margaret Lavender, John Nelson, Kimberly (daughter of Marty & Don Belk), Alan & Melissa Henderson, Finny (family friend of the LaTorres), Nancy Hitchcock (friend of Cal & Billie McRae), Tracy Lambros (friend of Mary Ann and Jack Heidenreich), Gerry Hiers (Jimmy Hiers' mother), Lou Mintz.

**Continuing Prayer Concerns** (*Names are listed for 3 months*): Leesa Phipps, Rachel Clark, Gail Owen (Lynn Riker's sister), Robert Shahid, Lee Sarp, Patrick McDougal, Len & Denice Kowalski and their son Chris (friends of Betty Milner), Linda Scott, John Myatt, Madelyn Knight (Kelly Long's mother), Linda Hawkins, Lynne Smith, Frank Godfrey, Peggy Wolford, Nancy Butler, Betty Imsande, Lou Bovie.

If you'd like to add someone to either prayer list, please let the church know at [sunrisepresbyterian3222@gmail.com](mailto:sunrisepresbyterian3222@gmail.com) or 843.883.3888. 1) indicate if the person should be placed on the **Recent** OR **Continuing** prayer list and 2) the **individual's mailing address** so that they may receive postcards with expressions of care and concern from the congregation.

# Sunrise Church

# March 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>6</b> Communion 9:00 am Devotional Service - Sanctuary 9:30 am Fellowship (Fellowship Hall) 10:00 am Choir Practice 10:00 am Family Service/Adult Sunday School 11:00 am Worship Service 5:30 pm Youth Group	<b>7</b> 1:30 pm Music Lessons (Upstairs) 5:30 pm Agape Do Karate 6:45 pm Seaside Singers	<b>1</b> First Day of Women's History Month 7:30 am Men's Breakfast 4:15 pm Lisa DeVilins - Fellowship Hall	<b>2</b> 10:00 am AA Meeting 6:30 pm Ash Wednesday Service	<b>3</b> 5:30 pm Agape Do Karate 5:45 pm Choir Practice	<b>4</b> 12:30 pm Bridge - Fellowship Hall	<b>5</b>
<b>13</b> Daylight Saving Time starts Cents-Ability 9:00 am Devotional Service - Sanctuary 9:30 am Fellowship (Fellowship Hall) 10:00 am Choir Practice 10:00 am Family Service/Adult Sunday School 11:00 am Worship Service 5:30 pm Youth Group	<b>14</b> 1:30 pm Music Lessons (Upstairs) 5:30 pm Agape Do Karate 6:45 pm Seaside Singers	<b>8</b> 7:30 am Men's Breakfast 10:00 am Miriam-Naomi Circle (Library) 4:15 pm Lisa DeVilins - Fellowship Hall	<b>9</b> 10:00 am AA Meeting	<b>10</b> 5:30 pm Agape Do Karate 5:45 pm Choir Practice	<b>11</b> 12:30 pm Bridge - Fellowship Hall	<b>12</b>
<b>20</b> 9:00 am Devotional Service - Sanctuary 9:30 am Fellowship (Fellowship Hall) 10:00 am Choir Practice 10:00 am Family Service/Adult Sunday School 11:00 am Worship Service 5:30 pm Youth Group	<b>21</b> 1:30 pm Music Lessons (Upstairs) 5:30 pm Agape Do Karate 6:45 pm Seaside Singers	<b>15</b> 7:30 am Men's Breakfast 4:15 pm Lisa DeVilins - Fellowship Hall 5:30 pm Women's Evening Bible Study 6:00 pm Pricks Meeting - Fellowship Hall	<b>16</b> 10:00 am AA Meeting	<b>17</b> St. Patrick's Day 5:30 pm Agape Do Karate 5:45 pm Choir Practice	<b>18</b> 12:30 pm Bridge - Fellowship Hall	<b>19</b>
<b>27</b> 9:00 am Devotional Service - Sanctuary 9:30 am Fellowship (Fellowship Hall) 10:00 am Choir Practice 10:00 am Family Service/Adult Sunday School 11:00 am Worship Service 5:30 pm Youth Group	<b>28</b> 1:30 pm Music Lessons (Upstairs) 5:30 pm Agape Do Karate 6:45 pm Seaside Singers	<b>22</b> 7:30 am Men's Breakfast 4:15 pm Lisa DeVilins - Fellowship Hall	<b>23</b> 10:00 am AA Meeting	<b>24</b> 5:30 pm Agape Do Karate 5:45 pm Choir Practice 6:00 pm Battery Gatson - Sanctuary	<b>25</b> 12:30 pm Bridge - Fellowship Hall	<b>26</b> 7:00 am Palmeth Relay - Parking Lot Usage
<b>31</b> 5:30 pm Agape Do Karate 5:45 pm Choir Practice	<b>29</b> 7:30 am Men's Breakfast 4:15 pm Lisa DeVilins - Fellowship Hall	<b>30</b> 10:00 am AA Meeting	<b>31</b> 5:30 pm Agape Do Karate 5:45 pm Choir Practice			



**1 Roberta Blanchard**

**2 Bill Dawson**

**2 Linda Nettles**

**4 Mikayla Locke**

**6 Devin McDavid Jones**

**8 Robin Feerst**

**8 Mary Anne Lake**

**10 Lou Bovie**

**10 Barbara Dingle**

**11 Carly McDavid**

**14 Chuck Lockhart**

**14 Brianna Hill**

**15 Elinor Varndell**

**15 Sarah Hooper**

**17 Chip Blackwelder**

**17 Mark George**

**19 Sue Wertz**

**20 Hieu Storey**

**20 Cathy Blackwelder**

**22 Joe Hager**

**23 Dan Hancock**

**24 Gayle Nixon**

**25 Charlie Evans**

**27 Walker Chalmers**

**28 Hope Murph**

**29 Tom Taylor**

**31 Pat Latham**

**31 Bob Waller**

**31 Emily Fairchild**

Church Office Hours:  
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
Monday through Friday  
Phone: (843) 883-3888  
[www.sunrisepresbyterianchurch.org](http://www.sunrisepresbyterianchurch.org)

## Sunrise Staff

The Rev. Dr. Vance E. Polley  
Pastor  
VancePolley@me.com

Matthew Parker  
Director of Music Ministries  
mthwprkr5617@icloud.com

Hannah Webster  
Church Administrator  
sunrisepresbyterian3222@gmail.com

Reece Humphreys Smith  
Commissioned Lay Pastor  
ReeceSmith@yahoo.com

Heidi & Kent Kenyon  
Music and Vocals Ministry  
kakenyon32@gmail.com

Bob Ingram  
Finance Administrator  
homeri1952@gmail.com



Sunrise Presbyterian Church  
3222 Middle Street  
PO Box 517  
Sullivan's Island, SC 29482