

*Our Vision is to be Christ to each other
and our community— doing
justice, loving mercy and
walking humbly with our God.*

CHURCH CONFERENCE NOTIFICATION

The official ballots to vote on the Constitution, Church Procedures and Officers and Teachers were sent out by eblast on Thursday, July 30. The voting period begins upon receipt of your ballot and will be closed on August 20, 2020.



Thank You Notes

Dear Fernwood Family,
Thank you for all your cards, calls, and prayers when Daddy died. Knowing that I was in your thoughts, as well as the whole family, was a source of comfort.

Love, Penny Ginn

Fernwood Members and friends,
We have received a lot of thank you notes from those who were visited during our Parade of Members. They were so excited and overjoyed to be able to be face to face with other members. They also really enjoyed the meal - it was a treat.

We would like to also, thank all those who organized and participated in this special event.

OUR New Post Office Box

Please send all correspondences and contributions to the address listed below. We will no longer receive regular mail at our physical address. Thanks for understanding in this matter.

**Fernwood Baptist Church
P.O. Box 7058
Spartanburg, SC 29304**

Sermon Series

A Ministry of Color:

Celebrating 25 Years of Fernwood's Faceted Glass Windows





As we continue celebrating the 25th anniversary of the installation of our faceted glass windows, this week I will be preaching a sermon inspired by the window depicting the Three Magi. It gives me a bit of an odd feeling to celebrate and read these Christmas stories while it is 95 degrees outside. But there's also an element of excitement to it. In the midst of days that can be both troubling and monotonous, celebrating Christmas in the

middle of the summer is something new to look forward to.

The economic slump that has accompanied this pandemic continues to mean tighter budgets for many families and organizations. Fernwood is no different. While you remain faithful givers and our budget is strong, we are missing the mark we set for ourselves at the beginning of the year. I suspect that our giving is also down because we have not been meeting in-person in order to stop the spread of this virus.

The Magi, of course, brought gifts to Jesus. And it is in that tradition that we give gifts to one another, as well. Even in the heat of the summer, there's no time like a Christmas celebration to ask you to give something extra. If you are able to financially, and if you believe in the vision of Fernwood, can you give something extra to help us close the gap in our budget? Your faithfulness to our church means so much.

And I would be remiss if I didn't also mention all of our community mission partners. They are all doing good work and I am sure their budgets are stretched just as much as ours. Part of the money you give to our church goes to support these partners, but I hope you will also consider making a gift to one or more of them directly:

Total Ministries, Habitat for Humanity, St. Luke's Free Medical Clinic, SPIHN, The Soup Kitchen, Hope Center for Children, Piedmont Care, The Charles Lee Center, Uplift Outreach Center, Angels Charge Ministry, Jump Start, and Hope Ministries for the Upstate.

Thank you for being such a faithful and loving church. Like the Magi, let's follow the Star of Bethlehem wherever it leads - And let our generosity be known to all we meet along the way.

Matt

FACEBOOK LIVE

Bible study every Wednesday Night
at 6pm.

Sunday School Time
every Sunday at 10am online taught by Dr., Gerald Keown.

Sunday Morning Worship Time
every Sunday at 11am online

We will be uploading the video on our [website](#) each Sunday
and also will be on our Facebook page.





Stay at Home Order UPDATE Procedures for Fernwood

CURRENT OFFICE HOURS ARE:

Monday: 9am until 1pm Wednesday: 9am until 1pm

Ways to get information to us:

1. Call the church office and leave a message on the answering machine. We will check on Mondays and Wednesdays when in the office.
2. If it is information which is needed before we return to the office or an emergency, you can email Angie or you can call her cell 864-978-7404.
3. We are also asking that if you are coming to the church to drop off your offering or to pick up something, please know that Angie or Mary Helen will meet you at the door to help you. We are asking that no one enter the building during this time to keep us all healthy and safe. Thanks for understanding in this matter.

The Choral Corner

Have you ever wondered why people stand up for the singing of the Hallelujah Chorus from Handel's MESSIAH? Well... when the king stands, everybody stands! But why did King George II stand up at the 1743 London premiere of what is arguably the greatest oratorio ever written at precisely the moment of its most well known chorus? Truth is, we don't really know. It seems awe-inspiring to say he stood out of complete reverence for this incredibly majestic and stirring music, but that is just one theory. Others say that the king was prone to gout and his foot was bothering him. Some even suggest that he was tired of sitting for this two and a half hour marathon program, and the Hallelujah Chorus is about where the 7th inning would be during the evening. (Maybe that's why we take a 7th inning stretch!) Interestingly, it took several decades after that premiere before any mention of the king standing up during the famous chorus appeared in print, which begs the question, "Did he really stand up?" But, what is for sure is that standing for the Hallelujah Chorus is a tradition that is alive and well all around the world.

As we celebrate the birth of Christ in our Window Series, what better time for a performance of this great work. The link below is a "casual" performance at 10:00 in the morning at Carnegie Hall in New York in 1991. 2800 singers showed up to fill the auditorium just to sing it...and Robert Shaw happened to be there just to conduct it.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ib34hvFerRI>

Stafford Turner

Fernwood Baptist Church
P. O. Box 7058
Spartanburg, SC 29304

OFFICE HOURS

Mon - Wed: 9am to 1pm
Please call ahead for availability.
(864) 582-7467

FOOTSTEPS (USPS 456270)
Published weekly except Christmas and New
Years by Fernwood Baptist Church, P. O. Box 7058,
Spartanburg, SC 29304
Periodicals Postage PAID, Spartanburg, SC
Postmaster: send address changes to FOOTSTEPS,
Fernwood Baptist Church, P.O. Box 7058,
Spartanburg, SC 29304 (864) 582-7467

STAFF

Suzanne Wynn Brown

Director of Music Ministries – 864-316-6943

Suzanne@fernwoodchurch.org

Rev. Matt Johnson

Senior Pastor – 502-974-4480

Matt@fernwoodchurch.org

Angie M. Quinn

Administrative Assistant – 864-978-7404

Angie@fernwoodchurch.org

Dr. Stafford Turner

Acting Choir Director

sturner14@gardner-webb.edu

Mary Helen Wessinger

Financial Administrator

Maryhelen@fernwoodchurch.org

Publication Notice

The next bi-weekly e-blast newsletter publication will be **Wednesday, August 12, 2020**. Deadline for all articles is **Tuesday, August 11, 2020 at Noon**.

PLEASE NOTE: You may submit your information via email (angie@fernwoodchurch.org) or through the church office. Please do not submit any information over the phone. Information submitted after the deadline will not be published until the following issue (no exceptions). Thank you for your understanding!