



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

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## Missions Opportunities

Holidays are approaching, and the Missions Ministry Team is requesting that you consider ways to reach out to the community. Below are three options to consider.

- TOTAL Ministries is looking for Christmas sponsors. Individuals or groups can sponsor children or families. If you or a group in the church would be interested in participating in this, we can obtain information on a child (~ \$100) or a family that is in need of some Christmas joy. If you would prefer to make a donation, TOTAL can do the shopping for you. *Mail a check directly to TOTAL with the designation "Christmas Sponsor".*
- TOTAL Ministries is also looking for turkey donations for Thanksgiving. They have set a goal of 800 turkeys to collect before Thanksgiving. They have established three dates where they will be accepting turkeys at TOTAL on South Pine Street.

Wednesday, October 28th 5:30 to 7:00 pm  
Wednesday, November 4th 5:30 to 7:00 pm  
Sunday, November 8th 9:00 to 11:00 am

*Alternatively, you can mail check directly to TOTAL with the designation "Thanksgiving Turkey". (~\$20)*

- Habitat for Humanity is hosting a virtual Upcycled Art Show between November 5 – 19. Items from the Restore Thrift shop are being repurposed by local artists and will be up for bids. Individuals have to register to participate. After registering, you will be able to view and place bids on these pieces starting November 5th through November 19th. Funds raised will go toward creating homes for Spartanburg county.

If you have any questions about any of these Missions opportunities, please call Robert Hendrix at (864)706-6356.

**TOTAL Ministries**  
**976 South Pine Street**  
**Spartanburg, SC 29302**



## From the Deacons Bench

Some of you, but not all, are aware that Fernwood was the recipient of a very gracious gift just before everything shut down due to Covid 19. The gift was anonymous and in the amount of \$100,000, designated for key projects identified by our Building and Grounds Committee. As the deacons, the Building and Grounds Committee, and the Finance Committee have discussed the varied needs so far identified, it became clear that, as generous as this wonderful gift was, it will not begin to cover the many areas that need attention. The Building and Grounds Committee, with approval from both the Finance Committee and the Deacons, has already begun to address some of the key areas of need. However, some of our facilities are of such an age that significant maintenance issues require attention. It is essential that we attend to these matters so that we can continue to engage in the ministry to our community which involves the use of our facilities. Fernwood is making significant progress in becoming the church we believe God has called us to be. Our new identity statement specifies four areas where we focus our attention: Worship, Belong, Serve, and Invest. All four of these areas are linked to the needs we must address where deferred maintenance can no longer be delayed.

The Deacons have approved a strategy that asks all of us as a congregation to commit ourselves to join with our generous anonymous donor in adding some of our resources to those already given so that we can meet these challenges. We understand that the ability to participate in this challenge campaign will vary dependent upon the ability of each member. Some of us can give more than others. This is an opportunity to make a huge difference, not only in doing some things that really must be done, but also in enabling a number of ministries that represent good stewardship of our facilities.

In taking leadership in this campaign, to be noted as Capital Appeal when we channel our special contributions, the Deacons have pledged to give something beyond the tithe in the coming months, the amounts to be determined by the ability of each family. We urge each of you to join us in this effort.

The proposed strategy is to utilize the list of priority items developed by the Building and Grounds Committee, which includes a cost estimate for each item. We will track progress toward providing sufficient funds to address each item, with the item marked “completed” when those funds are in hand. As we give month by month, my hope is that we will see the resources needed grow rapidly. The resources themselves are not nearly as important as what they allow us to do and be as a servant people in Spartanburg.

The priority list will include the following sentence in the heading: While these previously identified priorities will be addressed in the order noted, we acknowledge that unexpected expenses can arise which require immediate attention and those will be dealt with appropriately, with such expenses communicated in a timely manner.

The following are the items identified by the Building and Grounds Committee in priority order, with the cost estimate included:

1. HVAC System—Replace Cooling Tower - \$80,000
2. Sanctuary –Roof Replacement - \$37,000
3. Sanctuary—Stucco Repair and Recover - \$39,000
4. Sanctuary—Floor Repair, Isolate and Fix - \$3,500
5. Breaker Repair—Replace, Eliminate Water Source - \$14,000

6. Gym Floor – Recover - \$30,000
7. Playground - \$30,000
8. Painting—Exterior and Some Interior - \$25,000
9. Nexus Repairs - \$15,000
10. Boiler/Chiller Maintenance - \$10,000
11. Parking Lot Sealing and Striping - \$6,000

Mary Helen will track our progress and I will provide regular progress reports. Please join the Deacons in this important effort. I am grateful to be a part of this “different kind of Baptist church” and I am committed to do what I can to enable it to achieve God’s purpose as we serve our community. Thank you in advance for your participation. Remember to mark all gifts beyond the tithe for this campaign as “Capital Appeal.”

**Gerald Keown**  
Deacon Chair

## **Prayers of the People Highlights**

### **October 25-31, 2020**

Kirk and Suzie  
Thailand

[www.cbf.net/kirksuzie](http://www.cbf.net/kirksuzie)

*You shall not render an unjust judgment; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbor. Leviticus 19:15*

Kirk and Suzie are Cooperative Baptist Fellowship field personnel serving among the Bisu people of Southeast Asia. For over 20 years, they have sought to testify to God’s power to transform lives through their work in literacy, Bible translation and advocacy.

The Bisu New Testament was published in October 2015 — in written form, smartphone app, and downloadable audio. With these resources, some 15 Bisu individuals are bearing witness to Jesus Christ, have formed a church and are becoming a healing presence in their community.

Kirk and Suzie continue to work on translation of the Old Testament and adapting the New Testament for related language groups in three countries. They are also involved in literacy and education projects for several other marginalized ethnic minority groups.

## **Safety & Security Info**

If anyone has an interest in serving on the Fernwood Baptist Church safety and security team please contact Jack Todd at 529-7711 or [email](mailto:jack.todd@fernwoodbaptist.org). Service opportunities include:

- worship security team
- mental health team
- medical team



## More Important Information from the Deacons' Bench

On another matter, some Fernwood members have expressed their frustration at our inability to have in-person worship at Fernwood, especially since a number of churches in our area have resumed such activities. At our October meeting, the deacons discussed this concern and, as a result of our conversation, Matt met with the Worship Ministry Team regarding in-person worship. Those who participated in the conversation were not eager to move in that direction at this time.

There are multiple factors to consider. First of all, you may not be aware that the process of producing the virtual worship experience requires at least twice as much time as the preparation for a “normal” worship service. We are fortunate to have skilled persons who are able to enable the high quality of worship we are experiencing. Those persons put in many hours each week in order to make that happen. The Worship Ministry Team has already completed plans for the Advent season this year, and it will not be possible to substitute in-person worship for that period of time. The schedule is already too packed to add something else to it.

Furthermore, the fact that other churches are meeting in person does not make that a wise move. Covid 19 cases are surging nationwide and anyone who takes a cavalier attitude toward this virus potentially endangers themselves and others. 220,000 Americans have died from this virus and deaths are around 700 daily now. The projections from Public Health officials are that those numbers will grow to more than 1,000 daily as we move through the fall and winter. We love our congregation and care about your welfare too much to engage in risky behaviors which could prove fatal. While we all are suffering from virus fatigue and are frustrated at the limitations this pandemic has imposed upon us, as one scientist put it this morning, the virus is not tired of us.

There is a possibility that some in-person worship options could occur in early January. At that time, our ability to stream worship services live should be in place and limited numbers of persons could be present in the sanctuary on Sunday morning at 11:00. However, even if that is possible, it will not be anything like “normal.” Everyone in the congregation will be required to wear a mask and there will be no congregational singing. Neither will there be the option of any normal greeting which would involve shaking hands or offering hugs. Those present will essentially be an audience, not participants in the normal sense. It will be good to have the opportunity to be in the sanctuary, but I am pretty sure it will not scratch our itch the way we would prefer.

One activity that is being considered during Advent is a drive-through communion opportunity, with members driving through the covered area near the dining room to receive the elements of communion. More information about that will be forthcoming.

Please know that we are all frustrated at the new normal thrust upon us by this pandemic. I pray for your safety and your patience as we navigate uncharted territory to the best of our ability. I also would be remiss not to offer sincere gratitude to those who have taken leadership in enabling us to continue to be the Church in some remarkable ways in these difficult times. Thank you especially to Matt, Stafford, Sherami, Becky, Lloyd, Lee Anne, and all those who have made worship meaningful the past six months.

**Gerald Keown**  
Deacon Chair



### **Facebook Live**

Bible study every Wednesday Night at 6pm.

### **Adult Sunday School Time**

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

### **Children's Sunday School Time**

every Sunday at 10am online taught by Lee Anne Bailie

### **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.

## **Family Night Supper Support - Will You Help?**

We are supporting a local mission with meals. The Hope Center for Children are excited and pleased to be receiving these meals. Tina will be preparing larger casserole type meals along with sides. They have 3 residential homes that she will be preparing for. These meals will be hot and fresh and delivered on Wednesday afternoon at 5:30pm at each location.

Are you willing to continue to pay for your meal, but allow it to be served to your neighbors? If you would like to help pay for some meals, you can write "Family Supper" on your check or choose "Family Supper" when you give online. Please give generously and help spread the word to others. Thank you to those of you who continue to support this important ministry!

# The Choral Corner

This Sunday, which is All Saints Day, we will remember all those who have left us this year, known and unknown. With the massive imprint of the Covid virus, our reflection this year will be especially poignant. Composers have been writing music for nearly 1500 years in memory of departed souls, and one of the most frequented formats for this is the Requiem Mass. For many centuries, this mass utilized only the liturgical Latin text of the Catholic Church, but that tradition changed in 1868 when Johannes Brahms wrote "A German Requiem," which used only German texts from the Lutheran Bible. Furthermore, his mass focused not on the one departed, but rather on those remaining. Ever since, composers have been breaking with tradition to write requiem masses in vernacular languages to reach a greater impact on their audiences.



One of the most celebrated and performed requiem masses of our modern era is John Rutter's Requiem. Completed in 1985, it is scored for soprano soloist, mixed choir, and orchestra, and includes both Latin and English texts. You might remember that my first Choral Corner feature last spring was the Psalm 23 movement of this work. This week, I will offer the final movement of Rutter's Requiem, Lux Aeterna, which includes texts from Revelation 14:13. The words to the selection are as follows:

I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me.  
Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord,  
for they rest from their labors;  
even so saith the Spirit.

Lux æterna luceat eis Domine;  
Cum sanctis tuis in æternum, quia pius es.  
Requiem æternam dona eis Domine,  
et lux perpetua luceat eis.

(Let eternal light shine upon them, O Lord;  
with Thy saints forever, for Thou art merciful.  
Grant them eternal rest, O Lord,  
and may light perpetual shine on them.)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4ocZkEPflnE>

*Stafford Turner*

**Homebound Member  
of the Week**

**Bill Bagwell**  
168 Roberts Meadow Loop  
Spartanburg, SC 29307

# Birthdays and Anniversaries

## November Birthdays

1 - Lorena Mitchell  
2 - Drew Patton  
3 - Brianna Sailem  
6 - Ethan Lyles  
6 - Don Yates  
7 - Susan Todd  
15 - Mason Harris  
18 - Lisa Emerson  
22 - Carlson Perrenoud  
23 - Suzanne Brown  
23 - Donna Robinson  
26 - Randy Perrenoud  
29 - Bill Fields

## November Anniversaries

Matt and Clare Johnson  
November 5, 2005

Robert and Joan Hendrix  
November 15, 1975

Gene and Judy Moyer  
November 20, 1971

Alan and Mary Beth Lyles  
November 25, 1989

Bill and Pat Fields  
November 26, 1959

## Our mailing address

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

## Office Hours

**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 call her cell 864-978-7404.

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**P. O. Box 7058**  
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**OFFICE HOURS**

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

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**Publication Notice**

The next bi-weekly e-blast newsletter publication will be **Wednesday, November 11, 2020.**  
Deadline for all articles is **Tuesday, November 10, 2020 at Noon.**

PLEASE NOTE: You may submit your information via email ([angie@fernwoodchurch.org](mailto: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!