

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



For the week of Thanksgiving the church office will be open on

Monday and Tuesday from 9-2.

The church office will be closed Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

Happy Thanksgiving from the Staff

Advent Devotional Books

We have received 19 copies from Gerald Keown. These devotional books were provided by Gardner-Webb University. You can drop by the church during office hours and pick one up. First come, first served.

Welcome New Member!

Raquel Cox-Tennal

We would like to welcome, Raquel Cox-Tennal into our membership. Raquel is moving her membership from Antioch Baptist Church North in Atlanta. She now lives in Spartanburg and has been watching our live stream services. She is excited about becoming part of the Fernwood family and can't wait to meet everyone. Welcome, Raquel!





From the Deacons' Bench

The property on Fernwood Drive (the lot with the old scout hut), which has been for sale by the church, has now been sold. The sale will close in early January. As part of the sale contract, we will be removing the scout hut. The new owners will be good neighbors for Fernwood. The space will be occupied by an Optometrist's office, with construction of that building upcoming. Fernwood will receive

a nice financial boost from this transaction, though that will only occur after closing in January. The sale of the property was approved several months ago and we are grateful for the work of the Building and Grounds Committee who were responsible for putting all of this in motion.

In another matter, the deacons have determined that no in-person worship will occur before the first of the year. With the spike of coronavirus cases nationwide, the risk of calamity is much too great to dismiss. We have new technology in place which will allow us to begin live streaming worship services, probably early in January. At that time, the worship service will take place on Sundays at 11:00 and there will be opportunity for a select group of persons to be present in the sanctuary at that time, with full attention to wearing masks and maintaining distances. As I noted in an earlier newsletter article, it will not be a normal worship experience for those who attend, since no congregational singing or exchange of greetings (with handshakes and hugs) will be possible. We have good news related to vaccines which will enable us to move more toward normal once they are widely available. I can assure you that we will move in that direction as soon as it is safe to do so.

Be alert to announcements regarding a drive-through communion opportunity upcoming in early December. Matt will be serving communion to Fernwood members as we drive through in the front parking lot. It is not quite the same as being together, but it is at least an opportunity for worship activity at the church.

Finally, as you will hear from the deacons who are offering the offertory prayer, we need to encourage you to add a bit to your offering so as to enable us to make up the deficit in our budget due to reduced offerings this past summer. Help us to fill that need so that the ongoing ministry at Fernwood can proceed without interruption. God has good things in store for us as a congregation. The pandemic is simply a hurdle along the way and it, too, will pass.

Gerald Keown
Deacon Chair

Upcoming Events to Remember

Virtual Zoom Meeting
will be on
Wednesday, December 2 at 6pm.
Quarterly Reports will be presented.

Drive-by communion will be on
Sunday, December 6 from 1 until 2pm
in the front parking lot.

Christmas Eve Service will be live-stream on
Thursday, December 24 at 5pm

Coat Drive

Fernwood will be hosting a coat donation again this year; due to Covid it will be managed differently. We will be collecting coats at the church until **Friday, December 11.**

Contact Angie to coordinate when you can drop them off. If you need someone to come pick up coats at your house, please contact Penny Ginn.

Coats will then be given to Regenesys or another Spartanburg-area ministry to be distributed to those in need.

In addition to coats, we will collect hats, scarves and gloves.

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](#). Service opportunities include:

worship security team
mental health team
medical team



The Choral Corner

As we prepare to celebrate Thanksgiving, I offer a wonderful hymn of thanks to God sung by one of the finest choirs of the mid-20th century, the Robert Shaw Chorale. Robert Shaw is routinely viewed as one of the greatest choral conductors ever; however, his career began by a curious combination of circumstances. Born into a clerical family (his grandfather and father were ministers), he attended Pomona College in his birth-state of California, studying Philosophy, Literature, and Religion. In spite of his demanding academic schedule, he still found time to join the college Glee Club. The faculty director of

the Glee Club fell ill, and Shaw was asked to fill in, and this happened to coincide with the famous Fred Waring being on campus to film a movie. He was impressed with Shaw's abilities and invited him to New York to develop a glee club for his organization. The rest, as they say, is history.

The Robert Shaw Chorale was founded in 1948 as a touring, professional choir, and enjoyed a 17-year uninterrupted run until Shaw was named as the Music Director and Conductor of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra. The group toured extensively throughout Europe, the Soviet Union, Latin America, and the Middle East. The Chorale recorded often with the NBC Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Arturo Toscanini. After the final movement of Beethoven's great Ninth Symphony, Toscanini turned to his orchestra and said, "In Robert Shaw I have at last found the maestro I have been looking for."

Shaw's rich religious heritage influenced much of his repertoire selection, and he recorded many sacred hymns and spiritual songs with the RSC. The link below features one of the great Thanksgiving hymns, Now Thank We All Our God.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2FkMi2I29NI&list=RDJYhG0cV8ozc&index=7>

As an added bonus, Thanksgiving is often linked to the beginning of the Christmas season, and while we are enjoying the rich sound of the Robert Shaw Chorale, here is somewhat of a primer for the season...enjoy!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KYSnoWRVlm4>

Stafford Turner

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!

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.



Homebound Member of the Week

Nancy & Sid Shealey

Eden Terrace
2780 E. Main Street, Evergreen
Spartanburg, SC 29307

Missions Opportunities

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. *You can either take a turkey by or you can mail a check directly to TOTAL and designate Thanksgiving Turkey. (\$20)*



Christmas Lights at Fernwood!

Hope you will have the opportunity to ride by the church one evening. The trees are now sparkling with lights. This didn't just happen without work and planning. Thank you to Connie Yates for purchasing numerous lights, and a huge thank you to Del Lockhart for spending hours checking and organizing the lights.

Del supervised this group of tree lighters: Russ Blackburn, Sara Gardner, Mike Hensley, Gerald Keown, Lonnie Myers, and Jack Todd.

Please enjoy the Christmas beauty at Fernwood.

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.

ANNUAL SPARTANBURG COMMUNITY

Virtual
Thanksgiving Service

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2020
6:30 - 7:30 PM

Streamed LIVE from Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church

f YouTube @MacedoniaMissionaryBaptistChurchSpartanburg

All proceeds taken during the evening's offering will benefit

ANGELS CHARGE MINISTRY
a nonprofit serving incarcerated women in Spartanburg County.
Learn more at www.angelschargeministry.org.

- GIVE YOUR OFFERING ONLINE -
http://bit.ly/SIFA2020_TS

Join us virtually as we gather and give thanks together!



Happy Thanksgiving to all!

Wreath Decorating Event

Join us for our annual Wreath Decorating Event, **Saturday morning, December 5, in the Fernwood Dining Hall**. CDC guidelines for social distancing and other safety protocols will be followed.

Begins at **10am until 12 noon**.

For many of you, this is a "new" tradition. Thankfully, it is one that we can still do safely.

SPACE IS LIMITED so sign up TODAY. We are already at 20% of our event capacity.

Deadline for registration is WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25!!! Our wreaths are assembled as soon as I order them!!! There is also an option to ONLY ORDER A FRESH CUT WREATH and decorate at home.

Go to <https://forms.gle/hfxdDiGgGsdvMWaKA> to register.

Prayers of the People Highlights for November 15-21, 2020

Eddie & Macarena Aldape

Albacete, Spain
www.cbf.net/aldape

Prayers of the People Highlights for November 22-28, 2020

McCall Racial Justice & Leadership Initiative

www.cbf.net/mccall-initiative

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

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Publication Notice

The next bi-weekly e-blast newsletter publication will be **Wednesday, December 2, 2020**. Deadline for all articles is **Tuesday, December 1, 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!