



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

A Time for Rest

Matt Johnson, our Senior Pastor will be out of the office on vacation and respite time until Thursday, September 2. If you have an emergency, please contact Lee Anne Bailie at 864-415-1480 or Angie Quinn at 864-978-7404.



Welcome

We would like to welcome, Caleb & Meghanne McDaniels to the Fernwood family. They along with their two children, Penelope and Banks have been participating with the Young Adults Sunday School and the Children's department for around a year, during the pandemic. Thanks, McDaniels for sticking with us during these trying times. Caleb and Meghanne are moving their membership from Wellford Baptist Church. Welcome, McDaniels family!

Ministry Team News

On Sunday, September 12, you will be given the opportunity to sign up to participate in one or all of ministry team which are listed in the brochure. Sign up sheets will be on the Welcome Table located in the lobby.

The Church office will be closed on **Monday, September 6** for **Labor Day**. Thanks for allowing us this time to celebrate and rest.



Book Group

The Fernwood Book Group will be meeting by ZOOM, starting on Tues, Sept. 7, at 7 PM. The book to be discussed is - ***Mercies in Disguise***- by Gina Kolata.

Contact Nancy Easler at 680-8518 for more information.

WORK DAY!

**Attention
SS Members & Teachers
and Worship Team members:**

**IMPORTANT
INFORMATION**

The Adult SS is almost completed. We are still finishing up a little face lifting on some other rooms and then a waxing procedure will be done on the floors to help protect them. We are changing the day to be able to come by and label the items you wish to keep or those you wish to toss. **Tuesday, September 7th, from 10am to 1pm**, will be the first day in which you can make an appointment to come in and look at your SS items. Then on **Wednesday, September 8th at 10am** will the moving of furniture and items back into the SS Classrooms. Please be sure to have a representative of your SS Class to come help with decisions of items. All left over items will be taken to trash or to a goodwill location in our area if still usable to someone.

Don't forget your mask!

Save the Date Events

Pride Festival

Saturday, October 30

More information to come.

Drive Thru Trick or Treat

Sunday, October 31

from 5-6pm

in parking lot in front of Chapel and Sanctuary.

More information to come.



Soup Kitchen Report

On Sunday, August 15, we were blessed as we allowed God to minister to us through others. The Soup Kitchen staff and volunteers were glad to have more volunteers to assist with their mission and approximately 100 people were thrilled to have a great meal prepared and served by 14 Fernwood

members.

The in-house crowd was smaller than we remember fourteen months ago but we provided food and drink to them and many others who took their meals out. As COVID continues to impact us all and causes us to change our routines, we are reminded that God is always present and for that we are truly thankful.

Our next time to serve is Sunday, October 17, so mark your calendars and be blessed as we serve others less fortunate.

Thanks, *Clarence Batts*



The 2021-22 session for Deacon Ministry began with a successful retreat held August 7 in the dining hall. We welcomed the newly elected deacons Reed Brown, Wendy Case, Sara Gardner and Justin Hicks. In addition, the new deacon officers were elected. They are as follows: Lee Anne Bailie, chair; Penny Ginn, vice chair; and Kathy Hensley, secretary.

The deacon body discussed realigning the congregational ministry plan whereby the deacons can reach out to members who are in the hospital, nursing home, and homebound. We also revisited our COVID protocol with respect to the highly infectious Delta variant.

The following decisions were made which impact the return to activities in the fall:

- **Wednesday night programming** – We will postpone Wednesday night programs for September, then re-evaluate monthly as we are doing for worship. We may consider Bible study without a meal. We will not serve meals with increasing COVID numbers.
- **Worship service** – On August 15, we will resume mask wearing while in the building. This means masks stay on for entirety of worship service, even in pews. (This was communicated in the August 11 newsletter as well as announced during worship.)
- **Sunday School** – We will continue with our plan to return to Sunday School on September 12. Larger Sunday School classes will move to larger rooms to enable safe distancing. All people masked in Sunday School is relatively safe.
- **Church office hours** – On September 13, office hours of Monday-Thursday, 8:30am-4:30pm will resume. This coincides with the church returning to a normal weekly schedule.
- **Small groups** (book club, ministry teams, committees) may meet while masked. Leaders need to reserve rooms through Angie.

It looks to be another interesting year juggling protocols and uncertainty. Let us all practice patience with our neighbors as we navigate these unprecedented times. I am hopeful when I say that the deacon body desires, first and foremost, to SERVE our Fernwood family. Whenever there is a need in your family, please contact Angie or the deacons of the week.

Walking humbly,
Lee Anne Bailie, Deacon Chair

MASK REQUIRED

Masks are required when in the church building, at all times. even if you have been vaccinated. Due to the recent number of new Covid cases, we will be taking all precautions to protect everyone. There will be masks provided at each entrance of the Sanctuary lobby.



Homebound Member of the Week

Della Gibbs
143 Locke Adele Drive
Spartanburg, SC 29307

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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STAFF

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
Director of Music Ministries
sturner14@gardner-webb.edu

Mary Helen Wessinger
Financial Administrator
Maryhelen@fernwoodchurch.org

Message from the Audio/Visual Team

If you are interested in being trained to assist our Audio/Visual Team in broadcasting and recording our Sunday Morning Worship Service, please contact Alan Lyles at 864-216-2303.

Publication Notice

The next bi-weekly e-blast newsletter publication will be **Wednesday, September 15, 2021**.
Deadline for all articles is **Tuesday, September 14, 2021 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!