

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

**Fundraiser for Lynda McLane Reading Scholarship**  
**Sunday, November 21 from 2-5pm**  
**Monday, November 22 from 11am-1pm**  
**in the Dining Room.**

Some of her personal items will be sold and all proceeds will be to benefit the reading scholarship fund established in her memory. Exact change or check only.

### **Coat and More Drive**

Fernwood will again be collecting coats, blankets, gloves, warm hats and socks to give away to those in need. We will either host giveaways at the church, or we will give the coats and blankets to ReGenesis to distribute and put the smaller items on a Blessing Tree outside at the church.



The Missions Ministry Team is recommending that Fernwood support the CBF December Global Missions Offering. Envelopes can be obtained in the concourse for your donations.

The Missions Team is also going to display a Giving Tree in the concourse to allow members to sponsor some local families/children for the holidays. We will be working with TOTAL Ministries, Hope Center for Children, and some other children known by the church family that need support (this includes the exterminator's three children). You can select a tag off of the Giving Tree which will provide details of the gift that is requested. Once you take a tag and purchase the designated gift, place it under the tree. These gifts need to be returned by mid-December.

**Do not forget important upcoming Missions activities.**

### **Habitat for Humanity**

Nov. 20, 8:30am – 12:30pm      contact Russ Blackburn

### **Soup Kitchen**

Dec. 19, 9:00am – 1:00pm      contact Clarence Batts

## **Pastor's Report**

Over the last several months, we have been discussing Family Systems Theory (FST). The idea behind FST is that we can look at our congregation, not simply as a collection of individuals acting independently, but as a whole. Our congregation operates like a system, where any issue must be considered in the context of its environment.

When problems or changes arise in systems, we can choose to respond in more or less healthy ways. Last month, we discussed the idea that we can choose to be self-differentiated. This means that we have a healthy sense of limits, we are clear about what we believe, and we are able to both articulate those beliefs and are willing to stay connected to one another in spite of our differences.

Once we begin to understand how to be a self-differentiated person, we can become a non-anxious presence. When we are faced with stress, pain, difficulty, or “stuck” thinking, we don’t have to get caught up in the emotions of others. We can choose to be “non-anxious” in the face of trouble. Think of how Jesus reacted when he and his disciples were caught in a storm while in a boat on the Sea of Galilee. The disciples were convinced they were going to die. But Jesus was asleep. And when he woke up, he calmed the storm. Talk about being non-anxious!

It’s tempting to want our church to never change. But the truth is that systems must change or die. Change involves the death of something so that something else can live. The basis of our faith is a cycle of birth/life/death/resurrection. This is true for our church, as well. A system will change as little as possible until the system itself recognizes the need for change. This does not mean change should be avoided. Change must be introduced in a healthy, promising, and positive way.

How can we achieve healthy change? We do this by seeking a new homeostasis. Homeostasis is defined as a “relatively stable state of equilibrium...between the different...groups or elements of an organization, population, or group.” Like a rubber band, an organization can be stretched, but we don’t want it to snap. The organization (like the rubber band) will want to come back to its original position, but over time, it can be formed into a new shape.

Questions to ponder: How does our congregation maintain its balance? What are the drivers of resistance to change? What are the drivers to growth?

**Matt**

## **A Note From the Stewardship Ministry Team**

Life insurance is a way to make a larger gift to the church than you might otherwise be able to afford. Consider naming the church as a beneficiary of any insurance policy.

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

We are continuing our support of local mission with meals to **Hope Center for Children** on **about the third Wednesday of each month** and a meal to **St. Luke** quarterly.

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 between 5:00pm and 5:30pm at each location. St. Luke meals are delivered to its location between 4 and 4:30 pm.

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 Night Supper" on your check or choose "Family Night 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!



## **A Thank You Note and Invitation**

The Blackburn family would like to take this opportunity to thank Fernwood Baptist Church for their support through prayers, cards, texts, phone calls, e-mails, food, and personal conversations. We are also thankful for financial gifts made in memory of dad, John Russell Blackburn. His celebration of life and faith was held November 23, at 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Baptist Church in Huntington, WV with family and friends in attendance. Again, we are thankful for our faith family.

Also, we invite you to a Celebration of Life drop in at Summit Hills Bistro area to greet the family. This will be from 2 to 4 on Sunday, November 14.

**Launa, Russ and Diane Blackburn**

## **A Thank You Note...**

Dear Fernwood family,

Thank you so much for the calls, cards and especially the prayers during my recent surgery. I have had such a sense of peace and love during this time and it was comforting to know I was being lifted up by so many. I am getting stronger every day and look forward to getting back to church again soon.

Love, **Lori League**



# November Birthdays and Anniversaries

## **November Birthdays**

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

## Ministry Council News...

What a great time to be a part of Fernwood! We just had another successful Drive Through Trick or Treat, plans are being prepared for a thoughtful and holy Advent Season, and activities are being planned for the spring and summer. If you want to be involved, look for announcements for all events and jump in when you can.

**Sabrina**



## TOTAL Ministries

Current needs include: soups (all types), jelly, grits, oatmeal, canned fruit, applesauce, cake mix and frosting, one pound bags of dry beans, peanut butter, canned meats (such as Spam, salmon, tuna, beef stew), cereals, one pound bags of rice, macaroni and cheese, spaghetti sauce and noodles(pasta), all types of canned vegetables, and toiletries.

Collection containers are located in front of the church office.



## Homebound Member of the Week

Suzy Nicholas  
134 Lyndhurst Street  
Spartanburg, SC 29307

## Devotional for the Advent Season

The Discipleship Team would like to offer the following **link** from the Luther Seminary as a guide through Advent this year. You can download the link or call the church office and have Angie make you a copy of the devotions for each day of Advent.

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1IJMVdn54\\_YGhTzIN7Atzwwgi9NWTDlexh/view?\\_hsmi=177577910&\\_hsenc=p2ANqtz--1bzjDLcRWS1nNYOo-oVDlrpP-F\\_I0d\\_KfwedZ\\_celFRiUQSchGdEnm032cnXeV3mH27iVTy-EjWLCs96TqcXxDL-i8w](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1IJMVdn54_YGhTzIN7Atzwwgi9NWTDlexh/view?_hsmi=177577910&_hsenc=p2ANqtz--1bzjDLcRWS1nNYOo-oVDlrpP-F_I0d_KfwedZ_celFRiUQSchGdEnm032cnXeV3mH27iVTy-EjWLCs96TqcXxDL-i8w)

**FERNWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**OPERATING FINANCIAL RESULTS**  
Year-To-Date October 2021

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	Actual Better or (Worse) Than <u>Budget</u>
<b>OPERATING RECEIPTS</b>			
Contributions Received	\$498,296	\$321,667	\$176,629
Use of Building Receipts	\$4,613	\$0	\$4,613
Interest Income	\$146	\$0	\$146
Processing Fees	\$400	\$0	\$400
Other Income	\$196,735	\$0	\$196,735
Transfers	\$56	\$0	\$56
Total Operating Receipts	\$700,246	\$321,667	\$378,579
<b>OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b>			
Total Personnel Related	\$145,459	\$152,592	\$7,133
Community Ministry Children / Youth	\$14,531	\$19,300	\$4,769
Ministry	\$886	\$1,542	\$656
Music Ministry	\$2,108	\$3,167	\$1,059
Educational Ministry	\$41	\$333	\$292
Evangelistic Ministry	\$635	\$2,916	\$2,281
Ministry Teams	\$1,756	\$1,917	\$161
State & World Missions	\$12,036	\$12,867	\$831
Operating Ministry	\$209,848	\$127,033	(\$82,815)
Total Operating Expenditures	\$387,300	\$321,667	(\$65,633)
<b>OPERATING RECEIPTS MORE(LESS) THAN OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b>			
	\$312,946	\$0	\$312,946



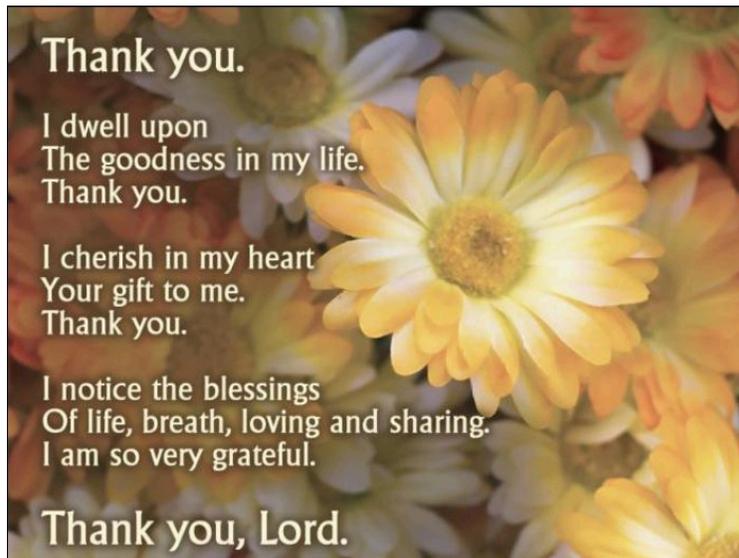
## Save The Date

### Wreath Decorating Event

Saturday, December 4  
from  
9:30am until 12:30pm  
in the Dining Room

### **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.



**Veteran's Day - Thursday, November 11**



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

**OFFICE HOURS**

**Mon - Thurs: 8:30am to 4:30pm**  
**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 17, 2021**.  
Deadline for all articles is **Tuesday, November 16, 2021 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!