

Seneca Presbyterian Church

January 14, 2018

THE CALL

"The Church for All People, Serving God through Serving Others"



"Surely the Lord is in this Place" 2009

115 W. S. First St., Seneca, SC 29678 ☎ (864) 882-2505 ☎ www.sprez.org

WEEKLY CELEBRATION OF THE RESURRECTION

2nd Sunday after Epiphany

January 14, 2018

11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Lord Jesus, lest I trust in my own righteousness, keep me mindful of my faults and my need of Your grace; remove from my heart any prejudice that would hinder me from sharing the good news with others; and allow me to sit at table with You in the company of the sinners You have called to be Your disciples. Amen.

GATHERING AS THE PEOPLE OF GOD

WELCOME AND TIME OF GREETING

Pouring of the Water

Congregational Response (Hymn No. 490, v. 1) *Wash, O God, Your Sons and Daughters*

Wash, O God, your sons and daughters, newborn creatures of your womb.

Number them among your people, raised like Christ from death and tomb.

Weave them garments bright and sparkling; compass them with love and light.

Fill, anoint them; send your Spirit, holy dove and heart's delight.

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF CHURCH LIFE

OPENING VOLUNTARY

To Jordan Came the Christ, Our Lord

arr. Stephen Rosebrock

*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Isaiah 43)

One: Do not remember the former things or consider the things of old.

All: I am about to do a new thing, says our God.

One: Now it springs forth—do you not perceive it?

All: I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

One: For I will give drink to my chosen people,

All: the people I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise!

*HYMN No.41

O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!

*INVOCATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

God our Creator, we confess that we are broken, sinful creatures.

You speak to us with tender mercy, yet we fail to recognize Your voice.

You know everything about us, yet we pretend we do not know You.

Forgive us, God of grace.

**Help us to heed Your voice of truth, to follow Your way of faithfulness,
and to glorify You with our lives.**

Hear us in the silence, where there is always more to say...

Sung Response (Hymn No. 604) *Lamb of God*

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace; grant us peace.

Assurance of Pardon

One: In the name of Jesus Christ, and by the power of the Spirit at work within us, we are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God.

*Congregational Response: (Hymn No. 581) *Glory Be to the Father*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

ANTHEM

In the Bleak Midwinter

arr. Holst/ Christopher

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Mark 2:1-22

pages 813-814

SERMON

The New Kid in Town

Nancy M. Morris

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

***HYMN No. 774**

There Is Now a New Creation

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (Adapted from the Confession of 1967, PC-USA)

God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind.

Human thought ascribes to God superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness.

**But God reveals divine love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant,
wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful men and women.**

**The power of God's love in Christ to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer
is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of God's love.**

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

Musical Offering *My Savior First of All*

arr. Lyndell Leatherman

*Doxology (Hymn No. 609) *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures high and low.

Alleluia! Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit One. Alleluia!

*Prayer of Dedication

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH AND PRAYER

***HYMN No. 39**

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** (Hymn No. 541, v. 1) *God Be With You Till We Meet Again*

God be with you till we meet again; loving counsels guide, uphold you,
with a shepherd's care enfold you: God be with you till we meet again.

POSTLUDE

Postlude in D

arr. Austin North

*Let those who are able to stand

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THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE (1/14/2018-1/20/2018)

Sunday	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Contemporary Worship Church School Traditional Worship
Monday	Church Office Closed 4:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Martin Luther King Holiday Worship Committee Finance Committee Handbells
Tuesday	9:00 a.m. - Noon 2:30 p.m. 3:00 p.m.	Parish Nurse Health & Wellness Parkinson Support Groups
Wednesday	6:30 p.m.	Choir
Thursday	12:00 noon	BB&B

Liturgist: 9:00 a.m. Kelly Holleman 11:00 a.m. Helen Kelly

Combined Worship Attendance 1/7/18 Total: 104

Flowers are placed in the sanctuary by **Nancy and Don Clayton** in celebration of their 35th wedding anniversary.



To those newly worshipping with us we warmly welcome you to our congregation. You are invited to join us for any and all of the activities and opportunities we provide. Please let us know if we can serve you in any way. We also extend an invitation to unite with this church. Periodically we offer a series of Inquirer's Classes that explore the meaning of church membership in our Presbyterian tradition. Those interested in membership are encouraged to participate in these classes. If you are interested in conversation about membership, do not hesitate to contact

Pastor Nancy Morris or call the church office at 882-2505 at any time.

- **Hearing amplification units** and **large print hymnals** are available in the narthex or speak to an usher.
- During both worship services, a **nursery** is provided for small children through age 5. The nursery is located in the lower level of the educational building. For directions, please see an usher.
- **CDs of the services**, including sermon, are available. We ask \$1.00 to cover the cost of CDs. You can also hear sermons on our website: www.sprez.org.
- The church office often communicates with the congregational family via **email**, including a weekly email update each Friday afternoon. If you wish to receive those updates and currently are not, please send an email from your email address to senecachurch@bellsouth.net asking to be added to the email update list.
- On Sunday mornings, the **entire parking lot off of Oak St.** is reserved for handicapped persons and those needing ease of access. Please leave these spaces for our friends who are counting on them being available.
- Please remember the church in your will.

As we enter **the winter months**, here's a reminder for Sundays with snow. Check **WYFF** for closing information. We will post our information at that station **ONLY**. We will also post any changes on the web site, so you can check www.sprez.org. We **try** to make those decisions by Saturday evening, if possible. And let's be grateful for the faithful volunteers who will shovel snow and clear pathways at the church for the rest of us!

The **2018 Flower Calendar notebook** is located on the table across from the church office or you can reserve a date on our web site sprez.org/worship/flowers. If you would like to provide flowers for the sanctuary during 2018, please sign on the chosen date. Please remember, instead of fresh flowers you can make a donation to your favorite fund or charity. If you make any changes in the book, please let the office know about it. There is a link to order your flowers from [Heartwarmers](#), the florist the church uses.

Winter Series of Inquirers' Classes: The Membership Committee of our Diaconate is pleased to present a series of Inquirers' Classes beginning this evening at 5:00 p.m. A light supper will be served in Pastors Hall, giving us time for fellowship and introductions. The classes continue on the following two Sunday mornings, January 21 and 28, at 10:00 a.m. in the Men's Bible Study Classroom (the last room on your right in the office hallway). Anyone interested in knowing more about SPC is invited to participate in these classes.

Prayer Requests

Church Family: Barney Allgood, Reid Arnold, Lucy Ballenger, Rick Black, Dot Findley, Leon Hotz, Martha Holleman, Jacob Murr, Mary Ann Nuttall, Bob Porter, Cal Reinking, Bob Simpson, Ann Smith, Garland Smith, Beti Strobeck.

Extended Church Family: Corey Arnold (friend of the church), Kathy Bryson, Dave Bullock (friend of Susan & Larry Goebel), James Carter (friend of James Gaines), Jennifer Chastain (friend of Elizabeth Long), *Margie Creel (mother of Lewis Creel), Julie Doucet (Paul LaRoche's sister), Gretchen Driscoll (sister of Susan Goebel), Jonathan Gimber (cousin of Matthew Rannou), Estelle Harmon (Larry Harmon's mother), Evans Harris (husband of Pat Harris), Sophie Hunter (1 year old great granddaughter of Leroy & Becky Drew), Joe Kahl (friend of Bob Norton), Linda Kelly (cousin of Elaine Williams), Myrt Klein (friend of Don & Norma Liebenberg), Stacy Kloc (Vicki Andy's girlfriend's daughter-in-law), Ken Lehner (Noel Lehner's brother), Sarah Lehner (Noel & Betty Lehner's daughter), Robert Leitner, Sr. (father-in-law of Maria Leitner), Mackenzie (friend of Elizabeth Long), Bill & Eileen Mansfield (dear friends of Joan Riley), Bob McCormick (son in law of Lynn & Margaret Trainer), *Peggy Lee (friends of Jon & Nancy Young), Billy Jo Nichols (friend of James Gaines), Ina Diehl-Pansegrau (German "adopted" daughter of Nancy & Don Clayton), Mary Pirayesh (work colleague of Phil Morris), Glenda Pitts, Cecilia Raxter (sister of Cecil Rigby), Gregory Rigby (brother of Cecil Rigby), Bryn Riley, eight-year-old daughter of McKenzie and Amy Riley (E/Flo Riley, grandparents), Bobbie Jean Robinson (friend of James Gaines), Fermon Robinson (friend of James Gaines), Judy Smith (mother-in-law of Robin Smith), Mary Walker (Carol Shively's mother), Susan Watt (teacher of Walhalla High School & friend of Linda Hostetler) Catherine Wilbanks, and Bob Willard (Elaine Williams' nephew).

Those Serving in the Military: CDR Patrick O'Mara (Don & Cindi Lesley's son-in-law); Master Chief USN J. J. Johnson (Bill and Carolyn Palmer's son-in-law); Kenny Alex (friend of Cal and Jean Reinking and grandson of Joan Callahan), to be deployed to Syria.

Special request for Prayer: Police Officer Lieutenant Mark Malueg (son-in-law of Margaret & Lynn Trainer)

Note: Please let the church office know of updates to the prayer list.

**name added this week*

A Prayer for Bangladesh

8 January 2018

God of compassion, we pray for Upen Roy and his wife and three daughters, ages 9, 7, and 4, living in a rural area just north of where the Ganges River enters Bangladesh from India. Upen had worked as a farmer until two years ago, when he fell out of a tree while harvesting mangoes and broke his back. The accident left him paralyzed from the waist down. Despite surgery, he remains paraplegic, dependent on his wife and daughters for his physical care. Lord, in your mercy, comfort and care for Upen and his family. Pour your grace upon them and show them your everlasting love, we pray in the name of Christ the Savior. Amen.

Our **handbell choir** welcomes new ringers. If you would like to know more about ringing bells, join them on **January 15th at 6:00 p.m.** for a quick lesson in ringing basics – including how to hold a bell! Come explore the challenge and joy of hand bells! We welcome anyone who is interested in learning to play and joining the fun they have ringing the bells. Don't be shy, come and try!

Parkinson Society Support Groups will be meeting **January 16, 2018 from 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.** for both patients and caregivers. The meetings take place every third Tuesday of each month, so mark your calendar and please come.

SABBATH LUNCHESES: All of February will be our month to serve lunches at Our Daily Bread. I will need desserts and volunteers to help. You can bring desserts any time to the kitchen at the church. So please keep them coming for the entire month of Sundays. Contact is Carolyn Maddox (944-2436).

The January potluck scheduled for next Wednesday (Jan 17) has been canceled. Ash Wednesday falls on Valentine's Day this year and plans are underway for the **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper to be held on February 13**, when we will celebrate Mardi Gras. Put this on your calendar now and plan to join in on the festivities.

Christian Education Study Opportunities

The Christian Education Committee offers many opportunities for study throughout the week. These include the sessions listed below. Full descriptions of these opportunities can be found at www.sprez.org.

On Sunday Mornings

- **Children's Sunday School** meets downstairs in the Craft Room. For more information, contact Ann Smith 973-8967 asmith124@att.net or Susan Caldwell 882-7916 scaldwell11@bellsouth.net.
- The **Sara Davis Stribling Class** is a women's Bible study group using *The Present Word* and meets in the Sara Davis Stribling classroom (office hallway). Contact person: Jane Thomas, 882-1202.
- The **Men's Bible Study** meets in the youth room downstairs in Archie Barron Hall and is using *The Present Word curriculum* as a guide for their study. Contact person: Louis Holleman, 885-0922 louischolleman@bellsouth.net.
- The **Koinonia Class** is studying the video series *Reading Biblical Literature: Genesis to Revelation*. They meet in the Koinonia classroom (office hallway). Contact person: Dan Toole, 364-4846.
- The **Open Door Class** is for men and women. Their study resource is *The Wired Word*. Topics change weekly. Email Bonnie at bandruszka@gmail.com or call 973-8008 to receive information about upcoming plans. They meet in the library.

Through the Week

- **Brown Bag and Bible Study Group (BB&B)** meets at noon each Thursday in the Sara Davis Stribling classroom. They are studying of the Epistle of James. You are welcome to bring lunch. Contact person: Becky Drew 888-3409 rebeccadrew@bellsouth.net.

Each of these classes is open to new participants and welcomes visitors at any time. Please consider these opportunities, choose one that meets your needs or piques your interest, and then visit to find out more.

Ninth Annual SPC Women's Retreat

The Rev. Pressley Cox

Our ninth annual retreat will again be held at Asbury Hills Retreat Center in Cleveland, SC on **March 16 and 17, 2018**. We will gather in the late afternoon on Friday and spend 24 hours together, then return home, refreshed and renewed, on Saturday afternoon. The cost is **\$100**, which includes overnight accommodations, including bedding and towels, and 3 meals - dinner on Friday, breakfast and lunch on Saturday. The price also includes an honorarium for our leader, Rev. Pressley Cox. If cost is an issue, full or partial scholarships are available.

Please fill out the form below and return to the church with your check for **\$100** made out to **Seneca Presbyterian Church with "Women's Retreat" on the memo line**. Registration is limited to 27 women, with preference to Seneca Presbyterian women. Registration will be opened to those outside SPC if spaces are unfilled after February 1.

Please indicate which cabin you prefer. Batson is larger and closer to the Dining Hall. Creekside is smaller and a little bit farther to the Dining Hall. All rooms offer individual beds and a private bath. There is a single room available (in Creekside), 4 rooms that sleep 3 people, and the others are doubles. If you have roommate preferences, please also indicate that.

Contact Brenda Thomson at 864-723-9031 or abthomson@charter.net if you need additional information, have any questions, or to discuss scholarship availability.

Ninth Annual SPC Women's Retreat

Name _____

E-mail address _____

Lodge preference: Batson _____ Creekside _____

Room preference: Single _____ Double _____ Triple _____

Roommate(s) _____

The single room will be reserved on a first come, first served basis. Additional requests for single rooms may be accommodated if all double rooms are not filled.

Interested in carpooling: Willing to drive _____ Want a ride _____