



Prayer List

MAGNOLIA PLACE

-Mike Hozer

COLUMBUS

-Rona Phillips

HOME

-Don Bravaldo

-Larry Dalrymple

-Isobel Prater

-Bill Pugh

-Steve Salo

-Todd White

A WORD FROM OUR INTERIM DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Our time together is rapidly drawing to a close. I thank you so very much for the opportunity given me to serve as your Interim Director of Music. It has been a joy to work with this congregation and especially the Chancel Choir, and the staff. Our pastors Kathy and Nick, and organist Karen Hickok made my work so much easier. When I sought direction and help, they were always there to assist and guide. And the Chancel Choir could not have been more welcoming and supportive. It is not always easy to adapt to a new director and especially after a very long tenure...such as that by my friend, Carolyn Crandell.

Now, under the capable leadership of Dr. Damion Womack, the music ministry of Auburn First Presbyterian Church will begin a new season of music and worship. Damion will bring new ideas and energies to the music program of FPC. He will build on the strong musical foundation laid by previous directors: Billy Tamblyn, Mary Joe Howard, and Carolyn Crandell. I am excited for you, Auburn FPC, that Damion will be leading your music program. And I am excited that Damion has the opportunity to work with and be a part of this wonderful, loving congregation and its staff. I consider it a wonderful match. I know you will support him as you have supported all your music leadership throughout the years.

Lastly, may I invite you to join us on Sunday morning, December 8, when the Chancel Choir will lead in worship through their Advent music, *Prepare the Way*. My prayer for all of us during this Season is that everything we do in worship will help prepare our hearts for the Advent of the Light of the World.

Peace, Dale Peterson

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FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE NEWS

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, December 8

- 8:30 AM -Communion (Chapel)
- 9:45 AM -Sunday School
- 11:00 AM -Worship (Sanctuary)
- 2:00 PM -Auburn Christmas Parade

Monday, December 9

- 12:00 PM -Personnel Committee
- 12:00 PM -Property Committee

Tuesday, December 10

- 9:30 AM -PW Circle #1 (Carolyn Williams')
- 9:30 AM -PW Circle #2 (Joan Duffett's)
- 12:00 PM -PCM Board Meeting
- 2:30 PM -PW Circle #3 (Library)
- 4:30 PM -Leith Lecture Committee

Wednesday, December 11

- 11:30 AM -Women's Bible Study (Library)

Thursday, December 12

- 12:15 PM -Finance Committee

Sunday, December 15

- 8:30 AM -Communion (Chapel)
- 9:45 AM -Sunday School
- 11:00 AM -Worship (Sanctuary)
- 4:00 PM -Congregational Caroling
- 6:30 PM -Youth Christmas Party

Monday, December 16

- 6:15 PM -Session Meeting

Thursday, December 19

- 5:30 PM -Service of Grief and Remembrance

Coming Soon:

Dec. 24 5:30 p.m., Christmas Eve Service

The word for this week is "Resilience." This word can be a reminder that we have the capacity to meet challenges, pick ourselves up after being overwhelmed or get back into this business of living fully in each moment and finding happiness in unexpected moments.

Resilience does not make the problems disappear but does offer a way to see beyond them, handle stress and find enjoyment in life. However, resilience does not come naturally. You have to cultivate it just like exercising a muscle. So here are a few ideas on how to boost your resilience:

1. Harness your inner strength to see beyond the immediate stressor or difficulty. Use your previous experience in problem solving to tell yourself that you can adjust to this new experience.
2. Get out of bed and get dressed. This sounds easy but sometimes is the one way to get your mind and body moving. Having a routine for both rising and also going to bed provides a needed rhythm to your body and to your mind.
3. Use your hands. Working with our hands can distract from depression and open up new interests, ideas or opportunities. Using your hands can lead to stirring a pot of soup, knitting or doing needlework, gardening, painting a wall or a picture. Concentration on the project provides a needed change of thought that can also change our mood.
4. Find something everyday that gives you a sense of accomplishment or makes the day meaningful or has a purpose. See each day as full of possibilities. Then just pick one possible item that suits you. It might be cleaning or sorting just one drawer or shelf. It might be reading one chapter of a book. It might be making one phone call to a friend. It might be singing one song with or without a shower!

Here's to building your resilience.

Your Faith Community Nurses,
Jan Widell & Erin Brown

FINANCIAL NEWS

As we finish up 2019, just a friendly reminder that we need to finish out our year like we began - on a strong financial footing - so please make every effort to finish up your pledge in a timely manner. Not certain where you are as far as pledge payments? Feel free to contact Kathy Rushing in the office (887-5571/info@fpcauburn.org) any time before Christmas.

Second Sunday of Advent

December 8, 2019

- 8:30 a.m. - Communion (Chapel)
- Worship Leader: Rev. Nick Reed
- 11:00 a.m. - Worship (Sanctuary)
- Advent Music Service

Third Sunday of Advent

December 15, 2019

- 8:30 a.m. - Communion (Chapel)
- 11:00 a.m. - Worship (Sanctuary)
- Worship Leader: Rev. Nick Reed

CE NEWS

- The Auburn Christmas parade will be Sunday, December 8 at 2 p.m. Join us in Baird Hall after church for pizza and then we will hop on our float and enjoy the Christmas festivities!

- On Sunday, December 15, Confirmands, Youth, and anyone else who would like to join will gather at the church for a time of Christmas caroling at 4 p.m. Directly following, Junior and Senior High Youth will gather at the Sarkowski's house at 6:30 for the Youth Christmas party. Chris Sarkowski

LEITH LUNCHEON

As a part of our 2020 Leith Lecture Series, Columbia Theological Seminary will be sponsoring a lunch following worship on Sunday, February 9 in Conway Hall. If you would like an invitation to this event where you can learn more about the mission of the seminary and how you can support its work, please contact Rev. Kathy Wolf Reed no later than December 15.

NEW MEMBERS

At a called meeting last Sunday, the Session welcomed the following into our fellowship:

Gail Dillard, 1843 Yarbrough Farms Road, Auburn
Jim and Lynn Hecathorn, 3592 Eagle Trail, Opelika, (770)633-4300/Jim, (770)262-9886/Lynn
Kathi Kishkorn, 685 Banbury Street, Auburn, (616)350-5487

Mitchell and Kristina Lane (and daughter, Voncile), 4275 Wimberly Road, Auburn, (334)703-1614/Kristina, (706)326-4106/Mitchell

Hap Reeves, 651 Homewood Drive, Auburn, (334)521-7292

SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE & GRIEF

Thursday, December 19, 5:30 p.m.

For any who need a special space and time to remember loved ones lost or express grief in the Advent season, come to this special service of prayer, song, and candle light where we remember through Christ, God is with us in all circumstances.

Birthdays

- Dec. 9 Mary Baird, Hap Reeves
Dec. 10 Doug Booth, Emmie Larson, Terri Rouillard
Dec. 11 Conrad Bonsi
Dec. 12 Noah Dimick, Sarah Wolak
Dec. 14 Jim Disque, Jan Widell
Dec. 16 Ann Wisdom
Dec. 17 Grace Greer
Dec. 21 Rusty Cooper, Marilyn Hozer, Myla Ragan

Anniversaries

- Dec. 14 Joel & Lynda Tremaine
Dec. 15 Chuck & Reesa Gerards
Dec. 16 Clyde & Susan Stanley
Dec. 19 Bob & Liz Greenleaf
Dec. 19 John & Kathy Tamblyn
Dec. 21 Jeffrey & Jennifer Stewart
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RECEPTIONISTS

December 9-13

AM - Mary Burkhart, Gwen Reid, Melanie Boecklen, Marianne Cone, Jim Disque.

PM - Sandra Spencer, Susan Parker, Larry McQueen, Joan Duffett, Larry McQueen.

December 16-20

AM - Becky Buchanan, Carolyn Williams, Bob Walkup, Larry McQueen, Marianne Cone.

PM - Melanie Boecklen, Carolyn Williams, Mary Simon, Emily Klinkenborg, Joan Foil.

WELCOME, DAMION WOMACK

Worship is truly the heart of our congregation's life together and we are excited to announce that Dr. Damion Womack will join the staff as Director of Music. The committee was thrilled to find someone with his level of proficiency. He has 21 years of conducting and teaching experience in music, including church, elementary, secondary, and college. Dr. Womack is a native of Birmingham and currently lives in Montgomery with his wife, Sunny and 10-year old son, Damion Jr.

Dr. Womack will begin his work with us on January 2. The search committee's complete letter of welcome is available in the narthex and online.

First Presbyterian Church
143 East Thach Avenue
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PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Circle Schedule for Tuesday, December 10

Circle #1: 9:30 AM
Holly Mitchell, Bible lesson
Where: Carolyn Williams,
541 Trammel Mill Road, Notasulga

Circle #2: 9:30 AM
Susan Stanley , Bible lesson
Where: Joan Duffett,
1601 Professional Pkwy, Suite 16

Circle #3: 2:30 PM
Barbara White, Bible lesson
Where: Church Library
Circle #4: Cancelled

INTRODUCING OUR NEW MUSIC DIRECTOR



DR. DAMION G. WOMACK

Worship is truly the heart of our congregation's life together and we are excited to announce that Dr. Damion Womack will join the staff as Director of Music. The committee was thrilled to find someone with his level of proficiency. He has 21 years of conducting and teaching experience in music, including church, elementary, secondary, and college. Dr. Womack is a native of Birmingham and currently lives in Montgomery with his wife, Sunny and 10 year old son Damion Jr.

"I have been involved with music in the church since I have been a child and music has always served a vital and important role in the church."

As a Director of Music Ministry, Dr. Womack previously served at Memorial Presbyterian Church in Montgomery, AL from 2008-2019 where he directed the Sanctuary Choir, supervised the Hand Bell and Children's choir. In addition, he served in the same capacity at St. Mark United Methodist Church in Montgomery from 2002-2008.

Dr. Womack currently serves as Assistant Professor of Music, Chair of the Fine Arts Department and Director of Choral Activities at Huntingdon College. His duties include conducting all choral ensembles, teaching choral methods, conducting, and supervising the music and art faculty. Choral ensembles under the direction of Dr. Womack have performed by juried invitation for regional and national conventions of The American Choral Directors Association, and The National Association for Music Education. Prior to his appointment at Huntingdon College, Dr. Womack served as Director of Arts at The Montgomery Academy, where he received the McLemore Award for Excellence in Teaching. He also currently serves as the American Choral Director's Association National Chairman for High School Choirs and is in demand as a guest conductor and clinician throughout the Southeast.

Dr. Womack holds a Doctor of Musical Arts in Choral Conducting from the University of South Carolina in Columbia, SC and holds Music Education degrees from Alabama A&M University and Alabama State University.

Faithfully yours, Director of Music selection committee:
Jeff Fergus, Janie Fisher, Dorothy Bock, Denise Salo, and Elizabeth Schwartz

Please join us in extending a warm welcome to Dr. Damion Womack.

EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD