

## SOPC Leaflet, Wednesday, February 26, 2025

- Pastor Jim's Acorn Devotion for the Week: *A Cut Above --"Be still, and know that I am God."*

The Word *holy* means "to separate." The ancestry of the term can be traced back to the ancient word which means "to cut." To be holy, then, is to be a cut above the norm, superior, extraordinary. The Holy One dwells on a different level from the rest of us. What frightens us does not frighten Him. What troubles us does not trouble Him.

I'm more a landlubber than a sailor, but I've puttered around in a bass boat enough to know the secret for finding land in a storm. You don't aim at another boat. You certainly don't stare at the waves in fear. You set your sights on an object unaffected by wind—a light on the shore—and go straight for it.

When you set your sights on our God, you focus on one "a cut above" any storm life may bring. You find peace.

*The Great House of God* (Paraphrased from Max Lucado's work.)



## March Birthdays & Special Days:

- 1: Kathy Locklair; Elizabeth Taylor
- 2: Transfiguration of the Lord Sunday; Holy Communion
- 5: Alene Rogers; Ash Wednesday
- 8: Shelagh Wirth
- 9: 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent; Betty Anderson; Greg Mixon; *Clocks Spring Forward*
- 10: Brenda Turner

- 13: John Lane
- 15: Troupe Cartee
- 16: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent; Sarah Bryan



- 17: St. Patrick's Day/Irish Heritage Day
- 18: Loretta Demko
- 20: Mr. Rogers Day
- 22: World Water Day; Beth Sellars
- 23: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent; Annah Hiers
- 24: Savannah Tapler
- 28: Weston Pilkington
- 29: Beverly Elbert
- 30: 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent

➤ Please let the church office know if your birthday is missing or listed incorrectly.

- Please join us for Love Revolution in the Pavilion on Sunday from 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm and help us serve food to our neighbors in need!
- Our Thursday morning 1<sup>st</sup> John Bible study, led by Pastor Jim, will continue tomorrow morning, 2/27/25, at 10:30 in the Fellowship Classroom.
- Bruce C Hurley will continue leading a 6-lesson Bible study TOMORROW, February 27th, at 5 pm in the FELLOWSHIP Classroom. The study is based on Dr. Bruce Metzger's *Revelation: A Symphony in Six Movements* and will meet each Thursday evening. Please read Revelation 4:1 – 8:5 in preparation.
- Our Fellowship & Roads To Faith Adult Sunday School classes, (who are currently meeting together,) are studying the Gospel of John. All adults of the church --and friends--are welcome to join us!
- SOPC BOOK GROUP is meeting again! We'd love for you to join us and determine what books we will read! We have some suggestions and could use some more from you. Our first book is *James* by Percival Everett. We will meet at Snow's Ice Cream (next to Steve's Hamburgers) at 1:30 pm TOMORROW, February 27th. Future meetings will be the last Thursday of the month. Contact Kitsie Miller at 803-463-6958 to let her know you're interested, or coming, or if you have any questions.
- Session Synopsis:
  - ◆ Session's next meeting will be on Monday, March 17th.
  - ◆ APPROVED Standing Strong by men of Daily Bread Ministries for Men's Lanterns group.

- ◆ **APPROVED a Steering Committee / Task Force to consider options for SOPC's search for a pastor: Elizabeth Taylor, Banks Robinson, Kathy Keane, and Bruce Hurley.**
- ◆ **APPROVED revisions to our Disciple Care Ministry policy.**



- **Our Youth would like to thank everyone who participated in the churchwide Fellowship Supper & Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser on the 16th! If you were unable to make it to the fundraiser supper but would like to contribute to the youth's efforts, feel free to place a donation, marked for the youth, in the offering baskets. Or you can always give via [www.sopc.net](http://www.sopc.net) or hand your donations directly to Sharon Staton, our Volunteer Financial Coordinator. This Sunday, we will meet at SOPC at 5:30 pm for fellowship, learning about Lent, a pancake supper, and fun!**
- **SOPC will host a meeting of Trinity Presbytery on Tuesday, November 18<sup>th</sup>. VOLUNTEERS are needed to greet, direct parking, serve lunch, man check-in, etc..**
- **If you would like to volunteer in the sanctuary's sound booth occasionally, please contact the church office. Training provided!**
- **There will be a Maundy Thursday Communion service on April 17<sup>th</sup>.**
- **So far, we have collected 125 POUNDS of used crayons that will be sorted, melted down, and made into new, ergonomic, free crayons for pediatric hospital patients. Since 2013, [TheCrayonInitiative.org](http://TheCrayonInitiative.org) has saved over 432,000 pounds of discarded crayons from landfills and has created/distributed 1 MILLION packs of free crayons.**

- **Our Good News Ministry stands ready and equipped with technological tools to welcome new disciples into the SOPC family. Please join us in praying for God's guidance in ways we can reach out to our neighbors and invite them to share in Christ's love and mission with us!**
- **Our 2025 Elder Nominating Committee is: Liz Harris, Chair; Jeanne LeBoeuf, Vice-Chair; Cathy Keelen; Frank Sheppard; and Jim Taylor, with Julie Bussells representing SOPW. Nomination forms are available in the narthex, inserted below, and from the church office, (clear plastic box on the wall by Annah's door.) What faithful disciples at SOPC do you know who would make great Elders and additions to our Session?**
- **If you have cans' pop-tops that you have been collecting, Annah would be happy to deliver them to Ronald McDonald House charities periodically. Just leave them in the large baskets on either side of the sanctuary doors or bring them by the church office.**
- **The church will be taking orders for Easter Lilies March 9 – April 6. They will be \$16 each this year.**
- **Ladies of SOPC, please consider joining your Sisters in Christ @ the CWU Annual Meeting, on Friday, February 28 @ Brookland Baptist Conference Center on Hwy 378. Send your check to Pat Gilyard, 2801 Wales Rd, Columbia 29223 in the amount of \$30 and join us @ 10:30 for registration & fellowship, then lunch @ 11:00 am.**
- **Also ladies, mark your calendar for Friday, March 7 as SOPC will host CWU for the World Day of Prayer gathering in the Fellowship Hall @ 10:30 and join the worship service in the sanctuary @ 11:00 am. No cost for the day, although there will be an offering collected.**
- **A Note of Thanks:**  
 To All of My Friends and Church Family,  
 I want to thank each and every one of you who reached out to me during my recent recovery! I appreciate the meals, gift cards, and lunch dates as well as the phone calls, get-well cards, and words of encouragement. I feel so blessed to be surrounded by so many caring people. It means so much to have such good friends who you know you can depend on in times of need. Thank you again.  
 Love, Patty Mullins
- **SOPC's participation in hosting the basketball clinic in January was mentioned in the Winter Edition of Family Promise of the Midlands' newsletter! If you would like a copy of the newsletter, please let the church office know. Save the Date: April 10<sup>th</sup> will be their annual Night of Promise Gala. You can purchase tickets by visiting: <https://familypromisemidlands.org/events/> .**

- Our Small-Town Adventures group travels to Summerville today! We can't wait to hear about their discoveries and shenanigans!
- From the Administration Ministry: Thank you for keeping your pledge up to date, as this helps us plan and fulfill the programs of the church! Last month's offering and the year-to-date information are shown below:

	Giving	Budgeted	Difference
January	\$17,441	\$18,250	(\$809)
YTD 2025	\$17,441	\$18,250	(\$809)

Total revenue for the first 1 month of 2025 (including other income such as rent) and total expenses are shown below.

Total Revenue through January	\$24,338
Total Expenses through January	\$21,532
<b>Revenues in excess of Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 2,806</b>

- Teaser for this Sunday:



PLEASE JOIN US FOR AN



3/5/2025

5:30 PM

*Ash*  
*Wednesday*  
WORSHIP SERVICE.

*"Remember that you are dust,  
and to dust you shall return."*

Seven Oaks Presbyterian Church

530 St. Andrews Rd., Columbia, SC 29210;

803-772-1761; [www.sopc.net](http://www.sopc.net)



Our congregation votes on elders to serve on the Session, exercising leadership, government, and discipline, and having responsibility for the life of our church.

Elders should be “persons of wisdom and maturity of faith, having demonstrated skills of leadership and being compassionate in spirit.” (Book of Order G-2.03)

Any active member of SOPC may be nominated unless he or she is currently serving a second consecutive term on the Session.

Suggested Names for Nomination:

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Please reach out to your listed nominees to ensure that they wish to serve in this capacity before returning this form. If you would like to comment on your reasons for nominating these persons, please feel free to do so on the back of this page. Your name is optional. Please place this form in one of the offering boxes in the narthex. You can also drop it by the church office or hand it to someone on the Nominating

Committee:

Liz Harris (Chair) [lizzi.sc@gmail.com](mailto:lizzi.sc@gmail.com)

Jeanne LeBoeuf (Vice Chair)

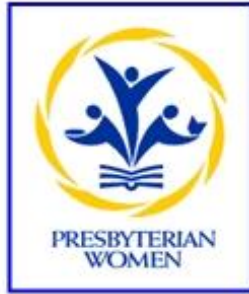
Julie Bussells (Representing PW)

Cathy Keelen

Frank Sheppard

Jim Taylor

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**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN IN TRINITY PRESBYTERY  
ANNUAL GATHERING**

**Saturday, April 5, 2025**

**Fellowship Camp & Conference Center  
457 Camp Fellowship Rd, Waterloo, SC 29384  
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM**

**Onsite registration opens @ 9:00 am  
Program starts @ 10:00 am**



Dawn Smith Jordan is our speaker for the 2025 Annual Gathering. Dawn is a Christ-follower, singer/songwriter, musician, speaker, charting recording artist with Urgent Records, and published author. Dawn grew up the daughter of a Baptist deacon daddy and choir singing mama. As a high school student, she felt the call of God on her life to full-time ministry. In 1985 Dawn's younger sister Shari was kidnapped and murdered just two days before her high school graduation, resulting in the largest manhunt in South Carolina's history, drawing national attention. In 1986 Dawn received a Bachelor of Music degree in Vocal Performance from Columbia College in Columbia, SC. She went on to become Miss South Carolina 1986 and 2nd runner-up to Miss America. As Dawn ministers, she intertwines a combination of music, testimony, humor, transparency, and most importantly, the Truth found in God's Word. She incorporates both music and speaking during her ministry time, including her original songs, worship, as well as the beloved hymns of the faith.

An offering will be taken during the meeting which will be donated partially to our speaker, and partially to Camp Fellowship to help them recover from damage sustained during Hurricane Helene. Offering checks to support these efforts should be made payable to: **PW of Trinity Presbytery.**

**THIS MEETING IS OPEN TO ALL WOMEN OF PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES**

**REGISTRATION FOR PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN ANNUAL GATHERING**

**DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION IS MARCH 21, 2025  
\$35 before March 22, 2025; \$40 at door (includes lunch)**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

CHURCH NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ CLUSTER #: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ CONTACT PHONE #: \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL REGISTRATION FORM WITH CHECK, PAYABLE TO: **PW of TRINITY PRESBYTERY**

**MAIL TO: MARY FUHRMAN, TREASURER  
109 CEDAR COURT  
LAURENS, SC 29360**