

Pastor Lisa Introduces FPC's Three New Confirmands



(From left to right) **Channing Coulter, Jackie Wilhelm, Tyler Traut, Kacie Tharin, Roberta Foss and Lavon Stevens**

Sunday, June 6, will be a special day in the life of our congregation as we welcome three new members through Profession of Faith (otherwise known as Confirmation). Since January, Channing Coulter, Kacie Tharin and Tyler Traut have been faithfully and enthusiastically exploring

their faith. They have been studying scripture, the reformed understanding of sin and salvation and the sacraments of baptism and communion, as well as what it means to be a member of a Presbyterian church and more specifically, FPC Hilton Head.

“Throughout the confirmation process, we have been guided by the curriculum *Big God, Big Questions – Confirmation for a Growing Faith*,” said Pastor Lisa. “This curriculum, which was produced by the PC(USA) in 2018, prepares youth to authentically answer the questions asked at membership.”

Our confirmands have also been guided by mentors who have walked with them on this journey. In addition to attending the confirmation classes and retreat, mentors have regularly met with their confirmands answering their questions, as well as asking them questions to help deepen their faith. Thank you to mentors Roberta Foss (confirmand Kacie), Lavon Stevens (confirmand Tyler) and Jackie Wilhelm (confirmand Channing) for your leadership, passion and nurture!

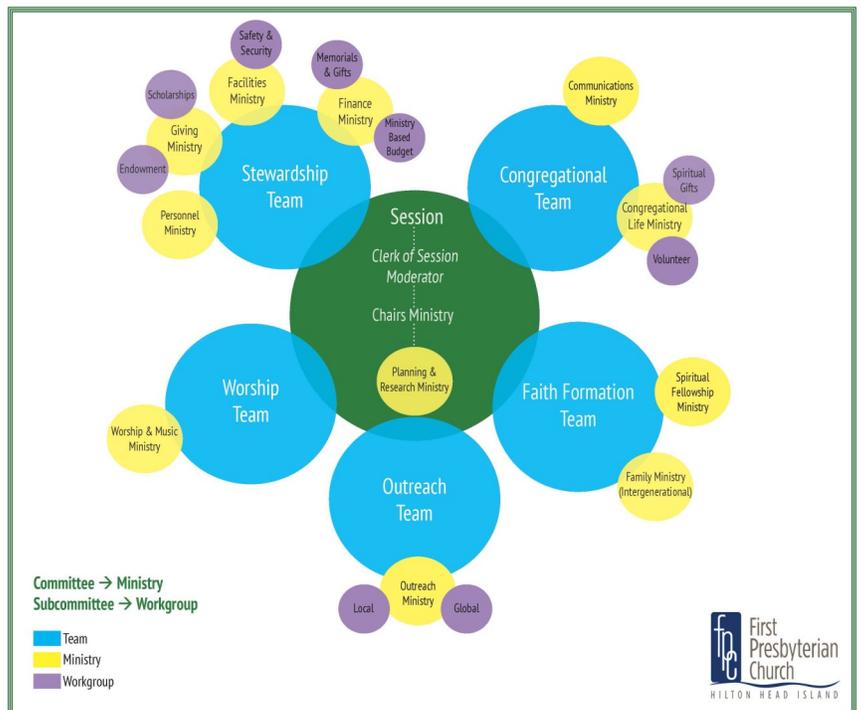
Continued on page 3

First Presbyterian looks to a new vision for the future!

To discern and ensure that the blessings of our congregational resources are being well stewarded in the worship, proclamation and application of God’s truth, the Session of First Presbyterian established the Mission-Based Budget Task Force (MBBTF) in June of 2020. This article briefly summarizes the work of the Task Force which was received by Session in February of 2021. At that time, Session assigned to the Planning & Research Ministry the primary responsibility for overseeing and monitoring the implementation of the MBBTF’s recommendations.

The Task Force was charged as follows: Further refine the current distribution of budget expenditures among our declared values and project from the initiatives and priorities of *the Way forward*, a vision for changes in FPC ministries in the time of the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond.

Continued on page 2



“Transit and Transitions”



Some of you have been in transit lately—visiting family or friends, especially with more people vaccinated and COVID-19 metrics (thankfully) decreasing. Also, summer’s right around the corner, and more of us will take vacations and enjoy other events and activities that we weren’t able to enjoy last summer.

Others of you are in transition: moving to a new city or to a new home, to retirement (or semi-retirement!), into new volunteer roles, from one grade level to the next, from high school to college or the working world, or from college to a new job or graduate school.

At FPC, we’re in transition, too! We’re fulfilling an exciting new vision for faith formation in our staff structure. It’s based on the Mission-Based Budget Task Force recommendations and the consulting work Ministry Architects did with us. Jackie Wilhelm, our Director of Ministry with Children, will become our full-time Director of Faith Formation, and we’ve hired Jodi Gregg Krivda as full-time Assistant Director of Faith Formation. As part of that vision, we’ll also hire a part-time, ordained Parish Associate who’ll assist in the faith formation of adults, help lead our outreach ministries and assist with evangelism efforts, preaching, teaching and pastoral care.

This new vision will emphasize *intergenerational* opportunities to grow in the Lord: children and youth, their families, singles, young adults, working adults and retired adults. We hope that our faith formation ministry—as well as those who are part of it—will *expand* in the coming years so that we would hire a full-time Associate Pastor. To learn more about these developments, please read the story that begins on the bottom of page one.

You should’ve heard about another significant transition in the life of FPC: after 26 years of full-time employment, Susan Brannon asked to assume a part-time position as Ministry Assistant. We gladly accepted! We thank God that we’ll still have her and her *extensive* experience and knowledge on staff and helping us to do the Lord’s work. To read more about Susan’s new role, as well as a new part-time Administrative Assistant position, see page 4.

At times of transit and in transitions like these, I think of these lines from Psalm 121: “The Lord is your keeper...he will keep your life. The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.” We trust that the Lord will indeed keep our going out and our coming in from this time on and forevermore. And please pray for our staff and Session during this special period of transition.

Will

Pastor Will

FPC’s New Vision for the Future *(Cont’d. from pg. 1)*

Propose a plan to incorporate those changes using:

- Redistribution of current human and financial resources,
- Incorporation of projected/requested new resources, and
- Explicit “budgeting” of volunteer resources.

Task Force Chair Amy Cross stressed the Task Force was intent to remain faithful to our congregational values that we will continue to be “in Christ united” ministering through: Joyful Worship, Gracious Invitation, Sacrificial Service, Prayerful Study and Caring Connections.

“Our recommendations seek to support the enhancement and expansion of our ministries, as well as promote effective use of FPC’s resources. We have focused on improvements to operating structures, specifically in the areas of Session ministries (formerly known as

committees), volunteers, stewardship, staff and budgeting,” said Cross. “As you read Pastor Will’s message above, you’ll learn that exciting first steps are being taken in the implementation process.”

When it began its work, the Task Force met at least weekly. It used presentation and listening sessions to seek input from staff, church leaders and officers. Task Force members contacted representatives from congregations beyond our own and gleaned information from other church websites. Other members of the task force were Hank Bourgaux, Charlie Curtis, Jodi Gregg Krivda, Andrea Siebold, Jane Upshaw, Jim Wagner, and Ex Officio members Cheryl Kelly and Will Robinson. Former Church Administrator Sue Koppenol also contributed, as did FPC member Lisa Black who served as an organizational consultant to the Task Force, providing guidance in facilitating discussion and debate.

Implementation of the Church's New Vision Begins with the Creation of the Faith Formation Team



Jackie Wilhelm named Director of Faith Formation

As the recommendations from the Mission-Based Budget Task Force are being acted upon (see story on page 1), FPC is pleased to announce that Jackie Wilhelm, currently Director of Ministry with Children, has been named FPC's Director of Faith Formation beginning June 1. Jodi Gregg Krivda, a previous employee of FPC and FPC member, has been hired as Assistant Director of Faith Formation and will join the staff in late June.

"I'm extremely excited to have an opportunity to expand my role with FPC youth, while pursuing my passion for intergenerational ministry," said Wilhelm about her new position and FPC's focus on faith formation. "Our team will be facilitating connections and relationships across all age groups, the goal being a deeper faith for all in the FPC faith family," Wilhelm said.

Previously FPC's Director of Christian Education from 2005 until 2014, Wilhelm then taught in the Beaufort County School District for several years. In 2017, she rejoined the church staff managing children's programming. Wilhelm and her husband, Todd, have two daughters, Brooke and Jordan, both of whom are in college. The Wilhelms are long-time members of First Presbyterian Church and their daughters were previously active in the FPC Youth Group.

Jodi Gregg Krivda returns to FPC after almost 12 years working in various management positions for Dr. David Maurer and ENT & Allergy Partners. As Assistant Director of Faith Formation, she will oversee ministry with children and the nursery, work with Children's Music Director Beth Green and assist Wilhelm in facilitating programming for children, young adults, families and working and retired adults.

"I greatly look forward to returning to the staff at First Presbyterian," said Gregg Krivda.

"Having served on the MBBTF, I had the privilege to play a part in looking to FPC's future and welcome the opportunity to help in creating a program that meets individual needs for children, youth and adults — wherever they are on their faith journey."

Gregg Krivda and her husband, Scott, have a daughter, Allison, who is in college, and are caring for her father who lives with them. She has served on Session, recently chaired Family Ministry and has served in many other volunteer roles at the church.

Sometime this summer, the church will begin the search for a third member of the Faith Formation Team, a part-time ordained Parish Associate. This individual will assist in the faith formation of adults, help lead our outreach ministries, as well as help with evangelism, preaching, teaching and pastoral care. This individual will report to the Senior Pastor/Head of Staff.



Jodi Gregg Krivda to be Assistant Director of Faith Formation

Young Members to be Confirmed on June 6 *(Cont'd. from pg. 1)*

"The highlight of the confirmation process was the retreat on May 14-15. Confirmands spent time in prayer and study (and some fun and fellowship) as they worked on their Statements of Faith," said Pastor Lisa who, along with Jackie Wilhelm, taught Confirmation Class. "Their statements were presented to Session at the May 25 meeting."

"When we celebrate a baptism, we are reminded of our call as a congregation to nurture those who are baptized as they grow in faith and seek to respond to Christ's call to discipleship. Please join us on June 6 as we live out that call, and hear Channing, Kacie and Tyler profess their faith in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior when they become members of FPC."

Susan Brannon to Assume Part-Time Position as Ministry Assistant



Susan Brannon, a long-time staff and church member at First Presbyterian—who has served for 26 years in a variety of positions—will become a part-time employee on June 1.

“Recently, Susan asked that she be provided the flexibility to work part-time,” said Pastor Will

Robinson. “We gladly accepted as Susan will continue to work with the staff worship planning team, the Clerk of Session and several Session ministries.”

Most recently, Brannon has been Executive Assistant to the Senior Pastor—for Pastor Robinson and his predecessor Pastor Doug Fletcher. Prior to that, she held the following positions or had responsibilities for: receptionist; Office Administrator and Executive Assistant to the Senior Pastor; Business Office and Publications and Church Administrator (for 10 years).

“After all these years at First Presbyterian, I am grateful to be able to assume a part-time position,” said Brannon.

“And, I’m delighted that I will be able to continue to

interact with members of the congregation and staff while having more time to pursue personal interests.”

Pastor Will emphasized how much he has depended upon Brannon since joining FPC in November 2020. “In my year and a half here, I couldn’t begin to count the number of times I’ve said or another staff or FPC member has said: “We should ask Susan. She may know,” he said. “And, the reality is — she does know!”

“We thank God that we will still have her and her extensive experience and knowledge on staff, helping us to do the Lord’s work in this part of God’s Kingdom,” he added.

With Susan’s change in position it has been decided the church will hire a part-time Administrative Assistant. This position requires three to five years’ experience as a senior level administrative assistant. Reporting to the Church Administrator, this individual will serve as assistant to the senior pastor, assist with meeting preparation and provide support to other staffers as required. If you know of anyone who might be interested, have them contact Cheryl Kelley, Church Administrator, 843.681.3696, or write to her, ckelley@fpchhi.org.

Operation Christmas Child Needs Your Help!



As part of Global Outreach Ministry, our congregation will once again be assembling shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. In 2020, our church sent 300 assembled boxes for distribution to third-world countries. With your help, we can do it again! Youth and families will be working towards

this goal in June when we begin collecting items for the shoeboxes.

How can you help? We are in need of specific items, all new, for these very special boxes:

- From Walmart, we need Dr. Fresh toothbrushes (six for \$1), wash cloths (package of 18 for under \$4,) Ivory soap—it floats—(10 for under \$4) and small flashlights (camping section, 10 to a package)
- Marbles and handheld pencil sharpeners – anywhere you can find them!
- At Dollar Stores they have jump ropes, yo-yos, puzzles in metal tins, small Etch A Sketch pads, paint sets (not liquid paint) and small Lego-type sets.

Our Knitting Ministry provides adorable little bunnies for the boxes. However, small stuffed animals are always welcome.

Global Outreach allocates funds from your offerings to pay for the shipping, which is \$9 per box through Samaritan’s Purse. Shoeboxes are filled with your donations to let children know that Jesus loves them, and He has His hand in making this happen.

There will be a gathering spot in the church workroom for donations. If you want to have us purchase items for you, contact Robin Swift, 843.384.0959, or write to her, erswift@hargray.com.

To all of those involved with this program, thank you for your generosity and willingness to make Christmas a very special time for children in need all around the world.



Mark Your Calendar for Intergenerational Serve Sundays A Message From Pastor Lisa Schrott

We hope you will join us this summer as we integrate our values of Joyful Worship, Sacrificial Service and Gracious Invitation. We will be celebrating four *Serve Sundays* which will offer opportunities for worship, education and service to our church, community and world. A special invitation is offered to our families with children and youth, as there will be activities appropriate for all ages.

Worship will be centered around the theme of the day. After worship, we will gather for the “learn” portion (15-20 minutes). This will be followed by the “do” portion (30-40 minutes).

June 27 — Prayer (in partnership with the Board of Deacons)
Learn more about how you can get involved in our congregation-wide Prayer Project. Help us create a prayer path in the courtyard.

July 11 — Caring Connections (in partnership with Pockets Full of Sunshine and the FPC Youth Group)
Learn about being a friend and how to connect with people you don't know. Help us brighten people's day by making custom cards.

July 18 — International Missions (in partnership with Global Outreach)
Learn more about our ministry and mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Help us assemble Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes to be sent around the world.

July 25 — Stewardship of Creation (in partnership with the Social Witness Task Group)
Learn about unique aspects of our Lowcountry environment in a guided nature walk. Help us be good stewards of creation as we engage in a clean-up project. While worship will be in the sanctuary, we will be offsite for the serve portion this Sunday.

Reservations are not required. Invite your friends! Bring visiting family members! For more information, contact Pastor Lisa, lschrott@fpchhi.org or Jackie Wilhelm, jwilhelm@fpchhi.org.



Seeking Recommendations for New Officers

Serving as a church officer is a privilege. The Nominating Committee is seeking your recommendations for the names of members you feel would be good representatives of First Presbyterian Church — to serve as deacon or elder.

Two deacons are needed for the class of 2023 and seven deacons and nine elders are needed to serve in the Class of 2024. To submit the name(s) of the person(s) you recommend, please complete the submission form at <https://fpchhi.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/51/responses/new>.

According to the Book of Order, individuals who undertake particular ministries, including ruling elder and deacon, should be persons of strong faith, dedicated to discipleship and a love of Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.

Their manner of life should be a demonstration of the Christian Gospel in the church and in the world. (Book of Order, G-2.0101) **All church officers must be active members for at**

least one year prior to election (October 2021) with terms beginning in February.

The deadline to submit names is June 30.

Pastors

Dr. Will Robinson
Senior Pastor/Head of Staff

Rev. Lisa Schrott
Associate Pastor

With questions about
FPC communications,
email cbobbitt@fpchhi.org

fpchhi.org
843.681.3696

We Invite You to Join the 2021 Prayer Project



Never stop praying, especially for others. Always pray by the power of the Spirit. Stay alert and keep praying for God's people.

— Ephesians 6:18

We have all experienced the power of prayer – it is a source of strength, wisdom and guidance. Jesus prayed and encouraged us to pray. Prayer is one of the greatest gifts and privileges we have as Christians. It's God's gift of His time to be available for conversation at any time of the day or night. There are many people who need prayer – Paul reminds us to put others ahead of our needs and by offering prayers for the relief of others and sharing their burdens and joys, our burdens seem lighter and our joys more magnificent. That is what our **2021 Prayer Project** strives for.

The annual Prayer Project is starting and you can be a part of this congregational journey. Participating gives us all the ability to truly live our core church value of Caring Connections by praying for others. The Prayer Project connects volunteering church members to fellow congregants for whom they are asked to pray during the Prayer Project period (July 1—August 31). It is easy and rewarding! During this process, prayers are raised on behalf of every FPC church member.

Additionally, the first *Serve Sunday* will be on June 27 and the theme is **Prayer**. The focus will be promoting and involving our intergenerational ministry. You can learn more about *Serve Sundays* in the article on page 5. Deacons will be available following the service on June 27 to participate with you in *Serve Sunday*, answer your questions about the Prayer Project and help you sign up.

We need your help! By volunteering to pray for other church members during the eight weeks of the project, you will have an opportunity to participate in a community of care and prayer.

- Every church member will be assigned someone who will be praying for them during the Prayer Project.
- We need at least 80 volunteers this year to pray for our church members. Each volunteer will be assigned approximately eight to ten church households for whom they will pray.
- We ask that you include them in your regular prayers and ask for God's blessing, guidance, help and love as you pray for them. Prayer is a gift of care and connection that you can offer wherever you happen to be and whenever you have an opportunity.

Registration is required by June 20. It is easy to sign up.

- Register online at <https://fpchhi.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/38/responses/new>
- Call the church office, 843.681.3696

First Presbyterian Church Financial Analysis as of April 30, 2021

Actual/Budget Comparison			
	Y-t-d Actual April 30, 2021	Y-t-d Budget April 30, 2021	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
Member Giving	\$641,696	\$659,383	(\$17,686)
Other Revenue	\$23,729	\$34,758	(\$11,029)
Total Revenue	\$665,425	\$694,141	(\$28,715)
Total Operating Costs	\$612,874	\$679,245	\$66,372
Net Difference	\$52,552	\$14,896	\$37,656

Thank you for your generous giving!

As we are almost half-way through the year, it's a good time to take a look at your giving record. Contribution statements are available to view using your Community Life login.

If you would like a year-to-date contribution statement emailed (or mailed) to you, contact the church office, fpadmin@fpchhi.org, or call 843.681.3696.

Summer is coming — Don't Miss FPC's "Off the Bench" Sports Camp!



During the week of July 26—30, children ages 4-12 years old are invited to take part in FPC's "Off the Bench" Sports Camp. "At only \$40 per camper, we hope to have a full camp," said Jackie Wilhelm who heads the program.

Held each day from 8:45 AM - noon, camp starts a bit early on the first day for sign-in, and the last day will run until 12:30 PM for the closing ceremony.

To register, go to <https://fpchhi.org/childrens-ministry>.

Bible Study with Pastor Lisa Returns on Monday Mornings

10 AM on June 14 – July 26 (except July 5)

Join Pastor Lisa as we take a closer look at the historical and cultural contexts of the scriptures preached on Sunday morning. We will also look at how the translation of key words and phrases translated from Hebrew and Greek shape scriptural interpretation. This will be a hybrid class with participation in person or via Zoom.

To register, go to <https://fpchhi.cbcchurch.com/goto/forms/157/responses/new>.



A Shout Out of Thanks for Your Generosity for Local Outreach Mission's "Book and a Buck"



Thanks to the generosity of many members of First Presbyterian, this year "Book and a Buck" collected more than 200 books and raised close to \$175. In this, the program's tenth year, those who volunteer for it share their thanks.

These books and donations will be delivered to schools in Northern Beaufort, Jasper, Hampton, Colleton, Allendale and Walterboro counties. These are areas where schools seek to provide special writing programs, reading programs and supplies not offered in their schools. Students then are encouraged to take books home as many come from homes that do not have books in them.

Looking for a group to join for creative fellowship?

Think about joining FPC's Knitting Ministry...

Don't know how to knit? Want to take it up again after not doing it for a while?

If so, consider coming to the church on Tuesday afternoons at 1:30 PM.

A group meets every week for fellowship and knitting (and crochet) working on a variety of items including prayer shawls, small bunnies for Operation Christmas Child and more! We hope to see you next Tuesday afternoon.

June
NEWSLETTER

An Evening Under The Stars *FPC members of all ages enjoyed “Night at the Museum”*



On Friday night, May 21, almost 30 people of all ages gathered in the church courtyard for Movie Night. It was a beautiful evening for the event hosted by Congregational Life and Family Ministry.

Pictured to the left, sisters Kacie and Sophia sold concessions on behalf of the FPC Youth Group. In the process of raising money for future youth activities, they collected \$138 that evening!

There will be future discussions about more Movie Nights—possibly for Halloween and/or at Christmas time.



Moviegoers enjoyed a lovely evening in the FPC courtyard.