

**The Children of Abraham will again sponsor Celebrate Thanksgiving Thursday, November 9th at 6:30PM**--Two weeks before the traditional Thanksgiving Day. This year we will celebrate at Allison Creek Presbyterian Church. The association will provide the chicken and stuffing. Please bring a covered dish which will serve at least eight people to add to the feast. Please do not include meat products or broth in these sharable dishes. Be sure to put your name on the containers you want back. [All other information is on the flyer.](#)



**'Tis the Season - to order Society of St. Andrew Daily Devotions for Advent 2017** and the 2017 Alternative Christmas Card. Reclaim the spiritual dimensions of the Advent season this year with Lifting Up the Lowly, a timely devotional booklet from the Society of St. Andrew, as relevant as today's news. Used each year as a spiritual underpinning for Advent by hundreds of congregations of all denominations across the United States, these daily meditations—all new for 2017—are the words of people of faith, both pastors and lay persons, from all walks of life. Order or Download the materials at <http://endhunger.org/advent/>



**Oakland Avenue Presbyterian Church hosts its 19th annual Alternative Gift Fair on Sunday, November 19, 2017, from Noon-2:30PM** Along with fair trade gifts from all over the world, there will be local mission partners with crafts to sell and a live and silent auction for vacation homes, pottery, riding lessons, etc. Soup and sandwiches will be served and a craft zone will be available for children to make homemade Christmas gifts. OAPC Activities Center, 504 Oakland Avenue, Rock Hill.



**Affirmation of York County:** Please join us as we celebrate our LGBTQ members, families and friends. It has been a wonderful journey and we encourage pastors, Christian educators and other church leaders. Come to a meeting and see for yourself the work that we do. If you can't be physically present for a meeting, we ask that you offer support by praying for us, our children and our communities, telling others about us and working with us to provide compassionate care. Meetings are held at Epiphany Lutheran Church, 2370 West Main St., Rock Hill on the second Tuesday of each month from 7-8:30PM. The meetings for the last quarter are: November 14, and December 12. For more information, call Ellen at 803-417-0954 or Melissa at 803-547-6042 or email [AffirmationofYC@gmail.com](mailto:AffirmationofYC@gmail.com) [FB:www.facebook.com/AffirmationofYC](http://www.facebook.com/AffirmationofYC)

**College Conference @ Montreat January 2-5, 2018** The theme of College Conference at Montreat 2018 is Home. Join us for worship, recreation, fellowship, and study at College Conference 2018 as we build a home of faith together. All are welcome! Registration is open now! Check out this and other upcoming Montreat Conferences at <http://www.montreat.org/>

**SCDMV Offers Real ID Information.** You may have heard about "REAL ID." This is a federal law that requires all states to adhere to the same set of standards when issuing driver's licenses and identification cards. While it's optional to change your current SC license or ID to a REAL ID license or ID, you must have a REAL ID license or identification card or another federally approved identification card to pass security at airports nationwide, enter secure federal buildings, and visit military installations in the future. Visit the website: to find out more <http://www.scdmvonline.com/-/driver-services/drivers-license/real-id>

**BOP It's Time To Elect 2018 Benefits!** Annual enrollment, your chance to review and elect benefits coverage for 2018, runs through Friday, November 17. Don't miss this opportunity to make sure you have the benefits coverage you need for 2018.. Read about 2018 Benefits and more in [this month's Board Connections.](#)

**The National Association of Presbyterian Clergywomen will be hosting our Triennial in April 2018.**

Registration is now open via our website. We invite you to share this information with all clergy as well as lay leadership within your Presbytery. Find out more at <https://presclergywomen.com/triennial-conference/>

**OPPORTUNITIES**

**FPC Spartanburg seeks Director of Youth and Evangelist for Communications and Young Adults.** First Presbyterian Church of Spartanburg seeks a **Director for Youth** (a) To glorify God through Jesus Christ, in dependence on the Holy Spirit (b) To encourage and challenge youth, with the privilege and responsibility of becoming disciples of Jesus Christ, active members of the church, and servants of Christ in the world. (c) To provide pastoral care to youth and families. [Read More.](#) They are also seeking an **Evangelist for Communications and Young Adults** to use modern communications tools to share the story of First Presbyterian to grow new members and keep our current members connected and informed. This person will specifically seek to connect to the Young Adult community in Spartanburg while nurturing the current group within First Presbyterian Church. [Read More.](#)

**BOP Seeks Associate Church Consultant for our Area.** The Associate Church Consultant reports to the Church Consultant and under direction, has responsibility for building and maintaining relationships with church employers and councils in a multi-state region that encompasses South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Mississippi, and Alabama. Based in Atlanta, this individual will assist the Church Consultant to interpret and promote the plans and programs of the Board of Pensions, to assist employers in understanding their responsibilities, and to help employers determine and implement benefit offerings. Candidates should submit their credentials via [resumes@pensions.org](mailto:resumes@pensions.org). [Find out more.](#)

**Accompanist Needed:** Doby's Bridge Church in Fort Mill SC is looking for an accompanist for 11 am church services and Wednesday evening choir rehearsals. For more information including a job description, please call the church office at (803) 547-5240.

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**Church Store Boasts Multitude of New Resources.** A number of [new resources](#) for Presbyterians have been published this year! And even more are coming: two translations, Spanish and Korean, of The Presbyterian Deacon will come out later this month. You're sure to find something for you, your small group, or your congregation!

**Friends of Cafe Justo,** We will be ordering coffee just in time for Christmas. The purchase of these pound bags of shade grown coffee help members of the Cafe' Justo coffee cooperative have a life in which they can stay in their own communities and on their own land while producing a great cup of coffee for us to enjoy. Join us as we support this effort to live according to Jesus' calling to love our neighbor and to act justly. Email Ellen Green: [egreen2550@gmail.com](mailto:egreen2550@gmail.com) Orders must be in no later than Nov. 24, 2017. On behalf of our brothers and sisters in Mexico, thank you! Ellen

**Have you ever tried to explain why you love Montreat** to someone and they just don't get it? Same. So we made a new video to help us all talk about Montreat. Check it out! [Montreat Video.](#)

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**More than 5,000 found Room in this Inn this Year.** The Board of the South Carolina Inn wishes each of you a Merry Christmas and a joyous New Year! As we approach the celebration of the birth of our Savior we remember these words from Luke: And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. -- Luke 2:7, KJV. Would you like to support this ministry with a Christmas Gift? Know someone who has everything, but loves SC Inn and Montreat? [Why not honor them with a Gift to SC Inn?](#)



**Free Organ!** As a part of the sanctuary renovation, Bowling Green Presbyterian no longer has a need for their sanctuary organ. It is a two manual, electric Allen organ with full pedal, walnut case in good condition with two external speakers which were installed around 1980. If a congregation or individual is interested and can have the organ removed as early as November 27--but by a hard deadline of December 30. If you would like this organ, please contact Wesley Love at [lovefamilyfarm@yahoo.com](mailto:lovefamilyfarm@yahoo.com) or (803)242-7121 or Tom Kirksey at [tomandbeth@carolina.rr.com](mailto:tomandbeth@carolina.rr.com) or (704)860-4098. Moving expenses are the responsibility of the recipient of the organ.



**The Georgia Cluster is hosting Interim Pastor Training, January 22 – 26** at Calvin Center (Atlanta). This event is perfect for quality individuals looking to expand their skill set. Please find the attached brochure (below) describing this information packed five day event. For details, check out the website at <http://calvincenter.org/programs/interim-pastors>

**This Year-End Be a Part of New Vision for Honduras.** In 1985 Providence Presbytery sent the first team of travelers to Guatemala and Honduras to learn more about the mission programs that we support in those countries. Through August, 2017, there have been a total of 55 trips. Since 1992, most trips have had some type of medical component. Dr. Bill Oliver has been on many trips to examine eyes and fit glasses. He realized that many of the people in remote communities have cataracts. It has been his hope that our presbytery could set up a semi-permanent, free clinic where cataract surgery can be done several times a year by visiting ophthalmologists. Three years ago Bill and Barbara Kurz visited Honduras to gather information about the feasibility of setting up an eye clinic. There is definitely a need and support for us to move forward. We have raised about two-thirds of the money needed. \$30,000 more will make the eye clinic -- and restored sight – a reality. [Join with your fellow Presbyterians to finish this much needed project.](#)



**Dubuque to Offer 8 CLP/CRE Courses in Spring Term.** The University of Dubuque Theological Seminary is pleased to announce that we will be offering eight online courses for Commissioned Ruling Elders in our CLP/CRE lay ministry program. The spring term is scheduled from January 29 to May 12, 2018. The tuition rate is \$390.00 per course. As always, current students can register by going online and paying via PayPal at <http://udonline.dbq.edu/mod/page/view.php?id=301859> or by contacting me ([CGibbons@dbq.edu](mailto:CGibbons@dbq.edu) or 563-589-3630 / 1-888-207-8218), to pay by credit card or check. If you or someone you know has gifts for ministry, they can consider exploring their call through our CRE lay ministry program. Application, program information and details regarding our Certificate in Congregational Leadership can be found at the above link in the green box titled "Quick Links" at the link above. We review applications on a rolling basis each semester and all new applicants are required to take the Online Learning Course as an introduction to distance education. Please feel free to call or email me or Dr. Annette Huizenga, Dean of the Seminary ([ahuizenga@dbq.edu](mailto:ahuizenga@dbq.edu) or 563-589-3858), with any questions or comments.

**Family Movie Night December 8.** Tirzah (York) 180 Tirzah Rd York SC, Family Movie Night Friday, December 8th, doors open at 6:00 pm with free popcorn and drinks with movie "Polar Express" starting at 6:30 pm. With the earlier start time please feel free to bring you dinner with you to eat during the movie! Admission is free to community. For additional details see church website [www.tirzahfellowship.org](http://www.tirzahfellowship.org) or call Hope Moore at 803-389-6210.

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**Are you ready for #GivingTuesday?** On November 28, 2017, the world comes together to give, and faith-based organizations have fared well in this online fundraising movement. The Presbyterian Foundation makes it easy to give online or for your church to accept gifts online. #GivingTuesday is a great opportunity for your church to kick-off a year-end campaign and promote your online giving program. If your church doesn't accept online gifts, the Foundation's Ministry Partnership Program can help you add a GIVE NOW option to your website for secure online donations. [Find out more.](#)



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[FB:www.facebook.com/AffirmationofYC](https://www.facebook.com/AffirmationofYC)

**Church Store Features resources for Facing Racism.** Because the beloved community is what God intends for us, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is engaging in an ongoing campaign to share a wealth of antiracism resources with the greater church. This month, we offer resources related to issues facing immigrant and refugee families. Resources include an award-winning documentary (watch the trailer), refugee ministry resources, the "We Choose Welcome" action guide, and more. [Find out more.](#)

**Ten Things every Ruling Elder should Know.** In my work as a presbytery stated clerk, I am called upon to help equip ruling elders-elect for their service on the session and in the wider church. As a ruling elder myself, I recognize the need for polity education for those of us who are not seminary-trained church leaders. Here are ten things I think every ruling elder should know...[READ THE ARTICLE.](#)

## NEWS FROM BETHELWOODS:



**This holiday season won't you invest in our ministry?** Giving Tuesday is November 28th Bethelwoods relies on the generous support of our churches and members to continue offering outstanding programs to our campers, youth, adults and those who use our retreat facilities. Online donations can be made at [www.bethelwoods.org](http://www.bethelwoods.org) or checks can be sent direct to camp. [Print the Bulletin Insert](#)

**Sign-Up today for TTT evening out** to see the McAdenville Christmas Lights! Tuesday December 5th we'll meet at Bethelwoods at 4:30pm to have a festive dinner and then depart to see the dazzling lights of McAdenville, often called "Christmas Town, USA." Planned to return by 8:00pm. Cost is \$20 per person. Please register by December 1st..

**Limited spaces are available for any retreats or parties** you have planned here at Bethelwoods. Call us today to see if we can accommodate you for your gathering!

**Call to sign up today for Craftin' Craziess at Bethelwoods on Tuesday December 12th** making Pine Cove Elves! Join us for a morning of fun crafting and lunch! Cost is \$ 15.00 per person

**Looking for something for the kids after Christmas?** Send them to Christmas at Camp December 28-30, this annual retreat offers the chance to experience camp during the holiday season! [See Flyer attached.](#)

**Friends of Cafe Justo**, We will be ordering coffee just in time for Christmas. The purchase of these pound bags of shade grown coffee help members of the Cafe' Justo coffee cooperative have a life in which they can stay in their own communities and on their own land while producing a great cup of coffee for us to enjoy. Join us as we support this effort to live according to Jesus' calling to love our neighbor and to act justly. Email Ellen Green: [egreen2550@gmail.com](mailto:egreen2550@gmail.com) Orders must be in no later than Nov. 24, 2017. On behalf of our brothers and sisters in Mexico, thank you! Ellen

**Advent resource for Youth.** Simple Sundays, a series of downloadable mini courses for youth, can be used for Sunday school, youth group, or other gatherings. The lessons are easy to prepare and teach. Each mini course, priced at just \$10, has several sessions. Topics cover a variety of faith questions. Eight titles are available, with four more titles coming in December. Try the sample lesson, which can be found at the bottom of the search results on [pcusastore.com](http://pcusastore.com).



**Tree of Hope.** The Presbyterian Giving Catalog Tree of Hope Activity provides church leaders with everything needed to kick-off this Season of Advent activity that encourages members to give a new kind of gift - tangible gifts of practical and lasting benefit, such as chickens, goats, or garden wells, using the Presbyterian Giving Catalog. [Order your Activity Kit today.](#)

**Deal on Colaborate: Presbyterian Confirmation Curriculum.** Another year is drawing to a close, and there is no doubt you've heard of the newest confirmation curriculum for PCUSA churches. However, you haven't heard of a deal like this! From now through November 30, 2017, receive 15% off when you order the Colaborate: Presbyterian Confirmation Starter Pack. The Colaborate: Presbyterian Confirmation Starter Pack includes everything you need to start preparing for confirmation for just \$152.99. All you'll need additionally are Student Handbooks for each student and Leader Guides for extra leaders. Promo Code: BESTDEAL at [Presbyterian Church Store.](#)

**Order Alternative Christmas Cards.** This is the sixth year that noted artist Jerry Malzahn has produced a truly unique piece of art exclusively for the Society of St. Andrew, for the Alternative Christmas Card. The artwork is not available anywhere else in the world! This year's print, depicting Mary and the Infant Savior in the lamp-lit manger, is paired with beautiful text by Mary Louise Bringle, from her hymn, "Now the Heavens Start to Whisper." Every \$15.00 donation you give will send an Alternative Christmas Card to one recipient and share 500 servings of nourishing food with neighbors in need. **If you provide us your list of recipients, we will personally hand-address, sign, and mail the cards for you.** We will also send you this unique card as a special thank you. Or if you prefer, we will mail the cards and envelopes to you, to personalize and mail yourself. (We will not add your recipients' names to any list, so they will not receive any solicitations or other mailings from us, just the Alternative Christmas Card you've asked us to send.) [Order today.](#)

**Take care of your Christmas shopping at PC(USA) Store!** We have 365-day devotionals from Walter Brueggemann and Dietrich Bonhoeffer; The Presbyterian Handbook for new members; and much more for the children, leaders, and other special people in your life. Make sure to order by Friday, December 8, to ensure delivery in time for Christmas. [Check out our Gift Books.](#)

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## BETHELWOODS CAMP AND CONFERENCE CENTER



**This holiday season won't you invest in our ministry?** Giving Tuesday is November 28th Bethelwoods relies on the generous support of our churches and members to continue offering outstanding programs to our campers, youth, adults and those who use our retreat facilities. Online donations can be made at [www.bethelwoods.org](http://www.bethelwoods.org) or checks can be sent direct to camp.

**Call to sign up today for Craftin' Crazy's** at Bethelwoods on Tuesday December 12th making Pine Cove Elves! Join us for a morning of fun crafting and lunch! Cost is \$ 15.00 per person

**Register now for the TTT annual Christmas Dinner and White Elephant Gift Exchange** on Tuesday December 19th. This is a favorite event for our TTT attendee's so sign up TODAY! 803-366-3722

**Looking for something for the kids after Christmas?** Send them to Christmas at Camp December 28-30, this annual retreat offers the chance to experience camp during the holiday season! See Flyer attached.

**Limited spaces are available for Christmas at Camp and rentals for parties** here at Bethelwoods. Call us today to see if we can accommodate you for your holiday gathering!

Date	Event	Location	Time
11/28	Educators Gathering	Presbytery Office	12:30-2PM
11/28	Hunger Action Team	Presbytery Office	6PM
12/1	Rock Hill Christmas Parade: Office Closed due to Road Closures	Presbytery Office	
12/24-1/1	Presbytery Office Closed		

### Contact Us

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[Rose Lemmons-Berry](#)  
[Inez Glasgow](#)  
[Barbara Kurz](#)  
[Jill Wilson](#)

### Quick Links

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