When our children were young, we read to them every day. At first we read books like *Good Night Moon*, *Runaway Bunny*, and *My Many Colored Days*. As they got older we moved onto chapter books like *Junie B. Jones* and *Charlotte's Web*. We hoped that they would not only grow up loving to read but that they would love stories. Stories of love, family, friendship, joy, sorrow, life, and death. These are the stories of our lives - our individual lives and our life as a community of faith.

As I look back, I am aware that the book we read the most often was the *Rhyme Bible Storybook*. We read some of those stories so often that we memorized them. One of my favorite preachers, Barbara Brown Taylor, says, "The Bible tells us the stories we need and want to hear. Stories to help us live. Stories to help us die. Stories to help us believe we shall live again. Believing them, we are changed. The words of God heal our hurts and soften our hearts; they clear our vision and guide our feet, like a lifeline strung from the beginning of time to the end, they show us the way through the storms of life."

This fall we are going to be thinking about our own individual stories and the story of Reid Memorial Presbyterian Church. On Sunday, October 15th during the Sunday School hour Reab Berry will tell us the story of Reid Memorial Presbyterian Church. He will tell us that in 1914 at our first service of worship forty-six charter members sang, "How Firm a Foundation."

So often music tells our story in a way that words cannot and so this fall we will lift up the theme, **"This is our story, this is our song."** Since that first hymn God has been with this congregation through many dangers, toils, and snares and seasons of great joy too!

I hope that you are excited as I am to be part of this chapter in the life of Reid Memorial Presbyterian Church. I am grateful that you are part of my story. I am grateful, too, that God has called us to reflect and rejoice on how God has been, is, and will continue to be at work in all the chapters of our lives. In this edition of the Fountain you'll find the dates and details of upcoming chapters and below you'll see some highlights of the most recent one.



Fall Calendar

AUGUST

- 2 Youth Back 2 School Prayer for CC (6:30pm, Vallotton Home)
- 6 Summer Sunday School Returns:

PreK & Kindergarten Summer Sunday School (Rm 104)

Summer Service Sunday School (grades 1-8) (Conference Room)

Adult & H.S. Sunday School (Jabbok, part 2) (Choir Room)

Blessing of the Backpacks Communion by Intinction

Reid's Refreshments after Worship

Youth Back 2 School Prayer for RC & private schools (6:30pm, Eaves Home)

SAM @ the Augusta GreenJackets Baseball Game (1:35pm)

- 8 MDO / Preschool Open House (9am—1pm)
- 9 MDO / Preschool Begins
- 11-13 Women's Connection Retreat in Montreat
- 13 Dimes for Dinner
- 27 Congregational Luncheon (11:30am, CLC)
 - GAP Ministry Service Day

SEPTEMBER

- 4 HOLIDAY—Church Office Closed
- 6 Wednesday Evening Programming Resumes

Preschool Chapel (10am)

Young Women of Faith (5pm)

Preschool & Holy Moly Bible Study (5pm)

Children's Choir—grades 3, 4, & 5

Adult Choir (7pm)

- 7 Senior Adult Ministry—Redcliffe Plantation Tour
- 10 Fall Sunday School—Session One Begins:

Children's (104 & 105)

High School (AFC)

The Revelation to John (Rm 201)

Presbyterian 101 / New Officer Training (ends 10/15)(Rm 202)

Fear: What are we so afraid of? (Rm 203)

Presentation of Bibles in Worship

Communion by Intinction

Children's Church & Young Children's Choir

Elementary Bible Study (4pm, Rm 210)

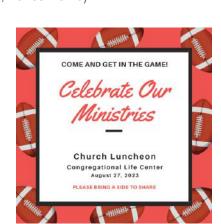
Middle School Youth Group (4pm, Fugua Center)

Children / Youth Dinner (5pm)

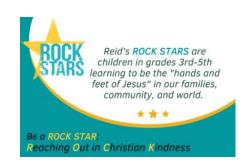
High School Youth Group (5:30pm, Fugua Center)

Master's Ringers Bell Choir (6pm)

- 11 Text Time Resumes (10am, Library)
- 12 SOLAS Bible Study Begins—Exodus (9am, Rm 202)
- 13 LOGOS Bible Study Begins (10am, Rm 201)
- 16 R.O.C.K. Stars @ Ronald McDonald House
- 17 Dimes for Dinner
- 24 Church Luncheon & Deacon's Symposium (11:30am, CLC) GAP Ministry Service Day
- 25 Book Club Resumes (6pm, Library)
- 29-30 Women's Renewal Retreat in Aiken, SC









OCTOBER

- 1 World Communion Day
- 6-9 High School Youth Retreat at Epworth by the Sea
- 8 Dimes for Dinner
- 13 Senior Adult Ministry Sunset Riverboat Cruise (5:30pm)
- 22 Adult Sunday School Class Added:

Song of Songs: What's Love Got To Do With It? (Rm 202)

Children Leading in Worship

Reid's Refreshments following Worship

GAP Ministry Youth-led Service Day

- 27 SAM & Hearts 4 Heroes host livestream of Ft. Gordon to Ft. Eisenhower Name Changing Ceremony (Time TBA)
- 28 R.O.C.K. Stars @ Thornwell
- 29 Communion by Intinction

Officer Training Workshop (11:30am—2pm, CLC / Fellowship Hall)



- 3 Senior Adult Ministry Savannah River Brewery Tour and Food Truck Dinner (family friendly event)
- 3-4 Kid's Retreat at Bishop Gravatt Retreat Center in Aiken, SC
- 5 Kirkin & Stewardship Dedication / All Saints Sunday

No Sunday School

Congregational Luncheon (11:30am, CLC)

12 Adult Sunday School Session Two Begins:

The Birth of the Messiah (Rm 201)

Illuminations Advent from St. John's Bible (Rm 202)

Grace and Hope at the Manger (Rm 203)

- 18 R.O.C.K. Stars @ RMPC
- 19 No Sunday Night Activities
- 23-24 HOLIDAY—Church Office Closed
- 26 No Sunday School or Sunday Night Activities Loaves & Fishes ALTERNATIVE GIFT MARKET Opens

Loaves & Fishes ALTERNATIVE GIFT MARKET Opens

GAP Ministry Service Day

DECEMBER

3 Communion

It's A Cool Life Dinner Theater (4:30pm)

- 9 Senior Adult Ministry Christmas Party @ The Slater's Home R.O.C.K. Stars Salvation Army Bell Ringing
- 10 Dimes for Dinner
 - White Box Mission & Congregational Luncheon
- 13 Preschool Christmas Chapel
- 15 Christmas at Reid (7pm)
- 17 Blue Christmas (6pm)
- 24 Children Leading Worship

Reid's Refreshments @ 9:30am

Communion Candlelight (6:30pm)

- 25-26 HOLIDAY—Church Office Closed
- 27 No Wednesday Night Activities
- 31 Lessons and Carols Morning Worship

No Sunday School or Sunday Night Activities

























Christians
confronting emptiness
choosing compassion
creating community















Together, we can make a difference for children and families.





Missions Needs You!

The Missions Committee meets the first Monday of each month @ 6:00pm, Mary Read Room.

The Presbyterian Missions Agency (PC(USA)) states on its webpage, "For more than 200 years, Presbyterians have been responding to the call of Jesus Christ, taking the gospel into all the world and bearing witness to Christ's saving love to the ends of the earth. Today the Holy Spirit is still on the move, calling us to share in what God is doing in the world." Two hundred years sounds like a long time, but, really, it's a drop in the time bucket. This means, we are still a learning and growing and young denomination by historical standards.

What does this mean for us at Reid Memorial? I believe it means that we are called to carry forward this mission of witness and compassion into the world with vigor and enthusiasm. We are the 70 sent out into the mission fields of the Middle East, we are the disciples called from their fishing nets, we are like the first churches in the homes of believersin other words, we are still in the evangelism stage of church life. We are called to seek, to share, to bring hope, and to provide assistance.

We do this particular work through our Missions Committee, and, yes, it calls for hard work and dedication. It requires a lot of hands, hearts, and imagination and we are eager to add to our numbers! We have missions' projects and partners that need you! Either hands-on or behind the scenes, Missions is a vital part of our life of discipleship at Reid Memorial. It's a big world and we can't solve all the problems. The good news is, we are not called to do that, but rather to look to our neighborhoods and our neighbors and start there.

And if you think we still cannot make a difference, consider these words from a note I recently received from GAP ministries: "Dear Friends, my heart is simply so full. How can I ever convey my gratitude to you all, from volunteering to donations, you are human angels...this last donation that you collected for us was 201 pounds [of food] -- that's 201 pounds of love." This came to me from the Executive Director of GAP. Each donation, each clean-up day, each project with a partner, makes a difference!

I hope you will prayerfully consider joining us on the committee so that you may also help us find new and creative ways to love one another in Christ's name!



A Word from the Dinconnte

The diaconate is not "flashy," in fact, their work is often being done quietly behind the scenes, reaching out with compassion and a listening ear for those struggling with a personal crisis or illness, or rejoicing with new parents, graduates, and the ones celebrating milestones. The deacons show up in these quiet ways, through cards and emails, prayer shawls, and prayers. They are the nurturing arm of Reid Memorial, and their service is the scaffolding upon which we build our congregational family one relationship at a time.

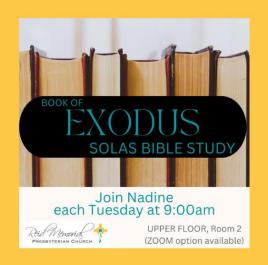
This year, the diaconate is going to come out from behind the curtain a little more to sponsor an event in the fall around "wellness." This, too, is part of the care and nurture of the church -- to provide resources and support for the needs of our people. Given the wealth of wonderfully gifted members who have much to teach us about how to live our healthiest life, the diaconate is working to bring together a panel of experts to help us think through the challenges and find the right information to do just that.

Stay tuned for additional details regarding this exciting event!



2261 WALTON WAY

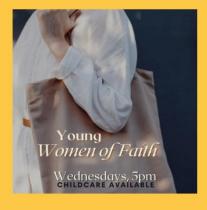




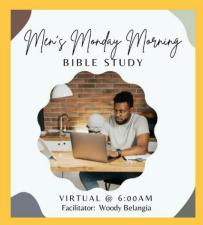
Solas Class Begins September 12 @ 9:00am in Room 2, Upper Floor

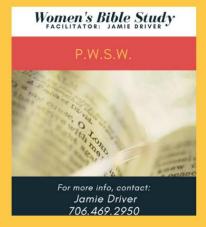
The Solas will kick off its study year with a deep dive into the book of Exodus. We'll explore this Biblical narrative primarily through Rabbi David Zaslow's work, Reimagining Exodus. Father Richard Rohr commends this book, saying, "it takes the reader on a timeless journey. It shows how the Passover story has been a roadmap for both spiritual and personal liberation for thousands of years. As the foundational story beneath Judaism and Christianity it is time to reimagine how this seminal story relates to our world and our personal lives today." If this sounds interesting to you, I hope you'll join us this fall! There is also a zoom option for this class. Please let Nadine know if you'd like to be added to the class email distribution list.

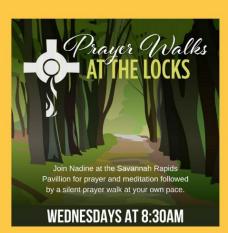












Adult Sunday School

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

SESSION ONE

Beginning September 10, 2023

The Revelation to John

Led by Boyd Lien

The final book of the Bible offers the last words on Christ, Scripture, the Church, Worship, Evil, Prayer, Politics, Judgement, Salvation, and Heaven. Guided by *Reversed Thunder*, Eugene Peterson's profound meditation on the Revelation to John, we will seek to expand our praying imaginations as we learn and unlearn, Come, Lord Jesus!

Presbyterian 101 (9/10 - 10/15)

Led by Brandi Casto-Waters, Nadine Ellsworth-Moran, Buz Wilcoxon, Reab Berry, & Mike Williams

All incoming officers and others interested in learning more about PCUSA Polity, Theology, and Church History are encouraged to attend.

Song of Songs (10/22 - 11/19)

Led by Nadine Ellsworth-Moran

The late, great Tina Turner sang the words from our course title, and for those unfamiliar with the Song of Songs, love has plenty to do with it! We'll explore the obvious (and no so subtle) aspects of human love that are presented as well as the theological interpretation that grew up around this Old Testament book.

Fear: What Are We So Afraid Of?

Led by Carl Young

"For God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and discipline." 2 Timothy 1:7

We are fearful people. Moses feared leading the Israelites. The Israelites feared everything in the wilderness. Jonah feared God's calling. Herod feared an infant. But the Bible tells us NOT to fear! Let's embrace the Lord's promise to Fear Not.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

SESSION TWO

Beginning December 3, 2023

The Birth of the Messiah

Led by Boyd Lien

Our Advent preparation for the birth of Jesus will focus on the first chapters of the Gospel of Matthew and the Gospel of Luke. Our study of the genealogy of Jesus, the three annunciations of his birth, and the Benedictus will be guided by the scholarship of Fr. Raymond E. Brown. Pieces of the profound story will come together, and we are guaranteed many "aha!" moments.

Illuminations Advent from St. John's Bible

Led by Nadine Ellsworth-Moran

As we continue to tell our story, we are also telling God's story. Particularly in Advent, we watch with anticipation as our history and stories merge into one telling, one faith, one miraculous moment that changed everything for the world, and for each of us, with the birth of Christ. This Advent, we will be looking to the St. John's Bible and its detailed and visual storytelling through thoughtfully wrought and theologically rich artwork.

Grace and Hope at the Manger

Led by Dana Matthews Cheape

Do you live with shame regarding some personal scandal or failure? Are you feeling unnoticed, unappreciated, or taken advantage of? If so, come and hear how God uses our circumstances and dysfunctional family dynamics to bestow grace and restore hope this Christmas.



2261 WALTON WAY

Summer Reflections



2261 WALTON WAY

Summer Reflections





This is my story, this is my song!

Years ago, I served St. Luke's UMC in Memphis, TN as Director of Music. St. Luke's was such a special place with a rich history of faith formation, mission work, and music. I was humbled to stand on the podium that had been occupied by such greats as Mr. Wilson Mount, Rev. Amy Martin, Dr. Gary Allen Smith, and countless others. My favorite room in the church was the music library. You could clearly see the delineation between the different directors and their years of service by looking at the different anthems that had been added to the collection through the years.

The music library was a windowless room with floor to ceiling shelves of music. Because of the volume of music crammed into the space, there was an almost deafening damping effect on the ears when you would stand in the middle of the room. It was almost as if there was a soundproof quality.

Through my tenure I found myself sitting in this dim somewhat small room for inspiration. There was something about that room that reminded me not just of my mission, but the mission of the greater church. Something about being in that sound dampened room with walls of lifeless sheets of music with silent dots on endless pages was loud to me. While my physical ears heard absolutely nothing, my mind's ear heard all that was and all that could and would be lifted off those pages. Being in that room reminded me that I have a job to do, you have a job to do. A commission to spread the Good News! There was something so profound to me about the juxtaposition of the lifelessness and the potential life of that room all at the same time.

While Reid is fortunate to house our music in a larger and much more beautiful space, I still am reminded every time I look at our shelves that we all need to breathe life into these pages. Our music collected through the years will remain silent without the congregation, the choirs, the instrumentalists, the organists, the conductors who all play their part in bringing them to life.

Won't you consider joining in our song? Reid Memorial's theme this year is "This is my story, this is my song." Reid with its wonderful long and rich history has such a story to share, and the song that this congregation still carries out to this day is one of great joy!

Thank you for your prayerful consideration in joining in that song through one or more of the following ways:

Music Director

Chancel Choir

The Reid Memorial Presbyterian Church Chancel Choir is the flagship ensemble of the Department of Music Ministry. It leads the congregation in joyful praise and exuberant worship each week at our 10:30am service. The choir sings a wide range of repertoire covering all genres from Bach, Beethoven, Florence Price, and Mendelson, to modern day composers like Richard Smallwood, Dan Forrest, Mack Wilburg, and others. This non-auditioned group practices each Wednesday 7pm-9pm in the 2nd floor choir room.



Children's Choir

The Children's Choir can be seen leading God's people in worship throughout the year and in special services. This group of students 1st grade through 8th grade holds rehearsals on Wednesday evenings each week. Parents may drop students off in the Christian Life Center (gym) at 5pm and pick their students up from the same location at 6pm.



The Moster's Ringers Bell Choir

The Master's Ringer Bell Choir adds that special sparkle that only a bell choir can add to our worship services occasionally through out the year. This non-auditioned group meets for rehearsal each Sunday evening 6pm-7:15pm in the 2nd floor bell/robing room.



2261 WALTON WAY

Fellowship & Finances

Congregational Luncheons

Sundays following Worship join us in the Congregational Life Center

August 27

Celebrating Our Ministries

BRING A SIDE TO SHARE

September 24

Fall Fellowship

BRING A SIDE OR DESSERT TO SHARE

November 5

Kirkin' O' Tartan

CATERED LUNCHEON

December 10

White Gift Box Juncheon

BRING YOUR WORK GLOVES







gather for refreshments and fellowship
August 6th
October 22nd
December 24th

Treasurer's Report through First Half 2023

TREASURER'S REPORT: First Half 2023

After six months we are \$47 thousand ahead of budget, with revenues on target and expenses lower than expected. Compared to last year's first half, giving is up a remarkable \$93 thousand, or 16%. In other good news, we have received \$1.1 million in roof settlement funds from our insurer and expect eventually to recover a total of about \$1.4 million, which will allow us to replace all our older roofs, other than the Fuqua Center.

		Better
Actual	Budget	(Worse)
\$665,197	\$665,120	\$ 77
674,881	721,306	46,425
\$ (9,684)	\$(56,186)	\$46,502
2023	2022	Better (Worse)
		\$ 92,794
674,881	585,275	(89,606)
\$ (9,684)	\$ (12,872)	\$ 3,188
	\$665,197 674,881 \$ (9,684) 2023 \$665,197 674,881	\$665,197 \$665,120 674,881 721,306 \$ (9,684) \$ (56,186) 2023 2022 \$665,197 \$572,403 674,881 585,275

Copies of the Treasurer's Report and detailed Financial Statements are available on request

Children







PREPARING KIDS FOR A LIFE WITH CHRIST

Children's Bible Study Offerings Beginning the week of September 10 through Christmas break

Preschool Bible Study: Wednesdays from 5 -6 pm Room 105 **Old Testament**

Our youngest members begin this year's study with the book of Genesis exploring God's amazing and wonderful story of creation. The children enjoy lots of handson activities, weekly visits from our puppet friend, Theo, singing lots of songs, and a closing prayer time together.

First & Second Grade Bible Study: Wednesdays from 5 - 6 pm Room 210 Holy Moly Curriculum - Old Testament

Holy Moly captures the imagination of kids by bringing the Bible to life. Kids walk away from class retelling the stories they just learned and eagerly awaiting what's next. Each lesson invites kids into the story with animated Bible story retellings and encourages creativity and imagination with activities that bring the stories to life.

Third - Fifth Grade Bible Study; Sundays from 4-5 pm Conference Room Dinner from 5 - 5:30 pm in CLC

This fall, our older elementary kids are invited to participate in a Sunday afternoon Bible study followed by dinner with our youth friends in the CLC. Each week, we will explore stories from the Old Testament with lots of fun, interactive activities, story time, discussion and prayer.

Children



SEPTEMBER:

Join us on Saturday, September 16 from 10 am - Noon as we learn more about the Ronald McDonald House and prepare a meal for the residents

OCTOBER:

Join us on Saturday, October 28 from 9 am - 2 pm for a day of fun & service at Thornwell's Fall Festival in Clinton, South Carolina.

NOVEMBER:

Help make blessing packs for those in need in our community on Saturday, November 18 from 10 am - Noon at Reid Memorial.

DECEMBER:

Come ring the bell for the Salvation Army on Saturday, December 9 from 11 am - 3 pm at the Kroger on Washington Road



JOIN US FOR CHURCH

October 15, 2023 at 10:30 am when children lead worship!







2261 WALTON WAY





Join RMPC this fall in a fun and educational way to end a hand to people facing hunger across the globe.



This Youth-sponsored event will need participants of all ages. Stay tuned for date & time!





Interim Youth Director

Senior Adult Ministry



Join us for a tour of

Redcliffe Plantation

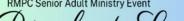
Thursday, September 7th Cost is \$10

Box lunches @ noon & Tour begins @ 1pm **Reservations Required**

RSVP via text to Emma Slater at 706-830-6860



*This tour may not be suitable for those with mobility issues.



iverboat Sunset

Enjoy breathtaking views down the Savannah River.

Drinks and hors d'oeuvres will be served!

Only \$20 per person.



13 OCT 2023

RSVP to Emma Slater via text 706-830-6860







2261 WALTON WAY

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