



# FRIENDSHIP PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*small church | BIG MISSION*

July 2021



*From the  
Pastor*

*Bear one another's burdens,  
and in this way you will fulfil the law of Christ.*

Galatians 6:2, NRSV

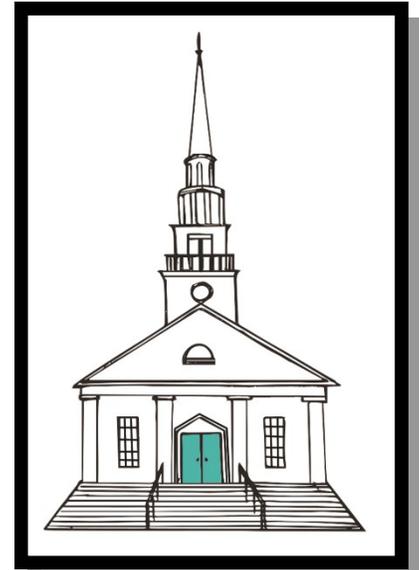
We have now reached the middle of the summer, and it sure feels like it outside! But Fall – and with it, a new academic and program year – is just right around the corner. We have still not fully emerged from the COVID-19 pandemic, though things are certainly moving in the right direction.

In this time of looking ahead to a new season of life at Friendship, it is important to take note of the key lessons of the last year and a half. Probably more than anything else, we have come to a much deeper appreciation of how much we need one another. The emotion ran deep as we gathered in-person again on May 23, and that feeling of gratitude and relief was palpable. But just as we rejoice in being together again after so long, it's also true that COVID exposed just how easy it is for us to lose connection and how easy it is for some to get left behind.

While this is a painful truth, in God's grace it doesn't have to be this way for us. This new day offers a fresh start – an opportunity to re-vision our life together such that ALL of us are included, our bonds of love and fellowship are better nourished, and our community of faith is strengthened and equipped for Christ's mission.

For this reason, our Session recently voted to become a member of the Matthew 25 Initiative of the Presbyterian Mission Agency. One of its key aims is building greater congregational vitality, that churches like ours may grow a more effective presence and ministry toward those most in need in our larger communities. We pray for the blessing of God – manifest in stronger ties of love, care, and inclusion among us – that we may BE a blessing to those beyond our walls.

*(continued on page 2)*



8531 Macon Hwy  
Athens, GA 30606  
706-543-6077 (office)  
706-543-6199 (fax)  
[www.gotofriendship.org](http://www.gotofriendship.org)

Sunday School @ 9:45 a.m.  
Sunday Worship @ 11:00 a.m.

Pastor:  
Rev. J. Thomas Buchanan  
[pastortom@gotofriendship.org](mailto:pastortom@gotofriendship.org)

Church Administrator:  
Donna Rigsby  
[office@gotofriendship.org](mailto:office@gotofriendship.org)

Please check out our website @  
[www.gotofriendship.org](http://www.gotofriendship.org) for our  
online calendar





(continued from page 1)

Over the next few months, we are going to explore some new ideas for growing in love and vitality, including but not limited to –

“The Friendship Connection” – a new vehicle for sharing good news and helping us to know one another better

Arranging transportation for those who could use rides to and from worship services

Providing for monthly Communion for those unable to attend worship services

Care partners and visitations for church members and friends, especially those most at risk of isolation

Considering an earlier start time for Sunday worship, so as to make possible a time for “cookies and conversation” following, giving us an opportunity for greater fellowship

Alongside all these efforts, strengthening our congregational commitment to mission and integrating this commitment more fully into our worship life.

In all these ways and others, we seek to embrace this post-COVID time as the divine opportunity it is to continue growing into the community which God calls us to be!

It is the greatest of blessings to share this journey with you!

Tom Buchanan  
Pastor



We are gathering in-person and online each Sunday! ***If you are on our church e-mail list, you will receive an email in your inbox early on Sunday morning with a direct link to the worship service!*** Or, if you wish, you can still simply go to our web site [GoToFriendship.org](http://GoToFriendship.org) and scroll down for the graphic link to it. An archive of past worship service videos and printed sermons are available from the “Sermons and Newsletters” page of our web site.

## Sunday Morning Coffee & Fellowship and Tuesday Morning Bible Study

On Sunday mornings at 9:30 AM, we gather in-person and via ZOOM for fellowship and conversation on the scriptures being read in worship for the day! Tuesday morning Bible study is on Zoom each week at 10:30 AM. If you would like to join via ZOOM, please send an email to [PastorTom@GoToFriendship.org](mailto:PastorTom@GoToFriendship.org) ... and you'll be added to the Zoom invitation lists each week.





## Midweek Devotional

Join us on the church Facebook page each Wednesday at 12 noon ... [www.Facebook.com/FriendshipPresbyterianChurch](http://www.Facebook.com/FriendshipPresbyterianChurch) or just link to Facebook from our web site [GoToFriendship.org](http://GoToFriendship.org) ... for a live-streamed Midweek Devotional, with scripture, encouragement, and prayer. If you miss it live, you can always catch it later by going to the Facebook page. ***Please note that you do NOT need to have a Facebook account to view the Midweek Devotion.***



## CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Elizabeth Broomfield has recently moved. Her new address is:  
 Arbor Terrace Assisted Living  
 170 Marilyn Farmer Way  
 Apt. 209  
 Athens, GA 30606

Elizabeth would love to receive cards and letters from her church family.



|         | Liturgist    | Offering Counters |
|---------|--------------|-------------------|
| July 4  | Nan McMurry  | Barbara Remmers   |
| July 11 | Wendy Arthur | Kathie Shinholser |
| July 18 | Karen Norris | Ted Walker        |
| July 25 | Teddy Vaeth  | Marks Towles      |



**FRIENDSHIP**

**PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

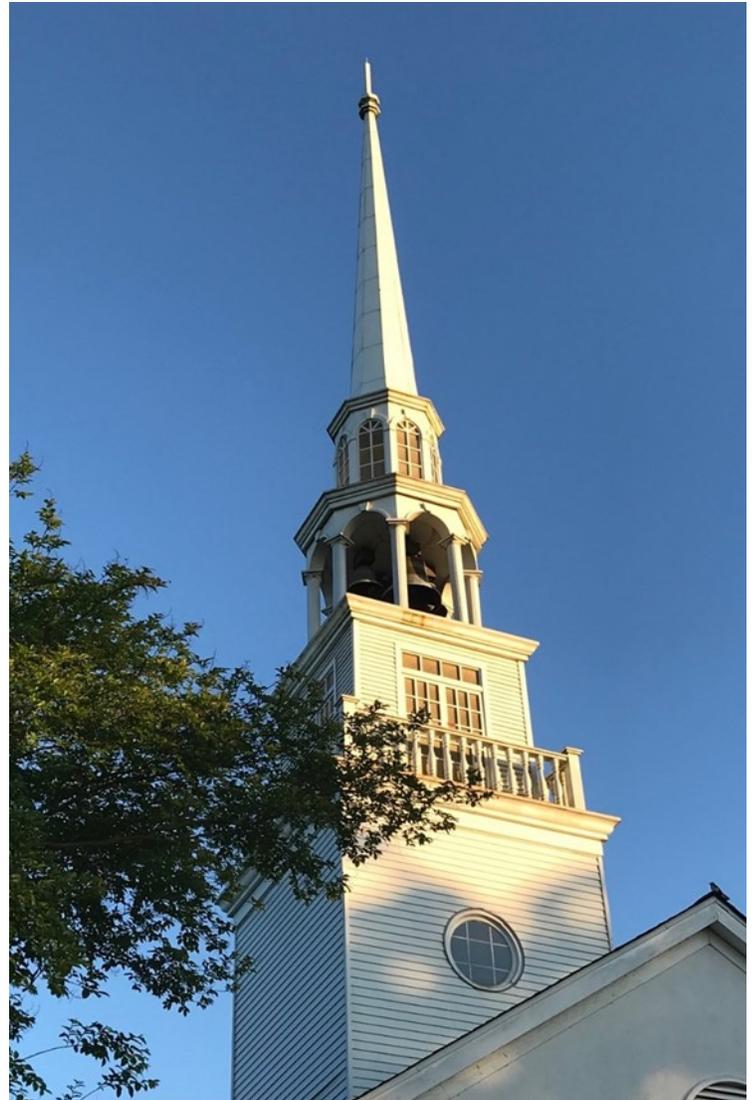
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The 4th Annual  
“SUMMER SAINTS”  
SERMON SERIES  
@ Friendship Presbyterian  
Church

Sundays, currently – August 8  
In-Person AND Online Worship  
[GoToFriendship.org](http://GoToFriendship.org)

An exploration of diverse lives – past and present, some Christian and some not – that have something to teach us about living faithfully today!

- July 4        John Witherspoon
- July 11      Emily Dickinson
- July 18      William Henry Sheppard
- July 25      Harper Lee
- August 1     Charles Darwin
- August 8     Katherine Johnson



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**PRESCHOOL NEWS**  
by: **Susanne Hayes, Director**



That's a wrap on our Summer Camp series!

We enjoyed three wonderful weeks of energetic campers who were able to experience fun crafts, games, experiments, themed snacks and activities planned by the best staff of teachers.

We will now transfer our focus and begin to make preparations for the upcoming school year. Our classroom rosters are full and we can not wait to meet our new students as we begin our journey back to normal operations.



## Scouting at Friendship

By: Scoutmaster Paul Matthews

Troop 149 had a great weeklong adventure to Yellowstone and the Grand Tetons in June, including camping and hiking, visits to geysers and rodeos, national parks, museums, and more! At the start of the month, we also went to St. Simon’s Island, where we took part in a deep-sea fishing excursion, followed by a little extra “beach time” and some great eating. With all these trips and the usual family summer activities, our attendance at meetings has been a little sparse, but we are continuing to work on Camping Merit Badge, Collections Merit Badge, and more, plus making time for games and fellowship.

Coming up, on July 4, we head to Camp Rainey Mountain in Clayton for our week of resident Scout camp, where our Scouts will work on a range of merit badges and activities. And, later in the month, we will head to North Carolina for a weekend camping trip featuring river tubing and “gem mining.” We also expect Teddy Vaeth, who took part in an individual trek at Philmont Scout Ranch in June, to go through the district Eagle Board of Review to become our troop’s newest Eagle Scout!

While the Cub Scout Pack is taking a break during June, they are gearing up for a full year of activity starting later this summer.

As always, thanks for your continued support of the Troop and Pack!



Scouts on the Yellowstone trip



| <b>Giving in June</b> |           |          |           |           |
|-----------------------|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|
|                       | June 6    | June 13  | June 20   | June 27   |
| Attendance            | 27        | 18       | 17        | 24        |
| General Giving        | \$5912.00 | \$968.00 | \$2647.00 | \$1847.00 |

| <b>Friendship Presbyterian Church</b>  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| <b>May 31, 2021</b>                    |                    |
| Selected Assets and Liabilities        |                    |
| Cash in Bank -- General Fund           | \$31,265.75        |
| Cash in Bank --Restricted Fund         | <u>13,441.07</u>   |
| Total Cash in Bank                     | \$44,706.82        |
| Savings -- Corporate Money Market      |                    |
|  | \$60,045.79        |
| Savings -- New Covenant Securities     |                    |
|  | \$59,324.92        |
| Restricted Educational Funds           |                    |
|  | \$6,934.43         |
| Income Statement Summary—April 2021    |                    |
| Receipts from Congregation             | \$15,035.80        |
| Dye House Rent                         | 0.00               |
| Support from Preschool                 | 4,460.75           |
| All Other Income                       | <u>6.03</u>        |
| Total Receipts                         | <u>\$19,502.58</u> |
| Administration Expenses                |                    |
|  | \$3,287.76         |
| Personnel Expenses                     |                    |
|  | 13,312.57          |
| Membership Development & Care Expenses |                    |
|  | 110.10             |
| Discipleship/CE                        |                    |
|  | 0.00               |
| Mission/Bldg & Grounds Expenses        |                    |
|  | 1,210.22           |
| Worship Expenses                       |                    |
|  | <u>28.20</u>       |
| Total Operating Expenses               | <u>\$17,948.85</u> |
| Net Income / (Deficit)                 |                    |
|  | \$1,553.73         |



Online giving is available on our web site! This is an easy, safe, and secure way to make donations to the church, without having to go to the trouble of writing and mailing a check. Simply go to our web site [GoToFriendship.org](http://GoToFriendship.org) and scroll to the bottom and click on **Give Now**. Doing so will take you to a secure portal where you will be asked to create a simple profile, and then allow you to make donations through your bank account or debit or credit card!



# JULY 2021

*Names in red-birthdays*  
*Names in green-anniversaries*

| Sunday  | Monday  | Tuesday  | Wednesday   | Thursday  | Friday   | Saturday  |
|---|---|--|---|---|--|-----------|
| <b>27</b><br>9:30 AM Sunday Morning<br>Coffee & Fellowship<br>11:00 AM Worship Service<br>12:15 PM Stated Session<br>Meeting  | <b>28</b><br>7:00 PM Boy<br>Scout Troop 149<br>7:00 PM<br>Recorder<br>Ensemble<br>Rehearsal                           | <b>29</b><br><i>Jan Roberts</i><br>10:30 AM Adult<br>Bible Study via<br>ZOOM                           | <b>30</b><br><i>Marks Towles</i><br>12:00 PM<br>Midweek<br>Devotion (live-<br>streamed) | <b>1</b>  | <b>2</b><br>Church Office<br>Closed                          | <b>3</b>  |
| <b>4</b><br><br><b>INDEPENDENCE</b><br><i>Day</i><br>9:30 AM Sunday Morning<br>Coffee & Fellowship<br>11:00 AM Worship Service | <b>5</b><br>Church Office<br>Closed<br>7:00 PM Boy<br>Scout Troop 149<br>7:00 PM<br>Recorder<br>Ensemble<br>Rehearsal | <b>6</b><br><i>Courtney<br/>           Bennett</i><br>10:30 AM Adult<br>Bible Study via<br>ZOOM        | <b>7</b><br>12:00 PM<br>Midweek<br>Devotion (live-<br>streamed)                         | <b>8</b><br><i>John Ivy</i>                           | <b>9</b><br>Church Office<br>Closed                          | <b>10</b> |
| <b>11</b><br>9:30 AM Sunday Morning<br>Coffee & Fellowship<br>11:00 AM Worship Service  | <b>12</b><br>7:00 PM Boy<br>Scout Troop 149<br>7:00 PM<br>Recorder<br>Ensemble<br>Rehearsal                           | <b>13</b><br><i>Jason Adams<br/>           Judy Hibbs</i><br>10:30 AM Adult<br>Bible Study via<br>ZOOM | <b>14</b><br>12:00 PM<br>Midweek<br>Devotion (live-<br>streamed)                        | <b>15</b><br>7:00 PM Order<br>of the Arrow<br>Meeting | <b>16</b><br>Church Office<br>Closed                         | <b>17</b> |
| <b>18</b><br>9:30 AM Sunday Morning<br>Coffee & Fellowship<br>11:00 AM Worship Service<br>12:00 PM Stated Session<br>Meeting  | <b>19</b><br>7:00 PM Boy<br>Scout Troop 149<br>7:00 PM<br>Recorder<br>Ensemble<br>Rehearsal                           | <b>20</b><br>10:30 AM Adult<br>Bible Study via<br>ZOOM   | <b>21</b><br>12:00 PM<br>Midweek<br>Devotion (live-<br>streamed)                        | <b>22</b>   | <b>23</b><br>Church Office<br>Closed                         | <b>24</b> |
| <b>25</b><br><i>Don Roberts</i><br>9:30 AM Sunday Morning<br>Coffee & Fellowship<br>11:00 AM Worship Service  | <b>26</b><br>7:00 PM Boy<br>Scout Troop 149<br>7:00 PM<br>Recorder<br>Ensemble<br>Rehearsal                           | <b>27</b><br>10:30 AM Adult<br>Bible Study via<br>ZOOM   | <b>28</b><br><i>Leanne Vaeth</i><br>12:00 PM<br>Midweek<br>Devotion (live-<br>streamed) | <b>29</b>   | <b>30</b><br><i>Beverly Davis</i><br>Church Office<br>Closed | <b>31</b> |



## SUMMER HOURS for CHURCH OFFICE

Monday - Thursday

9:00a.m - noon



Please submit news for August's Newsletter to the church office no later than **Sunday, July 25, 2021.** Due to office schedule submissions after this date may not appear in next month's newsletter. All submissions are subject to editing.

- Lisa Buchanan
- Libby Rice
- Rosemary Salter
- Rhenn Priep
- Elizabeth Broomfield
- Kylie (friend of Teddy Vaeth)
- Jennifer Mitchell

**FRIENDSHIP PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT**

As followers of Jesus Christ, assured of God's unconditional love for everyone, we strive to be an accepting and joyful community that centers upon worship, encourages personal growth, celebrates diversity, nurtures individual gifts, and moves beyond boundaries to share, through service, Jesus' love, compassion, and justice in an uncertain world.

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Grace to you and peace, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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