

SPRING HILL MESSENGER



Spring Hill Presbyterian Church, Mobile, Alabama

Volume 65, Number 7, September, 2009

From the Pastor's Desk...

Beginning Wednesday, September 9, we will resume our mid-week suppers and programs.

The theme for this fall will be "The Person and Gifts of the Holy Spirit." We'll have several guest speakers, though Mark Mueller and I will "bookend" the presentations with our messages. The schedule is given below.

The Holy Spirit is graciously working among us that there should be (and is) a great deal of interest in going deeper in our understanding of Who the Spirit is and what the Spirit's gifts are. We owe everything to our Father and Savior in sending the Holy Spirit for without Him we could not even confess Jesus as Lord (I Cor. 12:30) or do what Jesus asks of us (Acts 1:8). Our dependence on the Holy Spirit is total.

Before the series starts, read the first two chapters of Acts and chapters 12, 13 and 14 of First Corinthians. These passages are a strong starting point to understanding the purpose of the fall programs. I hope you will be able to participate and will invite others to join.

Schedule

September 9	"Person of the Holy Spirit"	Norman McCrummen
September 16	"The Holy Spirit in our Life"	Father Michael Farmer
September 23	"Faith"	Pam Hanes
September 30	"Wisdom"	Mike O'Neill
October 7	"Prophecy"	Pam Hanes
October 14	"Healing & Miracles"	Jack O'Neill
October 21	"Discernment and Word of Knowledge"	Rev. Brad McClain
October 28	"Tongues & the Interpretation of Tongues"	Norman McCrummen
November 4	"Healing"	Rev. Mark Mueller

In His love,

Norman

Church Calendar September 2009

- 1 Committees
- 2 Presbyterian Women's Coordinating Team – 9:30 a.m.
Women's Bible will continue through November 4; 9:15 – 11:30 a.m. (Except the 2nd Wednesdays of the month)
- 3 Officer Training – 7:00 p.m.
- 5 Presbyterian Women's Fall Spiritual Retreat
- 7 Labor Day – Church Office closed
- 8 Diaconate – 7:00 p.m.
- 9 Circles
Dinner and Bible Study begins (5:45 p.m. supper) and continues through November 4 (see schedule under Pastor's Desk)
- 12 Meals-on-Wheels – 10:30 a.m.
- 13 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. worship
CE Celebration Breakfast – 9:30 a.m.
- 14-15 Pictorial Directory appointments
- 15 Men's Breakfast – 7:00 a.m. (Note* - this is the 3rd Tuesday of the month)
Session – 7:00 p.m.
- 19 Confirmation Retreat
Yeoman's Workday
- 20 Ordination/Installation of Elders and Deacons in the Class of 2012 – 11:00 a.m.
Photograph of all officers actively serving in 2010 following 11:00 a.m. worship
Men's Bible Study – 5:00 p. m.
Women's Bible Study – 5:00 p.m.
- 21 Newsletter Deadline
- 23-26 Pictorial Directory appointments

Molly's Musings

The Ride



As I sit down and ponder the final words I will write to you as the Director of Christian Education, I wonder (as I always do) what truth God is asking me to impart. Spiritually, it's been a wild year for me. The push and pull that comes with discerning a call to a new ministry is well...a ride. As a result, my heart is all over the map concerning what to write.

As it turns out, this call I have received to become a Director of Campus Ministry began on a warm September day with, of all things, a run with my precious friend, Ashley Mueller. On June 12th, almost 9 months later, God answered my prayers through Scripture and a vision.

I had gotten up early to seriously pray about the promptings I had been receiving from the Holy Spirit regarding campus ministry. Despite my efforts to dismiss my heart's passion for college students, God's pursuit had intensified. I found myself in the book of Acts reading the story about Philip and the Ethiopian in chapter 8. If you don't know the story, I hope you'll read it but here's the gist. Philip, a disciple, finds is traveling the desert road from Jerusalem to Gaza when he stumbles upon an important Ethiopian official sitting in his chariot attempting to read the book of Isaiah. Philip RUNS up to the chariot and asks the man, "Do you understand what you are reading?" The Ethiopian responds, "How can I unless someone explains it to me?" In those moments I pictured a lost college student I know sitting in that very chariot imploring me to explain the words of life to her. This was my call and as I sat in the early morning darkness, I was flooded with all the situations and events that had led me to that very moment. It was like seeing the pieces of a puzzle magically come together to reveal a beautiful picture which

was once concealed. What had been hazy came into focus, and I knew that I knew that I knew God was calling me out of Christian Education and into campus ministry.

The details and events that have occurred since that June morning have been, in my opinion, miraculous. Since space is limited, I can only summarize the past few months with my overriding sentiment, "Praise God! To Him be all the glory!"

I close with a final exhortation. God is alive. He is working and calling you too. My story is nothing extraordinary or exceptional. In this very day, He is leading you and guiding you. We ALL have a call on our lives. We all have work to do for Him. So my prayer for you today is that you will search the promptings of the Holy Spirit. Where has He been leading you? How has He been preparing you to do His work? Will you risk it all to obey Him? Will you relinquish your personal agenda in order to submit to His will? Will you pour out your life to accomplish His purposes? After all, "You are not your own. You were bought with a price. Therefore honor God with you body." I'm praying each of us will do just that. It's a great adventure. I've had a taste of it, and let me assure you, it's not just worth the ride, it's the ONLY ride!

To the praise of His glorious Name,

Molly

Library News

Nothing has brought interested adults to the library like Norman's "going to Depth Sermons" and no one has stirred up more interest than the Helen Keller and Anne Sullivan sermon in July. As a result a copy of Keller's autobiography and the DVD of the "Miracle Worker" are now available in the library.

If we had had the list of potential seekers, we might have featured other; likely VIP personalities. The Imitation of Christ copy will circulate among readers for a while as will Mother Teresa items and Catherine Marshall's. Something New. Please let the library know when titles are being encouraged. We have a broad collection and just might already have special material about and by special people to meet the demand earlier.

Music Notes

from Randy Sheets, Director of Music Ministries and Organist

Reflections on Music and Worship— “Discipling Music”

Persons who know me well know that I dislike the current practice of using words as verbs when they were previously used only as nouns—an example is the way “impact” is now used; we say that something “impacts” us in a certain way. And so it is after careful consideration that I title this essay “Discipling Music”. The phrase comes from a book that had a great impact on me several years ago (it “impacted me!”), and to which I have recently returned—*Discipling Music Ministry: Twenty-first Century Directions* by Calvin M. Johansson.

In the book, Johansson deals with many of the core issues of music and worship and leads readers to examine our assumptions about worship and the role of music in worship. Its basic premise is that a primary function of music in worship should be that it helps to form us into ever more mature spiritual disciples of Christ—music in worship should be music that “disciples” us.

The belief that music should “disciple” us is radically different from prevailing ideas about music. In general, we believe that music is to be enjoyed—we only want to listen to music that activates our musical pleasure center—and thus we are “consumers” of music—shopping, surfing, and turning the dials in search of music that provides pleasure. We ask “What is wrong with that? Should it be any different in church? Shouldn’t music in worship make us feel good, move us, uplift and inspire us?”

Johansson’s premise, which is not new, is that music’s role in worship is much deeper and richer than providing quick, easy pleasure, inspiration, or other desirable emotions. The title of the book names that role—music that is included in worship should have certain characteristics that help us move closer and closer to spiritual maturity—it should be music that “disciples us.” The premise that music can help shape our character and behavior is not new. From antiquity to the present, great thinkers, saints, and theologians have affirmed that music is powerful and that

it is not only a means of self-expression, but a force that assists in forming us and shaping our character, our worldview, and our behavior. For example, the ancient Greeks believed that young men should be trained both in athletics and in music—to do otherwise would create a serious imbalance in the personality and behavior of the men and of society. Music written in different scales (modes) had different effects on humans, and could be used to strengthen respective aspects of one’s character. For example, the Greeks believed that music written in one scale will soften one’s cruelty while music written in a different scale will strengthen one’s courage; effectively balancing the types of music performed in a society would help to create harmonious individuals and a harmonious society.

If music can help shape us, the natural question for Christians in worship is “what kinds of music have the ability to disciple us and what kinds of music might put up barriers to spiritual maturation?” Johansson has strong ideas about this, some which I agree with only in part. I believe that making value judgments about musical styles is a difficult task; we cannot glibly pronounce that *this* music is necessarily good and *that* music is necessarily bad. In making any proclamation of this sort, we must beware of the arrogance of personal preference, which is a particular danger in speaking of music, which evokes such strong feelings and opinions. No type of music, in small doses, is likely to cause harm or good. I find it helpful to think in broad terms about the worship and musical life of a congregation, to try to describe its essence, its character, its ethos. The essential character of a congregation at worship, over an extended period of time, is our concern.

For the completion of this article, see our church website <www.shpc.us/music/reflections-on-music-and-worship> or request a print-out from Randy Sheets. Read about the kinds of worship music that can inhibit and help our spiritual maturation and about the implications of these ideas for us at Spring Hill Presbyterian Church.



Do You need Prayer?????

The **prayer team** at Spring Hill meets each Tuesday from 6 to 7 p.m. in the Bride’s Room to pray for the needs of our members. We pray for each member on a rotating basis but if you have a special need, please make that need known through the prayer request cards located in the ritual of friendship book at the end of each aisle. We will also have cards available on the tables as you enter the sanctuary. We want to pray for you. Do you want us to pray for a need anonymously? We will do that too. God knows your need. Anyone and everyone is welcome to come and pray with us.

From the Committees...

THE SERVICE COMMITTEE

THE SERVICE CENTER. The Service Committee of SHPC administers the church's Benevolence Fund to almost 20 agencies in our community. The Service Center of Catholic Social Services is one of the largest. The Service Center, located at 555 Dauphin Street provides emergency assistance for basic survival needs in times of crises. Any family or individual can receive help at the Service Center regardless of race, creed, age or gender. Trained caseworkers interview claimants at the Center or in their homes and verify their need to determine the assistance that is needed. Collaboration with other agencies, faith-based and community groups creates a necessary network in responding to needs that the Service Center cannot address alone. The underlying efforts to decrease the effects of poverty in Mobile must be a joint effort.

The Service Center's annual programs such as Tools for Schools, Angel Tree/Christmas Wish List and Santa's Workshop help meet the children's needs for basic school supplies and gifts for children and the elderly at Christmas time.

The Curiosity Shop at 1900 Government Street sells almost new and used items. All proceeds go to the Service Center. It is worth a visit.

Benefit for the Service Center

A benefit wine tasting for the Service Center—This event will be held on Thursday, October 22, 2009, 5p.m.-9p.m. The proceeds will solely benefit The Service Center. The regular tickets are \$45.00 a piece and provide access to all tastings of food and wine. There will be over 100 wines and 20 restaurants represented. There will also be a silent auction for some fine wines and selected pieces of art. For tickets and information, contact Linda Fletcher at 476-8048 or by email at linda Fletcher1@excite.com.

THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

PLEDGES received to date were \$627,500 versus budgeted to date of \$669,700. We already have a deficit budget of \$105,000 so it is very important that we maintain the level pledged so we do not dip too deeply into our cash reserves. The additional 42,200 we are behind in our giving taxes those reserves God has so graciously blessed us with.

We know not everyone pledges on a weekly or monthly basis and realize that December has always traditionally been our largest month of giving by far. Still, if we can all examine our pledges against our giving to date and if we are behind, attempt to catch up if at all possible. It would be very helpful. God has blessed Spring Hill abundantly and we can all see the Holy Spirit at work in His church and in all of our lives. For that we say thanks be to God.

Rick True

LECTIONARY FOR THE LORD'S DAY/SEPTEMBER 2009

- 6 23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
PROV. 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23; PS. 125
JAMES 2:1-10 (11-13) 14-17; MARK 7:24-37
- 13 24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
PROV. 1:20-33; PS. 19; JAMES 3:1-12
MARK 8:27-38
- 20 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
PROV. 31:10-31; PS. 1; JAMES 3:13-4:3, 7-8A
MARK 9:30-37
- 27 26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
ESTH. 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22; PS. 124
JAMES 5:13-20; MARK 9:38-50

We Share in Sorrow

The prayers and sympathy of the congregation are with Sharon Scott in the death of her father, Johnny Franks, on July 19; with Jo Chateau in the death of her brother, Charles Vann, on July 22; with Eva Macon in the death of her brother, Franklin Roberts, on July 24; with Janet Clarke in the death of her mother, Martha Draime, on July 27; with JainAnn Lane and Beth Sessoms in the death of their mother and grandmother on July 27 in Newton, NC; with the family of Frankie Jernigan in her death on August 4; with Clayton Pennington and Chris Pennington on the death of her husband and his father, Lloyd Pennington, on August 12.

Thank You For Your Loving Kindness

You will never know how much Anne, Chris and I appreciated your cards, notes and calls during the sad time of the stillbirth of their first child, Maggie. We felt surrounded by your love and prayers.

Mary Hazen Braswell



WE REJOICE! with Bruce and Barbara Maynard in the celebration of their 60th Wedding Anniversary on July 31.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Presbyterian Women begin activities for 2009-2010 on September 2 with the meeting of the Coordinating Team at 9:30 a.m. in the Conference Room.

Circle meetings begin Wednesday, September 9 as follows:

#1 at 10:00 a.m. at the home of Sylvia Weinard
(1601 Woodspointe Circle)

#2 TBA

#3 at 9:30 a.m. in the Parlor

#4 at 7:15 in the Parlor

If you are not yet involved in Presbyterian Women (PW) this is a great time to become involved. There are four circles (groups) in our church that meet the 2nd Wednesday of each month (one at night). Each circle is unique in their commitments to our church and community, but share common bonds of study and participation in PW and fellowship.

Circle #1 collects food items and paper goods for the Ronald McDonald House food pantry as well as cleaning and laundry supplies to assist the guest residents. Co-chairs are Mary Hazen Braswell and Janie Sims.

Circle #2 – Mulherin Home (1) Host two parties (Christmas and Easter Egg Hunt) (2) assist with projects when requested and (3) collects household items for residents when needed. They also correspond and send cards and goodie boxes to college students. Co-chairs are Corinne March and Nancy McCrummen.

Circle #3 decorates the sanctuary for Christmas and Easter and deliver plants to shut-ins on Valentine's Day. They also help defray the cost of outdoor plantings at the church. Chair is Cassie Steele.

Circle #4 meets at night and co-chaired by Ellen Pitman and Edith Abrams. They collect funds for the Presbyterian Home for Children at Christmas.

Presbytery Fall Spiritual Retreat

THE PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN OF SOUTH ALABAMA PRESBYTERY are having their Fall Spiritual Retreat on Saturday, September 12, at Stockton Presbyterian Church. The cost is \$10.00 and this includes lunch that the ladies of Stockton are preparing for us. It begins with registration from 9:00 to 9:30 and will conclude at 2:30 after celebrating communion together. It is a lovely time to get to know other incredible women of faith in our area. Please consider spending your Saturday with us! We can take the church bus or go in cars together. There are registration forms outside the Fellowship Hall in the main building. Our guest speaker is a lady from the Presbyterian Children's Home who will share some exciting testimonies of life there. If you have any questions please feel free to call Ann Jung – 344-4908.

Other dates:

October 14 Fall Luncheon/Dinner:
Honorary Life Membership presented

March 19, 2010 Spring Gathering at First Presbyterian Church, Andalusia, AL

June 3-5, 2010 Synod of Living Waters Gathering, Huntsville, AL

July 21-23, 2010 AL/MS Women's Conference at SHPC



Got Photos/Stories?

We need 'content' for the newsletter and for the website. If you have photos of recent activities, meetings, classes, we'd love to share them as well as a short article or story about the event. Call the church office or email mroot@usouthal.edu for more information.

Memorials have been received for:

Becky Anderson
Martha Draime
Bertie Pierce
Frankie Jernigan
William Holdefer
Eleanor Curran
Sandra House
Eleanor Rogers
Mavis Widney Shreve
Lloyd Pennington

From:

Charles and Linda Langston
Dick and Harriett Pennington
Paul and Dorothy Otterbach
David and Genie Blough
Roy and Sue Martino
Dr. Edwin and Shirley Thomas
Regions Springhill Branch Employees
Gustava Drumm
Sue and Billy McLean
Lavonia White
Chris and Trisha Longcrier
Betty Silvey
Buck and Joelyne Trehern
Edith Cox
Alex and Molly Lankford
Tuthill Square Foundation
T. A. Horst, Jr.
Marion and Malinda McMurphy
Hilary Cabaniss
Adelaide Woodruff
Raymond Dilner
Camille Woodruff
William Woodruff
Joseph Woodruff
Joe and Jeanne Croom
Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Meaher
William and Alix Hardie
Mr. and Mrs. Hal Daugherty Jr.
Dr. and Mrs. B. Fred Bodie
Erin Dawkins
Marilyn and Stova McFadden
Ben and Martha Harris
Jim and Eddie McConnell



David and Jana Ladner
Dr. and Mrs. John S. McMurphy
Dr. Pamela W. Hanak
Dr. and Mrs. Edmund C. Dyas
Mr. and Mrs. Larry Seamon
Van Koppersmith and Automotive Computer Services
Dr. and Mrs. G. C. Oswalt, Jr.
Blue Rents – W. Grant Harkness
Roger and Angela Payne
Smith, Dukes & Buckalew, L.L.P.
Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Jackson, Jr.
Winthrop M. Hallett III
Austin Mulherin
Sharron Luce
Missy and Don Foose
David and Sarah Sikes
Maxine Congleton
Bob and Jimmie Hatcher
John and Katherine Mincy
Edward Kerr
Joe and Vilma Croom
Lyons, Pipes and Cook
Debra Long
Neill and Bryan Delaney
Maureen and Spencer Frost
Bill and Midge Jacobs Krieg
Peggy and Blacksher White-Spunner
Nan and Joe Costello
Helen Braswell Rand
Richard Weavil
Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Marsh
Harriet Nihart
Robert L. Coleman III
Imogene Weavil
Alice and Jerry Harrell
Thomas and Jan Hollingsworth
Jim and Stacy Newman
Carl and Ann Faulk
Sharon, Jim and the Mattei Family
Rosalind and Jim Arendall
Bradley Goodyear Smith
Kelly and Carol Croom
Paul and Beryl Trawick
Kathy and Ramsey Stuart

Honoraria have been received for:

Norman McCrummen, Ann and Forrest Wilson

From:

Janie Sims, Ted and Marcia Autterson, Bob and Jimmie Hatcher,
The Hollingsworth Family, Sara Long, Betty Jackson
St. Luke's Episcopal Church

It's a party for the people of God's Creation;
Let's call it our CE Celebration!
On September the 13th we'll begin the new year;
We'll have breakfast and coffee and plenty of cheer.
So come and eat and celebrate;
9:30 a.m. is the time - so don't be late!

**You're invited to
CE Celebration!
Sunday, September 13th
Bullard Building
9:30 a.m.**



At 9:30 a.m. we will gather to share a meal together.

At 10:00 all youth and children will be dismissed with their teachers to go to their classrooms for a fun activity.

The adults will remain in the gym and hear about the many different Adult CE offerings for the fall from the various Adult CE teachers.

Please make reservations if you plan to attend.

Sign up sheets are located in the main hallway on the tables just outside of the Sanctuary doors.

You can also make reservations by calling the church office (342-1550).

Adult Christian Education (CE) offerings for the fall are many! More details will be published in the fall G.O.L.D. Catalog and presented on Sunday, September 13th at the CE Celebration Breakfast. Make plans to attend!

SUNDAY MORNING CLASSES:

Bible Discovery – Christian community
Corinthians Study
Current Issues
Current Scriptures
Freshman Discovery
Learning the Living Word
Pathfinders – John Piper's "Don't Waste Your Life"
Revised Common Lectionary

BIBLE STUDIES:

Men Study Sunday Night from 5-6pm
Women Study Sunday Night from 5-6pm
Women Study Wednesday Morning from 9:15 – 11:30 am

CURRENT SCRIPTURES: "Stewardship"

9/6/09 Matthew 6:33
9/13/09 No class...CE Celebration
9/20/09 Luke 16:13
9/27/09 Proverbs 3:9
10/4/09 Hebrews 13:5
10/11/09 Philippians 4:19

Reports, Schedules and Opportunities

1st Thursday Luncheon—September 2009

New Programs. The new school year begins a new series of luncheon programs Thursday, September 3, as the First Thursday Lunch Bunch gathers in Fellowship Hall for an haute cuisine midday meal prepared by our own renowned Pat Stoll. Historically this group focused primarily on drawing retired congregants together for a meal, a program and socialization. But that is history and now is upon us.

All are invited. The developers for the luncheon program want to expand the project beyond a set age group and want it to be more inclusive of the cross section of adult ages in our congregation. To that end consider this an invitation to any and all persons (ladies and gents) who can schedule a free hour at Thursday lunch time – the first Thursday of each month September to May – to come together for lunch and a planned program of community interest. You are especially encouraged to bring along a neighbor or friend and transportation can be arranged for you when needed.

Guest speaker. The first program of the season will be given by Amy Beech, an historian associate with the Mobile Public Library. Her presentation is entitled **“A Taste of Change—History of Cooking and Cookbooks in Mobile”**. She will compare historical Mobile recipes from the 1880’s and 1890’s to their modern counterparts using local cookbooks and family histories. So beginner and seasoned cooks, historians, and native Mobilians, this is a program you don’t want to miss Thursday, September 3, at 11:45 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. Call the church office to secure a reservation.

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Don't Forget!

We will return to our regular schedule on Sunday, September 13: Worship at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. Christian Education Classes at 9:30 a.m.

Mark your calendar now!
Our semi-annual
Blood Drive
will be on
Sunday,
October 11.

Pictorial Directory coming up!

“GOT PICTURES?”

Do you have any photographs of recent church activities? We would like to see your photos for possible inclusion in the new pictorial directory. Prints or digital images are welcomed. Let the church office know if you would be willing to share your photos and you will be contacted.

Are you unable to have your portrait taken for the new pictorial directory? We can include your own photo and/or a family member’s in the directory.

Contact Jeff Stoll at 610-4289 for details.

Girls Weekend Out!

The Girls' Night Out Committee is planning an exciting weekend of fun and fellowship at Water Color (beaches of South Walton, FL) October 2-4. If you'd like to hold your spot please send a check to the church for \$60 made out to SHPC.

(write Women's Retreat on envelope).

Space is limited - so send your check today!

For more information contact:

Ann Weinacker—mamaweinacker@yahoo.com

Amy Pipes—swp5@bellsouth.net

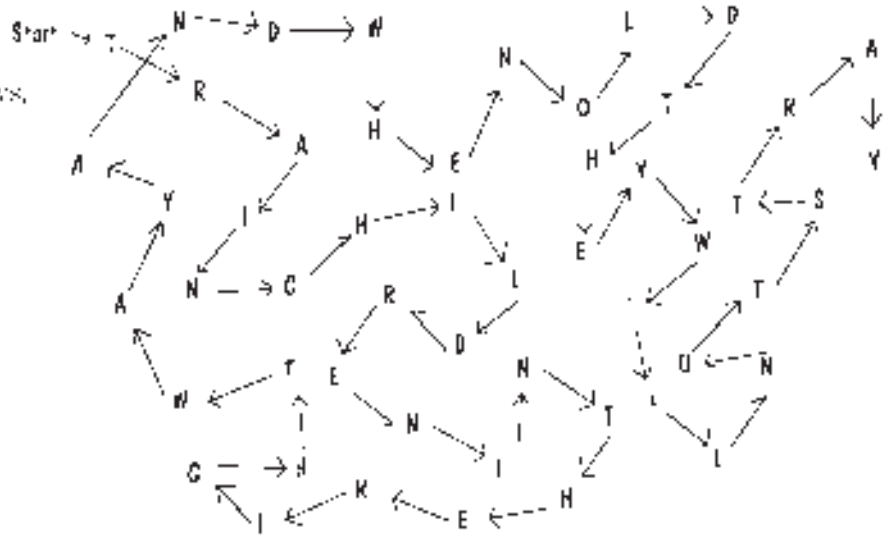
Meagher Whigham—smeags123@aol.com

Julie McLeod—juliemcleod14@yahoo.com



Hidden Message

Start with I and, following the arrows, write each letter in the blanks.



Proverbs 22:6

www.churchsupply.com

Supper Clubs! Time to Sign up for Next Year

Supper Clubs are a wonderful opportunity to get to know other members of the congregation. They are groups of no more than 10 people who meet on a regular basis to enjoy fellowship and a meal. Each year persons who want to be in a Supper Club are assigned to a different group so that they can become better acquainted with other Church members.

Don't delay...Join today!!! You'll be glad you did.

If you have questions, please call Meagher Whigham (344-4202) or Margaret Mowry (634-0093). Please complete the form below and place it in the offering plate or return it to the church office by Monday, September 21

PLEASE NOTE: Even if you are currently in a supper club, you must sign up again.

Supper Club Sign Up Sheet

(Due by 9/21)

Name: _____

Address: _____

E-mail address: _____

Phone: _____ Alternate #: _____

Regular Worship Schedule
Resumes
Sunday, September 13
Worship
8:30 and 11:00 a.m.
Christian Education classes
9:30 a.m.

The summer schedule will continue through Sunday, September 6. We will return to our regular schedule on Sunday, September 13.

Regular Worship Schedule
Resumes
Sunday, September 13

[www/shpc.us](http://www.shpc.us)

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Springhill Presbyterian Church
10 Westminster Way
Mobile AL, 36608



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