

Volume 19
July and August 2020

The Newsletter

New Wappetaw Presbyterian Church

New Wappetaw
Presbyterian Church
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Minister
Rev. Steve Souther
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Minister's Message

Dear Friends,

The feeling that came to us in the spring of 2020 about church had never crossed our minds. Who would have imagined – the church that always tried to increase attendance was suddenly saying, “You can’t come.”

The telling of Presbyterians they can’t do something seems always to guarantee that they will do it. But, this time, the doors were locked. The feeling of longing came to us like nothing we had experienced. There was no possible way for us to go to church!

More than anything we wanted to go to church, join in the music, listen to the sermon, and pray together. We wanted to worship but were told it was not to be done. Never in our lives did church seem so good. Church was, however, off limits. Here came the announcement: “The church is closed! You can’t have your wedding, and you can’t have your funeral; you can’t even come for Easter. I’m sorry – the church is closed.” The next feeling was regret – regretting all the times that I was too tired from work or something else and I skipped worship. I had taken it for granted. I could wait for a time when it was more convenient. Yes, I can do it later. I will go to church then to take part in missions and support other Christians. Yes, I can do it later.

During this time of soul-searching we have come to a better understanding of what church means. It is hard to put to words, for we can’t explain the sweet smell of the pews and the hymnbooks that aren’t found elsewhere. The feeling of security and well-being is something you can’t explain. Here, too, is the storehouse of memories from our childhood – the pictures of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, Daniel in the lion’s den, Shadrack and A Bed We Go (Of course it is Abednego), and you find the story of the Fiery Furnace in the Book of Daniel, chapter three.

Well, you can come now; church has opened its doors in this Covid-19 time. It has been a time of anxiety that has receded some. The time has been likened to the coming of a bad relative who would not go home. The church doors have been open these last two weeks, and it gives me great pleasure to see members in the pews. I have missed you so much. We encourage all to take great care. The elders are going to great lengths to make sure the church is safe each week. Those who are vulnerable should take great care. A speaker has been set up on the front porch. You can stay outside on a fold out chair if you prefer. Also, you can worship at home using ZOOM technology.

We are working very hard to make the church as accessible as possible. We know, more than ever, how important it is.

God bless you, and I love you. Steve

Christian Sympathy: The congregation extends Christian sympathy to the family of Jerry Lee Hicks on his death on June 19, 2020. Funeral services were held at the New Wappetaw cemetery on Saturday, June 27th.

Remember these members and friends in prayer: Hugh Wilson, Bob Aldrich, Dickie Hills, Bruce Rector, David Marcinak, Ciera McKnight, Pam McConnell, Debbie Hattaway, Scotty Johnson, Charlotte Morse, Chris McClellan, Graham Solomons, Oran Baldwin, Dewey McClellan, Wayne Potter, Charles Sellers, Arabella Smart, Lora Renero, Susan Kobrovsky, JP, Charlton Leland, Lucia Jaycocks, Sabastion, James Avenger, Sandra G. Read.

July Birthdays

July 2 – Beatrice “Bootsie” Baldwin

July 5 – Cameron White

July 6 – Annie Jayne McClellan

July 7 – Hayley Culpepper

July 12 – Emily Sexton

July 15 – Aaron McClure

July 16 – Scott Dudley, Townsend Warren

July 17 – Ned Haynie

July 21 – Katherine Jones

July 22 – Malcolm Baldwin

July 27 – Jerry Sexton

July 28 – Glenn Racine

July 29 – Sally Racine

July 30 – Hayward Nettles, Jr.

August Birthdays

August 2 – Thomas Emory Porter, Marlow Small,
Jackson McClellan

August 3 – Drew Allison, Beverly Bonner,
Tommy Morrison

August 5 – Callie Miller, Martha Zierden

August 7 – Thomas Porter

August 8 – Joanna Tisdale McClellan

August 9 – Harry Watson

August 13 – Daisy Marcinak

August 17 – Cody Allen

August 21 – John Horres

August 22 – Pete Kornack

August 23 – Olivia Williams Black,
Penny Bruns

August 25 – Walter Bonner

August 26 – Ellis Sellers

August 27 – Christian Lofton

August 31 – Larry Davis

From the Session –

Budget and Finance -- Income over the last three months has been adequate to cover expenses. Continued strong giving will be needed.

Worship – Open worship in the sanctuary has worked well for three weeks and will continue – with great precautions to prevent infections. Services will also be continued on-line by zoom technology.

Rev. Souther requested three weeks of vacation. This was approved by a unanimous vote, the session knowing that he has put in much extra effort since the Covid-19 pandemic began.

Christian Education – The week at Montreat Conference Center for the youths was cancelled because of the pandemic. Annual Bible School will not be held. Sunday School meetings are presently cancelled but meetings of youth group once a month and of adult class three times a month may be resumed in the Fellowship Hall.

Missions – The annual Hands of Christ Distribution in our church will not take place because of the pandemic. The management committee is arranging for clothes to be distributed to children through local schools, and our members will be asked to obtain the items and deliver them to the schools.

Cemetery -- Session approved having an Eagle Scout candidate do an extensive cleaning of the Old Wappetaw cemetery grounds. He will have proper supervision.

Workdays are to be arranged at our Presbyterian Cemetery in McClellanville.

Resumption of worship in the Sanctuary

At a stated meeting on Sunday, May 27th, session approved reopening in-person worship in the New Wappetaw sanctuary – with abundant safety precautions – beginning on June 7th.



Early Arrivals. The pews are set apart. All wear masks, cleanse hands, have temperature checked
All has gone well in the subsequent four weeks. Presentation by zoom technology continues as well.

New Wappetaw’s Historic Silver Tankard



Signed --- D. Webb

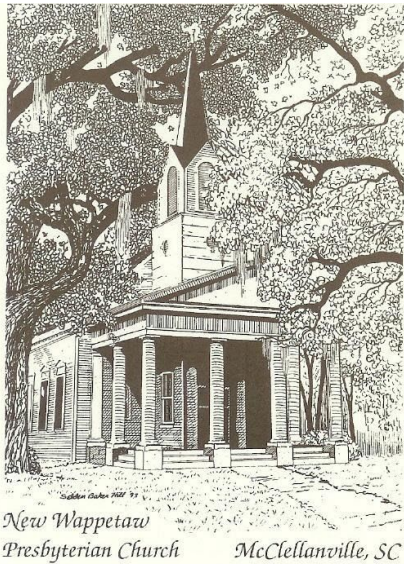


Notice the frowning “Mask Terminus” at the handle end

When “Old Wappetaw Church “ (The Wappetaw Independent Congregational Church) formally closed in 1877 the church’s communion linen and silver service pieces were given to New Wappetaw Presbyterian Church, founded in 1872. Presbyterian ministers had served Old Wappetaw over its last 100 years. A remnant of the linen is displayed on our sanctuary wall, near the American flag.

The tankard was made between 1749 and 1751 by William Wilkins, a goldsmith who worked in Charlestown. This piece and two silver cups were given to Old Wappetaw by members of the Webb and Hendrick families. Terminus masks were common but were more frequently cherubic than grotesque.

Thanks to The Charleston Museum and Grahame Long for these photographs – made when the silver was displayed at that museum in 2004. New Wappetaw’s silver is kept safe in a bank in Georgetown.



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Andrew (“Binks”) DuPre



At worship on Sunday, June 7th Rev. Souther presented a Bible to Binks in recognition of his graduation from Crown Leadership Academy in Mt. Pleasant. He plans to Attend Charleston Southern University and study Supply Line Management.

Services, Fellowship Gatherings, and Meetings At New Wappetaw

**Sunday worship services in the sanctuary and by
ZOOM technology will continue**
Adult Sunday school – will continue by email

These will resume as soon as possible
**First Sunday Sunday School – 10:00 A.M. – First
Sundays**
Soup luncheons -- First Wednesdays at noon
Weekly Bible Study -- Wednesdays at 1PM
Circle Meetings
Men’s Suppers