



The Little Mountaineer

Little Mountain Presbyterian Church

Spring 2024

The Pastor's Corner

I would like to share with you a very special poem. It is a very appropriate reflection on the event and season of Easter as well as spring. Hope you enjoy.

Blessings,
Darrell

Resurrection by *Mary Ann Bernard*

Long, long, long ago;
Way before this winter's snow
First fell upon these weathered fields;
I used to sit and watch and feel
And dream of how the spring would be,
When through the winter's stormy sea
She'd raise her green and growing head,
Her warmth would resurrect the dead.
Long before this winter's snow
I dreamt of this day's sunny glow
And thought somehow my pain would pass
With winter's pain, and peace like grass
Would simply grow. (But) The pain's not gone.
It's still as cold and hard and long
As lonely pain has ever been,
It cuts so deep and fear within.
Long before this winter's snow
I ran from pain, looked high and low
For some fast way to get around
Its hurt and cold. I'd have found,
If I had looked at what was there,
That things don't follow fast or fair.
That life goes on, and times do change,
And grass does grow despite life's pains.
Long before this winter's snow
I thought that this day's sunny glow,
The smiling children and growing things
And flowers bright were brought by spring.
Now, I know the sun does shine,
That children smile, and from the dark, cold, grime
A flower comes. It groans, yet sings,
And through its pain, its peace begins.

From Rueben Job and Norman Shawchuck, eds., *A Guide To Prayer* (Nashville: The Upper Room, p. 144).

Upcoming Events

March 28th
Maundy Thursday
Service at 6:30 p.m.

March 31st
Easter Sunday
Sunrise Service at 7 a.m.,
Worship at 11 a.m.
(No Sunday School);
One Great Hour of Sharing
offering received

April 13th
Spring Fling from 4 to 7 p.m.
at LMPC

May 12th
Mother's Day offering

May 19th
Pentecost Sunday

June 4-7th
Vacation Bible School

June 16th
Father's Day offering

Christian Education and Youth

Souper Bowl Sunday was held on February 11. The Youth took up an offering of \$546.00 to be split between UCMAC & Meals on Wheels, which was matched by the Mission and Outreach committee for a total donation of \$1,092.00 (\$546 to each charity)!

We had a Youth Night on March 8. Eight young people attended. They made their own pizzas, Addison led a devotional, and we had lots of fun playing pictionary. To end the evening we tried out our new snow cone machine!

On March 23, we had an Easter Egg Hunt for our children. We had five children to attend. The children had fun hunting 196 eggs filled with candy! Michelle led the Resurrection Eggs Bible Lesson. We had a special guest, the Easter Bunny! He gave out prizes and books about the Life of Jesus and helped hide the eggs. Thanks to Ryan Green for being our bunny! Also thanks to Addison Martin for helping hide eggs and always being so willing to help!

The Youth participated in Palm Sunday by carrying in Palms during the choral opening of worship.

VBS is planned for June 4-7 from 6 to 8 p.m. Our church, Long Cane, and Abbeville Presbyterian have been having VBS together for the last two years and will continue working together this year too. LMPC will host VBS this year. We have had two planning meetings thus far. Our theme is "God's Love Around the World". The curriculum uses the Olympics as a springboard and centers on the Apostle Paul as the original missionary.

Our upcoming event is the Spring Fling on April 13 from 4 to 7 p.m. We will be working with The Fellowship Committee to plan a great time of fun and fellowship for all ages.



LMPC Youth enjoy snow cones from our new snow cone machine!



Ready to hunt eggs with the Easter Bunny!



Everyone listens to a special Easter lesson told through Resurrection Eggs.

Fellowship

We are excited to partner with the Christian Education committee to host our Spring Fling once again! We will have food, games and fellowship on Saturday, April 13 from 4 to 7 p.m. Bring a friend, and a drink or dessert, and we hope to see you there!

Worship

The Worship Committee has been busy getting ready for Easter Services: Maundy Thursday with communion on March 28 at 6:30 p.m., Easter Sunrise Service at 7 a.m. on the mountain (weather permitting), and Easter worship at 11 a.m. There will be no Sunday School on Easter Sunday.

Presbyterian Women

The Presbyterian Women will celebrate Gifts of Women Sunday on April 7 during worship. Each part of our worship service will be led by a different woman from our congregation, with a special message from Gayle Beaudrot. We hope to see you there!

We are planning our annual Birthday Celebration for Tuesday, May 21 @ 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. All ladies are invited to attend, whether you are the member of a Circle or not. We will invite ladies from Upper Long Cane and Abbeville Presbyterian Churches to join us.

The Presbyterian Women recently purchased a warming cabinet for the fellowship hall to keep food warm. It has been used a few times already for recent events and proven to be very useful. The Women also purchased new rubber outdoor mats for the sanctuary and fellowship hall entrances.

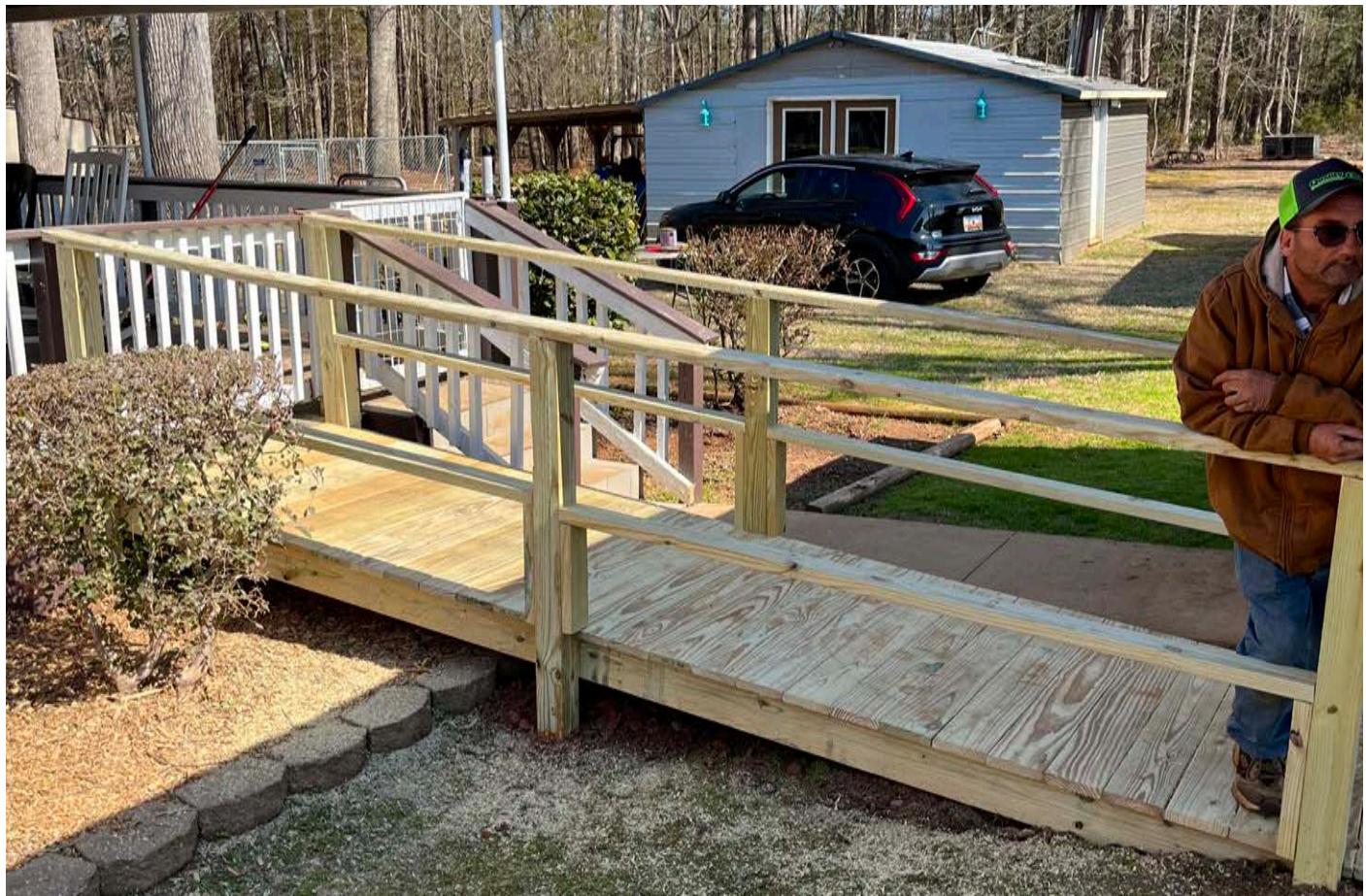
Presbyterian Men

LMPC Men meet on the third Tuesday each month at 6 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. A meal is provided. All men are welcome. We are doing a mission project in cooperation with Anderson Interfaith Ministries by providing hygiene care kits to be distributed to the homeless. If you are interested in donating a care kit, contact Tommy Ferguson.

The men will provide the annual breakfast after Sunrise Service again this year.

Administration, Personnel & Finance

As most of you may be aware the APF committee have been assigned to develop and implement a new website for LMPC. After much discussion we are underway on that project. A site has been selected and we have begun the process of designing the new website. We hope once we are complete, that we will have pictures, contact info and a page on events. We are hoping to have links to the Facebook page and maybe other links to sites that are relevant to our church. The site may have some limitations on video length due to server storage amounts but the hope is that folks will have a way to keep up with things that are going on and a means for those interested in our church to see if this could be their new home. Once we get the bones of the site developed we will bring it before full Session to give the thumbs up vote and we will let everyone know once it is up and running. If you have any suggestions please let a Session member know. We will see if we can make it happen. And a shout out to our "helper" on this – you know who you are.



Two ramps recently built in Abbeville by Abbeville Christian Men.

Mission and Outreach

During the season of Lent, the Mission and Outreach committee highlighted a service opportunity each Sunday. Local ministries UCMAC, Meals on Wheels, Camp Fellowship, Faith Home, Meg's House and Angel Tree all have great needs for donations and volunteer help. If you are interested in serving one of these charities, contact Tara Stone or Diana Green for more information.

Donations were made during each month as follows:

January:

- \$600.00 to the South Sudan Ministry of Trinity Presbytery

February:

- \$273.00 for Souper Bowl matching funds to Meals on Wheels
- \$273.00 for Souper Bowl matching funds to UCMAC
- \$600.00 to Timothy Two Project International (a ministry of Asher and Samar Din in Pakistan)

March:

- \$750.00 for support to our missionary, Pam Schubert, in Turkey
- \$750.00 to Frontier Fellowship for Darfur Outreach

UCMAC Food Pantry Donations

UCMAC has three community food pantries serving those meeting the eligibility guidelines in Abbeville County: Abbeville, Calhoun Falls and Lowndesville. Typically, LMPC donates whatever is needed to help fill the shelves at the UCMAC Food Pantries; lately this has been fruit, but we have also donated vegetables, peanut butter, jelly, and other pantry staples in the past.

In the first quarter of 2024, LMPC collected \$282.00 in donations and delivered to UCMAC about \$200.00 worth of canned beans and corn. We also delivered \$200.00 worth of canned fruit from the last quarter of 2023 in January.

Prayer Concerns

LMPC Members:

Brenda and Justin Barnes,
Claire Whaley, family of Bill
Stone, family of Alex Hartsell,
Mary Saylor, Jimmy and Edna
Ellis, Charles and Carole
Dawson, Bob Martin, Jeanette
Ware, Betty McClain

Family and Friends:

Christiana Johnson, Cheri Fisher
Mann, Trey Fisher, T.J. Fisher,
Brenda Vaughn, George Brock,
Tommy and Jean Fleming,,
Sammy Hall, Jimmy Faulkner,
Billy Fleming, Angel Ownby,
Reed Gordon, Dede Grant,
Charles Shipman, Roddy Gray,
Sherri Ellis, Ovid Crenshaw,
Cornelia Bowen, Danny Crook

Session Members for 2024

Pat Boyd (Christian Edu.)
Ronald Creswell (B&G)
Daniel Ferguson (Worship)
Tommy Ferguson (Worship)
Diana Green (M&O)
Anthony Martin (B&G)
Michelle Martin (Christian Edu.)
Cindy Price (Fellowship)
Sue Poteat (Fellowship)
Ernie Ruddock (APF)
Joseph Stone (APF)
Tara Stone (M&O)