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PERMIT #114

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

400 West Main Street
Laurens, South Carolina 29360

(864) 984-6561; www.firstpreslaurens.org

The Rev. Dr. Frank M. McCracken, Pastor and Head of Staff
870-318-5715

First Presbyterian Church is a worshiping community of disciples of Jesus Christ seeking to welcome, equip, transform, serve, and witness as a family of faith.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Easter Lilies

We will not have Easter lilies in the sanctuary this year.

The Imani Milele Choir of Uganda is in a difficult situation. All of their upcoming performances have been cancelled. This trip took much planning and preparation for these precious little ones to come to the US. The trip is very important to them for raising money to support their opportunity for descent housing and education. Not being able to receive the love offerings and sell their merchandise will be a real financial hit after traveling so far.

The group is currently at Camp Fellowship, away from exposure to the public. They would like for me to help sell their CDs. I was blessed with a sample of their beautiful music yesterday. The \$15 CD will bring you much joy during this difficult time for all and be valuable support for these children.

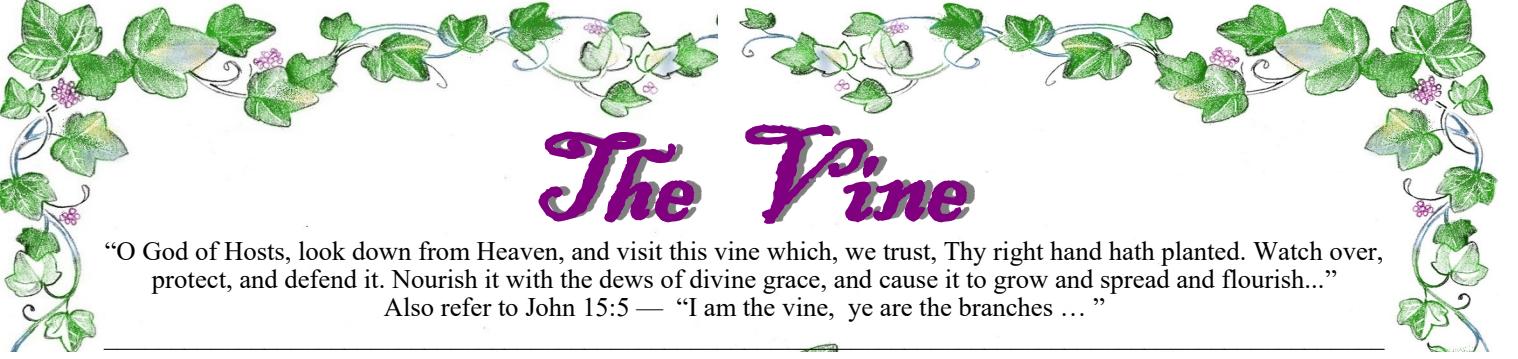
Please text or call me at 864-981-3047 if you would like for me to get you one. I will work out getting it to you.

Mary Fortune



If anyone has grocery or pharmacy needs and is sick or unable to get out, please call Teresa Horton (684-8811) or Mary Fortune (981-3047).





The Vine

"O God of Hosts, look down from Heaven, and visit this vine which, we trust, Thy right hand hath planted. Watch over, protect, and defend it. Nourish it with the dews of divine grace, and cause it to grow and spread and flourish..."
Also refer to John 15:5 — "I am the vine, ye are the branches ... "

Dear Saints of First Presbyterian Church:

Grace and Peace to you in the name of Jesus Christ!

I am writing to let you know that all events of First Presbyterian Church are cancelled through March 31. This includes the Imani Choir concert scheduled for Wednesday night and in-person worship on March 22 and 29. Our Session has determined this to be the best course of action in compliance with the recommendations of the CDC and the White House Task Force. At the end of this period, we will re-evaluate our position and continue to look to the guidance of state and national authorities as we move forward.

That said, we affirm that the faithfulness of God is neither cancelled nor postponed, and never will be. Our calling is to continue to be the Body of Christ and bear witness to the world in all that we say and do. Our faith is not cancelled, our love for one another is not cancelled, our hope is not cancelled. We will live our mission and discover new ways to do it even in the midst of these unprecedented circumstances.

To that end, we are working hard to make sure that we will be able to live stream worship this Sunday. We will have more information on this later in the week.

We are also working to be able to respond to any of our members in need of extra care or help. Please let us know if you—or someone you know—is currently in self-quarantine, sick or otherwise in need of assistance.

It is at this time that we are particularly called to pray

- for God's protection and deliverance;
- for healing of those infected;
- for families who have lost loved ones;
- for first responders – doctors, nurses, and aides providing medical care;
- for those traveling abroad and at the moment that are stranded and cannot return home;
- for wisdom for medical and scientific experts seeking a cure for this virus;
- for public officials and our leaders who are making difficult decisions in the best interests of the community;
- and for one another.

Saints, remember that even though we are not able to be physically together at present, we are always made one in the Spirit.

And always, know that you are loved.

Dr. Mike

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