



## Liberty Hill CONNECTION May 2025 ~Volume 36 Issue 5



My dear brothers and sisters,

“Tra la! It’s May! The lusty month of May! That lovely month when everyone goes Blissfully astray.” Lyrics from my all-time favorite Broadway musical, Camelot. And then, of course, the always repeated aphorism, “April showers bring May flowers.” Spring is finally here, and I for one could not be happier. I have been ready for winter to be over.

Of course, the month of May marks our last weeks of worshipping in our beautiful Liberty Hill sanctuary. Lakeside worship will resume on the first Sunday in June and continue there at least until the first Sunday in September. I say “at least until” since the last two years we continued at the Lakeside worship pavilion for several more weeks in the fall to take advantage of the still beautiful weather there.

Summer worship here has been special to me because that is what got me to Liberty Hill in the first place. In the winter of 1981, the summer tradition of lakeside worship had been going on for a couple of years and folks were hoping that could be continued. Unfortunately, this church was without a pastor at that moment and it was uncertain that there would be anyone here to fill the pulpit. Word came to you that I and my wife and young son would be coming up this way so I could begin attending seminary, so John and Mary Thompson were dispatched down to Hilton Head Island to find out if I might be willing to do it. I was curious about the opportunity so my wife and I came up here and met with the committee in charge and we decided that this was indeed the leading of the Lord, so the first Sunday of June arrived and so did the Leiningers with plans to stay the summer. HA!

Summer turned to winter and then came another spring and summer. That was followed by another. And then another. By the time 1984 had arrived, I was feeling that my continued presence here was no longer of the same value and I mentioned that to a friend of mine with whom I was associated in a Clinical Pastoral Education program. I was feeling it was time to move, but I did not want to leave Liberty Hill in the lurch as summer was quickly approaching. He said to me, “I would love to serve a church like that.” Really? OK. He was invited up to preach and meet with the Session. They came to an agreement, so my last Sunday here was the final Sunday in May. That was his first Sunday. His name was Dr. Gene Rollins, and as many of you know, his time here extended over the next 27 years.

Our worship pavilion at 52 Nautical Drive, Camden, is a magnificent facility and a pleasure to encourage worship as we enjoy God’s goodness in nature. As is also our regular practice these days, those services will begin an hour earlier than we have been used to, 9:00 AM. Meanwhile, we retain our regular schedule through the month of May. See you at worship on the hill, Sunday morning at 10:00 AM. Stay safe and take care of one another.

Your pastor and friend, David



*Don't forget....  
Sunday, May 11  
Is  
Mother's Day!*

## Remembering Easter Services, 2025

April 20, 2025 was a memorable day in the life of LHPC. The 7:00 AM Sunrise Service was one of the warmer ones we have had in recent memory. A delightful gathering of 80 souls was there to hear the Good News and to partake of Holy Communion.



A crowd gathered, complete with young and old.

Pastor David, gave us the message and Mica, Carol and LHPC Choir supplied the music.



Elders Robin Shealy and Mary Etta Taylor helping with Holy Communion.

The 10:00 AM Easter Service message was just as inspiring as the Sunrise message. Attendance for that service was 57. Clearly, this was an awe-inspiring, unforgettable Sunday! The McManus family from Lancaster was having their annual reunion Easter Sunday and



joined us on the hill. The matriarch of the family is 93 year old Grace McManus Threatt Steele.

There's something about those rocks in front of the Miss Bettie Richards Fellowship Hall that begs children to play!



## Providence Presbytery Meeting at LHPC

Our little church on the hill is honored to have been selected to host the Presbytery meeting Sunday afternoon, May 18. The presbytery includes 56 churches and we are expecting representatives from most churches to attend. Many attendees will miss lunch and LHPC is planning to provide food and drinks.

Nancy Macdonald has asked that members of the congregation provide hors d'oeuvres (no-fork food!) for the occasion such as sandwiches, fruit & veggie trays, chips and dips, etc., along with drinks. We expect to feed approximately 85 people.

The food will need to be at the church no later than 1:00 PM on the 18th as guests registration begins shortly thereafter.

If you are not comfortable cooking, the church could use your help with serving food and clean up. Other volunteers could be available to help with parking or to provide directions or answer questions. You will not need to stay for the meeting.

Please notify Karen Bailey ASAP via email or phone (contact info on back page of this newsletter) as to how you may help this to be a successful event while providing great hospitality to our Presbyterian brothers and sisters.



Sunshine Smith	11
Jim Hudson	12
Elaine Maree	13
Trish Flynn	20
Doug Macdonald	27
John Paul	30

### Memorial Day, May 26, 2025

Memorial Day is an American holiday, observed on the last Monday of May, honoring the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. military.

Originally known as Decoration Day, it originated in the years following the Civil War and became an official federal holiday in 1971. Many Americans observe Memorial Day by visiting cemeteries or memorials, holding family gatherings and participating in parades. Unofficially, it marks the beginning of the summer season.



**With Honor & Gratitude**  
**We Remember**

## Celebrating Sebastian Jones - Church Baby!

Can you believe our own Sebastian Jones is graduating college in the next few weeks? Lots of us remember that sweet red headed baby boy toddling around and under the pews on Sunday mornings!

Please join us in celebrating this wonderful achievement of a child of our church on **Saturday May 3 with a luncheon at 12:00.** The Saturday date is so his dad, Rob Jones, doesn't have to miss his son's graduation party as he has his own congregation to minister on Sunday mornings!

The church will be providing BBQ chicken along with the sides being prepared by the congregation. **(Please let Karen know what you are bringing.)**

We have already collected a love offering for Sebastian but you can still make a contribution. You may make the check payable to LHPC adding "Sebastian" in the memo line. If you prefer you may make a gift directly to him.

We look forward to celebrating this milestone in Sebastian's life as his church family. We also plan to recognize his achievement during the 10 o'clock service on Sunday, May 4.

Nancy Macdonald

*(Editor's Note: Sebastian graduated high school May 29, 2020 at age 16!)*





*Something really exciting is coming our way!  
Be listening and watch out for it.* 😊

*A Look Back at a LHPHPC 2015 Newsletter*

**WATEREE MESSENGER: May 22, 1939**

At a meeting of the Liberty Hill Improvement Association held on Friday night at the Community House it was decided to sponsor a Homecoming in August and a Community Ball in October. All enjoyed the chicken supper served before the meeting.

**CAMDEN CHRONICLE: May 11, 1945**

A song and prayer service was held at the church on Tuesday evening in prayerful appreciation of the ending of the war in Europe.

**CAMDEN CHRONICLE: May 4, 1977**

The Liberty Hill Community Garden Club went to a great deal of trouble to get Liberty Hill declared as a Bird Sanctuary. The Garden Club and the Heritage Day Committee had three beautiful bird sanctuary signs made to resemble a bird house. The signs were quite expensive but a person(s) destroyed one of the signs on Highway 97. It wasn't an accident. There was evidence that a hammer was used. Please do not destroy our sanctuary signs.



Joan Ward shared this photo she snapped the evening of April 12, the Pink Moon. "Despite its name, it had the same golden glow. The name comes from the pink flowers of the wild ground phlox that blooms in early spring in the eastern US and Canada according to Almanac.com."

*The El Paso Times*

**If you would like to receive a printed copy of the monthly newsletter, in addition to the electronic version, please contact Karen Bailey (803-246-7660) to have the newsletter mailed to your home address.**



NO  
MEMORIALS  
RECEIVED

*These Words Attributed to Pope Francis While in the Hospital....*

"The walls of hospitals have heard more honest prayers than churches...  
They have witnessed far more sincere kisses than those in airports...  
It is in hospitals that you see a homophobe being saved by a gay doctor.  
A privileged doctor saving the life of a beggar...  
In intensive care, you see a Jew taking care of a racist...  
A police officer and a prisoner in the same room receiving the same care...  
A wealthy patient waiting for a liver transplant, ready to receive the organ from a poor donor...  
It is in these moments, when the hospital touches the wounds of people, that different worlds intersect according to a divine design. And in this communion of destinies, we realize that alone, we are nothing.  
The absolute truth of people, most of the time, only reveals itself in moments of pain or in the real threat of an irreversible loss.  
A hospital is a place where human beings remove their masks and show themselves as they truly are, in their purest essence.  
This life will pass quickly, so do not waste it fighting with people.  
Do not criticize your body too much.  
Do not complain excessively.  
Do not lose sleep over bills.  
Make sure to hug your loved ones.  
Do not worry too much about keeping the house spotless.  
Material goods must be earned by each person—do not dedicate yourself to accumulating an inheritance.  
You are waiting for too much: Christmas, Friday, next year, when you have money, when love arrives, when everything is perfect...  
Listen, perfection does not exist.  
A human being cannot attain it because we are simply not made to be fulfilled here.  
Here, we are given an opportunity to learn.  
So, make the most of this trial of life—and do it now.  
Respect yourself, respect others. Walk your own path, and let go of the path others have chosen for you.  
Respect: do not comment, do not judge, do not interfere.  
Love more, forgive more, embrace more, live more intensely!  
And leave the rest in the hands of the Creator."

### Prayers For Our People

*Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. (Romans 12:12)*

**\* Added Since Last Month's Newsletter**



**Andrew Adams** (Mica Jones)  
**Marguerite Adams** (Sylvia Hudson)  
**Jim Alvero** (Quad Bypass Surgery)  
**Ed Baxley** (Sylvia Hudson)  
**Kirk & Linn Bennett's Son**  
**Debbie Blackmon** (Robin's sister)  
**Rachel Blackmon** (Lisa Knight)  
**Reese Brooks** (Sylvia Hudson)  
**Pat Bunch** (Jeanette Robinson)  
**Amy Burns**  
**Christie Chambers** (Sunshine Smith)  
**Carole Cook**  
**\* Family of Caroleene Couick**  
**\* Bill and Mary Crain** (Rebecca Fairchild)  
**Terry Davis** (Ben Cheatham brother-in-law)  
**Faye Dexter**  
**Steven Fairchild** (Dot Fairchild's son)  
**\* Judy Finucane** (Margie Pokorney)  
**Jerry and Trish Flynn**  
**John Foster**  
**Fanny Fuller**  
**Lisa Funderburke** (Margie Pokorney)  
**Carol Ghent**  
**Scott Ghent**  
**Elaine Gosnell** (Diane Porter's sister)  
**Shane Granger** (Tommy & Sandy's son)  
**Gloria Hamilton** (sister-in-law of Jenny)  
**Billy Harris** (needs kidney transplant)  
**Christopher Head** (Carol Ghent)  
**Rodney Hegler** (John Thompson)  
**Melissa Frost Hegler** (Elaine Maree)  
**Jenna Horton**  
**Curtis Hurst**  
**Carolyn Johnson** (Sylvia Hudson)  
**Claudia & Roger Johnson** (Carol Ghent)  
**Mica Jones**



**Darlene Knauer**  
**Clydia Knight** (Lisa Knight)  
**Tonya Lancaster**  
**Jill Locklair** (Knee Surgery)  
**Pastor David Leininger**  
**Nancy Macdonald**  
**\* Cheryl McAbee**  
**Ken & Elaine Maree**  
**\* Scott Meadows** (Lynne Bennett)  
**Mike Morgan** (Wanda Ghent's brother)  
**Claire Oliver**  
**Audrey & John Osipow** (Karen Bailey)  
**\* Elizabeth Parfitt Webb** (Elaine Maree)  
**Johnny Paul** (John Paul's father)  
**\* Stan Pokorney** (pneumonia)  
**Daryl & Melinda Rabon**  
**Brent Rainforth** (Stan's nephew, cancer)  
**Vivian Ray** (Robert & Diana Murphy)  
**Louise Reece** (Gale Jent's Mother)  
**\* Family of Glenn Rebelin, Jr.**  
**Bill Rhodes**  
**Wren & Bruce Ridgeway** (Lisa Knight)  
**Gillis Robinson** (Pat & Ed Bunch's grandson)  
**Nancy Small**  
**Drake Starnes** (Pat Bunch)  
**Gerald Stone** (Micki McLeod's father)  
**Derrell Thomas**  
**Shelby Thomas** (Terry Hoffman)  
**Richard Van Ooyen** (Jim & Sylvia Hudson)  
**\* Shirley Varro** (Jeanette & Pat)  
**Vivian Vinson** (Karen Bailey)  
**Four friends of Joan Ward**  
**Pam Warnock** (Sylvia's friend))  
**Two year old boy** (Sandy Granger)  
**Issac, 6 year old** (Fractured wrist)  
**Family /friends of 6 yr old who did not survive after tonsillectomy in June**

#### Liberty Hill Presbyterian Church Mission Statement:

To connect with God, to connect with others, and to connect others with God.

#### Liberty Hill Presbyterian church Vision Statement:

To be an inclusive church that surrounds people with Love, Hope, Prayer, and Compassion.

*We encourage you to contact the office for updates about our services, events, etc.*

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## May Monthly Calendar

Saturday, May 3	Luncheon Honoring Sebastian Jones
Sunday, May 11	Mother's Day
Sunday, May 18	Hosting Providence Presbytery
Monday, May 26	Memorial Day
Sunday, June 1	Summer Lakeside Services Begin, 9 AM

### *Lakeside Services Resume June 1*

Pray for  
 healing of  
 the planet.

Summer will be here in just 4 short weeks and that means  
 our Sunday services will shift to the lakeside pavilion.  
 Remember to bring a chair or a blanket!

## Church Directory

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Mrs. Carol Ghent, Musician		Cell (803) 804-1836
Ms. Karen Bailey, Office Manager	libertyhill.pcusa@gmail.com	Office (803) 273-9191
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## SESSION

### Class of 2025

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 dpmacdonald@yahoo.com

### Class of 2025

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### Class of 2025

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### Class of 2025

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