

SSPC LEADERSHIP HANDBOOK

2023-2024

Rev. Dr. Steve Goyer

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)

SYNODS IN AMERICA

- 1. Synod of Alaska-Northwest
- 2. Synod of Boriquen (Puerto Rico)
- 3. Synod of the Covenant
- 4. Synod of Lakes and Prairies
- 5. Synod of Lincoln Trails
- 6. Synod of Living Waters
- 7. Synod of Mid-America
- 8. Synod of the Mid-Atlantic
- 9. Synod of the Northeast
- 10. Synod of the Pacific
- 11. Synod of the Rocky Mountains

12. **Synod of South Atlantic** – 15 Presbyteries

- a. Central Florida
- b. Charleston-Atlantic
- c. Cherokee (GA)
- d. Flint River (GA)
- e. Florida
- f. Foothills
- g. Greater Atlanta (GA)
- h. New Harmony
- i. Northeast Georgia (GA)
- j. Peace River
- k. Providence
- l. St. Augustine
- m. **Savannah** (GA) 33 churches

St. Simons Presbyterian

- n. Tampa Bay
- o. Trinity
- 13. Tropical Florida
- 14. Synod of Southern California and Hawaii
- 15. Synod of the Southwest
- 16. Synod of the Sun
- 17. Synod of the Trinity

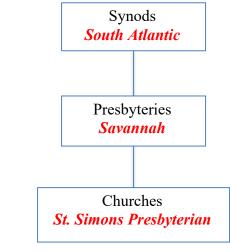




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DEACONS

DEFINITION

The Book of Order (G-2.0201)

The ministry of Deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of compassion, witness, and service, sharing in the redeeming love of Jesus Christ for the poor, the hungry, the sick, the lost, the friendless, the oppressed, those burdened by unjust policies or structures, or anyone in distress. Persons of spiritual character, honest repute, exemplary lives, brotherly and sisterly love, sincere compassion, and sound judgment should be chosen for this ministry.

Deacons

Deacons meet the 3rd Monday of each month and are expected to attend the monthly meetings. There is no meeting in July and December. Deacons oversee ministries of care and compassion to members of our church family and beyond as well as a ministry of welcome to all worshipers.

*Reach out to your fellow Deacons if you need help!

DUTIES

- **1. CONGREGATIONAL CARE:** Deacons coordinate and oversee with the help of atlarge members, the following ministries of care and compassion.
 - a. **FLOWER MINISTRY:** Teams are scheduled to break down and deliver worship flowers on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month.
 - b. **HANDS & HEART MINISTRY:** Lap blankets and quilts are sewn and gifted to church members and the community to express the warmth, love, and presence of God amidst trying times.
 - c. **MEAL MINISTRY:** Casseroles & soups are prepared at church and frozen for immediate delivery an individual and/or individual or meals needed for longer period of time are scheduled and provided.
 - d. **MUFFIN MINISTRY:** Homemade muffins/sweets are delivered.to designated members.
 - e. **SONSHINE FOR THE SOUL NURSING HOME MINISTRY:** small inspirational gifts and cards are personally delivered monthly to members and nonmembers who reside in long term nursing or under hospice care. Face to face regular visits are scheduled with these folks to form relationships and a connection to their church family.
 - f. HAND-WRITTEN NOTES
 - g. PHONE CALLS/VISITS
 - h. **TRANSPORTATION:** rides to/from appointments.
 - i. GRIEF GROUP: coordinated and led by Rev. Kate Buckley twice a month.

OFFICER INFORMATION ON CHURCH WEBSITE

*www.sspres.org

- CLICK ON "About" tab
- CLICK ON "Resources" tab
 - o Leadership Handbook
- 2. **WELCOMING MINISTRY:** Deacons lead and coordinate rotating teams of Deacons and at-large members who serve as greeters/ushers to welcome worshipers on Sunday morning services.

8:30 GREETER - USHER CHECKLIST **BEFORE SERVICE** ☐ Mark your calendar for assigned Sundays. Check emails for reminders/changes. ☐ Arrive at 8:00 am & check in with team leader. ☐ **OPEN OUTSIDE AND INSIDE GLASS DOORS IMMEDIATELY** (make sure doors are unlocked). ☐ Wear nametag located on board and locate bulletins. □ Place 1 wooden offering box each on table in narthex and 1 box at the Gathering Space door. ☐ !!! Verify there is **CLEAN** water in the pitcher under the baptismal font. If not, fill pitcher about 1/3 of the way from plastic jug. BE SURE THE DRAIN IS CLOSED (test it!) □ 8:15 - Light candles in chancel area. Check the wick, ask Annne Marie to check for oil. \square Verify friendship pads are in pews. ☐ Know location of large print hymnals/Bibles. ☐ Be familiar with emergency procedures. Know location of AED, first aid kit, fire extinguisher. ☐ Greet worshipers saying "Welcome, my name is _____" and give them a bulletin. ☐ Assist guests getting out of a car and up the stairs; assist those in wheelchairs or on walker. ☐ Walk or direct worshipers to nursery area if needed. **BEGINNING OF SERVICE** ☐ Close inside glass doors & transept doors open at beginning of Welcome & Announcements. \Box Leave the outside front doors open; stay outside to welcome late arrivers. \Box Close the outside front doors when 1st hymn begins. ☐ LATE COMERS: (they may be visitors) Welcome them quietly, give them a bulletin and assist them in finding a seat. **DURING SERVICE** ☐ Pay attention to any worshippers or worship leader's needs (water, hymnal, etc.). **AFTER SERVICE** \Box Open glass doors to the narthex at the beginning of the Benediction. \Box Open the outside doors and transept doors at the end of the benediction. ☐ Retrieve 2 offering boxes and count money (see specific directions). Keys to unlock boxes are in usher closet drawer. \Box Collect friendship pad sheets and make sure pad is ready for the 10:30 service. ☐ Count money. Place money and friendship pad sheets in plastic bag. Put plastic bag in safe. ☐ Return boxes to usher closet; get 4 offering plates out in ushers closet for 10:30 service. \square Extinguish chancel candles. Check the wicks. □ Drain the font into the pitcher, make sure pitcher is aligned with the bowl drain. **CLOSE THE DRAIN**, leave pitcher with water under font. ☐ Put bulletins in recycle bins. Tidy up Bibles/hymnals and pews. ☐ Return name tag to board in ushers closet.

	10:30 GREETER - USHER CHECKLIST
BEF	ORE SERVICE
	Mark your calendar for assigned Sundays. Check emails for reminders/changes.
	Arrive at 10:00 am & check in with team leader.
	OPEN OUTSIDE AND INSIDE GLASS DOORS IMMEDIATELY (make sure doors are unlocked).
	!!! Verify there is CLEAN water in the pitcher under the baptismal font. If not, fill pitcher
_	about 1/3 of the way from plastic jug. BE SURE THE DRAIN IS CLOSED (test it!)
	Verify friendship pads are in pews and sanctuary rows are neat.
	Know location of large print hymnals/Bibles.
	Be familiar with emergency procedures. Know location of AED, first aid kit, fire
	extinguisher.
	Assist guests getting out of a car and up the stairs; assist those in wheelchairs or on walker.
	Walk or direct worshipers to nursery area if needed.
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
BEG	INNING OF SERVICE
	Close inside glass doors & transept doors open at beginning of Welcome & Announcements.
	Leave the outside front doors open; stay outside to welcome late arrivers.
	Close the outside front doors when 1st hymn begins.
	LATE COMERS: (they may be visitors) Welcome them quietly, give them a bulletin and
	assist them in finding a seat.
DIIE	RING SERVICE
	Pay attention to any worship leader's needs (water, hymnal, etc.).
	Collect offering at designated time (work as a team): 4 people bring plates forward; 2
ш	collect from each transept (pause until both transepts are finish), than all 4 collect from
	sanctuary.
	When finished, 2 people walk filled plates up to chancel for pastor's blessing. Then return
Ш	filled plates to usher closet.
	Count money (see specific directions).; place offering in money envelope along with any
Ш	friendship pad sheets with collection and deposit in safe. If the collection boxes were not
	brought in after the 8:30 service, bring them back during or after the 10:30 service, count the collection
	SEPARATELY tally, bag, and put in safe.
<u>AFT</u>	ER SERVICE
	Open glass doors to the narthex at the beginning of the Benediction.
	Open the outside doors and transept doors at the end of the benediction.
	Put bulletins in recycle bins; tidy up Bibles/hymnals and pews.
	Make sure friendship pad sheets are collected; place them in safe.
	Drain the font into the pitcher make sure pitcher is aligned with the bowl drain. CLOSE THE
	DRAIN. Check the water for clarity and any odor, pour back into jug or discard if not clear.
	Clean up any spills. <u>Clean and dry the pitcher and font bowl</u> with paper towels (found
	under the font).
	Return name tag to board in ushers closet.
	Turn off light and lock all doors (see directions) from Social Hall to Kings Way entrance.
	(Frieda turns off lights and locks preschool).

DIRECTIONS FOR COUNTING THE OFFERING

Two persons (not relatives) count money together.

You will find plastic bag and yellow slip in middle drawer of ushers closet.

- 1. **OFFERING ENVELOPES**: Do not open envelopes. Place envelopes in plastic bag.
- 2. **CHECKS**: Gather loose checks and stamp top back of each check with the deposit stamp. Place checks in plastic bag.
- 3. **CASH/COINS**: Count cash/coins and write the total amount on the cash count slip. Place slip (initialed by 2 officers) and money in plastic bag.

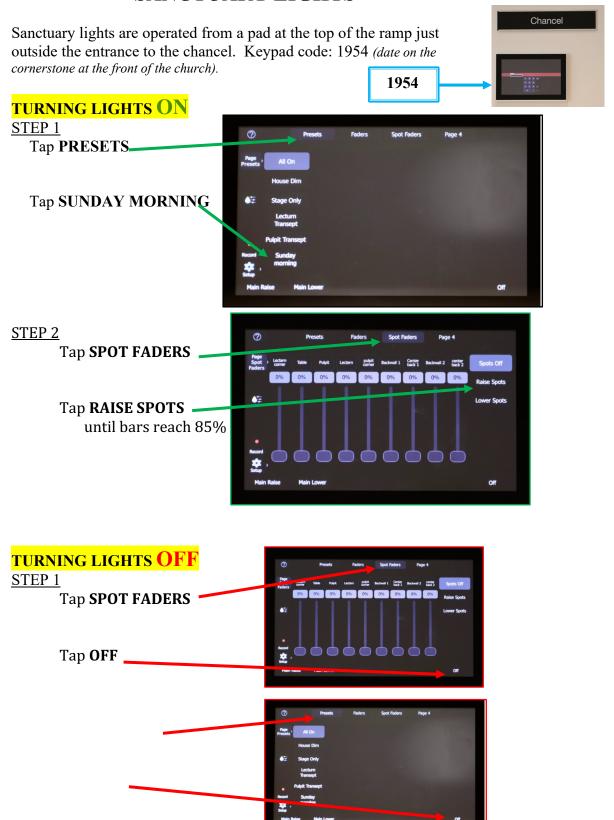
4. FRIENDSHIP PAD:

- Offering gather during the service (money and friendship pad slips) is counted during the service.
- o Any friendship pad slips gathered after the service are put in the safe.
- 5. **SAFE**: Deposit the plastic bag into the church safe located in the ushers closet.

6. **OFFERING PLATES**:

- o **8:30 service** Leave plates in the ushers closet so they will be ready for the 10:30 service.. There should be 4 plates.
- o **10:30 service** Place all 4 offering plates in the ushers closet.

SANCTUARY LIGHTS



ELDERS

DEFINITION

The Book of Order (*G*-2.0301)

As there were in Old Testament times, elders for the government of the people, so the New Testament church provided persons with particular gifts to share in discernment of God's Spirit and governance of God's people. Accordingly, congregations should elect persons of wisdom and maturity of faith, having demonstrated skills in leadership and being compassionate in spirit.

Session

The Session is comprised of three classes of elders. As one class rolls off the Session, a new class is ordained/installed. A Session meeting can be "called" at any time but "stated" meetings are held monthly (generally the 3rd Tuesday of each month). The Session does not have a stated meeting during the months of July. And December

DUTIES

Elders are assigned duties on a rotating monthly basis. The duties are grouped as (1) leadership duties and (2) worship duties. Specific directions for each duty are outlined in this handbook.

1. LEADERSHIP DUTIES

- a. SESSION
 - i. attend stated & called Session meetings
 - ii. serve as elected "Elder Representative at Stated Presbytery Meetings"
- b. COMMITTEES
 - i. take a leadership role on a committee
 - ii. participate on a council (see organizational chart in Addendum) or serve as you feel called

2. WORSHIP DUTIES

- a. LEAD & ASSIST (serves throughout the assigned month)
 - i. assist with Sunday worship: see duties on pg. 8 of the Handbook
 - ii. usher at funerals: see checklist on pg. 9 of the Handbook
- b. COMMUNION
 - i. prepare communion: see directions beginning on pg. 11
 - ii. check communion schedules located in Addendum



OFFICER INFORMATION ON CHURCH WEBSITE (www.sspres.org)

- CLICK ON "About" tab
- CLICK ON "Resources" tab
 Leadership Handbook

LEAD & ASSIST: MONTHLY WORSHIP DUTIES

Reach out to your fellow Elders if you need help!

- Before serving, the lead elder contacts the assist elder to determine which person will serve each Sunday during the month.
- Once a monthly schedule is made, notify the director of communications as this information is printed in the Sunday bulletin.

10:30 AM Worship

- 1. Lay Reader Call To Worship & Old Testament Reading
 - a. Call To Worship
 - i. The introduction script is on the lectern.
 - ii. Call To Worship script is in the bulletin.
 - b. Scripture Reading:
 - i. During the week, contact the director of communication for the scripture reading. Ask pastor for help with pronunciations.
 - ii. A script (see below) with suggested language for introducing the scripture reading is on the lectern.
- 2. After Reading
 - a. After the scripture reading, you are free to stay in the lectern area or return to a seat in the sanctuary to join your family, etc.
- 3. After service
 - a. Circulate and greet worshipers saying, "Welcome, my name is _____."

SUGGESTED LANGUAGE FOR LAY READERS

CALL TO WORSHIP

"I invite you to join me as we call ourselves to worship using the responsive Call to Worship found printed in your bulletin.

Please stand as you are able."

[Lay reader begins Call to Worship]

SCRIPTURE READING

"Our first scripture reading comes for be found on page word from God."	rom the Book of of your pew Bible. Let us listen	_ and can now for a
[Reading at the conclusion of the rea	ading, the elder reader says]	
Lay Reader - "This is the word of the Congregation - "Thanks be to God."	Lord."	

FUNERAL DUTIES

y.

Ushers take care of the guests and the sanctuary.

Before the Service

- 1. Turn on sanctuary lights (see directions).
- 2. Place reserved banners on the front pews (banners are in ushers closet). Ask pastor how many rows should be reserved for family and friends.
- 3. Place a box of Kleenex in reserved pews.
- 4. Unlock doors the church doors (Kings Way, Ashantilly, Gathering Space, Memorial Garden and Office).
- 5. Get programs from director of communications office (unless they are already in the ushers closet).
- 6. Place guest book and pen (located in ushers closet) on pedestal.
- 7. Usher #4 (see "Greet Guests" below) place programs in the parlor for the family.
- 8. 15 minutes before service begins: Light candles on chancel table lighter should be on the shelf under the lectern.

Greet Guests

- 1. Give guests a bulletin.
- 2. Usher #1 Greet guests as they come into the church.
- 3. Usher #2 Invite guests to sign the guest book (see "Guest Book" below).
- 4. Usher #3 Greet guests at the "office" transept. Close doors 5 minutes before the service.
- 5. Usher #4 Greet guests at the "gathering space" transept. Close doors 5 minutes before the service.
- 6. Usher #4 FAMILY
 - a. Before family arrives, place bulletins for the family in the parlor.
 - b. Pastor leads the family to the gathering space just before the funeral.
 - c. Have extra bulletins ready to give family members if they need them.
 - d. When pastor signals you, open the door to the transept so the family can enter the sanctuary.

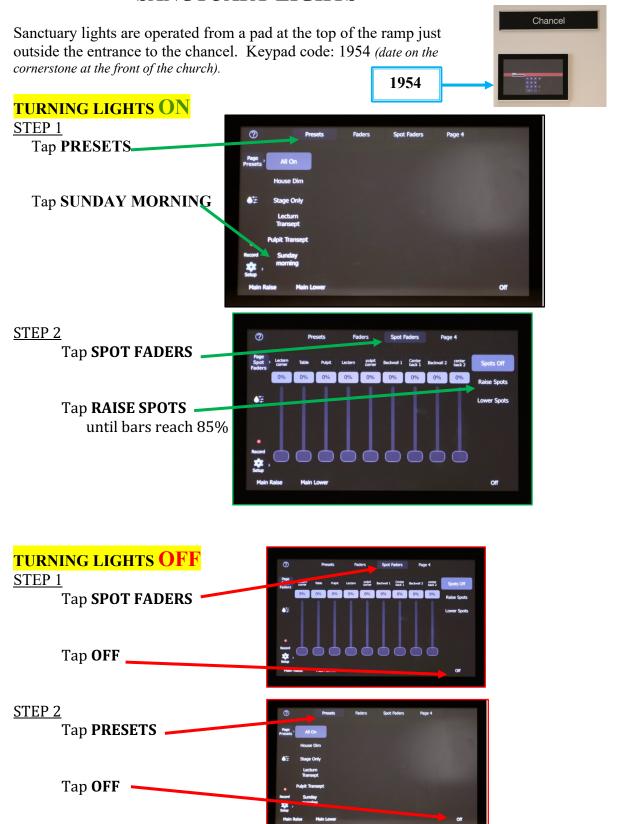
Guest Book: Usher #2

- 1. If there is a reception after the service, an usher takes the guest book to the social hall DURING THE SERVICE so it will be available for those who didn't have an opportunity to sign before the service.
- 2. If there is no reception, then give guest book to the family after the service.

After the Service

- 1. Extinguish candles.
- 2. Straighten hymn books and Bibles in pew racks.
- 3. Remove litter from pews and pew racks.
- 4. Lock doors (Kings Way, Ashantilly, Gathering Space, Memorial Garden and Office).
- 5. Turn off lights (see directions).

SANCTUARY LIGHTS



COMMUNION



Communion by INTINCTION

PREPARING COMMUNION (see Handbook pg. 13)

Duties are assigned based on the communion schedule (see addendum). Two people are assigned to preparation duties. The team prepares for the communion, sets the table for each service and cleans up afterwards.

Elders purchase the bread, rolls and juice but can be reimbursed through the office (give receipt to church administrator).

SERVING COMMUNION (see Handbook pg. 18)

- If you are unable to serve, it is your responsibility to find a substitute (perhaps trade dates with another elder) and notify Anne Marie Stirewalt (2annemarie@comcast.net) of the change as she assigns places prior to entering the sanctuary on Communion Sunday.
- COMMUNION SUNDAY: Elders meet in the Memorial Garden hallway. Duties (placement) are assigned and the pastor leads the elders in prayer.
- Elders sit on the front pews of the sanctuary.

WORDS SPOKEN DURING COMMUNION

- Pastor (bread): "This is Christ's body broken for you."
- Elder (cup): "This is Christ's blood shed for you." or "The cup of salvation."



Communion needs to be prepared **BEFORE** Sunday as some members for the congregation arrive early.

PREPARING COMMUNION

MATERIALS – located in credenza in Gathering Space

BOX OF CUPS: in credenza
 BASKETS: 3 baskets



PREP DIRECTIONS (Friday or Saturday)

- 1. Put communion cups (enough for both services) in 3 baskets.
- 2. Place baskets in the usher's room in the narthex.
- 3. "Score" the bottom of the bread. Place on the table with the "score" facing the front of the church so pastor can pick bread up and pull it apart easily.
- 4. Prepare the table in the chancel by placing (1) a cup in the goblet, (2) round bread on the plate, (3) communion cups on the table for each pastor (both service), (4) 10:30 cup for elder reader, (5) 10:30 cups for choir
- 5. Plastic pew bags are used by congregation to dispense of their used communion cup. Place a plastic bag at each end of the pew.
- 6. SUNDAY: after the 8:30 service (1) make sure the baskets contain enough cups for the 10:30 service and (2) replace used plastic pew bags for the 10:30 service.

SERVING COMMUNION

- 1. Servers stand at the front door and both transept doors.
- 2. Offer each member of the congregation a communion cup.
- 3. <u>Just before the worship service begins</u>, the server walks throughout the sanctuary to make sure everyone has a communion cup.
- 4. During the service, the pastor will ask if everyone has a cup. Be ready to give a cup to anyone who raises their hand in the main sanctuary and transepts.

8:30 & 10:30 - Make sure communion cups for the pastors are on the table.

10:30 - Give a communion cup to (1) elder reader and (2) members of the choir.

SUMMER service is one service at 10:00 AM. Follow procedures for 10:30 service.

INTINCTION

PREPARING AND SERVING COMMUNION

PREPARING COMMUNION

MATERIALS – credenza in Gathering Space

1. plate: 1 plate used for demonstration

2. large baskets: 6 baskets

3. small baskets: 2 lined baskets for gluten free bread

4. goblet: 7 goblets

5. tablecloth: 1 tablecloth (there is an extra tablecloth in the

credenza)

6. napkins: 6 napkins

7. signs: table signs indicating elements for each server

8. 4 cardboard dividers – used for baskets with ½ bread & ½ gluten free bread

MATERIALS - kitchen

- 1. 2 Round breads (one for each service)
- 2. Communion bread
- 3. Gluten free bread
- 4. Juice

PREP DIRECTIONS (Friday or Saturday)

- 1. Follow directions for cutting bread
- 2. "Score" the bottom of the bread so the pastor can easily tear it apart during the instructions.
- 3. Put tablecloth on table

PREP DIRECTIONS (Sunday Morning)

1. 8:30

- o round bread on the plate with the "score" facing the front of the church so pastor can pick bread up and pull it apart easily
- o juice in 3 goblets
- o napkins in 2 large baskets for pastors
- o bread in 2 large baskets for pastors (overflowing)
- o gluten free bread in small lined basket
- o Follow directions for setting table

2. 10:30

- o replace round bread on the plate with the "score" facing the front of the church so pastor can pick bread up and pull it apart easily
- o juice in 7 goblets
- o napkins in 2 large baskets for pastors
- o bread in 2 large baskets for pastors (overflowing)
- o napkins in 4 large baskets with cardboard dividers
- o 1/2 bread and 1/2 gluten free in 4 large baskets with cardboard dividers
- o gluten free bread in small lined basket
- o Follow directions for setting table



DIRECTIONS FOR CUTTING BREAD FOR COMMUNION BREAD



Use honey bread as the body of Christ should taste sweet.



Needed for preparation:

- electric knife
- 3-4 packages of honey wheat bread



• Bread tends to stick together so separate sandwich halves.



- Stack individual slices back to front.
- Entire package can be "stacked" before cutting.



• Cut off sides to help "square" bread.



- Cut bread as shown.
- Each slice of bread = 9 pieces
- Each package = 144 pieces



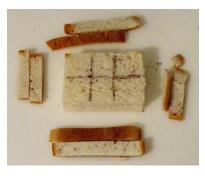


• This bread is used by the pastors during the demonstration. Lightly score the bottom of the bread so pastor can easily tear it apart.

GLUTEN FREE BREAD



- CANYON BAKEHOUSE gluten free is the best tasting gluten free bread. People prefer Honey Whole Grain.
- Left over bread must be bagged and frozen as the bread is made without preservatives.



- Cut off crusts.
- Cut bread into 6 pieces.

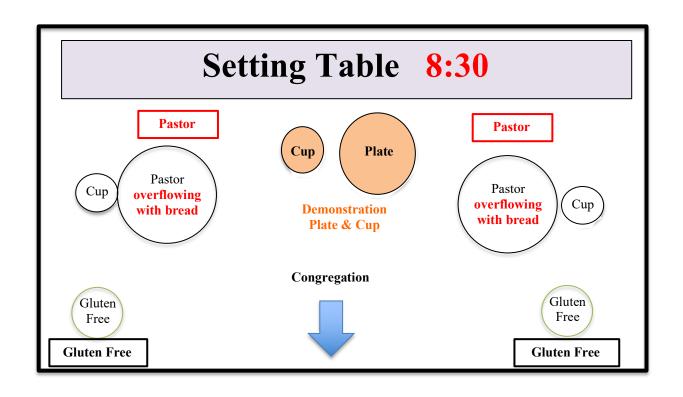
COMMUNION FOR THE WORSHIPERS WANTING GLUTEN FREE COMMUNION.

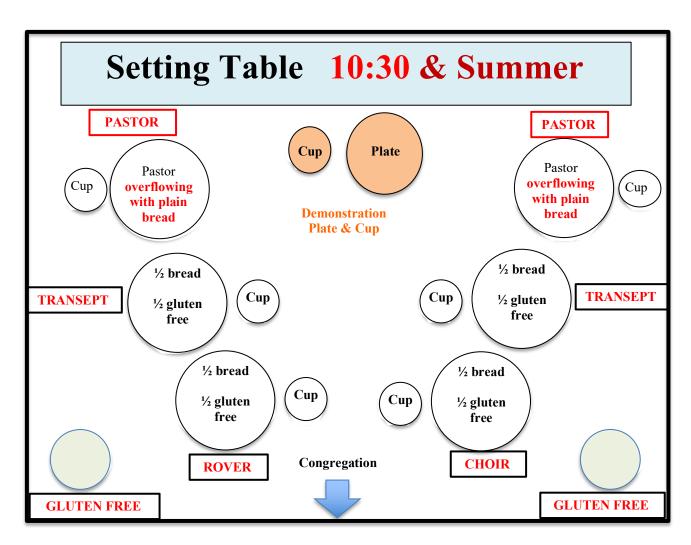
• Place bread in a basket (use small basket) and place on pedestal. Parishioners can reach for the bread or ask the pastor of bread.

III. Clean Up

- a. Clean Up (after 1st Service)
 - i. Take bread baskets and plate to kitchen.
 - ii. Replace round bread.
 - iii. Refill bread baskets.
 - iv. Take any goblets with breadcrumbs floating in juice to kitchen, rinse, refill.
 - v. Return communion supplies to communion table.
- b. Clean Up (after 2nd Service)
 - i. BREAD Place bread in freezer bag, label and put in freezer.
 - ii. PLATE & GOBLETS Wash/dry serving pieces and return to communion cabinet in gathering space.
 - iii. NAPKINS Fold napkins, place in plastic bag and return to communion cabinet in gathering space.
 - iv. TABLECLOTH Fold tablecloth and return to communion cabinet in gathering space.
 - v. Return brass chalice, brass plate and brass cross to communion table.

If napkins or tablecloth need to be cleaned, please take them home, wash & iron them and return to church.





SERVING COMMUNION BY INTINCTION

COMMUNION

Elders sit on front row

(8:30) 1 2

(pastor gives elders bread basket and cup)

 $(10:30) \quad 1 \quad 2 \quad 3 \quad (aisle) \quad 4 \quad 5 \quad 6$

(pastor gives elders bread basket and cup)

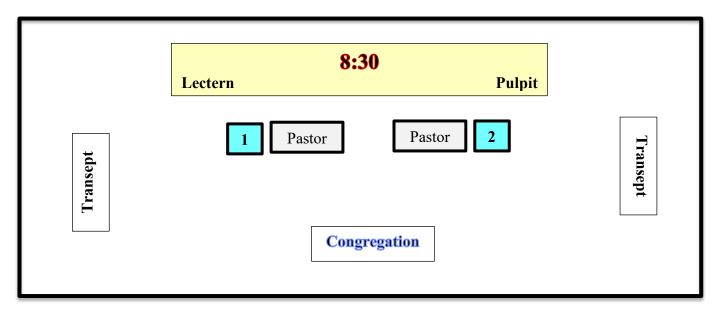
DUTIES BY POSITION

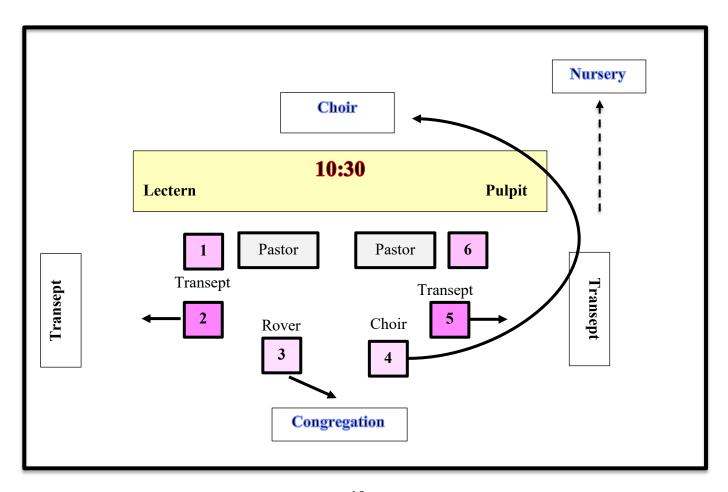
8:30 Service	10:30 & Summer Service
 8:30 Service 2 pastors & 2 elders Pastor hold bread baskets Serve transepts before main sanctuary #1 - (lectern) assist pastor by holding cup #2 - (pastor) assist pastor by holding cup If someone is unable to come forward, the pastor and elder will serve them at the end of communion. 	 10:30 & Summer Service 2 pastors & 6 elders Pastor hold bread baskets #1 – (lectern) assist pastor by holding cup #2 - serve left transept choir #3 - rover invites congregation to come forward, serves those unable to come forward and serves AV person #4 – serve choir (organist, front row and stand for the rest of the choir #5 – serves right transept and nursery #6 - (pulpit) assist pastor by holding cup

WORDS SPOKEN DURING COMMUNION

- Bread: "This is Christ's body broken for you."
- Cup: "This is Christ's blood shed for you." or "The cup of salvation."

SERVING COMMUNION BY INTINCTION





BOARD OF TRUSTEES

DEFINITION

The Book of Order (G-4.0101)

The Trustee shall receive, hold, encumber, manage, and transfer property, real or personal, for the congregation, provided that in buying, selling, and mortgaging real property, the Trustees shall act only after the approval of the congregation, granted in a duly constituted meeting; to accept and execute deeds of title to such property; to hold and defend title to such property; to manage any permanent special funds for the furtherance of the purposes of the congregation, all subject to the authority of the Session and under the provisions of the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The powers and duties of the Trustees shall not infringe upon the powers and duties of the Session or the Board of Deacons.

DUTIES

- 1. Trustees are the legal signatory for the church.
- 2. Trustees are a part of the committee manage the church's investments

NOTE: While the Board of Trustees recommends the amount given to benevolences, the Session make the final approval.

ADDENDUM

CONTENTS

- Organizational Chart
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- Staff & Volunteer Code of Conduct
- Emergency Procedures
- Church Emergency Exit Diagram

ORGANIZATION CHART (IN PROCESS)

Rationale/Goals:

The Taskforce's proposed organization seeks to accomplish five goals...

- 1. Lift up Session's role as the strategic and spiritual leaders of the congregation.
- 2. Empower more decision making at the committee/team level.
- 3. Emphasize Deacon's role in leading congregational care and compassion ministries.
- 4. Clarify lay and staff leadership of specific ministry areas.
- 5. Foster deeper congregational involvement and participation across all SSPC ministries.

Councils and Ministry Teams:

The proposed organizational chart calls for two layers of organization. First, the creation of seven <u>councils</u> (displayed as large boxes on chart — Business Affairs, Education and Formation, Worship and Music, Nominating, Mission and Outreach, Congregational Life, and Membership), which will constitute the "umbrella" organizations. Our existing ministry teams will then be organized under each council. Each elder will be assigned to serve on a specific council throughout their three year term of service. Ministry teams will continue to be open to any and all church members who desire to serve on them.

Council Leadership:

Each council will be led by three elders serving in a rotating leadership capacity over their three year terms on session:

- Elder 1 (first year of term): Secretary
- Elder 2 (second year of term): Vice Chair
- Elder 3 (third year of term): Chairperson

Elder Responsibilities for Councils:

While the specific ministry teams within each council may meet regularly throughout the year, many councils may only need or choose to meet 1-2x per year. As such, the elders role of leading councils will consist of three key responsibilities:

- 1. Know what is happening in the individual ministry teams of their council. Stay in contact with the leadership of ministry teams, identify ways they need support, etc.
- Know what is happening in the overall work of the council. Be aware of the "big picture" and help lead overall strategic thinking for the council's overall ministry area.
- 3. Write monthly report for session. Be the primary communicator to session about the ministry happening within assigned council.

Elder and Deacon Service on Ministry Teams:

Elders are welcome (and encouraged) to also serve on individual ministry teams — regardless of whether it is a team within their council or not. For example, the chair of the Business Affairs Council may have a real heart for serving on the Hunger Action Team or writing cards for congregational care. Additionally, deacons will continue to be encouraged to provide officer participation in and leadership of individual ministry teams.

Ongoing Taskforce Work:

The following items still need to be worked out:

- Write "iob descriptions" for each Council as well as elder responsibilities.
- Assign existing elders to "fully staff" each council.
- Check with each elder re: willingness to serve extended term (see nominating process)

Officer Terms and Nominating Process:

One of the key recommendations of the Taskforce is to approve a change in the timeframe that church officers serve. Currently, deacons and elders serve January-December terms. This presents a number of challenges:

- We nominate, elect, and train new officers during one of the busiest times of the year (fall/winter).
- 2. Our most experienced church leaders (i.e., officers in third year of term) roll out of leadership in the middle of the program year.
- 3. Officer nominations and training periods are very condensed into short amount of time.

As a result of these challenges, the Taskforce recommends making the following changes:

- First, adjust terms of service for church officers to run from July-June (rather than Jan.-Dec.). *Note: This will require all current officers to agree to serve an extra six months on their term. With sessions approval, this change would go into effect and the congregation would be kept fully informed. Seats for officers who are unwilling/unable to serve an extra six months would be kept open for those six months until the nominating committee fills the seat with new class.
- Second, nominating process and training adjusted to a new timeline (see below).

Nominating Team

January

Nominating Team Elected Meeting #1 — Get to know one another; overview of tasks; list key officer characteristics

February

Attend Diaconate Meeting — Focus on attendance, demographics, dynamics, etc.

March

Attend Session Meeting — Focus on attendance, demographics, dynamics, etc.

April

Meeting #2 — Compare notes, begin to develop vision for what/who is needed to serve.

May

Meeting #3 — Meet w/ current Clerk of Session and Chair of Diaconate to suggest ideas; Elders and Deacons suggest nominees.

June

Meeting #4 — Develop list of nominees.

∆uaust

Solicit nominees from congregation, staff/ pastors, current council/MT leadership Meeting #5 — Compile names of nominees

September

Meeting #6 — Develop list of A, B, C nominees taking into consideration demographics, gifts, etc.

New Officer Training

January

New Officers Elected

January-June

New Officer Training Sessions — review church history, theology, polity, officer responsibilities (Leadership Handbook), and visit respective session/diaconate meetings.

May/June

Install New Officers During Worship

<u>July</u>

Officer term officially begins; no meeting.

August

Attend first meeting as officer

<u>October</u>

Nominating Committee meets face-to-face with nominees.

November

Continue Recruiting Process — complete slate of officers by Thanksgiving and give thanks!

December

Publicize slate to congregation with biographical information for each nominee.

MINISTY COUNCILS 2022-2023				
COUNCILS	OFFICERS	SSPC STAFF	RESPONSIBILITIES	PURPOSE
Business Affairs	Kevin Lokey (2023) Leslie Hartman (2024) Chris Bone (2025)	Pastor Jeannine Torbert Ada Owens	Finance & Budget Stewardship Personnel Endowment Barnabas Society Building & Grounds Communication	 Guide all areas of church administration Oversees church staff Give session monthly update of finance & budget Coordinate stewardship campaign Manage & maintain church property Maintain church technology
Education & Formation	Albert McCaffrey (2023) Meg Mimbs (2024) Jeff Roberts (2025)	Frieda Warner Annie Franklin Arvin	Adult Youth Children	Guide Christian Education & programming for all ages (child – adult)
Worship & Music	Greer Anderson (2023) Jerry Spencer (2024) Anne Marie Stirewalt (2025)	Pastor Annie Franklin Arvin Rhonda Hambright Amy Bishop Suzanne Morrison	Establishes guidelines for worship and music. Decorates the church for World Communion & Christmas. Determines date and coordinates Kirkin' service. Structures communion procedures.	Works closely with pastors & worship staff to support & guide the worship life of our congregation
Nominating	Leslie Carlton (2023) Mike Keller (2024) Mary Bryson (2025)	Pastor Annie Franklin Arvin	Church officers representing the congregation search committees	 Discerns, identifies and nominates a new slate of deacons, elders & trustee each year Nominates a slate of members for search committee when appropriate
Mission & Outreach	Jeff Bennett (2023) Buddy Jones (2024) Will Tsai (2025)	Annie Franklin Arvin Madelynne Risi	Local Missions: HAT, PAL mentoring, Angel Tree, Day of Service, Manna House, community missions World Mission BRIDGE	 Supervises funds going to local and global missions and agencies Oversees mission opportunities for our church Conducts fund raisers (SERRV, Hefer International, Mother's & Father's Day cards)
Congregational Life	Anne Aspinwall (2023) John Matthews (2024) Mary Gash (2025)	Pastor Annie Franklin Arvin Nat Scott	Pastoral care of congregation Congregational Fellowship, WOW dinners, Try Something New, Events Presbyterian Women Hospitality Ministry Team	Monitors congregational needs and coordinates pastoral care Nurtures connection across all ages of the congregation through fellowship, food and spiritual development opportunities
Membership	Teresa Hodgdon (2023) Lee Dillard (2024) Philip Saussy (2025)	Pastor Annie Franklin Arvin	New Member Development, Sanctuary clean up, visitor tracking New member dinners Snowbird luncheons Coordinates Friday night dinner for church anniversary	Welcomes and connects visitors and new members into the life of the congregation

CHURCH OFFICERS: Elders, Deacons and Trustees 2024-2026

ELDERS		2021 2020		
2024	Buddy Jones Jerry Spencer John Matthews Lee Dillard Leslie Hartman Meg Mimbs Mike Kellar	101 Shore Rush Drive 707 Dartmouth Street, BWK 118 Village Creek Way 101 Bay Berry Circle 121 Harrogate Road 214 Walmar Grove 137 Colonial Drive	(423) 413-9147 (912) 265-5337 (912) 223-1717 (478) 731-2692 (912) 266-5318 (912) 230-5913 (478) 232-2030	ssibudd70@gmail.com jerryspencer707@yahoo.com jhmatthews7@comcast.net leedillardssi@gmail.com lesliehhartman@yahoo.com megjohnson92@gmail.com mikekellar2601@gmail.com
2025	Anne Marie Stirewalt Chris Bone Jeff Roberts Mary Bryson Mary Gash Philip Saussy Will Tsai	217 Sandcastle Way 112 Sea Palms Lane 1226 George Lotson Ave. 611 6 th Ave. 249 Abbott Lane 218 Kings Way 258 St. James Ave	(912) 399-2749 (708) 955-0244 (912) 547-6972 (912) 230-1865 (912) 638-8639 (912) 337-0076 (706) 564-1464	2annemarie@comcast.net bonec@att.net jhroberts@fbi.gov mary.v.bryson@gmail.com jmgash@comcast.net psaussy64@gmail.com tsaiwill@hotmail.com
2026	Bryan Neill Carrie Wessel Daryl Rabert Kevin Lokey Lee Malone Sandi Goeldner Tate Simpson	96 Foxcreek Blvd, BWK 32 Black Banks Drive 702 Hamilton Landing Drive 510 Vassar Point Drive 346 Major Wright Road 102 Newfield Street 56 Dorsey Circle	(912) 254-8454 (917) 714-3311 (912) 580-9139 (912) 223-6437 (912) 638-8340 (912) 230-3852 (770) 330-8542	mckinley_21@hotmail.com Carrie.wessel@gmail.com vonzipper@gmail.com kevinclokey@gmail.com lee.lmalone.malone@gmail.com sandi.goeldner@gmail.com tater56@bellsouth.net
DEACON	NS			
2024	Andrew Turner Denise Hidalgo Jan Rossiter Lynda Bisher Michael Johnson Nancy Fixx Tom Haughney	917 Rose Cottage Road 509 Palm Harbor Road 128 St. Clair Drive 21 Dunbar Creek Point 158 Rosemont Street 102 Linkside Drive 1202 Plantation Point Drive	(912) 223-4333 (912) 222-1230 (912) 223-1624 (707) 722-3233 (912) 266-5851 (703) 431-7561 (704) 641-0372	aturner@turn2us.com deniseghidalgo@gmail.com dogdoc@bellsouth.net lyndabisher@gmail.com mbjjohnson51@gmail.com nff033147@aol.com tphaughney@gmail.com
2025	Anna Henry Ami Bishop Graham Owens Joe Wills John LaBoone Kelsi Brooks Sandy Kilgore	100 Druid Oaks 19 Sinclair Way 108 Sandcastle Way 104 Meadow Brook 344 S Harrington Road 505 Ashantilly Ave. 412 Holly Street	(912) 324-9552 (912) 399-0940 (404) 549-1012 (912) 223-4630 (912) 270-6746 (832) 279-7344 (912) 230-1867	Anna@goldenislestouring.com amibishop1999@gmail.com graboyee@yahoo.com willsjoe@gmail.com savannahjohn@yahoo.com kelsibrooks52@gmail.com sandykilgore@gmail.com
2026	Anne Aspinwall David Keen Jackie Griffin Judy Benjamin Katie Rossiter Linda Seierstad Lowell Korb	2330 Ocean Road 119 Shadow Wood Bend 253 Moss Oak Lane 102 Prestwick 128 St. Clair Drive 406 Brewster Lane 116 Peppertree Crossing Rd, BWR	(912) 399-1101 (678) 910-3062 (843) 714-8814 (912) 638-2149 (678) 793-2575 (912) 571-9039 X (912) 222-8980	anneaspinwall@gmail.com davidleekeen@comcast.net jpol1954@yahoo.com judybenj@gmail.com myer.km@gmail.com lsei7579@gmail.com Lnkorb@comcast.net
TRUSTI	EES			
2024 2025 2026	Jack Hartman Bonnie Roberts Bob Killian	1732 Bruce Drive 236 Circle Drive 4 Tanglewood Road	(912) 638-2533 (912) 270-4183 (912) 269-4586	blackjackssi@yahoo.com bdroberts49@comcast.net bob@killianlawfirm.com

2023-24 CLERK OF SESSION LEAD DEACON
Leslie McCracken Anne Aspinwall

DEACONS

Deacons Meeting Dates

July 2023	DIACO	NATE DOES NO	T MEET
August 21, 2023	3 rd Monday	5:30	Upper Room
September 18, 2023	3 rd Monday	5:30	Upper Room
October 16, 2023	3 rd Monday	5:30	Upper Room
November 20, 2023	3 rd Monday	5:30	Upper Room
December 2023	DIACO	NATE DOES NO	T MEET
January 15, 2024	3 rd Monday	5:30	Upper Room
February 19, 2024	3 rd Monday	5:30	Upper Room
March 18, 2024	3 rd Monday	5:30	Upper Room
April 15, 2024	3 rd Monday	5:30	Upper Room
May 20, 2024	3 rd Monday	5:30	Upper Room
June 17, 2024	3 rd Monday	5:30	Upper Room

Prayer List

	Opening Prayer	Closing Prayer	
July 2023	DIACONATE DOES	NOT MEET	
August 21, 2023	Graham Owens	Joe Wills	
September 18, 2023	John LaBoone	Kelsi Brooks	
October 16, 2023	Sandi Kilgore	Anne Aspinwall	
November 20, 2023	David Keen	Jackie Griffin	
December 2023	DIACONATE DOES NOT MEET		
January 15, 2024	Judy Benjamin	Judy Benjamin	
February 19, 2024	Katie Rossiter	Linda Seierstad	
March 18, 2024	Lowell Korb	Andrew Turner	
April 15, 2024	Denise Hidalgo	Jan Rossiter	
May 20, 2024	Lynda Bisher	Michael Johnson	
June 17, 2024	Nancy Fixx	Tom Haughney	

ELDERS

Communion Dates

July 2, 2023	November 5, 2023	February 4, 2024
August 6, 2023	December 3, 2023	March 3, 2024
September 3, 2023	December 24, 2023	April 7, 2024
October 1, 2023	January 7, 2024	May 5, 2024
	•	June 2, 2024

Session Meeting Dates

July 2023	SESSION	DOES NOT ME	EET
August 15, 2023	3 rd Tuesday	4:00	Upper Room
September 19, 2023	3 rd Tuesday	4:00	Upper Room
October 17, 2023	3 rd Tuesday	4:00	Upper Room
November 21, 2023	3 rd Tuesday	4:00	Upper Room
December 2023	SESSION	DOES NOT ME	EET
January 16, 2024	3 rd Tuesday	4:00	Upper Room
February 20, 2024	3 rd Tuesday	4:00	Upper Room
March 19, 2024	3 rd Tuesday	4:00	Upper Room
April 16, 2024	3 rd Tuesday	4:00	Upper Room
May 21, 2024	3 rd Tuesday	4:00	Upper Room
June 18, 2024	3 rd Tuesday	4:00	Upper Room

Presbytery Meeting Dates

DATE	LOCATION
October 17, 2023 (fall Stated Meeting)	First Presbyterian Church, Statesboro
February 2024 (winter Stated Meeting)	TBA
May 2024 (spring Stated Meeting)	TBA

ELDER DUTIES 2023-2024

Closing Prayer						
July	No Meeting					
August 15	Anne Marie Stirewalt					
September 19	Chris Bone					
October 17	Jeff Roberts					
November 21	Mary Bryson					
December	No Meeting					
January 16	Mary Gash					
February 20	Philip Saussy					
March 19	Will Tsai					
April 16	Bryan Neill					
May 21	Carrie Wessel					
June 18	Leslie McCracken					

LEAD & ASSIST 1. lay reader during worship 2. usher at funerals

	LEAD	ASSIST				
July	Buddy Jones	Mary Bryson				
August	Jerry Spencer	Mary Gash				
September	John Matthews	Philip Saussy				
October	Lee Dillard	Will Tsai				
November	Leslie Hartman	Bryan Neill				
December	Meg Mimbs	Carrie Wessel				
January	Mike Kellar	Daryl Rabert				
February	Philip Saussy	Jerry Spemcer				
March	Will Tsai	John Matthews				
April	Bryan Neill	Lee Dillard				
May	Carrie Wessel	Leslie Hartman				
June	Daryl Rabert	Meg Mimbs				

Communion Servers & Lead/Assist (July 2023 - June 2024)

FIRST	LAST	CLASS	7/2/23	8/6/23	9/3/23	10/1/23	11/5/23	12/3/23	12/24/23	1/7/24	2/4/24	3/3/24	4/7/24	5/5/24	6/2/24
Buddy	Jones	24	Lead	10:00	10:30		10:30							10:30	10:00
Jerry	Spencer	24	Prep	Lead							Assist	10:30	10:30	10:30	
John	Matthews	24		Prep	Lead						Prep	Assist	10:30		10:00
Lee	Dillard	24			Prep	Lead					10;30	Prep	Assist	10:30	10:00
Leslie	Hartman	24	10:00			Prep	Lead					10;30	Prep	Assist	10:00
Meg	Mimbs	24	10:00		8:30		Prep	Lead					10;30	Prep	Assist
Mike	Kellar	24	10:00	10:00		8:30		Prep		Lead				10:30	Prep
Anne Marie	Stirewalt	25	10:00	10:00	10:30	10:30	8:30	8:30		Prep					
Chris	Bone	25	10:00	10:00	10:30	10:30	10:30	8:30		8:30					
Jeff	Roberts	25	10:00	10:00	10:30	10:30	10:30	10:30		8:30					
Mary	Bryson	25	Assist	10:00	10:30	10:30	10:30	10:30		10:30					
Mary	Gash	25	Prep	Assist	10:30	10:30	10:30	10:30		10:30					
Phillip	Saussy	25		Prep	Assist	10:30	10:30	10:30		10:30	Lead				
Will	Tsai	25			Prep	Assist		10:30		10:30	Prep	Lead			10:00
Bryan	Neill	26				Prep	Assist	10:30		10:30	8:30	Prep	Lead		
Carrie	Wessel	26					Prep	Assist		10:30	8:30	8:30	Prep	Lead	
Daryl	Rabert	26						Prep		Assist	10:30	8:30	8:30	Prep	Lead
Kevin	Lokey	26	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			-	8:30	-		Prep	10:30	10:30	8:30	8:30	Prep
Lee	Malone	26			8:30				10:00 PM		10;30	10:30	10:30	8:30	
Sandi	Goeldner	26				8:30			10:00 PM		10:30	10:30	10:30	10:30	
Tate	Simpson	26							Prep		10:30	10:30	10:30	10:30	10:00

*holiday

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT POLICY

Volunteer Guidelines

ST. SIMONS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Steps to Ensuring a Safe Church Home for Children, Youth, and Volunteers/Staff:

SCREENING:

- A criminal history check will be done on all SSPC staff and volunteers working with children and youth under the age of 18 in an ongoing unsupervised capacity.
- No person with a past conviction or pending proceeding addressing an allegation of child abuse or neglect can work with children and youth at SSPC.

9

SUPERVISING:

- Two Adult Policy At least two adults should be present with children and youth at all times and remain in sight of one another except in emergency situations.
- Open Door Policy Doors to rooms in which children and youth are present are to remain open at all times. If the noise level disturbs others, the door may be shut as long as there is clear unobstructed glass in the door and two adults in the room.
- Six Month Policy Any volunteer working with children or youth under the age of 18 in an ongoing unsupervised capacity must have been a member of SSPC for at least six months.
- Training Any person working with children or youth under the age of 18 in an ongoing unsupervised capacity must complete "Sexual Misconduct Training" every three years and sign a recommitment form every year. Training includes information about why child and youth protection guidelines are needed, components of SSPC's Sexual Misconduct Policy, how to recognize signs of abuse, how to report, how the church will respond and appropriate skills for supervising and chaperoning children and youth.
- Code of Conduct All staff and volunteers working with children or youth under the age of 18 are expected to follow the Code of Conduct (see next page).

9

REPORTING:

- Staff and volunteers are required to report any situation which presents suspicion that child abuse may have occurred or concerns related to child or youth protection and safety.
- Allegations and concerns shall be made to either the Director of Christian Education, Associate Pastor, or Pastor.



RESPONDING:

- · Every allegation is taken seriously.
- Adequate care, respect, and confidentiality must be offered to both alleged victims and perpetrators until the allegation is substantiated or cleared.
- SSPC staff and volunteers will cooperate fully with authorities and will avoid denial, minimization, or blame in dealing with the allegation.

Staff and Volunteer Code of Conduct

ST. SIMONS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The **Staff and Volunteer Code of Conduct** applies to all all employees and volunteers working with children and youth ages 18 and under at St. Simons Presbyterian Church. The code of conduct is consistent with and governed by the revised church-wide Sexual Misconduct Policy adopted by Session on August 12, 2014.

The purpose of the staff and volunteer code of conduct is as follows:

- 1. To be faithful to our baptismal vows as we seek to welcome and nurture young people.
- 2. To provide a safe and secure environment for children and youth at SSPC.
- 3. To protect children and youth from sexual, physical, emotional, and spiritual abuse while participating in SSPC activities.
- 4. To provide a mechanism to deal with reported concerns and subsequent actions.
- 5. To prevent incidents and allegations of child abuse and to guide SSPC as a church in the conduct of staff/volunteers.
- 6. To protect adult staff/volunteers from unwarranted allegations of child abuse.

Recognizing that our young people are the most important gifts God has entrusted to us, I promise to follow the rules and guidelines in this Code of Conduct as a condition of my providing services to the children and youth at St. Simons Presbyterian Church.

As a staff/volunteer, I will:

- Treat everyone with respect, loyalty, patience, integrity, courtesy, dignity, and consideration.
- Use positive reinforcement rather than criticism, competition, or comparison when working with children and youth.
- Observe the two-adult policy and open door policy in all interactions with children and youth except in emergency situations.
- · Provide proper supervision and exercise sound judgment in providing a safe environment at all times.
- · Respect the rights of children and youth not to be touched in ways that make them feel uncomfortable.
- Report suspected abuse to the Christian Education Director, Associate Pastor, or Pastor understanding that failure to report suspected abuse to civil authorities is against the law.
- Cooperate fully in any investigation of abuse of children and/or youth.

As a staff/volunteer, I will not:

- Smoke or use tobacco products in the presence of children and/or youth.
- Use, possess or be under the influence of alcohol at any time during church working hours or church sponsored programs where youth and/or children are present.
- Use, possess or be under the influence of illegal drugs at any time.
- Verbally, emotionally, physically, or sexually abuse children.
- Discipline youth and/or children in any manner that frightens or humiliates them.
- Share inappropriate details of my personal life or ask children to share inappropriate details through any form of communication: written, verbal, or electronic.
- Give gifts to individual children and/or youth without knowledge and permission of parents and SSPC pastor or associate pastor.
- Date program participants under the age of 18.



Please sign the provided sheet acknowledging that you have received, understand, and agree to abide by the St. Simons Presbyterian Staff and Volunteer Code of Conduct.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Emergency Procedures

- Calling 911 is always the first step (EMTs are fast but they are not quick);
 it takes approximately 7 minutes for nearest EMT to get to the church.
- Ushers should know the location of the AED and the medical first aid kit.
 - 1. Located in hallway outside social hall.
 - 2. Located near Youth Suites elevator.
- o Ushers should know the location and use of all fire extinguishers.

Steps to take in a medical emergency:

1. To be efficient and eliminate confusion, one person (aka "leader") gives directions.

2. Call 911

- To reduce confusion, the leader asks a specific person to call 911 and designates entrance for emergency personnel (Kings Way, Delegal or Ashantilly).
- Person calling GIVES THE CHURCH ADDRESS (205 Kings Way).
- Person tells 911 designated entrance for emergency personnel (EMT)
 - (a) Kings Way (front of church) or
 - (b) Delegal Street side of church or
 - (c) Ashantilly side of church.
- 3. **Doctors** The leader asks for doctor's assistance *If doctors are present they will probably automatically move to the emergency.*
- 4. **AED** (Automated External Defibrillator) leader asks for AED.
- 5. **Ushers** leader asks ushers to go outside to direct emergency vehicle.
 - An usher stands on Kings Way to direct EMT to the designated entrance.
 - (a) Front of church usher stands outside front doors of sanctuary or
 - (b) Delegal usher stands at the bottom of the ramp and directs EMT to the Memorial Garden door or
 - (c) Ashantilly -usher stands in kitchen parking lot and directs EMT to door to Gathering Space or door to Ashantilly Wing.
 - Ushers keep hallways clear to make sure the path for the EMT is open.

St. Simons Presbyterian Church

