



*Wilmington  
Island  
Presbyterian  
Church*



Dear Friends,

From the earliest period of the church's history, Christians have used the days leading up to Easter as a time of penitence, fasting, and prayer. Originally, the forty-day season of Lent, which developed perhaps as early as the fourth century, provided a time in which converts to the faith were prepared for baptism into the body of Christ. It was also a time in which those who found themselves separated from the community of faith were reconciled and restored to the fellowship of the church.

This two-fold focus of Lent is a good place to start as we consider our own Lenten observance. The days and weeks leading up to Easter can be a time for us to examine our own lives, to seek opportunities to deepen and grow our faith, and to remember and renew our own baptismal vows. We can do this by being intentional in our worship habits and by setting aside time each day for prayer, study and reflection.

Lent can also be a time in which we can seek reconciliation – with God and with one another. Are there relationships in our lives that are broken or need attention? Are there past wrongs that need to be righted? Are there old habits or unhealthy practices that can be “given up”? The season of Lent provides us with an opportunity to seek and share the gifts of forgiveness and wholeness.

And just as we do not celebrate Advent without remembering Christmas, so we do not celebrate Lent as though we know nothing about Easter. All of our Lenten observances and practices are carried out in light of the grace and love demonstrated to us in the life, death, and resurrection of Christ our Lord which is not only at culmination of our Lenten journey, but is at the center of all that we believe as Christians.

May the season of Lent be a time in which we are all reminded of the love and grace and mercy we find in Jesus Christ as we seek to be his faithful disciples.

Peace,  
Andy



Come and enjoy the annual  
**WIPPP**  
**St. Patrick's Day**  
**Parade**  
**Tuesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>**  
**9:30 AM**

from church parking lot to May Howard  
Elementary School back parking lot.



# VISA



**Our Very Important Senior Adults will  
gather Thursday, March 20<sup>th</sup> at 11:45  
AM at *The Snug Irish Pub* (216 Johnny  
Mercer Blvd.).**

**Please reply to this message or call the  
church office to let us know you will be  
attending.**

A special shout-out to Andrew Utter,  
who saved our Preschool lots of money  
by using his gift of welding to attach  
a new cross-beam for the swingset on  
the playground that was damaged by  
TS Debby last fall!



## Mark Your Calendars

**Sunday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>**

following worship

**Church Lunch**

featuring BBQ brisket  
smoked by Carla Moore!



**Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup>**

9:00 AM

**Church Clean up Day**



**Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>**

10:00 - 2:00

**Deacons' Annual  
BBQ Sale**

Ace Hardware parking lot



**June 9<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup>**

9:00 AM - noon

**Vacation Bible School**

Volunteer Recruitment  
has begun!



**Join us this Wednesday  
March 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:45 for  
Irish Stew & dinner rolls  
(prepared by Sarah Vohringer)**

**March 19<sup>th</sup>**

Sweet & Sour Chicken, rice & Asian salad  
(prepared by Rhoda Voth)

**March 26<sup>th</sup>**

Fettuccine Alfredo with homemade bread & salad  
(prepared by Clare & Ken Utter)

Please let us know you will be attending by  
replying to this email,  
clicking the sign-up button below,  
or using the *One Stop* insert in the bulletin.  
**Dinners are \$10/adult; \$5/child**

**Wednesday Night Suppers Sign-up**



## Adult Bible Study Opportunities

- **Tuesday Morning Study** meets weekly at 10:00 AM in the Education Building...***except not this week!***
- **Tuesday Evening Women's Study** meets weekly at 7:00 PM in the Education Building.
- **Men's Bible Study** meets on Wednesday mornings at 7:15 AM on in the Fellowship Hall.

*All are invited & welcome!*





## AFFORDABLE & ATTAINABLE HOUSING CAMPAIGN UPDATES

Our campaign for affordable and attainable housing remains strong, and we have several key updates and upcoming events to share with you.

### SPLOST-8 Advocacy Efforts

We continue working to ensure affordable housing is a priority in the upcoming SPLOST-8 referendum. Here's where we stand:

### CITY ADVOCACY

- The Affordable Housing Committee recently met with officials from the City of Savannah and Chatham County to advocate for the inclusion of affordable housing in SPLOST-8.
- In our meeting with **Jay Melder, Savannah's City Manager**, we successfully **secured his commitment to recommending a minimum of \$20 million towards affordable housing in the city's budget priorities**. The city must release the referendum project list 90 days before the vote, and we will keep you informed.

### COUNTY ADVOCACY

- We also met with Chatham County **Chairman Chester Ellis and County Manager Michael Kaigler**, who expressed commitment to working with all municipalities and contributing to inclusive housing projects. However, they have yet to specify a specific budget allocation. As with the city, the county is required to release its budget and project list 90 days before the referendum.
- **Next Steps:** We urge you to stay engaged and review the referendum project recommendations once released. We advocate for supporting SPLOST-8 only if it includes robust funding for affordable & inclusive housing.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

MENTAL  
HEALTH  
COMMITTEE  
MEETING  
3/3/25

GUN  
VIOLENCE  
RESEARCH  
MEETING  
3/10/25

BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS  
MEETING  
3/11/25

ZONE  
AMENDMENT  
CITY  
COUNCIL  
3/12/25

COMMUNITY  
ORGANIZING  
101  
3/29/25



# NEWSLETTER

FEB 2025  
ISSUE NO 6  
PAGE 2

JUSTICE UNITES SAVANNAH TOGETHER

## JUSTICE UPDATES



### AFFORDABLE & ATTAINABLE HOUSING CAMPAIGN UPDATES

The JUST Affordable Housing Committee will speak in support of Bria Paxton's proposed Zoning Text Amendment. Your presence at this meeting is crucial, as this amendment is essential to promoting affordable housing.

#### HERE'S WHY WE SUPPORT IT:

- **Equitable Growth:** Zoning has historically excluded lower-income communities and people of color. This amendment ensures zoning works for everyone.
- **Density Bonus:** The proposal incentivizes small-scale, "missing middle" housing like duplexes, triplexes, and small apartments, increasing affordable housing availability.
- **Neighborhood Diversity:** It promotes scattered-site affordable housing while preserving neighborhood character.
- **Affordable Living for All:** Encouraging inclusive development ensures safe and stable housing options for all income levels.
- **We encourage you to attend and show support for this initiative!**

#### ATTAINABLE HOUSING SUMMIT

Attainable Housing Summit – April 9, 2025

Join us for the Attainable Housing Summit to discuss solutions and strategies for addressing Savannah's housing crisis. Visit the Housing Savannah website for more details and to register.

#### Stay Involved!

Your advocacy makes a difference! Keep an eye out for the SPLOST-8 project list, attend key meetings, and join us in the fight for housing justice.

Together, we can ensure housing for all!

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COMMUNITY  
ORGANIZING  
101  
3/29/25

**JUST is teaming up with Deep Center for an event; please use the QR code below for more information.**





# community ORGANIZING

# 101

Upcoming Community Event

**SATURDAY, MARCH 29TH 2025**

Join us for a skill-building and resource-sharing event designed to equip attendees with the tools to drive change at the local and state levels.



RSVP by Monday  
March 24, 2025

LOCATION DETAILS WILL BE PROVIDED UPON REGISTRATION.

Time  
10:00 AM  
12:30 PM

**Do you know where to find when church events are happening - such as lunches, learning activities or events?**

Visit our Events Calendar on our web page by clicking below:



**Church Calendar**

**CHECK OUT WHAT'S HAPPENING AT SAVANNAH PRESBYTERY**

**March Newsletter**

Wilmington Island Presbyterian Church  
450 N Cromwell Rd.  
Savannah, Georgia 31410  
www.wipcsav.org

912-897-1840

Visit our website

Online Giving



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