

Happy June Everyone!

It's hard to believe it's already summer, because it feels like Christmas with the presents we are about to receive. First, we are thrilled to welcome Rev. Katharine Hinman as our new pastor on June 19th. Katy, we are excited to welcome you and husband, Jonathan, to our family. Second, we anxiously await the Learning Academy moving to their newly renovated location in the Education Building!

Thanks to the Board of Directors, particularly Gordon Hunter, James Hill, and The Learning Academy Board, including Ricci Lewis-Johnson, for all the hard work prepping the Education Building for the new tenants. The Learning Academy is moving "back home" to the first floor where it was housed when created as a church ministry in 2003. The expanded space will allow not only more room to breathe, but also for increased student enrollment this fall.

What happens to their old space? A team, led by Kathleen Gulley, determined that the space would be ideal for designated Sunday School classrooms. The Church Council will discuss the highest and best use for the rooms in the next couple of months and move forward with a plan, hopefully this fall. If you have ideas to share please join us for one of the council meetings – we meet on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 7 pm in the Library. (You're always welcome to attend.)

The Board of Directors is working on parking lot repair and considering repair needs for the old parsonage. Renting the old parsonage is currently being considered as a source of church revenue. Repairs on the current parsonage will be handled the week in between minister moves.

Lastly, attendance for Sunday worship continues to be lower than anticipated. If you are not able to join us due to work, travel, health, etc. and have some ideas on how you can feel more connected to the congregation, would you please let me know at meredith.hodges@gas-south.com? We'd love to figure out a means by which the church can be supportive of you outside of Sunday service.

Thank you again to Rev. Vicki and Larry Smith as they move forward in this new stage of their life. We continue to be grateful for the many things you have done for the church and the gift of your presence. May the Lord bless you and keep you and know you are always welcome here at College Park First!

Sincerely,

Meredith Hodges
Church Council Chair

