



# THE SPIRE

Spring 2024

Dear Friends,

This Lent, we're exploring the "I Am" statements Jesus makes throughout the Gospel of John. I have to confess that John is one of my favorite books in all of scripture, and I was able to spend extra time studying this gospel in particular with specialists in the field in my final year of seminary. By looking at the seven "I Am" statements, we won't cover the whole scope of the gospel. (Not even close, honestly.) But we will hear Jesus talk very specifically about himself, using a variety of metaphors that would have been commonly understood during his lifetime.

How many of those "I Am" statements can you remember? Try to recall some of them before reading further ... or just keep reading! Jesus says, at various times throughout John:

"I am the Bread of Life"

"I am the Light of the World"

"I am the Good Shepherd"

"I am the Gate"

"I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life"

"I am the Resurrection and the Life"

"I am the Vine"

As we read and reflect together on each of these, we'll learn more about why those associations made immediate sense to those who heard Jesus speak.

It makes me curious, though. If Jesus were crafting these metaphors today, what might he say? "I am the Internet Search Engine"? "I am the Grits of Life"? "I am the Mackinac Bridge"? This might sound tongue-in-cheek, but my question is genuine. Thinking through some of the most important characteristics of the one we call Jesus Christ, what modern-day metaphors could help others better understand who he is and all that he promises?

Send me your ideas (and how you came to those ideas, if you're willing!). Fair warning ... they might show up in an upcoming sermon!

Be well, friends. See you in worship.

Peace,

*Jenny*

# "I Am, So You Can"

"I am the resurrection and the life."

"I am the light of the world."

"I am the good shepherd."

"I am the vine."

"I am the way, the truth, and the life."

"I am the bread of life."

"I am the gate."



Lent at Shandon Presbyterian Church  
8:30 & 10:30 am in person | 10:30 am livestream

According to John's Gospel, Jesus says "I Am" seven times. I am the light of the world, he says. I am the bread of life. I am the good shepherd. I am the gate. I am the vine. I am the resurrection and the life. I am the way and the truth and the life. Those metaphors don't exist on their own, however. Jesus uses the exact same phrasing that God used when speaking with Moses at the burning bush. In so doing, Jesus makes an unmistakable statement about who he is. And not only do those seven statements tell us who he is, they tell us what he promises to those who follow him. Journey through the Gospel of John with us this Lent.

## Ash Wednesday | February 14

"I am the Resurrection and the Life"

## February 18

"I am the Light of the World"

## February 25

"I am the Good Shepherd"

## March 3

"I am the Vine"

## March 10

Rev. Lucy Youngblood preaching

## March 17

Youth Sunday

## March 24

"I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life"

## Maundy Thursday | March 28

"I am the Bread of Life"

## Good Friday | March 29

*Tenebrae Service*

## Easter Sunday | March 31

"I am the Gate"

## Holy Week Worship Schedule

### Palm Sunday | March 24

8:30 am | Early Church | Sower's Chapel  
*in person only*

10:20 am | Palm Procession | Front Steps

10:30 am | Worship | Sanctuary  
*in person and online*

### Maundy Thursday | March 28

6 pm | Worship and Dinner | Activity Center  
*in person only*

### Good Friday | March 29

7 pm | Tenebrae Service | Sanctuary  
*in person and online*

### Easter Sunday, March 31

9 am | Outdoor Worship | Church Lawn  
*in person only*

10 am | Potluck Brunch | Activity Center

11 am | Indoor Worship | Sanctuary  
*in person and online*



# Ash Wednesday February 14

## Ashes-to-Go

8 to 10 am | Front Sidewalk

## Worship with Communion and Imposition of Ashes

6:10 pm | Sanctuary

## Early Church

During Lent, we will have a second Sunday morning worship service. Simply called Early Church, this service will meet from 8:30-9:10 am in the Sanctuary. We will worship in that beautiful, familiar, sacred space, but the service will have a distinctively different feel. We'll gather around tables set up throughout the Sower's Chapel and the front of the Nave. Coffee and pastries will be available and welcome at your tables. The liturgy will be similar to the 10:30 service, but somewhat abbreviated. Instead of a full-length sermon, a 5 minute introduction to the text will be offered, followed by conversation around the tables, guided by discussion questions -- because you all bring insights to scripture, as well. Prayers will include specific requests you share with us. We'll have the same preacher as the 10:30 am service, another pastoral staff member as liturgist, Matt McCall leading music, and a choral scholar helping us sing. Childcare will be available.

The first Sunday of Lent is February 18. So, Early Church will meet February 18 and 25, and March 3, 10, 17, and 24. Your staff and Session are excited about this. We will learn a lot as we go. The response to Breakfast Church was overwhelmingly positive -- and not just because Flying Biscuit provided the food! The opportunity to discuss scripture together in the context of worship really impacted some of you. We want to give that another try during this Lenten season. Think of it as a congregational Lenten practice.

If you are a tried-and-true 10:30-er, don't worry: all signs of Early Church will be tucked away by 10 am. Our "regular" service will continue as always. Thank you for being a congregation that is willing to try something new. You never quite know where the Spirit will lead us next!



## Presbytery Meeting

Trinity Presbytery's stated February meeting will take place at Shandon Presbyterian Church on Saturday, February 17, 2024.

Sunday School classes will not meet on Easter Sunday, March 31. Classes resume on April 7.



## Arise and Shine Children's Choir

The children will sing at the 10:30 am service:

**Sunday, February 11  
and Sunday, March 24**

## CHILD PROTECTION POLICY TRAINING

Interested in volunteering with our children or youth ministries? Join us on April 28 at 9:15 am in Room 202 for a Child Protection Policy Training and to complete required background checks. This is the final training prior to Art and the Bible Camp. Please bring a laptop, if possible. Questions? Contact Jen Lutterbie at [jennifer.lutterbie@gmail.com](mailto:jennifer.lutterbie@gmail.com)



## Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday, March 24, 2024

Following Worship

### Create in Me: A NEW SPIRIT

ART AND THE PSALMS

Art and the Bible Camp will take place the week of July 8-12! Parents, go to [bit.ly/artandthebible2024](https://bit.ly/artandthebible2024) to register children. Adults can volunteer by going to [bit.ly/volunteerartandthebible](https://bit.ly/volunteerartandthebible). Youth who would like to volunteer should contact April Martin at [amartin@shandonpresbyterian.org](mailto:amartin@shandonpresbyterian.org).

## YOUTH FUNDRAISER

Join us for our upcoming Youth Fundraiser! A meal will be prepared and served by the youth of Shandon Presbyterian Church, on February 11, 2024. We'll host it in the Activity Center immediately following the annual congregational meeting. Come for fellowship, great food, and a chance to win bingo prizes. Our YOUTH need YOU so, please come support them! We'll also have sugar cookies for kids to decorate! All donations will off-set the cost families pay for their teenager to attend a Montreat Youth Conference this summer. Our Bingo prizes have been carefully crafted and are gender neutral. Don't miss this chance to support our youth!

# YOUTH SUNDAY

Our scripture passage for March 17 is Deuteronomy 6:4-9. It expounds upon the commandment to love God and is all about loyalty. There is a charge to do better and to make better choices in this passage. This passage is commonly referred to as the shema (meaning "listen up" or "hear this"). This Hebrew word is a call to action. In this passage we learn to Love the LORD your God with all your heart, mind, and strength and to teach this commandment to those who come after you. Our teenagers will dive into this passage and lead an exciting service at 10:30 am on Sunday, March 17, 2024.

### HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH CONFERENCE

June 2-8, 2024

at Montreat Conference Center

Deadline to sign up is March 15.

### MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH CONFERENCE

July 17-21, 2024

at Maryville College

Deadline to sign up is April 15.

For more details and to sign up,  
contact April Martin at [amartin@shandonpresbyterian.org](mailto:amartin@shandonpresbyterian.org).



## Acolytes

Worship leadership for second grade and older | sign up at: [bit.ly/shandonacolytes](https://bit.ly/shandonacolytes)



## Worship and Music Conference at Montreat June 16-22, 2024

Come and experience meaningful worship, lots of music-making opportunities, and all sorts of workshops for a week in the mountains of Montreat, NC. Adults, children, and youth all welcome; this is a wonderfully intergenerational event. Please note: church staff will attend, but not as chaperones. Youth and children must have an adult in attendance to whom they are responsible. Contact Matt McCall if interested in attending at [mmccall@shandonpresbyterian.org](mailto:mmccall@shandonpresbyterian.org).



## Read Scripture

Readers of all ages are welcome in worship | sign up at: [bit.ly/SPCreaders](https://bit.ly/SPCreaders)

## Welcome Home, New Members!

During worship on Sunday, December 17, 2023, Shandon welcomed new members! it is an exciting day when our community grows! Joining by affirmation of faith are: Allison and Will Brumfield (Anna James and Katherine), Larry Jones, Susan Mazur, Brian Moore (Kat, Grace, and August), Benjamin and Leslie Roth (Micah and Samuel), Eli Roth, Buffy and Ian Smith, Victoria Smith, Zoe Smith, Jeanne Stiglbauer, Emily and Mason Thomas (Audrey), and Brianne Tillirson (Jack and George). Garrett Lawson joined by baptism. Welcome to Shandon, friends in Christ! Welcome home!



Information to be included in the next issue of *The Spire* should be submitted by **April 15**. This issue will cover May, June, and July. Send information to Matt McCall at [mmccall@shandonpresbyterian.org](mailto:mmccall@shandonpresbyterian.org).

# Shandon's Book Club

Looking to share a good book with good friends?  
Join Shandon's Book Club! Meetings take place at the home  
of Elizabeth Crouch and Andy Kahle at 6 pm.

**February 26:** Reading "All My Knotted Up Life: A Memoir," by Beth Moore  
**March 25:** Reading "The Lost City of the Monkey God," by Douglass Preston

## MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Building relationships, serving the community, and exploring faith in action

January 31 | 7 pm | Gather at Craft and Draft

March 2 | 1 pm | USC Men's Basketball Game

For information about upcoming gatherings, contact:

- Peyton Hassinger | [peyton.hassinger@gmail.com](mailto:peyton.hassinger@gmail.com)
- Scott Lutterbie | [lutterbie07@gmail.com](mailto:lutterbie07@gmail.com)
- Matt Ramsey | [mattramsey09@gmail.com](mailto:mattramsey09@gmail.com)



**PRESBYTERIAN  
WOMEN**

All women of Shandon Presbyterian Church are invited to gather in Davis Hall as we celebrate our friendships and blessings. We extend a special welcome to all women who have joined our congregation in the last year. The evening will include sweet and savory goodies, the election of officers for the next year, and the collection of the annual Birthday Offering. For more information or to RSVP, contact Holly Fetner at [hollyfetner@att.net](mailto:hollyfetner@att.net).

**Birthday-Friendship  
Celebration**

**Thursday, March 14, 2024  
at 6 pm in Davis Hall**

Shandon Presbyterian Women meet to nurture our faith through prayer and Bible study, to support the mission of the church worldwide and build an inclusive, caring community of women in groups called Circles. All women are welcome at any circle meeting. If you are not yet a member of a circle, would like a different meeting time, or are interested in more information please contact Elizabeth Kelbaugh at [lizvpk@gmail.com](mailto:lizvpk@gmail.com).

## Supply Drive for The Free Medical Clinic

The mission of The Free Medical Clinic is to provide quality health care, at no cost, to residents of the community who cannot pay for such services, and do not have health insurance. Please consider donating the following items during the month of February to aid in their daily operations: liquid hand soap, paper towels, copy paper, disinfectant wipes, and toilet paper. Donations can be placed in the wooden collection bins outside of Davis Hall.



# MORE JUSTICE

Shandon is one of 26 multi-faith members of MORE Justice —an advocacy organization working for justice in affordable housing, reduction of gun violence and food security in the Midlands. Everyone is invited to attend the Nehemiah Action on March 18, from 6:30-8:30 pm, location TBD, where elected officials will be asked to make a commitment to address these critical situations. There is no registration for the event itself. We will have a bus providing transportation from Shandon, leaving the church at 5:30 pm. To register to ride the bus or for more information, contact Rev. John Cook at [jcook@shandonpresbyterian.org](mailto:jcook@shandonpresbyterian.org).



Central Midlands Habitat for Humanity is looking for volunteers who want to get their hands a little dirty and help a family build their own house here in the midlands. Shandon Presbyterian is partnering with them to make that happen. We will be sponsoring a day during their annual Faith Build (sometime in late March or early April) and we will need 15-20 "construction workers" to make a team. No experience necessary, but you must be at least 16 years old. Be on the lookout for more detailed information. If you are interested, email Hugh Jacobs at [hughjacobs865@gmail.com](mailto:hughjacobs865@gmail.com). In the meantime, if you have an extra morning or afternoon and want to sign up for an opportunity to help Habitat refurbish a local house you can sign up at: [www.habitatsc.org/individuals](http://www.habitatsc.org/individuals).

## Circle of Welcome

In early February, Shandon will open our arms and hearts to welcome our third refugee family to Columbia. Our group of volunteers, called the Circle of Welcome, partners with Lutheran Services to meet the family's needs as they resettle in our community.

Shandon's Circle of Welcome will greet the family at the airport and take them to their temporary home, a home we will stock with their first groceries and serve a culturally appropriate first meal. The Circle of Welcome volunteers will provide transportation to places such as the grocery store, medical appointments, social security office, schools, job training, and interviews. Volunteers may attend English classes with the family members or provide English language tutoring. Once their permanent home is finalized, the group will secure necessary household items and furniture and help the family move to their new home. As we become aware of their needs, we will reach out to the congregation for donations. Volunteers will also plan outings with the family to introduce them to American culture and life in Columbia. As the family settles into their new life in the United States, the Circle of Welcome will be their first American friends.

The members of Shandon's Circle of Welcome are a diverse group of church members. We span a number of different decades in our ages. We are single and married folks. We are empty-nesters and have young children. We are retired individuals, stay-at-home parents, medical personnel, educators, social workers, state workers, attorneys, and clergy.

Pray that we will bond as a group as we minister, remaining culturally sensitive as we support this refugee family. Pray especially for the family as they begin their new life in Columbia. Pray that the family finds warm welcome and God's love in the greater community as well. If you would like to join the Shandon team in surrounding the family in a circle of love, contact Rev. John Cook at [jcook@shandonpresbyterian.org](mailto:jcook@shandonpresbyterian.org)

# Maryville College Concert Choir

Spring Tour Concert



Wednesday, March 6, 2024  
6:10 pm | Free

Sign up to host students in your home the evening of the concert.  
Go to [bit.ly/MaryvilleChoir](https://bit.ly/MaryvilleChoir)



## Limited Time Only Chamber Choir

Dr. Alicia Walker Conductor

Sunday, April 28, 2024  
4 pm | Sanctuary

\$20 General Admission  
Free Student Admission



## University Chorus

Dr. Jabarie Glass, Conductor

Thursday, March 21, 2024  
7:30 PM | Free

Shandon Presbyterian Church  
607 Woodrow Street, Columbia

### Shandon on Wednesdays

5:15 pm	Dinner (Davis Hall)
6 pm	Arise and Shine Children's Choir
6:10 pm	Adult Programming (Room 209)
6:30 pm	Children's Bible Study
6:30 pm	Shandon Ringers Rehearsal
7:30 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Childcare is available 6-7:15 pm for children under 5 years old.

#### SOW Adult Programming Options

- 2.7 Marc Chagall's Jerusalem Windows (McDevitt)
- 2.14 Ash Wednesday Worship
- 2.21 Practicing Our Faith: Storytelling (McDevitt)
- 2.28 Practicing Our Faith: Singing (Glass)
- 3.6 Maryville College Choir Concert
- 3.13 Practicing Our Faith: Forgiveness (Martin)
- 3.20 Practicing Our Faith: Saying Yes and No (Woolard-Lawson)
- 3.28 Maundy Thursday Worship
- 4.10 Majoring in the Minors: Hosea (McCall)
- 4.17 Majoring in the Minors: Habakkuk (McDevitt)
- 4.24 Majoring in the Minors: Joel (Woolard-Lawson)
- 5.1 Majoring in the Minors: Micah (Cook)
- 5.8 Majoring in the Minors: Amos (Martin)
- 5.15 Messy Church
- 5.22 Pottery and Painting, by Arts at Shandon

Dinner reservations are due each Monday by noon.  
Make reservations on Realm or by calling the church office.  
Detailed class descriptions + registration available online.

### Let's Go Green, Shandon!

Scripture says, "Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood" (Acts 20:28). Have you ever wondered what God defines as a "flock?" Did he mean our family, community members, those who are vulnerable? Who, or what, are we actually overseeing? God may have in mind a multitude of meanings for the word "flock." There's one idea Outreach would like you to consider further - keeping watch over the Earth. Shandon is a certified "Earth Care Congregation," which means that we take an active role in caring for God's earth in four categories: worship, education, facilities, and outreach. We realize our efforts to restore and preserve creation are ongoing tasks that require constant attention and commitment. Part of our mission is to provide church and community members with education about how to become more sustainable in your everyday life. An easy way to do this is to reduce your amount of plastic waste. What if you used a canvas tote bag made from recycled material to carry your groceries? In a few weeks, tote bags saying, "Shandon Green: Preserving God's Creation, will be available " for \$8 each. More information will be available soon. If you're interested in learning more, please contact Peacemaking chair, Caroline Kearns at [carolinekearns220@gmail.com](mailto:carolinekearns220@gmail.com).



# Session Update

- At the December stated Session meeting, Church Administrator Robert Walker reported that dead limbs had been removed from the big tree in the memorial garden and damage to the roof caused by falling limbs repaired.
- Rev. John Cook reported that Shandon will be giving \$5,000 to Habitat for Humanity from the Galloway Community Endowment for a Faith Build in Spring 2024. He also reported a significant gift to Qwest West from alumnus and pastor Sam Schauss, who also provided an Advent devotional shared on the church's website.
- At the January stated Session meeting, Session approved several items of business, including: a motion to call the annual congregational meeting on Sunday, February 11, 2024; a motion to serve communion at the Presbyterian Women of Trinity Presbytery meeting at Shandon Presbyterian Church on March 2, 2024; a motion to approve a fundraiser for the Youth to support their summer trips to Montreat after the congregational meeting on February 11, 2024; a motion to approve the 2024 budget as presented to Session; a motion for the creation of a designated fund for the Refugee Resettlement Ministry; a motion to approve the 2024 communion schedule, including Wednesdays in which Messy Church is scheduled as part of SOW, Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, and the mid-October Pride Service; a motion to add a second worship service during Lent 2024 (beginning, Sunday, February 18) 8:30-9:10 am; and a motion for Arts at Shandon to raise monetary support in the form of voluntary donations at any non-ticketed Arts at Shandon events, with a portion of the proceeds supporting one of Shandon's approved outreach ministries. The remaining proceeds will sustain Arts at Shandon.
- Building and Grounds Ministry reported that the plumbing in the area around Davis Hall and the church offices was old and in need of replacement. The ministry will start to obtain quotes for this work.
- Rev. Jenny McDevitt was scheduled to lead worship at APCE, the Association of Partners in Christian Education, during their Annual Event in St. Louis, MO, January 24-27, 2024. Rev. John Cook reported that the Circle of Welcome is supporting its new family. April Martin is preparing for Youth Sunday on March 17, 2024 at 10:30 AM.

## Memorials and Honoraria

### Pastor's Fund

In memory of Robert "Bob" Hill  
by Jim & Chae Thames

In memory of Marion Tompkins  
McArthur

by Gayle Douglas Johnson;  
Stacey & Jim Brennan; Lucy Eggleston;  
D. B. & Nancy Blair Parr

In memory of David Marshall White  
by Fraser Bradford

In memory of Clif Hall  
by Stacey Brennan

In honor of Shandon's Quilting Group  
by Harriet McMaster

In honor of Meals on Wheels Drivers  
by Harriet McMaster

In honor of Bonnie Smith  
by Harriet McMaster

In memory of Bill Hoyt  
by Jim & Chae Thames

### Circle of Welcome

In memory of Heyward & Sylvia  
McDonald  
by Linda McDonald

### Offering

In honor of Jim & Edie McNeish  
by Dolly Patton

### Sustaining Shandon

In memory of Robert "Bob" Hill  
by Craig & Diane Phinney; Marilyn &  
Tommy Hagood, and family;  
Phil & Diane Gregory

In memory of David Marshall White  
by Martha Bode; Myra Bristol; Gaye &  
Lynn Campbell; Mr. & Mrs. Thomas  
Trowbridge; Ginger & Brian Bates;  
Zach McGhee, Jr

In memory of Frank H. Wiles, Jr.  
by Bill & Kathy Ligon;  
Bill & Trish Sargent

In memory of Shirley Stakely Seigert  
by Bill & Trish Sargent

In memory of David Marshall White  
& Guy Haywood White, III  
by Carolyn White

In memory of  
Marion Tompkins McArthur  
by B. Palmer, Jr., & Caroline McArthur;  
Men @ Work, LLC;  
Nora Fowles

### Galloway Outreach Fund

In memory of David Marshall White  
by Emi Ohta

In memory of Robert "Bob" Hill  
by Emi Ohta

In memory of David Hunter  
by Doug Potter

### Lindler Music Fund

In memory of John Breland  
by Dennis Johnson; Darin & Terri  
Johnson; Darby & Don Harding;  
Nell & David Tillis; Elizabeth Jones

### Solar Panel Fund

In memory of Stan Kirkland  
by Rowena Nylund

### Transitions Homeless Center

In memory of Robert "Bob" Hill  
by Alston & Leah Gore; Kay Frame;  
The Rodney Roenfield Family;  
Fran Wann-Flughum;  
Bill & Trish Sargent

### UKirk

In memory of John Ray Williams  
and John Tyler Williams  
by Ann Williams

### Weekend Backpack Food Program

In memory of Robert "Bob" Hill  
by Stacey Brennan

### Schwinn Global Mission Trust Fund

In memory of  
Marion Tompkins McArthur  
by B. Palmer, Jr., & Caroline  
McArthur; Men @ Work, LLC;  
Nora Fowles

# Shandon Presbyterian Church

607 Woodrow Street  
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