



SECONDPONCE DE LEON BAPTIST CHURCH NEWS

VOLUME LXXXIII

AUGUST 6-19, 2017

NO. 64

A Message From Dr. Dock Hollingsworth

New Year's Day

Don't tell anybody – but I was one of those people who loved the beginning of school. When I was a kid it meant new spiral notebooks, textbooks covered in paper sacks, and a brand-new protractor. (I was never sure why.) But the click of a three-ring binder was the sound of endless possibilities.

When I became a professor, I also loved the start of school each August. No more three ring binders – instead, students were scrambling to sit near a wall so they could plug into an outlet. But still, the room crackled with energy because another new opportunity for learning was upon them. By about week three, most of them were over their excitement and complaining about the opportunities for learning that I had assigned. Nonetheless, I loved the beginning of school.

I spent all of my childhood and almost all of my adulthood in education systems that celebrated New Year's Day in August. Everybody in education knows that January 1 is just a long weekend – New Year's is in August. But for all of my years in education, this might be my most anticipated beginning of a school year. Here are some of the things I am excited about:

- Kellie Denton is leading our educational efforts. Have you seen all of the activity? Teacher training with Bo Prosser on **Sunday, August 6**. New classes are starting up, and we have a new theme for the year– DEVOTED. We will begin fleshing out this theme on Wednesday nights. New organizational efforts in Sunday School.
- Some people are talking about being DEVOTED even before the theme has begun. I have heard several of you who share my excitement about all the promise we feel about our church and you are blocking out Wednesday nights for you and your children to be involved in the new programming that is beginning.
- Speaking of children – I may be most excited about the newly renovated entry space for our children's building. Thanks to the generosity of Carolyn Harris and her family, on **Sunday, August 13**, we will occupy a new nursery and coffee bar/gathering space. The new nursery has additional security measures and it has been moved closer to the Sanctuary so that new parents will have added comfort when leaving their child. We are going to move parents of our youngest children closer to the children and the sanctuary. We are committed to our Children's Ministry. I have no higher priority than resourcing the amazing energy of our Children's Ministry.

As we start the new year, I hope you will think about a family you want to invite to be part of the launch. It would be a good favor to them. I can't remember an August when I was this excited and I don't even have a new protractor.



I love being your pastor,
Dock

Children's Ministry

Save the Date! Community-Wide Trunk or Treat, Wednesday, October 25!

Get ready for our Music & Missions Kickoff on Wednesday, August 16 from 6-7 p.m.!

Join us on the Plaza for pizza, popsicles, and some water fun and games as we blast off the new school year! We will register for children's choirs and missions. Kids bring an empty, clean, 2-liter soda bottle that you can decorate as your rocket!

Children's Music and Mission will begin at a new time!

Children's Choirs: 5:45–6:30 p.m.

Children's Missions: 6:30–7 p.m.

We can't wait for a new season of fun and Fellowship!

Youth Ministry



Join us on **Sunday, August 13**, at 9:45 a.m. in the Youth Area for a Promotion Sunday Breakfast & Welcome Event: welcome to our newest youth members, and welcome back from the summer to all of our students and their parents! All youth, grades 6th–12th, are invited to this "open-house" event! See you there!



Please join us on **Sunday, August 13** at 12:15 p.m. in the Youth Theater for an annual tradition, a kick-off lunch for the new SPdL Youth year! We strongly encourage both students and parents to attend, as we will be sharing important, and exciting, information** with you, and there will be opportunities to get connected.

Lunch will be catered and will be available for all youth and their families. Please help us by RSVPing by **Thursday, August 10**. To RSVP email Ryan Wilson at rwilson@spdl.org. We value and appreciate your time - this event will be approximately 1-hour.

Volunteer Opportunities



Coffee as a Ministry at Second-Ponce

WHY the change in coffee providers and HOW is it a ministry?

Second-Ponce de Leon Baptist Church strives to be a missional congregation, meaning everything we do aims to be in partnership with God's redemptive work in the world. By switching from a corporate coffee supplier to a locally-based, fair trade, coffee partner founded on Christian principles we feel that this better aligns with our own missional vision and purpose. By purchasing our coffee from Land of A Thousand Hills, we are helping to bring new life to families and individuals in Rwanda, and improving the quality of coffee we serve and drink!

HOW can YOU get involved?

As with many new ministries there are start-up costs and volunteer needs. We hope that this new ministry engages our members and visitors, and promotes fellowship. **Get involved in one (or more) of the following ways:**

1. **Give financially!** In order to completely transition to this new coffee ministry, new coffee equipment was needed. Help offset this one-time start-up costs by giving generously.
2. **Volunteer to be on the Coffee Ministry Team!** We need willing volunteers to help prepare our LOTH coffee on Sunday mornings. It's simple!

For inquiries and more information on how to get involved, contact EngagedTeam@spdl.org.

August 6–Volunteer Training for all Sunday Morning Teachers and Wednesday Night leaders

Who Should Attend?

Everyone involved in leading Bible Study including Sunday school teachers and Wednesday night leaders as well as Sunday morning greeters. We will commission our teachers at the **Sunday, August 6**, 11 a.m. worship service and then adjourn to the Fellowship Hall for lunch and leadership training provided by Bo Prosser (Coordinator, Organizational Relationships at Cooperative Baptist Fellowship and a Strategic Coach). Come help connect the dots during this Dynamic Outstanding Training event (DOT) and make connections with other people who feel as strongly as you do about this important ministry. Build lasting relationships with others who will laugh, learn, and pray with you throughout the year.

Family Life Center

Community-Wide Pool Party at the FLC!

We want to show you how much we appreciate you! Join us for a pool party on **Friday, August 11**, 9:30–11 a.m. at the FLC pool! One of our aquatics instructors, Jamal, will be teaching an up-beat class in the pool that will be lots of fun and your heart rate pumping. We will also have games, a raffle, and light snacks for you to enjoy. Please bring a guest to enjoy the Family Life Center pool- guest fees are waived for this event. Come join us to see all the fun we have! Don't forget your bathing suit. RSVP to Averie Conn at aconn@spdl.org.

NEW at the FLC! Zog 40 & Over Basketball League!



The ZOG 40 & Over 3v3 Basketball League will begin on **September 30**, for **8 weeks**, here at the Family Life Center Fitness & Recreation

Facility! This 40+ league will be home to every kind of "baller" there is: short, tall, former college standout, recreational league champion, intramural player or gym rat. Even if you haven't touched a ball in years, we still want you to come out and play. So if you are looking for something fun to do on the weekends then this is the league for you.

FLC members to get 20% off the registration cost for a full team or individual registration. Key dates and pricing for the 40 & over, 3v3 Saturday league are also included below.

COUPON CODE: ZOGLOVESFLC20

Registration pricing/period dates:

- Early registration: \$80/Individual, \$500/team (includes 7 roster spots) – period ends on 8/18
- Regular registration: \$90/Individual, \$550/team (includes 7 roster spots) – period ends on 9/1
- Late Registration: \$100/Individual, \$600/team (includes 7 roster spots)– period ends on 9/15

For more information, a complete schedule, and to register, please scan the QR code:



Women's Ministry

Girls Night Out: Women's Ministry Summer Social

Join the fun and fellowship! The next social is **Thursday, August 17**, at 6:30 p.m., at the home of Margie Miller: 1560 Roswell Street, Smyrna. Plan to bring your favorite BBQ/picnic dish, dessert or beverage to share. Hope to see you there! Please RSVP by email to WomensMinistry@spdl.org.

Save the Date on November 16! Women's Ministry Holiday Dinner with Guest Speaker.

Join us on Wednesday Nights This Fall

August 16

6–7 p.m. Fellowship Hall



DEVOTED – LEARNING IN COMMUNITY

Dr. Dock Hollingsworth explores our Sunday theme of what it means for Christ followers to live and learn together in Community.

August 23–September 27

6–7 p.m. Fellowship Hall

“BEGINNING WITH THE END: A STUDY OF REVELATION”

Join us for a fascinating 6-week study of the book of Revelation as we examine the images of Christ with Dr. Thomas Slater. Dr. Slater is Professor of New Testament Language & Literature at The McAfee School of Theology at Mercer University. He is an ordained elder in full connection in the Georgia North Region of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church and has been a pastor for five congregations in Arkansas, Virginia, and Georgia. He is a published author in scholarly journals and has written several books. He presently teaches introductory and advanced classes in New Testament at McAfee School of Theology.

October 4 & 11

6–7 p.m. Fellowship Hall

“HARD QUESTIONS FOR GOD”

Dr. Jeffrey Willetts, Dean and the Professor of the Philosophy of Religion at the McAfee School of Theology at Mercer University will lead us in an intriguing study as we wrestle with the difficult and confusing questions of Christianity. Dr. Willetts was founding dean and former vice president at the John Leland Center for Theological Studies in Arlington, Virginia. Dr. Willetts has served as editor of several theological journals and philosophical publications, is the author of numerous academic papers and presentations, and is active in the Baptist World Alliance, the Society for Philosophy of Religion and the American Academy of Religion.

October 18

6:15 p.m. Fellowship Hall

Annual Church Conference

THANK YOU, for your donations to Feed Atlanta's Hungry!

Your donations have allowed us to feed more than 130 families through our partnership with BCM. If you still want to give, please do so soon. The donations will be delivered on **Monday, August 7**.



CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, August 6

- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
- 11:00 a.m. Worship
- 12:15 p.m. DEVOTED Leadership Training & Lunch

Wednesday, August 9

- 5:00 p.m. Fellowship Supper
- 6:00 p.m. SPdLU
- 7:15 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
- 7:30 p.m. Orchestra Rehearsal

Saturday, August 12

- 12:30 p.m. Young Adult Pool Party

Sunday, August 13

- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
- 11:00 a.m. Worship–Blessing of the Backpacks & Sunday School Promotion

Wednesday, August 16

- 5:00 p.m. Fellowship Supper
- 6:00 p.m. Music & Missions Kickoff
- 6:00 p.m. SPdLU
- 6:00 p.m. Project 4:12 Kickoff
- 7:15 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
- 7:30 p.m. Orchestra Rehearsal

Thursday, August 17

- 9:00 a.m. Rescheduled SPdL Open
- 6:30 p.m. Women's Ministry Social–Away

Saturday, August 19

- 7:30 p.m. Young Adults Top Golf Outing–Away

in the know

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS & PROMOTION SUNDAY. Make sure to join us in worship on **Sunday, August 13** at 11 a.m. We will have a time of prayer and blessing for our students (Prek-college), teachers, bus drivers, administrators and all others involved in our schools. Students, please bring the bag or book bag to worship that you will use this school year.

GOLFERS GET READY FOR THE SPdL OPEN! Golfers take note, our golf tournament was rained out and has been rescheduled. It will be held on **Thursday, August 17**, and will be at the Heritage Golf Links in Tucker, Ga. We'll tee off at 9 a.m. and have lunch together afterwards. So start practicing and lining up your friends. For more information or to sign up, contact Frank Gudger at 404.373.1259.

DAY1 PRESENTS AN EVENING OF LAUGHTER AND GRACE WITH REV. SUSAN SPARKS.

The Rev. Susan Sparks, celebrated author, comedian, former Atlanta trial attorney, and now senior pastor of Madison Avenue Baptist Church in New York City, will offer a fun and inspiring presentation on **Friday, August 25**, at 7:30 p.m. at Second-Ponce, followed by a dessert reception and book signing. The event supports the ministry of Day1, the nationally acclaimed Christian radio program (formerly the “Protestant Hour”). For tickets, please go to <https://SusanSparksDay1.eventbrite.com>. For more information about Rev. Susan Sparks, visit her website at Susansparks.com.

NEW SAFETY MEASURES AT SECOND-PONCE. Second-Ponce is committed to protecting all who work and worship here. In an effort to create a safer environment, we have added a buzzer, intercom and camera to the doors to the Welcome Center Entrance. These doors will be locked during office hours, which are 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you need access to the building during this time, please press the buzzer and the receptionist will open the door for you. The doors will not be locked during Wednesday Night activities or Sunday School and Worship on Sunday. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation as we implement this safety measure.

MENUS

Wednesday, August 9

Grilled pork chops, roasted potatoes, sautéed zucchini, salad, rolls & chocolate parfaits

Wednesday, August 16

Fried chicken, potato salad, mixed vegetables, salad, rolls, banana pudding

Children's Menu

Fried chicken wings, mac & cheese, fruit and dessert

Contributions Report

Giving as of July 23, 2017

Weekly Goal	\$35,045
Weekly Receipts	\$17,922
Year-To-Date Goal	\$1,054,263
Year-To-Date Receipts	\$1,069,707

Giving – pledged or not – is welcome and encouraged any time.

CONTACT US

www.spdl.org
2715 Peachtree Rd., NE
Atlanta, GA 30305-2916

Suzu Tran, Editor

www.facebook.com/secondponce

Church Office
404.266.8111

Family Life Center
404.231.0375