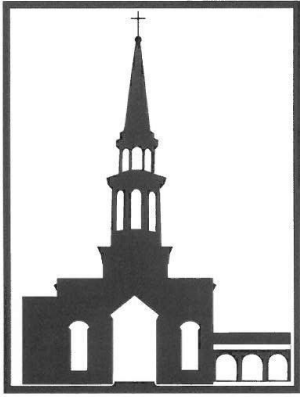


August 2016



FIRST PRESS NEWS

**First Presbyterian Church
153 N. Church Street
Rocky Mount, NC 27804
www.fpcrm.org
252-446-9121**



In our congregation, like many congregations, it's not until the month of October that we begin focusing on stewardship as budgets are finalized and pledges are requested for the following year. But already, at the end of July and beginning of August, your session and your stewardship committee are having conversations around finances. Just a few months ago, at the recommendation of the Endowment Committee, the session adopted a policy that any non-designated gift to the church of \$5000 or more would have 40% of it placed in the FPC Endowment Fund, one of three endowment accounts that we have.

That policy came at a time when we received a couple of very gracious financial gifts, and we have been able to significantly increase that particular endowment fund. The remaining amount has been utilized in a few ways. As we have just announced, we are able to fund a children's ministry coordination position. Additionally, we will be replacing our sanctuary and fellowship hall audio systems with new ones, equipped with a video camera in the sanctuary and providing a video feed to the fellowship hall. We used some of the funds to help match the gift given to Conetoe from its CNN Hero award.

At the same time, the session has been discussing how best to utilize the mission tithe funds given through our capital campaign. Ten percent, or around \$115,000, of what was pledged, will be dispersed. The vast majority of that amount will stay within the Twin Counties.

In June, the session voted to create two committees, one for the special gifts and one for the mission tithe, to discern and recommend to the session how to use the funds. As action is taken, your session will keep all of us informed as to how we are investing in God's kingdom, in our congregation, and in our community.

First Presbyterian is a congregation filled with generous souls. I am grateful to God for the wonderful gifts we have been given, and for the people who are helping to impact the world for Jesus Christ.

Grace and peace,

Chris

Senior Pastor: The Rev. Christopher M. Berardi
Associate Pastor for Congregational Life: The Rev. Mary Kathleen Duncan
Church Ministry Coordinator: Dionne Seale *Financial Secretary:* Jeanne T. Shannon
Director of Music: Jim Smith *Organist:* Virginia Vance
Sexton: J. J. Jeffries *Assistant Sexton & Nursery Attendant:* Charity Lodge *Nursery Assistant:* Mary Hilliard

Faith & Fellowship

...with First Presbyterian!



BROWN BAG Bible Study

Brown Bag Bible Study meets on Mondays at noon (except on Lunch Bunch dates) in the Session room. All are welcome to bring a lunch and join one of our pastors for fellowship and thoughtful biblical discussions!



Lemonade on the lawn!

Join us for lemonade and delicious treats in the courtyard outside the columbarium each Sunday immediately following 10:00 a.m. worship!

In-Betweens Gathering

The In-Betweens Fellowship Group will gather on Wednesday, August 31 at the home of Bill & Suzanne Buchanan.

WEDNESDAY EVENING FELLOWSHIP

FAITH. FOOD. FUN.

Wednesday Night Fellowship switched to the home or restaurant meal only gathering schedule and will not resume the meal/program meeting in the Fellowship Hall until this fall. Here is the August schedule:

6:00 p.m. on Wednesdays

August 3 Home of Roz & Larry Gragg

August 10 Pizza Inn

August 17 Home of Chris & Caroline Berardi

August 31 In-Betweens gathering at home of Bill & Suzanne Buchanan (see above for details)

*This concludes the summer schedule for Wednesday Night Fellowship dinners.
Thanks to everyone who volunteered to host or co-host these functions.*

- Sylvia Phillips and Sue Ann Jackson



All are invited to share in the 10th Annual
Summer Community Worship Services!

The final service will be held on August 7 at the Church on the Rise with the Rev. Richard Joyner of Conetoe Missionary Baptist Church preaching.

All worship services begin at 6:00 p.m. The offering this year will support Communities in Schools and the theme is "Being God's Peace".

Makes \$ "Cents"

Please review the below church income (pledges and loose offering) and expense data for June. The prior month is not available as of the newsletter print date. Please contact Jeanne Shannon in the church office if you have any questions at jeanne.shannon@fpcrm.org.

Pledges and Loose Offerings received through
June 30, 2016

Month - to - date	\$ 61,210.26
Year - to - date	\$ 352,796.77

Expenses through June 30, 2016	
Month - to - date	\$ 61,538.21
Year - to - date	\$ 315,222.04



Mark your calendars! The First Presbyterian youth will lead worship on August 28, 2016.

Our summer worship time is 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. and worship at 11:00 a.m. resumes on September 11, 2016.



*Our Heritage,
Our Mission*
Capital
Campaign
Update

TOTAL PLEDGES TO DATE:

\$1,158,866.11

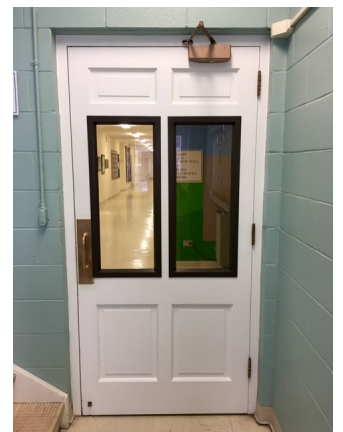
FUNDS RECEIVED (through 6/30/16):

\$1,024,338.71



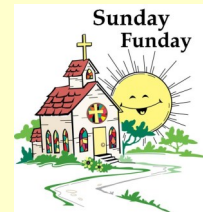
Property Updates...

We are grateful that repairs were successfully made during the weekend of July 23 to our church steeple. This will help prevent future leaks in the bell tower area. And at right, you will notice the hall door by the portico entrance now has glass windows allowing greater visibility. Thank you to Jeanne Shannon for helping coordinate these important property needs!





Several kids were still in town to enjoy an afternoon of “Sunday Funday” immediately following worship. We had a marvelous time learning about the Olympic Games and how we can all be champions with Christ in our heart! After our devotional, we played some kid-friendly games in the fellowship hall, received gold medals for being champions, took silly photos (see the bulletin board outside the Session Room for examples!), and played some more silly games after lunch. We especially enjoyed the visit from Nancy Richardson’s granddaughter, Charlotte, before our time together ended!



Since *Worship at the Well* was our Sunday School theme last year, the elementary Sunday School kids spearheaded a water themed mission project. We are excited to say that \$205.00 was raised for this effort and with those funds, we were able to purchase two shares towards a garden well, one treadle pump, one bag of seeds, and a set of farming tools through the Presbyterian Mission Agency! The garden well can help provide clean water for drinking, bathing, washing, and irrigation to an entire community. The treadle pump can help ensure that precious crops are irrigated. The bag of seeds can be the beginning of a flourishing crop. And, the farming tools help bring a fruitful yield from the land. Thank you to all the children and adults who contributed to this wonderful cause!





Sr. High Breakfast Club

Join Mary Kathleen for breakfast at 9:00 am at the Highway Diner on Wednesday, August 3rd. We will finish up by 10:15.

Summer Community Worship Service

All Youth are invited to join Mary Kathleen in attending the final Summer Community Worship service of the year at Church on the Rise at 6:00 pm on Sunday, August 7th. We will meet at the Harris Teeter Parking Lot at 5:30. Please email Mary Kathleen to let her know if you'll be attending.

All-Youth Swim and Olympic Viewing Party

Join us at Bryanna Farm for a fun Olympic themed pool party and cook-out from 6:30-8:30 p.m. on Wednesday, August 10. All youth are invited!

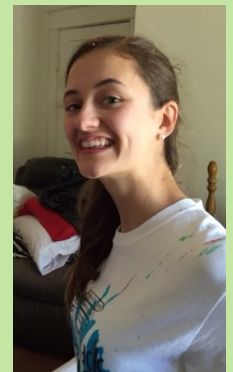
A World of Difference Youth Sunday

Sunday, August 28th

All youth, rising 6th-12th grades are invited to participate in worship leadership for 8/28. We will be using liturgy from the Montreat Youth Conference and three of our rising seniors will be preaching. Sign up for parts via email and at the swim/Olympic party. We will gather for breakfast and to practice at 8:00 am on 8/28.

Always be sure to check your email for last minute updates or additions to our August schedule! There are also lots of ways to earn some service hours at the church this month, so contact Mary Kathleen if you are interested!

GATEKEEPERS WORK CAMP JULY 11-15, 2016





- ◆ Please continue to drop off children's books, and men's and women's clothing for Peacemakers! You may leave books and clothes in the Volunteer office beside the church office sitting room.

*For more information, visit
www.rockymountpeacemakers.org.*



Meals on Wheels
We deliver smiles™

Summer subs are greatly needed for several routes!

Contact Kara Cox for more information at 252-908-4749.



Harris Teeter Shoppers:
Be sure to link your VIC card to #5443 to benefit the Children's Hope Alliance (formerly Barium Springs & Grandfather Home for Children).

First Sunday of the Month



The following items are most appreciated and can be brought to the church on the first Sunday of each month or anytime in the volunteer office beside the church office entrance:

Tar River Academy

Be sure to check out the wish list for Tar River Academy on the bulletin board outside the church office describing school supplies, food, hygiene items, and baby supplies needs and non-perishable food items. **They are especially in need of school supplies such as notebook paper, spiral notebooks, pens, pencils, erasers, highlighters, flash drives, colored pencils, markers and crayons.**

United Community Ministries

#10 size cans (preferred) of either vegetables or canned fruit, and paper products such as paper towels and toilet paper.

First Presbyterian has volunteered to sponsor the ministry of UCM shelters in the month of September. This effort is in addition to our regular monthly collection of food. The list of requested items includes:

55 gal. and 13 gallon trash bags
Laundry detergent
Toilet tissue
Paper towels
8 oz. foam cups
12 oz. foam bowls
Disposable dinner size plates
Bleach
Napkins
Dish detergent

More info to come regarding when and where to bring donated items during the month of September!



We are pleased to share that Grace Warner and Suzanna Mosley, members of FPC's Troop 1969, were recognized at the Girl Scout Gold Award Banquet in Raleigh on July 12, 2016 for earning the Girl Scout Gold Award, the highest Girl Scout award that can be earned.

TO: SUPPORT CHURCHES AND OTHER CHRISTIAN GROUPS
 FROM: BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF FOUNTAIN CHAPLAIN SUPPORT MINISTRY
 DATE JULY, 2016
 SUBJECT: CLOSING OF THE MINISTRY

This communication is being sent to all churches that supported the Fountain Chaplain Support Ministry since 2006. It is an effort to express appreciation to those churches that were a part of the ministry that provided financial support to make the word of God available to incarcerated women at Fountain Prison for approximately ten years. The same organization changed its name to Prison Chaplain Support Ministry when Fountain Prison was closed as of December 2015 and was able to continue the ministry through 2015 and up until the present time.

The Board of Directors wishes to express our deepest appreciation to all churches and other Christian groups that provided funds through the years. At least seven different denominations and four other Christian groups have supported the ministry at times. We are pleased to report that, as we promised you, every dollar provided was spent directly on the support of the mission. No money was used for any other purpose, no compensation was paid to any volunteer.

When the prison was closed in Rocky Mount and the inmates transferred to Maury Prison, an area located approximately fifteen miles Southwest of Greenville, NC and about ten miles East of Farmville, the Board made an effort to locate churches in that area to continue the ministry. We were not successful.

We attempted to enlist Jail and Prison Ministry located in the area of Richmond, Virginia to take over the ministry. This organization provides chaplains in over one hundred jails and prisons in this country plus operations in twenty-one foreign countries. They were not able to provide a chaplain at Maury either.

Supporting churches in our area began discontinuing support funds soon after learning the inmates were being transferred to Maury. Fortunately, a few stayed the course, and we had funds on hand to provide financial support for the Chaplain until the present time. When the Board realized we were not going to be able to continue providing adequate funds to support a chaplain we began charting a course to exit the ministry.

We regret having to report the ministry is ceasing operations as of August 1. We will no longer accept funds and churches are asked not to mail any support money after this date....

As Chairman of the Board, I would be remiss if I didn't give special recognition to a few special people who served the Board faithfully over the years. Benjy Glover who was a driving force helping with the establishment of the ministry and served as Chairman in the early years of its existence is the first to come to mind....

We have no statistics to tell us how many professions of faith were made during this prison ministry but it surely is numbered in the hundreds. Nor do we know how many rededications occurred. This we do know, the word of God and His plan of salvation has been made known to thousands of women whose lives were at a crossroad. Our objective has always been to honor and glorify God and His son Jesus. Together we, the members of several denominations, have planted the seeds of salvation. Let us continue to pray all who heard will respond to His grace and recognize Jesus Christ as their savior. We do know, none who heard the gospel will be able to say on judgment day "no one ever told me".

The Board of Directors:
 Jesse Harrington, Jim Henderson, Heyward Watford, Martin Zimmerman, Max Dixon

FPC MUSIC NOTES

- The Chancel Choir will resume mid-week rehearsals on Wednesday, August 24th, at 7:30 p.m.
- Rehearsals for the Cherub Choir (age 3 through 1st grade) and the Alleluia Singers (2nd through 5th grade) will resume on Wednesday, September 14th at 5:30.
- Rehearsals for the Handbell Choir (high school through adult) will resume on Wednesday, September 14th, at 6:30.

New singers and ringers for all groups are always welcome. The Handbell Choir in particular needs two new participants to come and enjoy our newly refurbished, tuned, and polished handbells.



WORSHIP COMMITTEE

The Worship Committee will meet Monday, September 12 at 2:00 p.m. in the Session Room. All members of the congregation are invited to attend.

The Handcraft Ministry will meet on
Tuesday, August 2, 2016
at 1:30 p.m. in the home of
Chris Fenó



This wonderful ministry provides prayer shawls, blankets, etc. to those in need of God's warmth!



PW FALL KICK-OFF LUNCHEON
August 9 at 11:00 a.m.
Session Room

Sign up on the PW Bulletin board or notify the church office if able to attend.

Presbyterian Women from Mt. Pisgah, Morton Memorial, Bethlehem and West Haven have been invited to attend as well!

PW OF NEW HOPE PRESBYTERY SPECIAL EVENT WITH THE AUTHOR OF THE 2016-17 HORIZONS BIBLE STUDY

"Who is Jesus?"

"What a Difference a Lens Makes"



Judy Siker, Ph. D.

Washington, NC native and Professor of New Testament and Christian Origins at Loyola Marymount College

Hosted by PWP Area 3
First Presbyterian Church
112 S. Salisbury St.
Raleigh NC

Check-in 8:30-9:30 a.m.

Program 9:30-2:30 p.m.

Cost: \$10 (includes lunch & refreshments)

Contact Dionne Seale in the church office for registration information –due August 9, 2016.

*“Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another
with whatever gift each of you has received.”
1 Peter 4:10*



This is not a complete list of ushers/greeters as of printing—as ushers and greeters sign up online during the summer months, their names will be added to the weekly emails as a reminder. Beginning in September, we will revert to assigned dates.

August 7, 2016 *Communion will be served by intinction*

Head Usher: Dee Whitley

Ushers: Diane Dixon, more ushers needed

Greeter: Betsy McLean

Children's Sermon: Pastor

Nursery Helpers: Ann Dill

Communion Preparers: Randy Adams, Sally Adams

Communion Servers: Randy Adams, Sally Adams, David Farris, Marianne Farris

August 14, 2016

Head Usher: John Feagans

Ushers: Virginia Feagans, Laura Durham, Jay Gardner

Greeter: Sylvia Phillips

Children's Sermon: Mary Scott

Nursery Helper: Katherine Fisher

August 21, 2016

Head Usher: Lige Daughtridge

Ushers: Tommy Dill, Laura Rogers, Winslow Rogers

Greeters: Bill & Suzanne Buchanan

Children's Sermon: Pastor

Nursery Helper: Ann Dill

August 28, 2016 *Youth Sunday*

Head Usher: Jay Gardner

Ushers: FPC Youth

Greeter: FPC Youth

Children's Sermon: FPC Youth

Nursery Helper: Heather Gardner

Keeping in touch...

FOLLOW
US!



First Presbyterian Rocky Mount



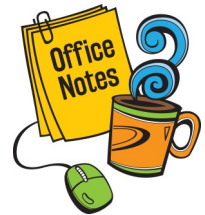
@FPC_RockyMount



fpc_rockymount

First Presbyterian Church's office hours are Monday—Thursday from 9:00-5:00 p.m. Please contact the church in advance should you need access to the building at other times.

Kindly notify Dionne Seale in the church office at 252-446-9121 or dionne.seale@fpcrm.org of any email, address, or phone number changes so we can keep our database up to date!



Dear Friends,

Thanks so very much. Your wonderful barrel full of clothes, shoes, and books is on a ship destined for Zambia. Thanks so much for all of the wonderful ways you continue to support Agape Orphanage.

Love in Christ,
Jackie Bailey

Hebrews 13:16

Dear Church Family,

Just wanted to thank you for the prayers, visits, cards and the lap robe you sent my mother, while she is in the Hunter Hills Nursing Home. You are all so very thoughtful.

Sincerely,
Charlene Joyner
Daughter of Anne Parkerson

Dear Handcraft Ministry,

Thanks to all who made the prayer blanket for Gene that was delivered to him by Chris at our Wednesday night fellowship dinner. It was such a pleasant surprise, and greatly appreciated. We know that lots of talent, love, and prayers went into making it. It is beautiful, and he will really get use out of it because he is always cold in the house. We are so lucky to have found such a great church home and lots of new friends.

Fondly,
Gene and Sue Jackson

Hassell wants to thank you for the adorable and absolutely delicious birthday cake to celebrate his ninety first! Hannah just keeps getting better every time. And yes, we eat ours! Picture first, fork, plate and cake next, Oh so good! Also, our newest grandchild, Harper Mae, received such a sweet afghan from our church. And we found out it was made by one of our favorite people, Lila Michael! It will be treasured!

Our Presbyterian family and our God continue to bless us each and every day.

*Blessings to you all,
Hassell and Bobbi Weeks*





Our love and sympathy is extended to the following members and families:

- ◆ Clevie Wiggins and Katherine Fisher and their families upon the loss of Clevie's brother and Katherine's uncle, George Cleveland Wood, III, on July 12, 2016.

Please continue to keep these members and their families in your thoughts and prayers.



If you would like to honor someone or mark a special occasion in the coming year, please sign up by the date you prefer on the flower chart that is posted on the bulletin board outside the church office. The following dates are available for flowers to be placed in the sanctuary:

August 28

September 4

September 11 (Rally Day)

September 18

September 25



We are pleased to share that John Beauford Scherich was born to Bryan and Lindsey Kinnaird Sherich on July 10, weighing 8 lbs. 8 oz. Beau's proud grandparents are Anne and Paul Kinnaird.



THE FOUNTAINS AT THE ALBEMARLE Tarboro

- ▶ Tom Dill

TWIN LAKES RETIREMENT COMMUNITY—Burlington

- ▶ Liz Cole

AUTUMN CARE Nashville

- ▶ Virginia Campbell

ADDITIONAL CONCERNS

Linda Amerson

Jean Boddie

Jean and Frank Edge

Anne Etheredge

Si Fuller

Earl and Phyllis Goodwin

Betty Hodges

Bobbie Lambeth

Nancy & Bailey Liipfert

Jacob McCabe (Mary Watson's grandson)

John McInnis (Mary Perry's brother)

Lila Michael

Gerry Niece

Stacey Norman (Sydney Phillips' sister)

Susie Park (Fred Park's Mother)

Anne Parkerson

Anne Podesta

Shirley Quinan (Jay Quinan's mother)

Blanche Robinson

Evelyn Reese

Maida Sessoms

Phyllis Toler

Hassell Weeks



Montreat Youth Conference
July 17-23, 2016

