



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rocky Mount

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

June 2018



An Update on the Pastoral Search Process

In keeping the congregation informed, let me update you on where the search process is for your new pastor. A Mission Study Review Committee has been appointed by the session. A congregational survey has been circulated, compiled and the results are being reviewed. The next step for the committee is to update the rest of the 2016 Mission Study for approval by the session and then the Committee on Ministry of New Hope Presbytery. When the Committee on Ministry approves the Mission Study they will also give permission to form a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC). At that time a congregational meeting will be called and the Congregational Nominating Committee will offer the seven member Mission Study Committee as the PNC. The congregation will be given the option of nominating from the floor additional members to this committee. The PNC will work on the Ministry Information Form (MIF) which will be circulated and used to match candidates for the position. The committee will be then ready to receive Personal Information Forms (PIF) and begin interviewing potential pastors. I believe that the PNC will be interviewing ministers by the early fall. When there are new developments, I will try to alert the congregation through the newsletter.

Scott

Interim Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Scott Solether *Parish Associate:* The Rev. Dr. Preston Smith
Children and Youth Ministry Coordinator: Lydia Wingo Kane *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 in the Session room unless otherwise

noted. All are welcome to bring a lunch and join in for fellowship and thoughtful biblical discussions!



Men's Breakfast Fellowship
Tuesday
June 12, 2018
7:00 a.m.

Start your day off on the right foot and gather in the fellowship hall for breakfast and thoughtful discussion. Make plans to meet at the Hardee's restaurant on Sunset Ave.

WEDNESDAY EVENING FELLOWSHIP

FAITH. FOOD. FUN.

We will gather for covered dish meals during the summer months at 6:00 p.m. in the following locations:

- June 6 Roz & Larry Gragg
- June 13 Bobbie Lambeth
- June 20 Mary Watson



Join us for
Hot Dogs!

Intergenerational Lunch
Sunday, July 1
11:00 a.m. (after worship)
Fellowship Hall



Something
Different

Join us for a lunch and dessert outing
on Wednesday, June 27, 2018!

11:00 Lunch: Something Different Café in Wilson, NC

2:00 Dessert: Simply Natural Creamery for ice cream in Ayden, NC

Respond to Sylvia Phillips or Sue Jackson if able to attend by Thursday, June 21.



SIMPLY NATURAL
CREAMERY

From Our Farm To Your Family



The Session met on May 15, 2018 at 6:00 in the Session Room and took the following action:

The session unanimously approved the allocation of the following from the Outreach Special Gifts based on a recommendation from the committee:

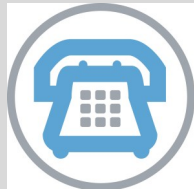
\$2,000 to UCM for lighting
 \$5,000 to UCM for a new industrial clothes dryer
 \$12,903.76 to Covenant Homes for roof repairs and carpet

There was a recommendation from the Mission Tithe committee to dissolve that committee and transfer the administration of the funds to Outreach. There is approximately \$52,000 left of the mission tithe.

There was a welcome and extension of privilege of the floor to the self study review committee to hear the Session's discussion of goals for First Presbyterian.

Please continue to pray for our church, the Session and the committees who serve the church. If you ever have any questions concerning any matters at church please feel free to ask an Elder and we will be happy to share more with you.

Submitted by Mike Gaynor, Clerk



Just a reminder that effective June 4th, our phone system will be updated to a generic greeting that will then offer up to 4 options where phone calls can be disbursed during office hours. The four options include Pastor, Church Ministry Coordinator, Children and Youth Ministry Coordinator and Financial Secretary. We appreciate your patience with this new process.

MAKES CENTS



Please review the below church income and expense data for the month shown. The prior month is not available as of the newsletter print date. Please call or email Jeanne Shannon in the church office with any questions.

April Data

Pledges and Loose Offering through April, 2018

Month - to - date \$ 31,237.41

Year - to - date \$ 279,142.06

Expenses through April, 2018

Month - to - date \$ 57,686.15

Year - to - date \$ 211,724.96

Church office phone: 252.446.9121

Jeanne's email: jeanne.shannon@fpcrm.org

Jeanne's office hours are Monday thru Thursday from 8:30-2:30

Out of the Office - Jeanne will be out of the office from June 18th- through 21st. She will respond to calls and emails when she returns to the office on June 25.



Welcome to new members!

We were pleased to have Angela Griffin and her son, Thomas, join the church on Sunday, May 6, 2018. Thomas was also baptized on this special day.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH UPDATE

We concluded our year in Christian Education for the children and youth on Pentecost Sunday, giving thanks for our teachers and volunteers who make up the body of Christ at FPC. I hope we will all go into our summer, our time of rest and play, remembering these words from Paul's letter to the Ephesians.

"I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God." Ephesians 3:16-19

Children's Ministry



VBS is coming soon! Our theme this year is the Adventures of David. VBS begins Monday, June 11 and ends Friday, June 15, beginning each day at 8:45 and finishing at 12:00. Children ages 3 through completed 5th grade, as well as youth volunteers, are encouraged to participate. Be sure to register at www.goodshepherdmt.org/vbs-registration

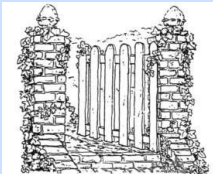


Please save the dates for **Summer Children's Church!** On June 24, July 29 and August 26 we will have Children's Church during 10:00 a.m. Worship, immediately following the Children's Sermon.

Youth Ministry



The Sr. High youth are invited for a day of fun at Lake Gaston on Sunday, June 3 immediately after worship. Kids (and parents) can carpool to the Sondergard's lake home for food, water fun and fellowship! More info to come from Lydia, so check your email!



Gatekeepers Workcamp is July 8 through 13 this year. Please pray for our team of youth and adult volunteers as they work hard around Rocky Mount!

Montreat Youth Conference is July 15-21. The theme this year is "Lift Every Voice" and the youth, chaperones, and I are all looking forward to a fun and fulfilling week together! Please pray for us as we travel and grow closer to God and one another.

Submitted by Lydia Wingo Kane, Children and Youth Ministry Coordinator

2018

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS!

At left, Thomas Griffin graduated May 25 from Rocky Mount Academy. This summer, he plans to work at Tharrington's Auto Works and attend Montreat. Thomas has been accepted into the Honors College of the University of Alabama and plans to major in Chemistry while also pursuing an MBA through the Stem Path to the MBA program.



Above center, Lauren Seale graduated May 25 from Rocky Mount Academy. She plans to babysit, help with music at VBS, and travel to Montreat and Italy this summer. This fall, Lauren will attend the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill as a Carolina Research Scholar with hopes of a career in medicine.

At right, Tucker Carrier will graduate on June 9 from Rocky Mount High School. He plans to travel to Tennessee this summer and enjoy Nashville and the mountains prior to attending the Montreat Youth Conference. After that he will be working full-time to pay for college. He will take classes in the fall at Nash Community, then plans to transfer to either ECU or Appalachian State University for music education.

Parents' Afternoon Out Strawberry Patch Fun! May 9, 2018





COMMUNITY OUTREACH



www.rockymountpeacemakers.org

FREEDOM SCHOOL SNACKS ARE BEING COLLECTED. PLEASE CHECK THE OUTREACH BULLETIN BOARD FOR MORE INFORMATION!

If you have large items to donate for the Peacemakers Thrift Store, simply contact Peacemakers at 252-212-5044 to schedule a pick up of items.

AGAPE VILLAGE foundation

The children at the Agape Village orphanage could really use books! Outreach will have a drop-off box in the narthex and volunteer office so that members of the congregation may drop off new or slightly used children's books for the children of Agape. Jackie Bailey requested books for ages Kindergarten to 7th grade. She would like to have fiction and nonfiction. What a wonderful way for us to reach out to the children of Agape Village!

Additionally, donations for the Agape Village orphanage in Zambia are being collected in the blue barrel located in the narthex vestibule. Items needed include: winter clothing (leggings, long pants, jeans, jumpers, sweaters, and sweatshirts), black socks, deodorant, black lace-up tennis or athletic shoes, skirts and dresses, undergarments (XS-large), toothpaste, clotrimazole (Desitin or anti-fungal medications). **Donations are being accepted through the end of June.**



First Sunday Donations Needed

The following items can be brought to the narthex area of the church on the first Sunday of each month or you are welcome to drop items off anytime in the volunteer office beside the church office vestibule:

Tar River Academy

The following supplies are appreciated: school supplies, non-perishable food items, hygiene items, and baby supplies. Donations can be placed in the blue tote labeled Tar River Academy found in the Narthex.

United Community Ministries

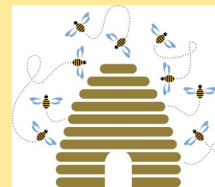
Paper products and #10 size cans (preferred) of either vegetables or canned fruit are especially appreciated. **They are especially in need of men's boxers & socks and men's and women's tennis shoes.



Volunteers are needed to serve as substitutes on occasion...

Contact the MOW office for more information at 252-446-4336.

Conetoe Family Life Center



Conetoe Honey is now for sale in the church office! \$10/jar



Troop 55 and Troop 434 Update



Troop 55 enjoyed a camp-out at the Barnhill farm in April. We went on a nature walk, had hot dogs for supper, and slept under the stars. This was a super way to end our year!

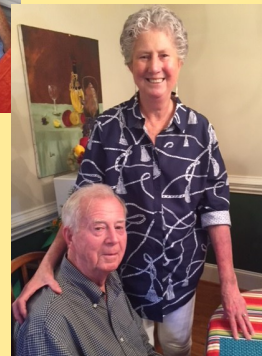
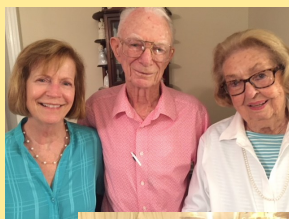


All 12 girls in Troop 434 have earned their Silver Awards. They received them at a ceremony in May at FPC. We are so proud of each one of these girls. They painted murals using residents' hands at the Boys' and Girls' Club and the Wright Center. They organized closets at both places, led Christmas crafts with the residents, and completed a 50 hour "journey" on friendship and social media. The award has taken two years to complete.

Both troops are proud to announce that we will be purchasing two defibrillators for \$1500, using cookie money, for Conetoe. We look forward to visiting there and presenting them with our checks.



Special thanks to Gene and Sue Jackson for hosting the In-Betweens on May 18, 2018.



Presbyterian Women Update

- The Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team will meet not meet in June but will meet in July on Monday, July 16 at 10:30 a.m. in the History Room.
- There will be a Fall Kick-off Meeting in August (TBA).
- Both Circles will break for the summer and resume meeting in September.



2018-19 PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN COORDINATING TEAM

Janice Smith, Moderator
Diane Dixon, Vice-Moderator

Tempie Fuller, Secretary
Frances Guerry, Historian
Sylvia Phillips, Together in Service
Mary Perry, Circle of Friends Leader

Martha Tesoro, Treasurer
Laura Durham, Spiritual Nurture
Edie Reeves, Together in Service
Nancy Richardson, Circle of J.O.Y Leader



New PW officers were installed and/or rededicated during the May 22nd PW Birthday Luncheon.

2018 PW Birthday Cake Recipient



As many of you know, our church has a tradition of recognizing a Presbyterian Woman from our congregation each year in gratitude for her service to the church. Other than being selected for this honor, there comes a gorgeous bonus. Hannah Diedrick creates a masterpiece in the form of a beautiful cake which is presented to the honoree.

The recipient of this year's Presbyterian Women Birthday Cake has been a life long member of this church. She was born in Rocky Mount, educated in the Rocky Mount City Schools and attended East Carolina College. She is the proud mother of four children and is blessed with two grandchildren. Her professional years were spent working for the City of Rocky Mount. Several of her retired years kept her near home caring for her spouse of poor health.

This lady enjoys sports, working in her yard, traveling, playing Bunko, and spending time with friends and family. Throughout her life, she has been active in the life of this church. From attending Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, and Youth Programs during her formative years, she later taught Sunday School, sang in the choir, and is a member of the Circle of Friends PW group. Presently, she serves faithfully in her church community. Among the many ways she serves are: assisting those who need help with transportation for medical appointments, caring for those who may be homebound for a short time, helping with Wednesday Evening Fellowship and After Worship Inter-generational lunches, is an active member of Brown Bag Bible Study, volunteers in the church office, participates in our Lunch Bunch program and delivers for Meals on Wheels.

She is all that we visualize as a Presbyterian Woman. At this time, we wish a Happy Mother's Day and congratulate Kay Wester on this well-deserved honor.



Sunday Volunteer Schedule

*“As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God’s varied grace.”
1 Peter 4:10*



June 3, 2018 ** 10:00 a.m. worship**

Head Usher: Andy Warner

Ushers: Lynn Warner, Diane Dixon, David Dudley, Laura Dudley

Greeter: Mary Perry

Liturgist: John Turnage

Children’s Sermon: Scott Solether

Nursery Helper: Jami Barnhill

June 10, 2018

Head Usher: Tim Hathaway

Ushers: John Feagans, Virginia Feagans, Bridget Hathaway, Laura Durham

Greeter: Linda Amerson

Liturgist: Dee Whitley

Children’s Sermon: Lydia Wingo Kane

Nursery Helper: TBA

June 17, 2018

Head Usher: James Tharin

Ushers: John Feagans, Virginia Feagans, Mari Robin Tharin, Laura Durham

Greeter: Jean Kitchin

Liturgist: Laura Durham

Children’s Sermon: Mary Scott

Nursery Helper: Katherine Fisher

June 24, 2018

Head Usher: Tommy Honey

Ushers: Shelton Honey, Greg Hutchins, Carol Hutchins, Kim Sutton

Greeter: Kate & Thomas Honey

Liturgist: TBA

Children’s Sermon: Lydia Wingo Kane

Nursery Helper: Ann Dill

Thank You!

Keeping in touch...

FOLLOW
US!



First Presbyterian Rocky Mount



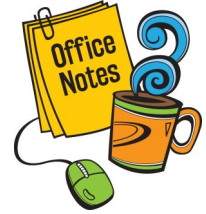
@FPC_RockyMount



fpc_rockymount

Contact Information Updates: 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.

Unless otherwise posted, our 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 during non-office hours.



Dear Presbyterian Women,

It was such an honor to receive the Presbyterian Women Birthday Cake, especially on Mother's Day. First Presbyterian Church has always been a big part of my life. I am so blessed to be a part of such a wonderful and loving family. Thanks so much.

Love to all,
Kay Wester

Dear church family,

I was thrilled to receive a lovely arrangement of flowers from the May, 20th Sunday service. They are full of beautiful orange lilies with red and yellow roses. It has been such a joy to sit and enjoy this vase of spring. Thank you for remembering me while I recuperate from shoulder surgery. I hope to be back to church soon. I have missed my church family.

All my love,
Harriet Thorpe

Dear Church Friends,

Thank you so much for the beautiful and delicious cake Hannah—it was so exquisite I hated to cut it! It really made my birthday extra special. Thanks again for all the wonderful things that you do for all of us.

Love,
Genevieve Batchelor

Communications Deadlines

- We publish the "First Pres" newsletter monthly. The newsletter is either emailed or a hard copy can be mailed to those without email. The deadline to submit information is the third Thursday of each month.
- The weekly email update is sent out via Constant Contact on Wednesday afternoon. The deadline for information is noon on Wednesday.
- The church bulletin is printed on Thursday afternoon. The deadline for information is noon on Thursday.

Dear Church Friends,

Thank you so much for the beautiful flowers. I'm so lucky to be able to enjoy them at home as well as at church on Sunday. It was a wonderful surprise and I'm so sorry I missed your visit.

Thanks again for remembering me in such a beautiful way.

Love,
Genevieve Batchelor

Many thanks to Hannah for once again making a beautiful cake for my birthday and to Beth High for delivering it. I enjoyed her visit. What a lovely gesture from both.

Sincerely,
Pat Judge



Flowers for the Sanctuary

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. Dionne Seale can place the order on your behalf at a cost of \$75 that will be billed to you or contact her for names of approved floral arrangers that you can contact and pay directly. The following dates are available for flowers to be placed in the sanctuary:

June 3, 10, 24
July 1, 8, 29



- ◆ Jim Lilley and family upon the death of his sister, Jo Anna Lilley McMillan of Raleigh NC, on May 17, 2018.
- ◆ Jeannie Lane and family upon the death of her mother, Nancy Smith of Winston-Salem NC, on May 24, 2018.

The Handcraft Ministry
will meet on
Wednesday, June 20 at 1:30 p.m. in the
home of Laura Dudley,
1212 Drivers Circle.



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



*Our thoughts and
prayers are with...*

**THE FOUNTAINS AT THE ALBEMARLE—
Tarboro**

- ▶ Tom Dill

CARDINAL AT NORTH HILLS—Raleigh

- ▶ Dick Fountain

**TWIN LAKES RETIREMENT COMMUNITY—
Burlington**

- ▶ Liz Cole

HOMESTEAD HILL—Winston-Salem

- ▶ Nancy Liipfert

BRADLEY CREEK—Wilmington

- ▶ Gerry Gardner

AUTUMN CARE—Nashville

- ▶ Lila Michael

ADDITIONAL CONCERNS

Logan Barnes
Mayo & Jean Boddie
Miley "Mike" Braswell
Janet Cooper (mother of Elizabeth Rose)
Augusta Daniel
Geraldine Donnell (sister of Janice Smith)
Amine Edwards
Si Fuller
Earl and Phyllis Goodwin
Wilda Jenkins
John McInnis (Mary Perry's brother)
Georgia Mixon
Gerry Niece (friend of the church)
Anne Wilgus Podesta
Evelyn Reese
Blanche Robinson
Jean Rowe (Steve Rowe's mother)
Maida Sessoms
Susan Yenney

The 2018 Outstanding Older Adult Award



Each year, the Older Adult Ministries Network of the Presbytery of New Hope encourages each church within the Presbytery to select an individual (or a married couple) over the age of 60, who have served the church, and the community in many faithful ways. It is a great pleasure to announce that the 2018 Outstanding Older Adult Award from First Presbyterian Church, Rocky Mount – is given to – Margaret and L. M. Barnes.

L. M. and Margaret are both ordained elders of the church. L. M. has served on the session a number of times – most recently in 2014. This couple continues to deliver Meals on Wheels, having delivered meals from the very beginning of its inception. They have hosted the “In-Betweens” being the name of a group of very active older adults. They have frequently driven a church member to worship, and other activities, after she was no longer able to drive. L. M. has been a member of the chancel choir for more than fifty years. Margaret and L. M. enjoy Lunch Bunch, a monthly meal served at the church, by the members of church. Through the years, Margaret has held most of the officer positions in the Women of the Church organization, and she remains an active member of the Day Circle (PW Circle of J.O.Y).

Margaret and L. M. were blessed to have as mother, (and mother-in-law), Ms. Ethel Daughtridge, a lady well known for her strong Christian beliefs and practices. Margaret’s upbringing was influenced by Ms. Daughtridge; she joined the church at the age of twelve. She and L. M. were brought up with the understanding that the church belongs to its members, and they have been active in the life of their church for many long years, and continue to be active in the life of First Presbyterian Church of Rocky Mount, North Carolina.

Where to Go From Here

At our last session meeting, we discussed the direction the church needs to head in order to live into our Vision and Mission. Five areas of concern were identified. We are in the process of forming our goals and objectives to meet these challenges, but the following are an attempt to articulate these goals. If you have a comment about these goals or the direction of the church, please seek out a session member or the pastor and share your thoughts.

Three Year Plan

Vision: A nurturing, growing church living the Gospel by caring for all the community.

Mission: “To be a congregation of believers carrying out the Word of God and joyfully bringing the community to the church and the church to the community.”

1. Build our youth program so it is attractive to young families, a community where youth are nurtured and grow in faith, and an opportunity for young people to exercise their Christianity within and outside the church.
2. Become an *inviting* as well as a *welcoming* church where members are excited in reaching out to strangers, neighbors, friends and family to become a part of our community of faith.
3. Foster a nurturing atmosphere where members can support one another, engage in Christian fellowship, both formally and informally, and have their pastoral needs met.
4. Make contact with members who have become less active inviting them to reconnect with their community of faith.
5. Seek pastoral leadership that will engage this church in the fulfillment of these goals and in living our vision and mission.