



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rocky Mount

First Pres News

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



November 2018

Don't forget to change your clock back an hour Nov. 3!

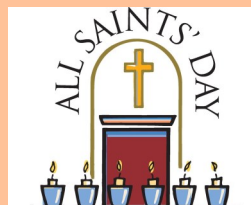


All Saints

According to Lives of the Saints ed. Rev. Hugo Hoever, S.O.Cist., PhD, every day of the year except Christmas, and some days during Holy Week, celebrate at least one Catholic saint. The Orthodox church and Coptic church have a different list of saints to honor. Some protestant denominations also recognize and honor saints. The practice of honoring martyrs and those prominent Christians who had passed away was an early occurrence. Each church and area had their own celebrations of local saints in early Christianity. It wasn't until later that the church began canonizing saints and assigning days of celebration. Soon, however, there were more saints to celebrate than days in the year. So, "All Saints Day" was designated to celebrate all those Saints that didn't have a day to celebrate.

All "Hollows Eve" became a Celtic celebration in which the dead Saints were thought to have one evening to walk the earth again. You can take it from there to understand our present celebration of Halloween.

Our protestant understanding is that all those who confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior are saints whether living or dead. But I think it is important to ask the question: "Who are the heroes of the faith?" Who were the Christian influences in your life? This is what it truly means to be a saint whether canonized or not. So, happy November 1 to all you saints of the Lord!



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: Michael Smith 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
November 13, 2018
7:00 a.m.

Start your day off on the right foot and make plans to meet at the Hardee's restaurant on Sunset Ave. for a time of food and fellowship.



Tuesday, December 4, 2018
First Presbyterian Church
Fellowship Hall

Social Time 5:00-6:00 p.m.

Dinner 6:00 p.m.

Catered by "Something Different" of Wilson, NC

Menu: Honey Dijon Chicken and Beef Tips, Red-skin Boiled Potatoes, Green Bean Casserole, Seven Layer Salad, Yeast Rolls, Strawberry Cake and NY Cheesecake, Tea, Coffee and Water.

Cost: \$22.00 per person

Respond by November 29 to either Sylvia Phillips or Sue Jackson and also let them know of any dietary restrictions.

Please bring a small can of fruit or vegetables for Covenant Homes.



Monday, November 19 at noon
Church Parlor

Join us for good food and fellowship as the Lunch Bunch gathers to break bread! We will enjoy turkey and dressing, sweet potato casserole, frozen cranberry salad, asparagus, and chocolate pecan pie. If you are not already on the permanent list, please notify the church office if you can attend. Faithful volunteers prepare and serve the food, and a basket is passed for contributions to offset the cost of the meal. While geared towards retirement age folks, all are welcome!

WEDNESDAY EVENING
FELLOWSHIP
FAITH. FOOD. FUN.

All are welcome for a covered dish meal in the Fellowship Hall on Wednesday evenings at 6:00 p.m. followed by a program in the Session Room at 6:45 p.m.

Stewardship Sunday

November 4, 2018



Matthew 6:19-21

Jesus said, "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

The Rev. Dr. Christopher Edmonston, Head Pastor of White Memorial Presbyterian Church and former Pastor of Howard Memorial Presbyterian Church, will preach for us on this Sunday and all are invited for lunch in the fellowship hall immediately following worship that will be catered by Gardner's Barbecue. Please notify the church office if planning to attend no later than November 1, 2018. Stewardship packets not picked up by November 11 will be mailed on November 12. You are invited to bring in your pledge cards during worship on Dedication Sunday, November 18, 2018.

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.

Pledges and Loose Offering through September, 2018	
Month – to – date	\$ 33,765.59
Year – to – date	\$ 527,296.44

Expenses through September, 2018	
Month – to – date	\$ 40,138.10
Year – to – date	\$ 437,432.620



Stewardship season is upon us! Each pledge is a blessing to the church as we seek to be faithful stewards of the resources God has entrusted to us. First Presbyterian Church offers the below options for making your contribution:

- Bank draft – This is a safe and steady way to consistently support First Presbyterian Church. It can be selected by marking this option on your pledge card and attaching a voided check. The monthly bank draft occurs on the 25th of each month. If the 25th falls on a weekend or holiday, it will be drafted on the next business day. If you currently have a bank draft and want to continue, this can be indicated on your pledge card. The draft for your 2019 contribution would begin January 25th 2019. If you choose the bank draft, you can also stop it by emailing Jeanne Shannon in the church office 2 weeks before the 25th.
- Envelopes – these can be ordered by marking this option on your pledge card
- Sale of stock – If using this method, please contact Jeanne Shannon to request a stock donor letter or have your broker contact Jeanne in the church office. **The stock sale process should begin in early November to make the 12/31 deadline due to holidays and the length of time for the process.**
- Loose checks in the Sunday collection or checks placed in Jeanne Shannon's mailbox - All checks will be applied to your pledge unless indicated otherwise in the 'memo' line.
- Online giving – Sow the seeds for the future with online giving today! This is an easy and convenient way to give your tithes using a debit or credit card or electronic funds transfer. The service through PayPal is easily accessed through the church website. You can rest easy knowing that the transaction is safe and secure, and your gift will be available to our ministry immediately, with no waiting periods. Visit www.fpcrm.org using the 'Online Payment' link in the top right corner to see for yourself how easy it is to give online.

Please contact Jeanne Shannon at the church office if you have any questions.

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

CHILDREN AND YOUTH UPDATE

November offers many opportunities for the children and youth to engage in fellowship, service and learning. Please join us for all of these fun activities and mark your calendars for our end-of-the-month activities that will usher in the Advent season.

Submitted by Lydia Wingo Kane, Children and Youth Ministry Coordinator

Upcoming Children and Youth dates for November



November 14: Parents' Afternoon Out at 4:30 p.m.

Join us for a fun afternoon of science! Christine Braswell of Simply Science will lead us in some fun and educational science experiments.

November 28: Advent Workshop at Parents' Afternoon Out at 4:30 p.m.

The children will begin the Advent season with holiday treats and an outreach project.

November 2-4: Raleigh Youth Mission, Middle School Youth

November 4: High School Youth are encouraged to attend the Stewardship Luncheon.

November 11: Youth Group at Church (Middle School meets at 4:45; High School meets at 6:00 and combined dinner and games begins at 5:30 p.m.)

November 16: Sr. High Breakfast with Lee at Highway Diner at 6:15 a.m.

November 18: Canned Food Boxing Project—Youth will meet after worship to have lunch and box the canned goods that have been collected to donate to United Community Ministries.

November 25: Sunday School for all youth at Dunkin' Donuts at 9:45 a.m.

November 25: Jingle Mingle

The annual Jingle Mingle for Middle and High School youth will be held at Englewood United Methodist Church this year. More details to come!



Youth Group Flood Bucket Project



On October 7, several of our Middle and High School youth met at Lowe's to help fill a Flood Bucket for Hurricane relief.

Reverse TRICK-or-TREAT



Our Parents' Afternoon Out Kids traveled to Covenant Homes on October 24 to "reverse trick or treat" by treating the residents with Goody Bags—such fun!



COMMUNITY OUTREACH



We will continue collecting books for the children of Agape Village. The books needed are both fiction and nonfiction for grades K-7. A collection box will be in the volunteer office.



Cup of Warmth Luncheon

Folks are invited to participate in the fourth annual Cup of Warmth luncheon serving homemade soups, pies and bread to benefit United Community Ministries. It will be held Thursday, November 8 between 12:00 – 2:00 p.m. (floating) at Lakeside Baptist Church. The cost is \$15 per person and tickets may be purchased at the door.

The Handcraft Ministry will meet on **Wednesday, November 14 at 1:30 p.m.** in the home of Pam Gragg, 4216 Fairhaven Drive.



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



First Sunday Donations Needed

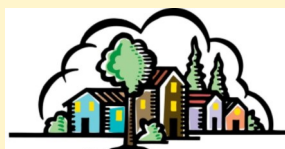
The following items can be brought to the narthex area of the church on the first Sunday of each month or you are welcome to drop items off anytime in the volunteer office beside the church office vestibule:

Tar River Academy

With the school year back in full swing, Tar River Academy is in need of the following items: Pencils (always need lots), black pens, highlighters, spiral notebooks (single subject), colored pencils (12 or 24 packs), graph paper. Any donations are greatly appreciated and can be left in the TRA bin in the narthex or the Volunteer room.

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.



Covenant Homes

BINGO PRIZES

The residents of Covenant Homes would greatly appreciate our help with their Bingo games. They don't have prizes when they win. If you would like to help them, there will be a container in the Volunteer office for drop-off. Some examples of prizes are: paper towels, toilet paper, snacks, puzzles, nick-nacks, Kleenex, hand sanitizer, word search books, crossword puzzles, hand lotions, shampoo, anything useful.

REMEMBER TO RE-LINK YOUR HARRIS TEETER VIC CARD TO BARIUM SPRINGS HOME/CHILDRENS HOPE ALLIANCE (#5443).



Silver Badge.

Girl Scout Troops 434 and 55 met at Lowe's to fill a bucket for hurricane relief. We were happy to help with this project. Troop 434 is completing our flag badge and learning how to properly dispose of the American flag. Troop 55 continues work on our



Twenty-five flood buckets were taken to First Presbyterian Church in Goldsboro on Monday, October 8. The buckets were taken to Wilmington and New Bern for victims of Hurricane Florence.

Outreach would like to thank the many different groups and individuals who helped with this worthwhile project.

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.



*"Grow in Grace, Live in Peace,
Serve the Lord"*

Our friends at Mount Pisgah Presbyterian Church (corner of Park Avenue and Goldleaf St. – Rocky Mount) are celebrating 127 years of ministry and would like to invite you to join them for any or all of the following activities:

Annual Revival—Nov. 13 & 14 at 7:00 p.m. with Rev. Robert J. Yarbrough, Pastor of St. Mark AME Church.

Annual Fellowship Dinner—Nov. 16 at 6:30 p.m. at the Booker T. Washington Resource Center; guest speaker Dr. Henry Williams. Dinner tickets cost \$25 and can be purchased from the Mount Pisgah church office by 11/14/18.

Morning Worship Celebration—Nov. 18 at 11:00 a.m.

Presbyterian Women Update

- ◆ PW Coordinating Team: Monday, November 5 at 10:00 a.m. in the Session Room
- ◆ Circle of Friends: Monday, November 12, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Janice Smith, with Laura Dudley co-hosting.
- ◆ Circle of J.O.Y.: Tuesday, November 13, at 10:30 a.m. in the Session Room at the church with the Rev. Bettie Kirkpatrick leading the Bible Study for both circles this month, "God's Promise, I Will Be With You".

2018-19 PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN COORDINATING TEAM

Janice Smith, Moderator
Diane Dixon, Vice-Moderator

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

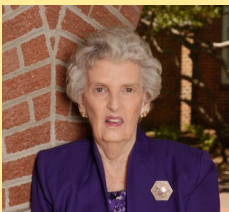
Martha Tesoro, Treasurer
Laura Durham, Spiritual Nurture
Edie Reeves, Together in Service
Nancy Richardson, Circle of J.O.Y Leader



Presbyterian Women's Honorary Life Membership

A Presbyterian Women's Honorary Life Membership pin and certificate is one of our ways to show love and appreciation for commitment, dedication and faithful service to our church. The recipient is honored as a person of faith, working within a caring community to pursue justice, mercy, and extend love. They have shown strength and patience, wisdom, enthusiasm, and have been steadfast in service. To be chosen is an honor, a joy, and a privilege.

The PWPCT decided in early summer we would honor three (3) of our loyal, dedicated members in the fall. On October 28, Honorary Life Memberships were presented to Char Mather, Anne Wilgus Podesta, and posthumously to Lila Michael.



Char Mather



Lila Michael



Anne Wilgus Podesta



Christmas Concert

The performance will take place in our sanctuary on Sunday, December 16 at 4:00 p.m. and will include our Chancel Choir, the Nash Central High School chorus, and the Rocky Mount Chamber Choir. If interested in singing in the concert, contact Jim Smith and plan to attend the first of three rehearsals on Thursday, November 29, at 7:00 p.m.



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



November 4, 2018

****Stewardship Sunday****

Head Usher: David Dudley

Ushers: Laura Dudley, Roger Seale, Randy Adams, Sally Adams

Greeter: Cora Lee Gold

Liturgist: Scott Solether

Children’s Sermon: Randy Adams

Nursery Helper: Chrissy Barnhill

November 11, 2018

Head Usher: Darin Scott

Ushers: Elizabeth Scott, Lee Scott, Mary Sue Smith, Tim Smith

Greeters: Suzanne and Bill Buchanan

Liturgist: Laura Durham

Children’s Sermon: Scott Solether

November 18, 2018

****Dedication Sunday****

Head Usher: Darin Scott

Ushers: Elizabeth Scott, Lee Scott, Linda Evans, Randy Evans

Greeters: Suzanne and Bill Buchanan

Liturgist: Janice Smith

Children’s Sermon: Lydia Wingo Kane

November 25, 2018

Head Usher: Tim Smith

Ushers: Mary Sue Smith, John Turnage, Graham Turnage, Diane Dixon

Greeter: Beth Turnage

Liturgist: Randy Adams

Children’s Sermon: Scott Solether

Thank You!

Keeping in touch...

FOLLOW
US!



First Presbyterian Rocky Mount

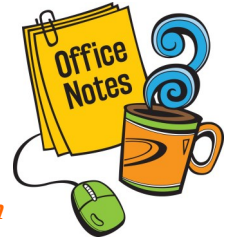


@FPC_RockyMount



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.



The church office will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday on Thursday and Friday, November 22 and 23. The church office hours are Monday—Thursday from 8:30-4:30 p.m. Please contact the church in advance should you need access to the building during non-office hours.

Dear First Presbyterian
Church Family,

Thank you so much for the beautiful flowers and cozy blanket. The flowers really made my day and I have been snuggling in the blanket daily as well. I just love our church family and I am so thankful to be a part of it. I am getting better every day and I look forward to sitting in the pews with you all again very soon. Thank you so much for the special gift and prayers during my recovery.

Love,
Winnie Gaynor

Thank to Bobbi and Hassell, I received a surprise visit and a lovely vase of flowers from the church.

Thanks,
Char Mather

Flower Committee,
Thank you for thinking of me when you distributed the flowers. Your work brings a ray of sunshine to people in the church each week. I'm 3 1/2 weeks after surgery and pleasantly surprised how far I've come. Still plenty of stiffness but walked about a mile this morning.
Randy Evans

Thank you for all the wonderful birthday cards in September! And thanks to Hannah for the beautiful sunflower birthday cake. We all enjoyed both so very much. Another big thank you for the especially beautiful flowers in honor of the birth of Quinn, the second great-granddaughter. We enjoyed looking at those so very, very much!

Anne Wilgus and family

Outreach would like to thank the Presbyterian Women for the delicious luncheon on Sunday, October 14 and for inviting Lori Fees to bring us up to date on Children's Hope Alliance. Special thanks for all that helped with setup, clean-up, and food preparation.



- ◇ The sympathy of the congregation is extended to the family of Frank Edge who died on October 8, 2018.
- ◇ Our condolences are also extended to Marie Kem upon the death of her father, Robert Waites of Shelby Township, Michigan on October 14, 2018.
- ◇ Our love and sympathy is extended to the family of Si Fuller who died on October 21, 2018.



The residents of Covenant Homes thank First Presbyterian church for the donations of bingo prizes.



We decorate our Sanctuary during Advent with beautiful poinsettias which are made available by your donations to honor and remember special friends and/or loved ones. Envelopes will be available beginning **November 18** in the Narthex or from the church office for you to pick up and enclose payment along with the name(s) of those you wish to honor. You can either place your envelope in the offering plate during worship or return to Dionne Seale's church mailbox. A donation of \$18 per poinsettia is appreciated. A special bulletin remembers the honorees on Christmas Eve and the deadline to donate is **December 16, 2018**.



Liz and Jim Woodard are excited to announce the birth of their son, Thomas Oden Woodard, on October 10, 2018. Big brother John is very excited! His grandparents are Gary and Charlotte Woodard and Beth Oden and the late Bill Oden, Jr.



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

ADDITIONAL CONCERNS

Ike Amerson

Logan Barnes

Katherine Belk (daughter of Dick Fountain)

Jim Blanchard

Mayo & Jean Boddie

Janet Cooper (mother of Elizabeth Rose)

Augusta Daniel

Geraldine Donnell (sister of Janice Smith)

Earl and Phyllis Goodwin

Clif Hayworth

Wilda Jenkins

John McInnis (Jack Perry's brother-in-law)

Georgia Mixon

Arrington Moore

Gerry Niece (friend of the church)

Anne Wilgus Podesta

Evelyn Reese

Blanche Robinson

Jean Rowe (Steve Rowe's mother)

Polly Rowlett (Leigh Skeen's mother)

Maida Sessoms

Tim Smith

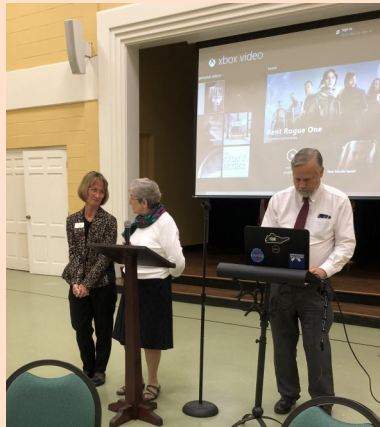
Harriet Thorpe

Clevie Wiggins

Susan Yenney



Forty-five members of our church enjoyed a delicious lunch while listening to Lori Fees, Development Officer and Church Liaison of Children's Hope Alliance as she discussed the many wonderful programs and specialists that work with the children there. She showed a video about children who told of their lives before and after Children's Hope Alliance. Lori thanked our church for its continuing financial support and asked that we continue to pray for the children, staff, and the programs that are offered there. Over \$800 was given to Lori at the luncheon.



The Session met on October 16, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. in the Session Room and took the following action:

- A recommendation from the Outreach Committee to approve a gift of \$2000 to Conetoe Family Life Center for repairs to their van. The funds will come from the mission tithe.
- The allocation of the peacemaking offering collected on World Communion Sunday to Peacemakers of Rocky Mount was approved.
- Scott Solether's contract which was set to expire November 1, 2018 was extended for an additional 6 month period under the same terms with the exception of removing the \$4000 moving expenses allocated in his initial contract and adding an allocating that \$4000 to Continuing Education and Self Paid Medical Expenses for family. In the event we call a new minister, we can terminate the contract by giving Scott 30 days notice. If the contract has less than 60 days remaining on the contract, then we will pay the remainder of the contract. If the contract has more than 60 days remaining then we will pay Scott his compensation package for 60 days. (These terms are pursuant to the Presbytery's interim pastor agreement).
- A motion to sell the church bus for \$10,000 carried unanimously. The Session will investigate options regarding the costs for either renting vans when needed or using the funds to purchase another van/bus for church use. We will be looking at whether having to rent a van each time we need something will be more or less expensive as well as where we will store anything that we buy to prevent vandalism.

We welcome your input on this and all other matters.

-Submitted by Mike Gaynor, Clerk