



First Pres News

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rocky Mount

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

April 2019

Fifth Sunday Event

On Sunday, March 31st, we will meet in the fellowship hall starting at 10:00 AM for breakfast. We will have worship around the tables and enter into a discussion that concludes at noon.

The following Scripture will be presented and these questions will be discussed. Be thinking about how you might answer and where we might go from here. Keep your church in your prayers.

Acts 2:41-47

1. How did you come to attend this church?
Who invited you; who brought you?

Matt. 16:13-20

2. Who does the community say that we are?
Who do we say that we are?

Matt. 28:18-20

3. How are we a welcoming church?
How are we an inviting church?

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!



In-Betweens Meal

**Saturday, April 13, 2019
6:00 p.m.**

The In-Betweens will meet with Chris and Gerald Fenno and co-host Kay Wester at the Fenno home. Please call either Kay Wester or Chris and let them know what you can bring for the meal.

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. Upcoming programs include:

April 3—Love Does Bible Study*

April 10—Love Does Bible Study*

April 17—Easter reflection themed program

April 24—Guest Speaker, Scott Roberts, Rocky Mount Mills

**It is not necessary to purchase Love Does for the study.*



**Monday, April 15 at noon
Church Parlor**

Join us for good food and fellowship as the Lunch Bunch gathers to break bread! We will enjoy chicken salad, pasta salad, fruit, muffins, and dessert. 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!

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 February 2019

Month – to – date \$ 30,933.67

Year – to – date \$ 188,576.70

Expenses through February 2019

Month – to – date \$ 56,155.55

Year – to – date \$ 104,850.73



Please contact Jeanne Shannon at the church office if you have any questions. Church office phone 252.446.9121, ext. 23; Jeanne's email jeanne.shannon@fpcrm.org; Jeanne's office hours are Monday thru Thursday from 8:30-2:30.



The Session met on Tuesday, March 19, 2019 and the following items were discussed:

- Dionne Seale and Nancy Richardson have joined the Christian Education committee
- Approval of \$2500 to be allocated from the special gifts funds for updating the parent's room off of the narthex
- Approval of the updated abuse prevention policy
- The property committee is waiting on a final quote for the new fire detection system.

We welcome your input on this and all other matters.

-Submitted by Mike Gaynor, Clerk



April 14

Palm Sunday

Children will process with palms at beginning of worship.

Lily donation deadline

2:30 Easter Egg Hunt

April 18

Maundy Thursday

5:30 p.m. service in sanctuary with communion served

April 19

Good Friday Service

Noon at Morton Presbyterian Church,
6605 West Mount Road

April 21

Easter Sunday

No children/youth Sunday School.

Communion will be served.

One Great Hour of Sharing collection during worship. Lilies can be taken home after worship if designated on donation envelope.



The church office will be closed April 22, 2019.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH UPDATE



Our big event in April is hosting the Easter Egg Hunt! This year we have invited the children, youth and families from Conetoe Missionary Baptist Church to join us. We are excited to host this event and the youth group is planning fun games to go along with the egg hunt. The egg hunt will be in the Lacy Fellowship Hall on Palm Sunday, April 14, from 2:30-4:00. We will hunt eggs, play games, and eat pizza together. Everyone is welcome!

All children are invited to attend a Welcome to the Table Communion Workshop on Wednesday, April 10. We will talk about what the sacrament of communion means to Presbyterians and we will learn about what happens in worship when we take communion together. The children will also be processing with the palm branches at the beginning of worship on April 14. We hope everyone can make it to these special Lent and Easter events!



Spring is here and that means it is time to begin planning for Youth Sunday! This year Youth Sunday will be May 12. The youth will be planning all aspects of this special service and we will be celebrating our six graduating seniors as well.

Submitted by Lydia Wingo Kane, Children and Youth Ministry Coordinator

Please check out these scholarship opportunities!



Fountain Scholarship: Richard T. Fountain, Jr. established a scholarship in loving memory of his wife Katherine B. "Kacky" Fountain. The purpose is to further the educational achievements of college bound applicants who have made a contribution to the life of First Presbyterian Church.

A.P. Thorpe Endowment Fund Scholarship: the purpose of this scholarship is to further the educational achievements of worthy young people in Nash and Edgecombe Counties.

*Applications for both of the above are in the church office and the deadline is **May 6**. Questions can be directed to Sydney Phillips at sydphillips@msn.com.*

UPCOMING CHILDREN AND YOUTH DATES FOR APRIL



April 10: Parents' Afternoon Out at 4:30 p.m.; Welcome to the Table Communion Workshop

April 14: Children will process with Palm Branches during Worship at 11:00 a.m.

April 14: Easter Egg Hunt at FPC with Conetoe Missionary Baptist Church at 2:30 p.m.

April 7: Youth Group @FPC, 4:45 Middle School, dinner at 5:30, 6:00 High School; We will begin planning for Youth Sunday.

April 12: HS Breakfast with Lee @ Highway Diner, 6:15 a.m.

April 14: Youth help with Easter Egg Hunt at FPC—2:30 p.m.



Join us for VBS!

June 10-14, 2019

8:45-12:00 daily

First Presbyterian Church

Ages 3 through completed 5th grade

**Registration fee \$15 per child, max \$30 per family;
scholarships available**

Now through April 15, early bird registration for members of the sponsoring churches: Church of the Good Shepherd, First Presbyterian, Lakeside Baptist, St. Andrew's Episcopal, and West Haven Presbyterian. Open to the community April 15-May 30. Teachers, assistants and youth helpers needed!

Register at:

www.goodshepherdmt.org/vbs-registration



On Sunday, March 3, the middle and high school youth spent the morning and afternoon with the Rev. Linda Harding of the Raleigh Youth Mission as they explored Mission as Worship. Communion was served, and they also adopted a local spot near FPC to clean up as well!





COMMUNITY OUTREACH



The following donations for the Agape Village Orphanage and School in Zambia would be greatly appreciated and can be placed in the blue shipping barrel in the narthex:

- Hardcover books for readers in grades 1-7. (They do not need any more younger children's books or board books, at this time.)
- Warm children's fleece jackets, sweatshirts, or sweaters for Zambian winter months of May and June
- Children's crew socks for school - White for girls and black for boys
- Children's underwear, ages 3-16. Colors are preferred over white
- Carolina blue polo shirts for boys and girls, short or long sleeves. (Children's xs, small, medium and large)
- Navy blue pants for boys, and navy blue uniform jumpers for girls
- Dry erase pens and dry erase board cleaner
- Bath towels and wash cloths

The Handcraft Ministry will meet on

Wednesday, April 17 at 1:30 p.m. in the
home of Chris Feno,
616 Short Spoon Circle.



*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

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. The students at Tar River Academy can really use drawstring backpacks. Donated backpacks can be placed in either the TRA bin in the narthex vestibule or the volunteer office.

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.



**Communities
In Schools**

Communities in Schools is in need of white formal dresses for a number of the students they work

with who are involved in presentations. If you have one to donate, please bring it to the church volunteer office.



Support the Down East Partnership for Children at their Anniversary Affair on April 25, 2019 from 7:00-10:00 p.m. at the Power House—Rocky Mount Mills (1151 Falls Road). Visit their website to purchase tickets at www.depc.org.



Girl Scout Troop 55 News

Troop 55 earned their cooking badge by making cupcakes using leftover Girl Scout cookies. They had a great time with that project and will be delivering cookies to the homeless shelter, police department and the fire stations.



FPC is in need of a volunteer to cover the red route on the 4th Tuesday each month.

We are also in need of subs! Please contact Kate Tharin if able to assist! Just a reminder to First Presbyterian Meals on Wheels Volunteers: our delivery dates are the 4th Monday and the 4th Tuesday each month.



The Handcraft Ministry recently made washcloths to donate along with towels for Agape Village Orphanage .



St. Patrick's Day treats were delivered to the staff and our friends at Tar River Academy as part of our Outreach efforts.

Presbyterian Women Update

PW is part of our connectional church. That means we “gather”! We gather in Circles monthly for prayer and Bible Study. PW in the Presbytery (PWP) meets semi-annually, unless the Fall Gathering is canceled because of a hurricane as it was in the fall of 2018. The PWP Spring Gathering is April 13 at Spring Hill in Lucama. Lucama is just a short distance off I95 or 301 South. A registration form is on the bulletin board in the hall near the Session Room or contact Janice Smith for more information. Speaking of “gathering”, mark your calendar for our Annual Birthday Gathering on May 21 in the FPC parlor. We are mission active women, who come through when we are made aware of issues/needs, locally and around the world. Each day is a new adventure and challenge. We accept it with a smile and a helping hand. Now is the time to place your order for a beautiful Easter Lily to adorn our sanctuary for our Easter Worship service, in memory or in honor of someone special. The proceeds help fund the Littrell/Thorpe Scholarships for our college bound seniors. The order envelopes can be found in the narthex on Sundays or from the church office.

- ♦ **PW Coordinating Team:** Monday, April 1 at 10:00 a.m. in the History Room.
- ♦ **Circle of Friends:** Monday, April 8 at 7:00 p.m. hosted by Laura Dudley and Myra Richardson. Mary Watson will be leading the Bible Study.
- ♦ **Circle of J.O.Y.:** Tuesday, April 9, at 10:30 a.m. in the Session Room at the church with the Rev. Bettie Kirkpatrick leading the lesson.



2018-19 PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN COORDINATING TEAM

Janice Smith, Moderator

Diane Dixon, Vice-Moderator

Tempie Fuller, Secretary

Frances Guerry, Historian

Sylvia Phillips, Together in Service

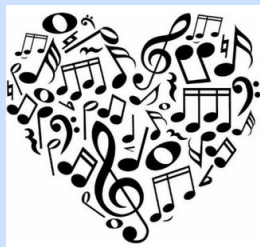
Myra Richardson, Circle of Friends Leader

Martha Tesoro, Treasurer

Laura Durham, Spiritual Nurture

Edie Reeves, Together in Service

Nancy Richardson, Circle of J.O.Y Leader



As most of the congregation knows, Arianna Ford is one of our Choral Scholars. She is from Hickory, N.C., and is a junior at ECU, majoring in music/vocal performance. She hopes to spend the month of June in Taos, New Mexico this summer. Based on an audition and the recommendations of her teachers, Arianna is one of 28 singers who have been invited to participate in the Taos Opera Institute.

"Each year, 28 promising young artists, from across the country and internationally, are invited to spend the month learning from esteemed faculty. The singers receive lessons 4 days per week which totals an entire semester of lessons in just one short month. Our program is designed with the singers in mind. The young artists are assigned to a language group in French, German, Italian, and English and rotate to the next language each week. Throughout the month, guest faculty present sessions on the business of opera, media, branding and marketing, performance psychology and dramatic interpretation." (from the Taos Opera Institute website)

As is the case for most high quality, career oriented residency programs, the Opera Institute charges tuition. Even though Arianna has received a \$1,000 scholarship, the balance of her tuition for the program is \$3,500. And of course she needs to get to New Mexico and back.

This is a wonderful opportunity for Arianna but at the moment, it is an elusive one. Arianna's mom has set up a Go Fund Me account for her daughter. If you would like to help, any contribution would be very much appreciated. If you would like to contribute, either send in a check to the church with Arianna Ford donation noted in the memo line or donate directly online at: https://www.gofundme.com/summer-programs-for-education?utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=fb_co_campmgmt_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*

April 7, 2019

Head Usher: James Tharin

Ushers: Mari Robin Tharin, Frances Tharin, Anne Mosley, Jay Gardner

Greeter: Pam Gragg

Liturgist: John Etheredge

Time with Children: Jim Lilley

Nursery Helper: Jay Gardner

Acolyte: Thomas Honey

April 14, 2019

Palm Sunday

Head Usher: Jep Rose

Ushers: Gordon Vestal, Tricia Vestal, Paul Outlaw, Zoey Outlaw

Greeters: Christy and Carley Outlaw

Liturgist: Bill Buchanan

Time with Children: Scott Solether

Acolytes: Virginia Feagans and Jillian Schrimper

April 18, 2019

Maundy Thursday—5:30 service

Ushers: TBA

Communion Preparers: Beth Turnage, Tim Smith

Communion Servers: Beth Turnage, John Turnage, Tim Smith, Anne Kinnaird

April 21, 2019

Easter Sunday

Head Usher: Jep Rose

Ushers: Gordon Vestal, Tricia Vestal, Paul Outlaw, Zoey Outlaw

Greeters: Christy and Carley Outlaw

Liturgist: Preston Smith

Time with Children: Lydia Wingo Kane

Acolytes: Mari Robin Tharin and Frances Tharin

Communion Preparers: Katherine Fisher, Lige Daughtridge, Laura Dudley

Communion Servers: Katherine Fisher, Lige Daughtridge, Roslyn Gragg, Joe Brown, David Farris, Marianne Farris, Kim Sutton, Kate Tharin, Laura Dudley, Janice Smith, Winslow Rogers

April 28, 2019

Head Usher: Joe Brown

Ushers: Julia Brown, Laura Durham, Greg Hutchins, Carol Hutchins

Greeter: Betsy McLean

Liturgist: Janice Smith

Time with Children: Randy Adams

Keeping in touch...

FOLLOW
US!



First Presbyterian Rocky Mount



fpc_rockymount

Contact Information Updates: Kindly notify Dionne Seale in the church office at 252-446-9121, ext. 21 or dionne.seale@fpcrm.org of any email, address, or phone number changes so we can keep our database up to date.



Regular 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 FPC,
Hi everyone! I wanted to say THANK YOU so very much for your time and energy yesterday with our students and planning this for them at the YMCA! They had never been and this was a terrific treat for them. They were so thankful and appreciative and were amazed that you did this for them. You all are so important in this ministry and in the building of relationships.

Again, I want you to know how much we thank you and your team yesterday, and for everything you have done for us in the past. Looking forward to spending time with you in the future... WE APPRECIATE YOU!

For his KINGDOM,
Dawn Turner
Director of International Student Services/PDSO
NC Wesleyan College



A church member submitted this lovely picture of Georgia Mixon at her recent 90th Birthday Celebration given by her family. We are grateful for Georgia's many gifts that she always shares freely with others!



Thomas Oden Woodard was baptized on March 24, 2019. He is the son of Jim and Liz Woodard and younger brother to John.

Dear Church Family,
A gorgeous arrangement of flowers appeared on my doorstep this past week. Your love and support for my family during this difficult time are such a comfort. Thank you for your kindness.
Blessings,
Diane Dixon

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.



Flowers for the Sanctuary

Honor someone or mark a special occasion in the coming year by signing 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. Not only do we enjoy these flowers during worship, but they are made into smaller arrangements and delivered to those in need of cheer the following day. The following dates are available for flowers to be placed in the sanctuary:

April 28, May 5, 12, 19, 26



- ◇ The love and sympathy of the congregation is extended to the family of Jeff Herrin upon his death on March 4, 2019.
- ◇ The love and sympathy of the congregation is also extended to Walt Wiggins, the Fisher family, and the Sharpe family upon the death of Cleve Wiggins on March 16, 2019.



Donate towards a lily to celebrate a special loved one and/or special people in your life. The Presbyterian Women will place Easter lilies in our sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 21. Donation envelopes can be found on the welcome table in the narthex or the church office. All proceeds go to

the Littrell/Thorpe Scholarship Fund which provides college financial assistance for youth in our church. A donation of \$18.00 or more per lily is appreciated. Checks should be made out to Presbyterian Women with "Easter Lily" in the memo line. Completed envelopes with checks/cash enclosed can either be placed in the offering plate or in Dionne Seale's church box no later than **April 14**. You will also be asked to designate whether you plan to pick up your lily on Easter Sunday or allow it to be taken to one of our homebound members.



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

Jim Blanchard

Mayo & Jean Boddie

Mike Braswell

Janet Cooper (mother of Elizabeth Rose)

Augusta Daniel

Geraldine Donnell (sister of Janice Smith)

Earl and Phyllis Goodwin

Wilda Jenkins

Bettie Kirkpatrick

Jean and Hodge Kitchin

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

Georgia Mixon

Gerry Niece (friend of the church)

Anne Wilgus Podesta

Evelyn Reese

Blanche Robinson

Cora Rowe (granddaughter of Jean Kitchin)

Jean Rowe (Steve Rowe's mother)

Polly Rowlett (Leigh Skeen's mother)

Mary Scott

Maida Sessoms

Sandy Thorpe

Susan Yenney

Pancake Supper
March 5, 2019



SHROVE TUESDAY



AGAPE VILLAGE
foundation



Outreach Luncheon
March 17, 2019

