



First Pres News

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rocky Mount

153 N. Church Street
Rocky Mount, NC 27804

www.fpcrm.org

252-446-9121

June 2019



A Thank You

Many of you have heard that I am facing a life challenge in the near future. On July 16, I will be having kidney transplant surgery. This is not an end of ministry event. In fact, if all goes well, it will allow me to continue in full time ministry as long as I desire. At our last meeting, the session granted vacation time for my recovery from July 15 - August 15 and Preston has agreed to cover pastoral needs during my time off. My contract with the church was renewed until November and I hope to be fully back at work until a new minister is installed. I want to thank the session and this church for your gracious understanding and prayers. I feel blessed to serve you during this time of transition for both of us.

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!



- **Wednesday, June 5** - (6:00 p.m.) Covered dish meal with Bill and Suzanne Buchanan. Respond to Suzanne at if able to attend.
- **Wednesday, June 12** - Sylvan Heights Bird Park and lunch at The Hen and the Hog. Golf cart and wheelchairs available on guided tour if needed; Response and \$16.05 due to Sylvia Phillips no later than Thursday, June 6. Plan to meet at the Harris Teeter parking lot near the Post Office at 8:45 a.m. The church van has been reserved and we will share the expense of refilling the gas tank.
- **Tuesday, June 18** - \$5 movie followed by dinner at Hing Ta (One may choose to participate in movie and dinner, or either). We will meet at the movie theater (time of movie will be announced a week in advance).
- **Wednesday, June 26** - (6:00 p.m.) Covered dish meal with Roz and Larry Gragg, 605 Short Spoon Circle, no response needed so come if you can!



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!



Above, Richard Joyner spoke to the Wednesday Night Fellowship group about the latest happenings at the Conetoe Family Life Center on May 15, 2019.



The Burlington Boys Choir will present a concert in our sanctuary on Sunday, June 9, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. The performance is free and open to the public.

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 April 2019

Month – to – date	\$ 37,032.02
Year – to – date	\$ 254,650.38

Expenses through April 2019

Month – to – date	\$ 55,676.41
Year – to – date	\$ 206,295.07



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, May 21, 2019 and the following items were discussed:

- The session received an update from the Pastor Nominating Committee. The committee is continuing to work diligently in meeting with and vetting potential candidates.
- The clerk reported that he received a request from the committee who planned our first 5th Sunday program to set aside August 25, 2019 for an alternative worship service led by the youth to share with the church about their participation in summer programs. They also requested setting aside September 29, 2019 for an alternative worship service to focus on Stewardship. On another Sunday which date has not been established the committee will ask for the Presbyterian Women to lead a worship service. The committee is very excited about these opportunities for us to do something a little different, fellowship and continue to "tell our story".
- Lydia Wingo-Kane has accepted a full time position as a reading instructor with the Edgecombe County Schools. The session approved a recommendation from the Administrative Committee to begin the process of finding a candidate to work with the youth. They have explored several options and will post for a part time youth leader as well as an interim associate pastor.
- The Session approved a request from John Etheredge to allocate \$1,000.00 from the FPC Endowment to help him kickstart his fundraising efforts for his mission trip to Africa. This allocation is subject to fund availability from the endowment.

We welcome your input on this and all other matters.

-Submitted by Mike Gaynor, Clerk

Did you know...

The church website, www.fpcrm.org, has several special features that you can access 24/7?

- Under Worship—This Week: you can find out the sermon title and scripture references for the upcoming Sunday; you can also see the previous Sunday's bulletin if you missed worship!
- Under Publications—Volunteer Schedules, you can access the schedules for usher/greeters, time with children, liturgists, communion servers, etc.!

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.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH UPDATE

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength...You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Mark 30-31

These words from the Bible are the foundation for our community VBS theme this year, "Who Is My Neighbor?" We will learn that neighbors are more than the people in our families and communities and our Bible stories each day will take us on a journey to discover more about God's great love. From looking at how to be a neighbor to diving into what it means to live out our faith, this VBS will lead children deeply into Bible stories focused on God's care and compassion for neighbors close at hand and around the world.

Along with our four community church partners, we will host around 100 children and 50 youth and adult volunteers. Registration is open to the community until the May 30. VBS is the week of June 10-14 from 9:00 until 12:00. Please pray for all of our participants as we learn, grow, and have fun together!

Submitted by Lydia Wingo Kane, Children and Youth Ministry Coordinator

UPCOMING CHILDREN AND YOUTH DATES FOR JUNE



June 10-14: Community VBS at FPC

June 8: HS Lake Trip to the Sondergards'



Join us for VBS!
June 10-14, 2019
8:45-12:00 daily
First Presbyterian Church
Ages 3 through completed 5th grade



Ann Claire Roberson graduated May 11 from NC State University with a bachelor of science degree in Sport Management and minors in Business Administration and Sports Science. She will start working full-time at USA Baseball May 20 as Assistant Director of Baseball Operations.

Emily Rowe earned her Master's degree in Clinical Psychology from Appalachian State University on May 10, 2019.

Anna Lauren Dudley (MSW) Master's of Social Work degree from Appalachian State University—May 9, 2019.

Tim Hathaway graduated with a Master's of Science in Criminal Justice from NC Wesleyan College on May 4, 2019.

Ben Adams graduated from UNC's Kenan-Flagler Business School with a Master's in Accounting degree. He will work in Atlanta for Ernst and Young.

Griffen McLean graduated from Barton College on Saturday, May 11th. He graduated with a BS in Mass Communications.

Sam Brown graduated on May 24th with a BA in Cinema and Television Arts and a minor in Economics from Elon University.

Peyton Brown received her Master's in History from William and Mary the weekend of May 12th. She started training as a tour guide at Monticello on May 13, 2019.

The A.P. Thorpe Endowment Fund of First Presbyterian Church Rocky Mount is pleased to announce the 2019 scholarship recipients. Lillie Daughtridge has been awarded the Fountain Scholarship in the amount of \$2,000. This scholarship was established in 2016 by Richard T. Fountain, Jr. in loving memory of his wife Katherine B. "Kacky" Fountain. The purpose of the Fountain Scholarship is to further the educational achievements of college bound applicants who have made a contribution to the life of First Presbyterian Church.

Samuel Phillips has been awarded the Thorpe Scholarship in the amount of \$2,000. The Thorpe Scholarship is intended to further the educational achievements of worthy young people in Nash and Edgecombe Counties.

Congratulations to these two outstanding youth. Blessings to Lillie and Sam as they begin their college education this fall.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH



To our friends at First Presbyterian Church—Dawn Turner and I just want to thank you again for all you have done for our NCWC international students this school year! Pat Mauldin did a fantastic job of thinking up and arranging for the students to spend an afternoon at the YMCA. They loved it! It was great!

We have also been blessed by Jay Quinan and John Etheredge—the “Dynamic Duo!” They have been extremely interested in and involved with our students and our programming since taking on their new deacon roles. We are enclosing a photo of most of our graduating seniors. We appreciate your desire to show Christ’s love and NC hospitality to our students.

With grateful hearts,
Suzanne Henning and Dawn Turner



FPC Meals on Wheels
Volunteers: our delivery
dates are the 4th Monday
and the 4th Tuesday each
month.



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 socks & men’s and women’s underwear and tennis shoes.

The Handcraft Ministry

will meet on
Wednesday, June 19 at 1:30 p.m. in the
home of Judy Glover.



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



Both Girl Scout troops are wrapping up for the school year! We helped with decorations for Vacation Bible School and are excited about how those turned out. We enjoyed pizza and watching Troop Beverly Hills for our end of the year celebrations!

COME CELEBRATE WITH ME



I have just completed orientation to become a Long Term Volunteer. I will be working with the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, Ghana, a partner of Presbyterian Church (USA) World Mission Agency. I will spend two years in the town of Ho, Ghana working as a Community Development Volunteer, assisting the church with its community-based mission and development programs. I will serve as a mentor and tutor to primary and middle school youth who dropped out of formal schooling. While working with the Shepherd Centre of Ageing, a church-based social center for older adults, I will act as an informal counselor and companion to the older adults who come to the center for nurture, care, and faith activities. I will also be working with the program geared to educate girls who dropped out of school, mainly due to pregnancy. The center works to teach these girls skills to sustain themselves. I'm excited about this call and ask you to journey with me. I will ask both for your prayers and financial support. My move date is the first of September and I'll share additional information with you very soon.

John Etheredge



Thanks for all the support for the children that will attend Freedom School this summer at Peacemakers. We have collected over 938 snack items and if you have more, after June 1 they can be taken directly to Peacemakers, 1725 Davis Street.



On May 7, our Outreach Committee hosted a Teacher Appreciation Luncheon at Tar River Academy in order to thank the staff and teachers there for all they do!

Presbyterian Women Update

Mary Watson, Myra Richardson, Janice Smith attended the PWP Spring Gathering at Spring Hill Presbyterian Church in Lucama on April 13. We are pleased to announce Samuel Phillips was one of the nine recipients of the PWP Scholarships. Samuel, we are proud of you and your accomplishments. The Rev. Dr. Preston Smith installed our new leaders and rededicated those serving again on May 21 at the PW Birthday Brunch (see list below). The circles will not meet during the summer months, but "save the date" for our August 27 Kick off Meeting when our new 2019-20 Bible Study will be introduced: Love Carved in Stone, a fresh new look at the Ten Commandments. The PWCT will not meet in June and July but will meet again on August 5 at 10:00 a.m.



2019-20 PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN COORDINATING TEAM

Janice Smith, Moderator

Stephanie Hayworth, Vice-Moderator

Tempie Fuller, Secretary

Frances Guerry, Historian

Sylvia Phillips, Together in Service

Myra Richardson, Circle of Friends Leader

Becky Parks, Treasurer

Laura Durham, Spiritual Nurture

Edie Reeves, Together in Service

Nancy Richardson, Circle of J.O.Y Leader

PW Birthday Cake Recipient 2019



Our church has a tradition of recognizing a Presbyterian Woman from our congregation each year in recognition for her service to the church. Along with being selected, there comes a bonus. Hannah Diedrick creates a masterpiece in the form of a beautiful cake which is presented to the honoree.

This year's honoree has been a member of this church for about 35 years, but has always been a Presbyterian. She has traveled quite a bit across America. She grew up in Nash County and attended schools in the Rocky Mount area. She is a retired school teacher, a domestic engineer, mother of two, and blessed with two wonderful grandchildren.

This lady enjoys working in her yard and exercising at the Y with her spouse. She supports her community by being active with The Dunn Center, The Tar River Chorus, and DAR.

Throughout her thirty-five years in First Presbyterian Church, Rocky Mount, she has been most active. She has served as Sunday School Teacher, Deacon, Elder, PW Circle Moderator, leader of Youth and Children's Programs, and continues to be active in Lunch Bunch, In-Betweens, Wednesday Evening Fellowship, Sunday School, Circle of Joy, and Brown Bag Bible Study.

She is what we visualize as a Presbyterian Woman. At this time we wish a Happy Mother's Day and congratulate Roslyn Gragg with 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 2, 2019

Head Usher: Tim Hathaway

Ushers: Bridget Hathaway, Diane Dixon, Greg Hutchins, Carol Hutchins

Greeter: Patsy Manning

Liturgist: John Etheredge

Time with Children: Lydia Wingo Kane

Nursery Helper: Christy Outlaw

Lemonade on the Lawn Server: Mark Stuart

June 9, 2019

Communion by Intinction

Head Usher: Andy Warner

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

Greeter: Patsy Manning

Liturgist: Lige Daughtridge

Time with Children: Mary Scott

Communion Preparers: Diane Dixon and Jep Rose

Communion Servers: Diane Dixon, Jep Rose, Sally Adams, Randy Adams

Lemonade on the Lawn Server: Laura Dudley

June 16, 2019

Head Usher: Andy Warner

Ushers: John Feagans, Virginia Feagans, Lynn Warner, Laura Durham

Greeter: Jean Kitchin

Liturgist: Dee Whitley

Time with Children: Scott Solether

Lemonade on the Lawn Server: James Tharin

June 23, 2019

Head Usher: Tim Hathaway

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

Greeter: Jean Kitchin

Liturgist: Catherine Lilley

Time with Children: Lydia Wingo Kane

Lemonade on the Lawn Server: Sylvia Phillips

June 30, 2019

Head Usher: Tommy Honey

Ushers: Shelton Honey, Greg Hutchins, Carol Hutchins, Janice Smith

Greeters: Kate and Thomas Honey

Liturgist: Mike Gaynor

Time with Children: Jim Lilley

Lemonade on the Lawn Server: Pam Gragg



Love,
Genevieve Batchelor



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:

June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

July 7, 21, 28



- ◇ The love and sympathy of the congregation is extended to the family of Bailey Liipfert upon his death on May 1, 2019.



Before our handbells can be stored for the summer months, they are meticulously polished by the members of the Handbell Choir.



our thoughts and prayers are with...

THE FOUNTAINS AT THE ALBEMARLE— Tarboro

- Tom Dill

CARDINAL AT NORTH HILLS—Raleigh

- Dick Fountain

HOMESTEAD HILL—Winston-Salem

- Nancy Liipfert

ADDITIONAL CONCERNS

Ike Amerson

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

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)

Mercer Rowe (son of Jean Kitchin)

Polly Rowlett (Leigh Skeen's mother)

Maida Sessoms

Sandy Thorpe

Bobbi Weeks

Susan Yenney



WE LOVE YOU BRENDA! On Sunday, May 12, Brenda Crocker was surprised during worship with special recognition for her many years of service as the Director of the Cherub Choir for First Presbyterian Church. She was surrounded by former Cherub Choir participants as Marianne Farris presented her with a special framed artwork of "Jesus Loves Me" and she was further honored at a Mother's Day luncheon following worship. She received a beautiful Cherub Choir cake made by Hannah Diedrick and then Jim Smith, Jennie Vance and the Choral Scholars serenaded her with a special song. Later, each choral scholar delighted the luncheon participants with several Broadway tunes. It was a day full of music, good food, fellowship and blessings!



To the Children, Youth, and Parents:

It has been my privilege and a great joy to serve the children and youth of this church for the past three years. Beginning this August, I will begin a new job as a teacher in Tarboro and will be leaving First Presbyterian. I am grateful for the way this congregation has supported and encouraged me as I worked with your children and youth and grew as a Christian educator. Teaching young people about our faith is an incredible responsibility and has been my greatest joy here at FPC. Participating in worship has been a blessing I did not know I would receive when I accepted this position, and I am grateful to you all for allowing me to tell stories to the children and read scripture as a part of our weekly worship. I have seen over the past three years that this church cares deeply about Christian discipleship for its children and youth and I would like to say thank you to all of the committee chairs and members, session members, and involved and committed parents and volunteers who have dedicated their time and energy to the children and youth ministry programs. I am looking forward to spending this summer with you all. I am also looking forward to seeing what good things God has in store for you as FPC looks forward to the future for its children and youth ministries and for the entire congregation.

*Sincerely,
Lydia Wingo Kane*