

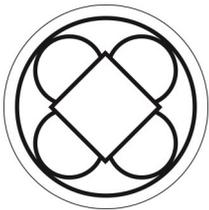
# JULY

## In This Issue:

From the Pastor  
Prayer Concerns

Chicken Roast Dinner  
Church History  
Harbor House  
Highlights of Session  
Hospice House Meals  
Hunger Sunday:  
    Pennies for Hunger  
    and Yes We Can  
Memorials &  
    Honorariums  
Montreat Youth Conference  
Music for the Lunch  
    Bunch  
Music Camp  
Relay for Life  
Refugee Program  
Second of July Fireworks,  
    Hot Dogs, and Carnival  
Stewardship Report  
Vacation Bible School  
Walking Ministry

Thanks



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# ICHTHUS

July 2017

Newsletter of First Presbyterian Church

## Reflections in the Water: Celebration of the 4<sup>th</sup> on the 2<sup>nd</sup> at 3<sup>rd</sup>



### “Fireworks” by Nikolay Dimitrov

“When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. ...And when they had prayed, the place where they had gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak the word of God with boldness.”

—A description of the early Church from Acts 2 and 4

One of my favorite fellowship events at First Presbyterian Church is the Fourth of July Fireworks Celebration. I think it is one of my favorite church gatherings because originally it happened spontaneously without any planning. The first year folks just showed up to view the downtown fireworks.

I recall many of us sat on the barely dried new sidewalk in the shadow of our almost completed yet unoccupied new church building. In the summer of 2012 the Smithfield Town Development Agency was experimenting with a new venue for the town fireworks display. Their plan was to set up in the heart of the downtown on S Third Street to “get the most bang for the buck” in a literal way. Apparently it was more cost effective to obtain more fireworks if the date was set near but not on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. That is why in this sixth year we have a town Fourth of July fireworks display on Sunday, July 2<sup>nd</sup> on S. Third Street .

This practice of good stewardship by community leaders consequently has created one of the best fireworks displays to be found in our area. Fortunately the parking lot of First Presbyterian Church provides the best seats in town for just the price of simply showing up. Since that first display, church leadership in an effort practice to good stewardship, has recognized the opportunity to reach out to our community during the event and has sponsored activities such as serving hot dogs and hamburgers and raise funds for the mission and ministry outreach of the church. Still at its heart, the Fireworks Celebration is simply a fun gathering that has grown successively each year for the congregation, our neighbors, and welcome guests. It is a moment to be simply present to one another on a harmonious and relaxing summer evening. And as an outward sign of God’s inward grace, this fellowship evening in many ways may be one of the best examples of simply being Church together.

Without design or planning on our part, God calls us to come and be present to one another. Traditionally July is a quieter work month for most American churches . Even at First Presbyterian Church the sanctuary choir enjoys a hiatus, mission and ministry meetings disappear from the calendar . Nonetheless beginning with the Fireworks Fellowship Gathering, July is also one of our busiest months for youth, mission, and personal discipleship. On Saturday July 8<sup>th</sup> at FPCS, Church World Service leaders will present to our community churches a program on refugees impacted by war and violence around the world and how we might best serve our neighbor in need. Our commitment continues to our youth as a large group of Presbyterian Youth Connection members attend Montreat, many of them for the first time. Later in the month we host at First Presbyterian Church in partnership with First Christian Church and Wilson’s Mills Christian Church a program of Vacation Bible School for the families of our community. How will you as a disciple and steward be involved during this a jubilee year? I invite you as Jesus called the first disciples: “Come and see.”

Enjoy and be blessed this summer together. Peace and grace be with you all.

Pastor Joe



Add to your prayer list

**Prayerful Support for**  
Tom Barbour at Meadowview  
Nor Bell at Meadowview  
Bernice Johnson at Meadowview  
Alice Narron at Meadowview  
Shirley Williams at Meadowview  
Marie Atkins

John Booker  
Ruth Daniel  
Debbie Henderson  
Tom Johnson  
Shannon Kimball  
Joe Kluttz  
Tony Lester  
Bill Leist  
Marie Maddox  
Benny Pope  
Chap Ragland  
Ellen Rogers in Raleigh  
Peter Russell  
Linda Stephenson  
Mary Alice Thomas in Charlotte  
Nelson Vaughn  
Betty Welch  
Ted Wells  
William Wells  
Al Worsham  
Bob Worsham  
Hilda Worsham  
Virginia Williams in Laurinburg  
Rebecca Ziady  
Joseph Hester, Sr.

**Christian Sympathy** to the family of Hazel Whitehurst. Hazel died on June 19, 2017.



**In Honor of** Benny Pope, Youth Sunday, Betsy and Frank Olive  
**In Memory of** Grover Miller, Julie Capps, Terry Smith, Myde Eason, Sharon VanVelzen, Dr. Thomas Manning Daniel, Stanford Adams, Eddie Perkinson, Clem and Mikki Sharek

**Donors:** John and Shirley Booker, Joyce and David Lee, Cindy Smith, Judy Miller, Benny and Pam Pope, Maxine McFadyen, Virginia Williams, Shannon Kimball, Jo James, Tony and Sandra Lester, Hank Roberson, Frank and Betsy Olive, Brent and Nichole Booker, Beth Daniel, Ernie and Margo Allsbrook, Roger and Eleanor Horne, Jacky Shadowen, Bobby and Joan Plowman, Margie and Ricky Crumley, Judy Daniels, Hubert and Judy Schmidt, Jim and Debbie Henderson, Sandy Perkinson, Ellen Adams, Jake and Debbie Jacobs, Chris and Shelley Roberts, Greg and Ruth Bell, Billy Duncan, Tom and Sandra Johnson, Deacon Jones Auto Park, Inc.



of June Session:

- Approved the use of the Fellowship Hall by the Horne and Allen families to host a graduation reception on Sunday, June 11, 2017, in accordance with the Building Facility Use policy.
  - Approved the use of the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, July 8, 2017, by church members currently working with Church World Service to host an information and communication program for the community on refugee resettlement.
  - Approved a request from the Mission and Outreach Quadrant to host a Fourth of July cookout in conjunction with the Town of Smithfield's fireworks display on Sunday, July 2, 2017. Profits from the project will be earmarked for a mission outreach project.
  - Approved the following fundraisers for our PYC:  
Chicken Roast: Friday, August 18, 2017  
Potato Bake: Sunday, October 15, 2017  
Silent Auction: Sunday, Nov. 19, 2017  
Oyster Roast: Sunday, Jan. 14, 2018
- If you have items you wish to bring before Session, please contact Debbie Jacobs, clerk.

—Debbie Jacobs



**Lunch Bunch**

July 12

**W. Franklin Graham, piano**

July 19

**Greg Honeycutt, baritone**

July 26

**Casey Whaley and Timothy Price, organ and piano**

August 2

**Clayton Youth Theatre**

August 9

**Neuse Little Theatre**

August 16

**The Golden Girls**

Wednesdays, 12:15, Our Sanctuary  
Music for the Lunch Bunch is grassroots funded by the Johnston County Arts Council and the NC Arts Council

**More History of the Church in our 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year**  
From the pages of *The Smithfield Herald*, September 7, 1893:

The cornerstone of the Presbyterian Church was laid here today by the Grand Lodge of North Carolina A.F. and A.M., Dr. R.J. Noble, Grand Senior Warden, Master of Ceremonies. The Lodge met in the Hall of Fellowship Lodge No. 84. Nine lodges were represented and about seventy-five Masons were present. They formed into line and marched to the Presbyterian Church at 12 o'clock M. where a large congregation had assembled to witness the exercises. Mr. T.B. Hyman, who was to deliver an address, was unavoidably detained at his home in Goldsboro, and Rev. J.A. McMurray, Pastor of the church, made a short address and appealed to the congregation to aid in raising funds for the payment of the debt on the church. Several contributed very liberally and a nice little sum was raised.

The Masons then went out of the building and laid the cornerstone of the church with Masonic honors and imposing ceremony.

Of interest to the congregation: The original frame church was located next door to the Masonic Lodge, so the Masons did not have to travel far to march in their procession!

—Ann Huckenberg

*Dear Church Family,*

*I am so grateful to all of you who came to my graduation, helped with the reception, and gave me your good wishes.*

*I am excited to soon be leaving for college, but I will carry you with me as an important piece of my heart.*

*Love to all of you,*

*Madeline Horne*

## Team 37 Reaches Gold Level

Your Relay for Life Team 37 raised \$6,761 this year thanks to your generous support! We are not a Gold Team! We can't thank you enough for your support of our Cookie Exchange, Chili Lunch, raffles, and the actual Relay event. We could not do this without your help and encouragement. We hope this money will be used for research that will find treatments and cures for cancer.



A shout-out goes to the following team members: Joy Worsham, Meredith Worsham, Betsy Olive, Dot Ellmore, Pam Pope, Benny Pope, Judy Schmidt, Becky Peele, Janet Lampe, Ethan Smith, Austin Smith, and Kay Taylor. Our special thanks go to Judy Lee for her help with out luminaries at Relay. Also we send our thanks to John Taylor and Hubert Schmidt for all their help and patience. Way to go, Team 37!!

Everyone who came out had a great time at this year's event. We enjoyed the fellowship and watching our survivors in the Survivor Walk. WE sold over 125 luminaries to our church members in memory of those they have lost and in honor of those who have survived their battle with cancer.

—Martha Taylor, Captain, Team 37

## Food For Thought

Ever heard the phrase "food for thought"? The Dictionary.com says this about food for thought: "An idea or issue to ponder, as in *That interesting suggestion of yours has given us food for thought.* This metaphoric phrase, transferring the idea of digestion from the stomach to mulling something over in the mind, dates from the late 1800s, although the idea was also expressed somewhat differently at least three centuries earlier."



<http://www.thesaurus.com/>

The idiom was probably around when our church was organized 125 years ago. Think about this, hunger is as old as human kind. And it is prevalent in our modern, gentile and kind society today. A billboard on Highway 70 near Princeton reminded motorist speeding along that 40% of the food we produce is never eaten. It ends up rotting in landfills as the single largest component of U.S. municipal solid waste. Reducing food losses by just 15 percent would be enough food to feed more than 25 million Americans every year. <https://www.nrdc.org/sites/default/files/wasted-food-IP.pdf>.

The problem seems overwhelming, so what can we do about it?

Little efforts from lots of people add up. You can assist our hunger programs by donating food or money to Pennies for Hunger and the Smithfield Area Ministries Food Closet for starters.

Just some food for thought . . .

—Tom Barwick

## Help Provide Hospice Meal July 23

The Mission Outreach Quadrant partners with the volunteers and staff at SECU Hospice House in Smithfield several times a year to provide an opportunity for our congregation to share our support and care to the families with loved ones at Hospice House by providing and serving a meal for the families, volunteers and staff.



Our next meal will be on Sunday, July 23. If you would like to participate, please watch for the sign-up sheet which will be placed on the table in the Vestibule June 25. Please contact Joyce Knoll if you have any questions.

—Joyce Knoll

## A Challenge: Instead of Four, Let's Do Eight!

First Presbyterian Church through The Mission Outreach Quadrant partners with the volunteers and staff at SECU Hospice House in Smithfield to provide a warm meal four times a year for families who have loved ones at Hospice House. Our congregation has been very supportive of this effort which helps families, volunteers and staff at hospice house.



The number of members of First Presbyterian Church willing to provide a portion of the meal has been impressive. We usually have more volunteers' to provide a portion of the meal than we need. We are very thankful for the congregation's support.

There are many churches in the area that support the effort to provide one warm meal a week at Hospice House but there remain some weeks that are open. The Mission and Outreach Quadrant would like to expand the First Presbyterian Church support for the families with loved ones at Hospice House to eight times per year.

We are looking for one or two volunteers to commit to coordinating and serving four additional meals at Hospice House. Greg and Joyce Knoll will continue to coordinate four meals.

If you and a spouse or friend would like more information, please contact Greg or Joyce Knoll.

## High Path Walking Ministry Still Going Strong

One year ago, on July 6, several members of our congregation met to begin a new journey. We sought to combine the physical act of walking within a spiritual context. We started walking for only 20 minutes. Over time we modified our warm up and cool down exercises and stretches. Now, most days we walk for an hour and break up the walk with periodic light exercises. And we have seen the seasons change at East Clayton Park, a one-mile trail that the Templeton family particularly enjoy. Ruthie even lost a tooth during a walk here.



So what have we gained during this year? On the physical side, the people who have made this ministry a part of their lives, like Maxine, Dot, and John Lampe, have reported greater endurance, strength, more flexibility, and their doctors say their blood chemistry has improved in meaningful ways. As for the spiritual aspect, I can report a greater sense of seeing God's hand in the world and a much stronger connection to my fellow walkers.

This July, won't you consider joining us? We have fast and less fast walkers, and you could easily fit in. Besides, in the Medical Mall there are so many seating options, should you tire there are no problems at all to stop and sit a spell.

I thank God and you for the opportunity to share the power of walking a higher path.

—Wayne Dockery

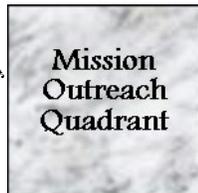
## Harbor Drive a Success

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!  
The Harbor House basket in the Great Hall is filling and its contents will be delivered soon and we will begin again.

Harbor always need toiletries, snacks, juice boxes, games, and paper products.

Thank you for your help!

—Janet Lampe



**YOU ARE INVITED TO  
A Community Forum with  
Church World Service, Durham  
and Local Faith Leaders.**

**This training will share information on refugee resettlement in North Carolina and how to get involved to support the most vulnerable in our communities.**

**Saturday, July 8, 2017  
2:00 to 5:00 pm  
Fellowship Hall**

**Please join us.**



**YOU'RE  
INVITED**

**Second of July Fireworks, Hot Dogs with all the Trimmings, and**

**Second of July Carnival for the Kids!**

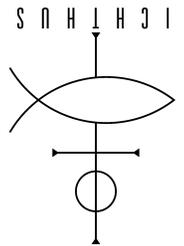
**Proceeds from the Meal go to Mission Outreach Quadrant.**

**Proceeds from the Carnival go to the General Fund.**

**First Presbyterian Church Parking Lot and Fellowship Hall**

**7:00 p.m.—8:30 p.m.**

**Come bring your friends and neighbors to celebrate our nation's birthday  
with the best seats in town!**



**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**

**JULY 2017**

**Smithfield, NC 27577**

**PO Box 1159**

**First Presbyterian Church**

**PERMIT #93**

**SMITHFIELD, NC 27577**

**US POSTAGE**

**NON-PROFIT STD MAIL**

# Kid's Page

## Friendship Snack Mix



Life is more interesting when you have a diverse "mix" of friends. Show your variety of buddies how much they mean to you by making this snack for (or with!) them.

### What you need:

- 1 cup fish-shaped crackers
- 1 cup chocolate Chex
- 1 cup mini pretzels
- 1 cup peanut butter crackers
- ½ cup mini M&M's
- Large bowl
- Snack-sized zippered baggies
- Permanent markers
- Foam stickers

### What you do:

1. Mix all the food in the bowl.
2. Write a personalized message on each baggie. Decorate with stickers.
3. Measure some snack mix into each baggie. Seal them shut.
4. Share this snack with your friends!



## Friends in the Lord

Proverbs 27:17 (NIV) says, "As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another." It's important to choose friends who help us be more like Jesus. How many words can you make from the word *friendship*?

F R I E N D S H I P

2-letter words: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3-letter words: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4-letter words: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5-letter words: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Words with 6 or more letters: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*Remind your parents to bring you to the Second of July Celebration for Hot Dogs, a Carnival, and Fireworks 7:00 p.m.—8:30 p.m.*

Answers include: in, is, hi, he; hip, end, sip, dip, nip, nip, pie, sit, hid; ship, 'send, ride, dine, find, fine, drip, shed, dish, fish, and, npe, hide, freed, pride, 'siren, fresh, ferns, friend, fisher, diners, nused, shine, finish, shiner, insider, hinders, inspired, 'refinish, finished

**First Presbyterian's Second Annual Music Camp  
Preschool—Fifth Grade**

July 24, 25, 26  
9:30—11:30 a.m.

Church Member Registration Deadline: July 5  
Non-Member Registration Opens July 10

Due to space limitations and for planning purposes,  
registration is required.

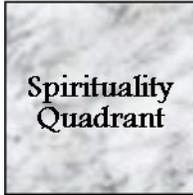
To register call Camille Boone at 919-464-6055.

Staff: Camille Boone, Kathy Rice, and Madeline Horne



Vacation Bible School  
July 17—20  
5:30—8:00 p.m.

Purpose: To develop singing, dancing, and the playing of instruments using songs from our new hymnal. Our older youth and are encouraged to volunteer to be helpers!



We are partnering with First Christian Church and Wilson's Mills Christian Church in our facility. If you can volunteer, contact Courtney Scott or Jennifer Templeton

On-line Registration Coming Soon.

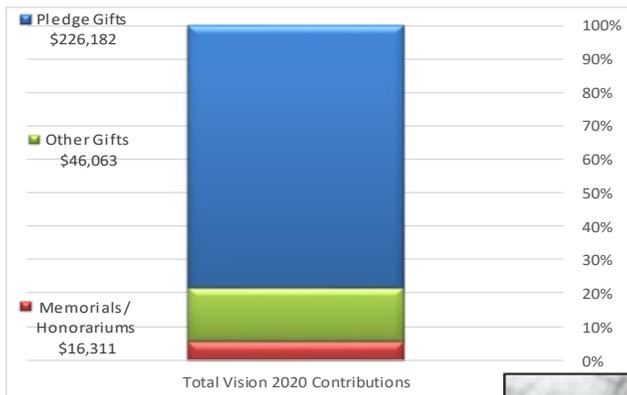
**First Presbyterian Church  
Operating Results January — May 2017  
Actual vs. Budgeted**

	Jan—May 2017 Actual	Jan—May 2017 Budgeted
<b>Revenue</b>		
General Offering*	101,391.42	113,676.25
<b>Disbursements</b>		
Education Quadrant	9,218.62	12,958.30
Mission Outreach Quadrant	5,737.57	6,812.45
Spirituality Quadrant	63,893.00	64,134.60
Stewardship Quadrant	41,303.60	45,405.45
<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<b>120,152.79</b>	<b>130,310.80</b>
<b>Net Income/Deficit</b>	<b>(18,761.37)</b>	<b>(16,634.55)</b>

\*General Offering includes \$4,849.00 received for the Special Gift Fund in honor of our 125th Anniversary as of 5/31/2017.

**VISION 2020 Capital Campaign as of 5/31/2017**

- \$ 226,182 Pledge Gifts
- \$ 16,311 Memorial/Honorariums
- \$ 46,063 Other Gifts
- \$ 288,556 Total VISION 2020 Contributions
- \$ 559,626 Total VISION 2020 Commitments
- \$ 923,093 Mortgage Balance



**A Member Reacts to Youth Sunday**

Dear First Presbyterian Youth,

Thank you for giving the congregation such a lovely and meaningful Sunday service. Madeline and Timothy's talks helped us know what fine Christians you have become. Each participant shared themselves with a grateful congregation.

May God bless you.

Judy Schmidt



**Montreat Youth Conference  
July 9-15**

Eight of our youth are attending. They will be commissioned Sunday, July 2.



Coming Friday, August 18

Chicken Roast Dinner

More details to follow.

