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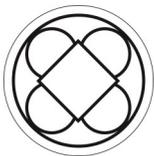
August 2016

In This Issue:
Letter from the Pastor

Prayer Concerns
Chicken Roast Fundraiser
Church-wide Sunday School
and Breakfast
Director of Music Search
Directory
Email Address Changes
FPC Volunteers Recognized
Fireworks a Blast!
Highlights of Session
Hospice
Hunger Sunday
JOY Connection
Membership Team
Memorials and Honorariums
Montreat Experience
Music for the Lunch Bunch
Presbyterian Women
Property Box
PYC Chicken Roast Fundraiser
Rally Day
Sunday School News

Thanks

August Calendar
Lectionary
Worship Nursery
Flowers
Birthdays and Anniversaries
Ushers
Lay Readers
Trinity Ringers
Building Officers
Sunday Shepherds
Time with Children
Acolytes



A
Publication of

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Reflections in the Water: Children of God

Like a mighty army moves the church of God;
Brothers, we are treading where the saints have trod.
We are not divided, all one body we,
One in hope and doctrine, one in charity.

—*Onward Christian Soldiers*, Sabine Baring-Gould, 1864

1. **We believe** in the triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects and cares for the church through Word and Spirit. This, God has done since the beginning of the world and will do to the end.
 2. **We believe**
 - that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another (Ephesians 2:11-22);
 - that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the church of Jesus Christ, that through the working of God's Spirit it is a binding force, yet simultaneously a reality which must be earnestly pursued and sought: one which the people of God must be simultaneously built up to attain;
 - that this unity must become visible so that the world may believe that separation, enmity and hatred between people and groups is sin which Christ has already conquered, and accordingly that anything which threatens this unity may have no place in the church and must be resisted (John 17:20-23); . . .
 - that true faith in Jesus Christ is the only condition for membership of this church.
- Confession of Belhar, The Book of Confessions

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

—I John 3:1-3, NRSV

What is your vision of church and the faith community? From my childhood, summer Vacation Bible School provided the vision of what it means to be the Church. Nostalgically I recall marching into the sanctuary assembly singing *Onward Christian Soldiers* under colorful banners followed by prayer. We'd break into smaller groups with our teachers and learn bible stories, memorize verses, create and build during arts and crafts, recreate, and have Kool-Aid and butter cookies. At the day's end, we'd gather again for closing assembly and worship, eager to return the next day. It was the one time I saw children and even adults from all over our community come together in our sanctuary and be together for more than an hour on Sunday. And while there were occasional scraped knees, occasional hot temperatures and tempers, we came joyously to the end of the week with a great covered-dish feast for all the church. A child's vision of how Church is and should be. I recall that part of the success of VBS was ensured when we extended an hospitable invitation to our friends, family, and neighbors to join us. And that simple invitation worked, and it worked well.

Our foremost task as children of God's kingdom is to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. Drawing from the old hymn, we are soldiers for Christ. Likewise, the apostle Paul calls us ambassadors for Christ. Our message does not foment conflict nor breed hate and prejudice, rather it proclaims a message of reconciliation, healing, peace, and unity for the healing of the nations in every age. We at First Presbyterian Church has been blessed abundantly with a summer of new membership commitments, mission projects to serve others, youth conferences and VBS. As children of God, I encourage you to share this message of hope with others, and as child of God, invite your neighbor to join us here to experience God's abundant grace.

May the love of God surround you,

Pastor Joe

Prayerful Support for



Add to
your
prayer
list

Nor Bell at Barbour Court
Shannon Kimball at Barbour Court
Tom Barbour at Meadowview
Jane Bolin at Meadowview
Bernice Johnson at Meadowview
Alice Narron at Meadowview
Shirley Williams at Meadowview
Myde Eason at Brookdale Smithfield
Hazel Whitehurst at Brookdale Smithfield

Marie Atkins
Jane Cunningham in Wilmington
Ruth Daniel
Tom Johnson
Bill Kimball at WakeMed
Nancy Lee
Bill Leist
Marie Maddox
Chap Ragland
Shelley Roberts
Ellen Rogers in Raleigh
Martha Rogers in Richmond
Peter Russell
Linda Stephenson
Mary Alice Thomas in Charlotte
Nelson Vaughan
Betty Welch
Ted Wells
William Wells
Al Worsham
Hilda Worsham
Rebecca Ziady
Sharon Van Velzen, sister of Joyce Knoll
We Welcome Rick and Cindy Snyder to membership by Transfer of Letter.

Honorarium for Shelley Maddox and Dwight Dockery
Memorials for Charles Lee, Tom Avera, Stan Harper, Frank VanSchaick, Clem and Mikki Sharek, Evelyn Avera, Eula Brown
Donors: Joan Parker, John and Janet Lampe, Eve Creech, Linda Lee Lynch, Tom and Sandra Johnson, Linda and Paul Smith, Carol Peck, John and Janice Branch, Jimmy and Lillian Lawrence, Elaine Wooten Wood, J. M. Johnson, Jr., Mary and Beth Compton, Mr. and Mrs. Kay Carroll, Ed and Kathy Hartman, John and Meg Scovil, Mr. and Mrs. Scott Poindexter, Wingate and Susan Lassiter, Roger and Eleanor Horne, Alton and Gayle Bizzell, Chap and Ann Ragland, Neil and Lucy Watson, Philip and Margaret Davis, David and Mary Stephens, Frank and Lisa Deans, Carolyn Williams, Jim and Debbie Henderson, Bill and Anne Squire, Judy Daniels, Vern and Bonnie Elhart, Jane Embler, Andy and Susan Holland, Mike and Lauren Vannoy, James. H. Ogburn, Dan and Beth Booker Pleasant, Patsy Bolton, Girls Night Out, Tommy and Camille Boone, Maxine McFadyen.

of July Session

Approved a Music Camp for ages 4-14 on August 15-17, 2016. Teachers will be Camille Boone, Kathy Rice, and Madeline Horne.
Received new members Rick and Cindy Synder by Letter of Transfer from First Presbyterian Church, Strasburg, PA.
Approved Continuing Education for the pastor at Wildacres Retreat Center from August 1, 2016, through August 7, 2016.
If you have items you wish to have brought before Session, please contact Debbie Jacobs, clerk, or an elder.

—Debbie Jacobs

Clayton Mayor and Council Honor the Schmidts

On Monday, July 18, the Mayor and members of the Clayton Town Council recognized First Presbyterian's own Hubert and Judith Schmidt from the Glen Laurel community for donating countless hours and resources to the East Clayton Community Park. They have given special touches and individual care to flowers and trees that line the park.



While the Parks and Recreation Department and Public Works staff work hard to maintain all seven parks in Clayton, the Schmidts volunteer their time to try and enhance the appearance of the East Clayton Community Park. Whether it's braving the cold winter weather or hot summer heat, they prune rose bushes and trees, tend to plants and even spread fertilizer. Town officials said the couple has never asked for recognition; however, Mayor Jody McLeod and members of the town council paused Monday night to formally thank them for all they do.

The Schmidts received a huge round of applause from the audience during the presentation. We, too, owe them a round of applause for the care they take of our lawn. Be sure to congratulate and to thank them.

*The Johnston
Community
Foundation, an
affiliate of the North Carolina Community Foundation,
presents the 2016 Francis Finch Hobart Award
for Voluntary Community Service
to
Anita Liverman,
who has*

Volunteered at First Presbyterian Church on the Building Committee, the Columbarium Committee, the Design Committee, as a Sunday School Superintendent, a School Teacher, a member of the hand bell choir, a Co-Chair of the Bereavement Meal Committee, as a Deacon, and as a groundskeeper.

Volunteered for the Neuse Little Theatre, serving on the Board of Directors, participating as an actor in productions, as a choreographer and costume designer, and as a set painter and dresser.

Volunteered with the American Cancer Society as its first Luminary Chairman, during her tenure as chair filling as many as 7000 bags a year.

Volunteered with the SECU Hospice House of Johnston County since 2010.

Served on the Smithfield Appearance Commission, chairing it the past two years.

Been a member of the Down to Earth Garden Club for twenty-five years, serving as co-chair of the Ways and Means Committee the past nine years.

Served on the Ava Gardner Museum Board of Directors; for six years she was on the Board of the Directors of the Johnson County Arts Council, chairing the Nominating Committee.

"Because of her humility, many persons in the county wouldn't know all the things Anita Liverman has done for so many. They wouldn't know all that she's contributed as a volunteer unless they'd worked with her in her church or alongside her in one of her civic or cultural arts organizations. Then they would have experienced her high standards, creativity, leadership, and perseverance. Anita takes a task and gets it done without the need of fanfare or applause . . . Aren't we lucky to have her!"

Synonyms and Antonyms

Roget's online thesaurus gives the following antonyms for hungry: eager, greedy, keen, ravenous, starved, athirst, avid, carnivorous, could eat a horse, covetous, craving, edacious, empty, esurient, famished, flying light, got the munchies, hankering, hoggish, insatiate, omnivorous, on empty stomach, piggish, rapacious, unfilled, unsatisfied, voracious, yearning. It only listed the following antonyms: full, unenthusiastic, replete, satiated, satisfied, stuffed. Wow, so many words for hungry and so few for not hungry. There must be a meaning there. (Roget's 21st Century Thesaurus, Third Edition Copyright © 2013 by the Philip Lief Group, Online)

I like some of the words for hungry like avid (which is in my firm's logo) — edacious and esurient sound so smart for being just hungry. Flying light has a cool hip kinda sound like a pleasantly purposeful weight-loss regimen. Ravenous and rapacious sounds like something our kids are when they come in from sports. Famished is what I am when I sally up to the table at a church homecoming and I KNOW I am gonna eat a lot of food. Omnivorous is a word I might use to describe the diet of a bear — a grizzly bear that is.

Starving, on the other hand, sounds bad, real bad. It conjures up hollow-eyed people whose bones are showing, sitting pitifully unobserved in some forsaken place. It is not a good word at all. It is sad to know that there are starving people who cannot say as they approach a table of food "I am famished." Remember our Hunger Missions, Pennies For Hunger and Yes We Can. Maybe we can avoid saying someone is starving.

—Tom Barwick
Chairman, Yes We Can Food Drive

Membership Committee News

The Membership Committee, part of the Mission and Outreach Quadrant, met in late June to plan for our July 3rd Hamburger and Hot Dog Community Fireworks Celebration. Two projects came from the meeting. First, blue plastic drinking cups that show our logo and our contact information were given to everyone attending. The remaining cups will be used for future events.

The second was a new brochure entitled *First Presbyterian Church*. It contains pictures of our church, information about our activities, and a calendar. The brochure was available to all on the 3rd and is located today at the reception desk and in the narthex. We hope our members and visitors will each take one to keep or to share with visitors and friends.

Your suggestions for reaching out to our community are most welcome.

—Hubert and Judy Schmidt

JOY Connection Returns!

After its summer break, JOY Connection resumes Thursday, September 1, at noon. After lunch Jewel Ryals, local antique dealer and appraiser, will again share her expertise with us for our own Antiques Roadshow. Each person is welcome to bring one item to have appraised, so start looking around the house for that treasure which you've always wondered about. Whether its evaluated as treasure or sentimental memory, you are guaranteed to have a good time.

Please remember that it's important to let us know that you are coming. Either sign up on the clipboard at the reception desk, or call the church at 919-934-0988. As always you are also welcome to bring a dessert to share with others that day. We so appreciate your helping us in this way, and everyone loves to see what will decorate the dessert table!

If you have any great ideas for JOY programs for 2017, please share them with me. Also we will be looking for cooking teams to prepare our monthly meals. So if you and a couple of your friends are willing to plan and prepare a meal for JOY Connection on ONE Thursday next year, please let me know. You will discover joy, enthusiasm and appreciation as you serve the older adults in our church and in our community through this important ministry.

—Ann Ragland
919-938-2083



Fireworks Meal a Blast, and We're Almost to Our Goal!

Thanks to all of you who came out to support the annual Fourth of July Fireworks cookout. Our goal this year was to profit \$1200 to purchase a defibrillator and carrying case for the church. Our generous donors have given a total of \$1232! That will purchase the defibrillator, but we still need a little more money to have enough to purchase the case.

Thanks especially to Evans and Trish Horne for organizing the food purchases and setup. Evans was helped at the grill by Jake Jacobs, Ken Allen, and Benny Pope. Our kitchen helpers were members of the Mission Outreach Quadrant that sponsored the event. Members of the congregation donated side dishes and wonderful desserts.

This is a generous congregation where members have a good time while opening their wallets for a good cause. If you would like to help us reach our goal, you can leave a donation at the church office. Checks should be made out to the church with Defibrillator Fund on the memo line.

—Ann Huckenbeck



Hubert Schmidt Exhibit at the Clayton Center

Our own Hubert Schmidt was a featured artist at the Clayton Center Gallery during the month of July. A meet-the-artists reception was held on Thursday, July 7.

Hubert exhibited works done in pen and ink and colored pencil. Below are two of his pieces. The left drawing is entitled "Persian Iris." Hubert says it's his favorite. The right piece is called, "Valencia Oranges," which would be anyone's favorite.

You can see Hubert's work at the gallery from until July 31 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Congratulations, Hubert.

—Ann Huckenbeck



Serving Hospice

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, August 14. If you would like to participate, please sign-up on the table in the vestibule.

Please contact Joyce Knoll if you have any questions.

—Joyce Knoll





Music for the Lunch Bunch 2016 Final Two Performances

August 3: Zach Ross, Director of Music, St. Ann Catholic Church Organ



August 10: Neuse Little Theatre The Songs of Irving Berlin

Wednesdays
12:15 p.m.
Grassroots funded by the
Johnston County Arts Council and the
North Carolina Arts Council

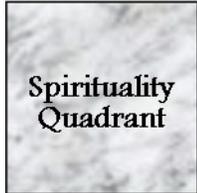


PYC Fundraiser for Faith in 3D

Friday, August 19
11:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Dine in or Take out

Free lunch delivery to downtown businesses or orders of 5 or more!
Includes: leg quarter, green beans, potatoes, roll, dessert, tea or lemonade.
Cost: \$7.00

If you will volunteer a dessert, please sign the sheet in the narthex



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

AUGUST 2016

Smithfield, NC 27577

PO Box 1159

First Presbyterian Church

NON-PROFIT STD MAIL
US POSTAGE
SMITHFIELD, NC 27577
PERMIT #93

Summer Sunday School

Please keep in mind that Sunday School is still meeting this summer and we'd love to have you there! We are also in need of folks who would be willing to teach a Sunday to give our dedicated teachers a break. If you are interested, please see Nichole Booker (919-630-3504) or Kelly Coats.

—Nichole Booker



Communications and Technology News . . . Directory

The Communications and Technology Team will be working with Lifetouch Studios to complete a new church directory in the fall. Please mark the dates of October 13-18 on your calendar to schedule your portrait session. Online scheduling will open in mid August (we'll let you know when!), and we will have people to assist you in signing up after worship for several Sundays or someone will call you..



We are planning to have a separate page honoring our men and women in the military, so military members, please plan to have one of your pictures taken in military clothing or, if you can't be here, please submit a photo.

We are very excited to have our new directory as we enter into our 125th anniversary year.

Newsletter delivery

Recently, the congregation was polled concerning their preference as to how to receive the newsletter: electronically or by mail. The number of those that requested the paper form was more than those requesting the electronic form. The C&T Team reviewed the cost of not printing the newsletter for those that requested to receive it electronically and found that by eliminating those copies, we would drop below the bulk rate allowance required by the USPS and would lead to substantially higher costs to the church. Therefore, the decision was made that all persons who are currently receiving the ICHTHUS will continue to receive it in paper form. For those that opted for electronic delivery, you will still be able to access the ICHTHUS through the website and Thursday eNews.

Email Change of Address

Over the next month to six weeks, the church will be migrating its email for staff from our TWC Internet provider (Roadrunner) to Google Email (Gmail) with our own domain name. All emails will have the @fpcsmithfield.org INSTEAD of @nc.rr.com. ***This change is being made to provide more efficient and secure delivery of email, as well as, worldwide access to email.*** Effective Sept. 15, 2016, all staff will have new emails. These new email addresses will be published in the next ICHTHUS, on the website, and weekly in the eNews. After September 15, the RoadRunner email address will be deactivated. If you have any questions, please contact Debbie Jacobs or Pastor Joe.

—Debbie Jacobs

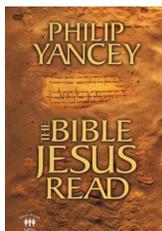
Rally Day Fall Sunday School

We will kick off our Fall Sunday School program with a celebration on August 28 at 9:45 a.m. Please join us for this exciting time!



Church Wide Sunday School

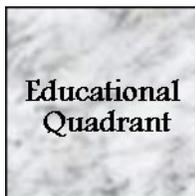
The first Sunday of the month we meet as a congregation in the fellowship hall for Sunday school. We are currently studying a series by Philip Yancey titled *The Bible Jesus Read*. Does the Old Testament read like a murky mystery to you? Let this illuminating video exploration help you understand those sometimes shocking and cryptic writings while you get to know God better. Wielding scholarship, insight, and in-depth interviews, Philip Yancey leads eight small-group sessions that explore five crucial segments of the Old Testament: Job, Deuteronomy, Psalms, Ecclesiastes, and the prophets.



We will see you August 7, at 9:45 a.m.!

—Nichole Booker

9:00 a.m.
Sunday, August 7
Come join us!



First Presbyterian Church of Smithfield, NC

is seeking candidates for **Director of Music**.
This position is part-time, up to 10 hours/week.

Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.

—1 Peter 4:10

Duties:

- Lead and coordinate the church music program
- Plan worship music with the pastor, organist, and hand bell director
- Lead weekly choir rehearsal from August to May
- Conduct the choir during traditional Sunday morning worship
- Prepare music for special services such as Christmas Eve, Maundy Thursday, and other special occasions



Requirements

- Excellent interpersonal skills to recruit and organize volunteers of a wide range of ages and skill levels
- Choral conducting proficiency
- Familiarity with the Reformed tradition, theology, lectionary, and calendar
- Willingness to integrate instrumental music, dance, children, and youth

The Personnel Team encourages potential candidates to contact the Director of Music Search Team Chair,

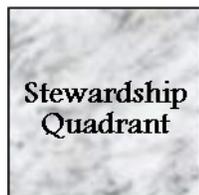
Jim Henderson at jchenderson@nc.rr.com

or the Rev. Joseph Hester at

pastorjoe@nc.rr.com

with an electronic cover letter and résumé by August 7, 2016.

Résumés will be reviewed as received.



The Property Box



- The company that maintains our floors has informed us that we are gouging our beautiful tile floors by dragging chairs instead of lifting them when we move them. Please help us prolong the life of our floors by picking up chairs when necessary.
- We continue to have a problem with our exterior doors being left unlocked overnight. If you are the last person at church, please check all exterior doors when you leave. This is both a safety and a security issue. Be vigilant.

Thank you!

Your Property Team



Ready to head out!

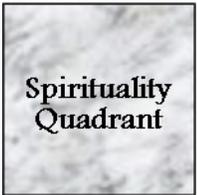


Last Day . . . Lake Susan

Getting to know the campus! Montreat T-Shirts and Crosses

Eight challenges.

We got six!



Best Montreat Experience Ever!!



First time in Anderson!

Afternoon worship.

Presbyterian Women Bible Study Workshop

Circles will begin again in September. The Bible Study for 2016/2017 is titled *Who Is Jesus: What a Difference a Lens Makes*. The author is Judy Siker, Ph.D., who is a native of North Carolina and a graduate of Meredith College. She will be leading a workshop regarding the bible study at First Presbyterian Church, Raleigh, NC on August 27, 2016.

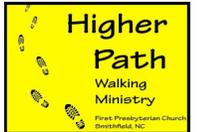


Registration begins at 8:30AM and the Program is from 9:30AM until 2:30PM. The cost for this event is \$10.00 per person and includes refreshments and lunch. Deadline for registration is 8/12/2016. If you are interested in attending this event please contact me.

—Judy Johnson, Moderator
Presbyterian Women

Walking Ministry

In one of our walks last week, our spiritual focus came out of the attack in Nice, France. An 11-year-old boy, Brodie Copeland, and his father, Sean, were killed during the horror of that night. They were among the crowd of people waiting for fireworks to celebrate Bastille Day, the French Fourth of July. It was poised to be a time of celebration and wonder, but it turned out to be a night of pain, grief, and fear. But that trauma isn't the lesson we should learn from yet another gut-wrenching attack. It was how this boy lived his life. Television interviews painted the story of a boy who lived "full out!" People talked about his baseball skills, his passion for theater, and his many "superstar" qualities. But it wasn't the words that moved me; it was the eyes of one of his teachers that glistened with tears held back as he spoke about his student, now gone.



So as we walked around the Medical Mall that day, we considered how our personal lights could burn brighter, to better illuminate our slice of the world in the time that God gives us. And so we walked.

—Wayne Dockery



Winsborough Hall . . .

Home away from home,
and home of the
steep steps!

