

The ICHTHUS

November 2017



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A publication of
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REFLECTIONS IN THE WATER: An Epitaph of Alleluia

A Celebration of All Saints: Then, Now, and Yet To Come

“Carve your name on hearts, not tombstones. A legacy is etched into the minds of others and the stories they share about you.” —Shannon L. Alder.

“So I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours. Whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone; so that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses.” —Mark 11:24-25

Something strange happened that day at the cemetery. I delivered the closing benediction at graveside. The pall bearers placed their boutonniere roses on the coffin. The Bird Man began his spiel about the four trained doves he was going to release from his cage to remember the recently departed. He explained the first three doves represented God as the Trinity—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. He opened three cage doors to release them. One white bird hopped on the ground, apparently more interested in a potential meal of insects and seed. The other two withdrew further back into their cage. The Bird Man uttered again his well-rehearsed command phrase to the three liberated doves who seemed oblivious to his direction to fly away into the wild blue yonder.

I smiled guiltily as he muttered under his breath to the birds: “Really?! Now? In front of every...” They had ruined his show. To me the failure seemed fitting; the woman we were remembering that day was characteristically strong-minded and possessed a rebellious streak. The Bird Man reached in the cage with both hands and unceremoniously dropped them to the ground. One took to a branch and looked back at him unfazed. The friends and family of the deceased shifted uncomfortably and wondered what they should do next. Ignoring the uncooperative Trinity, the Bird Man continued with his script and explained the final and fourth dove represented the soul of their beloved as it departed this earth. He opened the cage and the bird took flight as planned and soared into a brilliant blue sky. Visible to all who witnessed the departure, a sole white feather dropped from the dove’s wing and landed gently upon a nearby stone memorial with open book carved in granite. The book’s inscription displayed the words from Mark 11:24-25: “Whenever you stand praying, forgive...”

I thought the moment and the words a fitting epitaph and final message from the woman to her family and loved ones. With her death, there would remain rifts, hurt, and places of brokenness they would now have to resolve without her love to lead them through. Was this moment of the dove’s departure and the dropped feather coincidence or providence? To those present who had known the love and warmth of this woman in life, we discerned the event as the act of Providence in that brief, strange episode in the graveyard.

An epitaph may cause us to think only of cold stone markers. But I believe there is perhaps a greater meaning to consider. An epitaph also commemorates deeds or is defined as the epitome, a perfect example, of a virtue or good quality that endures and remains with us even when someone is no longer present physically. When we the Church observe All Saints this month, we celebrate the rich legacy of faith and virtue left to us by loved ones and past church members whose spiritual and material gifts have enabled us to gather here and now. Ironically the Church’s epitaph is never a cold message engraved on stone. Rather, it is proclaimed in lives that rejoice that Christ is Risen with a chorus of alleluias! I invite you to join me on Sunday, November 12, as we share this Good News for future generations through our thankful and generous commitment of tithes and offering to the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ as embodied at First Presbyterian Church.

May the generous grace of God sustain you all.

Pastor Joe



Add to
your
prayer
list

Tom Barbour at Meadowview
Nor Bell at Meadowview
Bernice Johnson at Meadowview
Alice Narron at Meadowview
Shirley Williams at Meadowview
Barbara Hess at Smithfield Manor Rehab
Marie Atkins
John Booker
Ruth Daniel

Debbie Henderson
Debbie Jacobs
Tom Johnson
Shannon Kimball
Sandra Lester
Tony Lester
Bill Leist
Miriam Lore
Earl Marett
John McFadyen
Ricky Pate
Sarah Pate
Benny Pope
Chap Ragland
Ellen Rogers in Raleigh
Peter Russell
Bill Sharek
Linda Stephenson
Mary Alice Thomas in Charlotte
Nelson Vaughn
Betty Welch
Ted Wells
Linda Wells is at UNC Hospital
William Wells
Lucy Worley
Al Worsham
Bob Worsham
Hilda Worsham
Rebecca Ziady
Joseph Hester, Sr.

We welcome by the Sacrament of Baptism on October 15, Avery Elise Allen, the daughter of Andy and Crystal Allen; and Avery Lee Coats, the daughter of Stan and Kelly Coats and the granddaughter of David and Joyce Lee.

We welcome by Reaffirmation of Faith Jenny Henderson Ham on October 15, 2017.



Honorariums for Avery Lee Coats, Ann Huckenbeck, Harold and Cathy Allen
Memorials for Jeffrey Buek

Donors: Ruth and Greg Bell, Eleanor and Roger Horne, David and Joyce Lee, Joseph Hester

HIGHLIGHTS of October Session

- Approved the Rev. Todd Higginson's designating his annual compensation for 2017 as housing allowance as approved by the IRS for ordained clergy.
- Approved the title of Director of Youth Ministries for the Rev. Todd Higginson.
- Approved receiving Pam Schall as a new member by Reaffirmation of Faith.
- Approved receiving Jenny Henderson Ham as a new member by Reaffirmation of Faith.
- Approved the infant baptism of Avery Elise Allen.
- Approved the infant baptism of Avery Lee Coats.

If you have items you wish to bring before Session, contact Debbie Jacobs, clerk.

—Debbie Jacobs, Clerk

We would like to thank everyone for the cards, visits, phone calls, and all the thoughts and prayers for Earl's recovery. He is home and making progress.

We feel so blessed to have such a wonderful church family.

Gratefully,

Earl and Etta Marett

Dear Church Family,

Thanks to all of you who shared kind notes and remembrances with me during Pastor Appreciation Month in October.

It is a privilege to serve this congregation, and your thoughtful affirmations mean a great deal to me.

*Gratefully,
Pastor Joe*

The Johnston County Arts Council
Presents
Colors of Nature and More
Art Exhibit by Kelly Sutton and Don Stephenson
Opening Reception

The Frank Creech Gallery
Thursday, November 2, 2017
5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

Light refreshments provided.
Come and bring a friend!

Our Founding Pastor

Alexander Jeffrey McKelway was born in 1866 in Pennsylvania. His father John, a Presbyterian minister in Virginia, died when Alexander was only four, and his mother took him and his brother to live with their grandfather. Catherine McKelway taught school and emphasized education for her children.

McKelway graduated from Hampton-Sydney in 1886, taught for a short time, and then entered Union Theological Seminary. He was ordained by the Albemarle North Carolina Presbytery and began his mission work by establishing First Presbyterian Church in Smithfield in 1891. In less than a year, he accepted a call to a larger Presbyterian church in Fayetteville. It was here that his home mission work introduced him to cotton mills and their use of young children as laborers.

McKelway became superintendent of home missions in the Synod of North Carolina because of his campaigns on behalf of the working class. In 1896 he wrote a series of articles on church history for the *North Carolina Presbyterian* (later the *Presbyterian Standard*) that resulted in his being named editor of that journal, and he moved his family to Charlotte where the *Presbyterian* was published. Before long, he became a writer for the Charlotte News and Observer.

In 1903 he was named editor of the Charlotte paper, giving him the opportunity to spread his influence over the entire South. That same year the North Carolina General Assembly passed a weak child labor law that had no enforcement behind it. But in 1904, McKelway was named southern secretary of the newly-formed National Child Labor Committee. The next year, Alexander resigned as editor of the *Standard* to devote the rest of his life advocating for protection of working children. In a major reform effort in North Carolina, McKelway was joined by newsman Josephus Daniels and Gov. Charles B. Aycock. They succeeded in getting a law passed that raised the age limit for mill workers, limited their hours of work and mandated school attendance as a requirement for working.

In 1909 McKelway moved his wife and five children to Washington, D.C. to allow him to continue his work with the National Child Labor Committee. His work was instrumental in creation of the U.S. Children's Bureau. Some attribute his crusading work to the passage of the Keating-Owen Child Labor Act of 1916 that imposed restrictions on child labor. In 1918 the Supreme Court determined the act to be unconstitutional, but it was the first law of its kind and opened the door to future laws that protected child laborers.

—Ann Huckenbeck
(Dictionary of North Carolina Biography, William S. Powell, ed.)



Spread the Mulch!

The Property Team has approved the purchase of 25 yards of mulch for plant beds around the church. We need your help on Saturday, November 11, the spread the mulch. The time is 8:30—11:30 a.m.

Please bring a wheelbarrow, shovel, broom, and plenty of energy!

—Hubert Schmidt



Grounded in Faith; Growing to Serve Stewardship Commitment Sunday, November 12

No matter how tough my day is going, I always try to make time to reflect on my joys! I am healthy. I have family who cares for me. I have activities to help me feel needed and busy (sometimes, too busy). I have dear friends. And I have the love of God in my soul.

Being an active member of First Presbyterian Church reminds me daily that I am blessed beyond measure. The sweet voices of the children singing on Sunday mornings help me to remember the tremendous efforts of Camille Boone, Kathy Rice, and Martha Chapman who work so hard to include them in our worship and teach them new music. Wednesday night bell and choir practice with my “music peeps” helps me to reflect on the generous gifts of Myra Wallace, Martha Chapman, Kathy Rice as they lead the music for our services. So many men and women who ring and sing to the glory of God help me to reflect on the gifts of talent and time.

Shiny floors and clean doors remind me that Thad is always at work. How many times a month does he set up tables, take down tables, mop? And he always does so cheerfully! What a joy he is!

Beth Daniel, Shirley Sharek and Cathy Allen click away at calculators trying to be good stewards of our funds. Myra Wallace and Debbie Jacobs do the work of ten people EACH, and we are so blessed to have Todd Higginson on board as a cheerful and creative leader for our young people. And when I check my odometer, I think about how many thousands of miles Pastor Joe travels each month—to visit hospitals, to visit the nursing homes, to call on the sick and troubled. How could I have managed without his listening ear and open heart?

I also reflect on our gifts to the food closet, our help with meals at SECU, our efforts to provide relief for the refugees of war torn countries, even our noisy joy at potato bakes, trunk or treats, 4th of July hot dog celebrations, and fellowship meals: we are such a happy family! Let’s honor the history and tradition of our 125 year old community of Christians. Let’s reflect on our joy. Let’s magnify our gifts. Join me in meaningful reflection and consider all that we are given every day. On November 12, pledge to give back, to sustain, to support, to share the joy, to help our church continue growing to serve.

—Sandy Perkinson, Chair Stewardship Campaign



Grounded in Faith
Growing to Serve
Commitment Sunday - November 12th

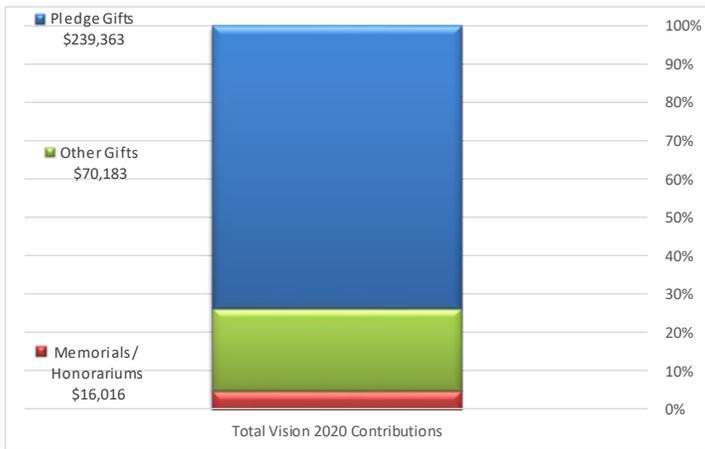
**First Presbyterian Church
Operating Results—January – September
Actual vs. Budgeted**

	Jan—Sept 2017 Actual	Jan—Sept 2017 Budget
Revenue		
General Offering*	227,762.94	204,617.25
Disbursements		
Education Quadrant	15,876.56	23,324.94
Mission Outreach Quad.	10,429.26	12,262.41
Spirituality Quadrant	114,148.41	117,242.28
Stewardship Quadrant	74,724.22	81,729.81
Total Disbursements	215,178.45	234,559.44
Net Income/(Deficit)	12,584.49	(29,942.19)

*General Offering includes \$8,158.00 received for the Special Gift Fund in honor of the 125th Anniversary.

VISION 2020 Capital Campaign as of 9/30/2017

- \$ 239,363 Pledge Gifts
- \$ 16,016 Memorials/Honorariums
- \$ 70,183 Other Gifts
- \$ 325,562 Total VISION 2020 Contributions
- \$ 559,626 Total VISION 2020 Commitments
- \$ 879,230 Mortgage Balance



Communications and Technology Team

Our website presence has been updated. Please take a look and let us know your comments. The address remains the same: fpcsmithfield.org. Check it out!

If you are not receiving the eNews on Thursdays or Dial My Calls information, please contact Debbie Jacobs so that your email and phone number can be corrected. If your information changes, please let her and the church office know of the changes so that you can keep in touch with what’s happening at FPC.

COMMUNICATION & TECHNOLOGY



—Debbie Jacobs

The Property Box



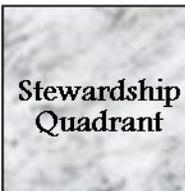
If you need to borrow something from the kitchen supply closet, please check first with the office, and then make sure you return it ASAP. Recently the women who prepared the meal and decorated tables for our 125th Anniversary Celebration purchased special plates for the occasion and made sure there were more, albeit different, disposable plates in the closet in case we needed more. We did, but the spare plates were gone. The women then had to use our china plates and then wash them afterwards.

Office supplies in our workroom are not to be removed from the workroom. If you need to use our supplies such as the paper cutter, we are glad for you to use it, but we prefer you use it in place. If you must take it to another room in the building, please let staff know. If you feel you must take an item home, please get permission from the office. Office personnel and the custodian spend a great deal of time tracking down supplies.

Thank you.
The Property Team



Church History coming soon!





November 5, 2017: Remembering those we love

Julie Capps

December 13, 1940—December 22, 2016

Rebecca Pope Roberts

June 24, 1939—February 2, 2017

Marcus Heavner Wallace

September 3, 1943—February 11, 2017

Grover Cleveland Miller

January 23, 1927—May 3, 2017

Myde Woodard Eason

December 17, 1919—May 28, 2017

Hazel Johnson Whitehurst

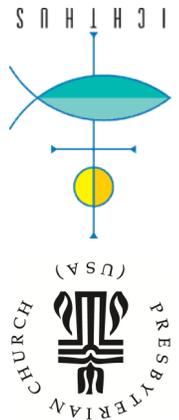
December 23, 1921—June 19, 2017

Marie Mangum Maddox

April 7, 1949—August 7, 2017

Jeffrey Leroy Burke

September 15, 1965—September 8, 2017



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

November 2017

First Presbyterian Church
PO Box 1159
Smithfield, NC 27577

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SMITHFIELD, NC 27577
PERMIT #93

Hungry? Be Cool Man.

Food – it's what's for dinner. In Biblical times food preservation was challenging, so meals were simple. Meat and fish could be dried or salted, but if fresh it was probably consumed and not stored. Today it's much different. We have canning and cooling to mention a couple ways of storing foods. We can buy fresh meats and seafood and store them in the fridge to enjoy them later. Before refrigeration systems were common, people used ice cellars and the "ice box". My father's parents had an ice box. Ice for the box was delivered by the ice man on an old flatbed truck. I remember seeing the ice truck on deliveries dripping what seemed like gallons of water as the summer heat took its toll on the huge ice blocks. We purchased nickel, dime and quarter size ice blocks for cooling.

My how times change. The refrigerator is an essential and common appliance in today's home. I was amazed by a recently purchased refrigerator in some friends' home that provided more information about cooling on a door screen than was available to the Apollo astronauts. Thank goodness for modern times because there is nothing more pleasurable than "raiding the fridge." Besides keeping milk fresh for a few days, and being a place to store our leftovers, it also allows us to have a more varied and interesting diet. And so we probably consider refrigeration a modern invention. Ironically, mechanical cooling has been around for centuries.

The refrigerator coil was invented by Ibn Sina in the 11th century and used to condense vapors. William Cullen at the University of Glasgow demonstrated the first artificial refrigeration system in the year 1748, but it was never improved for practical purposes. In the year 1805, US inventor Oliver Evans designed the first refrigeration machine that didn't use liquid and instead used vapor to cool. In 1834, Jacob Parkins built the first machine for practical refrigeration. US physician John Gorrie built a refrigerator in 1844 based on the design of Oliver Evans to produce ice for cooling the air for yellow fever patients.

The first ice making machine used for practical food purposes was invented by James Harrison in 1857 and used in food processing but not the home. In 1859, Ferdinand Carre used ammonia as the coolant in refrigeration. Later in 1876, German Carl von Linden developed the process of liquefying gas, a crucial aspect of modern refrigeration technology. In the 1920s, Freon was used in refrigeration units. The first widely used refrigeration system was manufactured by General Electric in 1927.

So what is the point of this story of refrigeration? It's a modern invention that lets us enjoy a cornucopia of food when we choose to enjoy it. Unfortunately there are those in our community who I am sure open the door to the fridge only to stare at empty shelves. As we peer into our well-lit and teeming refrigerators, as we open the door for a "raid," we might remember that a different view is had by many others less fortunate. I suppose if Jesus had a refrigerator at the time he fed the 5000, he would not have used it anyway. He would have given the gathered up leftovers away to the hungry.

Remember Hunger Sunday and our missions of the Food Closet and Pennies for Hunger.

—Tom Barwick

Guitar and Ghosts

The participants at our October 5 JOY Connection had the privilege and pleasure of hosting WRAL's Bill Leslie on his first "retirement" gig. Just a day before Bill joined us for lunch, he announced that he would be retiring from the morning anchor desk at WRAL, where he has worked for decades. No fatigue showed on his face that day, as his easy style and pleasant conversation entertained us all! What a talented musician he is! Our joy was magnified by a delicious meal. Ellen Adams, Sandra Johnson, Jane Harrell, Janet Lampe and Judy Johnson fed us a great meal, and we sat at tables decorated by Anita Liverman and Liz Craig in a festive autumn theme.

Our November program will be Todd Johnson of the Johnston County Heritage Center as well as various "ghosts" who will reenact roles from Johnston County's history! A traditional turkey and dressing meal will be provided by Shirley Booker and Joyce Lee. Join us on November 2 at noon for JOY. Be sure to sign up at the desk in the Great Hall!

—Sandy Perkinson and Helen Best



JOY
Connection

Johnston County Habitat House Planning

Great News! We have a partner family, land, and at least 13 churches ready to start building the Johnston County Habitat House in partnership with the State Employees Credit Union.

The homebuyer is Rebecca Morgan who has four children ages 6 to 22. Rebecca works for Growing Child Pediatrics.

The land is at East Hinton Street in Clayton. We will have a meeting to coordinate the volunteer schedule and to meet the family on Saturday, October 28, at 9:00 a.m. at Home United Methodist Church in Clayton. We would like for at least one member of your church to attend and select two Saturday dates your church would like to volunteers in addition to the exciting Day 1 (January 6) when we would like to have representatives from each participating church.

Also, we will have Thursday and Friday dates during the nine-week build. You may have retirees and volunteers with flexible schedules who could do the week dates. Our persons of contact are Greg Knoll and Betsy Olive. If you can volunteer for this important project, please contact one of them.

—Greg Knoll and Betsy Olive



Relay for Life Cookie Exchange, December 17

Team #37, First Presbyterian's Relay Team, will hold its annual Cookie Walk on Sunday, December 17, from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. Come join us and take home some delicious cookies for the holidays. They make great gifts!

We will have a sign-up for cookie bakers out in early December. Make sure to help us out with your special goodies. Any leftovers will be contributed to Christmas in a Barn the evening of the Cookie Walk.

—Martha Taylor, Team #37 Captain



Troop 95 News

In October, Troop 95 had not only a successful campout, but also a Court of Honor at which we awarded 17 merit badges and three special awards. We also had our annual Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser, and it was the most successful spaghetti dinner ever held by our troop/pack, raising over \$900.00.

In November we have a campout at our home camp, Tuscarora, to learn about forestry for the Forestry Merit Badge from one of our newest Eagle Scouts.

As always, Troop 95 thanks FPC for its generous support. And we are always looking for new boys to participate in Scouting. If you know of a middle or high schooler interested in scouting, please direct them to our Senior Patrol Leader, David Bell, or our Scout Master, Evans Horne.

—Davis Bell, Troop 95 Senior Patrol Leader



Care Packages

It's time to send Care Packages to nine college students and five members in the military. The Spiritual Nurture Committee of the Presbyterian Women appreciate your donation to this worthy project. See Mary Miller or Martha Taylor by the end of the second week in November.

—Mary Miller

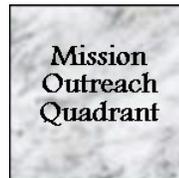


2017 Thank Offering

The Women of the church will soon be receiving information in the mail regarding the 2017 Thank Offering. The theme for this year's offering is FOR THE HEALING OF THE NATIONS. Grants from each Thank Offering go to projects that serve people in need in the United States and internationally. Our generosity can promote healing.

Thank you in advance.

—Judy Johnson



Advent Workshop Returns!

On Sunday, December 3, 2017, FPC will mark the first Sunday of Advent by renewing a cherished tradition. As part of our 125th Anniversary celebration, the Education Quadrant and Special Programs Team are hosting the 2017 Advent Workshop.



This is one of the most special traditions and memories I have from my childhood as part of our church. I can taste the fresh, gooey grilled cheese sandwiches and flavorful soup and smell the vibrant pine that filled our old fellowship hall from the tearing and pinning of greenery to each family's advent wreath. I remember the crafts I made with friends and the overall warmth and excitement that the beginning of Advent meant to our church family. Even as a college student, I would return to college late that Sunday night so that I could stay and participate in this special event.

For those of you who remember the Advent Workshops of the past, you can expect a similar experience. For those of you who have not been a part of this before, we invite you to participate in a very special event.

Here's what to expect:

3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

- Advent Wreath Making (one per household)
Advent Crafts and Activities for all ages

5:00p.m. --

- Sharing the first night of Advent devotion
- Lighting the first candle of each Advent wreath
- Blessing of the meal
- Advent Hymn Sing

Fellowship and Meal (grilled cheese sandwiches and soup)

We invite all church members (and friends and family) to participate in this event. There is no cost for the event or materials. For those with allergies, it is our intention to provide live and fake greenery options and for the live greenery to be handled in a separate room away from the fellowship meal.

Be on the lookout for sign-up sheets! We will need donations of live and fake greenery for wreath making and soup and desserts for the fellowship meal.

—Jennifer Templeton

**Yam Jam: Saturday, November 4:
8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**



The Yam Jam is a great intergenerational service project for the young and the young at heart and a fun opportunity for families to make a difference in the lives of others. Come join us as we glean sweet potatoes that will be donated to food pantries across the state. More specific instructions will be shared shortly before the event takes place, and Todd will pass details along as soon as he receives them.

—Todd Higginson

Silent Auction to Support FPC Youth Ministries Sunday, November 19

Calling all collectors, artists, bakers, and crafty folks! We need your donations for the upcoming silent auction. You may donate a service, an object, something you made, or even time at a vacation property. All proceeds will support our young people, so in order for this annual fundraiser to succeed, we need people willing to donate and willing to bid on objects—this will be a fun and easy way to find meaningful Christmas gifts for the important people in your lives. Items will be displayed first thing on the morning of the 19th (we will publicize a listing of items beforehand) and final bidding will end at 12:30 after the worship service.

Light refreshments will be provided. Thank you in advance for your support and help! Contact Todd if you have any questions or if you would like to make a donation. All donated items are tax deductible and we can provide a receipt upon request.

—Todd Higginson



Silent Auction

From the Director of Youth Ministries

*O my soul, bless God. From head to toe, I'll bless God's holy name!
O my soul, bless God, don't forget a single blessing!
God forgives your sins—every one.
God heals your diseases—every one.
God redeems you from hell—saves your life!
God crowns you with love and mercy—a paradise crown.
God wraps you in goodness—beauty eternal.
God renews your youth—you're always young in God's presence.*
— Psalm 103:1-5 (The Message)

Teenage students are not always known for their maturity and positivity. Since I have been serving in this role with you all at First Presbyterian, I have been impressed on multiple occasions by our young people. You would have been extremely proud of the way they represented this church at Camp Don Lee. They are fully engaged and committed to this congregation, seeking God's direction and path for their lives. What a blessing!

Witnessing your generosity and support has also been a blessing. A youth ministry with vitality requires a great deal of resources as well as passionate and loving volunteers. Thank you for investing in our young people faithfully. The potato bake was both fun and successful and I have no doubt that November's silent auction will follow suit. When the youth group introduced themselves to me for the first time, they were asked to share "a favorite thing about church." You would expect answers like, "the youth room, fun trips, etc." yet nearly every young person responded without hesitation to reply, "*the congregation.*" What a blessing!

I am grateful for the opportunity to serve with you, working with wonderful youth, parents, and church leader—and I am enjoying the process of getting to know the good people of First Presbyterian Church of Smithfield. What a blessing! Thanks be to God.

Yours in Christ,
Todd Higginson

Congregational Survey Regarding our Children and Youth Ministries

Be on the lookout for a one page survey that will help our new Youth Director assess our strengths and growing edges in regards to our ministries to young people. Your participation is strongly requested so Todd Higginson can also assess how the congregation is willing and able to serve. Thank you in advance!

Sunday Morning Activities for Children

Children's Corner if from 9:45 a.m.—10:30 a.m. It takes the place of Sunday School. After Time with Children, all the children go to music with Mrs. Camille and Mrs. Kathy, and then it's off to Week Kirk. Preschool Wee Kirk is for children from age two to Kindergarten; regular Wee Kirk serve first through fifth graders.



In Week Kirk, our young children have a Week Kirk Worship program during which they lead their short service. Then they learn about Bible stories. In September, it was the Creation Story; in October there was Noah and the Ark; November is Joseph and the Coat of Many Colors; and in December, it will be the Christmas story.

This fall we are learning about the church bulletin and the different parts of worship. We also are learning about the many roles folks fulfill in our church.

If you are interested in helping with any of these activities, see Kelly Coats, Ruth Bell, or Jennifer Templeton.

—Ruth Bell

Harbor Grateful for Supplies

Thank you on behalf of Harbor House, our local women's shelter, for the baby formula, toiletries, paper products, and everything else you donate so generously to them.

—Janet Lampe



Educational
Quadrant

November Dates to Remember Hunger Sunday

There are so many dates in November each year to remember, but the following dates should not be forgotten:

Nov. 2 – National Deviled Egg Day
 Nov. 14 – National Pickle Day
 November 15 – Bundt Pan Cake Day
 Nov. 19 – **YES WE CAN SUNDAY,**
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 Nov. 20 – Peanut Butter Fudge Day
 Nov. 23 – Thanksgiving Day

And, there are so many more national food dates in November to help us remember all the good and bountiful foods we have!

In October our church brought in 46 food items for Yes We Can Sunday. How about everyone who comes to church on Sunday, Nov. 19, bring at least one food item to be given to the local food banks? If you think your best friend might forget to do this, bring an extra item (or two) for him or her. More items mean less hungry people in Johnston County.

Mission and Outreach thanks each of you for your participation to date and hopes your Thanksgiving celebrations will be most memorable.

—Hubert Schmidt

Stock the Hospice Pantry

The Mission Outreach Quadrant is providing our church with the opportunity to stock the pantry at Hospice House during the month of November again this year. The pantry items are used by families of the patients at Hospice and are very much appreciated during such a difficult time.



Individually wrapped items such as cookies/crackers, nabs, pudding, applesauce, fruit cups, cereal bars, microwave popcorn, paper products for the kitchen, bottled water, canned soft drinks/juices, beverages for children, coffee/coffee filters, Keurig coffee cups, instant macaroni & cheese, grits, oatmeal, and soups would be very much appreciated.

A collection box will be located in the Fellowship Hall each Sunday in November for donations. If you would like to participate, please place individually wrapped items in the labeled box located on the table in Fellowship Hall. The donations will be delivered to Hospice once a week throughout the month of November.

—Greg and Joyce Knoll

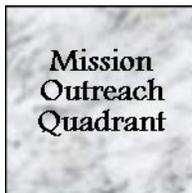
Prepare a Hospice Volunteer and Family Meal

The Mission Outreach Quadrant partners with the volunteers at Hospice House in Smithfield 8 times a year to provide opportunities for our congregation to provide a meal to share our support and care to the families with loved ones at Hospice House and also the dedicated staff and volunteers. Please check with the coordinators if you would like to help with an upcoming meal.

- Saturday, December 16, light meal will be coordinated by Eve Creech and Betsy Olive.
- Sunday, January 14, dinner will be coordinated by Lisa and Frank Deans.

Thank you for your continued support of this caring outreach.

—Greg and Joyce Knoll



Cub Scout Pack 95 MUST HAVE VOLUNTEERS

Becoming involved in Cub Scouts is a sure-fire way to become involved with your son that puts fun first. It is a year-round, family-oriented part of Scouting designed for boys in grades one through five.



Parents, leaders, and the Boy Scout Organization work together to achieve the ten purposes of Cub Scouting: Character Development, Spiritual Growth, Good Citizenship; Sportsmanship, Fitness, Family, Friendly Service, Fun and Adventure, and Preparation for Boy Scouts.

Pack 95 began in 1998 and was led by Billy Kimball. To keep this group going, we must have volunteers. **We need a leader and a Cub Scout Master** to recruit, plan, and lead meetings. The right leadership teaches the boys the importance of adult involvement in their lives. The Boy Scout Council will assist these leaders in getting the Pack up and running and keeping it active.

Now more than ever, our youth need our help. If you're willing to help, please contact Ruth Bell, Evans Horne, or Joseph Hester. **Please don't let FPC lose this important outreach for our youth.**

—Ruth Bell

125th Anniversary Celebration a Joyous Day

Over 160 people attended our 125th Anniversary Service on Sunday, October 29, 2017.

It took many people to make this celebration go off without a hitch.

We say thanks to Evans Horne who set up the fellowship hall, and to Thad McCrae who washed windows, mopped floors, and dusted every surface to make our facility sparkle.

We thank our musicians, Martha Chapman, Kathy Rice, Camille Boone, and Myra Wallace, our guest soloist Shelley Maddox, the Chancel Choir, the Hand Bell Choir and the children who joined in on the anthem, and Benny and Pam Pope, Grace Booker, and Davis Bell who also sang for us.

Thanks to Hank Roberson and Nancy Lee for the lovely floral arrangements.

Thanks to Shirley Booker, Joyce Lee, and Ann Ragland for making sure the meal went off without a hitch, and to all the wonderful cooks who supplied the food.

Thanks to Hubert Schmidt who made sure our grounds were well-manicured.

Thanks to Wayne Dockery who prepared the slideshow.

Thanks to our guests in the pulpit, Roger Horne, Susan Sexton, and Karen Dukes.

Thanks to our visitors and former members from afar who joined us.

Thanks to Debbie Jacobs for the advertising.

Thanks to everyone who helped in any way!

And a special thanks to Judy Miller and Billy Duncan who spearheaded the event, and to Joseph Hester who guided us all.

Meet Happy, the Prayer Shawl Good Will Ambassador

Walk into the Great Hall on almost any given Monday at 1:00 p.m., and odds are you'll be greeted by Happy, a miniature Schnauzer who has become the Prayer Shawl Ministry's volunteer greeter and Good Will Ambassador.

Happy has been coming to Prayer Shawl for several years now, and is right at home with all the knitting and crocheting going on around her. She is always ready for a scratch behind the ears or a pat on the head. And she will be sure to make you feel right at home.



News from Our College/Doctoral Students



William & Mary Doctoral student Colin Vaughn, middle, and co-winner Sean Newhart, right, win research grant. The following is an excerpt by *Amanda Cirillo M.Ed. '18* | October 18, 2017, from a William & Mary School of Education publication that concerns Colin Vaughn and fellow winner Sean Newhart, both second-year doctoral students. Colin is the won of First Presbyterians Laura Vaughn and Nelson Vaughn.

Several doctoral counseling students were recently awarded grants from national and regional counseling associations to conduct innovative research through the School of Education. Their research, exploring diverse subjects within the field of counseling, will be presented at conferences and in journals later this year.

Measuring what works

Colin Vaughn and Sean Newhart, both second-year doctoral counseling students, have a passion to quantify what makes good counselors great. With a new research instrument they're developing, counseling instructors would be better able to measure how their students are retaining information and putting theory into practice. They both also received a prestigious grant from SACES to grow their research from the confines of the School of Education to across the country.

The instrument they're creating will measure counseling students' skills in a variety of settings, including listening skills, responses to clients, ethical decision-making, and more. "The theory we are basing the scale off of is very complex, and has 24 different areas that could be measured. Therefore, we are starting with what seems to be one of the more objectively measured and apparent constructs, intervention skills," Newhart said.

Originally tested with doctoral students both at William & Mary and other counseling programs, the study will grow to include faculty evaluations of the students they supervise at schools across the country over the coming months. Titled "Development of the Counseling Intervention Skills Competence Scale," the pair hopes to have the evaluations sent out for supervisors to complete in the spring semester and initial data collection wrapped up by next fall.

When asked what they were most excited to discover, Vaughn replied, "If our scale works! Instrument development is a long process, and there's always a chance that you haven't done a particularly good job of measuring what you're trying to measure."

The challenge of quantifying the effectiveness of a counseling student is no easy one, but these two have proven that they measure up to the task.

Congratulations, Colin! Well done!

Letter from Madeline Horne

Dear Church Family,

I am having a wonderful time here in Banner Elk! The leaves are gorgeous. My friends and I have been on many hikes to look at the beautiful mountains. We even went camping one night so that we could wake up to a gorgeous sunrise. God never disappoints us with the breathtaking views. The weather forecast calls for snow within the next week! We are all so excited to try skiing, snowboarding, and other winter activities, but we're mainly excited for more excuses to drink hot chocolate and snuggle under warm blankets.



I have successfully survived midterms (with all A's). When I was up late studying and started to get overwhelmed and discouraged, I took a break and reread all the cards I've received. I always feel so loved and supported when I read them. I have saved every one of them, and they are hanging on the wall above my bed.

Thank you all so much for loving, encouraging, and supporting me. I can't explain to you how good that makes me feel!

I miss you all and can't wait to come home for Thanksgiving and see everyone.

Loves and prayers,
Madeline Horne

A Quick Look at 125th Anniversary Celebration

