



February 2019

**In This Issue**

Letter from Our Pastor  
Letter from Our Director  
of Youth Ministries

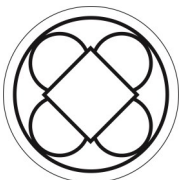
Prayer Concerns  
Calming Path Yoga  
Camp Willow Run  
Communications and  
Technology  
Giving Envelopes  
Habitat Build  
Harbor House  
Higher Path Walking  
Ministry  
Hospice  
Hunger Sunday  
Interim Choir Directors  
JOY Connection  
KIDZ Making Music  
Memorials and  
Honorariums  
Montreat Youth Conference  
Offering Envelopes  
Oyster Roast  
PYC Super Bowl Party  
Relay for Life  
Session Highlights  
Scout News  
Souper Bowl of Caring  
Super Bowl Party

**Thanks**

February Calendar  
Lectionary Readings  
Worship Nursery  
Flowers  
Anniversaries  
Birthdays  
Ushers  
Sunday Shepherds  
Lay Readers  
Trinity Ringers  
Acolytes  
Building Officers  
Time with Children  
Wee Kirk

A Publication of  
First Presbyterian Church  
215 S. Third Street  
PO Box 1159

Smith-  
NC 27577  
919-934



field,  
-0988

ICHTHUS  
February 2019

**Reflections in the Water: Holy Cow!**



Our congregation is a diverse and talented lot. During our recent Advent season, many of the volunteer ministries were recognized as part of the Lighting of the Advent Wreath on Sunday mornings as we celebrated the spiritual gifts of faith, hope, joy and love. I am thankful that so many of you have so many different gifts for ministry that you share generously.

Several years ago as part of understanding stewardship, the Session invited the congregation into a season of personal reflection with questions that might be summarized as:

- How is your faith and your faith community, the Church of Jesus Christ, important to you?
- How does First Presbyterian Church live as a good neighbor within our community?
- What is your own passion and calling to ministry within the community?
- What are you willing you to give or sacrifice to make the calling a reality?

Over the past five years new ministries and missions emerged in response to these larger questions. Camille Boone and Kathy Rice have initiated exciting new music ministries for children. Wayne Dockery has initiated activities integrating a more holistic view of spirituality for body and soul with the development of the Walking Ministry and more recently, Calming Soul Yoga Ministry. *Wee Kirk*, a Christian education program for children, has evolved to meet the needs of young families through the commitment of members on the Educational Development Quadrant. The Session, for its part, strives to remove systemic barriers of our institution to foster the growth and the creation of new ministries and become more effective stewards of our time together. To grow we also reflect on our growth areas which include mentoring new leadership to assume leadership roles for our congregation. Necessarily we continue to evaluate how we work and communicate with one another in a community.

As we enter February, the Session and I invite you into a short season of mutual reflection as disciples and stewards of First Presbyterian Church. Working with *Holy Cow! Consulting* and facilitators from the Presbytery of New Hope, we hope to continue to gain a better understanding of where our members passions for ministry lie and assessing what resources we are willing to offer to realize our mission as the Church of Jesus Christ.

There's more to come. I invite you to be in intentional prayer with me in the coming



### Prayerful Support for

Eleanor Bell at Barbour Court  
Susan Hill at SECU Hospice House  
Bernice Johnson, Autumn Care of Nash  
John MacFadyen at Brookdale, Raleigh  
Alice Narron at Meadowview

Ellen Rogers in Raleigh  
Virginia Williams in Laurinburg  
Lucy Worley at Bellarose Nursing and Rehab, Garner  
Marie Atkins, home  
Tom Barwick, home  
John Booker  
Shirley Booker  
Ruth Daniel  
Tom Harder  
Trish Horne  
Freddy Johnson  
Tom Johnson  
Shannon Kimball  
David Lee  
Nancy Lee  
Sandra Lester  
Tony Lester  
Bill Leist  
Miriam Lore  
Earl Maret  
Jill Merrick  
Becky Peele  
Benny Pope  
Ann Ragland  
Chap Ragland  
Peter Russell  
Nelson Vaughn  
Betty Welch  
Linda Wells is in Mt. Olive  
William Wells  
Rebecca Ziady  
Joseph Hester, Sr.  
Ralph Mosely, Dot Ellmore's brother  
**Christian sympathy to Helen and Rodney Best** on the death of  
**Billy Best** on January 16, 2019.



**In Memory of** Judy Avera, Jessie

Stephenson, Joseph R. Kluttz, Jr., Billy Best

**In Honor of** Bobby Cox

**Donors:** Carrie Purnell, Thomas and Sandra Johnson, John and Sue Avera Booker, Beth Daniel, Jo James, Cathy and Harold Allen, Tony and Sandra Lester, Pamela Withrow, Judy Miller



### of January Session

- Approved continuing the 2018 budget until March 30, 2019.
- Approved calling a Congregational Meeting to elect new officers on December 30, 2018.
- Approved establishing a new yoga ministry, Calming Path Yoga, that will meet on Wednesdays from 5:30-6:30 p.m. in our fellowship hall.
- Approved our participation in the New Hope Presbytery congregational study.
- Approved moving the Officers' Retreat to February 2, 2019, and the Installation and Ordination of Officers to February 3, 2019.
- Approved the transfer of membership of Daniel and Courtney Scott to Branch Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Selma, NC.
- Approved a request for FPC to host the Clerk Cluster Meeting on Saturday, March 2, 2019, at 10:30 a.m.

January 21, 2019

Dear Members and Friends of First Presbyterian Church,

My family and I write to thank you for your tremendous support during this year since my father's original diagnosis with cancer last spring. Your cards, visits, and prayers of support over the course of the last three years, initially with his cerebellar stroke in 2016 and followed by the diagnosis of breast cancer and subsequent treatments in 2018, have been a great source of strength for us all during a challenging chapter for our family.

My father received an encouraging six month check-up recently, and we are hopeful for good news with additional scans later this spring.

I appreciate your continued encouragement and support to me as your minister to balance my obligations as your pastor with my role as an only child with visits to Wilmington to support my family during this time. We remain grateful to each of you.

Sincerely,  
Pastor Joe

Joseph, Sr. and Janet Hester

Dear Church Family,

It was so nice to be able to be home for a few weeks over Christmas and see everyone. I sure have missed y'all! I have a church here that I have been going to with friends, and we also participate in a student-led Bible study each week, but nothing compares to the overwhelming love of my FPC Smithfield family.

We have started our spring semester. I am considered a junior now, and am able to focus on classes in my major, which has been very exciting. I am also a Resident Assistant this semester, along with keeping up my hours working at the tutoring center. I also give tours to prospective students and have been volunteering with our new CheerREADERS program that we've started, partnering with a local elementary school and reading to their kindergartners once a week. I definitely stay busy up here, but I have met so many great people and made a lot of wonderful memories this way!

Many of you have asked me about things I may want or need, so I've thought of some things that I can always use. Letters and cards from y'all are my favorite and definitely make a rough week better. You have no idea how much a sweet note from home impacts my whole week. I am always excited to receive laundry supplies like Tide Pods or dryer sheets or snacks like gummy bears, kettle corn, or Oreos!

I don't know my plans for summer yet. I have a few ideas and am working on finalizing a plan. I will definitely keep everyone updated. I sincerely appreciate the love and support I receive from y'all. Some days are harder than others, but knowing I have so many people rooting for me makes it easier.



Love and prayers to all!

Madeline Horne  
Campus PO Box 3472  
191 Main St West  
Banner Elk, NC 28604

## Communications and Technology News

It is important for the church to have your correct contact information!! If your phone, email or mailing address has changed, please let Debbie Jacobs and the church office know so that we may keep our records current! An updated directory is now available through the eNews and will be updated quarterly. Please check the latest update to ensure we have your contact information correctly!

COMMUNICATION & TECHNOLOGY



We are making an appeal for volunteers to serve as Sunday Shepherds for 2019. A sign-up sheet is in the vestibule. A Sunday Shepherd remains at the Reception Desk during worship to monitor the front door and hallways.

Please contact Debbie Jacobs if you need more information.

—Debbie Jacobs

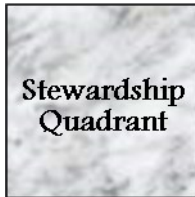
## 2019 Offering Envelopes in Fellowship Hall

Some people have not yet picked up their giving envelopes. They are still in the fellowship hall. Please write your name on the removable label and place it in the envelope on the table.

It's not too late to be assigned giving envelopes. Just indicate your desire to be assigned a box on the legal pad next to the envelopes. Your envelopes will be there the following Sunday.

If you have questions, contact Beth Daniel, Receiving Treasurer.

—Beth Daniel



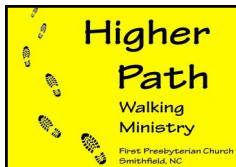
## Calming Path Yoga

The new Calming Path yoga ministry began on January 9 in our fellowship hall with 12 eager students. The following Wednesday, 18 people attended, and the one after that, 24. No prior yoga training needed, but if you have any questions, please contact Diane Dockery. The group meets each Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. Please come and give it a try.

Thank you to Tempe Lampe for leading this group with patience and experience. Also, thanks to Thad McCrae, for the very clean floor.

*Namaste!*

—Wayne Dockery



## Come Walk with Us

FPC's Higher Path Walking Ministry is still alive and moving, but is changing its schedule. We will meet Tuesdays at 8:00 a.m. at the Medical Mall; Saturdays at 1:00 p.m. at East Clayton Park; and on Sundays at 3:00 p.m. at the Templeton home.

## Common Sense Safety at JOY Connection

When you return to your automobile from shopping, do you pause several yards away to look under the car to make sure no one is hiding there? If your car is an /SUV, do you check the back before you get in? Do you retrieve your keys whole you're inside the store instead on fumbling in your pocketbook for them as you walk to the car, head down? I have been guilty of each of these things. Thankfully, a detective with the Smithfield Police Department will join us for JOY on February 7 to give us sound, common sense advice to help us protect ourselves from predators.

Betsy Olive and Eve Creech will provide the meal, so you know you're going to get something delicious. Bring a dessert to share, a friend, and come for fellowship and food~

See you at noon on Thursday, February 7.



JOY CONNECTION

—Sandy Perkinson

## Hospice Meal



We would like to thank all of you for supporting the meal we prepared and served for the Hospice House on January 17. Providing these meals is an important outreach ministry on our church, and the families and staff are so appreciative of our efforts. A special shout out this month goes to Rhonda Backner, Jenny Ham, and Betsy Olive for their personal donations to the meal.

—Frank and Lisa Deans

## Troop 95: Chess, Campouts, and Parties

Last month member of Troop 95 began work our Chess Merit Badge under the direction of Jude Reece. We thank him for helping us. We also had a very successful, albeit very cold, campout.

Again we would like to thank everyone who bought poinsettias last November. We hope you continue to enjoy them. I have received many compliments on them. Next year we will sell poinsettias again from this same local vendor, so plan now to purchase again from us. We will give you a reminder in late fall.

We had our annual Christmas party and played games, ate pizza, and had a great time. On behalf of Troop 95, thank all of you who helped us in 2018.

If you know of any middle or high schoolers who are interested in Scouting, please direct them to our Scribe, Davis Bell, or our Scoutmaster, Evans Horne, so they can participate in our 2019 Scout year.

—Davis Bell, Scribe



## Bingo, Chili Lunch, Survivor Sunday

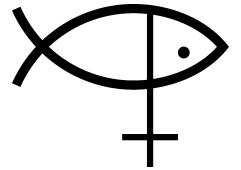
Your Relay Team met on Tuesday, January 8, and made plans for our Big Heart Bingo on the 27th and for our Survivor Sunday Service and Chili Luncheon on March 3. A sign-up for the Chili Lunch will be put out in the middle of February. We look forward to having you join us on the 3<sup>rd</sup> for soup and chili after church!

Your team has raised \$1325 so far, and we hope to raise a significant amount at the Big Heart Bingo. Except for a few tickets at the door, this event is sold out! We can't thank Sarah Gilson



For God so lo**V**ed the world  
th**A**t he gave his  
on**L**y  
begott**E**n  
So**N**,  
tha**T** whoever  
bel**I**eves  
i**N** him should not perish  
but hav**E** everlasting life.

(John 3:16, NKJV)



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

February 2019

Smithfield, NC 27577

PO Box 1159

First Presbyterian Church

PERMIT #93

SMITHFIELD, NC 27577

USPOSTAGE

NON-PROFIT STD MAIL





### February Souper Bowl of Caring

The youth will collect the Souper Bowl of Caring Offering following worship on Sunday, February 3. All money will go to the SAM Food Closet in Smithfield.



**PYC Super Bowl Party**  
February 3, 2018  
6:00 p.m.—Halftime  
Come join us!

### Four Ways to Help Your Child or Teen Feel Loved

St. Valentine was not much of a romantic even though he eventually lost his head (literally), but he is the patron saint of love, happy marriages, and beekeepers (I suppose that is indirectly sweet...). In this lovey-dovey greeting card season of candy-coated love, we are also reminded of the immense unconditional love of God for all of God's children. Likewise, demonstrating love toward others is paramount—especially when it comes to raising our own children.

Here are a few loving reminders:

**Don't try to buy it.** This is not as easy as it sounds in today's hectic world where we are trying to cram so much activity and work in our limited time—sometimes stuff becomes a "guilt offering" to neglected children. The advice columnist Abigail Van Buren once wrote, "if you want your children to turn out well, spend twice as much time with them, and half as much money."

**Say it.** Our lives are brief whether they end tomorrow or decades from now, so tell the special people in your life how you feel about them. Your children need to be reminded of your love when you are angry or disappointed with them—and be careful with your words during those heated moments. And "I love you" does not mean much when you fail to...

**Show it.** I am not going to give you examples because it this becomes a personal, thoughtful, and individualized way of demonstrating one's love for another. It does not have to be extravagant—it does, however, need to be something that is a regular part of your life...not a special something you do every once in a while!

**Love by example.** This is where it gets tricky. We live in an increasingly hostile and polarized world, but God calls us to love others. God calls us to love inconsiderate neighbors. God calls us to love rude coworkers or customers. God calls us to love the unlovable, the downright hateful people...or as Jesus said it, "love your enemy." How do you speak about others when they treat you unfairly? Are you forgiving others? What do your children see and overhear?

We cannot demonstrate perfect love, but we can surround our young ones with our love—some of it comes with instinct and perhaps some of this takes a little practice. Remember that parenting requires of grace, so be kind towards yourself! *"Keep alert, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. Let all that you do be in love."* – 1 Corinthians 16:13-14 (NRSV)

Blessings and love,  
Todd Higginson

### March 15—17 Senior High School Student Retreat Camp Willow Run

If your 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade student would like to attend our presbytery's youth council-led retreat, please let Todd know ASAP. Our budget youth retreat funds will cover expenses



Saturday, February 15 Oyster Roast, 4:00 – 8:00

# 2019 Oyster Roast

## at the First Presbyterian Church of Smithfield, North Carolina

Half of all proceeds will be  
directly donated to  
Smithfield Area Ministries  
Food Pantry



Remaining proceeds  
will support  
FPC's youth ministries

Fresh Topsail Cluster Oysters from the NC Coast!

Saturday, February 16, 2019 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church—215 S. Third Street  
Smithfield, NC 27577

*\*Eat in, carry-out, and drive thru\**

**Tickets: \$25 (includes around a peck of oysters)**

Call 919-934-0995 or email [fpethigginson@gmail.com](mailto:fpethigginson@gmail.com) for tickets

For those who may not care for seafood, delicious homemade soups and chili will be available for a donation-no ticket required!

**Tickets available through February 14, 2019**

First Presbyterian Church—215 S. 3rd Street—Smithfield, NC

Tickets (\$25 each) are available through February 14 from the church office, Todd, one of the PYC youth. A sign-up sheet is available outside of the sanctuary if you are willing to donate a pot of soup, chili, or dessert. Please help us get the word out in Smithfield and thank you for your support! Half of the proceeds this year will be donated to Smithfield Area Ministries food pantry with the remainder supporting our youth ministries.

### July 7-13 Montreat Youth Conference Registration

Excitement is already building for this summer's trip to Montreat! As an incentive to commit earlier, a non-refundable **\$100 deposit** will lock in your student. Other than travel meals, the camp offering, and snacks/souvenirs, all other expenses will be generously covered by our budgeted youth conference funds. After May 1, we are increasing the **non-refundable deposit to \$250 if you add a student after that date**, so please let Todd know soon if your student will be participating. However, if you have any extenuating circumstances concerning making a deposit by May 1, please contact Todd Higginson. Montreat youth conference is open to all high school youth who will begin 9<sup>th</sup> grade this fall through students that completed 12<sup>th</sup> grade this year. We also expect for all youth



**What Goes Up Must Come Down!**

Special Thanks to our Christmas Elves who took down the Advent and Christmas decorations under Anita Liverman's careful guidance and stored neatly upstairs. Thanks also to Wayne Dockery for the great Craig's List find of a most excellent stands for wreath and garland storage. Our elves are Eve Creech, Judy Daniels, Diane Dockery, Wayne Dockery, Nan Jones, Nancy Lee, Anita Liverman, Etta Marett, Thad McCrae, Maxine McFadyen, Sandy Perkinson, Hank Roberson, Judy Schmidt, and Myra Wallace.



**Undecorating with Nancy**

—Sandy Perkinson



**Harbor House needs the following supplies:**

- Toilet paper
- Trash bags
- Paper Towels
- Dishwashing Liquid
- Lysol
- Hand lotion

The next time you're out shopping, pick up a few of these supplies and place them in the basket in the Great Hall. Thank you!

—Lee Johnson



**Our Interim Directors**

First Presbyterian Church is certainly blessed with musicians. Following the resignation of the Director of Music, Martha Chapman, we have four music majors to

step up to the plate to keep our Chancel Choir going. Many thanks to Camille Boone, Judy Daniels, Kathy Rice, and Patrick Templeton.

Both the Chancel Choir and the Handbell Choir are looking for new members. If you're interested, don't be shy — just give it a try. Handbells meet on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m., and Chancel Choir Rehearsal is on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.



**Hunger Sunday: Every Third Sunday**  
**Bring your change and canned goods.**  
 Donations go to the **Smithfield Area Ministries Food Closet.**



**Habitat for Humanity®**  
 of Wake County  
*Serving Wake and Johnston Counties*



**PEDALS PIPES & PIZZA**

**February 2, 2019**

**WHO:** Sponsored by the Central NC Chapter of the American Guild of Organists: [cnccago.org](http://cnccago.org) (Visit us on Facebook)

**WHAT:** A brief and entertaining introduction to the pipe organ by Stephen Aber, Assistant Dir. of Creative Arts, Hayes Barton UMC, followed by pizza and a fun time of socializing

**WHY:** To introduce the pipe organ and its music to children and youth in an effort to promote understanding and appreciation of the instrument.

**WHEN:** 10:00 AM until Noon on Saturday, February 2

**WHERE:** Hayes Barton United Methodist Church  
 2209 Fairview Road, Raleigh

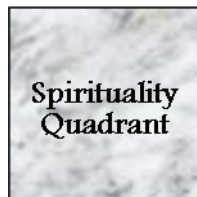
Registration: \$10.00

Deadline: Jan 30, 2019

RSVP: Al Murrell, Sub-Dean  
 CNCCAGO @ 443-812-5999  
 or email [al.murrell@gmail.com](mailto:al.murrell@gmail.com)

The Johnston County Faith Coalition is an ecumenical coalition of Johnston County Churches. Join us in 2019 as we build to homes in Selma, NC. House # 1 is underway. Please consider volunteering for the following dates: February 7-9; February 14-16; February 21-23; February 28-Mar.1; March 7-9. March 14-16. March 21-23. Contact Bets if you

**KIDZ MAKING MUSIC**  
**Wednesday Afternoons**  
**4:30—6 PM**  
**February 20—April 3**  
**First Presbyterian Church**  
 in partnership with



Contact Camille Boone if you are interested!