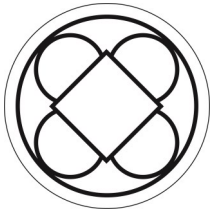




In This Issue:

From the Pastor
Prayer Concerns

Avera Scholarship
Coffee and Conversation
Communications and
Technology
Did You Know
Habitat Build
Harbor House
Highlights of Session
Hospice House Meals
Hunger Sunday:
Pennies for Hunger
and Yes We Can
Memorials &
Honorariums
Music for the Lunch
Bunch
Music Camp
Scouts
Stewardship Report
Summer Music Camp



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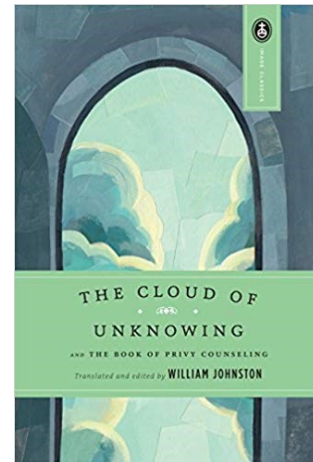
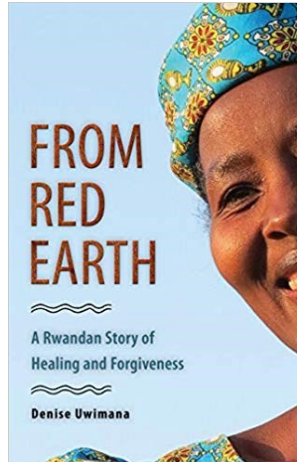
ICHTHUS

July 2019

Newsletter of First Presbyterian Church

Reflections in the Water: Summer Reading with Coffee and Conversation

"By referring to this, when you read you can understand my insight into the mystery of Christ."
—Ephesians 3:4



In June we kicked off a summer reading series with coffee and conversation about Barbara Brown Taylor's book *Holy Envy* at a local coffee shop. I'd like to share with you below a couple of highlights from our meeting:

"The only clear line I draw these days is this: when my religion tries to come between me and my neighbor, I will choose my neighbor....Jesus never commanded me to love my religion."
—Barbara Brown Taylor

Taylor shares that the title of her book comes from biblical scholar Krister Stendahl, who proposed three principles for engaging people of other faiths:

- When trying to understand another religion, you should ask the adherents of that religion and not its enemies.
- Don't compare your best to their worst.
- Leave room for holy envy.

I enjoyed the fellowship, tangents, as well as laughter from this first gathering 'where two or more are gathered.' Our conversations continue with the following books in July.

Sunday July 7, 4:00 p.m., FPC, Smithfield

From Red Earth—A Rwandan Story of Healing and Forgiveness by Denise Uwimana

A survivor and widow of the 1994 genocide, Denise Uwimana shares her story of rebuilding a life among the people who murdered her family. Christian acts of grace, forgiveness, and sharing painful truths are the themes for our discussion.

Tuesday July 16, 4:00 p.m., Simple Twist, Smithfield

The Cloud of Unknowning —William Johnston, Editor

This easy to read collection offers short often pithy reflections and insights from a 14th Century English monastic leader with 21st Century life applications for individuals and faith communities.

In August we will conclude the reading series with Rachel Held Evans' *Faith Unraveled* and Mitchell Zuckoff's *Fall and Rise*. All are welcome to join this casual fellowship for conversation; it is not necessary to have read the books (although that will help!). My hope is to engage in open conversation and questions regarding the faith questions raised by the readings. And if you cannot make the meetings, I encourage you to read the books on your own as I will be weaving in their themes in weekly bible study as well as sermons over the course of the summer.

I hope you will join me!

Pastor Joe



Prayerful Support for
 Eleanor "Nor" Bell at Meadowview
 Bernice Johnson at Meadowview
 Ellen Rogers in Raleigh
 Mary Alice Thomas in Charlotte
 Virginia Williams in Laurinburg
 Marie Atkins

John Booker
 Ruth Daniel
 Dot Ellmore
 Freddy Johnson
 Tom Johnson
 Bill Leist
 Earl Marett
 Becky Peele
 Benny Pope
 Ann Ragland
 Chap Ragland
 David Rice
 Peter Russell
 Linda Stephenson
 Nelson Vaughn
 Betty Welch
 Linda Wells
 William Wells
 Lucy Worley
 Rebecca Ziady
 Joseph Hester, Sr.
 Ralph Mosely, Dot Ellmore's brother

Christian Sympathy to **Frank Grubbs and family** on the death of his mother, Lillian Kinard Grubbs, on June 1, 2019; to **Ellen Adams** on the death of her brother, Thomas Hammer Byerly, on June 7, 2019, and to **Betty Welch, Carl Welch, Gordon Welch, and Wiley Narron** on the death of Alice Narron on June 18, 2019.



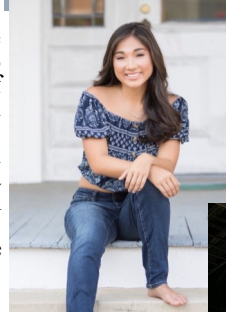
In Memory of Thomas Hammer Byerly, Billy Best, Ruth Bell, Shannon Kimball, Susan Hill, Mary Alice Thomas

Donors: Dot Ellmore, Joyce and David Lee, J.A. and Linda Stephenson

Did You Know What Our Kids Are Up To This Summer:

Karlee Sanderford is Miss North Carolina's Miss Outstanding Teen. She will be competing on July 27 in Orlando, FL, for the title of Miss America's Outstanding Teen. **Kaelin Sanderford** just graduated from Corinth Holder High School where she ran track and played soccer. She was named to All Conference Soccer, Academic All Conference Soccer, the Pirate Award for Women's Soccer, and the Ross Renfrow Female Athlete of the Year Award. She has a soccer scholarship to Meredith. They are the granddaughters of **Billy Duncan** and the nieces of **Kenny and Julie Duncan**.

Mary Margaret Coats, Lauren Coats, and Addison Coats participated in the Oklahoma City National Reining Horse Association Derby 2019 in June. They are the daughters of **Stan and Kelly Coats** and the granddaughters of **David and Joyce Lee**.



HIGHLIGHTS

of June Session

- Approved vacation leave for the pastor on May 28-30, 2019.
- Approved a request from the Educational Development Quadrant to suspend the plans for Vacation Bible School this year in order to focus more on the Christian Education programs in Wee Kirk and Pre Wee Kirk.
- Approved a request from the Mission and Outreach Quadrant to host a cookout in conjunction with the Town of Smithfield's fireworks display on Sunday, June 30, 2019. Net profits from the cookout will be designated for Wake/Johnston Habitat for Humanity.

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

—Debbie Jacobs



**Music for the Lunch Bunch
 2019
 First Presbyterian Church
 Wednesdays, 12:15 p.m.**

July 10
Jim Grant and Isaac Bruton
 Vocals and Piano

July 17
Dexter Ruffin
 Piano

July 24
Carolina Youth Theater
 Number from *The Wizard of Oz*

July 31
Smithfield's Jazz Quartet
Ned Attayek, Virgil Early, Wingate Lassiter,
and Jess Pittard



Music for the Lunch Bunch is grassroots funded by the Johnston County Arts Council and the NC Arts Council



Davis Bell is on his dream vacation with his dad, **Greg Bell**, and his uncle, Davis Bell, in California and Las Vegas. Here he is at the Avengers Station. He is the grandson of **Roger and Eleanor Horne**.

If your kids or grandkids are having adventures this summer, contact Myra Wallace in the church office and we will put them in the next issue of *The ICHTHUS*.

Hunger Missions

When it comes to shopping for Yes We Can for July, please keep in mind buying foods that need little or no preparation. As mentioned before many children are at home by themselves through much of the day and need to have food that can be readily eaten - like packets of fruit juice, peanut butter and jelly and cereals. Leave the food items that need preparation for the adult who will be preparing hot meals.

In June, we had 76 items donated. As usual the Food Closet is always appreciative of what is donated by our church and others in the community. Thank You!

—Hubert Schmidt



First Presbyterian Church Operating Results January — April 2019 Actual vs. Budgeted

	Actual	Budgeted
Revenue		
General Offering	96,895.00	56,551.00
Disbursements		
Education Quadrant	9,034.00	10,453.00
Mission Outreach Quadrant	1,341.00	5,517.00
Spirituality Quadrant	46,726.00	52,191.00
Stewardship Quadrant	43,441.00	39,298.00
Total Disbursements	100,542.00	107,459.00
Net Income/Deficit	(3,647.00)	(50,908.00)

VISION 2020 Capital Campaign as of 4/30/2019

\$ 413,499 Pledge Gifts
 \$ 30,099 Memorial/Honorariums
 \$ 61,482 Other Gifts
 \$ 436,353 Total VISION 2020 Contributions

\$ 537,386 Total VISION 2020 Commitments
 \$ 736,896 Mortgage Balance

Harbor Drive

Don't forget that Harbor always needs toiletries, snacks, juice boxes, games, and paper products. Thank you for your help!



Hospice House

The Mission Outreach Quadrant partners with the volunteers and staff at SECU Hospice House in Smithfield eight 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. Special thanks to Dot Ellmore, Rhonda Backner, Hubert and Judy Schmidt, Lee Johnson, Eleanor Horne, Jaime Beasley, Jenny Ham and Betsy Olive for helping provide a meal on Sunday, June 9.

Thank you for your continued support of this caring mission.
 —Greg and Joyce Knoll



Scout Troop 95 News

Troop 95 is on its summer break, but we are looking ahead to the fall. If you know of any middle or high schoolers who are interested in Scouting, please direct them to our Senior Patrol Leader Davis Bell or our Scoutmaster Evans Horne so they can participate in the upcoming Scout year.



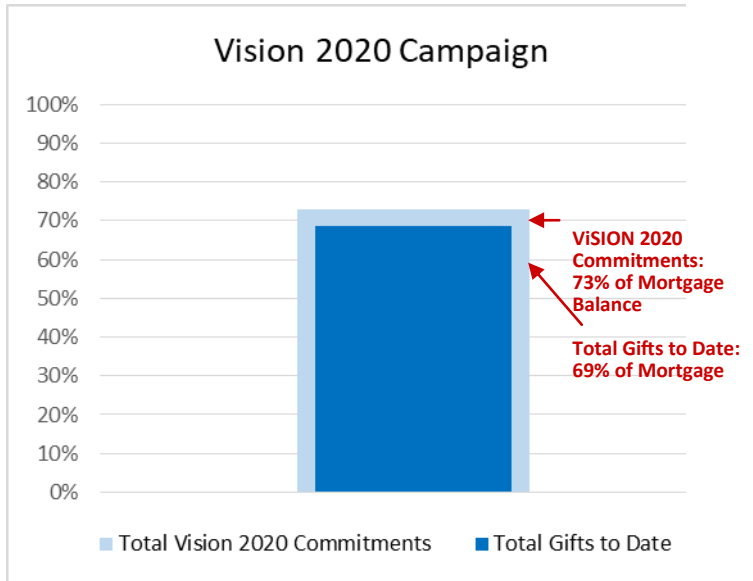
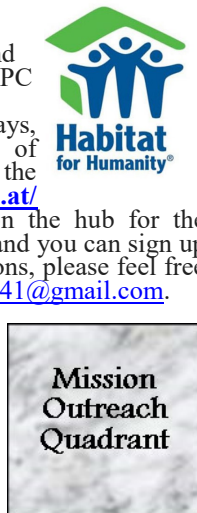
—Davis Bell

Habitat for Humanity

Thanks to Betsy Olive, Eve Creech, Hubert and Judy Schmidt, and Helen Best for supporting the FPC Habitat workday on June 1. Volunteers continue to be needed on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays. Individuals or groups of individuals can register and sign up to work at the Habitat for Humanity volunteer hub: <http://vhub.at/johnstoncountycoalition> (If you registered on the hub for the Clayton build, you will not have to register again and you can sign up to work at this same site.) If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Greg Knoll at 919-607-7134 or gknoll841@gmail.com.

Church groups and individuals are needed to provide lunch each Saturday. If you would like to help provide lunch on a Saturday, please contact Betsy Olive.

—Greg and Joyce Knoll



—Jaime Beasley

Help us keep your information current. If you have moved, or if your phone numbers or email address has changed, please contact Debbie Jacobs and the church office.

Thank you!!



Four Awarded Avera Scholarship

Kristen Duncan of Texas State University, Emma Horne of UNC Wilmington, Madeline Horne of Lees McRae College, and Grant Syntiak of UNC-Chapel Hill were each awarded an Evelyn Avera Scholarship for the 2019-2020 academic year.

Kirsten is the daughter of Kenny and Julie Duncan and the granddaughter of Billy Duncan; Emma Horne and Madeline Horne are the daughters of Evans and Trish Horne and the granddaughters of Roger and Eleanor Horne; and Grant Syntiak is the son of Jim and Ina Syntiak and the grandson of Tommy and Camille Boone.



Stewardship Quadrant

**YOU'RE
INVITED**

First of July Fireworks, Hot Dogs with all the Trimmings
Proceeds from the Meal go to Habitat for Humanity
First Presbyterian Church Parking Lot and Fellowship Hall
Sunday, June 30
7:00 p.m.—9:30 p.m.

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



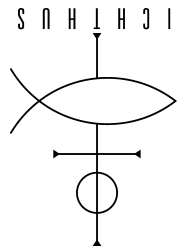
SUMMER MUSIC CAMP 2019: July 22-24
9:30—11:30 a.m.
Preschool—Fifth Grade
Registration Deadline: July 15
Call Camille Boone at 919-464-6055 to Register

We can't believe this is our fourth year to offer a summer music camp. Kathy Rice, Jennifer Templeton, are planning for Music Camp.

Our mission is to develop singing, dancing, and playing instruments using songs from our hymnal Glory to God as well as the many songs we have learned throughout our years! And there are plenty of new instruments to learn about and to play.

Please put those dates on your calendar. We've had such a great response in years past, and we're looking for another good Summer Music Camp.

—Camille Boone



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