

ARDEN FOCUS

*Following Christ, proclaiming his praises,
and engaging our community with his grace.*

JUNE 2022

2022 Officer Candidates

Congregational Meeting for Church Officer Elections: Our church Session has examined and approved the following eligible candidates for church office: (**Deacon**) Larry Kidd; (**Ruling Elder**) Leon Turlington, Matt Roberson, and Daniel Moore. A congregational meeting for officer elections will be held immediately following the **Sunday, June 12** worship service.

The Offices of Elder and Deacon

Elder: The office of elder is one of spiritual oversight and government of the church (Titus 1:5 ff.; 1 Timothy 3:1-7). In the NT, elders are sometimes referred to as shepherds (Acts 20:28; 1 Peter 5:1-4) because they are charged with the care and nurture of the church just as a shepherd cares for his flock. Elders are also responsible for the teaching ministry of the church (1 Timothy 5:17-18). Thus, elders must both understand the truths of God's work and be able to effectively minister in the body of Christ as one who encourages, edifies and when needed, confronts and rebukes.

Deacon: The office of deacon is one of service, extending mercy and sympathy to those in need, especially to those within the church. Deacons are first mentioned in Acts 6:1-6, as those chosen to minister to the physical needs within the church. The spiritual nature of the deacon's service of mercy is no less vital than the elder's shepherding and ruling; the health of the church is inseparably tied to both offices. The duty of the office is threefold: 1) to minister to those in need and distress, 2) to administrate financial issues within the church (receiving and distribution of gifts), and 3) to care for the church's property.

Any man assuming the office of elder or deacon must meet the biblical qualifications listed in **1 Timothy 3:1-7, Titus 1:6-9 (elder)** and **1 Timothy 3:8-13 (deacon)**. Both offices are perpetual – that is, for life, unless extraordinary circumstances allow or call for the dissolution of one's office.

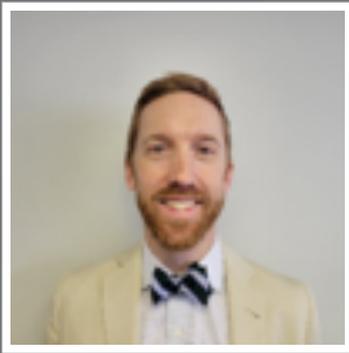
At Arden, men in both offices serve **3-year terms**.



JUNE DATES

- 04** - Robert Stiles Memorial Service
- 05** - Identity & Belonging SS class begins
- 05** - Pastoral Search Team Nominations due
- 12** - Meeting to Elect of New Church Officers
- 12** - The Beautiful Community Book Study begins
- 19** - Meeting to Elect Pastoral Search Team
- 19-24** - Service Outreach Week
- 21-24** - PCA General Assembly
- 28** - Middle School Small Groups begin
- July 1** - High School Small Groups begin

Ruling Elder Candidates



Daniel Moore

Testimony: When I was in middle school, I felt the call to become a believer. With my mother, I acknowledged my sin and put my faith in Christ. Over time God has worked in my heart and mind to make my desires more like His, and I understand justification and sanctification more and more.

Previous Service: APC Deacon, Assimilation Committee, Angel Tree, teaching/assisting with Sunday School, and 2 assistant pastor search committees.

Sense of Calling: I enjoy gathering and encouraging the family at APC in their faith. Being in the PCA most of my life gives me knowledge of our denomination that will help guide our church.

Personal: Married to Elaine. Children: Reagan (9), Brice (7), and James (5). Enjoys weight training, hiking, college and pro sports, and listening to music.



Matt Roberson

Testimony: I committed to Jesus Christ in middle school. I was invited to join a youth group by a friend that attended a Baptist church. This group met weekly and hosted retreats. It was during a retreat that I became a follower.

Previous Service: APC Deacon, APC Finance Committee, Singing Christmas Tree, orchestra, nursery team, children's Sunday School teacher, and Welcome Center volunteer.

Sense of Calling: I have, for the last several years, desired to return to service, but family and work circumstances were such that I could not give it the attention required. Later last year, I could see that God was putting before me a season of time allowing for a return to service.

Personal: Married to Adrienne. Children: Graham (7). Enjoys outdoor activities with Adrienne and Graham, and watching UNC sports. Also enjoys beekeeping.



Leon Turlington

Testimony: My mother instilled in me a love for the Lord very early, reading Bible stories to my sister and me, and I grew up in the Methodist Church. At a very early age, I have a memory of calling on God to be my Savior. I made a public confession of faith at a Billy Graham crusade in Raleigh, NC on 9/29/73.

Previous Service: Angel Tree, and usher duties at APC.

Sense of Calling: I seek to serve the needs of our APC members.

Personal: Married to Lynn. Six Adult Children: Heidi, Mark, Chris, Chelsea, Michael, and Amy. I work for Coastal AgroBusiness, in agriculture, and we serve farmers of many different crops. I love to walk, as well as read and study Scripture.

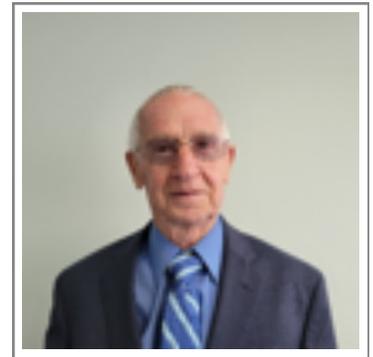
Deacon Candidate

Testimony: I accepted Jesus as my Savior after completing a Catechism class in a small church I grew up in when we lived in Ohio.

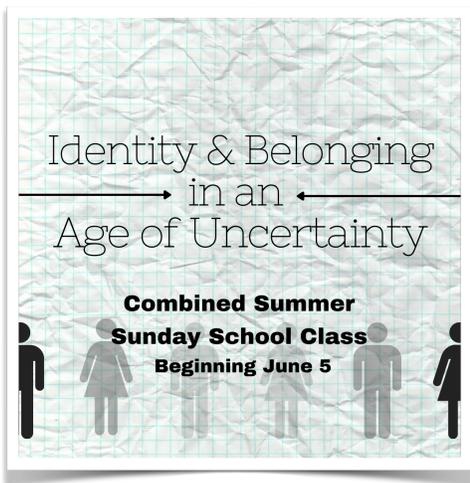
Previous Service: APC Deacon, Music Ministry, New Commandment Ministry, APC Senior Pastor Search Committee, and Mercy Ministry through the Diaconate.

Sense of Calling: I pray for the Lord to show me His will in everything, and He has given me a greater heart for service to my church, my family, and my neighbors.

Personal: Married to Shirley. Three Adult Children: Brian, Rhonda, and Michael. My retirement occupation is owning my own Landscaping/Lawn Care business, and I enjoy getting to know my clients, and making their yards look really nice.



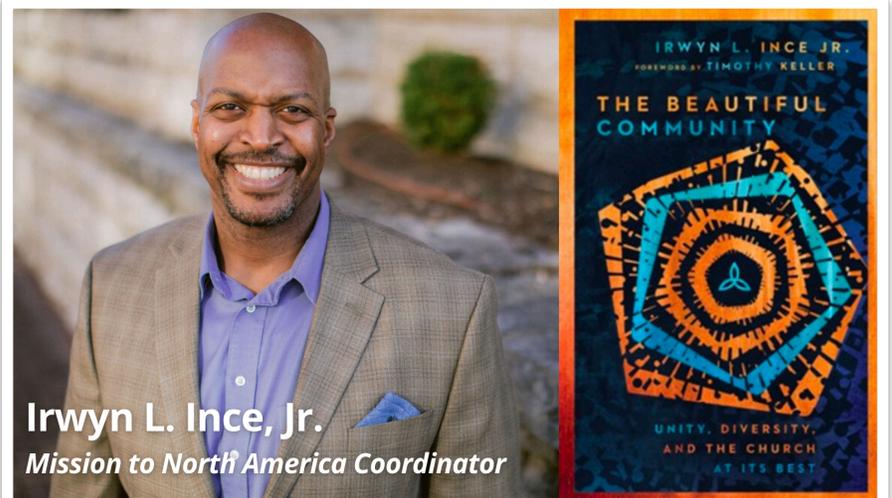
Larry Kidd



Identity & Belonging in an Age of Uncertainty - Join us for our 2022 Combined Summer Sunday School Class beginning June 5 at 9:30 in the lower-level of the Multipurpose Building! We will have the privilege of hearing from several different Sunday school teachers as we join together to explore biblical teaching on topics such as marriage, desire, identity, friendship, temptation and more. This class is purposed for adults and high-schoolers.

Book Study: On Sundays, **June 12 through July 31, from 4:00-5:30 p.m.**, we will meet in the fellowship room to talk about diversity in the body of Christ and our role as a believer of Christ as we read *The Beautiful Community* by Irwyn L. Ince, Jr. Ince (RTS, 2006 and Covenant Seminary, 2016) is the new PCA Mission to North America Coordinator *Pro Tempore*. Our discussion questions will center around Christ's character and ministry and how we emulate Christ.

This discussion is open to teenagers, adult members, and nonmembers. Please contact Chris (243-3579) or Michelle (606-2212) Wright if you have questions. Childcare will be provided, though you will need to sign up by [emailing Michelle](mailto:Michelle).



Purchase your copy at: [WESTMINSTER BOOKSTORE](#) | [AMAZON](#) | [BARNES & NOBLE](#) | [CHRISTIANBOOK.COM](#)

Youth Ministry

Elliot Mattix | Katherine Paschall



What is SOW?

One week of **evangelism, service...**

to Black Mountain Children's Home, Mountain Area Pregnancy Center, ABCCM, Eblen, and our own church and members... **fun activities, and delicious food!**

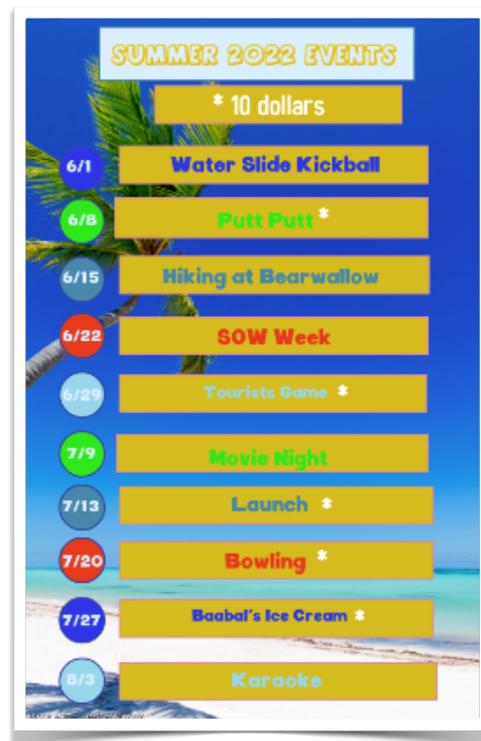
What does this mean for you?

SOW glad you asked!

1. Sign up your child at ardenpres.org TODAY! Go to the ministries tab and find youth ministry. The cost is \$100 and we need you to sign up today! This year we will be lodging at the Black Mountain Children's Home Camp. We need numbers by June 5th in order to plan well. [CLICK HERE](#) to register.

- 2. Sign up to host a meal** on Monday the 20th, or Wednesday the 22nd! A favorite part of the week! Get to know the youth of Arden in your own home. Contact Stephanie Marshall at 828-243-6001 or email her at pinkemmacade@gmail.com
- 3. Parents of young children**, mark your calendars for **Tuesday, June 21st** from 5:30-8:00pm. Our youth are giving you a night off and a time to bring your children for an evening of food, fun and games. You **MUST** [email Dottie Campbell](#) to let us know that your child is coming. Cheese pizza, oreos, and ice pops will be served. Pack a lunch for those with special dietary needs. Open to nursery age through 5th graders.
- 4. Let me know if you have a service project** we can help you with at your home. That could be cleaning, unloading an attic or basement, painting, helping prepare for a move, yard work etc. Our youth are ready and willing to serve! Call Anne at 828-231-3577
- 5. DONATE!** Make a check out to Arden and put SOW in the memo. Your donation will go to food, gas and lodging for this mission week.
- 6. Did you hear something that interests you and want to help out in a certain area?** We need drivers, chaperones, pancake flippers, help with food at camp, point people for projects. Volunteer for half a day or overnight! Let Anne know! 828-231-3577
- 7. Last but not least, PRAY!** Pray for planning, kids' safety, lives to be changed by Jesus, people to accept Christ and for our church to work well together!

Please contact Anne Jensen with any questions! 828-231-3577



Youth, we would love your help with the children for Terrific Tuesdays.
See details below and [contact Barbara Cameron!](#)

Terrific Tuesdays: July 12, 19, 26

Ladies of Arden

save the date - Terrific Tuesdays are coming!

"Think on these things..."

July 12, 19, 26

10:00 AM APC Chapel

Informal Bible study

(followed by lunch together at the church)

More information coming soon

Bring a friend!

Nursery (birth - age 4) and Children (K-5th grade)

10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

We will be having lots of fun while learning about the Armor of God!

Please send your child with a lunch.

Contact Barbara Cameron with any questions.

Dear Arden family,

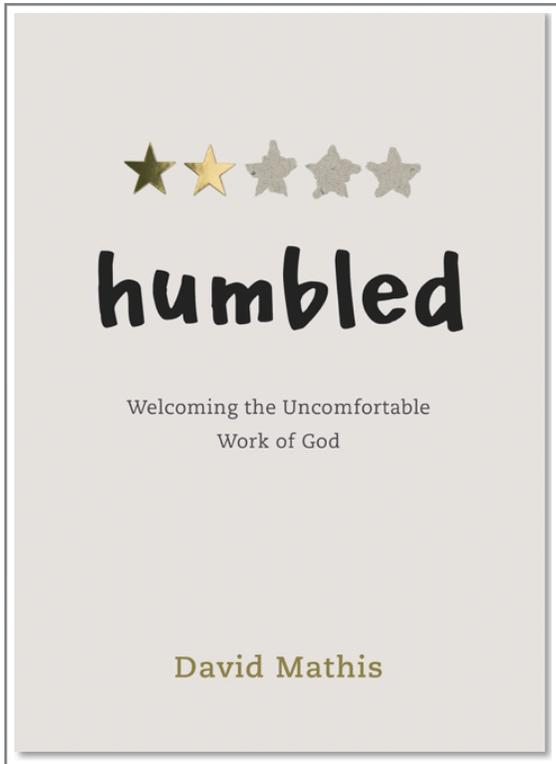
As you may know, my recent mission trip to Ukraine finally came to an end in recent weeks. After being in a war zone for over a month, I came back without any injuries, thank God. Interestingly, though, I still have a "Z" under my thumb nail from when I smashed it in a door lock on my first day in the country. It has stood as a daily reminder of why I was there.

I want to thank all of the members who believed in my mission and who financially supported me and mainly provided numerous Ukrainians with whatever they needed. I also want to thank the Deacons and the Missions Committee for their support as well. Ultimately, though, God's plan and all of the prayers that I felt while I was there, got me there, got me through, and got me home.

I hope to be able to share how God wonderfully worked during that five-week mission trip and how He continues to work (in Ukraine) with you someday soon. Until then, we wait for victory.

In His grace,
 Sheila

Arden Books of the Month | June



How do I humble myself?

Humility, according to the Bible, is not something we can just up and do. Both the negative and positive examples of Scripture—from Pharaoh to Rehoboam, from Josiah to Ahab, from Hezekiah to Manasseh, and even to Christ himself—teach us that **humility first comes from the hand of God.**

He initiates the humbling of his creatures. And once he has, the question confronts us: Will you receive it? **Will you humble yourself in response to his humbling hand, or will you kick against him?**

This concise, accessible study of Scripture’s humble-self language uncovers two surprising lessons about the pursuit of humility in the Christian—both what we cannot do and also what steps we can take.



Introducing Kids to the Importance of Boundaries with Technology

Technology can be a helpful tool and source of enjoyment for many families—a way to aid children with learning, to connect with loved ones, and to provide entertainment. But as with many good gifts from God, tech devices are best used in moderation.

In this new picture book, readers meet Polly while on a trip to her grandparents’ farm. During her visit she spends all her time on her new tablet instead of enjoying the farm animals and playing with her cousins. A chat with her grandfather teaches her that, though screen time can be good, it can also keep kids away from better things. **Using simple language and beautiful illustrations, children of all ages are introduced to the idea that technology is best enjoyed within boundaries.**

Call to Prayer: The Secret of Power in Prayer (John 15:7), cont.

We note next, that the fruit of our remaining in Christ is not only the exercise of prayer, and a sense of the necessity of prayer, but it also includes liberty in prayer: "ask whatever you wish."

Haven't you been on your knees at times without any power to pray? Haven't you felt that you could not plead with God as you desired? You wanted to pray, but the waters were frozen, and would not flow. Sadly, you said, "I can't pray." The will was present, but not the freedom to present that will in prayer.

Dear friends, do you desire freedom in prayer, so that you may speak with God as a man speaks with his friend? Then here is the way to do it: "If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish." I don't mean that you will gain freedom as to mere eloquence of speech, for that is a very inferior gift. Eloquence in prayer is a questionable endowment, especially when it does not include the weight of thought and depth of feeling. Some Christians pray long prayers; but true prayer is measured by weight, and not by length. A single groan before God may have more fullness of prayer in it than a fine discourse of great length. Whoever dwells with God in Christ Jesus, they are the ones most active in prayer. They come boldly because they remain at the throne. They see the golden scepter stretched out, and hears the King saying, "Ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you." It is the person who remains in conscious union with their Lord who has the greatest freedom in prayer. It is easy for them to often come to Christ, for they are in Christ, and remain in him. Don't attempt to exercise this holy freedom by excitement, or presumption: there is only one way of really obtaining it, and here it is--"If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish" Only by this way will you be enabled to open your mouth wide, so that God may fill it. Thus you will have power with God.

This is not all: those that remain in Christ have the privilege of successful prayer. "Ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you."

You can't get it on your own, but it will be given to you. You long to bear fruit: ask, and it will be given you. Look at the vine branch. It simply remains in the vine, and by remaining in the vine the fruit comes from it; it is given to it. Brothers and Sisters in Christ, the purpose of your life, its one object and aim, is to bear fruit to the glory of the Father: to gain this end you must remain in Christ, as the branch remains in the vine. This is the method by which your prayer for fruitfulness will become successful, "it will be given you." You will have wonderful power with God in prayer, insomuch that before you pray he will answer, and while you are still speaking he will hear. "The desire of the righteous will be granted." "Delight yourself in the LORD and he will give you the desires of your heart" [Psalm 37:4]. There is great latitude in our text, "Ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you." The Lord gives carte blanche to those who remain in him. He puts into their hand a signed check, and permits them to fill in any amount they wish.

Does the text mean what it says? I never knew my Lord to say anything he did not mean. I am sure that he may sometimes mean more than we understand him to say, but he never means less. Mind you, he does not say to all men and women, "I will give you whatever you ask." Oh no, that would be a cruel kindness: but he speaks to his disciples, and says, "If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you." It is to a certain class of men and women who have already received abundant grace at his hands--it is to them that he gives this marvelous power of prayer. O my dear friends, if I may earnestly desire one thing above every other, it is this; that I may be able to ask what I wish of the Lord, and have it given to me. The minister who is diligent in prayer is the man that will find success in his preaching, for he should be able to prevail with man for God when he has already prevailed with God for men. This is also true for the man facing difficulties in any line of business; for what can baffle him when he can take everything to God in prayer? This kind of man or woman in a church, is worth ten thousand of us common people. In these we find the nobility of the skies. In these are the men and women in whom is fulfilled God's purpose concerning mankind, whom he made to have dominion over his creation. The stamp of sovereignty is on the foreheads of these men and women: they shape the history of the nations, they guide the current of events through their power in prayer with the Almighty God. We see Jesus with all things put under him by the divine purpose, and as we rise into that image, we too are clothed with dominion, and are made kings and priests unto God. See Elijah, with the keys of the rain swinging at his side: he shuts or opens the windows of heaven! There are such men and women still alive today. Aspire to be such men and women, I beg you, that in you, the text may be fulfilled. "Ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you."

Charles Hadden Spurgeon

Prayer Calendar

Praying for the Kingdom of God all over the world

GO, PRAY, SEND

If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land. 2 Chronicles 7:14

Our Church and World

1. SCOTUS/End Roe v Wade
2. Interns - Elliot & Katherine
3. MTW efforts in Ukraine
4. Summer SS Study
5. Chad Watkins, preaching today
6. POTUS
7. Weak & Infirm
8. APC
9. Hands of Faith
10. Repentance
11. New Commandment Ministry
12. David Livernois, preaching today
13. Sewing Sisters
14. Revival
15. Salvation
16. Deacon/Session Meetings
17. God's Glory
18. Eph 1:4
19. Preaching of the Word
20. SOW Week
21. PCA General Assembly (thru 24)
22. Eph 1:6-7
23. Congress
24. Eph 1:11
25. Worship
26. James Buckner, preaching today
27. Senior Members
28. Pastoral Staff
29. Praise
30. Eph 1:3

Ministry Partners

1. Third Millennium - Global
2. Jeff & Caroline Thompson - University of Georgia / RUF
3. Dr. Apum Vashum - India / Trinity School of Theology
4. Carissa Waller - Appalachian State University / RUF
5. David & Bridget Walls - New Direction Mustard Seed / WNC
6. Gary & Lois Watanabe - Japan / MTW
7. West Africa Reformed Mission - West Africa
8. Donnie & Kara - West Africa / MTW
9. Tom & Lucy Wright - Africa/Haiti/USA - MTW
10. Pastor Yavuz - Middle East / Asia Minor Partnership
11. Kate Anderson Donnell - Western Carolina University / RUF
12. Philip Baron - Cru
13. Jack & Diana Brinkley - WNC / Sports Outreach
14. Kristi Brown / Sandy Mahar - WNC / MAPS
15. Brooks & Riva Cain - Japan / MTW
16. Bill & Susan Carr - North America / MTW
17. Garry & Anita Chambers - Caribbean / MTW
18. Charles & Bonita Davidson - Mexico / MTW
19. Michelle DeLeon - Philippines / MTW
20. Roger & Laura Dye - Latin America - Cru / Family Life
21. Esaie & Natacha Etienne - Haiti / MTW
22. Nathan & Lori Francis - Hope Community Church, SC / MNA
23. Jim & Carin - USA / MTW
24. Ed & Vicki Germann - International Students, Inc. / USA
25. Rob & Mary Lee Herron - Appalachian State University/RUF
26. Scott & Ruth Hill - Cherokee / MTW
27. Joel & Cindy Hylton - Prague, Czech Republic / Serge
28. David & Marcia - Western Europe / MTW
29. Scott & Brooke McMinn - TN / Young Life
30. Vladimir Nikitenko - Belarus Christian Ministry

GO, PRAY, SEND

“Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!”
The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. Psalm 46:10-11