

THE CHURCH FAMILY

Presenting Everyone Complete in Christ

FROM YOUR PASTOR'S DESK

1991 FLASHBACK from the "archives" of the Pastor's Mother: With Pastor Steve leaving with the Mexico team, his Mom recently unearthed a letter he wrote from Mexico at age 23. It went to his church and friends who supported him and illustrates a "heart for missions", and God's special ways of working in our lives. (FYI This was not his idea. It was prompted by Steve's message on Sunday, and a Mom who saves and files everything.)

August 1991

Buenos dias,

In his heart a man plans his course, but the Lord determines his steps. Proverbs 16:9

Everything was planned and organized. We would conduct a sports ministry in a local park. The objective was to spend some time playing soccer or basketball to make contacts and immediately after to present our carefully constructed and rehearsed program to our new friends. Our presentation included some songs, a few evangelistic skits and a short message focused on the four spiritual laws.

The day arrived for our sports ministry and our team was prepared with sweatpants and Bibles. We came across about 10 young men and women who were playing a game of pick up soccer. They invited us to play soccer with them and we eagerly accepted. So the Americans with feet the size of small ocean liners took on the agile Mexican players. We were building rapport, and having the time of our lives in the process. "Everything is going according to plan," I thought happily.

The game ended and people were preparing to leave so I made the announcement that we would present a short program for them. That is where my plan fell apart. They approached me with a counter-proposal: "Why don't we all go out for something to eat and then you can do your program?" After a quick review of the situation I agreed, and off we went.

After a scrumptious meal of brain tacos they asked me to begin the program. "Wait a second," I thought, "this was not part of the plan and besides we are in a restaurant, they will boot us for sure." Before I realized what was going on I had my guitar in hand leading my group in singing evangelistic songs. I will never forget the image of our new friends drinking beer and enthusiastically singing along with us: "Jesus lives, Jesus lives."

We never did present our neat little packaged program, but we did something far more important, we built Christ-centered relationships that lasted throughout the summer. Our witness was not through organization or planning, it was through friendships. God taught me that sometimes the plans we make as humans will be superseded by His direction to something far more wonderful.

As I reflect on these past fourteen months I can see that God had plans for me that went beyond what I could imagine. His plan included added spiritual and emotional maturity, a firm grasp on the Spanish language, leadership training, evangelism experience, an increased awareness of missionary life, and an even stronger relationship with my fiancée Julie Anne Davies, despite the long separation. I am thankful for the opportunity that God gave me to serve in Mexico. I am thankful also for each of you who made this year possible with your prayers and support. May God be with you in a special way.

In His plan,
Steve Jessen



CHURCH-WIDE CAMPING TRIP

at

Briar Bottom Group Camping Area
in Black Mountain Campground
**Friday through Monday,
August 31 - September 3**

FREE!!!

Sign up by August 26 !
Visit our website for more information and
to sign up. You can also sign up at the
bulletin board in the main hallway.

Parking is limited. Carpooling is highly encouraged.



OFFICER NOMINATIONS

are being accepted through August 26.

Nomination forms and a collection box
are located in the main hallway.



SUNDAY SCHOOL PROMOTION DAY

Sunday, August 26

Breakfast in Founders Hall – 8:45 a.m.
Come enjoy a big country breakfast!

Special Program in the Sanctuary – 9:30 a.m.

All classes will meet together to recognize students being promoted and to introduce the Christian Education staff – S.S. teachers, Youth and Children's Ministry leaders, Care Group leaders and hosts for 2018-2019.



ATTN: LADIES WE NEED YOUR HELP

The Budget and Finance and the Personnel Committees are looking to add some female members. Do you feel you have a gift in either of these areas or know someone who does? We would love to hear from you. Please contact Sandra in the church office.

2nd Quarter Giving Statements

2nd quarter giving statements have been printed and are on the Literature Display. Please stop by and retrieve your statement. If you find any discrepancies, contact our Treasurer Gary Neely.



SAVE THE DATE

The next Best Years luncheon will be Thursday, August 16. Mark your calendars!



**Making our Church
Safe for All**

SAFETY AND SECURITY POLICY

Our Safety and Security Policy has been developed by the Safety and Security Committee. It was approved by the deacons and elders. The policy can be found on our website. Copies are also available in the church office.

In the coming months, we will be communicating more about the implementation of this policy.

Do this in remembrance of me.
Luke 22:19



We will observe
THE LORD'S SUPPER
SUNDAY, AUGUST 5
 during the morning worship.



**CAPTAIN'S CHOICE
 GOLF TOURNAMENT**
 Saturday, Sept. 8 • 9am Shot Gun Start
 Westport Golf Course, Denver
 Sign-up today!
 Visit our website at fpstanley.org
 for more information!

MISSIONARY NEWS



Becky White, who serves with **MTW** at Christ's College in **Taiwan**, writes: Thank you for continuing to pray for me! I know many pray daily. How has life changed since my Parkinson's diagnosis last November? First, I'm thankful for strength to continue teaching and caring for my parents. (They just celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary!) I'm also more thankful for the little things we sometimes take for granted like meaningful ministry, medical care, shoes that fit well, bike rides (more comfortable than a long walk), family, good digestion, etc. On a daily basis, I'm taking a low dose of dopamine, stretching and exercising, adding flax and chia seeds and fiber to my diet, and taking melatonin. I make time once or twice a week for strange Chinese electric massage therapy. I see a neurologist. My right hand and foot and my gait are a bit off, sleep is light. All is well.

Kevin and Alisa Bentley, who serve with **Cru** in **Raleigh, NC** write: Ways to pray with us: Kevin's visit to UNC brought good news concerning the prostate cancer but highlighted another issue that may require surgery. He is scheduled for tests on August 7th. We are taking another team to Prague in October. Please pray for those who are considering going to hear from the Lord on what He wants them to do and faith to obey! Also, please pray as we are looking for a good airfare for our travel. The rates have been on the high side for quite some time.

WITH OUR CHURCH FAMILY

After a brief stay in the hospital, **Tim Featherstone** is now at the Stanley Total Living Center.

Christian sympathies are extended to **Paul and Linda Abernathy** and **Ryan and Elizabeth Abernathy** in the death of Linda's father and Ryan's grandfather. **William "Bill" Beam** passed away July 26.

Congratulations to **Garrett and Michaela Brooks** on the birth of their 1st child. **Lucille Ann** was born July 24. Congratulations also to the proud first-time grandparents, **Doug and Deana Lamb** and great-grandparents **Jim and Wanda Ramsey**.

We celebrate with **Clyde and Ginny Haley** as they are approaching their **65th Wedding Anniversary** on August 7! What a milestone!!

WITH LOVING THANKS

Thanks from the Henderson-Cozart families for all of the love, kindness, cards, hugs and support extended to us after my mom's death last month.

Nancy Cozart

The prayers, hugs and kind words from our church family has meant so much to us. We can never thank you enough for all the cards, food, calls and expressions of love you have shown us.

Andy Murphy family

Thank you very much for the book and gift card. I'm sure both will come in very handy during my first year at Montreat. I appreciate you remembering me during this special time and for the many prayers.

*Love,
Jennings Black*

Birthdays to Celebrate in June

17 Miriam Jessen
18 Dalton Lawson
19 Seth Abernathy
21 Ruth Kerley
25 Ethan Dake
Heather Ormsby



28 Brandon Lawson
Lisa Revels
29 Mary Ruth Heffner
Robin Mundy
30 Melissa Clevenger

The Church Family is a twice-monthly publication of First Presbyterian Church
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Pastor Steve Jessen
Worship 10:15 AM • Sunday School 9:00 AM



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED