

# THE CHURCH FAMILY

*Presenting Everyone Complete in Christ*

## FROM YOUR PASTOR'S DESK

In marketing lingo we often hear the word “rebrand.” Many companies spend millions on trying to recreate their image. Should we rebrand the church? I would say yes and no. Yes, as missionaries to our culture we need to study ways that we can bridge the gap between the church and the world. Just as a missionary on the foreign field looks for ways to share the gospel with cultural relevance, our job is to connect with our culture in meaningful ways. But we never have to rebrand the good news of God’s Word. The message of salvation by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone never needs to be reworked, or altered. The truth of God’s word cannot be rebranded because it is eternal in nature; it is not subject to modifications or revisions. *“The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.”* Isaiah 40:8

Let me introduce an appropriate rebranding project that we are introducing at FPC. Starting in September we are “rebranding” our care groups. I want to make it very clear that I appreciate the fact that our care groups have functioned very effectively for many years. It has been life-transforming for me personally, as well as many others. But what we are hoping is that this new approach will not only renew our enthusiasm for small group ministry, but expand our understanding of what that might look like. And so without further ado I figuratively unveil FPC “LIFE GROUPS!”

How are “LIFE” groups different? In a lot of ways they are the same, but we want to expand our concept of how sweet it is when we do “LIFE” together.

**LIFE** stands for:

Loving Relationships  
Involvement in Ministry  
Fellowship in the Word  
Evangelism.

Listen to this excellent description of LIFE groups written by our CE Director Lauren Henderson: “Life groups offer the optimal condition for life change. Here you will find how the Word of God applies to your particular situation. Here there is mutual edification and support through a caring network of friends who love God. Here there will be encouragement to reach out in to the world and the church with the Gospel.”

Jesus states His purpose in John 10:10 *“I have come in order that you might have life--life in all its fullness.”* This is His desire for us; this is our desire for you. LIFE groups can help you enjoy the abundant life that Jesus has for you, but you have to join to benefit. Kickoff will be Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, so stay tuned about how to find LIFE in LIFE GROUPS.

Living LIFE with you,





**SUNDAY SCHOOL  
PROMOTION SUNDAY  
AUGUST 25**

8:45 - Big Country Breakfast for all!  
Promotion Service in the Sanctuary  
10:15 - Morning Worship



**SPECIAL NOTE FOR SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1...**

Due to the church-wide family camping trip and other Labor Day weekend travels, we will not have Sunday School on 9/1. You are encouraged to join us at 10:15 am for an exciting time of worship!



**IMAGE BEARERS, YOUTH AND LIFE GROUPS  
START BACK  
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 6:00 - 7:30 PM**

We have something NEW coming to our small group ministry! Care groups have been a valuable ministry these last ten years. This year, small groups are getting a fresh wind! We are changing the name to LIFE GROUPS.

Life Groups will run (with minor exceptions) the same way that Care Groups ran last year. We have added a few new groups and one in particular has a flex schedule that some of you may find very interesting. We have Life Groups that meet on Sunday nights, but we also have several that meet at various times throughout the week.

Please stop by the Life Group bulletin board across from the church office to see the different small groups that are being offered. Take a paper and sign your name to the one that intrigues you.

The information is also available online at [www.fpcstanley.org/lifegroups](http://www.fpcstanley.org/lifegroups).



## WE HAVE A PLACE FOR YOU AT OUR CHURCH-WIDE CAMPING TRIP

Briar Bottom Group Camping Area  
in Black Mountain Campground  
**Friday through Monday,  
August 30 - September 2**

**FREE!!!**

**Sign up by August 25!**

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

## WOMEN IN THE CHURCH NEWS

### UPCOMING CIRCLE MEETINGS:

#### Monday, September 9:

- 6:30 - Ruth Circle meets in the Church Parlor
- 7:00 - Elizabeth Circle meets in Founders Hall
- Martha Circle meets—location TBD.
- Readers Circle meets at the home of Marcia Rhyne.

#### Tuesday, September 10:

- 7:00 - Denver Circle meets at the home of Vickie Smith.

WIC Council meets  
Sunday, August 25,  
4:30 pm

## IT'S COLLEGE GOODIE TIME




Students are back at college. We want to bless all of our college students with a “treat.” In the spring, we tried something new by sending gift cards to our students. This was a big hit so we are continuing this for the fall. Donations will be collected during the month of September. No shopping for you to do. All you have to do put your check or cash donation in the black lock box in the window of the SOAR office. We’ll do the rest!

### IS YOUR CHILD ATTENDING COLLEGE?

We need to compile a list of our current college students, living at home or away, so we can be sure we don’t miss anyone! Contact Sandra in the church office ([info@fpstanley.org](mailto:info@fpstanley.org) or 704-263-4275) to be sure to get your child’s name on the list. If your child is living away from home, we need you to also provide us with their address.

# September 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 10px auto;">Church-wide Camping trip</div> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>No Evening Activities</i></p>	<p>2 <b>Newsletter Deadline</b></p> <div style="text-align: center;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Labor Day</div> </div> <div style="border: 2px dashed red; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 10px auto;">Church Office and CDC closed</div>	<p>3</p> <p>6:00 Preschool Orientation Sanctuary</p>	<p>4</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 10px auto;">Preschool begins</div>	<p>5</p> <p>6:30 CE Committee Mtg MTW Committee Mtg. AHG Leaders' Mtg-FoH 7:30 Officers' Prayer</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>9:00-11:30 Lil Flyers</p> <p>2:00 Men's Basketball</p>
<p>8 AM Communion</p> <p>6:00 Sunday Evening Schedule Resumes</p>	<p>9</p> <p>6:30 Outreach Comm Mtg Ruth Circle Meeting 7:00 Elizabeth, Martha &amp; Readers Circle Mtgs Adult Open Volleyball</p>	<p>10</p> <p>6:30 Barton Life Group 7:00 Burrell Life Group 7:00 Denver Circle Mtg.</p>	<p>11</p> <p>10:30 Wed. Morn Life Group</p> <p>6:30 Rhyne Life Group Tech Team Meeting</p>	<p>12</p> <p>12:00 Best Years Nifty 50's Covered Dish Lunch</p> <p>6:30 AHG Unit Meetings</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Davis Life Group</p>	<p>14</p> <p>7:00 Deacons' Meeting 9:00-11:30 Lil Flyers Youth Service Project at King's Daughters 2:00 Men's Basketball</p>
<p>15</p> <p>6:00 Children's Ministry, Youth, Life Groups</p>	<p>16 <b>Newsletter Deadline</b></p> <p>7:00 Facilities Comm Mtg Adult Open Volleyball</p>	<p>17</p> <p>6:30 Barton Life Group 7:00 Burrell Life Group</p>	<p>18</p> <p>10:30 Wed. Morn Life Group</p> <p>6:30 Rhyne Life Group Children's Min Team Mtg. Worship Jam Session</p>	<p>19</p> <p>7:00 Session Meeting</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Davis Life Group</p>	<p>21</p> <p>9:00-11:30 Lil Flyers</p> <p>2:00 Men's Basketball</p>
<p>22</p> <p>6:00 Children's Ministry, Youth, Life Groups</p>	<p>23</p> <p>7:00 Adult Open Volleyball</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Presbytery - Prosperity</p> <p>6:30 Barton Life Group 7:00 Burrell Life Group</p>	<p>25</p> <p>10:30 Wed. Morn Life Group</p> <p>6:30 Rhyne Life Group</p>	<p>26</p> <p>6:30 AHG Unit Meetings</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Davis Life Group</p>	<p>28</p> <p>9:00-11:30 Lil Flyers</p> <p>2:00 Men's Basketball</p>
<p>29</p> <p>4:30 WIC Council Mtg. 6:00 Children's Ministry, Youth, Life Groups</p>	<p>30 <b>Newsletter Deadline</b></p>					



## OFFICER NOMINATIONS will be accepted AUGUST 4 - AUGUST 25

We are continuing to receive officer nominations! Place your nomination form(s) in the nomination box in the main hallway through Sunday, August 25. Please be in prayer for this process and the men that God would have serve here at FPC!



## BEST YEARS NIFTY 50's COVERED DISH LUNCH THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 12:00 PM

Prepare your favorite dish and join us for a covered dish lunch in Founders Hall. Although it is not required, we would love for you to come dressed in your 50's attire! This is always a great time with friends! Mark your calendar and make plans to be here!



## YOUTH NEWS

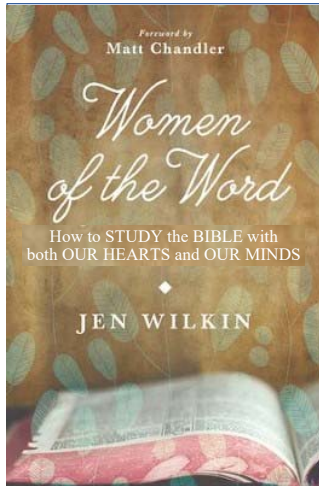
Make plans to join us at the many activities we have planned for the remainder of 2019!

SPECIAL		REGULAR	
<p><b>SUMMER END PARTY</b> 4-6P / Thad's House <b>AUG 25</b></p> <p><b>SERVICE PROJECT</b> King's Daughters <b>SEPT 14</b></p> <p><b>FALL RETREAT</b> TBD</p>	<p><b>YOUTH SUNDAY</b> 10:15A <b>NOV 17</b></p> <p><b>CHRISTMAS PARTY</b> TBD <b>DEC 8</b></p>	<p><b>SUNDAY NIGHT</b> 6-7:30P <b>SEPT 8,15,22,29</b> <b>OCT 6,20,27</b> <b>NOV 3,10,17</b> <b>DEC 1</b></p> <p><b>WORSHIP JAMS</b> 6:30-7:30P <b>AUG 11, SEPT 18, OCT 2,</b> <b>NOV 6, DEC 4</b></p>	

PASTOR THAD / THAD@FPCSTANLEY.ORG / 704.615.0267  
<http://bit.ly/fpcyouthgroup>

## FILL IN THE \_\_\_\_\_ OUTREACH

Thanks to those who turned in your idea for a fall outreach you would like to coordinate. We are still open for more outreach events. Give us your idea and we will help you get started. Contact the church office or Kevin Rhyne ([kccaprhyne@bellsouth.net](mailto:kccaprhyne@bellsouth.net)) with your idea or for more information.



## WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

New this fall... "Women of the Word" weekly women's Bible study! This Bible study group will start on September 5, meeting on Thursdays from 9:30-11:30 am at the home of Laura Davis. Join us as we gather weekly to dive deeply into God's Word. Childcare is available. For more information or to tell us you're coming, please contact Laura Davis ([bodedavis@gmail.com](mailto:bodedavis@gmail.com) or 704.615.0464) or go to <http://bit.ly/fpcwomenbiblestudy>.

We are also looking for someone to assist with childcare. This will be a paid position. Contact Laura Davis if you are interested.

## ADULT VOLLEYBALL

FPC will have a team in the upcoming CCSL church volleyball league. All CCSL games will be played across the street in the Family Life Center at First Baptist. The season will run from September 9 - October 31. The league requires all players be a member/attend church twice a month and 15 years or older to play. Anyone interested in playing should contact Rachel Gamage at [rachel@rachelgamage.com](mailto:rachel@rachelgamage.com) or 704-616-9017.



## MISSIONS NEWS

### WITH OUR MISSIONARY FAMILIES



Did you know? **Mission to the World** (MTW) is the mission-sending agency for the Presbyterian Church in America. The vision of MTW: *“We want the gospel to spread throughout the world, the Church to grow, Satan’s kingdom destroyed, and Christ’s reign extended to the ends of the earth.”* The Mission of MTW: *“Making disciples among all nations.”*

#### We wish a “Happy Birthday” in September to:

- |                               |                              |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 11 –Rebecca Schweitzer (2011) | 27 – Abby Piteo (2005)       |
| 18 – Foard Hunt (2009)        | 30 – Nelson Ayllon           |
| David J.                      | Paul Clark                   |
| Anna Schweitzer (2005)        | Mary Ladson McLaughen (2011) |
| 20 – Kevin Bentley            |                              |

### CRISIS PREGNANCY CENTER’S WALK 4 LIFE 2019 FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6 4:00 - 8:00 PM

ALL ages are encouraged to participate in the 29th Annual Walk 4 Life benefiting the Gaston County Crisis Pregnancy Center. The walk will be held at the CPC located at 700 Robinson Road, Gastonia. There will be activities for the children along with great food. More information can be found on the Missions bulletin board across from the SOAR office or by contacting Alice and Chuck Jessen at 704-263-4983.

### THE KING’S DAUGHTERS MINISTRY ANNUAL FUNDRAISER DINNER BENEFITING THEIR WOMEN’S SHELTER SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 6:30 - 8:30 PM

The dinner will be held at Trinity Barn, 119 Kristie Lane, Kings Mountain. Tickets are \$33/single, \$60/couple, or \$200/table (includes 8 seats). You can purchase tickets by contacting April at [april@kdmonline.org](mailto:april@kdmonline.org) or 704-263-4204. You can also purchase tickets online at [www.kdmonline.org](http://www.kdmonline.org). Our very own Pastor Dan will be emceeing this event!

## SEPTEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES



### NURSERY (Volunteers should be in place at 10:00 am.)

- September 1:   **Babies:**     Robin and Taylor Mundy  
                   **2's & 3's:**   *No toddler class today.*
  
- September 8:   **Babies:**     Greg, Amanda, Maelin & Emery Huss  
                   **2's & 3's:**   Lauren Henderson; Ashleigh Fox
  
- September 15:  **Babies:**     Lisa and Emily Revels  
                   **2's & 3's:**   Lauren Henderson; Ashleigh Fox
  
- September 22:  **Babies:**     Tracy and Bebe McMinn  
                   **2's & 3's:**   Suzy Deneen
  
- September 29:  **Babies:**     Debbie, Lauren and Emma Harper  
                   **2's & 3's:**   Josh and Stacey Hall

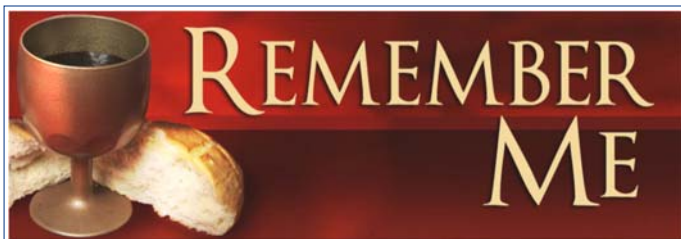
### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

- September 1:   Chris Graham
- September 8:   **Communion**
- September 15:  Lauren Henderson
- September 22:  Rick Herd
- September 29:  Steve Jessen

Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it.                   Proverbs 22:6

**SOAR debuts its  
Lil Flyers  
FUNdamental Skills Development Program  
Saturday Mornings September 7 - October 26**

Lil Flyers is for ages 18 months - 5 years. Our 18 months - 3 year old classes will be parent/me classes. The program focuses on developing the basic fundamental skills of movement (running, throwing, jumping, catching, kicking) that are needed in child development and all sports through fun games, activities, and exercises that are developmentally appropriate for each age group. The program will also work on social skills such as following directions, listening, cooperative play, team play, and autonomy. We are excited to begin this new season and hope you and your child can participate. Visit our website to register: [fpcstanleysoar.org](http://fpcstanleysoar.org).



We will observe  
The Lord's Supper  
Sunday, September 8  
during the morning  
worship service.



## WITH OUR CHURCH FAMILY


It was nice to have **Mott Murphy** worshipping with us this past Sunday. During a recent visit to her daughter's home in Iowa, Mott fell and dislocated her shoulder.

**Barbara Rhyne** was admitted to Caromont Regional on August 13 for an abscess behind her knee. She had surgery last week to give her some relief but remains in the hospital as she continues treatment.

While up from his home in Florida last week, **Percy Raleigh** experienced some heart issues. He was admitted to Atrium Health in Pineville for a heart catheterization.

Congratulations are in order for **Bill and Ralphene Robinson**. On August 14, the Robinsons celebrated 71 years of marriage! Now that is something worth celebrating!

**Scott and Jenna Stuckey** started visiting FPC about a year ago but due to a job change they recently moved out of state. Many of you got to know the Stuckey family quite well during their time here and we know they will be missed. Their new address is 4 Hannah Court, Johnson City, TN 37615.



### AMERICAN HERITAGE GIRLS

AHG Troop NC0512 is currently registering girls for the upcoming troop year, August 29, 2019 - May 31, 2020. If you are interested, visit the AHG website <https://americanheritagegirls.org/> and click *Locate a Troop* or contact Manetta Treat at [treat.manetta@gmail.com](mailto:treat.manetta@gmail.com).

## JULY FINANCIAL REPORT

Needed monthly for budget .....	60,059.06
Received in July for budget .....	53,688.79
Needed to date for budget .....	420,413.44
Received to date for budget .....	416,746.71
Needed monthly for Faith Promise .....	14,091.25
Received in July for Faith Promise .....	8,846.00
Needed to date for Faith Promise .....	98,638.75
Received to date for Faith Promise .....	113,124.53

# *Birthdays to Celebrate in September*

1 Clay Harper

2 Dicky Franks

3 Emma Harper  
Lauren Harper  
Hudson Rick

4 Adam Greenly

5 Martha Sue Mitchell  
Roy Redding



7 Chelsea Abernathy  
Parke Sweigart  
Jacob Treat

10 Julie Jessen

12 Angel Ross

15 Ann Holcomb  
Marianne Magill

The Church Family is a twice-monthly publication of First Presbyterian Church  
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e-mail: [info@fpcstanley.org](mailto:info@fpcstanley.org) ♦ web site: [www.fpcstanley.org](http://www.fpcstanley.org)

Senior Pastor, Steve Jessen ♦ Assistant Pastor, Thad Davis  
Sunday School 9:00 AM ♦ Worship 10:15 AM



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED