

# THE CHURCH FAMILY

*Presenting Everyone Complete in Christ*

## FROM YOUR PASTOR'S DESK

It takes the earth 365 days, 5 hours, 48 minutes and 45 seconds to orbit the sun one time. Therefore, every year has approximately 6 extra hours accruing an extra day every 4 years. Without an adjustment our seasons would change over time. We would eventually have winter in July and Summer in January. The remedy is a "Leap Day" that is added every four years to offset the gain in time. I was born on February 26 during a leap year and if I had arrived a few days later you would have a 13 year old Pastor!

The rotation of the earth on its axis marking out days and nights and its orbit around the sun that delineates years is not a random result of a big bang billions of years ago. The Bible tells us how this all began: *"And God said, 'Let there be light,' and there was light. And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day."* Genesis 1:4 (ESV)

The astounding existence of time markers like days and years is evidence of a creative God who not only started the process, but maintains it according to His perfect will. *"The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge."* Psalm 19:2(ESV)

And so we come to "Leap Day" a gift from God every four years that contributes to the proclamation of His glorious handiwork. But how we use our extra 24 hours is significant. Ephesians 5:15-17 (ESV) gives us a template for our extra day: *"Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is."*

On February 29 I challenge you to do three things: First, *look carefully* at how you are walking. Is your life honoring Jesus, or is there something in the way you are living that needs to change? Second, are you *making the best use of your time*? Will you spend some of those extra minutes to study and meditate on God's Word? Will you commune with God in prayer? Will you share your love of Christ with others through your words and actions? And third, do you *understand what the will of the Lord is* for that day? If you are not sure what God's will is for you, then circle back to the study of God's Word and prayer. It is there you will find the answers.

But while February 29 is unique and interesting, the reality is that every day is a "Leap Day," for it is a gift from God to be used wisely.

Every day for Jesus,



## FROM YOUR ASSISTANT PASTOR'S DESK

Hungry for a feast or snacking on saccharin?

Few things draw a crowd like a good church meal. We've perfected the pot-luck (renamed 'pot-providence' out of honor to Calvin) and love seeing the dessert table set aside, like a trophy table for victors. The spiritual question that is set before us remains what is feeding our souls, or better, what do I hunger for that I hope will satisfy my deep desires? (John Piper has a fabulous book, free pdf download here: <https://www.desiringgod.org/books/a-hunger-for-god>)

This time of year, historically called Lent, is the season that can prepare us for Easter, not simply by 'fasting' from things we like too much. But the way I can look forward to the grandest celebratory meal by skipping that mid-morning snack. Because snacks work in two unsatisfying ways: the satisfaction is only short term, and they train us to want more snacks, instead of patiently waiting for a wholesome and healthy meal. Hence the rise of saccharin (the zero-calorie sweetener with no benefits) that trains our taste buds to desire only what tastes sweet, not necessarily what is healthy.

David tasted the fake sweeteners of life, learned hard spiritual lessons, turned to God as the deepest source of soul food and wrote this in Psalm 37:4, "Delight yourself in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart." Jesus, having tasted and seen that the Lord is good (Psalm 34:8), saw through the tasteless temptation of Satan and replied, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God." (Matthew 4:4) This Word not only nourishes, but also trains our spiritual taste buds to crave the true heavenly food, the ongoing nourishment by grace that the Holy Spirit provides, proving the promises of God better than the Turkish delight of sin.

So try something with me this Lenten season, stop snacking on Christianity. Train your heart by craving what can actually satisfy your spiritual hunger, by tuning out the snacks of the world, and hungering and thirsting for His righteousness (Matthew 5:6). Digest His Word, chew over it throughout the day, and train your heart to crave Christ alone (John 6:35), even while we await the final feast, at the Marriage supper of the Lamb. (Revelation 19)

*Thad*

### LET'S CELEBRATE HELEN LIEURANCE'S 100<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY

The FPC congregation is cordially invited to a drop-in reception honoring lifetime member Helen Lieurance on her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday, Sunday, March 29, from 2 - 4 PM in Founder's Hall, hosted by her family.

No gifts please.

## WIC NEWS

### MARCH CIRCLE MEETINGS:

**Monday, March 2, 6:30 pm:**

Ruth Circle meets in the Parlor

**Monday, March 2, 7:00 pm:**

Elizabeth Circle meets at the home of Tricia Vanderpoll

Martha Circle meets at the home of Kathy Lineberger

Readers Circle meets at the home of Anna Friesenhahn

**Tuesday, March 3, 7:00 pm:**

Denver Circle meets at the home of Vickie Smith.

*Blessed is she  
who has believed  
that the Lord  
would fulfill his  
promises to her!"*

*Luke 1:45*



**In lieu of our usual Spring Banquet,  
we have a fun outing planned!**

The Women's Ministry Team invites you to join us for a jaunt to Granite Falls, NC to have dinner at Sim's Country BBQ (<https://www.simscountrybbq.com/>) on Saturday, April 4. The bus will leave the church at 4:30 PM. (You are welcome to follow us or meet us there!) There is no charge for this event

but we do ask that you pick up tickets from Lauren for yourself and whomever you would like to bring with you.



## HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF GASTON COUNTY AND LOWES PRESENT WOMEN BUILD 2020



Habitat's Women Build brings together women from all walks of life to empower each other as they build stronger, safer communities. **No construction experience is required.**

Upcoming Women Build schedule:

Saturday, March 14: 4 sheds are being built to be placed at Habitat homes.

Saturday, March 21: Build Day at a Habitat House under construction.

Saturday, March 28: Parking Lot Party—The 4 sheds will be decorated and judged by a team of community leaders. There will be a band, food truck and kid's activities during the event. This will be attended by the public and will offer the opportunity for sponsors to host a table to promote their business.

For more information, contact Kay Peninger at 704-874-0499 or [kay@habitatgaston.org](mailto:kay@habitatgaston.org).

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS



The Children's Ministry Department is collecting individually wrapped candy for our Easter Egg Hunt. If you are able, please pick up a bag of candy and place it in the blue tub in Lauren's office.

Our Egg Hunt this year will take place on Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 – 7:30 PM (during our usual Image Bearer session). Children are encouraged to bring friends! We will have a pizza dinner, games, craft, and a lesson reminding us about our Risen Savior! Children of all ages are invited. Please see Lauren for more information. Children should bring their own baskets!



## 40-DAY MEN'S CHALLENGE 2020 TAKE THE LEAP!

All men are encouraged to participate in our 40-Day Men's Challenge. We will start with a Challenge Kick-off Breakfast on Saturday, February 29 at 8:00am. There is a \$10.00 cost for the book, "A Walk to Wisdom: 31 Days Through the Proverbs." If you have not already signed up, call (704-263-4275) or email ([info@fpcstanley.org](mailto:info@fpcstanley.org)) the church office. It's that easy!

## IT'S COLLEGE GOODIE TIME



Most of our college students are wrapping up another semester soon and thinking about their summer break or maybe even graduation! It's time for us to send a "treat" their way to help them through the last couple of months. Donations will be collected during the month of March. No shopping for you to do. All you have to do put a check or cash donation in the black lock box in the window of the SOAR office. We'll do the rest!

We will be sending gift cards to each of our college students whether they are away at school or commuting locally. All cards will be mailed to the student's home address regardless of where they are. If your child is new to college this semester or they didn't receive anything in the fall, contact Sandra in the church office ([info@fpcstanley.org](mailto:info@fpcstanley.org) or 704-263-4275). We want to be sure no one is left out!

# March 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1 AM Communion</p> <p>6:00 Children's Ministry, Youth, Life Groups</p>	<p>2</p> <p>6:30 Ruth Circle 7:00 Elizabeth, Martha, Readers Circles Mtgs</p>	<p>3</p> <p>6:30 Barton Life Group 7:00 Burrell Life Group 7:00 Denver Circle Mtg.</p>	<p>4</p> <p>10:30 Wed. Morn Life Grp. 12:00 Lenten Service</p> <p>6:30 Rhyne Life Group</p>	<p>5</p> <p>6:30 CE Committee Mtg. MTW Committee Mtg.</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>10:00 Youth Open Volleyball 2:00 Men's Open Basketball</p>
<p>8 <i>Daylight Savings Time begins.</i></p> <p>6:00 Children's Ministry, Youth, Life Groups</p>	<p>9</p> <p>6:30 Outreach Comm Mtg</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Volleyball Finales 6:30 Barton Life Group 7:00 Burrell Life Group</p>	<p>11</p> <p>10:30 Wed. Morn Life Grp. 12:00 Lenten Service</p> <p>6:30 Rhyne Life Group</p>	<p>12</p> <p>12:00 Best Years Lunch</p> <p>6:30 AHG Unit Meetings Tech Team Mtg.</p>	<p>13</p> <p style="text-align: center;">← <span style="border: 1px dashed black; padding: 2px;">Women's Retreat</span> →</p>	<p>14</p> <p>7:00 Deacons' Meeting 2:00 Men's Open Basketball</p>
<p>15</p> <p style="text-align: center;">← <span style="border: 1px dashed black; padding: 2px;">Women's Retreat</span></p> <p>6:00 Children's Ministry, Youth, Life Groups</p>	<p>16 <b>Newsletter Deadline</b></p> <p>7:00 Facilities Comm Mtg</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 Grp. 12:00 Lenten Service</p> <p>6:30 Rhyne Life Group</p>	<p>19</p> <p>6:30 AHG Leaders Mtg. 7:00 Session Meeting</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Soccer Evaluations 2:00 Men's Open Basketball</p>
<p>22</p> <p>6:00 Children's Ministry, Youth, Life Groups</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>6:30 Barton Life Group 7:00 Burrell Life Group</p>	<p>25</p> <p>10:30 Wed. Morn Life Grp. 12:00 Lenten Service</p> <p>6:30 Rhyne Life Group</p>	<p>26</p> <p>6:30 AHG Unit Meetings</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>2:00 Men's Open Basketball</p>
<p>29</p> <p>2:00-4:00 Helen Lieurance's 100th B'day Celebration</p> <p>4:00 WIC Council Mtg. 6:00 Children's Ministry, Youth, Life Groups</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>				

## Mailroom Update



Our church family mailboxes have been updated for the new year...for a second time. If you are a Sunday School teacher, Care Group leader, elder, deacon, committee chair, circle leader or staff member you should have a mailbox. If you are supposed to have a mailbox and do not, contact Sandra in the office. Please be sure to check your mailbox each week to collect your correspondence. Look carefully before removing mail to be sure you are pulling from the correct box.

### Reminders:

- ◇ The pastoral/office staff members' mailboxes are located on the top 2 rows.
- ◇ Names are listed alphabetically below the mailboxes. Be sure to place mail in the box **ABOVE** the name.

## NEWS FROM YOUR LIBRARY TEAM

We hope your family is using our library. We have lots of great resources and fun readings for you. We have recently added new books and upgraded our software.

Recent additions include works by John Calvin and Francis Schaeffer:

*Calvin For Today*

*The Theology of John Calvin*

*John Calvin: Reformer for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*

*Concerning the Eternal Predestination of God*

*The Legacy of Sovereign Joy: God's Triumphant Grace in the Lives of Augustine, Luther, and Calvin*

*Whatever Happened to the Human Race?*

*The God Who is There*

*Escape From Reason*

*Union With Christ* by Rankin Wilbourne



Our software has been upgraded to the latest edition. The look and feel is slightly different, but should work fine. Just follow the steps shown on the large poster on the wall. Leave a note to let a library team member know of any problems you might have.



## COMMUNITY LENTEN SERVICES

will begin

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 12 NOON**

at Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
203 S. Main Street, Stanley

A light lunch will follow the service.

## WORSHIP DIRECTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE

Please remember to pray for our Worship Director Search Committee as they begin meeting and seeking God's will for the person that He will call to fill this important role in the life of our church. The committee members are: Heather Dake, Chris Graham, Lee Henderson, Annalise Jessen, Jamie Revels and Freida Robinson.



## OUR WORSHIP TEAM HAS ROOM FOR YOU!



The Music Ministry is beginning to practice selections for Easter and we have a place for you! This music will be sung during our morning worship on Easter Sunday, April 12th. The selections will feature the choir plus various instruments on 2-3 pieces of music. Excellent singing talent is not required - only a willing heart and yearning desire to make a joyful noise unto our Lord! Anyone interested in singing and/or playing an instrument can contact Chris McAllister at [ChrisM@fpcstanley.org](mailto:ChrisM@fpcstanley.org).

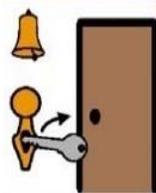
## TECH TEAM UPDATE

The Tech Team is responsible for technology across the church, including worship technology (audio, visual, lighting), office and network technology, church management software, special events and more.

If you ever have any needs or comments, please direct them to one of our team members. Our current team includes: Luke Bynum (Leader), Ken Dake, Paul Drenth, Ryan Grice, Mark Harper, Craig Mesimer and Phyllis Withers.

We would like to add more people to our team, even if you only want to serve occasionally on the A/V booth team or at a work session. If you have any interest in technology or in being a part of the production side of the worship experience please join us! Reach out to Luke at [luke@fpcstanley.org](mailto:luke@fpcstanley.org) or 704-577-0148.

## SAFETY AND SECURITY ANNOUNCEMENT



We want our church grounds to be a safe place for our FPC family and visitors. We have made some physical property changes and policy changes over the past couple of years. In an effort to prepare our church in case of an emergency, we are planning a lockdown and a fire drill during the Sunday School hour on Sunday, March 29. We hope we are never faced with a true emergency but it is important that we have a plan in place.



## MARCH RESPONSIBILITIES



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

**March 1:** **Babies:** Ashley Abernathy; Tracy McMinn  
**Toddlers:** Lauren Henderson; Olivia Fox

**March 8:** **Babies:** Ann Davis; Joel Jessen  
**Toddlers:** Lauren Henderson; Ashleigh Fox

**March 15:** **Babies:** Debbie, Lauren and Emma Harper  
**Toddlers:** Stacy, Natalie and Devon Helms

**March 22:** **Babies:** Josh, Stacey and Samantha Hall  
**Toddlers:** Lisa and Emily Revels

**March 29:** **Babies:** Manetta, Leah and Maelin Treat  
**Toddlers:** Robin Mundy

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

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

**March 1:** Communion

**March 8:** Dan Ormsby

**March 15:** Matt Ormsby

**March 22:** Kevin Rhyne

**March 29:** Ron Smith

## WITH OUR MISSIONARY FAMILY

Congratulations to **Miguel and Pinchi Diaz** on the birth of their first child, Elizabeth, on Monday, February 10. Miguel pastors the church at Barrio Parque, **Paraguay** where several of our mission teams have served.

Pastor **Dan King** has just returned from a week in **Ukraine** where he helped lead a conference for pastors who serve as church planters.

**Guercy Meme** writes on January 28: We want to thank all our FPC Stanley brothers and sisters who have been praying for us. After months of violence in the country **Haiti** schools finally reopened their doors and things are getting back to normal slowly. Please continue praying for us.

**Kevin Bentley** leaves for Auckland, **New Zealand** on Wednesday, February 19, to represent the US at a LeaderImpact VP meeting sponsored by Cru. He asks for your prayers.

**Joel McCall** is making preparations to return to **Rwanda and the DR Congo** on Thursday, February 20, where he will spend two weeks teaching Biblical stewardship to the top leaders of the churches in both nations. Pray for safety in travel, connections, and luggage to arrive with the team; for protection from the Coronavirus; for the Lord to prepare the pastors to receive God's Word.

### HAPPY MARCH BIRTHDAYS TO OUR MISSIONARIES

02 – Joelle Casson (2012)	07 – Evan Meme (2012)	12 – Peter Bakelaar
Les Williams	Lindie Wadhams	14 – Mack Griffith
03 – Mariah K. (2001)	Andy Weaver	15 – Maggie Dirks (2007)
	10 – Evelyne Meme	18 – Mark Casson
		28 – Sarah McCall

## WITH OUR CHURCH FAMILY

We apologize for inadvertently failing to update you on **Ellen Beam** in the previous newsletter. Ellen underwent another back surgery on January 18. After several days in the hospital, she was transferred to the Stanley Total Living Center for rehab. She is showing some improvements as she continues her rehab stay at the TLC.

**Margaret Gladden** is doing well at home following rehab at Courtland Terrace after her surgery last month.

## WITH LOVING THANKS

*To our Church Family,*

*Thank you so much for your prayers, cards, food and visits during Jerry's recuperation from surgery! They are certainly appreciated.*

*Love,  
Jerry and Janet Ratchford*

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*I would like to thank FPC for the recognition shown to me on February 9 for my service as Treasurer. The plaque and gift card, as well as the many encouraging words, mean a great deal to me. It has been my privilege to serve the church in this way. Every member a minister. I encourage every member to discover his or her gift of the Spirit and to use it to glorify Him.*

*Gary Neely*

## JANUARY FINANCIAL REPORT

Needed monthly for budget .....	60,967.16
Received in January for budget .....	57,978.94
Needed to date for budget .....	60,967.16
Received to date for budget .....	57,978.94
Needed monthly for Faith Promise .....	17,369.00
Received in January for Faith Promise .....	13,750.00
Needed to date for Faith Promise .....	17,369.00
Received to date for Faith Promise .....	13,750.00

# *Birthdays to Celebrate in March*

- |   |   |   |                                     |
|---|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1 Debbie Harper<br>Jason Herd<br>Marcia Rhyne | 7 Dan King<br>Cinde Mayes   | 18 Anne Abernathy<br>Greg Huss                                      | 24 Cindy Davis<br>Casey Paramore    |
| 2 Tom Barton<br>Wayne Friday<br>Sandy Lasley  | 10 Michael Ponzo  | 19 Stacey Hall  | 26 Whitney Black<br>Jamie Williams  |
| 3 Lyndsey Greeson                             | 11 Judy Billings<br>Junior Bryant<br>Colton Ponzo<br>Angel Sotelo | 21 Stacy Helms<br>Carl Kluttz<br>Connor McMinn<br>Ralphene Robinson | 29 Linda Faggart<br>Helen Lieurance |
| 4 Wes Marsh                                   | 12 Ashley Abernathy   | 22 Rachel Gamage  | 30 Amanda Marsh<br>Chrissy Teague   |
| 5 Devon Helms                                 | 13 Garry Lucas  | 23 Julie Marsh<br>Ed Wallace  | 31 Havanah Roberts                  |
| 6 Kristen Cozart<br>Adelee Stewart            | 17 Jimmie Mitchell  |   |                                     |

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

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



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

# ARMORBEARER

Prayer Calendar – March 2020

First Presbyterian Church • Stanley, NC

Armorbearers were personal attendants of a warrior chieftain who accompanied him in dangerous missions; they held huge shields sometimes surrounding their leader to protect him. **Intercessory prayers** by church members can **protect** their leaders from “the flaming arrows of the evil one” and uphold them “that words may be given to me [Paul] in opening my mouth boldly to **proclaim** the mystery of the gospel.” (Eph 6:16, 19)

## Prayer-Prompts for the Lenten Season

"Even now," declares the LORD, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning." Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the LORD your God, for He is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and He relents from sending calamity. (Joel 2:12-14)

“Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool. (Isaiah 1:18)

<sup>7</sup> But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. <sup>8</sup> If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup> If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (I John 1:7-9)

## Pray for Pastors Steve Jessen, Thad Davis, Dan King, Chaplain Ivan Davis (TLC)

Pray as the Holy Spirit guides you in thinking about, and praying for our pastors. Some suggestions for prayer are included, but pray also as you are aware of other particular needs and concerns they may have.

**Mon.:** To love God with all their heart, and to love others as themselves. (Matt. 27:37-39)

**Tues:** To trust the Lord completely for their wisdom, so that he will direct their daily path. (Prov. 3:5,6)

**Wed.:** To pray always, putting on the armor of the Lord to stand against the wiles of the Devil. (Eph. 6:11ff)

**Thurs.:** To love their wives and manage their family in ways that honor Christ. (Eph. 5:25, I Tim. 3:4,5)

**Fri.:** That God’s word will be their reproof, correction, and instruction in righteousness. (II Tim 3:16)

**Sat.:** To care faithfully for the flock and have compassion for lost sheep. (John 10:16, Lk. 15:4)

**Sun.:** To empower them to preach and teach the Gospel in the power of the Spirit. (Matt. 4:23, Rom. 10:15).

## Prayer for Our Ministry Leaders and Staff

Pray daily as the Holy Spirit guides you in thinking about, and praying for, our ministry leaders and staff:

**Monday:** Debbie Smith, Director, Child Development Center

**Tuesday:** Jimmie & Martha Sue Mitchell, Global Outreach

**Wednesday:** Lauren Henderson, Director of Christian Education and Children’s Ministry

**Thursday:** Lisa Revels, SOAR Director

**Friday:** Sandra Taylor, Administrative Assistant

## Prayer for Our Elders and Deacons

- 1 **Ron Ensley:** Pray that God would continue to grow a servant's heart in me.
- 2 **Mason Friesenhahn:** Pray for continued progress for my dad who is having issues with his foot.
- 3 **Mike Gamage:** Pray that seeds were planted to soften hearts and strengthen many walks with Jesus during SOAR Volleyball season.
- 4 **Chris Graham:** Pray for our SOAR volleyball youth to hear, understand, and live the Word of God.
- 5 **Mark Harper:** Pray guidance for our girls as they make decisions regarding college admissions and patience for us all throughout the entire process.
- 6 **Don Hensley:** God's direction in helping me to get my father's estate settled.
- 7 **Dillon Lamb:** Pray for me as I go into outages at work.
- 8 **Dan Ormsby:** Pray for God's wisdom and guidance in my work on the session.
- 9 **Matt Ormsby:** Pray for the upcoming spring soccer season and all the volunteers.
- 10 **Grady Rhyne:** Pray for my grandson Nathan.
- 11 **Kevin Rhyne:** Praise for our first grandson! Pray for love, wisdom, and energy for his dad, mom, and sister as they transition to larger family life.
- 12 **Will Robinson:** Pray that Sarah's pregnancy will go smoothly.
- 13 **Ronnie Smith:** Pray that I would be more intentional in my prayer time.
- 14 **Tracy Withers:** Pray that the Lord will guide my decisions for the use of the time and talents that He has blessed me with.
- 15 **Ryan Abernathy:** Please pray that God helps me focus on my personal devotion time in March.
- 16 **Jeremy Abernathy:** Pray for our family as my Grandmother is getting weaker.
- 17 **Chris Baker:** Pray that I look for God's guidance during transitions I am having to make at work.
- 18 **Chip Beatty:** Pray for the ongoing work of the music team as they help with Sunday worship.
- 19 **Lynn Burrell:** Pray that my spine doctors will come up with a treatment plan that offers longer lasting pain relief.
- 20 **Ken Dake:** Continue praying for the financial software update. Still much to do in the transition, but should get a lot more streamlined for the future.
- 21 **Ron Ensley:** Pray for God's blessing upon our Christian Education ministry, especially our Sunday School Program.
- 22 **Mason Friesenhahn:** Pray for daily strength to serve at work, home, and with my family and church.
- 23 **Mike Gamage:** Pray for God's grace to strengthen my faith and devotion to God's word.
- 24 **Chris Graham:** Pray for each of us to live in a spirit of faith and not fear.
- 25 **Mark Harper:** Praise and thanks to everyone who has prayed for my mother and our family as we are going thru a difficult time over recent months.
- 26 **Don Hensley:** God's direction in choosing the next Old Testament book to study for our SS class.
- 27 **Dillon Lamb:** Pray that God will guide Anna-Kathryn and me, and give us wisdom to raise Audrey to love Jesus.
- 28 **Dan Ormsby:** Pray for the upcoming SOAR soccer season—for all the needed volunteers.
- 29 **Matt Ormsby:** Pray for Sam as he starts the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of kindergarten.
- 30 **Grady Rhyne:** Pray that our church will continue to thrive and grow.
- 31 **Kevin Rhyne:** Pray for our officers to be fully devoted to serving Christ and our congregation, and pursuing His purpose for our church.

### Praise and Thanksgivings

- Praise and thanks for the newcomers who have joined our church fellowship.
- Praise God for the witness of the SOAR volleyball season: Thanks for Lisa Revel's leadership, and all the participants and volunteers who made it possible.
- Praise for the Men's "Man Day" ministry that builds fellowship among the men and helps those who need help and complete projects at the church.

**(Adult classes continued....)**

**BIBLE**

Room 119

Teacher: Chuck Jessen

Theme: The Apostle's Creed

"THE CREED INDEED!" In a world of texts/tweets, Instagram/YouTube, comments/shares, selfies/sound bytes — folks want fact not fake, short and sweet. Studying the Apostle's Creed: a compact Biblical power package. 20/20 vision from time-tested-truth for the past-present-future.

**Young Adults** (anyone post high school to 29)

Room 11

Teachers: Thad Davis, Joel Jessen

Theme: Figures in the Old Testament

We will learn from their lives and their relationship with God and how they point ahead to Christ.

**FELLOWSHIP**

Founders Hall

Teachers: Ron Ensley, Rick Herd,  
Jimmie and Martha Sue Mitchell

Theme: Know Doubt by John Ortberg

This book by John Ortberg will show us how doubt leads to truth. Whether you are a believer, a seeker or sitting on the fence, this study is for you.

**JOURNEY**

Room 12

Teacher: Dan King

Theme: Romans 8-16 by Tim Keller

After an enjoyable review of Romans chapters 1-7 last fall, the Journey Class will take up the second half of Paul's epistle this spring. In chapters 8-16, Paul continues to answer the question he began in chapters 5-7: *How does faith in the gospel of Christ lead to actual change in real life?*

**NEW EVE**

Room 15

Teachers: Anna Friesenhahn, Teresa Neely, Cathy Rhyne

Theme: Contentment by Melissa Kruger

Many Christians struggle with comparison, covetousness, and complaining. But the Apostle Paul was content in plenty and in want. What was Paul's secret, and how do we cultivate contentment in our lives? In *Contentment*, Melissa Kruger considers what it really means to be content: to place our trust in our good and sovereign God. God's love for His people is unchanging, and He is using every detail of our lives to shape and fashion us into the image of Jesus Christ.

**OPEN BIBLE**

Conference Room

Teachers: Don Hensley, Robert Rhyne

Theme: Gospel of John

There is much to learn in the gospel of John. Come, read and study the great truths found there. They will likely finish this study during the spring quarter.

**EQUIPPING MEN FOR SERVICE**

Activity Building

Teachers: Steve Jessen, Ronnie Smith

Theme: To Be Announced

At the time of this publication, they are considering a study in 1 & 2 Peter and/or Revelation. Come to class to find out!

**NEWCOMERS**

Room 13

Teacher: Steve Jessen and Ministry Leaders

Theme: Introduction to First Presbyterian

This class will be offered again at a later date. Speak with Pastor Steve if you are interested in joining!



# Sunday School

Spring Quarter  
2020

March, April, May

**Superintendents:**

**Sandy Lasley and Freida Robinson**



**There will not be Sunday School  
on Easter Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup>!**

## SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN

### **NURSERY** (Ages 0-17 months)

Room 112

Teachers: Melissa Clevenger, Karen Ensley

We seek to provide a safe environment for our smallest members. As they experience God's love through play, song, and rest when needed!



### **TODDLERS:** (Ages 18 months – 3 years)

Room 114

Teacher: Sherry Teague

Theme: God's Love

This quarter covers Jesus' miracles, parables, death, resurrection, and ascension. Although toddlers are limited in their vocabulary and understanding, they are able to learn some Bible stories and grasp some basic Bible truths.

### **PRESCHOOL/Kindergarten:** (Ages 4 & 5)

Room 106

Teachers: Ellen Deese, Julie Jessen

Theme: Jesus Is the Savior

This quarter our children will be studying Jesus' love for His people, His death and resurrection, His ascension, the promised Holy Spirit and the Lord's return one day. They will be reminded that God's children are helpless and must depend on Jesus, thanking Him for His goodness to them. Our little ones will rejoice over our Savior's victory over sin/death and celebrate as He is raised again on the third day! May they respond to the message of salvation with faith, "Jesus loves me!"

### **PRIMARY BOYS/GIRLS** (Grades 1, 2)

Room 10

Teachers: Amanda Huss, Taylor Mundy

Theme: Studying God's Word

During the 13 weeks of this quarter your children will focus on what it means to be devoted to God's Word. Using stories from both Old and New Testaments, the children will study the importance of God's Word. They will learn about those who followed God's Word and those who failed to obey it. They will find out about Jesus and God's Word. They will discover what it means to hide God's Word in their hearts and live by it.

### **GRADE SCHOOL BOYS/GIRLS:** (Grades 3, 4, 5)

Room 18

Teachers: Ashley Abernathy, Stacey Hall

Theme: Telling Others

The first unit of study this quarter focuses on Jesus, our loving Savior and risen Lord. He suffered and died on the cross to atone for our sins. As foretold in the Scriptures, He rose from the dead, and before ascending to heaven He told his disciples to take the gospel to the whole world promising to send the Holy Spirit to enable them to do the task. The second and third units will emphasize the power of the Holy Spirit in the lives of our students and their responsibility to tell others about Jesus.

Welcome to Sunday School



## SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR YOUTH

### **MIDDLE SCHOOL BOYS/GIRLS** (Grades 6, 7, 8)

Room 17

Teachers: Anne Abernathy, Jonan Bynum

Theme: 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel to Esther

In the Old Testament, God was carrying out His plan to one day send the final King and Savior. Only Jesus Christ could fully provide the salvation and righteous leadership his people needed. Through these stories, your students will see the need for our perfect Prophet, Priest, and King – the Lord Jesus Christ.

### **HIGH SCHOOL** (Grades 9, 10, 11, 12)

Room 14

Teachers: Ken & Heather Dake, Kristen Henderson, Lauren Henderson

Theme: Old Testament Survey

Ms. Lauren is going to remind these teenagers how to open up their Bibles and study God's Word. We will have many discussions on who God has always been and who He wants us to be!

## SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ADULTS

**BIG NEWS**

**A BRAND NEW CLASS!**

### **Young Married Couples**

Room 13 (Downstairs)

Teachers: Rev. Thad & Laura Davis

In our "Crash Course for Couples," we are aiming to grow together, in community as we share life, using a format based in Scripture study, honest discussions, and prayer together. We are focusing on marriage topics, such as the purpose and plan of marriage, priorities, communication, conflict resolution, finances, family dynamics, and life balance, all from a biblical perspective.