

THE CHURCH FAMILY

Presenting Everyone Complete in Christ

FROM YOUR PASTOR'S DESK

The church was a beehive of ministry activity last week. The Children's Ministry Team presented a fantastic Vacation Bible School program that blessed not only our church families, but also many children from our community. Then on Friday night the Outreach Committee did an amazing job coordinating our annual "Family Fun Night." We had many visiting families that joined us for a great night of food (including Bill's now famous corn dogs), fellowship, and great fun with our new friends.

I recently saw a leadership book titled "Start With Why" by Simon Sinek. I have not read the book, but the title reminded me of an important principle in church activities: asking the question "why?" Why are we investing so many resources in these events? Think about the volunteer hours, (many came straight from work to give of their time and energy), the financial costs, and the extensive involvement of our staff.

I believe the "why" justification for these events can be found in the theme of our VBS program: that we are "*shipwrecked, but rescued by Jesus.*" The reason we devote so much time, energy and funding to these programs is because it provides us with opportunities to share this life altering message with our community.

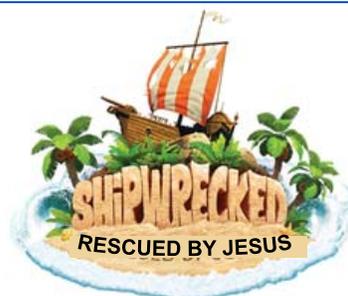
In 2 Timothy 4:18 we read: "*The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed, and will bring me safely to His heavenly kingdom; to Him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.*" (NASB) And then Colossians 1:13 says: "*For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son.*" (NASB)

We see in these two verses that we are shipwrecked: living in sin and lost in darkness. But then we discover that not only does Jesus rescue, He then transfers those rescued into His Kingdom! We are not only rescued from something, we are rescued and delivered to something much greater- the Kingdom of God.

The answer to the "why" question comes when we realize that VBS and Family Fun Night are much bigger than First Presbyterian Church. They are instruments in God's hands to reach the Stanley, NC area with this great gospel message, that Jesus rescues and will deliver shipwrecked souls into His magnificent Kingdom.

Rescued by Jesus!

Steve



CHILDREN'S NEWS



We are going to TIGERWORLD Thursday, July 19th! We will depart from the church at 8:45 am. Bring a lunch. \$8 per person. Deadline to sign up on the bulletin board in the hallway is Sunday, July 15th.

Our Wednesday night Narnia sessions will resume on July 11th, 6:00 - 8:00 PM for ages 5-11.



20-SOMETHINGS



Make plans to join the 20-Somethings for a Lake Adventure at the Smith House (8179 Tranquil Harbor Lane, Denver) on Saturday, July 28 starting at 3:00 pm. Bring your bathing suit and a towel. We will spend some time at the dock, and then have a meal together.

Also, the 20-Somethings are having Bible Studies this summer. They are meeting on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm with the guys and gals meeting separately. Contact Pastor Steve for more details at steve@fpstanley.org.



FPC Renovations



The Deacon Board and the Session have approved the proposal from the Facilities Committee to renovate the front offices. This project will include a reorganization of offices, new flooring, new ceilings and lighting, painting and office furniture. It will also include a nice waiting area for our Mercy Ministry clients. The work on the offices will compliment the new doors being installed and will provide a warm, updated and safe entrance into our church for our members, our CDC families and our guests. Be on the lookout for these exciting changes in the coming weeks!

SOAR NEWS



Fall Soccer online registration begins July 9th. The season will begin with Skills Evaluations on August 18th. Practices will begin the following week with games beginning on September 4th. The season will end with Finales on the 23rd and 26th of October.

Registrations will end on August 18th OR when a division reaches its player limit! Teams will fill up fast so be sure to register early!

Our SOAR Sports Camp will be held on our campus next week. We will have more than 75 participants including camp leaders and volunteers. Please be in prayer for the safety of everyone here. Also be in prayer for the children to feel God's love through the actions and words of our leaders and all those in contact with them during the week.



Adult Open Volleyball got underway this week! They will play each Monday night beginning at 7:00 pm. Anyone age 16 and above is welcome to play!

OFFICER NOMINATIONS



Our annual Officer Nomination process will begin next month. Use this time now to pray for this process and the men who God would have serve. Talk to anyone you feel would be a good candidate to be sure they are willing to serve. Nominations will be accepted for a 3 week period, August 5 - 26.



FPC SUMMER SCHEDULE

We hope you have the opportunity to enjoy some vacation time during these hot days of summer! When you are at home, remember we still have lots of activities during the summer.

Our Sunday morning schedule remains the same with Sunday School at 9:00 am and Worship at 10:15 am.

Our children and youth schedules are a little different during the summer months. Children are continuing their journey to Narnia each Wednesday July 11 - August 1 from 6:00 - 8:00 pm. The youth are meeting every other Sunday evening at 6:00 pm. The next youth gathering will be Sunday, July 8.

We hope you have a safe and happy summer! We look forward to seeing you soon!

AHG NEWS

Exciting news from American Heritage Girls this month. We've just completed our troop year with our end of year Court of Honor. We celebrated many successes, among them our troop completing 5417 hours of service to our community. Our group of 21 Pioneers and Patriots (ages 12-18) completed 2,777.5 of the service hours. Five of these girls completed over 200 hours each, totaling 1,341 hours. That's a lot of service stars! 20 girls earned their level awards. Level awards reflect the overall AHG Program. Girls must complete a minimum amount of service hours, one badge from each of the six frontiers, attend a number of outside events and do some type of project prior to bridging to the next unit level. Level Awards are not required to advance to the next unit level.

We also have our second Stars and Stripes Recipient! Hannah Thompson has been recognized as American Heritage Girls Stars and Stripes Recipient #421. This means she is the 421st girl in the entire United States since 1991 that has earned her Stars and Stripes Award. She is only the 8th girl in North Carolina to earn this prestigious award. Hannah's Benefitting Organization was Shining Hope Farms, an equine therapy center off Stanley Lucia Road. Hannah has volunteered and worked at the facility for several years and saw a need for horse field shelters at the facility. She designed and built a field shelter in the main pasture at Shining Hope Farms. Hannah received her notification from AHG National on May 16, 2018. Way to go Hannah! (photo right)



Our troop coordinator, Leslie Davis, has decided to move on to other commitments. Leslie has been our troop coordinator for six of our seven years as a troop. Thank you for your dedicated service to our organization. We will miss you!

WITH OUR CHURCH FAMILY

In Memoriam



Andrew (Andy) Eugene Murphy

September 17, 1933 - June 30, 2018

Our deepest sympathies are extended to **Martha “Mott” Murphy** and family in the death of her husband **Andy Murphy** on June 30. Andy, a longtime member at FPC, died at the age of 84 following a fall at his home.

Christian sympathies are also extended to **Nancy Cozart** and family in the June 21st death of her mother, **Margaret Henderson**. Mrs. Henderson was also the aunt of **Anne Abemathy**. Before being moved into the Stanley TLC, the Hendersons lived across the street from our church. Our sympathies are extended to **Julie Black** and family in the death of Julie’s dad, **Wilson Eugene (Gene) Glaze**, 78, of Hickory, formerly Gastonia. He passed away on June 29th and a Memorial service will be 2:00 p.m., Saturday, July 7th at Withers & Whisenant Funeral Home, Gastonia. The family will receive friends from 12:30 until 1:30 p.m. prior to the memorial service. **Kim Jessen’s** grandmother, **Eleanor Hort**, passed away June 30th in York, PA at the age of 94. Our sympathies go out to Kim and her family.

Vince Helton spent 10 days in the hospital recently. Please continue to pray for Vince as he undergoes radiation treatment this month. **SaDara Tilley** would certainly appreciate your prayers as she continues to suffer from shingles. After many weeks, she is still not feeling any relief from the pain.

On a much happier note, we congratulate **Hayley and Matt Rutkowski** on the birth of their first child. **Karsyn Nicole** was born June 21st. **Chris and Jane Black** are the proud grandparents and **Whitney** is the proud aunt.

WITH OUR MISSIONARY FAMILY

How many missionary families does FPC help support? 53

In how many different countries are they serving? 20

(Belgium, Belize, Burkina Faso, Czech Republic, England, Ethiopia, Germany, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Romania, Taiwan, Uganda, United States)



What is our part in the missions outreach?

- Give through Faith Promise to help support our missionary families.
- Pray for the individual missionaries – read their latest prayer letters on the bulletin boards in the hall.
- Consider God’s call to serve either fulltime or on a short-term team.

Birthdays to Celebrate in July

18 Hailey Deese

19 Liz Johnstone
Juanita Thomas

20 Susan Herd

21 Josh Hall

22 Ann R. Smith

23 Sharon Bryant
Carolyn Rhyne

24 Pam Burgess
Clyde Haley
Liz Johnson
Sally Ormsby
Brittany Ross

25 Kirsten Abernathy
Suzy Deneen



26 Luke Bynum

27 Jayda Killian
Sherry Teague
Michael Youngblood

28 Margaret Gladden
Paul Marsh
Martha Tadlock

29 Samuel Ormsby

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Worship 10:15 AM • Sunday School 9:00 AM



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