

THE CHURCH FAMILY

Presenting Everyone Complete in Christ

FROM YOUR PASTOR'S DESK

In our newcomers class we discussed the fact that our church is a “connectional” church. To say we are an “independent” Presbyterian church would be a contradiction in terms. We are connected to other churches in our region through the Catawba Valley Presbytery, and we are joined to our national/international denomination called the Presbyterian Church in America. Being connected to a larger family of churches is healthy for a local church. It provides accountability, encouragement, support, and a feeling that we are not an island disconnected from the rest of the Kingdom of God.

Last week I participated in our denomination’s General Assembly in Atlanta. This is an annual gathering of pastors and church leaders from the around the world. It reminded me that even in our little corner of the world called Stanley, we are connected to a much broader ministry in the Kingdom of God. There is a partnership in the Kingdom that is exciting and energizing. As we heard stories of church planting in Canada, mission efforts in sub-Saharan Africa, and racial reconciliation in Dover Delaware, our perspectives on what the Kingdom of God looks like were stretched beyond our local situation.

This is exactly what happened in the book of Acts chapter 15 at the Council of Jerusalem. Paul and Barnabas came to the apostles and elders and “*told how the Gentiles had been converted. This news made all the brothers very glad.*” (v.3) News of what God was doing in other places encouraged and challenged the believers located in Jerusalem. This led to debate and discussion about how the Gentiles would be enfolded into the Kingdom. But in the end there was unity of heart, and realization that the saving power of Jesus was accomplishing something much broader than their city or their nation.

As we have been reflecting on Kingdom Vision in our local context, it is important to be inspired and challenged by a larger Kingdom work that is taking place around the world. Connection with other churches motivates us to expand our thoughts about what we are doing and why. Our hearts and minds need to be open to new approaches and new ideas that might expand the work of the Kingdom in ways that are Biblical, Spirit led, and God honoring. May our hearts be glad as we celebrate the work of our brothers and sisters around the world as together we share the good news that “*it is through the grace of our Lord Jesus that we are saved.*” (v.11)

Connected to the Kingdom,

Steve





FAMILY FUN NIGHT FRIDAY, JUNE 29 EVERYONE IS INVITED!



Join us for a night of fun and fellowship starting at 6:00 pm. We will have a hamburger and hot dog supper, water slide, dunking booth and games! We'll also have a big tent for shade! It's all FREE!!

Bring your family! ✦ Bring a friend! ✦ Bring a chair!



We still have volunteer opportunities available!



Stop by the bulletin board in the main hallway or contact the church office to volunteer.

SOAR NEWS

SPORTS CAMP: July 9 - 13, 9:00 am - 12:30 pm each day

Online registration is available now. Be sure to get your child registered before it fills up!

FALL SOCCER LEAGUE

Online registration will begin July 9. Register early...Divisions will fill up quickly!

Visit the website at www.fpstanleysoar.org for more information or to register.



The next
MAN DAY
will be
JULY 28

Do you have a project around your house that you need help with? Or maybe you know of someone in need of help. If so, contact Pastor Steve with the details.

If you are able to help us work on projects, be sure to mark the date on your calendar!

YOUTH NEWS



We will have a
POOL PARTY and BURGER BLAST
SUNDAY, AUGUST 5
at the home of Ryan and Allie Grice!

More details in the coming weeks!



July 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1 VBS Celebration</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>No evening activities.</i></p>	<p>2 Newsletter Deadline: <i>9:00 am due to the 4th holiday on Wednesday.</i></p> <p>7:00 SOAR Committee Mtg. Adult Open Volleyball</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4 Independence Day</p> <p style="border: 1px dashed red; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Church Ofc/CDC closed</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>6:00 Youth</p>	<p>9</p> <p>6:30 Outreach Comm Mtg. 7:00 Adult Open Volleyball</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>6:00 Children's <i>Narnia</i> 6:30 Tech Team Meeting Mexico Team Meeting</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>
<div style="border: 1px dashed red; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> <p>← SOAR Sports Camp: 9:00 am - 12:30 pm each day →</p> </div>						
<p>15</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>No evening activities.</i></p>	<p>16 Newsletter Deadline</p> <p>7:00 Facilities Comm Mtg.</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>6:00 Children's <i>Narnia</i></p>	<p>19</p> <p>8:45 Children to Tiger World</p> <p>6:00 AHG Planning Mtg. 6:45 Joint Officers' Mtg.</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>10:30 Best Years to Narroway Productions</p>
<p>22</p> <p>4:00 WIC Council Mtg.</p> <p>6:00 Youth</p>	<p>23</p> <p>7:00 Adult Open Volleyball</p>	<p>24</p> <p>7:00 Children's Min. Team</p>	<p>25</p> <p>6:00 Children's <i>Narnia</i> 6:30 SOAR Comm. Mtg</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 Man Day</p>
<p>29</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>No evening activities.</i></p>	<p>30 Newsletter Deadline</p> <p>7:00 Adult Open Volleyball</p>	<p>31</p>				

JULY RESPONSIBILITIES



NURSERY

- July 1:** 10:15 AM - David, Tommi and Max Rust
July 8: 10:15 AM - David and Donna Hill
July 15: 10:15 AM - Tracy and Bebe McMinn
July 22: 10:15 AM - Craig, Susan, Kaitlyn and Caroline Mesimer
July 29: 10:15 AM - Lisa and Allie Grice

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

- July 1:** VBS Celebration
July 8: Rick Herd
July 15: Ed Faggart
July 22: Steve Jessen
July 29: Jimmie Mitchell

WIC NEWS

The **Denver Circle** will meet on **Tuesday, July 10** at the home of Vickie Smith. Kristen Henderson will be the hostess.

All other circles are taking a rest and will not meet in July.

The next scheduled **WIC Council Meeting** is this **Sunday, June 24th at 4:00 pm.**

WITH LOVING THANKS

Dear First Pres Family,

Thank you to all of you for your outreach of love and support for my family during these tough days of grief and loss!

Scott Burgess and Family

WITH OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Congratulations to **Alan and Katie Saine** on the birth of their second child **Madilyn Marie** on June 9! The proud big brother is **Callan**!

Becky Hensley fell last week and suffered a broken wrist. Outpatient surgery was required to put in a plate and screws to repair the break.

Roland Hager recently spent several days in the hospital being treated for a low blood count.

WITH OUR MISSIONARY FAMILY

Kevin Bentley asks for prayer to have eyes to see where God is at work and faith to share the Gospel with boldness to about 70 men he has gotten to know over the last year playing golf on the weekends. Most of them are not believers.

Garry and Anita Chambers are in Belize for the summer giving leadership in the ministry there with nine short-term teams, the medical clinic and the churches.

Give praise with **Arkie Hooten** for the 28 disaster-damaged church physical plants that have been restored through the efforts of Mission to North America Disaster relief.

Ricardo Santana asks for prayer for continued growth in the mission churches in Mérida, Mexico – Adonai, Monte Horeb and Fuente de Agua Viva. Several of our short-term teams have ministered in these areas.

Happy Birthday in July

01 – James Schweitzer (2007)	12 – Andrés Garza
02 – Guercy Meme	22 – Roger Dye
Archie Parrish	23 – Mary Schweitzer (2003)
08 – Haven Dirks (2011)	31 – Maxine Williams
11 – David White	

MAY FINANCIAL REPORT

Needed monthly for budget	65,149.24
Received in May for budget.....	120,435.14
Needed to date for budget.....	325,746.20
Received to date for budget	361,136.59
Needed monthly for Faith Promise.....	13,156.67
Received in May for Faith Promise.....	11,674.00
Needed to date for Faith Promise	65,783.35
Received to date for Faith Promise.....	76,236.00

Birthdays to Celebrate in July

2 Micah Deneen

3 Andrew Elliott
Tim Kilby

4 Madison Black

5 Donna Hill

6 Don Hensley
Kenlee Herd



7 Manetta Treat

8 Samantha Hall

10 Brian Lasley

15 Allie Grice
Anna Hamrick
Tanner McMinn

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512 Old Mt. Holly Road, Stanley, NC 28164 ♦ Phone 704-263-4275 ♦ Fax 704-263-0498
e-mail: info@fpcstanley.org ♦ web site: www.fpcstanley.org

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



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

ARMORBEARER

Prayer Calendar – July 2018

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)

A Prayer Prompter from God’s Word for July

⁷“Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. ⁸For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. ⁹Or which one of you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? ¹⁰Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a serpent? ¹¹If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him! (Matthew 7:7-11)

Pray for Pastor Steve and Pastor Dan

Pray daily 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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sunday: 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

As the Holy Spirit guides you, think about our ministry staff and pray for them as they serve among us:

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

Saturday: Eric Beam, Music Director

Prayer for Our Elders and Deacons

- 1 **Ron Ensley:** Prayers for my mom Jean Ensley to have improved mobility so she can continue to live in her home.
- 2 **Ed Faggart:** Pray I would keep the Sabbath holy by not dwelling on, or being distracted by thoughts or concerns of the prior and/or upcoming weeks.
- 3 **Mason Friesenhahn:** Praise God for Anna and me as we just celebrated our eleventh anniversary.
- 4 **Mike Gamage:** For faithfulness to our Armor .bearer commitment. We need God's help to resist worldly influences and thrive in our love of God.
- 5 **Chris Graham:** Pray for always-needed wisdom and direction in our daily decision-making.
- 6 **Mark Harper:** Pray that I will always remember that all things come from the Lord, and not try to do things my way but always ask Him to lead me.
- 7 **Rick Herd:** Pray for safe travel to Austria for my work.
- 8 **Jimmie Mitchell:** Pray for our Mexico Team as we train, travel and teach, August 4-11.
- 9 **Matt Ormsby:** Pray for the witness of Christ during the summer sports camp July 9-13.
- 10 **Jerry Ratchford:** Pray for me in a new position at work. Pray it will be a good match and I can finish out the next few years until I can retire.
- 11 **Grady Rhyne:** Pray for my daughter Jessica who is in trouble with the law and trying to hide from it.
- 12 **Kevin Rhyne:** Pray for me to have a better understanding of the holiness of God.
- 13 **Robert Rhyne:** Pray for our graduates to daily feed their faith and remind themselves each day when they awake to acknowledge Christ in all things as they go off to college or enter the workplace.
- 14 **Will Robinson:** That I would be a good example of a man of God to all I come in touch with.
- 15 **Ronnie Smith:** Pray for Debbie and CDC staff that summer preschool will go smoothly and the children will be blessed and have a fun summer.
- 16 **Tracy Withers:** Please pray that I will be able to have my knees repaired soon.
- 17 **Ryan Abernathy:** Pray that God will continue to strengthen Elizabeth and me as we adjust to parenthood with Avery.
- 18 **Chris Baker:** Pray for all those working with our children and youth, both staff and volunteers, as they prepare for Sunday School and the organization of fall programs.
- 19 **Tommy Barton:** Pray for the preparation and planning for the summer mission team going to Mexico on August 4-11.
- 20 **Mark Beatty:** Please pray for Josh and Caroline as they have a new addition to the family: Baby Rosalynd.
- 21 **Lynn Burrell:** Pray that all members of our church family will have safe travel, fun and stress free vacations.
- 22 **Dean Chaney:** Pray for God's Spirit to give us wisdom as elders in decisions that we are making to lead our church in God's way.
- 23 **Ken Dake:** Pray for our youth and those of us who work with them as we seek to provide a vital ministry to them at this time of their lives.
- 24 **Andrew Deese:** Please pray that I would be more diligent in my devotion time.
- 25 **Ron Ensley:** Prayer that God would lead the FPC Personnel Committee as we work through staff healthcare cost strategies and 2018 staff budgets.
- 26 **Ed Faggart:** Pray that as I lead a youth lesson in August I will have the right words and not come across as a sanctimonious windbag!
- 27 **Mason Friesenhahn:** Pray for our financial needs as we have to put a new AC in our house.
- 28 **Mike Gamage:** Pray for the continued faithfulness of a supportive church family always looking for an opportunity to lift up others.
- 29 **Chris Graham:** For our community to see the love and light of Jesus in all of our FPC members.
- 30 **Mark Harper:** Please pray for Lauren, in post ACL surgery as she has a 6-9 months recovery.
- 31 **Rick Herd:** Special prayer for one of my shepherd families.

Praise and Thanksgivings

- Praise that Karen and I are celebrating 45 years of marriage.
Ron Ensley
- Praise and thanks for our VBS and Summer Sports Camp in reaching out to our community.