

THE CHURCH FAMILY

Presenting Everyone Complete in Christ

FROM YOUR PASTOR'S DESK

From pre-schools to universities this is the season for graduations. Students are wrapping up their educations and moving on to a new chapter. Last weekend we had the joy of celebrating our daughter Miriam's graduation from Liberty University. The commencement speaker for the ceremony was Vice President Mike Pence. The part of his speech that really caught my attention was when he began sharing his testimony of how he came to faith in Jesus as his Savior. During his college years he had a friend who wore a really cool cross around his neck and Mike asked him where he could get one like it. His friend said "Mike, you know, you got to wear it in your heart before you wear it around your neck." That simple statement caused Mike Pence to think deeply about what he believed, and several weeks later he fully committed his life to Jesus.

As I think about that story it illustrates the importance of our heart condition. Your heart represents the very core of who you are, it determines your priorities, your thoughts, your actions, your decisions, and your words. Jesus warns us about this in Matthew 15:19 (ESV) *"For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander."* What we need is a spiritual heart transplant that only God can perform. *"And I will give you a new heart, and I will put a new spirit in you. I will take out your stony, stubborn heart and give you a tender, responsive heart."* Ezekiel 36:26 (NLT) This transformation will only take place when we surrender and say *"Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me."* Psalm 51:10 (KJV)

Only when our hearts are made new are we able to turn our affections toward God. The Jews from ancient times have prayed what is called the Shema found in Deuteronomy 6:4-5 (ESV) *"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might."* We as believers are to love the Lord our God whole-heartedly and proclaim His love to the world. We are to live "inside-out": Do you have Jesus on the inside? Then proudly wear your love for Him on the outside.

On Sunday June 2 we will be honoring the graduates of our church during our worship time. My prayer for the new graduates, and also for those whose graduation is a distant memory, is that "Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith." Ephesians 3:17 (ESV) and that your love for Jesus may be evident for all to see.

From the heart,



WITH OUR MISSIONARY FAMILIES

First Presbyterian Missionaries!

Pray for Miriam Jessen, daughter of Steve and Julie Jessen, and Kelsey Smith, daughter of Johnny and Leslie Smith, who left on Wednesday of this week for a two month missionary internship in Mérida, Mexico. They will be serving under the leadership of Pastor Ricardo Santana and his wife Ana working in the local churches with the youth and their families and in the American School. When our FPC team goes down in June they will join them for a week of ministry in nearby Chuburná.

Big news from our missionary families - the Hunts and the Janiceks - in Czech Republic!

On April 12 the Hunts welcomed their new daughter, Sara Posey Hunt into their family. Sara Posey is 2 years old and was born in a small town about 2 hours from Prague. Since shortly after birth she has lived in a wonderful children's home. She is adjusting quite well to life in the Hunt family, enjoying her two big brothers and sister.

The process of adopting little Adam into the Janicek family isn't quite over, but they took a big step forward last week as he finally got to come home on Tuesday. They are praying that the legal work will be completed by the end of the year. Adam has been under the care of some sweet foster parents since he was six days old.

Prayer Requests from David and Robin White on our missionary staff in Atlanta

Robin sees a surgeon on Monday to consider treatment options for her knee. She probably will need to have it replaced, but is hoping for treatment that will enable a postponement of that.

New Missionary Conferences Planned

Preparations are being made for new missionaries gathering at Ridge Haven on May 26 – 31 for a Living in Grace conference and for the ReConnect and Summer Conference to be held in July.

Happy Birthday in June

02 – Heath McLaughen	17 – Bethany Schweitzer (2001)
03 – Mark Schweitzer (1999)	19 – Jason Piteo
06 – Ellen Barnett	20 – Jennifer Comer
10 – Laura Dye	21 – Ema Lepadatu (2001)
13 – Pedro Polloreña	24 – Tricia Lee
Pam Schweitzer	Debbie Saenz

GIVING STATEMENTS

Please stop by the literature display in the main hallway to pick up your first quarter giving statement. This is a great time to review the information and let us know if you have any questions about your giving record for the first quarter of 2019.

JUNE 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 10:00 Outdoor Open Volleyball 2:00 Men's Open Basketball
2 Graduate Sunday <i>No Evening Activities</i>	3 Newsletter Deadline 6:30 Ruth Circle Meeting 7:00 Elizabeth, Martha and Readers Circle Mtgs.	4 7:00 Denver Circle Mtg.	5 Gaston Co. schools end	6 CDC Summer Program begins- Activity Bldg. 6:30 CE Committee Mtg	7	8 7:00 Deacons' Meeting 2:00 Men's Open Basketball
9 AM Communion <i>No Evening Activities</i>	10 6:30 Outreach Comm Mtg. 7:00 Adult Open Volleyball	11	12	13	14	15 2:00 Men's Open Basketball Mexico Trip
← Palmer Home Mission Trip →						
16 Father's Day	17 Newsletter Deadline	18	19 9:30 Best Years to Asheville	20	21	22 2:00 Men's Open Basketball
← Mexico Mission Trip →						
<i>No Evening Activities</i>	7:00 Facilities Comm. Mtg. SOAR Comm. Mtg.					
23 11:30 VBS Staff Training <i>No Evening Activities</i>	24	25 Preschool Summer Program begins	26 Vacation Bible School 6:30 - 8:30 pm	27	28 6:00 Family Fun Night	29 2:00 Men's Open Basketball
← General Assembly, Dallas, TX →						
30 VBS Celebration <i>No Evening Activities</i>						

JUNE RESPONSIBILITIES



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

- June 2:** **Babies:** Josh, Melissa and Peyton Clevenger; Karen Ensley
Toddlers: Robin and Taylor Mundy
- June 9:** **Babies:** Greg, Amanda, Maelin and Emery Huss
Toddlers: Craig, Susan, Katelyn and Caroline Mesimer
- June 16:** **Babies:** Lauren Henderson; Olivia and Ashleigh Fox
Toddlers: Josh, Stacey and Sam Hall
- June 23:** **Babies:** Rob, Tracy and Bebe McMinn
Toddlers: Stacy, Natalie and Devon Helms
- June 30:** **Babies:** Lee and Kristen Henderson; Olivia Fox
Toddlers: Joel Jessen; Alice Jessen

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

- June 2:** Kevin Rhyne
June 9: Communion
June 16: Robert Rhyne
June 23: Ron Smith
June 30: VBS Celebration

WIC MEETINGS FOR JUNE

Monday, June 3 (see times below):

6:30 pm—Ruth Circle meets in the Conference Room.

7:00 pm—Elizabeth Circle meets at the home of Judy Dixon.
Martha Circle meets at the home of Amanda Huss
Readers Circle meets in the Parlor.

Tuesday, June 4, 7:00 pm:

Denver Circle meets at the home of Elizabeth Abernathy.

PICTORIAL DIRECTORY UPDATE

We continue to layout the new church pictorial directory. Thanks to everyone who came out to be photographed. We realize many folks were unable to participate due to illness or scheduling conflicts. We are excited about having an updated directory and we certainly want ALL of our church family, new and old, to be in it. If you did not have your picture made previously, we encourage you to submit a picture of your family. Maybe it was just your college student that could not be here for the family picture. Submit their picture to us.

We also want to be sure we have your personal information correct. Please check the current directory for accuracy of your name, address, phone number(s) and email address(es). Also provide us any information you would like added to your listing.

You can submit pictures and information changes to info@fpcstanley.org. **The deadline for submitting pictures or information for the directory is Sunday, June 2.**

WITH OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Harrison Revels was admitted to Levine Children’s Hospital on May 14. After spending a couple of nights in the hospital he was released only to be readmitted less than 12 hours later. He was back home on Monday of this week, feeling much better and full of energy!

Janet Redding underwent knee replacement surgery on May 13. Janet spent a couple of nights in the hospital and is now at home recovering.

Christian sympathies are extended to **Jamie Williams** in the death of her mother. **Ruby Rennie** passed away May 20 after being placed in Hospice care.

Barbara Rhyne suffered a cracked vertebra in her back after falling on May 20. She was admitted to Caromont Regional for treatment.

WITH LOVING THANKS

To my FPC Stanley family,

My family and I would like to thank you for your kind expressions of sympathy in the death of my mother, Sarah Lewis. We appreciate your visits to see her at STLC and Carillon—Cramerton and Lincolnton. I know that she treasured your visits, gifts and treats, even if she didn’t remember them for very long. She was a kind and gracious hostess all the days of her life before dementia. We loved and will miss our mother dearly. May God’s blessings be with you all.

*Sincerely,
Wanda Elliott, Anne Bishop and Bud Lewis
Andrew Elliott, Randall Grigg and
Angela Grigg Allen*

APRIL FINANCIAL REPORT

Needed monthly for budget	60,059.06
Received in April for budget	67,341.06
Needed to date for budget	240,236.25
Received to date for budget	240,467.96
Needed monthly for Faith Promise	14,091.25
Received in April for Faith Promise	34,294.53
Needed to date for Faith Promise	56,365.00
Received to date for Faith Promise	80,645.53

Birthdays to Celebrate in June

1 Koen Davis
Shanna Griffin
Chuck Jessen

2 Julianne Griffin
Angie Killian

3 Ivan Davis

4 Connie Klutz
Kathy Paramore

5 Sylvia Forbes-Robinson
Aiden Friesenhahn

7 Ed McGraw
Graham Smith

8 Bobby Blackman

9 Sammy Ludeman
Madilyn Saine



10 Morgan Smith

12 Rebecca Baker
Chloe Billings

13 Jasey Herd
John Ludeman

14 Kim Jessen

15 Elizabeth Abernathy
Maelin Treat

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



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