

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

Carthage, NC

A community cornerstone for Christ since 1850.

July 2025 Newsletter

Relationships

Relationships are a vital part of our daily lives. We long for them, even the introverts among us. We desire healthy relationships that make us more complete and care for us during our times of trial as we are there for them. We also try to avoid relationships and people who have hurt us in the past. It's a defense mechanism.

Healthy relationships are grounded in honesty, kindness, respect, trust, and love. We experience these relationships with close friends, spouses, family, church members, co-workers, others, and most definitely God.

It's also worth noting that relationships are always changing. Our best friends from ten years ago might not be our best friends today. We might not have the same connection with individuals that we had only a few years ago. These changing relationships happen because we are changing and what we value changes. The people that filled a void in our lives then, maybe don't do so today. It's OK when this happens because this is part of life. It also lets us celebrate those relationships that last a lifetime!

As a Christian, I'm often reminding people of the importance of relationships with those we easily connect with as well as those that are more challenging. Paul tells the people in Roman 12:9-10, "Let love be genuine, hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor." Yes, all relationships have a place in our lives, even those that do not share much joy back our way. We have marching orders from God that raise our level of how we treat all people.

As sisters and brothers in Christ, we are bound together. We see and understand what others do not. "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths (Proverbs 3:5-6)." We find strength in following God's will and not our own. God, and God alone, enables us to see the importance of loving one another and walking in faith. We long for "straight paths" and God is helping to make such relationships possible.

Relationships are constantly in motion and this holds true with God also. God is our anchor but we tend to be all over the place. We know this. Our focuses change, our priorities change, our wants change, our health changes, as well as our faith and trust in God. Romans 5:8 states, "But God proves His love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us." Our relationships with all people are bound by God's love. As we value our relationship with Jesus Christ, we are encouraged to care and love all people.

Your Brother in Christ,

Rick



Remembering our sisters and brothers in Christ as they face difficult times.

Elizabeth Barringer
Lee Edmonds
Carol Lucas
Marie Monroe
Kay Patterson
Phillip Warmbrod

John Currie, *Tara Plantation*
Matthew Leonard
Nancy McKenzie
Dennis Parks
Otis Patterson
Elizabeth Williams

Shirley Allen, *member of Union Presbyterian Church*
Tom Brady, *member at Priest Hill Church*
Bonnie Brown, *friend of the Edmonds*
Daniel Cartwright, *Margaret and Tom Leonard's nephew*
Bill Creech, *Dennis Parks' brother-in-law*
Megan Davis, *Jennifer Thomason's cousin*
Jane Hancock, *friend of the Casey's*
Ann Herndon, *Kay Patterson's sister*
*S*ean Kennally, *Angie Provost's son-in-law*
Tyler Mabe
Lisa Muller, *Ina Sue Parks' cousin*
Marlene O'Hara, *sister of Regina Nugent*
Linda Phillips, *friend of Kay Patterson*
T Prickett, *Lyn Austin & Cathy Prickett's brother*
Renee & Phillip, *friends of the Nugents*
Sandy, *Marlene Riyevski's sister*
Ginny Stone, *Rick Martindale's aunt*
Marie Walton, *Diane Pangborn's mother*

All of our military men and women and their families, especially the following:
Jonathan Baker, Kyle Bryant, Cody Fitzgerald,
Chris Mohan, Patrick Mohan, Greg Riyevski,
Michael Schwartz, Quinn Wicker, and Robert Wilson.

If you would like to add someone, or remove yourself from First Presbyterian's Prayer Requests, please contact the church office at (910) 947-2924 or infofpc397@gmail.com.

Church Announcements

Birthdays
Sunday Flowers
Attendance
Thank You's & More!



The session met on June 8th for their regular monthly meeting.

- We are very grateful to Leon Monroe for taking over Marie's role as Dispersing Treasurer while she is recuperating. Thank you to both Leon and Paul White.
- Anniversary plans are coming together. Please be aware of all the ways we are celebrating this summer
- We will not have a monthly session meeting in July unless necessary
- Approved a congregational meeting for June 22nd to elect our Nominating Committee for 2025.

July Birthdays



1 Debbie Gordon
4 CJ McDonald
7 JoAnn Wahala
8 Jason Myrick
14 Susan Phillips
17 Geraldine Moore
18 Greg Riyevski
18 Marc Stromko
20 Emerson Dean
22 Carol White
24 Scott Tortora
26 Sawyer Dean
29 J.D. Monroe

JULY SUNDAY FLOWERS

6th Gail and Keith Hardin
13th Ruby Ingold
20th Ann Key
27th Denise Edmonds

If you would like to place flowers in the sanctuary please call Ann Key at (910) 947-5476.

July Greeters

6th Kelly Martindale
13th Emily Tortora and Alex Jackson
20th Lucinda Casey
27th Michelle and Aubrey Tortora

May



Sunday School		Worship
1st Sunday	n/a	n/a
2nd Sunday	n/a	n/a
3rd Sunday	n/a	n/a
4th Sunday	n/a	n/a
5th Sunday	n/a	n/a
Average	n/a	n/a

Send church news and announcements to FPC
by calling or emailing the church office at (910) 947-2924 / infofpc397@gmail.com.

On the first Saturday morning of the month,
FPC friends and family meet at the Robbins' Food Bank
of Robbins Area Christian Ministries from 7:30-10 a.m.
to serve our friends and families in need.

Food and double-bagged plastic grocery bags can be placed at the donation station in the FLC.

Come Join us Saturday, July 5th

Don't forget to give us your "two-cents" the first Sunday of every month as we continue to support our Children's 2-Cents-a-Meal Offering.

Our children are now collecting this offering during the Moment with our Children.

A little bit can go a long way!

THE FELLOWSHIP AND MISSION COMMITTEE

The Fellowship and Mission Committee has 4 "basket ministry" bins in the Family Life Center. Each month for the remainder of this year, one ministry will be a focus, **but everyone can continue to donate items to any of the ministries each month**. The schedule for highlighted ministries each month will be as follows:

July: Carthage Elementary (crayons, pencils, notebooks, Chlorox wipes, etc.)
August: Backpack Pals: raisins (individual-size boxes) and peanut butter and jelly crackers

September: Robbins Food Bank: non-perishable food and plastic grocery bags
October: Nursing Homes
November: Backpack Pals (see items listed above)
December: Carthage Elementary School (crayons, pencils, notebooks, Chlorox wipes, etc.)

MEN'S GROUP

The men of FPC will not be meeting during the month of July.

175th ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

The committee is hard at work on the plans for the celebrations in September and in the months prior. The invitations are in the final stages with plans for printing soon. Invitations are to be mailed in mid-July. Anyone who has addresses for prior FPC members are encouraged to share those addresses with the committee. Commemorative items are in process.

Thank you to Owen Thomason for designing and drawing the picture for the t-shirts. Owen's vision and creativity resulted in a design that celebrates the faith and 175 years of service by FPC. Thank you, Jennifer for your assistance with this process. The banner for the church yard will be placed soon.

Mark your calendars:

Friday, July 11th, 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. - Ice cream social & games sponsored by the PW. Volunteers with ice cream freezers are needed to help with the ice cream.

Sunday, August 24th - lunch following church services provided by the Men's Group.

Saturday, September 13th at 5:30 pm - Musical Introduction followed by a covered dish meal at 6:00 p.m. with food from the 1850's.

Sunday, September 14th - Registration at 9:45 a.m., Musical Introduction at 10:15 a.m., worship service at 10:45 a.m. followed by a catered lunch at 12:00 p.m. A buggy will be on site for photo opportunities. Period dress encouraged, for those who desire.

Beginning July 6th, the 175th Anniversary Committee will be taking orders for FPC Anniversary tee shirts and commemorate mugs. Display and order forms are located in the lower narthex. The tee shirt design was created by Owen Thomason; he did a fabulous job! Please contact Keith and Gail Hardin with any questions.

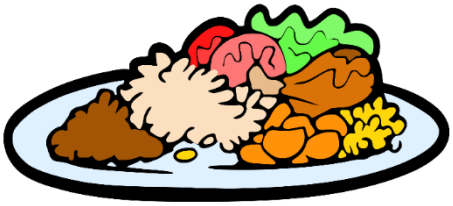
JUST FOR FUN…….

The club Pro walked over to Lucinda and Jackie (two new members) standing on the practice tee.

"Afternoon, ladies, and welcome to the club. Would either of you like to take a lesson?" "Maybe Jackie would", answered Lucinda. "I learned yesterday."

Happy 4th of July
Kay Patterson

PW Meal Ministry



July Meal Leaders

3rd JoAnn Wahala
10th Gail Hardin
17th Lucinda Casey
24th JoAnn Wahala
31st

If you know of someone who needs assistance, please contact JoAnn Wahala (910 947-3238). If you would like to assist with this PW ministry or assist with a meal, please let JoAnn know.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

The PW Coordinating Team will meet Wednesday, July 2, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.

The PW organized a visit to John Currie to celebrate his birthday on Sunday, June 8th. Several members of the FPC family attended. We sang Happy Birthday and enjoyed a brief visit with John. When asked his age, John readily replied "82." John received snacks, cards, and many good wishes.



FPC family celebrating with John Currie (blue shirt in the middle) on his birthday!

CHURCH CALENDAR July 2025

Wednesday, July 2nd	10:00 a.m.	PWCT Meeting
	5:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
Friday, July 4th		**Happy Fourth of July!**
Saturday, July 5th	7:30 a.m.	Robbins' Food Bank
Sunday, July 6th	9:15 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Worship / 2 Cents a Meal – Children
	11:00 a.m.	Lemonade on the Lawn
Monday, July 7th	11:00 a.m.	Administrative Committee Meeting, *conference room*
	6:30 p.m.	Fellowship & Mission Committee Meeting, conference room
Wednesday, July 9th	5:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
Friday, July 11th	6:30 p.m.	PW Ice Cream Social
Sunday, July 13th	9:15 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Worship
Monday, July 14th	6:30 p.m.	Rise Against Hunger meeting at West End Presbyterian Church
Wednesday, July 16th	5:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
Sunday, July 20th	9:15 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Worship / Communion
Monday, July 21st	6:30 p.m.	175 Anniversary Committee Meeting
Wednesday, July 23rd		**Deadline for Church Mouse / Newsletter**
	5:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
Sunday, July 27th	9:15 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Worship
Wednesday, July 30th		**Distribute Church Mouse / Newsletter**
	5:30 p.m.	Choir Practice

The Session

Moderator:
The Rev. Rick Martindale

Clerk:
Dale Buie

Class of 2025	**Class of 2026**
Dale Buie	Gail Hardin
David Casey	Ann Key
Margaret Leonard	Claudia McKenzie
Ann Lynch	Leon Monroe
Marie Monroe	Scott Phillips
Paul White	Jennifer Thomason

Church Staff

Ann Key, *Sexton*
Leon Monroe, *Receiving T*reasurer
Marie Monroe, *Dispersing Treasurer*
Rick Martindale*, Minister*
Robert Wilson, *Choir Director and Organist*
Sonya Potter, *Administrative. Assistant*
Avery Smallwood, *Nursery Attendant*

Newsletter Feedback…

We'd like your feedback on how to improve our
Church Mouse Newsletter
for FPC members, friends and family! Share your thoughts with us
at infofpc397@gmail.com
or (910) 947-2924.
We look forward to hearing from you!