

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

Carthage, NC

A community cornerstone for Christ since 1850.

September 2025 Newsletter

Recognizing God

Did you have a favorite teacher growing up? I had two. One was in elementary school and the other in high school. They were both wonderful teachers. They valued me but also required much from me. Hopefully, we have had numerous teachers that we thought the world of and often it was because they took a genuine interest in our learning and about us as students.

Think about all the relationships we have with people. Some are co-workers or bosses. Some are neighbors living down the street. Some are people we merely recognize by where they work but really don't know much about them. We have relationships with our church family, family, numerous friends' groups, etc. All of these people are special to us in one way or another. With some we can express our deepest thoughts. While others will come to our aid in the most difficult of times.

As Christians, we know the most important relationship in our lives is not with our spouses, parents, closest friends, or even our children. They are all special but our relationship with God is something which is next level or above all other relationships.

Our relationship with God reveals a kindness and love that surpasses that of our mothers. Our relationship with God moves us toward a kindness and love not even seen by our closest friends. Our relationship with God allows us to walk in faith. This relationship allows us to face the most difficult moments with the assurance that we aren't alone. God is closer than our phone or the breath we inhale.

This relationship with God takes much effort just like the effort we placed in developing our closest friends. We must spend time each day talking with God, sharing our joys and concerns. We must reveal our deepest secrets and greatest hopes. In the middle of all this talking we must find time to listen to God. God might share some needed guidance through a cool breeze, the rustling of the trees, or the light shining through window. God might speak through a song that we have heard a hundred times.

Besides our time in prayer and listening, we must embrace God's Word while reading scripture or through a devotion. God will come to us wherever we are or whatever we are doing. Nothing inhibits God from sharing God's will at any moment in our lives. Be prepared to recognize God speaking in the moment or even after the fact as we reflect. Even time is no match for God! God is truly that awesome!

Our relationship is like a roller coaster with moments of what seems like great closeness and other times where God seems light years away. Relationships ebb and flow just like with the people around us but know this truth…God is forever beside us, loving us, and guiding us toward a relationship which will grow and mature. This relationship with God will impact every part of our being. We will discover new hope and joy as we live this wonderful life.

Your Brother in Christ,

Rick



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

Elizabeth Barringer
Lee Edmonds
Margaret Leonard
Carol Lucas
Marie Monroe
Pat Nugent
Otis Patterson
Elizabeth Williams
John Currie, *Tara Plantation*
Robert Gordon
Matthew Leonard
Nancy McKenzie
Geraldine Moore, *home*
Dennis Parks
Phillip Warmbrod

Mason Alder, *Nephew of Gail & Keith Hardin*
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*
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*
Jerrod Lowry, *General Presbyter of our Presbytery*
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*
Scottie Scott, *Ann Lynch's brother*
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 August 10, 2025 in the conference room after worship. The session approved an option for online giving and a new streaming service for our worship services as well as explored other ongoing projects.

September Birthdays



5 Diane Pangborn
10 Justin Edmonds
13 Ali Wadsworth
15 Nathan Phillips
17 Catherine Monroe Wooley
18 Nancy McClendon
21 Tracy Ingold
22 Ian Estep
30 Gail Hardin

SEPTEMBER SUNDAY FLOWERS

7th Megan & Scott Phillips
14th Gail & Keith Hardin
21st Ann Key
28th Carol & Paul White

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

September Greeters

7th Michelle Tortora
14th Emily Tortora & Alek Jackson
21st Thomason Family
28th Carol & Paul White

July



	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.

Food Bank

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, September 6th

two cents

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:

September: Robbins Food Bank: non-perishable food and plastic grocery bags
October: Nursing Homes
November: Backpack Pals
December:

175th ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

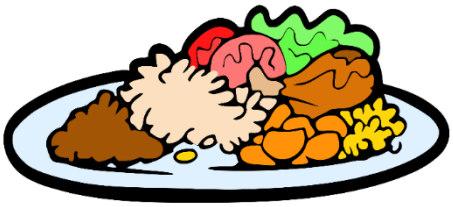
The Anniversary Committee and connected events have been wonderful. We are praying for a worship filled weekend, with much fellowship and fun for all on September 13th and 14th. **If you haven't turned in your RSVP for these two dates please do so today.** They are due by September 1st. This information is necessary to facilitate food preparations and any childcare needs.

Orders are still being taken for our 175th Anniversary, T-shirts and mugs. Order yours today by reaching out to Gail and Keith Hardin.

MEN'S GROUP

The men of FPC host a time of fellowship and Biblical Study. They meet on the first and third Tuesdays at 6:15 p.m. All are welcome to come and join in this time of fellowship and study!

PW Meal Ministry



September Meal Leaders

4th JoAnn Wahala
11th Gail Hardin
18th Lucinda Casey
25th JoAnn Wahala

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 salad supper on August 4th was an enjoyable evening of music, fellowship, and good food. The musical program was presented by Betsy & Greg Pilson, their daughter Murphy McNeill & granddaughters Kenley and Cora McNeill. The Christian music selections, their gifts of music and song were appreciated and enjoyed as was the good food and fellowship throughout the evening. Thank you, Betsy, Greg & Family.







The 2025-2026 PW Bible Study will begin on Wednesday, September 3, at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The study is Max Lucado's IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE SAVIOR. All ladies are welcome & encouraged to invite others to join the group. Anyone interested in an evening Bible Study, please notify JoAnn or any of the PWCT.

The PWCT will meet on Wednesday, September 3, 2025, at 11:00 a.m.

CHURCH CALENDAR

September 2025

Monday, September 1st		**Labor Day – Office will be closed**
Tuesday, September 2nd	6:15 p.m.	Men's Group
Wednesday, September 3rd	10:00 a.m.	PW Bible Study
	11:00 a.m.	PWCT Meeting
	5:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
Saturday, September 6th	7:30 a.m.	Robbins' Food Bank
Sunday, September 7th	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School Kick-Off (covered dish breakfast)
	11:00 a.m.	Worship Service / 2 Cents a Meal – Children
	12:00 a.m.	Congregational Meeting
Monday, September 8th	6:30 p.m.	Anniversary Committee Meeting
Wednesday, September 10th	5:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
Saturday, September 13th	5:30 p.m.	175th Anniversary Celebration
Sunday, September 14th	9:45 a.m.	**175th Anniversary Celebration**
Tuesday, September 16th	6:30 p.m.	Men's Group
Wednesday, September 17th		**Church Mouse / Newsletter Deadline**
	5:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
Saturday, September 20th	9:00 a.m.	Rise Against Hunger (West End Church)
Sunday, September 21st	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship Service / Communion
	12:15 p.m.	Session Meeting, *conference room*
Wednesday, September 24th		**Distribute Church Mouse / Newsletter**
	5:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
Sunday, September 28th	9:00 a.m.	Christian Education Committee Meeting, *conference room*
	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship Service
Tuesday, September 30th	6:30 p.m.	Worship Committee Meeting

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*
, *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!