FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

Carthage, NC

A community cornerstone for Christ since 1850.

July 2023 Newsletter



What's Your Prospective?

For some reason I was driving Kelly's car the other day. Yes, I like my car better. It's more familiar. I had just finished another wonderful men's Bible study at the church. We have been doing a study on prayer. If you want to join us just let me know. I had almost made it home when Kelly's car decided to stop working. I had turned a corner but when pushing down on the accelerator, nothing was happening. Lights started flashing on the dashboard. Ugh!

Kelly showed up with my car and we tried to jump it to no avail. I was not overjoyed for many reasons. Finally, I made it home but without the car. We later learned that the alternator had failed. Now her car is working like it should though my wallet is a little lighter.

There are two popular ways to look at life. We can either see the glass "half full" or "half empty." We can look at the positive or the negative. We can either embrace all the wonderful things in our lives or we can dwell on the bad ones.

If we total up everything in our lives, we would be hard pressed to find more negative than positive. We have families and friends that love us. We might not be able to get around like we used to, but could it be worse? Yes. We have roofs over our heads. We have food to eat. It might not be steak, lobster, Indian, or Thai every night but we are good.

Focusing on the negative tears us apart and it creates a spirit that eats away at our very being. It can be devastating. Social media is wonderful, but it can cause us to be envious of those who have this or that. We become jealous. Jesus warns of what such feelings can do to us.

Jesus helps us to see, if we are willing, of all that we have. Most importantly is the relationship we have with Jesus. We discover through Jesus a love that not only lifts us up, but it sustains us during trying times. Jesus provides a peace that stands up to every negative thing we can imagine. Jesus provides a love which motivates us to embody the "half full" way of life. Our relationship with Jesus enables us to view life with hope and joy.

Kelly's car breaking down was not ideal and it created some problems. But if you look at the positive side, the car stopped running on a quiet road and I could easily pull over. I could have been on a busy highway. I'm glad it happened to me and not one of the girls. It's a "parent" thing. It needed a new alternator, but it could have been much worse. Fortunately, I was coming home from the church and not trying to run to the hospital or one hundred miles away.

Everything boils down to what perspective we will take. We can be consumed with all the negative stuff that happens to us…or we can find the positive. Once we train ourselves to view life in this Godly, positive way, our whole outlook on life changes. We become a ray of God's love for the world to see. We won't allow the negative to consume us. It's not worth it. We will journey through life with the joy that God ushers upon us. Let's stay positive as we faithfully serve God every day!

Grace and Peace,

Rick



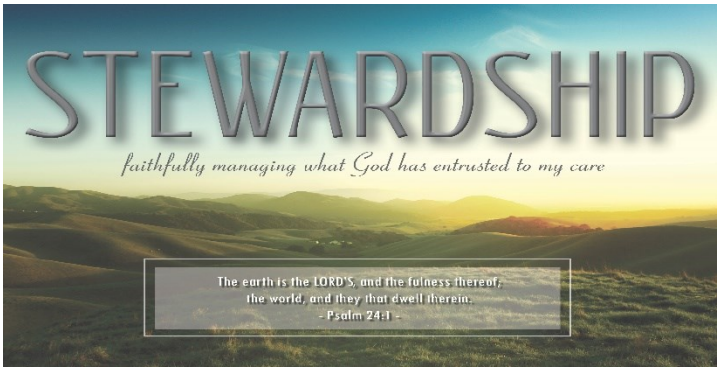
Remembering our sisters and brothers in Christ as they face difficult times.

John Currie, *Tara Plantation*
Lee Edmonds
Carol Lucas
Nancy McKenzie
Regina Nugent
Ina Sue Parks
Phillip Warmbrod
Barbara Danley
Matthew Leonard
Gail Meeks
Pat Nugent
Dennis Parks
Kay Patterson

Terry Barber, *friend of the Monroes*
Bonnie Brown, *friend of the Edmonds*
Abe Caviness, *Debby Albright's great-nephew*
Willis Clark, *Elizabeth Barringer & Marie Monroe's brother*
Ann Herndon, *Kay Patterson's sister*
Sherry Jett's family, *Gail Hardin's ex sister-in-law*
Sue & Chuck Kelly, *Mike Kelly's brother*
Sean Kennally, *Angie Provost's son-in-law*
Rexine Lloyd, *Kelly Martindale's mother*
Tyler Mabe
Beth Martindale, *Rick Martindale's sister-in-law*
Johnny Meggs
Lisa Muller, *Ina Sue Parks' cousin*
Johnathan Patterson, *Otis Patterson's son*
T Prickett, *Lyn Austin & Cathy Prickett's brother*
Sandy, *Marlene Riyevski's sister*
Joseph Saluby, *Missionaries to Guatemala*

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, and Quinn Wicker.

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.



May 2023

FINANCIAL REPORT

OPERATING FUNDS:

Balance in checking account as of May 1, 2023	68,552.73
Tithes and Offerings Received	+14,364.00
Sub-Total	82,916.73
Expenditures	-17,910.64
Balance in checking account as of May31, 2023	65,006.09

RESTRICTED FUNDS: (Funds designated for specific projects, etc.)

Restricted Funds held in checking account as of May 1, 2023	44,971.36
Employee FICA & w/holding taxes for May 2023	+654.49
Donations/offerings received: 2¢ a Meal $128.50; PW Gen Fd $125; Flower Fd $16; Pentecost $381; Spring Yard Sale gross receipts $2,231; Memorial $100	+2,981.50
Sub-Total	48,607.35
Expenditures: 2 Senior Scholarships $600; 2 Cents a Meal $237.91; One Great Hour of Sharing $637	-1,474.91
Balance in Restricted Funds as of May 31, 2023	47,132.44

RECAP:

Operating Funds Balance	65,006.09
Building Fund: $1,563.16	+1,563.16
Restricted Funds Balance	+45,569,28
	112,138.53
Apr-May '23 Payroll Taxes on hand (FICA 979.62; FW/H 234.00; SW/H 56.00) + .05 Adjustment =	-1,269.67
5/31/2023 Checkbook Balance	110,868.86

OTHER REVENUES ON HAND:

Scholarship C/D with BB&T	21,552.86
Truist Financial Corp, Estimated value (4 shs)	+127.60
	21,680.46

Church Announcements

Birthdays
Sunday Flowers
Attendance
Thank You's & More!

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
31 Ina Sue Parks

JULY SUNDAY FLOWERS

2nd Michelle & Scott Tortora
9th Jennifer & Chad Thomason
16th Marie & JD Monroe
23rd Lucinda & David Casey
30th Denise & Lee Edmonds (in honor of Ina Sue Park's birthday)

If you would like to place flowers in the sanctuary, please call:
Denise Edmonds at (910) 639-4472,
or Tom Leonard at (910) 639-3356

July Greeters

2nd Will Thomason
9th Elizabeth Barringer
16th Otis Patterson
23rd Geraldine Moore
30th Kelly Martindale

May



	Sunday School	Worship
1st Sunday	27	53
2nd Sunday	19	56
3rd Sunday	26	61
4th Sunday	00	64
5th Sunday	00	00
Average	24	58

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.

You can help by donating non-perishable foods
and double-bagged plastic grocery bags at our
Family Life Center Basket Ministries Donation Station, and/or
by joining us on:

Saturday, July 1st
Saturday, August 5th
Saturday, September 2nd
To carpool, meet in the FPC parking lot at 7 a.m.

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!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Vacation Bible School will be held Sunday, July 16th – Wednesday, July 19th from 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. for ages 4-6th grade (just finished 6th grade).
New this year: Adult VBS will also be available from 6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served. For all those planning to attend, please register on our website at www.fpccarthage.com or contact the church office at 910-947-2924. Also, feel free to contact Jennifer Thomason at mrs.jenniferthomason@gmail.com

CAMP MONROE

During the week of June 11th through June 16th, Alex, Will and Owen Thomason attended Camp Monroe located near Laurinburg. All had a great time! Joey Tortora is a Camp Counselor for the summer.





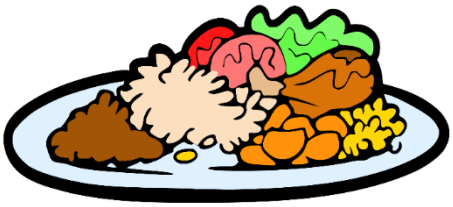

CONTEMPORARY SERVICE

On the first Sunday of each month, we will worship in the multi-purpose room. It's a different style of worship but the same family and same God. All are welcome!

MEN'S GROUP

The men of First Presbyterian Church are conducting a Bible study on prayer. Normally the men meet on the first and third Tuesdays at 6:15 p.m. but this month they will be meeting only on July 11th. All are welcome to come and join us in this time of fellowship and study!

PW Meal Ministry



July Meal Leaders:

6th	JoAnn Wahala
13th	Gail Hardin
20th	Lucinda Casey
27th	Claudia McKenzie

If you would like to help with a meal, part of a meal or know someone who needs assistance please contact JoAnn Wahala at 910-947-3238.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

The PW Coordinating Team will meet on Monday July 24, 2023 in the conference room at 6:30 pm. For anyone interested in joining, please feel free to join us.

Pat and Regina Nugent & family visited the Aloha Safari Zoo/Park on June 14th. They traveled the car route, followed by the walking area for interactions with the animals. They reported a fun time, the highlight of the visit being the opportunity to pet and feed the giraffes. A picnic lunch was also enjoyed.

Mark your calendars: The PW Salad Supper will be on Monday, August 7, 2023 at 6:30 pm. All are invited to enjoy food and fellowship.

The PW 2023 Fall Gathering will be at Highland Presbyterian Church in Fayetteville on Saturday August 19, 2023. During this event, we can provide female hygiene kits for ladies in need. If you would like to provide a kit or kits or would like to donate money for these kits, please contact JoAnn Wahala via phone or email to: jmcdonald2023@outlook.com

CHURCH CALENDAR

July 2023

Saturday, June 1st	7:30 a.m.	Robbins' Food Bank, *meet 7 a.m. at FPC to carpool*
Sunday, July 2nd	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Contemporary Service / 2-Cents a Meal Children's Offering
Tuesday, July 4th		**Happy Fourth of July (Church Office Closed)**
Sunday, July 9th	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Worship
	11:15 p.m.	Session Meeting
Monday, July 10th	6:00 p.m.	RACM Board Meeting
Tuesday, July 11th	6:00 p.m.	VBS Meeting / Decorating
	7:00 p.m.	Men's Bible Study
Sunday, July 16th	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Worship / Communion / Lemonade on the Lawn
	6:00 p.m.	**Vacation Bible School**
Monday. July 17th	6:00 p.m.	**Vacation Bible School**
Tuesday, July 18th		Deadline for Church Mouse Newsletter / Mouse
	6:00 p.m.	**Vacation Bible School**
Wednesday, July 19th	6:00 p.m.	**Vacation Bible School**
Thursday, July 20th		Men's Bible Study, *Hosting Dinner*
Sunday, July 23rd	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Worship
Monday, July 24th	6:30 p.m.	PW Coordinating Team
Tuesday, July 25th	6:00 p.m.	Worship Committee Meeting
Wednesday, July 26th		Distribute Church Mouse / Newsletter

The Session

Moderator:
The Rev. Rick Martindale

Clerk:
Tom Leonard

Class of 2023	**Class of 2024**
Lucinda Casey	Gail Hardin
Cristy Dean	Robert Gordon
Tom Leonard	Jackie Muse
Scott Phillips	John McDonald
Jennifer Thomason	Nancy Carter
Paul White	Michelle Tortora

Church Staff

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

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!