

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

Carthage, NC

A community cornerstone for Christ since 1850.

November 2025 Newsletter

Marching Orders

This is my last article for the Church Mouse. Our time together has fed my soul. You have helped me to grow and mature as a pastor and a child of God. I'm hoping that you, too, have grown in your relationship with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. I carry much into my next endeavor and church family. You, however, are not being replaced. Your imprint is forever a part of my being and that of family. My gratitude is overflowing.

Like you, I have many passages that I adore in the Bible. One of them is Jesus commissioning His disciples at the end of Matthew, "Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw Him, they worshipped Him, but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age (Matthew 28:16-20).'"

This passage reveals how we are to live our lives. The disciples came to their prearranged meeting spot and when Jesus arrives or they arrive, there is probably a sense of great relief, Jesus is back. Even as they worshipped Him, some doubted. We doubt God or at least God's love and power. It's easy to do.

First and foremost, we must retrain our minds and souls. I mentioned this last Sunday. We must acknowledge that all authority on heaven and earth hasn't been given to anyone but Jesus. He can right any wrong. He can bring hope in our distress. He is the love that we crave and need. He is greater than every obstacle we will ever face. Jesus doesn't promise that our obstacles will be wiped clean. Instead, He promises us that He will be with us. This "retraining" is difficult but it simplifies our lives and provides a great peace.

With this knowledge, we can then go out to our friends, family, fellow students, co-workers, and strangers to share Jesus Christ. We can do this because Jesus is our authority and He has commanded us to do this. It's not a request. It's an order! He's not asking us to run a marathon or preach in front of the congregation but simply convey what Jesus means to us.

What does Jesus mean to you? Can you verbalize it? This is yours to discern. I know what He means to me. He is a love that trumps all humanity and our sins. He daily gives me way more than I deserve. Our orders are to share Jesus with the people we encounter. Discover your way of sharing and then with the courage of Christ share it with those within God's Church and beyond. They need to know Jesus…and we need to share who Jesus is. Can I get an "Amen?"

Your Forever Brother in Christ,

Rick



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

Elizabeth Barringer
Lee Edmonds
Matthew Leonard
Nancy McKenzie, Home
Marie Monroe
Pat Nugent
Otis Patterson
Phillip Warmbrod
John Currie, *Tara Plantation*
Margaret Leonard
Carol Lucas
Jeff Medlin
Geraldine Moore
Dennis Parks
Sonya Potter
Elizabeth Williams

Mason Alder, *Gail & Keith Hardin's nephew*
Shirley Allen, *member of Union Presbyterian Church*
Lester Bailey, member at Union Presbyterian Church
Tom Brady*, member at Priest Hill Church*
Bonnie Brown*, friend of the Edmonds*
Daniel Cartwright*, Margaret and Tom Leonard's nephew*
Murphey Coy, *nephew of Claudia McKenzie & Robert Hunt*
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*, Regina Nugent's sister*
Linda Phillips*, Kay Patterson's friend*
T Prickett, *Cathy Prickett's brother*
Renee & Phillip*, friends of the Nugent's*
Scottie Scott, *Ann Lynch's brother*
Ginny Stone, *Rick Martindale's aunt*
Marie Walton*, Diane Pangborn's mother*
Tony Wilson, *friend of Nancy Carter*

Please take a moment and review the prayer list. We are happy to keep anyone on the list in need of prayer, but if you have anyone on the list that can be removed, please contact Sonya Potter at the church office or send her an email.

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 October 12, 2025.
*Two families have been selected for our Angel Tree program
*approved age restrictions for nursery during worship (once in 1st grade must be in worship)
*Worship time has been changed to 10 a.m. starting in 2026
*Congregational meeting will be held on October 26th to dissolve the pastoral relationship with Rev. Martindale.

November Birthdays



1 Cody Adelmann
5 Scott Phillips
8 Jeff Medlin
10 Steve Ingold
12 Emily Tortora
15 Megan Phillips
20 Doreen Little
27 Cathy Campbell
29 Chad Thomason
30 Nancy McKenzie

NOVEMBER SUNDAY FLOWERS

2nd The Martindale's
9th Harvest Table by Presbyterian Women
16th Harvest Table by Presbyterian Women
23rd Harvest Table by Presbyterian Women
30th Poinsettias / Advent Wreath

If you would like to place flowers in the sanctuary, please Call Paul White at (910) 783-7868.

November Greeters

2nd Ann Key
9th Ann & Tom Currie
16th Lucinda & David Casey
23rd Ann & Joe Lynch
30th 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, November 1st
and Saturday, December 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!

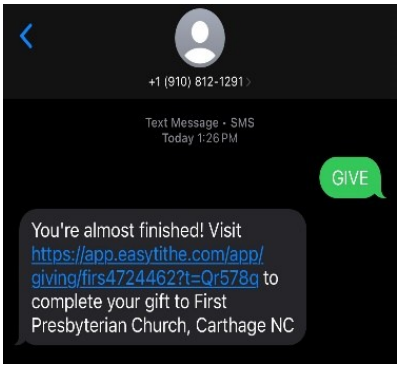
ONLINE GIVING NOW AVAILABLE

The instructions for the new online giving are available in the bulletin, the Church Mouse / Newsletter and also our website at www.fpccarthage.com.

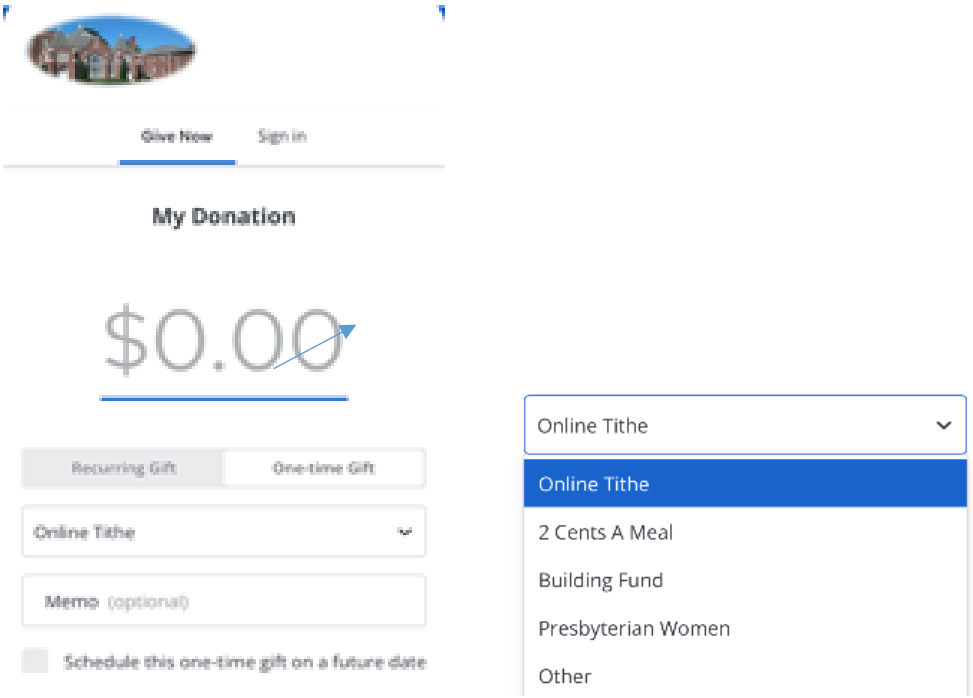
Finance & Stewardship committee introduces easyTithe, an online giving platform!
~easyTithe's online giving platform provides flexibility for contributing anytime, anywhere~

Easy as 1-2-3
Step 1: scan QR code with cell phone camera

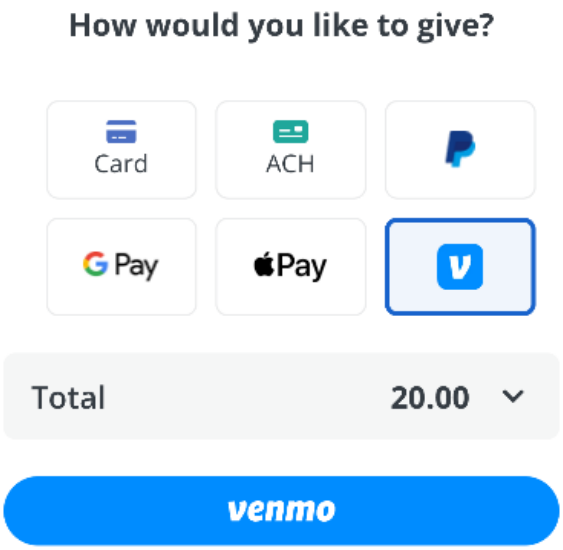
Or *Text the word "GIVE" to 910-812-1291 and follow prompt*



Step 2: enter donation amount (one-time or recurring gift) and select offering type (tithe, 2 cents a meal, building fund, presbyterian women, or other).



Step 3: All giving options are available! Confirmation is sent via text or email.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Operation Christmas Child: Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box collection is November 17 – 24. We will be packing shoeboxes on Sunday, November 2nd. The Youth group is collecting plastic containers, small toys, school supplies, coloring books, crayons, combs, brushes, socks and underwear. Please take a moment and help the youth fill these boxes. Below is a photo of our Youth Group.



SPECIAL LUNCHEON

There will be covered dish luncheon after worship on November 9th to honor Rick Martindale for his nearly 20 years of service to our church. Please plan on attending and bring your favorite dishes. Let's make this a memorable moment for Rick and his family.

POINSETTIAS

Sunday, November 30th, is the first day of Advent and we invite you to bring a Poinsettia to decorate the church during this season. If you bring them a few days before or the morning of the 30th, we will get them arranged and will tend to them throughout Advent. If you plan on placing a Poinsettia in honor or memory of someone, please let Sonya Potter know by Tuesday, November 24th, so that the information can be added to the bulletin during Advent. Thanks!

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!
Currently we are discussing Tony Dungy's book, Leaning on the Promise of God for Men.

THE FELLOWSHIP AND MISSION COMMITTEE

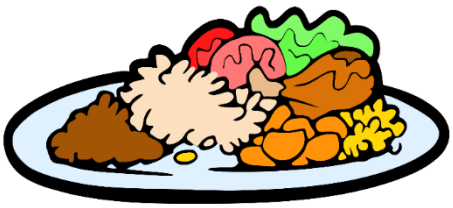
The Fellowship and Mission Committee has 4 "basket ministry" bins in the Family Life Center. Each month for the remainder of this year, one ministry will be a focus, **but everyone can continue to donate items to any of the ministries each month**. The schedule for highlighted ministries each month will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

November: Backpack Pals: raisins and crackers.

ANGEL TREE

The Fellowship and Missions Committee are sponsoring two families for Christmas from Carthage Elementary School. The Angel Tree is located in the upper Narthex. Please be so kind when gift is purchased to wrap and put angel tag on the gift. This project will run until December 7th. If you have any questions, please contact Marie Monroe or Gail Hardin.

PW Meal Ministry



November Meal Leaders

Meal ministry -will be determined as need arises.

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

Thank you all for supporting the PW Thank Offering on October 19th. Your continued support of the PW projects and work make possible the women's assistance with needs and support of selected charities each year locally, nationwide, and beyond.

The PW Christmas dinner is scheduled for Monday, December 1st at 6:30 p.m. Please mark your calendars and invite a friend or friends to join us for good food, a program (TBD) and a special visitor. There is no charge for the evening. Donations will be accepted for the Carthage Food Pantry.

CHURCH CALENDAR November 2025

Saturday, November 1st	7:30 a.m.	Robbins' Food Bank
Sunday, November 2nd	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship Service/2 Cents a Meal/Communion
	12:15 p.m.	Session Meeting, *conference room*
	5:00 p.m.	Youth Group
Monday, November 3rd	6:30 p.m.	Fellowship and Mission Committee, *conference room*
Tuesday, November 4th	6:15 p.m.	Men's Group
Wednesday, November 5th	10:00 a.m.	PW Bible Study
	11:00 a.m.	PWCT Meeting
	5:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
Friday, November 7th		Youth Lock-in
Saturday, November 8th	9:00 a.m.	Fall Clean-Up Day
Sunday, November 9th	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	12:15 p.m.	**Covered Dish Luncheon in Honor of Rick Martindale**
Wednesday, November 12th	5:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
Sunday, November 16th	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	5:00 p.m.	Youth Group
Tuesday, November 18th	6:15 p.m.	Men's Group
Wednesday, November 19th		**Church Mouse / Newsletter Deadline**
	5:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
Sunday, November 23rd	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	5:00 p.m.	Youth Group
Tuesday, November 25th	6:30 p.m.	Worship Committee Meeting
Wednesday, November 26th		**Due to Thanksgiving Holiday. The Church Mouse/Newsletter will be distributed on December 3rd**
	5:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
Thursday, November 27th		**Happy Thanksgiving! (Church Office Closed)**
Sunday, November 30th	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	5:00 p.m.	Youth Group

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!