FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

Carthage, NC

A community cornerstone for Christ since 1850.

April 2022 Newsletter



To See or Not to See

Howard County Sheriff Jerry Marr got a disturbing call one Saturday afternoon. His six-year-old grandson, Mikey, had been struck by a car while riding his bike. A woman lost control of her car and hit Mikey at a high rate of speed. Sheriff Marr had seen the results of accidents like this and feared the worst.

He rushed to the emergency room to discover that his grandson was going to be OK. Mikey was conscious and in fairly good spirits.

"Mikey, what happened?" Sheriff Marr asked.

Mikey replied, "Well Papaw, I was biking along, when I heard some weird sound behind me and then some car plowed into me, I flew into a mud puddle, but my bike is all broken!"

As it turned out, the impact propelled Mikey 500 feet over a few trees, an embankment, and into the middle of a mud puddle. His only injuries were to his right femur bone, which was broken in two places. Mikey had surgery to place pins in his leg.

Since all his grandson could talk about was his broken bike, the sheriff went out and bought him a new one while he was in surgery. The next day the grandfather (sheriff) sat with Mikey to keep him company in the hospital. Mikey was admiring his brand-new bike.

When they were alone Mikey, just as casually as possible said "Papaw, did you know Jesus is real?"

"Well," the grandfather replied, a little startled, "Yes, Jesus is real."
"No," sensing his doubt, "I mean Jesus is really, real."
"What do you mean?"
"I know He's real because I saw him," said Mikey handling his new bike.
"You did?" his grandfather cautiously said.
"Yep," said Mikey. "When that lady plowed into me and broke my bike, Jesus caught me in his arms and laid me down in the mud puddle…"

As we continue to explore our faith, during Lent, we must ask ourselves, "Is Jesus just someone we say we believe in or is He 'really, real?'" Does our doubt or lack of "really" seeing Him cloud or inhibit us from embracing the reality of Jesus? Our faith in Jesus is believing what we can't see. We can choose to believe in Jesus or not. But no matter what someone believes, Jesus is real. Just ask Mikey. May our actions testify to the truth of our Lord and Savior during the remaining weeks of Lent.

Grace and Peace,
Rick



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

Debby Albright
Janice Coffey
John Currie, *Tara Plantation*
Carol Lucas
Gail Meeks
Dennis Parks
Kay Patterson
The Ukrainian People
Anna Belle Campbell
Benny Cole
Lee Edmonds
Linda McCaskill
Jeannie Muse
Ina Sue Parks
Tom Stewart
Phillip Warmbrod

Artie Barber, *friend of the Monroes*
Terry Barber, *friend of the Monroes*
Karen Bryant, *friend of JoAnn Wahala*
Willis Clark, *brother of Elizabeth Barringer & Marie Monroe*
Jack Denniston, *friend of the Casey's*
June Greeson, *Susan Cole's mother*
Ann Herndon, *Kay Patterson's sister*
Jada, *friend of Geraldine Moore*
Sean Kennally, *Angie Provost's son-in-law*
Barbara May, *friend of Debbie Gordon*
Jane Medlin, *Carol Lucas' daughter*
Lisa Muller, *Cousin of Ina Sue Parks*
T Prickett, Lyn Austin & Cathy Prickett's brother
Lynn Wise, *Debbie Gordon's sister*

All of our military men and women and their families, especially the following:
Jonathan Baker, Kyle Bryant, 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.



February 2022

OPERATING FUNDS:

Balance in checking account as of Feb 1, 2022	96,911.36
Tithes and Offerings Received	+12,405.62
Sub-Total	109,316.98
Expenditures	-11,844.61
Balance in checking account as of Feb 28, 2022	**97,472.37**

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

Restricted Funds held in checking account as of Feb 1, 2022	60,434.32
Employee FICA & w/holding taxes for Feb 2022	+481.81
Donations/offerings received: 2¢ a Meal $91.86; Joy $50; PW $25; Cemetery $150; Regular Memorial $40	+356.86
Sub-Total	61,272.99
Expenditures: Flower Fund (bud vase for Wrenley Lisbeth Carter) $20.28; Suther Solutions Construction, balance on repairs $15,975; Heaven's Best, upholstery & carpet cleaning $2,800	-18,795.28
Balance in Restricted Funds as of Feb 28, 2022	**42,477.71**

RECAP:

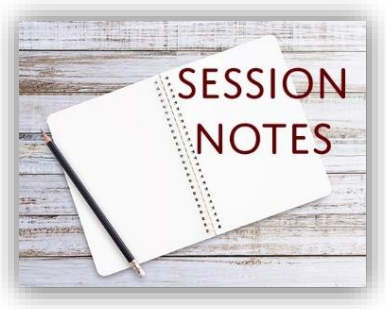
Operating Funds Balance	97,472.37
Building Fund: Equip 93.54 + Grant 265.67 + 18,949.75 - 18,775 .00 =	+533.96
Restricted Funds Balance	+41,943.75
	139,950.08
Jan -Feb 2022 Payroll Taxes on hand (FICA 725.81; FW/H 174.42; SW/H 26.00) Plus Adjustment of $.07	-926.30
2/28/2022 Checkbook Balance	**139,023.78**

OTHER REVENUES ON HAND:

Scholarship C/D with BB&T	22,146.23
Truist Financial Corp, Estimated value (4 shs)	+235.84
	22,382.07

Church Announcements

Birthdays
Sunday Flowers
Attendance
Thank Yous & More!



Session approved the following at the March 2022 meeting:

- Our annual Spring Cleanup Day will be 8 a.m. Saturday, April 23rd. Coffee, beverages and food will be provided. Come help us clean up God's house!
- June 5th will be Graduation Sunday, where we will recognize our high school seniors. We will also have our first covered dish luncheon since COVID.
- Approved the Easter Sunrise Service and fellowship breakfast.

April Birthdays



4	David Casey
5	Cindy Monroe
6	Katie Campbell Lucas
7	Shane Medlin
9	Judi Kelly
10	Reid Marshburn
11	Katie Kelly Crenshaw
11	Kayden Dean
11	Sharon McDonald
14	Michelle Tortora
16	Regena Nugent
18	Kelly Gordon
19	Ann Key
21	Lee McCaskill
26	Denise Bennett
26	Shirley Moore
30	Coy Oakley
30	Tina Stromko

April Sunday Flowers

3rd	Carol and Paul White
10th	Helen and C.J. McDonald
17th	Easter Lilies
24th	Debbie and Robert Gordon

If you would like to place flowers in the sanctuary please call Debbie Gordon at (910) 947-3963, or Tom Leonard at (910) 693-3356.

February



	Sunday School	Worship
6th	23	61
13th	22	34
20th	23	46
27th	16	34
Average	21	44

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

He is RISEN

Celebrating Jesus Christ's victory over death. His resurrection changed all!

We are excited to announce that our Community Easter Breakfast is back this year after the 7 a.m. Sunrise Service. The menu be a little different this year, but will still be delicious! Enjoy breakfast casserole, biscuits, fruit and beverages – and maybe an extra item or two.
Guests can eat in the multi-purpose room or can take plates to go.
Please come to the Sunrise Service and join us for fellowship at the Easter Breakfast. *Fellowship & Missions*



Sunday, April 10th Palm/Passion Sunday
10:00 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship / Virtual
4:00 p.m. Outdoor Community Palm Service at Robbins' Green Space
5:00 p.m. Youth Group, *grades 7-12*

Tuesday, April 12th Homebound Easter Ministry
Commemorative Easter Lily information due to church office
10:00 a.m. Homebound Easter Basket Preparation (FLC)

Thursday, April 14th Maundy Thursday
6:00 p.m. Tenebrae Service

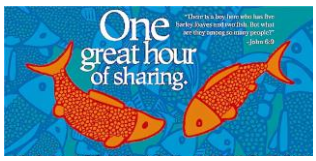
Sunday, April 17th Resurrection of the Lord
7:00 a.m. Community Sunrise Service (Fpc Cemetery) &
Fellowship Breakfast (Fpc)
10:00 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship / Virtual / One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

Monday, April 18th Easter Monday
Church Office closed



Commemorative Easter Lilies
On Easter Sunday, white lilies are placed in worship to commemorate the promise of new life through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

To commemorate a loved one with an Easter Lily, please contact the church office at (910) 947-2924 or infofpc397@gmail.com with your loved one's name by Tuesday, April 12th



One Great Hour of Sharing Annual Easter Sunday Special Offering
In a world of disaster, hunger, and oppression, for more than 70 years One Great Hour of Sharing has provided Presbyterians a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need in the United States and around the world. As millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity, One Great Hour of Sharing supports valuable programs that address these major issues through the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance; Presbyterian Hunger; and Self-Development of People programs. Please plan to contribute to this special offering and help make a difference in the lives of others by showing the love of Christ through Presbyterian programs designed specifically to meet these needs and to show the hope that only Christ can bring. Look for One Great Hour of Sharing special offering information and envelopes in upcoming Sunday bulletins.



FPC Fellowship & Mission
Serving Carthage & the greater community in Christ.

Visit www.fpccarthage.com/ways-to-serve to learn more.

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.

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 at any upcoming dates you're available:

April 2, May 7, June 4, July 2 (tentative date),
August 6, and September 3 (tentative date)

To carpool, meet in the FPC parking lot at 7 a.m.

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.

Give any amount in your regular offering
envelope and write
2-Cents on the special offering line.
Or on a separate envelope
with 2-Cents written on the outside.

A little bit can go a long way!

HOSPICE

NURSING HOME OUTREACH

FPC Basket Ministries collects items of comfort and necessities year-round for residents of Carthage's Peak Resources Pinelake nursing home do not have family or loved ones close by to help – and for Hospice patients and families in need of blessings. As you shop, please consider purchasing an extra item or more for our neighbors in need including: lotion, body wash, chapstick, shampoo, toothpaste, hair accessories, back scratchers, blankets, socks, pajamas and sweats (various sizes), bird feeders, small radios, word searches, games, coloring supplies, and puzzles.

BackPack Pals of Moore County
A non-profit, kid-friendly nutritional program

Fellowship & Missions collects raisins and crackers during the school year to provide local schools with snacks to send home with children affected by food-shortage. Please drop snacks off in the BackPack Pals basket at Fpc's Family Life Center Donation Station located near the main church office.

Faith Family

You are important to God and to First Presbyterian Church. Led by God and sustained by the Holy Spirit, we are a church where you will be supported as you grow in your faith, strengthen your relationship with Jesus Christ, and are challenged to be God's servants and disciples. Come as you are, and bring your hopes, gifts and imperfections. We will! To learn more, visit us www.fpccarthage.com.

YOUTH GROUP

7th-12th grade
5p.m. Sundays

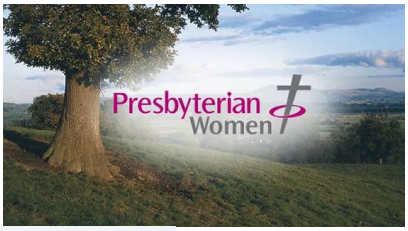
During the school year,
meet Sunday evenings
to have fun, be challenged,
and explore what it means to be a Christian.

**Youth does not meet on weeks with school holidays or breaks, or during the summer.*

Sunday FUNDAY

Ages 4-6th grade
4-5p.m., 1st Sundays

Children ages 4 through 6th grade
(and families too) are invited to join us on
the first Sunday of every month for
fun, faith and fellowship!
Invite a friend and mark your calendars for
April 3rd and May 1st.
Hope to see you there!







Please join us!

Women's Circle & Bible Study
April 7th 11 a.m. Lesson 8

Easter Basket Packing
for our local Homebound and Nursing Home
Church friends and family
Tuesday, April 12th 10 a.m.



March Madness Cans!
Drop off canned food items with your
favorite March Madness team on the top.
We will keep track of which team wins
and announce in church.

CHURCH CALENDAR

April 2022

Family Life Center (FLC) Conference Room (CR)

Saturday, April 2nd	7:30 a.m.	Robbins' Food Bank, *meet 7 a.m. at FPC to carpool*
Sunday, April 3rd		5th Sunday in Lent
	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship / Virtual /
		1st Sunday 2 Cents a Meal Offering
	4:00 p.m.	Sunday FunDay!, *ages 4 through 6th grade*
Monday, April 4th	6:00 p.m.	RACM
	7:00 p.m.	Presbyterian Women
Tuesday, April 5th	6:30 p.m.	Worship Committee Meeting
Wednesday, April 6th	12:00 p.m.	Community Lenten Series, Mt. Olive AME Zion (to-go meal)
	6:30 p.m.	Choir practice
Thursday, April 7th	11:00 a.m.	Women's Day Circle & Bible Study (FLC)
Sunday, April 10th		Holy Week begins
		Palm/Passion Sunday
	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship / Virtual
	2:00 p.m.	Session Meeting
	4:00 p.m.	Outdoor Community Palm Service at Robbins' Green Space
	5:00 p.m.	Youth Group, *grades 7-12*
Tuesday, April 12th		Commemorative Easter Lily information due to church office
	10:00 a.m.	Homebound Easter Basket Preparation (FLC)
Wednesday, April 13th	6:30 p.m.	Choir practice
Thursday, April 14th	6:00 p.m.	Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Service
Friday, April 15th		Good Friday / No School
Sunday, April 17th	7:00 a.m.	Easter Sunday Community Sunrise Service (Fpc Cemetery) and
		Fellowship Breakfast (FLC)
	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship / Virtual / Communion /
		One Great Hour of Sharing Special Offering
Monday, April 18th		Easter Monday, *church office closed* / No School
Tuesday, April 19th		Deadline for May Church Mouse Newsletter
Wednesday, April 20th	6:30 p.m.	Choir practice
Saturday, April 23rd	8:00 a.m.	Spring Church Cleanup Day
Sunday, April 24th		2nd Sunday of Easter
	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship / Virtual / Communion
	5:00 p.m.	Youth Group, *grades 7-12*
Tuesday, April 26th	6:30 p.m.	Fellowship & Mission meeting
Wednesday, April 27th	6:30 p.m.	Choir practice