FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

Carthage, NC

A community cornerstone for Christ since 1850.

September 2024 Newsletter



Make Today Count for Jesus

Make Today Count. It was something I heard all the time growing up when I was in high school, middle school, and before. For many we associate it with making a difference each day or making today mean something. In other words, don't waste it away. It also was the name of a national organization for terminal cancer patients and their families. My father was the president of the local chapter for several years. I don't remember much about all that entailed but I remember as a child going to picnics with other families. It was a time to make connections, to support one another, and simply enjoy life, no matter how long that might be.

In a sense we are all terminal. It might not be from cancer. Yet our time on earth is short. We might die from another disease, a car accident, or even old age. As Christians, we walk in faith knowing that our earthly existence only leads toward an eternal life in heaven with God.

Yet no matter how strong or developing our faith may be, we are called to make today count. God wants us to make the most of this life here on earth. We are called to love our neighbors (Mark 12:31). We are called to make disciples of all nations and teaching them to obey Jesus' words of guidance (Matthew 28:19-20).

We might question, "How do we make each day count?" Each day we are provided countless opportunities to love our neighbor, to show the grace and mercy of Jesus, and invite others to come and discover the joy of knowing Him. The opportunities are many. The challenge for us each day is to embrace those opportunities and make them count.

In our bulletin each week, we list opportunities for us to embrace. Some are fun like our Sunday School Kick-off covered-dish breakfast on September 8th or our fall picnic taking place on September 29th. Other opportunities might feel more like work, such as the Robbins Food Bank (it's not) or serving on a committee.

You might receive a call sometime in the next month or so, asking you to serve on the session or the cemetery committee. If you don't get a call just know it's not your time. If you do receive one, please do not take this call lightly. The Nominating Committee is hard at work trying to discern God's call and in that time of prayer and discussion your name has risen to the top of the list. Our opportunities come in the everyday living of our lives and in ways to better God's church here at FPC. The easy answer will be to decline after prayer but I challenge you to take the road less traveled and rise up to God's opportunity. God longs for you to make the most of every day including within the walls of this congregation as we reach well beyond these walls. Let's make today count for our Lord and Savior, placing Him above ourselves.

Your Brother in Christ,

Rick



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

Benny Cole
Jeane Dennis & Family
Sheree Kelly
Carol Lucas
Carl Nunnery
Ina Sue Parks (*St. Jospeh's)*
Phillip Warmbrod

John Currie, *Tara Plantation*
Lee Edmonds
Matthew Leonard
Nancy McKenzie
Dennis Parks
Otis Patterson

Alma Baker
Bonnie Brown*, friend of the Edmonds*
Daniel Cartwright*, Margaret and Tom Leonard's nephew*
Abe Caviness, *Debby Albright's great-nephew*
Ann Herndon, *Kay Patterson's sister*
Sue Kelly, in the passing of her husband Chuck, *Mike Kelly's brother*
Sean 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*
Marie Walton*, Mother of Diane Pangborn*

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.



This is the Financial Report for

June 2024

FINANCIAL REPORT

OPERATING FUNDS:

Balance in checking account as of June 1, 2024		72,341.11
Correct in discrepancy in 5/31/24 & 6/28/24 Bank Statements (unknown reason)		+110.00
Tithes and Offerings Received		+16,995.00
	Sub-Total	89,446.11
Expenditures		-17,922.67
Balance in checking account as of June 30, 2024 (Includes Apr-June payroll taxes Withheld: FICA $1,112.70; FW/H $122; SW/H $30=$1,264.70)		71,523.44

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

Restricted Funds held in checking account as of June 1, 2024		55,319.77
Donations/offerings received: 2¢ a Meal $137.56; Flower Fund $51; PW GF $170; Men's Group $50		+408.56
	Sub-Total	55,728.33
Expenditures: 2 Cents a Meal $229.89; Pentecost (60% share) $144.60		-374.49
Balance in Restricted Funds as of June 30, 2024		55,353.84

RECAP:

Operating Funds Balance	71,523.44
Building Fund: $12,664.09	+12,664.09
Restricted Funds Balance	+42,689,75
6/30/2024 Checkbook Balance	126,877.28

OTHER REVENUES ON HAND:

Scholarship C/D with BB&T	21,681.49

STEWARDSHIP
MAXIMIZING GOD'S BLESSINGS FOR HIS GLORY

This is the Financial Report for
July 2024

FINANCIAL REPORT

OPERATING FUNDS:

Balance in checking account as of July 1, 2024		71,523.44
Tithes and Offerings Received		+11,150.00
	Sub-Total	82,673.44
Expenditures		-16,974.55
Balance in checking account as of July 31, 2024 (Includes Apr-June payroll taxes Withheld: FICA $332.99; FW/H $34.00; SW/H $10=$376.99)		65,698.89

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

Restricted Funds held in checking account as of July 1, 2024		55,353.84
Donations/offerings received: 2¢ a Meal $134.46; Flower Fund $35; PW GF $35		+204.46
	Sub-Total	55,558.30
Expenditures: Presbyterian Women: B'day donation $10 & Gen Fund $1,155		-1,165.00
Balance in Restricted Funds as of July 31, 2024		54,393.30

RECAP:

Operating Funds Balance	65,698.89
Building Fund: $12,664.09	+12,664.09
Restricted Funds Balance	+41,729,21
6/30/2024 Checkbook Balance	120,092.19

OTHER REVENUES ON HAND:

Scholarship C/D with BB&T	21,681.49

Church Announcements

Birthdays
Sunday Flowers
Attendance
Thank You's & More!



The session met on August 9th.
We reviewed the Praise Services during the first Sunday of June, July, and August.
We had 22 children at VBS on August 2nd – 4th. Carthage United Methodist Church assisted.
We still need a few more people to serve on the 175th Church Anniversary for next year.

September Birthdays



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

SEPTEMBER SUNDAY LOWERS

1st Jackie & Jim Muse
8th Ann Lynch
15th Gail & Keith Hardin
22nd Lucinda & David Casey
29th Margaret & Tom Leonard

If you would like to place flowers in the sanctuary please call Debbie Gordon at (910) 947-3963

September Greeters

1st Geraldine Moore
8th Cristy & Damon Dean
15th JoAnn Wahala
22nd Kay Patterson
29th Scott Rives

June 2024

	Sunday School	Worship
1st Sunday	15	65
2nd Sunday	19	53
3rd Sunday	10	29
4th Sunday	16	45
5th Sunday	16	39
Average	15	46

July 2024

	Sunday School	Worship
1st Sunday	18	45
2nd Sunday	13	39
3rd Sunday	13	38
4th Sunday	12	39
5th Sunday	N/A	N/A
Average	14	40

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 this Saturday, September 7th.

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.

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

A little bit can go a long way!

ONLINE DIRECTORY

Directory sheets are located in the upper and lower narthex. Please fill out and return to Michelle Tortora. You can also email the information and a clear, family appropriate picture to her at mrstortora@hotmail.com.

MEN'S GROUP

The men of FPC host a time of fellowship and Biblical Study. They are doing a study by Ray Vander Laan. 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!

The Men's Group will be collecting paper towels and feminine products for Friend to Friend. Donations may be left in the foyer. Please contact Keith Hardin with any questions at 910-603-0837. Monetary donations will also be accepted. Thak you in advance for all your support of this group. It is much appreciated.

UPDATED ADDRESS for PHILLIP WARMBROD

Phillip Warmbrod has been transferred to another facility. His new address is #0762662 Southern Correctional Institution, P.O. Box 247, Phoenix, MD 21131. A return address is required on all personal mail. Please use your name and to use the church address. Feel free to drop him a note at your convenience.

175 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Next year FPC will be celebrating 175 years!!
If you are interested in serving on this committee to prepare for our celebration, please let a member of the session know. Your help is essential for our celebration.

FELLOWSHIP & MISSIONS COMMITTEE

The Fellowship & Missions Committee has planned an outing at Dunrovin Exotic Animal Sanctuary. We will meet there at 12:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 14th. This nonprofit animal rescue is free and open to the public. We will follow-up with a "Dutch treat" pizza party at Bob's Pizza which is located next to Dunrovin.

ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC

Things are gearing up for the "Annual Church Picnic" which will take place on Sunday, September 29th at 5:00 p.m. Get ready for hot dogs, hamburgers, and your choice of homemade ice cream. Your assistance in preparation would be greatly appreciated. A sign-up board is available in the lower narthex.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

Thank you to all that assisted with the preparation and ongoing events during Vacation Bible School. Everyone had a wonderful time diving into that special friendship with God. A Special Thank you to all those that attended. We hope to see you next year. Please enjoy a few photos from this amazing adventure.







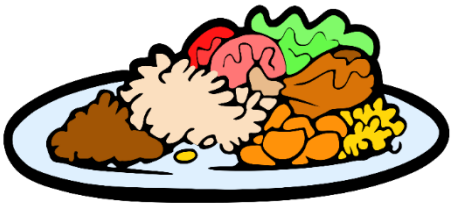








PW Meal Ministry



September Meal Leaders:

5th JoAnn Wahala
12th Gail Hardin
19th Lucinda Casey
26th 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 2024-2025 Bible Study will begin on Wednesday, September 4th, at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall and our study will be Max Lucado's "You Are Never Alone". Lesson 1 will reference chapters 1 & 2 of the book. Individual study guides will be used as well as a DVD. We will also be offering an evening study time upon request. Please notify JoAnn Wahala or any of the PW coordinating team members if interested. All ladies are welcome to attend and feel free to bring a friend(s).

The PWCT will meet on Wednesday, September 4th at 11:00 a.m. following Bible Study.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the school supplies collection for Carthage Elementary School. Many items and supplies were donated for our local elementary school students. We are so blessed at FPC to have such a caring, dedicated and supportive church family. Your generosity and support of this PW mission project and our other projects and functions is so very much appreciated.

Attending the PW Salad Supper on Monday, August 5th were members of FPC, guests from Union Presbyterian, Priest Hill Presbyterian, John Hall Presbyterian Churches and from Glendon area church. An outstanding program of secular and spiritual music was provided by the Ed Martel (on keyboard) band, with our own Scott Tortora (Sax), and Liane Martel (vocalist), in which everyone greatly enjoyed. The PW and church family members provided a smorgasbord meal of many salads, fruits and desserts. Thanks to all that assisted with preparation and set up for the meal, those that provided our entertainment, and all those that attended (48).







CHURCH CALENDAR

September 2024

Sunday, September 1st	10:15 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship Service / 2 Cents a Meal with Children
	12:10 p.m.	Hand Chime Practice
Monday, September 2nd		**Labor Day – Church Office Closed**
Tuesday, September 3rd	6:15 p.m.	Men's Group
Wednesday, September 4th	10:00 a.m.	PW Bible Study
	11:00 a.m.	PW Coordinating Team Meeting
Saturday, September 7th	7:30 a.m.	Robbins' Food Bank, *meet 7 a.m. at FPC to carpool*
Sunday, September 8th	10:15 a.m.	Sunday School Kick-Off (covered dish breakfast)
	11:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	12:15 p.m.	Hand Chime Practice
Monday, September 9th	6:00 p.m.	RACM Board Meeting
Tuesday, September 10th	6:30 p.m.	Administrative Meeting
Wednesday, September 11th	5:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
Saturday, September 14th	12:00 p.m.	Dunrovin Exotic Animal Sanctuary & Lunch at Bob's Pizza
Sunday, September 15th	10:15 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship Service / Communion
	12:10 p.m.	Hand Chime Practice
Monday, September 16th	6:00 p.m.	Fellowship and Mission Committee
Tuesday, September 17th	6:15 p.m.	Men's Group
Wednesday, September 18th		**Deadline for Church Mouse / Newsletter**
	5:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
Saturday, September 21st	9:00 a.m.	4-D Discipleship Development Day (Culdee Church)
Sunday, September 22nd	10:15 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	12:10 p.m.	Hand Chime Practice
Tuesday, September 24th	6:30 p.m.	Worship Committee Meeting
Wednesday, September 25th		**Church Mouse Newsletter Distribution**
Sunday, September 29th	10:15 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	12:15 p.m.	Hand Chime Practice
	5:00 p.m.	Annual Church Picnic

The Session

Moderator:
The Rev. Rick Martindale

Clerk:
Dale Buie

Class of 2024
Nancy Carter
Robert Gordon
Gail Hardin
John McDonald
Jackie Muse
Michelle Tortora

Class of 2025
Dale Buie
David Casey
Margaret Leonard
Ann Lynch
Marie Monroe
Paul White

Church Staff

Ann Key, *Sexton*
Leon Monroe, *Receiving T*reasurer
Marie Monroe, *Dispersing Treasurer*
Rick Martindale*, Minister*
Jeanne Dennis, *Interim 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!