



# First Associate Reformed

## PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A welcoming family of Reformed believers committed to the historic Christian faith and life.

### EVENTS

#### JANUARY

20 Sunday School—9:45 AM, Morning  
Worship—11 AM, Choir Rehearsal—5 PM,  
Evening Worship—6 PM

21 Stated Session Meeting—11 AM

27 Sunday School—9:45 AM, Morning  
Worship—11 AM, Choir Rehearsal—5 PM,  
Evening Worship—6 PM

30 Handbell Choir Rehearsal—6:30 PM

#### FEBRUARY

3 Sunday School—9:45 AM, Morning  
Worship & Lord's Supper—11 AM, Choir  
Rehearsal—5 PM, Evening Worship—6 PM

4 Men's Lunch & Evening Gathering—12  
noon at Southbound Sandwich Shop & 7 PM  
at Panera Bread

5 Ladies' Evening Book Study—7 PM at the  
pastor's home

6 Ladies' Morning Bible Study—11 AM in the  
Conference Room

6 Cat Kids—6:30 PM, Fellowship Hall

10 Sunday School—9:45 AM, Morning  
Worship—11 AM, Choir Rehearsal—5 PM,  
Evening Worship—6 PM

12 Table Talk (young adults)—7 PM at the  
pastor's home

13 Cat Kids—6:30 PM, Fellowship Hall

17 Sunday School—9:45 AM, Morning  
Worship—11 AM, **Congregational Lunch—  
12:15 PM**, Choir Rehearsal—5 PM, Evening  
Worship—6 PM

24 Sunday School—9:45 AM, Morning  
Worship—11 AM, Choir Rehearsal—5 PM,  
Evening Worship—6 PM

### From the Pastor

Dear Church Family,

A few updates on some things behind the scenes in the life of the church:

- You should have received your giving statements for 2018 and your offering envelopes for 2019, if not, please reach out to the church office at (336) 584-6929 and we can provide either.

- The church generally receives gifts through our tithes and offerings collected in each Sunday's Worship service. Some of you have expressed interest in making gifts through other means—electronically, wills, estates, bequests, grants, trusts, stock gifts, or retirement account contributions. If you have any questions, please contact a church officer.

- The Session will be working towards holding a Town Hall Meeting in the next month to inform the congregation about our church finances, as well as present facility needs that we will need to address, namely the entire roof and an air conditioning unit for the Sanctuary. Watch for the date!

- Julie Snow is working in the office as a *volunteer* & temporary financial secretary. Laurene Howington ended her tenure on December 31. Be sure to give Laurene your thanks!

- Please note that we did not renew our cleaning contract for 2019 and that all cleaning is done by volunteers. A typical week of tasks includes: cleaning floors, restrooms, kitchen, and trash removal. Please let me know if you'd like to take on a task.

- The Session will have its January Stated Meeting on Monday, January 21. We have had to delay due to weather and conflicts, but Lord-willing will meet on this date.

Praying this information serves the church well,

**BIRTHDAYS**

**JANUARY**

- 19 Grady Pack
- 20 Julie Snow
- 24 Dottie Latta
- 25 Theo Baulding

**ANNIVERSARIES**

**FEBRUARY**

- 3 Cathy & John Young

“Your decrees are very trustworthy, holiness befits your house, O LORD, forevermore.”  
 Psalm 93:5, *ESV*

**For PRAYERNEEDS OF THE CONGREGATION visit [firstarpburlington.org](http://firstarpburlington.org) & select the Evening Bulletin.**

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**RESOURCES & HIGHLIGHTS**

Issues of *TABLE TALK*—a devotional magazine—are available at the Sanctuary entrances & on the **Resource Shelf** in the Fellowship Hall Wing.

Read *TABLE TALK* Magazine online [tabletalkmagazine.com](http://tabletalkmagazine.com)

**BIBLE READING PLANS: VISIT [LIGONIER.ORG](http://LIGONIER.ORG)**

**“The Loving Discipline of Our Heavenly Father”—an article from *Table Talk Magazine* by D. Blair Smith highlights that at the core of God’s fatherly love toward us is a sacrificial love that issues forth in protective and fruitful discipline. Read an excerpt below:**

“Distortions of the Christian life are abundant yet have fairly reliable patterns. On the one hand, cold conformity to God’s law can be stressed in such a way that the priority of grace and dynamic relationship with a loving God is lost from view. On the other hand, grace and relationship can be emphasized such that the Christian’s responsibility to obey the law is all but muted.

The proper biblical shape of the Christian life must take its cues from our adoption, which was ensured through the plan and action of the whole Trinity. There is a familial and, therefore, relational dynamic that informs every aspect of what it means to be a Christian. What is more, the Trinity sets the environment and pattern for the Christian life, wherein we are called to holiness in the Son by the Spirit (1 Peter 1:14–16).

Thus, while there is a static notion of adoption through being united with Christ so that our identity is as sons and daughters of God the Father, there is a dynamism to life in the Father’s family as we grow to pattern our lives after God the Son. This is the dynamism of love—a love that is responsive to the Father’s prior love for us. As the Puritan Jeremiah Burroughs wrote: “Do all you do out of love, be not mercenary. A servant does not care to do anything further than he may be paid for it, but not a child; he does what he does out of love. Oh that we could bring all our obedience to be out of love to God.”



**BABY BOY MENDIOLA** is soon to arrive in February! Let’s shower them with gifts! Maggie & Steven are registered for specific gifts at [amazon.com](http://amazon.com) baby registry. Gift cards are also welcome. Gifts may be placed in the basket in the Fellowship Hall until the end of February.

**NURSERY**

- January 20 Carol Erb & Mandy Crotts
- January 27 Jondeen Terry & Macon Baird

**COUNTERS**

- Jondeen Terry, Jay Snow
- Jondeen Terry, Jay Snow

**DEACON ON DUTY**

- Larry Isley
- Larry Isley