

# THE CHURCH FAMILY

*Presenting Everyone Complete in Christ*

## FROM YOUR ASSISTANT PASTOR

by Steve Jessen

This past Sunday we were looking at the different reactions that we have toward the true light of the world which is Jesus Christ. II Corinthians 4:6 says that God “*made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.*”

There are two aspects of this Divine illumination that I want to highlight.

First, there is the personal experience when the light shines into our hearts for the first time. God is the one who turns on the light of Jesus in our hearts. He illuminates our lives and dispels the darkness.

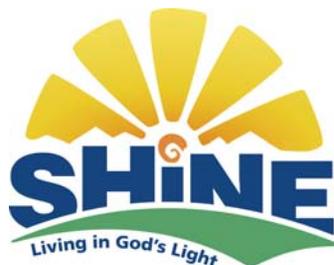
Second, God uses the Church as the body of Christ to shine His light into this dark world. Jesus says in Matthew 5:14-16, “*You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.*”

We are God’s light to our community and to our world. I don’t need to convince you that we live in a dark world, we see and experience darkness all around us. But the Church has something that the world can never offer, we have the light of Jesus Christ! What a shame it would be if we bottled that light up inside our church. What if we closed all the blinds and barricaded all the doors so that the Light did not escape? That is the poignant question of this verse: is the Light that we possess hidden under a basket? God has illuminated the Church and commanded us to “let our light shine before others.”

It is easy to say we want to shine the light of Jesus, but for some reason it often is hard to do. We get comfortable in the light and we forget that there are people outside our doors walking in darkness. What are we doing to shine the light of Jesus as individuals to the people we know, and what can we do as a Church to more effectively illuminate the darkness around us? Please join me in praying for others to be brought into the light of Jesus and that they would “give glory to our Father who is in heaven.”

In His Light,





**UPCOMING EVENTS AT FPC**

**FOR OUR CHILDREN...**

**LINVILLE CAVERNS AND MOUNTAIN  
PARADISE WATERSLIDE, MARION  
WEDNESDAY, JULY 27<sup>TH</sup>  
Depart: 8:30 AM Return: 3:00-4:00 PM  
\$8 per person: includes cavern tour, water slide,  
pool, putt putt  
Bring your lunch, towel, and change of clothes**

We are continuing the  
**PILGRIM'S PROGRESS**  
adventure for  
children ages 3-11  
**Sundays, 6:30 - 8:00 PM  
through August 7**

**FOR OUR YOUTH...**

Meet us at  
**SAKE EXPRESS  
BELMONT LOCATION  
WEDNESDAY, JULY 27 AT 5:00 PM**  
for good food and even better fellowship!

**FOR EVERYONE  
OF ALL AGES...**



**CHURCH-WIDE POOL  
PARTY  
STANLEY REC POOL  
JULY 30, 6:30 - 8:30**

Everyone is invited to join us for an evening of fun and fellowship at the Stanley Rec Pool, 400 E. Brevard Dr. This is a free event!  
Bring a 2 liter and snack to share!  
Church will provide ice, cups and plates.

**SOUTH MOUNTAINS STATE PARK  
SATURDAY, AUGUST 20**  
Meet at the Main Picnic Shelter, 10:00 am until...

Come and hike, wade in the creek, or just sit and enjoy a time of fun and fellowship in the mountain air. Be sure to bring a comfy chair!  
Bring your own snacks and food for lunch. There are grills available if you want to grill something. The church will provide charcoal as well as tea, lemonade, water and a dessert!

If you would like bus transportation, please contact the church office or sign up at the bulletin board in the main hallway!



## WIC NEWS

The WIC Circles will meet as follows for the month of August:

Monday, August 1:

6:00 pm - Grace Circle will meet at the home of Wendy Ham

7:00 pm - Elizabeth Circle will meet at the home of Judy Dixon  
Readers Circle will meet at the home of Judy Lucas  
Ruth Circle will meet at the home of Libby Chaney

Tuesday, August 2:

7:00 pm - Denver Circle will meet at the home of Leslie Smith

### REMINDER...

WIC Council meets  
Sunday, 7/24 at  
4:00 pm.



## BEST YEARS SUMMER EVENT

The Elizabeth Circle Invites You to  
**A "LIVING COLOR" PARTY**  
**SATURDAY, AUGUST 13 AT 12:00 NOON**

"The Black and White" party we sponsored 2 years ago is so out of date.  
This year we are in ... "Living Color."  
Come join us in Founders Hall for lunch, fun, fellowship and a few surprises.  
Be sure to wear your favorite colors.

**REMINDER**

There will be a  
**"HOLIDAY THEMED" BRIDAL SHOWER**  
**FOR HAYLEY BLACK**  
**SUNDAY, JULY 31, 2:00 - 3:30 PM**  
in Founders Hall

# August 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1 Newsletter Deadline</b>  6:00 Grace Circle 7:00 Elizabeth, Readers, and Ruth Circles	2  7:00 Denver Circle	3	4  12:00 Youth to Blythe Landing  6:30 CE Committee Mtg. MTW Committee Mtg 7:30 Officers' Prayer	5	6  8:30 AHG New Family Breakfast/Meeting  2:00 Men's Basketball
7  6:00 Youth 6:30 Pilgrim's Progress	8	9	10  6:30 Tech Team Mtg.	11  6:00 AHG Unit Mtgs.	12	13  7:00 Deacons' Meeting  12:00 Best Years Lunch  2:00 Men's Basketball  4:00 Youth Water Day
<b>14 AM Communion</b>  6:00 Youth	15	16	17  6:30 Children's Movie Night	18  7:00 Session Meeting	19	20  10:00 Church-wide Outing to South Mountains  2:00 Men's Basketball
21  6:00 Youth	<b>22 Newsletter Deadline</b>  7:00 SOAR Committee Mtg.	23	24	25  6:00 AHG Unit Mtgs.	26	27  Baseball Finale  2:00 Men's Basketball
28 <i>SS Promotion Sunday                      and breakfast</i>  4:00 WIC Council Mtg. 6:30 Mission Team Reports	29	30	31			



**2016 Missions Conference**  
**"Let the Nations Be Glad!"**  
**October 12-16**



If you are interested in helping out in any way or in hosting a missionary family, please contact Joel Jessen: email, [joelcjessen@gmail.com](mailto:joelcjessen@gmail.com) or phone, 704-263-0699 (home).

## MISSIONS NEWS

**Archie Parrish** introduced our congregation to the Armorbearer Prayer Ministry. He has been concentrating on persuading and equipping Christians to pray with kingdom-focus for about 25 years. He writes: "Please pray for me to embrace reality by doing my best, day by day, and trusting our heavenly Father for abundant eternal fruit."

You can catch up with the lives of **Bill and Sherry Day's** ten children by reading the latest letter on their bulletin board. They ask for prayers for Sherry as she has her second knee replacement surgery on August 29 and for Bill as he leads a trip to Peru in November to work on the playground for the Josephine House Orphanage.

Rejoice with **Kevin and Alisa Bentley** on the marriage of their son Mark on May 14. He and his wife Jamie are serving through a ministry called "Apartment Life" which sends people to live onsite in apartment communities and live out God's calling to love their neighbors through practical, intentional and everyday ways.



We wish a "**Happy Birthday**" to those in our missionary family celebrating birthdays in **August!!**

- |                         |                                     |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 3 – Salatiel Chuc       | 17 – Raylene Casson                 |
| 4 – Cody Janicek        | 18 – Joel McCall                    |
| 6 – Tim Barton          | 20 – Eliza Hunt (2012)              |
| Brenda Bracken          | 23 – Andrew Nachtergaele (1997)     |
| 7 – Millie Druen (2012) | 26 – William and Carol Druen (2010) |
| 10 – Ken Cross          | Amanda Weaver (2003)                |
| 14 – Bill Scott         | 30 – Michael Lee                    |

# AUGUST RESPONSIBILITIES

## NURSERY

**August 7:** 10:15 AM - Suzy Deneen

**August 14:** 10:15 AM - Donna Hill

**August 21:** 10:15 AM - Mary Ruth Heffner

**August 28:** 10:15 AM - Heather Roberts



*Train a child in the way he should go, and  
when he is old he will not turn from it.  
Proverbs 22:6*

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

**August 7:** Matt Ormsby

**August 14:** Percy Raleigh

**August 21:** Robert Rhyne

**August 28:** Chris Baity



## OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS

We are looking for some willing hearts, to serve God in the following areas:

- 1) We are revitalizing the **Hospitality Team** of Greeters/Welcomers on Sundays. If you love the Lord, can shake a hand, and like to smile - you qualify. We will meet briefly on Sunday, July 24 after church in the parlor for all interested!
- 2) The **Stanley Country Fest** is taking place on **October 1-** we need some creative folks to help our church have a meaningful presence.
- 3) **Christmas Scenes** planning has begun. We feel God has given us a whole new vision for this year, which you will be hearing about soon. If you want to be a part of the excitement, we are putting together a "dream team" to help the vision come to life! We need team captains in the following areas: Prayer, Promotion, Technology, Construction, Art, Food, Costumes, Parking, Drama.

Pray about signing up to serve, others will be blessed and so will you! Please email me at [steve@fpcstanley.org](mailto:steve@fpcstanley.org) or call me at the church if you hear the "KNOCK"

## WITH OUR CHURCH FAMILY

We extend our deepest sympathies to **Pastor Scott and Suzy Deneen, Micah and Emma** on the death of Pastor Scott's mother. Marianne Hale Deneen died July 11 after battling "dementia-like" symptoms for several years. Many of our members attended the funeral which was held in Johnson City, TN.

Last week was a super busy week on the FPC campus with our Sports Camp in session. We had 80+ children here each day participating in cheerleading, soccer, volleyball or basketball. 14 children responded to the gospel presentation at the end of the week! Thank you to the 25 volunteers from FPC, many of which were youth, who endured the extreme heat to help out each day! A big thanks also to Dan and Sally Ormsby and Tommy and Ellen Deese for opening up your homes to our volunteers from UW Sports Ministry.

### SAFETY FIRST

We are looking for additional first responders, people with medical training, or anyone who is willing to serve that would be able to help someone with a medical emergency. We are assembling a group of volunteers to be our first responders at the church if an emergency occurs. If you are interested or would like more information please email Garry Lucas at [garry.lucas56@yahoo.com](mailto:garry.lucas56@yahoo.com) or sign up on the bulletin board across from Pastor Scott's office.



Help us keep our church safe and secure. If you unlock a door upon entering the building, please be sure to lock it when you leave.

### JUNE FINANCIAL REPORT

Needed monthly for budget .....	60,397.79
Received in June for budget .....	61,796.15
Needed to date for budget.....	362,386.73
Received to date for budget .....	370,232.10
Needed monthly for Faith Promise.....	16,517.75
Received in June for Faith Promise .....	7,175.00
Needed to date for Faith Promise .....	99,106.50
Received to date for Faith Promise.....	83,250.00

# Birthdays to Celebrate in August

2 Chris Baker  
Claire Kopka  
Tommi Rust

3 Zack Bedford  
Brent Lucas  
Cora Belle Stewart

5 Chris Black

6 Madeline Jessen



7 Dean Chaney

8 Frankie Henderson

9 Fynn Petro

11 Deanna Beatty  
Heather Roberts

12 Averly Deese  
Barbara Graham

13 Kristen Henderson

The Church Family is a twice-monthly publication of First Presbyterian Church  
512 Old Mt. Holly Rd., Stanley, NC 28164 • Phone 704-263-4275 • Fax 704-263-0498  
e-mail: [info@fpcstanley.org](mailto:info@fpcstanley.org) • web site: [www.fpcstanley.org](http://www.fpcstanley.org)

Senior Pastor, Scott Deneen • Assistant Pastor, Steve Jessen  
Worship 10:15 AM • Sunday School 9:00 AM



512 Old Mt. Holly Road  
Stanley, North Carolina 28164

Bulk Rate  
U. S. Postage  
Paid  
**Permit No. 12**  
Stanley, NC 28164

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

# ARMORBEARER

Prayer Calendar –August 2016

First Presbyterian Church • Stanley, NC

Many Christians...believe the political illusion; that is, that political structures can cure all our ills. The fact is that government by its very nature is limited in what it can accomplish. What it does best is perpetuate its own power and bolster its own bureaucracies. Government programs to help the needy, for example, easily get hung up in red tape—tangled in forms, memos, committees, meetings and budget analyses...Christians also misjudge the source of true societal reform. In reality it is impossible to effect genuine political reform without reforming individuals, and eventually, national character.

While it has a moral responsibility to restrain evil, government can never change the hearts and minds of its citizens. Attitudes are forged by spiritual forces, not by legislation. “All history, once you strip the rind off the kernel, is really spiritual,” said historian Arnold Toynbee. Values change when spiritual movements stir the hearts of people and when fresh winds of reason stir their minds...not that I advocate withdrawal from politics. I believe every aspect of life is subject to Christ’s lordship and Christians are called to bring biblical influence to every part of society, including political structures...And we cannot abandon the political arena because progress there is excruciatingly slow, or even non-existent. Charles Colson, “Against the Night,” p. 117,119

**“If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.” II Chron. 7:14**

## *The Armorbearer Intercession*

Armorbearers were personal attendants of a warrior chieftain who accompanied him in dangerous missions. Armorbearers holding huge shields sometimes surrounded their leader to protect him from attack. As the Armorbearers protected the warrior chief from the enemy’s arrows, so church members’ intercessory prayers can protect their pastor from “the flaming arrows of the evil one” (Ephesians 6:16).

## **Prayer Notes from Pastor Steve**

At my installation service I was so pleased that Rev. Kevin Burrell from Stonebridge Church was able to participate. He has many close connections with our church. He was a part of our church in his teenage and college years. His parents, brother and sister-in-law attend and serve here as well. In the service he gave a powerful charge to the congregation. In that charge he challenged you to pray for me. He compared it to a cave diver with ropes tied around his ankles so his buddies could pull him out in trouble. I need you to tie your prayers around my ankles as I dive into the ministry here at FPC. Your prayers for me and for my family, for the staff and for the leaders are the safety ropes that protect us from the enemy.

On a personal note I would appreciate prayers for my daughters:

Hannah has returned safely from Bolivia after serving there almost a year with International Justice Mission. We praise God for blessing her time there. She will begin working for the same organization at their headquarters in Washington D.C. on August 8. Pray for living arrangements, for her adjustment into a new job and for a good church home. Pray for her physical and spiritual protection in all the activity of our nation’s capital.

Miriam is working at a day care facility this summer and will be starting her sophomore year at Liberty University. Please pray for her work with the children at the center this summer. Pray for a good year at school for her. Pray for her relationships as she has some new roommates and suitemates that she doesn’t know yet. Pray for direction and blessing in her classwork. Pray for good fellowship and the right church home for her as well.

Thanks again for holding the prayer ropes for us!

## August Daily Prayer Requests

- 1 **Jimmie Mitchell:** Pray for Martha Sue and me as we minister in Paraguay (7/29-8/8): VBS and organization of Presbyterian Church in Paraguay.
- 2 **Grady Rhyne:** Pray for spiritual direction in our country in all the political and social chaos.
- 3 **Robert Rhyne:** Pray for me to be a consistent Christian example with peers at work.
- 4 **Johnny Smith:** Pray that those who are teachers will be guided and blessed by God as they prepare to return to their classrooms.
- 5 **Chris Baity:** Please continue to be in prayer for me with my transition. There is still a lot to learn.
- 6 **Chris Baker:** Pray that those un-churched who come in contact with our church through friends, sports ministries, etc will find Christ at FPC.
- 7 **Tommy Barton:** Pray that God would help me where I am weak.
- 8 **Clyde Haley:** Pray for our country that God might bring about revival and His people return to following His word in the Holy Scripture.
- 9 **Charles Hamrick:** Pray for our nation to seek the Lord and call on him.
- 10 **Mark Harper:** Pray that I can be a better husband to my wife and a more patient and understanding father to my children.
- 11 **Joel Jessen:** Pray that I would be transformed by the renewing of my mind as I spend time in the Scriptures.
- 12 **Mark Johnson:** Pray for our youth in keeping themselves occupied before returning to school, and for parents' patience and understanding with them.
- 13 **Leon Lineberger:** Pray for those dealing with medical issues to experience God's grace/help.
- 14 **Garry Lucas:** Pray for Lauren Henderson, that children will grow in faith as she leads them in studying Pilgrim's Progress.
- 15 **Dan Ormsby:** Pray for a strong and helpful men's ministry that will strengthen our faith and service.
- 16 **Matt Ormsby:** Pray for all the men that are potential deacon candidates, that when asked, God will move those He wants to agree to serve.
- 17 **Jerry Ratchford:** Pray the Total Living Center will continue providing excellent care to the elderly and an ongoing well-managed facility.
- 18 **Percy Raleigh:** For deacon decisions and projects necessary to maintain and improve our facilities for effective ministry and witness.
- 19 **Grady Rhyne:** Pray for Sunday School students & teachers as many start in new classes.
- 20 **Robert Rhyne:** Pray for safety during work related travel.
- 21 **Johnny Smith:** Pray for our young people especially those who are starting college and will leave home for the first time.
- 22 **Chris Baity:** That God will help me keep all my priorities in order at church and home.
- 23 **Chris Baker:** Pray God's blessing on our children and church families as school begins.
- 24 **Tommy Barton:** Pray for wisdom for our care groups and leaders.
- 25 **Clyde Haley:** That God would be gracious and strengthen me physically that I might continue to serve Him.
- 26 **Charles Hamrick:** Pray for our pastors and leaders to be wise and faithful in leading us.
- 27 **Mark Harper:** That our worship will be God centered, pleasing to him, and a blessing to all.
- 28 **Joel Jessen:** Pray for Kim as she starts back to work as an assistant teacher this year.
- 29 **Mark Johnson:** Pray for our country not to get caught up in the hate and find the love and caring that Jesus had for all of us.
- 30 **Leon Lineberger:** Pray that our young adults will be actively involved in our congregation.
- 31 **Garry Lucas:** Pray that God will provide for those who need jobs to be able to return to work.

### Praise and Thanksgivings

- Praise God for the good installation service of Steve Jessen--good meal, fellowship, and the great attendance. God is good.  
Jimmie Mitchell
- Praise for good results and quick recovery and thanks for all the support we had from our church family during Clay's recent appendectomy.  
Mark Harper
- Praise God for great summer ministries with children and youth—VBS, Special Events, Sports Camp et. al.