

# THE CHURCH FAMILY

*Presenting Everyone Complete in Christ*

## FROM YOUR PASTOR by Scott Deneen

This life is full of misery and grief. Some difficult consequences come from our own sin and rebellion against God and His created order, but other times they come just because we live in a broken world. Thieves suffer the hardship of prison, gossips the sting of broken friendship, but we all suffer the frustration of aches, pains, and sickness. Life is hard.

But keep your head up, however, because our God has a good word for us... a word to sustain, comfort, and bless:

*“I have indeed **seen the misery** of my people in Egypt. I have **heard them crying out** because of their slave drivers, and I am **concerned about their suffering**. So I have come **down to rescue them**.”* Exodus 3:7-8

God is never far from His people... the Good Shepherd never walks away from the sheep no matter how hard things get, our Delivering God always saves, our Compassionate Father takes pity on His children, our Forgiving Lord does not repay us according to our sins but delights to show us mercy.

Maybe you're suffering under the weight of living in a fallen world, maybe it's the burden of unconfessed sin, maybe the negative consequences of rebellion; but whatever the root cause, God is open to your cries for help and deliverance.

So turn to Him for help and healing. Seek Him while He may be found. Rest in His everlasting arms and He will guard and protect you with His infinite power and grace through Christ Jesus.

Although this world holds many dark days of trial and tribulation, God's people can rest in the assurance that God's Son has overcome the world. Therefore, may your comfort in Him bring joy eternal as well as hope while continuing through pilgrim days.

Grace and Peace,

*Scott*

**Installation Service for Pastor Steve**

**Sunday, July 10, 10:15 AM**

Immediately following this special service, we will have a covered dish lunch to celebrate. Make plans to stay for this celebration. Bring your favorite dish (or two) with enough to feed your family plus one!

## PASTOR STEVE'S CORNER

As I was preparing for my sermon last week, I came across a little booklet called “Saved to Serve: Studies in II Corinthians” by Manford George Gutzke. I think that is a pretty succinct challenge to those of us who identify ourselves as Christians. If you have responded to the call of Jesus and have surrendered your heart and life to Him, then you have a mandate: **SERVE!**

Gutzke writes “Every Christian is walking on parade. We need not seek some great place of service. God will use us where we are, and will move us to that other place when He wants us there...He will use us. He will control all things so that we are in the spot where our lives count with others...And He will make our experience count in the lives of those whom we love and all to whom we witness of His power.” (p.22)

In God’s sovereignty He places us where He wants us and where our lives will count the most. Sometimes He calls us to something specific, like a mission trip or a ministry of the church. But don’t miss the opportunity to serve God in the ordinary, in the daily, in the places where you live, work and play. He will use the experience of His grace in your life to bear witness to others of His saving power. When in the name of Jesus, you serve your family, your friends, your co-workers, your neighbors, your classmates, and other people you meet along the way, He will make your life count in His kingdom purposes. God wants to use you today, will you answer the call and serve Him in your “spot.”

In His Service,

*Steve*

## MEN'S MINISTRY NEWS



On **Saturday, July 23 at 8:00 am** we will have our first **MMOOS** event (Men’s Ministry Outreach On Saturday.) We have 3 work sites lined up with tasks ranging from hauling junk, floor repairs, roof repair, painting, yard work, installing a door etc...even if you can only come for a few hours sign up and be a blessing to others.

Interested? Sign up by July 17th on the bulletin board in the main hallway or email Pastor Steve at [steve@fpcstanley.org](mailto:steve@fpcstanley.org).



**UPCOMING EVENT FOR  
OUR BEST YEARS FOLKS  
SATURDAY, AUGUST 13**

The “Black and White” of years ago is in the past. This year we are in . . . LIVING COLOR !

Come join the Elizabeth Circle in Founders Hall for fun and fellowship and a few surprises.

More information will be in the next newsletter.



**SAFETY FIRST**

What do you do if there is a medical emergency at the church????

Are you in the medical field? Or are you looking for a way to serve and feel included in the church? We are looking for 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 would like to assemble a group of volunteers that would be our first responders at the church if an emergency occurred, and a committee of five within that group to lead and coordinate. We would like to have a responder available for SOAR events, AHG, VBS, and our regular services. 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. Thank you for your willingness to serve!



**YOU ARE INVITED TO A BRIDAL SHOWER  
HONORING HAYLEY BLACK  
JULY 31, 2016, 2:00 - 3:30 PM**

This will be a “HOLIDAY” shower. Gifts should be items to decorate for the various holidays. Stores such as Hobby Lobby already have some fall and Christmas items out. Valentine and Easter items can be found online.

Hostesses: Anne Abernathy, Teresa Neely, Nancy Raleigh, Cathy Rhyne and Marcia Rhyne.



## 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.

## CHILDREN'S JULY FIELD TRIPS



**Wednesday, July 20**  
Kids Rock, Lincolnnton  
9:15 am - 2:00 pm

**Wednesday, July 27**  
Linville Caverns & Mountain  
Paradise Waterslide, Marion  
8:30 am - 3:00 or 4:00 pm



Refer to the previous newsletter or call the church office for the specifics.

## MINISTRY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY



We need two or three volunteers to make coffee and/or clean up when the regular folks are out of town or have other responsibilities? It would not be an every-Sunday commitment, but we do need people to call on an *as needed basis*. Please call

SaDara Tilley at 704-263-5394 if you are willing to help ---leave a message if she is not at home.

## Adult Sports News



Congratulations to the Adult Co-ed Softball Team! They just wrapped up their season as League Champions AND Tournament Champions. They were also commended by multiple umpires for their display of great sportsmanship. Way to go!



## WITH OUR CHURCH FAMILY

We are thankful that **Clay Harper** is home recovering from an appendectomy and overnight stay at Levine's Children's Hospital on Monday this week. This is not exactly the *fireworks spectacular* he expected. As Clay described it, "This was the worst 4th of July ever"! Pray for a quick, full recovery so he can get back to enjoying his summer activities.

## OUR MISSIONARY FAMILY



First Presbyterian Church is reaching out around the world through our prayers and faith promise giving, impacting the lives of 56 missionary families in 19 countries in North America, South America, Europe, Asia, Africa and Oceania.

## WITH LOVING THANKS

Words cannot adequately express our gratitude and appreciation for the overwhelming support we have received after Freddie's passing. The food, the cards, the phone calls, the Facebook messages, the hugs and the shoulders to cry on have all been appreciated more than you'll ever know. The Celebration of Life gathering which was catered by the WIC after the service was just perfect as well. Thank you so much!

Ann Smith, Phyllis and Tracy Withers, Chris and Sallie McAllister, Mason Withers, Max, Melissa and Mando Withers

# Birthdays to Celebrate in July

18 Hailey Deese  
19 Liz Johnstone  
Juanita Thomas  
20 Susan Herd  
21 Josh Hall  
23 Sharon Bryant  
Carolyn Rhyne  
24 Pam Burgess  
Clyde Haley  
Liz Johnson  
Sally Ormsby  
Melody Rayner  
Brittany Ross



25 Kirsten Abernathy  
Suzy Deneen  
26 Luke Bynum  
27 Jayda Killian  
Sherry Teague  
Michael Youngblood  
28 Margaret Gladden  
Paul Marsh  
Martha Tadlock  
29 Samuel Ormsby  
30 Sarah Faggart

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



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