

THE CHURCH FAMILY

Presenting Everyone Complete in Christ

FROM YOUR PASTOR

by Scott Deneen

Serving a King whose Kingdom advances and conquers motivates me tremendously. Can you imagine knowing in advance that there will be a Bull Market for stocks from now on? Wouldn't you get in quick and keep investing because you'd know the pay-off was guaranteed? And the sooner you got it and the more you invested the more you'd receive as a return!

The same principal applies to Christ's Kingdom. "The gates of Hell will not prevail against it." Christ's Kingdom is in a perpetual "Bull Market" in which He pulls down, plunders, and destroys all His (and our!) enemies through the Gospel.

So what does investing in Christ's Kingdom look like? Well, first of all, it means we *personally* submit to Christ as King by turning our lives over to Him. This means full and total submission – heart, soul, mind, will, finances, hopes, dreams, children, future, etc.. All we are and all we have. Holding nothing back. If Christ's Kingdom were the stock market, we'd sell everything we had and invest every penny.

We'd pursue every opportunity to know the King – Bible study, prayer, worship, and fellowship would fill our time (and subsequently our hearts). We'd publicize the Kingdom hoping others would "get on board" too.

We'd get rid of everything separating us from God – idolatry, anger, gossip, greed, autonomy, self-reliance, pride, etc..

We become completely captivated by our King that we'd begin to resemble Him more and more – just like a kid who begins to talk, act, and dress like his hero except we'd look like Jesus instead of LeBron James.

What an exciting time to live! May God give us eyes to see it, wills to walk in harmony with it, and hearts rejoicing in it.

Grace and Peace,





PASTOR STEVE'S CORNER

James 1:27 says "Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world."

When we are saved by God's grace, we are empowered to live out the gospel. James teaches us that to be pure and faultless before God, it is our responsibility to reach out to the most vulnerable in their time of need. In obedience to this command we are blending Men's Ministry and Outreach to offer assistance to those in our community who are in need of help and encouragement.

On **Saturday July 23** we will have our first **MMOOS** event (Men's Ministry Outreach On Saturday.) This will be a day to work on home repairs, and yard work for shut-ins, widows, and single Moms in our community.

I am praying that God will provide workers and the right projects:

If you are interested in helping, sign up on the men's bulletin board in the main hallway across from Pastor Scott's office or email me at steve@fpcstanley.org.

If you know of someone, or if you yourself need help with a home repair or yard work, please call me at the church or email me. This can be someone in our church or someone you know that does not have a church home and needs a blessing.

And don't miss the second part of the verse in James. You are safest from the corruption of this world when you are serving the Lord. Service to God that is pure and faultless is a breath of fresh air in this polluted world!

Your servant in Christ,

Steve

FPC FAMILY FUN NIGHT JULY 1

6:00 PM UNTIL MOVIE ENDS

Hamburger/Hotdog
Supper



Inflatables



Movie on the Big Screen



Fun and Games



UPCOMING CHILDREN'S EVENTS



**Vacation Bible School
June 27 - 30
6:30 – 8:30 PM**

Children ages 3-11! Invite your friends!

Registration Forms are available
across from the church office.




We will begin a
Pilgrim's Progress
adventure for the children
Sunday, July 3 - August 7
6:30 - 8:00 PM
for children ages 3-11

Kid's Rock, Lincolnton
Wednesday, July 20th
Depart: 9:15 AM Return: 2:00 PM
\$5 per child reserves your spot on the church bus!
NO charge for adults.
Children **MUST** wear socks to play on inflatables.
Price includes: 1 juice, 1 slice of pizza, 1 cup of ice cream, 10 tokens. (Extra may be purchased.)

Linville Caverns and Mountain Paradise Waterslide, Marion
Wednesday, July 27th
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

July 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 6:00 Family Fun Night	2 NY Mission Trip → 2:00 Men's Basketball
3 6:00 Youth 6:30 Pilgrim's Progress	4  INDEPENDENCE DAY Church Office/CDC closed	5 Newsletter Deadline	6	7	8	9 2:00 Men's Basketball
← New York Mission Trip: 7/2-7/9 →						
6:00 Youth 6:30 Pilgrim's Progress				6:30 CE Committee Mtg 7:30 Officers' Prayer		
10 6:00 Youth 6:30 Pilgrim's Progress	11 6:00 Grace Circle 7:00 Elizabeth Circle Ruth Circle	12 6:30 Denver Circle	13 6:30 Children's Min Team Mtg Tech Team Meeting	14 7:00 Joint Officers' Mtg	15	16 2:00 Men's Basketball
← SPORTS CAMP — 9:00 am - 12:15 pm EACH DAY →						
17 6:00 Youth 6:30 Pilgrim's Progress	18 Newsletter Deadline	19	20 9:15 Children to Kids Rock	21	22	23 2:00 Men's Basketball
24 4:00 WIC Council Mtg. 6:00 Youth 6:30 Pilgrim's Progress	25 7:00 SOAR Committee Mtg.	26	27 8:30 Children to Linville Caverns/Waterpark	28	29	30 2:00 Men's Basketball Church Wide Pool Party - Details coming soon!
31 2:00 - 3:30 Bridal Shower for Hayley Black 6:00 Youth 6:30 Pilgrim's Progress						

*The Stanley Total Living Center
invites you to an
Open House Celebration
in honor of
The Parke Grand Opening
at The Parke, 151 East Dallas Road, Stanley
Sunday, June 26
2:00 - 5:00 pm*

*Take a tour of the Parke Apartments.
Light refreshments will be served.*

CARE GROUP EVENT

SUNDAY, JULY 17TH

9:00 TO 10:00 AM

ROOM 13 (DOWNSTAIRS)

Have you been coordinating or hosting a care group this year? This is for you!

Have you considered coordinating or hosting a care group in the future? This is for you!

Please join us during the Sunday School hour on July 17 as we celebrate the care group ministry at First Presbyterian and make plans for the coming season which begins in September.



YOUTH SPORTS CAMP

JULY 11TH-15TH

9:00 AM - 12:15 PM

Cost: \$40

Register online until July 1st!

*Check fpcstanleysoar.org for ages, sports and registration!

WIC NEWS

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

Monday, July 11:

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

7:00 pm - Elizabeth Circle meets at the home of Tommi Rust

Ruth Circle will meet at the home of Marcia Rhyne.

Tuesday, July 12:

6:30 pm - Denver Circle will meet at the home of Sarah Robinson.

REMINDER...

WIC Council meets

Sunday, 6/26 at

4:00 pm.

SAVE THE DATES

**Mark your calendar for these up-coming events. Everyone is invited!
More details will be available in the coming weeks!**

**Pool Party at Stanley Rec pool
July 30**

**Outing to South Mountain
August 20**



**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 or phone, 704-263-0699 (home).

WITH LOVING THANKS

Dear Church Family,

I have been greatly blessed and encouraged by your expressions of concern for my personal health and you have shown it through prayers, calls, cards, visits, and meals! You've made Christian love very tangible to me!

I wish to share how God's goodness served me following the doctor's sharing the diagnosis that I had prostate cancer. No one ever wants to hear that C-word! But through God's all sufficient grace I never got anxious about the diagnosis, the surgery, or the eventual outcome. I was given faith to believe what we've been taught from the Bible, that God often sends personal trials to show us sinful habits that need to be corrected, develop perseverance in us, and to refine our character to better reflect our Savior Jesus' character to people around us. Since he chose to send this event into my life, I fully expected him to see me through it, whatever the final outcome. The surgery and recovery have gone well and the prognosis looks bright. God has been good to me my entire life, this event being but the latest example. Join me in praising King Jesus who loves each of us so much that he died to prove it!

*Saved by God's grace alone,
Kevin Rhyne*

I would like to thank the members of this church who shared so much love and support to my mom and her family during her sickness. Thank you for your prayers, cards, flowers, and meals for mom while she was still at home. Thank you ladies who went to her house and sat with her, providing her conversation (when she wasn't asleep), compassion and true Christian love. It meant so much to my family. Thank you for visiting her at Robin Johnson Hospice, and yes even singing for her. Thank you pastors for your visits, prayers and words of wisdom and encouragement. Thank you Pastor King for such a wonderful funeral service. Thank you ladies for the music. I am sure mom smiled as she listened.

Mom loved this church, the people in it and what it stands for. She loved the Head of our church, the Lord Jesus Christ with all her heart. If we will do the same...I will...we will see mom and all of our other precious loved ones who have gone before.

*May God continue to bless His church,
Rick Heffner*

Dear First Presbyterian Church,

Thank you so very much for the special recognition last Sunday! The book "Search for Significance" is one I am looking forward to reading. Thank you for the years of support you have given me. Continued prayers would be appreciated as I begin my college journey.

*Love in Christ,
Madi Black*

JULY RESPONSIBILITIES

NURSERY SCHEDULE

- July 3:** 10:15 AM - Deanna Beatty
- July 10:** 10:15 AM - Julianne Griffin
- July 17:** 10:15 AM - Julie Jessen
- July 24:** 10:15 AM - Stacey Hall
- July 31:** 10:15 AM - Amanda Huss



CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

- July 3:** Joel Jessen
- July 10:** Installation Service
- July 17:** Leon Lineberger
- July 24:** Jimmie Mitchell
- July 31:** Dan Ormsby

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



Are you interested in technology? Are you available and interested in operating the sound board, the cameras or the slides for Sunday morning services? We have openings on the technology team which is responsible for coordinating and updating the technology throughout the church and we also have openings for the booth on Sunday morning. Anyone interested in either (or both) of these, please contact Phyllis Withers: email, pmwither@yahoo.com or phone, 704-201-1266.

Catawba Regional Hospice is currently in need of patient support volunteers to provide companionship and friendship to patients residing at Stanley TLC and to patients and families in the Stanley and Lowell areas of Gaston County. We would love to have you join our Hospice volunteer family!



To learn more, please contact Sara Waugh 828-466-0466 ext. 2141.



Did you miss church or just want to hear a sermon again? Do you want to look at a newsletter but can't find your copy? Have you visited our church website lately? Lot's of valuable information can be found on our website! Remember to check it out when you need information.

www.fpcstanley.org

WITH OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Sincere sympathies are extended to **Phyllis and Tracy Withers** and **Ann Smith** in the death of Phyllis's dad and Ann's husband. **Freddie Smith** passed away Monday, June 13 after an extended battle with cancer. Condolences are also extended to **Max and Melissa Withers, Mason Withers, and Chris and Sallie McAllister**, Freddie's grandchildren.

Congratulations and best wishes to **Geoffrey Dixon** and **Tonya Hendricks** of Pickens, SC who were married in a private ceremony on May 13.

Harrison Revels spent a couple of nights at Levine's Children's Hospital recently for health issues.



MISSIONS NEWS

Pray for our **team** going to **New York City** on July 2 – 9: Chris Baity, Luke Bynum, Rachel Bynum, Emma Deneen, Olivia Fox, Rebecca Lasley, Taylor Mundy, Chrissy Teague. The team will work with Project Exodus, a ministry for inner-city kids, mainly from the Dominican Republic. Thanks to Kristen Henderson for leading the team training even though she is not able to go on the trip.

We wish a **“Happy Birthday”** to those in our missionary family celebrating birthdays in **July!!**

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 – James Schweitzer (2007) | 12 – Andres Garza |
| 2 – Nathan Fredere (2001) | 22 – Roger Dye |
| Archie Parrish | Jim Fredere |
| 4 – Ashlyn F. (2005) | 24 – Mary Schweitzer (2003) |
| 11 – David White | 31 – Maxine Williams |

MAY FINANCIAL REPORT

Needed monthly for budget	60,397.79
Received in May for budget	68,023.31
Needed to date for budget.....	301,988.94
Received to date for budget	308,373.21
Needed monthly for Faith Promise.....	16,517.75
Received in May for Faith Promise	15,966.00
Needed to date for Faith Promise	82,588.75
Received to date for Faith Promise.....	76,075.00

Birthdays to Celebrate in July

2 Brenda Cloninger
Micah Deneen

3 Andrew Elliott

4 Madi Black

5 Donna Hill

6 Don Hensley
Kenlee Herd

7 Johnny Robinson
Annette Rodgers
Manetta Treat
Abby White

8 Samantha Hall

10 Brian Lasley

14 Betty Shelby

15 Allie Grice
Anna Hamrick
Tanner McMinn



The Church Family is a twice-monthly publication of First Presbyterian Church
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e-mail: info@fpcstanley.org • web site: 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

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

ARMORBEARER

Prayer Calendar – July 2016

First Presbyterian Church • Stanley, NC

“Romans 8:28 insists that ‘in all things [pleasant and painful] God works for the good of those who love him.’ God does not promise to bless Christians by removing suffering, but to bless Christians through suffering. Jesus suffered not so that we might not suffer, but so that in our suffering we would become like Him. God uses our suffering to bring about good. Sometimes this involves circumstances—Paul’s illness brought him many new friends and a successful ministry in Galatia—but other times the ‘good’ God works is in our character.

In 2 Corinthians 12:7-10, Paul talks about a great, unnamed, painful ‘thorn’ which God would not remove despite repeated prayers. But Paul says that the ‘thorn’ is meant for good because it has humbled him (v.7—‘that Christ’s power my rest on me’). The relentless pain and sense of weakness (whatever its cause) has brought Paul to a deeper dependence on and vision of the sufficiency of grace (v.9): ‘My grace [i.e.: my unmerited love for you] is sufficient for you.’...

Most of us can provide personal illustrations of how God worked in our lives, or the lives of those around us, through mistakes, ‘disasters’, troubles, and thwarted plans, often far more than through our deliberate actions and goals.”

-Timothy Keller, “Galatians For You,” p. 110,111

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 Scott

Humility is one of the greatest Christian virtues we can possess. The reason is, in the words of Andrew Murray, “Pride must die in you or nothing of heaven can live in you.” So when we’re humble much of Heaven can dwell in us easily.

And when I think about humility’s opposite – pride – I think how powerless this makes us. Pride is self-centered, self-focused, and self-absorbed. Pride worries about self, promotes self, and fears loss of self. But humility is Christ-centered, Christ-focused, and seeks Christ’s promotion and glory. So, of course, God is 100% for Christ (and our humility) and 0% for pride.

Humility, then, makes us approachable people, makes us good listeners, as well as makes us courageous activists because we are not worried about how great or small we appear, who listens to our voice or doesn’t, who thinks well of us or doesn’t. With humility, all we’re worried about is magnifying Christ.

So would you pray humility for me? ...that my main concern in life would be for Christ and His glory? I’m sure this will please the Father and also be beneficial to you, my family, and myself as well.

Thank you for praying.

July Daily Prayer Requests

- 1 **Tommy Barton:** Pray for the families of our church and for outreach to others in our area thru family fun night and other summer programs.
- 2 **Clyde Haley:** Pray for our nation's leaders, and those running for office--that they daily seek God's guidance.
- 3 **Charles Hamrick:** Prayers for safety during vacations and travel.
- 4 **Mark Harper:** Pray that all our children will grow in their walk with the Lord and will look to Him when tough decisions need to be made in their lives.
- 5 **Joel Jessen:** That our summer family vacation would be refreshing and a time of family bonding.
- 6 **Mark Johnson:** For God to revive the faith of Christians and preserve the freedoms we have.
- 7 **Leon Lineberger:** Pray for those of us who have lost loved ones as we work through various matters and decisions that are required.
- 8 **Garry Lucas:** That the summer Soar baseball, softball, and T-ball will have a strong witness.
- 9 **Jimmie Mitchell:** Pray that God would use me to share Christ with non-believers.
- 10 **Dan Ormsby:** Pray for God to bless the leaders and kids involved in the Sports Camp being held each day this week.
- 11 **Matt Ormsby:** Pray that the baseball ministry will be a great success and witness this summer.
- 12 **Jerry Ratchford:** Pray for those in our church dealing with loneliness, that the Lord grant them comfort, contentment, purpose and peace.
- 13 **Percy Raleigh:** Pray that God will guide my steps and use me in his service here at FPC.
- 14 **Grady Rhyne:** Pray that I may always remain true to the will of God.
- 15 **Robert Rhyne:** May our church understand that God uses ordinary people to carry out His extraordinary plan.
- 16 **Johnny Smith:** Pray for God to guide our new graduates as they prepare for college and careers.
- 17 **Chris Baity:** Pray for my sister, Hali, who just had her 1st child, Ayden, and pray that I can build relationships with parents in this baseball season.
- 18 **Chris Baker:** Pray for our children during the summer and for Lauren Henderson as she oversees all the events and programs.
- 19 **Tommy Barton:** Pray that as elders we will be seeking God's direction in all things at FPC.
- 20 **Clyde Haley:** Pray that God will help us to be faithful to Him, as we go through a very troubling time in our lives.
- 21 **Charles Hamrick:** Prayers for care groups as they are re-formed in the fall.
- 22 **Mark Harper:** Pray for safety for all of our teens that will begin Drivers Ed this summer.
- 23 **Joel Jessen:** Pray that God would make his word sweeter to me as I seek to read and study it.
- 24 **Mark Johnson:** Pray for the youth ministry as summer winds down and our youth transition back to school.
- 25 **Leon Lineberger:** Pray that the young adults, singles, and newly weds will feel welcome and be a strong part of our congregational life.
- 26 **Garry Lucas:** Pray for the wrap up, finish and follow-up of our summer SOAR sports ministry.
- 27 **Jimmie Mitchell:** That God will help me to encourage folks that don't attend FPC anymore to find a new house of worship.
- 28 **Dan Ormsby:** Pray for God's work in us and in our country in these troubling times.
- 29 **Matt Ormsby:** Pray that the new outreach committee will be effective and bring God glory.
- 30 **Jerry Ratchford:** Pray that the Lord will inspire more young people make themselves available for positions of responsibility in our church.
- 31 **Percy Raleigh:** Pray for our MTW committee in planning this year's Missions Conference.

Praise and Thanksgivings

- Praise the Lord for the excellent achievements of our recent graduates and prayers for their future plans.
- Praise for our summer mission teams to Mexico and New York City and for the ongoing vision for missions in our church.