

# THE CHURCH FAMILY

*Presenting Everyone Complete in Christ*

## FROM PASTOR STEVE by Steve Jessen

Our family has recently celebrated two bridal showers, one for my daughter Hannah and one for my niece Annalise. What is the purpose of this tradition? The obvious answer is that the guests “shower” the bride with gifts that the happy couple will need in their life together. But I think there is a much more important purpose in these events and that is to “shower” blessing, to “shower” encouragement, to “shower” support for the bride and for her upcoming wedding and marriage.

This idea reminds me of the verse in Ezekiel 34:26 that says *“And I will make them and places all around my hill a blessing, and I will send down the showers in their season; they shall be showers of blessing.”* This passage is in the context of the covenant of peace that God is making with the people of Israel, despite their rebellion and sin. It is a beautiful passage that reminds us that God loves His people and desires to bless them.

The image of showers in their season brings peace into our troubled world. What showers of blessing does God have for this church in this season? He has promised to shower us with blessings such as peace (John 14:27), joy (Isaiah 35:10), hope (Jeremiah 29:11), love (Romans 8:37-39), forgiveness (I John 1:9), and most importantly new life in Jesus Christ (II Corinthians 5:17).

And what is the result of God’s blessings? We read in the next verse: *“And the trees of the field shall yield their fruit, and the earth shall yield its increase, and they shall be secure in their land.”* God’s showers allow us to bear fruit, increase in number and rest secure. May this be true in our church, may this be true in our lives! So, the next time you see the skies open up and the rain pour down, be reminded of the showers of blessing that God has for you!

Be Blessed!

*Steve*



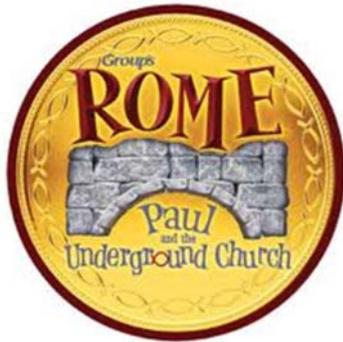
## FAMILY FUN NIGHT FRIDAY, JUNE 23 EVERYONE IS INVITED!

Join us for a night of fun and fellowship starting at 6:00 pm. We will have a hot dog supper, water slide, dunking booth and games! We’ll also have a big tent for shade! It’s all FREE!!

Bring your family! Bring a friend!  
Bring a chair!



## NEWS FOR OUR CHILDREN



### Vacation Bible School!

June 19-22

6:30-8:30 pm

Children ages 3-11

For more information or to register:

[www.fpstanley.org/vbs](http://www.fpstanley.org/vbs)

or stop by the bulletin board across from the church office

---

### Sunday nights!

Our children's ministry will spend a few Sunday nights in Narnia together this summer! Children ages 4-11 are welcome to come and walk through CS Lewis' book, Prince Caspian. We will study the book, study the Scripture it is based on, play games, make a craft and have a snack!



Join us from

6:00 - 7:30 PM on the following Sunday evenings:

July 2, July 9, July 23, July 30, August 6 & August 13



#### #1 - Wednesday, June 28<sup>th</sup>: Ages 4-11

Movie Night: The Lion, the Witch & the Wardrobe

Drop off at church: 5:30 PM Pick Up: 8:00 PM

No parents required. Snack included.

Free Event. This will prepare the kids for our Narnia class in July

#### #3 - Wednesday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>: All ages

Dan Nicholas Park, Salisbury, NC

Depart: 9:00 AM Return: 3:30 PM

\$8 per person

Wear bathing suit and bring a change of clothes, towel, picnic lunch.

#### #2 - Wednesday, July 26<sup>th</sup>: All ages

Schiele Museum, Gastonia, NC + Picnic

Depart: 9:15 AM Return: 2:00 PM

Bring a picnic lunch.

\$5 per person

#### #4 - Wednesday, August 9<sup>th</sup>: All ages

Bessemer City Pool & Playground + Picnic

Depart: 10:30 AM Return: 2:30 PM

Free event

Chaperone required with children under 6

Wear bathing suit and bring a change of clothes, towel, picnic lunch.



Our Youth Group will meet on summer Sunday evenings between July 2<sup>nd</sup> and August 13<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-7:30 PM.

Stay tuned for more special events!



“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men.”  
Colossians 3:23



We continue to accept registrations for our **SOAR Summer Camp**. The camp will be held July 10-14, 9:00 am - 12:30 pm. The choices this year are: Cheer (ages 6-12), Soccer (ages 6-12), Basketball (ages 7-12), Volleyball (ages 9-12), Ultimate Frisbee (ages 8-12), and Team 45 (ages 4-5). Registration will be open online from June 1 - July 6.

We still have opportunities for volunteers, high school youth and adults, to assist during our camp. We need coaches, preschool sports program staff, snack coordinators and a prayer coordinator. We also need a volunteer to prepare or pick up lunch for our workers each day. You can volunteer for one day or five, and the cost of the meal(s) will be covered by SOAR.

Do you have a spare room at your house? We are in need of host homes for the UW interns.

If you are interested in volunteering in *any* capacity, contact Luke Bynum by emailing him at [lukebynum@fpcstanleysoar.org](mailto:lukebynum@fpcstanleysoar.org). Luke can provide more detail and answer any questions you may have.

## Please remember our change in schedule this Sunday, June 11

9:00 am Sunday School (early release at 9:30)  
9:45 am Congregational Meeting  
10:15 am Worship/Communion

### WITH LOVING THANKS

*I would like to thank everyone for your prayers, love and support while I was in the hospital. My sincere thanks and love to all who sent me a card, brought meals to our house, and came to the hospital to see me. It really means a lot to us. It's taken me a while to get this written but just know I love each and everyone of you.*

*Love and prayers,  
Liz Johnson*

*We sing "God Bless America." May I add "God bless the members of First Presbyterian Church" for the services rendered to me. I've never felt worthy to receive this showing of love. Only the good Lord will ever know how grateful I am to know such wonderful people. May the Lord send a special blessing on each one and their family.*

*Love and thanks,  
Ailene Friday*



Remember to collect your change and turn in bottles on or before Sunday, June 18!

## WITH OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Christian sympathies are extended to **Carolyn Rhyne** and **Angel Ross** on the death of Carolyn's sister-in-law, **Carol Porter**. She was killed in a car accident on May 22.

**Skip Ribbeck** is home after a brief stay at Caromont Regional in Gastonia last week.

Congratulations to our 2017 graduates! High school grads are **Maria Bailey, Micah Deneen, Shanna Griffin, Jared Hamrick, Isaac Jessen, Connor McMinn, and Julia Treat**. College grads are **Michael Ham, Rebecca Lasley and Taylor Mundy!**

One of our newlywed couples, **Michaela (Lamb) and Garrett Brooks**, has moved to Kansas. Garrett is serving in the US Army at Ft. Riley. Take time to send a note to this young couple who has moved away from their families as Garrett serves our country. Their mailing address is: 6709 McClellan Loop, #5, Fort Riley, KS 66442.

## WITH OUR MISSIONARY FAMILY

Good news from **Jim and Carin Fredere!** They give thanks for their son Nathan's recovery from hip surgery in late January. His surgeon recently gave him a clean bill of health. This means that he is clear to do all normal activities, as he is able.

**Chaplain Chuck and Celia Williams** ask for prayer for our military and our chaplains. The chaplains are under increasing pressure to conform to the immoral policies that been enacted upon them. Pray for wisdom, moral guidance and courage to walk faithfully to the Lord during these times.

Pray for our **Mexico Mission Team** being commissioned during the morning worship service on June 18. They will be serving in Mérida, Mexico with **Pastor Ricardo and Ana Santana** from June 24 – August 1. Team members are: Rachel and Luke Bynum, Lisa, Ryan and Allie Grice, Mark, Lauren and Emma Harper, Rob, Connor and Tanner McMinn, Cindi, Anna and Emma Mitchell, Jimmie and Martha Sue Mitchell.

# Happy Father's Day!

to all the FPC dads

# Birthdays to Celebrate in June

17 Miriam Jessen

18 Dalton Lawson  
Anna Prather

19 Seth Abernathy  
Kavin Garrison

21 Ruth Kerley

25 Ethan Dake  
Heather Ormsby



26 Geoff Dixon

28 Malorie Haithcox  
Meghan Haithcox  
Brandon Lawson  
Lisa Revels

29 Mary Ruth Heffner  
Robin Mundy

30 Melissa Clevenger

The Church Family is a twice-monthly publication of First Presbyterian Church  
512 Old Mt. Holly Road, 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