

THE CHURCH FAMILY

Presenting Everyone Complete in Christ

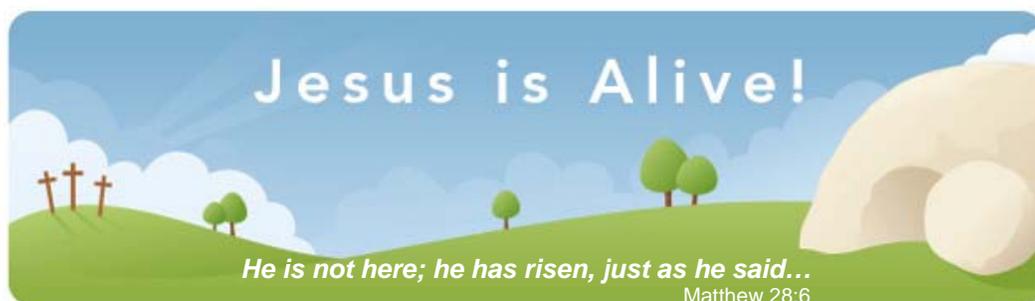
FROM YOUR PASTOR by Scott Deneen

As we celebrate Easter, we take heart in God's over-arching plan of salvation through His Son Jesus Christ. In 1 Corinthians 15, the Apostle Paul points to several factors to consider:

- 1) the **good news** of Jesus' work saves us from sins: "by this gospel you are saved." In other words, belief in what Jesus accomplished through His life, death, resurrection, and ascension is the way of salvation. We are to believe *into* Jesus based on the scripture's testimony concerning His finished work on the Cross. "You are saved by grace *through faith*..." Paul writes in Ephesians.
- 2) Christ's death **atoned** for our sins: "Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures." Jesus the Messiah was sent by God the Father to make atonement for His people's sins in order to satisfy God's righteous indignation against them. God had promised to provide His own sacrifice, one that would accomplish eternal salvation for His people, one that would be offered "once for all," one that would be perfect and therefore cause all other sacrifices to cease. He has done so in Christ, and now our sins have been removed. Live in your new-found freedom and rejoice in God's provision.
- 3) Jesus' physical, bodily resurrection is a **historical fact**: "he appeared to Peter... the Twelve... more than five hundred at one time... James... then to all the Apostles.. and lastly to Paul." God wants us to know that Christ's resurrection was real – it truly happened. The tomb is empty. Therefore we can trust God to do as He promises and we can trust His purposes in it – peace with God and our own resurrection on the Day of Christ's return.

May God Bless You This Easter,
Grace and Peace,

Scott





You are invited to a Bridal Shower for

Chelsea Stanley

(Seth Abernathy's fiancée)

April 17, 2:00 - 3:30 PM

in Founders Hall

The couple is registered at: myregistry.com

Hostesses are: Jonan Bynum, Sharon Herd, Heather Ormsby, Teresa Neely, Cathy Rhyne, Janet Redding and Missy Smith

APRIL RESPONSIBILITIES

NURSERY SCHEDULE

April 3: 10:15 AM - Julianne Griffin

April 10: 10:15 AM - Donna Hill

April 17: 10:15 AM - Julie Jessen

April 24: 10:15 AM - Lisa and Allie Grice



CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

April 3: Tommy Barton

April 10: Communion

April 17: Dan Ormsby

April 24: Matt Ormsby

WIC NEWS

April Circle Meetings are as follows:

Monday, April 4:

6:00 PM - Grace Circle meets at the home of Wendy Ham

7:00 PM - Elizabeth Circle meets at the home of Judy Dixon

Readers Circle meets at the home of Lennie Burrell

Ruth Circle meets in the Church Parlor with Julianne Griffin hosting

Tuesday, April 5:

6:30 PM - Denver Circle meets at the home of Ruth Kerley

Girls Movie Night - April 8 from 6:30-8:30

ALL ladies 6th grade and up are invited for popcorn and snacks to watch *The Princess Diaries*. This is an opportunity for all ladies to get together. Girls under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. Please email Anna Friesenhahn at akfriesenhahn@gmail.com if you do not get an invitation through Sign-up Genius.

Mother-Daughter Banquet - May 2, 6:30 PM

You are invited to the annual Mother-Daughter Banquet on May 2 at 6:30. The meal is being catered so we are asking for \$5 per person to cover a portion of the food costs. Please place your registration and payment in the box in the hallway. Payment is due at the time of registration.

Spring College Boxes - Remember to bring in items for college boxes for our away from home college students. We currently have 8 students that are away from home attending college. Please place your items in the college box bin no later than March 30. Boxes will go out the 1st week of April.

Sample items: snacks, toiletries, paper, pens, highlighters, postage stamps, etc.

** If you have an "away" college student, please confirm with the church office (info@fpcstanley.org or 704-263-4275) that we have his/her correct address.

April 2016

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | 1 Preschool closed | 2 2:00 Men's Basketball |
| 3 6:00 Image Bearers, Youth, Care Groups | 4 Newsletter Deadline 6:00 Grace Circle Meeting 7:00 Elizabeth, Readers & Ruth Circle Meetings | 5 6:30 Denver Circle Mtg. 6:30 Barton Care Group 7:00 Burrell Care Group | 6 10:30 Wed. AM Care Grp 6:30 Youth; Abernathy CG | 7 5:30 Tech Team Mtg. 6:30 CE Committee Mtg; MTW Committee Mtg 7:00 Adult Rec. Volleyball 7:30 Officers' Prayer | 8 6:30 Soccer Orientation 6:30 WIC Movie Night | 9 2:00 Men's Basketball |
| 10 AM Communion 6:00 Image Bearers, Youth, Care Groups | 11 | 12 6:30 Barton Care Group 7:00 Burrell Care Group | 13 10:30 Wed. AM Care Grp 6:30 Youth; Abernathy CG 6:30 Children's Min Team | 14 6:30 AHG Unit Mtgs. 7:00 Joint Officers' Mtg Adult Rec. Volleyball | 15 | 16 WIC Card Making Class (More details to come) 2:00 Men's Basketball |
| 17 2:00 - 3:30 Bridal Shower for Chelsea Stanley (Seth Abernathy) 6:00 Image Bearers, Youth, Care Groups | 18 Newsletter Deadline | 19 6:30 Barton Care Group 7:00 Burrell Care Group | 20 10:30 Wed. AM Care Grp 6:30 Youth; Abernathy CG | 21 6:30 AHG Board Mtg. 7:00 Adult Rec. Volleyball 7:30 AHG Leadership Mtg | 22 ← Youth Ridgehaven Retreat → | 23 2:00 Men's Basketball |
| 24 ← Youth Retreat | 25 | 26 6:30 Barton Care Group 7:00 Burrell Care Group | 27 10:30 Wed. AM Care Grp 6:30 Youth; Abernathy CG | 28 6:30 AHG Unit Mtgs. | 29 | 30 2:00 Men's Basketball |

MISSIONARY NEWS

PALMER HOME TEAM

Pray for our 25 member Palmer Home mission team – Zack Bedford; Jonan and Rachel Bynum; Micah Deneen; Ed Faggart; Ryan Grice; Charles, Lorie (Team Leader), Jared and Mason Hamrick; Debbie, Lauren and Emma Harper; Joel, Isaac and Abigail Jessen; Grace Kopka; Connor and Tanner McMinn; Kelsey and Kaleigh Smith; Sherry and Jake Teague; Ashlin and Julia Treat. They leave early Monday morning, March 28, for Columbus, Mississippi where they will serve for a week at Palmer Home for Children.

NEWS FROM PASTOR TIM BARTON IN UTAH

We praise God:

Our move to Layton is complete and we are fully settled into our home. Already we have invested a fair amount of sweat and equity.

Vicki and I celebrated 35 years of marriage on March 7.

We were able to ordain two new elders in January.

Grace Church is growing. More and more of my time is being spent with those who are not yet members.

The congregation is enjoying one another and the Lord together.

Prayer requests:

Pray for my continued adjustment to a new congregation and working with new leaders. Ask God to make me patient and humble. (My pride gets in the way a lot.)

Pray for right time management. Pray that the Lord will guide me to use the time He gives in the best ways.

Pray that I will trust the Lord for these people and this Church.

Pray that Grace Church would develop a greater heart for outreach and creativity in reaching this culture.

Pray for Jordan Presbyterian Church as they continue to adjust to our leaving.

Pray that I would have a more gentle spirit. I find myself frustrated and impatient more than is warranted.

Please pray that the Lord would continue to work in my heart to show me my sin and grant me a heart of humility and repentance.

And as always, please pray that the Lord would protect our hearts from fear and pride and open doors for our message.

WISHING A *HAPPY BIRTHDAY* IN APRIL TO...

02 – Katy Janicek

03 – Ana Santana

04 – Anna Fiol (2007)

Michaela Wadhams (2007)

05 – Melissa Hunt

09 – Karen Weaver

14 – Bill Troutman

21 – Jane McLaughen

22 – Garry Chambers

24 – Robin White

26 – Suzanne Scott



WITH OUR CHURCH FAMILY

In Memoriam
 ✠
Ellie M. Smith Abernathy
 November 6, 1924 - March 8, 2016

One of our long time members, **Ellie Abernathy**, went home to be with the Lord on March 8 at the age of 91. Although Ellie had been unable to attend services for quite a while, she was a member at FPC for over 30 years.

We offer condolences to **Anita Chambers** and family on the death of Anita's mother on March 1 in Xenia, OH. Mrs. Edith Chasteen was 93 years old.

We extend Christian sympathies to **Kathy Lineberger** and family on the death of Kathy's father, Sherman Dotson. Mr. Dotson died in Fletcher, NC on March 2. On a happier note, **Kathy and Leon Lineberger** became grandparents on March 4. **Harison Cole** was born to their son **Tyler** and his wife **Heather**. **Anna Kathryn** and **Kyle** are the proud aunt and uncle!

Liz Johnstone spent a couple of nights at Caromont with heart attack like symptoms. She was released after it was determined she had an esophageal seizure. **Kay Heffner** had a brief stay in the hospital recently. Tests on lymph nodes that were removed reveal they are cancerous. **Ellen Beam** had knee replacement surgery on Monday. At the time of this printing, she was anticipating to be released Wednesday afternoon.

WITH LOVING THANKS

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for all the prayers, cards and expressions of love following the death of my father. The support I received from my church family helped me tremendously during a very difficult time.

*Sincerely,
Kathy Lineberger*

Dear First Presbyterian Congregation,

Thank you all for the cards, prayers and visits during Mom's stay at the STLC. It was greatly appreciated. Also, thank you for the food you shared with us at the time of her passing.

May God truly bless each of you.

Family of Ellie Abernathy

FEBRUARY FINANCIAL REPORT

| | |
|---|------------|
| Needed monthly for budget | 60,397.79 |
| Received in February for budget | 54,813.65 |
| Needed to date for budget..... | 120,795.58 |
| Received to date for budget | 119,380.62 |
| | |
| Needed monthly for Faith Promise..... | 16,517.75 |
| Received in February for Faith Promise..... | 9,205.00 |
| Needed to date for Faith Promise | 33,035.50 |
| Received to date for Faith Promise..... | 30,493.00 |

Birthdays to Celebrate in April

1 Keith Black
Kate Heil
April Marsh

5 Michelle Gillespie
Cathy Rhyne

8 Tommy Deese

9 Andy Tinsley

2 Terri Fowler



10 Doug Lamb
Brandon Rodgers

3 Sallie McAllister

11 Casey Ham

4 Tony Beam
Brad Heath
Chris McAllister

12 Rachel Baker
Mary Rankin

15 Alyssa Lowery

The Church Family is a twice-monthly publication of First Presbyterian Church
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e-mail: info@fpctanley.org ♦ web site: www.fpctanley.org
Senior Pastor, Scott Deneen ♦ Assistant Pastor, Steve Jessen
Worship 10:15 AM ♦ Sunday School 9:00 AM



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

ARMORBEARER

Prayer Calendar – April 2016

First Presbyterian Church • Stanley, NC

“There are many reasons to believe that Jesus is alive. There is the evidence of history, starting with the empty tomb itself. Where did Jesus body go if it did not rise from the grave and ascend into heaven? There is also the experience of the church. How did the first Christians recover from their despair over the death of Jesus so quickly and change the world in so many ways if not by the power of the risen Christ? Then there is the worship of the church on Sunday. Why did Christians ever begin worshipping on the first day of the week, if not because this is the day that Jesus rose from the dead?

Consider, as well the testimony of the people we meet in the Gospels. There was the witness of the women, who were the first to see the empty tomb, and also the testimony of the apostles, who did not believe at first, but later took the gospel of Jesus all over the world. There is also the proclamation of Peter, who stood up a few weeks later to preach that God raised the crucified Christ, “loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it” (Acts 2:24). Beyond all this we have the witness of the rest of the New Testament, that Jesus was “raised on the third day...raised from the dead the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep” (I Cor. 15:4,20). Therefore we are “born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead” (I Pet. 1:3). Jesus said that he would be crucified, dead and buried, and that on the third day he would rise again.”

Dr. Philip Ryken, Luke, V.2, p. 640,41

(As Armorbearers, remember that our prayers are offered to a LIVING SAVIOR!!)

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

Many of you ask about the health of my mother and father, and I am grateful. Thank you for your prayers and concern for them. They are slowly moving into the twilight of their lives and experiencing what many of you experience – a wasting away of the mind and body, fragility, aches/pains, and frustration.

Next week I head to Tennessee to take my father for an MRI. He has spinal stenosis and his feet have become numb. My sister says he falls a lot now. Being a self-reliant person he doesn’t like to ask for help but the time has come for him to allow others to assist him (as well as my mother). Both remain in their home but probably need assisted living.

Please pray for me as I counsel him. My hope is to offer a course of action that will honor God, help him think of allowable ways to love his wife (my mother) that don’t make him feel unnecessarily guilty, and that my mother would get the care she needs while still enjoying the peace God gives her spirit.

Thank you for your prayers!

April Daily Prayer Requests

- 1 **Chris Baity:** Pray for Bri and me, as we have a lot to do moving into a new house and with my new church position. We need both patience and joy!
- 2 **Chris Baker:** Pray for the witness of teachers and leaders in our various children's ministries.
- 3 **Tommy Barton:** Give praise to our Lord Jesus that while we may live in confusing times in our country, He is the one that is still in control.
- 4 **Clyde Haley:** Pray for those of our church family that have health issues, that God give them grace and healing according to his purpose for them.
- 5 **Charles Hamrick:** Pray for all those who work in our law enforcement.
- 6 **Mark Harper:** Pray for Debbie and me as we try to find balance between work and family time.
- 7 **Joel Jessen:** Pray that Kim will have strength and patience to manage the family while I am away traveling for my work.
- 8 **Mark Johnson:** Pray for our young people who are seeking God's guidance for their future.
- 9 **Leon Lineberger:** Pray for those recovering from surgery and illness in our congregation.
- 10 **Garry Lucas:** Pray for coaches and participants in the Soccer outreach this spring.
- 11 **Jimmie Mitchell:** Pray that I would be joyful and give thanks in ALL circumstances.
- 12 **Dan Ormsby:** For all Christian marriages, that we will love each other the way God intended, so that we will be an example to the world.
- 13 **Matt Ormsby:** Pray that the Lord would start to prepare the Mexico mission team for their work and ministry this summer.
- 14 **Jerry Ratchford:** For the Lord's leading as we elect a new president this year. That Christians will humble themselves, and pray and seek the face of God and turn from their wicked ways.
- 15 **Percy Raleigh:** Pray for the Lord's help and direction in the oversight of our facilities.
- 16 **Grady Rhyne:** Pray for all our church staff.
- 17 **Robert Rhyne:** Special prayers from all today for comfort and healing for Kay Heffner.
- 18 **Johnny Smith:** Please continue to pray for my Dad, that the doctors can find a solution for his ongoing back problem.
- 19 **Chris Baity:** For the strong witness and outreach of the Soar soccer ministry to our community.
- 20 **Chris Baker:** For God's daily help for families where both parents work outside the home.
- 21 **Tommy Barton:** Pray for summer mission teams as they prepare for their service to the Lord.
- 22 **Clyde Haley:** Continue praying for our country, that we will have a revival, and Jesus will be proclaimed as Lord in our land.
- 23 **Charles Hamrick:** Pray for our Children's Ministry and for Lauren Henderson as she leads it.
- 24 **Mark Harper:** Pray for Pastors Scott and Steve in the leadership they provide for our church.
- 25 **Joel Jessen:** Pray that I would be a witness to my soccer team, my coworkers, and others with whom I have regular contact.
- 26 **Mark Johnson:** Pray for believers in our country to pray and ask God for direction, wisdom, and help.
- 27 **Leon Lineberger:** Pray for those who grieve the loss of loved ones.
- 28 **Garry Lucas:** Pray for us as deacons to keep up with all of our responsibilities.
- 29 **Jimmie Mitchell:** That I would pray with and for my Shepherd Group and others in the church.
- 30 **Dan Ormsby:** Pray that our church will always stand on the solid rock of Jesus Christ and be a beacon of light to our community and the world.

Praise and Thanksgivings

- Thanksgiving for being able to recognize answered prayer.
Robert Rhyne
- Praise for our new communicant members and for Lauren's teaching of them.
Mark Harper
- Praise God for all current/recent facilities committee members who have/are spending a large portion of their free time keeping our church looking good and in good working order.
- Praise the Lord for our music--Eric and each choir member who give their time and talents to make our worship experience more enjoyable. Pray the Lord will raise up others willing to 'make a joyful noise'.
- Praise for the recent 'regular' visitors to our Sunday worship.
- Praise for the strong leadership in our church.
Jerry Ratchford