

THE CHURCH FAMILY

Presenting Everyone Complete in Christ

FROM YOUR PASTOR'S DESK

In my sermon this week I mentioned the person known as the “Mother Reformer,” her name was Katharina Schutz Zell. She was the leading female author during the reformation. Katharina was born in Strasbourg Germany in 1497 and in 1518 a preacher named Matthew Zell came there preaching the Biblical truths of the Reformation. As she listened to Zell’s preaching Katharina was convinced of the truth of Scripture and received assurance of her salvation. Seven years later she and Zell were married.

She said of her marriage “What bound us together was not silver and gold. Both of us possessed a higher thing, Christ was the mark before our eyes.” Their marriage was one of the first Protestant marriages and was a courageous act as it broke the law and practice of the Catholic church. Katharina’s first published piece was defending the legitimacy of Protestant marriage.

This past weekend I conducted a marriage ceremony and what better advice to give a young couple starting out than Zell’s challenge to make Christ the focus of your lives and your marriage. But this challenge is for all couples. Have we put Christ truly at the center of our relationships?

Katharina was also a compassionate person caring for many Protestant refugees flooding into her town. Her motivation for her work with the poor and displaced was based on Isaiah 35:3 “*Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees.*”

Katharina also suffered great loss, having two infant children die shortly after their birth. Despite her deep loss, she continued to serve faithfully those in need. Then in 1548 her husband died. Out of her grief and lessons learned in her life, she published many things including commentaries on Psalms 51, 130 and the Lord’s Prayer.

This talented and faithful woman of God is an example to all of us of a person willing to “testify to the truth.” And she did this with a spirit of compassion and personal sacrifice. Let us like Katharina love our neighbors with the love of Jesus, and “speak the truth in love.”

In Christ’s love,



(I want to acknowledge the source for my information is an article in Tabletalk Online magazine October 9, 2017 by Rebecca VanDoodewaard. Be sure to look this up for more information on Katharina Schutz Zell.)

**MISSIONS
CONFERENCE
2017**

October 18-22



Dr. Lloyd Kim
Keynote Speaker

2017 MISSIONS CONFERENCE GOALS

Prayer Goal

380

people praying regularly
for a missionary.

Faith Promise Goals

\$170,000 Level One

\$175,000 Level Two

\$180,000 Level Three

WIC NEWS

NOVEMBER CIRCLE MEETINGS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Monday, November 6:

Elizabeth Circle meets at the home of Tommi Rust.
Readers Circle meets at the home of Sherry Wagstaff.
Ruth Circle meets at the home of Vicki Murphy.

Tuesday, November 7:

Denver Circle meets at the home of Karen Ensley.
Grace Circle meets at the home of Wendy Ham.

All circles meet at 7:00 pm except Grace which meets at 6:00 pm.

REMINDER:
WIC Council will
meet on
Sunday, October 29.

WOMEN'S HOLIDAY EVENT

We still have 5 tickets remaining for the *"The Homecoming: A Christmas Story."* We will leave the church at 5:30 pm on November 4. We will stop in Kings Mountain and eat dinner (Dutch treat) at Dino's Italian Pizzeria in Bessemer City. Then we will proceed to Joy Performance Center in Kings Mountain for the play which begins at 7:30 pm.

IT'S COLLEGE BOX TIME



We are now collecting for our fall College Boxes. Please bring in items to fill the boxes with goodies for our college students living away from home!

If your child is away at college, please contact Sandra in the church office (info@fpstanley.org or 704-263-4275) with their address. We are trying to compile a list of our current away from home college students so we can be sure to send each one a college box!

We will observe
Communion
during the morning worship service



Sunday, November 5

**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS
NOVEMBER 5**

Remember to set your
clocks back 1 hour
before you go to bed.



Also remember to change the batteries
in your smoke detectors!

IMPORTANT DATES FOR CHRISTMAS SCENES 2017

Participants

Saturday, Nov. 18: 9:00 - 11:00 am Drama practice for all characters.

Sunday, Dec. 10: 5:30 pm Dress Rehearsal.

Everyone...Participants and Attendees

Thursday, Dec. 14 • Friday, Dec. 15 • Saturday, Dec. 16

6:30 - 8:00pm

Christmas Scenes Outreach



November 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 10:30 Wed. Morn Care Grp.	2 6:30 CE Committee Mtg. MTW Committee Mtg. 7:30 Officers' Prayer	3	4 8:00 Man Day 2:00 Men's Basketball
5 <i>Daylight Savings Time ends.</i> AM Communion 6:00 Children's Ministry, Youth, Care Groups	6 7:00 Elizabeth, Readers & Ruth Circle Meetings	7 6:00 Grace Circle Mtg. 6:30 Barton Care Group 7:00 Burrell Care Group	8 10:30 Wed. Morn Care Grp. 6:30 Abernathy Care Group Tech Team Mtg.	9 6:30 AHG Unit Meetings 7:00 Officer Examinations	10	11 7:00 Deacons' Meeting 2:00 Men's Basketball
12 6:00 Children's Ministry, Youth, Care Groups	13 Newsletter Deadline 6:30 Outreach Comm Mtg	14 6:30 Barton Care Group 7:00 Burrell Care Group	15 10:30 Wed. Morn Care Grp. 6:30 Abernathy Care Group	16 6:30 AHG Unit Meetings 7:00 Session Meeting	17	18 9:00 Christmas Scenes Drama Practice 2:00 Men's Basketball
19 4:00 WIC Council Mtg. 6:00 Children's Ministry, Youth, Care Groups	20	21 7:00 Community  Thanksgiving Svc.	22 <div style="border: 1px dashed black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">CDC Closed</div> 10:30 Wed. Morn Care Grp.	23 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Thanksgiving Day</div>  <i>Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise... Psalm 100:4</i> <div style="border: 1px dashed black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block; margin-top: 10px;">Church Office & CDC Closed</div>	24	25 2:00 Men's Basketball
26 6:00 Children's Christmas Play Dress Rehearsal, Youth, Care Groups	27 7:00 SOAR Comm. Mtg	28 6:30 Barton Care Group 7:00 Burrell Care Group	29 10:30 Wed. Morn Care Grp. 6:30 Abernathy Care Group	30		

WEDDING COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS



We are looking for a few ladies to volunteer on our Wedding Committee. This involves assisting our brides and grooms as they prepare for their wedding here at FPC. You don't have to possess any special skills, and since you will assist on a rotating basis, it will not consume a lot of time. Contact the church office for more information if you are willing to help out with this ministry.



Attention ministry leaders...

Remember our
2018 CALENDAR PLANNING MEETING
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 6:30 PM
in the Conference Room!



We are once again participating in
the Samaritan's Purse

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD.

You can bring in filled, ready-to-go boxes or just bring in loose items which can be used to fill boxes. Volunteers from American Heritage Girls will take the miscellaneous donations and fill boxes. Donations can be placed in the Operation Christmas Child bin in the main hallway. If you prefer to make a monetary donation, you may give a check made payable to Samaritan's Purse. It is preferred that monetary donations be in increments of \$9.00 as this is the cost of shipping a box. Monetary donations should be given to Sherry Teague or dropped off in the church office. **Donations are being accepted now through November 17th.**

Suggested (NEW) items are:

toys, pens, pencils, crayons, markers, notebooks, paper, coloring and picture books, bar soap, toothbrushes, combs, washcloths, t-shirts, socks, sunglasses, hair clips, jewelry, flashlights with batteries, playing cards, small stuffed animals, small tools. Keep in mind the boxes are not very big so you will want to limit the size of items you purchase.

Items NOT to include:

saws, pocketknives, toy guns, military figures, candy, any kind of liquids, lotions, medicines, toothpaste

NOVEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES



NURSERY

- November 5:** 10:15 AM - Mark and Deanna Beatty
November 12: 10:15 AM - Craig and Susan Mesimer
November 19: 10:15 AM - Greg and Amanda Huss
November 26: 10:15 AM - Tommi Rust & Olivia Fox

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

- November 5:** Communion
November 12: Dan Ormsby
November 19: Matt Ormsby
November 26: Robert Rhyne

WITH LOVING THANKS

Dear Church Family,

Words can't express my gratitude to you for all your prayers and encouragement. You have done so many nice things for me during my surgery and recovery and I appreciate all you have done.

*Love,
Ellen Beam*



A Spring Conference

**Thursday evening
April 12, 2018**

at First Presbyterian

*Keeping Love Alive as Memories Fade
with Dr. Gary Chapman*

WITH OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Congratulations to two of our young couples who were recently married. **Joe Deese** and **Kayley Coleman** were married Saturday, October 7 in Lincoln. **Trevor Burgess** and **Alana Helms** were married at FPC on Saturday, October 14. We wish them all the best!

WITH OUR MISSIONARY FAMILY

Liviu Lepadatu, pastor of Hope Church, praises God for the summer Bible camp they had in **Timosoara, Romania** in late August. Campers included 31 children, many of whom were teenagers, and 9 adult helpers. He says that the children are already looking forward to the next camp! **Pray for our missionaries Liviu and Sica Lepadatu.**

Andres Garza writes about the San Pedro Church in **Monterrey Mexico** where he is the lead pastor. The attendance every Sunday is between 70 – 80 adults and 25 children. It is a multiethnic church with people from the US, Colombia, India, Chile, Guatemala, Spain and Mexico. 70% of the couples that are attending came because of marriage struggles. 50% of the people come from a non-believing background, 30% did not go to church before and 20% come from other churches. **Pray for our missionaries Andres and Ruth Garza.**



Celebrating November Birthdays

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 2 – Steve Williams | 12 – Bobbi Jo Brooks |
| 4 – Ricardo Santana | 13 – Bill Schweitzer |
| 5 – Sica Lepadatu | 14 – Catalina Nachtergaele |
| 6 – Claudia Comer (2011) | 16 – Chris Griffith |
| Anthony Piteo (2003) | 27 – Sabrina Wadhams (1996) |
| 9 – Leticia Zapata | 28 – Dianne Hill |

SEPTEMBER FINANCIAL REPORT

Needed monthly for budget	63,544.35
Received in September for budget.....	63,675.34
Needed to date for budget.....	571,899.13
Received to date for budget	555,598.66
Needed monthly for Faith Promise.....	16,517.75
Received in September for Faith Promise	9,719.00
Needed to date for Faith Promise	148,659.75
Received to date for Faith Promise.....	120,794.00

Birthdays to Celebrate in November

1 Gabriella Griffin
Debra Wallace

7 Mason Friesenhahn
Pete Johnson

14 Sue Homesley
Ann Smith

2 Landon Abernathy
Dawson Marsh
Phyllis Ribbeck

8 Janet Kaufman
Vicki Murphy
Jeff Redding

15 Eric Dake
Ann Davis
John Hill
Johnny Smith

3 Buddy Cavin
Torie Jurina

10 Olivia Fox
Anna Friesenhahn
Mason Hamrick
Wayne Kerley

4 Ashleigh Fox

6 Jimmy Fowler
Onie Kasper
Rebecca Lasley

11 Kathy Lineberger

13 Teresa Neely



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

Assistant Pastor, Steve Jessen
Worship 10:15 AM ♦ Sunday School 9:00 AM



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

ARMORBEARER

Prayer Calendar – November 2017
First Presbyterian Church • Stanley, NC

Armorbearers were personal attendants of a warrior chieftain who accompanied him in dangerous missions; they held huge shields sometimes surrounding their leader to protect him. **Intercessory prayers** by church members' can **protect** their leaders from “the flaming arrows of the evil one” and uphold them “that words may be given to me [Paul] in opening my mouth boldly to **proclaim** the mystery of the gospel” (Eph 6:16, 19).

Prayer Promptings from God's Word for the Month:

Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples!

² Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wondrous works!

³ Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!

⁴ Seek the LORD and his strength; seek his presence continually! Psalm 105:1-4

Prayer for Our Pastors

Pray daily as the Holy Spirit guides you in thinking about, and praying for our pastors. Some suggestions for prayer are included, but pray also as you are aware of other particular needs and concerns they may have.

Monday: To love God with all their heart, and to love others as themselves. (Matt. 27:37-39)

Tuesday: To trust the Lord completely for their wisdom, so that he will direct their daily path. (Prov. 3:5,6)

Wednesday: To pray always, putting on the armor of Lord to stand against the wiles of the Devil. (Eph. 6:11ff)

Thursday: To love their wives and manage their family in ways that honor Christ. (Eph. 5:25, I Tim. 3:4,5)

Friday: That God's word will be their reproof, correction, and instruction in righteousness. (II Tim 3:16)

Saturday: To care faithfully for the flock and have compassion for lost sheep. (John 10:16, Lk. 15:4)

Sunday: To empower them to preach and teach the Gospel in the power of the Spirit. (Matt. 4:23, Rom. 10:15)

Prayer for Our Ministry Leaders and Staff

Pray daily as the Holy Spirit guides you in thinking about, and praying for, our ministry leaders and staff:

Monday: Debbie Smith, Director, Child Development Center

Tuesday: Global Outreach, Adult Ed/Care Groups
Jimmie & Martha Sue Mitchell

Wednesday: Lauren Henderson, Children's Ministry

Thursday: Sandra Taylor, Administrative Assistant

Friday: Eric Beam, Music Director

Saturday: Pray that **all** who preach, teach and lead on the Lord's Day at FPC will bring God's word in the power of the Spirit to bless his people and glorify Jesus Christ.

Prayer for Our Elders and Deacons

- 1 **Jerry Ratchford:** Pray for Janet's mom who is home after a hospital stay but is weak.
- 2 **Kevin Rhyne:** Pray for me to be an humble servant to bless others.
- 3 **Robert Rhyne:** For Marcia's dad, Jasper Evans, who is nearly 93 and in rebuild mode with his Irma flood damaged home in south Florida, and for my mom Barbara Rhyne to have the desire and motivation to get back on her feet.
- 4 **Grady Rhyne:** Pray for the search committee to understand God's will as they do their work.
- 5 **George Ross:** Pray for the planning and preparation for the Christmas scenes.
- 6 **Ronnie Smith:** Pray for Joe and Beverly Fitzpatrick, MTW missionaries serving in Puerto Rico that was devastated by the recent hurricanes.
- 7 **Charlie Stewart:** Pray for strength to keep up all my responsibilities of home, work, and church.
- 8 **Tracy Withers:** Please pray that I will be able to make clear decisions and follow God's will in my service to the church and my family.
- 9 **Ryan Abernathy:** Pray for God's guidance with our Senior Pastor Search Committee as we begin the task of interviewing candidates.
- 10 **Chris Baker:** Pray for the Lord to guide me and build up my patience as things change with my job. Pray for a minimal impact on my family.
- 11 **Mark Beatty:** Pray that my mother would have a speedy and full recovery after her recent surgery.
- 12 **Tommy Barton:** Pray for the MTW Committee in overseeing and supporting our missionaries and Mission projects.
- 13 **Dean Chaney:** Pray for the new officer nominees as they complete their church leadership training.
- 14 **Ken Dake:** Pray for the youth and the search for a new youth pastor.
- 15 **Andrew Deese:** Pray that I would be more consistent in my prayer and devotion time.
- 16 **Ed Faggart:** That I would have a truly cooperative spirit and always put other's concerns first and that I would remain in good health.
- 17 **Chris Graham:** For continued wisdom and strength as Jodie and I care for aging parents.
- 18 **Clyde Haley:** Pray for our home-bound members, that God would strengthen their bodies, and heal their infirmities if that be His will.
- 19 **Mark Harper:** Pray for strength for Debbie as her sister Sandra faces surgery for her cancer and that God will open doors for me in my career path.
- 20 **Rick Herd:** Pray that God help me to listen and promote optimism and praise to the ones that come my way.
- 21 **Joel Jessen:** Pray that I would experience the presence of Christ throughout each day.
- 22 **Pete Johnson:** Pray for my wife Liz and her family as they have faced some difficult losses.
- 23 **Leon Lineberger:** For Anna Kathryn in her new job, and strength in my work and as a Deacon.
- 24 **Jimmie Mitchell:** Help me to not be violent but gentle and not quarrelsome.
- 25 **Dan Ormsby:** Pray for all the work being done to get the Christmas scenes ready and that it will have a great impact on our community for Christ.
- 26 **Matt Ormsby:** Pray for the Outreach Committee and for God's work to add to our church family those who have no church home.
- 27 **Jerry Ratchford:** For Janet and her family, as they rearrange their schedules so they can work and yet continue to provide care for their mom.
- 28 **Kevin Rhyne:** Pray for the Lord to give me love for all people.
- 29 **Robert Rhyne:** For my Aunt Helen Lieurance, our oldest FPC member, sneaking up on 98, that she may remain healthy in both mind and spirit.
- 30 **Grady Rhyne:** For the Session that we always seek to do God's will in our actions.

Praise and Thanksgivings

- Praise for the good turnout at the fasting and special worship service dedicated to finding new pastor.
Jerry Ratchford
- Thanks to God for the strength, witness, and faithfulness of our congregation in working through the changes and challenges of the past 8 months
- Praise to God for creating such a beautiful place for us to live.
Dan Ormsby