

THE CHURCH FAMILY

Presenting Everyone Complete in Christ

FROM YOUR PASTOR

by Scott Deneen

During our Missions Conference, Paul Clark mentioned having a “crystal sea” experience – a time when everything changed and he could no longer be the same. It came when a mob approached his boyhood home in Peru and was threatening to kill he and his family due to their Christian convictions. God intervened mysteriously to preserve them and Paul gave his life to Christ thereafter.

All those who have been delivered by God have a “crystal sea” experience. Maybe the scenario isn’t as dramatic as Paul’s but the clarity and understanding of God’s grace still transforms the heart and mind completely. (How can you have an encounter with Almighty God and not come out completely changed forever?)

One of the most amazing truths we can grasp is that when we share the gospel of Jesus Christ with people, we are offering them a “crystal sea” experience. ...an opportunity to gaze upon the beauty and splendor of God in Christ, to behold Him in His sovereign power and delivering grace, to peer into Heaven to behold wonders beyond our imagination, to look upon the face of the Creator.

As a church we have the glorious privilege of purposefully pursuing others with the Gospel message – both personally and corporately... telling others about God’s saving work through Jesus Christ. It can be over coffee or a meal, through a SOAR Finale talk, from the pulpit, or via missionaries we support.

What a great opportunity and privilege. What a blessed joy to offer Jesus Christ to a friend, neighbor, outcast, enemy, down-and-out, or forsaken so that they, too, like us, can be changed by the grace of God.

God’s rich blessings to each of you,

Scott

★ FAITH PROMISE GIVING UPDATE: \$124,957 ★
GOD is GOOD!

WE LOVE AND APPRECIATE OUR PASTORS!

*Thank you Pastor Scott,
Pastor Steve and Pastor Dan!*



PASTOR STEVE'S CORNER

As I was preparing for my sermon several weeks ago I stumbled across a bulletin in my Bible dated April 26, 2015. On the back I had written part of the hymn "We Are Called to Be God's People." Verse 3 says: *"We are called to be God's prophets, speaking for the truth and right. Standing firm for godly justice, bringing evil into light. Let us seek the courage needed, our high calling to fulfill. That we all may know the blessing, of the doing of God's will."*

Our Missions Conference speaker Paul Clark and his wife Marty have embodied the spirit of this hymn in their lifelong work with the rejected street boys of Peru. Paul challenged us with the question "Am I my brother's keeper?" Do we have a responsibility to defend and protect the vulnerable, the abused, the abandoned, the weak, the lost, the oppressed, the brokenhearted, the imprisoned and the enslaved?

In Matthew 25 Jesus describes the gathering of the nations and the separation of people into two groups as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He then explains how you can distinguish those who are chosen of God, blessed by the Father, and heirs of the kingdom, from those who are not...

³⁵"For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me." ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, saying, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? ³⁸And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? ³⁹And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?" ⁴⁰And the King will answer them, "Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me."

Then in stark contrast he describes those labeled "goats."

⁴⁵Then he will answer them, saying, "Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me. ⁴⁶And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

So the answer is YES! We are to be our brother's/sister's keeper, to bring evil to light, to stand up for justice. What we do, and what we neglect to do, are indications of our obedience to God's will. Some will be called to be on the front lines like the Clarks; bringing love and justice to forgotten boys in Peru. Others will be in support roles- supplying financial support for Christian missionaries, agencies and churches (Faith Promise). And everyone is called to pray (Prayer Commitment Card).

So how will you serve Christ in your life this week? How can you make a difference in the lives of "the least of these." Because when you do, as the hymn states, you will "know the blessing, of the doing of God's will."

Steve



GOLF CARTS NEEDED!

Our Christmas Scenes Planning Committee is looking for a few golf carts to be used during the Christmas Scenes in December. They will be used to transport those with special needs or disabilities through the new scenes layout. If you have a golf cart that can be used, please contact Ronnie Smith at 263-8290.

WIC NEWS

WIC Council
meets
Sunday, October 23
at 4:00 pm

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

Tuesday, November 1:

7:00 pm - Denver Circle will meet at the home of Karen Ensley for a covered dish supper.

Monday, November 7:

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

7:00 pm - Elizabeth Circle will meet at the *lake* home of Linda Faggart
Readers Circle will meet at the home of Martha Sue Mitchell
Ruth Circle will meet at the home of Ellen Beam for a covered dish supper

BEST YEARS EVENT: SATURDAY, NOV. 12, 12:00 PM



The Grace and Denver Circles invite the Best Years for a BBQ lunch and an afternoon of singing. Be ready to request your favorite Hymns. RSVP to Wendy Ham at (704) 263-5420 by Sunday, November 6. Thanks!

MISSIONS NEWS

**Happy
Birthday
to our
Missionaries**

11/02 – Steve Williams
11/04 – Ricardo Santana
11/05 – Sica Lepadatu
11/06 – Claudia Comer (2011)
11/08 – Salito Chuc (2000)
11/12 – Bobbi Jo Brooks

11/13 – Bill Schweitzer
11/14 – Catalina Nachtergaele
11/16 – Chris Griffith
11/27 – Sabrina Wadhams (1996)
11/28 – Dianne Hill
11/29 – Nathanael Knott (1998)

Our Goal: 375 people praying regularly in 2017 for one or more of our missionary families

To Date: 200 Prayer Commitments have been received

Challenge: Mail or bring your Prayer Commitment card to the church. Additional cards and lists of the missionaries are available at the church.

**Pray
for
our
Missionaries**

**It's
A
Boy!!**

You are invited to a
Baby Shower
Sunday, November 13
2:00 - 3:30 pm

honoring
Baby Boy McAllister
(and his parents-to-be, Chris and Sallie)



Gift registries are at Babies "R" Us and Walmart.

Hostesses are: Elizabeth Abernathy, Caitlin Bumgardner, Sarah Robinson and Vickie Smith.

THANK YOU SO MUCH!
from the
**Crisis Pregnancy Center
of Gaston County**



First Presbyterian raised \$878 for the 2016 Walk for Life.

As of October 5, a grand total of \$45,408.96 had been raised! God is FAITHFUL!



MAN DAY*
NOVEMBER 5



WORK PROJECT: 8AM-12:27PM

We will have multiple work sites, so we need many hands to make light work! A great way to serve the Lord by serving others.

MEN'S LOW COUNTRY BOIL: 12:28-2:58PM

Come out and bring a friend to a taste of the South. If you have never been to a Low Country Boil, you are in for some fine dining - man style! Meet us out by the gym. We will follow up with the first annual PRESBY GAMES! Includes Archery, rock throwing, tug of war and other feats of strength! If you have an old style recurve or stick bow please email the church at steve@fpcstanley.org.

Sign Up for both events on the bulletin board in the main hallway. You can sign up for either one, but we would love for you to do both!

*This includes all men high school age and up!!

November 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 6:30 Barton Care Group 7:00 Burrell Care Group Denver Circle Mtg.	2 8:00 - 1:00 Preschool Harvest Party-FoH 10:30 Wednesday AM CG	3 6:30 CE Committee Mtg. MTW Committee Mtg. AHG Leaders' Mtg. 7:30 Officers' Prayer	4	5 8:00 Men's Work Day 12:30 Men's Low Country Boil 2:00 Men's Basketball
6 AM Communion	7 6:00 Care Groups, Youth, Image Bearers	8 Preschool Closed	9 10:30 Wednesday AM CG 6:30 Youth; Abernathy CG 6:30 Children's Min Team Tech Team Mtg.	10 6:00 AHG Unit Mtgs.	11 Preschool Closed	12 7:00 Deacons' Meeting 12:00 Best Years Event 2:00 Men's Basketball
13 2:00 Baby Shower for Sallie McAllister 6:00 Care Groups, Youth, Image Bearers	14 Newsletter Deadline	15 6:30 Barton Care Group 7:00 Burrell Care Group	16 10:30 Wednesday AM CG 6:30 Youth; Abernathy CG	17 6:00 AHG Unit Mtgs. 7:00 Session Meeting	18	19 2:00 Men's Basketball
20 Time Capsule Reveal	21	22 7:00 Community Thanksgiving Svc. 	23 CDC Closed	24 THANKSGIVING DAY  Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise... Psalm 100:4 Church Office and CDC Closed	25	26 2:00 Men's Basketball
27 4:00 WIC Council Mtg 6:00 Care Groups, Youth, Image Bearers	28 7:00 SOAR Committee Mtg.	29 6:30 Barton Care Group 7:00 Burrell Care Group	30 10:30 Wednesday AM CG 6:30 Youth; Abernathy CG			

NOVEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

NURSERY

- November 6:** 10:15 AM - Donna Hill
6:00 PM - Angel Ross
- November 13:** 10:15 AM - Sally Ormsby
6:00 PM - Donna Hill
- November 20:** 10:15 AM - Angel and Brittany Ross
6:00 PM - Sally Ormsby
- November 27:** 10:15 AM - Tommi Rust
6:00 PM - SaDara Tilley

Train a child in the way he should go, and
when he is old he will not turn from it.
Proverbs 22:6



CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

- November 6:** Communion
- November 13:** Leon Lineberger
- November 20:** Jimmie Mitchell
- November 27:** Dan Ormsby

We will observe
Communion
during the morning worship service



Sunday, November 6

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS NOVEMBER 6

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



 Also remember to change the batteries
in your smoke detectors!

COLLEGE BOXES



We are once again collecting items to send to our college students who are living away from home. Remember to bring in items to fill the college boxes for our 8 undergraduate college students. Deadline to bring in items is Sunday, November 13! Collection box is in the main hallway.

WITH OUR CHURCH FAMILY

We are thankful that **Jim Fowler** recognized his chest pains as a potential heart attack so he was able to receive quick medical attention. After a few days in the hospital, Jim underwent surgery to place a stent in the blocked artery. **Mary Ruth Heffner** spent one night in the hospital following surgery for a *golf ball sized* kidney stone. Ouch!! **Vicki Barton** is recovering from knee replacement surgery. She underwent the procedure Monday in the Salt Lake City hospital where she works as a cardiac cath nurse. **Pastor Tim** is reportedly doing a splendid job taking care of his wife while keeping the home fires burning. Please pray for each of these folks as they recover at home.

We extend Christian sympathies to **Dan and Sally Ormsby** and family on the death of Dan's brother. **Ed Ormsby**, age 60, died suddenly last week while on a work related stay in Texas. The Funeral service will be Saturday, 10/22, 2:00 PM at Mountain View Baptist Church, 4266 River Road, Hickory. The family will receive friends from 12:00 - 2:00 at the church.

Congratulations to two of our young couples who were married this past weekend. **Patrick Rhyne** and **Shelby Winchester** were married in a lovely evening ceremony Saturday, October 8, in Asheville. The couple - sweethearts through high school and college - will make their home in the Raleigh area. Patrick is the son of **Kevin and Cathy Rhyne**. **Hayley Black** and **Matt Rutkowski** were also married in the evening on October 8 at the Champagne Manor in Monroe. Hayley is the daughter of **Chris and Jane Black**. The Rutkowskis will make their home in Gastonia.

Life has changed dramatically this week for **Garrett Brooks**. Garrett, the fiancé of **Michaela Lamb**, was inducted into the U. S. Army and is in basic training. The couple plans a December 23 wedding when Garrett is due to be home on leave.

Announcing!!!

We will open the FPC Time Capsule that was buried in November 1991 on Sunday, November 20. Be listening for more details about this special event.



2017 BUDGET REQUEST DEADLINE IS THIS SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23.

Submit written requests to Gary Neely in order to be considered for the 2017 Budget.

SEPTEMBER FINANCIAL REPORT

Needed monthly for budget	60,397.79
Received in September for budget.....	53,720.01
Needed to date for budget.....	543,580.10
Received to date for budget	536,948.97
Needed monthly for Faith Promise	16,517.75
Received in September for Faith Promise	9,970.00
Needed to date for Faith Promise	148,659.75
Received to date for Faith Promise.....	127,468.00

Birthdays to Celebrate in November

1 Gabriella Griffin
Debra Wallace

2 Landon Abernathy
Phyllis Ribbeck

3 Buddy Cavin
Torie Jurina

4 Ashleigh Fox

6 Jimmy Fowler
Onie Kasper
Rebecca Lasley

7 Mason Friesenhahn
Pete Johnson

8 Janet Kaufman
Vicki Murphy
Jeff Redding

10 Olivia Fox
Anna Friesenhahn
Mason Hamrick
Wayne Kerley

11 Kathy Lineberger

13 Teresa Neely

14 Sue Homesley
Ann Smith

15 Eric Dake
Ann Davis
John Hill
Johnny Smith

**Happy
Birthday!**

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



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

ARMORBEARER

Prayer Calendar – November 2016

First Presbyterian Church • Stanley, NC

At our Missions Conference prayer meeting, Rev. Kevin Burrell from Stonebridge Church was our speaker. Kevin was a part of our church in his teenage and college years and many of us know his family. He gave a great challenge to us on how to pray for others and especially our missionaries. He challenged us to pray using Ephesians 3:16-21 as our guide. *I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.* So sign up to pray for a missionary on the Prayer Commitment Cards and pray this prayer from Ephesians on their behalf!

Pastor Steve

The Armorbearer Intercession

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).

AWARE PRAYER For Ministry Leaders and Staff

Pray daily as the Holy Spirit guides you in thinking about, and praying for, our ministry leaders and staff: Areas of prayer may include special ministries you may be aware of that they are doing in a particular week, or special concerns about their health/strength, families/relationships, etc. You may pray for the fruits of the Spirit in their lives and for fruit from their labors. You may be led to pray for vision, wisdom, grace and protection from enemy attacks that would discourage or hinder their service of the Lord. Pray for them as God may bring things to mind and lay them on your heart. The Holy Spirit is our helper as we pray for those who serve him.

- Monday:** Pastor Scott Deneen, Senior Pastor
Pastor Steve Jessen, Assistant Pastor
- Tuesday:** Lauren Henderson, Children's Ministry
Debbie Smith, Director, Child Development Center
- Wednesday:** Global Outreach, Adult Ed/Care Groups
Jimmie & Martha Sue Mitchell
- Thursday:** Eric Beam, Music Director
Sandra Taylor, Administrative Assistant
- Friday:** Pastor Dan King, Ministry to Seniors
- Saturday:** Pray for those who preach, teach, and lead at FPC on Sunday.

Daily Prayer Requests

- 1 **Chris Baker:** Pray that the children will find great joy in their singing and our congregation will be blessed as they share that joy with us.
- 2 **Tommy Barton:** Pray that our church will continue to be strong in helping to spread the gospel to the ends of the earth.
- 3 **Clyde Haley:** Pray for our country to be led back to God, and that we follow Him in whatever we undertake to do each day for Him.
- 4 **Charles Hamrick:** Pray for our youth ministry to be a blessing to them and to our church.
- 5 **Mark Harper:** Pray that our family can keep all our work, school, and church activities in the right perspective so God will be honored.
- 6 **Joel Jessen:** Pray that I would have wisdom in the use of my time and energy and focus on those things that are most important.
- 7 **Mark Johnson:** Pray that all Christians will do their duty and vote wisely.
- 8 **Leon Lineberger:** Pray for those who will lead our country in the days ahead.
- 9 **Garry Lucas:** Pray that God will guide our nation in the days ahead.
- 10 **Jimmie Mitchell:** Pray that God would help me to love Him more than anything else and love my neighbor as myself.
- 11 **Dan Ormsby:** Pray for God's guidance in preparing the Christmas scenes and that we will have all the volunteers that are needed.
- 12 **Matt Ormsby:** Pray that people would be moved to pray for our missionaries as well as provide their financial support through faith promise.
- 13 **Jerry Ratchford:** Pray for strength, patience, and guidance as Janet and I do our best to care for my mother and mother-in-law.
- 14 **Percy Raleigh:** Pray that the LORD will always help me with my sins and that HE continues to give me the heart of love for missions.
- 15 **Grady Rhyne:** Pray for our session and the mission work to continue and for the election and service of new Deacons and Elders.
- 16 **Robert Rhyne:** That in all things God would keep us faithful and true to Jesus and his word.
- 17 **Johnny Smith:** Pray for my Dad and Kaleigh to bring healing and comfort to their back pain. Please pray for our Elders.
- 18 **Chris Baker:** Pray that as Deacons we will be able to do our service in a way that others are helped and encouraged.
- 19 **Tommy Barton:** Pray for God's wisdom and direction for all those new elders/deacons who will be coming into leadership in the New Year.
- 20 **Clyde Haley:** Help us each one to understand that God is in control, and has each of our lives laid out for us, if we only follow and trust Him.
- 21 **Charles Hamrick:** Pray for our church leaders to guide us in the way of the Lord.
- 22 **Mark Harper:** Pray for a spirit of love and unity in the work and witness we have for Christ.
- 23 **Joel Jessen:** Pray that I would grow in my understanding of the Scripture, that it would be a lamp unto my feet.
- 24 **Mark Johnson:** Pray that we will be thankful every day for the love and grace of God.
- 25 **Leon Lineberger:** Pray for Anna Kathryn and Dillon as they plan for their future marriage.
- 26 **Garry Lucas:** Pray for families and safe travel over the Thanksgiving weekend.
- 27 **Jimmie Mitchell:** Pray that God would help me love my wife as Christ loves the Church.
- 28 **Dan Ormsby:** That God will prepare our hearts as we begin the Advent season to celebrate Christ's first and second coming.
- 29 **Matt Ormsby:** Pray for all our Christmas scene volunteers and for this project to really bring the message of Christmas to life.
- 30 **Jerry Ratchford:** Pray that God's people will humble themselves and seek his face for guidance of our nation following the recent elections.

Praise and Thanksgivings

- Praise for a great Missions Conference. I hope others were touched by the examples set by our missionary friends and their stories as much as I was.
Mark Harper
- Thank God for His great faithfulness to FPC over the years as we open the Time Capsule Nov. 20th.