

The First Presbyterian Church

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APRIL 2015

NEWSLETTER

One of the most enjoyable sounds I hear Sunday mornings are the voices of little children (no offense choir). We have families committed to bringing their children and grandchildren to church. We have an experienced kindergarten and first grade teacher leading this group and I've not seen one tear. But best of all, they are in church with us. They have a short Bible study lesson complete with activities. They join us for worship, listen to our prayers and our hymns, and then participate in a children's message.



We are almost ready to introduce our new website. This new site will be easier for everyone to navigate and find what is important for them. The church calendar and announcements will be listed. The weekly sermon will soon be posted and those unable to attend worship can watch it on the website. If you prefer Facebook, there is a link on the website that will take you directly to Facebook. Once we have the site up and running we will showcase it at one of our fellowship dinners. It will be a new and more effective way to keep the congregation informed.

A new and exciting update to the sanctuary sound and video system is now in progress. The sound will be sharper and all will benefit from the blending of the different sounds of music. The new High Definition video system will allow the church to post many different activities that can be viewed from the website. This update will not be completed for approximately six to eight weeks. Once completed, it will improve the video and sound throughout the church campus. We are looking for volunteers to help in the operation of the new system.

The session has begun working on the Mission Study of the church. The last comprehensive study done by the church was over six years ago, and a lot has changed in the church and the community. We have compiled the results of the survey, and the information will be given to the session for their use in the Mission Study. I want to thank all who took the time to prayerfully consider this survey and return it to the church.

We have much to be thankful for here at First Church Mount Holly. We are a welcoming congregation and we do a good job taking care of those in the church. We do need to reach outside of the church walls and do more for those who have special needs in the community. I have no doubt that with our church members rolling up their sleeves and being involved, that we will find those whom we can better serve.

Blessings of Peace and Joy, Bryan

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wednesday, April 1 -- 7:00 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, April 2 -- 7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service

Friday, April 3 -- Noon Cross Walk beginning at First United Methodist Church

Sunday, April 5 -- 7:00 AM Easter Sunrise Service with breakfast to follow

11:00 AM Morning Worship Service/Easter Service/One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

Monday, April 6 -- Church Office will be Closed. No Ministry of Prayer Meeting.

Wednesday, April 8 -- No Adult Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, April 1, 8, 15, 22, -- 5:00-6:00 PM Confirmation Classes (Possible Make Up day April 29)

Sunday, April 12 -- 11:00 AM Morning Worship Service/CRO Offering

12:15 PM Worship Committee Meeting

4:00 PM Session Meeting

Monday, April 13, 20, 27 -- Ministry of Prayer Group Meeting

Wednesday, April 15, 22, 29 -- 7:00 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal

Tuesday, April 21 -- 7:30 PM Group 10 meeting at Miller's house

Sunday, April 26 -- 11:00 AM Morning Worship Service/5 Cents A Meal Collection

Tuesday, April 28 -- Presbytery Meeting (Montreat Conference Center)

USHER FOR APRIL

Chairperson: Bob Miller

NURSERY FOR APRIL

(During the Morning Worship Service)

April 5 David & Becky Lineberger
April 12 Henry & Patsy Pigg
April 19 Bob & Marguerite Randall
April 26 Jim & Donna Love

PRAYER CHURCHES

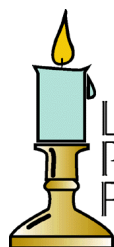
April 5 -- West Avenue (Gastonia)
April 12 -- Westminster (Asheville)
April 19 -- Arbor Dale (Banner Elk)
April 26 -- Asheville First

And don't forget to pray for our
Partner Church in Palin, Guatemala.

BUDGET

2015 Current Expenses & Benevolence Budget
\$194,438.48
Receipts: January-February 26,255.00
March 13,635.43
\$39,890.43
(Amount Needed to Meet Budget: \$154,548.05)

CRO Offering – YTD- \$865.33
5 Cents A Meal - YTD- \$235.28



LET'S
PRAY
FOR...

Anita Jones & our shut-ins

CIRCLE MEETINGS FOR APRIL

11:00 AM Monday, April 6, Circle 3
7:30 PM Tuesday, April 7, Circle 5
10:00 AM Wednesday, April 8, Circle 6
Contact Phyllis Piper for Circle 4 meetings
If you are not currently in a ladies circle,
please feel free to visit with any of the
above circles. All visitors are WELCOME!



SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

During their March meeting the Session:

- Approved acquiring the proper copyright licenses to protect the church from any violations of copyright laws relating to our music program.
- Established dates for Communion/Traveling Communion.
- Established Communion Teams for "Traveling Communion".
- Rev. Hovey and Elder Poplin will attend the GAP (Gaston Area Presbyterians) meeting at Long Creek Presbyterian Church on March 16th.
- Received and approved the **2014 Church Statistical Report**
- Received Committee Reports outlining plans for the coming months.
- Discussed the Congregational Survey and the timing of mailing it to members.

--Bob Jessen, Clerk of Session

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

The Worship Committee meets monthly to plan and implement ideas that would enhance our worship experience. One of the ideas is to consistently utilize congregational members in areas of worship. After Easter, Bryan would like to have one lay reader each Sunday to read The scripture passages he has chosen. If you would be interested in being a lay reader, please call or email the church office.

The committee also wanted to share a brief explanation of the liturgical colors utilized during the church year and indicated by the pulpit scarf and banners displayed in the Sanctuary. The liturgical colors of the Presbyterian church seasons are white, purple, red, and green. *White* is used for special days in the redemptive work of Jesus Christ, such as Christmas and Easter. *Purple* marks the seasons of penitence and preparation, Advent and Lent. *Red* is the color for Pentecost and is often used for ordination services. *Red* or *purple* is appropriate for Passion/Palm Sunday. During the Holy Week the color is purple until the church is stripped at the end of Maundy Thursday. *Green* is used for all other time periods not marked by a specific season (called Ordinary Time) to represent spiritual growth.

–Jayn Cox

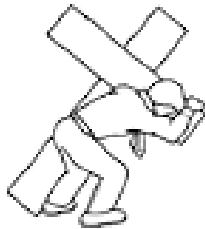
MAUNDY THURSDAY

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be served as part of the Maundy Thursday Service to be held on April 2 at 7:00 PM. Members of the congregation will be invited to silently come forward by rows and dip a piece of bread into the cup before returning to their seat. Worship will center on the story of Christ's ministry told through a series of scripture readings

CROSS WALK

"Seven Last Sayings of Jesus"

The Cross Walk will begin at noon on Good Friday at the First United Methodist Church. There will be seven stops at churches and local businesses where a devotional and prayer will be read. Below is the route they will be taking:



First United Methodist- Forgiveness

Rabb's Florist- Salvation

Wells Fargo Bank- Relationship

*First Presbyterian Church-
Abandonment*

*Lutheran Church of the Good
Shepherd- Distress*

Top O' the Line Dry Cleaner- Triumph

First United Methodist- Reunion

CHRISTIAN ED UPDATE

The Christian Education committee is pleased to report that the preschool through first grade Sunday School class has continued to meet, with Michelle Sudderth teaching. We have five attending right now. They have been studying Noah for the past few Sundays. Michelle tells them a Bible story, and then they work on an activity or craft that goes along with the lesson. The next two Sundays they will learn about Palm Sunday and Easter.

Aaron Lockridge and Nan and Jeff Kaylor have been meeting every other Sunday with the youth. There is a week planned at Montreat in July.

Don't forget about the refreshments served each Sunday before Sunday School in the choir room for children and adults. Many thanks to Sylvia Groner and Sybil Mauldin for being in charge of this! After refreshments and fellowship, there are 3 Sunday School classes for the adults down the hall. Please join us! -Becky Lineberger

Easter Morning at 7:00 AM we will have a Sunrise Service with a breakfast to follow. Also at 11:00 AM we will have our Easter Morning Worship Service. At this service we will be taking up the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering.

BE PART OF THE MISSION

to help those in need.

The Presbyterian Church (USA) invites you to follow God's call and take action to help those who are hungry, thirsty, without shelter or a safe place to call home. From people living in your community to those around the world, your gifts have global reach, providing food and water, relief from the effects of crises and catastrophic events, and assistance for those stricken by oppression. If you wish, you may place your money for this offering in the envelope provided in the bulletin on Easter. Together we can make an impact.



Prior to Sunday School, from 9:30-9:45 you are welcome to join us for delicious, light snacks, coffee and fellowship in the Choir Room.

What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save him? Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to him, "Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed, but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

-James 2:14-17



**BIBLE READINGS
FOR APRIL**

- April 1 – Jeremiah 1-6 (Prophecy)
- April 2 – Mark 5-6 (Gospels)
- April 3 – I Corinthians 11-12 (Epistles)
- April 4 – Exodus 1-4 (The Law)
- April 5 – I Samuel 16-20 (History)
- April 6 – Psalms 39-41 (Psalms)
- April 7 – Job 27-28 (Wisdom)
- April 8 – Jeremiah 7-11 (Prophecy)
- April 9 – Mark 7-8 (Gospels)
- April 10 – I Corinthians 13-14 (Epistles)
- April 11 – Exodus 5-8 (The Law)
- April 12 – I Samuel 21-25 (History)
- April 13 – Psalms 42-44 (Psalms)
- April 14 – Job 29-30 (Wisdom)
- April 15 – Jeremiah 12-16 (Prophecy)
- April 16 – Mark 9-10 (Gospels)
- April 17 – I Corinthians 15-16 (Epistles)
- April 18 – Exodus 9-11 (The Law)
- April 19 – I Samuel 26-31 (History)
- April 20 – Psalm 45-47 (Psalms)
- April 21 – Job 31-32 (Wisdom)
- April 22 – Jeremiah 17-21 (Prophecy)
- April 23 – Mark 11-12 (Gospels)
- April 24 – II Corinthians 1-3 (Epistles)
- April 25 – Exodus 13-16 (The Law)
- April 26 – II Samuel 1-4 (History)
- April 27 – Psalms 48-50 (Psalms)
- April 28 – Job 33-34 (Wisdom)
- April 29 – Jeremiah 22-26 (Prophecy)
- April 30 – Mark 13-14 (Gospels)



**BIRTHDAYS
FOR APRIL**

Alex Faith	1
Amanda Matz	2
Yates Springs	5
April Jessen	6
Becky Lineberger	7
Warren Rhinehart	7
Patti Montgomery	13
Henry Massey	14
Nancy Stowe	17
Madeline Broome	18
Tim Matz	20
Ralph Webb	20
Brody Lineberger	25
Allison Lockridge	25
Timothy Hollenback	29
Frances Rhoton	30

MAY

Rachel Brown	4
Len Bergman	4
Thomas Farmer	9
Greg Springs	10
George Larkin	10
Paul Bumgarner	11

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