

AUGUST 2022

first press

A MOORESVILLE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN PUBLICATION



GET INVOLVED! OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

UPCOMING: INQUIRER'S CLASS, CAMP GRIER, & MORE!

pastor's letter

Dear Church Family,

I hope your summer has gone well. My family gathered for our annual beach trip in Florida (22 under one roof) and truly valued our time together. Thank you for allowing your staff to take vacation so essential for the refreshing of body and soul. As we move into the fall, please take note of signups/registration for experiences such as Logos, inquirers class, bible study, chancel choir, and Camp Grier that are all quickly approaching. We are also anticipating a schedule change in worship that will return Sunday school to a time that fits in between our contemporary and traditional services. A church wide constant contact will be sent soon after our August session meeting to communicate details connected to any change. The new schedule would then be implemented on Sunday, September 18th.

May the Lord bless the remainder of any plans that you may have for this summer. It continues to be a joy to serve alongside so many of you in ministry!

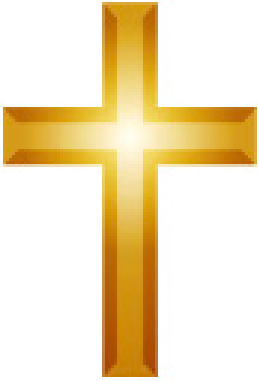
Blessings in Christ,

Pastor Dave Rockness

stewardship

“Giving your time, your talents, and your tithes to God’s work...”

Prayer - Lord, you have made me perfect just the way I am. I praise you for your work. I rejoice in the love and care that brought me into being. Help the knowledge of this depth of love to sink into my soul.



In Celebration of Human Life ... – Psalm 139:1-16

You are, you are, you are, my child, a marvelous work of God! You are the handiwork of the Creator. You are his best art, his poem, his portrait, his image, his face - and his child. God caused the stars to be, and then bent low to make you.

God wrapped himself in space as in an apron, then contemplated the intricacy of your hands; he troweled the curve of your brow; he fashioned the tug of your mouth and turn of your tongue; he jeweled your eye; he carved your bones as surely as he did the mountains... You are not an accident. You were planned. You are the cunning intention of almighty God. Well, then, shall you think ill of yourself? NO! You shall think as well of yourself as you do of any marvel of the Deity.

There is none like you. Your soul is unique in the cosmos. Whatever you admire - a leaf, a little cup, a sunset - you are more beautiful.

Sleep peacefully. God loves you. And so ought you in the morning light, when the dew is a haze of blue innocence. But sleep now in perfect peace. You are God's - and he spreads his wings above you now. Thanks be to GOD!

Message from your Stewardship Committee

*Excerpts from NIV Stewardship Study Bible
Author Walter Wangerin, Jr. (Page 774)*

announcements

Congratulations

Congratulations to Brandon and Jessica Abernathy on the birth of their son, Greyson Hayes Abernathy, on July 14. Grandparents are Steve and Jane Abernathy. Aunt is Meghan Abernathy Van Vynckt and uncle is Bailey Abernathy. God bless this little one.

Bereavement

Christian sympathy is expressed to Greta McCrea and family in the loss of her husband, Rog McCrea, on Thursday, June 2.

Christian sympathy is expressed to the families of Gene Vaughan and Mark Vaughan in the death of their mother.

Christian sympathy is expressed to the family of Gene Harris in his death on July 30.

Ushering Volunteers Needed!

Ushering provides an important function in the life of our church, ensuring that congregants have their needs attended. During the COVID pandemic, only Head Ushering duties were maintained, via service of a small group of volunteers. Now that the church is returning to normal, both services will be adding additional ushering support starting Sunday, September 11. As a result we are looking for volunteers. We are targeting 7 ushers per month, as follows:

143 Broad: 1 Head Usher and 1 additional usher

Traditional Service: 1 Head Usher, 1 Assistant Head Usher, 2 greeters, and 2 additional ushers

Based on these targets, we need approximately 50 additional volunteers. Each usher will serve for one month, assisting the designated Head Usher. Written instructions will be provided, and a short training (~30 mins) will be offered after the Traditional Service on August 21.

If you are interested in either serving as an usher (or Head Usher), please contact the Church Office or Andrew Coates (andrewcoates20@yahoo.com; 704.658.7203). Please indicate which service you would like to volunteer for, and any preference for month of service. Ushering is a great way to serve the church without much additional time commitment -- we hope you will consider it!

Inquirer's Class

Pastor Rockness will be offering a four week class, beginning on Wednesday, August 17th. All are welcome, members and non-members. Content will include an overview of our church (FPC Mooresville), denomination (ECO Presbyterian), and our basic beliefs (Christianity 101). A dinner will be provided on the final evening (September 7th) with an introduction to the church staff and an opportunity to join the church. We will meet in the 143 Building each of the four Wednesdays from 6:30-7:30pm and the final evening will be from 6:30-8pm.

announcements

Camp Grier Retreat

We are making plans for a weekend retreat at Camp Grier in Old Fort, NC, for the weekend of September 9 – 11.

Details of the retreat include:

Theme: Rocks...

Date: Friday, September 9 - Sunday, September 11
Come for all or part of the weekend

Time: Arrival at camp after 6:00 pm Friday
Departure from camp following morning worship on Sunday (approx. 11 am)

Location: Camp Grier in Old Fort, NC
985 Camp Grier Road Old Fort, NC

Registration: Register on church website: www.moorevillefpc.org by Sunday, September 4

Cost: \$110 for weekend (10 years and older)
\$90 for weekend (5-9 years)
\$35 for Saturday only (10 years and older)
\$25 for Saturday only (5-9 years)
No charge - 4 years old and younger
Saturday rate includes Camp Grier's day rental fee, Saturday lunch and supper and supplies

Meals: Friday night - on your own
Saturday breakfast - Camp Grier dining hall
Saturday lunch - Grilled hamburgers/hot dogs in Beech pavilion
Saturday supper - Catered barbecue from Okie Dokie's
Sunday breakfast - Camp Grier dining hall
Sunday lunch - on your own

Activities: Canoeing, rock slide waterfall, "Polar Bear Club," homemade boat race down the mighty Camp Grier Creek, Lake Refuge Regatta with canoes and kayaks, football, 4-square, board games, cards, hikes to the fire tower, creek walking, Rhododendron Trail hike, Bible study on the porch, outdoor worship in the outdoor chapel, campfire with singing and s'mores, rocking and relaxing!



missions

Opportunity for Mission Partnership

In the midst of global uncertainty, the Presbyterian Church of Egypt is hard at work and passionate about sharing the Good News! They are planting churches and revitalizing congregations that have been faithful for well over a hundred years. Of the 450 congregations which are a part of the Synod of the Nile (est. 1854), 25% were planted in the last 10 years – this is a movement with energy and vision!

A small team of four from FPC will be heading to experience the Egyptian church and see what the Lord is doing. We would love to have you join us. The team, led by Marilyn Borst, The Outreach Foundation's Associate Director for Partnership Development, will take us to visit some of these initiatives and see how God is working through His people. We will experience exciting new church developments along with vibrant, existing congregations and explore possibilities for establishing ongoing church-to-church partnerships for individual congregations. We will spend inspiring time with the staff and students at the Evangelical Theological Seminary in Cairo which is training the next generation of leadership to expand Christ's Kingdom in the Middle East. After five days in Cairo (which includes a visit to the Pyramids, of course) we will fly down to Aswan to be encouraged by the ministries of the Synod in its southern-most Presbytery and spend a day at the spectacular UNESCO World Heritage site of Abu Simbel, the rock-cut temples of Ramses the Great.

In this new "covid age," we will make every effort to stay safe and healthy. Our accommodations will be in first-class hotels. Our trusted travel agent in Egypt will make sure that our minibus is cleaned daily and will arrange for any necessary PCR tests. As required by a decision of Outreach's trustees, all travelers must be fully vaccinated. Land cost: \$2,795 which includes hotel (double occupancy), transportation, most meals, transfers, touring, visa upon arrival, and in-country airfare between Cairo and Aswan. Price does not include international airfare and PCR tests if required upon departure. For more information, contact Pastor Jason at jason@moorevillefpc.org or call the church office.

Opportunity for Mission Partnership

Almost all of the Jorai people (approximately ½ million folks) of North Vietnam and Cambodia live in poverty. Although the literacy rate is fairly low there, we can't think of a better way to learn to read than through the Word of God! The Jorai Bible Association is trying very hard to distribute Bibles to their people. (The Wycliffe Foundation has helped with this ministry.) The Mission Committee would like to challenge you to help with this endeavor. Each Bible costs just \$5. Your Mission Committee has agreed to help, but we would like to challenge/offer you the opportunity to help with this project. For the entire month of August, donations will be accepted in any amount. There will be special envelopes available at the back of the sanctuary as well as in the pews and in the 143 Building. Personal checks with the "Jorai Bibles" in the memo portion of your check will also be accepted. Please prayerfully consider this opportunity.

christian ed

Bible School Thank You

Thank you to everyone in our church family for your generous support of our Vacation Bible School program again this year! We ministered to over 150 children in our area, along with approximately 65 volunteers. It was a fun, learning-filled, inspiring week as we experienced a Bible-times VBS in "old Jerusalem," and went through the events of Holy Week. Children learned about Jesus' triumphal entry, the Passover, foot washing, Jesus praying in the garden, followed by His arrest, the crucifixion, and the resurrection. They enjoyed games, crafts, food, skits, music, and Bible stories relating to these events, and learned and experienced a lot of wonderful activities!



Thank you for all that was contributed:

- Mission project money and donations
- Bible story volunteers
- Opening assembly and music and skit leaders
- Craft helpers (lots of sticky, messy projects this year!)
- Tribe leaders and assistants (many kept up with 20+ children)
- Snack helpers
- Clean up crew
- Nursery crew
- Parking lot attendants
- The tech crew
- Recreation leaders
- Petting Zoo Crew
- Donated supplies (many, many goldfish and cookies were consumed)
- Teen volunteers - you're the best!
- Decorating crew/set up crew
- Work Day volunteers - you are amazing!
- VBS prayer partners

Bible School Mission Project Report

We are pleased to announce that our VBS mission project for Sleep in Heavenly Peace raised \$2100. This enables the SHP organization to build 8 new beds and provide comforters, sheets and pillows for needy children in the Mooresville area. The VBS children were so excited to give their offering each morning, and we are grateful to be part of this worthwhile project. Thanks to Dave and Connie Byers for coordinating the details for the project, and for building a bed that we could see at VBS.

christian ed

Dave and Connie sent a thank you note which says:

Dear First Presbyterian VBS,

Thank you for the fantastic donation to Sleep in Heavenly Peace. Through your gift you are making a big difference in the lives of children in our area. Thanks for being the hands and feet of Jesus.

God bless you,

Dave and Connie Byers

We also collected items to give to Bright Blessings. The children and families were so generous, and we gave a large assortment of blankets, travel pillows, sleeping bags, toothpaste, lip balm and bars of soap. These items will be given throughout the year to children in need in our area. We are so grateful for your generosity in providing these items! The volunteers at Bright Blessings were so excited to receive so many nice gifts for the children!

Logos/Middle School Ministry

We are looking forward to another wonderful year with our Logos/Middle School Ministry (MSM) program. We have had a Logos program at First Presbyterian since Fall 1979, and are grateful to build on this long-lasting program.

Logos/MSM is a mid-week program for children and youth in 1st – 8th grades. The goal of the program is the same as it was in 1979 – to develop genuine and lasting relationships between young people and Jesus Christ, between young people and their ministers, parents and other adults in the congregation, and their peers.

Some important Information about Logos/MSM:

- Logos is for Grades 1-5.
 - MSM is for Grades 6-8.
 - The 4 parts of Logos/MSM are Bible study, recreation, worship skills and dinner hour.
 - Logos/MSM meets on Wednesday afternoons from 4:30-7:00 pm.
 - First day of Logos/MSM is Wednesday, September 14.
 - Parents must attend a Parent meeting and volunteer in some capacity, usually in the kitchen (or have a volunteer “sponsor” your child).
 - Registration deadline is Wednesday, September 7.
 - Cost is \$35 registration fee; \$55 per semester tuition fee.
- Scholarship help is available - contact Ellen Auten for details.

Questions about Logos/MSM program-
contact Ellen Auten (704-664-5275; ellen@moorevillefpc.org)

christian ed

Volunteering in Logos/MSM, Sunday School and Sunday Nurseries

Please contact Ellen Auten (704-664-5275; ellen@moorevillefpc.org) for more information about volunteering in the Logos/MSM program, Sunday School or Sunday morning nurseries.

Adult volunteers must have a background check, participate in staff training, and agree to abide by our volunteer protocols.

First Kids Children's Church

First Kids Children's Church is held for children in 1st – 5th grades during the Contemporary Worship service. Children will be dismissed following the singing, and will go to the fellowship hall for activities.

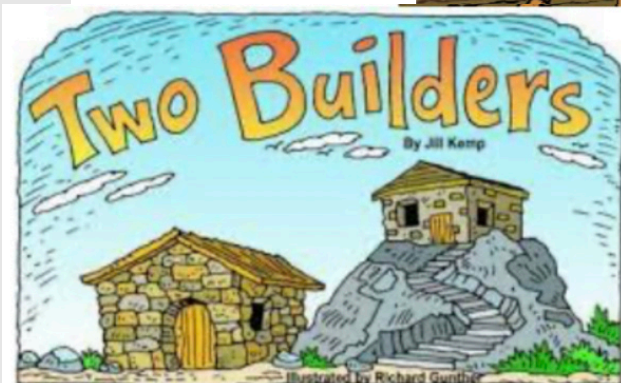
The group is continuing lessons on Jesus' parables:

August 7 – The Sower and the Seed

August 14 – The Wise and Foolish Builders

August 21 – The Lost (Prodigal) Son

August 28 – The Light Under a Bowl



music

Traditional Choir (11am service)

Choir rehearsals begin Wednesday, September 7, 7:15pm to 8:15pm. Nathan Cole is currently accepting applications to join the choir. You can sign up through our website and he will reach out to you. The choir will work towards participating in each Sunday service. They will also contribute in our annual Christmas music event on Sunday, December 18. Sign up now to avoid missing out! <https://moorevillefpc.org>.

Handbells (11am service)

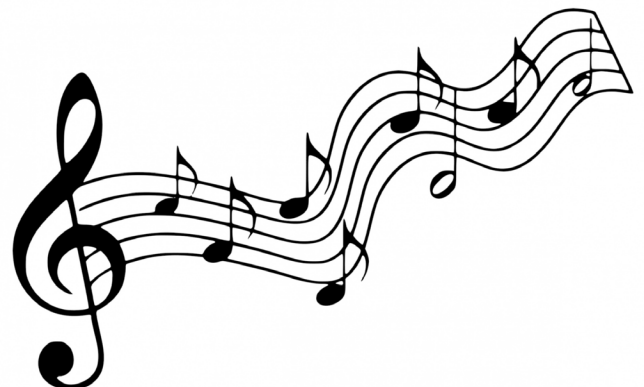
Handbells will start rehearsals on Tuesday, September 6, 6:00pm to 7:00pm. Please note the day change from Monday to Tuesday. Nathan Cole will be leading the group to prepare for regular contributions to the 11am service. If you would like to join, please email nathan@moorevillefpc.org.

Instrumental Music (11am service)

Do you play an instrument to a good standard? Would you like to play hymns on a Sunday morning? Nathan Cole is keen to develop our instrumental music program in the 11am service. If you read music to a competent level and can attend the 11am service regularly, please reach out to Nathan: nathan@moorevillefpc.org.

Special Music Contributions (11am service)

We continue to be blessed with a growing music ministry in our 11am service. You can see this featured in our new online "Special Music Series" on YouTube (search FPC Mooreville Music). If you would like to present a special music item on a Sunday, please reach out to Nathan Cole. You may wish to sing or play a solo, or find a group of family/friends to present ministry together. Email: nathan@moorevillefpc.com.



CALENDAR

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

	1 7:00 pm Scouts BSA Troop 1166-G 7:00 pm Scouts BSA Troop 166-B	2 6:00 pm MCM - Circles	3 1:30 pm Prayer Meeting
7 9:30 am Contemporary Worship - 143 Broad 9:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Men's Bible Class 10:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Worship 12:15 PYF Trip Presentation/Luncheon 6:30 pm Stated Session Meeting No PYF	8 Preschool Teacher Work Week 6:00 pm Pharos Parenting (SCAN) 7:00 pm Scouts BSA Troop 1166-G 7:00 pm Scouts BSA Troop 166-B	9 Preschool Teacher Work Week 10:00 am Staff Meeting 6:00 pm MCM - Circles	10 Preschool Teacher Work Week 1:30 pm Prayer Meeting
14 9:30 am Contemporary Worship - 143 Broad 9:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Men's Bible Class 10:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Worship 5:00 pm MS PYF 7:00 pm Finance Committee 7:00 pm HS PYF 7:00 pm Worship & Music Committee	15 Sneak-a-Peek Orientation (Parents & Children) 6:00 pm Pharos Parenting (SCAN) 7:00 pm Property Meeting 7:00 pm Scouts BSA Troop 1166-G 7:00 pm Scouts BSA Troop 166-B	16 Sneak-a-Peak Orientation (Parents & Children) 10:00 am Staff Meeting 6:00 pm MCM - Circles	17 First Day Preschool (MWF, TWTW & 5 Day Program) 1:30 pm Prayer Meeting 6:30 pm Inquirer's Class with Dave
21 Communion Sunday 9:30 am Contemporary Worship - 143 Broad 9:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Men's Bible Class 10:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Worship 12:15 Usher Training 5:00 pm MS PYF 7:00 pm HS PYF	22 7:00 pm Scouts BSA Troop 1166-G 7:00 pm Scouts BSA Troop 166-B	23 6:00 pm MCM - Circles	24 1:30 pm Prayer Meeting 6:30 pm Inquirer's Class with Dave
28 9:30 am Contemporary Worship - 143 Broad 9:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Men's Bible Class 10:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Worship 5:00 pm MS PYF 7:00 pm HS PYF	29 7:00 pm Scouts BSA Troop 1166-G 7:00 pm Scouts BSA Troop 166-B	30 6:00 pm MCM - Circles	31 1:30 pm Prayer Meeting 6:00 pm Logos Staff Meeting & Dinner 6:30 pm Inquirer's Class with Dave

CALENDAR

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

Birthdays:

<p>7:00 pm Praise Team Rehearsal</p> <p>4</p>	<p>5:00 pm PYF Volunteer Dinner</p> <p>5</p>	<p>7:15 pm Men's Bible Study (Jason's)</p> <p>6</p>
<p>Preschool Teacher Work Week</p> <p>7:00 pm Praise Team Rehearsal</p> <p>11</p>	<p>Preschool Teacher Work Week</p> <p>12</p>	<p>7:15 pm Men's Bible Study (Jason's)</p> <p>13</p>
<p>First Day of Preschool for T/Th and MTTh children</p> <p>7:00 pm Praise Team Rehearsal</p> <p>18</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>7:15 pm Men's Bible Study (Jason's)</p> <p>20</p>
<p>7:00 pm Praise Team Rehearsal</p> <p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>7:15 pm Men's Bible Study (Jason's)</p> <p>27</p>

8/1-Fern Alexander, Beverly Chappell, Phil Heilman
8/2-Chloe Gildberg, Debbie Solomone
8/3-Evgenia Pankova, Alex Teeter
8/4-Stacey Faulkenberry Phillip Solomone, Carroll Teeter
8/5-Michael Culbreth
8/6-Hillary Cole
8/7-Emily Kirkland
8/8-Joyce Lytle, Howard Stutts, Matthew Heilman
8/10-Jake Foulke, Pat Loffin, Jaclyn Webb
8/11-Lynda Robinson
8/12-Curtis Crews, Bobby Hinson, Ruth Newell
8/13-Brian Swedenberg
8/14-Eric Pluer, Graham Sledge
8/15-Braelyn Kate Campbell
8/16-Audi Seyller
8/17-Becky McIntyre, Sam Stranton, Savannah Stranton
8/18-Alan Sledge, Christy Floyd
8/19-Matthew Sholar, Susan Smith
8/20-Lily Barrett, Jane James
8/22-Drew Teeter
8/23-Bedo Culberson, David Ramey
8/24-Bill Harris, III
8/25-Sandy Bickett, Pat Campbell
8/26-George Baillie, Alice Chaplinsky
8/27-Anna McNeely, David Nelson
8/28-Kathryn Donelson, Paige Ladd
8/29-Mabel Culbreth, Mary Davidson, Grace Donelson, Susan Merrill
8/30-Neely Davidson

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Fax: 704-664-7526

Preschool: 704 664-7201

Website: www.mooresvillefpc.org

Email: office@mooresvillefpc.org

mooresvillefpc@groups.facebook.com

If you would like to be added to or deleted from
our mailing list, please send an email to
office@mooresvillefpc.org or call 704-664-5275

9:30 am Contemporary Worship

11:00 am Traditional Worship

August 2022



ECO

A Covenant Order
of Evangelical
Presbyterians