



October 2015

# FPC news

First Presbyterian Church • Greensboro, NC • [fpcgreensboro.org](http://fpcgreensboro.org) • 336-373-0445

Serve one  
another with  
whatever  
gift each  
of you has  
received. See  
page 9.

– 1 Peter 4.10

Neil's sabbatical, page 3

Antioch update, page 4

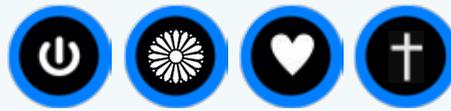
Stay warm & evangelize, page 8

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True wisdom and real **power** belong to God; from him we learn how to live, and also what to live for.

– Job 12:13,  
The Message

## THE POWER OF GIVING



2016 ANNUAL CAMPAIGN

We come to church as individuals, shaped by our own backgrounds, experiences, priorities and challenges. Our 2016 annual giving campaign gives us the chance to get to know each other in a different way. Each Sunday, we will hear giving stories from different generations among our members.

OCTOBER 11: **Gen X/Millennials**  
with speakers John Vanderwerff  
and Stu Johnston

OCTOBER 18: **iGeneration**

OCTOBER 25: **Baby Boomers**

NOVEMBER 1: **Greatest  
Generation**

## NOVEMBER 8 COMMITMENT SUNDAY

One service at 10:45 am in the Sanctuary, celebrating all of our generations and the amazing things we can do together in the name of Christ!

## FIRST CHURCH PEOPLE

### Sympathy

Sympathy to friends and family of FPC member **Chester W. Milligan**, who died September 29, 2015.

Sympathy to FPC members **Christie and Dean Mitchell** on the death of Christie's father, Dr. Litell Stephens Baird, Sr., on September 29, 2015.

Sympathy to friends and family of FPC member **Robert Conley DeLoach**, who died September 14, 2015.

Sympathy to friends and family of **Elizabeth Brink Waters**, who died September 12, 2015.

Sympathy to FPC members **Dr. Eileen Cella Lopp Lane** and **Bob Lane** on the death of Eileen's son, Richard Andrew Cella, on September 6, 2015.

Sympathy to staff member **Pattie Murray** on the death of her mother, Mary A. Quigley, on September 3, 2015.

Sympathy to FPC member **Dean Norman** on the death of his mother, Hoolie G. Norman, on August 31, 2015.

Sympathy to family and friends of FPC member **Mary Lynn White**, who died August 30, 2015.

Sympathy to family and friends of FPC member **David Clark White III**, who died August 12, 2015.

Sympathy to family and friends of FPC member **Carolyn Jones Summerlin**, who died July 23, 2015.

### Births

Congratulations to **Felix & Angel Ndayisenga** on the birth of **Deborah Beza Ndayisenga** on July 31, 2015. She has a brother, **Daniel**, and a sister, **Gretchen**.

Congratulations to **Chris & Jessica White** on the birth of **John Gettys White** on August 19, 2015.

## SHARE YOUR LIFE EVENTS WITH FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

**Baptisms:** Debby Foster  
478-4702  
dfoster@fpcgreensboro.org

**Weddings:** Anne Albert  
478-4711  
aalbert@fpcgreensboro.org

**Births, Adoptions, Address/Phone/  
Email Changes:**  
Sara Manchester  
478-4722  
smanchester@fpcgreensboro.org

**Medical Issues, Crises, Deaths:**  
Pattie Murray  
478-4709  
pmurray@fpcgreensboro.org

PLEASE DON'T ASSUME ... that our pastors know you or a loved one is in the hospital or very ill at home. Call 336.478.4709 and let us know. After-hours and weekends, call 336.373.0445 and follow the directions for the pastor on call.

## Dear Friends,

Starting on the first of November, I will be enjoying my second sabbatical very generously granted me by this wonderful congregation. It is for three months, and I will be returning to work on the first of February.



Kate and I will be doing some traveling – first to Cartagena and Bogata, Colombia, for cultural enrichment. I also plan to travel to Mexico in January to visit some Mexican friends and church leaders. The rest of my traveling will be here in the country to visit my daughter in Asheville (who is expecting a baby boy in late January) and my son in Chattanooga, and my brother and mother in Virginia. I also look forward to spending some study and reading time at Kate's family farm in Patrick County, Va., near Mount Airy.

I have some creative writing I want to do, particularly some short stories that may turn into story sermons. I also want to continue my reading in world religions, church history, and current issues in the Middle East.

I am sure I will continue to pursue my strong enduring interest in the integration of health, fitness, nutrition, and spirituality. I would like to learn more about how churches are effectively promoting healthy living and advancing the Biblical truth that the body is the temple of the Holy Spirit.

I feel very fortunate to be given this time off and want you all to know how deeply appreciative I am. I feel sure I will return in February fully ready to continue to serve this congregation with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love.

Blessings,

*Neil Dummavant*



P.S. We are very happy to welcome **Rev. Myles Fish** to our staff as our new Director for Stewardship. Myles will begin his work in the middle of this month and comes to us from Grand Haven, Mich. Myles is a alumnus of N.C. State and his mother lives in Morganton. He is currently the president and owner of Upwelling Philanthropy and has many years of senior leadership in fund raising, stewardship, and international aid.



We also welcome **Amber Burgin** as our intern for young adults. Amber will be with us 10 hours a week leading small groups. She is in her second year at Duke University Divinity School.

# a letter from antioch

The name Antioch probably sounds familiar. It comes from the earliest days of Christianity, when Barnabas and Paul worked with the faithful for a year as this community flourished. It was in Antioch that the disciples were first called “Christians.”

In April 2014, FPC’s Session created our own Antioch Group to:

- Consider our current ministries, gifts, challenges, and resources,
- Discern how we can best serve God in the future, that is, on what ministries should we spend time, energies and resources and what ministries should we re-evaluate,
- And raise and address other issues related to how we can best be spiritually and materially poised for the next era of our ministries.

Antioch members are drawn from the Property, Finance, and Human Resources Committee, and include the senior and executive pastors, and other members of our church who have broad experience with church life. In addition to current members listed above, we thank Mike Krick, Ginger Griffin, Tyler Hollis and Len White for their earlier service with Antioch.

Our committee first focused on resources and challenges. Together with the Property, Human Resources, and Finance committees, we looked to balance our expenses to meet our current ministry needs.

We also examined our staff and

## ANTIOCH GROUP

Lisa Anderson, chair; Jim Gentry, Ginni Lineberry, Bonnie McAlister, Genie Schwartz, and Tim Ward. Since September 5: Jan Lawson, Meade Willis, and Art Winstead. Staff: Sid Batts, Neil Dunnivant, and David Kolosieke.

how they functioned. John Wimberly, who works with the national firm Congregational Consulting Group, assessed our support services area. From his analysis, Antioch will continue to work with staff to develop alternate ways to deliver support services effectively and efficiently.

Our next tasks were to work with the Finance Committee, Human Resources, and Property to cover a deficit in 2013 and balance the budget for 2014. Steps we took included deferring savings for capital replacement; significantly restructuring our kitchen staff; adjusting staff benefits; and recommending the sale of First Place in Montreat, which the congregation subsequently approved. FPC ended last year with a balanced budget, and is on target to end 2015 with a balanced budget.

As we considered ministries on which to spend time, energy, and resources, we asked you to respond to a survey last fall. We received and organized the 170 responses, shared them with leaders, and asked that



BY LISA  
ANDERSON

## OUR CORE MINISTRIES

Out of worship comes a desire for Christian education, a heart for outreach and for caring for our members, and a call to share our faith.



they share them with staff and volunteers. In many cases, the responses confirm the direction in which many ministries had been moving even before the survey was taken. In other instances, change has occurred as a result of this feedback from our congregation. An example is Session's creation of the Communications & Technology Committee. Survey responses suggested greater use of technology in connecting our members with one another and with our community. The goal is that this committee will work hand in hand with staff in order to make great strides in using technology and communications for a deeper connection, and using all that our new Fellowship One membership software has to offer to our church.

The survey responses reveal who our church seeks to be now compared with who we were a decade ago. We are moving from being a more programmatic church to being a church that is truly growing deeper and wider as people of faith.

We hear our members' stress that we need our church to be a community; that we yearn to know one another on a deeper level; that we seek to grow our spiritual lives deeper and to help one another as we do so.

We as a church want to grow deeper in authentic relationships with one another and with Christ. We want to grow wider. And, as we deepen, we will broaden our reach in our community. Being the church...the hands and feet of Christ.

This is exciting! We look forward to our work this fall as we continue to live out our charge.

Antioch's function is to research and make recommendations to staff and committees, but it is the Session's charge and responsibility to make decisions about the future of our church. At any point if you have input or feedback for our committee, or have new ideas of how our church can better be a Christian community, please contact me or one of our other members. We look forward to bringing another update to you in the months to come. Thank you for your support as we continue to craft and share together in the journey ahead that God has in store for us.

## SAMPLING OF SURVEY RESPONSES

### What can our church do to help you in your own spiritual growth?

- Challenge and inspire us.
- Bible and other studies and small groups focusing on spiritual life.
- My family's life and my life are so busy. It is a challenge to make this happen.
- We need guidance in spiritual practice and in Bible studies.
- How the Bible is related to our lives today.

### What do you yearn for but do not receive from your life with our church?

- Connectedness
- Small groups – a need to be in authentic relationships with one another in the life of the church
- Pastoral care: be sure to take care of our own members
- Consider online opportunities for engagement and study
- Community, fellowship, intergenerational groups without ages specified;

### What would help you to share your life at our church with friends?

- Promote church more in community and through social media
- Social and service opportunities to bring friends to attend
- Children and youth events are great opportunities to bring friends to our church
- Special events, concerts in Sanctuary

### What would you like to share with our church leaders, staff or Session?

- More access to leaders by members
- More outreach but be sure to take care of our members as well
- Personalization of contacts, activities, relationships with church members and leadership
- Importance of developing greater involvement of younger/new members
- Thanks for all you do

### What parts of our church are most meaningful to you?

- Worship
- Sanctuary
- Sunday School
- Small groups
- Youth programs
- Music
- Sermons
- Friendships
- Outreach

# Currie Library News

**LOCATION:** First floor of Smith Building

**HOURS:** Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Sunday, 9-10:30 a.m.

**CONTACT:** Nancy Fuller, 478-4731 or nfuller@fpcgreensboro.org

## GIFTS TO THE LIBRARY

### In memory of

**Andrew "Andy" Johnson Courts:** *The Monument Men* (BCD), given by Kitty and George Robison;

**Charles Decatur Cunningham, Jr.:** *The Monument Men* (DVD), given by Kitty and George Robison;

**Milnor Price Jones:** *Change of Heart: Justice, Mercy, and Making Peace with My Sister's Killer*, *Crossover* (2015 Newbery Award Winner), and *Wanted: A Spiritual Pursuit Through Jail, Among Outlaws, and Across Borders*, given by Becky and Bobby Taylor;

**Miriam Hancock Staton:** *Still Life with Bread Crumbs*, given by Karen McNeil.

### In Honor of

2015 Vacation Bible School volunteers: *The Energy Bus*, *Giraffes Can't Dance*, *It Will Be Okay: Trusting God Through Fear and Change*, *Wherever You Go*, and *Wonder*, given by the Christian Education staff

## IN THE BOOK CLUBS

Tuesday club:  
October 13, 1:30 p.m.  
*The Aviator's Wife* by  
Melanie Benjamin

Monday club:  
October 19, 10:30 a.m.  
*Middlesex* by Jeffrey  
Eugenides

## CHECK IT OUT

*Still Life with Bread Crumbs* by Anna Quindlen is a "wise tale about second chances, starting over, and going after what is most important in life. The Tuesday Book Club will discuss this book on December 8.

*The Crossover* by Kwame Alexander is the 2015 Newbery Award winner. The book will appeal especially to upper elementary, middle and high school readers. The book follows the lives of are twins Josh and Jordan, who are outstanding high school basketball players. The Monday Book Club will read another Newbery winner, *The Giver*, on April 11, 2016.



Author Chris Hoke with Neaners, a prisoner whose gang he pastored.

Rev. David Partington recommends and has written a reflection on *Wanted: A Spiritual Pursuit Through Jail, Among Outlaws, and Across Borders* by Chris Hoke. He says: "Wanted was a gripping read for me. I peered into yet another abyss where God hangs out among gangs, in prisons, and in society's forgotten places. As a pastor, none of these contexts for ministry were known to me. I am grateful that Chaplain Chris Hoke took me there." Partington found the chapter "Saint Christopher on a Kawasaki" particularly meaningful. This book is on display with new arrivals in Currie Library along with Partington's reflection.

Currie Library has about 15 books by Dr. John Redhead so we were pleasantly surprised recently to get three that we didn't have! They are *Learning to Have Faith*, *Living All Your Life*, and *Putting Your Faith to Work*. Beverly Leary was downsizing to relocate and offered them to the library. Thank you, Beverly. The books are available for check out now.

Dana Borden Lacy, a wonderful FPC friend, has given Currie Library the cub-size paper bags with handles that newly checked out books can be taken home in so they won't get lost. They come in different colors and a Currie Library label is affixed on the front. Dana has been giving these bags for the last 20 years. FPC member Bob Borden is her brother. Thank you, Dana Lacy!

Books by author Eric Metaxas, recommended by David Partington and Nancy Fuller, are on display near the first floor elevator in Smith Building. They are *Amazing Grace: William Wilberforce and the Heroic Campaign to End Slavery*, *Bonhoeffer: Pastor, Martyr, Prophet, Spy: A Righteous Gentile vs. the Third Reich*, *Miracles: What They Are, Why They Happen, and How They Can Change Your Life*, and *Seven Men and the Secret of Their Greatness*.

## RECYCLE #6 STYROFOAM

#6 styrofoam is still being collected for recycling. Drive your car to the lower level of the parking deck behind Shetler Building. Deposit your styrofoam in the marked can. Please be sure that it is...

- #6 (a triangle with #6)
- clean – put food containers and packaging containers in separate clear bags. Food containers must be clean and rinsed or they contaminate anything in the bag
- does not include trash, lids, plastic wrap or trash
- does not include peanuts (drop off at Friendly Center post office).

Styrofoam may also be taken to Dart Container Corp. on Wesleyan Road in Randleman (336-495-1101). Thank you for recycling your Styrofoam! Questions? Contact Nancy Fuller at 478-4731

# WORDS

1,000



In honor of Children's Sabbath, FPC's children have taken over the photo page! top left, a handy tree to promote the ministry's new Hands program. Top right, cruising into the First Kids Consignment Sale in the Bye-Bye Buggy. Above, celebrating bring your bear to school day at the Weekday Preschool. Right, getting silly at the photo booth at Fall Kickoff.

**KEEP  
WARM  
AND  
SUPPORT  
YOUTH  
MISSIONS!**

# ORDER FPC SWEATSHIRTS!

**\$35**

Youth &  
adult sizes

Order by  
Dec. 6

Pick up after  
Dec. 13



Sundays, Welcome Center & Life Center  
before 10:45 am services  
cash or check

Wednesday dinners, October 28  
& November 18, Life Center  
cash or check

24/7, [fpcgreensboro.org/youth](http://fpcgreensboro.org/youth)  
credit card only



I'm no longer my own but Yours. Put me to what You will. Place me with whom You will. I freely and fully surrender myself to You.

– Anonymous prayer

# it's our serve.

It's probably fair to say that every American Christian has in some way been affected by the Pope's recent U.S. visit. John Boehner was moved to resign his House Speakership and Congressional seat. Sid Batts referenced his positions on the environment and the marginalized in a Sunday message. Thousands have discussed the Pope's thoughts on abandoning materialism and personal greed. It is with this backdrop that FPC begins its new year of community and international outreach with Kelly Harrill and Nancy Coble as committee co-chairs.

For Kelly, "Outreach is where my heart is." He got his start by participating in Burrito Bikers – a Saturday morning ministry offering a word of hope, a biscuit or burrito, and coffee to a group of 50+ homeless persons in

BY SUSAN DEVANEY

Emergency Shelter that truly enlivened his spirit. "Spending nights with these men, getting to know them, let me know that I was in the right spot. It put me in a peaceful place." Not long afterward, when brother Alex asked him to co-chair a monthly evening of Hot Dish & Hope, Kelly was hooked.

"For many guests," Kelly explains, "it's the only time they're not judged or looked down on. Sometimes people arrive – well-dressed, clean folk – for whom it's their first experience with job loss, hunger, and homelessness. You can see it in their eyes. Maybe they were just evicted,

just lost that crucial paycheck. And we not only have food but also the blessing of StepUp Ministry where we can give them another place to turn, a place to help them learn to fish: Find a job, hone their interviewing skills."

For Kelly, Hot Dish & Hope has held a wealth of heart-warming experiences. He's had many conversations, experienced so much gratitude. "There are mothers with three or four children in tow saying 'Thank you for being here. If it wasn't for this meal we wouldn't have eaten today.'" Close to tears, Kelly recalls a moment from last year's Hot Dish Christmas party. A woman confided to him that she had planned to forgo traditional family presents entirely; the money simply wasn't there. That all changed, however, when Hot Dish dispensed small gift bags to the guests in attendance. She now had something to put aside for her boys for Christmas morning.

FPC fosters many programs like Hot Dish & Hope whereby church members, adults as well as youth and children, can donate a few hours or dollars to make a real difference in the community. This month, for example, the church took its turn collecting canned goods at Food Lion. Volunteers are often amazed to see the generosity of shoppers who, although clearly on a tight budget, donate a full bag of groceries. Two hours of service can renew one's belief in the presence of the Holy Spirit.

October also is the month for the Crop Walk to alleviate hunger. So far FPC is a distant second to St. Pius Catholic Church in terms of fund raising, but there's still time to donate through

continues, next page



# SHORT-TERM PROJECTS



TEN THOUSAND VILLAGES SALE  
in the Welcome Center on  
Sunday, October 11  
Contact: Nancy Coble



PEACEHAVEN FARM DAY  
Saturday, October 17, 9-1 pm  
Contact: Donna Chase



CROP WALK  
Sunday, October 18  
Contacts: Kelly Harrill  
or Chip Pegram



WINTER WALK FOR AIDS  
Sunday, December 6  
Contact: Louann Clarke



HABITAT FOR HUMANITY  
HONDURAS MISSION TRIP  
February 20-28  
Contacts: Gerard Davidson or  
Kelly Harrill



HUMAN RACE  
March. Contacts: Teri Hammer, Mike  
Bateman

## serve

*from previous page*

the FPC web site. Two similar events, the Winter Walk for AIDS and the Human Race, are scheduled for December and March, respectively. Both are easy to support through either donation or physical participation.

More extended projects are the bailiwick of Nancy Coble, whose heart has been in missions for 20 years. This February she hopes to return to Santa Rosa, Honduras, where Habitat for Humanity will construct three-room cinderblock dwellings for village residents. For the first time in their lives, new homeowners will enjoy the benefits of indoor toilets and kitchens. Most people in their community cook over open fires or use a central adobe oven.

While working in Santa Rosa, workers reside in a family-owned hotel. “They do laundry for you, serve breakfast. They are the nicest people,” Nancy enthuses. “They always say, ‘You can count on Gerard (Gerard Davidson, who organizes the trips) to bring the right people.’ We always hold devotions at end of day – share what we’ve done and who you’ve met.”

Although Nancy is not young or particularly skilled at building, with Habitat there’s a job of everyone. In particular, Nancy enjoys camaraderie with the local residents. “I like to travel, but I’m not a tourist. I like to get to know the people. In Santa Rosa, children attend either a morning or afternoon school session. When school ends, they come by our tent where we have crayons and paper. They love to draw and write, but they’re careful to take only what they need: one piece of paper or one sheet torn from a coloring book.

“These people have nothing. Their balls are made from rags. In past years Omega Sports has donated soccer balls. Imagine their joy at having a real ball! But even though the people don’t have a thing, they’ll find something to give you.”

Nancy recalls an 11-year-old girl who liked helping with the younger children. The girl’s mother was putting in the sweat equity required of all potential Habitat homeowners. As the mother was working on various Habitat homes, her daughter was enjoying her time with Nancy and the children. Toward the end of our project, the girl went to a local farmer and purchased a chicken, which she proudly presented to Nancy. “No telling what that cost her or how she managed to pay for it,” Nancy says, still amazed. “She was so disappointed that I couldn’t accept it. I

had to get someone to explain to her that I couldn't take it home, couldn't take it on the plane."

For the first time since its "Five Houses in Five Years" campaign, FPC has agreed to build a Habitat house in Greensboro. Set to begin in late February, this project will require a large collective commitment from members including a \$75,000 start-up fund and workers for framing, sheet rock, siding, painting, and landscaping. Moreover, there is need for volunteer recruitment and calling, snack and lunch preparation, and publicity.

"It's scary," Kelly Harrill admits. "I've never worked on Habitat from a leadership position. I'll just have to trust and turn it over to God. We'll need the whole church to give a half or a full day. The good news is that you don't have to have a given skill set. There's something for everyone and with so much camaraderie, you'll walk away wanting to do it again."

Speaking of wanting to do it again, that's been the universal experience of workers at the Giving Back Garden, located across from the church on Greene Street. "It's been fun, hard work, and gratifying," says Judy Lomax, who has devoted innumerable hours to turning soil, planting, harvesting, and delivering produce. "I like watching things grow. It's gratifying to see what comes out of a seed with a little water. I've learned some things and gotten to know some good people, fellow gardeners."

Without a doubt the GBG has its share of hard work, often requiring eight or nine hours a week, even with having a partner and responsibility limited to two beds. "The beds are long so planting 50-60 plants takes a while, but physical work is therapy for me," Judy asserts. One of her least palatable tasks is picking beetles off kale leaves. There was also daily picking of okra and squash in season.

Once harvested, produce is taken to Mary's House, a temporary home for women and their children. "I didn't know about Mary's House until this year," Judy admits. "But they are so grateful. I'll hear, 'Oh my gosh. I'm a Southern girl. I love okra.' Or 'Fire up the grill; we've got fresh tomatoes!'"

Taken as a whole, FPC outreach is a complex and diverse enterprise requiring the collective effort of many members of good will. We urge you to take a look at the associated list and search your heart. A call to the listed point person or to the church office should get you started; you won't be disappointed. As we all know, outreach is the center of Christian ministry. Have at it!

#### FPC HABITAT HOUSE

Begins early spring  
Contacts: Neil Dunnivant, Jim Coltrane

#### OUTREACH TO NEW MEMBERS

Contact: Kelly Harrill

#### HOT DISH & HOPE

Tuesdays & Thursdays  
Contacts: Jill Tourtellot; Kelly Harrill

#### HOT DISH & HOPE CHRISTMAS PARTY

Contacts: Mary Thomas, Kelly Harrill

#### STEPUP MINISTRY

Contacts: Executive Director Ingrid Bullock, Neil Dunnivant

#### ENCORE THRIFT STORE

Contact: Teri Hammer

#### TRIAD CAREER NETWORK

Contact: Bill Linton

#### MEALS ON WHEELS:

Contacts: Tamara Slaughter, Kristi Lowe, Mary Boling, Linda Allen

#### THE GIVING BACK GARDEN:

Contact: Jane Trevey

#### WHEELS FOR HOPE

Contacts: Lewis Ritchey, Dale Brinley, Larry Bowden

#### MUSTARD SEED CLINIC

Contact: Margaret Arbuckle

#### RANKIN SCHOOL SUMMER LUNCHES:

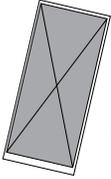
Contact: TBA. How about you?!

# ONGOING PROJECTS

THIS MONTH AT FPC

More: [fpcgreensboro.org/events](http://fpcgreensboro.org/events)

# OCTOBER



The 2015-2016 Nominating Committee is seeking nominations for church officers. Email Debby Foster ([dfoster@fpcgreensboro.org](mailto:dfoster@fpcgreensboro.org)) with nominations or questions, or look for the form in Sunday's bulletin. The deadline for nominations is Sunday, October 11.

## TEN THOUSAND VILLAGES HOLIDAY SALE

Sunday, Oct. 11, 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Give twice as much this year – your purchases from the Ten Thousand Villages sale benefit both the person on your list and the Third World artisan who made the gift! Sale will be in the Welcome Center.



## FELLOWSHIP DINNER & TRUNK OR TREAT!

Wednesday, October 28, 5 -7 pm. Come in costume and bring your treat bag or decorate your trunk and hand out the treats after dinner! Dinner served 4:45 - 6:15 pm, Mullin Life Center. Menu: Spooky spaghetti & meatballs. \$7/adults, \$5/ages 6-12, free/ages 5 and younger. RSVP by noon October 27.



## W O R S H I P

SUNDAYS: Sanctuary services, 8:30 & 10:45 am. Rejoice! 10:45 am, Mullin Life Center.

October 11: Neil Dunnivant preaches.

October 18: Children's Sabbath. Sid Batts preaches. Children's choirs sing in both 10:45 services, and kindergartners receive Bibles in Rejoice. Please bring canned food for our Out of the Garden Project

October 25: Reformation Sunday. Sid Batts preaches.

November 1: All Saints' Sunday. Sid Batts preaches. Special offering for Pennies for Hunger.

November 8: Commitment Sunday. One service in the Sanctuary, 10:45 am. Sid Batts preaches.

## O U T R E A C H

Canned Food Drive – through Nov. 22. Children's Ministry is leading a canned food drive for the Out of the Garden Project. Out of the Garden uses these contributions to fill food bags for families in need. Especially needed are:

- canned chicken or tuna
- canned vegetables, fruits, and soups
- canned ravioli, spaghetti, etc.
- pasta and pasta with a can of tomato sauce (no beef or pork in sauce)
- macaroni and cheese
- individual cereal, oatmeal, or grits (instant and regular)
- peanut butter and crackers
- granola, fruit, or healthy bars

CROP Walk is Sunday, Oct. 18 – Join our team! We are second in the city for donations behind St Pius, with \$1,320 raised so far. Register online at the link on the [fpcgreensboro.org](http://fpcgreensboro.org) home page. If you would like to walk to fight hunger with a fun group, we invite you to meet at the church at 1:45 pm to go to the CROP Walk at New Bridge Park. Children's and youth groups will be walking as well. Rather run instead?

Rev. Neil Dunnivant will be leading a slow group run – "a 12-minute-mile pace" – as an alternative to the walk.



Hot Dish & Hope – 6 pm Tuesdays & Thursdays, Mullin Life Center. Share in the ministry that puts our faith into action as we serve dinner and a "measure of hope" to individuals and families in need. Info: Sheron Sumner, [sksumnr@bellsouth.net](mailto:sksumnr@bellsouth.net), or [fpcgreensboro.org/hotdish](http://fpcgreensboro.org/hotdish).

StepUp Greensboro – Donate your gently used clothing to Encore!, StepUp's thrift store at Golden Gate Center – currently in need of warm winter clothing. While you are there pick up info on other ways to support this ministry to help people build stable lives. Call 676-5871 for more information

TRIAD CAREER NETWORK (formerly FPC JOBS) – Tuesdays & Thursdays, 8:30 am, Memorial 304. Anyone dealing with the effects of losing a job is welcome.

Every Sunday, we collect donations of non-perishable food for Greensboro Urban Ministry's pantry. Last year, FPC delivered almost 8,000 pounds of canned and boxed food to help our neighbors in need. Please join in this ministry!

Community Service Group – 10 am Wednesdays in the Garden Room, Smith 124. Women gather for fellowship and a devotional while hand-crafting blankets, lap robes & more items to be distributed to people in need in our community and beyond. Info: B.J. Williams, 288-8601; Hannah Britt, 288-9289; or Nancy Jewson, Well Spring coordinator, 288-0333.

A D U L T  
S P I R I T U A L  
F O R M A T I O N

**Sunday classes open to all**

**LISTENING FOR GOD: SHORT STORIES** – Faith Matters meets in Memorial 100 for an exploration of selected writings from the *Listening for God* series. Oct. 11: “The Ugliest Pilgrim” by Doris Betts; Oct. 18: “After the Baptism” by Carol Bly; Oct. 25: from “Virgin Time” by Patricia Hampl; Nov. 1: “Seeing, Weather Report, Getting Home” by Kathleen Norris.

**THE GREAT THEOLOGIANS** – The Travelers class invites you to join Kevin Guerink, Cynthia Price Pastoral Resident, in Memorial 304 for this study.

**FOCUS ON THE NEW TESTAMENT** led by Neil Dunnivant in Homebuilders class, Memorial 200, Spencer Love Room.

**MINISTRIES OF FPC** is October’s focus in Agape, which meets in the Garden Room. Oct. 11: Christian Formation; Oct. 18: Music; Oct. 25: Outreach.

**ERACISM: THE BELIEVER’S CALLING**, an in-depth study of racism in our society, continues in the Commitment class, Blair Hagan Room, Memorial 100.

**REVELATION STUDY** led by Gerard Davidson in Seekers, Vaughn Conference Room, Main 125.

YMBC meets in Redhead Hall. Charles Howell leads. Oct. 11, and Frank Dew continues “Change and Hope” Oct. 18 and 25.

**Small groups and studies**

**Beth Moore Study Group** – Wednesdays, 4 pm Memorial 200 (Spencer Love Room).

**GIFT in the Morning** – 9:15 am Mondays, Solarium. This Growing In Faith Together group is for moms of preschool & elementary ages. Rev. Dolly Jacobs leads. Child care with a reservation.

**GIFT in the Evening** – Growing In Faith Together, a Bible study for professional women in their 20s, 30s & early 40s. Meets in members’ homes Tuesdays at 6:45 pm. Info: Aimee Scotton, [acscotton@co.randolph.nc.us](mailto:acscotton@co.randolph.nc.us).

**Currie Library** – open 9 am-3 pm, Monday through Thursday, and 9-10:30 am Sundays. Info: 478.4731 or [nfuller@fpcgreensboro.org](mailto:nfuller@fpcgreensboro.org)

**Centering Prayer** – Noon Mondays in Myers Loyalty Room (Smith 242), led by Rev. Frank Dew.

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**Sunday mornings** – 9:30 a.m., first floor of Shetler. All youth (middle- and high-schoolers) gather in the youth room. Then we divide into groups by grades to explore God’s story and how it relates to our lives.

**Youth group** – Sunday nights, first floor of Shetler. Our weekly fellowship and small group time. Middle-schoolers meet 5:30-7 pm; high-schoolers meet 6:30-8 pm.

Supergroup of middle- and high-schoolers has dinner together, 6:30 pm.

**Thursday mornings** – High school youth meet for devotions at 7:20 am at Chick-Fil-A on Pisgah Church Road

**Tuesday morning Chick-Fil-A breakfast club** – for middle-schoolers. Mendenhall, Oct. 20 (Friendly Ctr.); Canterbury, Nov. 3 (Pisgah Church Rd.)

**Sole Hope – October 18**, 4 pm, Mullin Life Center. Bring some blue jeans (your extras or from a thrift store). We will cut out patterns and assemble in packages to make shoes for a child in Uganda! \$10/person helps offset shipping & sewing. Everyone is invited! Snacks & drinks will be available. Info: [solehope.org](http://solehope.org).

**‘Scarowinds’ for high school youth** – Oct. 23. Our High School Youth Group travels to



“Scarowinds” in Charlotte for a night of fright and adventure!

Plan to leave right at 5 pm on Friday, Oct. 23, so we can ride as many rides as possible before the park closes. We will stay in Charlotte Friday night and return on Saturday. Cost is \$75; Register online – find the ‘slider’ link on the home page at [fpcgreensboro.org/](http://fpcgreensboro.org/)

**CHILDREN**

**Peacehaven Farm Day** – October 17, 9 am-1 pm. Families are invited for a morning of farm & garden



work at Peacehaven Farm, 1458 NC Highway 61 in Whitsett, followed by a potluck lunch. The farm provides living space for adults with special needs who work on a sustainable farm on 89 acres of organic gardens, rolling pastures, and lush woodlands. All ages are welcome!

**Kindergarten: Growing, Grateful, Generous Hearts Milestone** – Oct. 25-Nov. 15: Kids and parents learn about stewardship of time, talent, money, and creation. They meet Stu Bear and receive an Early Reader Bible in Rejoice! on Oct. 18.

**MUSIC**

**Westminster Ringers** – Intermediate handbell choir, 4:15 – 5:15 pm Tuesdays, Smith 301.

**Coventry Ringers** – Advanced handbell choir, 5:45 pm Tuesdays, Smith 301.

**Children's choirs** – Wednesdays:

- Joyful Noise Musical Experience (ages 2-3 & parents), 4 pm., Corl 303.
- Cherub (ages 4-preK), 4 pm,
- Credo (grades K-1), 4:30 pm.
- Canticle (grades 2-5), 5:15 pm, all in Smith 301.

**Chancel Choir** – The adult choir welcomes new singers. Wednesdays, 6:45 pm, Smith 301.

**Bel Canto: In Time of Strife** – October 10 at 8 pm, and October 12 at 7:30 pm, Sanctuary. Choral ensemble presents music about war, forgiveness, praise and love in times of adversity. Tickets and more at [belcantocompany.com](http://belcantocompany.com)

**All Saints' Sunday concert** – November 1, 5 pm, Sanctuary. Featuring Durufle Requiem, composed in 1947 and based in Gregorian chant.

**CONNECTION**

**Coffee** – in the Welcome Center Sundays before & after worship. First floor, Smith Building.

**Ham & sausage biscuits**

while they last – Sunday mornings in the Welcome Center, for that warm, welcomed feeling.



**Watercolor Class** – led by Ron Bauer, Tuesdays 9-11 am in the Garden Room, Smith 124. The only cost is for your painting supplies. Info: Dolly Jennings, 854-2663.

**Functional Fitness** – Exercise for older adults, 10:15 am, Mondays & Thursdays, Smith 124. Free for Silver Sneakers/ United Healthcare & BCBS; \$3/class for other. Info: Carol Sellars, 288-2077, or Martha Sharpless, 282-0397.

**Men's Fellowship** – 7:30 am, Wednesdays, Memorial 100 (Blair Hagan Room). Info: Wil Courter at [wcourter@earthlink.net](mailto:wcourter@earthlink.net).

**Presbyterian Women's Luncheon** – October 12, noon in Mullin Life Center, with special guest commercial artist Linda Rozelle. Join us for "You've Got Talent" and let the artist in you emerge. RSVP by Thursday, Oct. 8, to Rachel Sommers, [rsommers@fpcgreensboro.org](mailto:rsommers@fpcgreensboro.org) or 478-4799.

**Presbyterian Women Circles**– All women are invited to join a Presbyterian Women Circle. Our study this year is "Come to the Water," about the Biblical imagery of water in our faith. Circles meet at various times to accommodate as many people's schedules as possible. Contact Wendy Duncan, 478-4723 for more information about circles.

Deborah's Dining & Discussion

Third Monday, 11:45 am, Garden Room.

Hearts and Minds

Third Monday, 10 am, member homes.

Mary and Martha

Second Monday, 10:30 am, Blair Hagan Room.

Rachel

Second Monday, 10:30 am, Myers Loyalty Room.

Ruth and Naomi

Third Tuesday, 10:30 am, Blair Hagan Room.

**Tuesday Book Club** – October 13, 1:30 pm in Cannon's Solarium. *The Aviator's Wife* by Melanie Benjamin. Contact: Brenda Frost, 288-0509 or [ufrost@triad.rr.com](mailto:ufrost@triad.rr.com).

**Monday Book Club** – October 19, 10:30 am in Cannon's Solarium. *Middlesex* by Jeffrey Eugenides. Facilitator: Penne Prigge. Contact: Sara Stuart, 545-9440.

**Almanah** – meets for dinner October 20, 5:30 pm, at Outback Steakhouse, 1611 Westover Terrace. We invite all widows to join us for fun, fellowship and food. Please call or e-mail Becky Peters so she can make reservations: 336-545-7757 or [becky\\_p@bellsouth.net](mailto:becky_p@bellsouth.net).

**UKirk Greensboro** – invites First Presbyterians to monthly worship, the first Tuesday of each month, 7 p.m. at the Holderness Presbyterian House, 409 S. Mendenhall St., near UNCG. UKirk connects young adults and college students with local congregations including ours. Next meeting is November 3. More information is available at [ukirkgo.org](http://ukirkgo.org).

# session digest

Minutes of the June Session meeting  
Approved at the August Session meeting

## The Work and Worship of the Session Monday, June 15, 2015

The stated May meeting of Session of First Presbyterian Church was held on Monday, May 18, 2015, starting at 5:30 pm in the Garden Room. The Rev. Sid Batts, Senior Pastor, served as moderator.

The meeting began with Sid leading a responsive reading of Psalm 118 followed by singing the hymn "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" accompanied on the piano by R. Colin Burns, Associate Director of Music for Children and Youth.

Guests: Genie Schwartz, Art Winstead, and FPC summer interns Abby Greene, Savannah Caccamo and Julia Meder.

**The Consent Agenda** was approved as distributed.

- From the Clerk: Minutes of the May 18, 2015 stated meeting of the Session.
- From the Discipleship's Office: May attendance, membership, and visitor reports.
- Written Reports from: Congregational Care, Discipleship, Hospitality, and Worship Committees.
- Sayde Bowles Ministry Fund annual report.
- Finance Reports for May 2015

Session members identified their prayer partners for the month.

## Growing Deeper, Wider and Tech Savvy - What we have seen and experienced

- The live streaming of the service continues to get compliments. It is very appreciated by members who are travelling.
- The large monitors in the sanctuary were also noted for the second meeting in a row. The monitors significantly help those in the back third of the church feel a greater sense of participation in the service.
- A large screen has been installed in Life Center, and it should be fully operational soon.
- A travelling church youth choir from Damascus, Maryland is coming next week.

## Wells Fargo

Ginni Lineberry, Chair of the Finance Committee, introduced Niles Greene and Audrey Truman from Wells Fargo. Audrey is a Philanthropic Consultant

for Wells Fargo, and she introduced the presentation materials they would be reviewing. This briefing included a big picture summary of the relationship between Wells Fargo and FPC, including when it started, asset allocation target strategy, production of monthly statements, distribution authority and plans, quarterly fund accounting reports customized to the needs of the Finance Committee, quarterly investment reporting, and an outline of the fees being charged. Audrey also expressed her enthusiasm for working with the church's Stewardship Director, once one is hired.

Niles is Senior Investment Strategist for Wells Fargo, and he wishes all of his presentations were preceded by a hymn and a prayer. He helps manage roughly 700 million in investments for high net worth individuals and institutions. He provided an overview of:

- Current portfolio
- Wells Fargo's proprietary risk measurement tool
- Recent performance

Niles explained that the tool was developed by Wells Fargo in response to market difficulties in the last decade that were not properly anticipated. The mathematical formula takes into consideration what the goals (and risk limits) are of a typical institution like ours and determines that our "risk factor" should fall within the range of 12-17. Niles stated that FPC has a risk score of 12. In developing our investment strategy, he worked with the Finance Committee to determine our specific goals (and risk limits). The investment strategy is then run through their formula to determine whether the plan is in line with the level of risk we should be comfortable with as an institution.

## Finance

(see chart, page bottom)

Ginni Lineberry, Chair of the Finance Committee, reported that the statement of activity shows excess funds on hand, but she wants to clarify that there are major expenses coming soon. This includes line items such as the \$95,000 cost for moving the Business Office personnel from Shelter to Smith Building and other expenses previously approved. She expects the budget to zero out by the end of year.

She also reported that we have paid down another \$200,000 on the line of credit for the capital campaign.

Ginni and David Kolosieke, Director of Finance and Operations, gave a brief synopsis of questions being addressed with the family of Clyde Marr. David and Elder Erwin Fuller have been working with the family on behalf of the church. There are disputes over the potential estate, and given the upcoming summer break, the Finance Committee seeks the authority to participate in the settlement negotiations as needed. Funds received would be applied to a Capital Campaign loan balance reduction.

Ginni presented the following motion: Motion to Facilitate the Possible Resolution of the Clyde Marr Gift Matter prior to the next Session Meeting on 8/17/15.

The motion passed unanimously.

**Scripture Reading:** Elder Jim Hegner read Luke 17: 11-19

**Faith Sharing:** Elder Nancy Godwin shared the story of her faith journey.

L. Richardson Trust  
Mike Godwin, Chair of the Church Trustees (who are responsible for the L. Richardson Trust,) gave the annual report on the L. Richardson Trust. In addition

*continues, next page* 

## Session Summary Financial Report as of May 31, 2015

January through May	Revised Annual Projected	Where We Projected to Be through May	Where We Are through May	Better (Worse) than Projected	Where We Were Last Year	Better (Worse) than Last Year
Revenue	\$ 521,385	\$ 2,046,221	\$ 2,183,622	\$ 137,401	\$ 1,848,892	\$ 334,730
Expenses	(4,521,385)	(1,983,858)	(2,011,941)	(28,083)	(1,970,927)	(41,014)
<b>Net</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 62,364</b>	<b>\$ 171,681</b>	<b>\$ 109,318</b>	<b>\$ (122,035)</b>	<b>\$ 293,716</b>

## Session, continued

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to a brief history of the Trust and a general description of the structure, Mike focused on the recent actions of the Church Trustees. The value of the Trust was slightly under 1 million in December, and it was up to 1.2 million in May. The 2015 distribution meeting was last month. A total of \$30,000 is being disbursed in 2015 to the groups listed in the report, which is roughly 3% of the total current value of the Trust. The current operating plan of the Church Trustees is to show restraint in disbursements in an effort to grow the corpus of the Trust to an amount that would make it more meaningful.

### Search Updates

*Youth Director:* Donna Chase, Director of Christian Education, reported that we hope to soon be in the final stages of securing a Youth Director. Face to face interviews are being held this month, and she asked for continued prayers in support of this effort. If we get to point where we don't find the right fit, we will move to naming an Interim Youth Director, but she is hopeful that we will not have to go that route.

*Stewardship Director:* Rhonda Youngdahl, Chair of the Stewardship Director Search Committee, was glad to hear Audrey talk about working hand in hand. Rhonda's group is getting a good feel for who is out there and what we need in both a fundraising and a faith based mission. We have received 11 resumes so far, and some candidates have already been interviewed by the whole committee via Skype. Skype and in person interviews should continue to be conducted this summer.

### Discipleship

Wendy Duncan, Director of Adult Formation and Discipleship, spoke of achievements in the last year and plans in the area of discipleship and hospitality going forward:

- The Welcome Center has been a great central point of gathering and fellowship in the church. The committee will continue to explore ways to leverage its use. Currently, having the desk staffed and a Keurig on hand have been a great benefit for the new space. It has also been said that the best hot chocolate is served there on Sundays.
- The Explore FPC classes have gone very

well, and 45 new members have come out of the classes since January. She also reminded us that new member luncheons are held 3 times each year.

- We are frequently asked when there will be a new Church Directory. We will not be producing a new one. At least, not in the same way we have in the past. In the spirit of being tech savvy, we are developing a new church database. This new structure will allow for a system that permits members to manage their own profiles, including uploading a picture of their own choosing. The staff understands that not all members will be comfortable managing their own profile and/or uploading their own picture so help will be offered to those members. We will hear more about this in the fall.

### Christian Education

Donna Chase and FPC summer interns, Abby Greene, Savannah Caccamo and Julia Meder, provided a PowerPoint presentation on subjects related to the youth:

- Pictures were shown of the new Youth Area on 1st floor Shetler. One picture displayed how they are still collecting donations for the Dominican Republic mission trip. A full list of what is needed is on line and in the newsletters.
- Events and trips this summer include a trip to Montreat for high schoolers, an Airbound outing for middle schoolers, and the Hoppers baseball game event for everyone.
- The interns also mentioned past and future meet ups at Maxie B's and Panera in their ongoing mission to find informal ways to connect the youth.
- Music camp is next week. Vacation Bible School and Kids Disciple Club are on the docket for later in the summer.
- PassportKids will be at Montreat for rising 4th thru 6th graders.
- Sunday school has its usual break during the summer, but we are trying new activities for families in the Welcome Center.

Wendy Duncan reported on past and upcoming events:

- BORO picnics on May 17th went well. We expect to have another similar event around the October timeframe.
- Wendy has been working on setting up a 2-day workshop called "Do What

Matters" for the leadership of the church in September.

- Same gender marriage classes just concluded and went well. Wendy summarized the classes coming up this summer. She mentioned a "Stories I Like" program she and Neil are piloting through a Facebook page. The program includes a discussion time at the church on Sundays.
- On August 28th we will be having a Grandparents Back To School dance, and Backpack Blessings will be on August 30th.

### Prayers of the People

Libby Boehne, Cynthia Price Pastoral Resident, is doing a rotation in Congregational Care. She led the Session in a prayer of thanksgiving and for individuals in our community with needs.

### New Business and For the Good of the Session

- Wendy reminded the Session that the Elder Greeting schedule has empty slots that need to be filled and asked people to please sign up.
- Neil will be taking his second sabbatical this November through January.
- Sid announced that 2 spaces have opened for his Italy trip in October of this year.
- Sid commented on the success of the new Elder retreat held May 29th and 30th. We have a great new Elder group coming in.
- Outreach is planning a trip to Honduras in February. Neil anticipates space for about 25 people, and we will begin signing people up later this summer.
- Neil voiced thanks for all the support received in response to the request for help for Bags for Hunger.
- Sid was pleased with the classes held on same gender marriage. He has received feedback from both sides since the same gender marriage decision was made at the last Session meeting, and he continues to be impressed and encouraged by the spirit of the congregation.

The meeting of the Session was adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Reid Wilcox  
Assistant Clerk of Session

# session digest

Minutes of the August Called Session meeting  
Approved at the September Session meeting

## Called Session Meeting August 3, 2015

For the purpose of:  
Entertaining a motion to close First School.

A called meeting of the Session of First Presbyterian Church was held on Monday, August 3, 2015, starting at 5:30 pm in the Garden Room. The Rev. Sid Batts, Senior Pastor, served as moderator.

Guests: Lana Burske, Brian Coghill, Jean Goodman, Tyler Hollis, Alex Maultsby, Genie Schwartz, Len White, Suzanne Wilcox, Art Winstead.

The meeting began with Sid leading in prayer and declaring that a quorum was present. He then explained the purpose of the meeting. Circumstances have required a focused, months-long collaboration of the First School Board, the Finance Committee and church leaders to research and develop the best course of action regarding the continuation of First School. First School currently owes First Presbyterian Church \$197,000 and is in no position to repay this amount.

Suzanne Wilcox, Vice Chair of the First School Board, briefed the Elders on the issues facing First School. She noted the following:

- Increasingly demanding and complex compliance issues are difficult and expensive
- Area private schools have opened full day pre-K classes, cutting into this most profitable area for First School.

Efforts to remedy budget shortfalls have included:

- Increasing tuition
- Asking families to provide food for children
- Not hiring an Assistant Director
- Reducing employee benefits
- Consolidating classrooms with older children
- Moving out of Shetler Building

Despite these actions, First School still cannot be self-sustaining. Sincere efforts to develop options to keep the school independent even on a break even basis were unsuccessful. To remain operational, First School would require a \$50,000 to \$100,000 financial contribution from FPC each year, in addition to the housing, utilities,

janitorial and accounting services already being received.

Ginni Lineberry, Chair of the Finance Committee and former First School Board member, noted that the Finance Committee prepares a yearly balanced budget, but that First School is not part of that. First School finances are reported separately. For the last 15 years, FPC has regularly advanced funds to First School to cover cash flow needs and has always been repaid within the year. The most recent repayment of \$70,000 was made over 18 months. In the last 2 ½ years, cash advances have totaled almost \$200,000 and this amount cannot be repaid. Keeping First School open would require up to \$100,000 per year from FPC. In light of other ministry priorities and the last five years of flat income for the church, FPC cannot plan to cover such an ongoing shortfall by First School.

Lisa Anderson, Chair of the Antioch Committee, explained that the Antioch Committee researches FPC's resources, gifts, goals, and other issues to explore how FPC can be spiritually and materially poised to go forward. The Committee is thankful for the First School's 17 years of care and teaching, but must regretfully recommend its closing.

The following motion was made:

The Session, acting as the members of the North Carolina non-profit corporation known as First Presbyterian Church Child Development Center of Greensboro, Inc. ("First School"), having heard reports from the Board of First School, the Antioch Committee, and the Finance Committee, consents to and directs the Board of First School to wind down its operations by October 2, 2015 or as soon thereafter as is feasible and following the wind-down of its operations, to take all steps necessary to dissolve the non-profit corporation in accordance with existing legal requirements.

A question and answer session was conducted. It was noted that an estimated 1,000 hours had been dedicated by church members to exploring options and researching the First School situation and prudent next action steps.

The motion passed unanimously.

Lana Burske, Director of First School and

Weekday Preschool, explained the next steps to take place:

- Meetings with First School parents and staff
- Letter mailed to Weekday Preschool parents and staff
- Letter mailed to FPC members
- Meeting with FPC staff
- Others (media, etc.) as needed through Communications Ministry.

Elder Jim Gentry praised Lana Burske, resulting in a spontaneous standing ovation.

Donna Chase, Director of Christian Education, offered praise to FPC for offering both full and part time high quality child care with a faith component, noting that this is rare across the country. She expressed that while this has been a tremendous ministry and is hard to let go, there are other things to come. FPC should be proud it has offered this ministry for so many years. Neil Dunnavant, Executive Pastor and Associate for Outreach Ministry, requested all present to direct inquiries about this issue to Ann Alexander, Director of Communications.

Sid explained that closing First School isn't something we wanted to do, that for 17 years it has been a great ministry for our families. However, FPC's nearly 200 year history is one of evolution, and this is FPC evolving. Our church has always had a commitment to do things well, and, in the face of dwindling resources, maintaining the high quality of First School became difficult. Closing the school is a demonstration of our commitment to do things well at FPC. Donna Chase announced that we will shortly be welcoming our new Director of Youth Ministry, Aaron Ferry.

Sid encouraged everyone to meet the new Cynthia Price Pastoral Resident Kevin Geurink who will be attending the Rejoice! service this Sunday.

Alex Maultsby extended appreciation and best wishes to Tyler Hollis who is moving to Nashville for at least a year in connection with his job, noting that he has been a great youth leader to many children in our church.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 pm with an admonition from Sid to "Go in peace."

Respectfully submitted,

Tamara Slaughter  
Clerk of Session

# session digest

**Minutes of the August Session meeting  
Approved at the September Session meeting**

## **The Work and Worship of the Session Monday, August 17, 2015**

The stated August 17 meeting of Session of First Presbyterian Church was held on Monday, August 17, 2015, starting at 5:30 pm in the Garden Room. The Rev. Sid Batts, Senior Pastor, served as moderator.

The meeting began with Sid leading a responsive reading of Psalm 133. Those gathered then sang the hymn "In Christ There Is No East or West" accompanied on the piano by John Alexander, Associate Director of Music. Sid offered words of welcome to guests.

Guests: Genie Schwartz, Darlene Young, Jane Brabham, Jeff Shell

**The Consent Agenda** was approved as distributed:

- From the Clerk: Minutes of the June 15, 2015 stated meeting and August 3 called meeting
  - From the Discipleship's office: June and July attendance, membership, and visitor reports, Explore FPC and Receiving Elder Schedules 2015-16
  - From the Worship and Music Coordinator's office: Elder Greeter Schedule
  - Finance Reports for June and July 2015
- Session members identified their prayer partners for the next month.

## **Growing Deeper, Wider and Tech Savvy – What we have seen and experienced**

- Live streaming of services is being used by members, even as they are driving.
- The dedication of the leadership of Vacation Bible School is to be commended.
- Youth have returned from mission work in the Dominican Republic with stories to tell.

## **Human Resources**

Jim Gentry, Chair of the Human Resources Committee, provided an overview and highlights of the Human Resources Committee year.

- The overall 2015 budget for Human Resources is on solid ground.
- Anne Albert has been promoted to Worship and Music Coordinator, a full time position.
- Ann Hopping has departed her Administrative Assistant role for Congregational Care position with the blessings of all. Pattie Murray is

promoted from Church Receptionist to Administrative Assistant for Congregational Care.

- Rachel Sommers starts at the Welcome Center desk in two weeks.

He noted the following accomplishments of the Human Resources Committee:

- Under the leadership of Dolly Jacobs, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care, an outstanding congregational care team has been reassembled.
- Staff Job descriptions have been updated and performance reviews conducted for staff during the year.
- Benefits open enrollment for non-ordained staff has been completed for the plan year which starts September 1. Last year, non-pastoral staff was removed from Board of Pension benefits. The overall 8.8% medical premium increase compares favorably to the market, particularly with 5% of the increase being tied to age adjustments of individuals (the big driver in premiums). The church will continue to pay 90% of employee medical insurance premiums and 40% of dependent medical insurance premiums for those electing coverage.
- Staff appreciation activities included a luncheon at Christmas and an outing to a Grasshoppers baseball game in May.
- The move of remaining staff from the Shetler Building to renovated offices on the third floor of the Smith Building will take place in the near future.

Jim closed his comments by saying what an honor it had been to serve as Chair of the Human Resources Committee. Jan Lawson will take over as Chair for 2015-16, with Deborah Staton as Vice Chair. Holly Albright and Sam Simpson are rolling off the committee; Alex Maultsby and Hank Lovvorn will join the committee.

## **Finance**

Committee Chair Ginni Lineberry discussed the reviewed and edited Sadye Bowles Ministry Fund Declaration. She also noted gifts have been received from Clyde Marr Estate and Annie Penn Parham Estate, thanks to the efforts of Erwin Fuller. The \$70,000 estate gift from Clyde Marr has been received and is being applied to the outstanding loan balance on the Capital Campaign project.

**Scripture Reading** – Elder Stu Johnson

read 1 Peter 2: 4-10

## **Faith Statement**

Because incoming Elders will be sharing faith statements later in the week, there was no Elder faith statement at this meeting.

## **Appointment**

Cathy Lovejoy, Chair of the Appointments Committee, shared that her committee met 17 consecutive weeks starting in January, including phone conferencing during bad weather. She thanked every member of the committee, including: Marshal Brown, Vice Chair; Lisa Allen; John Beard; Louann Clarke, Nominating Vice Chair; Brian Coghill; Tim Cooke; Hilda Courter; Ron Hampton; Terry Maultsby; Rusty Sherrill; John White; Katy Williamson; Rhonda Youngdahl, Nominating Chair.

Cathy presented the following motions for a vote:

1. Election of the Members of the 2015-2016 Appointments Committee. The motion passed.
2. Election of Clerk, Assistant Clerk, Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer of the Session. The motion passed.

Moderator Sid Batts recessed the meeting of the Session. Sid called to order the annual meeting of Trustees of the Corporation. Cathy Lovejoy presented the following motion for a vote:

3. Election of Officers of the Corporation. The motion passed.

The annual meeting of the Trustees of the Corporation was adjourned. The meeting of the Session resumed.

## **Nominating**

Louann Clarke, Incoming Chair of the Nominating Committee, reported that the committee's first meeting will be on September 22. On October 13, the committee will start meeting weekly through the end of the year, possibly through early January. She thanked Cathy Lovejoy and Appointments Committee Vice Chair Chip Pegram and the 2014-2015 Nominating Committee (Rhonda Youngdahl, Chair, Diane Aycock, Becky Barger, Carter Davenport, Bert Davis, Whit Edwards, Gary Goodman,

*continues, next page*



## Session, continued

Dolly Jennings, Leigh Jones, Randall Peete, Brian Rightsell, Dianne Sanderson, Jacalyn White, Charlie Younce).

All Elders were invited to note the nominations form in the Session packet and asked to give thoughtful consideration to nominations. The committee is tasked with slating 20 names for Elder, one for the five year term as L. Richardson Trust Trustee, and 2 Youth Elders. Louann provided a reminder of the qualities being sought.

### Church Officer Development

Leigh Jones, Chair of Church Officer Development, noted that Elders will gather at 7 pm on Sunday, August 23 to hear the faith statements of incoming Elders. A Service of Affirmation will be held in Memorial Chapel. The Service of Ordination and Installation will be held on August 30 at the 10:45 Traditional Service.

### Director Positions and Searches

Donna Chase, Director of Christian Education, announced that The Reverend Aaron Ferry has accepted the position of Minister/Director of Youth and will start on September 8. He is a minister, and will have a ministerial role but will not be a pastor. He is from Tennessee. Because of his experience, he will be on the Triennium planning team for the event coming up next year. Nick Demuynck, Associate Director of Youth Ministry, has done an incredible job overseeing Youth activities. Donna also complimented youth members of the Search Committee Mac Maulsby, Mary Grace Beard, Branyon Spigner, and Caroline Yarbrough.

Lisa Weatherspoon has acted as the Interim Associate Director of Children's Ministry for nearly 2 years. As she is a church member, she is ineligible to take this position permanently. Donna asked for recommendations from Elders for someone to fill this part time position with children and young families.

Rhonda Youngdahl, Chair of the Director of Stewardship Search Committee, complimented the committee made up of Sid Batts, Elizabeth Bostian, Scott

Faircloth, Dan Goley, Jan Lawson, Skip Moore, Mark Yarbrough. She noted that the committee has interviewed four candidates in person and that two have spent a half day with the staff. The committee has met and has a clear vision of who is the front running candidate.

Sid commented that amazing things are happening with staff and searches, and that our church is in a terrific place. The renovation was about the future. Seeing the strong, healthy, vibrant unfolding of this future is very exciting.

### Community and Regional Outreach

Gary Goodman presented a report on the 107th meeting of the Salem Presbytery.

### Discipleship

Wendy Duncan, Director of Adult Formation and Discipleship, introduced the new on-line church directory/database called "In Fellowship" that is ready to roll out. Staff and Session members will get access first. She asks that everyone update their profile by August 31, and that all committee chairs encourage their members to do so as well. The goal is to have 200-300 entries by the time this is introduced to the church membership. Wendy and Jennifer Gaddy, Director of Information Technology, provided a demonstration.

### Antioch Group

Genie Schwartz, member the Antioch Group, noted that the survey of church members taken by the Antioch Group indicated a desire for "connectedness." The new online directory will help with that, and will help every committee of the church. The Antioch Group recommends the creation of a standing committee of communications and technology. She introduced the following motion for a vote:

- Motion to Establish a Committee for Communications and Technology. The motion passed.

### Prayers of the People

Session members named those to be remembered in prayers of need and celebration. Libby Boehne, Cynthia Price Pastoral Resident, offered prayer for all of these people.

### New Business/For the Good of the Session

- Sid thanked the Elder Class of 2015.
- Sid welcomed Kevin Geurink, the new Cynthia Price Pastoral Resident.
- Leigh Jones referenced the closing of First School, noting that all but 2 or 3 children have been placed in other child care programs. Many of the children and several of the teachers have been accommodated by Weekday Preschool. Sid added that the progress of the closing has gone as well as can be expected.
- Louann Clarke provided information from the Sacraments Ministry Team. The next communion is on October 4. Team schedules have been handed out. There are training programs on three different dates and all Elders are asked to attend one.
- The next BOROS event is on Tuesday, September 29 in members' homes. Volunteers to open their homes are needed.
- Kelly Harrill, Chair of the Outreach Committee, and Neil Dunnivant, Executive Pastor and Associate for Outreach Ministry, encouraged everyone to consider participating in the Habitat for Humanity trip to Honduras. There is something to do for all ages.
- Sid recounted the story of a busload of people from a Seminary in South Korea coming by to tour our church. There was a connection between someone at FPC and their Seminary (it was not determined exactly what or who was the connection, but it may have been a missionary in the late 1800's). The visit was unexpected, but John Alexander delighted the visitors with an impromptu organ performance.

### Closing Prayer

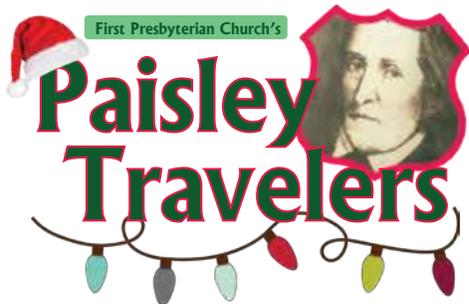
Sid asked that we all go in peace. Kevin Geurink, our newest Cynthia Price Pastoral Resident, closed the meeting in prayer.

This meeting of the Session was adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tamara Slaughter, Clerk of Session

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### Details

Leave FPC at 8:45 am, return 4:45 pm  
Cost: \$60 for bus, tour tickets & lunch  
RSVP by October 23. Make checks  
payable to: FPC 55+ Travel Group  
and mail to Linda Allen, 3513 Terrault  
Drive, Greensboro, NC 27410. No  
refunds.  
Info: Linda Allen, 294-3084

Join us in the Fun  
Lane December 4!

**Twelve Days of Christmas** exhibit and  
**Gingerbread House Collection** at the  
Carolina Inn in Chapel Hill

Lunch (and a little shopping) at **A Southern  
Season**

A tour of the 200-year-old Scottish **Ayr  
Mount Plantation** in Historic Hillsborough,  
which will be decked for Christmas!