



# first notes

first presbyterian church • [fpcgreensboro.org](http://fpcgreensboro.org)

we're **here.** we're **there.**  
we're **then.** we're **now.**



# WE'RE BACK!

## The Fruit of the Spirit is KINDNESS

Scriptures: Micah 6:6-8 & Mark 9:33-37. Children's choirs sing in the 11 am service.

## Where Does It Hurt? Listening to Heal Our Children

What do trauma/anxiety/stress look like in children How do we help? Dr. Maddy Lowman leads, for families with preschool & elementary kids. 10 am in M125 & on Zoom (contact ybaxter@fpcgreensboro.org for link).



## Kids Helping Kids: Diaper Drive

Bring diapers for the Greater Triad Branch of the Diaper Bank of NC. Grades K-5 will deliver and help sort them, 2-4 pm. Sign up at [fpcgreensboro.org/signup](http://fpcgreensboro.org/signup).

## Celebrating 75 years of the Weekday Preschool!

History exhibit in the Welcome Center, 8:30 am -12:30 pm.

# SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17

# Where Jesus meets us



**JILL DUFFIELD**  
Senior Pastor

Jill will be installed as FPC's 12th Senior Pastor in a special service on Sunday, October 17, at 3 pm in the Sanctuary

Beloved church family,

It has been so good to see you, in worship, on my computer screen, around town. While we continue to weather the pandemic and all the hardships, challenges and pain it has wrought, there is still much for which to give God thanks. Our church continues to be resilient, loving, and flexible. Staff and congregation have come together to uphold one another in our grief, praise God and prayerfully discern our call for such a time as this. In recent months, our staff worked on a mission statement to help shape our Fall plans. We limited ourselves to eight words, knowing it couldn't encompass everything and was provisional. We weren't looking for a divine decree so much as a lens through which to help see and follow the work of the Spirit. We decided upon the following: Creating space for Jesus to reveal the Truth.

This mission enabled us to think about issues of hospitality, physical logistics, digital offerings, and our role in putting in place those things that invite people to be open to meeting Jesus and hearing God's Word. It highlighted both our responsibility to do our part and recognized that ultimately it is God, not us, who reveals Truth. We are still experimenting with what this working mission statement means and shapes. We used it to help examine how our first few weeks of the Fall schedule have gone, both the ways it went well and the places it fell short.

We used it as one way of several to explore what "hybrid church" means. We met to define "hybrid church" in our context. We then asked: How does this hybrid church help further our mission? The process wasn't linear. We knew from the outset we would generate more questions than answers. Where we landed was a surprise, but maybe it shouldn't have been. We came to a Spirit-led conclusion not about the "what" or the "how" but about the "why" that undergirds all our ministry and all our lives. We believe that God calls us to share the good news: *All of you is loved, you are not alone, and we want to know you.*

Our mission really is to create space for Jesus to reveal the truth that everyone in their messy entirety is loved entirely by God, none of us is ever alone, God is with us and we have the gift and responsibility of one another, and each of us is worthy of being known, really known. This is the message we want to share in word and deed using all the tools at our disposal.

I hope you know you are loved, entirely, you are never alone, you are so worth knowing, really knowing. I pray we will use every medium and method to embody this good news, creating spaces within our walls, in our community, in-person, online and off, where Jesus meets us and reveals this transformative Truth. I invite you to join me in this prayer.

Peace,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jill".



# The story starts with a bang

Happy 20th birthday to our beautiful Létourneau church organs! What a rich history they have. From the untimely demise of the Moller organ to raising funds, selecting a builder, then installing and voicing (tuning) a massive network of pipes, the journey is filled with stories, relationships, and musical joy.

Their lives started with a bang. Literally. Shortly before Easter in 1998, as Senior Pastor Jerry Shetler stood to preach, our congregation was treated to a loud exploding sound behind the decorative grillwork on the pulpit side of the chancel. Patrick Murphy, then Director of Music Ministry, discovered that a reservoir blew, creating a noise so loud that church member Sharon Welker thought a wall in the under-construction Life Center had fallen. Even knowing the 1970's era instrument was deteriorating quickly, Patrick was unprepared for the cipher (a fault in an air valve) on a 16-foot pipe during the processional hymn on Easter Sunday. This disaster created a continuous loud, low D note bellowing through the sanctuary. He had to turn off the organ to make it stop! He calmly switched to the piano to complete the service.

The Moller organ, the creator of this high drama, was installed in 1970 and selected reportedly because it could be quickly manufactured and installed to replace the Austin organ (amazingly still in use after its purchase in the 1920's). Typical of its time, the Moller organ had some new technology that didn't wear well. Some pipes warped over time due to heat and metal fatigue. In addition, the way it was constructed made it impossible to service portions of the instrument without removing everything.

With the very public decline of the Moller organ came the realization that a new organ was simply unavoidable. It limped along until April of 2000,

## Celebrating 20 years with the Létourneau Organs

Organ Recital with John Alexander

Sunday, November 14 at 5 pm

Bel Canto Company & John Alexander

Friday, October 29 at 7:30 pm, streamed at [musicforagreatspace.org](http://musicforagreatspace.org). Yves Castagnet's *Messe Salve Regina*. Live Q&A with the artists afterward

when a temporary electric replacement was installed in the Greene Street balcony. A Task Force was formed to research a new instrument. The natural choice to lead was Dr. Curtis Lashley, Chair of the Worship Committee and part of a musical family (his wife Terry, daughter Colbert, and granddaughters Susannah and Logan have all sung in our choir).

Curtis and the Task Force got to work. Terry, recalls that the group was "made up of unbelievably good members, all bringing special gifts to the table." They selected Orgues Létourneau, a Canadian company founded in 1979 by Fernand Létourneau. Once the Task Force received an estimate, Curtis insisted that an additional amount be added for Outreach. He had the idea that this organ would be for the community as well as our congregation, and funds would be included to provide concerts free to the public. After he presented the \$2 million request to Session, an Elder approached him waving a \$5 bill. The man bet Curtis that he'd never raise that kind of money. Terry laughs at the recollection, saying that was like poking a bear. That Elder paid up.



Dr. Curtis and Terry Lashley, left, with the crew from Canada during installation.



How that happened is very important in this story. The Rev. Dr. Jerry Shetler had just retired when the effort started, so there was no Senior Pastor to help lead the charge. However, on his first day as Interim Pastor, Dr. Vernon Hunter taped a video segment stressing the need for a new church organ. His segment along with those of several other church members were transferred onto videotapes and sent to each church family to explain the need and encourage donations. In Vernon's appeal he specifically said, "We want everyone's handprint on this instrument," and that is what happened. Donations by almost 800 families paid for the organs and the public concerts provided.

This is where the physical work of creating the organs start. Lane Ridenhour has sung in our choir for more than 30 years and developed a fascination with the process. He kept a close eye on the installation, documenting the progress and slipping into nooks and crannies where pieces were being fitted. He's even written a history of all the organs of First Presbyterian and is a wealth of information. While he recently declined climbing the precarious ladder behind a locked door in the Tower Room to show some of the pipes, he did do it back in the day, as well as exploring the empty space after two corner walls in the back balcony were removed.

Here's how it worked. The craftsmen at Létourneau took every possible measurement and explored

every possible space where 123 sets of pipes could possibly fit. Armed with this information, they started their largest to date project in their Saint-Hyacinthe, Quebec workshops. They even constructed an 8'x10'x10' room so they could practice installing in the exact size space certain pipes would occupy at FPC. During this time, the Task Force was flown in the Jefferson-Pilot corporate airplane to see the mostly finished physical form of the two organs, Opus 73 for the gallery and Opus 74 for the chancel ("Opus" appellations are the official Orgues Létourneau names for the FPC organs). While there, Curtis asked how often the craftsmen got to hear the organs they made and installed in far-flung locations. The answer was "never," that only the voicers, in the last stage of installation, got to hear the instruments sing. This was shocking news and would come into play later.

Before anything could be installed in Greensboro, the Moller organ had to be removed. Orgues Létourneau workers undertook this task. They eventually divided and rebuilt with the parts, creating at least portions of two organs. One went to a church in Quebec whose organ had been destroyed by fire, and another went to Hope Lutheran Church in Bozeman, Mont. The Moller organ lives on, one hopes in less dramatic fashion.

The new organs were then deconstructed, carefully wrapped, and driven by the installers to Greensboro in trucks. After they pulled up to

the Greene Street entrance, church members helped unload the many heavy, unwieldy pieces and take them into the church. There were 123 sets of pipes. Each set has many pipes making the total more than 6,800. That's a lot of trips from truck to church! As work got underway, Lane recalls that the sanctuary was "a war zone with wood, tools, shavings, pipes and wiring spread out all over the sanctuary." At first, the mess was cleaned up every Saturday so the church was ready for Sunday services. The last eight weeks of their work, however, required scaffolding and equipment that couldn't easily be removed, so members decamped to the Life Center for worship.

The crucial voicing process started after all the pipes were installed and the extensive electronics that support our sophisticated instrument were fine tuned. While the sanctuary was off limits to "civilians," Patrick would go in to practice when the finishers were away. He'd leave notes about things he heard and the sound would be tweaked by the next day. One time he brought the choir in for a sneak peek and to rehearse with the organs. Patrick was amazed that it changed the "color" of the choir and absolutely influenced the way they sounded.

Patrick worked closely with the finishers in voicing the instrument. Fernand Létourneau, he explains, had a "French ear," preferring fiery reeds and lush strings. Patrick, on the other hand, was partial to the "round" sound of English church organs, one that accompanies choirs well. Between the two of them, they developed a sound unique to FPC. Patrick also recalls that Fernand had a piece sent back to the shop because it wasn't made to his exact specification. Later, after the organ had been dedicated and was truly "done," Fernand replaced the strings in the gallery organ because he felt they just weren't right. He had a vision and saw it through.

Work had concentrated on the chancel organ so it could be finished for Christmas services. In fact, Fernand Letourneau joined our members for the Service of Lessons and Carols, participating as the reader of the 8th carol. As completion of the gallery organ neared, Curtis kept in mind that the diligent and talented craftsmen who worked on our instruments had never heard them, or any other of their projects, played. He and the Task Force arranged for craftsmen and their families to come to

Greensboro for the dedication of the organs. They arrived in buses and were welcomed warmly by Task Force and church members. They stayed in church and choir member homes and were treated to dinner in the Life Center.

At last, on March 18, 2001, the dedication service took place. A beautiful program coordinated by Jean Davison listed committee members and contributors to the organ and outreach fund. The "baptism" of the organs was an emotional experience; even congregants not directly involved with the organ could feel something special in the air. To introduce the organs to the community there was a recital on Sunday afternoon featuring a composition designed for choir and two organs (Solemn Mass by Louis Vierne, written for performance at Notre Dame). Very early the next morning, the buses headed back to Canada (after a church member brought ham and sausage biscuits for our Orgues Létourneau friends to enjoy on the road home).

So what do we have in these superlative instruments? More than you can imagine. Looking akin to a rocket cockpit, the console of the chancel organ includes four manuals (keyboards) plus pedals (a keyboard played with the feet) of 2 octaves, and 164 stops with magical sounding names. Our two organs can be played individually or simultaneously, and the gallery organ can be played either in the gallery or from the organ in the chancel. Here's another fun fact: the chancel organ can be moved to the center of the chancel. In this configuration, the organist sits with his/her back to the seats so that the "control center" and the organist's flying hands and feet are visible to listeners. Enjoy this experience at the 20th anniversary recital on November 14.

Dr. John Alexander, our current Director of Music, came to FPC as an intern well after the new organ was installed. Since then, he's earned his doctorate in Organ Performance. An undergraduate when he started, he admits that it took a couple of years before he was completely comfortable on Opus 73 & 74. If you take a moment to peek at the chancel organ, you can see why. There are arrays of stops to be pushed or pulled, buttons under the keyboards to be poked with the thumb, and a small computer with 135 programmable settings to get just the right sound for each song during a service, wedding, funeral, or performance.

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# Serving & learning in Scotland

After a year-plus delay, I am finally in Scotland to serve my Young Adult Volunteer year through PC(USA)! Everyone has been so welcoming. Pam and John from the Church of Scotland met us at the Edinburgh airport and got us to Dundee 90 minutes away. We arrived to a fully stocked fridge in a cozy, warm flat!

We had to isolate from the team because of Scotland's COVID protocols but it was nice to see everyone in person, even from a distance. Breaking the monotony, we were blessed with a huge baking delivery from my placement Fintry Parish, courtesy of congregation members and dropped off by pastor Colin Brough.

BY VICTORIA  
ALEXANDER  
FPC MEMBER

After our negative COVID tests came back, Pam took us to see our placements. We arrived at Fintry just as the community food larder (food pantry for us Americans) was starting. It amazed me to see not just the variety but also the quality of food available, as well as lovely touches like bunches of flowers that visitors could take. I finally got to meet most of the Fintry staff in person, and Colin gave us a tour.

Dundee seems to have more, smaller churches made up mainly of people from their neighborhoods. Because the churches are so integrated, their outreach programs address unique local challenges. Fintry sits at the center of its neighborhood, across the street from the grocer, butcher, and pharmacy. I'll be working in a primary (elementary) school a few blocks away as a learning coach, along with Ross from the Fintry staff and other Fintry members.

Our church has been granted Priority Area status by the Church of Scotland, which means the community ranks in the bottom 5% across all



On September 26, Victoria's first Sunday at Fintry Parish, pastor Colin Brough had worshippers give a wave to FPC!

social and economic indicators. Every Friday the Priority Areas staff gather on Zoom for The Wee Conversation, during which pastors and support workers share what's going on in their church and support each other. It was really meaningful to me to reflect on the ways in which each person and congregation were so devoted to and passionate about the people and causes in their community.

The level of community organizing here surprised me, in the most pleasant way. When people in these churches see needs, such as providing groceries to older adults most at risk of contracting COVID, they immediately respond, organizing food runs and drop-offs. It makes me think about opportunities we might be missing in the PC(USA). Our churches embody enormous support networks of experts in all sorts of fields, passionate helpers willing to extend a hand to anyone who needs it, and it makes me hopeful to think about the type of change we can enact if we resolve to do so.

I can't wait to share more as my YAV year begins in earnest. I welcome your support, be it prayers, letters (I'm at 54 Rosefield St., Dundee, DD1 5PS, United Kingdom), and you can donate to support my year in the YAV program at [www.presbyterianmission.org/donate/e210102/](http://www.presbyterianmission.org/donate/e210102/).

Thank you for coming along with me on this journey!

# fall kickoff scrapbook

Lisa Witherspoon counts the minutes until Rejoice! starts.

Elders review communion instructions from Jill Duffield before Rejoice!

Worshippers enter the sanctuary for the 11 am service.



YMBC returns to Redhead Hall to watch Sandie Gravett's new Church School series on video.

The youth kickoff makes several big splashes.

The youngest attendee takes in the evening cookout.

Burgers and dogs are assembled decently and in order.

Vespers on the sanctuary steps include prayer cards.

Doughnuts are a hit at children's Church School on the playground.







> calendar



# FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

WORSHIP SERIES BY JILL DUFFIELD CONTINUES

## INSTALLATION

of Rev. Dr. Jill Duffield  
as FPC's 12th Senior Pastor



Sunday, October 17, at 3 pm  
Lemonade afterward

Faigh do bhreabad air!

Get your plaid on!

Reformation Sunday  
is October 31

### ● OCTOBER 17 — KINDNESS

Children's Sabbath. Scriptures: Micah 6:6-8 & Mark 9:33-37

### ● OCTOBER 24 — GOODNESS

Scriptures: Exodus 33:12-32 & Matthew 7:7-10

### ● NOVEMBER 7 — FAITHFULNESS

All Saints' & Communion Sunday.

Scriptures: Isaiah 25:6-9 & John 11:32-44

### ● NOVEMBER 14 — GENTLENESS

Confirmation Sunday, one service at 11 am.

Scriptures: Psalm 139:1-18 & Luke 12:22-32

### ● NOVEMBER 21 — SELF-CONTROL

Stewardship Sunday

Scriptures: Psalm 112 & 2 Peter 1:1-11

#### WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL

Sign up to receive  
a Fruit of the Spirit  
devotional each  
Wednesday during  
the sermon series.

Contact Yolanda  
Baxter, [ybaxter@  
fpcgreensboro.org](mailto:ybaxter@fpcgreensboro.org).

#### SPOTIFY PLAYLIST

Listen  
to songs  
evoking  
the Fruit  
of the Spirit, curated by  
Pastoral Resident Rachel  
Fitch.



#### CATCH UP ON EARLIER FRUIT

The series began on September 12. See earlier sermons on the  
FPC Worship Services playlist at [youtube.com/fpcgreensboro](https://youtube.com/fpcgreensboro).

## music

**CELEBRATING 20 YEARS WITH THE LE TOURNEAU ORGANS:** Concerts on October 29 and November 14. Details on page 5.

**ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY OFFERING:** Requiem by Gabriel Faure, with the Chancel Choir and orchestra, November 7, 5-6 pm.

**UNCG UNIVERSITY CHOIRS HARVEST HOME CONCERT:** November 21 at 5 pm, Sanctuary

## adult formation

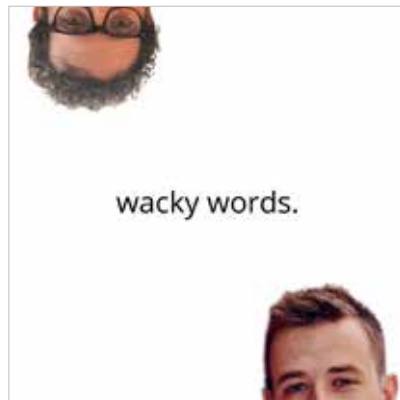
### SUNDAY MORNING SMALL GROUPS, 10 AM



Get to know Pastoral Resident Rachel Fitch, and delve into a fresh and relevant way to interpret scripture from the book *a Lens of Love* by Jonathan Walton, dean of the Wake Forest School of Divinity. The focus of the book, and the class, is reading Scripture through the lens of those who are vulnerable and oppressed. Reading the book is optional. Sundays, October 24 - November 14, in the Solarium.



Join Kevin Murray & Matt Logan for a different take on Scripture. Sundays, November 28-December 19 in the Solarium.



**REMINDER: Masks are required indoors. Food and beverages may only be consumed outdoors. Situations with classes and small groups may change; the latest information will be posted at [fpcgreensboro.org/digital-formation](http://fpcgreensboro.org/digital-formation).**

### YMBC, Redhead Hall

Contact John Sullivan, [jon554sull@aol.com](mailto:jon554sull@aol.com)

Through November: Series on 2 Corinthians led by Professor Sandie Gravett. Paul's words about affliction, humility, forgiveness, boldness, generosity, and all the things that comprise a Christian life, make 2 Corinthians the perfect study for our time. His message expresses clearly who we need to be as the people of God and may offer a few surprises along the way. Series will be on video, watch in Redhead Hall or at home.

December 5 & 12: Guest speaker John Willet  
December 19, Christmas carols with Lane Ridenhour

**AGAPE:** Meeting in Garden Room to watch video or watch from home.

**COMMITMENT:** Blair Hagan Room, Memorial 100. Attending *Lens of Love* class in October & November. Led by members. Contact Betsy Harrington, [betsyharrington@triad.rr.com](mailto:betsyharrington@triad.rr.com).

**FAITH BUILDERS:** Myers Loyalty Room, Smith 242. Discussing the Fruits of the Spirit, continuing the theme of Jill Duffield's fall sermon series. Led by class members.

**SEEKERS:** Parables of Jesus. Main 125, with conference call option. Contact Gerard Davidson, [gdavidson@wardblacklaw.com](mailto:g davidson@wardblacklaw.com)

## WEEKLY SMALL GROUPS

**MONDAYS: LECTIO DIVINA AND CENTERING PRAYER**, led by Rev. David Partington, 11 am-noon on Zoom. Selected Scripture readings are chosen and distributed to participants, via email, prior to each weekly gathering. Contact David Partington, dcpsbw197@gmail.com.

### TUESDAYS:

– **PEACEHAVEN FARM SMALL GROUP**, 6:30-7:30 pm on Zoom. Contact Donna Chase, dchase@fpcgreensboro.org.

– **STUDY OF REVELATION**, biweekly on Zoom, 5:30 - 6:30 pm. Contact Doug Key, doug@dougkeyartist.com or Walt Howell, walthowell1@gmail.com. Book available here

**WEDNESDAYS: MEN'S LECTIONARY**, 7:30-8:30 am on Zoom. Contact Jack Harrington, jackharrington44@gmail.com.

**THURSDAYS: WONDERING THROUGH THE BIBLE:** 7:30-8:30 pm, Sanctuary steps (bring your chair) or Myers Loyalty Room, Smith 242, if inclement weather. Contact Matt Logan, mlogan@fpcgreensboro.org.

**GRACE ON FRIDAYS:** 9:15-10:30 am, Garden Room. Study of Psalms led by Lisa Witherspoon, lwitherspoon@fpcgreensboro.org.

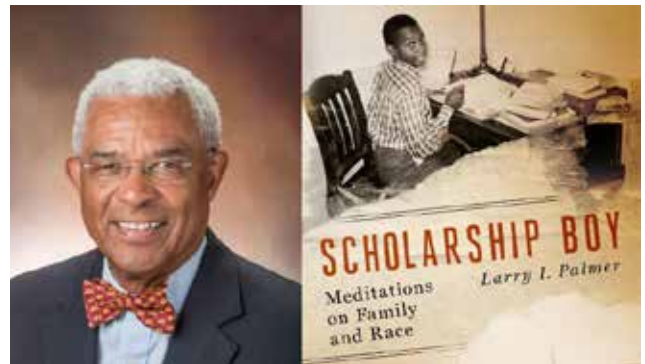
## MONTHLY SMALL GROUPS

**SHEROES OF THE NEW TESTAMENT**, women's bible study. October 11: Video posted, Donna Chase on the Canaanite Woman. Discussion October 18 at 2 pm online. November 8, Lisa Witherspoon on Lydia. Discussion November 15 online. Contact Yolanda Baxter, ybaxter@fpcgreensboro.org, for links.

**HEARTS AND MINDS** women's group, October 18 and November 15 at 10 am on Zoom. Led by Betty Jo Forney. Studying *What My Grandmother Taught Me: Learning from the Women in Matthew's Genealogy of Jesus*.

**MARY AND MARTHA** women's group, November 8, 10:30 am, Blair Hagan Room, led by BJ Williams. Studying *What My Grandmother Taught Me*.

**SALLIE HUSS** women's group, 10:30 am, Myers Loyalty Room. Led by Gail Derkasch. Studying *What My Grandmother Taught Me*.



## From St. Louis to Exeter, Harvard, Yale & Cornell

In 1958, 14-year-old Larry Palmer left his parents and nine siblings in St. Louis and boarded a train to attend Phillips Exeter Academy. He went on to earn a BA from Harvard and a law degree from Yale, and served as vice provost and on the law faculty at Cornell.

In *Scholarship Boy* Palmer reflects on his experiences as a young black boy growing up far from home, learning to fit into a white world without becoming estranged from his closely-knit family. He joins us to speak about his book and life and share about racial justice work at his home church, Second Presbyterian in Richmond, Va. Learn more at [larryipalmer.com](http://larryipalmer.com).

### Monday, November 8, at 7 pm

Presentation followed by book signing, in Garden Room and available on Zoom (for link contact Yolanda Baxter, [ybaxter@fpcgreensboro.org](mailto:ybaxter@fpcgreensboro.org)).

### Tuesday, November 9, at 1:30 pm

Join Currie Library book club gathering in the Garden Room, also on Zoom (for link contact Yolanda Baxter, [ybaxter@fpcgreensboro.org](mailto:ybaxter@fpcgreensboro.org)).



Each Friday watch Jill's one-minute video. Available on the church's Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube accounts.

## children

### CHILDRENS SABBATH, OCTOBER 17

*Details on page 2*

#### WHERE DOES IT HURT? LISTENING TO HEAL OUR CHILDREN:

What do trauma/anxiety/stress look like in children who have little language for expressing their feelings? What should parents look for? How do WE help? When do we seek professional help? Member Maddy Lowman leads a presentation for elementary & preschool parents. October 20, 9:15-10:30 am, Redhead Hall. Contact Lisa Witherspoon, [lwitherspoon@fpcgreensboro.org](mailto:lwitherspoon@fpcgreensboro.org). Also offered October 17, *Children's Sabbath*.

**KIDS CLUBS**, November 7 and December 5, 4:30-5:30 pm. Mixed-grade K- clubs, choose Yoga Club or Lego Club; Preschool Club for ages 3-4. Each gathering incorporates a Bible story, scripture, or spiritual practice. Parents invited to connect in the Welcome Center during clubs. Register with Lisa Witherspoon, [lwitherspoon@fpcgreensboro.org](mailto:lwitherspoon@fpcgreensboro.org).

**WELCOME TO THE LORD'S TABLE SERVICE** for the Communion milestone class, November 10, 6:30-8 pm, Sanctuary.



Gather at the back of the Life Center (with an adult) at 10 am. Wear your favorite costume – special prize if it includes plaid (it's Reformation Sunday too) or a Bible character! We will walk around the church for treats, then head to the playground for doughnuts & apple cider. (Rain plan: movie in the theater room.) Costumes are welcome in worship before or after!

## youth

### GRADES 6-8 COED SMALL

**GROUP:** Breakfast & Devo, October 20, 7-8:15 am, Chick-fil-a at Pisgah Church Road.

### ALL-YOUTH PARKING DECK FALL

**GATHERING:** October 23, 7-8:30 pm. Games, devotion, and s'mores at the firepits on the parking deck.

### GRADES 11-12 COED SMALL

**GROUP:** Corner Slice with Kevin & Rachel, October 24 at noon.

### CHRISTMAS EVE YOUTH SERVICE PLANNING

with Jill Duffield. October 24, 5:30-7 pm, Memorial 300.

### GRADE 10 GIRLS SMALL GROUP:

October 24, 7-8:30 pm

### GRADES 9-10 -BOYS SMALL

**GROUP:** Breakfast & Devo, October 27, 7:15-8:15 am, Chick-fil-a at Pisgah Church Road.

**CONFIRMATION SUNDAY** for class of 2021, November 14.

## pastoral care

We are glad to share that our support groups are returning from their COVID hiatus. Our intent is to surround you with spiritual support, hope, and presence. Please let me know if you are interested in joining us or if you have questions: [dmcleroy@fpcgreensboro.org](mailto:dmcleroy@fpcgreensboro.org), 336-478-4739 or 336-279-5441.

In the hope and promise of Easter,

*Doug McLeroy, Parish Associate for Pastoral Care, and Maggie Turner, Volunteer Parish Nurse*

**SPIRITUS – A CAREGIVERS' SUPPORT GROUP:** FPC has many members who care for a loved one experiencing illness, disability, or mental health issues. No matter your age or stage of life, caregivers have the same concerns and challenges in the midst of your selfless care for another, and you still need time to care for your own spiritual life. Wednesdays, November 17, December 15, and January 12, at 2 pm in the Virginia Gilmer Room.

**LAMENTATIONS:** As Presbyterians, we affirm that "Christians do not bear bereavement in isolation but are sustained by the power of the Spirit and the community of faith. The church offers a ministry of love and hope to all who grieve" (The Book of Order of the Presbyterian Church USA). Within the past year, you and your family have experienced the death of a loved one. Our pastoral staff is keenly aware that while the world has gone back to its somewhat "normal routine," life has been forever altered for you. We would like to invite you to attend our bereavement care group. Wednesdays, November 17, December 15, and January 12, at 10 am in the Virginia Gilmer Room.

**VETERANS' FELLOWSHIP:** All veterans and their spouses plus widows/widowers of those who served are invited to gather on Veterans Day. After going through the serving line please come to the private dining room. Call Doug if you have questions. November 11 at noon, J&S Cafeteria at 5835 Samet Drive, High Point, (336) 841-8192.

love by the numbers



**21,000+** pounds of canned food delivered to **Greensboro Urban Ministry's food pantry!** The Wednesday Food Drive-by teams

needs more folks to greet for two hours (especially 10 am -noon), and it's a beautiful time of year to sit outside! Link at [fpcgreensboro.org/signup](http://fpcgreensboro.org/signup).

**25** homebound senior households receiving food & love from FPC's **Meals on Wheels** teams, on third Wednesdays & fifth Mondays. Share your smile for a couple of hours each month, training provided. Contact Linda Allen, 336-549-3367 or [lkwallen70@gmail.com](mailto:lkwallen70@gmail.com).



**1,900** pounds of produce donated to local ministries from the **Giving Back Garden**, with the fall crop going into the ground soon!



**170** hungry neighbors picking up take-our meals from **Hot Dish & Hope** on Tuesdays & Thursdays, with numbers trending up.

**PEACEHAVEN FARM HARVEST CELEBRATION**, October 24, 3-5 pm: Live music from JDC, the Peacehaven Band, an apple cider press, fun and games & more! CDC guidelines will be followed.

**Help welcome Afghan families!** Greensboro will soon welcome new residents from Afghanistan. Through Church World Services, FPC is forming a refugee resettlement team (maybe more than one) of 8-10 people. Teams help with all aspects of making Greensboro home, including finding a rental property, providing basic furnishings & supplies, outfitting the kitchen, and helping find a job and possibly a vehicle. Team members may help find English classes, practice job interview skills, help register children for school, navigate shops, and generally learn skills to meet their family's needs. The team will disband in 4-6 months, once the family is settled. If you're interested in being on a team, contact Tamara Slaughter, [tamaravs@me.com](mailto:tamaravs@me.com) or 336-456-8022.

**FILL THE WAGON** 

*In addition to canned food for Urban Ministry, these items are being collected now. Leave in red wagons in the Welcome Center, Mullin Life Center & Tower Room, or at the Wednesday Food Drive-by.*

**DIAPERS:** Children's Outreach is collecting diapers for the Greater Triad Diaper Bank, especially sizes 4 & 5, size 4T & 5T pullups, and baby wipes. Through October 17, when grades K-5 will deliver donations.

**BIBLES:** Member Dan Kerns is collecting Bibles for the chaplain's office at the county jail. Beginning October 24, youth elder Howell Pierce will collect items for the Ronald McDonald House Charities in the Piedmont Triad.

**HOUSE STUFF:** Youth elder Howell Pierce is collecting donations for the regional Ronald McDonald House charities, including a new Family Room at Cone Hospital. Especially needed are: Clorox wipes; toilet bowl cleaner; Dawn dish soap; 13-gallon trash bags; paper towels; Ziploc bags; single-serve snacks, breakfast items, meals, and fruits; microwaveable paper bowls and plates; cream and powdered creamer; premie and newborn diapers, onesies, and outfits; teen & Adult BINGO prizes/gifts (DVDs, playing cards, sports trivia books, baseball hats, umbrellas, small tool kits or tools, older child craft projects, older child/adult puzzles, travel games); and gift cards for gas.

Even John's feet don't stop moving. In addition to the bass pedals and the volume controlled by his feet, there are knobs to be nudged with the toes. And his feet are shod with special organist shoes! They have leather heels and soles covered with an almost velvety fabric that allows the foot to glide over pedals during quick phrases but not slip off during extended notes. During one intricate, pedal-heavy song years ago, John had the unhappy surprise of a shoelace coming untied. Since then, you might glimpse "SHOELACES!" penciled onto his sheet music as a reminder to double knot. Performing is a full body endeavor. Every song must be choreographed with eyes, hands, fingers, legs, heels and toes. It can be so engrossing that John also pencils in "BREATHE!" as a reminder on especially complicated passages.

With the endless number of tonal combinations our organs can produce, an important part of John's responsibility is tuning the sound to be appropriate for each piece he plays. Sometimes this is outlined in detail by the composer; some music, especially older works, don't have this direction. John, in these cases, researches when and where the composer played, as different countries in different time periods had very distinctive sounds. John explains that many organs are perfectly suited to play a particular type of piece but don't have the versatility to play everything. Our organs, on the other hand, have limitless variety. The difficulty is finding the sound that matches the piece. This often requires extensive research on John's part, going to resources he trusts such as organists who specialize in that composer. The fact that he's listened to and played instruments from different time periods across the UK, France, Germany and Italy gives him an impressive foundation from which to start any investigation.

The original mission of the fund raising included outreach, and that continues today. For example, Opus 73 & 74 have accommodated organists from The Vatican, the Mormon Tabernacle, and The Cathedral and Metropolitan Church of Saint Peter in York, UK (also known as York Minster). FPC has hosted Music for a Great Space performances and a conference of the American Guild of Organists. Bel Canto has an

## A CHURCH ORGAN QUIZ

1. A good pair of organ shoes should last  
a. 1-2 years b. 10 years c. a lifetime
2. Orgues Létourneau is located where?  
a. Montréal  
b. Sault St. Marie  
c. Saint-Hyacinthe
3. The very first organ installed at FPC on Church Street in 1849 cost how much?  
a. \$357.00 b. \$1,000 c. \$2,600
4. The Létourneau organs comprise how many sets of pipes? What's the total number?  
a. 250 sets, totaling 750  
b. 78 sets totaling 780  
c. 123 sets totaling 6,800+
5. Which is NOT the name of a stop on our organ?  
a. Tuba mirabilis  
b. voil celeste  
c. trompette en chamade  
d. stopped diapason



### QUIZ KEY

1. a, 1-2 years
2. c, Saint-Hyacinthe
3. b, \$1,000
4. c, 123 totaling 6,800+
5. Trick question! All are correct.

upcoming performance featuring John playing Messe 'Salve Regina' by Yves Castagnet.

Castagnet is one of the current organists at Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris. The reason this piece is especially significant is that it's specifically written for choir and 2 organs. This limits the spaces in which this piece can be performed, but makes it perfect for Opus 73 & 74 and our acoustically astounding sanctuary.

Over the past 20 years, it's hard to imagine the number of people who have been uplifted by the music of our organs. To those families that donated two decades ago, to the Task Force that selected Orgues Létourneau and oversaw the installation, to the craftsmen who built and voiced the organ, to the many church members who hosted and helped, to the talented organists who have made the instruments sing, and to Dr. Curtis Lashley who had the vision, thank you. To our beautiful organs, happy birthday!

*With grateful appreciation to Terry Lashley, Lane Ridenhour, Patrick Murphy, Pam Murphy, and John Alexander for assistance with this article.*

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#### THANK YOU

to this issue's contributors:

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LOOK FOR THE ADVENT  
PREVIEW IN MID-NOVEMBER



Our member Dot Sowerby lives with Spasmodic Dysphonia, a debilitating voice disorder. This excerpt is from her newly updated book, *Speechless No More*. It is available to borrow or purchase in Currie Library (\$15, all proceeds to National Spasmodic Dysphonia Association, [dysphonia.org](http://dysphonia.org)).

## Safe in God's hand

*Journal entry for February 8, 2008:* Today on the one-hour drive home after my Botox injection for my voice, I listened to classical music on NPR, Beethoven's swelling violins lifting me up on the crest of a wave of hope and gratitude for the beauty of this life. Whatever hardships there may be, I feel that I am being held safe in God's hand, from whence comes my strength.

As I look back over the years of struggle with my voice, I think I have developed a broader understanding of what it means to live with Spasmodic Dysphonia. I now see that everybody faces challenges of one kind or another, and it is extremely satisfying to feel you have lived well in spite of the setbacks. Nothing is better for the spirit than to feel you are helping others. And, no matter what your age, there are races to be won, ships to sail, new friends to meet, and ways to make a positive contribution to your community. Remember you are never too old and don't EVER give up!