

first notes

summer 2023 at first presbyterian • fpcgreensboro.org

"The young man offered a short,
but heartfelt prayer"

"I was humbled"

"They each came up, taking
a stone from a bowl of water"

"He suggested simple things"



Moments from the year's ministry

Meet Matt Bussell

Newton's next chapter

Summer reading

Save these dates!

Richardson Trust grants

Richardson Trust 2023 recipients

Grants this year total \$51,000. The trust was established by FPC member Lunsford Richardson more than a century ago. He intended that proceeds be used for "the benefit of Home and Foreign Missions and the benevolent causes of the church." Current trustees are Lisa Anderson, Alex Maultsby, Jim Hegner, Graham Farless and Carole Lesley.

FOREIGN MISSIONS



SISTER2SISTER

\$10,000 to support the daily operations of the Children's Home School in Ngong, Kenya, and to help this organization purchase a van. SISTERSINTERNATIONALWOMEN.ORG

HOME MISSIONS

WHEELS4HOPE

\$9,000 to help with their Car Blessing Program which can help provide 9 cars to those in need. WHEELS4HOPE.ORG

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF GREATER GREENSBORO

\$9,000 for Homeowner Services Program

The program helps families to be knowledgeable and successful homeowners.

THE BARNABAS NETWORK

\$8,000 to support their mission of helping turn houses into homes by providing furniture to those in need.

STEP UP GREENSBORO

\$5,000 to support the Jobs Readiness Training and Life Skills Program



PEACEHAVEN FARM

\$5,000 to help with the expansion of their Pole Barn and tool storage facility and to support this place for people of all abilities to learn and grow.

WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTER OF GREENSBORO

\$5,000 to support their Community Resource Services Program

PLAN YOUR LEGACY

Contact Jill Duffield about the *Paisley Heritage Fellowship* for members who are including the church in their estate planning.

The practice of looking up



JILL DUFFIELD
Senior Pastor

On a recent Saturday, just following a memorial service, a couple came into the sanctuary. They slipped quietly through the Greene Street door and took a few steps in before they both looked up. It is the posture of everyone who enters that space for the first time. This couple had been walking around the outside, admiring the architecture, when one of our members urged them to come inside and look around. They commented on how beautiful our sanctuary is, inside and out. As they did, they kept their eyes heavenward. It is impossible not to do so in such a grand space, but I still delight every time I witness the response.

A few weeks ago, I showed our sanctuary two days in a row to people who'd never experienced it before. One uttered, "Wow!" The other simply walked slowly around, head tilted backwards. It is impossible not to look up given the scale, the colors, the windows, the lights, the details on the ceiling. I always feel enveloped by the majesty and presence of God no matter how many times I enter it, simultaneously awed and comforted.

My hope and prayer is to remember that feeling and to practice the posture of looking up, not just in places obviously awash in the holy, but everywhere I go. It is so easy to look down, at my phone or at the two feet in front of me, but when I do I miss out on so much. The faces of those around me. The ever-shifting clouds above me. The colors blooming in all directions. Maybe even Jesus going before me.

I am trying to remember Psalm 121, "I lift up my eyes to the hills—from where will my help come? My help comes from the Lord who made heaven and earth." I too easily forget this when I don't remember to look up, to look out, anticipating everywhere I see to be awash in divine majesty and presence. As the poet Gerard Manley Hopkins wrote, "The world is charged with the grandeur of God." But I know I often fail to notice. Sometimes, though, it all but grabs me by the collar and shakes me.

Sitting outside with my dad on a glorious April afternoon, both of us quiet, enjoying the warmth of the sun, I kept hearing lots of chirping, but didn't notice any birds, until I happened to look up at just the right time. About twelve feet in front of us, on top of one of the columns of the covered walkway, a yellow wren swooped down to feed a nest full of chicks. I could see their little beaks opening and shutting wildly, the mother bird tending to each in turn. I pointed and said to my father, "Dad, look up!" Always a bird lover, he grinned ear to ear, and in that moment the world was electric.

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

➤ WORSHIP



Reaffirming baptism

As the confirmands gathered for their year-end retreat, Donna had us take a moment to sit in the balcony of the sanctuary.

We sat taking it all in: the beauty, the history, and the awe of this space in which we worship God each week. The confirmands had shared their faith statements with each other earlier in the morning, claiming what they believe. As we closed in a little worship service in the chapel, we stood in a circle, reaffirming our Baptismal vows. While, for many of us, these vows were taken as we were infants, it was beautiful to see and hear as each young person reaffirmed what they believe and reaffirmed the ways they have been called and claimed by Christ in Baptism. They each came up, taking a stone from a bowl of water as a tangible reminder of Christ's love for them. It was beautiful to see this class grow and learn together and to see the ways the Spirit was at work in and through the mentors as they journeyed with this group of young people. I am excited to continue to see how the Spirit shapes and molds our young people in each step of their faith journey.

– RACHEL FITCH, Pastoral Resident

ministry
moments



WORSHIP IN JULY, one service at 10 am in the sanctuary with different musical styles. We will also hear updates from some of our Outreach ministries.

SAVE THE DATE

SUNDAY, AUGUST 27

Our newest class of elders will be ordained and installed in a beautiful service with the laying on of hands. One combined service, 11 am in the sanctuary.

➤ MUSIC

The message in the musical

It is been a delightful experience to work with our children's choirs on our spring musical, Life of the Party. It's wonderful to give the

ministry moments

children and youth the opportunity to express themselves through song and drama, and to showcase their talents. But the best part of the musical for me is knowing that as these young singers sing the truths in God's word, these words and concepts are becoming a part of them. These words will remain in them and be there for them as they grow, to help them in many different situations. To quote just one of these truths from my favorite song from the musical, "Only one thing we need, only one thing we must do, only one thing we need, Lord: to trust in you."

– ANNE ALBERT, Director of Worship

SAVE THE DATE

**WEDNESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 6**

Chancel Choir rehearsals start for the church program year. 7:15-8:30 pm Wednesdays in Smith 301. The choir is directed by Dr. Robert Wells.



SUMMER CHOIR runs June 4-25, and then again August 6 through September 3. All singers welcome – it's a great time to see what choir life is like! Meet in the sanctuary at 10 am for rehearsal, then sing in the 11 am service.

WORSHIP IN JULY, one service at 10 am in the sanctuary. Organ, trumpet, bluegrass, and Rejoice! music will all be represented during this month.

A conversation with

Matt Bussell

Between wrapping up his duties as pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Jonesboro, Ark., and preparing to move his family to Greensboro, Matt Bussell is a busy man! He was kind to take time from his full day to respond to a few questions that will help us get to know him better before he undertakes his new duties as Associate Pastor for Outreach and Mission at our church.

**BY TAMARA
SLAUGHTER**

FPC MEMBER

What has prepared you for your new position at FPC?

I've been involved with mission work at the congregational level and as a board member of the Presbyterian Mission Agency. At my current church, we've worked with other churches in partnership to do good in the community. In school, my focus was on theology and ethics (Matt's education includes Columbia Theological Seminary in Atlanta, Duke Divinity School, and a PhD from Claremont Graduate University in California). Since entering ministry, I find myself putting into practice what I learned in seminary.

What do you enjoy most about working in outreach?

I most enjoy the partnerships, getting to know people I otherwise wouldn't know. It's fulfilling to see how God is working in small and unexpected ways.

What are you looking forward to?

I'm looking forward to being part of a staff, part of a team that does ministry together. I also look forward to getting to know the congregation and the community, learning their needs and working with the congregation to figure out how to meet those needs.

What fears do you have?

Well, First Presbyterian Church in Greensboro is a lot

continues, next page



Matt with wife Rebekah and daughter Meier

MEET & GREET

Matt joins us on Sunday, June 11. Come to the Welcome Center & solarium between the worship services to meet him. (Wear your nametag!)

bigger than First Presbyterian Church in Jonesboro, whose current membership is 131. I fear that I won't get to know all of FPC's members as well as I would like.

What to you see as your greatest challenge?

The biggest challenge will be figuring out and learning how the church operates. It takes time to get acclimated and learn systems, personalities, and how things get done at FPC and in the larger community.

Do you have a personal mission statement or goal for Outreach at FPC?

One of my philosophies is to not make assumptions going in. I hope to patiently learn about the community and needs before making any plans.

LEARN MORE

Go to FPCGREENSBORO.ORG/OUTREACHPASTOR or point your phone camera at the QR Code.



How can the congregation be helpful to you?

The most helpful thing at the start is to introduce yourselves – multiple times! As I get to know people, I will be looking for help making connections. I look forward to getting to know church members individually and ask that they help me connect with more members and with others in the community.

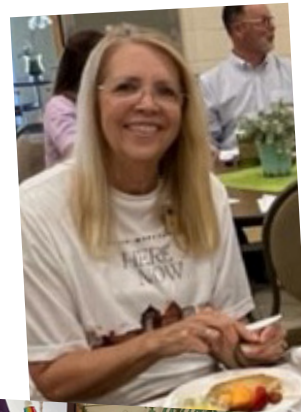
What would we not suspect about you just by your appearance?

I'm 6'7" tall and I don't play basketball. I was attending Duke Divinity School when Duke won the national basketball championship. People were asking for my autograph thinking I was a player. And no, I didn't sign any!

What brought you to the South?

After growing up and attending college in Michigan, I decided to try a different perspective and attended graduate school in Atlanta. I met Rebekah (now my wife) there. Her parents are in Stokesdale, so she grew up in the South. We married, then went to California for me to attend another graduate school. That's when we realized that the South was the place for us. We're keen to stay in the South, and it's a blessing now to move near family. Our daughter, Meier, is 9 years old and is sad to be leaving her friends but excited to be close to grandparents. I'm hearing that Greensboro is a friendly place, so we feel this is the right spot for our family.

Thank Deborah for her service as our interim associate pastor on Sunday, June 4, at 10 am in the Welcome Center.



➤ OUTREACH



Hearts sang and boxes were filled during Neil's Meals! Hunger ministries continue this summer – you can donate food, help with the Wednesday Food Drive-by and Hot Dish & Hope, and deliver Meals on Wheels (for info point your camera phone at QR Code).



Sharing a meal and a dance at Hot Dish

ministry moments

During Lent, the staff provided a brief devotion at Hot Dish & Hope with music on Thursday evenings for our guests. One week,

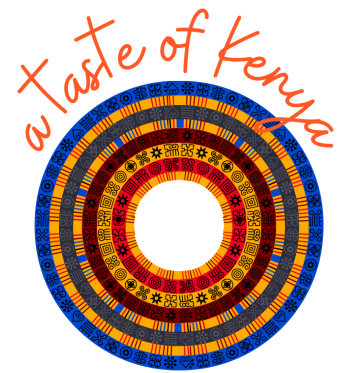
prior to the devotion time, a regular whose name is Maleek asked if he could present a liturgical dance to the praise song "Take Me to the King." We were all invited to sing along as he offered an interpretation of the music. When he finished, he spoke to his homeless community and offered his vision of things they could do together to improve their lives. He suggested simple things. More importantly, the love he had for his homeless siblings shone through.

Our unhoused neighbors all have a story. Many have hopes and dreams that have been squashed by the grinding reality of living on the streets. Some of our guests have shelter, some not. All are hungry and welcome to share a meal, sing a song, and be reminded that this church loves them and accepts them.

Of course, we want to connect them with resources that might get them off the street, some are able to use these resources, but some are unable because of illness and addiction. Regardless, we will continue to be a church that cares about our hungry neighbors as we try to live out Jesus' mandate to love others the way he loves us.

– DEBORAH CONNER, Interim Associate Pastor for Outreach

SAVE THE DATE



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

Purity Ruchugo, founder of Sister2Sister International Outreach Ministry, will bring Kenyan cuisine to Mullin



Life Center! Our youth have visited the children's home in Kenya that the organization operates, and the L. Richardson Trust also supports this ministry.



Here to stay!

Newton Cowan will move from a transitional role to Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care

For many at First Presbyterian, Newton Cowan's life has been an open book. You watched him grow up as his mother, Gloria, first brought him to church. Or saw him grow in faith under the guidance of Joe Mullin and many other pastors and Sunday school teachers of his youth. Or dodged him roller skating in Redhead Hall. As he says, "If it takes a village ... well, FPC is the perfect village."

Later upon his return to FPC as a fully trained transitional pastor, he served with our beloved Dolly Jacobs and tries to carry on the spirit of her ministry. He feels humbled to lead us and thus honor her work.

You may think you know all about this open book but there is a chapter you may not know. It is no secret that he is devoted to his spirited and supportive wife, Carrie, and their two wonderful daughters. We know he loves to hike and be outside. And he treasures his group of friends outside the church who keep him humble. But there is something about Newton that few know: At one time he considered running for mayor of Greensboro. Not a far stretch as his grandfather was on the City Council.

Throughout his life, Newton credits this church, then as now, full of caring, committed people. He feels close to God especially when he is out among people, both within the church but particularly in ministry at hospital bedsides where he felt he was on holy ground. "God is there if we open ourselves to the experience."

When describing the challenges he sees ahead for Pastoral Care, he sees that pastoral care has no bounds: not age, nor any other marker. At some point any of us can feel isolation, the challenges of life, physical or mental health issues, strains of young families, worries about where to find help. But our church is

continues, back page

BY JEAN
PINCKARD
FPC MEMBER



Speaking at a Fork & Faith luncheon, top, and hauling out pizza boxes after a youth dinner, above.

➤ PASTORAL CARE



ministry moments

A wild ride

I love being a pastor at First Presbyterian Church! I am privileged to pastor 80, 90 and 100+ year olds. Trust me. They keep me young as they share their wisdom and help me to be grateful and laugh often. Take, for instance, 97-year-old Katy. For her 95th birthday in 2020, she asked her adult children for a rowing machine. At first, Katy was rowing every day but that began to hurt her knees. Now she only rows every other day! For her 96th birthday in 2021, Katy asked her grandson to find a friend and take her on a 30-minute motorcycle ride. She told the young man, "And lay it down on the curves!" For Christmas that year, her adult children gave her a Harley Davidson leather jacket. Recently I asked, "So Katy, what did you do for your 97th birthday?" She said, "I mentioned to a few friends that I would love to fly in a small plane over Greensboro for 30 minutes or so to get a bird's eye view." Katy moved to Greensboro in 1948 and she figured it has changed some since then. A friend knew someone who flew a Piper Glen Cub Plane (Katy said that it was so tiny, she bet 4 men could pick that thing up) who agreed to give her a whirl. When she got to the airport, two television stations were there to video. The video was picked up as far as Sacramento and CNN and had over 2 million hits. I am so blessed. I get paid to love people like Katy!

– MARIA HANLIN, Pastoral Care



PLANNING YOUR 4TH QUARTER: *June 7*, Planning Your Funeral & Writing Your Obituary, led by Al Lineberry & Newton Cowan. RSVP by noon June 2. *June 21*, Unfinished Family Business, RSVP by noon June 16. Both at 5 pm, Garden Room. RSVP to Debby Foster, DFOSTER@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG or 336-478-4702.

FORK & FAITH LUNCHEON, monthly gathering for women. June 21 and July 19, noon in Mullin Life Center. RSVP by June 16 / July 14 to Martha Holt, martha.holt@att.net or 336-908-7745.

VETERANS PICNIC, July 26, 11:30 am – 2 pm at the Carolina Field of Honor in Kernersville. Veterans, spouses, and widows of veterans invited. Please RSVP by July 15 to Debby Foster, DFOSTER@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG or 336-478-4702.

ADULTS

SAVE THE DATE

WHY THIS MATTERS



matthew 25 conversations

How Did it Come About and
Why Does It Matter Now?

August 6

Congregational Vitality

August 13

Eradicating Systemic Poverty

August 20

Deconstructing
Institutional Racism

August 27

WOMEN'S OVERNIGHT! RETREAT

Back by popular demand, the FPC Women's Overnight

Retreat is returning! Join us for faith, fellowship and fun January 27 & 28 at Grandover Resort. Registration will open this fall, so for now just mark your calendar and spread the word. More details coming soon, including our fabulous featured speaker, additional activities we'll have available, and information about registration. You won't want to miss this! Questions? Contact Nancy Abrams (336.314.2694 or ABRAMSNE@AOL.COM) or Julie Wade (336-580-6117 or HWADE1805@GMAIL.COM).

Holy committees

I'm one of those slightly crazy staff members who actually likes committee work and often feel energized by the faithfulness, imagination, and love I see as God's people gather to create, plan and implement the mission of the church. Several times this year I have left meetings with an extra sense of the movement of the Holy Spirit as a team prayerfully discerned the way forward and used their spiritual gifts to carry out the vision. One such meeting happened with the planning team for the women's retreat held this past January. Members had thoughtfully and prayerfully met, discussed and pondered themes and scriptures with the retreat leader. We asked the Spirit to reveal where we might best head for this particular year and group of women. As the Zoom session was drawing to an end we commented on how we had observed God working in and through the process. The Spirit revealed not only our scripture passage and theme but also music and art to complement how we might each be led to Wake Up to God's Presence like Jacob and others throughout scripture had done. May more of your committees and gatherings here at FPC cause you to leave by saying, surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

– DONNA CHASE, Director of Spiritual Formation



ministry
moments



9 QUESTIONS JESUS ASKS US: Explore questions Jesus raises in the Gospel of Luke and how his questions challenged the status quo of the religious community then and now. Led by Sandie Gravett,

Sundays in June at 10 am and in July at 9 am in Redhead Hall. **GOSPEL OF JOHN** in M125, 10 am Sundays in June & August and 9 am in July.

NEW – FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE couple's gathering, June 2, July 7, August 4, 7-8:30 pm at home of Kate & Tom Gillespie. New group starting, plans to meet monthly. Contact Yolanda Baxter, YBAXTER@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG.

PEACEHAVEN FARM GARDEN WORKDAY, July 8, 9-11:30 am. Sign up: YBAXTER@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG.

YOUTH



Keep our youth in prayer as they travel this summer: CROSS Missions in Charlotte, June 18-23; Middle School Montreat Conference, July 19-23; High School Montreat Conference, July 23-29.

GREAT WOLF LODGE TRIP. As our rising 6th-graders leave elementary



grades and head into FPC youth programming, they are invited to join us for a daytrip to Great Wolf Lodge on August 9. We will visit the water park, have dinner and enjoy laser tag. This trip is meant to be fun, strengthen relationships, and talk about what to expect in youth group. Register by June 30; the QR Code will take you to the form.

Being seen and loved

Attendance at Sunday night youth group this year often included a large group of middle school boys that were, well, middle school boys! They had lots of energy and were sometimes a bit unpredictable. One evening, as we were closing our time together, I asked for prayer requests and, then, asked if anyone would volunteer to say the prayer. One of the boys quickly offered to pray with a giggle. I was hesitant. "Are you sure," I asked. "Can you be serious?" "Yes ma'am. I promise I will," he replied. So, I gave him the green light and held my breath a little as we stood in a circle holding hands, youth and adults. The young man offered a short, but heartfelt prayer, thanking God for the food we had eaten, the Fist Pres church community, and remembering to lift up each one of the prayer requests other kids had made – the ones I wasn't even sure he had paid attention to. I was reminded that young people are always paying attention, even when it seems they aren't. My prayer is that all young people feel seen, respected, and trusted, knowing that they are welcomed and loved.

ministry moments

– LISA WITHERSPOON

SAVE THE DATE

SUNDAY, AUGUST 20

Parent Meeting

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

Fall kickoff

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28

Confirmation kickoff

➤ CHILDREN



Thoughtful prayers

Each month a group of third-through fifth-graders gathers for Kids Disciple

ministry moments

Club on a Sunday afternoon. KDC includes a service project, a bible study, and some fun! In March the kids made notes for staff that said, "Kids Disciple Club prayed for you today!" and included pretzels and a Hershey kiss. We delivered the cards and goodies to each office door around the church for staff to find on Monday morning. We talked about the individuals who worked in those offices and the different jobs they do to keep the church running. The kids even left notes on office door white boards! As we were talking about how we should pray for staff members, the kids had four requests. "We should pray that they like their jobs, that they are happy, that they are healthy, and that they are safe." Simple prayers, but wise ones. May we all be happy, healthy, and safe!

– LISA WITHERSPOON, Director of Children's Formation



Pray for our third- through sixth-graders as they attend Passport Camp June 26-29.



YOUNG ADULT & YOUNG FAMILIES GATHERING, July 16 at 9 am on the playground. Come for breakfast treats and fellowship!

VBS & SUMMER KDC

August 1-4, 9 am-noon. Vacation Bible School for ages 3 thru rising second-graders and Kids Disciple Club for rising 3rd-through 5th-graders. Register: FPCGREENSBORO.ORG/SIGNUP.

BACKPACK & SCHOOL SUPPLY COLLECTION: Help fill 100 backpacks for immigrant families. Look for sign up in July.

SAVE THE DATE

**SUNDAY,
SEPTEMBER 10**

Fall kickoff

**SUNDAY,
OCTOBER 15**

Children's Sabbath

**SUNDAY,
OCTOBER 29**

Family Day
at Camp Weaver



summer reading ideas from staff



GOOD FOR THE SOUL

BECOMING FRIENDS OF TIME: DISABILITY, TIMEFULLNESS, AND GENTLE DISCIPLESHIP by John Swinton. Time is a gift of God to humans, but is also a gift given back to God by humans. The author is a Presbyterian pastor and founder of the Centre for Spirituality, Health and Disability at the University of Aberdeen in Scotland.

AN OCEAN OF LIGHT: CONTEMPLATION, TRANSFORMATION, AND LIBERATION by Martin Laird, Augustinian friar and Professor of Early Christian Studies at Villanova University. Learning the practice of contemplation from those who did it well.

ALL THAT SHE CARRIED: THE JOURNEY OF ASHLEY'S SACK, A BLACK FAMILY KEEPSAKE, a powerful story of love, survival and family by Harvard historian Tiya Miles. Winner of the National Book Award and many other prizes.

I WILL ALWAYS WRITE BACK: HOW ONE LETTER CHANGED TWO LIVES by Martin Ganda, Caitlin

Alifrenka and Liz Welch. For a class assignment, Caitlin wrote to an unknown student in a distant place. Martin was lucky to receive a pen-pal letter with only 10 available and 50 kids in his class. But he was the top student, so he got the first one. That letter was the beginning of a correspondence that spanned six years and changed two lives.

FINDING ME by Viola Davis. A beautiful autobiography of the actress and her challenging and faith-filled journey to success.

ATLAS OF THE HEART: MAPPING MEANINGFUL CONNECTION AND THE LANGUAGE OF HUMAN EXPERIENCE by Brene Brown. Placing in context 87 of the emotions and experiences that define what it means to be human.

BLESSED YOUTH: BREAKING THE SILENCE ABOUT MENTAL ILLNESS WITH CHILDREN AND TEENS by UCC pastor Sarah Griffith Lund is a wonderful resource for parents of children and youth and all those who love and work alongside them.

GET READY FOR THE CURRIE BOOK CLUBS

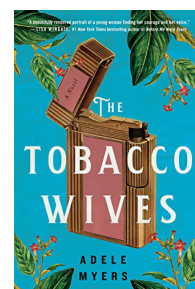
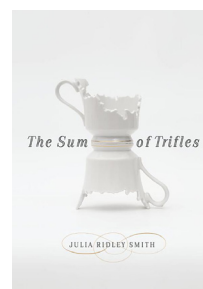
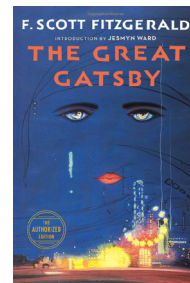
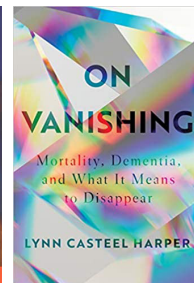
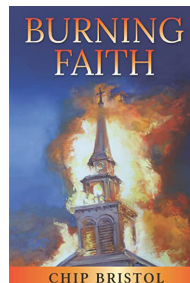
BURNING FAITH by member Chip Bristol. A novel about reimagining church life and prioritizing our mission!

THE TOBACCO WIVES by Adele Myers. In the mid-1940s, in a town reminiscent of Winston-Salem, the wives of tobacco execs and other women face a moral dilemma that could potentially destroy the town's cigarette economy.

THE GREAT GATSBY by F. Scott Fitzgerald. The classic Jazz-age novel by its premier chronicler.

ON VANISHING: MORTALITY, DEMENTIA AND WHAT IT MEANS TO DISAPPEAR by Lynn Casteel Harper. A Baptist minister explores our fear of dementia and what it might mean for us all to try to "vanish well."

THE SUM OF TRIFLES by Julia Ridley Smith. A memoir in essays on the meaning of objects her parents owned, and what to keep and what to let go.

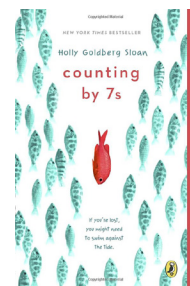
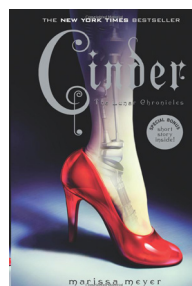


TEENS & YA

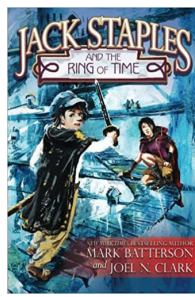
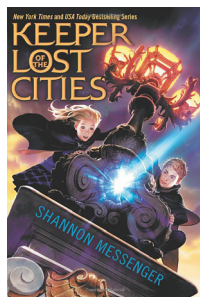
CINDER by Marissa Meyer. Cinderella as a cyborg! First in the bestselling Lunar Chronicles series.

COUNTING BY 7S by Holly Goldberg Sloan. A novel about being an outsider, coping with loss, and discovering the true meaning of family.

BETWEEN SHADES OF GRAY by Ruta Sepetys. Fifteen-year-old Lina is a Lithuanian girl living an ordinary life -- until Soviet officers invade her home and tear her family apart.



OLDER ELEMENTARY



KEEPER OF THE LOST CITIES series by Shannon Messenger. a telepathic girl must figure out why she is the key to her new world before the wrong person finds the answer first.

JACK STAPLES AND THE RING OF TIME, a series by Mark Batterson and Joel N. Clark (Anne Albert's brother-in-law!). Eleven-year-old Jack's ordinary life is upended when mysterious creatures attack his hometown and he is whisked into a fantastical adventure filled with danger at every turn.

First Presbyterian Church
617 N. Elm St.
Greensboro, NC 27401-2095
www.fpcgreensboro.org
SUMMER 2022

Non-Profit Org.
US POSTAGE PAID
Greensboro, NC
PERMIT 95

THANK YOU to this issue's contributors:

Anne Albert, Donna Chase,
Deborah Conner, Jill Duffield,
Rachel Fitch, Maria Hanlin, Jean
Pinckard, Tamara Slaughter, and
Lisa Witherspoon

Look for the FALL PREVIEW in
August.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

617 N. Elm St.
Greensboro, NC 27401
336-373-0445

ON THE WEB

fpcgreensboro.org

SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook: [fpcgsnc](https://www.facebook.com/fpcgsnc)
YouTube: [fpcgreensboro](https://www.youtube.com/fpcgreensboro)
Instagram: [1stpresgso](https://www.instagram.com/1stpresgso)

NEWTON, continued

equipped and can be a resource to help you navigate.

Here is where we can help. Newton remarked that he, the staff and church members, can help only if they know about a situation. We are equipped, he says, "And you also are equipped to share the love of God and God's presence." He asks us to be sure you have someone's permission to share, but then, please contact him and his office. As he puts it, "I want the whole congregation to give yourself grace and be that presence."

Now a new chapter begins. Newton turns the page into his role as our Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care. When the announcement was made on May 7, the congregation rose in spontaneous applause, a standing ovation to a pastor we have also grown to respect and welcome into his new role. At first, he was outside waiting, unaware of the commotion, when Anne Albert called to him, "Come in. You should come in to hear this!"

"I was humbled," Newton says, "Humbled to think I was called for Pastoral Care at the church I grew up in."