



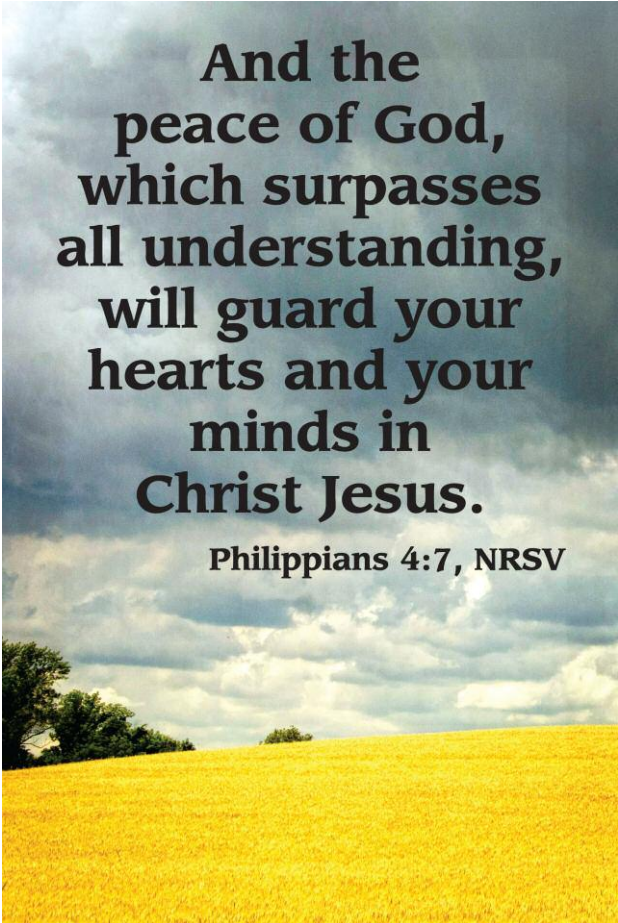
Network News

Beloved in the Lord,

One of the major topics we tackle in Interim Ministry Training is anxiety. Peter Steinke, a respected pastor and congregational consultant, talks about it this way:

All relationship systems become anxious. Put people together and inevitably anxiety will arise. Anxiety can be infectious. We can give it to others or catch it from them. What precisely triggers anxiety is unique to each system. Common activators are significant changes and losses. They upset the stable patterns and balance of the system. Equally as important as to what sets off anxiety is where it is focused. Anxiety is free-floating. But eventually it drains off and settles somewhere. Relationship systems have favorite ducts and crevices for the deposit of its flow. The most vulnerable or responsible people in the relationship network are the usual targets. Anxiety can be the ruin or the salvation of our relationships. [Steinke, Peter, *How your Church Family Works*: The Alban Institute, 2006, p.15]

One of the purposes of the Congregational Gatherings for our Mission Study is to identify any places in First Presbyterian's history where anxiety has settled and caused harm. Identifying the anxiety and the hurt is the first step towards healing. Together, in the months ahead, we will take more steps on this journey towards health, wholeness, and excitement for the future. God is, and will always be, with us on this journey. And along the way, we have the Apostle Paul's words of grace and wisdom to encourage us:



**And the
peace of God,
which surpasses
all understanding,
will guard your
hearts and your
minds in
Christ Jesus.**

Philippians 4:7, NRSV

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again:

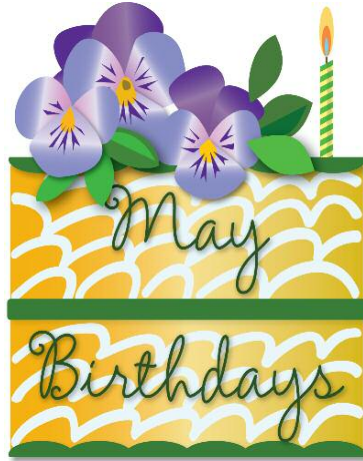
Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

– Philippians 4:4-7 [NIV]

As always, I remain
Yours and His,
Pastor Marie

Special Dates in May



- 1 Nelson Edmundson
- 4 Cathy Johnson
- 24 Benjamin Sheegog
- 27 Ed Hall
Walter Bateman
- 30 Elaine Miller
- 31 Doris Sewell

Please send birthday updates to Elaine Miller, selainemiller54@hotmail.com.

Mother's Day

Sunday, May 8, 2016



Monday, May 30, 2016

SUNDAY ASSISTANTS IN WORSHIP

Dates	Liturgists	Usher Leaders	Treasurer Assistants
1	Bobby Sheegog	Connie Kellum	Harry Woodard
8	Sue Lowery	Tony Amos	Opal Amos
15	Bill Carrier	Bobby Sheegog	Mary Ellen Andrews
22	Gary Danford	Connie Kellum	Tim Hunter
29	Opal Amos	Tim Hunter	David Dillingham

Sanctuary Flowers

If you would like to provide flowers for the Worship Service, please sign up on the sheet across from Pastor Marie's office, or call the Church office.

Network News of the First Presbyterian Church

400 Bayshore Boulevard, Jacksonville, NC 28540 • (910) 455-2434 • www.jacksonvillepresbyterian.com
Coastal Carolina Presbytery www.presbycc.org • Presbyterian Church (USA) www.pcusa.org

A monthly publication of First Presbyterian Church—its purpose is to inform members and friends of the meetings and programs of the church, to provide newsworthy articles, and to strengthen communications in our church family.

Please send articles and news to the editor.

JUNE 2016 Newsletter Submission DeadlineFRIDAY, MAY 20

Ministers	The People of the Church
Interim Pastor	The Reverend Marie Cone
Choir Director	Jeff Story
Organist.....	Sheila Miller
Pre-School Director.....	Melody Abshear
Church Secretary.....	Gloria Parker
Newsletter Editor.....	Lisa Colwell, (910) 937-0190, colwellster@gmail.com

Learn about the PC(USA)'s 222 General Assembly

The best place to start learning about this summer's PCUSA General Assembly is at this website oga.pcusa.org/section/ga/222nd-general-assembly-2016/.

From there you can get an overview or go to PC-BIZ to read the various reports and proposals or find/follow the Facebook page or Twitter feed of GA news.

The commissioners from our presbytery appreciate your prayers as they prepare by reading all this material.

The Assembly is June 17 to 25 in Portland, OR.



Church Women United Meeting/Lunch

Where: Antioch Presbyterian Church, 1770 Pony Farm Road

When: May 6, 2016, 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Cost: \$4.00

How: Contact Wanda Elliott by Weds., May 4 if you attending:
910-455-0538 • 910-265-1116 • welliott4@ec.rr.com

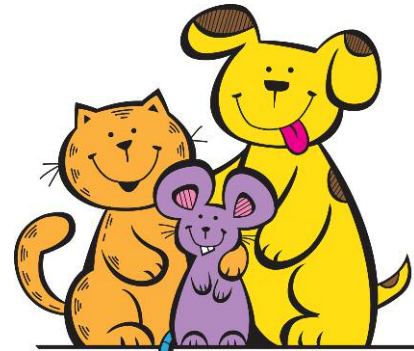
Blessing of the Animals

Saturday, May 7, 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

First Presbyterian Church

400 N Bayshore Blvd., Jacksonville, NC 28540

Bring your pets for a special time of blessing.
The service will be led by Pastor Marie.



You are cordially invited to a floating reception for Allen and Leah Amos on Saturday, June 4, 2016, 1:00-3:00 p.m. They are expecting their first child in August. Allen is the son of Tony and Opal Amos, and is a child of our church. He spent many Sundays sitting beside Sheila while she played the organ for worship. Allen currently works as Band Director at Lucas Middle School in Durham. He is also the Director of Music at New Hope Presbyterian Church in Chapel Hill. Leah's hometown is Yadkinville, NC. She has an extensive background in history and school leadership, and teaches 10th grade American History at the School for Creative Studies in Durham. Please join us in celebrating the soon-to-be arrival! Gift cards are welcome, but the gift of your presence is most treasured.

Tony and Opal Amos

Session Notes

Congregational Meeting, April 3, 2016: A Congregational Meeting was held immediately following worship on April 3, 2016. The following were elected to fill vacancies on the Session: Opal Amos (Class of 2017) and Bill Carrier (Class of 2018).

Called Session Meeting, April 10, 2016: Members present: Mary Ellen Andrews, Gary Danford, Tim Hunter, Connie Kellum, Barbara Krause, Sue Lowery, Dan Roerman, Ariel Rymoff, and Bobby Sheegog. Also present were Pastor Marie Cone, Moderator, and prospective new members: Alicia Burnett, Tammy Davis, and Traci McKinney.

Action Item

- Meet, interview, and approve Alicia Burnett, Tamara Davis, and Traci McKinney for membership and fellowship in First Presbyterian, Jacksonville.

Stated Session Meeting, April 19, 2016: Members present: Opal Amos, Mary Ellen Andrews, Bill Carrier, Gary Danford, Tim Hunter, Connie Kellum, Sue Lowery, Ariel Rymoff, and Bobby Sheegog. Also present were Pastor Marie Cone, Moderator, and Brad Kuegel, Treasurer. Barbara Krause and Dan Roerman were excused.

Action Items

- Approval of Andy and Ellen Collins, who brought Thai Christian Drama Troup to Jacksonville, as missionaries and prayer partners with financial support as able
- Approval of 2015 Audit
- Approval of request from Barrie Brough for membership transfer to Northwoods United Methodist Church
- Approval and signing of letter to the congregation inviting everyone to participate in the Mission Study.

Discussion Items Included:

Pastor's Report

Preaching & Teaching

- Preached five out of five Sundays (including Easter Sunrise Service); made Communion Bread for 4/3
- Set up and led the Maundy Thursday Service
- Led three Preschool Chapel services
- Taught three Confirmation Classes
- Led four Wednesday Night Dinner and Study (average attendance: 7+). We are starting a new study tomorrow night, April 20. We'll be reading The Magician's Nephew, the first book in the Narnia series.

Administration

- Prepared monthly Letter from the Pastor for the newsletter
- Staff Meetings: I meet with Gloria at least once a week
- Thanks so much for my delightful updated office!!!
- Attended Meetings: Session, Congregational Care, CE, Evangelism and Mission, Stewardship, Worship
- Moderated Congregational Meeting to elect Opal Amos and Bill Carrier to the Session
- Attended one Interim Pastor's Collegium meeting
- Attended East Community Ministers Group monthly meeting at Wallace PC, which included a presentation from a representative of the Board of Pensions regarding the changes in BoP Dues
- Called and moderated the first Mission Study Team meeting.
- Agreed to take the minutes for the first East Community Gathering on June 11

Pastoral Care and Nurture

- Hospital Visitation: One for Tracy Velez (her sister Sandra Mihalcik was in the ER)
- Home Visitation: Three: Martha Jacob; Lei Ashley (with family members); Macie and Slim Ruddell
- Phone Contact: Dempsey Family, Gwen Dupstadt
- Lunch with the Pastor: Three: I started this twice/month program in March. Average attendance: 7.
- Funerals: One (I attended the funeral of Sandra Mihalcik)
- Fellowship/Mission Events: Eight: Habitat for Humanity Breakfast, Community Egg Hunt, Abigail McKinney's School Easter Program, Easter Breakfast, Thai Dance Troupe events (program, dinner, hosted two dancers overnight, prepared breakfast for the troupe Monday morning,)
- Meetings with Individuals: Two

Other:

- Holiday: 1; Vacation: 0; Study Leave: 0; Sick Leave: 0

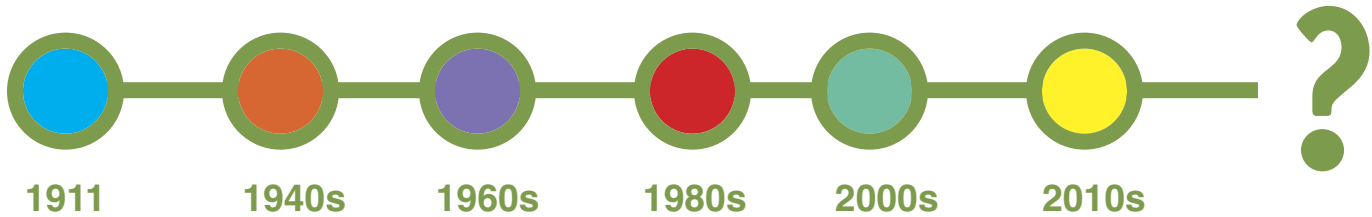
Other Discussion Items:

- VBS plans going well; many volunteers lined up
- CE Team continuing discussions on rotation model for youth Sunday School classes
- LOV award being moved to three-year rotation; next one in 2017
- Family neighborhood groups updated
- Review of success of presentation by Thai Christian Drama Troupe
- Love offering/donations totaled \$934; check for \$1,000 given to Andy and Ellen Collins to help defray expenses of troupe
- Bill Carrier, new Moderator of Fellowship Team, and team members assisted with covered dish meal coordinated by Barbara Krause and Donna Kuegel
- Guidelines for use of church social media (Facebook) to be developed
- Plans continuing for "Stop Hunger Now" meal packaging event; over \$4,000 raised as of April 19
- Blessing of the Animals May 7 at 11 a.m.
- Time and Talent Sheet update; many congregants have not returned theirs
- Scholarship Team ready to receive scholarship applications
- Review of "sprucing up" of pastor's office using funds from Memorial Fund
- Review of church audit; no significant findings
- Suggestion for update of Standard Operation Procedures
- Efforts underway to secure organist/pianist during Sheila's vacation
- Communion schedule prepared through August
- Pulpit supply secured for three Sundays when Pastor Marie on vacation and/or study leave
- Seeking replacement of Traci McKinney as acolyte coordinator
- Team investigating status of worship recordings
- Head usher training being planned
- Clerk will contact Nancy Gladden, East Community Mission Coordinator, and request videotaping of "Stop Hunger Now" event
- Budget report reviewed; no extraordinary expenses

Sue Lowery
Clerk

Church Timeline Needs YOUR Input

Help us celebrate our past and embrace our future. One step of our church's Mission Study process is remembering the ways God has blessed us in the past. Please view and add to the church timeline that will be posted in the Fellowship Hall on May 7. The Church exists to discern and participate in God's mission. Join the journey to God's vision for First Presbyterian!



Working Together to End World Hunger

We surpassed our goal of \$2,944.00! Our current total is over \$4,000. THANK YOU to Antioch Presbyterian Church, our Boy Scouts and all our members who donated to our MEAL PACKAGING EVENT.

What: A MEAL PACKAGING EVENT – We'll pack 10,000 meals that will go around the world to those in need. All ages are welcome!

Why: Because God calls us to care for the least of these

When: SUNDAY, MAY 22, 2016 from 4pm-6pm

Where: First Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall.
Wear casual clothes and bring a cap or hat.

We look forward to welcoming members from Antioch Presbyterian Church and our Boy Scouts as we work together to package meals.



DON'T MISS THE FUN!

From the Stewardship Team

Time and Talent — It has been several years since our Church family has completed a Time and Talent form. The forms have been in the Sunday bulletin and can also be obtained in the church office or on our website (go to About Us > Resources). The forms have been updated and we are asking every individual to complete a form even if you filled out a form years ago. We will compile this list so it can assist the session and ministry teams of our church with matching your time and talents so that we can all continue growing in Christ. Thank you for taking a few minutes to complete the Time and Talent form.

Please
Pray
for...



~ **At Home** ~
Martha Jacob
Macie Ruddell
Slim Ruddell
Roberta Siegriest
Barbara Krause

Condolences to Tracy Velez on the death of her sister, Sandra.

~ **In Hospitals, Nursing Homes or Rehab Centers** ~
Lei Ashley – Onslow House
Donna McIntyre – Liberty Commons
Dot Keel – Liberty Commons

Presbytery of Coastal Carolina and First Presbyterian Church, Jacksonville provide

HIGHER EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIPS



The **Ruby Ennis Maynard Scholarship** provides educational opportunities for the mature woman who has been out of the work force for a period of time, or who needs to upgrade her skills or education in order to succeed in her career, or who needs to change careers in order to improve her earning ability. Application forms are available in the First Presbyterian church office or online through The Triangle Community Foundation Scholarships at http://trianglecf.ehclients.com/grants_support/view_scholarships/.

Check out our new, improved website – www.jacksonvillepresbyterian.com!

It features the new logo and colors, easy-to-use navigation, and on the home page you'll find a handy calendar of events. If you have an event or meeting that needs to be added to the online calendar, please e-mail your event info – **Event Title, Date(s), Time(s), Location, and Details** – to Lisa (see page 2 for e-mail address).

Financials

March 2016

General Fund.....\$14,802.02
Building Fund.....\$635.00

Through April 15, 2016

General Fund:
Income.....\$47,069.50
Expenses.....\$57,729.96

Thank you for your support — The Stewardship Team

In nothing be anxious, but in everything, by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God. — Philippians 4:6



2016 Vacation Bible School

Mark your calendars and get ready for our **Cave Quest** adventure at Vacation Bible School! This is a free and fun opportunity for everyone. Ground kids in the rock-solid foundation of God's love, a love that takes us through life's dark times.

Monday, June 20

6:00 – 6:30 p.m.

*Hot Dog Kick-Off Meal &
Participant Registration*

Monday, June 20 – Friday, June 24

6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Vacation Bible School

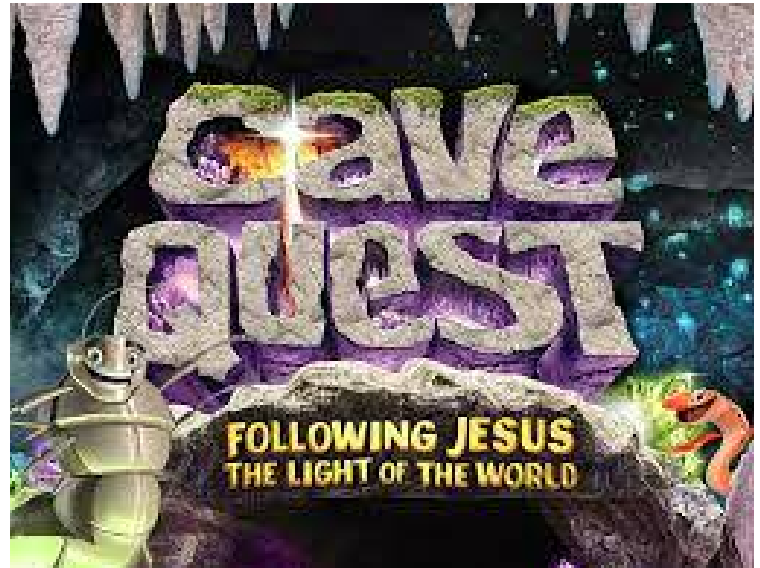
Participant Groups:

Children (preschool – grade 5) & Adults

Volunteers:

Youth (grade 6-12) &

Adult (18+)



Please prayerfully consider volunteering to help share the love of Jesus with others during this event. Please contact Ariel Rymoff if you would like to volunteer. Call/text 910-986-3102 or email ariel.rymoff@gmail.com

Keep your eyes open for a list of supplies that will be needed to make this a wonderful experience for our children. Thank you to everyone who contributes to the youth fund every year. Those donations are what makes things like VBS possible.

As always, thanks to everyone for their prayers and hands-on support...we couldn't do what we do without you! – the CE Team

Monroe Camp & Retreat Center's 2016 Sumer Camp Registration is NOW OPEN!

Do you love to swim? Do archery? Go horseback riding? Make Crafts? Canoe? Be Adventurous? Explore your faith? Then join us at MCRC this summer! Our theme this year is "**Fearless Faith.**" We will ask the question, "what does it mean to be a part of a Christian community?" Campers will explore how they themselves are a part of the Church and what that means about how we relate to one another and the world. We will watch how the strength of Christian community casts out fear and replaces it with hope! Register today for 2016 MCRC Summer Camp at monroecamp.org/summer. For any questions, please contact the director, Rev. Lyndsey McCall, in the office at (910) 276-1654.



400 Bayshore Boulevard N., Jacksonville, NC 28540

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

We are in need of someone to play the organ or piano during the Worship Service for the month of July. If you are willing to share your talent with the church, contact Tony Amos.



First Presbyterian experienced a wonderful performance of traditional dance & drama Sunday evening. Missionaries Andy & Ellen Collins brought the Thai Dance & Drama Troupe and shared their beautiful talents and faith with those present. The covered-dish dinner provided a great opportunity to visit with the Troupe members. Both adults and children enjoyed taking pictures and making new friends. Please keep the troupe in your prayers as they continue their tour in the U.S. Thank you to everyone who helped make this happen.