

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY IN JANUARY

- |                                      |                                     |                    |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Kelsie Dixon                       | 7 Stephanie Youngblood              | 14 Alfred Homesley |
| 2 Deana Lamb                         | 8 Nick Boggess                      | 16 Ryan Abernathy  |
| 3 Frank Davis                        | 9 Caroline Mesimer<br>Ashley Morrow |                    |
| 4 Karen Greeson                      | 11 Roger Burt                       |                    |
| 6 Freida Robinson<br>Sherry Wagstaff | 13 Ron Ensley<br>Rick Heffner       |                    |



The Church Family is a twice-monthly publication of First Presbyterian Church  
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 e-mail: fpcstanleync@carolina.rr.com web site: www.fpcstanley.org

Senior Pastor, Dan King • Associate Pastors, David Nelson and Scott Deneen  
 Worship 8:30 and 11:00 AM • Sunday School 9:45 AM

First Presbyterian Church  
 512 Old Mt. Holly Road  
 Stanley, NC 28164

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THE CHURCH FAMILY  
*Presenting Everyone  
 Complete in Christ*

Vol. XXXVI, No. 24

December 16, 2009



Thursday, December 24  
 7:00 PM  
 Christmas Eve Service



Thursday, December 31  
 7:00 PM  
 New Year's Eve Communion



Sunday, January 3  
 6:30 PM  
 Officer Installation Service

# FROM YOUR PASTOR

by Dan King

We are very glad to welcome a new group of leaders into office at FPC. In the election conducted December 6 all the candidates for elder and deacon were elected. That means our Session will grow to include twelve ruling elders next year – a net gain of one – as well as the three teaching elders we have. Our Board of Deacons will grow to a total of thirteen – a net gain of three.

(In case you are wondering, the congregation has authorized the election of as many as fifteen ruling elders and fifteen deacons in three classes of five each; but our highest goal is choosing well-qualified and well-motivated men to serve rather than merely filling every slot. Thus, we almost always have unfilled positions on both boards. We don't worry about vacancies, believing the Lord is bringing those whom He would have serve in any given year.)

On the Session, the Class of 2012 will consist of newly-elected elders Don Hensley, Jim Ramsey and Kevin Rhyne.

On the Diaconate, the Class of 2012 will consist of five of the newly-elected deacons, but since seven men were elected in all, two men will be assigned to the class of 2011 which has vacancies. The assignment to those two-year terms will be made by drawing straws. The seven men elected are Brian Abernathy, Mark Beatty, Percy Raleigh, Bill Robinson, Graham Smith, James Teague and Tracy Withers. Of those men, Mark Beatty, Percy Raleigh and Graham Smith will be serving their first term as deacon.

We greatly appreciate the ministry of the elders and deacons who are stepping away from service this year. Elder Grady Rhyne has served faithfully and well, bringing passion to his work on our Outreach Events Committee. Elder Allen Stowe has faithfully performed his duties as Clerk of Session for a number of years. Deacon Mike Prather has served the board as Vice-Chairman and Secretary and the broader church as a member of the Christian Education Committee. And Johnny Smith has brought his considerable know-how and diligence in ministry through both the SOAR Committee and Facilities Committee. Thank you, men. God bless you for your exemplary ministry.

Affectionately,

Dan

## WITH OUR CHURCH FAMILY

*In Memoriam*



**James Stewart (Jim) Murphy**

**November 24, 1923 – December 3, 2009**

We celebrate with **Jamie and Lisa Revels** the safe arrival of their son **Harrison James** who was born December 7, joining big sister **Emily** in the Revels household. **Terri and Jim Fowler** are the proud grandparents. **Harrison** remains at Carolinas Medical Center's Levine Children's Hospital for treatment of some medical problems arising from genetic abnormalities.

**Fred Haithcox** spent the last week at Gaston Memorial Hospital following a fall at home. He underwent surgery for repair of a broken hip, and has been transferred to the Stanley Total Living Center for rehabilitation.

Welcome to these new members recently joining our church family: **Charles and Lori Hamrick** by reaffirmation of faith with sons **Jared and Mason**; **Angie Killian** by transfer of letter with daughters **Kindyll and Jayda**; **Leon and Kathy Lineberger** by reaffirmation of faith; **Anna Kathryn Lineberger** by profession of faith; **Paul and Holly Seufert** by transfer of letter. We're truly glad for all these wonderful additions to this congregation.

Phone number update for **Mark Beatty**: 704-340-2128

**Needed:** A temporary home for Fred Haithcox's dog Skip. While Fred is confined to the TLC, he is unable to care for his Chihuahua mix. If you can provide a temporary home for him, please call the church office.



## NOVEMBER FINANCIAL REPORT

Needed monthly for budget .....	57,540.50
Received in November for budget .....	74,513.18
Needed to date for budget .....	632,945.55
Received to date for budget .....	654,279.05
Needed Monthly for Faith Promise.....	12,782.83
Received in November for Faith Promise.....	14,304.34
Needed to date for Faith Promise.....	140,611.17
Received to date for Faith Promise.....	122,550.79

# JANUARY RESPONSIBILITIES

## NURSERY SCHEDULE

8:30 AM

11:00 AM

**Jan. 3:** Mary Ruth & Sydney Heffner      Sharon Herd and Marsha Skidmore

6:15 PM - Tommi Rust

**Jan. 10:** Marcia Rhyne and Ginny Haley      Hope Levasseur and Roxi Smith

5:45 PM - Sharon Morton

**Jan. 17:** Kary Kopka and Barbara Graham      Rhonda Prather and girls

5:45 PM - Martha Sue Mitchell

**Jan. 24:** Kim and Annalise Jessen      Josh and Stacey Hall

5:45 PM - Sherry Teague

**Jan. 31:** Leslie Smith and girls      Jennifer Cavin and girls

5:45 PM - Tommi Rust

A

B

C



1

2

3

## CHILDREN'S SERMONS

**January 3:** Special New Year's Service

**January 24:** Clyde Haley

**January 10:** Jeff Black

**January 31:** Reid Evans

**January 17:** Dan King

*Women  
Joined In  
Heart*



## 2010 Council Members

**Presidents:** Judy Dixon  
Cookie Wilkinson

**Vice-Presidents:** Shirley Smith  
Gina Tinsley

**Secretary:** Cathy Petersohn

**Treasurer:** Anna Friesenhahn

**Mission to the World:** Anne Abernathy

**Christian Education:** Kathy Lineberger

**Nursery Coordinators:** Lisa Grice  
Debbie Smith

**Seniors Ministry:** Sandy Lasley  
Tommi Rust

**Historian:** Martha Sue Mitchell

### Circle Chairwomen

**Elizabeth:** Deanna Beatty

**Esther:** Charleen Schrum

**Readers:** Suzy Deneen  
Lisa Grice

**Ruth:** Ann Featherstone  
Mary Ruth Heffner

*We invite you to join us in  
January at the circle of your choice.*

### MONDAY, JANUARY 4

**10 AM - Esther Circle** will meet in the church parlor with Helen Lieurance leading

**7 PM - Readers Circle** will meet in the church parlor

**Ruth Circle** will meet at the church with Cathy Petersohn leading

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 5

**7 PM - Elizabeth Circle** will meet at the home of Judy Dixon with Cookie Wilkinson leading

*Thank you, Ladies . . .*

*For helping make this a wonderful year for Women Joined in Heart. Your help and support meant so much!*

*Vicki Murphy and SaDara Tilley*



The **2010 Tithing envelope boxed sets** are available for pick-up beside the Literature Table. Please be sure to sign the log sheet next to the number which corresponds with your envelope number.

# FAMILY GATHERING

by Scott Deneen

Dear Friends & Families,

Luke 2:25 says that Simeon – a righteous & devout man – had been waiting for the “Consolation of Israel.” To console is to make glad in the deepest manner. An example is when the early church was made glad (consoled) with the Gospel by the Holy Spirit and therefore had peace and multiplied. (Acts 9:31)

Simeon was looking to have His heart made glad through the coming of the Messiah, b/c, as a righteous and devout man and a son of Abraham, he knew his righteousness was not his own but a righteousness given to him by God through faith. Therefore, with great anticipation, he longed to see the One who would save him from his sins and cleanse him from his iniquity resulting in his salvation. For Simeon, Christmas meant celebrating the arrival of the Son of God.

Notice that the “Consolation of Israel” was a person rather than a “thing.” Simeon wasn’t waiting for material circumstances to get better, or for the Romans to leave Judea, or for a better job or more money, and he wasn’t placing his hope in more presents under the Christmas Tree. Rather, Simeon wanted Jesus. So when Jesus arrived on the scene, Simeon said, “Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you now dismiss your servant in *peace*.” The relevance of Christ and His mission made Simeon’s heart very glad. How about yours?

Christmas is a time to celebrate the “Consolation of Israel” and His arrival on earth. Take time to meditate upon this Truth and discuss it with your family... for the glory of our Savior Jesus and for the making glad of your heart in Christ.

Merry Christmas,

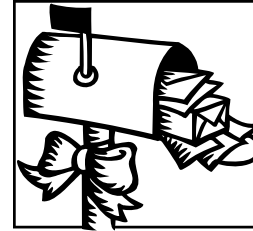


THANK YOU

*Dear Church family,*

*My family and I want to give special thanks for all of the prayers and acts of kindness shown to us during the sickness and death of my sister-in-law. Thank you also for the prayer and visits during the time my son Keith was in the hospital. The prayers were such a comfort to all of us.*

*Ailene Friday*



The FPC P-mail boxes are filled with Christmas blessings. Remember to check the appropriate box for mail being sent your way!

## PCA CHRISTMAS OFFERING

In your bulletin this Sunday, you will find information about the PCA Christmas Offering. A gift from you offers encouragement to those PCA retired and disabled pastors, missionaries, church lay workers, pastors without call, their widows and dependent children who may have a financial need. Prayerfully consider your gift and come prepared on Sunday to gift a gift of love.



*The CDC Staff and Children  
want to wish you a very  
Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year.*

*Thank you each and everyone for the love and support you always show to the Child Development Center.*

## NEWS FROM OUR MISSIONARIES

### Earl and Rosie Adams in Bolivia

We want to thank you for your prayers as we continue to receive timely answers to our requests. The Lord has now provided our permanent resident visas. Praise Him!! We are to go to Santa Cruz and have our photos made for our Bolivian I.D. cards and pick up our passports and visas on December 14. The Presbyterian Church in Cochabamba held its first communion service on the first Sunday in November. What a blessing!! Also, the church will have its Christmas program on Sunday, December 20, and we would appreciate your prayers for that.

### Charles and Bonita Davidson in El Paso, TX

Hello from the Borderland - El Paso, TX and Juarez, Mexico. We are thankful to God for His many provisions and blessings toward us during the past year. On Nov 1st we celebrated our one year anniversary in the city of El Paso. It has been a year full of many activities and settling into life and ministry here on the US/Mexico border. First we want to thank God for our daughters and that they are doing well. Elise is a senior at Covenant College. Her summer internship in Ecuador went very well. She is now in the process of applying to different nursing programs to continue her studies. Anna is in her sophomore year at Samford University, but is in the process of applying to Covenant College. God willing, she will be transferring in January to continue her studies. Ila is a freshman at Covenant College. They still continue to adjust to living in the United States and so we would ask that you pray for them in this adjustment. Some key prayer needs:

- Wisdom to teach well at the San Pablo Seminary in Juarez, MX.
- God to bring an end to the violence in Juarez.
- For the BEAMM Leadership retreat December 15-18th.
- For our financial support - we still need about \$1500/month in additional pledges.

## SOAR NEWS

As we try to rest during this break from a very exciting year, we are already gearing up for the upcoming year. We are anxious to see what God has in store for our SOAR program.

Key dates from our 2010 calendar are as follows:

### Youth Sports Registrations:

Volleyball	January 9 <sup>th</sup>
Soccer	March 27 <sup>th</sup>
Baseball/Softball	June 19 <sup>th</sup>
Basketball/Cheerleading	September 11 <sup>th</sup>

Adult Free Play Volleyball: January 7<sup>th</sup> - March 25<sup>th</sup>

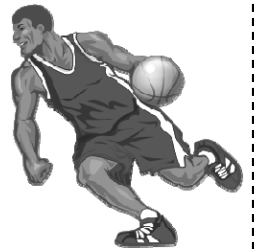
Sports Camp: June 14<sup>th</sup> - June 18<sup>th</sup>



Remember, church members and staff can pre-register for volleyball through January 8. Our Youth Volleyball Committee includes: Mike Gamage, Chris Graham, and Marcia Rhyne. Contact one of the committee members for details if you are interested in volunteering as a coach or referee.


### Attention Men....

Beginning immediately, we will have a Men's Recreational Outreach Basketball program each Saturday beginning at 2:00. Any male age 18 or older is invited to participate. We are especially seeking to include those without a church home. Come out this week and bring a friend!



For more information, contact Grover Rodgers.

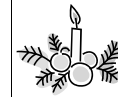
# January 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1  NEW YEAR'S DAY Church Office and CDC closed	2 8:00 Men's Bible Study  2:00 Gym - Men's Open Basketball
3  6:30 Officer Installation	4 <b>Newsletter Deadline</b> 10:00 Esther Circle  7:00 Readers' Circle-Parlor Ruth Circle	5  7:00 Elizabeth Circle	6	7 7:00 Adult Rec. Volleyball 7:30 Officers' Prayer	8	9 8:30 V'ball Coaches' Training 10:30 Volleyball Registration 2:00 Gym - Men's Open Basketball
10 3:30 MTW Committee Mtg.  <i>Sunday Evening Schedule Resumes</i>	11 6:30 Volleyball Orientation 7:00 Children's Min. Team	12	13	14 7:00 Adult Rec. Volleyball 7:30 Joint Officers' Mtg	15	16 2:00 Gym - Men's Open Basketball <u>New Orleans</u> →
17 ←	18 <b>Newsletter Deadline</b> Pre-school/CDC closed	19	20	21	22 7:00 Adult Rec. Volleyball	23 Presbytery 2:00 Gym - Men's Open Basketball
24	25 Pre-school closed	26	27	28 7:00 Adult Rec. Volleyball SOAR Comm. Mtg.	29	30 2:00 Gym - Men's Open Basketball
31 SS Breakfast  4:30 WIC Council Mtg.						

## Other Dates To Remember



**Wed., 12/16 - Fri., 12/18**  
7:00 - 8:15 pm  
Live Christmas Scenes



**Thurs., 12/24**  
7:00 pm  
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service



**Fri., 12/25**  
"Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord."  
Luke 2:11

\*The Church office and CDC will be closed December 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>.

*Merry Christmas!*



**Thurs., 12/31**  
7:00 pm  
New Year's Eve Communion Service