

HAPPY BIRTHDAY IN APRIL

- | | | |
|--|----------------------------------|---|
| 1 Keith Black
Kate Graham | 5 Michelle Magill
Cathy Rhyne | 11 Casey Ham |
| 2 Terri Fowler | 8 Tommy Deese | 12 Charlie Madzia
Mary Rankin |
| 3 Sallie Barton | 9 Andy Tinsley | 15 Hugh Abernathy
Vicka Cavin
Alyssa Lowery |
| 4 Tony Beam
Chris McAllister
Robin Mueller | 10 Doug Lamb
Brandon Rodgers | |



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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. XXXVII, No. 6

March 24, 2010

UPCOMING EASTER SERVICES



MAUNDY THURSDAY
COMMUNION SERVICE

APRIL 1, 7:00 PM

EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES

APRIL 4
8:30 & 11:00 AM

NO EVENING ACTIVITIES



FROM YOUR PASTOR

by Dan King

Christians should be the bravest, boldest, most confident people on the face of the earth. The fact that we are more often found to be timid, passive and withdrawn is sure-fire evidence we are not living in the true light of Easter.

Easter and the events associated closely with it marked a major turn-around in the attitude and disposition of Jesus' followers. When Jesus was arrested, his disciples fled, scattered to the four winds. The very boldest of them – Peter – denied Christ three times before the cock crowed. He was afraid to put himself in danger by being identified with the Lord. The few disciples who hung around the foot of the cross while Jesus died were a dejected, hopeless lot.

But then, Easter morning and the resurrection! And a few days later, Pentecost and the Holy Spirit coming upon the believers with power! Now look at them! Jesus' followers are full of courage and boldness. When they are confronted by the same priests and temple police who had Jesus killed, the disciples stand their ground. Commanded not to speak or preach in the name of Jesus again, they defy their opponents openly. Placed in prison, they pray and sing all night until the angel comes to open the cell bars. And faced with hardship and false charges, they remain full of faith and courage, even when for some (like Stephen who was stoned) it means martyrdom.

These disciples, once so cowardly and impotent, are transformed into confident and courageous representatives of their Lord. They are transformed by the events of Easter and Pentecost. And we should be, too.

Christ our leader has risen victorious over all His enemies (and ours) – death and hell not excepted. God the Holy Spirit has come to dwell in and with every Christian. The same Power which raised Jesus from the dead is now resident in us! We have all the benefits of those confident, bold disciples who, having been promised so much, did so much, became willing to suffer so much. May you find your confidence, your boldness, your joy in our risen Lord. May you become one of the Easter people.

Affectionately,

Dan

WITH OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Our sympathies are extended to **Bobby and Monnie Blackman** and Little **Bobby** in the death of Bobby's father. **Bill Blackman** of Mt. Holly died March 4.

Congratulations to **Blain and Thea Friesenhahn** on the arrival of **Audra Graysen** who was born on March 17. **Christiana** is the big sister.

The **Grady Rhyne Family** will appreciate your continued prayers for Grady and Diane's great-granddaughter **Clara Childers**. Clara, 4, has been diagnosed with a form of leukemia which, while usually curable, is serious and requires intensive cycles of chemotherapy. Clara and her mom, **Becky Black**, live with Grady and Diane.

We're happy to report that the Lord has worked healing in the lives of three dear members who have had extended stays at area hospitals lately. **SaDara Tilley** had to return to the hospital following complications from ankle surgery. **Roger Wagstaff** had a difficult recovery from back surgery. And **Harrison Revels** had been hospitalized since his birth on December 7. We rejoice that all three have recovered to the point of being able to be at home!

Roxi Smith is also recovering at home after a successful knee replacement at Rowan Regional Medical Center.

Congratulations to **Jodie Graham**, who won the Ken McEwin Distinguished Service Award from the NC Middle School Association last week! The award recognizes Jodie's "significant long-term impact on the advancement of middle level education in North Carolina." After 30 years of teaching – all at East Lincoln Middle School – Jodie is now retired and enjoying life with her husband, **Chris** (...not that she wasn't enjoying life with Chris before!).

We're also proud of **Isaiah Nelson** who won the outstanding freshman scholarship from Appalachian State University, as well as the Martha Guy Scholarship from the university's School of Business. He expects to attend ASU next fall.

FEBRUARY FINANCIAL REPORT

Needed monthly for budget	59,246.32
Received in February for budget.....	71,823.83
Needed to date for budget	118,492.63
Received to date for budget	116,796.33
Needed Monthly for Faith Promise.....	13,806.50
Received in February for Faith Promise	15,554.00
Needed to date for Faith Promise.....	27,613.00
Received to date for Faith Promise	23,118.00

APRIL RESPONSIBILITIES

NURSERY SCHEDULE

8:30 AM

11:00 AM

April 4: Deanna Beatty and Alyssa Lowery Tommi and Zac Rust

No evening services.

April 11: Bobby and Monnie Blackman Jonan and Rachel Bynum

5:45 PM - Sharon Morton

April 18: Ginny Haley and Jodie Graham Marianne and Michelle Magill

5:45 PM - Martha Sue Mitchell

April 25: Leslie Smith and girls Paul and Holly Seufert

5:45 PM - Sandy Lasley

A B C



1 2 3

CHILDREN'S SERMONS

April 4: Easter

April 18: Robert Rhyne

April 11: Jimmie Mitchell

April 25: Kevin Yoder

*Women
Joined In
Heart*



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

MONDAY, APRIL 5

10 AM - Esther Circle will meet in the Church Parlor

7 PM - Readers Circle will meet in Founders Hall—Tracy McMinn hosting

Ruth Circle will meet in the Church Parlor—Kay Heffner hosting

TUESDAY, APRIL 6

7 PM - Elizabeth Circle will meet at the home of Sherry Teague

The WIC council would like to say a heartfelt "Thank You" for the wonderful, generous response to our project of Military boxes. Our goal was 20 and we prayed we would reach our goal. Well, God is good!!!! We now have 25 boxes packed and ready to go the first of April. It has been a pleasure for us, and another way to prove that our church is faithful in following God's will by the way that we love and take care of others.

Now it's time to be thinking about our college students. Check out the bulletin board in the main hallway. We have 26 students representing 11 colleges. We plan to send out filled boxes mid-April in order for them to arrive before the big study week. Final exams are the first week of May, and then students will return home.

Since it is late in the semester, we don't need to send school supplies or toiletries. Let's concentrate on things like: Food (perhaps Ramon noodles), snacks, chewing gum, candy (nothing that might not survive mail handling), and perhaps some cough drops. You get the idea.

Let's fill those boxes and let our scholars know we care.

FAMILY GATHERING

by Scott Deneen

Dear Families,

This Newsletter we will continue thinking about “boredom” – its causes and effects. Last newsletter we said that boredom was a luxury because only those who aren’t worried about their ultimate survival have the time/energy to think about what they’d rather be doing. Also, boredom is another way of telling God that we’re not happy with His plan for our lives, because if we were in charge, our lives would be non-stop FUN!

Today I want us to think through causes of boredom specifically related to American teen culture. KidsHealth.org say that the average American teen watches 4 hours of TV a day and spends an additional 2 hours on the computer. When you consider how fast the camera angle changes, how brilliant the colors are, how overly dramatic the scenes are (they have to cause AND avert earth’s destruction in 30 minutes or less!), and how extreme the material must be to keep kids tuned in, it’s no wonder kids get bored with real life – not much action compared with the virtual world!

Over stimulation makes for discontented teens. When a teen is used to 5,000 bullets from their automatic machine gun, 53 bomb blasts, 14 missile strikes, 13 grenades, and a plethora of combat trained, blood thirsty villains all working toward their demise in their favorite video game; its no stretch to think they’re going to be bored when the Youth Leader says, “Let’s get out our Bibles and read.” (Insert snoring sound here.)

Is TV & computer use a bad thing? Not necessarily... not in limited & supervised ways. But what and how much TV/computer they watch can greatly influence their appetite for disciplined, methodical study of the scripture (or normal, everyday routines for that matter).

Therefore, I would encourage training children to learn the art of playing (yes, when kids say “I’m bored” sometimes what they mean is they’ve exhausted their ideas for entertainment and need more time to discover something on their own) or to be book readers rather than TV watchers or video game players. **DON’T WAIT TILL THEY’RE TEENS TO TEACH THIS!!!!** Mainly, be a regular reader of the scripture in your home so when kids are asked to open their Bibles, its not the first time all week they do so. Then little by little, by God’s grace, they’ll enjoy real life over “make believe” and relationships over entertainment.

Blessings,



UPCOMING EVENTS

1. Middle School Retreat – April 23-25
2. High School Retreat – May 14-16th

WITH OUR MISSIONARY FAMILY

Help Needed for Wings of Faith!

Many of you will remember hearing about the ministry of **Wings of Faith** during our Missions Conference. They collect and deliver things to different groups of people in need. Currently they are collecting items for the people of Appalachia. You may help by dropping off the following in the Global Outreach office **by April 15.**

Children’s Clothing – clean and gently used
School Supplies
Bibles – in good condition
Toothbrushes – new!

Change of Plans for Kincaids

We regret to inform you that the door to missionary service has been closed for **Royce and Karen Kincaid** at the present. They have experienced great difficulty in raising support and sense the Lord’s leading to stay here and work in a secular job rather than continue with Wycliffe Associates. They want to express their appreciation to you for your prayers and support.

The Chucs are in North Carolina

Salatiel, María, Salito and José Chuc arrived in North Carolina this past week from Mérida, Mexico. They are making their home in Locust, NC where Pastor Salatiel will work with Carolina PCA in their outreach to Hispanics. He will also study English in preparation to attend Reformed Theological Seminary in Charlotte.



Discover the joy of volunteering...

Hospice & Palliative Care Lincoln County is looking for individuals who would enjoy volunteering their time by visiting patients to provide support and companionship, allowing caregivers to take a break, reading aloud, running errands, providing transportation to patients' appointments, and more! **Special skills volunteers**, such as **cosmetologists, barbers, massage therapists, and pet therapists** are needed as well.

Volunteers also provide office and marketing support by copying, filing, answering phones, and providing assistance with other tasks. Additionally, volunteers may help with **special events within the community, such as the Lincoln County Apple Festival and Denver Days. We have something for everyone!**

**Lincoln County Volunteer Training
Monday, May 3rd and Tuesday, May 4th
8:30am to 5:00pm**

Please contact Volunteer Coordinator Tisa Moss at 704.732.6146 if you are interested in learning more about the Hospice & Palliative Care Lincoln County volunteer program. You may also visit www.hpccr.org or stop by the Hospice & Palliative Care Lincoln County office at 107 North Cedar Street, Lincolnton, NC 28092 for more information.

***“To the world you may be one person,
but to one person you may be the world.”
-Anonymous***

The deadline to submit an application for training is April 1, 2010.
www.hpccr.org

SOAR NEWS

ADULT SOFTBALL

Spring is here and it's time again for adult softball! We have both a Men's team and a Co-Ed team. This is a great way to get to know more people in the church ... and get a little dirt under your fingers, too! If you're 16 or older and or interested in playing, contact Grover Rodgers (Co-Ed) at 704.747.4923 or Jamie Revels (Men's) at 704.607.3972.

YOUTH SOCCER

Registration for our Youth Soccer will be Saturday, March 27th from 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM. Early registrations will continue to be accepted through Friday, March 26th from church members and staff. For more information call the church office or visit the website at www.fpestanley.org. There are coaching opportunities available in our Division I, ages 4.5 - 6 years old. Contact Mark or Debbie Harper to volunteer.

VOLLEYBALL

Season Wrap-up: One of the "temptations" of a successful sports ministry season is to assume that everything will automatically run smoothly, all games will be close and fun, and that there will ALWAYS be people who accept Jesus as their Savior. Well--- those three items DID occur during the just-completed youth volleyball season, but we recognize they happened only by the grace of God, and we thank Him VERY much for that! 12 individuals (see details below) indicated they invited Jesus into their hearts on Finale Day. What began as a record turnout for registration way back on a cold Saturday in January ended with a spirited round-robin tournament in each division. Friendships were made, skills were improved, and Christian values were taught all through the season, and we thank each individual coach, referee, administrator, and church member who supported God's work on the volleyball court!

Prayer Warrior update: Following our Volleyball Finale, we had a total of 12 commitments to Christ – of these, 6 said they did not have a church home.

Results are as follows:

Team #1 <i>Blue Angels</i> - 2 youth	Team #11 <i>Purple Steeple People</i> - 2 youth
Team #2 <i>Aces</i> - 1 youth	Team #12 <i>iTeam</i> - 1 youth
Team #5 <i>Irish Setters</i> - 1 youth	2 spectators
Team #7 <i>BLOCKHEADS</i> - 1 adult, 2 youth	

There were 17 others that said they did not have a church home ... of these, 3 also said they were not sure they were a Christian.

God is faithful in answering our prayers, let's give PRAISE for each one!!

FPC DISCIPLEMAKER DEVELOPMENT

Pastor Dave will lead three teacher/ leader development seminars on Wednesday nights in April. Join us from 6:45 to 7:45 p. m. in Founders' Hall to improve our view and practice of biblical Christian education (disciple making).

- April 14th - Adlers' Box & Ice Cream [and maybe even something to eat]
- April 21st - The Power of a Good Question
- April 28th - Biblical Guidelines for Christian Education

The above seminar names are not all inclusive of what will be covered... there will be something for everyone whether a teacher of kids, a care group leader, or a teacher not currently in a formal role... the more that come, the more we can learn and grow together. Hope to see you there.

FPC Fourth Annual Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 3 10:30 – 11:30



*Remember to
bring a basket!*

Activities are geared for age 3 up to 5th Grade.
Parents, please plan to stay with your children.

With Loving Thanks

Dear Church Family,

We would like to thank you for the prayers, words of comfort, support, personal services and donations following the death of Bobby's dad. Please know that our family finds healing in God's tender love and embrace, and in knowing others loved him and cared. Love all you hold dear, precious is the time you share. Do not wait for tomorrow, for tomorrow may not be.

*May God keep and bless you,
Bobby, Monnie, and Bobby (II) Blackman*

Dear Church Family,

We would like to express our heartfelt thanks to each of you for your loving support during the illness and death of our son, Mike. Each phone call has helped to sustain us during this sad and difficult time. Thank you also for your prayers, cards and the meal that was prepared for our family. Your every act of kindness will be remembered with gratitude.

*In Christian love,
Doug and Margaret Gladden*

Please thank everyone at First Pres. Stanley for their participation in the Gospel and care for our soldiers. I know from previous experience that this kind of expression of love for those serving us will have an enormous impact. I really can't wait to see it!! So once again, Thank You, Thank You, Thank You.

*Always Here & God Bless,
Chaplain Chuck Williams*

I just want to add my appreciation to you and the wonderful folks at First Pres. Stanley for blessing some of our troops in the Middle East. I cannot say enough about how much it means to the soldiers to receive these boxes and know that people care.

*Together in Christ!
Celia Williams*

CHURCH DIRECTORIES

Updated Church Directories are available in the main hallway. There have been numerous changes so be sure to pick up a copy to replace your previous version.

We also found a few extra Pictorial Directories from previous years. They have been placed on the brochure display in the main hallway. They are available on a first come, first serve basis.



WAY OF THE CROSS

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 2 AT 12:00 NOON

The churches of Stanley will carry the Cross of Jesus through town, reflecting on and witnessing to the Heart of God. The walk will begin at Stanley Pentecostal Church and end at First United Methodist Church.

MERCY MINISTRIES

Our **Food Pantry** remains stocked with most of the staples we like to have available for the many families that count on our help. We do have a need for a few items. The following items are low or completely out:



crackers
rice

soups
pasta

peanut butter
pasta sauce

canned meat/fish

Thank you for your continued support!

HERITAGE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

by Lennie Burrell, Organizing Administrator

Thank you for participating in the Prayer Vigil on Feb. 25! We know it was pleasing to the Lord that the congregation is seeking His will in the outcome of this ministry. Although we have had no additional registrations for our Kindergarten class, we know for certain that:

1. God has commanded His people to bring our requests to Him in prayer.
2. He hears the prayers of His people.
3. It pleases him when we come together as a congregation and set aside time for ongoing prayer, seeking His will.
4. He answers prayers in His perfect timing, knowing what is best for us.
5. He may answer "yes", "no" or "wait".
6. When we do not receive a "yes" answer, it is because He has something better for us!
7. As a loving Father, He desires to bless His people with good gifts.
8. He is faithful and has led us to begin this ministry. He will not abandon us now. The outcome is His.
9. He has instructed us to teach our children about Him, to carry the Gospel message from one generation to the next.
10. He wants us to center our lives around His Truth in everything we do. HCS is committed to teach Biblical truth in all areas of life.

We will continue to advertise through March 31 and will have a display and video in the gym for Soccer Registration on the 27th. Please continue to pray for Heritage Christian School - for God's perfect will to be done. Pray that we will seek God's wisdom in knowing how to proceed from here.

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will lead your paths straight." Proverbs 3:7-8

April 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 7:00 Maundy Thursday Communion Srvc.	2 Good Friday Church Office and CDC closed 12:00 The Way of the Cross	3 8:00 Men's Bible Study 10:30 Easter Egg Hunt 2:00 Gym - Men's Open Basketball
4 Easter Sunday	5 Newsletter Deadline 10:00 Esther Circle 7:00 Readers' Circle	6 7:00 Elizabeth Circle	7 10:30 Wed. Morn. Care Group 6:30 Youth, Abernathy Care Group 7:00 Young Adult CG	8 6:30 Youth, Abernathy Care Group 7:00 Young Adult CG	9 9:00 Ladies' Care Grp.	10 2:00 Gym - Men's Open Basketball
11 3:30 MTW Committee Mtg. 6:00 Care Grps, Youth, Image Bearers	12	13 7:00 Burrell Care Grp	14 10:30 Wed. Morning Care Group 6:30 Youth, Abernathy Care Group 7:00 Young Adult CG	15 7:30 Joint Officers' Mtg	16	17 2:00 Gym - Men's Open Basketball Young Adults to dinner in Lincolnton-Details to follow
18 6:00 Care Grps, Youth, Image Bearers	19 Newsletter Deadline 7:00 Children's Min. Team	20 7:00 Burrell Care Grp	21 10:30 Wed. Morning Care Group 6:30 Youth, Abernathy Care Group 7:00 Young Adult CG	22 7:00 SOAR Comm. Mtg.	23 9:00 Ladies' Care Grp.	24 2:00 Gym - Men's Open Basketball ← Middle School Retreat →
25 <i>CE Celebration Sunday</i> ← Youth MS Retreat 4:30 WIC Council Mtg. 6:00 Care Grps, Youth, Image Bearers	26	27 Presbytery 7:00 Burrell Care Grp	28 10:30 Wed. Morning Care Group 6:30 Youth, Abernathy Care Group 7:00 Young Adult CG	29	30	