

HAPPY BIRTHDAY IN JULY

2 Leah Bryant
Micah Deneen



3 Andrew Elliott
Robbie Smith

4 Madison Black

5 Thomas Barton
Donna Hill

6 Don Hensley

7 Johnny Robinson
Annette Rodgers

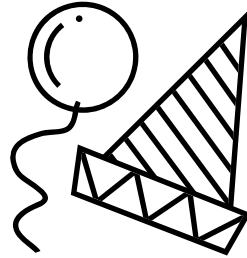
9 Amber Rhyne

10 Brian Lasley

11 Macky Tinsley

13 Kevin Chucci

15 Allie Grice
Anna Hamrick
Tanner McMinn
Holly Seufert



The Church Family is a twice-monthly publication of First Presbyterian Church
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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. 12

June 23, 2010

**Fellowship is great
Worship is rich**

**at our Summer Sunday Evening
Family Dinner and Communion**

**The next one is
July 11**

Pastor Scott Deneen Preaching



6:00 PM Covered Dish Meal

7:00 PM Communion



Casual dress expected

FROM YOUR PASTOR

by Dan King

“...always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.” - Ephesians 5:20

It’s pretty clear from verses like the one above: the Lord calls us to be thankful “always” for “everything.” Surely the expectation of gratitude is even more emphatic at special times in our lives. This is a special time as Carol and I think about our transition out of the pastorate we have enjoyed here these twenty-one years. And, indeed, we *are* thankful for many, many things.

We are grateful for the special chemistry the Lord created between us and this congregation right from the start. About two hours into our first visit to Stanley, we felt like we’d been here all our lives.

We are grateful for the unity which has existed in the leadership and the membership. We’ve hit a few bumps in the road and had a little pulling and tugging from time to time, but very little, really. We may not always have been singing in unison, but usually we were at least singing in harmony.

We are grateful to have witnessed lives changed through the power of the gospel. People have been raised from the dead spiritually by the life-giving word, the good news concerning Jesus. What a thrill to have been on hand to see some of it!

We are grateful for the acceptance as “real people” you have granted us. From the start, we felt that, by your permission, we could be ourselves, could use *our* gifts rather than somebody else’s, and could, by-and-large, avoid the pedestal-and-fish-bowl existence some pastor families are expected to endure.

We are grateful for the partnership in ministry you have engaged in with us. Hundreds of you have come off the sidelines and into the game as we worked together. “Every Member a Minister” has been ever so much more than just a slogan.

We are grateful for the kindness and generosity, the respect and genuine concern you have shown us in a thousand different ways, year in and year out.

We are grateful for all this (and so much more!) today, and we will be grateful forever.

Affectionately,
Dan

WITH OUR CHURCH FAMILY

We welcome our most recent new members into the fellowship of our church family! **Kim Hamrick** has joined on reaffirmation of faith. Her daughter **Anna** comes into membership as a baptized non-communing member. And **Brandon Youngblood** made public profession of faith to fulfill the covenant baptism administered many years ago. We praise God for these wonderful additions.

Please keep **Mike Abernathy** in prayer as he continues today at Gaston Memorial Hospital.

The next

20-SOMETHINGS LUNCHEON

will be

THIS SUNDAY, JUNE 27

at the home of Clyde and Ginny Haley.



Make plans to enjoy a great meal followed by some fun and fellowship in (or by) their pool!

MAY FINANCIAL REPORT

Needed monthly for budget	59,246.32
Received in May for budget.....	76,938.12
Needed to date for budget.....	296,231.58
Received to date for budget	317,995.05
Needed Monthly for Faith Promise	13,806.50
Received in May for Faith Promise	15,298.50
Needed to date for Faith Promise	69,032.50
Received to date for Faith Promise.....	66,596.00

JULY RESPONSIBILITIES

NURSERY SCHEDULE

8:30 AM

July 4: Gina and Andy Tinsley

No evening services.

11:00 AM

Lisa Grice and Roxi Smith

July 11: Jodie and Kate Graham

Rhonda Prather and girls

6:45 PM - Sharon Morton

July 18: David and Donna Hill

Craig and Susan Mesimer

6:15 PM - Janet and Jerry Ratchford

July 25: Judy Billing and family

Pam and Trevor Burgess

6:15 PM - Tommi Rust

A B C



1 2 3

CHILDREN'S SERMONS

July 4: Rick Herd

July 18: Andy Leonard

July 11: Dan King

July 25: Jimmie Mitchell

Women
Joined In
Heart



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

MONDAY, JULY 5

7 PM - **Readers Circle** will meet at the home of Suzy Deneen

MONDAY, JULY 12

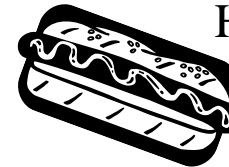
7 PM - **Ruth Circle** will meet at the home of Anne Abernathy.

*The Elizabeth and Esther Circles will **not** be meeting during July.*

BEST YEARS EVENT

The Ruth Circle is hosting a

Hotdog and Ice Cream Sundae Social
Saturday, July 17, 5 - 7 pm



in Founders Hall

Look for sign ups in your Sunday School class.

Make plans to be here and enjoy a time of good food and fellowship!

FAMILY GATHERING

by Scott Deneen

Dear Church Family,

CPYU.org had this on their blog the other day and I thought it beneficial enough to share...

John Stott is a Christian theologian, author, and pastor who has dedicated his life to Christ and the things of God. He has lived a long time (89 yrs & counting) and has seen and heard many things – some good, some bad. He has remained single in order to devote all his energies/time to blessing the Church of God. Therefore, when he speaks, most evangelicals listen very carefully.

In Stott's latest (and last) book, [*The Radical Disciple: Some Neglected Aspects of Our Calling*](#), Stott states his purpose as this: "to consider eight characteristics of Christian discipleship that are often neglected and yet deserve to be taken seriously." For those who know and understand the challenges of living in today's youth culture, his message is one our kids desperately need to hear and apply. But it's not just the kids.

The first of Stott's eight characteristics is listed simply and bluntly as "nonconformity." This is the "double responsibility in relation to the world around us. On the one hand we are to live, serve and witness in the world. On the other hand we are to avoid becoming contaminated by the world. So we are neither to seek to preserve our holiness by escaping from the world nor to sacrifice our holiness by conforming to the world." Those who have read Stott before know that this is an idea he's been hammering home for years.

But what are the unique aspects and challenges associated with living a life of nonconformity in today's world. Stott challenges readers to consider four contemporary trends (isms) that threaten to swallow us and our kids up if we aren't consciously aware and resistant. Here they are. . .

The Challenge of Pluralism (the idea that competing belief systems are equally valid)

The Challenge of Materialism (the idea there is only 'stuff' & the more stuff you have the better)

The Challenge of Ethical Relativism (the idea that there are no moral absolutes)

The Challenge of Narcissism (personality trait of vanity, conceit, or simple selfishness)

If this is truly the way things are, what are we doing to understand these *isms*, evaluate how they've taken root in our lives, and chase them away as we embrace the life of the radical disciple? Want to learn more? Buy the book, read it carefully, repent where convicted, share the book/ideas with others.

Blessings,



Saddle Ridge Ranch in July!

Preschool Kids (Ages 3 – entering Kindergarten)

9:00 AM – 10:30 AM (snack included)

School-Age Kids (entering 1st-6th Grade)

11:30 AM – 1:30 PM (light lunch will be included)

Thursday, July 1 – [Saddle Ridge Ranch](#) – Founder's Hall

Thursday, July 15 – [Saddle Ridge Ranch](#) – Founder's Hall

Thursday, July 22 – Trip to [Kid Sense Museum](#) in Rutherfordton, NC.

9:00 AM – 4:30 PM (\$5 Kids - \$1 Parent) \$ due by July 15



Ahoy, Matey!

Come and go with us on a High Seas Expedition!!!

Vacation Bible School will be July 25-29.

Ages 3 – rising 6th Grade

We are still in need of Crew Leaders for this year. If you can help, please call Lauren Fox at 704-931-4050. A crew leader is responsible for around 6 children. You just take them from place to place and assist in the stations any way you can. It's a GREAT way to get to know the kids of Stanley!

BARTON BROADCAST - TIM AND CARYANN

“Would you be willing to study the Bible with me?” It seems rare for a pastor to hear these words in today’s culture, particularly from people outside our churches. So you can imagine my utter shock when these words came from Matt, my former neighbor who is deep into the LDS (Mormon) church. Even more amazing is that Matt and Christina and their children Richard and Vanessa came to hear me preach. After the service Matt said, “I really do want to study the Bible with you and learn.” I am not being sarcastic when I say that this is amazing. You see, we still believe they may have ulterior motives, likely trying to convert us. However, we know *the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword* and any chance we get we seek to present the truth to them knowing that our God uses his word to change hearts.

I have also recently told some of you that Garrison and I saw two Mormon missionaries talking to some students. Garrison asked, "Why those people dressed like that (white shirts/black ties) not know that no one comes to God 'cept through Jesus? (Garrison’s version of John 14:6)" As I began to "explain" why they did not understand Garrison responded, “but Jesus said it...he said ‘I am the way, the truth, and the life!’” Garrison then prayed on his own initiative that they would know about Jesus.

The primary purpose of our apprenticeship at Grace Church in Utah is to become acclimated to living and ministering in the Utah culture with an eye towards evaluating our ability to plant a church here. These two stories demonstrate where we are in the process. Before we came to Utah, our two biggest prayer requests were that we would know how to interact with Mormons and that we would know how to point our children to Jesus while living here.

We are no longer worried about our encounters with Mormons and are seeking to develop relationships and share the truth where we are able. We are also seeing the faithfulness of God as we strive to develop a Biblical world and life view in our children in a culture that is very much for god, just not the real one.

We have also begun the formal process of evaluation of our ability to plant a church here. We will go to our denominations’ church planting assessment in September and decide how and when to proceed in our church planting goals after that time.

We are very grateful to all of you for your love and support through prayer and through giving.

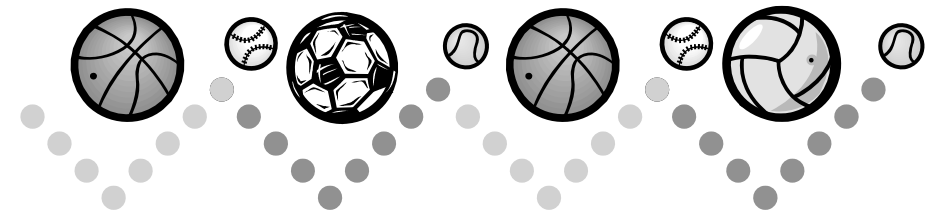
PRAYER REQUESTS:

- That God would work in the hearts of the Henderson family and bring them to faith in Him
- That God would continue to guide us in the Evaluation and Plans for Church Planting
- That God would Provide all the Support We need for the next phase of the work he has for us

SOAR UPDATES

Summer Sports Camp

More than 50 campers "went the distance" last week at our 3rd annual SOAR Summer Sports Camp!! Special thanks to ALL the volunteers who gave freely of their mornings to make camp such a huge success. Not only did these campers improve in their skill set and enjoy great snacks, they also learned a great deal about how Paul went the distance in His life after He asked Jesus to become Lord of his life. We praise God for the 11 campers who raised their hand in response to the Good News of Jesus Christ and we thank Him for the opportunity to serve Christ in this way.



Youth Baseball / Softball

The 20th year of Youth Sports Ministry baseball began on Saturday, with 136 young people registering on a hot-but-sunny day. 20 years----nearly 2000 youth and their families have been touched by First Presbyterian Church in that time! Praise be to God, for He has definitely blessed those years with His grace!



One in every three players did not list a church home----a relatively high percentage compared to the "usual" numbers. Please join us in praying for these families as they play, pray, and grow with us for the next two months. Come watch a game-----no ticket required!

July 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 ← General Assembly - Nashville, TN → 7:30 Officers' Prayer	2	3 8:00 Men's Bible Study 2:00 Gym - Men's Open Basketball
4  Independence Day No Evening Activities	5 Church Office and CDC closed 7:00 Readers' Circle	6 Newsletter Deadline	7	8 7:30 Joint Officers' Mtg	9	10 2:00 Gym - Men's Open Basketball
11 ←	12	13	14 Mission Trip to Palmer Home	15	16	17 → 2:00 Gym - Men's Open Basketball 5:00 Best Years Social in Founders Hall
18 6:00 Covered Dish Dinner 7:00 Communion	19 Newsletter Deadline	20	21	22 ← Mission Trip to Paraguay → 7:00 SOAR Comm. Mtg.	23	24 Presbytery 2:00 Gym - Men's Open Basketball
25 ←	26	27	28	29	30	31 → 2:00 Gym - Men's Open Basketball
5:30 Choir Group III	← Mission Trip to Paraguay →					
	← Children's Vacation Bible School →					