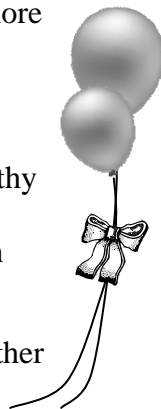


# JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| 16 Ryan Abernathy  | 20 Sarah Jane Griffin<br>Wendy Ham              | 25 Kaleigh Smith  |
| 17 Betty Ann Abernathy<br>Robert Billings<br>Charlie Leonard<br>Cookie Wilkinson | 21 Vicky Gamage<br>Carol King<br>Matthew Magill | 27 Marsha Skidmore<br>Jamie Stewart                                   |
| 18 Josh Addington<br>Anna Lewis<br>Danny Wallace                                 | 22 Jamie Revels                                 | 28 Rhoda Davis  |
| 19 Leon Lineberger   | 23 Debbie Friday<br>Don Sapp                    | 30 Renee Abernathy<br>Scott Burgess<br>Kathryn Cavin<br>Jackson Tyler |
|  | 24 Trevor Burgess<br>Kim Hamrick                | 31 Nathanael Prather  |



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Senior Pastor, Dan King • Associate Pastor, 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. XXXVIII, No. 1

January 5, 2011



**BIG EVENT**  
for Children  
and  
Those Who Teach Them



**Sunday, January 23 – 9:45 a.m.**

Do you teach children in Sunday School, Image Bearers, Vacation Bible School, the Child Development Center or at home? Are you interested in teaching children in the future? You are invited to meet in Fellowship Hall on January 23 at 9:45 a.m. for a one-hour seminar with Helen Holbrook. Helen, who currently works at Reformed Theological Seminary in Charlotte, has many years of experience in children's ministry. She will be sharing ways to present the gospel to covenant children, giving ideas of what each age can understand.

While that is happening, our children from ages 3 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade will meet in the gym with Stewart Neely and his crew of capable helpers for a special event just for them.

# FROM YOUR PASTOR

by Dan King

When you go to the doctor for your annual physical, he or she will likely begin to poke, prod and press certain spots and ask, “Does that hurt? How about that, does that hurt?”

If you wince or go “Ow!” one or the other of two things has happened. Either the doctor has pressed too hard, or something is wrong inside you. In the latter case, the doctor will say, “We’d better check this out because it’s not supposed to hurt there.”

So when the pastor preaches on Christian giving and certain members go “Ow!” either the pastor has pushed too hard, or there’s something wrong. In the latter case, I say, “My friend, we’re in need of the Great Physician, because it’s not supposed to hurt there.”

“**God loves a cheerful giver,**” Scripture tells us. And the Apostle Paul holds up the Macedonian Christians as an example for others: “**Out of the most severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity.**” Although poor and needy themselves, these Christian examples gave sacrificially to God’s work and were glad to do it.

Giving to the Lord is not supposed to hurt; it’s supposed to be a joy. Are you “healthy” according to biblical standards in this matter? Or are you in poor spiritual health when it comes to money?

For the next three Sundays we’re going to explore biblical principles of money – managing it for yourself and giving it away. Now, some of you are already getting nervous, just at the thought of someone telling you what to do with your money. Well, just relax. The money I’m going to talk about is not your money at all – it’s all the Lord’s!

This coming Sunday we’ll look to the wisdom of the Proverbs, an amazing number of which speak of how to stay out of money trouble, or get out if you’re already in. The following Sunday we’ll explore the biblical standards for giving in a manner that pleases God. And we’ll wrap up the series on January 23 with a review of the sometimes startling promises of blessing God gives to those who are faithful stewards.

See you in church.

Affectionately,

*Dan*

# WITH OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Our sympathies are extended to **Bob and Melissa Smith** and family in the death of Bob’s mother. **Mrs. Ann Hartsfield Smith Frazier** passed away over the Christmas holidays after a lengthy illness. Her memorial service was conducted Sunday, January 2, at the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, Mt. Holly.

We also express our condolences to **Blain and Mason Friesenhahn** and families. **Richard Kisby**, Blain and Mason’s grandfather, died at home near Hardin on Christmas Day, his 70<sup>th</sup> birthday. Pastors Scott Deneen and Ivan Davis conducted the memorial service here on December 31.

Much praise is due to God for the wonderful news that **Harrison Revels**, one-year-old son of **Jamie and Lisa Revels**, has been discharged from Carolinas Medical Center and the Levine Children’s Hospital. Harrison has spent much of his first year in the hospital where he has undergone numerous surgeries, including two liver transplants. This extensive treatment and long confinement results from Harrison’s rare genetic condition, Cat Eye Syndrome. His most recent hospitalization began October 21. He has a lot of catching-up to do in his growth and development, so your continuing prayers will be welcomed.

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## 2011 DOCUMENTS ARE READY...

Stop by the Literature Display in the main hallway to pick up a copy of:



2011 Budget

and



2011 Church Directory

# Thank You

*Thank you for your prayers, cards and many kind deeds during Jimmie's surgery and recovery. You have shown us once again how good it is to be a part of this church family.*

*Jimmie and Martha Sue*

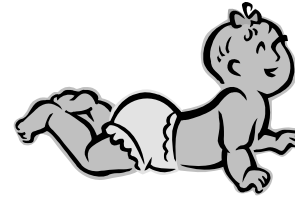
*Dear Mr. Ramsey,*

*On behalf of the superintendent, M. L. Paysour and all the staff of Gaston Correctional Center, we want to thank you and "especially First Presbyterian Church - Stanley" for your participation [by providing cakes] in our annual Christmas Event for the inmates at the Gaston facility.*

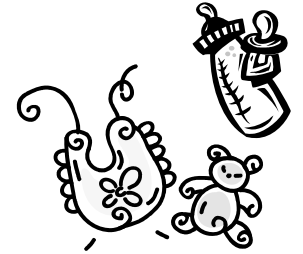
*Sincerely,*

*Geraldine Connors, Program Superintendent  
Gaston Correctional Center, Dallas, NC*

## It's A Girl!



You are invited to a  
**Baby Shower**  
for  
**Jennifer Beatty Hall**  
**Sunday, January 16th**  
**2:00 - 4:00 p.m.**  
Founders Hall



Jennifer is registered at: Babies R Us, Registry #46214170 and Target, Registry #014038700001631.

Hostesses are Deanna Beatty, Sandra Hill and Dawn Ormsby.

## SOAR NEWS



Our **Youth Volleyball** registration will be this Saturday, January 8, 10:30 - 12:00. Church members and staff may pre-register prior to that time by completing a registration form and leaving it in the church office along with the registration fee. By pre-registering, you can bypass the registration line and go directly to the skills evaluation.

If you are interested in helping with our youth volleyball, please contact one of our committee members for details on the many opportunities available for volunteers. The committee includes: Mike Gamage, Chris Graham, and Marcia Rhyne.

The **Adult Volleyball** league starts Thursday, January 13. Anyone interested in playing in this recreational league should plan to be at the gym on Thursday at 7:00 pm.

# FAMILY GATHERING

by Scott Deneen

Dear Youth and Families,

The New Year is upon us and God has met all our needs again - His constancy and provision demonstrate His covenant faithfulness. Therefore, as we move into 2011 with all its potential pit-falls, let us keep in mind that our God never changes, is never caught off guard, and is powerfully capable to see us through all adversities.

Take a moment and think through all the stressful situations from the past year – relational, financial, vocational, emotional, spiritual... are they still as weighty? Maybe. But most have passed and others we can't even remember. God took care of us during these trials and tribulations as a demonstration of His Fatherly concern/care and He will continue to do so in the coming year – as further proof of His merciful grace and that His great Name might be known and loved.

Friends, “rest in the shadow of the Almighty; say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.” [Psalm 91:1b-2] He truly is worthy of our affectionate trust and passionate worship!

Grace and Peace to each of You,

*Scott*

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

1. **Ice Skating** – Pineville Ice House, Sat., Jan. 15<sup>th</sup> **\$10** [there is no charge if you do not skate]
2. **Ski Retreat** – Winter Place, WV – Fri-Sat., Feb. 4-5<sup>th</sup> **\$85**
3. **Super Bowl Party** – location TBA – Sunday, Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>

# SOAR PRAYER WARRIORS

Basketball / Cheerleading follow up

<u>Team</u>	<u>I asked Jesus in my heart.</u>
1 Wolfpack	5
2 Angels	3
3 Fightin' Irish	5
4 All Stars	1
7 Tarheels	1
8 Zags	2
9 Kings Of Christ	2
10 Heat	3
11 Girls of Grace	3
	Total 25



How amazing is our God to answer in a mighty way!



## NURSERY UPDATE

Tommi Rust and Sandy Lasley have graciously agreed to continue as our Nursery Coordinators for 2011. Nurseries are provided for children up to age 3 during each morning worship service. A nursery is also provided on Sunday nights for children of those attending a care group or working with our older children or youth. **We are in need of volunteers...especially for Sunday nights.** Prayerfully consider your participation. Contact Tommi (704-732-0941), Sandy (704-263-8844) or the Church Office (704-263-4275) if you are willing to volunteer.



## REMINDERS...

- Thursday, 1/6: 6:30 PM - CE Committee Meeting  
7:30 PM - Officers' Prayer
- Saturday, 1/8: 8:30 AM - Volleyball Coaches' Training  
10:30 AM - Youth Volleyball Registration
- Sunday, 1/9: 5:30 PM - Training for teachers of Adults  
6:00 PM - Officer Installation Service
- Monday, 1/10: 6:30 PM - Youth Volleyball Orientation
- Thursday, 1/13: 6:30 PM - MTW Committee Meeting  
7:30 PM - Joint Officers' Meeting
- Saturday, 1/15: 12:15 PM - Youth and Family Ice Skating



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## WIC NEWS

If you have not joined a circle for this new year, its not too late! Circles meet once a month with meetings available on Monday mornings, Monday evenings, and Tuesday evenings.

A number of women in our church are currently not able to attend a monthly circle meeting. For these we offer our **Willing Hearts—Helping Hands Ministry**. Below is a list of the ways you can serve when circle members need assistance with various activities.

1. Bake or deliver Love Loaf items for first-time visitors.
2. Provide or deliver food for Gaston Women's Shelter meals.
3. Provide food for bereaved families at First Presbyterian.
4. Set up and clean up kitchen help for church-wide events.
5. Help with Best Years Club events.

If you would like to volunteer for this ministry, see Gina Tinsley, WIC President, or call the church office.

## NEWS FROM OUR MISSIONARY FAMILY

**Andy and Karen Weaver** serving with Wycliffe Bible Translators in **Papua New Guinea** write: "Let us praise the Lord that in this past year God's Word was made available to approximately 32,100 Papua New Guineans (10 people groups) in the language they understand best. As this year draws to a close, this gives us a great reason to rejoice in what the Lord is doing in this country. We are thankful for each of you who are a part of this ministry with us and help make it possible for us to be here.

Keep up with **Amber Rhyne** and her ministry in **Belize** by checking out her blog: <http://patchakanpost.blogspot.com>. She has wonderful information and pictures! A visiting doctor was at the clinic for a week in December and they were able to see over 100 patients and fill 354 prescriptions.



## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ON THE MOVE

Are you in a **CARE GROUP**? January is a good time to plug into one. Look at the bulletin board to see the times, places and topics. The six groups which meet on Sunday evenings from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. will start the new season on Sunday, January 16. The Tuesday night group gets underway on January 11 at 7:00 p.m. We offer three Wednesday groups – one at 10:00 a.m., one at 6:30 p.m. and one at 7:00 p.m. These all start on January 12.

**IMAGE BEARERS** will have their first meeting of the new year on Sunday, January 16. This is for all children, ages 3 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Our Sunday evening **YOUTH** activities also begin on the 16<sup>th</sup>.