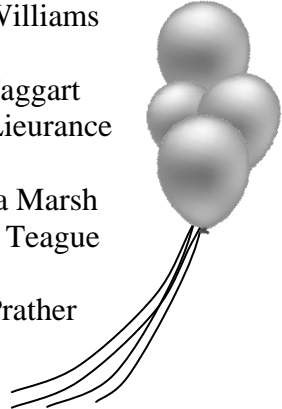


MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| 17 Judy Billings
Mae Davis
Audra Friesenhahn
Jimmie Mitchell | 21 Roland Hager
Connor McMinn
Cindy Sanderson | 26 Whitney Black
Mark Hines
Jamie Williams |
| 18 Anne Abernathy
Greg Huss | 22 Rachel Gamage
Richard Rhyne | 29 Linda Faggart
Helen Lieurance |
| 19 Stacey Hall
Rhonda Prather
Ann Marie Roys | 23 Brody Heffner
Julie Marsh
Ed Wallace | 30 Amanda Marsh
Chrissy Teague |
| | 24 Cindy Davis
Casey Paramore
Mason Withers | 31 Elijah Prather |



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 e-mail: fpcstanleync@carolina.rr.com web site: www.fpcstanley.org

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

First Presbyterian Church
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 Stanley, NC 28164

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THE CHURCH FAMILY
*Presenting Everyone
 Complete in Christ*

Vol. XXXVIII, No. 5

March 9, 2011

2011 Stanley Community Lenten Services Wednesdays @ noon



The half-hour worship service will be
 followed by a light lunch at the host church.



March 16 at First Presbyterian

Led by Rev. Ivan Davis
Stanley Total Living Center

March 23 at Community Pentecostal

Led by Rev. Theodore Armstrong, Jr.
Springfield Memorial Baptist

March 30 at Mt. Pleasant UMC

Led by Rev. Billy Shaw
First Baptist

April 6 at First Baptist

Led by Rev. Eddie McGinnis
Community Pentecostal

April 13 at Springfield Baptist

Led by Rev. Danny Penny
Pentecostal Holiness

April 22 - Good Friday March at 12:00 noon (no lunch)
 March will begin at Pentecostal Holiness and end at First United Methodist

FROM YOUR PASTOR

by Dan King

One of a pastor's great thrills is seeing his flock enjoying a time of spiritual vibrancy and growth. I see signs of such vibrancy and growth now, and, of course, I am thrilled.

There was a wonderfully buoyant spirit among us last Sunday as we gathered for worship and our CE Celebration. Thanks again to our Christian Education Committee and Interim CE Director Martha Sue Mitchell for providing the setting in which we could celebrate. There were smiles and laughter all 'round, and a very evident eagerness to plunge into a new quarter of Sunday School and other CE ministries.

Later that day we began this year's Communicants Class. The young students' openness and wide-eyed interest are always a tonic for this old pastor's heart.

We are encouraged, too, by the strong pre-enrollment for the Newcomers' Class which gets underway this coming Sunday. Each time this class is offered, I look forward to guiding our new FPC arrivals (and some not-so-new!) through an overview of the Christian life in general and life in this church in particular.

But beyond these things, I'm rejoicing most in the personal reports of "God at work" I'm hearing.

Young couples are making decisions to build their marriages on Christ and are striving to figure out what that looks like day by day.

Others, living by faith as they "seek first the Kingdom of God," are finding the Lord prospering their work, supplying all their needs, and giving them hope for the future.

I hear of people striving to discern and follow the Lord's will more earnestly than ever before in their lives, even though this is sometimes hard and requires much faith.

And who wouldn't get a chuckle out of the "gentle rebellion" by the ladies who, learning that their elective Sunday School class was ending after one quarter, mounted a campaign to have it extended. (A campaign which succeeded, by the way.) What pastor wouldn't be thrilled to have people clamoring like this for more opportunities to grow?

We are being richly blessed as the freshening wind of the Spirit blows through our lives just now. Let's set our sails to catch every breeze. And enjoy the trip.

Affectionately,

Dan

WITH OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Our condolences to **Brent and Lisa Grace, Ryan and Allie** in the death of Brent's maternal grandfather. **Judson Jones**, 90, of Mt. Holly passed away February 26.

Sympathies are also extended to **Carolyn Rutledge** and **Roxi Smith** in the death of Carolyn's brother. **Harold Finlayson**, 90, died February 25 in Massanetta Springs, Virginia.

Norm Levasseur is recovering at home following a heart attack. A stent implant at Gaston Memorial got Norm out of crisis, and now we wish him well as he begins his rehabilitation.

Weakness and dizziness sent **Alfred Rhyne** to the hospital for a few days recently. While there, a pacemaker was put into place to stabilize his heart rate and blood pressure.

First-time grandparents **Mark and Deanna Beatty** were beaming with joy this week over the arrival of **June Elizabeth**, daughter of **John and Jennifer (Beatty) Hall**. June arrived March 7 at Gaston Memorial Hospital.

Congratulations to **Rebecca Lasley**, this year's winner of the UNC-G Music Camp Scholarship. Rebecca will attend summer music camp for piano, having received this award from the Gaston Music Education Foundation (GMEF) after auditioning in February. Way to go Rebecca!

Great to see a number of our **college students** in church Sunday while home on spring break. Official sightings were made of **Hayley Black, Daniel Deese, Kate Graham, Brody Heffner** and **Michelle Magill**.

With Loving Thanks

To our church family,

Thank you for the support you have shown us during this time of Diane's cancer treatments. You've been so thoughtful with the cards, food and prayers. Please continue to pray for Diane through her ongoing treatments.

Grady and Diane Rhyne

SOAR NEWS

ATTN: Volleyball Prayer Partners - Remember to pray for the Finale events this weekend.

SOCCER REGISTRATION is March 26. Church members and staff are encouraged to **pre-register** now. Registration forms are located on the SOAR bulletin board and on the church website fpcstanley.org.

Have you considered volunteering in our soccer league? We hope you will prayerfully do so. Contact Mark Harper (704.263.4466) for details on opportunities available.



EASTER EGG HUNT - APRIL 23

If you are able, the Children's Ministry Team asks that you donate some candy for our Easter Egg Hunt. There is a plastic tub in the hallway where you can drop it off, or you can put it in Lauren Fox's office.



We ask for individually wrapped pieces.

The children will be grateful for each sweet bite!

MERCY MINISTRIES

We'd like to give a big Thank you to Deacon Percy Raleigh and helper Will Robinson for the new shelves added to the mailroom. These shelves were built to accommodate the Food Pantry with more room and accessibility.

Although our pantry is well stocked, below is a list of items we like to keep stocked and are in need of:

peanut butter	spaghetti	canned fruits (peaches, applesauce, etc.)
jelly	spaghetti sauce	beef stew (cans)
pork & beans	crackers	

MR. AND MRS. PAUL ABERNATHY

AND

MRS. ANGELA RUMFELT

INVITE YOU TO SHARE IN THE JOY OF

MARRIAGE OF THEIR CHILDREN

Heather Erin Abernathy

TO

Jeremiah Paul Rumfelt

SATURDAY, THE SECOND OF APRIL

TWO THOUSAND ELEVEN

AT THREE O'CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

512 OLD MOUNT HOLLY ROAD

STANLEY, NORTH CAROLINA

You are invited to a

Wedding Shower

honoring

Heather Abernathy

Sunday, March 27, 2:00 - 3:30 PM

in Founders Hall

The bride-to-be is registered at:

Bed, Bath & Beyond and Sears

Hostesses: Anne Abernathy, Ashley Abernathy, Renee Abernathy, Martha Sue Mitchell.

FAMILY GATHERING

by Scott Deneen

Dear Friends,

Over the weekend, Suzy and I were delighted to attend the Covenant Bible Church of Lincoln's Marriage Enrichment dinner/seminar. (Covenant is where our church secretary, Sandra, attends.) It was wonderful! They fed us well and provided biblical and practical marriage helps. Suzy and I were blessed immensely by their ministry.

The key note speaker was Dr. Gary Chapman, author of *The Five Love Languages*. In his research, Dr. Chapman has identified 5 ways in which love is communicated/received between people. Everyone has at least one (probably two) where they feel loved by others. The "languages" are: receiving gifts, words of affirmation, acts of service, physical touch, and quality time.

Think through which one(s) you benefit from. Which one(s) does your spouse? your children? Why does it matter? Because as we love others, we want them to *feel/experience* our love but if we only demonstrate it through avenues they do not receive, they will miss out on our affection.

So learn the love languages of those around you and begin to love them in their "native tongue."

Practical thought: What is your child's love language? It matters because if we only *tell* them we love them (words of affirmation) but their language is physical touch, they will not feel the love we convey at the level we mean it unless we hug them, etc. I can't help but wonder if my attempts at loving my children has missed the mark over these past several years due to miscommunication! Oh how I want to love them better/more effectively.

Dr. Chapman has several books to help us understand these love languages and their implications. He has the basic *5 Love Languages*. He has also written for both children and teens: *The Five Love Languages of Children and the Five Love Languages of Teenagers*.

I plan on buying and reading them so that I can love my (and your) children better. Would you join me in this for the good of your family and our church?

Blessings,
Scott

UPCOMING EVENTS

1. Hiking Trip – Sat., April 9th Location: South Mountain
2. Middle School Retreat – April 29 – May 1st to Ridge Haven
3. High School Retreat – May 13-15th to Ridge Haven

COLLEGE BOXES

Our youth will be packing the boxes for our 17 away-from-home college students on Wednesday, March 15. Please remember to bring goodies for the boxes this Sunday. Drop them in the big bin outside the Global Outreach office.

Welcome, Ladies!!

Did you know that our Women Joined in Heart prepare a welcome bag for each lady who joins First Presbyterian? You may drop off items to include in those bags (pens, note cards, small lotions, etc.) in the Christian Education office.



WITH OUR MISSIONARY FAMILY

Pablo and Bertha Lavado in Lima, Peru: Scripture Union has five homes for street boys in Peru caring for 201 boys. They expect to open a sixth home in Kimo by April and one in Iquitos during the first six months of the year.



Joel and Sarah McCall serving with Equipping Leaders International: Joel just returned from a two-week teaching trip in Uganda. On March 17 he leaves for Akure, Nigeria where he will teach for two weeks at the Antioch Graduate School of Theology.



Daylight Savings Time begins this Sunday, March 13. Be sure to set your clocks forward 1 hour before going to bed Saturday night!