

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| 1 Jeff Black
Jean Cavin
Betsey Neely | 5 Chris Abernathy
Charlene Hager
Annalise Jessen | 12 Janet Ratchford |
| 2 Calen Rayner | 7 Libby Chaney
Harrison Revels | 13 Jessica Burgess |
| 3 Chris Baity
Ginny Haley
Charles Hamrick
Elizabeth Prather | 8 Mary Madeline Black
Daniel Deese
Trey Strickler | 14 Sharon Morton
Tori Teague |
| 4 Lynn Burrell
Judy Lucas | 11 Ed Faggart
Debbie Smith | 15 Jacob Garrison
Kendall Garrison
Kevin Rhyne |



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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. 22

November 16, 2011

“Hark the herald angels sing, glory to the newborn King!”

A Charlie Brown Christmas Play



Presented by the Children of First Presbyterian Church
Sunday, December 11th 6:30 PM



LIVE CHRISTMAS SCENES

Wed., Dec. 14th - Fri., Dec. 16th

Prayerfully consider how you will participate this year. Sign-up sheets are posted on the main bulletin board (across from the church office). We hope you will plan to participate each night!

FAMILY GATHERING

by Scott Deneen

PSALM 100:4-5
A Psalm. For giving thanks.

**Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise;
 Give thanks to him and praise His Name.
 For the LORD is good and His love endures forever;
 His faithfulness continues through all generations.**

Thanksgiving Day is a wonderful holiday filled with many joys – family gatherings, playing with cousins, delicious food, and the rehearsal of God’s kindness toward us.

Unfortunately our culture tries to move past Thanksgiving as fast as possible. Normally the biggest shopping day of the year is the Friday after Thanksgiving when stores open early. When I was in college, the store I worked at opened at 9AM the day after Thanksgiving. Recently stores have begun opening at 4AM. This year I saw an ad for a store that was going to open at Midnight! Thus attempting to move their customers from Thanksgiving sentiment to Christmas consumer immediately. A sad development for sure. Why?

Because our LORD is worthy of Thanksgiving and is worthy of more than just a passing glance. So begin now to meditate on all God’s blessings to you and your family so that when Thanksgiving Day arrives, your heart is already full of praise for Him. And truthfully, we can celebrate the blessings of the LORD on a daily basis.

Remember His mercies toward you, think through the forgiveness of sins you have been granted in Christ, rest gratefully in the fact that you belong to a Father who provides for you everything you need and who protects you from evil.

And rejoice that He never changes- His faithfulness continues through all generations!
 How wonderful!!

Blessings to all!

Scott

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thurs., Dec. 1st: Work at Samaritan’s Purse warehouse - Shoe Box Ministry
 Sun., Dec. 4th: Youth Christmas Party

WITH OUR CHURCH FAMILY

After an extended stay in the hospital following an appendectomy, **Tommi Rust** is out and about again. **Parke Sweigart** is doing well after cataract surgery on November 9th. **Doug and Martha Tadlock’s** son, **Kelly**, is home recovering from gall bladder surgery on Tuesday of this week. **Juanita Thomas** spent a few days in Presbyterian Hospital due to some complications with her heart.

Our condolences go out to **Ellen Deese** and family on the death of her mother, Jane Applewhite on November 10.

Daniel and Becky Williams are now living in Washington where Becky is stationed in the Army at Ft. Lewis and Daniel is in the National Guard. The more exciting news is that Becky is expecting their first child. First time grandparents-to-be, **Jan and Jamie Williams** are elated with this news.



The *Our Daily Bread* winter devotionals are here! Stop by the literature display in the main hallway and pick up a free copy!

OCTOBER FINANCIAL REPORT

Needed monthly for budget	57,413.11
Received in October for budget	63,111.22
Needed to date for budget	574,131.06
Received to date for budget	615,104.31
Needed monthly for Faith Promise	11,050.00
Received in October for Faith Promise.....	14,339.00
Needed to date for Faith Promise	110,500.00
Received to date for Faith Promise.....	102,975.79

DECEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

NURSERY SCHEDULE

- Dec. 4:** **8:30 AM** Gina and Andy Tinsley; Ginny Haley
 11:00 AM Jonan and Rachel Bynum
 5:45 PM Ormsby Care Group
- Dec. 11:** **8:30 AM** Libby and Dean Chaney; Marcia and Robert Rhyne
 11:00 AM Onie and Ed Kasper
 No evening nursery due to Children's Christmas Program
- Dec. 18:** **8:30 AM** Karen and Ron Ensley; Melissa and Josh Clevenger
 11:00 AM Julie Black and girls
 No evening services
- Dec. 24:** **6:45 PM** Sherry Teague
- Dec. 25:** **8:30 AM** TBA
 11:00 AM Lisa Grice and family
 No evening services



CHILDREN'S SERMONS

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Dec. 4: Dan Ormsby | Dec. 18: Robert Rhyne |
| Dec. 11: Kevin Rhyne | Dec. 25: Allen Stowe |

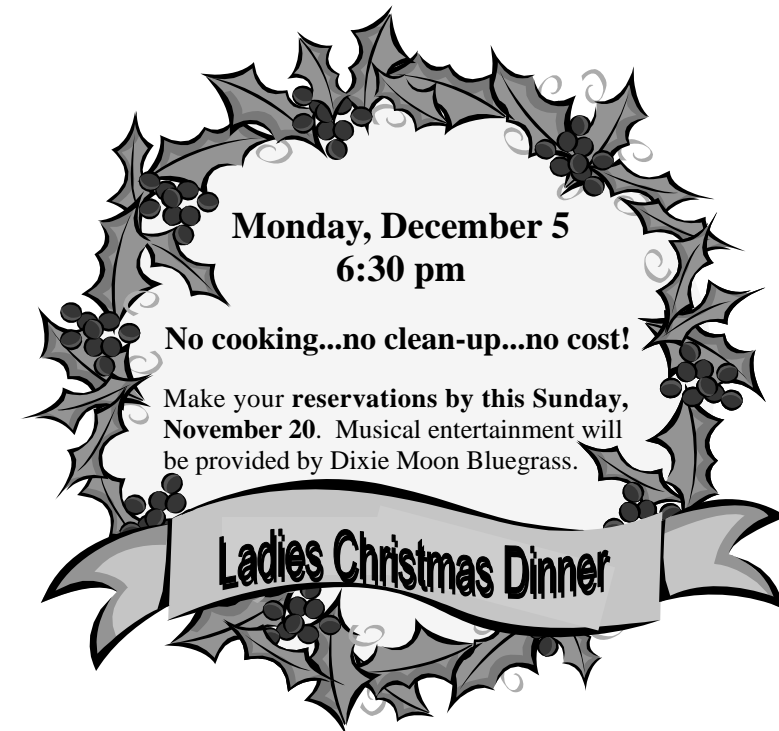
CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

A Congregational Meeting is scheduled for **10:30 AM Sunday, December 4** for the purpose of electing members of the Board of Directors of the Stanley Total Living Center and FPC Elders and Deacons.

Candidates for Elder: Tommy Barton, Rick Herd, Mike Prather.

Candidates for Deacon: Leon Lineberger, Paul Seufert, Graham Smith, Rodney Wilkinson, Tracy Withers.

All communing members are eligible to vote.



Look for the **Sunday School Directory** for the winter quarter in your bulletin this Sunday, November 20. Be in prayer for which class you will attend during this new quarter beginning December 4.

**Sunday
School**

Winter Quarter
Dec. '11 - Feb. '12

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE



Tuesday, November 22, 7:00 pm
Community Pentecostal Center



Give thanks...
for He is good!
Psalm 107:1

The Church Office and CDC will be closed Thursday, 11/24 and Friday, 11/25 for the Thanksgiving Holiday.

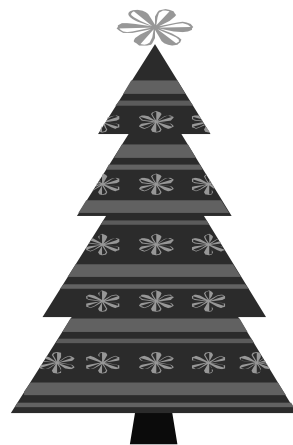
Stewart Neely's Sunday School class and the 20-Somethings gang are invited to an

Evening of food and fellowship

at Steve and Vickie Smiths'

Saturday, December 3, 6:00 PM until

Bring a friend!
See sign up in main hallway.



You are invited to join the celebration of our Savior's birth at the

Ninth Annual Stanley Community Singing Christmas Tree

Saturday, Dec. 3 at 3:00 pm and 7:00 pm
Sunday, Dec. 4 at 3:00 pm

Christ's Lutheran Church

With Loving Thanks

Dear Friends in Christ,

What a blessing...the prayers of God's people have been heard and I have truly been blessed. Thank you for your prayers, love and support during my treatments and surgery. I deeply appreciate your calls, cards and other kindness. Continue to pray for me and the family as I recover and prepare for more surgery the last of December.

Sincerely,
Sue Homesley

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for your kindness following Mother's homecoming. Your food, cards, flowers and calls were very much appreciated. You continue to support us unselfishly as we experience another loss. God has truly blessed us with a wonderful family of believers.

Melissa Smith and family

Dear Church Family,

Thanks for the many prayers for Jacob and me during his medical problems. The food and cards were greatly appreciated. He continues to improve daily. Having a caring church family is very much appreciated.

Love in Christ,
Jacob and Carolyn Rhyne

Dear First Presbyterian family,

I want you all to know how much I appreciate the card, visits and most of all prayers during my surgery and rehab. It is a wonderful feeling knowing so many are holding you up in prayer.

Christ's love for all of you,
Jean Robinson

NEWS FROM OUR MISSIONARY FAMILY

Congratulations to **Bill and Pam Schweitzer** on the birth of their sixth child, **Rebecca Lucy**, on September 11. The Schweitzers serve with Mission to the World in England.

We rejoice with **Clyde and Jennifer Comer** on the safe arrival of their second child, **Claudia Anne**, born on November 6.

Victoria Weaver and her mom Karen are back in Papua New Guinea after Victoria had to be medically evacuated to Australia for suspected appendicitis. After surgery and a longer stay in the hospital than expected battling infection, **Andy and Karen** give thanks for twelve year old Victoria's recovery.

Dony St. Germain writes: I thank God for the opportunity to serve Him in Haiti. We've been here ten months now and it hasn't been an easy adjustment. There are many challenges that we have faced and continue to face almost daily: challenges with the children's health; car incidents and accidents; limited electricity and plumbing at times; the heat (it still feels like summer in Jeremie); different pace of life- a bank errand that should take 30 minutes ends up taking four hours when the van radiator overheats and so I never know when I leave my home what time I'll return because, here in Haiti, life is definitely unpredictable; and the list goes on. Then just recently, Sharon met in a serious car accident in Miami in which the car she was driving was totaled. All these can be discouraging but we cling to God's faithfulness and His word of encouragement from 2 Chronicles 20:15b: "This is what the LORD says, 'Do not be afraid or discouraged because of this vast army. For the battle is not yours, but God's.'" Through all these and others, we've seen God's protective hands. Thank you for your faithful prayers on our behalf that has kept us encouraged.

**We praise God for your participation in
*Taking the Heart of the Gospel to the Heart of the World!***

Our **prayer goal** for 2012 is to have 385 people praying regularly for missionaries. To date, **367** of you have made commitments to pray.

Our **Faith Promise goal** for 2012 is to have commitments of: Level 1 - \$135,000; Level 2 - \$140,000; Level 3 - \$145,000. To date, we have total Faith Promise commitments of **\$140,849**.

SOAR NEWS



The Basketball and Cheerleading Finale is this Friday, Nov. 18 at 6:30 pm.



COUCH TO 5K



An informational meeting will be held Saturday, Dec. 3 at 8:30 am in Founders Hall for those interested in training for a 5K race (running or walking). This is for people of all ages, shapes, sizes and skills. This will be a great way to get to know folks you may not know in addition to getting in shape!



Bring your running shoes if you would like to begin training immediately following the meeting.

SAVE THE DATE

Tuesday evening, February 28!

**A Marriage Conference
at First Presbyterian**

with Dr. Gary Chapman, renowned author and speaker

December 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 6:30 CE Committee Meeting 6:30 AHG Leadership Meeting 7:30 Officers' Prayer	2	3 8:30 Couch to 5K Info Meeting 6:00 20-Somethings & Stewart's SS Class Social
4 10:30 Congregational Meeting 5:15 Choir 6:30 Image Bearers; Youth; Care Groups	5 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i> 6:30 WIC Christmas <i>Dinner</i>	6 7:00 Burrell Care Group	7 10:30 Wednesday Morn Care Grp 6:30 Abernathy Care Grp.	8 6:30 AHG Troop Meetings 7:00 Session Meeting	9 5:30 Children's Christmas program practice	10 7:00 Deacons' Meeting
11 5:15 Choir 6:30 Children's Christmas Program	12	13	14 3:00 Stanley Christmas Parade	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> ← → </div> <p style="text-align: center;">Christmas Scenes</p>		17
18 5:15 Choir <i>No evening services.</i>	19 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	20	21	22	23 Church Office closed	24 7:00 Christmas Eve Service
25 HAPPY BIRTHDAY JESUS! 	26 Church Office closed	27	28	29	30 Church Office closed	31 7:00 New Year's Eve Communion
Pre-school closed (Afterschool <u>will</u> be available)						
CDC (Pre-school and afterschool) closed						