

Announcements

Gideons Sunday. Our Gideons speaker is Randy Simmons. He is a local contractor and serves as our State Gideons New Member Coordinator. If you wish to contribute to this ministry, **checks should be made out directly to Gideons International.**

InterVarsity Lunch. You are welcome to stay for lunch today. We will be talking about telling the gospel through your own story. Thank you to all who help with set-up and clean-up.

Blakey Hall. Today is the scheduled time for the Blakey Hall Retirement Home visit. Please contact Britt Causey 336-266-1685 for more information.

Time Change Sunday. Next Sunday, November 3, 2013. Fall back! Remember to set your clock back 1 hour.

Homecoming. Homecoming is scheduled for November 3, 2013. Mark your calendar and plan to be here for this special time! A catered meal will be provided following the morning service.

Ladies Bible Studies. The morning and evening Bible studies are scheduled for Nov. 12, 2013.

Ladies! Save the Date! November 16th-- a Women's Holiday Event. Details coming later.

Operation Christmas Child. Boxes will be collected in the Fellowship Hall until Sunday, Nov 17. Brochures for packing and labeling will be available at the entrances. Please include the \$7 fee. Any questions, contact Joyce Payne (email: joycepay@gmail.com)

Young at Heart. We are continuing to have great participation, with 29 in attendance last Tuesday. Our next meeting will be **December 3**, which will be a Thanksgiving/Christmas theme and menu. You don't want to miss this one! (Note: There is no meeting in November.)

Allied Churches. There is an immediate need for bath towels. We are asking the Young at Heart members and members of the congregation to purchase bath towels for Allied Churches. The towels may be placed in the Allied collection baskets or brought to the luncheon on December 3. Also, if you want to participate but cannot get out, you may give your monetary contribution to Margaret or Glenn Owens who will shop for you.

Ministry Information

Nursery

Today: Joyce Payne and Myrleann Schwerin
Next Week: Kathy Isley and Laurie Isley

Children's Church:

Today: Dot Hutelmyer and Nicole Newton
Next Week: Karen Jones and Betty Bessette

Deacon on Duty

Today: Doug Glass
Next Week: Glenn Owens

Elder Greeter

Today: Doug Cobb
Next Week: None Scheduled

Tithes and Offerings for October 20:

General Fund \$ 2,677.50

The Session

Moderator: Rev. Bryan Gregory
Vice Moderator: Gene Parks
Clerk: Matt Causey

2013: Doug Cobb, Matt Causey
2015: Dick Fuller, Gene Parks

The Diaconate

Chairman: Glenn Owens
Vice Chairman: Mark Vestal
Secretary: Doug Glass

2013: Randall Cobb
2014: Glenn Owens, Mark Vestal
2015: Doug Glass, WD Yarbrough

Congregational Officers

Trustees: Jim Knox, Steve Kyaw, Gene Parks
Congregational Treasurer: Laurene Howington
Congregational Secretary: Matt Causey

Women's Ministries

Women's Ministries Coordinator: Christy Gregory
Morning Bible Study Leader: Lillian Fuller
Evening Bible Study Leader: Dot Hutelmyer

Church Staff

Pastor: Rev. Bryan Gregory
bryan@firstarpburlington.org

Music Director / Organist: Ed Limon
limonfam6@hotmail.com

Pianist: Julie Snow
jsnowmagic@aol.com

Administrative Assistant: Gloria Hendry
gloria@firstarpburlington.org

www.firstarpburlington.org



First Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church

The Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

October 27, 2013

Preparation

Silent Meditation

If an individual Christian does not show love toward other true Christians, the world has a right to judge that he is not a Christian.

Francis Schaeffer (†1984 A.D)

The more excellent something is the more likely it will be imitated. There are many false diamonds and rubies, but who goes about making counterfeit pebbles? However, the more excellent things are the more difficult it is to imitate them in their essential character and intrinsic virtues. Yet the more variable the imitations be, the more skill and subtlety will be used in making them an exact imitation. So it is with Christian virtues and graces. The devil and men's own deceitful hearts tend to imitate those things that have the highest value. So no graces are more counterfeited than love and humility. For these are the virtues where the beauty of a true Christian is seen most clearly.... And at the end of the world, when the church of Christ shall be settled in its last, and most complete, and its eternal state, and all common gifts, such as convictions and illuminations, and all miraculous gifts, shall be eternally at an end, yet then divine love shall not fail, but shall be brought to its most glorious perfection in every individual member of the ransomed church above. Then, in every heart, that love which now seems as but a spark, shall be kindled to a bright and glowing flame, and every ransomed soul shall be as it were in a blaze of divine and holy love, and shall remain and grow in this glorious perfection and blessedness through all eternity!

Jonathan Edwards (†1758 A.D)

Prelude

The Cross

Delores Simmons

Welcome, Announcements, and Greeting

Call to Worship - Psalm 89

Minister I will sing of your steadfast love, O Lord, forever;
with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.

People **I declare that your steadfast love is established forever!**

Minister You faithfulness is as firm as the heavens!
Let the heavens praise your wonders, O Lord,
your faithfulness in the assembly of holy ones!

People **Praise the Lord!**

Hymn of Preparation

211

O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus

Ebenezer

Adoration

Invocation

Hymn of Adoration

1 Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Hymn to Joy

Confession

Corporate Prayer of Confession

Most merciful Father, we have sinned against you and are guilty before you. Forgive us for deception and untruthfulness in our dealings with others; for resentment, coldness, impatience, and tempers out of control. Kill our envy, remove our pride, melt our hearts. Give us grace to be holy, kind, gentle, pure, to live for you and not for ourselves, to be transformed into Christ's likeness, to live wholly for your glory. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Silent Prayers of Personal Confession

Assurance of Pardon — Psalm 103

*The Lord is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
As a father has compassion on his children,
so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him.
For he knows how we are made;
he remembers that we are dust.
But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting,
on those who fear him, and his righteousness to children's children,
to those who keep his covenant and remember to do his commandments.*

Gloria Patri

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost,
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen. Amen.*

Proclamation

Missions Moment

Mr. Randy Simmons
Gideons International

Old Testament Reading

Psalm 52

¹ Why do you boast of evil, O mighty man?
The steadfast love of God endures all the day.

² Your tongue plots destruction,
like a sharp razor, you worker of deceit.

³ You love evil more than good,
and lying more than speaking what is right. Selah

⁴ You love all words that devour, O deceitful tongue.

⁵ But God will break you down forever;
he will snatch and tear you from your tent;
he will uproot you from the land of the living. Selah

⁶ The righteous shall see and fear, and shall laugh at him, saying,

⁷ "See the man who would not make God his refuge,
but trusted in the abundance of his riches
and sought refuge in his own destruction!"

⁸ But I am like a green olive tree in the house of God.
I trust in the steadfast love of God forever and ever.

⁹ I will thank you forever, because you have done it.
I will wait for your name, for it is good, in the presence of the godly.

Minister The Word of the Lord

People ***Thanks be to God.***

Anthem

The 23rd Psalm

Choir

(Dismissal to Children's Church)

New Testament Reading

1 John 3:11-24

¹¹ For this is the message that you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another. ¹² We should not be like Cain, who was of the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own deeds were evil and his brother's righteous. ¹³ Do not be surprised, brothers, that the world hates you. ¹⁴ We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brothers. Whoever does not love abides in death. ¹⁵ Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him. ¹⁶ By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. ¹⁷ But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? ¹⁸ Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth. ¹⁹ By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; ²⁰ for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything. ²¹ Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; ²² and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. ²³ And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴ Whoever keeps his commandments abides in God, and God in him. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us.

Prayer for Illumination

Sermon

Living in Love

Rev. Bryan Gregory

Dedication

Hymn of Response

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

Indelible Grace

O Love that will not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
That in thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.

O light that followest all my way,
I yield my flickering torch to thee;
My heart restores its borrowed ray,
That in thy sunshine's blaze its day
May brighter, fairer be.

O Joy that seekest me through pain,
I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
And feel the promise is not vain,
That morn shall tearless be.

O Cross that liftest up my head,
I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead,
And from the ground there blossoms red
Life that shall endless be.

Affirmation of Faith — The Apostles' Creed

***I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he
ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of God the Father
Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic Church; the communion of
saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life
everlasting. Amen.***

Prayer of Intercession and Lord's Prayer

***Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors,
and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil,
for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.***

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

I'm Free

Delores Simmons

Doxology

*Praise God from Whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.*

Charge and Benediction

Postlude