

Announcements

We extend a warm welcome to all who worship with us today. If you are a visitor, please feel free to pick up a blue informational folder outside the entrances to the sanctuary to learn more about our church. Also, please fill out a visitor card and place in the offering plate so we can have a record of your visit. Thank you.

Handbell Choir. Handbell choir will rehearse today at 4 PM. Come ready to ring!

Adult Choir. We will meet from 5 to 6 PM today and begin rehearsing for the **Easter Cantata**, “Man of Sorrows, King of Glory.”

Shepherding Lists. You will be receiving a letter soon to let you know who your shepherding elder and deacons are for 2014.

Missions Moment. If you were a senior citizen in Alamance County this year and found yourself increasingly disinterested in preparing nutritionally adequate meals for yourself or unable to purchase necessary ingredients to do so, possibly were housebound or dealing with a number of physical challenges, is there any resource available that addresses these issues? The answer is MEALS ON WHEELS, a program that was started in Philadelphia as early as the 1940's and has spread across the country. It arrived in Alamance County 41 years ago. First ARP has participated in this ministry for a number of years by providing volunteers willing to deliver hot meals and a personal caring touch to over 300 clients five days a week. Currently Glenn & Margaret Owens invest their time this way twice monthly, serving an average of 19 people each trip. Our church budget for 2014 includes a financial contribution to the local agency as well. Consider adding this worthy cause to your prayers and giving habits. Volunteers to serve are also always welcome!

Contact Information. Please contact the church office if you have had a change in your contact information since the 2013 church directory. We will be printing a new directory in February and will need current mailing addresses, email addresses, and phone numbers. You may email Gloria at gloria@firstarpburlington.org or call the church office at 336-584-6929.

Thank You! Tim and Betty Bessette would like to express their thanks to those who provided meals for Tim while Betty has been out of town.

Ministry Opportunity. Please consider serving on a rotation for nursery and/or children's worship. Contact Gloria if you would be interested or if you want more information.

Ministry Information

Nursery

Today: Jessica Richardson and Nicole Newton
Next Week: Kristen Carter and Mary Jane Glass

Children's Church:

Today: Stephen Robinson and Myrleann Schwerin
Next Week: Dot Hutelmyer and Karen Jones

Elder/Deacon Counter:

Today: Bill Haynes
Next Week: Doug Glass

Deacon on Duty

Today: Doug Glass
Next Week: Tim Bessette

Elder Greeter

Today: None Scheduled
Next Week: Gene Parks

Tithes and Offerings for January 26:

General Fund \$ 2,413.00

The Session

Moderator: Rev. Bryan Gregory
Vice Moderator: Gene Parks
Clerk: Jim Knox

2015: Jim Knox, Gene Parks
2017: Bill Haynes

The Diaconate

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

2014: Glenn Owens, Mark Vestal
2015: Doug Glass, WD Yarbrough
2016: David Newton, Tim Bessette

Congregational Officers

Trustees: Jim Knox, Steve Kyaw, Gene Parks
Congregational Chairperson: Dot Hutelmyer
Congregational Treasurer: Laurene Howington
Congregational Secretary: Jim Knox

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 Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

February 2, 2014

Preparation

Silent Meditation

Since we were forged by the Lover, we *should* delight in loving and in being loved. It would be inhuman *not* to delight in love. It would also be inhuman if we didn't hurt deeply when rejected or sinned against by others. The problem is not that we desire love, the problem is *how much* we desire it or *for what purpose* we desire it. ... Do we desire it for our own pleasure or for God's glory?
Edward Welch

The single desire that dominated my search for delight was simply to love and to be loved.

St. Augustine (†430 A.D.)

Prelude

Welcome, Announcements, and Greeting

Call to Worship—Based on Matthew 8

Minister And Jesus said to those who follow him,
“Truly, I tell you, many will come from east and west
and recline at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob
in the kingdom of heaven.”

People **Our Lord, in whom the kingdom is present,
we come to worship you
and to eat and drink with you at your table!**

Hymn of Preparation
42

Seek Ye First

Lafferty

Adoration

Invocation

Hymn of Adoration
204

Rock of Ages

Toplady

Confession

Corporate Prayer of Confession

Our God of grace, we confess that we have elevated the things of this world above you. We have made idols of possessions and people. We have made them the singular desires of our heart and looked to them to fill our hearts. And even when they have failed us we continue to go back to them. But now we repent. We turn to you who never fails us and ask that you would capture our hearts with your love. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Silent Prayers of Personal Confession

Assurance of Pardon — Acts 13:38; Ephesians 1:7

*Through Jesus Christ forgiveness of sins
is proclaimed to you.*

*In Christ we have redemption through his blood,
the forgiveness of our trespasses,
according to the riches of his grace.*

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

New Testament Reading

1 Corinthians 7:25-38

²⁵ Now concerning the betrothed, I have no command from the Lord, but I give my judgment as one who by the Lord's mercy is trustworthy. ²⁶ I think that in view of the present distress it is good for a person to remain as he is. ²⁷ Are you bound to a wife? Do not seek to be free. Are you free from a wife? Do not seek a wife. ²⁸ But if you do marry, you have not sinned, and if a betrothed woman marries, she has not sinned. Yet those who marry will have worldly troubles, and I would spare you that. ²⁹ This is what I mean, brothers: the appointed time has grown very short. From now on, let those who have wives live as though they had none, ³⁰ and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no goods, ³¹ and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away. ³² I want you to be free from anxieties. The unmarried man is anxious about the things of the Lord, how to please the Lord. ³³ But the married man is anxious about worldly things, how to please his wife, ³⁴ and his interests are divided. And the unmarried or betrothed woman is anxious about the things of the Lord, how to be holy in body and spirit. But the married woman is anxious about worldly things, how to please her husband. ³⁵ I say this for your own benefit, not to lay any restraint upon you, but to promote good order and to secure your undivided devotion to the Lord. ³⁶ If anyone thinks that he is not behaving properly toward his betrothed, if his passions are strong, and it has to be, let him do as he wishes: let them marry--it is no sin. ³⁷ But whoever is firmly established in his heart, being under no necessity but having his desire under control, and has determined this in his heart, to keep her as his betrothed, he will do well. ³⁸ So then he who marries his betrothed does well, and he who refrains from marriage will do even better.

Minister The Word of the Lord

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

Anthem

See Them Come

Choir

(Dismissal to Children's Church)

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 29:31-35

³¹ When the LORD saw that Leah was hated, he opened her womb, but Rachel was barren. ³² And Leah conceived and bore a son, and she called his name Reuben, for she said, "Because the LORD has looked upon my affliction; for now my husband will love me." ³³ She conceived again and bore a son, and said, "Because the LORD has heard that I am hated, he has given me this son also." And she called his name Simeon. ³⁴ Again she conceived and bore a son, and said, "Now this time my husband will be attached to me, because I have borne him three sons." Therefore his name was called Levi. ³⁵ And she conceived again and bore a son, and said, "This time I will praise the LORD." Therefore she called his name Judah. Then she ceased bearing.

Prayer for Illumination

Sermon

Rev. Bryan Gregory

God's Grace to Broken People: Searching for Love

Celebration

Hymn of Response

211

O the Deep Deep Love of Jesus

Ebenezer

Affirmation of Faith — The Nicene Creed

***We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God,
begotten from the Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father by Whom all things were made;
Who for us, and for our salvation, came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary,
and was made man, and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried,
and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
And He shall come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
Whose kingdom shall have no end.
And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life,
Who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified,
Who spoke by the prophets.
And we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins.
And we look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.
Amen.***

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration

Distribution of the Elements

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Dedication

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

How He Loves

Brooke Winters

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