

Announcements

Christian Sympathy. Pray for the family of Beadie Sumner who passed away on May 26, 2014. Beadie was a long-time member of First ARP.

Recognition of Graduates. Today we recognize the college graduation of two of our members. Josh Limon graduated this year from Barton College and is currently serving in the military. John Snow graduated this year from Appalachian State University and is currently working in graphic design. Please extend your congratulations to both Josh and John!

Birthdays Jubilee Offering. The Jubilee Birthday celebration and offering were begun in 1925 to commemorate the Jubilee (50th anniversary) of sending out the first ARP foreign missionary. Our current Jubilee Birthday ladies are Shelia Osborne and Nanette Howard. Offerings collected at Jubilee Birthday celebrations are sent to World Witness for Shelia Osborne and Nanette Howard. We will be extended the opportunity to give through June 8. You may use the green "Love Offering" envelopes or a pew envelope and indicate Jubilee Offering.

GIRL Time. Tonight, June 1, 7:00 at the church. Join us for a Bible study, great snacks and prayer partners. Saturday, June 14th: Outing to the Gibsonville Farmer's Market. Meet at the church at 10 to carpool to the market, enjoy lunch together and then return home in the early afternoon.

Ladies. Save the Date: July 27-28 there will be a women's gathering and concert at Bonclarken to kick off the Family Bible Conference. We would like to take a group of women. You may visit the website at <http://www.arpwm.org> to register and for more information. Please contact Jessie Richardson if you are interested in attending. Her new email is richardson.jessica83@gmail.com.

Pastoral Needs. Our pastor will be away from June 9-21 for General Synod (our annual denominational meeting) and study leave. If you have a pastoral need during this time, please contact one of the elders.

Missional Lunch. Please join us after church on June 29 for another missional lunch. We will discuss some practical ways to live out our faith in the community. Please bring a dish to share with others. Hope to see you there!

Young At Heart. We had an attendance of 27 people at YAH including our speaker Mark McKinney, from Christian Adventurers and his wife Lindsay. We appreciate everyone who came and enjoyed an excellent program. A big *THANK YOU* to all of the cooks and helpers in preparing and cleaning up. We will NOT meet in June, July, and August but will resume in September. Have a blessed summer, Margaret and Glenn.

Ministry Information

Nursery:

Today: Nicole Newton and Donna Wolff
Next Week: Myrleann Schwerin and Macon Baird

Children's Church:

Today: Dot Hutelmyer and Doug Cobb
Next Week: Chelle Spencer and Jan Burwell

Counter:

Today: Jim Knox
Next Week: None Scheduled

Deacon on Duty:

Today: Doug Glass
Next Week: Tim Bessette

Elder Greeter:

Today: None Scheduled
Next Week: None Scheduled

Tithes and Offerings for May 25:

General Fund: \$3,276.77
Birthday Jubilee: \$ 185.00

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
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First Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church

The Seventh Sunday of Easter - Ascension of the Lord

June 1, 2014

Preparation

Silent Meditation

Are you settling for a vision that is too small in your life? Are you choosing the easy option because you don't really believe God can bring about something great in your life? Yes, God sometimes calls us to be faithful in the little things, but is that really your calling, or are you afraid to hope for anything more? And what about your church? Do you expect to see God do great things there? Do you pray for God to do great things there, or are you content just to survive? All too often we don't really expect God to do anything dramatic, do we? It seems too difficult to imagine.

Iain Duguid

Prelude

Julie Snow

Welcome, Announcements, Recognition of Graduates, and Greeting

Call to Worship—Based on Psalm 34

Minister We will bless the Lord at all times

People **God's praise is on our lips;
in the Lord shall we make our boast.**

Minister The humble shall hear and be glad.
Glorify the Lord with us.
Together let us praise God's name.

People **We sought the Lord and were heard,
from all our terrors set free.**

Minister Look toward God and be radiant;
let your faces not be ashamed.
When the poor cry out, the Lord hears them
and rescues them from all their distress.

People **Taste and see that the Lord is good.
Happy are we who seek refuge in God.**

Hymn of Preparation
10

O Worship the King

Lyons

Adoration

Invocation

Hymn of Adoration
278

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

Austrian Hymn

Confession

Corporate Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image, through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.

Silent Prayers of Personal Confession

Assurance of Pardon — Isaiah 55:6-9

Seek the LORD while he may be found;

call on him while he is near:

Let the wicked forsake his way

and the evil man his thoughts.

Let him turn to the LORD,

and he will have mercy on him,

and to our God,

for he will freely pardon.

“For my thoughts are not your thoughts,

neither are your ways my ways,” declares the LORD.

“As the heavens are higher than the earth,

so are my ways higher than your ways

and my thoughts than your thoughts.”

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

Reception of Communicant Members

Noah Gregory

Abigail Newton

Andrew Newton

New Testament Reading

Hebrews 11:1-3

¹ Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ² For by it the people of old received their commendation. ³ By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.

Minister The Word of the Lord

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

Anthem

We Are One

Choir

(Dismissal to Children’s Church)

Old Testament Reading

Nehemiah 2:9-20

⁹ Then I came to the governors of the province Beyond the River and gave them the king's letters. Now the king had sent with me officers of the army and horsemen. ¹⁰ But when Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the Ammonite servant heard this, it displeased them greatly that someone had come to seek the welfare of the people of Israel. ¹¹ So I went to Jerusalem and was there three days. ¹² Then I arose in the night, I and a few men with me. And I told no one what my God had put into my heart to do for Jerusalem. There was no animal with me but the one on which I rode. ¹³ I went out by night by the Valley Gate to the Dragon Spring and to the Dung Gate, and I inspected the walls of Jerusalem that were broken down and its gates that had been destroyed by fire. ¹⁴ Then I went on to the Fountain Gate and to the King's Pool, but there was no room for the animal that was under me to pass. ¹⁵ Then I went up in the night by the valley and inspected the wall, and I turned back and entered by the Valley Gate, and so returned. ¹⁶ And the officials did not know where I had gone or what I was doing, and I had not yet told the Jews, the priests, the nobles, the officials, and the rest who were to do the work. ¹⁷ Then I said to them, "You see the trouble we are in, how Jerusalem lies in ruins with its gates burned. Come, let us build the wall of Jerusalem, that we may no longer suffer derision." ¹⁸ And I told them of the hand of my God that had been upon me for good, and also of the words that the king had spoken to me. And they said, "Let us rise up and build." So they strengthened their hands for the good work. ¹⁹ But when Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the Ammonite servant and Geshem the Arab heard of it, they jeered at us and despised us and said, "What is this thing that you are doing? Are you rebelling against the king?" ²⁰ Then I replied to them, "The God of heaven will make us prosper, and we his servants will arise and build, but you have no portion or right or claim in Jerusalem."

Prayer for Illumination

Sermon

Where Reformation Begins: Faith

Rev. Bryan Gregory

Celebration

Hymn of Response

410

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

Olivet

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

Ed Limon

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