

Announcements

Congregational Meeting. There will be a special called congregational meeting today following the worship service to approve a Pastoral Search Committee. If you are a member, please plan to stay.

Day of Prayer and Fasting. The Moderator of our Synod has called for a church-wide day of prayer and fasting today, August 24, for Christians being persecuted and killed by extremists in Syria, Iraq, and Nigeria. In the midst of great trial for family members, we can offer the support of our prayers for our brothers and sisters in Christ for strength to endure and for evil to be thwarted.

You are Invited! Foy Evans will celebrate his 90th birthday on Saturday, August 30! A birthday celebration is planned by his family for that day in the church fellowship hall, and you are invited to join in from 2-4 pm. No gifts please.

Choir Rehearsal. Choir rehearsals have resumed! Please join us at 5 pm Sunday afternoons!

Handbell Choir. There will be a brief organizational meeting today immediately after the worship service. Please meet near the organ.

Thank you. Dear Church Family: Thank you so much for all the food, prayers, cards, and love that you have shown to me during this time of sickness. Each one of you are special to me.
-Love in Christ, Betty Mann

Ladies Bible Study. The Tuesday morning ladies Bible study is scheduled to resume in September. Stay tuned!

G.I.R.L Time. Here are some dates for your calendar! Plan to join us for these wonderful times of fellowship.

September 3 - Coffee Break! Bible study by Fran Haynes, 7:30 pm at Starbucks on Huffman Mill Rd.

September 28 - Secret Sister Reveal! Lunch after the worship service. Secret Sisters will do their "reveal," and the next NEW IDEA will be introduced. Ladies, please come even if you did not have a secret sister. A new chapter is unfolding! This is a catered event, so please RSVP by September 21, 2014 to: Jessica Richardson at 336.437.4388 or email at richardson.jessica83@gmail.com.

Young At Heart. We are looking forward with excitement to the 2014-2015 year of fellowship and programs, and of course, food! See September 23!

First Presbyterial Annual Meeting. The women of Coddle Creek Church invite the women of the First Presbyterial of the ARP Church to the 107th Annual Meeting on Saturday, October 18, 2014, 10 AM. Please see the bulletin boards for more information and directions.

Upcoming Preaching Schedule:

Today - Bryan Crotts
August 31 - Norman Evans

Ministry Information

Nursery

Today: Karen Jones and Connie Bennett
Next Week: Kristen Carter and Doug Cobb

Counter:

Today: Mark Vestal
Next Week: Glenn Owens

Deacon on Duty

Today: Glenn Owens
Next Week: David Newton

Tithes and Offerings for August 17:

General Fund \$3,215.25

The Session

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
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: Jessica Richardson
Morning Bible Study Leader: Lillian Fuller
Evening Bible Study Leader: Dot Hutelmyer

Church Staff

Pastor:

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

Pianist: Julie Snow
jsnowmagic@aol.com

Administrative Assistant: Gloria Hendry
gloria@firstarpburlington.org

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First Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church

The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 24, 2014

Preparation

Silent Meditation

He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.

Revelation 2:7

Prelude

Julie Snow

Welcome, Announcements, and Greeting

Call to Worship—Daniel 4:34-35

Minister At the end of the days I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted my eyes to heaven, and my reason returned to me, and I blessed the Most High, and praised and honored him who lives forever, for his dominion is an everlasting dominion, and his kingdom endures from generation to generation;

People **all the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing, and he does according to his will among the host of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth; and none can stay his hand or say to him, "What have you done?"**

Hymn of Preparation
87

May Jesus Christ Be Praised

Laudes Domini

Adoration

Invocation

Hymn of Adoration
8

Praise To The Lord, The Almighty

Lobe Den Herren

Confession

Corporate Prayer of Confession

We, O Lord, have been a stiff-necked people who love unfaithfulness. We have loved other gods before you and become their servants. We have not worshipped you in spirit and in truth and so we have mocked your glory in heaven. We have used your name in vain and profaned your reputation on earth. We have desecrated your Sabbath because we have not trusted you to give us rest. We have not honored our fathers and mothers and so we have proved ourselves rebels. We have hated our neighbors and murdered them in our hearts. We have made adulterers of ourselves in the lust of our eyes or in the deeds of our flesh. We have stolen honor and wealth and privileges that are not ours. We have lied and falsely accused for we love gossip more than truth. We have coveted blessings you wisely and righteously gave to others. O Lord, have mercy on us through Jesus Christ our Savior for we have not kept your law. Forgive us we pray. Be gracious to us though unworthy. Enable us by your Holy Spirit so to live our lives, not as our own, but as those who have been purchased by the precious blood of Jesus Christ – offering our bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to you. In Jesus’ Name, Amen.

Silent Prayers of Personal Confession

Assurance of Pardon — Isaiah 43:25

I, I am he who blots out your transgressions for my own sake, and I will not remember your sins.

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

Old Testament Reading

Nehemiah 8:1-12

¹And all the people gathered as one man into the square before the Water Gate. And they told Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of the Law of Moses that the Lord had commanded Israel. ² So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could understand what they heard, on the first day of the seventh month. ³ And he read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand. And the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law. ⁴ And Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden platform that they had made for the purpose. And beside him stood Mattithiah, Shema, Anaiah, Uriah, Hilkiah, and Maaseiah on his right hand, and Pedaiah, Mishael, Malchijah, Hashum, Hashbaddanah, Zechariah, and Meshullam on his left hand. ⁵ And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was above all the people, and as he opened it all the people stood. ⁶ And Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, “Amen, Amen,” lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. ⁷ Also Jeshua, Bani, Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodiah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan, Pelaiah, the Levites, helped the people to understand the Law, while the people remained in their places. ⁸ They read from the book, from the Law of God, clearly, and they gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. ⁹ And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, “This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep.” For all the people wept as they heard the words of the Law. ¹⁰ Then he said to them, “Go your way. Eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions to anyone who has nothing ready, for this day is holy to our Lord. And do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.” ¹¹ So the Levites calmed all the people, saying, “Be quiet, for this day is holy; do not be grieved.” ¹² And all the people went their way to eat and drink and to send portions and to make great rejoicing, because they had understood the words that were declared to them.

Minister The Word of the Lord
People ***Thanks be to God.***

Anthem

Only Jesus

Mark and Donna Vestal

New Testament Reading

I Timothy 4:6-16

⁶If you put these things before the brothers, you will be a good servant of Christ Jesus, being trained in the words of the faith and of the good doctrine that you have followed. ⁷Have nothing to do with irreverent, silly myths. Rather train yourself for godliness; ⁸for while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come. ⁹The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance. ¹⁰For to this end we toil and strive, because we have our hope set on the living God, who is the Savior of all people, especially of those who believe. ¹¹Command and teach these things. ¹²Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity. ¹³Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching. ¹⁴Do not neglect the gift you have, which was given you by prophecy when the council of elders laid their hands on you. ¹⁵Practice these things, immerse yourself in them, so that all may see your progress. ¹⁶Keep a close watch on yourself and on the teaching. Persist in this, for by so doing you will save both yourself and your hearers.

Prayer for Illumination

Sermon

Pastor to Pastor Advice

Rev. Bryan Crotts

Dedication

Hymn of Response
494

Like a River Glorious

Wye Valley

Affirmation of Faith — Westminster Shorter Catechism Q & A #90

Q: How is the word to be read and heard, that it may become effectual to salvation?

A: That the word may become effectual to salvation, we must attend thereunto with diligence, preparation, and prayer; receive it with faith and love, lay it up in our hearts, and practice it in our lives.

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

Medley

Mark Vestal

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