

# First Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church

## Newsletter

Vol. 43

January 13, 2015

No. 1

*From Paul David Tripp's -*

### *New Morning Mercies*

*A Daily Gospel Devotional*

January 12

*God calls you to persevere by faith, and then,  
with powerful grace, he protects and keeps you.*

It is a wonderfully encouraging name for the God you serve, yet it's possible to let it pass through your eyes and into your brain without stopping to celebrate its glory. In Romans 15:5, Paul calls your Lord "the God of endurance." This title really gets at the center of where your hope is to be found. Let me state it plainly: your hope is not to be found in your willingness and ability to endure, but in God's unshakable, enduring commitment to never turn from his work of grace. Your hope is that you have been welcomed into communion with One who will endure no matter what.

Why is this so important to understand? Because your endurance will be spotty at best. There will be moments when you will forget who you are and live as a grace amnesiac. There will be times when you will get discouraged and for a while quit doing the good things God calls you to do. There will be moments, big and small, when you will willingly rebel. You may be thinking, "Not me." But think with me — when you, as a Christian, say something nasty to another person, you don't do it because you're ignorant that it is wrong, but because at that point you don't give a rip about what is wrong.

You see, perfect endurance demands just that, perfection, and since none of us is there yet, we must look outside ourselves for hope. Your hope of enduring is not to be found in your character or strength, but in your Lord's. Because he will ever be faithful, you can bank on the fact that he will give you what you need to be faithful too. Your perseverance rests on him, and he defines what endurance looks like! It is the race of endurance granted to you by the God of endurance that provides you with everything you need to continue to be what he calls you to be and do what he calls you to do between this moment and the moment when you cross over to the other side. When difficulty exposes the weakness of your resolve and the limits of your strength, you do not have to panic, because he will endure even in those moments when you don't feel able to do so yourself.

*For further study and encouragement:  
1 Timothy 6:11-16.*

#### **PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE**

The Pastoral Search committee has been busy and working very hard for the past several months. The committee has received and reviewed over forty resumes from many talented and Godly men.

Our God is a sovereign God and we must be patient as we put our trust and faith in Him as we seek His will. We are encouraged as the future looks very bright for First ARP. Pray for the committee, presbytery and God's church as we wait on our Lord to manifest His will for this portion of His vineyard here at First ARP Burlington.

Bill Haynes  
Chairman, Pastoral Search Committee

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## YOUNG AT HEART

Our January meeting will be on the 27th (4th Tuesday). Jan Burwell has graciously agreed to provide chili and salad; those who wish, may bring desserts. For the program, Foy Evans' daughter, Justine Robare of Raleigh, will be speaking about one of her missionary trips to Africa. Come join us for some good eating, fellowship, and enlightenment.

### COMMITTEES

The Session is in the process of reorganizing the Church Committee structure for 2015. If you would like to serve, or continue to serve, on any of our three committees, please contact one of the Elders whose name appears by each of the following committees.

Christian Education – Bill Haynes & John Robinson  
Missions & Outreach – Jim Knox & Jay Snow  
Worship – Gene Parks & Bennett Richardson

Committee function is a vital part of our church organization. We need your support and dedicated service to the Lord's work at First ARP.

### BEREAVEMENT COMMITTEE

The Bereavement Committee offers support for the family of those who have passed away such as a meal following the memorial service. This is a vital ministry of our church. If you would like to be involved in this ministry, please contact one of the elders or deacons.

### INTERCESSORY PRAYER NEEDS

**ILLNESS:** **Theo Baulding** (*Still needs prayer*); **The Gregorys** (*Hope – Alzheimer's, Gary – Caregiver*); **Mae Wilburn** (*Still needs prayer*); **The Owens** (*Margaret's sister Phyllis, now at Edewood, is making some progress, receiving therapy and breathing treatments. Their son-in-law Scott is still on chemo, but his tumor has shrunk significantly, praise God!*); **Mary Renegar** (*Recently diagnosed COPD*); **Peggy Mitchell** (*Has several rib fractures, now at the Oaks, Rm 213, for rehab*); **Boswell Family** (*Harold's sister Virginia with Alzheimer's. Shirley's sister Audrey, Parkinson's*); **Grady Pack** (*Recuperating at home after a stay in hospital, on oxygen and many meds.*); **Remember all our shut-ins.**

**CHURCH NEEDS:** Support for the new Session and Diaconate; Congregational love & unity; Pastor Search.

**MISSIONARIES:** Andy & Nannette Howard (Pakistan), Jeff & Lisa King (Chile), Ali & Tara Mitchell (ARP Connect), Jubilee Birthday Ladies – Sheila Osborne & Nannette Howard

**OTHER MISSIONS:** Doug Arms (Elon), Jesse Wesselink (International Students, Inc), Siloam Missionary Homes, Alamance Pregnancy Center, Allied Churches, Meals on Wheels

### JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Steve walton	1/4
Mark Sanderson	1/9
Janice Ward	1/9
Andrew Newton	1/10
Mark Vestal	1/12
Alex Constable	1/14
Jessica Richardson	1/15
Anna Spencer	1/18
Grady Pack	1/19
Julie Snow	1/20
Elizabeth Barber	1/23
Dottie Latta	1/24
Theo Baulding	1/25
Bryan Jones	1/26

### JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Phillip and Frankie Beaman (15) 1/9

### TRINIDAD MISSION TRIP

Jessie Richardson, Donna Wolff and Connie Bennett will be going on a medical mission January 16th-to the 25th to Trinidad. We would like to raise prayer support and assistance with the costs of the trip. Let us know if you would be willing to pray for us, the trip, the team, and the people we will meet at our clinics. If you wish to give financially you can send a check to: **MTW, PO Box 2589, Suwanee, GA 30024-0982. In the memo line put Event# EV5944 and the name of the person to whom you are giving.** Thank you for all your caring and praying.

### NEW ADDRESSES

Dick and Lillian Fuller 1555 N. Main St PO Box 193 Frankfort, IN 46041	Myrlean Schwerin 1317 N 43rd St St. Joseph, MO 64506
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### MINISTRY REMINDERS

#### Nursery:

Jan 18: Karen Jones  
Connie Bennett  
Jan 25: Stephen Robinson  
Doug Cobb

#### Counter:

Jan 18: Doug Glass  
Jan 25: Jim Knox

#### Deacon Duty:

Jan 18: Stephen Robinson  
Jan 25: Macon Baird