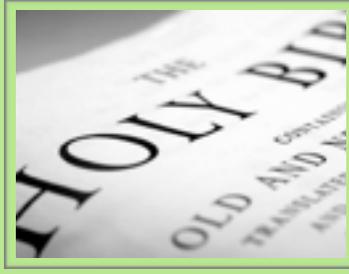


# First Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church Newsletter



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No. 9

## *From the Pastor*

Over the course of the last week or so, the media (especially the sports media) has been abuzz over the controversy surrounding Donald Sterling, the billionaire owner of the Los Angeles Clippers. Long suspected of racist and discriminatory policies in business, he was finally exposed this week because of an audio recording released to the media. On it he is having a private conversation with his mistress in which he makes a number of highly offensive comments. The furor was immediate and intense. Within a few days, the commissioner of the NBA had fined him \$2.5 million and slapped him with a lifetime ban from professional basketball. An imminent vote by the rest of the owners in the NBA is expected to yield a 29-0 decision to force him to sell the team.

Of course there are a lot of things wrong with the situation, but mostly the situation reminded me of two realities. The first is that whatever we say in private always has the possibility of being made public. As Jesus puts it, "Nothing is covered up that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be made known. Therefore whatever you have said in the dark shall be heard in the light, and what you have whispered in private rooms shall be proclaimed on the housetops" (Luke 12:2-3). I wonder how much more circumspect and wise we would be with our words if every time we opened our mouth to speak we were aware that the words we were about to speak could eventually travel to other ears we did not intend. Even more so, how much more careful we would be with our words if we only spoke what we were willing to have proclaimed from the housetops. I suspect we all would be a lot more measured and honoring with our words.

The second is that whether or not our words spoken in private are ever made public, God hears every word that comes out of our mouth. There is a divine "recording" of everything we say and not just what we say but what we even think in the privacy of our minds. How thankful we should be that because of Christ, God removes our sins from us as far as the east is from the west. In Christ, he burns the audio recordings of all our dishonoring thoughts and words and, in the words of the Heidelberg Catechism, treats as if we had never sinned nor even been a sinner. Thanks be to God.



## CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to the family of Louise Farrell of Yanceyville who passed away on April 21, 2014. She was the sister of Helen Parks.

Please pray for the family of Pat Riddell of our congregation. Pat went to be with the Lord on April 30, 2014. The funeral will be here at First ARP on Thursday, May 8, 2014 at 1:30 pm. The family will receive friends Wednesday, May 7, 2014 from 5 to 8 pm at Lowe Funeral Home and Crematory.

## MISSIONS SUNDAY

This Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, Ali Mitchell one of our missionaries will be speaking about his work with Muslim students in South Carolina. Ali will be sharing during Sunday School and will bring the message at the morning worship service. **Please join us for a potluck lunch following the service.** Dessert will be supplied. Come and learn more about reaching out to Muslims in our community.

## LIMON MISSIONS TRIP

Ed and Lynn Limon (and Kelly) have been invited back to teach at 2 music camps this summer in Mexico. As many of you know, they have been doing this since 1990. They plan to leave on Saturday, July 12 and return Sunday, August 3. They need both financial and prayer support. If you can help financially, please send in your tax-free donation to Mission To The World at:

**MTW Project Payments  
PO Box 116284  
Atlanta, GA 30368-6284**

In the memo line, please note: **Support Acct #: 14336.**

If you have any questions, please contact Ed or Lynn. They ask you to pray for their preparations as well as their health, safety, and ability to reach many during these camps.

2250 Saddle Club Road, Burlington, NC 27215

Online: [firstarpburlington.org](http://firstarpburlington.org) | [www.facebook.com/FirstARPBurlington](http://www.facebook.com/FirstARPBurlington)  
Office Email: [gloria@firstarpburlington.org](mailto:gloria@firstarpburlington.org) | Office Phone: 336-584-6929

## MISSION MOMENTS

Appointed to represent ARP World Witness in 2010, Jeff & Lisa King had a desire to work with Hispanic children and their families. Both were graduates in Elementary Education and met while teaching at an International Christian School in Venezuela. From 2012 to August last year they completed a course of language study as preparation for assignment to Chile. In October they arrived in the city of Quilpue, a small city of 130,000 and moved into a facility which has a classroom building, soccer field and a home for them to use as they reach out to children in the area who need to hear the gospel. The Kings have two pre-school children of their own and were part of the group who visited our church at last spring's Mission Weekend. Please remember them as you pray!

### G.I.R.L. Time (Getting Into Real Life)

Check out the fun pictures from our last meeting on the church Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/FirstARPBurlington>.

Sunday May 18 are church-wide events, so we will join in fellowship with the church family.

**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. Please contact Jessie Richardson if you are interested in attending. Her new email address is: [richardson.jessica83@gmail.com](mailto:richardson.jessica83@gmail.com).

### TWIN LAKES ROCK-A-THON

The Twin Lakes annual Rock-A-Thon will take place Friday and Saturday, May 9th and 10th at the Holly Hill Mall. This is a charity event sponsored by Twin Lakes in support of the 2014 Alzheimer Association Memory Walk to End Alzheimer's. We are in need of 30 volunteers to rock for one hour between the hours of 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Friday and/or Saturday. Each volunteer is asked to attempt contacting 3 friends requesting a donation of \$10 each, although any size donation is appreciated. Please consider volunteering for a fun one hour of fellowship to support a worthy cause. Who doesn't like to sit in a rocking chair and rock? Contact Gary Gregory at 336-584-4055 if you would like to volunteer and schedule your time slot.

### YOUNG AT HEART

We had 26 in attendance for our April Young at Heart meeting. Our next meeting will be Tuesday May 27. Mark McKinney from Christian Adventures Youth Ministry in Graham, North Carolina will be our speaker. Christian Adventurers' motto is "Declaring God's power to the next generation." Psalm 71:18. The purpose of this organization is to communicate a Christian world view to the unchurched youth and the casual follower of Christ through Bible study every Monday night for kids 8-18. The night also consists of basketball games, Bible study and times for kids to hang out with each other. Our menu will consist of sandwiches, salad, fruit and dessert. Any food contributions will be gratefully accepted. Please let Margaret or Glenn know if you plan to bring something.

### NEW ADDRESS

If you would like to send a letter of encouragement to one of our own servicemen, **Josh Limon**, his address is:

Pvt. Limon, Josh  
A-Co., 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry Regiment  
"River Raiders"  
5500 Marion Ave.  
Ft. Jackson, SC 29207

### MAY BIRTHDAYS

Bill Haynes	5/1
Graig Pulley	5/1
Connie Bennett	5/4
Pat Kinney	5/10
Frances Vanderford	5/10
Wendell Turner	5/11
Ian Constable	5/14
Mary Jane Glass	5/16
Ben Wright	5/18
Jacob Christopher	5/26
Jason Massey	5/28
Esther Roy	5/28
Kathy Isley	5/30
Mae Wilburn	5/31

### MAY ANNIVERSARIES

Matt & Britt Causey (11)	5/10
Bill & Fran Haynes (53)	5/14
Isaac & Chelle Spencer (5)	5/16
Jim & June Little (56)	5/17
Larry & Lynne Causey (42)	5/20
Eddie & Jo McKinnon (39)	5/25
Marcus & Lauren Orr (12)	5/25
Ferald & Betty Mann (47)	5/28

### MINISTRY REMINDERS

#### Nursery:

May 11: Chelle Spencer  
Fran Haynes  
May 18: Myrleann Schwerin  
Isaac Spencer

#### Children's Church:

May 11: Dot Hutelmyer  
Betty Bessette  
May 18: Chelle Spencer  
Lynn Limon

#### Counter:

May 11: Tim Bessette  
May 18: Gene Parks

#### Deacon Duty:

May 11: Doug Glass  
May 18: Tim Bessette

#### Elder Greeter:

May 11: None Scheduled  
May 18: None Scheduled