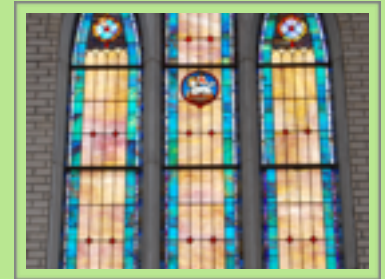


# First Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church Newsletter



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No. 11

## *From the Pastor*

As a Presbyterian denomination, the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church is organized into three “levels” of church government. Each local church has a session, made up of congregationally-elected elders. Then, churches within a certain geographical area are organized into a presbytery. Our particular presbytery is called First Presbytery (it covers all of North Carolina, part of southwest Virginia, part of southeast Kentucky, and part of east Tennessee). And then, all the presbyteries are bound together in what is called a Synod. Sessions meet monthly, presbyteries quarterly, and the Synod annually. Our Synod, called the General Synod, meets every June. Next week, I will be away at this annual denominational meeting.

Though the days are long and sometimes very tedious, often matters of great consequence for the denomination and even down to the local church level are discussed, debated, and decided. This year, there will be a special committee reporting on proposed changes to our denomination’s Book of Discipline (how disciplinary procedures in churches, presbyteries, and the denomination are handled), another special committee reporting on a revision of our denomination’s Form of Government (the system of government and procedures for every level of our denomination), and yet another special committee that was appointed to review two chapters of the Westminster Confession of Faith (our doctrinal standard) that were added much later than the original and adopted by our denomination after their authorship. This last committee is recommending that we remove those two additional chapters and revert back to the original Westminster Confession of Faith. This is the 210th meeting of our General Synod and I suspect that rarely, if ever, has the denomination entertained proposed changes to its Book of Discipline, its Form of Government, and its foundational doctrinal standards all in the same year. (By the way, I think all of the proposed changes are, by and large, worth supporting).

This, of course, does not even touch on the “normal” business that is taken up every year during the General Synod. Would you please pray for our denomination as it convenes next week, that God would give all the delegates wisdom and grace, the guidance of his Holy Spirit, and a cooperative spirit of love and charity?

### **CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY**

Please pray for the family of Winfred L. (Beadie) Sumner who passed away on Monday, May 26, 2014.

### **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!**

Please extend a warm welcome to Erik, Kelli, and Zoey Ensley.

### **WELCOME NEW COMMICANT MEMBERS!**

Please welcome Noah Gregory, Abigail Newton and Andrew Newton into our fellowship as communicant members.

### **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!

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## MISSION MOMENTS

SILOAM MISSIONARY HOMES are located in Snow Camp and have been providing a place for families on furlough for the past 22 years. Currently 13 of the 14 houses are occupied. The houses have facilities ranging from one to four bedrooms. There are 33 acres of land on which a family center, chapel, recreation and exercise rooms, playgrounds and a mini farm are located. "Dad's Country Store" provides necessary food supplies for the families. Goats, sheep and chickens supply fresh meat for them. Community members are invited to take part in special events during the year, and a monthly Senior Citizen visit day is offered too. Volunteers are always needed as well. Another worthy local outreach for our prayers!

## TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study meets June 10 in the conference room at 10:30. Topic from Proverbs is "using Our Wealth Wisely." Come join us!

## G.I.R.L. Time

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. *July events are planned! Stay tuned!!*

## ARP WOMEN'S MINISTRY SUMMER SCHEDULE

**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).

## RECOGNITION OF GRADUATES

This past Sunday we recognized our college graduates, Josh Limon and John Snow. This Sunday we will recognize our high school graduates, Erin Cobb and Seth Spaulding. Please extend your congratulations to Josh, John, Erin and Seth!

## 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.

## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Heather Hayes	6/6
Kevin Hutelmyer	6/8
Dick Fuller	6/10
Lillian Fuller	6/11
Steven Cobb	6/16
Kelton Christopher	6/17
Audrey Sneed	6/17
Judy Bernhardt	6/18
Aaric Newton	6/21
Kasey Burwell	6/23
Kristen Carter	6/23
Lainey Childrey	6/23
Lauren Orr	6/23
Bryan Gregory	6/26
Helen Parks	6/30

## JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

Travis & Kristen Carter (1)	6/1
Jim & Lola Knox (58)	6/8
Bryan & Christy Gregory (14)	6/10
Grady & Pat Pack (59)	6/19
Bryan & Karen Jones (27)	6/20
Doug & Mary Jane Glass (34)	6/28

## BIRTHDAY 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.

## MINISTRY REMINDERS

### Nursery:

June 8: Myrleann Schwerin  
Macon Baird  
June 15: Chelle Spencer  
Mary Jane Glass

### Children's Church:

June 8: Christy Gregory  
Chelle Spencer  
June 15: Jan Burwell  
Tammy Cobb

### Counter:

June 8: David Newton  
June 15: Gene Parks

### Deacon Duty:

June 8: Tim Bessette  
June 15: Glenn Owens

### Elder Greeter:

June 8: Bill Haynes  
June 15: Jim Knox