



First Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church

Newsletter

Vol. 42

September 9, 2014

No. 16

From the Session:

Continued from the A.R. P. Book of Standards. We encourage you to keep your copy for future reference.

DESCRIPTION AND QUALIFICATIONS OF A RULING ELDER

There were elders of the people for the government of the Old Testament Church. Likewise in the New Testament Church, besides the apostles and ministers, there were elders who ruled.

To the office of ruling elder shall be chosen men of wisdom, discretion, sound faith and Godly life, and who are qualified under the standards recorded in Scripture.

INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Ruling elders are chosen by voting members of the congregation and are their immediate representatives. Together with the ministers, they exercise government and discipline. They oversee the spiritual interests both of the particular congregation and of the Church generally when appointed to represent the congregation in the higher courts. In all the courts of the Church ruling elders possess the same authority and the same eligibility to office as ministers.

It is the responsibility of ruling elders, both individually and jointly, to guard and promote the spiritual welfare of the congregation. They are required by their office to visit the people, especially the sick, and pray with them, to comfort the sorrowing, encourage the weak, guide the wayward and the careless, and, in general, to discharge all other duties in Christian love. Although ruling elders do represent congregations by election, they are to seek the will of God in all church court decisions.

DESCRIPTION AND QUALIFICATIONS OF A DEACON

The office of deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of sympathy and service after the example of Christ.

To this office should be chosen persons of good character, honest repute, exemplary life, brotherly love, sympathetic nature, and sound judgment, and who are qualified under the standards recorded in Scripture.

INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITIES

It is the duty of a deacon to be a faithful and diligent Christian, actively sharing in the worship and service of the Church and giving particular emphasis to the duties of his office.

THE DIACONATE

Its purpose. The diaconate shall be responsible for the congregation's ministry to those in material need or distress. It shall also encourage practice of total stewardship among the members of the congregation.

REQUEST FROM THE SESSION

All members of the congregation are requested and encouraged to contact their shepherding elder when they hear of anyone that may be sick, going in the hospital, or if there has been a death in the family. This will allow follow-up by the elders and deacons. Your assistance is very important during this time of transition. We know we can count on you!

CONGREGATION MEETING *Informational Meeting*

In view of the fact that the congregation failed to select a Pastoral Search Committee at the August 24 meeting, the Session has scheduled an *Informational Meeting* during the Sunday School Hour on September 21.

The purpose is to provide explanations about our Form of Government and the formation of a Pastoral Search Committee. This will allow members to ask questions as well as offer suggestions and other input.

This is an important time in the life of this Church, and we need a clear understanding between officers and members as the process goes forward. Please contact an Elder if you have any questions at this time.

INTERCESSORY PRAYER NEEDS

Illness: Theo Baulding (Crushed Vertebrae & Treatment), Jean Cathey (Eye Surgery), Lillian Fuller (Femur Fractures), The Gregorys (Hope – Alzheimer's, Gary – Caregiver), Lola Knox (Eye Surgery), Catherine Mangum (Hip Fracture & Surgery – Edgewood), Betty Mann (Had more heart tests, Surgery 9/16), Margie Mann (Thyroiditis), Nicole Newton (Surgery), Mae Wilburn (Fractured Femur & Surgery - Edgewood, Fran Haynes (Baker's Cyst)

Bereavement: Family of Opal Smith, Foy & Family of Geneva Evans

Church Needs: Elders, Deacons, 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

2250 Saddle Club Road, Burlington, NC 27215

Online: firstarpburlington.org | www.facebook.com/FirstARPBurlington

Office Email: gloria@firstarpburlington.org | Office Phone: 336-584-6929



We will be sending the newsletter on a bimonthly basis.
Publications will be on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month.



HANDBELL CHOIR

Handbell Choir will resume practice on Sunday, September 14 at 4 pm.
We welcome new members!

HANDBELL CHOIR WORKSHOP

Ed Limon will hold a handbell workshop to teach the basics of handbell playing to anyone interested in trying out a new musical activity. He would like to hold this session on Saturday, September 27 at 10 am. Please RSVP to limonfam6@hotmail.com or 336-449-0161 so Ed will know who is going to participate.

YOUNG AT HEART

We kick off 2014-2015 year on September 23, at 11:45 AM. A menu of lasagna, salad and rolls will be provided. If you wish to bring a dish of vegetables, salads and/or desserts, please do! We look forward to hearing from the Piedmont Rescue Mission with Tony Honeycutt and several associates with music and testimonies.

Schedule for Young At Heart. We will meet as scheduled in October (fourth Tuesday), but Margaret and Glenn will be gone in December and January, so if someone else would like to coordinate the event for those months, please let Glenn or Margaret know; otherwise, October will be the last meeting in 2014 and we will not meet again until February.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Bennett Richardson	9/1
Gwen Hilton	9/4
Libby Cobb	9/6
Karen Hayes	9/6
Jill Roy	9/6
Doug Cobb	9/15
Nicole Newton	9/18
Ariel Constable	9/19
Larry Isley	9/20
Jim Little	9/20
Peggy Mitchell	9/20
Betty Bessette	9/22
Jillian Roy	9/29
Beth Seay	9/30
John Snow	9/30



SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Tom & Vicki McPherson (38)	9/4
Tim & Lynn Robinson (42)	9/9
Len & Jessica Sneed (15)	9/17
Charles & Beth Seay (33)	9/19
Tom & Lorene Childrey (54)	9/25



MEALS ON WHEELS

Substitutes Needed!

Glenn and Margaret Owens deliver meals every four weeks on Monday and Tuesday. They are in need of volunteers from First ARP to help fill in for them when they are gone in December and January. You may call

Margaret at 336-263-7666 to find out more details. You may also call the church office at 336-584-6929.

SECRET SISTER REVEAL

September 28 - Secret Sister Reveal! Lunch after the worship service. Secret Sisters will do their "reveal" to one another 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 richardson.jessica83@gmail.com.

Thank you!

LADIES BIBLE STUDY

The Tuesday morning ladies Bible study has been cancelled until further notice.

MINISTRY REMINDERS

Nursery:

Sept 14: Macon Baird
Mary Jane Glass
Sept 21: Chelle Spencer
Connie Bennett

Counter:

Sept 14: Gene Parks
Sept 21: Mark Vestal

Deacon Duty:

Sept 14: Doug Glass
Sept 21: Glenn Owens

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