



From the Pastor:

Dear Congregation,

Several events in our church life have recently been a great blessing. I want to say a special thanks to all who have planned and hosted these events - Young at Heart on Tuesday, our Sunday Evening Baked Potato Bar and the BBQ and Music the other Saturday.

These wonderful events provide opportunity for us to see one another in a more relaxed atmosphere. We are able to fellowship, know one another better and enjoy God's good gifts of food!

Many thanks to all who have helped make these rich fellowship events possible. It's a great service to the body of Christ.

This Sunday evening will be our last 5th Sunday Hymn Sing and Social for the year. Please make plans to join us at 6 PM for singing and eating. Our social afterwards will include ice cream and pies.

During the morning service, we will consider Hebrews 13:1-3, where God speaks to us about how we should relate to one another in the church family - in brotherly love, with hospitality and considering those suffering (imprisoned) for the sake of the Gospel.

On the last Sunday of October we observe Reformation Sunday. It's a big deal for us because we are Protestants, those who protested against the mainline church of the 15th and 16th centuries.

What does it mean to be Reformed? After all, we are First Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church.

First, it is a reference to our historical link to the Reformation of the 16th century and intends to describe us as the heirs of that tradition which comes from Luther, Calvin, Knox and other reformers.

Second, the word reformed is used most commonly to refer to certain theological distinctives, which have marked reformation believers, particularly those in the Calvinist tradition. We believe that the Bible is our only "rule of faith and practice," therefore it "reforms" all of our life to conform to God's standards.

Third, we are connected in history to the Reformed Presbytery, a group that left the Church of Scotland in 1743, because the King of Scotland would not sign the Solemn League and Covenant, which affirmed that Christ alone was head and king of the church, not the civil magistrate.

In worship, let's thank the Lord for giving us such a heritage - one that provides us with rich worship, Gospel preaching, faithful theology and a way of life that will serve us well as we make our way heavenward. God has been gracious to reform his church!

The Operation Christmas Child Shoe Boxes are piling up in the Fellowship Hall. Be sure to look online for instructions or pick up a brochure at the Sanctuary entrances. You may also contact Joyce Payne if you'd like assistance. Last year we collected over 80 boxes. Let's see if we can spread the joy of Christ by hitting the 100 box mark.

Finally, all able-bodied folk make plans for a church workday on Saturday, November 5. The men will continue their labors on the downspout and gutter drainage system and there will also be a list of indoor chores. If you see something that you think needs doing (like raking mulch back in beds after a hurricane passes, for example) tell a Deacon that you'd like to come knock that task out. You may even come by during the week if Saturdays aren't good for your schedule.

See you Sunday,

OCTOBER FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES!

- The next 5th Sunday Hymn Sing and Social will be at 6 PM on Sunday, October 30.
- WORKDAY. Saturday, November 5, 9 AM. Many hands make light work!

WOMEN'S BIBLE/BOOK STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Wednesday Ladies **Weekly Bible Study** meets in the Conference Room at 11 AM to study Galatians for You by Timothy Keller.

DENOMINATIONAL OFFERING

Each year at Thanksgiving time the ARP Church collects a special offering to support some of the ministries of our denomination. You will find an insert and envelope in your bulletin on Sunday, November 13. This offering will be collected through Sunday, December 4.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Operation Christmas Child boxes are due by November 20. Feel free to bring in your boxes now and store them in the Fellowship Hall. Suggestion: try to create one more box than you did last year. \$7 postage is due for each box. If you need help or have questions contact Joyce Payne 222-1133.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS AT FIRST ARP

October

- 26 Women's Bible Study
- 30 Fifth Sunday Hymn Sing and Social

November

- 4-5 Women's Ministry - First Presbytery 109th Annual Meeting & Retreat
- 5 Workday
- 6 Lord's Supper
Daylight Saving Ends
- 7 Men's Lunch
- 9 Women's Bible Study
- 10 Men's Evening Gathering
- 16 Women's Bible Study
- 17 Stated Session Meeting
- 19 Hanging of the Greens

NOVEMBER

BIRTHDAYS

Caleb Sneed	11/1
Phillip Beaman	11/3
Natalie Wright	11/3
Fran Haynes	11/4
Jean Cathey	11/5
Ann Dobbins	11/5
Chip Wright	11/8
Pat Montgomery	11/10
Jack Snow	11/10
David Newton	11/12
Martha Ann Crotts	11/13
Stephanie Payne	11/14
Sandy Childrey	11/15
Laurene Howington	11/20
Martha Alexander	11/22
Ellen Huffman	11/24
Audrey Turner	11/24
Laura Nicholson	11/27

ANNIVERSARIES

Russ & Joyce Payne (37)	11/3
William & Jill Roy (35)	11/7
Randall & Libby Cobb (30)	11/8
Jim & Carolyn Christopher (46)	11/21
Chuck & Mary Renegar (64)	11/22
Steve & Sue Walton	11/27
Rick & Carol Erb (24)	11/28

Want to serve folks in our community?

We participate in Meals on Wheels locally and are in need of volunteers. Please consider partnering with Glenn & Margaret Owens and Gary Gregory in monthly deliveries. Our upcoming commitments are: November 21, 22; December 19, 20. Speak to the Owens about serving - 336-269-3055.

Nursery:

Oct 30: John Robinson & Fran Haynes
Nov 6: Kathy Isley & Laurie Isley

Counter:

Oct 30: Glenn Owens
Nov 6: John Robinson

Deacon Duty:

Oct 30: Stephen Robinson
Nov 6: Glenn Owens

2250 Saddle Club Road, Burlington, NC 27215

Online: firstarpburlington.org | www.facebook.com/FirstARPBurlington | Office Phone: 336-584-6929
Admin Office: gloria@firstarpburlington.org | Finance Office: finance@firstarpburlington.org | Pastor: pastor@firstarpburlington.org