



From the Pastor:

Dear Congregation,

On Sunday afternoon I had the joy of opening and reading all of the cards that you so thoughtfully wrote to me for pastor appreciation. I am grateful to you for your kind words of encouragement!

Also, your regular words of encouragement before and after worship are a great blessing to me.

Ministry is not easy. It comes with many hazards to family, health and personal life. Your constant encouragements and prayers are a blessing.

While ministry has its difficulties, it also has its joys.

The Lord sees fit to bring powerful encouragement to those who minister in the church. I see the fruit of ministry in your lives as God's Word and Spirit penetrate your minds and hearts, and you serve him faithfully in every aspect of your lives. It is a blessing to see the body of Christ growing in grace, serving one another and enjoying rich life together in all of our weekly ministry events.

Thank you for the privilege of serving as your minister. It is a high calling, a sacred trust and one that I pray I may fulfill well with God's help.

Please note that the funeral service for Hope Gregory will be Thursday, October 8 at 3 PM at First ARP Church. A graveside service will follow at Alamance Memorial Park. The family will receive visitors on Wednesday from 6-8 PM at Rich and Thompson Funeral Home in Burlington. Please be in prayer for Gary and Ben, as well as the rest of the family as they mourn the loss of their loved one.

Homecoming is October 18 and we will celebrate 50 years of ministry. Remember to extend an invitation to those who have been associated with the church over the years. We will worship the Lord and celebrate over lunch on that special day.

This Sunday, we will be welcoming some new families into our midst. Please be sure to extend your warm greetings to Ossie and Jennifer Spaulding. Their three boys, Andre, David and Seth join with them. The Ickes family - Bryan, Sarah, Sophia, Ava Grace and Caleb - have also united with our congregation. Give thanks to the Lord for his adding to our numbers!

See you on the Lord's Day,

SYMPATHY

Please pray for the family of Hope Gregory who passed away on October 3, 2015 after a long battle with Alzheimer's disease.

THANK YOU

We had between 15-20 eager workers for our 1st Saturday Workday, 10/3/15. Many projects were addressed. We also had a generous lunch provided by Matt Causey. Thanks Matt!

DEACON'S MEETING

Deacons meeting is scheduled for this Sunday, 10/11/15. Time TBD.

HOMECOMING and 50th ANNIVERSARY

Make plans to celebrate the past **50 years of ministry** at First Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church on Sunday, October 18. Our special day will include a Special Sunday School Class for all at 9:45, Worship at 11:00 AM and a luncheon to follow in the Fellowship Hall. The Rev. Jamie Hunt, Moderator of the General Synod of the ARPC and retired minister from Coddle Creek ARPC in Mooresville will be our guest preacher. His theme will be, "Stand by the roads, and look, and ask for the ancient paths, where the good way is; and walk in it, and find rest for your souls" from Jeremiah 6:16. Any ideas for the celebration should be sent to Jim Knox.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS AT FIRST ARP

October

- 7 WM Bible Study - *Joshua* - 11:15 AM
- 8 Stated Session Meeting - 7 PM
- 13 First Presbytery at Christ Church Denver, NC
10 AM
- 13 WM Book Study - *Extravagant Grace* - 7:00 PM
- 16-18 Womens' Ministry ARP Fall Retreat at Bonclarken
- 18 Homecoming and 50th Anniversary
Meal following Worship.
- 21 WM Bible Study - *Joshua* - 11:15 AM
- 22 Called Session Meeting - 7 PM
- 27 Young at Heart Luncheon - 11:45 AM
- 28 WM Bible Study - *Joshua* - 11:15 AM

November

- 1 The Lord's Supper
- 4 WM Bible Study - *Joshua* - 11:15 AM
- 7 First Saturday Workday - 9 AM - Noon
- 10 WM Book Study - *Extravagant Grace* - 7:00 PM
- 11 WM Bible Study - *Joshua* - 11:15 AM
- 15 Annual Congregational Meeting
- 18 WM Bible Study - *Joshua* - 11:15 AM
- 29 Hymn Sing and Social - 6 PM

December

- 1 Young at Heart Christmas Luncheon - 11:45 AM
- 2 WM Bible Study - *Joshua* - 11:15 AM
- 4 Christmas Lessons & Carols with reception to
follow - 7 PM
- 5 First Saturday Workday - 9 AM - Noon
- 6 The Lord's Supper
- 8 WM Book Study - *Extravagant Grace* - 7:00 PM
- 9 WM Bible Study - *Joshua* - 11:15 AM - Luncheon
- 20 Christmas Caroling after Evening Service
- 24 Christmas Eve Service - 5 PM (tentative time)

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

Kelli Ensley	10/2
Becky Sneed	10/7
Margaret Mann	10/8
Macon Baird	10/11
Ed Limon	10/11
John Harris	10/13
Anne Garner	10/14
Len Sneed	10/17
Jay Snow	10/19
Tammy Cobb	10/20
Matt Causey	10/22
Jay Christopher	10/24
Chuck Renegar	10/25

ANNIVERSARIES

Macon and Katherine Baird (19)	10/12
Mark and Donna Vestal (21)	10/22
Mark and Amy Sanderson (30)	10/26



Nursery:

Oct 11: Dot Hutelmyer and John Robinson
Oct 18: Nicole Newton and Macon Baird

Counter:

Oct 11: Jay Snow
Oct 18: David Newton

Deacon Duty:

Oct 11: Stephen Robinson
Oct 18: Doug Glass

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