



From the Pastor:

Dear Church Family,

One recent sunny day, my son and I spent time getting our lawn mower tuned-up for the upcoming mowing season. We drained the oil, changed the filters, refilled the oil with fresh motor oil, sharpened the blades, leveled the mower deck and changed the spark plug.

The engine has only one spark plug. There were 28 hours of engine use on this particular plug and it clearly needed changing - it appeared burned up and dirty. We put in a brand new one.

After checking over our work, we fired up the engine. It ran very well! It felt good, sounded good and it was a great reward for an hour's labor.

Routine maintenance is a great thing! It ensures that a process or machine is operating at peak performance and prevents unnecessary wear and tear. We like to say our engine is firing on all cylinders.

From time to time we need the same in the church. Our sermon series, "Why Our Church Must..." has helped remind us why we do what we do and how we can do those things well. Our processes need tuning up from time to time.

We have filled in the blank each week with one of our main ministry areas of focus. Those areas of ministry are: Worship, Discipleship, Fellowship, Mercy and Stewardship. We hope our church fires on our five-cylinders!

We conclude this Sunday with "Why Our Church Must Be Good Stewards". God calls us to be good stewards or caretakers of all that he has entrusted to us. He gives us time, talents, resources, facilities, the Gospel, other people, and the keys to his kingdom. Our goals and functions as a church are to make sure that when the Chief Steward returns, that he will say "Well Done!".

A second round of reminders about our marching orders as a church has come in the teaching series, "What is a Healthy Church?" that the elective class meeting in the Fellowship Hall has been watching and discussing. This class is a Ligonier (R.C. Sproul's ministry) production and is taught by Pastors Mark Dever and Jonathan Leeman. It has covered our sermon topics and many others important to church life.

On another note: the church office wants to be sure you are receiving all communications from the church. Our newsletter is weekly and is sent by mail or e-mail. The church website - www.firstarpburlington.org - is updated with bulletins, newsletters and sermons. We also maintain a Facebook page with periodic updates and announcements. Our official sermon website is on www.sermonaudio.com and is a great resource for our church sermon audio as well as other great messages on audio and video from trusted ministers of the Gospel. There are also periodic emails with updates or emergencies. If you would like a phone call when there is an important update, please let me know. In case you need me, my phone is always with me and you may call, text or email me at 336.944.2892.

We have recently separated the morning and evening bulletins for our church services. This has been done to allow for our officer listings to be on the morning edition. The evening bulletin now has a more extensive and updated weekly prayer list. We utilize this list as we spend 20 minutes each week during the service praying for the needs of the church and world.

May the Lord bless you this week and I do hope to see you all on Sunday!

Sunday Night Supper. Chicken Pie and Fruit Salad will be served after the evening service this Sunday, February 26.

Fellowship while Crafting. Saturday, March 4th, at 1 PM, join in the fun! We will be making a craft to add to gift bags for our homebound members! Lunch will be from Chick-Fil-A--chicken nuggets and chicken salad with fresh fruit!

Visiting Homebound. Saturday, March 18th, at 2 PM, please join in visiting our homebound members!

PRAYER REQUESTS

Give thanks for the Word of God preached and the good news of Jesus Christ.

Give thanks to the Lord for Lynn Limon's post-surgery going well. Pray for her course of treatments and that she will remain cancer-free.

Pray for Cindy Wright's hip-replacement recovery and rehabilitation.

That the next generation of young people in our church would become vibrant believers, grow in their relationship with our Lord, and reflect the character of Christ throughout our community through their actions, behavior, speech, dress, etc., thereby impacting others in His name.

Pray for those in our churches dealing with family & relational struggles.

Ask that the Lord would provide suitable employment for those seeking work.

Surgery: Jean Cathey, eye, early March. Freeman Baulding, esophagus, March 9. Connie Bennett, foot, March 22.

Health & Strength: Harold Boswell, Chuck Renegar, Grady Pack.

For Andrew and Norene Brunson suffering persecution in Turkey.

Family of the Week: Theo Baulding.

College Students: Isaac Sasser, Jack Snow, David & Seth Spaulding.

Military: Josh Limon (Qatar), Steven Mendiola (Kansas).

Homebound Members: Elizabeth Barber, Theo Baulding, Jean Cathey, Foy Evans, Doris Haywood, June Little, George McKinney, Catherine Mangum, Pat Montgomery, Gene Parks (adjust to new home) and Mae Wilburn (skin cancer treatments & pain).

Local Church: Beacon Baptist Church, Rev. Gregory Barkman

Local Ministry: Gideons Alamance West Camp, Al Whitlow

Regional Ministry: Campus Outreach at Elon University (David Springer)

Foreign Missions: World Witness ARP Church (Alex Pettett)

For the Church of God to grow through the work of First Presbytery Church Extension and Synod's Outreach North America.

Ask for God to grant wisdom for those who serve in seats of authority: parents, earthly masters, governors, judges and officers of the law.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Booklets are available at the piano narthex entrance with information that will help you shop year round.

February:

- 1 1/2 yards of fabric
- Sewing kits. Walmart has \$1 kits or donate packs of needles, matching thread, small scissors
- Utility candles: Dollar Trees sells 6 pack for \$1

March:

- Soft items. All ages need something soft. See directions for making your own blankets.
- Fork & Spoon
- Small plate, cup, bowl

First ARP Calendar of Events

March

- 1 Ladies Bible Study - 11 AM
- 4 Craft Day & Chick-Fil-A Lunch 1 PM
- 5 Lord's Supper
- 6 Men's Lunch
- 7 Women's Envy of Eve Book Study - 7 PM
- 8 Ladies Bible Study - 11 AM
- 11 Church Workday
- 13 Men's Evening Gathering
- 15 Ladies Bible Study - 11 AM
- 18 Homebound Visitation
- 20 Stated Session Meeting
- 22 Ladies Bible Study - 11 AM
- 28 Young at Heart Luncheon
- 29 Ladies Bible Study - 11 AM

MARCH

BIRTHDAYS

Carolyn Constable	3/1
David Turner	3/2
Bryan Crotts	3/5
Kaitlyn Moore	3/6
Donna Vestal	3/6
Katherine Baird	3/10
Sarah Wright	3/10
Cathy Young	3/15
Caleb Ickes	3/16
Larry Causey	3/18
Gary Gregory	3/24
Kelly Limon	3/24
Carolyn Christopher	3/26

ANNIVERSARIES

Doug & Tammy Cobb (29) 3/12

Nursery:

Feb 26: Macon Baird & Fran Haynes
Mar 5: Donna Wolff & Vicki McPherson

Counter:

Feb 26: Ferald Mann
Mar 5: Stephen Robinson

Deacon Duty:

Feb 26: Glenn Owens
Mar 5: Larry Isley

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