

# First Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church Newsletter

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## Rev. Bryan P. Crotts

Bryan is a native of Burlington, North Carolina, a pastor's son. He has a younger brother and an older sister. His father is a Presbyterian minister currently serving as a campus minister at Duke University and the University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill. His mother is a retired English and literature teacher.

Having grown up in a Christian home, baptized into the covenant community as an infant, Bryan was always under the influence of God's Word through the ministry of his parents, Christian school and church. Though he professed faith in the Lord Jesus Christ in his younger days, a most influential moment in his walk with Christ came during college when he understood his unworthiness before a holy God due to sin. It was then that a serious faith in the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ became a strong reality in his life.

After spending a number of years working in the family furniture business, Bryan began to sense a call to pastoral ministry. He received his bachelor's degree in Bible and Religion in 1999 from King College in Bristol, Tennessee. After a year of marriage and work, Bryan and Mandy moved to the Charlotte, NC area to study at Reformed Theological Seminary (RTS). In 2003, he completed work for his Masters of Divinity degree from RTS.

During seminary, they joined Huntersville Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church in Huntersville, NC, where Bryan ultimately was called to serve as Associate Pastor. For seven years, Bryan served the congregation at Huntersville—one year as a Pastoral Intern and six years as Associate Pastor. While there he oversaw and helped revitalize several ministries of the church, including children, youth, and the under-35 group.

After nearly 10 years living in Huntersville, the Crotts were called to serve Christ Community Church (ARP) in Greensboro, NC. Bryan served as Associate Pastor from November 2009 to November 2012. During his tenure there, he filled a variety of pastoral ministry and administrative leadership roles in the church. He often preached, led worship and provided pastoral care. A significant portion of his labors were to provide leadership for a major church transformation

process, including assisting the church through a major facility move, facility renovations, staff reduction and right-sizing of budget.

In late 2012, Bryan was granted a study leave through a Spurgeon Fellowship. This fellowship allowed for a period of rest, reflection, family time, travel, study leave, and preparation to pursue a call to preach the word and pastor in a local congregation. During this time, the congregation of Providence Presbyterian Church (OPC), Greensboro, NC, received the Crotts family as members and extended a call to Bryan to serve as a Teacher of the Word. He served in that capacity for a year and a half by preaching on Sunday evenings and serving as an elder in the congregation. For the last year, Bryan has preached in various congregations in northeast Tennessee and continued in his study fellowship.



Bryan was first ordained as a Pastor in the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church in 2003, he was well respected within the denomination and served as Moderator of First Presbytery. He also served as the convener of the Reformation Roundtable; a group of men desiring to see the church of the Lord Jesus Christ thrive. In October 2013, Bryan was received as a Minister in the Orthodox Presbyterian Church (OPC). His ecclesiastical

membership is with the Presbytery of the Southeast of the OPC. Additionally, he is licensed by the Westminster Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA).

Mandy is a native of West Tennessee, a pastor's daughter. She has one older sister. She has played and coached basketball, played tennis at the collegiate level, and her interests are cooking and creative homemaking. She taught Spanish for five years before the Lord blessed their family with children. Her father is a retired Presbyterian minister and her mother is a retired mathematics teacher. They live in east Tennessee.

Carolyn is 10 years of age, Patrick is 8 years old and Martha Ann is 6 years old. We enjoy family, home, and being outdoors.

## EASTER CANTATA

Join us for our Easter Cantata, "Worthy Is The Lamb" by Sue C. Smith and Mason Brown on April 5, 2015, during the 11 O'clock worship service.

\*\*\* SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT \*\*\*

A special Congregational Called Meeting of the First Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church of Burlington, NC is duly called and announced by the Session to be held on Sunday, March 29, 2015 after the regular Sunday Morning 11 AM Worship Hour. The purpose of this called meeting is to vote to receive Rev. Bryan Crotts and accept the terms of the Call. Rev. Bryan Crotts will preach this Sunday, March 29, 2015.

The Session and the Board of Deacons strongly encourage all members of First ARP Congregation to participate in this process and fervently pray and seek God's will in this call.

### EASTER LILIES

If you would like to make a contribution for an Easter Lily for the sanctuary this year in honor or memory of someone, please fill out the form that can be located at each entrance to the sanctuary. Return the form along with your payment in the envelope provided by Sunday, March 29. You may take your plant home on Easter Sunday after the morning service.

### THANK YOU!

Thank you so much for the prayers, cards, calls and well wishes. I continue to improve and I am so thankful for my ARP friends and prayer partners. May God bless you!

-Jondeen Terry

### INTERCESSORY PRAYER NEEDS

**ILLNESS:** **Owen Constable** (Appendix-Hoping infection has cleared; next checkup 4/1/15); **Doug Glass** (Recovering from double pneumonia); **Mary Renegar** (Healing from skin cancer hand surgery); **Kathryn Richardson** (Pray for more days of feeling mostly well than days of severe hurting); **Peggy Mitchell** (Suffering from fractured back, moved to Edgewood Place, Rm 209); **Margaret Owens** (Minor surgery scheduled for 3/31); Margaret Owens' sister, **Carolyn Turbyfill** (Home now & on antibiotics, will have skin graft in about 3 wks); **Jean Cathey** (Recovering from eye infection); **Shirley Boswell** (Will have 2nd cataract surgery on 3/24; Harold's sister **Virginia** has Alzheimer's); **Jondeen Terry & Karen Hoke** (Recovering from knee surgery & injury); **Kay Moore** (Torn ligament in foot); **Gary, Hope, & Ben Gregory** (Prayer needed to sustain this family); *Remember all our shut-ins.*

**SYMPATHY:** The Congregation extends sincere sympathy to those who have lost loved ones in recent days: The family of **Whitney Mullen**, who passed away March 13, 2015.

**CHURCH NEEDS:** Congregational vote for new pastor on March 29.

**MISSIONARIES:** Andy & Nannette Howard (Pakistan), Jeff & Lisa King (Chile), Ali & Tara Mitchell (ARP Connect), Jubilee Birthday Ladies – Sheila Osborne & Nannette Howard

**OTHER MISSIONS:** Jesse Wesselink (International Students, Inc), Siloam Missionary Homes, Alamance Pregnancy Center, Allied Churches, Meals on Wheels

**\*\*VOLUNTEER NEEDED:** If anyone would agree to update the Intercessory Prayer Needs every two weeks, please contact Jim or Lola Knox.

### APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Alex Newton	4/3
Hannah Roy	4/5
James Constable	4/6
Jim Knox	4/6
Patricia Pack	4/6
Glenn Owens	4/8
Steve Kyaw	4/9
Jessica Sneed	4/10
Gene Parks	4/14
William Roy	4/15
Hope Gregory	4/19
Randall Cobb	4/21
Russ Payne	4/21
Jean McKinnon	4/25
Debbie Childrey	4/27
Bill Huffman	4/30

### APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

Seth & Laura Nicholson 4/15

### MEALS ON WHEELS

Volunteers are needed for Monday, May 11 and Tuesday, May 12. Please contact Glenn or Margaret Owens if you are able to help on one or both days. Please also consider letting them know if you are willing to be put on a list for when volunteers are needed.

### MINISTRY REMINDERS

**Nursery:**

Mar 29: Stephen Robinson  
Jessica Richardson  
April 5: Nicole Newton  
Kristen Carter

**Counter:**

Mar 29: Macon Baird  
April 5: Doug Glass

**Deacon Duty:**

Mar 29: David Newton  
April 5: Macon Baird

**Elder Greeter:**

Mar 29: Jim Knox  
April 5: Gene Parks

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