



First Associate Reformed PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Newsletter

Vol. 44

June 15, 2016

No. 22

From the Pastor:

Dear Congregation,

The months of May and June are busy times! No matter whether or not you are in school, it seems that the end of the school year dictates all of our lives in some way.

It begins with anticipation as summer vacation approaches. There are parties, ceremonies, recitals and more that call on our calendars. May is quickly gone!

The inevitable suction into the summer chaos of trips, family visits and the like then ensues. Let me take a few lines to encourage you in a way that should help you keep your head about you in the summer months.

No matter your schedule or location, don't stay away from worship on the Lord's Day. Each week God's design for us is six days of labor and one of rest. Sundays recalibrate us, put us back on center, or, you might say, reorient us to what is good, right and true. Don't forsake the Lord's House on the Lord's Day with the Lord's people. If you are leaving town, make sure to find a good church that will help you with these things in the town where you plan to spend the Lord's Day. There are so many good churches available and you will benefit from normal Sunday blessings and you will get to see a part of the kingdom that I think should be of encouragement to you. If possible, go to great lengths to plan your trips in a way that reduces your time away from your home church. You will be blessed in doing so! Ask me or any of your Session for help locating an out of town church that is faithful to the Scripture and the faith once for all handed down to us.

The church schedule will continue as normal for Sundays as we have Sunday School at 9:45, Worship at 11:00 AM and our Evening Service at 6:00 PM. Follow the calendar printed in the newsletter and the bulletin announcements weekly to see specific dates for various activities outside of Sunday. There will be changes, interruptions and adjustments that will need your attention and matching your calendar with the dates.

Let me mention a date that may seem far out to you, but one that will be upon us soon. That date is August 21 and is the time set for our annual Ministry Fair to be held during the Sunday School hour. At this event each member will be given the opportunity to see all ministries of the church and sign up to serve and be served in the life of our congregation. In the meantime, be thinking and praying about your portion in the life of the church. Our Westminster Confession of Faith teaches us in Chapter 26 that we are obliged to share in the gifts and graces of one another. When we take our member vows, we promise to serve one another with our time, talents and resources.

In the meantime, we have two fellowship events planned. On Sunday, July 17, there will be a congregational BBQ lunch after worship. Additionally, there will be a 5th Sunday Hymn Sing and Ice Cream Social on Sunday evening, July 31.

Please be aware that our church office is open weekly Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9:00 AM until 2:00 PM. You may reach the office and voicemail system by calling the church telephone number. Gloria Hendry handles all administrative duties and Laurene Howington handles all matters financial. Their e-mail addresses are below. You may make an appointment with them if you have a specific need. Pastor Crofts is available in the office, by appointment and almost always by mobile phone at (336) 944-2892. You may call or text him at any time!

This Sunday is nationally recognized as Father's Day. On Mother's Day in May I preached from the 5th Commandment regarding what children owe their parents. We will consider the opposite this Sunday - what parents owe their children, using Deuteronomy 6 and Ephesians 6. I pray that it will be a blessing to us!

Lord willing, see you on Sunday,

CONGREGATIONAL BBQ LUNCH

We will enjoy a congregational lunch on July 17. Please make plans to join us! More information regarding the meal will come in future announcements.

Support for Kelly Limon's Summer Mission

Internship may be directed to: Mission to the World
Donations - P.O. Box 2589 - Suwanee, GA 30024-0982.
Please note her account number #14265 in the memo line
and all gifts will be directed to her ministry support needs
for her trip in late June through July 2016.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS AT FIRST ARP

June

- 16 Stated Session Meeting
- 19 Father's Day
- 21 Women's Ministry Leadership Training

July

- 3 Lord's Supper
- 4 Independence Day
- 11 Men's Lunch
- 12 Women's *Extravagant Grace* Book Study, 7 PM
- 14 Stated Session Meeting
- 17 Congregational Lunch
- 19 Women's Ministry Leadership Training
- 21 Men's Evening Gathering
- 31 5th Sunday Hymn Sing and Social, 6 PM

August

- 2 Women's Ministry Leadership Training
- 7 Lord's Supper
- 8 Men's Lunch
- 9 Women's *Extravagant Grace* Book Study, 7 PM
- 11 Men's Evening Gathering
- 13 Women's Tea
- 18 Joint Officer & Stated Session Meeting
- 21 Ministry Fair

JUNE BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

Dick Wright	6/4
Heather Hayes	6/6
Kevin Hutelmyer	6/8
Steven Cobb	6/16
Kelton Christopher	6/17
Audrey Sneed	6/17
Judy Bernhardt	6/18
Aaric Newton	6/21
Kasey Burwell	6/23
Kristen Carter	6/23
Lainey Childrey	6/23
Helen Parks	6/30

ANNIVERSARIES

Travis & Kristen Carter (3)	6/1
Jim & Lola Knox (60)	6/8
Stephen & Kathryn Crotts (43)	6/16
Bryan & Mandy Crotts (17)	6/19
Grady & Patricia Pack (61)	6/19
Bryan & Karen Jones (29)	6/20
Doug & Mary Jane Glass (36)	6/28

MAY 31 FINANCIAL UPDATE

Contributions Year-to-date: \$95,407.08

Expenses Year-to-date: \$97,682.01

Nursery:

June 19: Vicki McPherson & Sarah Ickes
June 26: Nicole Newton & Dot Hutelmyer

Counter:

June 19: Ferald Mann
June 26: David Newton

Deacon Duty:

June 19: Stephen Robinson
June 26: Glenn Owens

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