

# First Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church Newsletter

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No. 13

## *From the Pastor:*

Dear Friends,

We had a wonderful Hymn Sing and Ice Cream Social this past Sunday night! The Fellowship Hall was full, voices were strong and everyone lingered to enjoy one another's company.

I am grateful for all who participated! Thank you for making the event a bright spot in the life of our congregation.

This event, I pray, served as a glimpse of what we can enjoy each Sunday evening in the future.

At the last Session meeting, approval was given to begin a weekly Sunday evening gathering. We will begin on Sunday, August 23 at 6 PM. Each week, there will be song, prayer and a Bible lesson.

Lord willing, a natural component of fellowship will take a life of its own. Some have suggested more ice cream! Others have given the idea of soup and sandwiches on occasion. Let us hear your ideas. Please let me know your thoughts via e-mail, phone, text message or the next time you are at church.

God blesses his people through his Word, when we fellowship together and in seasons of prayer and this will be a good investment of time for your growth and the growth of our congregation. Please make plans to make this a part of your weekly diet of spiritual food. We will all be glad that we have done so!

The next several weeks of sermons will be a series that gives us a glimpse of how our church will best grow. Sunday's sermon on the church served to remind us that we are God's holy people, called out of the world to live holy lives together and before a watching world. The next sermons will be on what I call the five areas of the church: *worship, discipleship, community, mercy and stewardship*.

Think of the engine of our church as a 4-cylinder motor that must fire on all cylinders. Worship is the catalyst! It fires the motor's cylinders, moving it forward. Out of worship flows our discipleship, our growth in the grace

and knowledge of Christ. Our life together, or community, will also thrive from a robust worship. Our ministry to others via various opportunities for mercy comes as we desire to serve others, whether locally or in a foreign context, so that they may come to a saving knowledge of Christ and worship Him! God requires stewards to be found faithful. And so we will explore what God says regarding our time, talents and treasure.

Please make plans to give your attention to these foundational studies of what the Scriptures teach us about our church.

I look forward to how the Lord and His Word will shape our congregation.

Blessings to you,



## **THANK YOU**

Dear First ARP Church Family,

I wanted to thank you and the lovely folks from First ARP Church for all you did for the family and friends of Peggy Mitchell to make her home-going service on Saturday a beautiful tribute to her.

Thank you for having everything at the church set perfectly for the service, and for that delicious luncheon afterwards. What a blessing to come back to such a cool, lovely room and be served such incredible food!

Your care and concern for all of us made a sad time much easier to bear, and your kindness and generosity will never be forgotten.

May God bless all of you for ministering to us on Saturday.

Sincerely,  
Linda Patterson  
(the "piano lady")

## SUNDAY NIGHTS @ FIRST

Join us at 6 PM every Sunday Night beginning August 23. We will sing, pray and hear from God's Word.

### WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

**Save The Date is Here!** Cheerio! All women ages 0 and up are invited to a tea served by the men of our church on Saturday, August 15, 2015 at 2pm. All women are encouraged to come to a planning meeting for the tea to be held in August. The meeting is scheduled for **tonight, July 14, 2015 at 6 pm** in the fellowship hall.

**ARP Women's Ministries Annual Meeting.** July 27, at 1 pm in The Patrick Room-Bonclarken. Guest Speaker, Suzanne Matthews will be speaking on "The Road to Victory."

### NEW MEMBERS CLASS - Summer 2015

Church Membership Class taught by Pastor Crotts meets in the Fellowship Hall during the 9:45 Sunday School hour. This class will continue through Sunday, August 16. All are welcome to attend!

### SESSION MEETING

The Session meets on July 23. Please pray for the Elders as they continue to make plans for congregational life.

### INTERCESSORY PRAYER NEEDS

**ILLNESS:** Please be in prayer for the following -- Tim Bessette; Owen Constable; Foy Evans; Gary, Hope, & Ben Gregory; Ellen Huffman; Margaret Owens; Margaret's sister Carolyn Turbyfill; Mary Renegar; Julie Snow; Steve Kyaw.  
**Remember all our shut-ins.**

**CHURCH NEEDS:** *Please contact Pastor Crotts for any needs that you may have or to alert him to any needs that are in our congregation: call/text 336-944-2892 or e-mail [pastor@firstarpburlington.org](mailto:pastor@firstarpburlington.org)*

**MISSIONARIES:** Andy & Nannette Howard (Pakistan), Jeff & Lisa King (Spain), 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.

### JULY BIRTHDAYS

Tom Childrey	7/2
Lynne Causey	7/5
Jamie Terry	7/8
Liam Hutelmyer	7/11
Isaac Spencer	7/11
Owen Constable	7/13
McKenna Constable	7/14
Chris Hutelmyer	7/14
Kathryn Richardson	7/15
Erik Ensley	7/16
Jondeen Terry	7/16
Ferald Mann	7/18
Patrick Crotts	7/24
Laurie Isley	7/30
Clay McPherson	7/30
Kevin Limon	7/31

### JULY ANNIVERSARIES

Tim & Betty Bessette (43)	7/1
Bill & Ellen Huffman (66)	7/23
George & Mary Lou McKinney (51)	7/26
Donald & Sandy Childrey (26)	7/29

### FINANCIAL UPDATE

June Contributions:	\$15,555.30
June Expenses	\$21,016.95
YTD (June 30) Contributions	\$82,975.26
YTD (June 30) Expenses	\$97,417.04

### MINISTRY REMINDERS

#### Nursery:

July 19: Nicole Newton  
Dot Hutelmyer  
July 26: Fran Haynes  
John Robinson

#### Counter:

July 19: John Robinson  
July 26: Jim Knox  
**Deacon Duty:**  
July 19: Stephen Robinson  
July 26: Macon Baird

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