



First Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church Newsletter

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No. 15

From the Pastor:

Dear Church Family,

It's been over 90-days since my arrival. The end of July marked three months on the job.

Do you remember one of my first articles to you: "Ready? Set. Go!"?

In that article, I mentioned that I would be learning the church, helping the Session evaluate our ministry and then making a plan to get going in August with a new year ahead of us.

That time is here!

I hope that you have your calendars marked for Sunday, August 23 at 9:45 am and are planning to attend our Ministry Fair to be held during our regular Sunday School Hour.

In the Fellowship Hall, there will be displays highlighting each Sunday School Class, opportunities to sign up for ministry teams or committees and information regarding upcoming weekday opportunities for ministry.

Our new session of Sunday School will begin on Sunday, August 30. I hope that you will select a class for discipleship and community opportunities. You'll be glad that you did!

In our recent sermons, we have heard from God's Word regarding each of the five areas of ministry that help give our church focus: Worship, Discipleship, Community, Mercy and Stewardship.

We worship together. Sermons, choir, handbells, participation in worship, keeping nursery, setting up for the Lord's Supper. There's so much to be done in order to do the main thing we were created to do and re-created in Christ Jesus for - glorifying God.

Through the ministry of discipleship, we have opportunities to grow in grace. Sunday school, Bible studies, counseling and more. Remember the Great Commission? Jesus says the church should teach Christians to obey all that has been commanded. There's much for us to learn, in fact, more than our lifetimes may allow!

Joyful interaction through various forms of community unite us together as we walk through life side-by-side. We eat, pray, sing and serve together in various ways, recognizing the many and varied gifts of the body of Christ. It's a beautiful picture when it all comes together.

Mercy ministry takes place inside our church as we take care of one-another. Outside our congregation, we have the opportunity to serve both locally and in the far reaches of the world. Our God is a God of mercy and we reflect his image in us to others as we serve them.

God asks that we be good stewards of our time, our talents and our treasures. A body of many gifts useful for God's glory and one another's good is an important part of a church's life. We must use our financial and physical resources well. It takes time, service and money to operate a church. And so we will seek the Lord's will in these things.

What do we do all year? Worship, Discipleship, Community, Mercy and Stewardship!

These aspects of the church need two things: 1) your participation and 2) the Holy Spirit's blessing.

Let's pray and serve together, looking to see what the Lord does in and through our church.

See you at the Ministry Fair on August 23!

LUNCH FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY

A Lunch Fellowship Sunday has been planned for August 16, 2015, following the Worship Service. A freshly prepared Salad Bar Event, including grilled chicken, bread, dessert and drinks, will be provided by the church in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome, so consider inviting someone to join you for our Lunch Fellowship Sunday.

MINISTRY FAIR

Make plans to come to the Ministry Fair on August 23 during the 9:45 Sunday School Hour. A preview of all opportunities to serve and be served at First ARP Church will be given. You may sign up for ministry committees & teams, hear about upcoming Sunday School Classes and other opportunities for growth in grace.

SUNDAY NIGHTS @ FIRST

Join us at 6 PM every Sunday Night beginning August 23. We will sing, pray and hear from God's Word. Our study will be: *The Christian Life*.

5th SUNDAY HYMN SING AND ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Plan to join us on August 30 at 6 PM in the Fellowship Hall for this time of singing and fellowship.

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

Ladies Tea. 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. Don't miss this opportunity for fellowship and fun!

YOUNG AT HEART

Young and Heart will resume on September 22. More details to come!



OPPORTUNITY TO SUPPORT MEALS ON WHEELS!

See Glenn Owens if you would like to attend!

INTERCESSORY PRAYER NEEDS

- Give thanks for God's grace to Jim Knox during a recent fall on his front steps. He did not suffer any major injuries but has some pain to overcome.
- Ask the Lord to restore health to Rachel Pelone after a recent hospital stay.
- Pray for Catherine Mangum's daughter Laura Moss to make a full recovery from illness.
- Pray for the unemployed to find work that uses their gifts.
- Ask that our caregivers may persevere in their labors of love.
- Lift up those who are chronically ill, that they may find grace in their hour of need.
- Pray for our aging members who experience various health-related trials.
- Ask that God would give parents faithfulness in raising their children.
- Remember our homebound members who are unable to enjoy our worship and fellowship.
- Marion Angel, Theo Baulding, Hope Gregory, Bill Huffman, Jim & June Little, Catherine Mangum, Pat Montgomery and Rucker Turner.
- Give thanks for those who serve our church in various ways.
- Ask God to help each of us to live holy lives before the watching world as a witness to Christ Jesus.

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

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

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Jo McKinnon	8/1
Roy Gage	8/4
Josh Limon	8/11
Catherine Mangum	8/13
Stephen Robinson	8/13
Lorene Childrey	8/14
Hannah Baird	8/19
Betty Mann	8/19
Carolyn Pulley	8/19
Deborah McGrogan	8/20
Lola Knox	8/21
Freeman Baulding	8/24
William Spencer	8/24
Kaye Murray	8/25
Erin Cobb	8/29
Doug Glass	8/29
Charles Seay	8/29
Foy Evans	8/30
Joyce Payne	8/31

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

Jay & Julie Snow	8/2
Kevin & Elizabeth Hutelmyer	8/9
Ed & Lynn Limon	8/10
Joe & Kaye Murray	8/11
Erik & Kelli Ensley	8/13
James & Carolyn Constable	8/23
Chip & Sarah Wright	8/24
Chris & Emily Hutelmyer	8/30

SESSION MEETING

The next Session Meeting is scheduled for August 20, 2015 at 7 PM.

MISSIONS BBQ/COOKOUT

Mark your calendar for September 26 from 4-8 PM and join us for some good food and fellowship. Stay tuned for further announcements and details.

MINISTRY REMINDERS

Nursery:	Counter:
Aug 16: Fran Haynes Macon Baird	Aug 16: Stephen Robinson Aug 23: David Newton
Aug 23: Nicole Newton Mary Jane Glass	Deacon Duty: Aug 16: Macon Baird Aug 23: Doug Glass