



First Associate Reformed PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

NEWSLETTER AUGUST 30, 2017 VOL. 45 ISSUE 33

We are a group of believers, united in Christ, for the glory of God, proclaiming Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, to Burlington and to the world.

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Church Family,

One of my prayers each week for our church is that each of us would grow in grace and thus be able to serve the people we bump into each week as we fulfill our daily callings from God. It is a prayer that has two bottom lines: make each of us more like Christ and let our Christlikeness be a witness to the power of the Gospel of Jesus.

So many believe that evangelism and missions are for the professionals. Sometimes that is true! We may send someone specially called, skilled, trained and set apart for a special work in our own country or one far off, to labor among a group of people who may be a difficult audience. But we cannot forget the need for each of us to “let our lights so shine before men”. I really believe that our church’s best witness is each of us living holy lives and going about our weekly business. Folks we meet in our daily calling won’t be able to help but ask, “Who are you and where are you from?”

The Apostle Peter tells Christians to “be prepared to give an account of the hope that is within us.” So, who are you and where are you from? Our study of Philippians this next Lord’s Day will help us with that—by the grace of God in Christ, having been saved by faith, we are citizens of Heaven! We’re like Abraham and the other sojourners in the letter to the Hebrews, pilgrims on the way to the New Jerusalem, but presently wandering through the wilderness. We are not from here, nor do we live by the customs of this world, but instead, by the ways of our King who has conquered us.

Another of my weekly prayers for our church is that we will all safely make it to heaven! Life is full of many dangers, toils and snares. We walk through the valley of the shadow of death. We weekly ask for the Lord’s help and blessing to live life in this fallen world. And by God’s grace and providential care, we will do so.

The Lord’s Day has often been referred to as the market day of the soul. We are able to enjoy the gifts of the church that the risen and ascended Christ has left with us on earth to feed, nourish, comfort, encourage and empower us with, in order that we can be filled full in order to go serve well.

Think of a trip to a local farmer’s market or your favorite food chain. We take our basket through, filling it with the necessary items to make sure each day our bodies are fueled. As we leave with our goods, there is a satisfaction that the week’s provisions can sustain us until next market day.

Sundays are like that! Our forefathers in the post Reformation era often gave this recipe for the Christian life: daily private bible reading, catechism study, Sunday morning and evening worship, congregational prayer meeting and family worship. Between our public or church activities and what we engage in privately at home, our souls can be filled full of Christ’s gifts from the stores of heaven for our good and growth.

So, on this week’s menu: In Sunday School, we will have our last study on heaven from Revelation 21-22. In worship, our consecutive study of Paul’s prison letter to the Philippians will find us with this challenge: imitate the right Christian examples, be warned by those who have fallen away from the Gospel & the church, and take great assurance that Jesus will raise you from the dead! Sunday evening’s study of the Beatitudes will teach us what it means to be pure in heart, along with it’s blessing—they will see God!

In morning worship, the sacrament of the Lord’s Supper will be served. Please take some time to think and prepare for this important meal. Our Westminster Larger Catechism helps us remember what we are to participate in at the supper: *Question 168 - What is the Lord's Supper? The Lord's Supper is a sacrament of the New Testament, wherein, by giving and receiving bread and wine according to the appointment of Jesus Christ, his death is showed forth; and they that worthily communicate feed upon his body and blood, to their spiritual nourishment and growth in grace; have their union and communion with him confirmed; testify and renew their thankfulness, and engagement to God, and their mutual love and fellowship each with other, as members of the same mystical body.*

Don’t forget last Sunday’s challenge from Philippians 3:12-16—Let’s press on toward the prize of heaven, giving our growth in grace all that we have, until we cross the finish line!

Blessings to you—

THE PRAYER NEEDS OF OUR CHURCH FAMILY

HEALTH & STRENGTH:

Connie Bennett (Parkinson's)
Macon Baird (recovering from surgery to remove throat cancer, praise the Lord no radiation treatment)
Theo Baulding (relief from hip pain)
Sarah Gilmore (Jack Snow's finance's mother recovery from major surgery)
Elizabeth—Denise Hummer's mother (health)
Lola Knox (regaining of strength after cancer treatments)
Mike Limon (Ed Limon's brother, recovering from open heart surgery)
Ferald Mann (surgery September 5)
Grady Pack (oxygen levels return to normal & stabilize)
Margaret Owens (balance)
Christine Roberts (Ed Limon's sister, alzheimers, moved to Fayetteville VA Home)
Mary Renegar (breathing issues)
Becky Sneed (broke right arm at wrist)
Audrey Turner (procedure, pray for good results)
Donna Wolffe (broke wrist)
Cindy Wright (healing from infection, strength with & healing from R.A.)

OTHER NEEDS:

Foy Evans' daughter, Justine Robare to find suitable employment now that they have moved to Elon

Ask the Lord to raise future church deacons, elders, ministers, missionaries

FOR OUR HOMEBOUND MEMBERS:

Elizabeth Barber, Theo Baulding, Jean Cathey, Foy Evans, Doris Haywood, June Little, George McKinney, Catherine Mangum, Pat Montgomery, Gene Parks, Mae Wilburn, Al Wright

FAMILY OF THE WEEK: June Little

RETURNING STUDENTS, TEACHERS

EMERGENCY WORKERS, LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS, ARMED FORCES:

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

Josh Limon, stateside; Steven Mendiola, Middle East (wife, Maggie & Baby Aleighana born 8/16)

LOCAL CHURCH: Grace Hill Church (ARP)

Pastor Ross Durham

MINISTRIES WE SUPPORT: (local) Christian Adventures Youth Ministry, leaders Terry Creech & Mark McKinney
(regional) ARP Chaplain (CPT) Mike Basie, Vicenza, Italy

MISSIONARIES: —that the name of Jesus would be faithfully preached across all lands
Andrew & Norene Brunson in Turkey; pray for his release from prison

ASSOCIATE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MINISTRIES: World Witness, head Alex Pettett & other leaders

FIRST ARP CALENDAR OF EVENTS & IMPORTANT DATES

Sunday, September 3	Lord's Supper
Wednesday, September 6	Cat Kids - 5:30 P.M.
Wednesday, September 6	Handbells Practice resumes - 6:30 P.M.
Monday, September 11	Men's Lunch @ Southbound - 12 noon
Monday, September 11	Men's Evening Gathering @ Panera - 7 P.M.
Tuesday, September 12	Ladies' Evening Book Study - 7 P.M.
Wednesday, September 13	Ladies' Bible Study - 11 A.M.
Wednesday, September 13	Cat Kids - 5:30 P.M.
Wednesday, September 13	Handbells Practice - 6:30 P.M.
Sunday, September 17	Breakfast & Called Congregational Meeting - 9:30 A.M.
Tuesday, September 19	Table Talk (20's & 30's) - 7 P.M.
Sunday, September 24	Homecoming & Luncheon
Saturday, September 30	Operation Christmas Child Box Packing - 4 P.M., Fellowship Hall

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, October 14	Fall Festival
Tuesday, October 19	Piedmont Rescue Mission Banquet - 6 P.M.
Saturday, November 25	Hanging of the Greens - 9 A.M. (Breakfast provided)
Wednesday, November 29	Lessons & Carols Rehearsal - 6 P.M. (Supper provided)
Sunday, December 3	Lessons & Carols - 6 P.M. (Reception to follow)
Sunday, December 17	Christmas Caroling & Treat Bag Delivery - 6 P.M. (cookies & hot chocolate to follow)

BIRTHDAYS

Gwen Hilton	September 4
Libby Cobb	September 6
Karen Hayes	September 6
Jill Roy	September 6
Carolyn Crotts	September 7
Doug Cobb	September 15
Ariel Constable	September 19
Larry Isley	September 20
Jackie Smith	September 24
Jillian Roy	September 29
John Snow	September 30

ANNIVERSARIES

Vicki & Tom McPherson	September 4
Lynn & Tim Robinson	September 9



The Session of First Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church is calling a Congregational Meeting
Sunday, September 17, 2017, at 9:30 A.M.

The purpose is to inform the congregation regarding the mission, values and vision of the church leadership
and engaging all of us in the work of the church as it seeks to accomplish her mission.

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall for this important event.

Breakfast food and drinks will be provided.



→  New books have arrived at the Book Table located outside of the church kitchen! Titles include  →

REFORMATION STUDY BIBLE, English Standard Version,

A LITTLE BOOK ON THE CHRISTIAN LIFE by John Calvin,

Reformation ABCs THE PEOPLE, PLACES & THINGS OF THE REFORMATION--FROM A to Z

by Stephen J. Nichols & Ned Bustard.

In celebration of 500 years since Martin Luther's nailing of the 95 Thesis on the Church Doors in Wittenberg,
Germany, read *MARTIN LUTHER A GUIDED TOUR ON HIS LIFE & THOUGHT* by Stephen J. Nichols.



RESOURCE HIGHLIGHT

Read Sinclair Ferguson's book entitled *In Christ Alone: Living the Gospel-Centered Life* !

In fifty short chapters arranged in six sections, Dr. Ferguson shows that Christ, who is fully God, took on humanity that He might be the Great High Priest of His people as well as the once-for-all sacrifice; that He now ministers to His people through His Spirit, crowning them with great and precious blessings; and that believers are called to duty, from cultivating contentment to mortifying sin. In Christ Alone is packed full of nuggets of Scriptural truth that will spark and fan the flames of the believer's love for the Savior who is so beautiful in His person and so faithful in His work on behalf of His beloved sheep.

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

Christian Adventurers is a Christian non-profit organization, and has been offering relational youth ministry resources to the community since 1981. In February 1981, Terry Creech entered law Enforcement as a police officer with the Town of Elon College, North Carolina. While in basic training he was touring a jail facility when he witnessed a young boy of sixteen trying to talk to his family through a glass partition just before he was taken off to prison. This scene had an enormous impact on Terry's life. At that moment God impressed upon Terry's heart to begin working with children sharing Christ's love and His saving grace. On February 15, 1981, the Christian Adventurers Boys Club was born. Although the Club was originally designed for boys, a girls program was added in 1985. Since that time, the ministry has continued to grow. Rooted in the Christian Scriptures, Christian Adventurers partners with Christian communities of all denominations throughout the Eastern United States. Annually, Christian Adventurers facilitates many activities through event, team & service ministries for youth to encounter Christ and His Gospel. For more information visit caministries.com.

	Nursery	Counter	Deacon on Duty
September 3:	Vicki McPherson	Ferald Mann	Glenn Owens
September 10:	Fran Haynes & John Robinson	Jay Snow	Stephen Robinson

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