



# FIRST PRESS

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First Presbyterian Church, Fayetteville N.C.



## A PASTORAL MESSAGE

FROM DR. MIKE GARRETT

Living things grow; it is the surest sign of life. To be sure not all growth is easy to see. Most plants grow deeper before they grow taller. Human growth is a hidden mystery before it is a visible reality. Yet what grows inevitably shows itself.

Our theme to guide our congregational growth this year is, “Rooted and Established in Love” from Ephesians 3:17. It recognizes the necessity of inward, hidden, intentional growth in our church and in our lives. Thriving Christians rarely spring up from weak roots. But it also reminds us that we grow down in order to grow up into Christ and outward toward the world.

How are we growing? After months of hiddenness and isolation due to the pandemic, it's a good time to ask. This past spring and early summer we talked about becoming a church growing younger. It's time to take it a step further. Be sure to mark the weekend of October 1-3 on your calendar. We will have a special guest with us during our Calvin Lectures, one of the authors of *Growing Young*, Jake Mulder, who will help us to take concrete steps in that direction.

continued on the next page

...AND I PRAY  
THAT YOU BEING

*rooted  
and established  
in love*

MAY HAVE POWER,  
TOGETHER WITH ALL THE  
LORD'S PEOPLE,  
TO GRASP HOW WIDE  
AND LONG  
AND DEEP  
IS THE

*love of Christ...*

EPHESIANS 3:17-18

# assisted listening demonstration



- If you
- ✓ wear a hearing aid with a T Coil
  - ✓ wear a cochlear implant with a T Coil
  - ✓ are having trouble hearing the worship service

## JOIN US FOR AN ASSISTED LISTENING DEMONSTRATION

🕒 1 p.m. 📅 August 11 📍 Sanctuary

The demonstration should take approximately one hour. We are exploring options to ensure that our members that are hard of hearing and require hearing aid technology can hear the good news within a hospitable body of Christ.

PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE (910) 483-0121 IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND. THE T COIL MUST BE ACTIVATED PRIOR TO THE DEMONSTRATION.

## A PASTORAL MESSAGE

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Later in the fall, we will talk about growing with our families. We want to focus particularly on parents, grandparents, mentors and our roles as spiritual guides in helping our children and younger adults grow in the faith. I'm excited about what's to come. The details are soon to follow.

After the first of the year we'll focus on growing outward. Look for a mission conference and fresh emphasis on the ministries we support as a congregation, locally and abroad.

Churches grow inwardly and outwardly when we do it intentionally. Let's not forget our goal. A former teacher of mine, Dr. Sinclair Ferguson, put it this way in his book *Grow in Grace*:

*There is nothing more important to learn about Christian growth than this: Growing in grace means becoming like Christ.*

Let's make every effort to do that, together.

Blessings,

*Mike*



MOPS

MOPs and MomsNext is a group of moms that gathers together in support of moms. Mothers of children ages 0-10 are invited to come as you are to meet with other women and to join in fellowship with each other, free from the stressors of daily life. Together, we will cover topics we may be facing in our journey with Christ during motherhood, as well as participate in "Mother's Nights Out" and self-care activities.

## JOIN THE SISTERHOOD

**ALL FOR LOVE** **KICKOFF**  
3-5 p.m. August 29

Join us for a kickoff gathering at First Presbyterian Church.

We will take part in a self-care exercise and go over what types of MOPS & MomsNext gatherings you can look forward to this season.

We'll even provide the snacks. (And you don't have to share or clean up.)

Childcare will be provided.  
Please spread the word.

Please email [mops@firstprez.com](mailto:mops@firstprez.com) to RSVP by Aug. 25 and for more info.

# Looking into the Fall Children's Ministry

**MOVIN' UP**  
PROMOTION SUNDAY



**BE LOVED.  
BE KIND.  
BE YOU.**

## Exciting Things Happening on Sunday, August 22

**Sunday, August 22 is Promotion Sunday** for the children and youth of First Prez. All ages—babies through high school students—**may** be moving to their new age/grade level to reflect the 2021-2022 school year! This may be a low-key move for some kids, perhaps just changing to the room next door, or a high-key jump, moving from the PreK to Elementary upstairs, invited to attend worship service for the first time, joining Junior Ushers, or entering Youth Group! We are so eager for this transition to be as smooth as possible, and we can't wait to see how the Lord will work during this new year of ministry.

**(You will be notified in advance by Children's & Youth Ministry if your child is transitioning to a new Sunday School class and/or Youth Group due to their age or grade level.)**

Back to School Blessing luggage tags



Surprise! Sunset Slush will be joining us from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. on Sunday, August 22!

## Back to School Blessing

Going back to school this fall will be different, exciting, nerve-wracking (insert your own adjective) for so many staff, teachers, and students. We want to pray for you, support you, and we want you to know that you are loved. Every child, teacher, administrator, and school staff member will receive a Back to School luggage tag or key chain as a reminder of God's love for you.

## Children's Church Resumes

Our entire congregation is blessed when children are present during worship. Children's church is back, and it's a wonderful program that helps children transition to being a part of worship. After the Time for Children during the 11 a.m. worship service, a volunteer will lead children Kindergarten through 2nd grade to Room 116 for Scripture study, fun activities, and praise and worship.

Of course, all children are welcome to worship with us in the Sanctuary! Children's bulletins and activity bags are available at the entrance to the Sanctuary. The nursery is also open for children up to PreK 4.



The energy of Christ-loving and service minded volunteers is what keeps our programs active and successful.

Please email [britany@firstprez.com](mailto:britany@firstprez.com) if you'd like to be a Children's Church leader, or volunteer for any Children's Ministry program.



## ARE YOU BEING CALLED TO SERVE?

Serve the Lord by sharing your gifts and talents. Volunteers are needed in many ministries and programs.

## JOIN US FOR A VOLUNTEER TRAINING



WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 1  
6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Dinner and childcare will be provided.

Please RSVP:

<http://bit.ly/FPCVolunteerTraining>



SCAN ME



## CLUB 543

### 2021-2022 Meet-Ups

September 19 (Junior Usher Training)

October 10

November 14

December 5

January 9

February 6

March 6

April TBD

May 1

## School Supply

## Drive



## WE NEED YOUR HELP

Access to a quality education and school supplies is more critical than ever, especially for the children of Haiti. Make education possible with a gift that helps Haiti Outreach Ministries purchase things like books, notebooks, pens, pencils, crayons, first aid and housekeeping items, and more.

## HOW TO DONATE

We are accepting monetary donations (checks preferable) for Haiti Outreach Ministries until September 5 to assist with the purchase of much needed school supplies. Please designate your offering to Haiti Outreach Ministries/Back to School fund, so that one gift from First Presbyterian Church can be sent to Haiti for this ministry.

Would you like to learn more about First Presbyterian's support of Haiti Outreach Ministries and its annual mission trip? Contact Tad Prewitt at [tdpole57@gmail.com](mailto:tdpole57@gmail.com).

## Why I serve...

TESTIMONIALS FROM FPC MEMBERS – HOW TALENTS ARE SHARED;  
HOW IT REFLECTS GOD'S LOVE; HOW IT IMPACTS THE CHURCH

### Angela Lenard

Missions are a significant part of First Prez's outreach. That is one of the things that drew me to the church. Rise Against Hunger, VBS, Escape Room, and being a Sunday School Teacher are just some of the volunteer opportunities I have enjoyed at First Prez. Some may not see VBS and being a Sunday school teacher as missions, but I believe they are a huge part of the mission work done inside the church. I have to admit, they are my favorite things to do, and are two things that I take very seriously. As Dr. Garrett talked about in his sermon on "Taming the Tweet," James 3:1 states: "My brethren, let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgment." I would like to thank everyone at First Prez for welcoming me with open arms in the spirit of God's love. There are so many opportunities for volunteers at First Prez. Please do not hesitate if you are led by the Lord to volunteer. Won't you step up and take one of the opportunities by the hand and run with it?

### Jacob Regensburger

I've volunteered in many ways throughout my life in the church- from working with the youth ministry, helping in the sound room, ringing handbells, to bringing some mad science to trunk or treat! The way I see it, I have been blessed to be able to share my talents in many ways with our church family. As the song (we all know) says: "I am the church, you are the church, we are the church together." Joining in the life of the church isn't so much volunteering as being willing to let the Holy Spirit take the reins and lead you where you are needed. We all have different gifts, just see where you fit!

### Kimberhly Hopkins

Sharing my talents as a volunteer at First Prez has not only provided some of my most precious memories, it has caused personal growth I never could have attained without these roles. From the arts (singing in seven languages, being part of an "off-campus" trio, singing solos, narrating a play, and performing a monologue multiple times back-to-back!), to teaching our children and youth (Bible study for the teens and preteens, Bible stories in Sunday school for the younger grade-schoolers, and helping kids better execute their speaking assignments for special programs), to the amazing VBS experiences - and all they entail, I have been stretched so far out of my comfort zone, I'm not sure I have one anymore. In addition to my own growth, I've had the privilege of watching the personal and spiritual growth of the young people with whom I've worked, as well as the adults who also benefitted - all to God's glory. These are the blessings that await a First Prez volunteer!

### Fran Primeaux

I love to serve God, others, and our church. My health hasn't allowed me to do the things I once did, but I still love to serve! Many years of teaching Sunday School are behind me, but I can still volunteer with Children's Ministry, VBS, snack ministries, and by visiting and bringing flowers to our beloved homebound members. I think it's important for all to serve so that we can continue to spread the love of Christ and grow the kingdom of God.





FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

# CHURCH COOKOUT

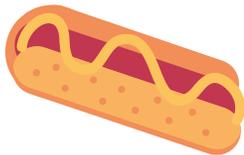
4:30 P.M. AUGUST 28



HAMBURGERS, HOTDOGS &  
ALL THE FIXIN'S THANKS TO  
DAVID'S MIGHTY MEN &  
THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE

PLEASE REGISTER

<https://bit.ly/FPCChurchCookout>



## HONORARIUMS

Joann and Benny Pearce

Lorene and Milo McBryde

## MEMORIALS

Brett Ciccone

Perry H. Olive

Mae Hunter Cromartie

Linda and Dennis Carr

Nina Godwin

Catharine and Rad Brown; Ann and Anthony Cimaglia; Linda and Ralph Huff; Susan and Richard Shereff; Jimmy Townsend; Carolyn C. Weaver; Blackwell & Edwards PA; Murray & Craven Attorneys; Pine Needles Garden Club

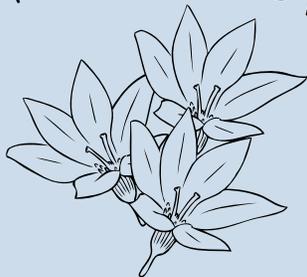
Dana Ward

Hannah Circle

Gladys Zelczak

Hannah Circle

SANCTUARY FLOWERS



CALL DEBRA CHESTNUTT

(910) 818-9006

TO RESERVE A FUTURE DATE FOR  
MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS.  
ALL SUNDAYS THROUGH THE MONTH OF  
SEPTEMBER ARE AVAILABLE.

Tapestry

WOMEN'S  
STUDY GROUP

one

in a million

Study by your promised land Priscilla Shirer

10 A.M. THURSDAYS

Tapestry will resume this fall for a 7-session study of "One in a Million; Journey to Your Promised Land" by Priscilla Shirer. Please stay posted for details. For more information, please email Ann Rowell at [growell@nc.rr.com](mailto:growell@nc.rr.com).

## August Birthdays

1 Bella Gutierrez	16 Donald Wherren
1 Susannah Atkinson	16 Sean Kelly
2 Alan Ray	17 Matthew Spartzak
2 Alex Hammill	18 Julia McFadyen
3 Tad Prewitt	19 Jackson McBryde
3 Brooke Deaton	19 Bill Hathaway
3 Bowen McRainey III	20 Mary Beth McCoy
4 Shirley Stevens	20 Terry Plummer
4 Amanda Viverette	20 Austin Taylor
5 Pamela Chan	20 Matt Thorley
5 Madison Spivey	21 Roger Holmes
6 Will Cotty	21 Chris Aul
6 Connor Barnes	21 Serriah Ciccone
7 Harvey Oliver Jr.	21 Gerald Montero
7 Pam Senter	22 Amanda Holmes
7 Chris Foster	22 Marilyn Britt
7 Casey Yates	22 Mary Kelly Smith
8 Crawford MacKethan Jr.	23 Terry Sasser
9 Claire Galt	24 Steve Horosko III
9 Lillian Deaton	24 Clayton Kaminska Jr.
10 Grant Stiles III	26 Jeanne Harbison
10 Andy Napoli	27 Randa Dunn
11 Brad Richter	27 Art Bisbee
12 David Allred	27 Lilly MacKethan
12 Richard Sneed Jr.	28 Vicki Kelly
12 Kyle Bisbee	28 Bruce Carlton Jr.
12 Jordan Brown	28 Ashley Baltz
14 Buddy Wilkins	29 Tyler Blue
15 Al Cromartie II	30 Shannon Strong
16 Sandra Herndon	31 Beverly Stewart
16 Lauren Holmes	31 Dilia Allen



## Coming This Fall during Wednesday Together

Are you interested in learning about ways we can expand our worship and fellowship times through creative arts? Join us this fall for a new adult workshop during the Wednesday Together programming! This class seeks to give artists, or just those who have an appreciation for the arts, opportunities to develop their creative talents within our church. We will be exploring different avenues of enhancing worship through the Arts including: liturgical drama; altar interpretation; liturgical dance; readers theater; visual arts; videography; and technical components for today's church.

This class will start with the history and current applications of classical forms of Worship Arts and move into creating opportunities for practical application for both within worship and outside worship in the form of fun fellowship performance.

For more information, please email Worship Arts Troupe instructor, Dr. Susan Bartz Herrick: [sbherrick13@hotmail.com](mailto:sbherrick13@hotmail.com).

### WEDNESDAY TOGETHER NEWS

We are excited to resume Wednesday Together activities on Sept. 15. Be on the lookout for updates regarding meals and Christian education programs for all ages.

AS EACH  
HAS RECEIVED  
A GIFT,

*use it*

TO SERVE

*one another.*

1 PETER 4:10