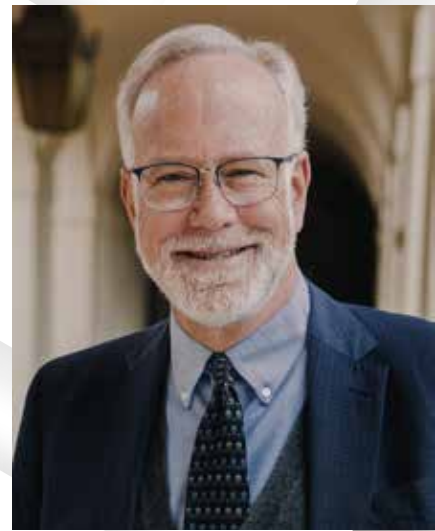


CALVIN LECTURE SERIES

"FLOURISHING IN THE THIRD THIRD OF LIFE"

FEBRUARY 11-12, 2023



Rev. Dr. Mark Roberts
GUEST SPEAKER

Senior Strategist for Fuller Seminary's
Max De Pree Center for Leadership

A PASTORAL MESSAGE FROM DR. MIKE GARRETT

There is one thing a church will always do, and one thing a church might do. The individuals in it will always grow older. But together, an older generation in partnership with a rising generation, we might collectively grow younger.

At our last Calvin Lecture series, we brought Jake Mulder, one of the authors of the book "Growing Young", to talk with us about what it would mean for our congregation to grow younger, together. Because of that, initiatives were and are being made to encourage that sort of growth.

But that's only half the story, isn't it? While we aim to grow younger together, we are all, individually growing older. Many of us, by God's grace, are growing much older. From a Christian point of view what does that mean? Are we designed to rust out or retire and get out of the way, or does God have unique and important business to do with us?

This year's Calvin Lecture, "Flourishing In The Third Third Of Life," is all about answering that question. Dr. Mark Roberts, our speaker, is a long-time Presbyterian pastor and faculty member of the Max De Pree Center for leadership at Fuller Seminary. He is focused on helping Christians and churches look at meaningful ministry in the third third of life. We are excited to have him! He is also a colleague of Jake Mulder and will help us tie together our efforts to

grow younger with the opportunities and challenges that come with growing older.

In recent years we have worked hard to bring some of the best practical, Christian thinking available to our congregation through the Calvin Lectures. Speakers we have had like Richard Mouw, James K.A. Smith, Tod Bolsinger, and Jake Mulder are in demand everywhere. I have no doubt that Dr. Mark Roberts will be another memorable speaker and guide us in helpful, practical ways as a congregation. You don't need to be over 55 to benefit. Be sure to mark this year's dates, Feb. 11 and 12, on your calendar.

On another note, I hope you will join me in wishing the Rev. Matt Thorley and his family well as he moves on to take a call to a Methodist pulpit. We have been blessed by his energy, leadership, and love for our congregation. He will be missed! Please know we are hard at work to address the need his departure creates. We will soon have something to say about our short-term plans while we carefully consider our future pastoral and ministry needs. Your thoughts and insights are welcome.

May you be blessed!

Sincerely,

A SHARED WORD FROM PASTORAL CARE

For many as a new year begins it is not uncommon that changes occur. Many new state laws take effect. It is not uncommon to start new jobs, new promotions, and even new resolutions for better habits and health. Changes happen in churches too. As a church we are experiencing transitions in church staff and even with programing. Changes come and how individuals, communities, and church congregations deal with transitions are important crossroads that shape a group moving forward. So, I offer the following helpful tips to deal with pending changes ranging from small to significant.

1. Measure the impact. Everyone is very familiar with the old phase "Change is inevitable". What can be lost is that some are swept up in the excitement of new frontier while others mourn loss. It is important that everyone shares "how this will impact me" and listen to how the change impacts others. This builds a base for everyone to have a sharehold in. This brings us to the second point.

2. Communicate. Communicate. Communicate. If there was ever a key point, this is it. It is natural that we like comfort and when change comes, we need to be able to clearly find and state who, what, when where and why. The goal is for everyone to have every opportunity to see intent. We should with care and love point out if anyone is entrenched on a point.

3. Clarify misunderstanding. I have never seen a perfect game plan for change go through without questioning. Questioning is not bad. What is worse is for one to try to answer a concern they never thought about with something, anything. Most will see through it. Better to listen and say, "I never thought about that". Then adjust if it merits it. Go back to planning.

4. Do not miss the details. Changes may sound good and may need to be done but they all take a lot of laying out the steps needed. Have all the nuts and bolts ready but acknowledge that adjustments when change is done may be needed

Jeremiah 29:11 is one scripture that I share, "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

As we face changes let us remember that God sees changes as ways for us to be closer to him. Even if they are traumatic or exciting, keep Christ centered in planning transitions. The way may be rough but all can come out better for it

God Bless,
Pastor Mitch

A LOOK AHEAD...

Feb. 5	• Kingdom Kidz sing
	• Stephen Ministry
Feb. 6	• PW Coord. Team Meeting
	• Mission Committee Meeting
Feb. 7	• S.A.L.T. Breakfast at JK's
	• Worship Committee Meeting
	• CE Committee Meeting
Feb. 11	• Calvin Lectures begin
Feb. 12	• MOPs
Feb. 16	• Children's Ministry Committee Meeting
Feb. 22	• Ash Wednesday Worship Service
Feb. 24	• S.A.L.T. trip to Kenly
Feb. 25	• Parent's Night Out
Feb. 27	• VBS Committee Meeting
	• David's Mighty Men
Feb. 28	• COAP Meeting
Mar. 4	• Mission Conference Kick Off
	• Rise Against Hunger
Mar. 7	• Kenyon Chamber Choir Concert
Mar. 9	• Connect to Fellowship
Mar. 26	• Children's Sunday
Apr. 2	• Palm Sunday
Apr. 9	• Easter Sunday
June 26-29	• Vacation Bible School

All In Fellowship Wednesday Evening Meals

2/8/2023 – Chicken & Pastry

2/15/2023 – Lemongrass Pork

2/22/2023 – Popcorn Shrimp & Chicken

3/1/2023 – Noodle Bar

with Italian Sausage & shrimp, and Pesto & Alfredo Sauces

Enjoy a meal with potluck sides at 5:30 p.m., followed by an Adult Christian Education Class with Dr. Mike Garrett and the Historical Small Group at 6:30 p.m.

**Bring a dish (serving 8-10) to share, or
pay \$8 for adults and \$3 for kids. \$20 family cap.**

Registration for meals are no longer necessary! However, if you'd like to view what potluck sides everyone is bringing, and tell us what you'd like to bring, you can visit bit.ly/3MaXSIH or scan the QR code.



Join our group on Facebook
by visiting bit.ly/3rvhgjZ

*Nursery provided for young children.
Study hall & social time provided for school age children.*



HELP US GET CLOSER TO 1 MILLION MEALS!

MARCH 4TH

MEAL PACKING BEGINS AT 9AM

DON'T FORGET YOUR HAT!



Volunteers must register for RAH.

Scan the QR Code or visit

bit.ly/RAHMarch2023 to register online.

Childcare will be provided for younger children.

Elementary age and up are welcome to help with packing.

To help with planning, please register for childcare

by visiting bit.ly/RAHChildcare



Kenyon

Save the date! Tuesday, March 7th

Kenyon College Chamber Singers

24 Host Families Needed!

Please contact marcia@firstprez.com for more information.



IN CASE YOU MISSED IT:

Rev. Matt Thorley is moving to Trinity Methodist Church in Elizabethtown, NC to be their new Senior Pastor. His First Prez Family wishes him well!



In case you missed it, scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/PastorMattFarewell to read Pastor Matt's Farewell Letter.

Let's cheer for the
**FIRST PREZ
BASKETBALL
TEAM!**

**MEN'S CHURCH LEAGUE
BASKETBALL GAMES:**

2/4 @7:00pm

Temple Baptist vs FPC

2/18 @5:00pm

FPC vs Judson Baptist

2/25 Tournament TBD

Stedman Pentecostal

Holiness Church

432 Hillsboro St, Stedman, NC

We encourage you to join in the fun!

The First Prez Basketball Team would love to have a cheering section during their games in the Men's Church League.

PUBLIC MEALS IN FAYETTEVILLE

Have you been approached by a person that says they haven't eaten in days, and have no money to purchase food... and didn't know how to respond? Here is just one of the many ways to direct them to food and so much more by telling them about these agencies. You can also check our Mission Outreach Catalog to learn more about many other agencies that offer assistance to those living in poverty in our community. There are hand-outs in Eller Hall.

Public Meals - Fayetteville, NC

Breakfast served Monday through Friday,
7:30 - 8:20 am @ Fayetteville Area Operation
Inasmuch, 531 Hillsboro Street, Fayetteville.

Lunch served Monday through Friday,
11:30 am - 1:00 pm @ Manna Dream Center,
913 Person St., Fayetteville.

ough Sunday,
on Army of the
emergency Shelter
Alexander St.,



WE NEED YOUR HELP

According to an August 2022 article published in US News and World Report, a family of four (two adults and 2 children under age 13) following a thrifty budget will spend over \$900.00 a month on groceries. For a family of four living at or below the poverty level, which is less than \$26,500.00 a year, spending \$9800.00 a year on food leaves very little for rent, utilities, clothing, and other necessities. According to the 2020 Census, a little more than 18% (60,000 people) of the residents of Fayetteville and Cumberland County are living at or below poverty.

Why we need your help: Food requests from the Social Workers at area schools are steadily rising, and we want to grow our Snack Kit Ministry so that we can help. The intent of the Snack Kit Ministry is to provide nutritional food items for use over a weekend to children in need when they leave school on each Friday.

What we need: Dedicated volunteers to assist with food inventory, packing, and delivery to schools every two weeks. We are also in desperate need of the following food items for the kits.

Donations needed*:

- **Milk** shelf stable whole or 2% (Horizon Organic Whole Milk, 8 fl. oz.)
- **Capri Sun / Kool-Aid Pouches**
- **Chef Boyardee Pasta** (small cans or microwaveable)
- **Chicken Noodle Soup** (small 10.5oz can)
- **Beans w/franks** (7.5 ounce can)
- **Mac-n-Cheese Individual Pouches**
- **Ramen Chicken Flavor Cup of Noodles**
- **Del Monte Fruit Cups – Mandarin Oranges** (no peaches)
- **Applesauce Cups**
- **Pudding Cups**
- **Raisins** (individual boxes)
- **Lance / Nab Crackers** (no peanut butter)
- **Kelloggs Nutri Grain Cereal Bars**
- **Granola Bars** (no peanut butter)
- **Instant Grits** (individual pouches)
- **Oatmeal** (individual pouches)
- **Fruit Snacks** (no peaches)

*Please check the expiration dates on items before donating.

It takes about \$180 to provide food for the entire year to one student. Monetary donations will be accepted.

If you, your Sunday School Class, or small group is interested in helping, please contact:
Leslie DeSessa, ldessa@gmail.com
Terry Plummer, plummer.terry57@gmail.com



MISSION: MEXICO 2023 June 4 - 10

Interested in joining the Mexico Mission Trip this summer?

This opportunity is open to all adults, high school students and parent-accompanied middle schoolers. Print your application by visiting bit.ly/MissionMexico2023 or by scanning the QR code above.



\$100 deposit due 2/17.
Application deadline & balance payment of \$400 due 3/17.
For more info, contact Debra Chesnutt at debra@chestnutt.com



Ash Wednesday

Worship Service

February 22nd

6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Join us for dinner
before service in
the Fellowship Hall.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY RAISES FUNDS TO SEND BIBLES TO HAITI

During the March Mission Conference, First Kidz will be raising funds to purchase Bibles in Haitian Creole for the children of our sponsored school in Cité Soleil, Haiti again. Last years efforts brought so much joy to students!



As a special thank you to those who contribute at least \$10 to this campaign, we are creating handmade gifts – potholders and magnets. Our goal is to raise \$400 - enough to purchase 36 Bibles.



The more we raise, the more Bibles we can send to Haiti! Be on the lookout for a special table in Eller Hall during Mission Week, and plan to support the children of our church as they serve to spread the good news of Jesus Christ!



Pastor Mitch Watson wrote this in First Presbyterian's December '22 newsletter about the winter blues; "We can be less energized, moody, short-tempered and feel down." He cites Mayo Clinic's description of Seasonal Affective Disorder and healthy ways of dealing with it. He follows with a hopeful Biblical perspective on the purpose of winter. It's a good re-read during this season.

On February 1st, we're down to 48 more days of winter. If Punxsutawney Phil cooperates and sees his shadow in front of him on Groundhog Day, we'll have an early spring.

Groundhog Day is fun folklore. True winter and depression are not. Your Stephen Ministry stands ready to partner with you if you are experiencing your own "winter" in life. Grief, job loss, divorce, hospitalizations, estrangement from loved ones, a brush with the law, and many other situations can tax us beyond our own inner strength. A trained Stephen Minister will listen and walk alongside of you through your season in a strictly confidential manner. Contact one of the pastors or Lorene McBryde at 910-824-9690 to be connected with a Stephen Minister.

CONNECT 2 FELLOWSHIP



CONNECTIONS OF CUMBERLAND COUNTY (COCC)

Mission: To collaborate with all community resources to empower women and children who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness to become self-reliant.

Vision: A community that collaborates to implement sustainable programs that provide homeless women and children with the opportunity to develop independence and self-reliance.

Guiding Principles: Every child needs a safe and nurturing environment to grow to be a responsible, self-reliant adult. Every homeless mother needs shelter to improve her life and the lives of her children. It is the community's moral obligation to take action and make a positive difference in the lives of homeless children, who rely solely on adults in their lives to nurture and guide them into adulthood.

Connect to Fellowship is a program that COCC has developed with First Presbyterian, St John's Episcopal, and Hay Street United Methodist churches. The purpose of this program is to create events at local churches where clients being served at the Connections Day Resource Center can go to interact with the members of that congregation while sharing a meal and participating together in organized activities for the adults and children. Clients include both mothers and their children. After sharing a meal together, members of the church will spend time with the children in attendance, reading, doing craft projects, school activity sheets, and just talking with the children. While the children are busy with the church members, the Connections staff and volunteers will take the mothers in attendance to another area for specialized training, seminars and discussions. High School aged children are also separated from the group for more age specific discussions.

The next Connect to Fellowship event is scheduled for Thursday March 9, at 6:00 pm at First Presbyterian Church during our 2023 Mission Conference. This is a huge event with lots of opportunities for all ages as we Serve and Share God's love with these women and their children.

We could use volunteers and help with:

- Children and youth volunteers to assist, lead, and participate in the activities, to include eating dinner with the COCC clients and their children.
- Adult Volunteers to assist with Fellowship Hall setup and breakdown, nursery, serving food (meal provided by COCC), working with children in attendance (crafts, reading, coloring, project sheets), parking lot assistance, escorts, etc. Adults will also eat dinner with the COCC clients.
- Volunteers to provide desserts for the event.
- 25 dollar Walmart Gift Cards

Registration will open soon! Please watch firstprez.com, your First Things First emails, Sunday bulletins and social media for ways to register!

Kingdom Kidz & Youth Calendar

Feb. 5 Family Snack Kit Packing Event
Youth Parents meeting with Dr. Garrett

Feb. 12 Super Bowl Night - see details

Feb. 19 No Meeting

Feb. 26 Bring a Friend Night

CHILDREN WILL BE ACTIVE PARTICIPANTS IN WORSHIP AT THE 11 A.M. SERVICES ON FEB. 5, MAR. 5, MAR. 26 (CHILDREN'S SUNDAY), AND APRIL 2 - EASTER CELEBRATION/EASTER EGG HUNT.

Kingdom Kidz will be working on a special mission project that will be highlighted during the Mission Conference.

4:30-6:30PM EVERY SUNDAY NIGHT

Pre-K 3's 4's and Kindergarten Schedule

4:30-5:10 PM - Preschool Bible - Nursery/Room 210
5:15-5:45 PM - Dinner
5:50-6:30 PM - Preschool Music - Room 123

1st - 5th Grade Schedule

4:30-5:10 PM - Elementary Music - Room 209
5:15-5:45 PM - Dinner
5:50-6:30 PM - Elementary Bible - Room 207

Youth Schedule - Meet in Youth Area upstairs

4:30-5:10 PM - Bible Study
5:15-5:45 PM - Dinner
5:50-6:30 PM - Games

KINGDOM KIDZ & YOUTH SUPER BOWL NIGHT

FEB. 12 4:30 TO 6 PM

(NOTE THE TIME CHANGE)

**Wear your team colors or
your favorite jersey.
Doesn't just have to be football!**

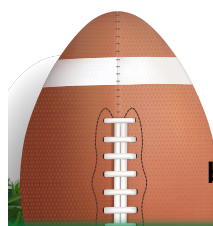


YOUTH SUPER BOWL PARTY

February 12th

6:15-9p.m.

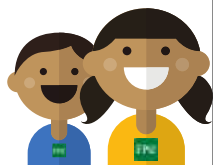
Please register online:
bit.ly/FPCYouthSuperBowl



Transportation will be provided from the church to the Hall's, or you are welcome to drive your child.

**Club 543 will
meet Sunday
Feb 26th!**

**CLUB
543**



PARENTS NIGHT OUT

OR IS IT A KIDS NIGHT IN?

Saturday, February 25th, 4:30-7:30 p.m.

Feel free to stroll downtown, maybe grab dinner or just enjoy time as a couple or with friends. Child care is provided for free! Drop off your children for a fun night of dinner, hands-on Bible science, games, crafts and more!

We are asking for donations to help cover the cost of dinner and supplies. Register online by 2/22 at bit.ly/FPCKidsNightIn or scan the QR code.



Join us for VBS!
June 26-29 | 9:00-12:00 p.m.

Registration will begin in March.

Join Daniel—torn from his home and forced into the king's service. Explore exotic sights and smells in a Babylonian bazaar! Kids and adults will find that they're not much different from Daniel and his friends, who kept their faith in a faithless culture.

Daniel was way more than the guy who survived a den of hungry lions!

At Babylon VBS, you'll reinforce Bible truth in a big way because the daily Bible Point is carefully integrated into each activity. God's Word comes alive through engaging interaction with Bible history!

This will be a great week as kids who have completed Pre-K 4 to 5th grade worship together, explore the Bible, and have fun with their tribe exploring Babylon. Youth are invited to volunteer. Adult volunteers help make this such a special event for children. If you are called to volunteer, please let Britany Spivey or Andrea Horosko know.



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

1 Teresa Warner	19 Johnathan Lenard
1 Peter Datkuliak	20 Ava Soffe
2 Kenneth Kirby	20 Sara Self
3 Jennifer Godman	20 Caedan Thorley
4 Hilda Kirby	21 Steven Coffman
5 Eddie Pridgen	21 Wade Stiles
5 C. Byron Williams	21 Hunttyr Hopkins
5 Sofia Allen	22 Erica Rhodes
6 Elizabeth Broadwell	23 Warren Tillman
6 Leslie DeSessa	23 Betsy Downing
6 Cameron Hall	24 Susanna Stiles
6 William Cox	25 Warren Baker
8 Hardister Johnson	25 Mary Jon Barkman
11 Terry Darden	25 Faye Canady
11 Amelia Zimmer	25 Aiden Hale
12 Kevin Hall	26 David Darden
12 Christopher McLaughlin	26 Timothy Smith
13 James Helms	26 Samuel Rocker
13 Kimberhly Hopkins	28 Lily Mackey
14 Bill McFadyen	28 Linda Campbell
14 Lauren Zimmer	
14 Sinclair Kirby	
15 Elizabeth Blue	
17 Judith Kirchman	
17 Riley Helmke	
18 Julie Cotty	
18 Andrew Reid	
18 Curtis Heldreth	



MEMORIALS

Barbara Lepper

Carol & Sammy Short
Joann & Benny Pearce
Winnie Grannis
Marilyn Britt
Ann Eller
Martha Circle
Ann Rowell
Patsy Markham
Grace & Tommy Hall
Eliza & Fred Williams
JoeMac & Inez Hatcher
Ann & Buzz Loyd
A Special Friend

Jane Sutherlin

Ann Rowell

Miller Liston

Grace & Tommy Hall
Ann Rowell
A Special Friend

Glenn Hall

Ann Rowell
Patsy Markham
Carol & Sammy Short
A Special Friend

Merle Prewitt

Winnie Grannis
Patsy Markham
David Reid
A Special Friend

Edith Krannich

A Special Friend

s.a.l.t.  
Seasoned Adults Learning Together

*Monthly Fellowship
Breakfast & Excursions*

S.A.L.T. Trip - February 24th
Tobacco Farm Museum in Kenly, NC.

Admission is \$9

We will have lunch at Parker's Barbecue in Wilson
RSVP with Melanie Strickland (910) 484-5905 by 2/10





Our mission at First Presbyterian Church is to **serve** Jesus Christ and **share** His gospel through meaningful worship, loving fellowship, spiritual growth, and compassionate outreach within our community and throughout the world.

bit.ly/2023CalvinLectures or by scanning the QR Code.



SCAN ME

Mark offers us an intergenerational look at the extraordinary potential of ministry in the third third of life for the entire church. There is no fee to attend the Calvin Lecture Series. \$9 boxed lunches are available for purchase for Saturday, February 10th and must be purchased in advance. **Please register by February 8.** Limited childcare is also available. Register for the lecture, lunch & childcare by visiting

Senior Strategist for Fuller Seminary's
Max De Pree Center for Leadership
Founder of the Third Third Flourishing Initiative



GUEST SPEAKER

Rev. Dr. Mark Roberts

FEB 11 & 12TH

"FLOURISHING IN THE THIRD THIRD OF LIFE" 2023 CALVIN LECTURE SERIES

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