



# But the fruit of the Spirit

is love, joy, peace,  
forbearance, kindness,  
goodness, faithfulness,  
gentleness and self-control.  
Against such things there is no law.

GALATIANS 5:22-23

## A Pastoral Message From Dr. Mike Garrett

It was good to celebrate our graduates in worship on May 21st! Not only because of the significance of their accomplishments, but also because they remind us that we too are moving on in the life of faith. If you are reading this you haven't yet graduated from the college of Christ. There is more to do, more to learn, and most importantly, more to become before God finally writes "well done, good and faithful servant" on your diploma.

What's next for you? Many of us in the "Third Third of Life" were asked to wrestle with that question in our recent Calvin Lectures. But it applies to the youngest among us as well. When it comes to growing in Christ, what is next?

We live in a time where so much is measured by which issues we embrace or oppose. I believe the more important measure is the character we possess and practice. Do we look, behave, or make choices more like Christ than we did a year ago? That is the surest guide to navigating the complex issues of our time. On a daily basis, it's how we become the sort of people we were created to be.

Jesus' character is not a great mystery. The Apostle Paul described it as the "fruit of the Spirit" in Galatians 5: love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Paul also taught that the Spirit will create that same character fruit in our lives.

During the months of July and August, I'll be preaching on developing the fruit of the Spirit in our lives. Please join us when you are in town and watch on our livestream when you are not. Let's stay connected during the months when many of us are often apart.



Speaking of graduations, Dr. Tim Keller, founder and pastor of Redeemer Presbyterian Church in Manhattan and a leading Christian voice in our day, died a few weeks ago. I was fortunate to know him both as a professor and friend in the 1980's. I have taught from his work, print and video, many times. If you are unfamiliar with him, I urge you to buy one of his books or watch one of his many messages online. If you want to grow in Christ, he will remain a most gifted guide.

Blessings to you and those you love in the weeks ahead!

*Mike*

# A Message from Your Stewardship Committee

## What is a steward?

The word steward comes from the Greek "oikos," (household or estate) and "nemo" (to arrange).

A steward is a person who manages the affairs of a household or an estate for the owner. In the Christian sense, a steward is a manager of the affairs of God on earth.

## Life Itself is a Stewardship

Each of us has received abilities and talents that are unique to us. Everything that we have - time, talents, health, relationships, the gospels and property are gifts from God.

Out of love and gratitude as Christian stewards, we serve God, with the understanding that it is not how much we have, but what we do with what we have that is important.

Life is the greatest gift of all. Our lives are sacred trust of which we are stewards. God depends on us to use our lives to accomplish God's purposes.



## *s.a.l.t.'s* TRIP TO SEAGROVE POTTERY

**The Officer Nominating Committee requests your assistance in the nominating process for elders and deacons to serve on the Session and Diaconate. Seven persons are needed for the Session Class of 2026.**

### Ways to submit your nominations:

- complete the form in Sunday's bulletins; place completed forms in the offering plate; return completed forms to the church office by June 26;
- call the church office at (910) 483-0121;
- use the following link - [bit.ly/2023OfficerNom](https://bit.ly/2023OfficerNom)
- or scan the QR code.



SCAN ME





# CONGRATULATIONS

## to the Presbyterian Women

### who were honored on Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>

### for outstanding service to our church!

## Presbyterian Honorary Life Membership Award Honorees

The Presbyterian Honorary Life Membership Award is given annually to women upon recognition of faithful service in various areas of church work. It is our privilege this year to honor two ladies with the Life Membership Award.



**Our first honoree is Maude Cornwell Bledsoe.** Maude joined First Presbyterian Church in January, 2011. She is currently serving as Bible Moderator for the Martha Circle and as the Presbyterian Women Spiritual Enrichment Chairman. Maude's contribution to our Music Ministry is outstanding as she is a member of the Canticle Ringers, First Presbyterian Women's Ensemble, and a most faithful member of the Celebration Choir. Serving as a Deacon, an Elder, and as Clerk of Session reveals her sincere dedication to the life of First Presbyterian Church. The many committees on which she has served include Food Service, Christian Education, Mission, Worship, and Congregational Care. Maude also enjoys working with the Children's Ministry as a member of the Vacation Bible School Planning Team and teaching VBS.

Presbyterian Women are also pleased to honor **Debra Franklin Chestnutt** with the Honorary Life Membership Award. Debra joined First Presbyterian Church in May, 1998. She is a member of the Hannah Circle and the Worship and Mission Committees. Debra has served as a Deacon, an Elder, Clerk of Session and a member of the Scholarship Committee. She currently serves on the Worship and Mission Committees and on the Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team. Debra's dedication to missions is evidenced by her annual mission trips to Mexico and her many trips to Haiti. Debra is a regular volunteer at the Eller Hall Reception Desk. Coordinating the flower memorials and honorariums for the Sunday Worship Service in the Sanctuary is one of her major contributions each week.



## Presbyterian Women Service Award Honoree

Congratulations to **Andrea Howard Horosko** who was honored with the 2023 Presbyterian Women Service Award. Andrea joined First Presbyterian Church in August, 2011. She is actively engaged in the Children's Ministry and in the G.I.F.T. Sunday School class and serves on the Mission Committee. She currently leads the Message Seekers weekly Adult Bible Study and the Kingdom Kidz Bible Time class. Her dedicated service to the Children's Ministry includes the Children's Ministry and Vacation Bible School Committees. She has served as a Deacon, Moderator of Offertory and Ushering and Food Service Committees. Her service to First Presbyterian Church also includes Preschool Vacation Bible School Director and Coordinator for the 2022 Pathfinders. In addition, Andrea has served on the Christian Education, Worship and church staff search committees. Andrea shares her gift of music playing handbells with the Canticle Ringers.



Presbyterian Women is an organization dedicated to Bible study, prayer, Christian fellowship and service to our church and community. First Presbyterian women provide Bibles for our high school graduates, Biblical storybooks and personalized Baptismal towels for newborns, comfort meals for families after the funeral of a loved one and meals to the Care Clinic. Homebound members are remembered with calls, visits, and cards. Community service projects include donations of needed items for our community mission partners. These partners include Connections of Cumberland County, Better Health of Cumberland, Operation Inasmuch, and Children's Hope Alliance, Fayetteville Urban Ministry, and Operation Blessing. One agency is selected each month for donations. In addition, Presbyterian Women assist with Advent decorations in the Chapel and Sanctuary.

In Loving Memory of members who have passed in 2022 to 2023: Jane Sutherlin, Barbara Lepper, Merle Prewitt, Judy Bleeker and Dorothy Gilbert

# ESCAPE ROOM At FIRST PREZ

Wednesday, June 21<sup>st</sup>  
6 to 7:30 p.m.  
Meet in Eller Hall



## Preschoolers

Something is missing,  
something is lost?  
Can these little ones break  
into the box to find it?



## Elementary & Youth

Have you ever faced danger that  
seemed impossible to escape?

Or faced hard choices where you  
just didn't know what to do?

Let's learn from the life of Daniel the prophet.  
He had one of the greatest escapes of all time!



Please register online at [bit.ly/FPCEscape](https://bit.ly/FPCEscape) or  
scan the QR code to help us with planning the rooms.



## Kingdom Kidz & Youth Movie Night Wednesday, July 19th - 6 to 8 p.m.

Wear your PJs, bring a pillow and sleeping bag



Guardians are welcome to join.

Childcare will be available for the littles.

Register online at [bit.ly/MovieNight719](https://bit.ly/MovieNight719) or scan the QR code.



## Family Fellowship Pool Party

Wednesday, August 9<sup>th</sup> 5:00 - 7:30pm

Highland Country Club - 105 Fairway Drive

Don't forget to bring your towel!

\$10 per family, includes dinner



Register online by scanning the QR code or visiting [bit.ly/FPCPoolParty2023](https://bit.ly/FPCPoolParty2023)



## Babylon Daniel's Courage in Captivity Local

Walker Spivey Elementary School has requested school supplies to prepare for the next school year. As a Title 1 school, they receive federal funding to supplement the school's existing programs. This funding is used for identifying students experiencing academic difficulties and providing timely assistance to help these students meet the State's challenging content standards. With your help, these students would not only be more than prepared for next year, but they would greatly appreciate it.

To support Walker Spivey we are collecting:

- pencils
- composition notebooks
- bookbags
- index cards

## VBS 2023 Mission Projects Global

Offerings collected will go to Haiti Outreach Ministries. Education is essential for any child's development, but in Haiti, education is much more than that – it is the necessary foundation to escape pervasive national poverty and a pathway to a better future. In Haiti, there is no free, public education. HOM and its Haitian partner MICECC operate three primary schools and a secondary school, providing a quality education steeped in Christian principles. Your donation covers the costs of uniforms, books, school supplies, and daily lunch, as well as supports teacher salaries and ongoing school maintenance. Student sponsorship makes HOM schools possible and allows them to keep the school doors open and young minds expanded. Our goal is to raise enough money to sponsor two children!



Remember to  
Pray for VBS

- PRAY FOR  
our VBS.
- PRAY FOR  
our volunteers  
and staff.
- PRAY FOR  
our church.
- PRAY FOR  
our children.
- PRAY FOR  
the families.

With YOUR help, we can help those in need, both here and abroad.





**Home & Hearth  
Holiday Fellowship**

# Father's Day Potluck Luncheon June 18th

*Your family looks forward to having you join them on Father's Day!!*

*Feel free to invite and bring a friend!*

Home & Hearth Holiday Fellowship is a program that creates connections, builds relationships and forms a close-knit community during the holidays. It's for anyone who is displaced from their relatives, new to the church, lives alone, has no family to visit, is overworked and needs a break, or just doesn't want to be alone during a holiday. If you fall into any of these categories, or just don't want to cook for the holiday, you're invited to join in our celebrations!

- The meal will start at 1:00 pm, so please bring food by 12:50 pm in order to start on time.
- A double-sided buffet will allow everyone to be served promptly, but the luncheon will be leisurely.
- Please bring a bring a side, salad, bread, or dessert, enough to feed 8 to 10 people, either purchased or homemade.
- The Congregational Care Committee will provide the main entrée and drinks.



SCAN ME



**Please let us know what you will bring for your contribution to our H<sup>3</sup>F Father's Day Potluck Luncheon by signing up online at [bit.ly/H3FFathersDay](http://bit.ly/H3FFathersDay) or scanning the QR code.**

**Sign up in person in Eller Hall or call the church office.**

*For planning purposes, please sign up by Wednesday, June 14th at 9 p.m.*

**Email Kellie Perkins for more information at [kperk16@gmail.com](mailto:kperk16@gmail.com)**



## Chrismon Class

**Tuesday, July 11th  
at 10 am in the Activity Room**

*All adults are invited!*

*Learn how to create  
a Chrismon with Carol Short*

Small Cross Kit - \$14

Small Angel Kit - \$20

Large Cross Kit - \$28

Large Angel Kit - \$25

Payment for kits can be made at the time of the class. Contact Maude Bledsoe for more information: 336-408-9156 or [maudeb10@yahoo.com](mailto:maudeb10@yahoo.com)



Please register by June 4th. Registration is required to ensure we have enough kits available. Scan the QR code or visit [bit.ly/ChrismonClass](http://bit.ly/ChrismonClass) to register online, or register by calling the church office (910) 483-0121.

## Welcome

to our newest staff members



**Britni Nichol**

Director of  
First School



**Jessica Jones**

Christian Education  
Assistant

On May 7th, the Youth Ministry led Worship Service.  
We are so proud of their hard work.  
Let's give our Youth a round of applause!





# Congratulations to our Graduates!



**Devon Joshua  
Campbell**

Cape Fear  
High School



**Erin  
Jackson**

Fayetteville Technical  
Community College



**Ana Cristina  
Martins**

Cumberland Polytechnic  
High School



**Amiah Adlene  
McLaughlin**

Lumberton  
High School



**Tatum William  
Pritchett**

Terry Sanford  
High School



**Alexander Edwin  
Smith**

Terry Sanford  
High School



**Emmalee  
Wauford**

Carolina Classical  
Academy



## FIRST SCHOOL PRESCHOOL



**Miss Pat and Miss Britni's  
PreK Class**



**Miss Paige and Miss Ashley's  
Kindergarten Academy Class**





- |                      |                          |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Brennan Blue       | 17 Kate O'Keefe          |
| 1 Erin Jackson       | 18 Chloe Galt            |
| 3 Scott McRae        | 18 Elizabeth Hammill     |
| 4 Barbara Alexander  | 18 Frances Beauchamp     |
| 4 Gillie Revelle     | 18 Georgia Rhodes        |
| 5 Terrence Tedder    | 18 Matthew McMahon       |
| 6 Jeremiah Datkuliak | 19 Berton Barco          |
| 6 Tom McCutchen      | 19 Dianne MacIlwinen     |
| 7 Cindy Dewey        | 19 Jason Myers           |
| 7 Diane Fanning      | 19 Miguel Allen          |
| 8 Levi Dunn          | 20 Malachi Jackson       |
| 9 Seven Pridgen      | 22 Julia Mulvey          |
| 11 John McFadyen     | 22 Patty Murray          |
| 11 Nichole Russ      | 24 Anna Margaret Boyette |
| 12 Austin Brown      | 25 Kevin Dunning         |
| 12 Cooper Barco      | 25 Lisa Atkinson         |
| 12 Nina McLaughlin   | 25 Wendy Galt            |
| 13 David Sippel      | 26 Erin Holmes           |
| 13 Lauren Duhon      | 27 Connor Spencer        |
| 15 Kitty Petti       | 27 Drew Baker            |
| 15 Jennie Dwyer      | 28 Danielle Struck       |
| 15 Pat Jones         | 28 Jeb Cleveland         |
| 15 Rodney Baker      | 30 Ann Eller             |
| 16 John McCauley     |                          |
| 16 Jonathan Baileys  |                          |
| 16 Timothy Datkuliak |                          |



# Memorials

## Dat Gilbert

Mrs. J.D. Wheeler  
Jerry Alphin  
Elizabeth "Betty" Williams  
Lorene & Milo McBryde

## Robert Billman

Ann Eller  
Ann & Buzz Loyd  
Lorene & Milo McBryde

## Terry Herndon

Ann & Buzz Loyd  
Lorene & Milo McBryde

## Mack Cromartie

Beverly Stewart  
Patsy Markham



## Music Library Reorganization Resumes

Bruce McRae, a rising junior at UNC-Chapel Hill, has returned as Music Intern to assist in reorganizing the Choral Library this summer. Last summer he helped completely sort and enter titles of the Handbell Library and Instrumental Library in a computer-based catalog that allows us to easily sort and locate music of various arrangements and seasons.

The Choral Library is the most extensive of the music libraries and will take many months to complete. Included in this task is the sorting and discarding of antiquated anthems that cannot be used for various reasons - such as their lyrics. An example is this passage from "The Shepherd (1927)" - "Come, little David, come now down, Quit for awhile the skies; Run thru the streets of London town, Lend unto all your eyes. Come with the waters the angels quaff from the rivers beyond the moon; come with your bright harp and shepherding staff. come David, come David, soon."

Many thanks to Bruce for his willingness to take on this monumental task!

## FIRST PRESS

### First Presbyterian Church

102 Ann Street, Fayetteville, North Carolina 28301

(910) 483-0121

[www.firstprez.com](http://www.firstprez.com)


Volume 35, Issue 6

First Press (USPS915-720) is published monthly by First Presbyterian Church, P.O. Box 569, Fayetteville, NC 28302. PERIODICALS Postage paid at Fayetteville, NC. Postmaster: send address changes to First Presbyterian Church, 102 Ann Street, Fayetteville, NC 28301.

PERIODICALS



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.




## VBS Spaces Limited!

**June 25 | 4:30-6 p.m.**  
Family Kickoff Celebration with music & food!

**June 26-29 | 9-12 p.m.**  
Vacation Bible School for kids

Volunteers & children register for VBS online!  
Scan the QR Code or visit [bit.ly/FPCBabylonVBS](http://bit.ly/FPCBabylonVBS)



## VBS Needs You!


*Your support is greatly appreciated!*

Supplies listed below may be dropped off at the church office or outside of Britany's office. Monetary donations can be made to the church office. Are you willing to let us borrow items? Please contact Britany.

- Popcorn
- Rice Chex Cereal
- Pretzel Sticks
- Mini Muffins
- Fruit Snack Gummies
- Graham Crackers
- Applesauce Cups
- Chocolate Pudding Cups (60)
- Juice Boxes Or Pouches
- Goldfish Crackers
- 4 Small Bags Of Potting Soil
- Paper Grocery Bags
- Small Peat Pots In 3 Different Sizes
- Medium Size Jingle Bells
- 3 Tailgating Tents To Borrow (June 21-29)
- Artificial Greenery & Plants (donated or to borrow June 21-29)

**These fresh items need to be dropped off on Sunday morning, June 25:**

- Baby Carrot Sticks
- Apples
- Celery
- Ranch Dressing
- Strawberries
- Clementine's or Cuties



## A LOOK AHEAD...

June 3-10	• Mexico Mission, Reynosa, Mexico
June 5	• Congregational Care Meeting
June 18	• H3F Father's Day Luncheon
June 21	• Kingdom Kidz & Youth Escape Room at First Prez
June 25	• VBS Kick Off Celebration
June 26-29	• Vacation Bible School
July 4	• H3F July 4th Luncheon
	• Church Office is closed
July 11	• Chrismon Class
July 19	• Kingdom Kidz & Youth Movie Night
July 23-28	• Youthworks Mission Trip
Aug. 9	• Kingdom Kidz & Youth Pool Party
Aug. 27	• Back-to-School Blessing
Sept. 10	• Rally Day - Fall Kick Off
	• Kingdom Kidz & Youth Resume
Sept. 13	• All In Fellowship Meals Resume
	• Adult Christian Education Classes Resume