



SEPTEMBER

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A publication of
First Presbyterian Church
PO Box 1159
Smithfield, NC 27577
919-934-0988
www.fpcsmithfield.org
fpcmwallace@gmail.com

ICHTHUS

September 2019

The Newsletter of First Presbyterian Church, Smithfield, NC

Denominational News: PC(U.S.A.)

Presbyterian Historical Society

Did you know there was such a thing?

The web address is www.history.pcusa.org

The Presbyterian Historical Society is the oldest continuous denominational historical society in the United States. Its mission is to collect, preserve and share the history of the American Presbyterian and Reformed tradition with the church and broader community.

The Presbyterian Historical Society provides a broad range of services for Presbyterians, scholars, and the general public, including reference inquiries, genealogy and family history research, transcripts and education verification, minister/missionary biographical research services, and attestations of baptisms, marriages, and memberships. It also takes care of records managements for congregations, Mid Councils, national agencies, and gifts of personal and family papers. Preservation is of great importance to PHS, and it offers digital reformatting services, records storage, and preservation resources. PHS also offers resources and opportunities for such things as celebrating a church anniversary, writing a congregational history, workshops, traveling exhibits, research fellowships for scholars, and preservation grants for churches.



Presbyterian Historical Society



The PHS stays in close contact with the Office of the General Assembly

The Office of the General Assembly

wants you to take a few minutes

to respond to a survey about what is important to you.

Go to the PHS webpage to find and participate in the survey:

www.history.pcusa.org



Add to your prayer list

Prayerful Support for
Eleanor Bell at Barbour Court
Bernice Johnson, Autumn Care of Nash
John MacFadyen at Brookdale, Raleigh
Ellen Rogers in Raleigh
Virginia Williams in Laurinburg
Lucy Worley at BellaRose Nursing and Rehab, Garner
Marie Atkins at Smithfield Manor
John Booker

Beth Daniel
Ruth Daniel
Dot Ellmore
Dennis Ham
Jenny Ham
Jo James
Freddy Johnson
Tom Johnson
Nancy Lee
Sandra Lester is temporarily at Smithfield Manor
Tony Lester
Troy Lester
Bill Leist
Miriam Lore
Earl Marett
Jill Merrick
Mary Miller
Becky Peele
Benny Pope
Chap Ragland
Peter Russell
Nelson Vaughn
Betty Welch
Linda Wells in Mt. Olive
William Wells
Joseph Hester, Jr.
Joseph Hester, Sr.
Ralph Mosley, Dot Ellmore's brother
Gerald Coley, Judy Miller's brother
Christian sympathy to the family of Ann Hobgood; Ann died on August 7.

memorials & gifts **Honorarium:** Dr. John Booker
Memorial: Ann Hobgood
Donors: John and Maxine McFadyen

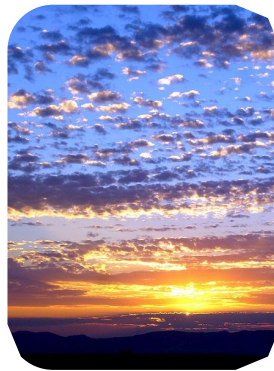
Heartfelt THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

Hank Roberson for providing flowers for Music for the Lunch Bunch each week this summer.
Betsy Olive for quietly taking care of changing the paraments and keeping the sanctuary candles trimmed and filled.
Eve Creech for keeping the Worship Bags organized and filled.
Camille Boone, Kathy Rice, and Jennifer Templeton for leading our Children's Music Camp this summer.
Camille Boone for her work with the Prayer Shawl Ministry.
Hubert Schmidt for his devoted care of our church plants and shrubs.
The Presbyterian Women's Bereavement Meals Teams who are so steadfast in their care of our church family in times of loss.
Evans Horne and Sarah Pate for serving our youth so faithfully.
Our Reception Desk workers who call our shut-ins.
Jo James for coordinating the Reception Desk Volunteers and
Judy Schmidt, Camille Boone, Eleanor Horne, Jane Harrell, Judy Miller, Ellen Adams, Pam Schall, Pam Withrow, Lee Johnson, Dot Ellmore, Etta Marett, Jenny Ham, and Judy Johnson for volunteering.
Beth Daniel for all her work as Receiving Treasurer.
Jaime Beasley for her work as Disbursing Treasurer.
Members who volunteers to serve as Lay Readers.
Stan Coats, Kenny Duncan, and Evans Horne who keep our building up and running.
Jennifer and Patrick Templeton for hosting the choir lunch following worship on August 25.
Thad McCrae for setting up for Music for the Lunch Bunch each week during the summer series.

HIGHLIGHTS of August Session

- Accepted the resignation of Todd Higginson as Director of Youth Ministries.
 - Accepted with gratitude a gift of a communion set in memory of Debbie Henderson from the Jim Henderson family.
 - Approved the repair/replacement of the front doors (red), main entrance doors, and atrium doors.
 - Approved the replacement of the sanctuary air-conditioning units.
 - Approved the addition of a Blessing of the Backpacks during worship on Sunday, August 25, 2019.
 - Approved the continuation of the Children's Music programs on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, beginning at 10:00 a.m. on September 17, 2019.
 - Approved the continuation of the Intergenerational Drum Class beginning at 3:00 p.m. on Sundays beginning September 8, 2019.
 - Approved the continuation of KIDZ Making Music to be held on Wednesdays from 4:30 until 6:00 p.m. in October.
- If you have items you wish to bring to Session, please contact Debbie Jacobs, clerk.

—Debbie Jacobs



Whatever is fickle, freckled (who knows how?)

Pied Beauty

Glory be to God for dappled things —
For skies of couple-colour as a brinded cow;
For rose-moles all in stipple upon trout that swim;
Fresh firecoal chestnut-falls; finches' wings;
Landscape plotted and pieced — fold, fallow, and
plough;
And all trades, their gear and tackle and trim.

All things counter, original, spare, strange:
Whatever is fickle, freckled (who knows how?)
With swift, slow; sweet, sour; adazzle, dim
He fathers-forth whose beauty is past change:
Praise him.

—Gerard Manley Hopkins



Communications and Technology News for August:



FPC Smithfield is streamed live on Facebook every Sunday morning. If you cannot be at church, you can still be there through this new technology. If you have any questions or help getting set up, please contact Evans Horne, Greg Bell, or Debbie Jacobs. Please comment to let us know how you like it. We will also be tracking "virtual attendees." Feel free to share the page and video with your other Facebook friends.

COMMUNICATION & TECHNOLOGY



It is important for the church to have your correct contact information. If your phone, email or mailing address has changed, please let Debbie Jacobs and the church office know so that we may keep our records current. An updated directory is now available through the eNews and will be updated quarterly. Please check the latest update to ensure we have your correct contact information.

—Debbie Jacobs

**First Presbyterian Church
Operating Results January—July 2019**

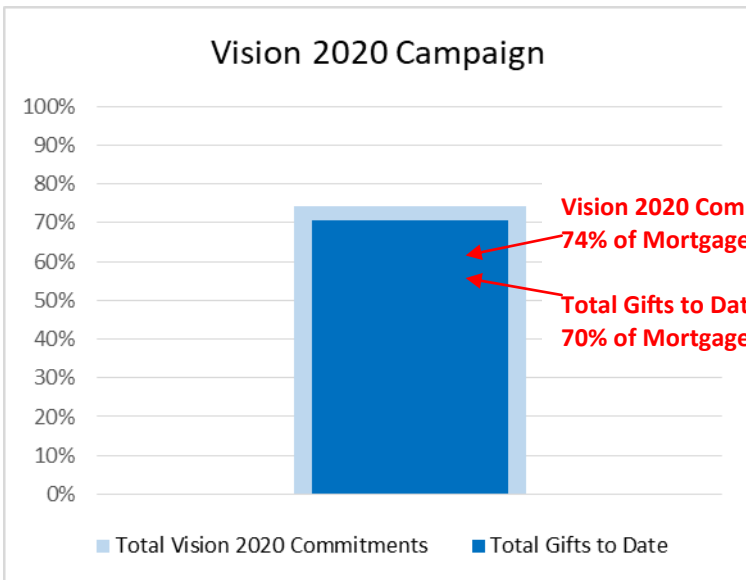
	<u>Jan—July 2019 Actual</u>	<u>Jan—July 2019 Budgeted</u>
Revenue		
General Offering	144,337.00	98,964.00
Disbursements		
Education Quadrant	20,512.00	18,293.00
Mission Outreach Quad	2,413.00	9,654.00
Spirituality Quadrant	85,106.00	91,334.00
Stewardship Quadrant	79,784.00	65,131.43
Total Disbursements	184,815.00	188,052.00
Net Income/(Deficit)	(43,478.00)	(89,089.00)

VISION 2020 Capital Campaign as of 7/30/2018

- \$ 418,139.00 Pledge Gifts
- \$ 30,939.00 Memorials/Honorariums
- \$ 61,757.00 Other Gifts
- \$ 510,835.00 Total Gifts**

- \$ 537,386.00 Total VISION 2020 Commitments
- \$ 724,842.00 Mortgage Balance

—Jaime Beasley



Church Doors Update



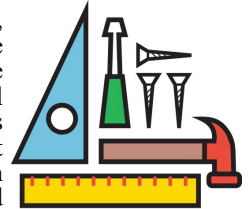
The Property Team has met with a representative of Southern Custom Doors and has contracted with them to replace the main doors and the courtyard doors and to repair the front sanctuary door at a cost of \$15,336.75.. The doors in the new wing are water damaged, and the sanctuary door needs repair for simple wear and tear over many decades. You can look for the installations and repairs in October..

Your Property Team



Labors of Love

Thomas Merton, an American monk, writer, and social activist, said, "It is in the ordinary duties and labors of life that the Christian can and should develop his spiritual union with God." As the United States observes Labor Day, may we find meaning not simply in marking summer's end, but in celebrating the ways nearly all "duties and labors of life" can empower ministry and faith.



LABOR DAY

Whether as a dentist, parent, artist, teacher, mechanic, gardener, city councilor, farmer, day laborer, attorney, or anything else, a Christian can begin each workday or shift by praying for opportunities to serve whoever they'll encounter. We can also pray for and seek ways to grow in "spiritual union with God": cultivating spiritual fruits, actively loving God and neighbor, seeing Jesus in the vulnerable, practicing humility, gratitude, and praise.

In Labor Day, may we find inspiration to make all our labors loving and faithful.

Coming: October 26, 2019



**First Presbyterian Church
will host
New Hope Presbytery Meeting**

**Stay tuned for more
information about how you can help!**



MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2019
CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED.



WE REMEMBER SEPTEMBER 11



September 23



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

September 2019

First Presbyterian Church
PO Box 1159
Smithfield, NC 27577

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SMITHFIELD, NC 27577
PERMIT #93

From the Handbell Director

I read a reflection for handbell ringers this morning that I found interesting and applicable to as we get ready to start a new music year at FPC.

The writer talked about a certain handbell choir that only played bass bells. You can imagine that caused all kinds of problems. Not only was it almost impossible to find "bass bell" music, but when they did play, it was difficult to recognize a melody in what they played: "pluck, pluck dong." One day a new ringer came to practice, but was told all the positions were filled. The ringer was unfazed and moved to the other end of the table to play some higher bells. The next week other ringers came and played some of the bells in the middle of the table. What an improvement in the music that choir was able to produce!

When I look down the row at our handbell tables, I see an intergenerational choir: experienced four-in-hand ringers, strong ringers who can handle bass bells, ringers whose arthritis dictates smaller bells and fewer notes, brand new ringers whose music is carefully marked for them, young ringers, men, women— it takes a variety of folks to make our handbell choir (or our church, for that matter) successful in our mission.

My point is that there is a place for you, too! Please consider joining us on Wednesday evenings at 6:30. (If you'd like, you can just walk down the hall at 7:30 and sing in the choir as well!) I promise your gifts and abilities will be put to good use and the whole choir will be enriched for your efforts!

Ring on!
Kathy Rice

PS. As an added incentive, there will be a cookout for all FPC musicians on September 7 at 6 o'clock at the Rices'. We're every bit as good at cooking and eating as we are at making music. Join us! More details to come.



PYC Meets at New Time

PYC will begin its new year on Sunday, September 8. For the first time, it will meet at 9:30 a.m. instead of its usual 7:00 meeting time. The hope is that attendance will increase and that the group can sit together during worship.

PYC
Sundays, 9:30 a.m.!



Education Quadrant Is Sponsoring a Fellowship Meal and
HOMEMADE ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Following Worship
Sunday, September 15!

The best ice cream maker will receive a prize!

Following the social, each group that falls under the Education Quadrant will give a quick overview of what they do and the direction they will take in the future..

From the Music Director

The Chancel Choir begins its regular weekly rehearsals on Wednesday, September 4, at 7:30 p.m. If you are in high school or older — no upper age limit — please come sing with us! We love to welcome new members, and we always have a good time!



—Patrick Templeton

Notes from Camille

Kathy Rice, Jennifer Templeton, and I had a great time planning for Children's Music Camp. Since we all attended the Montreat Music and Worship Conference, we had all kinds of new ideas to help us. This was our fourth year to offer music camp. We had 42 children and helpers. Eight children were from FPC, 12 were grandchildren of our members, and the remaining were from many different churches.

We owe special thanks to Judy Lee who followed our youngest group and kept them happy. Most were only four and needed a reassuring presence.

For the second consecutive year I purchased many new instruments for our children's music program thanks to the generous contributions and encouragement from our church family. We now have more African drums, bear bells, and boomwhackers. Please drop by the music room and see them.

We shared our instruments with First Baptist Church for their Bible school and with Centenary UMC's Bible school.

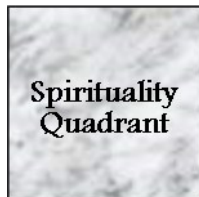
Kathy and I am plan to begin KIDZ Making Music in October. I am once again offering Intergenerational Drum Classes.

Thank you for all your support!

—Camille Boone



Sunday,
September 8 . . .
Tell your grandparents
how much they mean
to you!!



RETURNING IN OCTOBER



Sunday, October 20
4:00—6:00 p.m.
Hot Dog Meal!

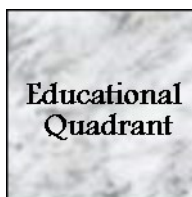
Volunteers needed to decorate trunks!

COSTUMES WILL BE JUDGED
AND PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED!!!

The Day's First Task

The moment you wake up each morning, all your wishes and hopes for the day rush at you like wild animals. And the first job each morning consists of shoving it all back, in listening to that other voice, taking that other point of view, letting that other, larger, stronger, quieter life come flowing in.

—C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*



Hospice Meals Updates

Our church will provide dinner for the patients' families, staff, and volunteers at the SECU Hospice House on Sunday, September 15. Frank and Lisa Dean are coordinating this meal. If you would like to provide a dish, please watch for the sign-up sheet in the church vestibule.



Thank you for your continued support of this caring ministry.
—Greg and Joyce Knoll

Scouts Resume September 10

Troop 95 had a wonderful summer, but we're looking forward to resuming our regular meetings.

If you know any middle or high schoolers interested in camping, please have them contact Davis Bell, Troop 95 Patrol Leader or Evans Horne, our Scoutmaster. We would love to see our troop grow.



We appreciate the support we get from our church. Thank you.
—Davis Bell

Visitor Mentor Program

Do you have a passion for greeting church visitors and helping them feel welcomed? Would you like to learn more about our new Visitor Mentor Program? If so, please contact Julie Pearce or Hubert Schmidt.

—Julie Pearce



JOY Connection Resumes September 3 Noon

Meal by Lisa Deans, Debbie Jacobs,
and Shirley Sharek
Program by Bill and Shirley Sharek
—A Tour of Italy



JOY
CONNECTION

COME AND BRING A FRIEND

Yes We Can

We had a good response to the Yes We Can collection in August. Our congregation brought in 72 items.

Last year two and a half tons of food were distributed by the Johnston County Food Bank. Did you know that 12% of Johnston County residents are food insecure, and 19% of these needy people are under the age of 18. Forty-seven per cent of the enrollment in the Johnston County Public Schools are on free or reduced meals. Can First Presbyterian Church help the community with food for these people? **Yes We Can!**



—Hubert Schmidt

September 12
6:30 p.m.
Home of
Sandy Perkinson

See you there!!



KIDZ MAKING MUSIC

Wednesday Afternoon, 4:30—6:00 p.m.
First Presbyterian Church
October 3—December 19, 2018

(IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CENTENARY UMC)

Children 2nd to 5th grade will have the opportunity to sing, play hand chimes and hand bells, and explore music and rhythm using African drums and Orff instruments.

Enrollment limited to 20 children.

Registration deadline: 9-21-2019
For more information or to enroll your child, contact:

Camille Boone: 919-464-6055

Kathy Rice: 919-464-4674

OR

Rodney Sawrey (Centenary UMC): 919-961-7298



Mission
Outreach
Quadrant



These are but a few of the paintings that Ann Ragland has done for our Children's Music Program.



She began four years ago with illustrations for *All God's Critters Got a Place in the Choir*.

Next she illustrated *Today is Monday*.

And just recently she did these and other illustrations for *If I Were a Butterfly*.



Go by the Children's Music Room to see all her illustrations that beautify the walls.



Spirituality
Quadrant