

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE, STUDY & FELLOWSHIP

### SAMARITAN'S FEET FOOTWASHING & SHOE EVENT

Help show God's love to 200 children in our community as we wash feet and give shoes at the Boys and Girls Club on Friday, August 17, 3:00-7:00 p.m. Many volunteers will be needed. Look for a place to signup online and at church soon.

### HABITAT BUILD TO BEGIN SEPTEMBER 1

We will start framing this year's Habitat House on Saturday, September 1, at the home of Gwyn and Sally Hilton. Save the date!

### RECORDING ARTIST AND AUTHOR MARK LEE

Mark Lee will be with us for Thrive and 7:00 p.m. evening event on Sunday, Sept. 9. Start inviting friends and neighbors for these special music and storytelling events!

### Parish Nurse Ministry Opportunities

#### END OF LIFE WISHES:

Gaston Hospice offers two (2) Advance Directive clinics every month. Healthcare Power of Attorney and Living Will documents are explained, completed, and notarized at no charge. No appointment necessary. They are the 1st Thursdays 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. and 3rd Thursdays 4:00-5:30 p.m.

#### THIS WEEK AT FPC ([see our website calendar for a full list](#)):

Sunday:	Nickel-a-Meal Sunday 9:00 a.m. Thrive 10:00 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Worship
Tuesday:	9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting 7:00 p.m. Thrive Rehearsal
Wednesday:	7:30 a.m. Hunger Needs Small Group
Thursday:	6:30 p.m. Thrive Team Meeting
Friday:	5:00 p.m. RoadRunner Trip

WELCOME to First Presbyterian Church - where faith is alive! Your presence here is our honor and joy. We pray that your heart is encouraged, that the Word is clear, and that you go from this place renewed and refreshed - in search of an ever deeper connection with our awesome God! If you would like more information about First Presbyterian Church, please sign the welcome forms in your pew or stop by the welcome table.

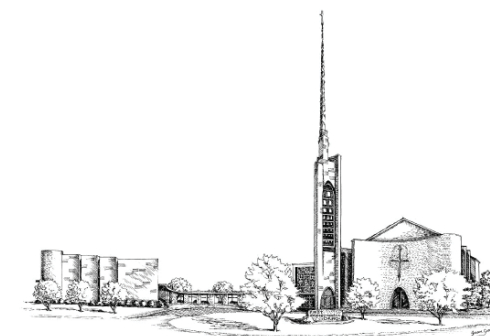
PROFESSIONAL NURSERY CARE is offered for infants and children up to five years old. The nursery is located on the first floor; please see an usher for directions.

### WORSHIP FOR CHILDREN

Worship activity boards and age-appropriate books related to the scripture lesson are available in the Narthex near the entrance to the Sanctuary. We also have Children's Church every Sunday except the 1st Sunday of each month. Children's Church is a worship experience designed especially for children (kindergarten through grade 3) and meets in the Shalom Room located in the lower level of the Sanctuary building.

*Leading worship today are:*

*Pastor John H. Stanley, Minister of Visitation;  
Rev. Dr. John L. Frye, Jr.; Senior Minister  
Bethany Jennings, Director of Music Ministries;  
David Jennings, Organist; William Massey, Soloist*



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
621 E. GARRISON BOULEVARD • GASTONIA, NORTH CAROLINA  
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## THE WORSHIP OF GOD

July 8, 2018

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

11:00 a.m. Worship

## WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

### CARILLON PEAL

Please enter to worship in a spirit of reverence.

WORDS OF WELCOME AND INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP  
Rev. Dr. John L. Frye, Jr.

### ORGAN PRELUDE & SILENT MEDITATION

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.

**God's steadfast love endures forever.**

God's grace is sufficient for us;

**In Christ, the weak are made strong.**

Let us Worship God!

### †HYMN OF PRAISE #649

*Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound*      AMAZING GRACE

## WE APPROACH GOD

### INVITATION TO CONFESSION

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy Lord and gracious God, we confess that we have not lived for your glory. You sent prophets to teach us, but we have not listened to them. You sent your Son to save us, but we ignore your living Word. Forgive us, God of grace. By your power at work within us remove our faithlessness and restore our faith. We ask all of this in the name of your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ...(a time for silent confession)...Amen.

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

#### †GLORIA PATRI #581

*Glory Be to the Father*

GREATOREX

## WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

#### ANTHEM

*How Can I Keep From Singing*

#### OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalms 123                      pew Bible, Old Testament pg. 572

#### NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE LESSON

2 Corinthians 12:2-10      pew Bible, New Testament pg. 185

This is the Word of God for the People of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

#### SERMON

Pastor John H. Stanley

"Grace in the Midst of Life's Thorns"

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

#### †AFFIRMATION OF FAITH, *The Apostles' Creed*

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Dr. John L. Frye, Jr.

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

#### PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS

#### NICKEL A MEAL

#### ORGAN OFFERTORY

#### †DOXOLOGY

#### †PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

## WE BEAR GOD'S WORD INTO THE WORLD

#### †HYMN OF DISCIPLESHIP #835

*Just a Closer Walk with Thee*

CLOSER WALK

#### †CHARGE AND BLESSING

#### †ORGAN POSTLUDE

†If you are able, please stand.

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE, STUDY & FELLOWSHIP

#### NICKEL-A-MEAL SUNDAY

Today (and the 2nd Sunday of each month) in Nickel-a-Meal Sunday. Everyone is asked to join their nickels together to address the causes of hunger in our presbytery through Hunger Action Grants.

#### CHRISTMAS IN JULY

We celebrate God's grace to us by giving to a local charity each July. This year our Christmas in July focus is on *Least of These Carolinas*. This non-profit cares for foster children. Look for the Christmas tree, a visiting speaker, and more details in July.

#### GASTON REGIONAL CHILDREN'S CHOIR CAMP 2018

FPC will be hosting this year's camp from July 16-19, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Registration \$100 per camper.

#### ROADRUNNERS:

MAMMA MIA! On Saturday, August 18, the RoadRunners will travel to Flat Rock to see the popular musical, *Mamma Mia* at the Flat Rock Playhouse. We will stop for lunch at the Café on the Veranda. The total cost for the play and lunch is \$53.50, payable with your reservation. Sign up at the Reception Desk by July 20th to make your reservation. Two buses will leave the parking lot at 9:30 a.m.

#### PRAYER LUNCHEON WILL RESUME IN AUGUST

#### HENDERLITE CLASS BREAKFAST

Current and potential members of the Henderlite Bible Class are invited to a breakfast on July 29th at 9:00 a.m. at the PAD.

#### SECURITY OFFICER

A uniformed police officer and cruiser will be on the property each Sunday morning before Thrive until after Traditional worship. The officer will be patrolling the parking lot to provide added security.