

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE, STUDY & FELLOWSHIP

HABITAT BUILD TO BEGIN SEPTEMBER 1

We will start framing this year's Habitat House on Saturday, September 1, at the home of Gwin 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! Please register for free tickets through a link on our church website: www.fpcgastonia.org.

FPC PICTORIAL DIRECTORY: PHOTOGRAPHY

Dates: at the church September 18, 19, 20, 21, & 22. At Covenant Village: September 17. Online Scheduling Available! To schedule your photography appointment online:

- go to www.ucdir.com, click on schedule your photography session on the right side
- enter nc133 in the Church Code field and enter fpcg in the Church Password field.
- If you have 6 or more in your family please use 2 consecutive time slots.
- The online scheduling option is available Monday through Friday only. It is taken down on the weekend so we can sign up people at church without slots being filled online.

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 6:00 p.m. Diaconate Meeting
Wednesday:	7:30 a.m. PET Meeting 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting 7:00 p.m. Thrive Rehearsal Noon - Prayer Luncheon with guest from Malawi
Thursday:	Newsletter Deadline 7:30 a.m. Finance Meeting
Friday:	4:00 Training; 5:00-7:00 p.m. for Samaritan's Feet at the Boys and Girls Club
Saturday:	9:30 a.m. RoadRunners 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

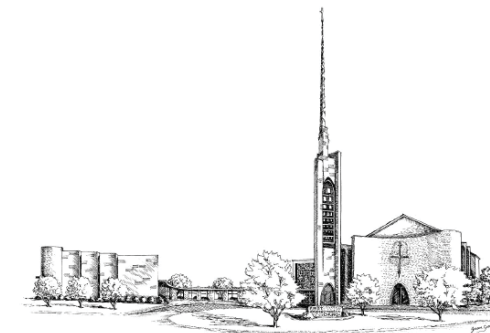
Worship activity boards and age-appropriate books related to the scripture lesson are available in the Narthex near the entrance to the Sanctuary. We also have Children's Church every Sunday except the 1st Sunday of each month. Children's Church is a worship experience designed especially for children (kindergarten through grade 3). It begins after A Time for Young Disciples in the worship service 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;
Ariel Omolaleye, Guest Soloist*

Ariel is a student at Piedmont Charter and enjoys performing in school and community productions. Her most recent role was in The Hunchback of Notre Dame.

All FPC worship services are streamed live on our website.
www.fpcgastonia.org/watchlive



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1621 E. GARRISON BOULEVARD • GASTONIA, NORTH CAROLINA
704.864.2651 • www.fpcgastonia.org • streaming live

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

August 12, 2018
19th 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.

MINUTES FOR MISSION
Tori Patterson
Bethany Jennings

ORGAN PRELUDE AND SILENT MEDITATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.
God's steadfast love endures forever.
Taste and see that the Lord is good.
Happy are those who trust in God.
Let us worship God.

†HYMN OF PRAISE #435
There's a Wideness in God's Mercy
IN BABILONE

WE APPROACH GOD

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that we have not followed your way. You offer the joy of your Spirit, yet we waste away in sin and grief. You offer the life of your Word, yet we turn away in doubt and despair. Forgive us, God of grace. By the power of your Spirit make us more tender and kinder, living as your beloved children; through Jesus Christ our Lord...(silent confession)... Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

†GLORIA PATRI #581

Glory Be to the Father

GREATOREX

A TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Jill Kimbirl

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

ANTHEM

Deep River

MOSES HOGAN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalms 34:1-8 pew Bible, New Testament pg. 508

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Ephesians 4:25-5:2 pew Bible, New Testament pg. 194

This is the Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Pastor John H. Stanley

"Closing Loopholes in Our Relationships"

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

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

ORGAN OFFERTORY

†DOXOLOGY

PRAYER OF THANKGIVING

WE BEAR GOD'S WORD INTO THE WORLD

†HYMN OF DISCIPLESHIP #729

Lord, I Want to Be A Christian I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN

†CHARGE

†ORGAN POSTLUDE

†If you are able, please stand.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE, STUDY & FELLOWSHIP

TODAY IS "NICKEL-A-MEAL" SUNDAY

This special offering is collected on second Sunday of each month. It goes to agencies working to alleviate the root causes of hunger in our presbytery through Hunger Action Grants.

LUNCHEON ON AUGUST 15TH TO FEATURE THE LEADER OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF MALAWI

Rev. Vasco Kachippapa Banda, head of Malawi's 2.5 million Presbyterians, will be with us for a special visit and program at prayer lunch. Invite friends from across the Presbytery and plan to be here for this rare opportunity. RSVP by Monday, August 13. Come for lunch at noon (\$6) and/or the program at 12:30.

HELP HOST FAMILY PROMISE 8/19-8/26

Your help would be appreciated as we host our neighbors in the evenings and overnight. Gloria Hickson, Diane Belton, and Jimmy Greene would love to help get you signed up and connected. You can also sign up online at www.fpgastonia.org.

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, training at 4:00, event 5:00-7:00 p.m. Can't be there at the beginning? Come on later! Many volunteers will be needed. Look for a place to sign up online and at church soon.

ONE TICKET AVAILABLE FOR MAMMA MIA!

A previously purchased ticket for the RoadRunners trip to the Flat Rock Playhouse has become available. The cost for the play and lunch at Cafe' on the Veranda is \$53.50. Contact the Reception Desk to claim this spot! The trip is Saturday, August 18, leaving the church parking lot at 9:30 a.m.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING TO ELECT OFFICERS

The Session has called a congregational meeting for Sunday, August 26 following 11:00 worship to elect Deacons, Elders, and members of the Nominating Committee. Look for information on nominees in the upcoming edition of *First Press*.

CALLING ALL PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

The Presbyterian Women will host their annual Kick-Off Dinner on Wednesday, August 29 at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. There will be a light dinner at no cost. RSVP to the church Reception Desk by Monday, August 27 so we know to set a place for you. All women are invited!