

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE, STUDY & FELLOWSHIP

SHERWOOD SCHOOL VOLUNTEER INFORMATION:

We have an information session set up for August 20, 4:00 p.m. in the Parlor. Christi Jolley, Parent Involvement Specialist, will share opportunities such as lunch buddies, reading buddies, mentors and other ways we can help. Both men and women are encouraged to share time to help our community. If you need child care let us know. Contact Gloria Hickson if you have questions: 704-865-6109.

FOURTH SUNDAY: A GATHERING FOR GRACE & PRAYER

This casual worship time is an initiative of the Worship & Music Committee. It is a thirty minute gathering of devotional, music, communion and intercessory prayer. This program will be held Sunday, August 27 and Sunday, September 24. 5:00 p.m. visiting on the grounds if you like; 5:30 p.m. It is new! It is deeply spiritual! It is profoundly connective! It is a departure from traditional worship! Try...you will like it! Rev. Jason Davenport will lead us in prayer and communion on 8/27.

RISE AGAINST HUNGER (FORMERLY STOP HUNGER NOW)

We will package thousands of meals to be used in famine and disaster regions during this event on Sunday, October 15, noon-2:00 p.m. There will be jobs for everyone from the oldest to the youngest. We need people to measure ingredients, to pack boxes, to seal packages, runners, bag fillers and more. Sign up to serve online (www.fpcgastonia.org) or after worship in the coming weeks.

PURSES FOR A PURPOSE

You can donate gently used purses (deliver to the Parish Nurse Office by Aug. 18) or attend the event, which is a fundraiser for the Alzheimer's Association. It is August 25, Noon-4 p.m. at Catherine Booth Apartments on Union Rd.

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

Sunday: Nickel-a-Meal Offering
9:00 a.m. Thrive (Fellowship Hall)
9:00 a.m. Henderlite Breakfast (PAD)
10:00 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary)

Tuesday: 7:30 a.m. Presbyterian Endowment Trust Meeting
9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting (Session Room)
4:30 p.m. Communications (Library)
5:00 p.m. Adult Ministries (Parlor)
5:30 p.m. Membership Development (Library)
6:15 p.m. Worship & Music (Session Room)

Wednesday: 8:30 a.m. Wild & Wacky to Riverbanks Zoo
10:30 a.m. RoadRunner Ministry Meeting (Library)
Noon Prayer Lunch (Fellowship Hall)
1:00 p.m. Mail Newsletter (Library)

Thursday: 7:30 a.m. Finance Ministry (Session Room)

Friday: 4:00 p.m. Samaritan's Feet at the Boys and Girls Club

Saturday: 9:00 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.

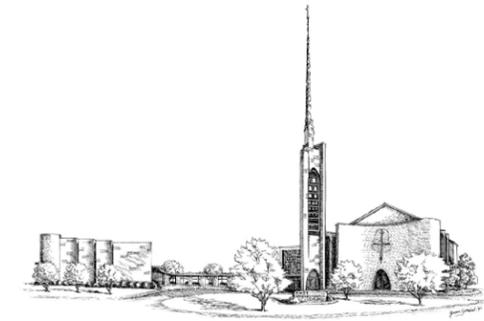
Leading worship today are:

*Pastor John H. Stanley, Minister of Visitation;
Rev. Dr. John L. Frye, Jr., Senior Minister;
Rev. Lauren Sease Vanacore, Associate Minister;
Jill Kimbirl, Director of Children's Ministries;
Bethany Jennings, Director of Music Ministries;
David Jennings, Organist;
Lauren Pace, Guest Soloist*

Lauren Pace will be a senior at Stuart Cramer High School beginning this fall. Lauren is actively involved in the choral arts and theatre programs. She studies voice privately and was scored as the top scoring second soprano in NC this past school year.

The flowers in the Sanctuary and Narthex are given to the glory of God by the congregation in honor of the ordination of Matt Conner as Minister of Word & Sacrament.

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 13, 2017
The 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.

MINUTE FOR MISSION
Bethany Jennings

ORGAN PRELUDE AND SILENT MEDITATION
Oh Bless the Lord, My Soul
HEALEY WILLAN

CALL TO WORSHIP
Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.
God's steadfast love endures forever.
Let us hear what the Lord will speak.
God will speak peace to the faithful.
Let us worship God.

†PROCESSIONAL HYMN #8
Eternal Father Strong To Save
MELITA

WE APPROACH GOD

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God our redeemer, we confess that we remain captivated by sin. We fail in our love for you, forgetting your gracious acts. We fail in our love for one another, forsaking our neighbors in need. Forgive us, God of grace. Let us be no longer bound by sin, but released, restored, set free to worship and serve you in freedom; through Jesus Christ our Lord...(silent confession)... Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

†GLORIA PATRI #581

Glory Be to the Father

GREATOREX

A TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

Jill Kimbirl

Children's Church Departs

ANTHEM

My Good Lord Done Been Here

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalms 85:8-13 pew Bible, Old Testament pg. 543

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Matthew 14:22-33 pew Bible, New Testament pg. 16

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

SERMON

Pastor John H. Stanley

"In Difficult (stormy) Situations, Christ Comes to Us!"

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH,

(Adapted from the Confession of Belbar)

We believe that God is the one who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people. We believe that God, in a world full of injustice and enmity, is in a special way the God of the destitute, the poor, and the wronged. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Rev. Lauren Sease Vanacore

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

OFFERTORY

Interlude

JH KNECT

†DOXOLOGY

†PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

WE BEAR GOD'S WORD INTO THE WORLD

†HYMN OF DISCIPLESHIP #353

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

SOLID ROCK

†LIGHT OF CHRIST BORNE INTO THE WORLD

†CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

†ORGAN POSTLUDE

How Firm A Foundation

DALE WOOD

†If you are able, please stand.

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OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE, STUDY & FELLOWSHIP

ORDINATION SERVICE

The ordination service for Matt Conner will be in our Sanctuary this afternoon at 3:00 p.m.. Plan to attend to worship and give thanks to God for the call placed upon Matt and for Matt's faithfulness in responding to that call to serve in pastoral ministry.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING TO ELECT OFFICERS

We will elect elders, deacons and at large members of the nominating committee at a congregational meeting following worship on Sunday, August 27 following the 11:00 a.m. worship service.

SAMARITAN'S FEET

This year's Samaritan's Feet shoe distribution will be Friday, August 18, with training at 4:00 p.m. and shoe distribution from 5:00-7:00 p.m. at the Boys & Girls Club. Plan to come help with this meaningful mission experience! You can sign up on our website (www.fpcgastonia.org) or at the Reception Desk. There are also signup sheets available after worship.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN KICKOFF DINNER

All women are invited to this dinner on Wednesday, August 23 at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Rev. Vanacore will introduce this year's Bible study and circle members can pick up their study books. New-comers to Presbyterian Women are welcome and encouraged to join in activities this year!

MARK LEE FROM THIRD DAY COMING

On September 10th multi-award winning musician, songwriter and author Mark Lee from Third Day will join us for worship at 9:00 and 11:00, as well as a concert at 7:00 p.m. He will give the message and anthem during morning worship. The evening concert will story-telling interspersed with music. Put this on your calendar now!

NICKEL-A-MEAL OFFERING

Every 2nd Sunday of the month we collect this hunger offering. All loose offering and any designated gifts go to help relieve hunger in Gaston County and abroad.

WILD AND WACKY WEDNESDAY

Children's outing August 16: Riverbanks Zoo. RSVP to Jill Kimbirl. Leaving the church at 8:30 p.m., returning at 5:30 p.m. Admission is \$13.50; bring \$5 for ice cream and a bag lunch.

The congregation is invited to the wedding of John Frye and Celia Cook on Saturday, August 26 at 3:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary with a reception to follow in the Fellowship Hall. Your reply to the church office is requested if you will attend the reception. 704-864-2681 or dkerns@fpcgastonia.org