

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE, STUDY & FELLOWSHIP

FPC PICTORIAL DIRECTORY: PHOTOGRAPHY

Dates: at the church September 18, 19, 20, 21, & 22. Online scheduling available for Tuesday through Saturday appointments! Schedule your appointment online or call the Reception Desk to make your appointment. We need everyone represented!!!

- 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.

COMMUNITY CONCERT FOR CHORAL ENTHUSIASTS

The Chamber Singers of Charlotte Master Chorale, conducted by Dr. Kenny Potter, will present "From the British Isles," a program featuring works by Ralph Vaughn-Williams, Stanford, MacMillan, and folk songs such as "Loch Lomond." This hour-long concert will be performed at FPC Belmont on Sept. 20 at 7:30 p.m. Admission is free.

ROADRUNNERS TRIP TO WEST JEFFERSON

Come along to view the Ben Long frescos at St. Mary's Church on Thursday, September 27 leaving at 8:00 a.m. More details are in *First Press*. RSVP by September 19.

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

Sunday:	9:00 a.m. Thrive
	10:00 a.m. Sunday School
	11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
	2:00 p.m. Acolyte Training
	6:00 p.m. Youth
	6:00 p.m. Diaconate Meeting
	6:00 p.m. Children's Ministry Meeting
Monday:	6:00 p.m. Officer Training Pictures
Tuesday:	9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
	4:30 p.m. Communication Ministry
	5:30 p.m. Membership Development
	6:00 p.m. Christian Education
	6:30 p.m. Worship & Music Ministry
	7:00 p.m. Thrive Rehearsal
Wednesday:	7:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast
	9:30 a.m. RoadRunners Ministry Planning
	10:00 a.m. Sewing Ministry
	Noon - Prayer Luncheon
	5:30 p.m. Wee Sing and First Kidz
	5:35 p.m. Handbells
	7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
Thursday:	7:30 a.m. Finance Ministry
	8:30 a.m. Yoga

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 bags with age-appropriate books activities to engage children in worship are available in the Narthex near the entrance to the Sanctuary. Children's Church is also available 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 is located in our Chapel. The children will return to worship and their parents during the singing of the final hymn.

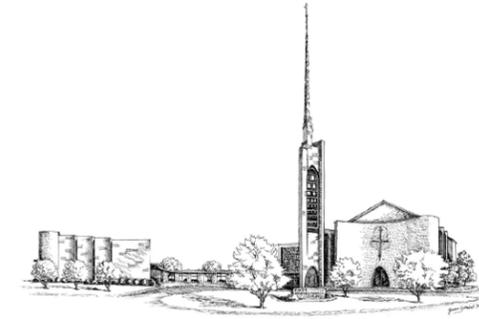
Leading worship today are:

*Rev. Dr. John L. Frye, Jr., Senior Minister;
Rev. Lauren Sease Vanacore, Associate Minister;
Bethany Jennings, Director of Music Ministries;
David Jennings, Organist;
Sanctuary Choir*

*All liturgy has been adapted from the
Iona Abbey Worship Book, Scotland.*

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

September 16, 2018
24th 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 MINISTRY
Melvin Meares,
Moderator of the Presbytery of WNC

ORGAN PRELUDE AND SILENT MEDITATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

With nature in its power and beauty, with rain and wind and sunshine, with the ancient rocks and budding flowers,

We gather in praise of God.

With believers and seekers, with friends and with strangers, with all who worship in this place,

We gather in praise of God.

With Jesus who promised his presence and the Spirit who showers her blessings,

We gathering in praise of God.

Here, let heaven and earth embrace;

Here may God's people find home.

†PROCESSIONAL HYMN OF PRAISE #826

Lift High the Cross

CRUCIFER

WE APPROACH GOD

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

For the right roads we have avoided traveling,
and the kindly words we have refused to share;
For the false gods who received our worship
and the true selves we have starved of love,
God, by your grace, forgive us.

For the hidden hurts we have held too tightly,
and the promises which we never kept;
for the careless use of our time and money
and the lame excuses we should never have made,
God, by your grace, forgives us.

God have mercy on us.
Christ have mercy on us.
God have mercy on us...(silent confession)...Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

†GLORIA PATRI #581

Glory Be to the Father

GREATOREX

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

ANTHEM

O Come Let Us Sing

CINDY BERRY

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL LESSON

MARK 8:27-38

pew Bible, New Testament pg. 43

SERMON

Rev. Lauren Sease Vanacore

"Denying Oneself in a 'Pamper Yourself!' World"

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

ORGAN OFFERTORY

†DOXOLOGY

PRAYER OF THANKGIVING

WE BEAR GOD'S WORD INTO THE WORLD

†HYMN OF DISCIPLESHIP #315

In the Midst of New Dimensions

NEW DIMENSIONS

†CHARGE

CHORAL BENEDICTION

Nearer, Still Nearer

BOB BURROUGHS

The Congregation is asked to be seated.

†ORGAN POSTLUDE

†If you are able, please stand.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE, STUDY & FELLOWSHIP

HABITAT BUILD CONTINUES

The build is off to a great start! Thank you to everyone who
has contributed! Volunteers are welcome each Saturday
thoughtout the fall. The house is being built at 219 Tanner
St., Gastonia. Let's partner with the Epps family to help them
achieve the dream of home ownership!

WEE SING

Do you long for some quality one-on-one time with your
toddler and/or preschooler to sing and play?

Infants and toddlers, along with a parent, grandparent or
caregiver are invited to join us for Wee Music gathering!
Come sing, dance, listen, move and play simple instruments
such as jingles, rattles and drums with us for a wonder-filled
time! For more information or to sign up please contact Jill
Kimbirl at jkimbirl@fpcgastonia.org

We meet on Wednesday evenings from 5:30 p.m. – 6:00
p.m. Please enter the building through the Fellowship Hall
entrance and gather in the Gallery on the 1st floor.

FIRST KIDZ CHOIR

Learn and grow through hands-on music experiences.
Opportunities include singing, playing instruments, reading
music and drama. This children's choir will lead worship
in singing praises throughout the school year on various
Sundays, put on a mini musical, and be encouraged to
participate in a week long choir camp in July.

First Kidz Choir is part of our Wednesday evening learning
and fellowship night and begins at 5:30 p.m. with dinner in
the Fellowship Hall and concludes at 7:00 p.m.

FOURTH SUNDAY SERVICE OF GRACE AND PRAYER

Our last Fourth Sunday Service for this summer is September
23. Come at 5:00 p.m. for fellowship and at 5:30 p.m. for this
30-minute vespers service in the Chapel. It is inspirational
and spiritual. Hope to see you there!

YOUNG WOMEN'S GROUP KICKOFF

Come out to Grape and Barley on Tuesday, September 25
at 7:00 p.m. for a time of fellowship and to briefly discuss
upcoming events and book study options. Caroline
Hobson could help answer questions about this event
(caroline.k.hobson@gmail.com).

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE FALL FESTIVAL

Get ready for "fall fun at the farm" on Sunday, October 21,
4:30-7:00 p.m. at Bit of Hope Ranch. RSVP by Oct. 18. More
information is in *First Press*.