FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

Carthage, NC

A community cornerstone for Christ since 1850.

July 2022 Newsletter



Rising Above Our Mistakes

Imagine being told that to achieve your greatest goal or desire in life, you must give up everything else you hold dear. Now if it's really your greatest goal or desire, one would argue you would do it. The price, however, is great.

In Mark 10, a man comes running up to Jesus, kneels before him, and asks, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" This man is excited to encounter Jesus and learn the answer to his question. Jesus, knowing this man and loving him, finally replies, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me."

The response by Jesus shocks the man. He went away grieving because he had many possessions. The man had been so faithful by following all the commandments but ultimately, he quickly realized how important his money and possessions were.

This man went away but the question for us today, could he come back, and respond in a way that was pleasing to Jesus? Could he at some point overcome his desire of wealth and inherit eternal life? It should be our question today. Can we not today, next month, or even next year, but at some point, overcome the very things that distract and hinder us from serving Jesus?

Isn't that the question for our daily lives as we wrestle and struggle with our faith and come to know Jesus? We are often sorry examples of being faithful disciples of Jesus Christ but Jesus hasn't given up on us and we shouldn't give up on Jesus working in our lives.

The other day I saw a post on Instagram, "Never be a prisoner of your past. It was just a lesson, not a life sentence." We are only bound to our past if we are unwilling to learn and grow from it. We can escape our past decisions and actions if we are willing to put them behind us. Our mistakes don't have to define us as individuals, a church, or as a nation. We can become greater than our mistakes.

I would like to think that at some point this man came to realize that his money did not make him as happy as following Jesus. All the distractions that pull us away from Jesus and His church are not as great as Him.

I know it might seem impossible to follow Jesus with such passion and faith. Jesus' disciples questioned how a rich person or anyone could be saved to which Jesus replied, "For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.

We might think it's impossible to serve Jesus above everything and maybe it is impossible on our own but the equation is incomplete. When God comes into our lives, we can, learn from our mistakes and joyfully inherit the eternal life that God longs for us to embrace.

Grace and Peace,
Rick



Remembering our sisters and brothers in Christ as they face difficult times.

Debby Albright
Anna Belle Campbell
Barbara Danley
Judi Kelly
Linda McCaskill
Pat Nugent
Ina Sue Parks
Phillip Warmbrod
Elizabeth Barringer
John Currie, *Tara Plantation*
Lee Edmonds
Carol Lucas
Gail Meeks
Dennis Parks
Tom Stewart

Artie Barber, *friend of the Monroes*
Billy Barber, *Regena Nugent's nephew*
Terry Barber, *friend of the Monroes*
Abe Caviness, *great-nephew of Debby Albright*
Willis Clark, *brother of Elizabeth Barringer & Marie Monroe*
June Greeson, *Susan Cole's mother*
Ann Herndon, *Kay Patterson's sister*
Jada, *friend of Geraldine Moore*
Sean Kennally, *Angie Provost's son-in-law*
Rexine Lloyd, *Kelly Martindale's mother*
Jane Medlin, *Carol Lucas' daughter*
Lisa Muller, *Cousin of Ina Sue Parks*
Wardon Prescott, *Geraldine Moore's brother*
T Prickett, *Lyn Austin & Cathy Prickett's brother*
Family of Gio Rincon

All of our military men and women and their families, especially the following:
Jonathan Baker, Kyle Bryant, Cody Fitzgerald,
Chris Mohan, Patrick Mohan,
Greg Riyevski, Michael Schwartz, and Quinn Wicker.

If you would like to add someone, or remove yourself from First Presbyterian's Prayer Requests, please contact the church office at (910) 947-2924 or infofpc397@gmail.com.



May 2022

OPERATING FUNDS:

Balance in checking account as of May 1, 2022		86,397.04
Tithes and Offerings Received		+15,371.73
	Sub-Total	101,768.77
Expenditures		-13,167.09
Balance in checking account as of May 31, 2022		88,601.68

RESTRICTED FUNDS: (Funds designated for specific projects, etc.)

Restricted Funds held in checking account as of May 1, 2022		41,422.75
Employee FICA & w/holding taxes for May 2022		
Donations/offerings received: 2¢ a Meal $211.65; PW Meal Fund $75; PW B'day $170; Youth Ministry $200		+434.99
Sub-Total		+656.65
		42,514.39
Expenditures: 3 Senior Scholarships @$300/ea $900; 2 Cents a Meal $214.65; One Great Hour of Sharing $3.16		-1,117.81
Balance in Restricted Funds as of May 31, 2022		41,396.58

RECAP:

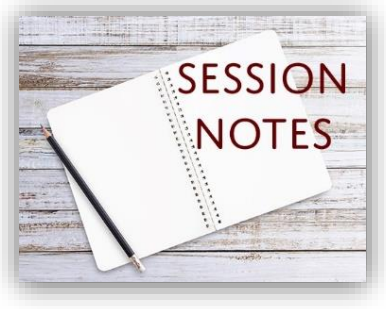
Operating Funds Balance	88,601.68
Building Fund:	0.00
Restricted Funds Balance	+41,396.58
	129,998.26
Apr-May 2022 Payroll Taxes on hand (FICA 704.64; FW/H 174.42; SW/H 26.00) Plus Adjustment $.05	-905.11
5/31/2022 Checkbook Balance	
*Actual balance is **$129,093.04**; Cannot find the $.11; Will continue to look for error and correct report when found	129,093.15*

OTHER REVENUES ON HAND:

Scholarship C/D with BB&T	22,146.23
Truist Financial Corp, Estimated value (4 shs)	+186.16
	22,332.39

Church Announcements

Birthdays
Sunday Flowers
Attendance
Thank Yous & More!



The session did not meet for a monthly June meeting.
They do meet weekly before worship.

- On the 26th the session hired Sonya Potter as our new Administrative Assistant. She comes with a wealth of experience. Please stop by and welcome her to FPC.
- The choir will be taking the summer, or part of it, off because of vacations and other obligations which pull them away from practicing.
- The session will meet on July 10th after worship (notice time change).

July Birthdays



1	Debbie Gordon
4	CJ McDonald
7	JoAnn Wahala
8	Jason Myrick
14	Susan Phillips
17	Geraldine Moore
18	Greg Riyevski
18	Marc Stromko
20	Emerson Dean
22	Carol White
24	Scott Tortora
26	Sawyer Dean
29	J.D. Monroe
31	Ina Sue Parks

July Greeters

3rd	JoAnn Wahala
10th	J.D. Monroe
17th	Pat Nugent
24th	Jackie and Jimmy Muse
31st	Ann Key

July Sunday Flowers

3rd	Regena and Pat Nugent
10th	Joanna and Leon Monroe
17th	Jennifer and Chad Thomason Alex, Owen, and Will
24th	Given in Celebration of Geraldine Moore's 90th Birthday by Her Family
31st	Susan Phillips

If you would like to place flowers in the sanctuary please call Debbie Gordon at (910) 947-3963, or Tom Leonard at (910) 693-3356.

May



	Sunday School	Worship
1st Sunday	21	56
2nd Sunday	20	36
3rd Sunday	16	40
4th Sunday	18	37
5th Sunday	28	59
Average	21	46

Send church news and announcements to FPC
by calling or emailing the church office at (910) 947-2924 / infofpc397@gmail.com.



The members of this church have been so kind and caring to Tom and me as we have been grieving the loss of our son, Hoke. We appreciate the visits, the meals, the notes and cards, and the phone calls. Thank you all for reaching out to us.

Tom and Ann Currie

FoodBank

On the first Saturday morning of the month,
FPC friends and family meet at the Robbins' Food Bank
of Robbins Area Christian Ministries from 7:30-10 a.m.
to serve our friends and families in need.

You can help by donating non-perishable foods
and double-bagged plastic grocery bags at our
Family Life Center Basket Ministries Donation Station,
and/or by joining us at any upcoming dates you're available:

July 2, August 6, and September 3 (tentative date)

To carpool, meet in the FPC parking lot at 7 a.m.

two cents

Don't forget to give us your
"two-cents"
the first Sunday of every month
as we continue to support our
Children's 2-Cents-a-Meal Offering.

Our children are now collecting this offering
during the Moment with our Children.

A little bit can go a long way!

FPC Basket Ministries is focusing on
Instant Potatoes for The Coalition this month.

We are not collecting crackers and raisins for
Back-Pac-Pals during July and August.

Vacation Bible School for ages 4 years old – 6th Grade
July 17th – July 20th 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

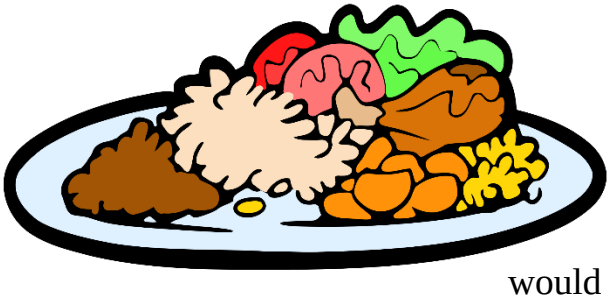
Email mrs.jenniferthomason@gmail.com to register your child.



We are excited to welcome all of our Chefs to *Food Truck Party: On a Roll with God,* and we are praying that everyone who joins this party will know and experience God's love, presence, and faithfulness. Everything we do centers on turning to God in prayer to meet our daily needs and to equip us to meet the needs of others.

God is Great!
God is Good!
Let us thank God for our Food!
By God's Hands, we all are Fed!
Give us, Lord, our Daily Bread!

PW Meal Ministry



July Meal Leaders:

7th	Gail Hardin
14th	JoAnn Wahala
21st	Diane Pangborn
28th	Debbie Gordon

If you would like to help with our Meal Ministry by providing meals or a part of a meal (dessert, salad, etc.) please contact the person in charge of the meal that week.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Presbyterian Women will host a ladies evening on Monday, August 1st at 6:00 pm. All ladies of any age are invited. We will have a finger food dinner with yummy desserts. Cheryl Hardy Gilmore will share the messages God provides through her unique ministry with her beautiful teapots. Mark your calendar and bring a friend.

Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Coastal Carolina will have their annual Fall Gathering on August 13th at Bethesda Presbyterian Church in Aberdeen. Registration will begin at 9:00 a.m. Look for workshop information in the August Mouse.

If you need a study book for this year's Bible study contact Helen McDonald. Circle meets the first Thursday of each month beginning in September.

CHURCH CALENDAR

July 2022

Saturday, July 2nd	7:30 a.m.	Robbins' Food Bank, *meet 7 a.m. at FPC to carpool*
Sunday, July 3rd	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School in library
	10:00 a.m.	Worship/2 Cents a Meal Offering
	11:00 a.m.	Lemonade-on-the-Lawn
Monday, July 4th		Independence Day! Church Office Closed
Sunday, July 10th	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School in Library
	10:00 a.m.	Worship
	11:15 a.m.	Session Meeting
Tuesday, July 12th	1:00 p.m.	West Commission on Ministry meeting at our church
Friday, July 15th		Ten Years since our Open House for the FLC
Sunday, July 17th	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School in library
	10:00 a.m.	Worship/Communion
	6:00 p.m.	Vacation Bible School – ages 4 years old – 6th grade
Monday, July 18th	6:00 p.m.	Vacation Bible School
Tuesday, July 19th	6:00 p.m.	Vacation Bible School
Wednesday, July 20th		Deadline for the Church Mouse
	6:00 p.m.	Vacation Bible School
Sunday, July 24th	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School in library
	10:00 a.m.	Worship
Sunday, July 31st	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School in library
	10:00 a.m.	Worship

The Session

Moderator:
The Rev. Rick Martindale

Clerk:
Leon Monroe

Class of 2022	**Class of 2023**
Debbie Gordon	Lucinda Casey
Ann Key	Cristy Dean
Elizabeth Martindale	Tom Leonard
Angie Medlin	Scott Phillips
Leon Monroe	Jennifer Thomason
Marie Monroe	Paul White

Church Staff

Rick Martindale, *Minister*
Ann Key, *Sexton*
Marie Monroe, *Treasurer*
Robert Wilson, *Choir Director and Organist*
Sonya Potter, *Administrative. Assistant*
Avery Smallwood, *Nursery Attendant*

Newsletter Feedback…

We'd like your feedback on how
to improve our
Church Mouse Newsletter
for Fpc members, friends and family!
Share your thoughts with us at
infofpc397@gmail.com
or (910) 947-2924.
We look forward to hearing from you!