

First Presbyterian Press

Volume 25, Issue 4, April 2023

Dear Friends at First Presbyterian Church and Friends in the Community,

We have arrived in the month of April 2023. The flowers are beginning to bloom, the trees are turning green again, and the birds are singing beautiful tunes everywhere.

This year the first Sunday in April is Palm Sunday. I am excited about seeing “April,” the miniature donkey, and watching the children and choir, with palms in their hands. reminding us of leading the way of Jesus as he entered Jerusalem. Jesus is now entering our hearts to invited us to reflect in his ministries, his crucifixion, and his death on the cross during the Holy Weeks.

The children will share special music during this service. Mary Taneti will share the message in her sermon for us. We will celebrate communion during this time as well.

After the service, we will have a reception for Mary in the gymnasium as we celebrate her ten years of ministry here as the Director of Christian Education. We are sad that she is leaving us, but we pray that God will bless her in her next ministry at First Presbyterian Church of Gastonia, North Carolina.

Mary, thank you for sharing God’s love for the past decade with the children, youth, and adults in our congregation. Thank you for keeping this church going during the transitional times, and for helping our congregation in all possible ways. May God bless you and your family as you begin your new ministry.

We are praying that God will bring a new Director of Christian Education and a Youth Director here as we discern, search, and receive applications for this position.

On Maundy Thursday at 7:00 p.m., we will have a beautiful communion service with special music by the choir accompanied by both a cello and percussion instruments. Special pre-service music will begin at 6:45 p.m. presented by Andrew Dagger, concert cellist. Special readings will be presented that will invite us to reflect on Jesus’ minister with his disciples, and his death on the cross.

On Good Friday, we invite you to think about the meaning of Jesus’ death in your life today. The sanctuary and chapel will be open for your private meditations and prayers.

On Easter Sunday, April 9th, we will join with the celestial angels by singing and shouting, “Christ Is Risen! He is Risen indeed!” We will begin the day with a Sunrise Service at 7:00 a.m. in the Columbarium enclosure. Our brothers and sisters from Faith

Presbyterian Church will join us there as Reverend Antonio Laurence, pastor of our sister church, preaches a powerful message entitled “Answering Graveyard Questions.”

At 9:30 a.m. our Handbell Choir, East Carolina University Brass Ensemble and Percussionists, and sopranos Katherine Lakoski and Reann Nichols will offer joyful Easter selections in preparation for the morning service at 10:00 a.m.

During our morning worship service, the Chancel Choir, handbells, and orchestra will lead us in great Easter music. The final benediction will be Handel’s “Hallelujah” chorus from “Messiah.” Copies of the score will be in the pews so that the congregation can join in the singing of this masterpiece.

At the conclusion of the service we will go to the front lawn for the Flowering of the Cross. What a beautiful way to celebrate and feel the joy of Easter!

Thanks to each member of the staff, the FPC leaders, and volunteers, regular members, new members, and visitors for leading the celebrations in making the love of God real here in Goldsboro. You are truly a beautiful community of faith.

In the midst of despair, illness, and wars, shootings, death and pain, the Easter Good News is this: God will wipe away every tear from our eyes and that nothing, not even death, can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

May you and I feel the Good News of Easter, and may the resurrected Lord bring us new life, new energy and a renewal of our faith. **Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!**

Sincerely in Christ,

Pastor Noe Juarez

Officer Duties

	Elders	Deacons
Apr. 2	Jason Blackburn	Jordan Krutsch
Apr. 9	Meredith Gurley	Nathan Johnson
Apr. 16	Ann Hunter	Coleen Leeper
Apr. 23	Phyllis Patterson	Carol Branch
Apr. 30	Evelyn Rose	Charlie Rouse

The deacon in charge: Coleen Leeper

Co-Deacon: Randa Scott



For the month of April 2023

Al Grisette, Toby Brown, and Charles York

CONGREGATIONAL BOOK CLUB

The Congregational Nurture Committee (CNC) invites everyone to join the Congregational Book Club. "[Illusions](#)" by Richard Bach. Leader: Mrs. Lynn Branch
The in-person discussion is scheduled for Thursday, April 13, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. McChesney Hall. Childcare will be provided upon prior request.

Christian Education April 2023 Events

Sunday School – Children, Youth, & Adult Sunday school 9:00 a.m. to 9:50 a.m.

Young Presbyterians (preschool through fifth grade) Sundays, April 23 and May 14 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Youth Group (sixth through twelfth grade)

Sundays, April 2 and 16, and the last one is Sunday, May 7 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

**Vacation
Bible School
July 24-28**



9:00 a.m. to Noon

Presbyterian Social

A big thank you goes out to Jewel and Randy Sauls, assisted by Debbie and Booby Richter and Marilyn and Bryson Bateman, for hosting the recent FPC Social at the Goldsborough Bridge Battlefield Barn! Thank you also to those who shared condiments for the chili and cookies for dessert. The roaring fire and pots of chili were a perfect ending to a day that started out with snow flurries. We had about seventy participants despite the cold unpleasant weather. Mark your calendar for the next FPC Social which will be at the home of Dan and Sue Blackshear, 104 Point Shore Drive, Sunday, May 7, 5:00-7:00 p.m.



April Birthdays!



2 Lily Ann Spicer	21 Mr. Jim Daniels Jr.
6 Mr. Dillion Wooten Jr.	21 Dr. Bud Fidler
7 Mr. Neal Benton Sr.	22 Mr. Jordan Krutsch
7 Worth Haithcock III	23 Mr. John Till III
12 Kate Hunter	23 Mr. Toby Brown
14 Mr. Charlie Dees	23 Rev. Dr. James Taneti
15 Josie Wilder	25 Mr. Bill Watson
15 Revel Wilder	25 Lilly Eason
20 Mrs. Coleen Leeper	26 Mrs. Jennifer Wilder
21 Mrs. Jackie VanHoy	27 Mrs. Barbara Bradshaw
21 Mrs. Rosalyn Lomax	28 Mr. Buck Tate Jr.
21 Mrs. Sandy Watson	28 Mr. James Spicer Jr.
21 Mrs. Chris Martin	28 Ms. Bess Gibson
21 Mrs. Phyllis Patterson	30 Mrs. Joan Stafford

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Presbyterian Women and friends, please join us for Bible study and fellowship. Ms. Phyllis Patterson will present our Bible study, "Sabbath and Self-Care," Luke 10:13-21

Evening circle, Monday, April 3, 6:00 p.m., parlor or Morning circle, Tuesday, April 4, 10:00 a.m., parlor.



The flowering of the Cross: will be done after Sunrise Service and after the Easter Worship Service on the front lawn. Please bring flowers from your yard for the flowering of the cross.



First Presbyterian Church Goldsboro Blood Drive

Held in the Gym
1101 E Ash St
Goldsboro, NC 27530

Tuesday, April 18, 2023
12:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.



American
Red Cross

SPRING FLING

*This year spring fling is
scheduled for*

Saturday, April 22

from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Our theme is "Earth Day."

*Come Join us for family
activities, games and lunch.*



Music Ministry

Notes from Chris Watkins

Easter Music Offering

Easter Sunday Morning -9:30 a.m.

A special presentation of the sounds of brass, timpani, handbells, guest soloists, and organ will be given on Easter Sunday morning starting at 9:30 a.m. in the sanctuary.

The East Carolina School of Music Brass and Percussion students will offer the triumphant sounds of trumpets, trombones, and timpani accompanied by the pipe organ. The First Presbyterian Church Handbell Choir will join these instrumentalists in compositions scored for the bells and our guest instrumentalists.

Reann Nichols, lyric soprano, and Katherine Lakoski, dramatic soprano, will lift our hearts with songs for this special morning.

During the 10:00 a.m. worship service our Chancel Choir will be singing hymns and anthems concluding with the “Hallelujah” chorus from Handel’s “Messiah.” Copies of this selections will be placed in the pews so that the members of the congregation can sing with our choir.

Please make special plans to be in the sanctuary early on Easter Sunday morning to begin your Easter celebration with the uplifting sounds of music presented by our choir and guest musicians.

THE MEN WILL SING IN MAY!

Mother’s Day Musical Tribute to the Women of the Church

May 12th during the Morning Service

CALLING ALL THE MEN OF THE CHURCH! Last May, 2022, the wonderful men of the congregation joined Chris in the choir loft to sing “Faith of Our Mothers” to the ladies of the church. It was a touching event in which the ladies wept and swooned to hear the voices of the men lifted in song for them.

On May 12th – Mother’s Day 2023 – the men of the church are invited to come to the choir room at 9:15 a.m. to go over their song, “Faith of Our Mothers” with Chris. You do not need to know how to read music. You do not need to have a trained voice. You will not have to wear a choir robe. If you can read lyrics in English, breathe on a regular basis, and be able to get into the choir loft without help you are encouraged to join us for this fun time together. Chris will go over the tune and words with you and line you up to go into the loft before the start of the service. As soon as your tribute in song is over, you can return to your place in your pew in the sanctuary.

Please consider joining us for this once-in-a-year musical gift to the special women in your life!

Thank you! To my Presbyterian family. Thank you for your visits, cards, calls, and most of all your prayers. I pray I can soon be back in church as a faithful servant. Love and God Bless, Betty Rose Sutton.

Memorials

In Memory of:

Jimmy Neese

From: Wilson & Susan Stackhouse – Undesignated, Billy & Clara Wellons – Undesignated, Al & Hettie Grisette – Undesignated, Jenny W. Taylor – Undesignated, Stephen Bryan – Undesignated

Russell Lee

From: H. & Agnes Woltz – East Garden, Wilson & Susan Stackhouse – East Garden, Barbara Ann Vinson – East Garden, Frank & Missy Best – East Garden, Lee Futrelle – Music, Borden Parker – East Garden, Betsy Neese – East Garden

Louise Huffman

From: Jay & Kathy Best – Undesignated, Wilson & Susan Stackhouse – Undesignated

Thomas Bradshaw

From: Wilson & Susan Stackhouse – Undesignated

O.L. Starling

From: Al & Hettie Grisette – Undesignated, Jay & Kathy Best – Undesignated

Paul Southerland (Emily Southerland's Dad)

From: Kimberly R. Kastner (Dockside Girls) – Undesignated

In Honor of:

Jean Whitaker & Chris Watkins

From: Mary & James Taneti – Music Fund

Hope Derby

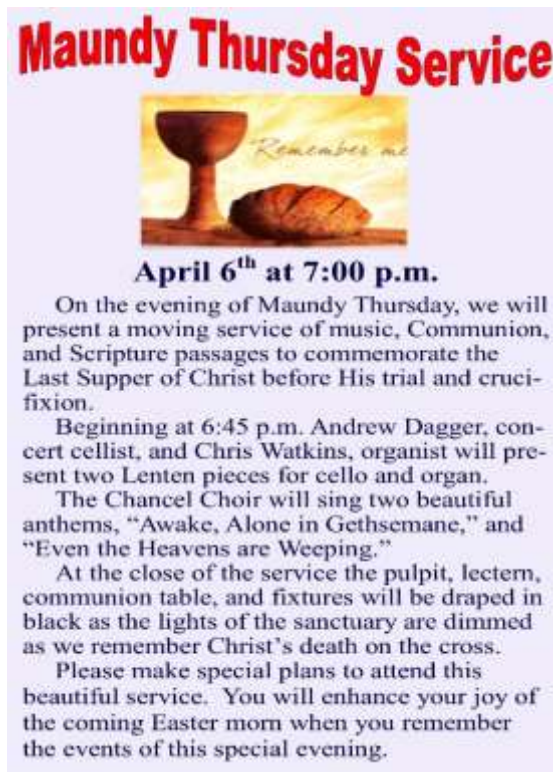
From: Anna Best Lee – East Garden

John Henderson


From: Johanna Reese – Building & Maintenance

David Carlyle, Toby Brown, Sam Hunter, Jamsie Spicer, Harold Rose & Al Grisette

From: Ellen Henderson – East Garden



Maundy Thursday Service



Remember me

April 6th at 7:00 p.m.

On the evening of Maundy Thursday, we will present a moving service of music, Communion, and Scripture passages to commemorate the Last Supper of Christ before His trial and crucifixion.

Beginning at 6:45 p.m. Andrew Dagger, concert cellist, and Chris Watkins, organist will present two Lenten pieces for cello and organ.

The Chancel Choir will sing two beautiful anthems, "Awake, Alone in Gethsemane," and "Even the Heavens are Weeping."

At the close of the service the pulpit, lectern, communion table, and fixtures will be draped in black as the lights of the sanctuary are dimmed as we remember Christ's death on the cross.

Please make special plans to attend this beautiful service. You will enhance your joy of the coming Easter morn when you remember the events of this special evening.



Holy Week Schedule



Sunday, April 2, 2023
Worship Service @ 10:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)
Youth Group 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. (Gym)

Maundy Thursday, April 6
6:45 p.m. Special Music (Sanctuary)
7:00 p.m. Worship Service with Holy Communion

Good Friday, April 7
Personal Prayer Time (at home)

Easter Sunday, April 9
7:00 a.m. Easter Sunrise Service (combined with Faith Presbyterian Church)
Flowering of the Cross (front lawn)
9:30 a.m. Music of Easter (Sanctuary)
10:00 a.m. Easter Service (Sanctuary)
Flowering of the Cross (front lawn)

Please visit our church website. Join us on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube.

To send information via the church newsletter email Mary Taneti @ fpcgoldce@ncrbiz.com