



## First Presbyterian Church Goldsboro, North Carolina

Volume 20, Issue 1  
January, 2018

Dear Ones,

Last week, a nurse in Dr. Kasbari's office approached me with a hypodermic that looked like it was sized for Mr. Ed. I unbuttoned my shirt sleeve. "No, no," she said. "This is for your gluteus maximus." If you're anatomy challenged, just think of where Forrest Gump got his shot.

I found out the day before my hip surgery that my cancer is back. This is not what we hoped and prayed for, but, quite frankly, not unexpected. The shot, which I will be treated to every three months for the next two years, is Lupron. It's meant to take away most of the male hormones in my body, the hormones upon which prostate cancer feeds. There are side effects, of course. Some are too delicate to discuss here. Among the others, is that I am likely to go through menopause and raging hot flashes. This will up my empathy quotient for what some of you have gone/are going/or will go through. I believe I read somewhere that my male urge to monopolize the TV remote, running up and down the channels, will just fade away. I may even begin to actually like "meaningful conversations about our relationship." I may become more emotional, a little fuzzy in the head, a bit tired, and prone to preach shorter sermons. You can discern which of these are actual side effects.

Then sometime in March, I will begin radiation therapy with Dr. Kevin Kerlin, here in Goldsboro. I'll be treated five days a week, for six weeks. Because the treatments will take less than an hour, I'll be able to keep right on working. When this is finished, we'll wait to see how all of the above has worked.

2017 has been a difficult one for us. I hope you know how much we appreciate your understanding, love, and prayerful support. Over the last few weeks, I have been moved by my reading through the Bible, particularly through the letters of Paul. When I am tempted to whine and wonder about my troubles, thinking of those Paul faced makes me bow my head and shut my trap. Here's a sampling, in his own words:

*I have worked much harder, been in prison more frequently, been flogged more severely, and been exposed to death again and again.<sup>24</sup> Five times I received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one.<sup>25</sup> Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was pelted with stones, three times I was shipwrecked, I spent a night and a day in the open sea,<sup>26</sup> I have been constantly on the move. I have been in danger from rivers, in danger from bandits, in danger from my fellow Jews, in danger from Gentiles; in danger in the city, in danger in the country, in danger at sea; and in danger from false believers.<sup>27</sup> I have labored and toiled and have often gone without sleep; I have known hunger and thirst and have often gone without food; I have been cold and naked.<sup>28</sup> Besides everything else, I face daily the pressure of my concern for all the churches.*

You'd have to agree that a hot flash or two comes off as pretty small potatoes, comparatively. But the even more amazing thing is that Paul does not dwell on his misfortunes. To the contrary, he thanks God that he has been found worthy to suffer for Jesus Christ. And then he gets on with things, proclaiming the love and power of God, his letters overflowing with joy, page after page.

*Rejoice always in the Lord! Again, I tell you rejoice! Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything with prayerful supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, passing all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

*(Philippians 4:6-7)*

*Continued on page 2*

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*I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do all this through him who gives me strength. (Philippians 4:12-13)*

These come to mind, but there are many more examples. Take up your Bible and see for yourself.

I'll close with another one that I found particularly moving, an expression of Paul's tender love for the church at Thessalonica. It expresses my deep desire for our ministry here as we move into 2018 together.

*With yearning love we chose to impart to you not only the gospel of God, but our very selves, so dear had you become to us.....As you well know, we dealt with you one by one, as a father deals with his children, appealing to you by encouragement, as well as by solemn injunctions, to live lives worthy of the God who calls you into his kingdom and glory. (1Thessalonians 2:8, 11-12)*

So here's my resolution for the New Year: One by one, I will love you, encourage you, and solemnly call you to the only worthy life, the one "hid with Christ, in God."

And, if anyone has found a helpful remedy for hot flashes, I'd be much obliged.

Much love,

Bob



**January 12, at 6:30 p.m.  
to January 13 at 2:00 p.m.**

Your friends are welcome to come. Adult volunteers are needed. Please contact Mary Taneti.



Session  
Kim Brogden  
Lee Futrelle  
Harold Rose  
Kathryn Spicer

## *Installation of Officers*

**Class of 2020**

**January 14, 2018**

Diaconate  
Michael E. Ellis  
Anne Fidler  
Pam Jennette  
Ellen Jordan  
Toby Brown (Class of 2018)

**Mark your calendar!  
Wednesday Family Night begins January 17, 2018!!  
Tacos will be served.**

**Fellowship Dinner is at 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. and is open to the entire congregation!  
Bring your family and friends!**

**Adult Bible Study** in the Chapel at 6:30 p.m.

**Youth Bible Study** in the Youth Room at 6:30 p.m.



**Childcare** is available during Bible study at 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.  
Contact Mary if childcare is needed.

With grateful hearts, we acknowledge the following for the help with  
**the Children's Musical "Surprised by God."**  
 (Script by Rosalyn Lomax)

**Musical Team**

Ann Hunter  
 Beth Kannan  
 Rosalyn Lomax  
 Madelyn Percise  
 Kathryn Spicer  
 Susan Stackhouse  
 Mary Taneti

**Accompaniment**

Piano, Jayson Keeton  
 Percussion, James Taneti

**Sound**

Jim Judkins  
 Jayson Keeton  
 Malcolm Shearin

**Set (Set up and Strike)**

Philip Brogden (Moravian Star)  
 Jayson Keeton  
 Malcolm Shearin

**Costumes**

Margaret Burgess  
 Beth Kannan  
 Katherine Parker  
 Susan Stackhouse  
 Mary Taneti

**Vismitha Taneti**

**Choir**  
 Bob Bardin  
 Sally Bardin  
 Lynn Branch

Brownie Doss  
 Madeline Edwards (Soloist)

Will Faircloth  
 Lee Futrelle (Soloist)

Hettie Grisette  
 Jessica Lopez  
 Jewel Sauls  
 Will Spicer (Voice of Jesus)  
**The Cast** (our youth, our children, our flying angels, our parents)  
 Congregation support and prayers  
 All who sang at the Soup Kitchen

**Communication/Publicity**

Ruth Smith  
 Mary Taneti  
**Program**  
 Ruth Smith  
**Reception**  
 Elva Graham (Chair)  
 Charlie Dees  
 Matilda and Will Faircloth

Meredith Gurley  
 Ellen Jordan  
 Rosalyn Lomax  
 Katherine Parker  
 Sadie Rowan  
 Beth and Curtis Stackhouse

**Photography**

Malcolm Shearin

**Parents of Children**

**Wonderful Staff**  
 Nona Andrews  
 Bob Bardin  
 Margaret Burgess  
 Jayson Keeton  
 Ruth Smith  
 Mary Taneti  
 Jean Whitaker  
**Spanish Tutor**  
 Jessica Lopez



**Thanks be to the glory of God!**



2	Beth Stackhouse	6	Dean Gurley	17	Mr. John Henderson
3	Mary Wynne Stackhouse	8	Austin Jeffreys	19	Ethan Brogden
	Will Stackhouse		Mr. Patrick McArthur		Mr. John Wooten
4	Mr. Al Grisette	10	Mr. Warner Underwood	24	Mallory Albertson
	Dr. Jim Stackhouse	13	Jake Crocker	27	Mr. Brian Gibson
	William Gibson	14	Mr. Steven Phillips	28	Mrs. Gail Shearin
5	Mr. Ken Taylor	15	Mrs. Bessie Beamon		Mr. Kent Warren
6	Mr. Hugh Tate		Mrs. Victoria Royall Barfield	31	Wagner Wilder
	Austin Williams				Mrs. Evelyn Rose



Jan. 1		Office Closed	16	7:00 p.m.	Session
2	8:30 a.m.	PWCT	17	5:30 p.m.	Wednesday Family Night
	10:00	Circles 1 and 2	21	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School
7	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School		10:00	Worship
	10:00	Worship	24	5:30 p.m.	Wednesday Family Night
9	7:00 p.m.	Diaconate	28	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School
12	6:30 p.m.	Lock-In		10:00	Worship
14	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School	30	10:00 a.m.	PWCT
	10:00	Worship	31	5:30 p.m.	Wednesday Family Night



Jan. 7 Rev. Cynthia Williams  
 Jan. 14 Rev. Bob Bardin  
 Jan. 21 Rev. Bob Bardin  
 Jan. 28 Rev. Bob Bardin

Deacon-in-Charge: Curtis Stackhouse

Co-Deacon: Linda Stevens

Ushers: John Henderson, John Parker, James Spicer, C .V. Sutton



Chancel Guild



January: Lynn Branch and Wanda Starling

If you would be willing to help with the Chancel Guild, please contact Wanda Starling.

Dear FPC family,

The staff would like to extend our sincere appreciation for the cards, gifts and holiday wishes received during the Christmas season. Your thoughtfulness and generosity meant so much to each one of us. It is truly a joy and privilege to minister at FPC.

Bob, Jayson, Mary, Nona, Jean and Ruth

**NEED A FEW GOOD MEN FOR THE LIVING LAST SUPPER!** The Maundy Thursday worship service March 29 will feature this moving drama. If you are interested in participating, please call Rosalyn Lomax, 919-736-2116; call or text 919-344-2080; or email rosalynlomax@att.net to let her know.