

First Presbyterian Press

October 2023

Hello, friends of First Presbyterian Church, Goldsboro!

We are starting a new month with lots of joy! Last Wednesday, September 27, we officially welcomed Paige Corbett as our new Director of Christian Education. Paige comes with great experience working in early childhood education and was recently director of children's ministry in a local church. Welcome, Paige! We look forward to working together, discovering God's dream for this beautiful church in the area of Christian Education. As a congregation, let us welcome Paige; let us pray for her and support her in any way so that she can fulfill God's call among us.

Also, in September, we started a new sermon series called "The Bible as One Continuing Story of God and His People" in 31 stories. We are super excited by the response of the congregation on Sundays and to see about 40 participants attending the Bible discussion on Wednesdays—what an exciting journey together in God's story. We are welcoming new members and baptizing new babies and children, and for this, to God be the glory.

On Saturday, October 28, we will be hosting the New Hope Presbytery meeting alongside Faith Presbyterian Church and the Korean Presbyterian Church. Thank you so much, staff members, volunteers, and Presbyterian Women for helping with this important event. And of course, everyone is invited to attend this meeting that begins at 9:00 and lasts until 3:00. If you haven't been in a Presbytery meeting, you have to experience it at least once.

My heart is filled with gratitude for such an active and loving congregation. Thank you for being part of a growing and welcoming church. Together we will continue blooming, and with God's guidance, we will keep discovering what God has in mind for us: *"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."*

Jeremiah 29:11

May it be so,
Sincerely in Christ,
Pastor Noé

The Story Bible: Sermons, Bible Studies & Sunday School
Sept. 10, 2023-Apr. 28, 2024

In the year 2022, I immersed into reading the whole Bible in one year. It was a big commitment yet very transformative and rewarding. I feel more grounded and my faith is stronger because of it. By going through the Story of the Bible as a congregation, we hope to become more grounded, deepen our faith, and let God infuse in us his great teachings and be inspired to go forward. There are 31 stories. We will start a new sermon series after Labor Day (Sept.10, 2023), take a break during Advent and Christmas, coincide the Resurrection story with Easter (March 31, 2024), and finish the remaining 4 stories by April 28, 2024.

The Story #	The Bible as One continuing Story of God and His People	Date (Sundays)
1	Creation: The Beginning of Life as We Know it	September 10
2	God Builds a Nation (The Call of Abraham)	September 17
3	Joseph: From Slave to Deputy Pharaoh	September 24
4	Deliverance and Freedom (Moses, Exodus)	October 1st
5	New Commands and a New Covenant	October 8
6	Wandering (The Wilderness Experience)	October 15
7 and 8	The Battle Begins (Joshua), A Few Good People (Combined)	October 22
9	The Faith of a Foreign Woman (Ruth)	October 29
10	Standing Tall, Falling Hard (Saul)	November 5
11	From Shepherd to King (David)	November 12
12	The Trials of a King	November 19
13	The King Who Had It All (Solomon)	November 26
	<i>Advent & Christmas Themes</i>	<i>Dec 3-Dec 31st</i>
14	A Kingdom Torn in Two	January 7
15	God's Messengers (The Prophets)	January 14
16 and 17	The Beginning of the End and the Kingdom's Fall (Combined)	January 21
18	Daniel in Exile	January 28
19	The Return Home	February 4
20	The Queen of Beauty and Courage (Esther)	February 11
21	Rebuilding the Walls: Nehemiah (First Sunday in Lent)	February 18
22	The Birth of the King (Jesus)	February 25
23	Jesus' Ministry Begins	March 3
24	No Ordinary Man	March 10
25	Jesus, The Son of God	March 17
26	The Hour of Darkness (Holy Week)	March 24
27	Easter: The Resurrection	March 31
28	New Beginnings (The Birth of the Church)	April 7
29	Paul's Mission	April 14
30	Paul's Final Days	April 21
31	The End of Time (Revelation)	April 28

Officer Duties:

Oct. 1	Meredith Gurley, Elder	Robin Wilson, Deacon
Oct. 8	Toby Brown, Elder	Betty Rose Sutton, Deacon
Oct. 15	Toby Brown, Elder	Elva Graham, Deacon
Oct. 22	Toby Brown, Elder	Charlie Rouse, Deacon
Oct. 29	James Spicer, Elder	Emily Byrd, Deacon

Back Door Monitors:

Oct. 1	Randa Scott
Oct. 8	Jordan Krutsch
Oct. 15	Meredith Gurley
Oct. 22	Emily Byrd
Oct. 29	Teresa Smith

Deacon in Charge: Robin Wilson

Co-Deacon: Elva Graham

Ushers for October: Suzanne Corbin, Bill Corbin, Tommy Franklin

Congregational Meeting

Immediately following the service on Oct. 8, there will be a Congregational Meeting to elect Deacons and Elders for the Class of 2026.

FPC Hosts New Hope Presbytery Meeting

Saturday, October 28

New Hope Presbytery's Fall Meeting will take place at FPC. We are expecting 250-275 ministers, commissioned ruling elders, and other guests from the 110 churches within the Presbytery. Please consider volunteering. Contact Toby Brown, 704-778-5075, if you are interested.

Welcome to Our New Director of Christian Education:

Paige Corbett

Paige is a small-town girl from Stantonsburg, NC. She is currently pursuing a bachelor's degree in religion for Next Generation Ministries at Liberty University. Paige has worked with children since her teens through early childhood education and children's ministry. She married her husband Cody in November 2020 and enjoys spending her spare time fishing, reading, traveling, and spending time with family. Paige is excited to be a part of our congregation and enthusiastic to help shape the faith of our children!

Youth Ministry

New Paint in the Youth Room: Coming this October, the youth of our church and I will be repainting the youth room and dedicating space for each child to paint their own area in a way that best reflects who they are. We hope to bring new life and a more personal touch to this space, so if you have any supplies that you think might help our children express themselves in this way, please feel free to drop them off at my office.

Lock-in to be Rescheduled: Our youth ministry lock-in event is going to be rescheduled to a date later this fall. Changes to the posted schedule will be made shortly.

Youth Ministry Weekly Email: If you are a parent or are interested in volunteering your time during youth events, please send me an email at fpcgoldyouthdirector@gmail.com so you can begin receiving our weekly youth ministry updates.

Social Media: You can also follow our Youth Ministry social media accounts for any updates or event information

- **Instagram:** @fpcgoldyouth
- **Facebook:** First Presbyterian Youth-Goldsboro

-Dalton Bolles

Presbyterian Women

Presbyterian Women will meet the first week of October, and we would love to have you join us. Evening Circle will meet on Monday, October 2, at 7:00 PM in the Parlor (note the time change—more ladies said they could attend at 7:00 than at 6:00, so we moved the start time to 7:00 PM).

Morning Circle will meet on Tuesday, October 3, at 10:00 AM in the Parlor. You may attend either Circle meeting that is more convenient for you; the program is the same at both.

This year we are studying *Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts*, by Olive Mahabir. Our October lesson is "The Exorcism in Gerasa." Evelyn Rose will be our leader for this lesson.

Come join us. If you are an "old hand," you will see a lot of your church friends there. If you are new, this is a great opportunity to meet more church women in a relaxed setting. Either way, you can join us in prayer and fellowship at the Circle meeting of your choice. If you have questions, call Chris Martin at 919.222.0026. See you there!

Men's Breakfast

Our Men's Breakfast continues to meet weekly at 7:00 A.M. at the Lantern Inn. We will be using the study guide, "The Gospel of John for Everyone," by N.T. Wright. This is a weekly event September-May. All men are invited.

Wednesday Family Night

Fall: September 13 - November 15

Winter: January 17 - March 20

Adult Bible Study: 5:30 - 6:15

Dinner: 6:15 - 7:00

Choir Practice and Other Activities: 7:00

Presbyterian Socials

Thank you to Neal and Shelby Benton for hosting our Fall Presbyterian Social on September 17. What a fun time and great food with fellow Presbyterian friends! The Bentons provided beef tenderloin and ham sandwiches and an outstanding blueberry cobbler made with Neal's family's blueberries. A big thank you to everyone who shared numerous other delicious foods. Once again, we had around 75 people gathered for wonderful fellowship. Thanks to all of you who made the effort to join us.

Jason and Ali Blackburn will be hosting our next Presbyterian Social in their home at 202 Leafwood Drive on Sunday, December 3, 5:00-7:00 P.M. Mark your calendars and plan to join in on the fun and fellowship. It will be a great way to get into the Christmas Spirit.

Book Club

FPC Book Club will meet on Thursday, Oct. 5, at 7:00. We will be discussing *Lessons in Chemistry*.

Mission Yard Sale

If you or your friends have items to contribute to the Mission Yard Sale that will take place on October 7, you may bring them during church office hours to the container parked by the shed behind the kitchen until September 30. You will need to get the key from the top drawer of the reception desk. Please be sure to return the key to the same spot. If you need to bring items outside of office hours, please contact Sam Hunter at 919-288-9332. The proceeds of the Yard Sale will be used for mission projects in our community and beyond. Thank you for your generous contributions and for your commitment to help sort and price the items. It is always a blessing to the community when folks find what they need at a very affordable price.

We start setting up for the Yard Sale on Sunday, October 1 immediately after church (with pizza provided for lunch) and work Monday through Friday, October 2-6 from 9:00-4:00. The sale will take place on Saturday, October 7 from 8:00-12:00. Volunteers will also be needed that morning to welcome our guests and help them find what they need. Please sign up to help at the desk at our back entrance. We are Blessed to be a Blessing to others!

Notes from Chris

A HARVEST OF FOOD! WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER FROM THE CHANCEL AND HANDBELL CHOIRS

Wednesday Night, October 18 at 6:15 PM

Please join us in the Gymnasium/Activity Center for a wonderful Fried Chicken Dinner with all the fixings! The members of both the Chancel Choir and the Handbell Choir will be serving a full array of delicious foods, salads, and desserts for one and all. Chris will be playing the piano as you dine. Whenever these two Choirs have prepared a meal for you, we have had a full house to enjoy this special treat. Please come and celebrate the oncoming fall season.

Ding! Dong! Merrily on High!

The Handbell Choir Begins Rehearsals!

The Lord has blessed the Handbell Choir with five new ringers—all who read music and have delightful personalities to go along with their impressive talents! These new ringers have joined the wonderful veteran ringers who have raised the bar of excellence of the Handbell Choir to new heights.

Rehearsals have begun on all the Christmas music that the choir will ring both for their concert at Bruton Parish Church in Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia, and for a special presentation of prelude music prior to the morning service at our church on December 17th.

We are so blessed to have these musicians give of themselves each Thursday night from 5:30-7:30 to learn the art of English Handbell Ringing. What a joyful gift they give to all of us with their music that delights our ears and stirs our emotions throughout the church year.

“Miracle at the Christmas Café”

Children’s Choir Musical Rehearsals Each Sunday at 9:00 Sharp in the Choir Room!

Children from the age of five years old through the seventh grade are encouraged to join us as we learn the delightful music and hilarious tale of the diners at a café in Bethlehem on the night Christ was born. There are hotel owners, a mysterious stranger quoting Scripture, and sassy waitresses to take your order.

Every child will have a special part in this musical. There are no stars.

Bring your child this Sunday and Chris will give you both a script to take home and a CD of the music for you and your child to study during the week.

See you on Sunday!

Church Cleanup

The church-wide yard cleanup is scheduled for Oct. 21 from 8:00-12:00. Please come and bring your rakes, shovels, trimmers, and energy. These days are always productive and full of good fellowship!

Calling Writers, Artists, and Staff for Advent Devotional 2023

Volunteers are still needed to write Advent devotionals! Writings are due by October 17 to Kathryn Spicer (bak.spicer@gmail.com) or Rosalyn Lomax (rosalynlomax@gmail.com). Please let Kathryn or Rosalyn know if you are willing to submit a devotional writing. Format and sample appeared in the September newsletter. Please be part of this Advent ministry.

Spanish Immersion Class

The Spanish Immersion PreK group started in September, and we now have three students and a wonderful assistant named Juana. We continue to advertise to try and bring in more 3-5 year-olds! If you know anyone that might be interested, please pass along the information. We are also excited to announce that we are starting an elementary after-school group on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:15-4:30 and already have 5 signed up! Our first class is October 10, so if you know any elementary age kids that would be interested in learning a second language, please forward the info! Here are the link and QR code to the website which has all the info and registration links!

<https://spanishimmersionlanglab.weebly.com/>



FPC STAFF

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Noé Juarez – Pastor

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fpcgoldpastor@gmail.com

Chris Watkins – Music Director

Ext. 12

fpcgoldmusic@gmail.com

Jean Whitaker – Finance

Ext. 20

fpcgoldfinance@gmail.com

Dalton Bolles – Youth Director

Ext. 21

fpcgoldyouthdirector@gmail.com

Prayer Requests

Jimmy Huffman, c/o Cathy Huffman, 118 CP Sykes Road, Spring Hope, NC 27882

Ken and Judy Taylor, 904 Pittman St., 27530

Mrs. Jackie VanHoy, 508 N. Claiborne St., 27530

George and Addie Warren, 200 Deluca Road, 27534

Brigitta Seymour, 100 Tarklin Dr., 27530

Fred Lomax, 204 S. Claiborne St., 27530

Buck Tate, 124 Clay Brook Dr., 27530

C. V. Sutton, 407 Tryon Dr., 27530

Jessica Judd, 1200 Park Ave. A, 27530

Outreach

Mr. Mike Pate

Brookdale Senior Living

380 Country Day Road, Goldsboro, NC 27530

Mrs. Madelyn Percise
Cypress Glen, Apt.A 202
100 Hickory Street, Greenville, NC 27858

Family and Friends of Members

Mr. Jeff Stanley, Son of Bill and Sharon Stanley (320 Whipple Ave. Batavia, IL 60510)
Ms. Beth Jennings, Friend of Carol Branch
Ms. Judy Britt, Friend of Carol Branch
Ric Wagner, Friend of Chris Watkins, Home
Rev. Jason Leonard, Son of Wiley Leonard
Ms. Jane Yates, Friend of Toby Brown (Allegheny Center, 179 Combs Street, Sparta, NC 28675)
Devon Hughes, Niece of Randa Scott
Ms. Amy Hastings, Daughter of Charles and Nancy Hastings, Home
Oscar Lopez, Father of Jessica Lopez
Phyllis Davis, Sister-in-Law of Lisa Royall
Linda Brock, Mother of Elva Graham

October Birthdays



Oct. 2

Missy Best
Jay Grisette, III

Oct. 4

Frank Best

Oct. 5

Jason Blackburn

Oct. 6

Margaret Ann Nance
George Warren

Oct. 7

Shelby Benton

Oct. 9

Linda Stevens

Oct. 11

Garrett Evans
John Parrish

Oct. 16

Angie Best

Oct. 17

James Judkins

Oct. 18

Marina Burgess
Hunter Hawkins

Oct. 19

Ellen Best
John Parker, IV
Debbie Richter
Graham Wooten

Oct. 22

David Nester

Oct. 23

Hannah Best

Oct. 24

Vismai Taneti, Charles Hastings

Oct. 25

Michelle James

Jessica Judd

Oct. 28

Hunter Hawkins

Oct. 29

Alex Lewis

Oct. 30

Johnnie Brown