

# First Presbyterian Press

Volume 28, Issue 6, August 2023

Dear Friends at First Presbyterian Church Goldsboro,

Monday, June 26, 2023, was our first anniversary together. It has been quite a year! I am very grateful to God for calling us to be together in this beautiful church.

In this first year, we have been blessed by your dedication and excitement in every part of the church life. When we first moved here one of my children asked me, “Dad, do these people really love us?” My answer was, “Yes, they really love us and are happy that we are here.” I still feel that love and that excitement with all of you. Thank you for your hospitality and for welcoming us into your homes and your hearts. We genuinely feel you are our brothers and sisters in Christ. *Muchas gracias*. We are also blessed by the new visitors and new members that have brought new energy and new ideas into our community. I hope you, new members, also feel the love and excitement. On June 26, we were helping with the construction of a Youth Center in a church in Chiapas, Mexico. Being on a mission trip was a great way to celebrate our first anniversary together. To God be the glory!

But we are also aware of some of the challenges we are facing with the staff transitions. When Nona retired, we quickly had to learn the ins and outs of church administration, building, and office matters. Christina King came and served in that position for 6 months, but because of her family situations, she had to move on. Now we are searching for a new Office and Facilities Administrator. Also since Mary Taneti, Director of Christian Education, went into her next call in Gastonia, NC, we have been searching for a new Christian Educator. We are truly wondering how God is guiding us in this process and why not many qualified Christian Educators are applying for this position. But I am reminded of Genesis 22:8, “*The Lord will provide.*” This is in the context of God testing the faith of Abraham. Abraham trusted God and was willing to sacrifice his own son Isaac. The young Isaac asked, “Where is the lamb for the burnt offering?” And Abraham answered, “*‘Jehovah Jireh,’ the Lord will provide.*”

Friends, this is the time to trust in the promise that God will always provide all we need. God has already provided us with a great new youth director in Dalton Bolles, and God will provide us with a great Christian Educator and a wonderful Office and Facilities Administrator! In the meantime, we need to keep praying, advertising, reviewing applications, and conducting interviews.

May God continue to guide us as we go into the future. Very soon, summer will be over and kick-off Sunday will be here. We will begin new programs, new sermon series, and new Sunday School activities. Session has approved the Story Bible series. We will go through the Bible in 31 stories starting on September 10 all the way to April of next year. Children, youth, and parents are encouraged to join us in this journey. We also inviting Adult Sunday school classes to participate as they wish. Our Wednesday Night Bible Study will also be part of it. We have ordered 50 Story Bibles and you can get one copy for only \$6.00 in the office. Thank you leaders, staff members, and all volunteers who are helping in the office with Vacation Bible School and many parts of our ministries.

Sincerely,  
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.

| <b>The Story #</b> | <b>The Bible as One continuing Story of God and His People</b> | <b>Date (Sundays)</b>        |
|--------------------|--|------------------------------|
| 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                  |
|                    | <b><i>Advent &amp; Christmas Themes</i></b>                    | <b><i>Dec 3-Dec 31st</i></b> |
| 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                  |
| <b>21</b>          | <b>Rebuilding the Walls: Nehemiah (First Sunday in Lent)</b>   | <b>February 18</b>           |
| 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                     |
| <b>26</b>          | <b>The Hour of Darkness (Holy Week)</b>                        | <b>March 24</b>              |
| <b>27</b>          | <b>Easter: The Resurrection</b>                                | <b>March 31</b>              |
| 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                     |

*\*You may purchase a copy (50 available) of The Story from the office to read and follow the sermons. We encourage Sunday school teachers to follow this schedule and the study guide if they wish. There is also a DVD for adults and youth. The Wednesday Bible Study will focus on 10 stories in the fall (Sept. 13-Nov. 15) and 10 stories in the winter (Jan 17-March 21).*

## Officer Duties:

|         |                          |                     |
|---------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Aug. 6  | Barbara Bradshaw, Elder  | Emily Byrd, Deacon  |
| Aug. 13 | Phyllis Patterson, Elder | Bud Fidler, Deacon  |
| Aug. 20 | James Spicer, Elder      | Elva Graham, Deacon |
| Aug. 27 | Evelyn Rose, Elder       | Emily Byrd, Deacon  |

**Deacon in Charge:** Randa Scott

**Co-Deacon:** Betty Rose Sutton

**Ushers for August:** C.V. Sutton, Samantha Martinez, Chris Martin

## Christian Education Summer Sunday School

All classes meet from 9:00 until 9:45.

Three Adult Classes are available:

1. Michael Jordan's Class meets in the library. They will continue with their study of the Book of Job. This is a great study of one of the Books of the Bible. All are welcome to join.
2. The Discussion Class meets in the Conference Room next to Mc Chesney Hall. The teachers rotate between Joe Mc Lamb, Linda Stevens, Tim Haithcock, Eddie Radford, James Spicer, and Rosalyn Lomax. They will be studying THE PRESENT WORD quarterly (PCUSA). If you enjoy a standardized Bible Study, please feel free to attend this class.
3. Young Adult and the Young at Heart Sunday School Class meets upstairs in Room 215 (across from the elevator). Come join the class for Coffee, Cards, and Coloring for the summer. The class will begin with a devotion conducted by various class members. We will offer a card ministry to comfort, celebrate, and communicate with church family and friends. Children are welcome with adult attendance. Please feel free to join us for the summer for this ministry. \*\*\*Ms. Margaret Burgess will also teach a combined class for all children K-5th Grade. Mrs. Margaret will meet with the children in her normal classroom.

## Vacation Bible School 2023

Our VBS week was wonderful! Thank you so much to all the volunteers that made it fun and for helping it run so smoothly. It couldn't have happened without you. To all the parents who entrusted us with their children--thank you! We had a blast with them! We are very proud of the children and parents for bringing in 15 boxes of food for the children at Carver Heights Elementary! This was our mission project for the week, and the families responded in a big way. With the majority of the children being from the community (and not our church family), this was a wonderful outreach ministry for FPC that provided a fun, safe, and loving activity for the children to do for a week during their summer. Thank you again to everyone who helped make it happen!!









## *Notes from Chris*

### **Chancel Choir News**

Our first Wednesday night rehearsal will be on **September 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.** in the choir room. We would love to have new members join the returning wonderful singers of the choir for this first rehearsal! You do not have to know how to read music. There are no auditions. You only need a desire to praise God with a joyful noise!

During the past three months, Chris has been busy arranging all the music for each Sunday morning service for the rest of the 2023 year and preparing the Christmas music for each singer's folder, including the "Chris-in-a-Box" CDs for the Sunday anthems and Christmas music. Take-home packets of music are ready for distribution to each singer on the evening of the first choir rehearsal in September. (These packets of music and CDs are given to each singer so that they can listen to each anthem on the CDs and follow along with their music. This is very helpful to enable each singer to learn the music even if they must miss a Wednesday night rehearsal!)

The carpets in the choir suite have all been professionally cleaned. All music has been filed and arranged in file cabinets. Additional personal choir cabinets that Chris has had in storage will be placed in the music library this month to hold large orchestra scores and music that would not fit in the regular file cabinets.

***Did you know that Easter Sunday falls on March 31<sup>st</sup> of 2024!*** Because this important Sunday comes so early, Chris has prepared all the anthems for Holy Week and all the Sundays from January-May of 2024. Again, packets of music and "Chris-in-a-Box" CDs have been prepared for distribution on the first rehearsal in January, 2024.

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### *Handbell Choir News*

On **Sunday morning, August 13<sup>th</sup> at 11:15 a.m.**, all ringers—new and regular members—are asked to meet with Chris in the parlor to learn of two special invitations to ring during the Christmas season away from Goldsboro. The ringers will hear of each venue, location, and date in order to decide if they would like to present these special concerts. Please make special plans to be with us.

Our first handbell rehearsal will be on **Thursday night, September 7<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m.** in the handbell room on the second floor. All the music has been marked and circled and ready for each ringer. A wonderful time will be had by all!

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### **Children's Choir to Begin in September!**

The first rehearsal of our Children's Choir will begin on **September 17<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.** **SHARP** in the choir room. We are beginning our rehearsals on this date to allow all families to have a few more Sundays of vacation until we return to our rehearsal schedule.

All children from 5 years old to the 7<sup>th</sup> grade are encouraged to join us to begin work on our Christmas musical,

### **Miracle At the Christmas Café!**

This musical will be presented on Sunday morning, December 3<sup>rd</sup> in the sanctuary. Following the service the WOC Christmas Bake Sale will take place in the gymnasium.

## *Youth Ministry Announcements*

### **Attention Parents, Potential Volunteers, And Everyone Involved/Interested In Our Youth Ministry!**

On Sunday, August 20th please join Youth Director Dalton Bolles in the gym after service for a Presentation/Q&A session regarding the direction and focus of our youth ministries moving forward. We invite you to come and allow us to share our vision with you and to provide you with an opportunity to have your voices heard and any of your questions answered!

#### **Key Topics to be Discussed:**

- **Purpose and Function:** Program's core values, fundamental purpose, defining characteristics, long term goals.
- **Youth Group:** schedule (calendar dates/times), special events, local outreach, potential missions.
- **New Youth Bible Study: Sundays @ 9:00 am.**
- **Summer Retreats/Conferences** (e.g. Montreat)
- **Volunteering:** Off-site youth events, transportation, cooking, etc.
- **Communication/Social Media:** New FPC youth Facebook/Instagram accounts, gathering updated contact info and preferred contact methods.

Through this event, we hope to share with you our vision, our short and long term goals, and to establish effective communication between the church and congregation as it pertains to all things relevant to our youth program.

We hope you enjoy the rest of your summer and can't wait to see you all on August 20th!

## PRESBYTERIAN SOCIALS



Presbyterian Socials! How do they work? We try to have Socials for adult members of our church once a quarter, winter, spring, fall and Christmas seasons. The Socials are always on Sunday evenings, 5:00-7:00 P.M.

Step 1 - A home or venue is located with hosts. Hosts are asked to provide beverages.

Step 2 - A date is chosen which suits the hosts and does not conflict with the Church calendar.

Step 3 - Several Church members and friends are contacted to bring hors d'oeuvres. Usually, 8 to 10 people bring food. Anyone who can host will not be asked to bring food to someone else's Social. It is passed around through the congregation members and friends so that no one is obligated to bring food over and over.

Step 4 - Announcements are made as soon as possible in monthly newsletters about dates of upcoming Socials.

Step 5 - Information is placed in Worship Bulletins as the Social nears, including hosts, date, time, and address.

Step 6 - Wonderful fellowship is enjoyed by all who attend.

**We currently have the following Socials scheduled: September 17 hosted by Neal & Shelby Benton and December 3 hosted by Jason & Ali Blackburn.** We hope you can attend. For more information contact Evelyn Rose at [evrose602@gmail.com](mailto:evrose602@gmail.com) or (919) 222-6393.

## **Book Club**

FPC Book Club will meet on Thursday, Aug. 3, at 7:00. We will be discussing Fever in the Heartland.

## **Kick-off Sunday – September 10**

We will begin our new programs and activities with a great celebration. Stay tuned for the details!

## **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

## **Searching for a Director of Christian Education**

Please help us spread the word... We have an opening for a Director of Children's Ministry and Christian Education. This individual will foster the spiritual formation of children, their families, and adults. The job description can be found on the church's website <https://www.fpcgoldsboro.org/jobs>. Our church is a friendly, welcoming, and inclusive congregation. Education and experience equivalent to a Bachelor's Degree in Christian Education, Religious Studies, or related field desired, as is experience with children in a congregational setting. Familiarity with Christian Education and child development theories are needed. Successful applicants will be team oriented and work well with staff, volunteers, parents and others. It is a full-time position with benefits. Retirement, short/long term disability, medical, dental and vision. Salary commensurate with education and experience. The position requires office hours and variable schedule as needed to fulfill responsibilities. Please apply at [1stPresGold@gmail.com](mailto:1stPresGold@gmail.com)

## **Searching for an Office and Facilities Administrator**

First Presbyterian Church in Goldsboro, NC, has an opening for an Office and Facilities Administrator. Hours: Tuesday through Friday from 9 am to 4 pm. Main responsibilities: Direct the daily administrative and communications activities of the church; work with church leaders and teams to insure great program work; oversee the building administration and church calendar. Competitive salary.

Please apply at [1stPresGold@gmail.com](mailto:1stPresGold@gmail.com). See the complete job description here:

[https://www.fpcgoldsboro.org/files/ugd/c382a6\\_4608d1efdee5432bbba74b8e306ca436.pdf](https://www.fpcgoldsboro.org/files/ugd/c382a6_4608d1efdee5432bbba74b8e306ca436.pdf)



## **FPC STAFF**

Church Phone: 919-734-5392

|                                |         |  |
|--------------------------------|---------|--|
| Noe Juarez – Pastor            | Ext. 13 | <a href="mailto:fpcgoldpastor@gmail.com">fpcgoldpastor@gmail.com</a>               |
| Chris Watkins – Music Director | Ext. 12 | <a href="mailto:fpcgoldmusic@gmail.com">fpcgoldmusic@gmail.com</a>                 |
| Jean Whitaker – Finance        | Ext. 20 | <a href="mailto:fpcgoldfinance@gmail.com">fpcgoldfinance@gmail.com</a>             |
| Dalton Bolles – Youth Director | Ext. 21 | <a href="mailto:fpcgoldyouthdirector@gmail.com">fpcgoldyouthdirector@gmail.com</a> |

## **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 & Addie Warren, 200 Deluca Road, 27534

Peggy Till, 312 Cedar Road, 27534

Brigitta Seymour, 100 Tarklin Dr., 27530

Ric Wagner, Friend of Chris Watkins, Home

Fred Lomax, 204 S. Claiborne St., 27530

Buck Tate, 124 Clay Brook Dr., 27530

## **Outreach**

Mr. Gilbert Brown

Brookdale Senior Living, Room 704

1800 N. Berkeley Blvd., Goldsboro, NC 27534

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

Rev. Jason Leonard, Son of Wiley Leonard

Ms. Jane Yates, Friend of Toby Brown (Alleghany Center, 179 Combs Street, Sparta, NC 28675)

Devon Hughes, Niece of Randa Scott

Ms. Amy Hastings, Daughter of Charles and Nancy Hastings, Home



## August Birthdays

### **Aug. 1**

Becky Bolduc  
C.V. Sutton  
Oz Wilder, Jr.  
Hunter Wilson

### **Aug. 3**

Alice Huneycutt

### **Aug. 4**

Connie Scott

### **Aug. 5**

Paul Hunter

### **Aug. 6**

Joyce Pate

### **Aug. 7**

Tim Judd

### **Aug. 9**

Jack Best, Jr.  
Virginia K. Best

### **Aug. 10**

Bill Warren

### **Aug. 11**

Mickey Nance

### **Aug. 13**

Matilda Faircloth

### **Aug. 15**

Bill Stanley

### **Aug. 17**

Michael Wilson

### **Aug. 19**

Brad Graham

Ellie James

### **Aug. 20**

Megan Suddarth

### **Aug. 21**

Sarah Best

### **Aug. 22**

Tommy Franklin, Jr.

### **Aug. 25**

Fred Lomax III  
Lauren McArthur

### **Aug. 26**

Dan Blackshear

### **Aug. 27**

Charlie Rouse

### **Aug. 28**

Emmanuel Foster

Susan McCall

### **Aug. 30**

Katie Gibson

Paul Richter

### **Aug. 31**

Susan Cottle