

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ROANOKE RAPIDS NC

First Presbyterian Church seeks to follow the teachings of Jesus Christ by expressing our love for Him and our neighbors through worship, discipleship, stewardship, fellowship, congregational care, and mission.

In Touch



Sharing Our Gifts Table of Contents:

Pastor's Note	Page 2, 3
June and July Birthdays	Page 4
Concerns of the Church	Page 5
Summer Music Camp	Page 6
Miscellaneous News	Page 7
Witness News	Page 8
2023 Graduates	Page 9
June Calendar	Page 10,11
July Calendar	Page 11, 12, 13
Presbyterian Women	Page 14
Lunch Bunch	Page 15
Thank you Note	Page 15

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

I want to take up a little space in my note to you to thank you for helping me celebrate my birthday. Having never done it before, I don't know what turning 60 is like. But I am heartened by the fact that I have friends who have done it before, are surrounding me with support, and model the golden years with such gusto and grace.

I also want to talk a little bit about my stepfather, Mike Starling. He lives in West Virginia with my mother. He married my mother when I was seven years old while we lived in Silver Spring, Maryland. It was not long after that, that he decided he would pursue a Ph.D. in Chemistry at Virginia Tech. So we moved to Blacksburg and discovered what life was like in a rural town.

My stepfather was a chemist by training but his research put him squarely in the middle of the growth industry of the time, which was microcomputers. When my stepfather was in grad school many of the things we take for granted in computers did not even exist. Disk drives either floppy or hard were exotic forms of data storage. Much of his work was getting these new technologies to work with the computers that were coming into existence at the time. He was riding, and indeed pushing, the cutting edge of technology.

I was really too young at the time to fully understand all that he was doing, but that didn't keep him from talking to me about what he was doing or answering questions. Towards the end of my time in college, the things I was exposed to while my stepfather worked on his Ph.D. started to gel. I found myself able to write programs and help other students with their programs. While I was interested in doing other things, that exposure to computer technology allowed me to feel comfortable with technology and gave me an entree to my own career in computer programming.

After completing his Ph.D., in 1979 my stepfather took a job at Union Carbide in South Charleston, West Virginia. We moved to a small town on the outskirts of the capital city of Charleston, we purchased a 72-acre plot of

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

land with a 3-bedroom solar house on it. My mother and stepfather live there to this day.

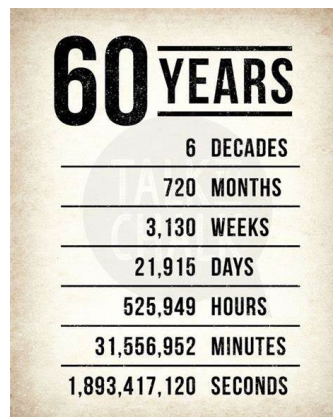
My stepfather retired when Union Carbide was bought and he was confronted with the thought of moving. My parents decided that they liked where they lived enough to stay and continue the life that they enjoyed regardless of what was happening in the chemical industry. Since then my stepfather has become a maker of things. He has made knives, worked on kit cars, and done more amazing projects than I can keep track of. Some of you saw the video I made of a tiller I converted to electric power. I am not sure I would ever have taken on such a project if I didn't have my stepfather as an influence in my life.

Last Friday my brother Rich called me to tell me that my stepfather was taken to the hospital. He was having a heart attack from a significant amount of fluid that accumulated in his chest. I don't remember him ever going to a doctor. But now he was in need of some serious medical attention.

That's all I know right now. The fluid has been removed from his chest and he is feeling better. But there are ominous signs that tell me much more medical attention will be necessary. Please pray for him and my mother Bonnie Starling.

Grace and peace,

Joe



HAPPY JUNE BIRTHDAY

Phyllis Hayes—9th

Katherine Anderson—13th

Bobbie Scott—16th

Nancy Crowe—17th

Helen Wingfield—17th

Bonnie Hummel—24th



HAPPY JULY BIRTHDAY

Linda Brewer—3rd

**United States
of America—4th**

Mike Knudson—13th

Grace Fishel—14th

Faye Graham—14th

Kay Norwood—23rd



**Prayers for Healing of Friends &
Families of the Church**

Priscilla Ricks
Bill Howell
Glenn & Gayle Garner, @ Meals on Wheels
G.C. Warren
The homeless
Doug Hayes
Linda Ray
Roger Fuester
Jeff Peedin
Frank Lonesky
B.T. Brown
Darlene Kassner
Sheryl & Wayne O'Neil
Cathy Hux Keeter
Sandy Sandoval
Rev. Mitzi Leshner-Thomas
Victims of the war in Ukraine
John Shives
Reid Hinson
Bill Graham
Doug Thompson
Michael Shelby
Ellie Parker
Debbie Allen
Grace Fishel
Bev Hummel
Tony Martin, Jr.
Kenny Phipps, Jr.
Lee Cranford
Susan Barmer
Joshua Spragins
Kyle Spragins
Mike Starling

**If you have someone that needs to be on the prayer list
or someone that needs to come off, please contact Susan
Gaylor at sdgaylor@outlook.com or
call her at 678-4228.**



*Our Christian sympathy is extended to the family
and friends of Sally Ray Warren who passed away
on June 4, 2023.*

SUMMER MUSIC- DRAMA CAMP



FREE Camp for all youth
having finished first grade—
July 10-July 14, 1:00-4:00

Performances-July 14 & 15,
7:00 pm

First Presbyterian Church,
Loy Building

FLOWERS

Flowers arrangements are needed for the Sanctuary on Sunday this summer. These are the dates available for anyone interested:

July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30;

August 6, 13, 20, 27;
and

September 3, 10, 24.

Please contact Mary Small
at
movingmom@charter.net
or 541-1265.



Please include your name, date of placing flowers and your phone number. Thanks! If you would like them in honor or memory of someone, please let Tammy know at firstpresbyterianchurchrr@gmail.com or 537-4018 by the Wednesday before your Sunday.



We're in need of
volunteers to run our
streaming service on
Sunday mornings!

Please contact Nancy
Sandoval if you would be
interested in learning and
helping with this great
outreach ministry!

WITNESS COMMITTEE NEWS

HELLO from your Witness Committee

We have great news from our committee! The Food Pantry has been completed and is serving its purpose well.

Thanks to all our members who were involved in the building, painting, and designing the graphics on this very sturdy structure. Members have restocked the pantry several times since its opening about six weeks ago. Here's where we can all lend a hand. Session has approved an on-going non-perishable food drive That involves your help! Non-perishable food items can be placed in the tub located in the Administration Building which is opened on Sunday mornings from 9:30 until after church or your can drop them off at the same location during office hours, usually Wednesday and Thursday mornings. Just knock on the door and Joe or Tammy would be happy to see you there! Peanut butter and ready to eat meals are chosen quite often-please keep this in mind at the grocery store.

Save the date! Mark your calendar! Lori Fees from Children's Hope Alliance (formerly Barium Springs) will be joining us on Sunday, September 10. This will be a covered dish affair. After lunch Lori and her companion will present a demonstration. Won't it be interesting to see what Lori has planned!

Meanwhile our work in Christ has continued. Three children will have the opportunity to attend the John 3:16 camp this summer, children in undeveloped countries will receive treatment for harmful parasites, and financially challenged students in the medical field will receive assistance with their fees. All these projects are made possible through the work of the Holy Spirit and your generous contributions to First Presbyterian Church.

Thanks be to God!

Please remember food can be taken to the Administration Building and Lori Fees will be with us on September 10.

Bev Hummel reporting





Lily Brewer

Meredith College receiving a degree in Education
In the fall, Lily will be teaching kindergarten at Lynn Road
Elementary in Raleigh, NC.

William Brewer

Campbell University Law School receiving a degree in Law
William will spend the next few months studying for the
North Carolina State Bar

Rachel Pate

Duke University receiving a Master's of Engineering in
Biomechanical Engineering
Employed with Ansys, an engineering software company

Robert Keyes

Roanoke Rapids High School
Attending East Carolina University in the fall

Riley G. Snowbarger & Tyler B. Snowbarger

Warren County Career Center & Franklin High School
Riley—Graphic Design
Tyler—Electrical Trade

JUNE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY, JUNE 4

9:30 am Sunday School
10:30 am Coffee Fellowship
11:00 am Worship

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7

7:00 pm Choir

SUNDAY, JUNE 11

9:30 am Sunday School
10:30 am Coffee Fellowship
11:00 am Worship– Scholarship Offering
Congregational Meeting

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14

12:30 pm Lunch Bunch (Oscar's)
3:30 pm Witness
7:00 pm Choir

THURSDAY, JUNE 15

6:00 pm Finance & Personnel Committee



SUNDAY, JUNE 18

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

9:30 am Sunday School
10:30 am Coffee
11:00 am Worship
6:00 pm Session

JUNE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21

7:00 pm Choir

SUNDAY, JUNE 25

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30 am Coffee

11:00 Worship—COMMUNION

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28

7:00 pm Choir

JULY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY, JULY 2

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30 am Coffee Fellowship

11:00 am Worship



WEDNESDAY, JULY 5

7:00 pm Choir

JULY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY, JULY 9

9:30 am Sunday School
10:30 am Coffee Fellowship
11:00 am Worship



MONDAY, JULY 10

1:00-4:00 pm Music/Drama Camp

TUESDAY, JULY 11

1:00-4:00 pm Music/Drama Camp

WEDNESDAY, JULY 12

1:00-4:00 pm Music/Drama Camp
3:30 pm Witness
7:00 pm Choir



THURSDAY, JULY 13

1:00-4:00 pm Music/Drama Camp
6:00 pm Finance & Personnel Committee

FRIDAY, JULY 14

1:00-4:00 pm Music/Drama Camp
7:00 pm GUYS & DOLLS PERFORMANCE



JULY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SATURDAY JULY 15

7:00 pm GUYS & DOLLS PERFORMANCE



SUNDAY, JULY 16

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30 am Coffee Fellowship

11:00 am Worship

WEDNESDAY, JULY 19

12:30 pm Lunch Bunch (New China)

7:00 pm Choir

SUNDAY, JULY 23

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30 am Coffee Fellowship

11:00 am Worship—COMMUNION

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26

7:00 pm Choir

SUNDAY, JULY 30

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30 am Coffee Fellowship

11:00 am Worship



Congratulations



**PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN**

**The 2023
Honorary Life
Membership
recipient is
Nancy Sandoval**



**The 2023-2024
Presbyterian
Women's
Yearbook
dedication goes to
Mary Shelby**



LUNCH BUNCH IS BACK!!!

**Join us each month at 12:30 pm (on a Wednesday)
at a different restaurant in town to dine and fellow-
ship together. Everyone is welcome to join us for
this “Dutch” affair.**

**We will meet at OSCAR’S on Wednesday, June 14,
12:30 pm.**



**We will meet at NEW CHINA on Wednesday,
July 19, 12:30 pm.**



Dear Congregation and Scholarship
Committee of First Presbyterian Church,

Thank you so very much for the generous scholarship I received on Sunday May 28 2023. I will be attending the School of Business at ECU in the fall of 2023. I'm very excited. I am grateful for the love and support that I have always received from the church and this scholarship will greatly assist me in achieving my goals. I am sincerely appreciative of this scholarship.

Regards, Robert Keyes

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CHURCH**

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JUNE-JULY 2023

IN TOUCH

