



First Presbyterian Church

UPDATE/1.26.23

MOUNT HOLLY NC

Hello!

One of my favorite authors, Kate Bowler, has a book coming out soon entitled, "Bless the Lives We Actually Have." It is described as "an oasis and a landing spot for weary souls, with blessings for the full range of human moments: garbage days, lovely days, grief-stricken days, and even (especially) completely ordinary days. These blessings are a sanctuary for anyone who needs a chance to exhale when we feel everything from careworn to restless, devastated to bored."

What I love about Kate Bowler is that she helps us to pay attention, honestly, to our thoughts and feelings, and to give thought to how God is in our lives. She guides us from distraction toward the awareness of the indwelling of God with us. I look forward to sharing some of her wisdom as we enter into the season of Lent and a season of reflection on our journeys of faith.

Blessings,

Janet



Souper Bowl of Caring

Sunday, February 12 is SOUPer Bowl of Caring. You are invited to bring donations of non-perishable food or monetary contributions to the worship service on that day.

More than 30 years ago the Souper Bowl of Caring began with a simple prayer from a single Presbyterian youth group. Since that day, more than \$159 million has been raised. Be part of the movement that is sharing God's love with those in need. Our contributions will go the Community Relief Organization.

Ash Wednesday Supper

On Wednesday, February 22 at 6:00 pm we will gather in the Fellowship Hall for a simple soup supper and worship service which will include communion and the imposition of ashes. We look forward to gathering together and hope you will join us!

Donut Sunday - Jan. 29

Join us in the Fellowship Hall at 11:00 for worship around the tables with donuts, coffee and juice!

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will follow.

Annual Meeting Jan. 29

Please plan to stay for a few minutes after worship for the Annual Meeting of the Congregation. We will celebrate the accomplishments of 2022, receive the reports of Session and its Committees, and vote on the Terms of Call for the pastor.

Endowment and Scholarship Grants

It is such a blessing that faithful members of this church have provided the gift of endowment funds that support and enhance our mission and ministry. The Endowment Committee will meet in April to consider requests for financial support of our ministries as well as for college scholarships for members of the church.

Request forms are available through the church office and are due April 1.



February Birthdays

Wayne Johnson	02
Roger Lindsey	09
Karen Williamson	10
Marc Williamson	16

Prayer Concerns

We continue our prayers for those among us in need and for the world.

- Frances Wingate undergoing surgery for a broken femur and a new knee
- John Bean still hospitalized
- Our homebound members
- Peace in the midst of violence in the world
- All whom we hold in our hearts

Have you seen the hawk that frequents our church grounds? It must be a Presbyterian hawk! 😊



Session Update

Your church Session met on January 15 and spent time looking at ministry for the year ahead. Committees will be exploring and planning for:

- Increased leadership and activities for our young people
- Monthly Book/Bible Study Gatherings
- Potential Outreach and Mission projects

Other items of business covered were:

- Elected Susan Nalley as Clerk and Brenda McKinney as Asst. Clerk
- Approved a bid for painting the Fellowship Hall kitchen.
- Approved Pinewood Elementary to park their buses in our lot on March 24 for a field trip to the Historical Society.
- Received and approved the December 2022 Budget Report and the PC(USA) Statistical Report for 2022.

Our committees are always eager to welcome new members. If you have an interest or passion for serving on one of them, please contact the chairperson listed below!

Buildings & Grounds

Aaron Lockridge

Christian Education

Nan Kaylor

Fellowship/Member Care

Susan Nalley

Mission & Outreach

Susie Crisan

Stewardship and Finance

Todd Arnold

Worship

Paul Bumgarner

Budget Update

Total Budget 2023	\$186,702.00
YTD Receipts	13,895.53
YTD CRO Offering	81.00
YTD Daily Change Offering	22.64

A final report of the 2022 budget and the budget for 2023 has been emailed out.

Thank you for your faithful support of our mission and ministry!