



First Presbyterian Church

UPDATE/9.26.23

MOUNT HOLLY NC

Hello!

John and I are, of course, smitten with our new grandbaby. We love to hear everything about the details of her life. And that of course leads to memories and telling stories of her parents when they were young...and stories of grand parents and great grandparents. Stories are wonderful and powerful parts of our lives!

The stories of FPC are held in our experiences, in our memories and now in our historical documents stored on line through Digital NC (see the article on p. 2). New stories are emerging and being celebrated now in the events and ministries we are part of today. And there will be stories of our church into the future we can only imagine!

We are entering our annual season of stewardship, and as part of that I invite you to think about the stories that have been part of your life of faith here at FPC. What do you look back on fondly? What has made you laugh, feel loved, grateful, generous in mission, joyful, blessed? These stories, and our hopes and joys are what we all will be asked to support next month when the Stewardship and Finance Committee sends out the request for your pledges for our ministry in 2024. As I always remind us, we are not giving to a budget; we are giving to our ministry. Please mark your calendars for Pledge Dedication Sunday, October 22.

With gratitude for this community of faith,

Janet



Pumpkin Patch/Faith & Blue

We have a great variety of pumpkins! All are invited to purchase your pumpkins here and to invite your friends and neighbors to do the same. All proceeds go to the CRO.

On Oct. 7, from 2-4 pm, Mount Holly Police Officers will be at the patch to greet folks as part of their **"Faith & Blue"** weekend. There will be pumpkin painting during that time as well!

The patch is "Self-Pay" and open all hours!

Cider in the Pumpkin Patch!

A new season, a new tradition. Instead of "Lemonade on the Lawn," join us for "Cider in the Pumpkin Patch" after worship on Oct. 1! Thank you, Fellowship Committee!

Peace and Global Witness Offering

On October 1 we will receive the PC (USA) Special Offering for Peace and Global Witness. Through this offering we are able to participate in a large ministry to confront systems of injustice and to promote reconciliation around the world and here at home as well. 25% of the offering remains with us to give locally, 25% is used in our Presbytery and 50% supports the work of Presbyterians across the globe.

You can contribute to this offering by using the special envelopes in the pew racks, or by designating this offering on your usual manner of giving to the church.

World Communion Sunday

October 1 is also World Communion Sunday—a day on which we celebrate being at the one table of the Lord with our siblings in Christ around the world. Our communion table cloth that day is from Kenya. The pastor's stole is from Ghana. Our lectern cloth is a gift from our partner church in Guatemala. If you have clothing that reflects your heritage, feel free to wear it to worship that day!

Session Highlights 9/17/23

- Discussion was held in review of the Informational Gathering on 9/10 regarding our property considerations. A motion passed to gather information on projected/anticipated pledge income for 2024 and impacts that may have upon endowment funds. (Info to be provided by our treasurer based on patterns of giving.) Once this has been reviewed, Session will set a plan in motion for a congregational meeting.
- We are working on service and repair of the sanctuary projectors and hope to have both in good working order soon.
- Elected Nan and Jeff Kaylor as commissioners to the Oct. 24 Presbytery Meeting, held at Southminster Church in Gastonia.
- Financial and all committee reports were received. Our committees have been very active and we are grateful for their leadership!
- Worship Committee affirmed that we will have our usual morning and Christmas Eve service, both on Sunday, Dec. 24 this year.

Black Mountain Home Fall Festival

One of the mission projects supported by our church is Black Mount Home for Children, Youth and Families. They were founded in 1904, and after several moves, are now celebrating 100 years at their current site. Their Annual Fall Festival is planned for October 14, from 10:00—2:00 with lots of fun events including a classic car show, games and inflatables, hayrides, silent auction and a concert. For info: BlackMountainHome.org



October Birthdays

Susie Crisan	2
Janet DeWater	2
Jayse Flood	9
Zachary Gibson	11
Susan Nalley	16
Kayleigh Johnson	26
Joshua Gibson	31

Church Work Day!

Mark your calendars for Saturday, **October 28 at 9:00** for our annual Fall Work Day—always a fun time with good fellowship and much accomplished!

FPC Archives on Digital NC

Guided and led by Jim Love, we have been at work to see that the records of our church are preserved well into the future. He has taken two batches of church bulletins, four original Session Records Books to Digital NC which has scanned them and made them available on line! You can access them and take a visual stroll through our church history by logging on to: Digitalnc.org and searching First Presbyterian Church Mount Holly NC. We have many pages so scroll all the way through and click on what you want to see!

Budget Update

Total budget 2023	\$186,702.00
YTD receipts	\$115,113.33
YTD CRO	\$762.05
YTD Daily Change (5 Cents)	\$624.25

Thank you for your ever-faithful giving for our ministry at FPC!