Ye Fourth Creek Journal

First Presbyterian Church

October 2016

Stephen W. Scott, Pastor
Melody Morrison Beaty, Director of Music
Wes Pitts, Director of Christian Education
Cheryl F. Maner, Office Administrator

125 North Meeting Street
Statesville, NC 28677
Phone: 704-873-7244
Fax: 704-873-3198
www.fpcstatesville.org

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(RE)COMMIT

DO justice LOVE kindness
WALK humbly with God

A few weeks ago I preached a sermon I entitled "It's Complicated," borrowing the language of some people's status on Facebook. The reference was to Christian faith, but in some ways it's not complicated. I mentioned the reporter who asked famed theologian Karl Barth to sum up his theology in a nutshell (Barth had written then twelve volumes of his *Church Dogmatics*). Barth really did answer, "Jesus loves me this I know, / For the Bible tells me so."

Another short summary of what it means to be a person of faith comes from thousands of years ago, from the Old Testament prophet Micah:

> [God] has told you, O mortal, what is good;
> and what does the LORD require of you
> but to do justice, and to love kindness,
> and to walk humbly with your God? [6:8]

Our theme for Stewardship 2017 is **(Re)Commit: Do Justice, Love Kindness, Walk with God**. Join us in weeks to come as we explore this theme in worship, as we consider God's call to First Presbyterian Church – and each of us – in 2017, and as we look toward real recommitment.

– Steve

Preparation for Worship

October 2
The Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
Isaiah 62:1-5 John 2:1-11
Sam Marshall Preaching
Sermon: "Saving the Best for Last"
The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

The Reverend Samuel P. Marshall III is general presbyter of Salem Presbytery and a long-time friend of First Presbyterian Church.

October 9
The Twenty Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Lamentations 1:1-7 Luke 17:5-10
Rob Evans Preaching
Sermon: "Exercising the Faith We Already Have"

The Reverend Dr. Robert C. Evans III, now retired, most recently served as pastor of Shallowford Presbyterian Church in Lewisville.

October 16
The Twenty Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Micah 6:8 Psalm 119:97-104
2 Timothy 3:14-4:5 Luke 18:1-8
Wes Pitts Preaching
Sermon: "(Re)Commit: Do Justice"

October 23
The Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Micah 6:8 Psalm 65
2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18 Luke 18:9-14
Steve Scott Preaching
Sermon: "(Re)Commit: Love Kindness"

October 30
The Thirty First Sunday in Ordinary Time
Micah 6:8 Psalm 119:137-144
2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12 Luke 19:1-10
Steve Scott Preaching
Sermon: "(Re)Commit: Walk with God"
The Sacrament of Baptism

Wonders by Their Hands

"Wonders are still able to be done in the city
by our hands of compassion, mercy, humility, and justice."

Photograph by Len Matthews
of a wall mural in Sydney, Australia (2012).
The artist is unidentified.

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Session 2016-2017

Elders Embrace Stewardship 2017 Theme

Session Highlights – September 26, 2016

At the Session's stated meeting Advisory Council chair John Gilbert III presented the stewardship theme, "(Re-)Commit: Do Justice, Love Kindness, Walk with God," and elders discussed how best to share the theme and to share the excitement about the future they have felt after their weekend retreat at Montreat earlier this month.

The Session discussed and evaluated the retreat and made plans to hold another next year.

Among decisions recommended at the retreat is a commitment to devote more of the Session's time to the big picture of First Presbyterian Church's mission and our hopes for life together and less to the details of committee business.

Mission Ministry chair Lew Wilson reported on a successful Second Annual Mission Golf Tournament, which will have raised more than $6,000 to increase our support of partner mission agencies.

Stephen W. Scott *Moderator*	David Parker *Clerk of Session*	John Gilbert, III *Advisory Council*

Class of 2017	Class of 2018	Class of 2019
Lamar Austin	Toni Conger	James Cartner, Jr.
John Childress	Sarah Davis	John Gilbert, III
Joy Morrison	John Downs	Jane Lentz
David Parker	Sloan Goforth	Bill Long
Jane Tarman	Sandra Milholland	Joan Scott
Lew Wilson	Dick Sears	Ann Speaks

Consider a Bequest to First Presbyterian Church

As you consider ways to respond to the generosity of God, leaders of the congregation encourage you to remember First Presbyterian Church – or its endowment – in your will. Just before I came to Statesville, the congregation received a bequest of over $1.5 million from the estate of Katherine Nooe Knox. Thanks to her generosity, along with gifts from members of the congregation, we were able to accomplish a major renovation of the church, we have made substantial gifts to mission projects, and we have built an endowment that continues to yield income to support mission and capital needs. Soon we will enjoy a renovated and augmented organ, thanks to another very generous gift, added to, again, by members of the congregation.

From time to time we get in the mail from the Presbyterian Foundation a circular that says "Presbyterian churches last year received $28 million in bequests – how much did your church receive?" – or words to that effect. I am prompted to write this reminder by our having received this month a generous bequest to the First Presbyterian Church Endowment from the estate of one of our departed saints. Her gift will continue to bear fruit into the future and support our church in accomplishing the mission God has for us to do.

— Steve Scott

"Generosity is about much more than money. It is a 365-day-a-year quality that God wants to produce in us. And the benefits of generosity overflow to others. — Rev. Tom Tewell

Mission Ministry

Helping Hands Still Needed

During the month of September, church members had an opportunity to make a commitment to mission. All together, more than fifty-five church members made a commitment to volunteer their time and talent at one or more of our partner agencies. Activities included donating needed items at Iredell Christian Ministries and Yokefellow, serving a meal at Fifth Street Ministries, tutoring students at the Boys and Girls Club and at Power Cross Ministries, assisting with the Mission Golf Tournament, providing new picnic tables for FPC Preschool, and calling bingo at King's Grant. Plans are still underway to pick up trash in Iredell County.

Even though September is over, the needs in our community continue everyday. The members of Mission Ministry (Lew Wilson, Kim Austin, Lamar Austin, Richard Boyd, John Downs, Susan Hollingsworth, Teresa Kutteh, Katie Long, Joy Morrison, Dick Sears, Jane Tarman, and Tricia Wilson) encourage you to contact the partner agencies listed below to learn more about them and how you can continue to support them in their activities.

Boys and Girls Club of the Piedmont
Phone: 704.397.2429
www.piedmontbgc.org

Fifth Street Ministries
Phone: 704.872.4045
www.fifthstreetministries,com

FPC Preschool
Phone: 704.873.9054
www.fpcstatesville.org

Iredell Christian Ministries
Phone: 704.924-6700
www.iredellcm.org

King's Grant Court
Phone: 704.871-8152

Our Towns Habitat for Humanity
Phone: 704.896.8957
www.ourtownshabitat.org

Power Cross Ministries
Phone: 704.902.1653
www.powercross.org

Yokefellow Ministry
Phone: 704.872-7677
www.yokefellowministry.squarespace.com

West Virginia Mission Team
(West Virginia Ministry of Advocacy & Workcamps)
Phone: 304.846.2294 (Joan West Stewart)
www.wvmaw.org

Your Mission Ministry wishes to thank all players, volunteers, donators, and hole sponsors for a very successful Mission Golf Tournament held last Friday. Thanks to all of your hard work, we raised over $6,400 for the Iredell County ministries that our church supports. And the fellowship and camaraderie was immeasurable.

Congratulations to our winning teams:

First Place:
Bill Long, Tom Wilson,
Dennis Long, Tim White

Second Place
Matt Austin, Clay Speaks,
Brian Long, Preston Kappel

Third Place
Rudy Davis, Mike Davis,
George Campbell, Don Hankin

Clinkers

Clinkers Dinner
October 20
6:30 p.m.
Amalifi's Pizza
1712 Old Wilkesboro Road

Please RSVP to Jane Lentz by October 14.
Jane may be reached by phone at 704.873.0156
or by email at jplentz@hotmail.com.

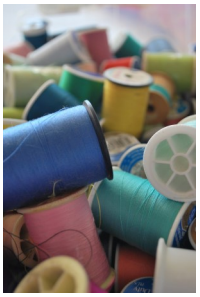
Congregational News

Congratulations to Brody Petree who received the rank of Eagle Scout on September 18. Proud parents are Jason and Liz Petree.

. . . to Eric and Laura Hanson, whose son Lochlan Paul Hanson was baptized on September 25.

Congregational Life

Sewing Service Group Begins October 12



FPC is beginning a new service group this month! Everyone who would like to get together to work on projects for our church and community is invited to join. You don't have to know how to sew — there will be plenty of tasks for all levels of experience. The first meeting will be Wednesday, October 12, 9:15 a.m., in the upstairs preschool room. Please enter through the church and go across the breezeway to get to the room. If anyone has a portable sewing machine, fabric, and/or sewing supplies that are gathering dust, we will put it to good use. If you have any questions, please call Susan Deal at 873-7571 or Jane Tarman at 704 872-1567.

Second Sunday Lunch on October 16

The October Second Sunday Lunch will be held on October 16, which is actually the **third** Sunday. The menu will be baked spaghetti, salad, garlic bread, and yummy, homemade desserts. Join us for a wonderful meal and good fellowship.

Frozen Food Ministry

During the basement renovation, the freezer was disconnected and we need to restock our freezer with casseroles and goodies for our Frozen Food Ministry. We need small casseroles, breads, cookies, and anything that will freeze well. The freezer is marked with shelves designated for these items. Any church member may stop by to pick up a food item to take when visiting members in need or when you have a need.

Fifth Street Team

Fifth Street Team: Calling volunteers to help cook and serve at Fifth Street, October 25, at 3:00 p.m. For more information, please call Susan Hollingsworth (704/872-4689).

Christian Education

Water Into Wine
October 3 and October 17
6:30-7:30 p.m. at Wine Maestro

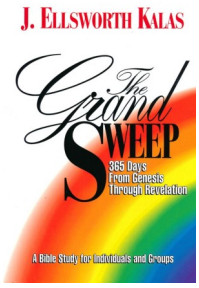
Bi-monthly theological conversations over beer, wine, or soda.

Facilitated by Wes Pitts, Carrilea Potter (Associate Pastor, Broad Street UMC), and Justin Cox (Student Minister, First Baptist)

Join the email list to get advance info on coming topics and reminders about gatherings!

Family Movie Night

Inside Out
October 27, 6:00pm
Fourth Creek Hall
Pizza and popcorn for $5
Movie for free



The Grand Sweep
365 Days through the Bible

Each Wednesday in October
12:15-12:45 p.m. (bring your lunch if you'd like)
Heritage Room
Discussion facilitated by Wes Pits

2016 Davis Lecture Series

Grace Baptist Church
October 23 and 24, 7:00 p.m.

This year's series features guest lecturer Rabbi Judith Schindler, Rabbi Emerita of Temple Beth El (Charlotte). She is currently Associate Professor of Jewish Studies and Director of the Stan Greenspon Center for Peace and Social Justice at Queens University of Charlotte. Prior to coming to Charlotte, she was an Associate Rabbi at Westchester Reform Temple in Scarsdale, New York. She received her Bachelor's Degree in Clinical Psychology from Tufts University, her Master's from the Hebrew Union College in Los Angeles, and her rabbinic ordination at the Hebrew Union College in New York.

On behalf of Temple Beth El, Rabbi Schindler envisioned and led the creation of four social justice documentaries being utilized across the country. Rabbi Schindler has contributed chapters and articles to more than ten books and is currently researching and co-authoring a book on recharging congregations through civic engagement and moving the religious community from volunteerism to advocacy.

The Davis Lecture Series is a time of serious inquiry and honest dialogue for those willing to stretch their faith. The informal two-night format includes the lecture, Q&A with Rabbi Schindler, and a time for fellowship. The program is free and open to the public.

Organ Progress Report

On Monday, September 19, an 18-wheeler pulled up on the west side of First Presbyterian Church. Casavant Frères employees Marco, Sylvie, Al, and Richard came to the office announcing their arrival, with plans to begin the organ restoration the next day. Before their work had proceeded far, Bryan George and his crew removed the old organ console.

The chapel has been turned into a staging area for the skilled workers of Casavant Frères , who arrive each morning at 7:30 and work until 5:00 each evening. Amidst the sound of hammering, drilling, sawing and Canadian French, the sanctuary looks more like a construction site than a house of God. The crew uses Saturday to restore the space for its intended purpose of Sunday worship.

Organ Dedication in November

If you have been to the church on a weekday recently, you have seen the sanctuary strewn with large wooden crates labeled Casavant, plus tools and organ parts. You also will have seen the skilled artisans from Casavant Frères who are assembling and restoring our 1925 organ, which will be augmented to meet needs of our worship and music program. We are excited about prospects that lie ahead. Though many days work lie ahead, the goal is in sight.

Mark your calendars for a day of celebration on **Sunday, November 20**. We will rededicate the organ at morning worship, with congregational singing, with choral singing, and with organ works presented by Joby Bell, University Organist and Associate Professor of Music at Appalachian State University and a long-time friend of our church. A celebratory recital and choral performance will be held in the afternoon. Watch for further details.

Preschool News

Our preschool year is off to a great start! Thank you to all church members who stopped by our Open House last month. We really appreciate your continued support. Our fall pictures will be taken by Amy Murphy of Murphy's Memories on September 22 and 23. Our three-year-old classes will be going to Rescue Ranch on Monday, October 17, and our four-year-old classes will be traveling to Patterson Farm on Friday, October 21, both to partake in fall pumpkin activities. Our next Preschool Advisory Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 15, at 1:30 in the Fellowship Room.

Chapel is back! We are excited to have chapel again this year for both our 4-year-old classes. They love chapel with Mr. Wes every Monday! Thank you to Wes for continuing this very important part of our preschool curriculum and mission of our church.

Please take a moment to like FPC Preschool on Facebook! You can find a link to our FB page on our preschool website **or** please search First Presbyterian Church of Statesville Preschool..

Join us Thursday, November 10, 5:30-7:30, for our third annual FPC Preschool Fall Open House, Art Exhibit and Auction. We will auction off "themed baskets" at our open house this year. The following items are needed:

Large Baskets
Items for a Carwash themed basket
Items for a Disney themed basket
Items for a School Supply themed basket
Items for a Movie Night themed basket

*Items can include gift cards or services as well.

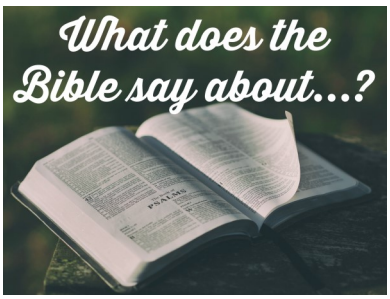
If you or someone you know can donate an item or service for our auction, we would really appreciate it! The funds raised this year will go directly to new curriculum for our children at FPC Preschool.

If you have any questions or can donate an item or service, please contact Falon Speaks at 704.873.9054 or preschool@fpcstatesville.org. Thank you in advance for your help and continued support of FPC Preschool!

PLEASE JOIN US! All church members are invited to attend our fall Open House, Art Exhibit and Auction! We hope many of you can visit our preschool and show your support!

Youth

Service Sunday:
The first Sunday of the month gives us the opportunity to give back to our community. Come to youth October 3 for a trip to King's Grant retirement community.



What does the Bible say about...?:
We'll be exploring what the Bible has to say about things like immigration, our enemies, and other topics as decided by the youth.

Fall Retreat:
Our fall retreat is scheduled for November 5-6.
Save the date - details will be out soon.

@youth.fpcstatesville

Keep up-to-date on youth activities by following us on Instagram or Twitter!

@youthfpcsville

Prayer for Steve Scott and Haiti Trip

With the Session's blessing I will depart on October 2 to spend a week in Haiti with a team from La Gonâve Haiti Partners. The partnership, originating among Episcopal churches in South Carolina, is a network of congregations involved in mission in Haiti, addressing, in cooperation with those who live there, everything from education to health care to infrastructure projects. Some of us on the Session have long felt it would be good for First Presbyterian Church to have an international mission relationship we might build on. I am going to explore this possibility for our church.

I am excited about the prospect, and, I will confess, I feel some nervousness too. I have traveled before but never to a place where tropical diseases are of concern. Meanwhile, Haiti is scheduled for a redo of contested elections on October 9, the day the group plans to return. Please remember me in your prayers as I travel and as we consider new commitments in mission.

— Steve Scott

Historical Society Meeting

The North Carolina Presbyterian Historical Society will meet on Saturday, October 8, at Graham Presbyterian Church in Graham, Alamance County. The Rev. Madeline Mercer of Laurinburg will speak on the influence of Martin Luther on our Reformed faith. This will begin our celebration of the 500th anniversary of Luther's nailing up his 95 theses for discussion, an act in 1517 that led ultimately to the Protestant Reformation.

Registration is $18, including lunch. The schedule, registration form, and address are on our website at www.ncphsociety.org, or contact Program Chair Sam Martin at (910) 428-4165.

♫ Music Notes ♫

Cherub (4:00-4:30) and Junior (4:45-5:30) Choirs

Rehearsals on Wednesdays

November 6: Sing in Worship
November 20: Sing in Worship and Evening Service
November 27, and December 4, 11, and 18: Sing in Worship (Advent)
December 18: Joy Gift Program — dress rehearsal 12:00-2:30 p.m.; return at 5:00 p.m. to dress; program begins at 5:30 p.m.

Youth Choir

Rehearsals on Sundays (5:00-6:00 p.m.)
October 16: Sing in Worship (warm up at 9:30 a.m.)
November 20: Sing in Worship and Evening Service
December 4: Sing in Worship
December 4 and 11: Joy Gift stage rehearsals (4:00 p.m. with costumes, solos, and script)
December 18: Joy Gift Program — dress rehearsal 12:00-2:30 p.m.; return at 5:00 p.m. to dress; program begins at 5:30 p.m.

Montreat Worship and Music 2017,
Week 2 — June 25-30.

Registration deposit of $100 is due November 1 in order to register for popular classes and ensure sufficient housing. Mark your calendars and stay tuned for more information.

Yoga Opportunity

Yoga stretch class is on Wednesdays for anyone interested. Yoga Loft instructor will lead. Wednesdays, 4:00-4:15 in the Fourth Creek Meeting Hall. Bring a mat, water bottle and $7.

Sanctuary Choir

Rehearsals on Wednesdays (7:00-8:15 p.m.)
October 29: Choir Dinner Party at the home of Tommy and Ann Kincaid (spouse or friend invited)
November 20: Sing in Evening Worship

Handbell Choir

Rehearsals on Wednesdays (5:45-6:45 p.m.)
November 20: Ring in Worship (warm up at 9:00 a.m.)

Presbyterian Women

Circle #1
October 11, 10:00 a.m.
In the Fellowship Room

Circle #2
October 10, 2:00 p.m.
In the Fellowship Room.

Circle #3
October 18, 6:30 p.m.
At the home of Carol Oliphant
316 Beverly Drive
Unglued by Lysa TerKeurst

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Memorials

Youth Fund
In memory of Barbara Overbey
. . . Jerry and A.J. Barbee
. . . Esther Cole
. . . Dave Rokes

Organ Fund
In memory of Gwen Deaton
. . . Sherrill Deaton

Grateful Hearts

Dear First Presbyterian of Statesville,

We are sending many thanks for your continued faithful support of our family & ministry in Malawi.

We have finally emerged from one of the worst malaria seasons I can recall, and our hospital was one of the few in Malawi to be able to give malaria drugs to sick patients. Government health centers completely ran out of drugs due to the collapse of health care funds, but strenuous efforts of our staff and support of the Christian community kept this from happening at Nkhoma Hospital.

Thank you again for your love & support!

Barbara Nagy
for the Nkhoma community

FPC Preschool would like to thank Kathy Carpenter and her family for their generous donation of a new picnic table for our church playground. This was a big need for our preschool and we appreciate their donation and continued support of this special mission of our church!

. . . and to thank Natasha Austin and Yadkin Bank for their donation of new large umbrellas for our preschool staff to use during drop off and pick up! We greatly needed these to help us load and unload children into cars on rainy days and help parents with young children to their car when needed. Thank you very much for this generous donation and continued support of this special mission of our church!

From Children's Hope Alliance: It is amazing to be part of an agency that can, with the help of people like you, reach out and help a young person mature and make the right decisions for his or her life; reach out to bewildered parents and grandparents with the soothing knowledge that they are not alone. Thank you for your generous gift, Without your compassion and help, we wouldn't be here today for the children and families of North Carolina.

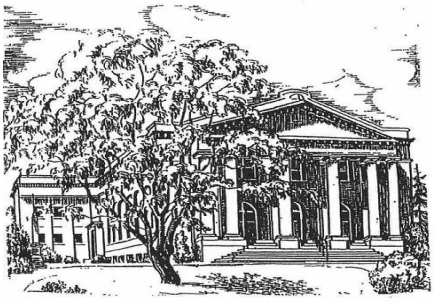
From the Elder Center: Thank you very much for your recent donation. This will help us pay the telephone bill for one month and for gas needed to transport our clients to and from activities. Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

Pastor Appreciation Month

During October, let's honor and thank Steve and Wes for their service to our congregation.

Please show your appreciation by placing gifts and cards in their baskets. Cards, homemade goodies, local restaurant gift cards, books, general gift cards are all good ideas. Help us keep the baskets full through the end of October and show them how much we appreciate them and all that they do.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
125 N. Meeting Street
Statesville, NC 28677
(Return Service Requested)



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Contact Us

Office: (704) 873-7244
www.facebook.com/fpcstatesville
www.fpcstatesville.org

Stephen W. Scott
Pastor
221 West End Avenue
Statesville, NC 28677
Home: (704) 873-1959
sws@fpcstatesville.org

Wes Pitts
Director of Christian Education
wes@fpcstatesville.org

Melody Morrison Beaty
Director of Music
melody@fpcstatesville.org

Pamela J. Stewart
Financial Secretary
pam@fpcstatesville.org

Cheryl F. Maner
Office Administrator
office@fpcstatesville.org

Falon Speaks
Preschool Director
Office: (704) 873-9054
preschool@fpcstatesville.org

October 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 **9:45** Sunday School **11:00** Worship **5:00** Youth Choir **6:00** Youth Dinner **6:30** Youth Group	***3*** **5:45** Worship Ministry **6:30** Water into Wine	***4*** **12:30** O.W.L.S. **5:30** CE Ministry	***5*** **10:00** Staff/Prayers **12:15** Grand Sweep **4:00** Cherub Choir **4:00** Yoga **4:45** Junior Choir **5:45** Handbell Choir **7:00** Sanctuary Choir	***6***	***7***	***8***
9 **9:45** Sunday School **11:00** Worship **5:00** Youth Choir **6:00** Youth Dinner **6:30** Youth Group	***10*** **2:00** Circle #2 **7:00** Advisory Council	***11*** **12:00** Circle #1 **6:00** Endowment Board	***12*** **10:00** Staff/Prayers **12:15** Grand Sweep **4:00** Cherub Choir **4:00** Yoga **4:45** Junior Choir **5:45** Handbell Choir **7:00** Sanctuary Choir	***13***	***14***	***15***
16 **9:45** Sunday School **11:00** Worship **12:00** Second Sunday Lunch **5:00** Youth Choir **6:00** Youth Dinner **6:30** Youth Group	***17*** **6:30** Water into Wine	***18*** **6:30** Circle #3	***19*** **10:00** Staff/Prayers **12:15** Grand Sweep **4:00** Cherub Choir **4:00** Yoga **4:45** Junior Choir **5:45** Handbell Choir **7:00** Sanctuary Choir	***20*** **6:30** Clinkers	***21***	***22*** ***FJC Deadline***
23 **9:45** Sunday School **11:00** Worship **5:00** Youth Choir **6:00** Youth Dinner **6:30** Youth Group	***24*** **6:00** Support Ministry **7:00** Session	***25*** **3:00** Fifth Street Team	***26*** **10:00** Staff/Prayers **12:15** Grand Sweep **4:00** Cherub Choir **4:00** Yoga **4:45** Junior Choir **5:45** Handbell Choir **7:00** Sanctuary Choir	***27*** **6:00** Family Movie Night	***28***	***29***
30 **9:45** Sunday School **11:00** Worship **5:00** Youth Choir **6:00** Youth Dinner **6:30** Youth Group	***31***					

October Birthdays

If you do not see your birthday listed below
be sure to let the office know the special day!

2	Tim Bundy
	Jo Rives
3	Bill Morrison
5	Robert Brady
6	Sara Ashley Loyd
	Martha Rothwell
7	James Cartner, Jr.
	Marilyn Hendry
9	Kelly Jane Onsrud
	William Warlick, Jr.
10	Millie Milam
11	Julie Dye
	Carolyn Sharp
	Grant Sharp
	Caroline Speaks
12	Harriet Mauzé
	Wendell Worthington
13	Bill McBane
	Pat Stewart
14	Ted Edwards
16	Gus Lodgek
	Forrest Scott
19	Linda Howard
21	Savannah Kappel
	Sarah Nix
22	Geneal Matheny
24	Violet Beaty
	Catherine King
25	Smith Austin
	Betty Cherry
26	Thomas Beaty
27	Ron Oliphant
	Jane Tarman
29	Bill Cherry
30	Billy Beard
	Deacon Petree
31	Robin Howell
	Erin Owens

October Responsibilities

Elders on Call
Joy Morrison, Joan Scott

Sanctuary Guild
Jane Pardue, Lynda Sloan

Open/Close the Church
Rhyne Scott

Nursery

October 2	Teresa Kutteh, Kim Austin, Susie Goforth
October 9	Jill Gillis, Kortney Kappel, Audrey Thomas
October 16	Janice Searcy, Lauren Oliphant, Don Searcy
October 23	Shery George, Melinda Childress, Liz Petree
October 30	Natasha Austin, Margaret Kincaid, Falon Speaks

Ushers

October 2	Dennis Setzer, Matt Carbone, Dick Sears, Sara Setzer, Judy Watts, Wendell Worthington
October 9	Jim Tarman, Lamar Austin, Sloan Goforth, Jason Petree, Bob Spencer, Rada Spencer
October 16	Roy Morrison, Hewitt Linyard, George Moody, Nate Neely, Libby Weaver, Lew Wilson
October 23	Brian Long, Rudy Davis, Sarah Davis, Rodger Speaks, Julian West
October 30	Jim Pickett, Beth Davidson, Billy Grose, Jeff Hartmann, Steve Hartzog

Sanctuary Flower Donors

October 2 – Sally Parker
October 9 – Lynda Sloan
October 16 – Open
October 23 – Open
October 30 – Bob Dearman

Please call George Moody at 704.880.6651 if you would like to put flowers in the sanctuary.