

The Pew'sletter

Volume 26, Issue 339

First Presbyterian Church, Lincolnton, NC

November 2015

Message from Rev. Cannon

Dear First Presbyterian Church Family,

It is hard for me to believe that my time with you is growing ever shorter. I have been with you for two years and it has been glorious. God has enabled us to serve well together and it has been my utmost pleasure to serve as your transitional pastor. We have come a long way since we started together and it has been all good. I have grown to love you intensely, and will most assuredly miss you. I will miss worshipping with you on Sunday mornings, moderating our session meetings (which by the way are joyful), talking and visiting with many of you, be it in my office, your home or over lunch. I will miss the pastors in Lincolnton whom I have had the pleasure of getting to know and working with during Lent and most recently, with one, during Vacation Bible School. There was much respect and comradery there. I will miss working with Jill Goins and her gleeful laughter and constant joy. I will miss reading to the children of the Preschool and the hugs they give me at the end. I will miss Court Street Grille and Habibi Yogurt. I will miss the smiles you have brought to my heart and Bud's hugs and kisses at the door after church. I will miss the lovely Mrs. Virginia Yates and her warm words of encouragement and kindness. I will miss Betty Beaver and her pound cakes (the best ever). Oh, I will miss ALL of you. You will always hold a very special place in my heart.

My last Sunday with you is November 1, 2015. I don't know how I will be able to say goodbye. So I won't. I will simply say "See you soon!"

Let me just say, that you have a bright future and God is already preparing your next transitional pastor and even more importantly, God is already preparing your next called and installed pastor. I pray that he or she will love you deeply, encourage you with joy, and support you without fail. This has been my prayer for some time now. Take good care of one another, love each other, respect each other and in all things follow God to His Throne of Grace.

May God bless you abundantly, keep you near His heart and may the Light of Christ continue to shine in you always.

In Christ,

Veronica Cannon

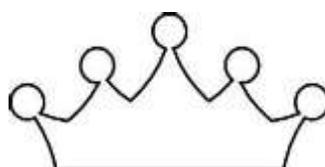
Christian Education Invites You To A

Chrismon Making Party



On **November 15th at 3:00 pm** we will have a Chrismon making party in the Fellowship Hall. We want to repair broken ones and make new ones for our collection. Light refreshments will be served. Come for fun, food, and fellowship.

Hope to see everybody there.



News From Your Session

Now that all of the wonderful commotion concerning the anniversary is successfully **over, the session would like you all to know what's going on behind the scenes.**

First of all, we would like to talk to you about Pastor Cannon and her decision to accept the call at Paw Creek Presbyterian. Her decision, while painful for both herself and us, was possibly the most Presbyterian action concerning a pastor this church has seen in quite a while. While she sincerely intended to see us through the process of calling a full time pastor, God had other plans for her. After praying faithfully for discernment, she concluded that while we were well on our way and in very good shape, Paw Creek genuinely needed her talents. The Session agrees that they probably need her much more than we do right now. The session and Pastor Cannon's plan for the church have proceeded right on schedule, and will continue as planned, albeit with our new interim. We are currently reviewing resumes, and with a lot of help from the Presbytery, hope to have a new interim within a few short weeks.

Since last fall, the Pastor and the Session has wrestled with some very difficult decisions, and we have put the church on a very clear timetable. To begin with, we have, with the help of a search committee, we found ourselves an exciting new music director, a young man that begins his journey with us today! The next issue to deal with is finding a new session member as my term is set to expire in December. We already have a nominating committee in place, and hopefully we will have a new elder ready to be voted on shortly. This will be happening as fall turns to winter, and as we begin our celebration of the Advent season. The new elders training should be finished in time to begin their term as the New Year rolls around. Again, this is exactly the timetable that we have laid out.

Now for the exciting news! The session and the Presbytery fully intend for us to establish a PNC (Pastor Nominating Committee) after the beginning of the year to begin our search for a called pastor. Our new interim will be an integral part of this process, as he or she will be tasked to guide us through this process, to offer advice and insight. We will be taking extra care to be sure to find an interim that is well suited to being exactly the right fit for our new challenge. This will be the culmination of all of the work that you, that WE have done as a church over the past 4 years. The process will probably take at least a year, possibly 18 months, but at the end of that final stage, First Presbyterian Church will be whole again.

While all of this is happening, the session as well as the new interim is going to need your prayers, your support, and your commitment. Please be considering if you might be willing to serve on the PNC, or who you think may be a good fit. This is the part that will take a lot of effort from yourselves as well as the session. It will be a challenging, yet exciting time for the church, and I hope you are as ready for it as we are.

Friends, we are almost there! The Lord is doing good things here at FPC and it's all because of you and your faith in the church. Nothing that has happened has been without purpose. God has a plan, and we are becoming the church that He would have us be. Thank you all for your patience and understanding. For doing the hard work that was required with a smile, and for staying the course. If anyone has any questions, or has any input or concerns, please be sure to talk to a session member, or better yet, plan to attend a session meeting. We would all love to have your input and to hear your thoughts and ideas.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS NOVEMBER 1st
TURN YOUR CLOCKS BACK BEFORE GOING TO BED
SATURDAY NIGHT, OCTOBER 31st

Daylight-saving time ends

- Turn your clock back one hour tonight before going to bed.
- It's also time to change batteries in your smoke detectors.



FAMILY RETREAT

Our Annual Family Retreat is scheduled For February 12–14, 2016 At Montreal. There Will be more Information to follow.

Christmas is fast approaching. Christian Ministries has asked each church to adopt a food item and First Presbyterian has chosen macaroni & cheese. Help Christian Ministries help those in need. Thank you in advance For your support. There will be a box for donations in the Government Street vestibule.



Ministry for the Church

NOVEMBER 2015

Sun., November 1st	9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	Sanctuary Soup Kitchen—Jeanene and Shortie McConnell
Wed., November 4th	7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	
Sun., November 8th	9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship—COMMUNION	Sanctuary
Wed., November 11th	7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	
Sun., November 15th	9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 3:00 pm Chrismon Making Party	Sanctuary Fellowship Hall
Tues., November 17th	6:00 pm Session Meeting	Kitchen
Wed., November 18th	7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	
Sun., November 22nd	9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship—COMMUNION	Sanctuary
Wed., November 25th	7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	
Thurs., November 26th	OFFICE CLOSED—Thanksgiving	
Sun., November 29th	9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 5 cents-a-meal	Sanctuary

NOVEMBER WORSHIP TEAMS

Team Leaders—Greg McBryde & Chip Crumley
Soup Kitchen—Jeanene & Alice McConnell, Nancy Rudisill & Mady Grayce Vassey

November 1st

Greeters & Offering...Davis & Judy Roberts
Worship Leader.....Joe Morgan
Nursery.....Joe Morgan
Children's Time.....Rick Ramseur
Lock-up.....Jimmie Bowers

November 8th

Greeters & Offering.....The Hodges
Worship Leader.....Christine Thomas
Nursery.....Pam Sipe
Children's Time.....Jan Duncan
Lock-up.....John Carpenter

COMMUNION:

Preparers—Mary Smith and Sue Bowen
Servers— Pam Sipe, Jan Duncan & Denny McCorkle—Nursery

November 15th

Greeters & Offering.....Joe & Karen Morgan
Worship Leader.....Scott Smith
Nursery.....Pat Carpenter
Children's Time.....Thad Cloer
Lock-up.....John Lafferty

November 22nd

Greeters & Offering.....Bill Thomas & Chip Crumley
Worship Leader.....Barbara Crumley
Nursery.....Myra Ramseur
Children's Time.....Greg McBryde
Lock-up.....Sandy Eldridge

COMMUNION:

Preparers—Betty Beaver & Judy Roberts
Servers—Mort Wadsworth, John Lafferty, Joe Morgan—Nursery

November 29th

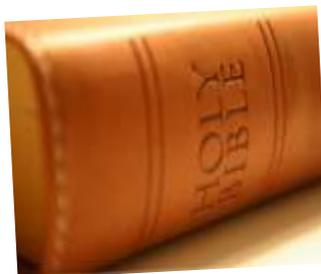
Greeters & Offering.....The Ramseurs
Worship Leader.....Sandy Eldridge
Nursery.....Anna Gilbert
Children's Time.....Barbara Crumley
Lock-up.....Pam Sipe
5 cents-a-meal.....Nathan Cloer

If you cannot serve, please find your own replacement and notify the office of the change.



Elder on call for emergencies:

November 6th—John Lafferty
November 13th—Greg McBryde
November 20th—Jan Duncan
November 27th—Christine Thomas



First Presbyterian Church
114 West Main Street
Lincolnton, NC 28092
Phone 704-735-8671
www.fpclincolnton.org

SCHEDULE
Church School: 9:30am
Worship: 10:30 am
Choir Rehearsal
Wednesdays, 7:00 pm

MISSION:

REACH.
TEACH. FEED.
LOVE.

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Veronica E. Cannon
Interim Pastor
pastor@fpclincolnton.org

John M. Lineberger
Music Director/Organist
MusicDirector@fpclincolnton.org

Jill Goins
Administrative Assistant
admin@fpclincolnton.org

Greg McBryde, Sexton
admin@fpclincolnton.org

Lesla Ritter
Preschool Director
preschool@fpclincolnton.org

SESSION

JAN DUNCAN,
CLERK OF SESSION
JANJUST8@CHARTER.NET
JOHN LAFFERTY
JOHN@JOHNLAFFERTY.COM
GREG MCBRYDE
Gregory.mcbride@GMAIL.COM
CHRISTINE THOMAS
WILLIAMLEONTHOMAS@HOTMAIL.COM
MORT WADSWORTH
MWADSWORTH@CAROLINATRUST.COM

Girl Scouts meet at FPC.
Contact Tina Cloer,
704-732-8187

FPC's Calendar is updated on Google Calendar and the church website.