

# The Pew'sletter

Volume 27, Issue 341

First Presbyterian Church, Lincolnton, NC

January 2016

## Greetings Church Friends,

As this year comes to a close, we reflect on our many accomplishments and look forward to 2016. Some highlights (and this is not an all-inclusive list) were:

- The electronic sign is paid off!
- Move the Nursery to the Sanctuary
- 200<sup>th</sup> Celebration
- **Started an "Elder Care" mission**
- Hired a new music director

As a Session, we say thank you to Greg McBryde for his service, and welcome aboard Sandy Eldridge. One of our biggest accomplishments in 2015 was to prepare for the selection of a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC). The nominating committee for the PNC and Class of 2016 Elder selection is in the final stages and will be announced shortly. We are continuing to move forward with our timeline on a PNC creation.

Part of the PNC process is to share our vision. Last year the Session created the following Vision statement:

We will be an inclusive community of faith teaching and sharing the Gospel, encouraging Discipleship and Mission.

We also developed the following as our Core values:

- Love God
- Spread the Gospel
- Education (Christian)
- Fellowship (Communion and Community)
- Welcome All - whosoever will...let them come
- Missional
- Nurture and Support of one another
- Connectional (Presbyterian-Book of Order)

And we should all know that our Mission statement is: Reach. Teach. Feed. Love.

For the month of January, we will continue to have the Rev. Sam Hobson, Jr. provide the pulpit leadership, with communion on Sunday, January 10th. The Session is prayerfully considering the next interim pastor, and expects to announce the decision on who will provide our pastoral leadership until we call our next Pastor. Please continue to pray for your Session, as we discern who God is leading us to call.

With Blessings and Love,  
The Session

- Offering envelopes will be available on Sunday, January 3rd.
- 2015 Giving statements will be available by Sunday, January 17th.



## **ELDER CARE MINISTRY**

We are a small congregation but mighty in Christ's love! Thank you!

This past year we have started and stocked a Food Pantry specifically for seniors, shut-ins and others who are unable to visit the Christian Ministries Food Bank, or who are unable to do much in the way of cooking a meal for themselves. We have helped several people regain control of their yards and have accomplished small maintenance chores in their homes.

Through our Cards of Caring we have brought a little light into some very lonely lives.

In 2016 we hope to continue all these activities. Please keep the Senior Pantry in mind when you do your regular shopping. Just one or two extra items on sale-- and maybe with a coupon -- which you purchase and deliver to the old Pastor's office will be deeply appreciated. The list below shows what items have been requested this year.

We still have at least one yard to visit and need YOUR guidance for other folks in need of help. Please be sure to give us their name and contact information so that we can call or visit them and discuss the situation.

Please be thinking about whether you would be able to become a Telephone Friend to a senior, shut-in or chronically ill person. This is a new project we are considering for 2016 that would be based in part on our Abridged for the Fridge list. The Telephone Friend would simply phone someone once a day to say "Hello" and let that person know someone is thinking of them. More details will be available soon.

ELDER CARE PANTRY needs the following:

- SMALL bottles/jars of ketchup, mayo and salad dressing.
- SMALL jars of jams/jellies.
- SMALL jars of smooth peanut butter
- Packets of cheese or peanut butter crackers
- Plain crackers- especially those in smaller serving wrappers.
- Boxes of individual packets of microwave oatmeal (a variety of flavors)
- Single serving, ready to eat microwavable soups and pastas
- SMALL bags of coffee – both regular and decaffeinated
- Single cup tea bags of all varieties – herbal, caffeinated, decaf, blends.
- Individual serving containers of fruit, jellios and pudding – sugar free, too
- Single serve "canned" vegetables.
- Single serve snack cakes, like Lil' Debbies
- Trash bags (small and kitchen size); Paper towels; Toilet paper; plastic wrap and aluminum foil
- Dry skin lotions – lighter scents in small to medium sized bottles or tubes.

Thank you for your help with this important ministry.

*Sandy Eldridge*

# Ramseur Christmas Program 2015:



## **Christmas Is What Christmas Is** **By Thad Cloer**

Christmas is what Christmas is, lights and trees and tinsels,  
 As I reflect, I think I'll grab one of these pew pencils.  
 Christmas is what Christmas is, another year has gone,  
 We're here again, being led, by our good friend John.  
 Christmas is what Christmas is, friends and family all getting along,  
 And then we get to hear our Shortie, sing her Christmas song.  
 Christmas is what Christmas is, Santa delivers the loot,  
 Myself, I'm pretty proud that Zoe plays the flute.  
 Christmas is what Christmas is, Shepherds, Angels and Wise Men.....not too tragic,  
 One of my favorite Christmas gifts is our Rick's special magic.  
 Christmas is what Christmas is hymns and songs about the Son of Man,  
 But Christmas isn't Christmas without a story from our Dan.  
 Christmas is what Christmas is, stars shining bright above,  
 And down here in Lincolnton our church is filled with love.

# Ministry for the Church

## JANUARY 2016

Sun., January 3rd	9:30 am	<b>Sunday School</b>	
	10:30 am	<b>Worship</b>	Sanctuary
		<b>Soup Kitchen</b>	
Wed., January 6th	7:00 pm	<b>Choir Rehearsal</b>	
Sun., January 10th	9:30 am	<b>Sunday School</b>	
	10:30 am	<b>Worship</b>	Sanctuary
		<b>COMMUNION</b>	
Wed., January 13th	7:00 pm	<b>Choir Rehearsal</b>	
Sun., January 17th	9:30 am	<b>Sunday School</b>	
	10:30 am	<b>Worship</b>	Sanctuary
Tues., January 19th	6:00 pm	<b>Session Meeting</b>	Kitchen
Wed., January 20th	11:30 am	<b>Women's Bible Study</b>	Fellowship Hall
	7:00 pm	<b>Choir Rehearsal</b>	
Sun., January 24th	9:30 am	<b>Sunday School</b>	
	10:30 am	<b>Worship</b>	Sanctuary
Wed., January 27th	7:00 pm	<b>Choir Rehearsal</b>	
Sun., January 31st	9:30 am	<b>Sunday School</b>	
	10:30 am	<b>Worship</b>	Sanctuary
		<b>5 cents-a-meal</b>	

### JANUARY WORSHIP TEAMS

Team Leaders—John & Pat Carpenter  
 Soup Kitchen—Nancy Rudisill, Rick & Myra Ramseur,  
 Jeanene McConnell, Shortie McConnell

#### January 3rd

**Greeters & Offering**.....John & Peggy Lafferty  
**Worship Leader**.....Kathy Robinson  
**Nursery**.....Pat Carpenter  
**Children's Time**.....Barbara Crumley  
**Lock-up**.....Chip Crumley

#### January 10th

**Greeters & Offering**.....The Hodges  
**Worship Leader**.....Pam Sipe  
**Nursery**.....Tina Cloer  
**Children's Time**.....Greg McBryde  
**Lock-up**.....John Carpenter  
**COMMUNION:**  
**Preparers**—Pam Sipe  
**Servers**—

#### January 17th

**Greeters & Offering**.....John & Pat Carpenter  
**Worship Leader**.....Scott Smith  
**Nursery**.....Anna Gilbert  
**Children's Time**.....Rick Ramseur  
**Lock-up**.....John Lafferty

#### January 24th

**Greeters & Offering**.....Davis & Judy Roberts  
**Worship Leader**.....Sandy Eldridge  
**Nursery**.....Ann Hallman  
**Children's Time**.....Jan Duncan  
**Lock-up**.....Thad Cloer

#### January 31st

**Greeters & Offering**.....The Cloers  
**Worship Leader**.....Peggy Lafferty  
**Nursery**.....Adrienne Hodges  
**Children's Time**.....Thad Cloer  
**Lock-up**.....Sandy Eldridge  
**5 cents-a-meal**.....Zoe Cloer

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



### Elder on call for emergencies:

**January 1st—Christine Thomas**  
**January 8th—Mort Wadsworth**  
**January 15th—John Lafferty**  
**January 22nd—Greg McBryde**  
**January 29th—Jan Duncan**  
**February 5th—Christine Thomas**



## FEED THE HUNGRY

Thanks to everyone here and at the preschool who donated macaroni and cheese for Christian Ministries. You donated over 600 boxes and they were given to Christian Ministries to give out to those in need. Thank you again for your contribution to this very important ministry.



**First Presbyterian Church**  
 114 West Main Street  
 Lincolnton, NC 28092  
 Phone 704-735-8671  
[www.fpclincolnton.org](http://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

**John M. Lineberger**  
 Music Director/Organist  
[MusicDirector@fpclincolnton.org](mailto:MusicDirector@fpclincolnton.org)

**Jill Goins**  
 Administrative Assistant  
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**Lesa Ritter**  
 Preschool Director  
[preschool@fpclincolnton.org](mailto:preschool@fpclincolnton.org)

#### SESSION

**JAN DUNCAN,**  
 CLERK OF SESSION  
[JANJUST8@CHARTER.NET](mailto:JANJUST8@CHARTER.NET)  
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**MORT WADSWORTH**  
[MWADSWORTH@CAROLINATRUST.COM](mailto:MWADSWORTH@CAROLINATRUST.COM)  
**SANDY ELDRIDGE**  
[SANDYELDRIDGE25@GMAIL.COM](mailto:SANDYELDRIDGE25@GMAIL.COM)

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

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