

The Pewletter Weekly

First Presbyterian Church
Lincolnton NC

The 5th Sunday In Easter



"Happy Martyrs Day"

[Acts 7:51-60](#) (click for Scripture)

Before you jump to conclusions please know my sermon title does not intend disrespect to mothers, who are also celebrating a special day on Sunday. No, instead the reference is to Stephen, who later became Saint Stephen, and who is considered to be the first Christian martyr. Webster's dictionary defines the word martyr as:
1 : a person who voluntarily suffers death as the penalty of witnessing to and

refusing to renounce a religion.

2 : a person who sacrifices something of great value and especially life itself for the sake of principle, i.e. a martyr to the cause of freedom.

The negative connotations that the word "martyr" often implies is a modern phenomenon. It comes from the field of psychology and is referred to as martyr complex. A martyr complex is a destructive pattern of behavior in which a person habitually seeks suffering or persecution as a way to feel "good" about themselves. A true martyr will literally lay down their life for a person or principal. Jesus Christ, the Apostle Paul, Justin Martyr, Joan of Arc, Mahatma Gandhi, Oscar Romero, Martin Luther King Jr., Dietrich Bonhoeffer; these are true martyrs.

On second thought, maybe the sermon title is appropriate for Mother's Day. It has been said there is no greater bond in our mortal world than between mother and child. And I don't know many mothers, or fathers for that matter, who wouldn't give their life for their child if it came to that. It's the true meaning of martyr that matters here.

What was special about Stephen and how can we apply his example to our modern context (without necessarily having to die)? Join us for worship Sunday at 10:30 am to find out. And Happy Mother's Day!



Commit To God's Work in the World



Ministry comes in many shapes and sizes and is not limited to ordained clergy, church officers or even members. All who declare Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior are, by default, engaged in Christian ministry.

Some of us serve in ministries that are more obvious than others but we are wise to acknowledge even some of our most mundane tasks as ministry. Do you serve in the soup kitchen or deliver LINC Meals? That's ministry. Do you take care of a loved one who is ill or in-firmed? That's a ministry. Do you run a household, work to support your family or engage in political community action? Those too can be ministries!

Section G-1.0304 of The Book of Order is titled *The Ministry of Members* and lists activities that such involvement includes. One that stands out is "living responsibly in the personal, family, vocational, political, cultural and social relationships of life."

This congregation is certainly rich in ministers and ministry.

Another entry in that Book of Order list is this: "supporting the ministry of the church through the giving of money, time and talents." Next week you will receive a letter from me with a pledge card. Please prayerfully consider your financial commitment to the life of First Presbyterian Church and its' role in Christian service to the community. This is a very generous congregation and you have sustained this particular church through some tough times. Thank you for that and for your continued generosity as we work toward an identifiable budget that is sustainable and in keeping with the mission of the Church of Jesus Christ.

Blessings and peace,

Danny



Baccalaureate Service

Make plans to be in worship on May 21st as we renew our baptismal vows and honor our two graduating high school seniors.

Emily McBryde University of South Carolina

Amanda McBryde North Carolina State University

"Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward." Psalm 127:3

From the Book of Order - Presbyterian Church (USA) In the service of Baptism the congregation, trusting in the power of the Holy Spirit, and on behalf of the universal Church, pledges responsibility for Christian nurture. (W-2.3013; W-3.3603)

Opportunities To Serve

Christian Ministries

Soup Kitchen

Many thanks to the Lafferty's, Smith's, Crumley's and Alice Gene Abrams for serving in May.

The remaining dates in 2017 are still available. Sign up at the Government St. vestibule or call the church office.

June	Saturday 17th
July	Sunday 9th
August	Saturday 19th
September	Sunday 10th
October	Saturday 21st
November	Sunday 12th
December	Saturday 16th



Fellowship After Worship

Refreshments!

Please sign up to provide refreshments after worship. It's a simple way to participate in the life of FPCL!



Miss Sue's Garden

It's prime planting season so if you are so inclined please feel free to take advantage of the garden across from the church on Government Street. Let us know what you planted and how it's doing.

Upcoming Worship Teams

May 14th

Greeters & Offering

Rick and Myra

Ramseur

Worship Leader

Kathy

Robinson

Nursery

Anna Gilbert

Children's Time

Christine Thomas

Lock-up

John Carpenter

Refreshments

Pat Carpenter

May 21st

Greeters & Offering

Peggy and John Lafferty

Worship Leader

Christine Thomas

Nursery

Pat Carpenter

Children's Time

Jan Duncan

Lock-up

Adrienne Hodges

Refreshments

Jeanene McConnell

May 28th

Greeters & Offering

Tina and Thad

Cloer

Worship Leader

Sandy Eldridge

Nursery

Sharon Williams

Children's Time

Danny Trapp

Lock-up

John Lafferty

Refreshments

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

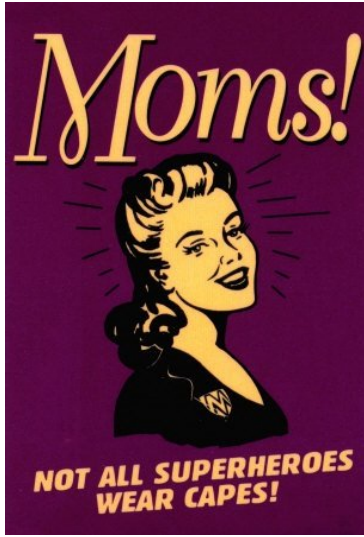


It's been a great year at First Presbyterian Church Preschool. Come celebrate at the preschool's end of year program in the Fellowship Hall on Tuesday May 16th at 6:30 pm.



LINC Meals Coordinator

Pictured below is a letter from Christian Ministry of Lincoln County advertising the position of LINC Meals Coordinator. If you or someone you know is qualified and possibly interested you are encouraged to contact Christian Ministry directly to inquire further and obtain an application. Their number is 704-732-0383.



Christian Ministry of Lincoln County, Inc.

207 S. Poplar Street, P.O. Box 423
Lincolnton, North Carolina 28093
Phone: 704-732-0383 or 704-732-2691
Fax: 704-735-6597

May 05, 2017

To: Member Churches
Attention: Senior Pastor

Re: Linc Meals Coordinator position

The Policy and Personnel Committee of Christian Ministry is seeking applications and resumes for the position of Linc Meals Coordinator. General qualifications are as follows: **A Two-Year Associate Degree preferred with High School or GED minimum, as well as experience in this work-related area.** Good organizational ability; experience in working with others; sensitivity to the concerns of others; ability to follow established guidelines; and effective communication skills. Below is a brief job description:

- Attend Staff, Board meetings, monthly LINC Ministry Group meetings, and LINC Sub-committee meetings. (5 outside of regular hours)
- Prepare Monthly and Quarterly Reports.
- Maintain required Individual Ledgers on recipients.
- Prepare and mail recipient's monthly billings.
- Keep General Ledger for LINC Meals. (All reports balance with each other as well as with the Christian Ministry bookkeeper.)
- Responsible for communications to: LINC Recipient, Meal Prep Centers, Team Coordinators, Volunteers, Family Members, Committee Chairpersons, Coordinator to Executive Director.
- Assist or supervise as needed in training and recruiting of volunteers. (Learn routes to be able to train, fill in and evaluate; learn to pack to train and fill in.)
- Complete the daily route list in efficient manner and update computer. (Excel spread sheets are used.)
- Deliver route list weekly to facility.
- Determine immediate recipient eligibility. (This is done once assessment visit is done.)
- Assessment visits made within specified time limits.
- Seek financial assistance for recipients as needed. (Ask family & church to see what is available.)
- Notify LINC Ministry Group of regular meetings.
- Plan for minutes of the LINC Ministry Group meetings to be taken, typed and distributed.
- Fill in for other staff positions as requested.
- Update LINC Policy & Procedures Manual as needed by providing suggestions to P & P for approval.
- Make reevaluation visits by appropriate deadlines. (Yearly)
- Assist with ALL Fundraisers and Volunteer Recognition Events.

This position requires 22.5 hours per week (Monday – Friday 9:00am – 1:30pm, plus events and/or fundraisers. No benefits are included. Enclosed is an application form. Applications along with resumes must be received no later than May 22, 2017. Mail to: Shirley R. Alexander, Policy & Personnel Chairperson, Christian Ministry of Lincoln Co., Inc., PO Box 423, Lincolnton NC 28093.

Sincerely,

Shirley R. Alexander

Remember In Prayer And Acts Of Kindness

Randy Baucom, friend of the McBrydes
Oliver Bone, John Lineberger's great-uncle
Helen Bone, John Lineberger's great-aunt
Cindy Boone, Karen Morgan's sister
Tom Bowen
Nan Bumgarner, friend of Scott Smith
Helen Caskey
Jan & David Clark and family
Jan Duncan

Dick Eckburg
 Amy Harrison, Kristy McBryde's sister
Bob Henthorn, Susan Ford's father
Charles & Judy Holland
Bill Larrison, friend of John Lafferty
Ted Larrison, Bill Larrison's brother
John Lineberger and family
Jim Moore
Joe Morgan and family
Margie Payseur, Jeanene McConnell's friend
Susan Rhodes, Sue Bowen's friend
Lesa Ritter
Janice Stroupe
Scottie Trapp and family, on the death of her father
David Wulf, friend of John Lafferty

Our Homebound or Those Unable to Attend: Carolyn Lee, Imogene Long, Frances Nelson

Our Partners in Ministry: Drs. Leslie and Cynthia Morgan, South Asia

Please contact the church office to inform us of those needing prayer as well as those who should be removed from the list.

First Presbyterian Church
 114 West Main Street, Lincolnton, NC 28092
 Phone: 704-735-8671 www.fpclincolnton.org
 Church School: 9:30am Worship: 10:30 am
 Choir Rehearsal: 7:00pm Wednesdays
 MISSION: Reach. Teach. Feed. Love.

MEET OUR STAFF

Rev. Danny Trapp	Pastor	dtrapp@carolina.rr.com (cell—704-654-1319)
John Lineberger	Music Director/Organist	musicdirector@fpclincolnton.org
Jill Goins	Administrative Assistant	admin@fpclincolnton.org
Kristen Willis	Preschool Director	preschool@fpclincolnton.org
Nancy Rudisill	Sexton	admin@fpclincolnton.org

SESSION

Clerk of Session	Jan Duncan	janjust8@gmail.com	704-308-4046
Christian Education	Christine Thomas	williamleonthomas@hotmail.com	704-435-8526
Property	Sandy Eldridge	sandyeldridge25@gmail.com	704-408-1418
Mission	Tina Cloer	tdcloer@bellsouth.net	704-732-8187
Worship	Chip Crumley	cecrumley@bellsouth.net	704-735-4523
Finance	Jamie Hodges	Jthodgesjr@hotmail.com	704-732-0158



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