



The Pewsletter Weekly

First Presbyterian Church
Lincolnton NC

"Radical Openness in a Close-Minded World"



[Genesis 50:15-21](#) (click for Scripture)

[Romans 14:1-12](#) (click for Scripture)

You've gotta love the Apostle Paul. Here he is urging us to avoid passing judgment while, at the same time, characterizing those with whom he disagrees as weak in faith.

But Paul is nothing if not passionate and the radicality of Paul's passion in our passage from Romans is the radicality of grace, the radicality of life lived beyond judgment, beyond justice-life that loves real and enduring enemies. Our spirit for and toward those with whom we bitterly disagree is Paul's focus.

Join us for worship this Sunday at 10:30 AM as we consider how an argument over food can instruct us on how to live in our conflict riddled world.

Blessings and Peace,

Danny



Looking To Sunday Lunch Bunch

Tuesdays' At 12:30 in the Apple Classroom

I've been asked several times in recent months about how I go about preparing a sermon. Well come find out! This fall I will be down in the Apple classroom with a bag lunch every Tuesday working on the following Sunday's message.

Come join me as we kick around the lectionary passages for the week and discuss initial reactions and thoughts about the text and how it speaks to our lives today.

Bring lunch or don't but come prepared to spend an hour delving into the Scriptures and maybe helping to write the Sunday sermon.

Danny

The Session has called a short Congregational Meeting at the beginning of worship on Sunday October 1st for the purpose of electing an Officer Nominating Committee.



Do You Enjoy These Emails?

If so consider forwarding them to others in your circle of friends who you believe will enjoy them as well. And remember that anyone can subscribe or unsubscribe by using the links at the bottom of the page. Subscribers will only receive the Pewsletter Weekly.

Opportunities To Serve



PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE

In the past few weeks Hurricane's Harvey and Irma have upended the tranquil worlds of people in Texas, Florida and the Caribbean with the loss of lives and unprecedented property damage. Many are inquiring about how Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is helping with response to the needs of communities impacted by these hurricanes and their aftermath.

For those who wish to support PDA's emergency response and recovery efforts, gifts can be designated to **DR000169-Harvey and/or DR000194-Irma**. If you would like to make an online donation [click here](#).

If you prefer to mail a check, you may send it to:
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
PO Box 643700
Pittsburgh, PA, 15264-3700

You may also call PDA Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (EST), at 1-800-872-3283 and donate by phone. For updates, please go to pda.pcusa.org.



Christian Ministry of Lincoln County

Below are several ways to engage with our long-time ministry partner and be of service to those in need and the dedicated folks who serve them.

Saturday October 21

This is the only Soup Kitchen date for the remainder of 2017 that has no one committed to serve. Please prayerfully consider volunteering to serve the traditional Saturday hot dog meal to the guests of Christian Ministry.



Supporting The Soup Kitchen in 2018

Since I joined this congregation as your pastor on February 1, 2016 I have witnessed the constant challenge of maintaining our commitment to Christian Ministries to staff the Soup Kitchen one day per month. When I arrived that day was set as the first Sunday of each month. That schedule was problematic for several reasons.

1. Sunday worship is the hub around which the life of a congregation revolves. It is the heartbeat of the church. To schedule a church activity, even one of discipleship and mission such as feeding the hungry, during the worship hour is counter to the health and vitality of a worshipping community.
2. Additionally, our worship attendance had decreased and then stabilized to where 30-40 people were in worship each Sunday. Taking 5 to 7 of us out of worship became increasingly difficult to absorb and still maintain a meaningful worship experience for the

rest of us.

3. One of the guiding principals of the Presbyterian Church (USA) is that we are a “connectional church” and one of the ways that is tangibly expressed is through the celebration of The Lord’s Supper. The vast majority of Presbyterian Churches (actually Protestant Churches) celebrate the sacrament of The Lord’s Supper on the first Sunday of each month. We were operating counter to that schedule, having communion on the second Sunday due to our soup kitchen commitment.

In 2017 we established the first Sunday of the month for regular celebration of the Lord’s Supper while continuing our monthly commitment to the soup kitchen by alternating months between Saturday’s and Sunday’s (usually the 2nd Sunday). Securing volunteers has remained a challenge and two dates are still open for this year; Saturday October 21 and Saturday December 16.

The session has been working with the staff at Christian Ministries to determine our congregation’s engagement with staffing the soup kitchen in 2018. Understanding our constraints due to our decreased size from years past they have presented a schedule that commits us to 4 Saturday’s. Those Saturday dates in 2018 are:

January 6, May 5, August 4, December 1

Before we commit to this new schedule we want to be sure there is willingness and availability to volunteer in the soup kitchen. Over the next several weeks please let us know if you wish to be included by returning the provided form in the offering plate or contacting the pastor or church office.

First Presbyterian Church was instrumental in the founding of Christian Ministries in the 1970’s and has remained engaged in a number of ways ever since. Please prayerfully consider if you can help in 2018.



October Mission Opportunity – Packing Food

First Presbyterian Church will be volunteering at Christian Ministry of Lincoln County during the week of October 9th. Disciples from our church will work that week, Monday thru Friday, between the hours of 9:00 am – 1:00 pm to pack boxes of food for distribution to our neighbors in need.

Come enjoy fellowship with church members while providing a vital volunteer service for Christian Ministry.

Whether you can work every day or just an hour or two, please volunteer to take part in this mission opportunity. To schedule a time slot or get more information please contact Betty Beaver at 704-735-6818.

Christian Ministry of Lincoln County

207 South Poplar St. – PO Box 423

Lincolnton, NC 28093-2691

Phone: 704-732-0383

Fax: 704-735-6597

LINC Meals Program: lincmeals@aol.com

Administrative Assistant: christianministry1977@yahoo.com

Executive Director: christianministry2017@gmail.com

Currently, the Ministry is in the process of helping several groups’ feed Hurricane Irma evacuees. As we do this, the Ministry food supply is at a critically low level. To be able to meet the same needs as we did in August, we will need the following amounts of food to make it the next two months:

1800 Beef stew

- 3600 Macaroni and Cheese
- 3600 Soup
- 1800 Rice
- 1800 Dry Beans
- 3600 Canned beans
- 1800 Spaghetti
- 1800 Spaghetti sauce

The Ministry is also out of blankets. Wal-Mart has new blankets for \$5, but we will take used blankets that are in good condition.

As the Ministry works to meet the needs of our community, please consider how you can help. If you have any questions, please call Mitzi.

USEFUL ABBREVIATIONS FOR THE TIME-PRESSED ONLINE READER

TL;DR	TOO LONG; DIDN'T READ	RB;GB	READ A BIT; GOT BORED
VS;SDR	VERY SHORT; STILL DIDN'T READ	SR;MP	SKIM-READ; MISSED POINT
SR;PW	SHOULD READ; PROBABLY WON'T	RH;PAC	READ HEADLINE; POSTED ANGRY COMMENTS



TOM GAULD

Worship Leaders



**Sign Up for
Worship Hospitality**

September 17th

- Greeters & Offering
Judy and Davis Roberts
- Worship Leader Scott Smith
- Nursery Myra Ramseur
- Children's Time Jan Duncan
- Lock-up Sandy Eldridge
- Refreshments

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

September 24th

Greeters & Offering
Mort Wadsworth and John Carpenter
Worship Leader Pam Sipe
Nursery Adrienne and Jamie Hodges
Children's Time Thad Cloer
Lock-up Chip Crumley
Refreshments
Adrienne and Jamie Hodges



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

Remember In Prayer And Acts Of Kindness

Paul Bailey, Bud Bailey's son
Oliver Bone, John Lineberger's great-uncle
Family of A.V. Bowen, Shortie McConnell's neighbor
Tom Bowen
Nan Bumgarner, friend of Scott Smith
Martha Fulbright, Betty Beaver's cousin
Lisa Gary, friend of Jan Duncan
Bill Larrison, friend of John Lafferty
Ted Larrison, Bill Larrison's brother
Yvonne Leatherman, Shortie McConnell's cousin
Carolyn Lee
Rich Lukes, friend of Nancy Rudisill
The Family of Mike Randleman
Susan Rhodes, Sue Bowen's friend
J.T. Smith, Shortie McConnell's friend
Janice Stroupe
Tina Willis, Nancy Rudisill's cousin
Linda Wright, Peggy Lafferty's cousin
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.fpclinclnton.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@fpclinclnton.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
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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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