



FPC News

First Presbyterian
Church

FPC News
December 1, 2011



I FOUND A PRESENT IN THE READ

Recently re-reading Emil Brunner's Our Faith, I found a present that found me (pgs. 65-67) and I'm sharing this gift with you.

May the intimate blessings of this season be with you all! In the love of the incarnate One,

Stuart

WHEN THAT HAPPENS

It is not as spectators that we can see Christ in Jesus, but only when we are challenged, called to an accounting, pressed to make a personal response, pressed for a decision. He alone apprehends Jesus as the Christ who allows God to call him in Christ. Before one answers yes to this call, one "sees" nothing-nothing but this remarkable man Jesus of Nazareth. When others say, he is the Savior, the Redeemer that is of no significance to you, no more than a picture which someone else thinks beautiful should give you pleasure. You must know him yourself, be able to say yes to him. That is faith. Jesus is not the Christ for the onlooker, the thinker, the

scholar, the historically informed, but simply and solely for the believer. "He that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live," he alone drinks from the spring of life.

It is proclaimed to all, behold the tabernacle of God is with [humankind]! Behold the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world. Behold there, he, in whom God reveals your godlessness, and in spite of that, calls you His child! But the question is, whether we simply hear this message, or whether it finds the heart, whether we apprehend it as the truth, whether we hear God Himself come to us in Jesus calling us to Himself. When that happens Jesus is not simply Jesus of Nazareth, the great saint, but something happens to us as to Peter- Verily thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God! Then will he also say to us, "blessed art thou, for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father in heaven." When that happens-Christmas has truly come.



December brings to us numerous opportunities to worship together and celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Our choirs have been working hard preparing for the Dec. 11th 10:00 a.m. service. Once again the program will include our contemporary ensemble and chancel choirs, children and youth, handbells and guest violinist and soloist. I hope you will plan to attend and support the music ministry of the church.

I am very proud of the growth of our choirs, not only in numbers but in the quality of their singing. They work very hard every week and I hope you as a congregation will let them know how much you appreciate what they do week after week.

On Dec. 4th at 3pm the Festival Singers, under the direction of Paul Kelly, will present a program of Christmas music in the Harper Center. This is always a spectacular program. Please plan to attend.

As Christmas approaches let us all, be mindful of each other and our church. Pray that God will lead us. Pray that we will listen. Pray about your commitment. There are many needs to be filled in our church (there are still one or two empty seats in the choir loft) and working together we can all experience the presence of God in our church as He leads us into 2012!

David



Dec. 1 - John Sperry, Foss Knight

Dec. 3 - Velner Jones, David
Linney

Dec. 5 - Robin Koury, Brett
Dymond

Dec. 7 - Rhonda Lemon

Dec. 11 - Harold James

Dec. 13 - Blake Byrd

Dec. 15 - Ainsley Kimble, Porter
Washburn

Dec. 16 - Mary Lynn Ingram, Jenny
Proctor, Peggy Hendley, Zach
Angell

Dec. 19 - Flora Perry

Dec. 20 - Ellie Williams

Dec. 21 - Anna Vann, Joe Hinton

Dec. 23 - Vicki Register

Dec. 27 - Matt Hinton

Dec. 29 - Larry Phillips, Lib
Williams

Dec. 31 - David Register, Tom
Hahn



Poinsettias are now on sale. If you would like to purchase a poinsettia to be placed in the sanctuary in memory or honor of someone, please call the church office, 775-5216. The poinsettias will be placed in the sanctuary on Sun., Dec. 18th. The cost this year is \$8.45 each. Orders will be taken until Mon., Dec. 12th. All orders must be paid before Thurs., Dec. 15th.

Breadbasket News

November 8th, the volunteers Vickie Register, Pam Hollingsworth, Jana Wilkinson and Joan Suddarth prepared lunch for 194 patrons. Our menu for the day was pork and rice casserole, green beans, mixed vegetables, tossed salad, rolls, assorted desserts and Coke to drink.

Hope you will decide to volunteer for this worthwhile community service. Let Lori, 775-5216, or Joanna Dempsey, 718-5969, know if you would like to volunteer. We serve on the second Tuesday of every month.

Team Leaders,
Vickie Register
Joan Suddarth

*The sympathy of the congregation is extended to:
Ann McCracken and Family in the death of her
mother, Sue Phillips.
Rhonda Woodell and Family in the death of her
uncle, Doug Chrisley.*

Please Remember in Prayer

Members: Steve Brewer's wife, Kathy; Betty Lou Bristow; Vivian Dull; Clara Harris

Shut-Ins

Emily Buchanan-Parkview; Esther Childress; Doris Gibson; Herb Hardisty-Sanford Health & Rehab.; Mary Jon Herman-Lee Co. Nursing; Lo Keith; Barbara McDermott; Ralph and Vivian Monger-Parkview; Belva Oelrich-Parkview; Margaret Poe-Parkview; Sallie Tatum-Parkview

Friends

Jessica Brewer's mother, Linda

Brewer; Andrew Darroch; Michael Davenport's mom, Peggy; Lou Ann Davis; Kelly Holt's uncle, Richard Rosser; Grace McDuffie; Janet McNeill Debby Nigro; Rick Paderick's father, Clif Paderick; Cathy Patterson; Pam Patterson's father, Perry White; Randy Robertson's father, Walter Robertson; Donnie Sechrist; Paul Sehorne; Whitney Simpson; Griff Sperry's father, C.B. Sperry; Elizabeth Suther's cousin, Amanda Mager; Monty Terrell's father, John Terrell; Mary Waters; Lori Yow's grandson, Laythan Smith



The Salvation Army has requested our church's help in providing Christmas gifts to needy children. If you, your Sunday School Class, Committee, group of friends, etc. would like to adopt a child or children, please call Lori in the church office, 775-5216. **THERE ARE 6 CHILDREN THAT STILL NEED TO BE ADOPTED.** Please take this opportunity to help these less fortunate children have a special Christmas.



Betty Lou Bristow
614 Pope Lake Rd.
Angier NC 27501

**December
Meals on Wheels
Circle # 8
Church Flowers
Flower Committee**

Dear Church Family,

Mary Jon and I want to thank everyone for the prayers, flowers and visits while she was in the hospital. You are great and the prayer chain is a wonderful thing.

God bless you all.

Love,
Mary Jon & Gladys

December Door

Greeters

Sanctuary

Steve Morgan

Monty Terrell

McIver Hall

Wilson Proctor

Ushers for December

Captain - Anita Slattery

9am:

Anita Slattery & Pam Patterson

11am:

Bryson McAdams

Brad Kiser

Susan Tickle

Jackson Tickle

Matthew Davenport

If you are unable to fulfill your commitment for a Sunday, please find a replacement.

**TRAINING FOR CIRCLE CHAIRS
AND CO-CHAIRS**

Sunday, December 11, 2011, 11:00 a.m.,
after 10:00 a.m. Service
McIver Fellowship Hall. A light lunch
will be served.

This is a mandatory meeting to begin the
new year.

Men of the Church

The Men of the Church breakfast will be held Sunday, Dec. 18th at 8:00 a.m. in the Harper Center.

Don't miss the delicious breakfast, great program and wonderful fellowship!

Presbyterian Women Circles

For the year 2011, all Circles will gather at the church for their meeting. Each month everyone will meet together in the Sr. High classroom and watch a video then separate into their regular Circle groups. Our next meeting will be on Monday, December 12th.

First Presbyterian Church

203 Hawkins Avenue
Sanford NC 27330
919-775-5216
919-775-4465 fax
919-708-9502 prayer line

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What's Happening in December???

- | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| Thurs., Dec. 1 - 7pm
Prayer Meeting | Tues., Dec. 6 - 5:45pm
Deacons Meet; 7pm
Elders Meet | Thurs., Dec. 15 - 7pm
Prayer Meeting | Sat., Dec. 24 - 5:30pm
Christmas Eve Service |
| Sat., Dec. 3 - 1pm-
3:30pm Hanging of the
Greens | Wed., Dec. 7 - 6pm
Keenager Banquet;
Choir Practice | Sat., Dec. 17 - Bus Trip | Sun., Dec. 25 - 11am
Combined Worship
Service |
| Sun., Dec. 4 - 9am
Contemporary Ser-
vice; 9:45am Adult
Sunday School; 10am
Children's Sunday
School; 10:40am Ses-
sion Meeting; 11am
Worship-Ordination /
Installation of new Of-
ficers; 12pm Admin.
Committee Meets;
3pm Festival Singer's
Concert | Sun., Dec. 11 - 9:40am
Session Meeting; 10am
Combined Worship
Service in Harper Cen-
ter - Christmas Music;
11am PW Training Ses-
sion; 3pm PW Bible
Moderators; 5pm Youth | Sun., Dec. 18 - 8am
MOC Breakfast; 9am
Contemporary Service;
9:45am Adult Sunday
School; 10am Children's
Sunday School; 11am
Worship; 12pm Christ-
mas Caroling; 4:30pm
Committees Meet
(optional) | Mon., Dec. 26 -
Church Office Closed |
| Mon., Dec. 5 - 9am
Staff Meeting | Mon., Dec. 12 - Cir-
cles Meet; 9am Staff
Meeting | Mon., Dec. 19 - 9am
Staff Meeting | Tues., Dec. 27 -
Church Office Closed |
| | Wed., Dec. 14 - 6pm
Contemporary Choir;
7:15pm Choir Practice | Wed., Dec. 21 - 6pm
Contemporary Choir;
7:15pm Choir Practice | Wed., Dec. 28 - 6pm
Contemporary Choir;
7:15pm Choir Practice |
| | | Fri., Dec. 23 - Church
Office Closed | |