Montreat Senior High Conference
The Senior High students had another wonderful year at Montreat! We learned how to “Lift Every Voice” thanks to speakers like Aram Bae and CeCe Williams, small group leaders, and our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ from across the nation! We were also blessed to have Mu Chi Bao, a Taiwanese exchange student, join us for the week thanks to John McCall who preached at FPC last April! A wonderful week all around!

Senior High Mission Trip
Our Senior High Mission Trip this year took us to Johnson County, Tennessee, where we worked with Appalachian Service Project in serving families in need. We built stairs and learned how to put up drywall, but above all we built some lasting connections with some incredible new friends. So proud of these talented, hard-working young people!

Come and hear about these trips in more detail from our youth on Festival Day, Sunday, September 9!

Annual Youth Slideshow, Sunday, August 19
The Youth Committee invites you to the Annual Youth Slideshow! We will be showcasing photos from this past year, introducing our youth advisors, and highlighting the theme for 2019! We will have a covered dish dinner so we ask that if you plan on attending, please bring a dish to share. The Slideshow will be held at 6:00 p.m. in Calvin Hall on August 19th. Hope to see you there!
Summer Choir
Summer Choir resumes on **Sunday, August 5** with rehearsal at 9:00 a.m. If you enjoyed singing during June or wish you had taken that step, we welcome you with open arms as we continue Summer Choir during August. Every Sunday will be an All Sing Sunday. Please join us if you are in town! Rehearse the anthems for the day at 9:00 a.m. in the sanctuary and sing in worship at 10:00 a.m. It’s that simple!

Let’s SING!

Men of the Church Grasshopper’s Game
Don’t miss it — **Sunday, August 26**! We have reserved the Party Deck for the Greensboro Grasshoppers baseball game. The game begins at 4:00 p.m. and our third-base, open air suite offers an incredible view. We will have an all-you-can-eat picnic from 3:30-5:00 p.m. of hamburgers, hotdogs, chicken, baked beans, cole slaw, cookies, tea and lemonade. The total cost including your ticket and meal is $32. Call the church office (336-228-1703) or email (kseagroves@fpcburlington.org) to reserve your place.

Lunch Bunch Book Club
Lunch Bunch Book Club starts again on **Tuesday, September 11** at noon in Room 122. We will discuss *The Jekyll Island Club* by Brent Monahan. Even if you have not read the book, even if you have not come to Book Club before, bring your lunch and a friend for great fellowship! Contact Charlotte Allbright for more info 336-228-1703 x 223 or callbright@fpcburlington.org.

We Need Your “Hands” For a Congregational Project!
The Liturgical Arts Committee wants everyone, every age, to participate in the crafting of our banners for Stewardship season. Our hands tell so many stories of who we are, where we have been, what we have experienced, and how as a faith community we each contribute to the life of our church every day, in every way. Through gratitude to God for all God has given each of us, our hands tell a greater story when joined together.

You will be given many opportunities to trace and cut out your handprint, which will then be used to create our banners. The more “hands” the better! More details coming . . .

Thanks for participating! **The Liturgical Arts Guild**

Coming Soon in Adult Studies
We are continuing our Sunday morning Bible study at 9:00 a.m. in Room 203 using *Feasting on the Word*, so join us! Bring coffee and a friend!

Keep an eye out for the fall Adult Studies Brochure coming to your mailbox in August! For more info about Adult Studies, contact Charlotte Allbright, Director of Christian Education and Formation callbright@fpcburlington.org.

Save the Date: The Community of the Celtic Cross Luncheon
The Community of the Celtic Cross informational luncheon has been rescheduled to **Sunday, September 16** immediately following the 11:00 a.m. worship service. We hope you will join us! If you have questions or desire information prior to our luncheon, please call the church office. A member of the Foundation will be in touch with you.
Summer Preaching Series
A Vocabulary of Faith 2018 Summer Worship Series

This summer we are offering a sermon series called A Vocabulary of Faith. Each week we, one of your pastors, will focus on one of the words that we often use in our life of faith. Often we use these theological words and really don’t stop to consider what they really mean. We use them with the assumption that everyone knows what they mean and what the nuances are. Kathleen Norris, a best-selling poet and essayist, wrote a book a couple of decades ago now entitled, Amazing Grace: A Vocabulary of Faith. In the preface she writes,

When I began attending church again after 20 years away, I felt bombarded by the vocabulary of the Christian church. Words such as “Christ,” “heresy,” “repentance” and “salvation” seemed dauntingly abstract to me, even vaguely threatening. . . For reasons I did not comprehend, church seemed a place I needed to be. But in order to inhabit it, to claim it as mine, I had to rebuild my religious vocabulary. The words had to become real to me, in an existential sense.

August 5 — Holy — Rev. Lindsay Conrad
August 12 — Grace — Rev. Taylor Barner
August 19 — Judgement — Dr. Ron Shive
August 26 — Faith — Dr. Ron Shive

A Warm Welcome to Sarah Fiori, New Assistant Director for the First Presbyterian Child Development Center

Hi everyone! My name is Sarah Fiori and I am the new Assistant Director for the First Presbyterian Child Development Center.

I was born in Florida and lived in Upstate NY and Pennsylvania up until 2000, when I then moved to Summerfield, NC. I currently live in Gibsonville with my daughter Lia (3 years old), my sister and her two boys. We have two small dogs; Charlie and Bailey. In my spare time I enjoy shopping, spending time with my family, going to the park with my daughter and nephews, reading, listening to music (all types!) and writing.

I have 16 years experience working with children. Since 2007, after obtaining my Early Childhood Credentials in high school, I have been an early childhood education teacher. Over the past 11 years I have worked with all age groups, from infants to schoolagers. I graduated with my Bachelor’s degree in Human Services with a minor in Psychology from Greensboro College in 2013 and have over 25 hours in Early Childhood Administrative certification. I enjoy continuing my education and staying current in the education field, whether taking classes or attending trainings. In the near future I plan to go back to school to obtain my Master’s degree in Education and continue on my path in Early Childhood Education and making a difference in the lives of children!

Thank You to Christie Moser

On April 2, 2004, First Presbyterian Church of Burlington, NC hired Christie Moser as a Graphics Coordinator. Over the past 14 years, Christie has worked to advance the quality and scope of our in house publications. This includes the First Press, annual Stewardship material, Adult Studies Brochure, weekly bulletins, and more.

Christie also played an important role in publicizing via the website, electronic newsletters, state magazines, and local newspaper. These media outlets have been critical for the branding and representation of our church spirit, our activities, and our missions.

Christie has shared her talents and vision with honesty and energy.

Christie left our staff on July 13, 2018. We thank her immensely for the 14 years she has generously and creatively given First Presbyterian Church of Burlington.
2018 FPC Women’s Retreat —
Saturday, September 22, 2018

As women, we all have times when it feels as if we are treading water, swamped by waves, unable to find our way out of the sea. In those times, it is easy to question — “where is God?”, “does God know who I am?”, “what will happen to me?” In both Isaiah and John, we find scripture that gives us a life-line, the courage to find a way out of the waters. God names us and claims us, deems us precious in his sight, and through grace and mercy, brings us peace. Come explore what it means to “Take Heart,” to remember God’s promise to us and to live fully in God’s love and care.

Please mark your calendar and plan to join us for the 2018 FPC Women’s Retreat, to be held Saturday, September 22, 2018 at FPC. This restful, inspiring day will feature “Rest Stops” including Sacred Steps (labyrinth walk), Visio Divina, Stilling the Self (Yoga), Finding Your Voice, Receiving Grace through Humor, and more! Participants will also enjoy a delicious lunch and plenty of time for fellowship time with friends old and new. This wonderful event will be a day filled with worship opportunities, relaxing experiences, and chances to grow and learn more about your faith. Registration is $30 and includes lunch, morning refreshments and all materials.

Church women will receive a registration packet in the mail soon. You can also pick one up in the church office or visit http://www.fpcburlington.org/womensretreat/ to register online.

Presbyterian Women

Presbyterian Women Circles will start back on September 9, 10, and 11. If you are not currently a member of one of the four circles, we invite you to visit and/or join. Circles meet monthly September–May on Sunday night, Monday mornings and Tuesday night. Circles provide bible study, opportunities for local and international mission work, and a small environment for developing friendships.

Please consider exploring this activity at First Presbyterian Church. For more information, contact Vickie Whitaker, Vice Moderator for Presbyterian Women at 336-395-3194 or twitaker3.tw@gmail.com.

Also, the first Presbyterian Women’s Council Meeting will be held Monday, August 27 at 10:00 a.m. in room 222; the meeting has been moved due to the Labor Day Holiday.

SAVE the DATES:
Upcoming Presbyterian Women Events

• The Salem Presbytery Presbyterian Women Fall Gathering will be Saturday, September 22 at the North Wilkesboro Presbyterian Church from 8:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m. Registration information will be available soon.

• The Annual Presbyterian Women Meeting and Salad Supper at First Presbyterian will be held on Monday, September 24 in the John Knox room at 6:30 p.m. following a Memorial Service at 6 p.m. in Williams Chapel. More information will follow.

Women’s Conference at Montreat

One of the best conferences at Montreat! “Through the Valley” will be August 10–12, 2018 at the Montreat Conference Center. The 2018 Women’s Connection theme draws from Psalm 23, “Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff—they comfort me.” As a conference we will visit that place together, we will journey through the valleys, reflecting on the times when we have sensed God’s presence in our lives. We will also discover ways to cultivate God’s presence in our daily lives as we walk through the valleys (and on the mountaintops)! As a community we will faithfully proclaim, as the Psalmist does, that God is with us. The guest speaker this year is Kate Bowler, divinity professor, young mother, historian and author! Find out more about Kate and register for the conference: http://www.montreat.org/women/. Contact Charlotte Allbright if you need more information.
Children’s News
Backpack Blessings, Pool Party, and More!

Backpack Blessings — All children are invited to bring their backpacks with them to 10:00 a.m. worship on **Sunday, August 26** for Backpack Blessings. The children will receive a special blessing and a small gift from their church family to be a daily reminder of God’s presence and the love of their church family. Children — Come to faith formation (aka Sunday school) in Room 223 at 9:00 a.m. to make a special item for the Backpack Blessings! Hint — it involves coloring and ovens!

Pool Party for children and their families on **Sunday, August 12** at 5:30 p.m. at Olde Forest Racquet Club. The Vincent’s are our organizers (Thank you!!!). Please let them know you are coming via The Point Facebook group or email callbright@fpcburlington.org. New to the church? Have children infant through 5th grade? This is a great way to get to know some other folks! Come to the pool party!

Festival Day
Kick-off a new year at FPCB

September 9, 2018
8:30 & 11:00 am Worship
9:45 am Tail Gate Party
5:00 pm Fellowship Dinner
Furniture Ministry Newsletter

Exactly the right number of volunteers and trucks showed up on Saturday, July 14 to deliver to all ten families who were expecting furniture and to pick up donations from four families — all finished by noon! The new box truck was an enormous help, holding all the furniture for five different families at one time, four of whom lived in Graham.

More than 20 children were included in the ten families receiving much needed beds, bedding, furniture, dishes and pots and pans. One young mother of two precious toddlers — a one year old boy and a three year old girl — had been living in her apartment for six months with no furniture at all except air mattresses! The children ran from room to room trying out the new sofa, recliner and beds. An electric broom and a Swifter mop were included in the delivery, and the children eagerly jumped in trying to operate both. They were also thrilled to see their stack of books, courtesy of the work of Jim and Leah Johnson and others who make donations.

Three Elon football players provided invaluable muscle and enthusiasm — Ryan Whitehead, Jackson Parham and Malik Medley. They were impressed with the work of the ministry and had great poise and warmth with the families. Watch for these superb young men on the field this fall.

Many, many thanks to these FPC volunteers present on the 14th for their hard work, endless good humor and tireless dedication: Robert Boon, Barry Bradberry, Denese Byrd, Kent Byrd, Dick Cannon, Lindsay Conrad, Reid Dusenberry, Jo Feroe, Eddie Gant, Dan Hardie, Leslie Hardie, Jim Johnson, Phil Langley, Libby Lasley, Nan Perkins, Bruce Shields, Steve Wooten and Elizabeth Wooten.

The Furniture Ministry office hours are being reduced for the summer months or until we can secure more office volunteers. New hours:
- Mondays 1 p.m.-4 p.m.
- Tuesdays 9 a.m.-12 noon
- Thursdays 9 a.m.-12 noon

Please prayerfully consider whether you might be called to help in this ministry that is meeting such a great need in our community. The positions offer great flexibility (you work only when you can), great pay (the happiness of the clients we serve) and an unbeatable group of colleagues — your fellow FPC members.

Memories under the Steeple

During the early days of Charlie Williams’s ministry with us, he started inviting the children in the congregation to come to the front and to sit on the Chancel steps to witness the Sacrament of Baptism of infants. Also in 1980, the congregation saw the beautiful marble flooring in the Chancel for the first time in early December. This and the pew cushions were gifts from Rudy and Frances Fonville of our congregation.

In early 1981, our Session followed the General Assembly’s lead and approved admitting baptized children to the Lord’s Table. Classes were held for preparation of the children and their parents. In May 1981, the Hospice organization formed in Burlington. First Presbyterian Church provided space for the organization’s first office. Hospice later moved to larger permanent facilities.

During this same year, plans to replace the Chapel organ were announced. The new Andover organ that replaced it was a gift from Mr. and Mrs. Frank S. Holt, Sr.

After several years of testing and investigating, a new Sanctuary sound system was installed in December 1982. Over time, various modifications were made, including the use of cordless microphones by the worship leaders. For many years, the Diaconate managed the system for Sanctuary services through its Offering and Sound Committee.
The Storm with No Name

The First Presbyterian team (Emily Carrouth, Charlotte Edens, Paul Reeves, Henry Carrouth, Dick Cannon) departed on July 17 bound for hot and humid Baton Rouge, LA. Our goal — help with rebuilding flooded homes from the August, 2016 storm — not a hurricane, hence the title.

The rain fell beginning Thursday, August 11 with some areas receiving three inches per hour through Friday morning. Much of the area within 48 hours, received over two feet of rain. Two years later, many are still recovering and rebuilding their homes.

We worked with the St. Bernard Project (SBP) group — a long term disaster recovery non-profit. This group along with the Americorps (similar to the Peace Corps but only works within the US) organization are coordinating the rebuild. Our assignment landed us at the home of Barbara Rando on Monhegan Ave. The flood filled her home with five feet of water — so everything from the five foot mark down to the concrete slab had to be replaced. Our site supervisor, Steve, introduced us to the house and we began on July 18.

The team finished laying the tile floor and hanging the sheet rock in the master bath. We also sanded the sheet rock in the laundry room and kitchen and applied a second coat of “mud” on these areas. We completed a fix to the sheet rock around two different windows. We also cleaned one of the “beams” in the family room that accumulated some over spray from when the walls were “textured.”

Our outstanding accommodations were courtesy of University Presbyterian Church, Baton Rouge. They have dedicated a section of their building to house volunteers (room for 20–22 beds) for as long as this rebuild lasts. Pastor Patti Snyder, hostess Eleanor Canon and others have worked above and beyond to create a “home” for volunteers.

You may be asking — With the storm occurring two years ago, why go? — The answer is more than “to help people.” It goes deeper than that. As a volunteer, you feel a “connection” with folks that you have not met and may never meet again. For three days we were “family” with Barbara. Zack Rosenburg, the SBP co-founder helps us understand “…SBP has long believed that community is not defined by proximity.”

That is why SBP and University Presbyterian continue with their efforts. In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus states “Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.” Will you join us for the next trip to Baton Rouge?

Dick Cannon

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Church Finances

June Financial Statement

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<th>Monthly Budget</th>
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| **Expenditures**     |           |                |            |            |             |
| **Net Total**        | $107,034.98| $105,570.86    | $625,138.28| $633,425.16| $1,266,850.00|

$22,488.60

If you should have any questions regarding the Financial Statement, please contact Tom McGowen, Jr, Church Treasurer, tmcgowen@ssmkllp.com or LaRae Bolick, Church Business Administrator, lbolick@fpcburlington.org in the church office.
**Summer Sundays**  August 2018

- 9:00-9:45 a.m. Adult Studies — Room 203
- 9:00-9:45 a.m. Children Faith Formation — BibleMax
- 9:00 a.m. Summer Choir Rehearsal — Sanctuary
- 9:45 a.m. Session meets for prayer — Board Room
- 9:45 a.m. Coffee Fellowship — Welcome Center
- 10:00 a.m. Worship — Sanctuary
- 11:00 a.m. Lemonade in the Garden —
  Mary Helen Long Garden