Of our numerous blessings, consider one of the biggest we all share — the gift of our church. Think of all we receive through FPC-Burlington, including opportunities to worship, grow, learn, teach, share, serve and give.

October is a special month because it is the season of stewardship. Your 2019 stewardship pledge is an act of gratitude — a recognition of bestowed blessings. Your generosity is also what allows FPC to continue its missions and ministries that provide for our church family, our community, and beyond.

Sunday, October 28 will be a day of gratitude and dedication. We will worship at the usual times (8:30 and 11:00 a.m.) and during those services we will dedicate our pledges for the coming year. At 9:30 a.m., (note — no Sunday School on this day), we will celebrate the blessings that have provided for us and our ministries this year. Please join your church family in Calvin Hall for a special brunch. All ages are welcome. Donations will be accepted to cover the cost.

Kindly let the church office know if you will be attending the brunch on Sunday, October 28 — 336-228-1703 or RSVP on the church website, www.fpcburlington.org.

Choosing Gratitude as a Way of Life ...

Learn to count your many blessings,
Though this may be hard to do,
Because the numbers are so many,
To bring them all into your view.

Think on the many pluses in life,
That God has been sending your way,
So thank God with a grateful heart
Give additional praise each day.

The Bible says to give God thanks,
In Ephesians five, verse twenty,
So do your math, continue to count,
God’s blessings that are so plenty.

— Vivien Wade
Upcoming Events!

FPP Fall Consignment Sale
First Presbyterian Playschool’s semi-annual Children’s Consignment Sale is on **Friday, October 5 from 8:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m. and Saturday, October 6, 8:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.** (mainly items 1/2 price) in Calvin Hall. Find gently used, like new Fall/Winter children’s clothing up to size 16, toys, books, shoes, baby equipment & gear, room decor, maternity and so much more!

Alamance County Crop Hunger Walk
**Saturday, October 6.** Holly Hill Mall (Rear Parking Area), Burlington, NC, 8:30 a.m. registration, 9:00 a.m. walk time. The route is 5 kilometers. 1-mile miniwalk also available. Our middle schoolers are the official church sponsored walkers but anyone is welcome to walk with them! Pre-register and/or donate at www.crophungerwalk.org/burlingtonnc.

Men of the Church Oyster Roast & BBQ
We will gather on **Saturday, October 20, at Hugh Cummings’s Farm (2609 Pitts Road, Elon) at 5:00 p.m.** to watch college football and at 6:00 p.m. enjoy Hugh Cumming’s steamed oysters and Phil Langley’s BBQ. We will conclude the evening around 7:30 p.m. Bring a pair of gloves and shucking knife if you have one. You will greatly enjoy the time together and can’t beat the cost — $10 for oysters, BBQ, and beer and soft drinks! If you have questions, call Jerry Bailey (336-213-1942) or Hugh Cummings (336-260-8071). Call the church office (336-228-1703) to make your reservation.

The Community of the Celtic Cross Luncheon Rescheduled
Because of the uncertain path of Hurricane Florence, the Community of the Celtic Cross Luncheon was postponed. You are invited to an informational lunch on the rescheduled date of **Sunday, October 21 at noon** in the Witherspoon Room. Please email (kseagroves@fpcburlington.org) or call (336-228-1703) if you are able to join us.

American Red Cross Memorial Bloodmobile, Monday, October 29 in Calvin Hall
The American Red Cross is planning to hold the Harold and Barbara Lloyd Memorial Bloodmobile on **Monday, October 29 in Calvin Hall from 2:30–7:00 p.m.** Many members may remember the Lloyds and their dedication to the Red Cross. He organized a number of blood drives at FPC and

(Blood Drive continued)
Barbara Lloyd was a faithful Red Cross volunteer for many years.

Donor registration is now available. To schedule an appointment go to www.redcross.org and use the sponsor code FPC Burlington. If you need assistance or information you may contact Lucy Kernodle, Site Coordinator, at lkernodle@bellsouth.net. Please schedule your appointment as soon as possible so you will get the time you want. The site, www.redcrossblood.org also gives information about guidelines about who may donate blood and what to expect as a blood donor.

A new tool, RapidPass enables donors to complete pre-reading and questions online on the day of the blood drive reducing their onsite registration time by 15 minutes. Visit www.redcrossblood.org/RapidPass to get your pass on October 29. RapidPass does not take the place of scheduling an appointment.

Needs for Trunk or Treat and Fall Festival
It is almost time! **Sunday, October 28 from 5:00–7:00 p.m.** we will hold our annual Trunk or Treat and Fall Festival in the church parking lot (Maple St. side). This year we will add a hayride and bouncy houses to our fun activities!

We need YOU to:
- **Be a trunk for treating.** Give candy/prizes/treats to all the little ghouls and battys that come by. Last year we had a lot of children from the community stop by, so this year we need MORE CARS and MORE CANDY/TREATS.
- **Donate candy/treats/prizes.** If you cannot bring your car, but would like to donate candy/treats/prizes, please drop off your donations in the box located in the Welcome Center or Charlotte Allbright’s office.
- **Donate cupcakes, pies, cakes for the Cupcake Walk.** These donations can be put in the church kitchen on October 28 with a note that says “Trunk Treat.”

Please contact Charlotte Allbright if you need more information and to say you’ll be a trunk for treating! 336-228-1703 x 223 or callbright@fpcburlington.org.
Zambia Mission Team — Join Us!
A mission trip to Zambia is scheduled for **June 18–30, 2020**. This fall we are looking for folks interested in being part of the TEAM! This could mean: you are interested in Africa, you might want to travel there, you can only offer ground support at this time, or you would like to invest in this mission in some way. This team will prayerfully coordinate with mission co-workers Charles and Melissa Johnson to plan their trip to Lundazi, raise money and awareness, and learn about this partnership. If you are interested in being a part of this fabulous team, please contact the Rev. Lindsay Conrad at Lconrad@fpcburlington.org!

Peru Mission Team — Join Us!
A mission trip to Peru has been scheduled for **July 11–19, 2019**. We are seeking team members to help plan the trip in partnership with Miriam Laura at PERUSA, and our friends at Annie Soper School. Please consider joining this team if you can support in Peru or on the ground as we learn, discern, and serve! Contact the Rev. Lindsay Conrad at Lconrad@fpcburlington.org if you are interested.

Help Needed with Advent Festival
Do you consider yourself an artist? Do you have a craft you do well? Do you love the children of this congregation? Then, I need your help with the Advent Festival that will be held on December 2. I have a theme in mind, but I need folks who know pottery, paper folding, hot-gluing, metal working, cookie making, felt-cutting, painting, and more. Please contact me at 336-228-1703 x 223 or callbright@fpcburlington.org if you feel God calling you to serve in this way! Peace! Charlotte Allbright

Art Exhibit —
**I Dare To Imagine Beyond Here**
Kids can’t dream about what they don’t know about. This exhibit brings the challenges and experiences of a variety of local folks to the forefront to be real life examples of passion and perseverance. So whether you are planning your first venture or your fiftieth, this exhibit will inspire your own creativity and originality. Join us as we honor the uniqueness of the individual to model for our youth how to dream beyond where they are today.
On display now in the Black and White hall.

Big Festival Day Thank You!
Thank you to all the ministry leaders who set up tables for the Festival Day Tail Gate Party! It was a success because of your commitment to the ministry that God has called you to. So many people told me how much they enjoyed the time to get to know what was happening in the life of FPCB. Many of you told me that people signed up to join the mission of your ministry area. And...Ann Carter won the drawing for the giftcard from the Adult Studies Committee!

Thanks to all the youth, parents, and advisors who helped make the fellowship dinner so inviting! Even though we had to move inside with the iffy weather, it was a wonderful time to gather, eat yummy food, play games in the cool breeze outside, and enjoy the live entertainment. Willy Fisher — you rocked the mic! Thank you!

And no fear — the bouncy houses and dunking booth will make their appearance on October 28 for our Trunk or Treat and Fall Festival!

I appreciate you and thank God for you!
Charlotte Allbright
Fall Adult Studies

Adult Studies is an opportunity for faith formation and transformation offered by FPCB. Our hope is to foster lifelong spiritual growth for our congregation and our community. The Adult Studies Committee invites you to make a commitment to Christian formation. Here are some of the many opportunities offered this fall. Pick one (or more) and join the journey. Contact Charlotte Allbright, Director of Christian Education and Formation, for more information (336)228-1703 x 223 or callbright@fpcburlington.org.

508 Partnership Discussions of African American Poetry
Thursdays, October 4, 11, 18, & 25, 12-1:00 p.m., Led by Homer Ashby, Harry Brown, and Vickie Morrow
Join us as we discuss selected poems by Langston Hughes, Imamu Amiri Baraka (LeRoi Jones), Gwendolyn Brooks, and Lucille Clifton. Our textbook is The Black Poets, ed. Dudley Randall. Date/Location:
• Oct. 4 First Baptist Church Annex, Apple St.
• Oct. 11 First Presbyterian Church
• Oct. 18 First Baptist Church Annex, Apple St.
• Oct. 25 First Presbyterian Church
Contact Charlotte Allbright at 336-228-1703 x 223 or callbright@fpcburlington.org for more information.

Choosing Gratitude as a Way of Life — All Adult Education
Sundays, October 7, 14, 21, 9:45 a.m. in Witherspoon, Led by the Pastors
It has been said that “to choose gratitude is a wonderful way to life!” In reality, it is the only way to life — to the abundant life Christ dreams for us. Each of us has been blessed or graced in so many ways — the people we love, our families, health, community of faith, country, heritage, gifts, and skills. These are gifts that are given to us — not something we earned. At the end of the day, blessings can only be given or received — and thus the only appropriate response is gratitude. Karl Barth says, “Grace and gratitude belong...
Fall Adult Studies

coming in November...

Exploring Short Stories by Jesus
Sundays, November 4, 11 & 18, 9:45 a.m., John Knox Room
Led by the Rev. Amanda Anderson
Jesus understood the importance of metaphor and story-telling, and the parables found in the gospels continue to speak to us today. They call us to discuss, wrestle, and grow. Join us on Sunday mornings in November to explore several of Jesus’ parables, including the parable of the mustard seed (Mark 4:30–32), the “lost” parables of Luke 15, the parable of the laborers in the vineyard (Matthew 20:1–16), and the parable of the good Samaritan (Luke 10:25–37). (Resource: Short Stories by Jesus by Amy Jill-Levine).

Positive Parenting Course
Sundays, November 4, 11 & 18, 9:45 a.m. in Room 201,
Led by Triple P Parenting
Power of Positive Parenting, Raising Resilient Children,
Class choice from a variety of parenting topics.

Happy Anniversary to
Linda and Dick Fisher!
Linda and Dick will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary this month on October 19. They were married in 1968 at First Presbyterian Church in Raleigh, NC by the Rev. Bill McCorkle. Dick left for Vietnam about five weeks later.

To our many friends at
First Presbyterian Church:

We wish to thank you all for your prayers, love, cards and food. Your support for us has been greatly appreciated, as are your many gifts to the Furniture Ministry in Barbara’s memory.

Sincerely,
Jon and Roger Rasch
Outreach

Presbyterian Women — Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Project

Presbyterian Women, the women’s organization of our church, is once again participating in Samaritan’s Purse, Operation Christmas Child Shoebox project. The mission of Operation Christmas Child is to demonstrate God’s love to needy children around the world, and together with the local church worldwide, to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. This year our packing party will be held on **November 11 at 4:00 p.m. in the Witherspoon Room.** Our goal for 2018 is to prepare at least 200 shoeboxes. We hope that you will consider helping us meet this goal. In preparation for our packing event, we would like to encourage you to begin collecting items for the boxes. Please note that we are not allowed to include candy and toothpaste in the boxes, as well as the usual restrictions such as food, liquids, or any war-related items such as toy guns, soldiers, etc. Items especially needed for boxes include hygiene supplies such as washcloths, combs, and toothbrushes; school supplies such as pencils, markers, paper and crayons; and small toys such as balls, dolls and toy cars. Also please keep in mind that often the oldest and youngest children are the ones who are overlooked. Please consider collecting items for these age groups as you shop. These may include items such as small stuffed animals, lip balm, tote bags, flashlights, solar calculators, watches, index cards, sewing kits, real tools, play dough, stickers and glue sticks. In the month of October, we will place boxes in the Black and White Hall and in the work room if you would like to drop off items at the church. Of course, if you would like to pack your own complete shoebox, that is wonderful and most appreciated. Good places to look for inexpensive items for the boxes are Wal-Mart, Target, and the Dollar Stores. If you have questions about the Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Project at our church, please contact Catherine Matthews or Shelley Lassiter.

Presbyterian Women FPC Circle Meetings — October 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Circle #</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Hostesses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>10/14</td>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
<td>John Knox Room</td>
<td>Wanda Jordan &amp; Catherine Stewart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>10/8</td>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>3122 Truitt Drive</td>
<td>Ann Carter &amp; Leah Johnson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>10/8</td>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>1880 Brookwood Ave. Apt. 105</td>
<td>Agnes Yount</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>10/9</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>John Knox Room</td>
<td>Shelley Lassiter &amp; Julie Monroe</td>
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Furniture Ministry News

It was really hot and really humid Saturday morning, September Eighth, but even so, 20 wonderful volunteers turned out to deliver furniture to happy and grateful families. The fourteen church members who came ready to haul mattresses, bed frames, sofas, and other items were ably assisted by six members of the Elon University basketball team who seemed to enjoy themselves immensely. They also enjoyed Jo Feroe’s doughnuts. We were also able to pick up furniture donations from four thoughtful and generous people. We were able to help 11 families in addition to the two families who came to pick up their furniture at the Furniture Ministry warehouse. There are now twenty children whose lives will be much happier because they will have beds with fresh, clean sheets and comforters because of the kind donors and the hardworking volunteers who do the laundry, sort, fold, and package the linens. They will have new pajamas, tooth brushes, and underwear because of Bobbie Pate and Peg’s PJs. Many of the children will have nice dishes, glassware, and utensils for the first time. They will be able to eat together with their families at a kitchen table. They will have dressers where they can store their clothes. They will even have books to read because of Jim and Leah Johnson.

A big thank you to the following church members who came to help: Elizabeth Bailey, Denese Byrd, Kent Byrd, Dick Cannon, Bob Carter, Libby Conde, Reid Dusenberry, Dick Fisher, Eddie Gant, Gary Garrison, Ron Joyce, Phil Langley, Jo Feroe, Libby Lasley, and Steve Wooten, and to the following from the Elon basketball team: Bryson Gibson, Simon Wright, Chuck Hannah, Maxwell Chester, Nathan Priddy, and James DiBias.

We invite you to get involved with this important ministry. If you want more information, call the Furniture Ministry at 336-212-2937. There are many jobs to do and not nearly enough volunteers to get it all done. Our next delivery day is October 13th beginning at 9:00 AM. You might get sweaty, but you will have a lot of fun.
Session Digest for September 2018

The September Stated Meeting of the Session of First Presbyterian was held on September 16, 2018.

The Financial Reports for April 2018 were reviewed. Income has improved over the past month, and expenses are in-line with the Budget.

Stephanie Williams gave an update from the Gratitude and Generosity Committee’s plans for this year’s campaign. Stewardship Sunday will be October 28, 2018.

Eddie Gant presented and the Session approved a new pay and benefit plan for the non-ordained staff without contracts.

The Partners in Mission Committee asked for approval of the Peru Teacher Exchange dates of June 20-July 19, 2019 and the annual Peru Mission Trip for July 11-19, 2019. Both dates were approved by the Session. They also approved the plan for a Mission Trip to Africa in May of 2020.

The Playschool Committee reported that the Annual Consignment Sale will be held on October 4-5th.

Church Finances — August Financial Statement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Aug 2018</th>
<th>Monthly Budget</th>
<th>YTD Actual</th>
<th>YTD Budget</th>
<th>2018 Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Revenues</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pledges</td>
<td>$92,361.77</td>
<td>$97,083.33</td>
<td>$667,463.23</td>
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<td>Pre-Paid Pledges (Pro-rated)</td>
<td>5,603.62</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>44,828.91</td>
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<td>Prior Year Pledge</td>
<td>55.00</td>
<td>916.67</td>
<td>9,335.00</td>
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<td>Prior Year Surplus</td>
<td>3,160.00</td>
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<td>25,280.00</td>
<td>25,280.00</td>
<td>37,920.00</td>
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<td>Misc. Income</td>
<td>5,163.83</td>
<td>4,410.83</td>
<td>39,236.58</td>
<td>35,286.64</td>
<td>52,930.00</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>$106,344.22</td>
<td>$105,570.83</td>
<td>$786,143.72</td>
<td>$844,566.64</td>
<td>$1,266,850.00</td>
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| **Expenditures** |     |                |             |             |             |
| **Net Total**    | $82,712.18 | $105,570.86   | $804,456.92 | $844,566.88 | $1,266,850.00 |
| **Net Total**    | $23,632.04  | ($0.03)       | ($18,313.20)| ($0.24)     |             |

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.
Memories Under the Steeple

Frances and David Hopkins, retired missionaries to Brazil, joined our church when they moved to Burlington. They had been appointed to serve in Brazil in 1948, which they did very faithfully until their retirement 29 years later in 1977. Mr. Hopkins served as our Building Superintendent for several years. They remained active in our church until their passing, David in 1980 and Frances in 1984. In the Spring of 1984, we were happy to be visited by Hope and Frank Arnold, our special friends who began their missionary service in northern Brazil in 1963. During their furlough here, the Arnolds acquainted the adult and youth groups with mission work in Latin America.

A special tradition during the Christmas season is the Chrismon Tree in the sanctuary. The tradition was started in 1967, and it reminds us of the meaning of Christmas through use of the Christian symbols. Along with these symbols, the tree is always draped with enough white lights to have each family represented by its own light. Another very special Christmas tradition that was continued in our church is the annual Service of Nine Lessons and Carols. It was modeled after the one presented annually at King’s College in Cambridge, England since 1918. Our service was begun in 1962.