



October 24, 2022



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SANFORD

## First Word

*“To live by faith, to be known by love, and to be a voice of hope.”*

From the Desk...

Dear First Presbyterian Church Family,

I am fortunate enough to have the opportunity to write the letter once again for First Word. It may be a difficult subject, but one we've had to all and will all have to face throughout our lives, grief... Webster defines grief as a deep poignant distress caused by bereavement. Another definition is deep sorrow, especially caused by someone's death. And finally, the Greek word for grief is *penthos* meaning sorrow, grief, mourning or sadness.

Unfortunately, I've thought a lot about this word lately. The week we hosted the Presbytery of Coastal Carolina I had to squeeze in a visit to the beautiful mountains of West Jefferson. Not to enjoy the changing leaves, beautiful sights, and relaxing surroundings, but to attend the funeral of one of my best friends' sons. It was so sudden and unexpected, and very sad. Everyone says we shouldn't have to bury our children, but far too often parents are faced with this horrible task.

As I sat in the tiny country church and watched my friend sobbing uncontrollably, I felt helpless. How on earth was I going to be of any comfort to her? What could I possibly say to ease her grief? I was supposed to stay another night, but I knew my friend was in no condition to host anyone after the funeral, so upon my return to the tiny house I rented, I found myself hurriedly packing up my things and racing home. I needed to hold my son and daughter close, I needed to thank and praise God for them, I needed to beg God never to make me go through what my friend just had to. I needed to be with my family. I also needed my Church Family.

We are so fortunate to have each other. Where so many bring comfort and peace at our times of loss. Always there with a hug, an open ear, a card, a meal, a phone call... We are a loving, caring family, and I am truly blessed to be a part of it. May God bless and keep all of us as we deal with grief. Thank you, Lord, for our First Presbyterian Church Family!

God Bless and Much Love,

Michele

Philippians 4:7 *“And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.”*





10/24: Wendell McGee  
 10/25: Kay Faucette  
 Mary Alice Holmes  
 10/28: Cynthia Philpott  
 10/29: Jacob Kimble

This week's walking track volunteers:

10/24-Charles LaRue  
 10/25-Jim and Laurie Lee  
 10/26-Don Wazenegger  
 10/27-Sharon Parks  
 10/28-Gary Walker



**Church Calendar for October 2022**

Throughout the month of October we will be holding our Youth Envelope Fundraiser

Friday, October 28th 6:30-8 pm – Pumpkins and Pizza

Saturday, October 29th 6:30-8pm – Pumpkin Trail

Sunday, October 30th - One outdoor service at 10 am behind the Harper Center

Deacon Lunch/Meeting/Training from 12-2 pm

Monday, October 31st—Deadline for envelopes to be turned in for Youth Envelope Fundraiser!!!

**This Weeks Calendar**

**Monday 10/24:**  
 9AM-12PM: Walking Track  
 5:30 PM: Contemporary Choir Rehearsal  
 6:30 PM: Traditional Choir Rehearsal

**Tuesday 10/25:**  
 9AM-12PM: Walking Track  
 10AM: Bible Study  
 6PM: Yoga in the Harper Center

**Wednesday 10/26: *Submissions due for next newsletter and next bulletin***  
 9AM-12PM: Walking Track  
 10AM: CDC Devotion  
 12PM: Staff Meeting  
 7PM: Prayer Group

**Thursday 10/27:**  
 9AM-12PM: Walking Track

**Friday 10/28:**  
 9AM-12PM: Walking Track  
 6:30-8PM: Pizza and Pumpkins

**Saturday 10/29:**  
 6-8PM: Pumpkin Trail

**Sunday 10/30:**  
 10AM: Outdoor Worship  
 12-2PM: Deacon Meeting/Training  
 No Youth Meeting

**OUR PRAYER LIST**

**Parkview:** Irma Autrey, Paul Kelly, Rexine Lloyd

**Universal Health Care/Lillington:** Betty Lou Bristow

**Home or with family:** Sonny Talbot; Jean Perry; Cathy Johnson; Don Suddarth; Bruce Benton; Ann Barkley; Emily Kelly; Terri Palmer

**Our Friends & Family:** Tiffany Scott Heron (Donna McClune's niece); Michael McClune (Donna McClune's son); James Cox; Billy Boaz; Jamey Allen (Harold James' sister); Phyllis Moore; Carolyn Herring (Bunny Paderick's niece); Greg Horrell (Bunny Paderick's brother-in-law); Richard Angel (Pat Angel's husband); Marci Hudzik; Dennis Parnell (friend of David Vann); Emily Heeseman (Samantha Morgan's friend and college roommate); Heather Wicker; Carla Bailey; Joanna Dempsey; Michelle Hendley Leonhardt (Daughter of Mike and Peggy Hendley)

**Offering Counters Schedule - October 2022**

Week 1 (10/2) Joan Bland and Julie Lemon, Week 2 (10/9) John Garris and Daryl Perry, Week 3 (10/16) Samantha Jeffries and Don Wazenegger, Week 4 (10/23) Rhonda Miller, Week 5 (10/30) Joan Bland and Julie Lemon

**The Lay Readers for September** are Jimmy Pearce for the 9am service and Sally Chapin and Wanda Wazenegger for the 11:00 am service.

# FPC Youth News

## Fall/Winter Youth Schedule

### October

- 28<sup>th</sup> – Pizza and Pumpkins in the Harper Center 6:30-8pm
- 29<sup>th</sup> – No Youth (Please plan to attend the Pumpkin Trail on 10/29 6:30-8pm)

### November

- 6<sup>th</sup> – No Youth (Spaghetti Meal Fundraiser 12pm in the Harper Center)
- 13<sup>th</sup> – Meet at the Church 5-6:30pm
- 20<sup>th</sup> – Meet at the Church 5-6:30pm
- 27<sup>th</sup> – No Youth (Thanksgiving)

### December

- 4<sup>th</sup> – Dinner/Caroling 5-6:30pm
- 11<sup>th</sup> – Youth Christmas Party 5-6:30pm
- 18<sup>th</sup> – Meet at the Church 5-6:30pm
- 25<sup>th</sup> – No Youth (Christmas)

*\*If anyone needs a ride to any of our Youth Meetings, please let Michele know, 919-935-2089.*



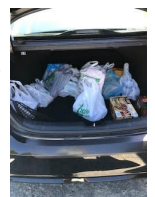
The Deadline for our Youth Envelope Fundraiser is approaching fast and we still have several envelopes on the table in the Colonnade. Remember, your donation goes towards youth retreats and activities throughout the year, and we need your support. Thank you so much, and God Bless!



**Attention Deacons:** On Sunday, October 30th from 12-2pm we will have an in-person meeting after the outdoor service. Please come enjoy lunch, learning about deacon related commitments, ushering training, transition of shepherding groups, and election of Chair and Co-Chair. Please plan to attend and enjoy our time of food and fellowship.



October Fill the Trunk Pictures from the congregational collection and the Presbytery collection. Jan Boydston will be collecting canned goods on Thursday, November 3rd from 10am-12pm to deliver to CUOC.





# JOIN US FOR PIZZA AND PUMPKINS CARVING PARTY

Friday, October 28th 6:30pm

First Presbyterian/Harper Center

Sign up by calling the church office  
or using Sign-up genius link in First Word.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090948aeab2ea64-pizza1>

The following donations are needed as soon as possible to make this fun event as successful as possible:

- Candy
- Monetary Donations
- Votive or Tea Light Candles  
(Accepted 10/1—10/23)
- Uncarved Pumpkins to be delivered to the Harper Center  
(Accepted 10/23—10/28)
- Carved Pumpkins to be delivered to the Harper Center  
(Accepted 10/26—10/28)



**ATTENTION:** We need 50 dozen cookies baked and bagged in groups of 3 to give out to children the night of the Pumpkin Trail. Drop off the week of the 23rd—27th.



## Pumpkin Trail

First Presbyterian Church  
203 Hawkins Ave., Sanford, NC  
6:30 - 8 pm, Saturday, October 29, 2022

Join us for treats as you travel the pumpkin trail. Kid friendly and all activities are free!