



# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rocky Mount

## *First Pres News*

**July 2023**

153 N. Church Street  
Rocky Mount, NC 27804  
[www.fpcrm.org](http://www.fpcrm.org)  
252-446-9121

Dear Friends,

June was quite the exciting month! We celebrated a successful VBS with our fellow Rocky Mount churches. We had an amazing demolition day with Building Shalom. We began our summer sermon series as we walk together through the Bible. And, most importantly, Hannah and Jake welcomed their son, Callum, into the world! What a wonderful month of service, worship, and celebration.

This July our youth will be taking part in Gatekeepers, working for a week serving our community with bright spirits and youthful energy. The following week, our youth are headed to Montreat for a week of worship, fun, and reflection on God's abounding love for all people. I hope you get a chance to talk to one or more of our youth about their summer opportunities.

Around the church, we are looking toward fall and making plans for Rally Day, Stewardship Sunday, fall programming, and more fun and exciting ways to fellowship with one another. We're doing a little summer cleaning of different areas around the church and education building. There is a hopeful feeling in the air as we move through the quietness of summer into the bustle of autumn.

I pray that your summer months are filled with joy and laughter. Our God is a God of abundant joy, so I hope that you are able to experience that in your celebrations and festivities. May God's riches blessings be with you all this season!

With love and gratitude,  
Matt

*Pastor:* The Rev. Matthew Baker

*Community Pastor:* The Rev. Hannah Trawick

*Church Ministry Coordinator:* Dionne Seale

*Financial Secretary:* Jeanne T. Shannon

*Director of Music:* Jim Smith

*Organist:* Virginia Vance

*Sexton:* Michael Smith

*Assistant Sexton & Nursery Attendant:* Charity Lodge

*Nursery Attendant:* Mary Hilliard

## News From Your Community Pastor



Callum "Cal" David Coltrane

Born June 9, 2023

Proud parents: Hannah Trawick and Jake Coltrane

Welcome to the world Cal—You are loved!



## MAKES CENTS

Please review the below church income and expense data for the month shown. The prior month is not available as of the newsletter print date.

Please call or email Jeanne Shannon in the church office with any questions.

### Pledges and Loose Offering through May 2023

Month – to – date \$ 37,290.00

Year – to – date \$ 322,090.11

### Expenses through May 2023

Month – to – date \$ 42,602.73

Year – to – date \$ 275,254.51



Church office phone 252.446.9121

Jeanne's email [jeanne.shannon@fpcrm.org](mailto:jeanne.shannon@fpcrm.org)

Jeanne's office hours are Monday thru Thursday from 8:30-2:30



### DEACONS

No July meeting

### SESSION

No July meeting



# HAPPY 4TH OF JULY!

The church office will be closed  
Tuesday, July 4, 2023.



## ways to serve!



On May 16 and 17, an on-site management, occupancy, and limited fair housing review of Covenant Homes was conducted by a HUD representative. The results of this review was once again a SUPERIOR rating.

Special thanks to Debbie Morris, administrator, and her staff Ashley, Nickie, Liz and Ed for their long hours of preparation and hard work in continuing to make Covenant Homes such a wonderful place for our seniors to live.



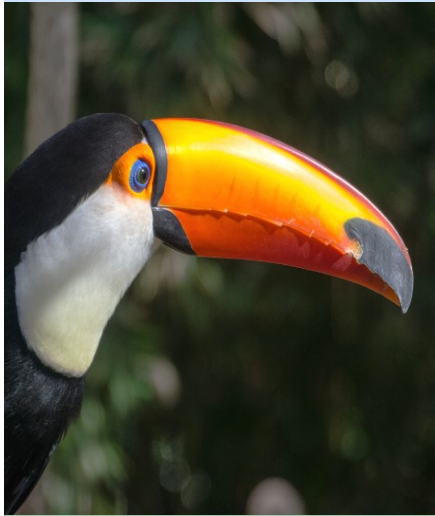
Volunteers are needed for each Mobile Market location. If you are interested and available, please contact Mike Avery at [mike@riperevival.com](mailto:mike@riperevival.com). They are looking for folks to greet the shoppers, help with the check-out process, or whip up a delicious taste test dish on the cooking cart!

### Building Shalom Work Day June 10, 2023



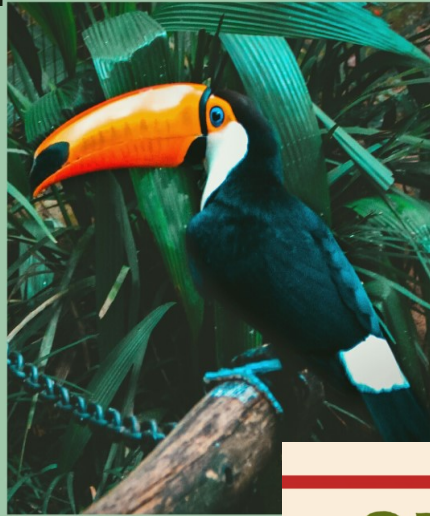
Laura & David Dudley's grandsons, Caden and Mason, elected to deliver their VBS "give" envelopes in person to Mike Avery at Ripe Revival!



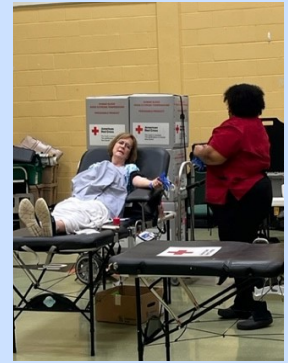


Two-Can  
Sundays  
(bring 2 cans to  
church)

The PW Circle of Joyful Friends is sponsoring a summer project to benefit the food pantry at United Community Ministries. Bring two cans of food to designated boxes in the church narthex or volunteer office June-August or make a monetary donation payable to PW with UCM food pantry noted on the memo line.



Red Cross Blood Drive  
May 30, 2023



PW Donation to Southside Academy  
June 15, 2023

# SNACK DRIVE

APPROXIMATELY 10,000 SNACKS NEEDED

**FREEDOM SCHOOL  
2023**

Peacemakers is asking local community partners to donate individually-wrapped:

Chips • Goldfish • Pretzels • Veggie Straws • Cheese Sticks  
Oatmeal Pies • Poptarts • Granola Bars • Nutri Grain Bars  
Cheeze Its • Snack Crackers • Fruit Cups • Pudding Cups •  
Applesauce Cups • Cookies • Juice Boxes • Water Bottles

For more information call us 252.212.5044  
[www.rockymountpeacemakers.org](http://www.rockymountpeacemakers.org)







Vacation  
Bible  
School  
June 12-16, 2023

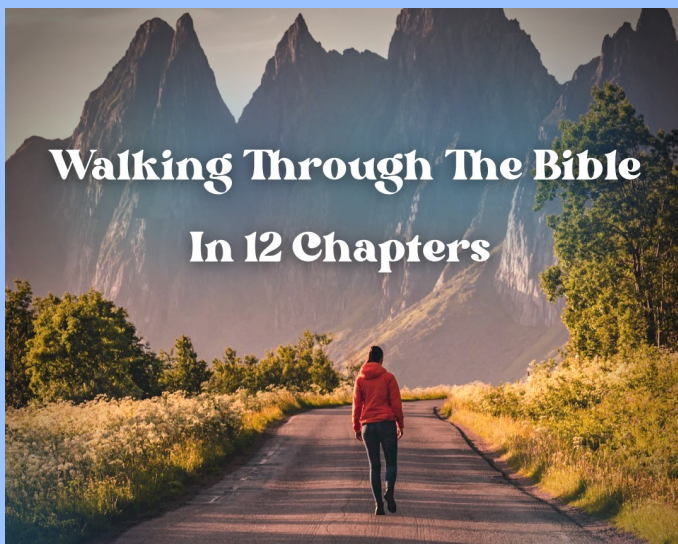




## WORSHIP HELPERS

*"Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received." 1 Peter 4:10*

Date	Ushers	Time with Children
July 2	Tricia Vestal, Linda Evans, Randy Evans, Bobbie Lambeth	Matt Baker
July 9	Betsy McLean, John Feagans, David Snow, Jami Snow	Preston Smith
July 16	Laura Dudley, David Dudley, Jim Woodard, Vince Durham	Matt Baker
July 23	Laura Durham, John Turnage, Russell Proctor, Nancy Proctor	Matt Baker
July 30	Katherine Fisher, Janice Smith, Stephen Chesnutt, Chris Watson	Matt Baker



*At right is the time line for our summer sermon series*

### TIMELINE





## Presbyterian Women Update

It's summertime! And let's face it, the warm weather makes us want to sit back, relax, and take it easy. But, let's not. Instead, let's get up, go, and participate. Through worship, fellowship, and service we can stay connected with each other and God.

Even though the Circle and the Coordinating Team do not meet during the summer, the PW is always involved and actively supports our church family and community with their hearts and hands. For example, the Circle recently contributed and delivered snacks to Southside Academy and the PW donated snacks to the Freedom School at Peacemakers. And don't forget Building Shalom and the Circle's "Two-Can Sunday" summer project! Look in the newsletter and weekly updates for details.

Please also note the study books and cds have been ordered for the upcoming Bible study beginning in September: Sacred Encounters - the Power and Presence of Jesus.

And finally, congratulations to Kay Wester and Bobbie Lambeth for being selected as the 2023 Honorary Life Members of the Presbyterian Women.

**\*\*The PWCT will meet September 11th**

**\*\*The Fall Kickoff and Circle of Joyful Friends is scheduled for September 12th**

### **PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN COORDINATING TEAM 2023-24**

Nancy Richardson, Co-Moderator

Stephanie Hayworth, Co-Moderator

Gaye Moore, *Secretary*

Sarah Gooding, *Historian*

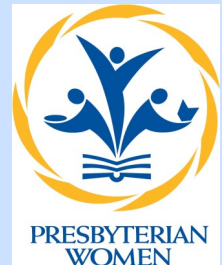
Laura Dudley, *Together in Service*

Julia Brown, *Treasurer*

Laura Durham, *Spiritual Nurture*

Linda Amerson, *Circle of Joyful Friends. Co-Leader*

Myra Richardson, *Circle of Joyful Friends, Co-Leader*



**Ladies Lunch  
May 24, 2023  
Home of Sylvia Phillips**



## PW Honorary Life Membership Presentation on June 11, 2023



Today I am pleased to present the Presbyterian Women's Honorary Life Membership Award to a life- long member of our church. As a youth she attended Sunday School, children's choir, and youth activities. She was married right here in Thorpe Chapel. She and her husband had 4 children and have 2 grandsons. Her professional career was spent working for the City of Rocky Mount. She was my go to person if I wanted to know about new construction in town. I could call her and she was in a position to know what was being built. After her retirement, she was a full time devoted caregiver to her husband until his death. She is a caregiver extraordinaire having helped many friends in times of need. She has taken members of

this church to doctor's appointments, grocery shopping, church, or that all important trip to the beauty shop. She enjoys working in her yard, visiting family and friends, and traveling. Florida is a popular destination for her. For many years she sang in the church choir. She volunteers for Meals on Wheels, is a volunteer in the church office, helped with the prom closet, and is an active participant in many activities here at First Presbyterian, opening her home to host circle meetings and the In-Betweens group.

It is my honor to present **Kay Williams Wester** with the Presbyterian Women's Honorary Life Membership Award.

*Presented by Linda Amerson*



## Wednesday Fellowship Lunch, Ice Cream Sundaes & Bingo June 28, 2023





# Keeping in touch...

FOLLOW  
US!

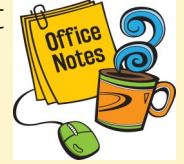


First Presbyterian Rocky Mount



fpc\_rockymount

**Contact Information Updates:** Kindly notify Dionne Seale in the church office at 252-446-9121, ext. 21 or [dionne.seale@fpcrm.org](mailto:dionne.seale@fpcrm.org) of any email, address, or phone number changes so we can keep our database up to date. Church office hours are 9:00-4:00 PM Monday-Thursday.



*Dear Church,*

*Thank you for accommodating the board meetings and occasional general membership meetings of the Rocky Mount Garden Club. We appreciate your generous sharing of the church facilities.*

*Our meetings for our next calendar year, beginning in September 2023, will be in another location. Again, thank you for your generosity to the club.*

*Sincerely,  
Patsy Pridgen  
President*

*It is with great appreciation to receive the Honorary Life Membership pin and certificate from Presbyterian Women of First Presbyterian Church of Rocky Mount. Thanks for a very special honor.*

*Love to all,  
Kay Wester*

*Dear FPC Family,*

*Larry and I are so appreciative of the kindnesses show to us after our accident.*

*From flowers and visits, to cards and food, and even the church wheelchair, it all meant so much.*

*Thanks for your loving care.*

*Beth High*





THE 2023 SANCTUARY  
FLOWER CALENDAR IS  
AVAILABLE IF YOU WANT TO  
EITHER SIGN UP WITH  
DIONNE IN THE CHURCH  
OFFICE OR VIA THE CHURCH  
WEBSITE FOR A SUNDAY TO  
HONOR/REMEMBER  
SOMEONE AND SUPPORT  
THE FLOWER MINISTRY OF  
FPC.

### **Communications Deadlines**

We publish the "First Pres"  
**newsletter** monthly. The newsletter  
is either emailed or a hard copy  
can be mailed to those without  
email. The deadline to submit  
information is the third Thursday of  
each month.

The **weekly email update** is sent out  
via Constant Contact on  
Wednesday afternoons. The  
weekly email deadline is noon on  
Wednesday.



*our thoughts and  
prayers are with...*

### **THE FOUNTAINS AT THE ALBEMARLE—Tarboro**

► Tom Dill

### **CARDINAL AT NORTH HILLS—Raleigh**

► Dick Fountain

### **ROCKY MOUNT REHABILITATION CENTER**

► Phyllis Goodwin

### **BROOKDALE—Rocky Mount**

► Genevieve Batchelor

► Betsy Boddie

► Mike Braswell

► Cora Lee Gold

### **TRINITY ELMS ASSISTED LIVING—Clemmons**

► Nancy Liipfert

### **THE LANDING—Wilson**

► Mary Watson

### **ADDITIONAL MEMBER CONCERNS**

Logan Barnes

Tucker Carrier (U.S. Army)

Deborah Coffee

Earl Goodwin

Sonny Foster

Jeong Jin

Sandra Luther

Char Mather

Georgia Mixon

Phyllis Parker

Jack Perry

Evelyn Reese

Edie Reeves

Maida Sessoms

Phyllis Toler

Bobbi Weeks

Susan Yenney

# FELLOWSHIP

## F P C

### SUMMER FUN, FOOD, AND FELLOWSHIP WEDNESDAYS IN JULY

**July 5:** Cold Salad Plate Lunch at home of Roz Gragg;  
(12-2pm); Bring a dessert! RSVP by July 2 to Patti Prince or Roz

**July 12:** Dinner at Pizza Inn (5pm); RSVP by July 9 to Patti Prince or Roz

**July 19:** Movie and Popcorn at the church (3-5pm); maybe dinner afterwards.

### IN-BETWEENS GATHERING

SATURDAY, JULY 29, 2023  
6:00 PM

HOSTED BY MARTHA TESORO

MEAT AND DRINKS PROVIDED, PLEASE BRING AN  
APPETIZER, SIDE DISH OR DESSERT TO SHARE.

RSVP TO MARTHA  
OR MARIE KEM



#### DEACON HELPERS:

JULY 2: BRIDGET HATHAWAY

JULY 9: JOHN FEAGANS

JULY 16: PARTHA DAUGHTRIDGE

JULY 23: JAMI SNOW

JULY 30: JIM WOODARD